



The Potter Yachter

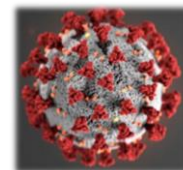
Newsletter of the Longest Lasting West Wight Potter Club in the World

Mar-Oct 2020

Pandemic Disrupts Sailing Club Events

How were we effected by Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019?

— aka COVID-19 aka SARS-CoV-2 by Phil Marcelis



Potter-Yachters Virtual Happy Hour
via Zoom on April 24, 2020

Zoom meetings have taken place
every Friday since April, and will
probably continue through the year.

If you hadn't noticed, there's been no newsletter in a while. Call it advancing lethargy, a pandemic-induced depression, or shock. Maybe the lack of articles due to cancelled events had something to do with it. In any case, it amounts to the same thing: I haven't been able to bring myself to publish for quite some time. While past issues have been combined, for example, into a November-December issue, this really takes the cake: here's the March-April-May-June-July-August-September-October issue. Yikes! But there actually is news to (See [Virus](#) continued on page 4)

Ship's Stores for sale. Order from Kevin Crowder:

Show your colors! Fly an official Club Burgee on your next sail!

Burgees	\$25.00
Bumper stickers	\$ 2.50 (just shows the burgee; no text)
Patches	\$ 2.50 (Both round and burgee shaped)
Info Packets	\$20.00 (Primarily P-15 information)

Or head over to the CafePress website and buy a Cap, Stein, or T-Shirt with the club logo on it.

Visit: <http://www.cafepress.com/potteryachters>

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The Commodore's Corner



By Eric Zilbert

Well, well, well. That's what we are trying to stay. Well. Potter-Yachters have voted already, in unanimity, that they prefer to stay well. This has had extremely good results thus far during the pandemic. As far as I know the club has yet to lose a member to the dreaded novel corona virus (you would think it would prefer cheap paperbacks to humans, based on its name). Yet, still, even, the Potters rise up, hitch up, drive, launch and sail out to the horizon. While the situation since March has dampened participation in our planned sails, we have still managed to be a very active club. It is true that this year we have had more sails cancelled than usual, some of this was due to bad weather in the early spring. We had six events that I would call real successes.

The first was an end of May sail to the Spindrift Marina on the delta near Rio Vista. This turned out to be a great sail attended by six boats. The sailing was truly great, despite the large mats of herbage that needed to be looked out for and avoided. One mariner (Jerry B.) compared one load he took on as a "bale of hay". I have actually developed an interest in fresh water botany thanks to this expedition. By the way, did I say that sailing on a reach on the San Joaquin looking at Mount Diablo was outta-sight good? Well, it was.

Then, in June, seven boats participated in the Benicia overnight. The sailing was tremendous. Strong winds and favorable tides allowed yours truly to sail all the way to the Mare Island Bridge and back. Wind speeds in excess of 20 knots kept things interesting, and got me back to the dock in time for a snack and libation (taken at a distance) with my fellow Potters. Plus we had the most excellent pizza, delivered, of course.

Imagine then, that a more idyllic day could be experienced in early July when once again a handful of hearty souls assembled to sail to Loch Lomond from points all 'round the bay. I had an incredible, awe inspiring, unparalleled broad reach past Red Rock and down to the Brothers, skipping along at 5 to 6 knots over ground the whole way. The wind was so nice, I was able to reach between the Marin Islands and the Brothers while I waited for my brethren to approach.

If you can believe it, the next sail was equally epic. Seven of us sailed from Moss Landing to Monterey in fair conditions. However, on Saturday, we set off for Pebble Beach and had the most excellent of conditions. A reasonably strong wind from the west, and a regular swell of limited height from the same direction. Running on the way back I was doing 6 to 7 knots. Did I mention the excellent pulled pork sandwiches we enjoyed courtesy of the Marcelis family? Or the fantastic Thai takeout we enjoyed the second night thanks to insight provided by Mike Swartz?

Seemingly, nothing could be better. But wait, the next sail was in the High Sierra at Huntington Lake. Six boats showed up, and we had a heck of a time!


