

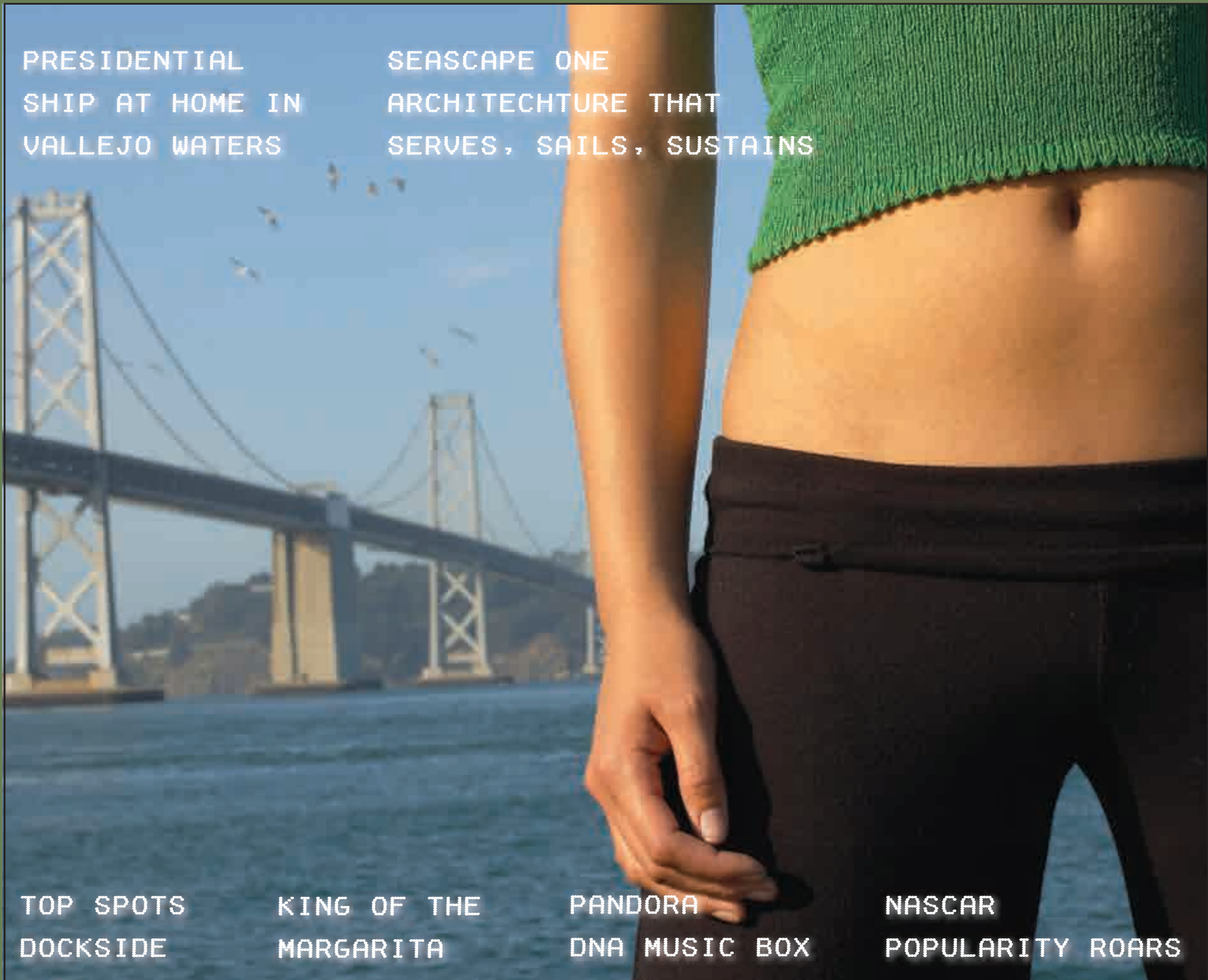


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August 2006 Volume 7, Number 7

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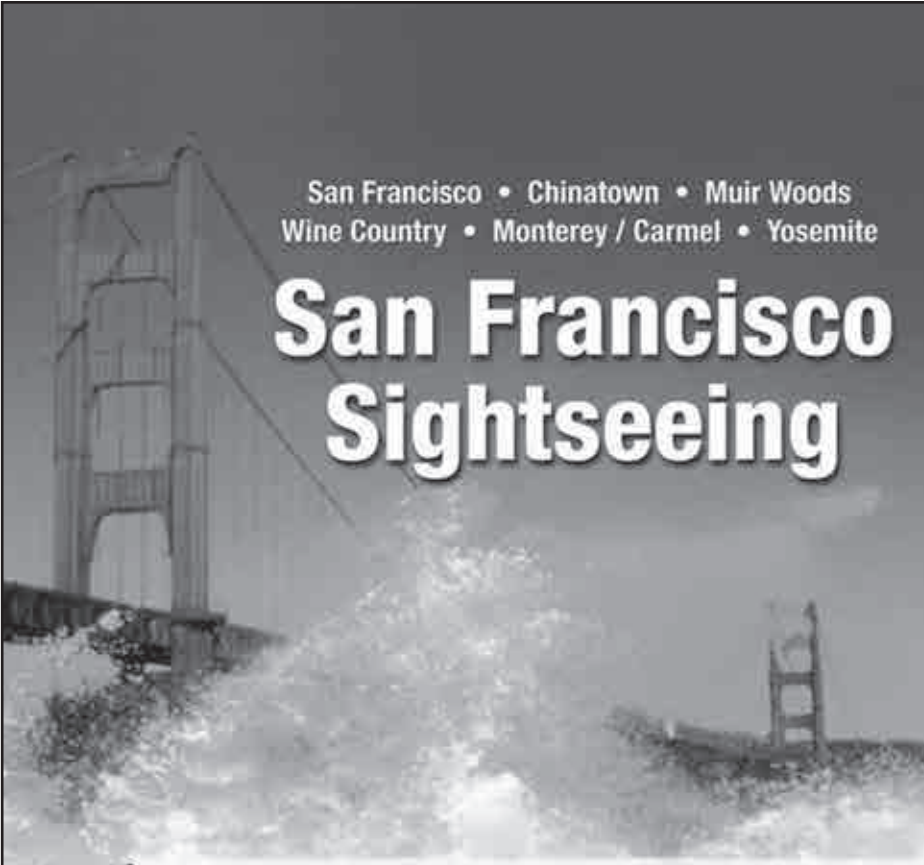
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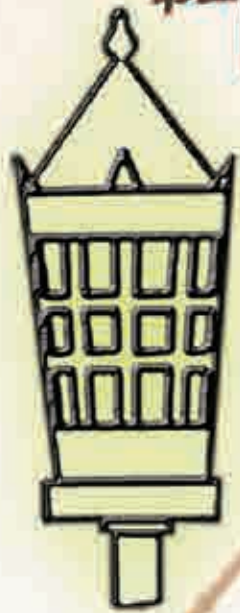
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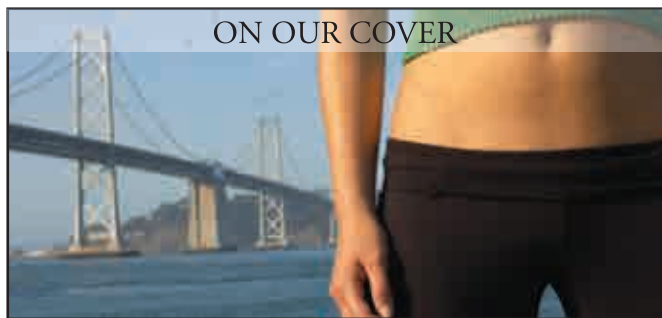


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Patrick Roddie is a Belfast-born, self-taught photographer based in San Francisco. He specializes in photographing people - to capture who they are, not just what they look like. He never crops or retouches his images. Published worldwide and featured in photography textbooks, he's covered the Burning Man event yearly, since 1998, from where his first book, *Hips*, was photographed. Find it in the SFMOMA bookstore. His website <http://webbery.com> just celebrated its 10th anniversary.

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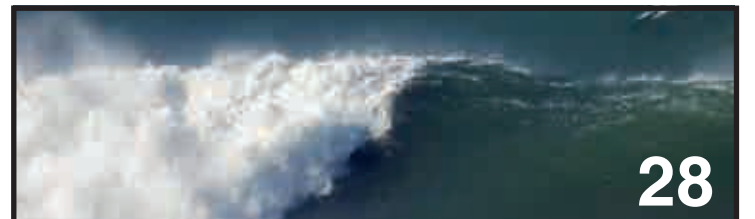
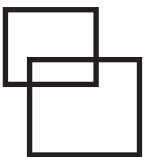
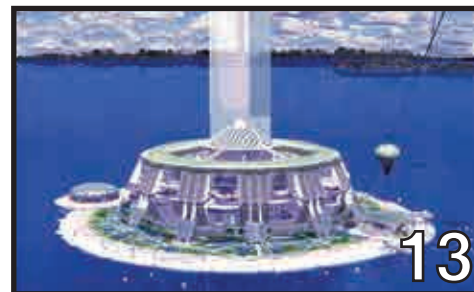
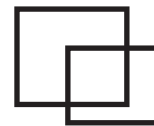
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*Editor's Note:* I met someone recently who told me he's leaving the Bay Area because there's so much going on that he can never decide what to do; so he does nothing. Hmm... There certainly were a lot of options to choose from when deciding what would be in our "Hip" issue, too. And, nautical, technical, theatrical, with a swig of margarita decadence, we got it covered - a look at waterfront life right now and a look into the future. Too much? May...be... we like too much of a good thing.

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## San Francisco Convention & Visitors Bureau Presents Marketing Plan for City's \$7.37 Billion Tourism Industry

The San Francisco Convention & Visitors Bureau (SFCVB) will present its sales and marketing plan for fiscal year 2006/2007 in a special briefing for SFCVB members on Tuesday, Aug. 1 from 8 to 10AM at the Ritz-Carlton, San Francisco, 600 Stockton St.

Newly appointed SFCVB President & CEO Joe D'Alessandro and the Bureau's top executive staff will present the Bureau's programs for 2006-2007.

"Our members represent all the potential experiences and businesses that visitors seek," D'Alessandro said. "We are only effective when we work as a team, and we will continue to work closely with our members to make San Francisco the destination of choice."

The \$15 registration fee includes a continental breakfast and materials. Attendees will receive a printed copy of the marketing plan, which details how the Bureau will market San Francisco in the upcoming fiscal year. Speakers will also elaborate on trends in the convention, leisure travel and international markets.

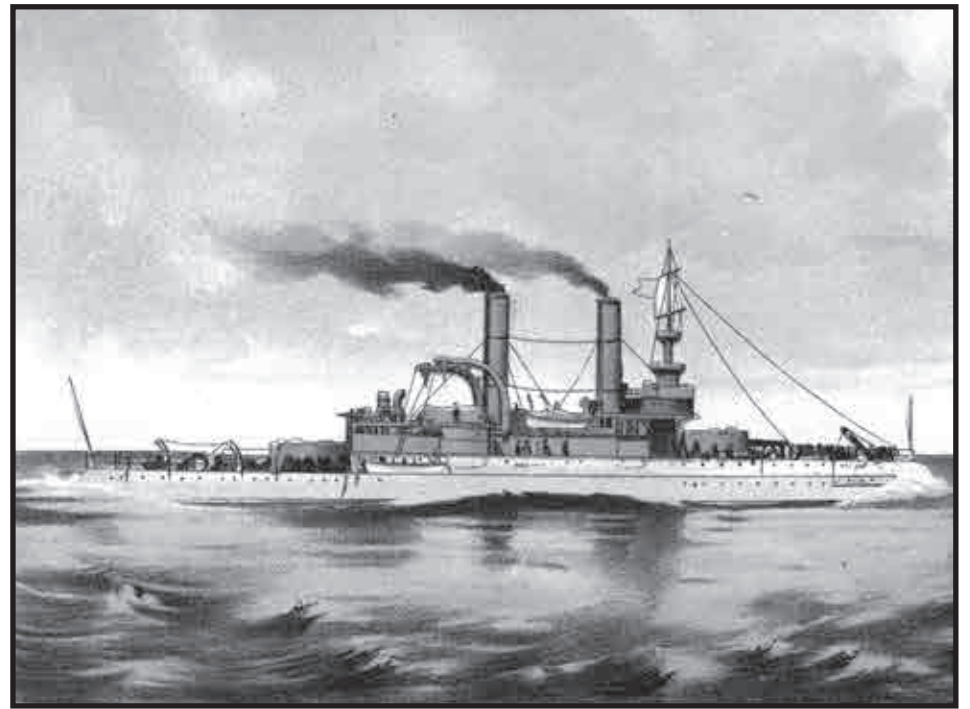
Participants can register by contacting Sarika Patel at (415) 227-2666 or email [spatel@sfcvb.org](mailto:spatel@sfcvb.org) or online at [www.sfvisitor.org/memberinfo/html/EventCalendar.html](http://www.sfvisitor.org/memberinfo/html/EventCalendar.html).

