



# The Potter Yachter

Newsletter of the Northern California West Wight Potter Club

September 2009

## Richmond to Loch Lomond



By Rich McDevitt  
photos by Don Person

Sunny skies and a nice breeze greeted 14 boats in Richmond on the morning of Saturday August 8th. A skippers meeting was held where we reviewed the wind forecast, tides, and the route to Loch Lomond. Most boats were underway and sailing by 10:00. The harbor was busy with tugs and barges but everyone was enjoying nice wind and pretty flat water as we worked our way out Portrero Reach to the end of the breakwater where the wind abruptly died down to a drifter. We did have a slight push from the flood tide and I motor-sailed for a

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Keith Hubbard, Steve Potter, Dave Myers, Dave White, and "Goose" Gossman make ready to cast off.

bit until I found some more wind around Red Rock. Dave Meyers went spelunking on Red Rock on the way to Loch Lomond. The western side of Redrock has a cave that was dug by a dreamy eyed gold rush era optimist in the mid 1800's.

About 12:30 PM we began arriving at the Loch Lomond Yacht Club where Sol greeted each boat  
*(continued page 3: Loch Lomond)*



## The Commodore's Log

I am happy to announce that we have a chairperson for Cruiser Challenge XI! Gretchen Ricker has graciously volunteered to take the reigns from Dick Herman. More information, perhaps even a contest, from Gretchen in the next issue of the newsletter.

\* \* \*

Since we have made the newsletter available to anybody, member or not, I have been looking for a way for us to discuss club business with just the membership. Gretchen volunteered to look into creating an on-line forum. She got together with Mike Westfield our Web Administrator and Mike has created the forum for us. We will send an email with directions on how to log on and use it. When the club officers would like input from the membership, for exam-

ple a review of the proposed sailing schedule, we will announce it in the newsletter and you can go to the forum to review and comment on it. Presently we do this at the annual meeting, however, not everyone can make it to the Oakland Yacht Club in January.

\* \* \*

I missed our last club sail. My 16 pound cat got his paw caught in my pickup camper shell door and when I tried to free him he grabbed my arm and started biting. By the time it was all over I had a trip to the emergency room for antibiotics and a tetanus shot. It took about a week before I could use my arm again. We have both recovered.

See you on the water,

Bud



### EVENTS ON THE HORIZON:

#### Sept 7th to 22nd

Messabout VII: All the Usual Suspects to the San Juan Islands. Launch from Bellingham, WA

#### September 12th (Sat)

Delta Day Sail: Buckley Cove, Stockton, to Windmill Cove. Host: Bud Kerner

#### September 26th & 27th (Sat & Sun)

Tamales Bay overnigher. Host: Eric Zilbert

#### October 10th & 11th (Sat & Sun)

Overnight cruise Moss Landing to Monterey. Host: Mike Swartz

#### SoCal Potter Events

##### September 26th:

Dana Point—see the SoCal Potters website for details—<http://www.howies.net/socalpotter/>

## The Officer's Club

#### Commodore:

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P-18 *Cats Meow*

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**Rob Sampson rounding the windward mark in his Gunter Rig P-14**

as they arrive and assisted them in tying and rafting up as necessary. A large power boat with all kinds of bikini clad deck hands came in after about half of the Potter Yachters had arrived. Sol asked me if this guy was with us and I told him “no, I think he’s with that guy” as I pointed to a San Rafael water policeman who was approaching down the dock at a rapid pace. Several of us went up to the clubs bar and enjoyed a beer as the police inspected and counted PFD’s on the power yacht. I think they were more concerned with inspecting the “deck hands”. They had all the appropriate gear (both the deckhands and the captain) and were sent on their way in a few minutes.

Loch Lomond Yacht Club folks were very gracious hosts and took care of us in grand style. We enjoyed some beers, and a great lunch of sausages, chips, and pasta salad with a few cookies for desert while Jerry Barrilleaux showed us his souiii stick. For those not in the know, this is a device that is used to keep alligators away. Since none of us had any problems with alligators the entire day, we were grateful for Jerry having this along. Katy Taylor was the only other sailor that was able to operate it. On the way out the door, many folks took advantage of the LLYC's clothing clearance sale and made some good

## THE SKIPPERS & VESSELS

### P-14/15

Dave Myers  
Steve Potter & Dad  
Rich McDevitt  
Ron Bell  
Ron & Mona Reno  
Dory & Katie Taylor  
Jim “Goose” Gossman

### P-18/19

Dave White  
Jerry Barrilleaux

### Others

Jim Kirwan—Montgomery-15



Dave & Franchesca Kautz, Ron Bell, and Dave White enjoying lunch.

(continued page 4: Loch Lomond)

# The Potter Yachter

(Loch Lomond: continued from page 3)

buys on shirts and sweatshirts for \$10.00.



**Steve Potter & Dad!**

The trip back was a definite Maytag moment. Currents running counter to the wind made for a choppy trip back. Starboard tacks were OK but those port tacks were wet on occasion. A lot of tug, barge, and ferry traffic made for a few extra wakes thrown in for good measure. After a lot of back and forth and only making 50 feet of progress I fired up the iron genny and motor-sailed the rest of the way back. By 6:00 PM most of us were back in Richmond putting the boats back in shape for the road trip home.