Finally we had the Angel Island Sail. Only myself and Dan Phy showed up. The bay was smoky. We had a good time jawing about many things. But we came for the sailing, and what a sail it was! We set out from Richmond and sailed in a steadily building breeze to the island and into Raccoon Strait. Dan decided to fool around there for a while and then start back to Richmond. I was hell bent to circumnavigate the island and so continued on. The wind was strong and then stronger. The swells were big and then bigger. In the

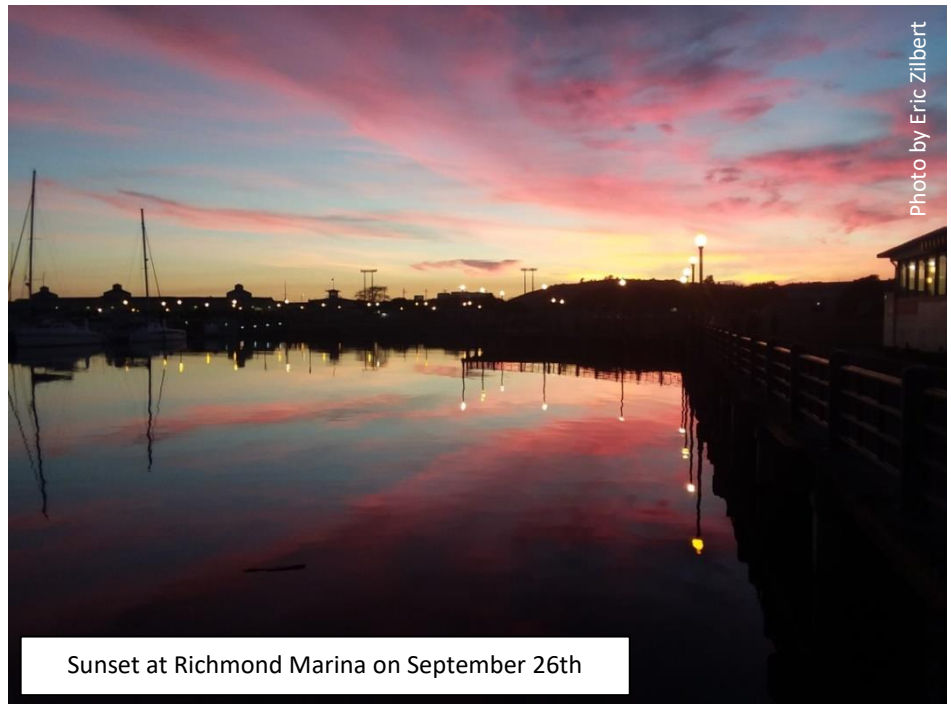
end, I rounded Point Blunt on the south end of the island in a raucous surfing session that recorded the highest speed ever on my GPS: 7.9 knots. I was howling with joy as I gyrated with the tiller and the boat to keep us from going broadside to the swell. Upon my return I enjoyed a wonderful meal seated outside of the new sushi place ([Anh](#)) located near the docks. I was pretty happy (see photo, previous page).

On the down side, we had to cancel the Tomales Bay sail, but that was due to weather. Three boats did another sail from Richmond instead: this included myself, *Ol' 44* with Jon Barber, and Mark and Cynthia of *Half Fool*. The sailing was so-so, but the meal at the Italian restaurant, [Lara's Fine Dining](#) (on the patio) was very good. They gave us the prime table overlooking Marina Bay (it's the Commodorial presence that makes these things happen). Also, the sunset was quite remarkable (see photo).

So there you have it. Socially distanced sailing at its finest. I am only sorry more of you could not participate. Or maybe not, after all, our new motto is: "Well, well, well!"

Best wishes to you all. See you on the Internet soon. Here's a toast to you all for 2021, and the hope of calmer seas and fairer winds!

Fair Winds! -Eric — 



Sunset at Richmond Marina on September 26th



We need photos for the 2021 calendar! E-Mail the calendar committee (calendar@potter-yachters.org)

Club Events on the Horizon

[See the Online Calendar](#)

Oct 10 (Sat-Sun)	CANCELLED: Moss Landing/Elkhorn YC to Monterey <i>guest dock NOT available; YC is closed although launch ramp is open</i>	(Bud K)
Oct 24 (Sat-Sun)	CANCELLED: Bridges Sail <i>this sailing event is cancelled; most marinas are closed to transient docking</i>	(Bud K)
November ?	Possible Sail - location TBD	
Dec 13 (Sun)	Annual Meeting – 10am to 1pm <i>election of officers; attempt will be made at setting a sailing calendar; OYC likely closed; meeting will be held via Zoom (Meeting ID: 102 404 993 - pw: 004259) check the trailer sailor West Wight Potter forum for up-to-the-minute details</i>	(Eric Z)

(Virus continued from page 1)

report for this time period.

It started with the cancellation of **St. Patrick's Day Sail and Dinner** at Coyote Point Yacht Club, which was scheduled for March 14. The weather was already shaping up to be wet and wild, so several RSVPs came in saying they would arrive by car for the typically wonderfully delicious dinner at CPYC. Then the yacht club personnel gave us the bad news on Thursday, March 12, that the county had requested all non-essential gatherings be cancelled. It was a big disappointment for us and probably more disappointing for CPYC members who likely already bought all the food and organized the entertainment.