**In future issues of  
Bay Crossings  
Magazine...**

**SEPTEMBER** Harvest

**OCTOBER** History

**NOVEMBER** Game on



## Museum Plans for Presidential Battleship USS Iowa Docked at Vallejo's Waterfront

BY JAMES FISHER

If non-profit group Historic Ships Memorial at Pacific Square has its way, Vallejo Baylink Ferry riders may soon be treated to views of the battleship USS Iowa as they arrive at the Vallejo ferry building. The group has been working to obtain the IOWA to create a museum for the last 10 years, and is now backing a proposal to berth the IOWA at the now closed Mare Island Naval Shipyard, just across the Mare Island channel from downtown Vallejo.

IOWA was originally slated to go to San Francisco, but plans changed when the San Francisco City Council declined support for berthing the ship. Historic Ships Memorial then selected Vallejo as the preferred location for the IOWA. The City of Stockton is also preparing a proposal to submit to the Navy to berth the Iowa.

Supporters of the museum plan believe Mare Island, Vallejo is the ideal site due to its central Bay Area location, which is within easy reach of San Francisco (by

ferry), Marine World Vallejo and Napa Wine Country. Also, Vallejo is uniquely qualified due to its proximity to IOWA's current location in the Benicia mothball fleet and, more importantly, to the Mare Island Naval Shipyard with its rich Naval heritage.

According to Merylin Wong, President and Director of Historic Ships, the IOWA would stimulate the Bay Area economy, provide educational opportunities with various institutions including the California Maritime Academy in Vallejo, and could serve as a command center in the event of a disaster.

Support for berthing the IOWA in Vallejo has come from the Vallejo City Council, residents of the Bay Area who have signed petitions and civic and veteran's groups throughout surrounding Bay Area counties. No tax dollars are involved in the proposal. Funding will come from private and corporate donations and admission fees to the museum.

In July 2006, Mark Mazzaferro, public information officer/spokesman, City of Vallejo, sent an email in response for comment on behalf of Vallejo Mayor



Anthony J Intintoli. It stated that Vallejo enthusiastically supports the museum plan but was “not in the position to offer financial support, now, in the foreseeable future.

“Having an historic symbol such as the Iowa at Mare Island would be a wonderful addition to the tourism opportunities already in place in the City and the region,” Intintoli said, “The rich naval history of Mare Island makes for a perfect setting for a highly decorated ship. Hopefully, the Historic Ships effort will result in significant fund-raising needed to make bringing the Iowa to Vallejo a reality, and we applaud their efforts.”

USS IOWA is the namesake of the most powerful and fastest class of battleships ever built by the American people. It has teak decks and armor plating 16 inches thick, is three football fields long, and has a displacement of 58,000 tons. Built in 1943 at a cost of \$120 million, the ship served as the Air



Force One of its day, transporting our nation's only four-term and handicapped President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, to the Tehran Conference to meet with Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin. The IOWA is the only U.S. Naval ship with a bathtub, installed to accommodate President Roosevelt on his historic cruise.

USS IOWA was present at the ceremony marking the end of World War II and communicated the events of that day when world peace was achieved. The Roosevelt Institute has named USS IOWA

its newest FDR site. Vallejo would be the only city with a floating Presidential site at its waterfront.

During her six decades of service, USS IOWA came to the Bay Area for a variety of reasons – repairs, maintenance, overhaul, dry-dock, decommissioning and recommissioning ceremonies.

On April 20, 2001, USS IOWA arrived in the Bay Area to join the Suisun Bay Reserve Fleet (a.k.a. Mothball fleet), in Benicia, where it is today, awaiting a final call of duty.

In order to convince the Navy to berth the IOWA at Vallejo, Historic Ships Memorial is seeking letters of support and monetary donations. Letters and donations may be sent to Historic Ships Memorial at Pacific Square, P.O. Box 361, Vallejo, CA 94590. You can learn more about the IOWA at its web site, [www.battleshiplowa.org](http://www.battleshiplowa.org)



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## Oakland City Council Approves \$1.1 million in Cultural Funding Grants

73 Local Arts Groups and  
Artists to Receive Support

**O**akland, CA – The Oakland City Council approved \$1.1 million in fiscal year 2006-07 grants to Oakland-based nonprofit organizations and individual artists through the City's Cultural Funding Program.

The Cultural Funding Program will distribute \$1,180,262 in grants ranging from \$4,000 to \$74,140 to 73 different recipients.

These grants will promote the health and stabilization of Oakland's nonprofit arts groups as well as assist

a diverse number of organizations and artists to present arts programming in Oakland and bring art to young people via the classroom or after school.

The Cultural Funding Program has four core funding categories:

- The Organization Project grant supports Oakland-based nonprofit organizations producing arts activities for the Oakland public's benefit.
- Art in the Schools funds activities that expose young people in Oakland public schools to quality, hands-on arts experiences in a school setting.
- Individual Artist Project funding supports work by Oakland artists that culminates in a local public activity or event for the benefit of the community.
- The final funding category, Organizational Assistance, is a two-part program that promotes the health and stabilization of Oakland's nonprofit arts providers.

Following the grant application deadline in January 2006, review panels comprised of Bay Area professional artists and arts administrators combed through the 128 eligible applications.

In April 2006, the panels' recommendations were approved by the Funding Advisory Committee prior to advancing to the Cultural Affairs Commission. After the Commission's validation, the recommendations were presented to the Oakland City Council's Life Enrichment Committee on June 13. The recommendations received Oakland City Council approval at the June 20, 2006 meeting.

Organizational activities supported range from Prescott Clown Theatre's after-school program to AXIS Dance Company's innovative performances combining dancers with and without disabilities to The Crucible's fiery collaborations of arts and industry.

Individual artist grants will support projects like John Santos' public tumbadora drumming lecture and hands-on workshops, Shailja Patel's one-woman, spoken-word project depicting East Indian stories and Lisa Mezzacappa's community sound and experimental music compilation CD.

Applications for the Cultural Funding Program's 2007-08 cycle are expected to be released by early October 2006 with submission deadlines in January 2007. When released, the applications will be available at [www.oaklandculturalarts.org](http://www.oaklandculturalarts.org) or by calling (510) 238-2103.

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Oakland Metro opened on Dec.1, 2001 with the Oakland Opera Theater's production of Gertrude Stein's Four Saints in Three Acts. This non-profit arts space / live performance venue features a wide range of entertainment – from opera to hip-hop to theater, rock, theater, spoken word, comedy, cabaret, dance – shows that are a must-see.

The Operahouse is a 3,000 square ft. converted warehouse with 22 ft. ceilings and 16 ft. windows on three full sides, making it a dramatic location for intimately-sized events. It is equipped with a full theatrical lighting system, state of the art sound reinforcement and a full bar.

For another look at Oakland's Metro Operahouse and a list of current shows, visit [www.oaklandmetro.org](http://www.oaklandmetro.org).

### Oakland Metro Operahouse

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**Aug. 4, 7PM**  
Sage / Nomad / Two Seconds / Moanin Dove

**Aug. 5, 8PM**  
EPIC ARTS Casino Night

**Aug. 11, 8PM**  
Ragin Pit Magazine: Metal Show

**Aug. 13, 8PM**  
Isa Lyfe record release

**Aug. 17, 8PM**  
Oakland Poetry Slam

**Aug. 18, 7PM**  
Slackerboy Productions

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Dario Dance Show



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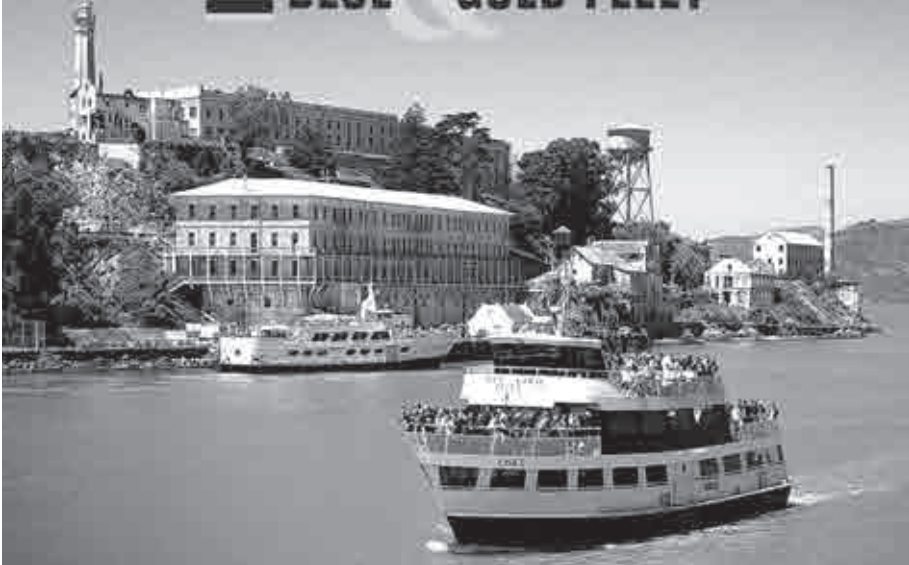
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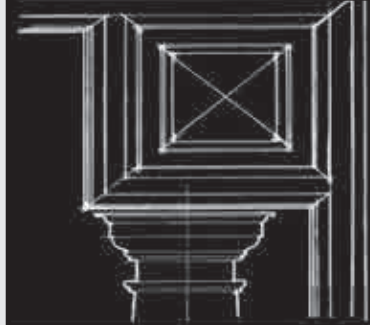
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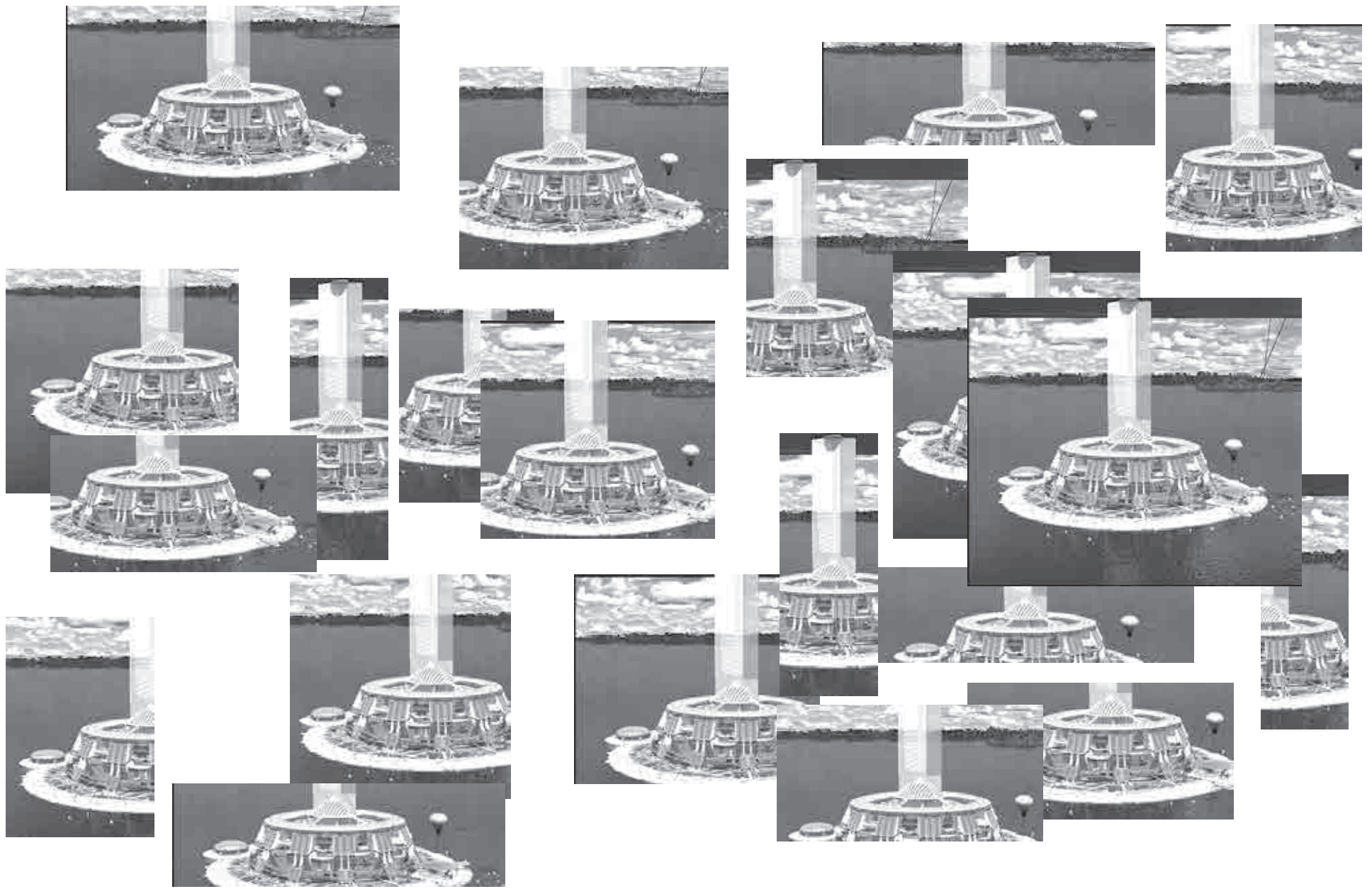
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# FLOATING WORLD UTOPIA

## Seascape One, Future Living Designed to Serve, Sail, Sustain

BY BILL PICTURE

For the last fifteen years, Bay Area resident David Grassi has dreamed of one-day creating his own floating utopia. Inspired by the all-in-one experience afforded by today's cruise ship lines, Grassi's Seascape One project is a floating community with thousands of luxurious rooms, miles of shopping arcades, urban piazzas, world-class cultural venues, recreational facilities and hundreds of acres of pristine green space, including parks, lakes and its own white-sand beaches.