Jim Kirwan



"Goose" Gossman on the return Passage



Ron Bell

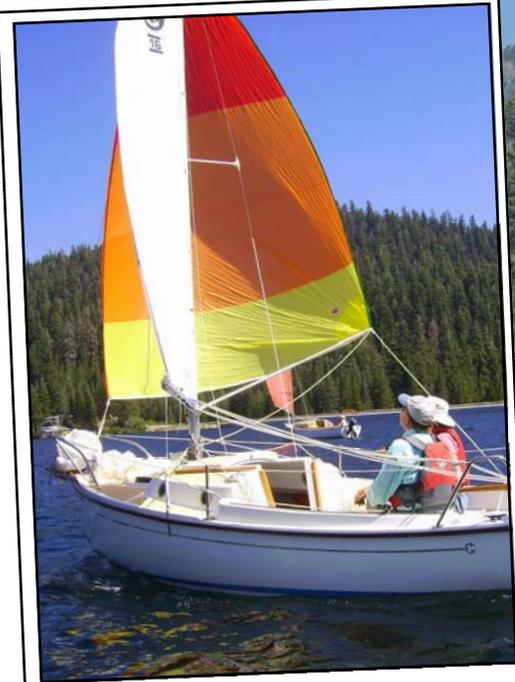


Ron Reno, Dave Myers, and Dory & Katie Taylor

# Huntington Lake in Pictures!



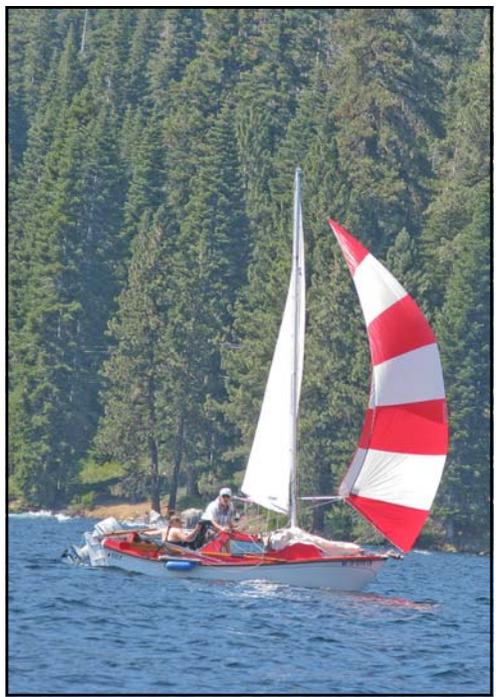
Dick Herman . . . We're starting to look like a Com-Pac club with an occasional Potter along for the ride.