About that time (March 18th), I got an email from **Bob Bitchin'** with the subject "**We Gotta Be Crazy!**" to say that Latitudes & Attitudes magazine was going to be *completely free* online as a way to stave off boredom. It's still free! (see sidebar) Unfortunately, we subsequently heard that their headquarters (and home of 20+ years) was completely obliterated by the Bear Fire on Sept. 9th. But they assure us that other "remote offices" were unaffected and the next issue will be published on time.

As various counties around the Bay Area started issuing **Shelter-In-Place** orders, which were to extend until at least April 7th, the **Benicia Sail** planned for April 4th was discussed and ultimately cancelled. As Goose put it, "it's about all we can do to keep from going crazy." [That's been a recurring word. -Ed.]

In the intervening time between then and now, folks came out of the woodwork expressing their interest in **joining the club**: Jim Korn, Paul Topper, James Finley, Elias Lignos, Nate & Karisa, Greta & Andrew, Steven McGuckin, and Nik Glazar.

After only a month, several of us were growing tired of being cooped up and started Zoom meetings. (Yeah, now it's October... We complained after *a month*?! We were wimps back then!)

Thus began the weekly **Potter Yachter's Virtual Sail and Happy Hour**, which is still happening every Friday. Some people have been known to call in from their boat, and (continues next page)

Free online access to Latitudes & Attitudes - "We Gotta Be Crazy!"



You think it's bad now?

We're going to ruin your life!

Self-Quarantined? Bored out of your skull? Here's a year's worth of Latitudes & Attitudes magazine. Caution, reading these could ruin your life & make you go cruising!!

**FREE DURING THIS
EMERGENCY!**

[Click here or on any issue above](#)

<https://latsatts.com/online-magazine/>



Before & After: Magazine Headquarters
demolished by the Bear Fire - 9/9/2020

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(continued from previous page)

just like at the docks, people drop in anytime from 4:30pm until about 6pm or 6:30pm.

We'll probably keep this through December and have the **Annual Meeting** this way, too.

[Feel free to join the PY Virtual Happy Hour.](#)
[Fri 4:30-6pm ID: 102 404 993 - pw: 004259](#)

On March 26th, City of Hayward reported, "First Day Test Results: 54 of 207 positive."

And it just kept coming... I emailed Mike Kennedy about the **Potter Poker Regatta** on April 25th, and he replied, "At this point, the event is officially off. [We'll] try again next year." That's too bad.

And **Cruiser Challenge** was cancelled!

In unrelated news, a bunch of people found the Potter Yachter's page on **Facebook** and

added a "like" or decided to "follow" our activities. These people were: Tom Nixon, Ryan Perry, Michael O'Toole, Carl Weathers, Tim Castricone, Jack Bales, Paul Ford, Joe Quinn, George Szeremeta, Mike O'donnell, Jerry Johnson, Mark Gregory, James Rush, Brian Reiser, Luis Molina, Denise Elaine White Wallis, Will Ameden, Niles Keeran, Jeffrey Rotnem, Jamey Dunham, Ryan Bethke, Allen Garver Wolfe, Steve Smith, Tyrell Kneeland, Nik Glazar, and Rick Odell. (Whew! That's social media for you... but, will they get out sailing?!?)

A lot of marinas and yacht clubs were restricting visitors to live-aboards only; no transients allowed. Which generally meant that we couldn't launch our boats for weekend sails. However, some ports were considered "essential" *Harbors of Refuge*. The Monterey area is one such location, so some members decided to go ahead as planned with the **Moss Landing to Monterey Sail**. *Elkhorn Yacht Club* announced that they were closed to transients, however, which put a bit of a damper on Friday night drinks. Still, at least eight boats went.

Five boats went on the **Delta Sail** at the end of May, reportedly distancing themselves when on the docks.

I see how important it is to have a communication mechanism like the newsletter or the **Trailer Sailor Forum** to keep people informed. For instance, the **Union Valley Reservoir Sail** was officially cancelled because they were not allowing overnight stays, but at least one Potter 15 owner showed up wondering where the Potter Yachters were, since the sail was still listed on the website's calendar. As it turns out, everyone was with Goose and the commodore at another sailing site where overnight stays *were* being allowed: **Benicia Marina**.

