

Potter to Potter



NOR CAL W.W.P. NEWS APRIL 1981

NEXT SAIL WOODWARD RESERVOIR ** MAY 2 & 3

This is going to be one of the best sails of the year. Woodward is just about the best Potter place to be found anywhere. Bring the whole family! Pack up the tent and get ready for a weekend full of swimming, sailing, fishing and more sailing. This year we are going to have a bottle race, after lunch, on Saturday. Everyone please bring a clerex-type bottle, as a boat will sail across the lake and scatter out all the bottles, with the boat numbers on them, then we will have a cold beer LeMans start, that is at the starting signal the skippers must down a cold beer before getting into your boat to start the race. Any non-beer drinkers may, of course, substitute a soda for the beer. The first boat back with HIS or HER bottle, wins! Prizes will be awarded to the winners.

To get there, take 580 toward Tracy, then turn off at 120 going thru Manteca and Escalen toward Oakdale. About three miles before Oakdale, there is a sign that says Woodward, turn left and go about three miles to the lake. Look on the board, at the gate, to find out where we are camped. Launch about 9:00 a.m. For anymore information, call me (Jerry) at 828-3572.

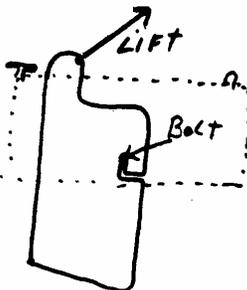
ANNUAL LUNCHEON

Don't forget about the annual Potter Yachters luncheon on Saturday, April 25 at 12:30 to 3:30, at Smerga Bebs in Livermore. This is a good chance to get acquainted with all the Potter Yachters and to plan future sails. Bring the whole family, and if you have any Potter pictures to share, please feel free to bring them with you also. A deer prize will also be given away. Hope to see you all there!

A SPECIAL SAIL

Terry Getcher is planning a Santa Cruz to Monterey sail on May 16th. All those wishing to sail with him, please call Terry at (408) 238-3656.

OOPS! THERE GOES THE KEEL



Sometimes, if you hit a submerged object, or if you are in extremely shallow water, your keel might fall off the pin. Don't get excited, this diagram shows how the keel is constructed. If you lift upwards, with a forward tilt, the keel will fall back onto the pin.

MANDEVILLE TIP CRUISE

The first major April event for the Potter Yachters was a great success! A hearty "Well Done" to Terry Gotcher for his recommendation and planning of a very interesting Delta Sail.

Among the special attractions of this overnight trip were the chance to meet some of our newer members, renewing friendships with some of our "old-timers", and a nice easy introduction to some Delta waterways that are not ROCK-RIMMED-RUTS. There is something strangely reassuring about running aground on a sloping sand bar that is missing when you strike other boat-grinders.

Saturday morning at Delta Resort began with the fine weather we have all learned to expect for our scheduled events. Still, on arrival at the launch ramp we were presented with the kind of challenge that makes sailing so interesting -- "Don't block the levee! Rig your boats down there in the parking lot!". After doing this, and applying rare navigational skills in snaking the masthead through the abundant trees, we discovered that not all hazards appear on the chart. Down masts to get under the wires. Sometimes there is no substitute for local knowledge. That minor obstacle behind us, we proceeded to launch in good order. There was a good turnout, from all points of the compass. Terry Malloy, #1047; John and Anne Ockes, #1060; Don Bernreuter, #817; Jerry Barrilleaux and Dad, #564; Manfred Richter, #784; Terry Gotcher, #821; Arnold Brown, #788; De Marsh and Son, #512; Don Bergst, #797; Abbott, #1051; Charlie and Dorothy Nearing, #921; Leighton Johe, #773; Frank Winans, #182; and Harry Gordon, #234. It is a pretty impressive sight to see a fleet of Potters filling up all the available dock space and overflowing into the stream.

