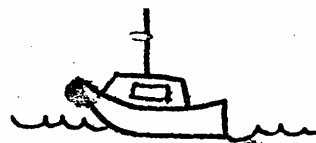




# Potter to Potter

NEWSLETTER OF THE "POTTER YACHTERS"  
N. Cal. West Wight Potter Assn.



March 1980

## APRIL IS A GO-DO-IT MONTH!!

You have your choice of FOUR Potter events in April--one for each weekend!

- April 4 - 7: Butler/Marsh Easter sail to Anacapa Is. (Channel Islands)
- April 12 and 13 (Sat. and Sun.): Optional overnighiter to Lost Isle (Delta)
- April 20 (Sunday): Potter Yachters' Second Anniversary Dinner; 5:00 P.M.  
Kings Table Restaurant, Redwood City
- April 27 (Sunday): Opening Day of the Yachting Season on San Francisco Bay;  
sail to Angel Is. from Sausalito

Look for details of all these events elsewhere in this newsletter.

## NEXT SAIL: LOST ISLE

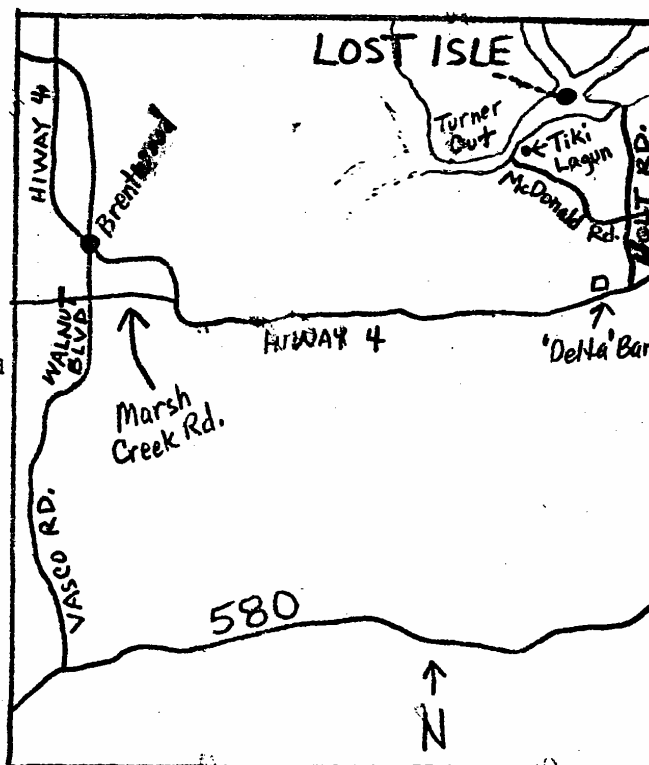
April 12 & 13, Sat. and Sun.: This is an optional overnighiter to Lost Isle in the Delta. Remember our sail there last March? Several members requested a repeat--so here she is, compliments of Jerry Barrilleaux:

Launch from Tiki Lagun on Turner Cut Slough (see map) at 9:30 A.M. Sail to Lost Isle; it's about a 2½ mile sail, and should be a beam reach. Charge for camping on the island: \$1.00 per adult, 50¢ per child; \$2.50 to leave your boat docked at Lost Isle overnight. Or, if you like, you can pay \$3.00 per campsite, and camp back at the launch site, Tiki Lagun (electrical hook-up available).

### DIRECTIONS

Take 580, turn north on Vasco Rd. (toward Brentwood). Vasco changes to 'Walnut Blvd.'; keep going. At the Marsh Creek Rd. stop sign turn right. Follow Marsh Creek Rd. to Hiway 4; turn right. Go about 15 miles till you come to a sign 'Cook Rd./Holt Rd.' (there's a bar called the Delta on the corner). Turn left; get onto Holt Rd. Follow Holt to McDonald Rd. and go left on McDonald. Follow McDonald till you see the sign on the left for 'Tiki Lagun Marina'.

