

# Potter to Potter

June 1981

## NOTES IN THE LOG

Three Cheers and many thanks to Bill and Joyce Wight, their good neighbors, and the Bel Marin Keys Yacht Club for a memorable day of racing, Werner's Wieners, and relaxation. Congrats to the Winners! Sorry about my (several) mistakes. Please see the corrected results in this issue. No Mistake about the good time though, and looking forward to next time!

ATTABOY! That was a WILD race! Our own Secretary/Treasurer, Jerry Barrilleaux, brought home the bacon - - FIRST PLACE at 1981 Potter National Regatta. Darroll Sandeen, from the Southern Contigent, sizzled in for Second Place. Don Bergst white-knuckled in for Third. Plenty Wind!

VERY SINCERE THANKS to Herb and Ann Stewart, Joe Edwards, and all the others who organized and produced an outstanding regatta at Lake Isabella. The opportunity you provided for us to meet and compete with other Potter Yachters, will not be soon forgotten. The barbecue and get-together after the day on the lake was really great. One of the best things about sailing a Potter is the fun of meeting and talking with other people who are literally "in the same boat". Potter folks always seem to be a friendly, sociable bunch. Again, many thanks. We hope we will have a chance to see all of you again soon, and we invite all of you to sail with us at any of our events here in Northern California. Until then, Fair Winds, and Following Seas!

Good-Guys Award: The young ladies, and you others, who have freely given your time to write those really good articles that make our newsletter a joy to receive. Stan and Dorothy Butler, who held the tiller of this organization in gentle hands, helping us all to have a very good year of sailing. The folks who always seem to be there helping to launch or load boats, take a line at the dock, fend off, or haul in. Don't know how we would manage without them! The person who handed me a cool one when I came in on that scorching afternoon. ----- Good-Guys all!

## NEXT SAIL: WOODWARD RESERVOIR 11 & 12 JULY

It's north of Oakdale. If you are not sure how to get there, please call Don (415) 443-4719, or Jerry (415) 828-3572. Early arrivals ~~please leave~~ please leave a note on the board by the entrance so we can find you. Possible events: Relay race, Powder-puff race (Miss-guided), Rudderless race (misguided?), Campfire, etc. Bring your ideas! See you there!

Bel Marin Keys Race Results		Corrected time	Overall	Overall
1. Jerry Barrilleaux	564	13:48:10	1.	4.
2. Michael McKinney	578	13:50:13	2.	5.
3. Bill Wight	818	13:51:00	3.	6.
4. Don Bergst	797	13:54:51	7.	8.
-	-	14:02:32	10.	9.
1. Manfred Sinter	923	13:51:00	4.	11.
2. Terry Cateher	821	13:51:33	5.	12.
3. Harry Grace	234	13:52:20	6.	13.
4. Fawcett Smith	60	13:53:12	8.	
5. Bud Nelson & Bob Seim	584	14:01:02	9.	
6. Terry Dillay & Red Ebers	1049	14:02:50	11.	
7. Don & Joe Barrilleaux	817	14:10:37	12.	
8. Carl Ebers	438	14:22:59	13.	

## ACROSS MONTEREY BAY

MAY 15 1981

MARINE FORECAST: POINT ARENA/POINT PINOS OUT 20 MILES Small craft advisory. Wind northwest 15 to 30 knots waves 3 to 6 feet. Swell over area 5 to 8 feet. Low clouds patchy fog tonight clearing tomorrow.

MAY 16 1981 SANTA CRUZ HARBOR LAUNCH RAMP 0800 HOURS

Potter #512, De Marsh and Don Bergst, arrives at the ramp to find Terry Gotcher and Jim Catto have launched Potter #821 and are preparing to get underway. The Harbormaster's office is closed at this early hour but the local bureaucrat comes by to insure that appropriate fees will be extracted. With tiedowns removed, #512 is coaxed into the water and rowed to the float. Potter #1051 has arrived and is quickly set up and launched by Arlen and Rod Abbott. A good long bow-painter simplifies bringing this Mk.II alongside the float. All boats are soon ready and get underway with winds about 1 knot and no ripples on the water. This condition persists to a few hundred yards beyond the breakwater. As the Mk.IIs are now sailing away from #512, De leans back on the ash breeze and supplements his smaller sail area. An inbound fisherman hails: "TOO WINDY OUTSIDE", and motors on into the harbor.

### 0920 HOURS

The water surface to windward (West) darkens, indicating an approaching breeze. About 5 to 10 knots of wind quickens the pace. It is steady and all three boats head south. Course;150° Magnetic. #821 and #1051 move swiftly away. It looks like a piece of cake and we will just have to do our best to keep up. We are looking forward to trying some radio-bearing navigation and have identified one station at Moss Landing. We will also try for some sextant sights later on. The wind is picking up and we are getting a good fast ride now. The swells have become very definite and feel like they have come halfway from Hawaii. A lot of power there, and deep water under the three Potters at last.

### 1000 HOURS

Strong winds call for reefing the main on the Mk.IIs while #512, with a smaller sail, continues past with crew hiked out and strong weather helm. The others can easily catch up once "IPO" reefs, and they won't have to wait so long for us in Monterey. Lots of wind

and big swells now. Time to reef down and lift the centerboard a little to reduce the weather helm. The boat moves fast, with an easy, comfortable motion. Heading diagonally across the seas, it begins to make short surfing runs down into the troughs. The spray from whitecaps and breakers causes a heavy haze to the east, making it hard to pick out the stacks at Moss Landing. When we can see the sail of the "John B", it looks like Terry and Jim are staying west of our course, and it looks like Arlen and Rod have dropped their main. The three boats are pretty spread out now and each keeping busy with matters of seamanship. It has become a little tricky to get a sip of coffee. Navigation games can wait until more relaxing conditions.

#### 1200 HOURS

Noon passes without ceremony. It is a fast wet ride now. The surfing runs down the flank of the swells are a long, sustained swoosh. Steady attention to balance, wind, sail, tiller, and wave is needed to keep control. An occasional stray wave splashes a cloud of spray over the boat and slops a few inches of water into the cockpit. It becomes a game. Trying to sponge it out before the next wave slops more in. It is pretty much "hang on and keep going" now. Not much conversation, wet but not cold, rolling but not uncomfortable, a strong, swift passage.

#### 1330 HOURS

At the top of a swell, De spots sand dunes off the port bow. We are too far west. We turn downwind and head toward the shore. Soon we see and hear the whistle bouy. De tacks northeast to keep the boat in control. Don rigs the vang as a preventer to prevent an unexpected jibe..With another tack to the south, the boat passes the bell bouy close to port and disturbs the swimming seals at the end of the breakwater. The wind in the harbor is strong and gusty. It takes several tacks in the close quarters to bring the boat smartly alongside the float. A check with binoculars from the seawall shows the other boats on the way in through rough seas. Good seamanship all round. Up the ramp and down rig. Suds and sea-stories at the Spaghetti Warehouse for all hands.

#### A SPECIAL SALUTE!

This trip would have been impossible without the dedicated efforts of an outstanding support crew. Our dock-hands, trailer-drivers, and sandwich-makers get a hearty "WELL DONE" from all hands!