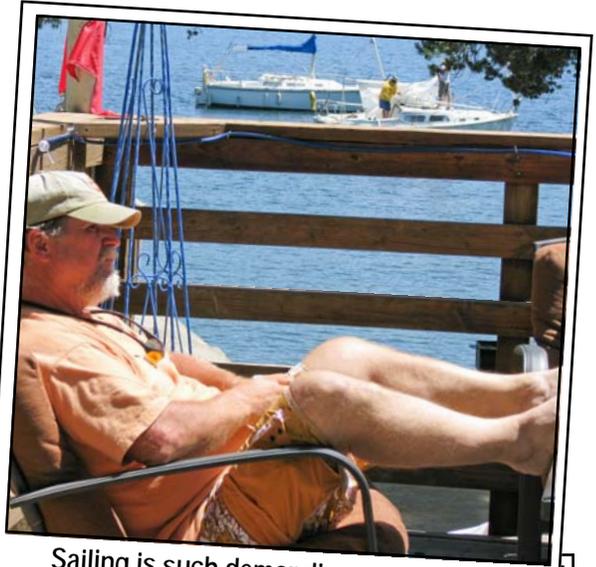
Dan & Gretchen Ricker



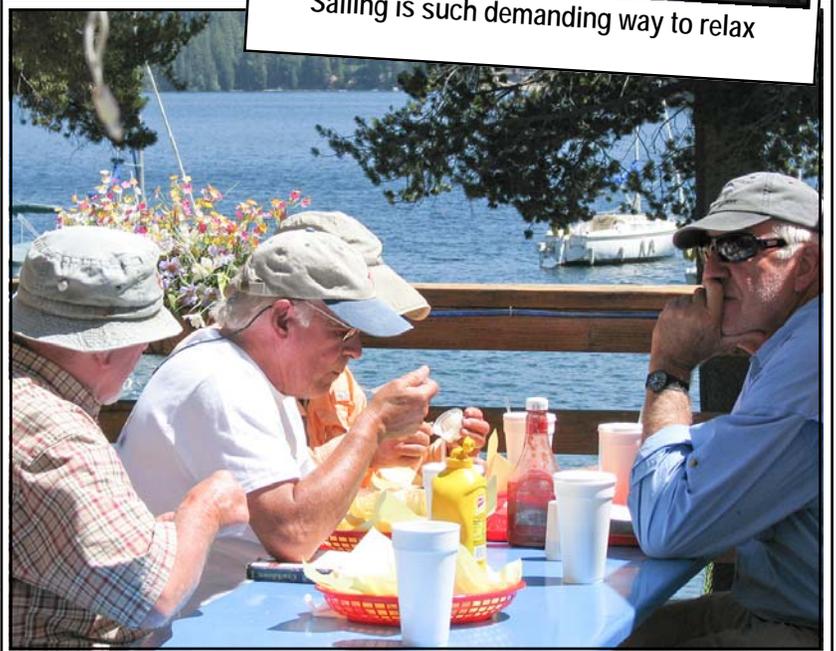
*The Potter Yachter*



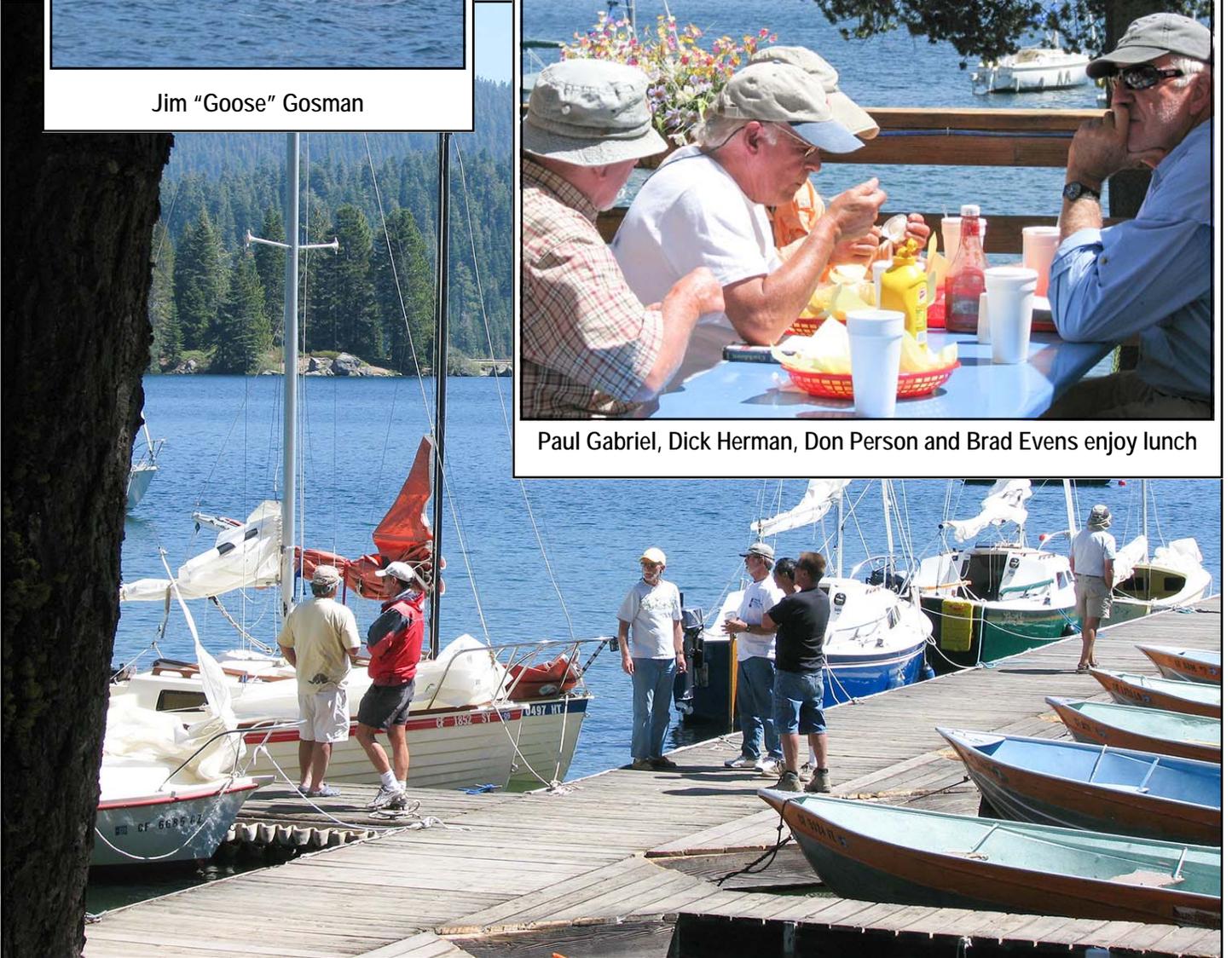
Jim "Goose" Gosman



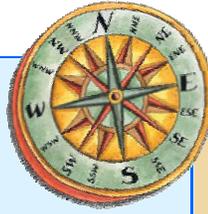
Sailing is such demanding way to relax



Paul Gabriel, Dick Herman, Don Person and Brad Evens enjoy lunch



# Buckley Cove to Windmill Cove, Stockton



**Host:** Bud Kerner

**When:** Saturday, September. 12th; Launch 10:00 AM

**Where:** Buckley Cove Marina

**Fees:** N/A

**Meals:** See text

**Distance:** 4-6 miles

**Phone #s:**

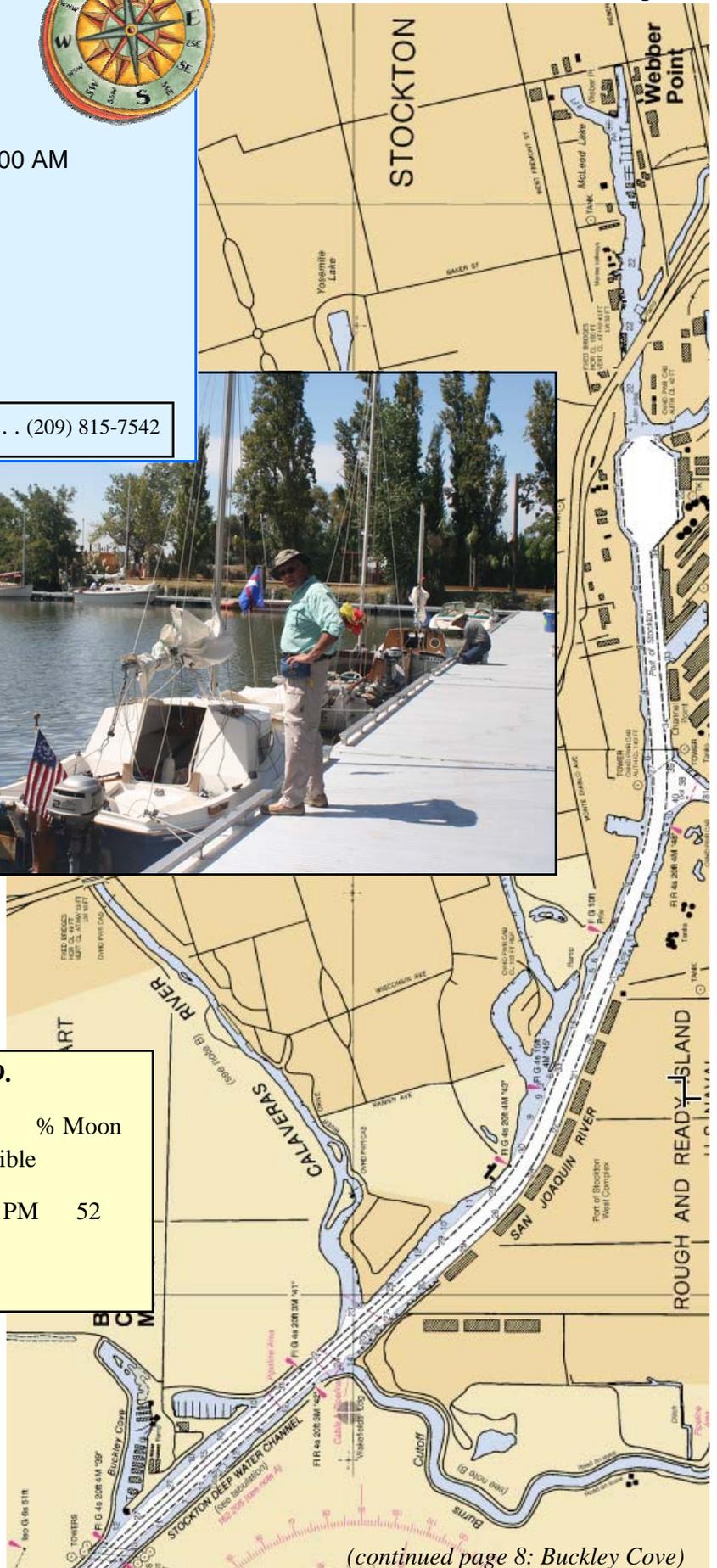
Bud Kerner (Cell) . . . . . (209) 815-7542

For all you Potter Yachters who will not be sailing in the North West with ATUS, join us to sail the mighty San Joaquin River. We will be launching from Buckley Cove in Stockton. The date is September 12<sup>th</sup>.

At our request the Coast Guard Auxiliary will be there to do vessel safety checks for anyone who wishes one.

I have asked the new owner of "Chubby" to join us. "Chubby" now lives at the Stockton Sailing Club which is just across the road from the launch ramps.