Lost Isle is a 55 acre island accessible by boat only. There are hiking trails, a small beach (if not washed away by the rains!), and a rustic, informal restaurant that serves 75¢(last year) Mai Tais, and pretty good food at a reasonable price. The atmosphere is definitely 'country'--green, pretty, and relaxed.



Winds last year were about 15 - 20 knots, and offered a good solid sail. There are lots of waterways to explore, from the grass-lined sloughs to the more wide-open small bays. Lost Isle was a great sail last year (see the report in the March, 1979 "Potter to Potter"), and should be just as good this year. Come for either day, or for both.

#### ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Sunday, April 20, 5:00 P.M., King's Table Restaurant, 2550 El Camino Real, Redwood City.

Time for our annual "Trek to the Table"!

History: the whole Potter Yachter group began with a dinner in April, 1978, at the King's Table in Redwood City. Last year Bob Adair said "Why not do the dinner again?" so we did; and this year everybody said "Hey, when's the dinner?", so here it is:

The King's Table is an all-you-can-eat smorgasboard; dinner will be about \$5.35/adult-- which includes one non-alcoholic beverage (bar is also open). There is no discount group rate for this year (inflation, and all that), so just pay when you go in like everyone else, and ask for the Potter Yachters group.

If all goes well, a Potter Yachter Scrapbook will be there. We have several photos-- really good ones; even some 8 x 10's that Herb Orford gave the group. We can always use more photos, so if you have any you're willing to part with, send them to me for the scrapbook.

Directions to the restaurant: Take freeway 101. Turn off on Harbor Blvd. and go south until you get to El Camino Real. Turn east onto El Camino; go 3 or 4 blocks; restaurant is on the right. Phone: (415) 364-3637.

#### OPENING DAY

Opening Day of the San Francisco Yachting Season is Sunday, April 27. De Marsh and Stan Butler will probably sail on Opening Day--and how could Jerry Barrilleaux miss his fifth (sixth?) consecutive Opening Day sail?

Launch site will probably be Sausalito; check it out at the Anniversary Dinner or the Lost Isle sail, or call Stan Butler at (415) 369-0522.

#### EASTER SAIL

There'll be two Potters sailing to Anacapa Island on Easter weekend, and you're invited to join 'em.

De Marsh and Stan Butler plan to drive to Oxnard (near Ventura) on Thursday, April 3. On Friday morning they'll each set sail for Santa Cruz Is. and Anacapa Is. They'll dock at Smuggler's Cove, Anacapa Is., for both Fri. and Sat. nights. They'll return to Oxnard Marina on Sunday, and trailer home on Monday, April 7.

Both sailors invite you to bring your boat and come along. Contact Stan (415) 369-0522 or De (415) 471-4467.

(Can't wait to hear about this sail in a future newsletter!!)

#### NEW MEMBERS

There are four new members to add to your roster; hope to see most of 'em at future sails (we'll understand if the Phoenix people can't make it!!).

Richard Graham, 41 Bellevue Ave., Belvedere, CA 94920: Mr. Graham is thinking of buying a Potter and plans to attend a future sail to see some Potters in action, check out the various models, etc. Until then, he's relying on the newsletter for Potter information.

Carl Kunze, 3121 Clare Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401: Mr. Kunze writes, "Would like to join your group. Might sail with you as soon as I get my boat out of mothballs."

Don Jady, 3001 N. 32nd St., #132, Phoenix, AZ 85016: That's right---Phoenix! I have a feeling Mr. Jady is part of the Phoenix Potters who held the Fox & 'Hair' race reported in last month's issue; I'll try to find out.

Charles Nearing, 3501 Meadowbrook Dr., Napa, CA 94558; phone (707) 226-5268. Mr. Nearing has owned several sailboats, including an Islander 32. He's retired, and decided on a Potter (good choice!). He's a member of the Richmond Yacht Club, which has no launch ramp but two electric hoists. So he has a question for our group:

HAVE YOU EVER HOISTED YOUR POTTER?

Charles Nearing (see above) needs some information (balancing, weights, etc.) on hoisting a Potter. Have you ever done it? If so, please contact him at the above address/phone.