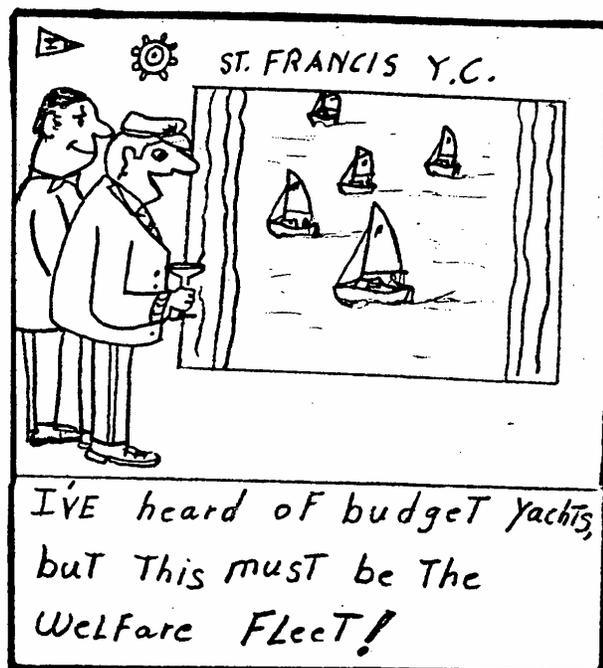
On getting underway, boats scattered widely along the eastern edge of Frank's Tract. Winds were light and variable, predominantly out of the northwest. This called for a lot of tacking, made more complex by the varying strength and direction of the sporadic gusts. Some boats chose the more open waters while others stayed in the slough. Many reported grounding one or more times, but with no damage other than moderate surprise. At about 1630, the last of us were easing into the bank in the narrow slough separating North and South Mandeville Island. Moorings were in several clusters along the bank, and activities were as assorted as the conversations. The more ambitious started fishing, some began to attend the serious duties of the galley, others just leaned back and absorbed the peace and quiet of a sunny afternoon.

The evening barbeque was unusual in several respects. The conversation was wide-ranging as always, but the menu was definately gourmet -- Steak ala Mushroom, Spuds Potter Style, Hot Dogs en brochette, Char-broiled Fishbait, and Pop-corn Magic Pan. Memorable! And all this with background entertainment by that inimitable group - THE THREE RACOONS AND A CAT! A truly great performance folks, let's have another round of applause. They don't get acts like this on the TeeVee. Do you know how you can tell if them critters is tame?

- (1.) Count your fingers.
- (2.) Pet the raccoon.
- (3.) Count yo-----.

Sunday sunrise found several silently setting sail. Or at least up early for breakfast and out onto the river, heading in assorted directions. Very light winds caused most to opt for spells of motoring mixed with the sailing. Some local exploration for an hour or so and then back toward Piper Slough. Don

Bergst followed Terry Gotcher across Franks Tract, and several boats followed Don. Very good navigation, Terry. You hit what looked to be the most convenient exit from the lake. A short trip to the launch ramp, and all boats were on their trailers in short order. Sympathy for the threesome with the little runabout with 125 big black horses on the transom -- it looked like they were facing a long paddle. That may be more horses than is used by our entire organization, and none of us had to paddle back. Nice boats, these Potters. *PLEASANT FOLKS, THESE POTTER YACHTERS.*



***** NEW MEMBERS *****

Joe and Gail Frailey
2168 Mill St.
Anderson, Ca. 96007
Phone: 916-365-6605
Potter # 615; Friendly Persuasion

The Frailey's favorite sailing ground is Whiskeytown Lake, and I can understand why. It is one of the most beautiful lakes to be found anywhere. Every Memorial Day they hold the Whiskeytown regatta, an all small class boats race. We (the Barrilleauxs') took our Potter up there about three years ago, on the regatta weekend, and there was only one other Potter.

The lake is very large, with great sailing winds, and there are lots of coves and islands for gunkholing or swimming. The rangers won't let you sleep in the boat, but there are quite a few, very nice, campsites right on the water and they are free.

Anyone heading north, give the Frailey's a call, you'll be in for a real sailing treat.

***** POTTER FEVER *****

I recently talked to Joe Edwards, on the phone, and he is really taking an active part in Potter organization's. According to Joe, H.M.S. Marine is now building Potter #1100 and they have been selling like hotcakes! People all over the country are catching Potter fever! They have been selling a great deal of Potters in Chicago and on the eastcoast. The Chicago area is about to start up a Potter club of it's own.

With gasoline reaching \$1.50 per gallon and a big swing to small cars, the Potterconcept has finally come of age. Maybe, someday, there will be a chicken in every pot and a Potter in every garage!

***** HOW TO MAKE YOUR POTTER GO FAST *****

After the last race, several people wanted to know the secrets for making the Potter really perform, so, for what it's worth, I have compiled the following list:

1. Drink Coors beer. I have tried all others, but Coors works best.
2. Discard all excess weight. This means leave the piano at home.
3. Don't drag any lines in the water, especially anchor lines.
4. Potters go fast when oakie music is played on the radio. The more red neck, the faster she'll go.
5. Talk nice to your boat. Make her think she's an expensive racing yacht.

Written by: Jerry Barrilleaux
Typed???, in the midst of insanity and baby feedings
by: Sharon (OOPS!) Barrilleaux