Unlike a cruise ship, Seascape One will serve as both a destination and its own port of call. Seascape One will never dock, tooling around the Mediterranean Sea 365

days out of the year under the power of its own massive sail and cruising past the many cultural hotspots that dot this historic part of the world. At a total height of 3,000 feet, Seascape One will be the tallest habitable structure in the world, dwarfing even the Taipei 101 tower in Taiwan.

Another thing that sets Seascape One apart from its nearest cousin, the cruise ship, is that, while vacationers will be welcome aboard for shorter-term stays, this unique, car-free and totally green floating environment will serve as a year-round home for many of its passengers.

"Only the very wealthy will be able to afford [to live on Seascape One] initially," says Grassi, a San Francisco-based contractor by trade. "But I think that, one day, everyone will want to live like this. This is the direction

that I see the world going in."

Seascape One will afford its residents and guests a multitude of amenities, from convention facilities and museums, to a world-class performing arts center and year-round indoor ski slopes.

Its own fleet of seaplanes and hydrofoils will allow Seascape One's passengers to enjoy daytrips to nearby land destinations for business or pleasure.

But Grassi insists that the project's most unique aspect is the unique living environment's ability to adapt to suit the needs of each individual guest.

For instance, condominiums and hotel rooms will be able to be reconfigured using moveable pods. If a guest feels like working out, he or she will be able to call down to the front desk and order a fitness pod, which would then be attached, via an interior corridor, to his or her





suite for as long as requested.

Living spaces will be totally interactive as well, with beds, tables and seating that will fold out from the walls, floor and ceiling at the touch of a button. Residents and guests will even be able to program room colors.

Seascape One will also be a self-sustainable habitat. Wind turbines, hydro turbines and millions of square feet of solar cells will provide electrical energy for guests and businesses, onboard desalination stations will provide fresh water, and recycled wastewater will be used to irrigate landscaped areas and hydroponic crops for food production. Grassi expects that the fully sustainable environment he envisions will serve as a model for future generations of developers.

Over the course of the last three years, Grassi has collaborated with a team of architects, designers and animators to flesh out his idea. Last year, with a proposal and pages of artist renderings to show to potential investors, Grassi began the arduous process of trying to raise money to pay for the project's final design. The design process, he estimates, will cost between \$3 million and \$5 million, and take two or three years to complete.

Construction will then take another three to four years to complete, according to Grassi, and will cost several billion dollars. He proposes that a host country, probably Third World, provide seaside land on which to build a dry dock, where the floating island would be constructed. The dry dock could then be used to build



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more of these structures.

While Seascape One would be designed largely by American engineers, local skilled laborers would be employed for the construction phase of the project. Not only will this minimize construction costs for Seascape One's creators, it will also provide huge economic benefits for the host country.

"The word 'outsourcing' scares a lot of people, but the fact is, you can't stop it," Grassi argues. "And we would only be outsourcing menial tasks for the most part."

The final price tag, he estimates, will be in the ballpark of \$27 billion.

"We haven't had any takers yet [in the United States]," Grassi jokes. "It's funny, because these ideas

"I'm starting to think that this project just seems too futuristic to the Donald Trump's of the world."

— David Grassi

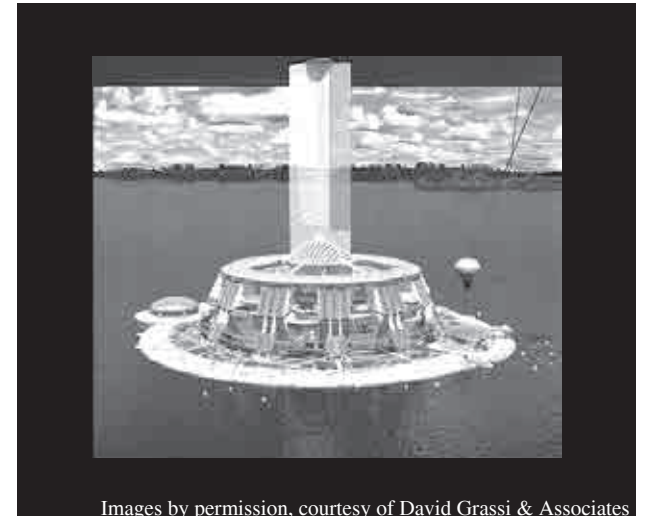
seemed like common sense to all of us. But I'm starting to think that this project just seems too futuristic to the Donald Trump's of the world."

Grassi is now seeking out investors in Asia, particularly China and India, whom he believes are more forward-thinking. Therefore, he suspects they

will be more willing to take such a substantial financial leap of faith.

"It's a clean, sane, intelligent, green environment, designed totally for people," Grassi adds. "I think that's what architecture should be, for people. And someday it will be. So why not start that right now?"

For more information about Seascape One, visit [www.seascape1.com](http://www.seascape1.com).



Images by permission, courtesy of David Grassi & Associates

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### Top 10 Reasons to Visit Point Reyes

1. High gas prices? Not a problem. Point Reyes can be reached in less than a tank of gas from most northern California destinations, including the San Francisco Bay Area and Sacramento.

2. Escape the heat. While temperatures inland soar to triple digits, the average high temperature in Point Reyes in August is a refreshing 64 degrees F.

3. The Point Reyes Lighthouse and coastal bluffs offer some of the best vantage points to view the magnificent Pacific Ocean and an occasional whale or two.

4. Activities galore – hiking, biking, kayaking, horseback riding, beachcombing, bird watching, relaxing...

5. Satisfy a hunger for a menu of fresh, natural ingredients – Tomales Bay oysters, organically-grown fruits and vegetables, natural beef, Farmstead blue cheese, and award-winning wines. On Saturday mornings visit the locally-grown, all-organic Farmer's Market.

6. Check out the critters – Tule elk, Mule deer, sea lions, harbor seals, hawks, Peregrine

falcons, and a chorus of songbirds.

7. Clean, beautiful beaches – Point Reyes National Seashore: Drakes, Wildcat, Limantour are the only beaches in CA that have received the Blue Flag certification from the U.S. Clean Beaches Council (CBC), in partnership with the International Blue Flag Program, as clean and healthy beaches.

8. A spectacular natural treasure in your own backyard – Point Reyes National Seashore features 80 miles of unspoiled coastline, 147 miles of hiking trails, backcountry campgrounds and several beaches waiting to be explored.

9. Hey, if it is good enough for The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall, then it's good enough for you!

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Point Reyes Lodging is an association of 15 inns and cottages located in the communities of Inverness, Olema and Point Reyes Station near Point Reyes National Seashore. For more information about Point Reyes Lodging or to make a reservation, visit [www.ptreyes.com](http://www.ptreyes.com) or call (800) 539-1872.

Online visitors can check availability and make a reservation 24 hours a day. While visiting the Website, don't forget to enter the drawing for a free night's stay at a participating Point Reyes Lodging property.





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# Free-Ride Offer Lures Thousands on Spare the Air Days

BY BRENDA KAHN

“No fare! Thanks for sparing the air.” That’s the upbeat message that greeted transit riders throughout the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area during a three-day smog alert in late June.

The free-ride promotion proved to be so popular that the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District moved quickly to extend the promotion beyond the initial three-day scope and to essentially double their free-ride offer to six days.

Under the original plan announced this past spring, MTC and the Air District committed to providing free transit rides on the first three Spare the Air non-holiday weekdays during the 2006 summer/fall smog season, setting aside \$7.5 million to reimburse the 25 participating transit agencies for lost fares.

In a departure from past Spare the Air campaigns, MTC and the Air District decided to make the free-ride offer good throughout the day and into the evening instead of just during the morning commute.

The new approach was put to the test early in the season when record high temperatures and low winds combined to trigger alerts on three back-to-back weekdays in June. The extended hours



Photo by Noah Berger

Eye-catching buses wrapped in Spare the Air colors, including this County Connection bus in Contra Costa County, carried the free transit message around the Bay Area.

proved to be just the ticket; compared to typical weekday patterns, nearly a half million additional travelers flocked to the region’s busses, trains and ferries, bumping up ridership by about 10 percent across the board over the course of the three-day alert.

While the free-ride promotion had the intended effect of significantly boosting ridership during the midday as well as commute hours, certain hot spots, nonetheless, experienced exceedances of the federal eight-hour standard for ozone (the main ingredient in smog) during the

three-day June alert.

“The region did the best it could, considering the weather,” said MTC spokesman Randy Rentschler. “These ridership gains are still very impressive.”

Buoyed by the enthusiastic ridership showing, and determined to ward off further air quality exceedances, MTC and the Air District scrambled to come up with another \$6 million to fund free transit rides on an additional three Spare the Air days. The two agencies acted just in time for a second series of air alert days that occurred in July.

The innovative smog-busting campaign has caught the eye of the California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance, which recently recognized MTC, BART and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District with the prestigious “Edmund G. ‘Pat’ Brown Award” for their partnership in initiating the Spare the Air free-transit program, which is now in its third year.

The public can receive advance notification of “Spare the Air” days by registering for “AirAlerts” at the website: [www.sparetheair.org](http://www.sparetheair.org)

## Spare the Air Stats

Behind the healthy 10 percent overall surge in transit ridership across the Bay Area during the summer’s first three Spare the Air days (compared to typical weekday patterns) are some phenomenal numbers, particularly among ferry systems.

The Alameda-Oakland Ferry (to San Francisco) reported a 190 percent increase in riders over the course of the three days, while Golden Gate Transit reported a 269 percent rise in passengers on the Sausalito-San Francisco ferry and a 74 percent increase on the Larkspur-S.F. ferry.

Caltrain enjoyed a 44 percent leap in ridership along its 77-mile route linking San Francisco to San Jose and Gilroy.

In terms of sheer numbers of new passengers, San Francisco Muni is in first place, with more than 135,000 additional riders taking advantage of the free-ride offer (representing a 7 percent increase).

The East Bay’s AC Transit also had a good showing, with a 15 percent rise in ridership that translated to 94,000 extra riders on its buses. BART’s 8 percent rise translated to 78,000 additional riders. Next in line was the Valley Transportation Authority in Santa Clara County, with nearly 56,000 new riders (a 14 percent jump on its buses and a 20 percent increase on its light-rail lines).



# November Ballot Gives Voters Chance to Restore Transportation Network

BY JOHN GOODWIN

With the Bay Area's fleet of ferries, buses and railcars rapidly aging, local streets increasingly pockmarked by potholes and congestion at the region's most notorious freeway bottlenecks going from bad to worse, the upcoming November statewide election — and its nearly \$20 billion transportation infrastructure bond measure — certainly comes at an opportune time.