LAST MONTH'S SAIL: MONTEREY BAY

The Pearl of California--Monterey Bay--gave it her all last March 1, as the Potter Yachters attempted to sail the Monterey Bay. Windy? You bet. Even MORE than you bet! Seven boats made the outing:

#512, De & Sydney Marsh, with Fred & Frieda Richter; #797, Don Bergst, with Frank Winans; #850 Stan & Dorothy Butler; #567 Bob Adair with daughter Tammi; #564 Jerry & Sharon Barrilleaux with their 3 children; #604 Jim & Carol Mangels with their 2 children; and John & Barbara Simpson, with son David and his cousin.

The harbor was busy that day. Unbeknownst to us, salmon season had just opened there, and the masses of boat trailers parked every-which-way at the Coast Guard launch ramp nearly blew De Marsh's mind. "Wow...I've never ever seen it this busy!" he kept saying.

All the Potters launched at about the same time, except the Adairs, who came later. The wind was fairly light--or so it seemed. We sailed out past the jetty and then all of a sudden the weather decided to throw us a curve. Some nice black clouds gathered over the hills, and the wind came out of nowhere and started blowing like crazy. The Barrilleaux's and Mangels, who had their kids aboard, headed back to shore. The Simpsons headed in, too, and pulled their boat (with a broken shroud!) out of the water.

Retrieving the boats was tricky. The water surged into the dock in swells. One minute your boat was afloat in 3 feet of water, and the next minute it was afloat in 3 inches (Well, it wasn't QUITE that bad...) And everybody wanted to come in to the dock at the same time: the divers, salmon fishers, sailboaters...it was a circus for awhile. Jerry & Jim both got <sup>wet</sup> their boats onto the trailers, and Jim's hull got a 3" long gash, courtesy of an untimely surge which slammed the hull onto a bolt nut on the trailer frame.

John & Barbara held their boat off the rocks while waiting for a turn to come in, as their son David helped dock all the incoming craft. David's cousin kept a dockside watch for jellyfish (huge, pretty ones).

Meanwhile, three of the Potters decided to head out to sea: #850 (Stan), #797 (Don and Frank), and #512 (De and Fred). The Coast Guard ran up a single red triangle, and the weather obeyed the signal--"Small Craft Warning"--for the rest of the day.

Bob Adair and Tammi drove up. After some soul-searching, Bob decided not to launch. The shore-dwellers either stayed at the launch site or headed inland to a park for lunch. (Bob's lunch: just tuna salad? With no mayo?? No wonder he's lost over 20 lbs.!) After lunch the Adairs headed home; Tammi was a good sport about not being able to sail, after the long trip down to Monterey.

Meanwhile, the three hardy Potters took to the waves and wind--and there was plenty of both. Later, when they came back in, Don and Stan were agreeing that it "wasn't that bad" out there.

Me: "So it wasn't that bad out there, huh?"

Don: "No, it was okay."

Stan: "It was really not that bad a sail."

Frank: "Well, I don't mind saying that I thought it was 'that bad' out there!!"

Later, De said: "The first two hours were terrible. We stayed hove-to and had our lunch and just rode the swells. After it tamed down a bit we sailed. It was gusty (winds gusted to 40 mph). I put my self-tender on--hate to say it, but it does a better job than I do!"

Stan dropped his jib out there and reefed his main. Stan highly recommends a reefed main in heavy wind. De commented that Stan got a much smoother ride out of his boat because of the reefed main. Stan said it makes the Potter less skittery in full wind--easier to control. He wished we each could've sailed out there to see the difference in boat-handling that less sail area makes.

Don dropped his main and raised his jib on the main mast. Even so, Stan's knot meter showed Don's boat was doing 3½ knots--with jib as mainsail!

Stan's masthead knotmeter showed wind velocity of generally 20-25 knots, with gusts to 45 knots.

Stan and Don & Frank came in about 3 p.m. De & Fred then headed in; we could see the characteristic Potter hull through Don's binoculars. It took only a few minutes for De's boat to do the 2 or 3 miles back to the ramp, and she steamed in under full sail. "Back De's trailer down the ramp!" Jim yelled, "and we'll just have De head the boat right onto the trailer!"