We will launch at 10:00AM and sail to Windmill



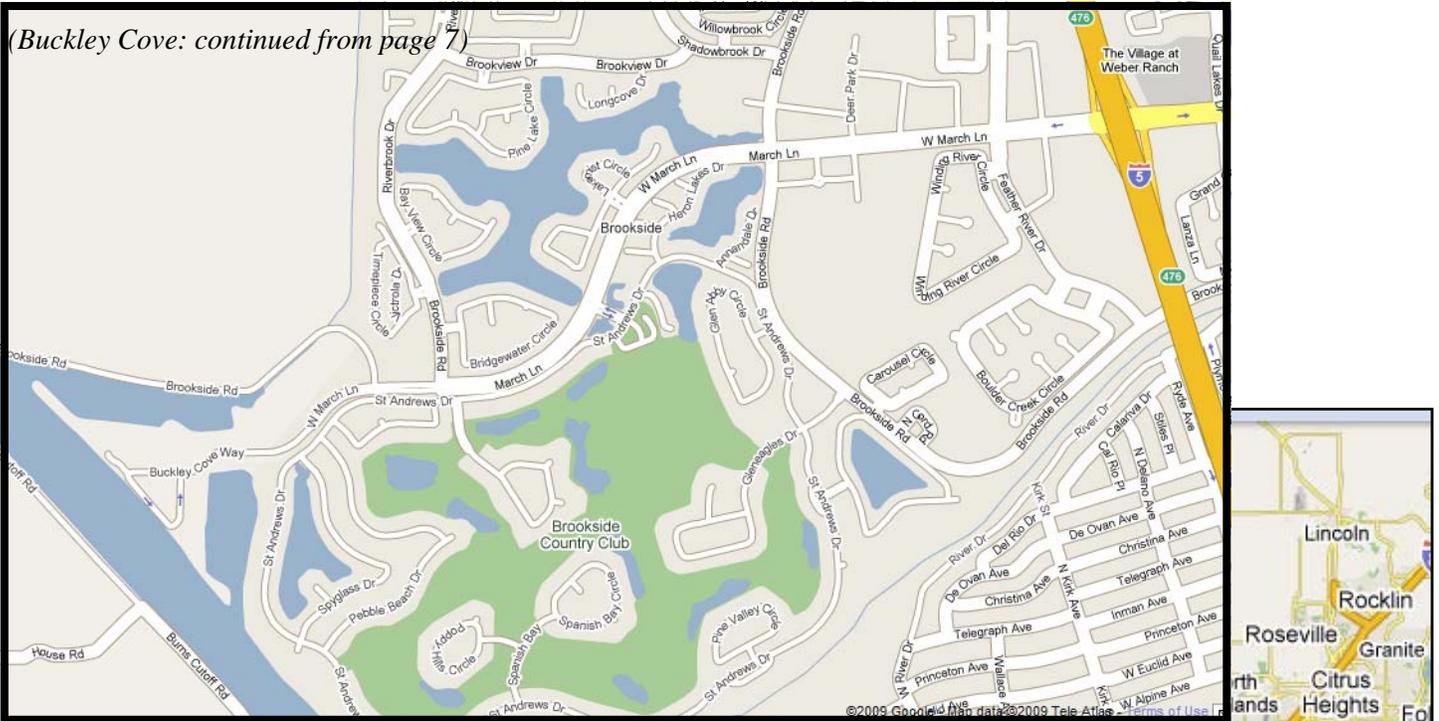
**Tides for Stockton starting with September 12, 2009.**

Day	High /Low	Tide Height	Time Feet	Sunrise Sunset	Moon Time Visible	% Moon
Sa 12	Low	8:02 AM	0.3	6:45 AM	Set 3:10 PM	52
12	High	2:11 PM	2.8	7:17 PM		
12	Low	6:51 PM	1.5			

Cove for lunch. The cove is less than two miles from the launch site, however, we can expect that the wind will be on our nose. After lunch, depending on the wind, we can sail around the area, or sail up the river to Weber Point in downtown Stockton. The city is in the process of building a new marina at Weber Point. When sailing to the Point the wind is usually at your back, which

(continued page 8: Buckley Cove)

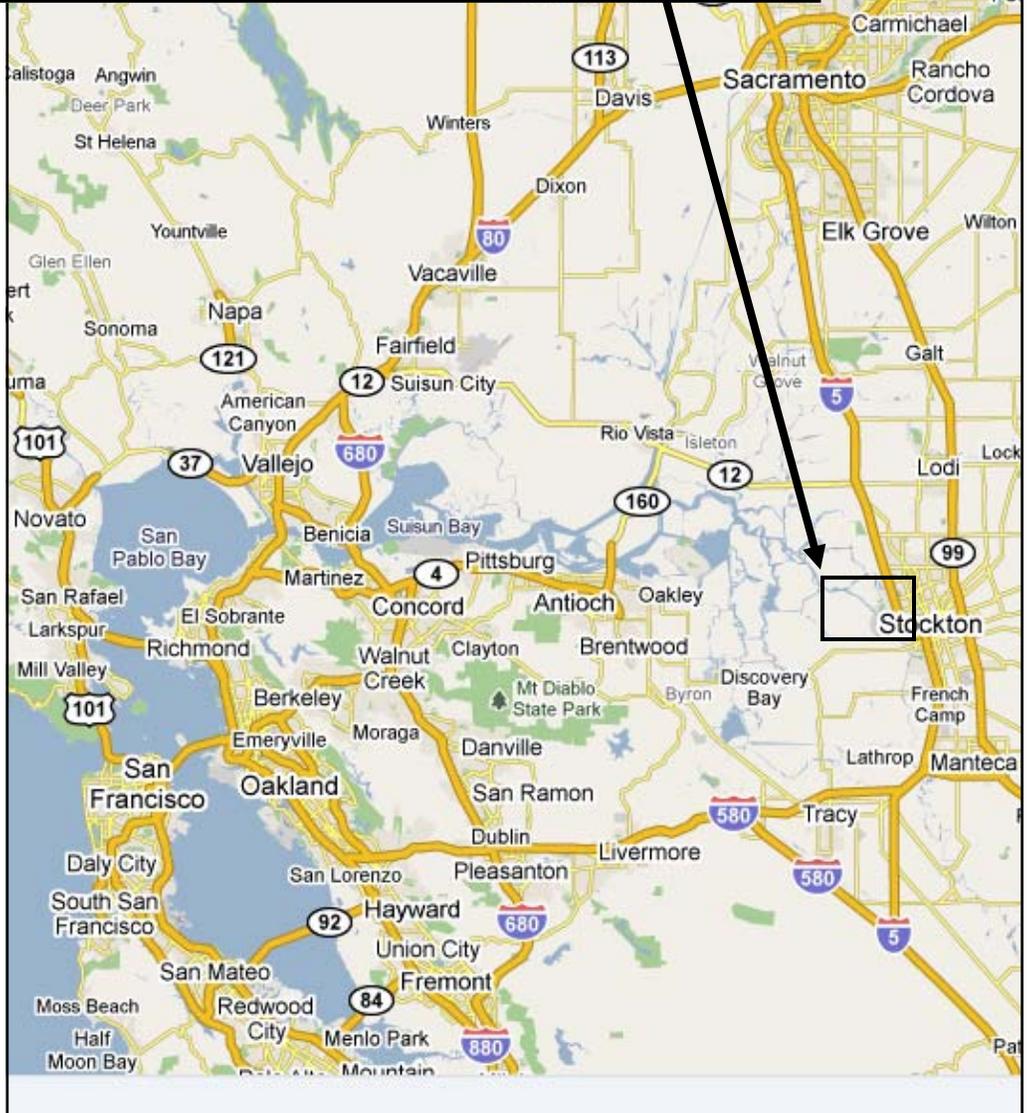
(Buckley Cove: continued from page 7)