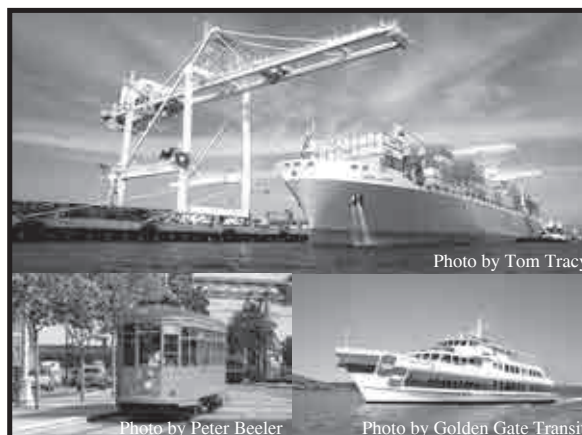
If approved by a majority of California voters, Proposition 1B — the Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality and Port Security Act of 2006 — could deliver more than \$4 billion worth of transportation improvements in the nine-county Bay Area. While this is far short of the amount needed to restore the region's transit, road and highway systems to mint condition, it would begin to reverse a decades-long trend toward underinvestment that has badly tarnished the Golden State's transportation network.

Based on established funding formulas, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) estimates the Bay Area would receive \$1.3 billion for public transportation modernization and improvement, \$375 million for local streets and roads and \$348 million for highway improvements and other projects specified in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Bay Area projects also would be eligible to compete for billions of additional dollars through several other programs identified in the bond measure:

- Corridor Mobility Program (\$4.5 billion statewide);
- Trade Corridors (\$2 billion statewide);
- State-Local Partnership Program (\$1 billion statewide); and
- Transit Security (\$1 billion statewide).

"The Bay Area will have to compete with the rest of the state for dollars from these programs, and most of the funding decisions will be made by the California Transportation Commission," explained MTC Chair Jon Rubin. "So, we can't predict exactly how much the Bay Area would get. But given the amount of congestion we have, I expect the region to compete very strongly. If the Bay Area were to receive funding in proportion to



The transportation infrastructure bond on the November ballot could deliver billions to improve port security, and upgrade transit systems throughout California.

its 20 percent share of the state population, that would translate into more than \$2 billion."

MTC's estimates for dollars potentially flowing to the Bay Area also incorporate a share of several other competitive programs that would be funded, including:

- \$100 million for a Port Security Program, through which the State Office of Emergency Services would fund grants for ports, harbors, ferryboat operators and ferry terminal operators around the state;
- \$1 billion for projects to reduce vehicle emissions related to freight movement along California's trade corridors;
- \$200 million to retrofit or replace school buses to reduce children's exposure to diesel exhaust;
- \$500 million for rehabilitation of the state highway system;
- \$250 million to fund local signal-light synchronization and other intelligent transportation system improvements;
- \$400 million (including \$150 million for rolling stock) to improve intercity rail travel around the state;
- \$250 million for high-priority grade separation and railroad crossing improvements; and
- \$125 million to match federal funds for seismic work on local bridges, ramps and overpasses. Funding for all programs supported by the bond measure would be provided over 10 years, subject to annual appropriation by the Legislature.

## Companion Measures Offer More Help for Transportation, Housing

By John Goodwin

Two companion measures to the transportation infrastructure bond measure, Propositions 1A and 1C, will appear on the November ballot as well. If approved by a majority of voters, Proposition 1A would largely close the loophole that has allowed the governor and Legislature to divert voter-approved Proposition 42 funds away from transportation to plug holes in the state's General Fund. Overwhelmingly approved by California voters in 2002, Proposition 42 was intended to ensure that all the taxes motorists pay at the pump would go to transportation. But it included provisions that allowed the Legislature — by a two-thirds vote — to suspend the measure if the governor issued a proclamation declaring that transferring the funds to transportation would negatively affect the General Fund. The governor and legislators took advantage of these provisions for three consecutive years.

Beginning June 30, 2007, Proposition 1A would permit the state to borrow Proposition 42 funds only twice in any 10-year period; and then only on the condition that the funds would be repaid with interest and within three years. A second loan of Proposition 42 funds would not be allowed until the first loan was fully repaid. MTC analysts estimate that approval of Proposition 1A would provide about \$270 million in additional transportation funding to the Bay Area each year, including \$113 million for local street and road maintenance.

Proposition 1C is a \$2.8 billion bond measure focused on affordable housing that includes \$850 million for regional planning, housing and infill incentives that would be administered by the state Department of Housing and Community Development. This money could be used for anything from traffic mitigation to parkland acquisition, though follow-up legislation is expected to provide more definition of project eligibility. Voter approval of Proposition 1C also would provide \$300 million to fund grants for cities, counties or transit agencies for infrastructure to make transit-oriented development (TOD) feasible and loans for transit-oriented housing developments within a quarter-mile of a transit station. For a project to be eligible for funding, at least 15 percent of the housing development's units must be affordable for at least 55 years.





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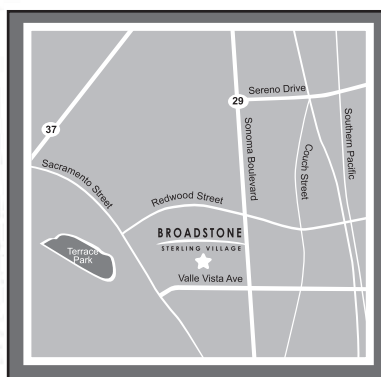


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WATERFRONT LIVING

# DOCKSIDE DWELLING: LIVING SHIP TO SHORE

Denise's "Top Picks" for Best Places Around the Bay to Begin Living the Ultimate Waterfront Lifestyle

BY DENISE DOHOGNE

**T**here's nothing like the serenity of relaxing at home at the end of the day, sipping a glass of wine, while watching the sunset over the water. Or as enjoyable as having friends and loved ones over on a warm, sunny day to barbeque on your private deck overlooking the marina, before going out for an evening cruise on the bay on your boat, docked right in front of your home.

Nothing compares to the enchantment of falling asleep to the distant sound of fog horns romantically calling in the night, waking up to the crisp, clean ocean air, and walking down to the shore for a stroll with the dog and a mug of fresh coffee.

One of the most common questions I get from people seeking this lifestyle is where to find the best opportunities for homes in great communities on the water in the Bay Area.

From my experience, the answer is almost always found by looking to the Bay and Delta regions of Solano, Napa and Contra Costa Counties. This area's scenic waterways offer over 1,000 navigable miles of pristine shoreline, numerous yacht clubs and harbors, new and exciting community revitalization, breathtaking water views, and myriad wildlife watching opportunities.

To advise my clients where to home search, I've come up with a "top picks" list of waterfront developments (in no particular order), many of which are newer construction and becoming quite popular places to live. All are within easy access to the modern conveniences of civilization.

## Benicia

- Portside Village, completed in 1999, is a marina community of contemporary village-style town homes designed for the utmost in live-ability, within walking distance via waterfront esplanade to the downtown historic main street.

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- Harbor Walk is a beautiful new coastal residential/commercial community located where the heart of historic downtown meets the water. The architecture and interior design combines old town charm and contemporary amenities, with a live-work lifestyle.
- Waterfront Village is a new community of eleven beautiful single family homes in a highly desirable location directly on the waterfront one block from downtown.

**Vallejo/Glen Cove**

- Vista Del Mar is a community of luxurious Mediterranean-style single family water view homes perched above the Glen Cove Marina and the Alfred Zampa Bridge, the newest suspension bridge built in the U.S. in 35 years. Hidden behind a palm-lined gated entry to afford the ultimate in privacy and ambience, one can escape here to a home that feels like a resort.
- Harbor Homes is a small waterfront community of newer town homes sitting on the protected Glen Cove Waterfront Park and Bay Trail, next to the Glen Cove Marina, right below Vista Del Mar.
- Mare Island includes a broad range of home styles and sizes, ranging from single-family residences to town homes. Neighborhoods are designed with curved tree-lined streets, neighborhood parks and broad sidewalks, and many will enjoy views across the bay

**Napa**

- Napa Yacht Club is a gated community of contemporary style villas with unique architectural features and innovative amenities. Surrounded by rolling hills and lush vineyards that provide a background of green and gold

There's nothing more conducive to a relaxing, yet active, lifestyle than having a "vacation home" that's your real home year-round.

to the rippling blue of the Napa River, you'll experience few greater pleasures in life than sailing home to your own private dock.

**Point Richmond**

- SeaCliff Estates is a newer community of single family homes set on a hillside with sweeping views of San Francisco Bay overlooking the Richmond Yacht Club. This is a special place with

local charm and natural beauty right in your own front yard.

Others that make my list and certainly deserve mention are:


- Hercules-Pinole waterside developments
- Promenade at Delta Coves, Suisun City Marina
- Marina Park /Downtown, Pittsburg Marina
- Discovery Bay
- Delta Coves, Bethel Island (2008)

There's nothing more conducive to a relaxing, yet active, lifestyle than having a "vacation home" that's your real home year-round.

Whether you enjoy the beauty and

solitude found along the Delta shores or the nautical charm and spirit of the marina life, there is a waterfront home that's just right for everyone. There are numerous places within our beautiful Bay Area to enjoy waterfront living – we are certainly blessed that there are so many to choose from.

Denise Dohogne is a Waterfront Real Estate Specialist serving the San Francisco Bay & Delta regions of Solano, Napa and Contra Costa Counties. She is broker/owner of Denise Dohogne Real Estate in Benicia, Captain of the vessel *Hey Diddle Diddle* and member of the Vallejo Yacht Club.  
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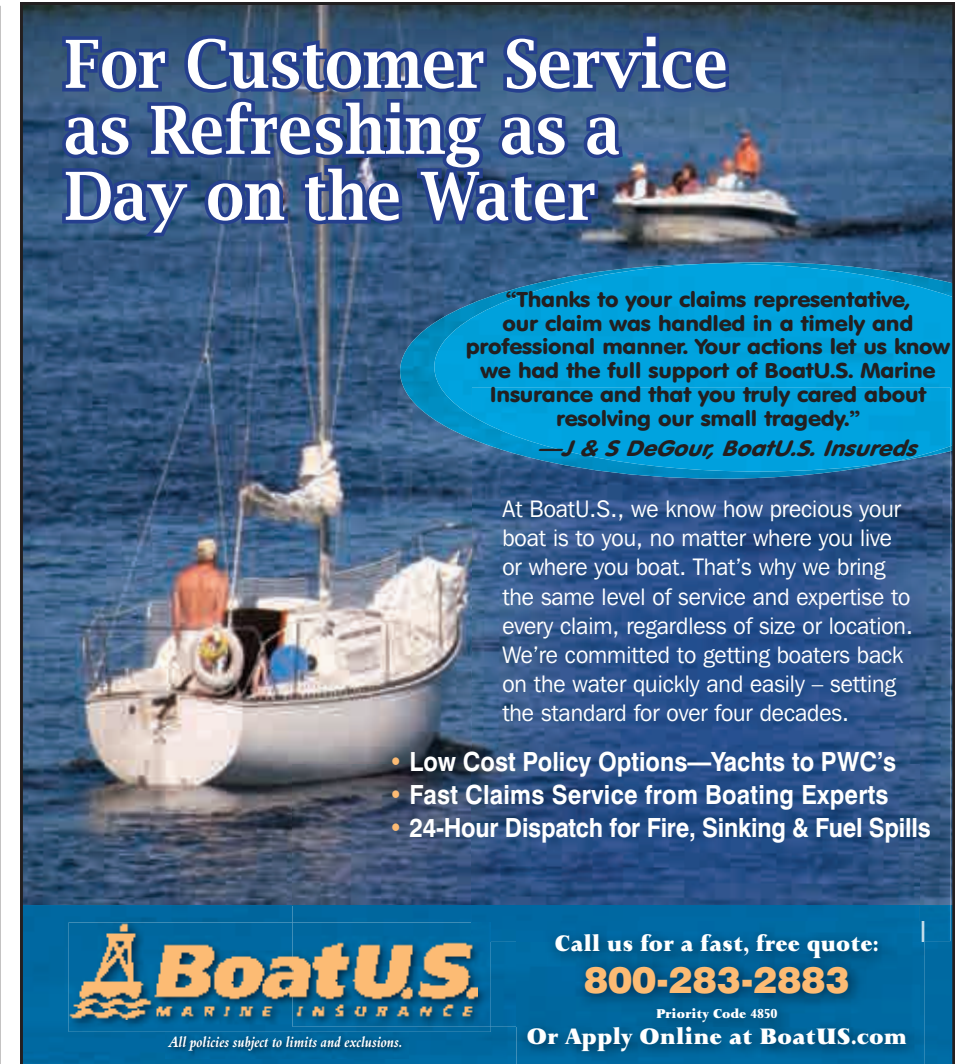


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## OL' PROS, NEW "NOS" SURROUND AMERICA'S MOST POPULAR SPECTATOR SPORT

BY SCOTT HARGIS

**W**hen you first walk into the Grandstands at Infineon Speedway, in Sonoma, your first impression is that it's much like any other sports venue. You walk through a dimly lit, concrete tunnel lined with food vendors, souvenir stands and filled with families clutching their tickets and looking for the restrooms.