It's been a difficult balancing act between enjoying the camaraderie of the group and wanting to reduce the chance of infection. Sailing single-handed and Virtual Happy Hours are a couple of ways to stay safe. —



We had *Happy Hour* on April 10, even though the sail was cancelled.
 (from top-left) Dave & Francesca Kautz, Phil Marcellis, Kevin Crowder, 'Goose', Dick Herman,
 George Corrigan, Cynthia & Mark Sabin, Judy & Dave Blumhorst, Sharon Soule (from the car)



Social Distancing on the docks in Monterey

News of the Weird -----

A fellow member sent this clipping.

ALERTS FROM BOATU.S. MARINE INSURANCE

UNCLEAR ON THE CONCEPT?

We've always advised trailerboaters to use a shackle to attach safety chains to the tow vehicle's hitch rather than an S-hook. This owner did get that part right. Of course, if the trailer comes off the hitch accidentally, the chains will simply pull out the cotter pin and do nothing to stop the trailer from potentially hitting oncoming traffic, or at least ending up in a ditch. Safety chains should be attached to the tow vehicle's hitch with a shackle, and the attachment points on the trailer should be strong and rust-free.



Member Contribution: After-Action Photos

Delta Sail to Spindrift

Photos by Eric Zilbert - May 30/31, 2020



On the river side at Spindrift



Jerry B and the Mokelumne River Bridge

Delta Sail - May 2020

Partial list of attendees:

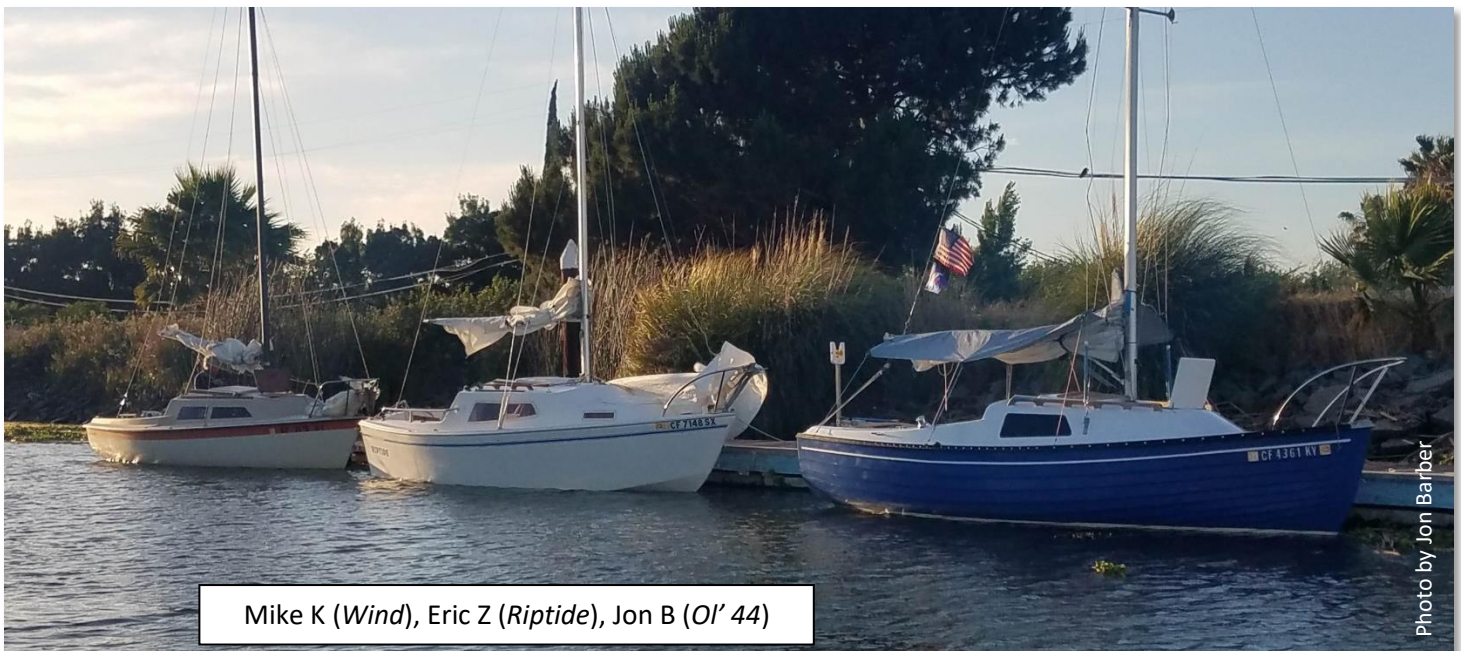
- Jon Barber – *OI' 44*, M-17
- Jerry Barrilleaux – *Sunshine*, WWP-19
- Eric Zilbert – *Riptide*, WWP-19



On the levee side



The Evil Milfoil



Mike K (*Wind*), Eric Z (*Riptide*), Jon B (*OI' 44*)

Photo by Jon Barber

Benicia Sail

Story and Photos by: 'Goose' Gossman

On the weekend of June 13/14, a group of us *Potter-Yachters* met up in Benicia for some much needed water time, as the COVID crisis tightened its reign on socially acceptable activities. We had great weather, good winds, and a PY'er pizza dock-party at the marina.