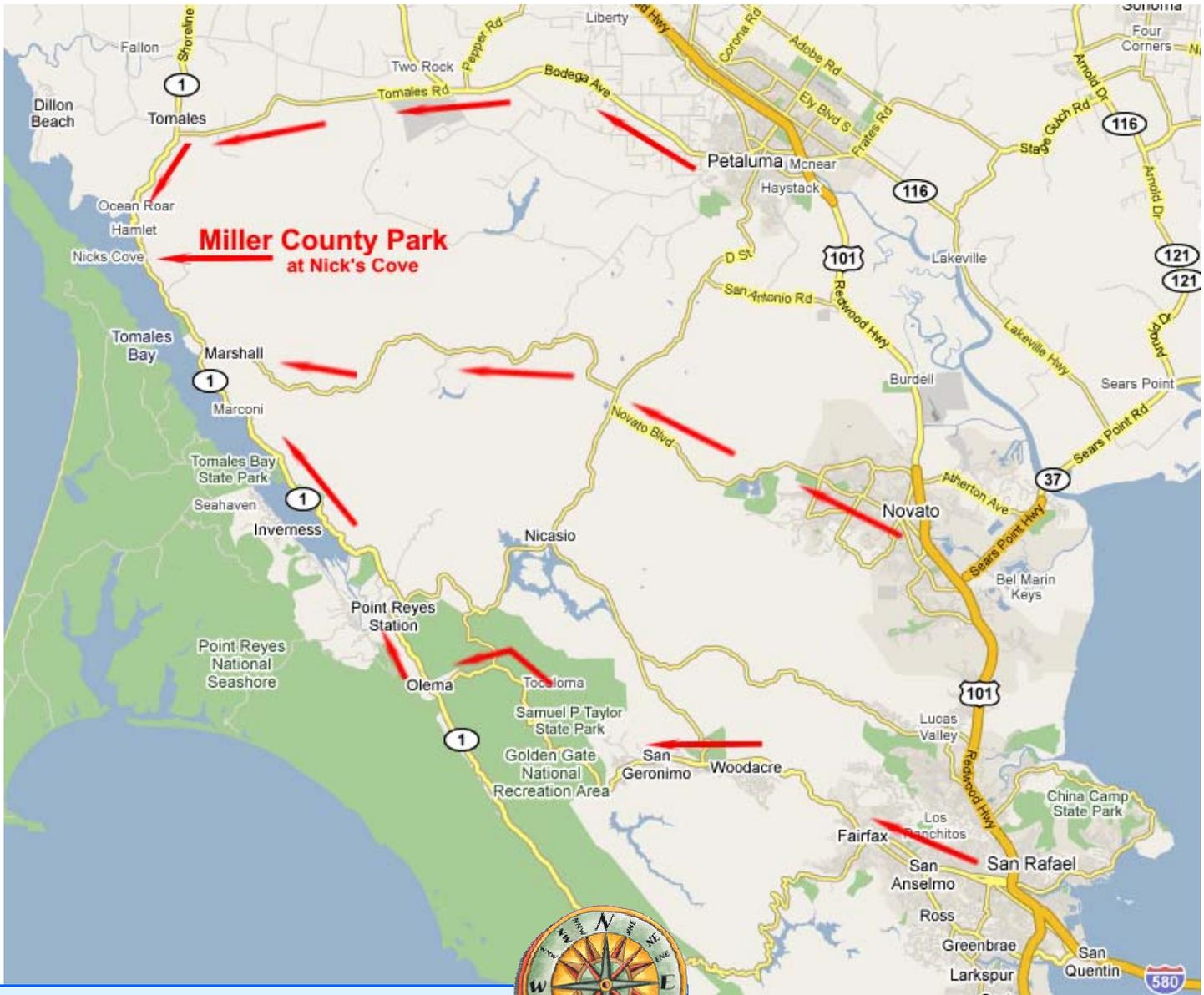


means it is on you nose on the way back. If there is not much wind we would have to motor back. Weber Point to Buckley Cove is less than 5 miles.