It was quite a day--and quite a sail, for those who stayed out on the water. Afterward, we all trooped to the Warehouse Restaurant and occupied a huge long table. The wind had tired us all out, whether we'd sailed or not, and it was nice to sit around and chat.

"Say, what time did you leave home this morning?" I heard Don ask Frank, who lives in Sacramento. "Oh, I woke up about 3 a.m.," Frank said, "and I was on the road by 4..."

Are Potter sailors hardy? You bet!!

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Addenda:

Surely a major attraction at Monterey Harbor is the Coast Guard's "barking" jetty. As you launch your boat and sail out of the harbor, you realize that what you thought was a ROCK jetty is actually a solid mass of mounds and mounds of SEALS--big ones, little ones, brown, black, and grey ones--all barking to beat the band. Probably there's not really a jetty there at all; the Coast Guard just hauled in a coupla thousand tons of seals and dumped them on top of each other! There's probably some poor seal on the bottom of the heap--flat as a pancake, with Excedrin headache #4,329--who hasn't seen the light of day for the last 4½ years!

GOTCHER: POTTER WATCHER

POTTER TO POTTER spares no expense. Why, we've even got a correspondent in Hawaii! Here's an 'exclusive' from our own Terry Gotcher:

In February, while vacationing on the Kailua-Kona side of the island of Hawaii, I chanced to find two Potters. The first was at Puako and it has intrigued me the most. It was parked in the front yard of a man who had owned it for a year. He had only sailed it twice or so. The only time his wife had accompanied him, they encountered a pod of humpback whales and she said "never again". The boat is now for sale. He was gracious enough to let me inspect the boat. The hull was #344. He told me that the previous owner had sold the boat, trailer & motor to him for \$1400, after having owned it

for seven years. At that point the lights and bells exploded in my head. I told him of the voyage to Hilo in the early 1970's by a man named "van" something or other. He had not heard and knew nothing of the class history. He could not recall the name of the party that he had purchased the boat from, except that it was not "van" or anything like it. He did remember that the man lived on the Hilo side of the island.

Now comes the big question. Are #344 and John Van Ruth's "Fredya" the same boat that sailed into Hilo bay in the summer of 1972? I am sending a copy of this account to Joe Edwards of HMS Marine and will keep all advised of any new info that may turn up.

The second Potter found in my travels was #875 in Kailua-Kona. The owner was in the Far East, so I have written to him. The housesitter knew nothing of Potters or sailing but did tell me that the owner had sailed twice from the mainland to Hawaii on small boats. I am hoping that he will share some of his sailing adventures with us.

So ends my Potter discoveries.

PLEASE READ THIS

Because whoever you are, I didn't keep notes during our phone conversation, so I don't remember who you are. But I think I have some information you want. Remember you asked me about whether anyone had converted a gunther rig to accept a marconi main and an aluminum mast? Well, in the Feb. '79 issue of POTTER TO POTTER there's a letter from Les Clute and it says in part, "Other things I hope to do soon are to install an aluminum mast and boom, like Norton Bell did on his boat..."

Well, Norton's boat is #230, so she is (or used to be) a gunther rig. So try giving him a call (415) 328-8139. Or call Les Clute (415) 494-3591 and see if he ever changed masts on his gunther #267. Good luck, and let me know how things work out--this time I'll make sure I take notes on the conversation!

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The newsletter has picked up a lot of nice touches in the last year. It has had five different editors: Harry Gordon, Stan Butler, De Marsh, Don Bergst, and me (Carol Mangels). Jerry Barrilleaux has drawn some great cartoons for the newsletter, and many, many people in the group have written in to share rigging hints, cooking hints, sailing ideas, photographs, or just sailing experiences.

Your comments and letters are the best part of the newsletter--keep 'em comin'! And if you'd like to write the monthly newsletter, let me know. Jerry Barrilleaux has dibs on April, but you can have any month after that.

See you in April...most all of us are bound to hit at least ONE of the four events scheduled!