Then you emerge, blinking, into the intense sunlight and find yourself overlooking the track, which is busy with official-looking people performing obscure tasks and carrying themselves as insiders always do in the presence of outsiders. You find a seat, balance your chili dog on your knee and await developments.

So far, you could be in AT&T Park, McAfee Stadium or Monster Park, but here's where the resemblance ends — without warning, a whining, buzzing noise builds to over 115 decibels, an intensity that not only precludes conversation, but all rational thought processes as well.

It takes maybe three seconds for the sound of a race car to build to the point where you feel it like a physical force pushing you back into your seat. The sound peaks, and your attention is riveted to the track where a blue-and-lime-green rocket on wheels is flying by at what looks like Warp Factor Eight.

In another three seconds, the car has traversed the space in front of the grandstands and is out of sight around a corner. The roar subsides. You start breathing again and find that your chili dog has fallen off your knee and is resting upside-down on your shoe.

This is NASCAR.

There are people who spend thousands of dollars to witness this — travel expenses from as far away as Southern California, weekend passes, programs, beer, souvenirs and yes, hot dogs. There are also people who would willingly spend thousands of dollars to avoid it.

And they aren't the people you think they are.

Scott Bianchini, from Pacifica, would qualify in most people's minds as a stereotypical NASCAR fan — he sports a long, bushy beard, wears a camouflage



NASCAR fans (from left): John Creen of Modesto and two young fans; Desi Madrid of Santa Rosa; pit crew member Ben Johnson of Owensboro, KY; unidentified man enjoying a corndog. Top (from left): Infineon Raceway, Sonoma; fans crowd the fence to see the action. Photos by Scott Hargis



baseball cap and remembers fondly the days of dirt tracks, unpaid drivers who changed their own oil and the early culture of the sport. He had come to Infineon to watch the qualifying heats, but says he's drifting away from NASCAR because of the corrupting influence of the money that has taken this sport from its red-dirt, southern roots to the mainstream of American culture.

"It's less sport and more entertainment now," says Bianchini, who grew up with NASCAR and admires drivers Dale Earnhardt, Jr. and Denny Hamlin.

Conversely, Ben Balester, a chef at Poggio in Sausalito, was in the stands, wearing designer sunglasses and watching avidly as his friend Austin Cameron drove car number 28 in the qualifying rounds. A chef? From Sausalito? Yep. And he's not alone.

NASCAR is "in," like iPods and Mini Coopers. And with this new breed of fan comes money and a new kind of NASCAR. Bubba from Georgia is here, so is Raj from Berkeley and Erika from San Francisco's Marina District.

NASCAR drivers today are celebrities in their own right. And they aren't all southern good ol' boys, either. While the unofficial home state of stock car racing is South Carolina, drivers today hail from all over. At the recent Nextel Cup Series Dodge/Save Mart 350 weekend, driver Jeffrey Gordon of Vallejo, CA was inducted into the Raceway's "Wall of Fame."

And as it becomes more lucrative, stock car drivers' status have climbed as well. Recently, Juan Pablo Montoya, a well-known Formula One Grand

wheel, but the fans can't really see it from the stands, and for the most part seem oblivious of it. They're showing up for the thrill.

But it's also big business. The Infineon Speedway does not release revenue or attendance information, but the most recent economic impact study (1999) projected overall revenues, including hotel, restaurant and ticket sales approaching \$1 million, and a large event like the Nextel Cup Series in June will attract 100,000 fans, an official with the track said.

With this kind of revenue, municipalities are eager to get in on the action. But local citizens aren't always so eager.

The proposed Riverside Motorsports Park in Atwater, CA is facing opposition from citizens, County Supervisors and even chicken farmers concerned mainly with noise pollution. Also cited in the 3200-page environmental report released by Merced County were issues stemming from the anticipated 50,000 fans expected to attend races at the new complex.

"The biggest issue is traffic," says Bill Nicholson, Merced County Planning Director. With a county population of just over 200,000, an influx of 50,000 race fans is a serious issue, both in terms of traffic control and air pollution. Fifty-thousand idling cars, lining up to enter the facility create a lot of smog.

Proponents cite the economic benefits of the increase in visitors; but Tom Grave, spokesman for Citizens Against the Roadway (CAR) says, "Are we willing to sell out the health of our people for some



Prix driver, announced that he is switching to Stock Car racing, in part because of the money involved.

So what is it about NASCAR?

In the abstract, it's hard to understand. Most NASCAR tracks are simple ovals, and the cars go around and around and around and... you get the picture. There's always the potential for a spectacular crash, but the "action" is fairly tame, as compared with, say, World Cup Soccer or a good boxing match.

NASCAR fans seem to relish the chance to bear witness to the raw power and speed of the cars. There is certainly strategy and finesse going on behind the

economic gain? Fifty years from now, somebody's going to say 'How did you let that happen?'"

Health and traffic issues notwithstanding, NASCAR seems here to stay.

With broader popular appeal than any other sport in America, it seems able to please both urban sophisticates and its rural base equally — occupying a middle ground that would be the envy of any politician. A day at the races will thrill you, deafen you and satisfy your inner Bubba. Bring your earplugs, and hang on to that chili dog!

Above left: Nascar number 88 is driven by Dale Jarret. Top right: NASCAR driver Jeff Gordon of Vallejo receiving "Wall of Fame" plaque; Car 11 driven by Denny Hamlin; Pit Stop area at Infineon Raceway; NASCAR stock car. Photos by Scott Hargis



# EMPRESS DANCES AND CRUISES

BY KIMMIE HAWORTH

**H**ave you ever wished you could be out on the water on a beautiful day? Seeing all of the boats that cover the bay on weekends is one of the joys of living in the Bay Area. Well now, you can be part of the action, and for very little \$\$\$.

A unique San Francisco Bay experience can be yours on Sunday

afternoons through the fall.

My friend Jan Wahl, the hat lady and resident movie critic on KRON TV, recently lost 6 dress sizes by taking a dinner-dance cruise on board the Sausalito Empress every Sunday afternoon. She tells me that it is an absolute ball. Jan has dwindled in size by dancing herself silly on board a magnificent yacht. Sounds like heaven to me.

The Sausalito Empress departs from Clipper Yacht Harbor in Sausalito every Sunday afternoon. Then, from 4–8PM,

guests are treated to lavish hors d'ouvres, which include chicken, steak, a cheese platter, crudités and pasta.

Chefs Jeremy McGuire and Brittney Morgan are working like galley slaves keeping the delicious food coming all throughout the duration of the leisurely afternoon cruise.

There is always live dance music, sometimes swing, sometimes rock, and guests enjoy tripping the light fantastic on the spacious dance floor while the Sausalito Empress cruises slowly around San Francisco Bay, and the views are spectacular.

Built in 2003, the 90 foot yacht boasts rubbed wood interior and accommodates up to 149 guests on 3 decks. There are two cash bars; the wine, beer, soda and sparkling water is served upstairs while a full bar on a lower deck.

Jan has dwindled in size by dancing herself silly on board a magnificent yacht.

I can't wait to join Jan on one of her nouveau diet cruises. I'll bet she does more dancing than drinking and dining while on board, but I hope to experience the full pleasures of the trip.

Tickets are \$40, and advance reservations are suggested since they sell out quickly. Also, 5 percent of each cruise is donated to a local charity.

## August Boating Events

### Master Mariners Benevolent Association Events

[www.mastermariners.org](http://www.mastermariners.org)

(415) 364-1656

Aug. 19; 1200-1700

Open House For Members of the Master Mariners - RSVP required - at the Spaulding Wooden Boat Center. The agenda includes a tour and discussion on the goals of SWBC and how it relates to MMBA.

Contact: Terry Klaus (510) 207-4656

### Tall Ship Education Academy

[www.tallshipacademy.org](http://www.tallshipacademy.org)

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# VIEW FROM THE HELM: WHAT'S SO HIP ABOUT BOATING?

BY ED & PAM MCGRATH

**L**ook at the sleek ads in the yachting magazines. (Look at ours first and last, of course!) There's plenty to make you drool. No matter what your taste, those photos, write-ups and the promise of good times can make your mouth water. In the bounty and beauty of our Bay, Delta and coastal waters, there's sufficient evidence that life aboard is a happenin' life.

## So what's hip in boating?

While there are essentials that every boater must have, there are options and trends that can turn boating into a customized good time.

### Using technology

Boating technology is advancing as fast as in other industries. There is no shortage of bells and whistles for your dream boat.

If you envision yourself relaxing in your custom-made-to-your-tushy captain's chair while navigating via keyboard and computer screen, your vision could certainly be a reality.

- Skippers now use joystick steering and thrusting while video cameras cover your aft.

- Manufacturers of marine electronics offer the latest and greatest in navigation tools.

- Computer interfaces have charts of the Bay on which you can see the image of your boat moving from point to point, a dotted line remains on the screen allowing you to retrace your route. Beats bread crumbs, eh?

### Being captain

We happen to think that boating in-and-of-itself is hip.

- It's cool to be your own captain.
- It's stylish to invite your friends for a cruise to the yacht club for dinner.
- It's chic to serve the bubbly on the aft deck.

- It's happenin' to watch the race up-close and personal.

- It's trendy to pull up to the dock at Sam's in Tiburon or Horizon's in Sausalito to have dinner.

- It's all the rage to enjoy watersports in the Delta behind a "muscle" boat.

- It's smart to... Well, it's smart to know how to do all of these things in a safe manner.

- It's smart to be the captain and crew who know how to remain in control in any eventuality.

### Smart boating

A client of ours just did the smartest, coolest, hippest thing! She hired an expert to go over every system on her boat and teach her what it is, how it's used and how to trouble-shoot it. Then she took "captain lessons."

- She learned how to read navigational charts.

- She learned the "rules of the road."

- Then, she and her boat became one when she learned how to maneuver in tight quarters as well as out in open waters.

Her excitement and pride were hard to contain as she said to me, "I don't just own a boat; I'm a boater!"

This lady had no boating experience prior to purchasing her trawler. She had a sense of adventure and a desire to live the boater's life.

Following her dream then following up on doing it right makes boating better for all of us.

Smart boating is always in vogue.

## The Insider's Guide to Better Boating



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Ed has been selling boats in the Bay Area for over 12 years. He and his wife, Pam, opened McGrath Pacific Yacht



Sales three years ago. Being at the helm of their 36' trawler is one of Pam's favorite activities.



# CalCup Race Day Details Keeps Windsurfers on Their Toes

BY JANE MORSON

**C**alCup is an annual series of windsurfing races held in the Bay Area that has 20+ years of history in the Bay.

Since the CalCup inaugural beginnings in the 1980s, where the races were then only held in Berkeley's south basin, CalCup has evolved. Now the races are held anywhere in the Bay Area.

Today Mike Percey is "at the helm," a position he has held since 1999. Taking over from Don Lester and Emily Dale, Percey has strengthened CalCup and taken it into the 21st Century.

Now, CalCup has its own race

committee boat, website and telephone hotline, which is key because nobody, except the CalCup organizers, knows where the day's races will be held; and that keeps everyone in suspense.

On the Friday afternoon, the day before the race (all races are on Saturday afternoons), the race location is announced, with the proviso of a possible update by 11AM on the morning of the race.

Everyone involved is kept on their toes.

This is where the hotline comes in. Everyone has access to the telephone hotline and the CalCup website where all the details of the races can be found,

which includes details and a map, so that participants can find the day's rigging and racing locations.

You can't be exactly sure until the morning of the race, exactly where the day's races will be held.



Photo by Whit Poor

The CalCup organizers' day starts at around 6:30AM. First, the CalCup boat has to be prepared. Race Committee and the organizers have a breakfast meeting at about 9:30AM to look at the wind,

weather and water predictions. Based on all the information, they then decide if the racing venue will change. Race day conditions have been known to hold up to seven races in one day's event.

Next, the course is drawn up. Afterward, the CalCup boat is towed to a boat launch site nearest to the racing venue where organizers and racing crew set the day's racecourse.

A skippers meeting is held at 12:30PM at the rigging area, then depending on the wind, the first race starts at 1:30 PM.

At the end of the day, the organizers put the boat safely away – until the next CalCup race day.