How to get there? From Interstate 5 exit in Stockton at the March Lane and turn west. Buckley Cove is approximately 2 miles from Interstate 5. You will come to a toll booth where you pay for parking. I think parking is \$10 for you young folks, less for us old guys.

Bud





## Tamales Bay Campout

**Host:** Eric Zilbert

**When:** Saturday & Sunday September 26th & 27th

**Where:** Miller County Park (Marin) 10:00 AM Launch

**Fees:** launch \$5.00 / Plus \$5.00 overnight parking.

**Meals:** Around the campfire at our campsite on the beach.

**Distance:** 2 miles across Tamales Bay as the crow flies, but whatever you make it by the course of your choosing.

**Phone #s:**

Host ..... 530-757-6783



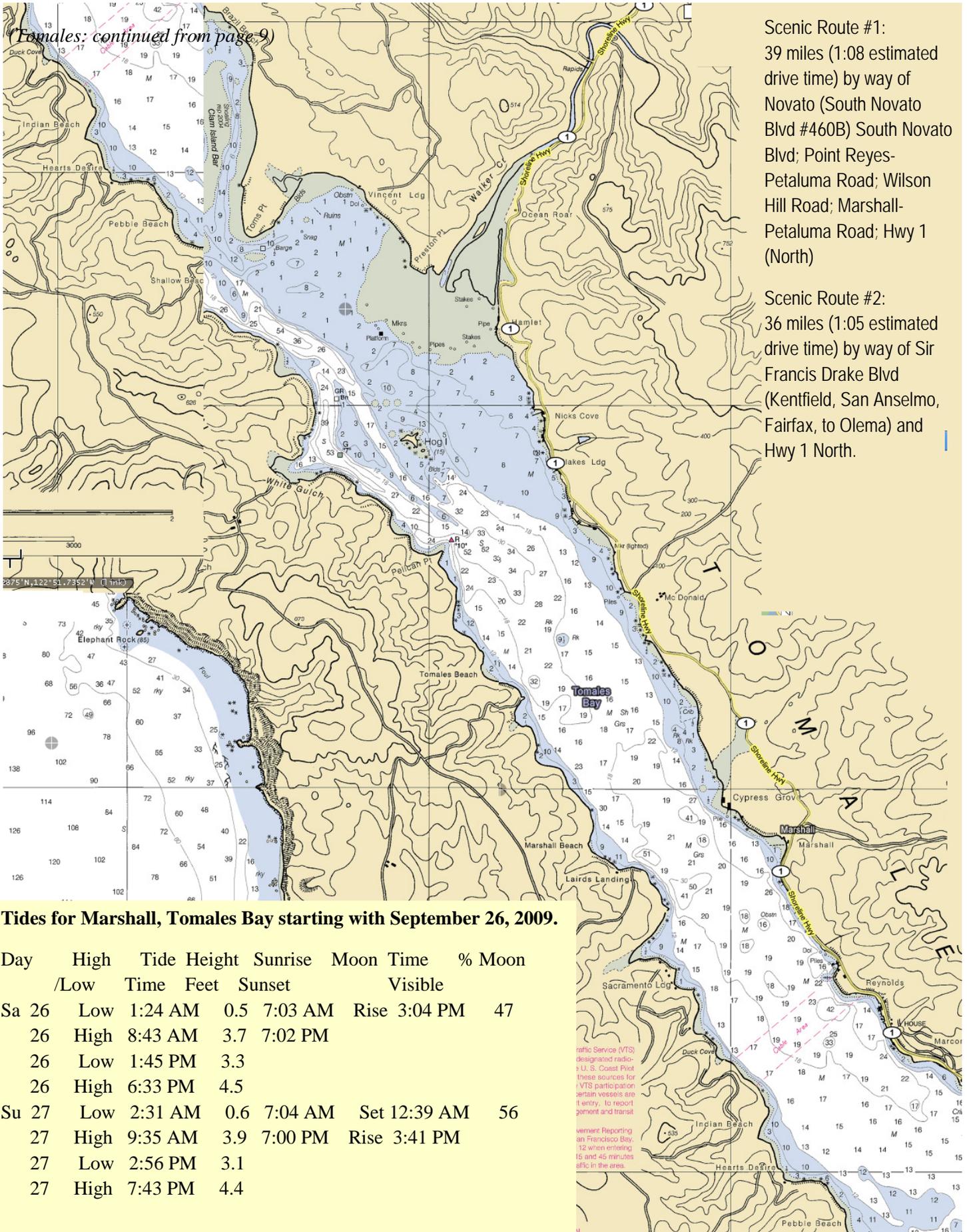
Pack your camping gear and provisions into your boat and join us for an overnight campout on the beach at Tomales Bay. Yachters coming from the east bay and points south, have several ways to get to the launch ramp at Miller County Park. The northernmost route, through Petaluma, is fastest; but when travel times for all three are calculated, the times reflect just a few minutes difference. So live a little . . . try one of the alternative routes either coming or going. All three routes and distances are all measured from the Sir Francis Drake Blvd Exit from HWY 101 (Exit #450B.)