Benicia Sail - June 2020

Attendees:

- Jon Barber – *Ol' 44*, M-17
- George & Rebecca Corrigan – *Upbeat*, M-15
- 'Goose' Gossman – *ReGale*, Modified HMS-18
- Ed Hultgren – *Alma Stenbom*, M-17
- Dave & Francesca Kautz – *Zoe*, Catalina Capri 26
- David & Sharon Soule – *Nighthawk*, Balboa 21
- Larry Tkach – *Groovin' 2*, M-15
- Eric Zilbert – *Riptide*, WWP-19



Nighthawk and Riptide



Photo by Jon Barber

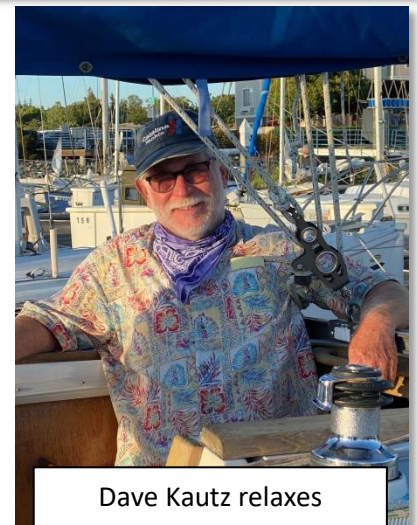
Nighthawk wing-and-wing in Benicia

On Sunday, Eric and I escorted Jon, David I., the Kautz's, and the Soules under the Benicia Bridges into Suisun Bay, as they headed upriver to Rio Vista and the Delta for a few more days of cruising.

Unfortunately, Eric and I had to turn back, but we both felt the yearning to continue on.




Ed Hultgren & Jon Barber



Dave Kautz relaxes



The fleet heads out under the Benicia Bridges

Nice to finally get on the water in these strange times. I don't recall seeing any other boats out, but with sailboats being the perfect social distancing vehicles, we were very thankful. — 



Larry Tkach talks with George & Rebecca of *Upbeat*



The Soules & Denny



Eric & *Riptide* by the Carquinez Bridge

Member Contribution: After-Action Report

Loch Lomond Sail – July 11/12

Story and Photos by: 'Goose' Gossman

We had eight Potter-Yachters make it to Loch Lomond Marina, where we filled up the guest dock at the yacht club. With six boats sailing in from Richmond, Berkeley, or Redwood City, this was a true destination sail... which, regardless of distance travelled, always adds an adventurous flavor to an outing. Of great significance was the presence of five lady Potterers out of eight boats... certainly a welcome record.



We sailed out to greet them near the Richmond Bridge. Several boats headed around Red Rock before heading past the Marin Islands bird sanctuary, where Loch Lomond marina is tucked in near the entrance to the San Rafael canal.

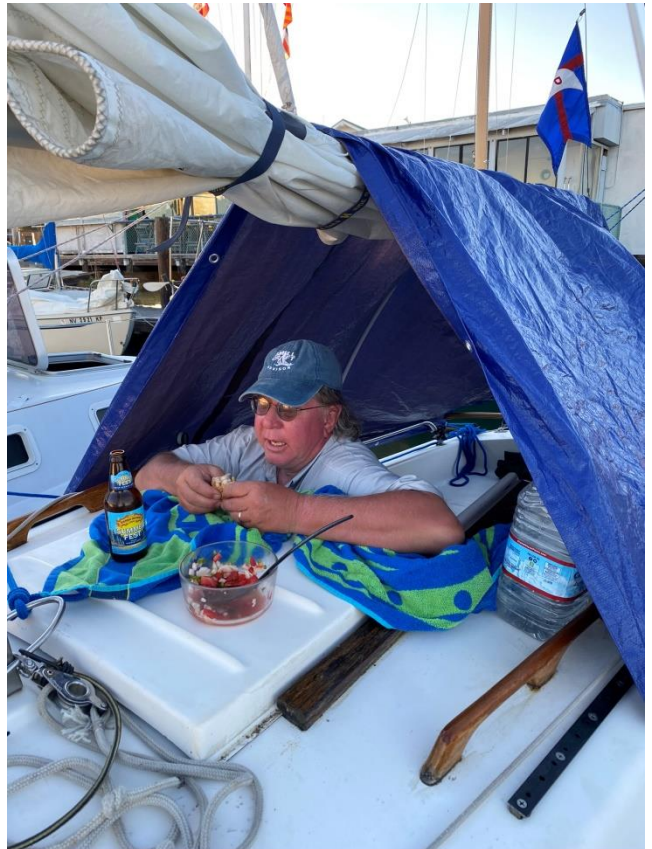


SeaDog with David and Brenda aboard

Loch Lomond Sail - July 2020


Attendees:

- Jon Barber – *Ol' 44*, M-17
- 'Goose' Gossman – *Grace*, Nimble Kodiak 26
- Jim Hunt – *Blue Moon*, Santana 2023c
- David & Brenda Iler – *SeaDog*, M-15 #154
- Dave & Francesca Kautz – *Zoe*, Catalina Capri 26
- Mark Sabin, Cynthia Shallit – *Half Fool*, ComPac 17
- David & Sharon Soule – *Nighthawk*, Balboa 21
- Eric Zilbert – *Riptide*, WWP-19



Commodore Eric dines in style with a beer

We've kept *Grace*, our Nimble Kodiak there for a few months, where summer conditions are usually mellower than the central San Francisco Bay. (excepting the infamous China Camp sail years ago! [See [PYN Sept-2010](#) -Ed.]) We all got our meals from Andy's Local Market at the marina, which is fabulous.

A few weeks later Phil Marcelis and Dan Phy sailed into Loch Lomond; while the following week George and Rebecca Corrigan launched and spent the weekend as we were all trying to escape the horrendous smoke from the fires. — 



(clockwise from here) Jim Hunt absorbs the sunset over the YC guest docks; the docking area in the morning; Jim & the llers mask up on *Grace* for Happy Hour



Returning from Loch Lomond, Dave Kautz said, "For those that are curious, we made the sail from San Rafael back to Redwood City in 6.5 hours, with only about 30 min. of motoring altogether. Winds were 18-22 in the "Slot" at 11 AM and 15-20 from behind once we were past San Bruno. Saw speeds up to 7.5 kts on the GPS when we would get nudged by a wave."

Commodore Eric Zilbert said, "Loch Lomond Sail was terrific! Once again, the Potters prove to be the most active yacht club on the bay! Eight boats showed up, and all agreed it was a terrific weekend for sailing. The wind and tides were just about perfect, as was the weather, about 28 degrees cooler than hometown Davis (103 when I got home Sunday)."



Member Contribution: After-Action Report Moss Landing to Monterey Sail

by: Phil Marcelis

The long-weekend of July 24-26, from Moss Landing to Monterey, was my first club sailing event of 2020. While some folks showed up the night before, I decided to roll in around 8am on Friday morning, knowing that the Elkhorn YC would be closed and that social distancing would limit interaction. (ie – no booze & no lounge)

We rigged & launched, and were underway in mild wind by 10:30am, ready to greet whatever sea life we would find on our way to Monterey. (It would take until Sunday for my camera to be out at the same time as a whale, but I got the shot! Two, actually.)

Monterey Sail - July 2020

Attendees:

- Jon Barber – *Ol' 44*, M-17
- Ron Dietel – *She Said No*, Precision 165
- Phil Marcelis – *Family Time*, WWP-19
- Mark Sabin – *Half Fool*, ComPac 17
- David & Sharon Soule – *Nighthawk*, Balboa 21
- Mike & Russell Swartz – *Burgundy Splash*, WWP-19
- David White – *Wee Boat*, WWP-19
- Eric Zilbert – *Riptide*, WWP-19



Jon, Phil, and Dave W rigging Friday morning



Half Fool exits Moss Landing near the landmark twin stacks

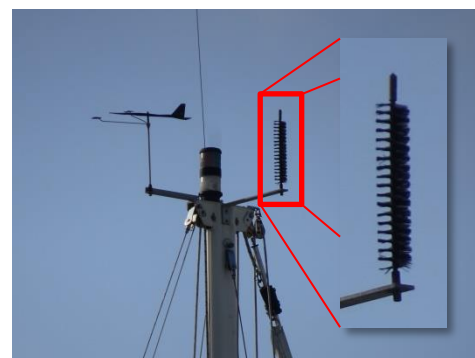


Since it was Friday, we had our 4:30pm Virtual Happy Hour, which was by now a very regular occurrence. If you look closely at the panoramic view at the top of the previous page, you'll see the iPhone connected to an external battery pack which is all being propped up by a VHF handheld. Several regulars called in and were able to hoist a drink with us, although the speaker wasn't loud enough and I generally had to repeat what was said. (Next time I should bring a powered external speaker.)