This is the fun and suspense of CalCup, because you can't be exactly sure until the morning of the race, exactly where the day's races will be held. The CalCup format is very special. Where else in the world can you find this?

There are three more races to be held in this year's CalCup series, unless we are "skunked," then another date, if possible, will be added.

The last three race days of the CalCup Race will be on: Aug. 19, Sep. 9 and Sep. 19. For more details visit the CalCup website [www.calcupevents.com](http://www.calcupevents.com) or [info@calcupevents.com](mailto:info@calcupevents.com)

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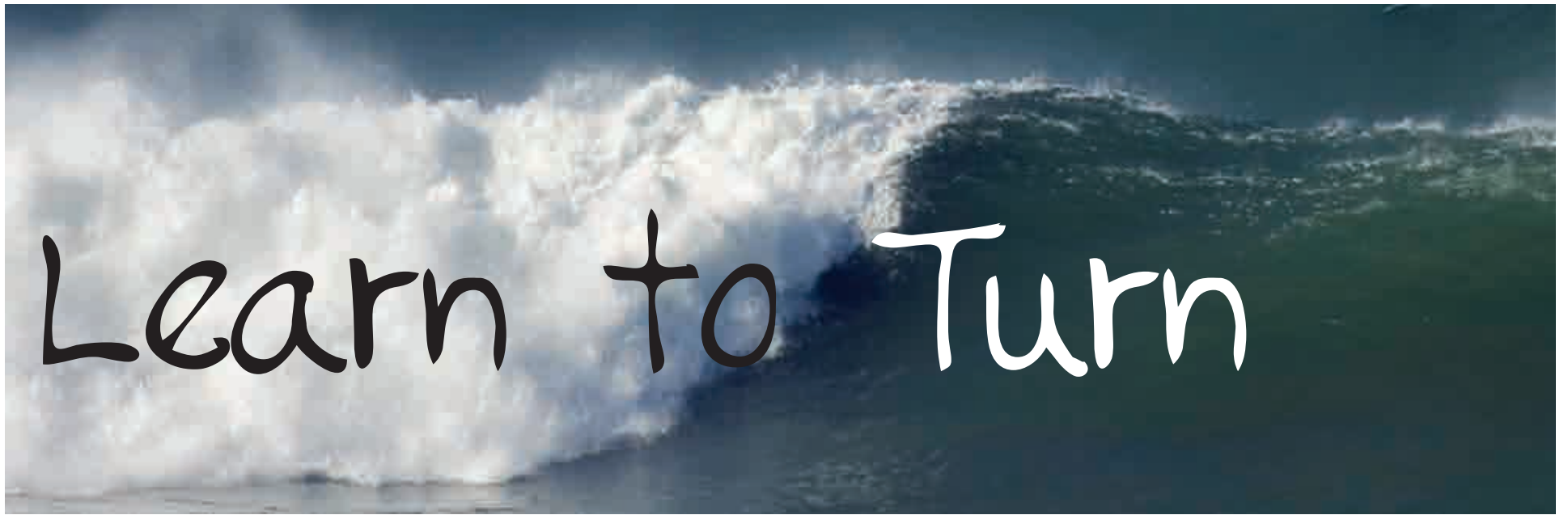
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# Learn to Turn

BY ALEX KOLOVYANSKY

**W**hat an incredible summer for surfing. If you've been out there it's likely that you learned pretty quickly that the key to "surfing" is

balance and weight transfer on the board. Most beginners learn on a long-board and figure out how to stand-up. Steering comes next, so let's focus on how to take advantage of our hips and feet to turn a long-board.

Let's start with what makes a board turn.

A surf board turns because of the drag or friction being applied to one side or the other. Long boards typically have either a single big fin alone or with 2 smaller side fins. The function of the fin(s) is to keep the board on a straight course and help it from side slipping (imagine a slippery road) down a wave.

The way to counter the fin's function is to use your hips to shift weight through the feet either forward or backward (imagine rocking back and forth). Shifting weight backward through the back of the board creates resistance and makes it easier to turn the board. Conversely, shifting weight forward reduces resistance and increases the speed of the board. It will take some practice to get used to how much force is required, so experiment.

The next step is actually turning the board. This is accomplished by leaning

in the direction you want to turn and putting pressure to that edge of the board. It is easiest to first point the upper body in the direction you would like to go in and then shift your weight through your hips to bring the board to meet the upper your body. These are the basics for turning a surf board and are the key elements for the bottom turn and top turn on a wave.

Mastering basic turns allows you to surf the same wave a lot longer because you can go where the wave is.

Those who practice other board sports, such as snowboarding or skateboarding, will find similarities in the weight shifting technique, but even if you haven't done any board sports before with a little practice, beautiful waves and some sunshine, you'll be taking long graceful cruises at Pacifica, Ocean Beach, or anywhere in the world.

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### Surf Rider Foundation

Now that you are ready to carve up the waves, be cool and keep it clean as well.

The Surf Rider Foundation, a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the world's oceans, waves and beaches for all people offers beach clean up days and information.

Visit [www.sfsurfrider.org](http://www.sfsurfrider.org)

### Pacifica Surf Reports by Text

There is a new text message service in San Francisco that provides the latest surf reports at some of the better known spots in the area.

You can text "SFSURF Pacifica" to 67463 (MSGME) to get the latest surf report for Pacifica for free.

Visit [www.msgme.com](http://www.msgme.com) for more info. Now get out there and surf!



# WATERFRONT ADVENTURES

## August Waterfront Activities

- August 5 10AM – 2PM - Pillar Point Harbor Tour, California Canoe & Kayak, 800-366-9804, [www.calkayak.com](http://www.calkayak.com)**  
Kayaking is a great way to get outdoors and enjoy the natural setting of the lovely coast side region of Pillar Point Harbor in Half Moon Bay. Get up close and personal with harbor seals, marine birds and other wildlife. No previous experience necessary! \$49 including equipment.
- August 5 10AM – 3PM - Angel Island Kayak Tour, Outback Adventures, Larkspur, 415-461-2222, [www.outbackadventures.com](http://www.outbackadventures.com)**  
Let's pack our kayaks and take a real kayaking adventure to Angel Island in the San Francisco Bay. Specifically timed for optimal and safe paddling conditions, this trip is appropriate for beginner and intermediate paddlers alike. \$85 including equipment.
- August 6 10AM – 12PM - Ocean Beach Cleanup, Surfrider Association (SF Chapter), Ocean Beach at Fulton Street, [www.sfsurfrider.org](http://www.sfsurfrider.org)**  
Help keep our local beaches clean! Just show up at Ocean Beach at the end of Fulton Street and we'll provide gloves, bags and instructions.
- August 9 7PM – 10PM - Moonlight Paddle, Outback Adventures, Larkspur, 415-461-2222, [www.outbackadventures.com](http://www.outbackadventures.com)**  
Navigating your kayak by moonlight is a mystical experience you won't soon forget. We will paddle leisurely while admiring the moon's silvery light reflecting off water's surface. Bring your friends and family to this warm welcoming event. \$65 including equipment.
- August 10 5:30PM – 7PM - Thursday Night Kite Board Racing at the St. Francis Yacht Club, on the Marina [www.stfyc.com](http://www.stfyc.com)**  
30 riders on tiny surfboards flying huge kites race each other around a course in front of the St. Francis Yacht Club next to the Marina Green volley balls courts. Riders use sailing techniques and strategy to power their way around a course with out crashing in to other riders or tangling kites. This is the first race of its kind anywhere in the world, with the Golden Gate Bridge in the background. Every other Thursday night.
- August 12 9AM – 3PM - Tule Elk Tour, Blue Waters Kayaking, Tomales Bay, 415-669-2600, [www.bwkayak.com](http://www.bwkayak.com)**  
Paddle through the tide channels amid the majestic scenery and remote beaches of the northern part of the Bay. As we paddle along we will discover the diversity of life: Tule elk, harbor seals, bat-rays, hawks, waterfowl, sea stars and other intertidal life. \$98 including equipment
- August 12 10AM – 2PM - Kayak Basics: Oakland Estuary, California Canoe & Kayak, 800-366-9804, [www.calkayak.com](http://www.calkayak.com)**  
Are you ready to try kayaking? Maximize your fun on the water! This half-day class (4 hours) allows you to paddle a few different types of kayaks, including Touring Kayaks (for open water), Recreational Kayaks, and Sit-on-Tops. Learn the basic strokes and the difference between boat types. This class emphasizes basic water safety, but saves capsized recovery practice for later. Includes coupon for future rental, good for 2 hours! \$59 including equipment.
- August 13 7AM – 12PM - Advanced Diving Technologies, 925-432-2111 [www.adtscuba.com](http://www.adtscuba.com)**  
From the expansive stands of the kelp forest to the unique beauty of the invertebrate and other colorful marine life, Monterey/Carmel is worth diving. Join us aboard the DV Escapade for a 2-tank dive. Refreshments on board and Nitrox available through request.
- August 19 9AM – 3PM Bair Island - Corkscrew Slough, California Canoe & Kayak, 800-366-9804, [www.calkayak.com](http://www.calkayak.com)**  
Join us for an exploration by sea kayak of Bair Island and Corkscrew Slough! Launching from the public boat ramp on Redwood Creek in Redwood City, we cruise through a paddler's paradise of intimate waterways and tidal marshes within a national wildlife refuge. This is a fun day of easy cruising in a spectacular, calm-water wonderland right in our own backyard! \$100 including equipment.
- August 19 9:30AM – 5PM - Tule Elk Trip Tomales Bay, Sea Trek Ocean Kayaking Center, Sausalito, 415-488-1000, [www.seatrekkayak.com](http://www.seatrekkayak.com)**  
Join Sea Trek guide Michael Morgan for an incredible all day trip paddling along the shore of Tomales Bay and hiking amongst the majestic Tule Elk. \$120 including equipment.
- August 19 11AM – 4PM - Corte Madera Salt Marsh Kayak Tour, Outback Adventures, Larkspur, 415-461-2222, [www.outbackadventures.com](http://www.outbackadventures.com)**  
Explore the wetlands along Corte Madera Marsh while taking in the views of Mount Tamalpais and the San Francisco Bay. We paddle out in stable double sea kayaks while keeping our eyes open for the curious harbor seals that gather nearby. \$70 including equipment.
- August 20 9AM – 2PM - Tomales Bay Harvest Feast, Blue Waters Kayaking, Tomales Bay, 415-669-2600, [www.bwkayak.com](http://www.bwkayak.com)**  
Celebrate the local foods produced and grown in the Point Reyes Area. Work up an appetite with a morning Paddle and then return to our Inverness site for a sumptuous feast featuring, of course, locally grown oysters - barbequed/raw, organic cheeses, and organic produce and fresh brick oven-baked breads. Treat yourself, your family and friends to this delightful experience. \$128 including equipment.
- August 20 10AM – 2PM - Pillar Point Harbor Tour, California Canoe & Kayak, 800-366-9804, [www.calkayak.com](http://www.calkayak.com)**  
Kayaking is a great way to get outdoors and enjoy the natural setting of the lovely coastside region of Pillar Point Harbor in Half Moon Bay. Get up close and personal with harbor seals, marine birds and other wildlife. No previous experience necessary. \$49 including equipment.
- August 24 5:30PM – 7PM - Thursday Night Kite Board Racing at the St. Francis Yacht Club, on the Marina [www.stfyc.com](http://www.stfyc.com)**  
30 riders on tiny surfboards flying huge kites race each other around a course in front of the St. Francis Yacht Club next to the Marina Green volley balls courts. Riders use sailing techniques and strategy to power their way around a course with out crashing in to other riders or tangling kites. This is the first race of its kind anywhere in the world, with the Golden Gate Bridge in the background. Every other Thursday night.
- August 27 8:30AM – 11:30AM - Paddle the Gate Kayak Trip, Sea Trek Ocean Kayaking Center, Sausalito, 415-488-1000, [www.seatrekkayak.com](http://www.seatrekkayak.com)**  
Are you an adventurous novice? This trip is perfect for you, and will also please the paddling experts. We'll launch from Horseshoe Cove under the north tower of the Bridge and paddle two-person fiberglass boats. Everyone will receive a thorough and confidence-building orientation. The first of many thrills is passing beneath the mammoth bridge as we paddle along the Golden Gate National Recreation Area's Marin Headlands. \$75 including equipment.
- August 27 10AM – 2PM - Kayak Basics: Oakland Estuary, California Canoe & Kayak, 800-366-9804, [www.calkayak.com](http://www.calkayak.com)**  
Are you ready to try kayaking? Maximize your fun on the water! This half-day class (4 hours) allows you to paddle a few different types of kayaks, including Touring Kayaks (for open water), Recreational Kayaks, and Sit-on-Tops. Learn the basic strokes and the difference between boat types. This class emphasizes basic water safety, but saves capsized recovery practice for later. Includes coupon for future rental, good for 2 hours. \$59 including equipment.