Preferred Route (fewer hills and sharp curves) : 43 miles (1:03 estimated travel time) by way of Peta-

luma (East Washington Street / Central Petaluma exit #474) Lakeville Street; West Washington Street; Bodega Ave; Valley Ford Road; Tomales Road; Hwy 1 (South)

(continued page 10: Tomales)

(Tomales: continued from page 9)



Scenic Route #1:  
39 miles (1:08 estimated drive time) by way of Novato (South Novato Blvd #460B) South Novato Blvd; Point Reyes-Petaluma Road; Wilson Hill Road; Marshall-Petaluma Road; Hwy 1 (North)

Scenic Route #2:  
36 miles (1:05 estimated drive time) by way of Sir Francis Drake Blvd (Kentfield, San Anselmo, Fairfax, to Olema) and Hwy 1 North.

**Tides for Marshall, Tomales Bay starting with September 26, 2009.**

Day	High /Low	Tide Height	Time Feet	Sunrise	Sunset	Moon Time Visible	% Moon
Sa 26	Low	1:24 AM	0.5	7:03 AM	Rise 3:04 PM	47	
26	High	8:43 AM	3.7	7:02 PM			
26	Low	1:45 PM	3.3				
26	High	6:33 PM	4.5				
Su 27	Low	2:31 AM	0.6	7:04 AM	Set 12:39 AM	56	
27	High	9:35 AM	3.9	7:00 PM	Rise 3:41 PM		
27	Low	2:56 PM	3.1				
27	High	7:43 PM	4.4				

Traffic Service (VTS) designated radio U.S. Coast Pilot these sources for VTS participation certain vessels are if entry. To report movement and transit.

Government Reporting on Francisco Bay, 12 when entering, 15 and 45 minutes after entry in the area.





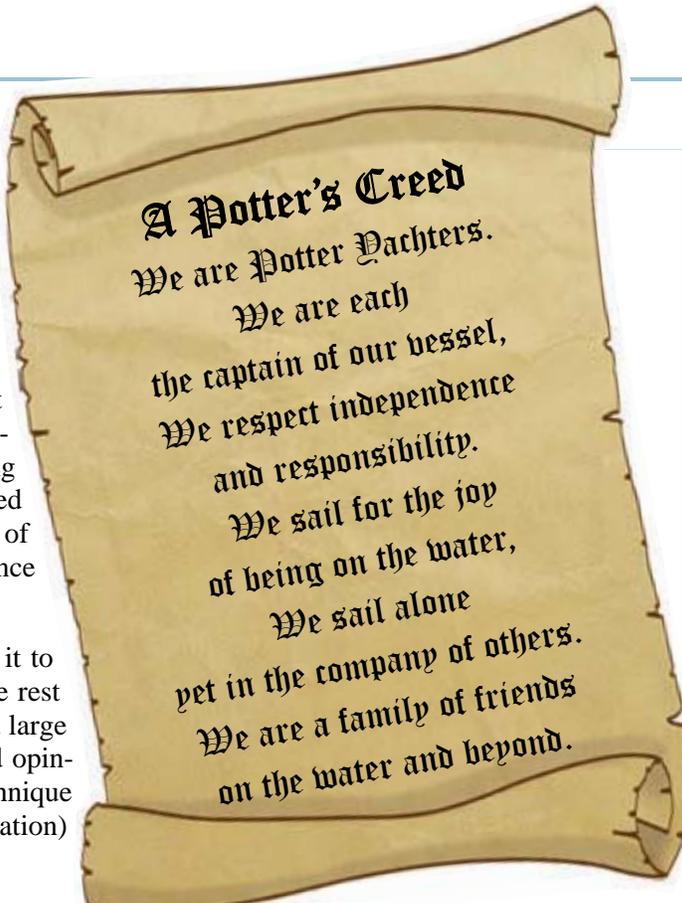
Patrick Brennan  
1305 Webster St., C205  
Alameda, CA 94501

## With a Grain of Salt

The **Potter Yachter** is a forum for exchange of ideas and information among West Wight Potter (and other mini-yacht) sailors. But we Potter Yachters are mostly a bunch of amateurs finding our way by trial and error and luck.

You will probably find some very helpful tips or ideas in the Potter Yachter that will enhance your sailing experience, but you may also find some ill-advised suggestions or ideas that just don't work for your particular boat, your sailing environment, your level of sailing experience, or your boat-working skills. So please understand that any sailing tutorials, suggested boat modifications, recommended cruises, etc., are the opinion of the author, based presumably on his or her personal experience and judgment at the time the article or letter was written.

If a Potter Yachter believes s/he has a good idea and submits it to the newsletter for publication, we will usually pass it on to the rest of you in the newsletter, but take it "with a grain of salt" and a large portion of your own good judgment, and perhaps get a second opinion before undertaking a modification or cruise or sailing technique you read about in the **Potter Yachter** (or any other publication)  
- *The Editor*



**A Potter's Creed**  
We are Potter Yachters.  
We are each  
the captain of our vessel,  
We respect independence  
and responsibility.  
We sail for the joy  
of being on the water,  
We sail alone  
yet in the company of others.  
We are a family of friends  
on the water and beyond.