Close-up of the Zoom Meeting iPhone

A weird antenna-looking thing on one particular mast in the marina kept us mystified... until the owner appeared and I rushed over to ask what it was. Can you guess? [E-mail it to me.](mailto:editor@potter-yachters.org)



What is this "Mystery Thing"?!?!
Email editor@potter-yachters.org

The boardwalk was uncomfortably crowded, but the signage and police presence kept a mask on everyone. \$100 fine for anyone not wearing a mask! Wow.

On Saturday, it was such a beautiful day that we made a pilgrimage around Point Piños and back. The return trip to Monterey was rather sporting at a good 6 knots downwind surging to 7 knots while surfing the incoming waves. Happy Hour was more enjoyable after that exercise.

However, that's also when we found out that Mike had his trailer towed away because of an expired PTI plate. (Aren't those "permanent"? Yeah, but you have to "renew" every 5 years, and apparently he moved, so he didn't receive their notice. I wonder if he's got it back now?)



Ron and She Said No alongside Mile Buoy



Nighthawk rounding Point Piños

Sunday, we made the voyage back to Moss Landing in a calm morning with glassy seas. After a short time, the wind came out and we had a great sail to the launch ramp where we retrieved. All except Eric, who had his tow ball and receiver stolen right off his truck in the yacht club parking lot! A couple of quick trips around town to replace it, and he too was on his way home.

As for the sailing, the weekend was a rousing success. — 



Half Fool



Riptide motors along in glassy waters



Go check out Ron's video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1gFefMrrFsU>

*Member Contribution: After-Action Report***Huntington Lake***by: Jim Hunt; Photos by Dan & Gretchen Ricker*

Well, fellow PY'ers, in spite of Murder Hornets, meat bees, pandemic, and smoke, my girlfriend Becky and I (along with the other attendees) had a wonderful weekend of sailing in the Sierra at 6000' plus feet.

Crew of *Blue Moon*

There was the Friday rig-up and launch, of course, with the requisite check-in to secure boat berths, campsites and cabins, as well as parking, and then the great winds of Huntington Lake to enjoy the first evening. I tried a cabin for the first time and it was nice to have a shower with a nice(-ish) bed in a fairly well-equipped, albeit rustic, shack. The cabin I had probably no longer exists because of the Creek Fire, but I understand the lower facilities may still be there.

*Aurora* under sail

Saturday, the fleet set sail with the "Fabled Winds" of Huntington giving us some dozen tacks to Roy's little diner ([The Grill at Huntington Lake Resort & Marina](#)) for a nice burger and beer combo with a little relaxed gas bagging with the local sailors.

Huntington Lake Sail - August 2020**Attendees:**

- Jon & Laura Barber – *Ol' 44*, M-17
- Kevin Crowder – *Aurora*, ComPac 19
- Ed & Mary Hultgren – *Alma Stenbom*, M-17 #340
- Jim Hunt & Becky – *Blue Moon*, Santana 2023c
- Gretchen & Dan Ricker – *Two Can*, M-15
- Eric Zilbert – *Riptide*, WWP-19

*Alma Stenbom*

Photo by Jon Barber

Gretchen poses with *Two Can*

Afterwards, it was “bimini up” for a dead run back to the docks about 4 miles away to tie the boats up for a dock (campsite) party at Ed’s with a pot-luck to finish off the day.



Jon & Laura

Photo by Jim Hunt



Feelin’ Artsie – by Dan Ricker

The winds were up strong and early on Sunday morning, so a few boats went out. But with 20-ish knots of wind and white caps, I decided to motor across the lake to a sheltered cove for swimming and lunch, joined by Ed. My boat-dog Dex loved the swim time and my crew Becky appreciated the chill time.

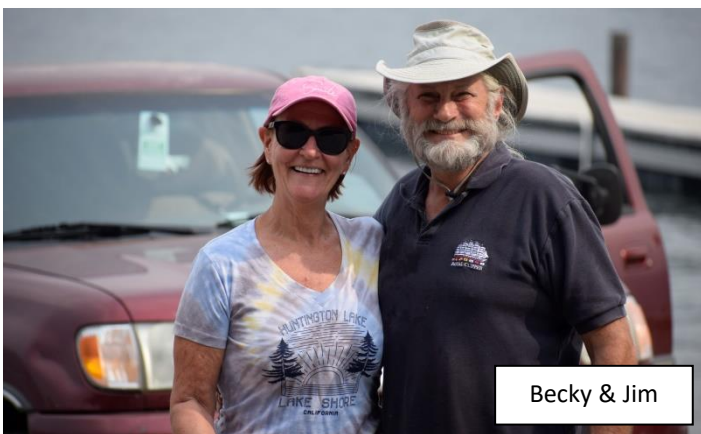


Jim (left) derigs while Kevin supervises



Blue Moon’s mast-raising/lowering tackle

It was back on the trailers and heading home but a helpful tip: don’t go up to Huntington on a short tank, gas is \$5.99 and I got enough to get down to Madera and on to In-N-Out for dinner. —