# WATERFRONT ADVENTURES

## Organizations, Associations & Clubs

**Bay Access** - San Rafael, 415-457-6094, [www.bayaccess.org](http://www.bayaccess.org) - Non-profit organization to create a water trail in San Francisco Bay for human-powered boats and beachable sail craft.

**Bay Area Sea Kayakers (BASK)** - 415-457-6094, [www.bask.org](http://www.bask.org) - Cooperative recreational club dedicated to the safe enjoyment of the sport of sea kayaking. Meetings generally on the last Wednesday of the month and are open to the public.

**Cal Adventures / UC Aquatic Center** - Berkeley, 510-642-4000, [www.oski.org](http://www.oski.org) - Windsurfing, sailing & kayaking lessons for UC students and locals.

**Cal Sailing Club** - Berkeley, [www.cal-sailing.org](http://www.cal-sailing.org) - Sailing cooperative, membership is open to the public.

**Cal Divers** - 510-417-0025, [www.caldivers.org](http://www.caldivers.org) - Recreational, networking & social club for certified divers of all levels.

**Cold Water Surf Club** - Sebastopol, 707-824-4360, [www.coldwatersurfclub.com](http://www.coldwatersurfclub.com) - Non-profit organization that is working to help build our community.

**Dolphin Club** - San Francisco, 415-441-9392, [www.dolphinclub.org](http://www.dolphinclub.org) - Non-profit, public access athletic organization with a diverse membership of about 900 women and men.

**Kelptomaniacs** - San Carlos, 650-591-5641, [www.wallins.com](http://www.wallins.com) - SCUBA diving and adventure club.

**NorCal Divers** - San Bruno, 650-588-4998, [www.cadive.com](http://www.cadive.com) - Active dive and adventure club.

**Rio Vista Windsurfing Association** - Rio Vista, [www.rvwa.com](http://www.rvwa.com) - Non-profit Windsurfing and Kiteboarding Association.

**Rock 'n' Reef Divers** - Fairfield, 707-425-1932, [www.itsallaboutscuba.com](http://www.itsallaboutscuba.com) - Scuba diving club that meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7PM at All About Scuba in Fairfield.

**San Francisco Boardsailing Association (SFBA)** - San Francisco, [www.sfba.org](http://www.sfba.org) - Non-profit organization to promote safety, provide education, ensure access and improve facilities.

**Surfrider Foundation (Marin Chapter)** - Larkspur, [www.surfrider.org/marin](http://www.surfrider.org/marin)

**Surfrider Foundation (SF Chapter)** - San Francisco, [www.sfsurfrider.org](http://www.sfsurfrider.org)

**Surfrider Foundation (Sonoma Chapter)** - Penngrove, [www.surfrider.org/sonomacoast](http://www.surfrider.org/sonomacoast)

(Non-profit, environmental organization dedicated to the protection and enhancement of our local waves, water and beaches through conservation, activism, research and education.)

**Western Sea Kayakers** - [www.westernseakayakers.org](http://www.westernseakayakers.org) - (Club dedicated to the safe enjoyment of the sport of sea kayaking.)

## Water Sport Shops, Facilities, Training & Resources

### Advanced Diving Technologies

625 California Ave. Suite F  
Pittsburg CA 94565  
925-432-2111  
[www.adtscuba.com](http://www.adtscuba.com)  
Full service scuba center with sales, service, rentals and dive instruction plus dive travel. Please see our ad on page 31.

### All About Scuba

925 Texas St.  
Fairfield CA 94533  
707-425-1932  
[www.itsallaboutscuba.com](http://www.itsallaboutscuba.com)

### Anderson's Swim & Scuba

541 Oceana Blvd.  
Pacifica CA 94044  
650-355-3050  
[www.andersonscuba.com](http://www.andersonscuba.com)  
Full scuba certification courses, snorkeling & swimming lessons in an indoor heated pool plus sales, service, rental equipment and air fills.

### Aqua Surf Shop

2830 Sloat Blvd.  
San Francisco CA 94116  
415-242-9283  
[www.aquasurfshop.com](http://www.aquasurfshop.com)  
Surfboards, skateboards, art & clothing.

### Aqua Surf Shop

1742 Haight St.  
San Francisco CA 94117  
415-876-2782  
[www.aquasurfshop.com](http://www.aquasurfshop.com)  
Surfboards, skateboards, art & clothing.

### Bamboo Reef Enterprises, Inc.

584 4th St.  
San Francisco CA 94107  
415-362-6694  
[www.bambooreef.com](http://www.bambooreef.com)  
Scuba training, sales and service plus dive trips.

### Blue Waters Kayaking

19238 Sir Francis Drake Blvd.  
Inverness CA 94937  
415-669-2600  
[www.bwkayak.com](http://www.bwkayak.com)  
Wilderness kayaking on Tomales Bay including naturalist-led tours, classes, rentals, overnight camping and youth camps. Please see our ad below.

### Bodega Bay Kayak

1580 East Shore Dr. @ Blue Whale Shopping Center  
Bodega Bay CA 94923  
707-875-8899  
[www.bodegabaykayak.com](http://www.bodegabaykayak.com)  
Kayak sales, rentals, tours & classes.

### Bodega Bay Surf Shack

1400 Hwy 1  
Bodega Bay CA 94923  
707-875-3944  
[www.bodegabaysurf.com](http://www.bodegabaysurf.com)  
Full service surf shop in Bodega Bay with sales, rentals and lessons.

### Cal School of Diving

1750 6th St.  
Berkeley CA 94710  
510-524-3248  
[www.caldive.net](http://www.caldive.net)  
Scuba instruction and dive trips.

### California Canoe & Kayak

409 Water St., Jack London Square  
Oakland CA 94607  
510-893-7833  
[www.calkayak.com](http://www.calkayak.com)  
Year round canoe and kayak sales, rentals, class & trips. Please see our ad on page 31.

### California Dive Center

715 El Camino Real  
San Bruno CA 94066  
650-588-4998  
[www.cadive.com](http://www.cadive.com)  
Full service PADI five star dive center.

### California Surf Shop

899 Gravenstein Hwy  
Sebastopol CA 95472  
707-824-4360  
[www.californiasurfshop.com](http://www.californiasurfshop.com)  
Home of the Cold Water Surf Club. Family owned and operated full service surf, skate and swim shop supporting the community and the environment.

### California Windsurfing

650 Shell Blvd.  
Foster City CA 94070  
650-594-0335  
[www.californiawindsurfing.com](http://www.californiawindsurfing.com)  
Windsurfing lessons - kayak and sailboard rentals.

### Captain Aqua's Scuba Diving Center

250 E. Jackson St.  
Hayward CA 94544  
510-728-0225  
[www.captainqua.com](http://www.captainqua.com)  
Full service dive center - training, travel, equipment & repair.

### City Kayak

Pier 38, The Embarcadero  
San Francisco CA 94107  
415-357-1010  
[www.citykayak.com](http://www.citykayak.com)  
Kayak rentals and trips.



### Outback Adventures

12 E. Sir Francis Drake Blvd,  
Larkspur, CA 94939  
[www.outbackadventures.com](http://www.outbackadventures.com)  
Phone (415) 461-2222

We are a comprehensive outdoor guide service, rental shop, and specialty outdoor retailer. In Marin we offer kayak sales, demos, rentals and instructional classes for kayaking and rock climbing. Custom trips and private classes are also available. Check out our Kayak Demo Day taking place on June 17th at our Larkspur location! Call for details.



### Blue Waters Kayaking

12938 Sir Francis Drake Blvd,  
Inverness, CA 94937  
[www.BWKayak.com](http://www.BWKayak.com)  
Phone (415) 669-2600

Just an hour north of San Francisco in the Point Reyes National Seashore, wilderness kayaking and hiking experiences await you. Two locations on Tomales Bay offer naturalist-led tours, camping, youth camps, custom trips and all levels of classes. We also do Baja, Yucatan tours in the winter/spring.



# WATERFRONT ADVENTURES

## Water Sport Shops, Facilities, Training & Resources

### Clavey River Equipment

409 Petaluma Blvd. South  
Petaluma CA 94952  
800-832-4226  
www.clavey.com  
Kayak and whitewater raft rentals and sales.

### Cass' Marina

1702 Bridgeway  
Sausalito, CA 94965  
415 332 6789  
www.cassmarina.com  
US Sailing Certified Sailing School with classes starting weekly. We offer bareboat rentals, skippered charters in the Bay and adventures around the world.

### Delta Windsurf Company

3729 Sherman Island Rd  
Rio Vista CA 94571  
916-777-2299  
www.deltawindsurf.com  
Windsurfing and kiteboarding sales, lessons and rentals.

### Demo Sport

1101 Francisco Blvd.  
San Rafael CA 94901  
415-454-3500  
www.demosport.com  
Wakeboarding, wakesurfing, water skiing and kiteboard equipment sales, rentals & lessons.

### Diver Dan's

2245 El Camino Real  
Santa Clara CA 95050  
408-984-5819  
www.diverdans.com  
Full service dive center - training, equipment sales & service, dive travel, on site pool available.

### Dublin Dive Center

6715 Dublin Blvd.  
Dublin CA 94568  
925-829-3843  
www.captainaqu.com  
Full service dive center - training, travel, equipment & repair.

### Harbor Dive & Kayak Center

200 Harbor Dr.  
Sausalito CA 94965  
415-331-0904  
www.harbordive.com  
Full service dive center and hobie kayak sales.

### Helm of Sun Valley

333 N. Amphlett Blvd.  
San Mateo CA 94401  
650-344-2711  
www.helmsports.com  
Kitesurfing lessons, wakeboard, windsurfing, kitesurfing and water skiing equipment sales.

### High Tide Surf Shop

9 Fourth St.  
Petaluma CA 94952  
707-763-3860

www.waveslave.com

Family owned full service surf shop on the crossroads to the North Coast Beaches. Longboard, short board and paddleboards plus wetsuits and surf accessories. Open 12-7 Mon-Fri. 10-5 Sat & 12-4 Sun.

### Institute of Diving Technology

8646 Davona Dr.  
Dublin CA 94568  
925-551-8478  
www.divewithitd.com  
Certified diving school for all levels plus local trips & travel.

### Kite Wind Surf

430 Westline Dr.  
Alameda CA 94501  
510-522-9463  
www.kitewindsurf.com  
Kiteboarding, windsurfing and surfing equipment, lessons and rentals.

### Mako Marine Outfitters

536 Soscol Ave., Suite 2  
Napa CA 94559  
707-251-5600  
www.makodiveandkayak.net  
Full service dive center, kayak sales & rental.

### Napa Dive & Sport

162 S. Coombs St.  
Napa CA 94559  
707-257-2822  
www.napadive.com  
Friendly full-service dive center with training, equipment sales & service and tropical dive travel.

### Napa River Adventures

P.O. Box 10881  
Napa CA 94581  
707-224-9080  
www.napariveradventures.com  
Regularly scheduled cruises on luxury electric riverboats plus canoe and kayak rentals.

### Nautilus Aquatics

1220 Diamond Way, Suite 110  
Concord CA 94520  
925-827-2822  
www.bayareadiving.com  
Full service dive center including sales, rental, repair, training, recreation & travel.

### Open Water Rowing Center

85 Liberty Ship Way  
Sausalito CA 94965  
415-332-1091  
www.owrc.com  
Open water sculling instruction, club memberships and boat sales.

### Outback Adventures

12 E. Sir Francis Drake Blvd.  
Larkspur CA 94939  
415-461-2222

www.outbackadventures.com  
Kayak sales, rentals, trips & classes.  
Please see our *ad on page 30*.

### Outback Adventures

1158 Saratoga Ave.  
San Jose CA 95129  
408-551-0588  
www.outbackadventures.com  
Kayak sales, rentals, trips & classes.

### Pacific River Supply

3675 San Pablo Dam Rd.  
El Sobrante CA 94803  
510-223-3675  
www.pacificriversupply.com  
Inflatable whitewater raft & kayak sales, rental and repairs.

### Pinnacles Dive Center

875 Grant Ave.  
Novato CA 94945  
415-897-9962  
www.pinnaclesdive.com  
Fully accredited scuba training with onsite-heated pool. Diving equipment sales, rental, repair and local/tropical trips.