Becky & Jim



Gretchen & Kevin

Huntington Photos (clockwise from right)

Dan Ricker reacts to the cabin; another Dan Ricker “artsie” shot; Kevin Crowder, Gretchen and Dan Ricker enjoying lunch at *The Grill* of Huntington Lake Resort





Photo by Bud Kerner

Don Person at **Lake Hennessey** on August 5th



Photo by Jon Barber

Mike K & Jon B at **New Spicer Reservoir** on August 11th



Union Valley Reservoir CANCELED

Posted By: [Aurora19](#) - 30 May 2020, 11:33 AM

I talked to the Placer Forest Ranger. The Sunset boat ramp is open for Day use only. No camping in any way. They do not want anyone from outside of Placer county. (That means me.) Our local lakes – Don Pedro and New Melones – are the same: “day use only. Only locals.” I took *Aurora* out for a day-sail shake-down cruise. Never even on holidays have I seen a lot full – no place to park. Did find remote ramp that had parking but is out of the way and shallow. Got me on the water. Think I will work on trailer wires this week end. Stay safe and well.



Subject: **Potter #1137**
From: **Scott Rion** - Tue, Jul 28
(Placerville, CA)

Here is a photo of our boat at **Union Valley Reservoir**, June 2020. It was on the PY calendar but nobody else made it. Our friends with a Norse Boat got the shot as we exploited a lift. While the lake did have some dead spots, the open parts of the lake had good consistent breezes. The reservoir was full and the shoreline was beautiful to explore.



Subject: **Keel Block & Keel Cap**
From: **Jim Korn** - Sat, Mar 14

I have a 1990 Potter 19. I just had a new, custom keel-cap made. If any other owners need to replace theirs, I can put them in touch with the fellow that made mine.

I discovered [Duckworks Boat Builders Supply](https://www.duckworks.com/product-p/gar-cheek.htm) is a source for some Potter replacement parts. This is the block I needed:

<https://www.duckworks.com/product-p/gar-cheek.htm>

Contact information for the company rep that responded to my inquiry and was very helpful:

Joshua Colvin
Duckworks Boat Builders Supply
826 E. Park Ave.
Port Townsend, WA 98368
Phone: 888-683-1930



Subject: **My New Trainer Boat**
From: **Elias Lignos** - Fri, Aug 7

I bought a used *Super Snark* training dinghy to learn on. I plan to practice at Lake Merced for a while before I get a boat for the SF Bay. I've been busy fabricating a mast, spars, sails and rigging for the Super Snark, as it came without any. I just finished everything last night. Now I'm waiting for the right weather conditions at the lake.

The photo (shown at right) is my modified Super Snark.

[Wow! You're a real go-getter! Welcome to the club, Elias! -Ed.]



CALL FOR PHOTOS: PLEASE SEND US PICTURES FOR THE 2021 CALENDAR!



The Calendar Committee is putting together the Potter Yachter Calendar. Your photo can be prominently displayed for an entire month for all to enjoy. So, if you have any photos of member boats that you feel would be great for the calendar, please email them to calendar@potter-yachters.org as quick as possible, since the creative process is beginning soon.

Request for Sailing Venues

We'd like your input for the official Potter Yachter *Sailing Event Schedule* of the 2021 sailing season.

If you have a favorite place for launching that you'd like to share, send your suggestion to clubevents@potter-yachters.org



Potter Yachter Membership

Join the *Potter Yachters* – the club that has been around since 1978 and, with your participation, will continue to withstand the test of time. We're really a bunch of nice folks who would just love to have other nice folks join us. Your dues help support club activities and publish the newsletter, so you can join us on sails in person or vicariously through our stories. Annual dues are \$25 per family.

Make checks payable to "Kevin Crowder", or use PayPal to treasurer@potter-yachters.org, or use the link <https://www.paypal.me/sailAurora/25> and include "Potter Yachters Dues" in the notes.



Or see us online at:
www.potter-yachters.org

Send your payment (with Kevin Crowder
your name and address) to: P.O. Box 124
Standard, CA 95373

Organized in Northern California in 1978, the *Potter Yachters* is the longest running West Wight Potter club. Membership is open to anyone interested in West Wight Potters and other trailerable microcruiser sailboats.



Kevin Crowder
P.O. Box 124
Standard, CA 95373

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