### Proof Lab

254 Shoreline Hwy.  
Mill Valley CA 94941  
415-380-8900  
www.prooflab.com  
Surfing & skateboarding equipment & rentals and local art.

### River's Edge

13840 Healdsburg  
Healdsburg CA 95448  
707-433-7247  
Canoe & kayak trips & rentals on the scenic Russian River. Retail sales and concessions.

### Scuba San Francisco

650-873-7321  
www.scubasanfrancisco.com  
Scuba instruction and information on 41 dive sites within a 2 hour drive from SF.

### Sea Trek Ocean Kayaking Center

Schoonmaker Point Marina  
Sausalito CA 94965  
415-332-8494  
www.seatrekkayak.com  
Sea kayaking classes, trips & rentals.

### SF Surf Shop

3809 Noriega  
San Francisco CA 94122  
415-661-7873

www.sfsurf.com

Custom made surfboards by John Schultze plus surfboard/wetsuit rentals and board repairs.

### Stan's Skin & Scuba Diving

554 S. Bascom Ave.  
San Jose, CA 95128  
408-998-0767  
www.stansdiving.com  
Full service scuba center since 1957. Training, equipment sales service & rentals, on site heated pool and dive trips.

### Stinson Beach Surf & Kayak

3605 State Rt. 1 North  
Stinson Beach CA 94970  
415-868-2739  
www.stinsonbeachsurfandkayak.com  
Sales and rentals of surfboards, boogie boards and kayaks plus wetsuit rentals. Located 100 yards north of park entrance.

### Sunset Bay Kayaks

Suisun City Marina  
1011-A Park Ln  
Suisun City, CA 94585  
707-429-5925 Cell 707-365-2436  
www.sunsetbaykayaks.com  
Hourly kayak rentals and tours on the largest estuary in the contiguous U.S. Group rates available.

### Wallin's Dive Center

1119 Industrial Rd., Suite 7  
San Carlos CA 94070  
650-591-5641  
www.wallins.com  
Scuba, snorkel & swim center including instruction, sales, rentals, repairs and dive travel.

### Wet Dawg Water Sports Incorporated

4290 Knoxville Rd.  
Napa CA 94558  
707-966-5701  
www.wetdawgwatersports.com  
Located on Lake Berryessa. Kayak, canoe, paddleboat and ski boat rentals. Retail sales of wakeboard, water skis and clothing.

### Wise Surfboards

800 Great Hwy  
San Francisco CA 94121  
415-750-9473  
www.wisesurfboards.com  
Surfboards, wetsuits and accessories.  
Northern California's largest surf shop.

For advertising inquiries or to submit a listing to Waterfront Adventures, contact Joel Williams at (707) 556-3323 or joel@baycrossings.com



**California Canoe & Kayak**  
409 Water St, Jack London Square  
Oakland, CA 94607  
www.calkayak.com  
Phone (510) 893-7833

PUREpaddlesports. This is what California Canoe & Kayak is all about – for 34 years! Our staff has hundreds of years of combined paddling experience in canoes, sea and whitewater kayaks. We teach, guide, rent, sell and fix. Check us out. Our waterfront location is ideal for classes, rentals, demos and trips.



**Advanced Diving Technologies**  
625 California Ave, Suite F  
Pittsburg, CA  
www.adtscuba.com  
Phone (925) 432-2111

Leading Edge Training - TDI/SDI, NAUI, PADI, NACD, NSS/CDS. Group & Private Instruction/Technical & Specialty Training. Beginner to Instructor Level Certifications. Retail Sales & Rental Equipment. State of the Art Oil Free Gas Blending - Air, Nitrox, Trimix, Argon & Oxygen. Weekend Charters and Dive Travel.



# Proposed Richmond Community by Toll Brothers Benefits Shoreline and Inner City Redevelopment



Illustration by J. Bullock &amp; Associates

The proposed Spinnaker Gate community by Toll Brothers will introduce 269 new luxury condominiums to Richmond's beautiful Marina Bay.

Over the past several years, the Richmond shoreline has undergone significant revitalization, whereby miles of shoreline along the San Francisco



Photo by John Beson

View of the San Francisco City skyline from Richmond's Marina Bay.

Bay have been infused with new life. As a critical piece of this renewed community, Spinnaker Gate at Marina Bay, a proposed upscale condominium community by luxury homebuilder Toll Brothers, will create not only new housing opportunities in this coveted area, but will also bring significant funds to inner city redevelopment and public open space along the shoreline.

Spinnaker Gate at Marina Bay, proposed as a part of Richmond's Marina Bay master planned community, is located immediately adjacent to Lucretia W. Edwards Shoreline Park and the Bay Trail, and east of the Historic Ford Assembly Plant. The community will provide new homeowners with striking views of the San Francisco Bay and the dazzling city skyline beyond the bay. Proposed to be built with 269 new homes averaging over 1,600 square feet, Spinnaker Gate will offer residential parking in a one-level

parking garage. The one-, two- and three-bedroom residences include spacious nine-foot ceilings and stylish granite slab countertops. Residents can enjoy balmy Bay weather on large outdoor terraces or cozy up during winter months in front of a gas fireplace.

The proposed Spinnaker Gate community will reflect Toll Brothers' nationwide reputation for a high standard of luxury with landmark architecture and a variety of floor plan options. Recreation opportunities found at Spinnaker Gate will offer buyers the chance to exercise, socialize or relax, right within the community itself. Two spas, a pool and a state-of-the-art exercise facility will allow homeowners to rejuvenate. Outdoor fireplace lounge areas, and a stunning clubhouse with full kitchen and library, inspire social visits and casual get-togethers.

The benefits to homeowners are just the



beginning. Due to the successful partnership between Toll Brothers and the City of Richmond, millions of dollars of community benefits will result from the proposed development of Spinnaker Gate. These benefits include funds designated for major redevelopment projects such as City Hall and Macdonald Avenue, schools, affordable housing, fire department fees, and the City's improvement of streets, parks and public buildings.

Both shoreline and inner city redevelopment will receive a revenue boost, and in terms of numbers, the benefits are impressive. Three million dollars in one-time fees and \$1.25 million in annually occurring revenues until the year 2024 will be used to support four redevelopment projects in the inner city of Richmond: 12th Street, the City Hall and City Center structural and seismic upgrade, the revitalization of Macdonald Avenue, and the Metro Walk Transit Village around the Richmond BART station.

Input from city residents has been invaluable to shaping the proposed Spinnaker Gate community. "This partnership will allow Spinnaker Gate to provide numerous city improvements and allow for citizens of Richmond to ensure the City grows in a way that benefits residents and businesses," says Tony Craig, Senior Project Manager for Toll Brothers.

As proposed, Spinnaker Gate will provide an

The beautiful and historically unique atmosphere of Richmond's Marina Bay remains in easy proximity to I-80 and I-580, with nearby access to the Intermodal Transit System of Richmond, which includes BART, Amtrak and AC Transit bus service.

exceptional, publicly accessible, open-space park area along the Richmond shoreline for all Richmond residents to enjoy. The Bay Trail, a planned 400-mile continuous network of hiking and biking trails, provides further recreational opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts, and the public marina at Marina Bay provides 750 boat slips and a boat ramp with easy access for a sunny day out on the bay.

The beautiful and historically unique atmosphere of Richmond's Marina Bay remains in easy

proximity to I-80 and I-580, with nearby access to the Intermodal Transit System of Richmond, which includes BART, Amtrak and AC Transit bus service. It is also within half a mile from the proposed Richmond/San Francisco Ferry.

According to Steve Duran, Director of Community & Economic Development: "This project, along with Signature Properties' Anchor Cove development, represents the beginning of a transformation which will create a transit-oriented residential and retail hub anchored by ferry service from Richmond to San Francisco and other Bay Area destinations."

The proposed Spinnaker Gate, as the result of a cooperative partnership between Toll Brothers and the City of Richmond, would be implemented with long-term benefits to Richmond residents in mind, and this type of forward-looking development is paramount to ensuring that a growing Richmond continues to reward its residents for generations to come.

For more information on development within the City of Richmond, please contact Alan Wolken, Deputy Director of Richmond's Community Redevelopment Agency, at (510) 307-8140.



Illustration by J. Bullock & Associates

Spinnaker Gate, as proposed, will include two spas, a pool and exercise facility, a clubhouse with full kitchen and library, outdoor fireplace lounging areas, and a residential parking garage.



# Creating Your Own Home Entertainment Center

BY MARY E. SHACKLETT

**H**ome entertainment center planning used to be clearing a space in the den or the living room for a television or a radio. Then came stereo and surround sound, followed by flat panel HDTV and the Internet. With so many options available today, consumers are beginning to turn to entertainment suppliers and interior decorators for help — but a lot can be done with a little common sense that begins with understanding which home entertainment options are important to you.

Begin by assessing your budget and your expectations first. This puts you in the best position to decide how you want to organize your living space — and which entertainment options you want to have. For instance, do you primarily want to watch movies and have surround sound? Do you want to have music? Or, do you want a VCR, a DVD player, a Tivo and a large TV monitor that you can tie into your laptop or home computer? The good news is that there are good home entertainment center solutions at every budgetary level.

Second, assess your living space. Individuals tend to fall into one of two categories: those who want to incorporate home entertainment in a multi-purpose room like a great room, and those who want a dedicated media room. Individuals who favor the multi-purpose room approach want a great entertainment system but do not want it to be seen when they're not using it. The goal is to integrate entertainment into the room so that the entertainment center is not a central focus. A classic example is the television that is concealed in a cabinet.

On the flip side, there are people who want to show off their electronics. A dedicated media room is a good solution in that case.

Regardless of how you choose to use your living space, the important thing to remember is that virtually no room is too small for a home entertainment center. Screen size can be a limiting factor (e.g., a 64" screen will not work well in an 8'x10' room), but in the end, home entertainment centers come down to the amount of money that you have to spend.

A third home entertainment center



ingredient is technology.

Popular home entertainment options today include ready Internet access, music appliances like stereos and MP3 players, video games, photo and home movie sharing, television and movie viewing, subscriptions to on-demand music, video, sporting events and movies, to name a few.

Centralization of home entertainment on a PC is now being facilitated by new Intel ViiV™ chip technology, which is specializing PCs (no matter whom they are sold by) to facilitate an end-to-end entertainment experience.

With this kind of PC centralization, you can eliminate all of your older home entertainment appliances and watch DVDs, download TV programs, listen to CDs and MP3s and record and store. You can tie into high definition video and up to 7.1 surround sound with ready access to digital photos and PC games. You can easily download movies, music and games for the Internet — and you can do it all with the push of a button

on your remote.

Home entertainment PC technology is on track to establish itself in more American homes, with the falling prices for flat panel displays and other popular technology appliances. The keys are understanding which types of entertainment functions you want to have in your home, determining your budget and making the decision on whether you want the entertainment center to be in a multi-functional room or a dedicated media room.

Once a homeowner gets rolling with home entertainment, it is not unusual to spend \$5,000-\$6,000 on the project. With that kind of investment, a two-hour consultation with an interior designer, which can run \$75-\$150 an hour, can also be well worth the investment.

**Mary E. Shacklett** is President of *Transworld Data*, a marketing and technology practice specializing in marketing, public relations and product management for technology companies and organizations. Mary is listed in "Who's Who Worldwide" and "Who's Who in the Computer Industry." She may be reached at (360) 956-9536 or [TWD\\_Transworld@msn.com](mailto:TWD_Transworld@msn.com).

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# Pandora Streams Music with Preferred “DNA”

Genome-based structure introduces users to more music they like and gives personal veto power

BY DAN SANKEY

At one time, all of your favorite music was unknown to you. Then came that epochal moment of discovery when the music struck chords within you, and the sound resonated through to your core. It was for that moment that Pandora Internet radio was created.

Pandora streams music based on a user typing in a suggestion, be it a band or song title, and from this starting point, leads to the discovery of new music.

This interactive website started as the Music Genome Project, which is a process of breaking music down to its musical DNA comprised of over 400 attributes regardless of genre. The Genome became Pandora after a bit of trial and error in realizing what the process was good for — helping people find more music they like.

“Discovering music is a religious experience,” said Tim Westergren, founder of Pandora, at a town hall-style meeting at the Yerba Buena Gardens Zeum Theater on July 25. This past spring he has been traveling around the country discussing the site and the future of music, and conducting meetings to get feedback and suggestions for the direction of the website.

An enthusiastic capacity crowd of over 200 came out to meet the people behind Pandora. Internet music nerds appear to be more diverse lot than one would expect, with gray hair mingling with pink and black hair and an equal number of females and males. The group of Web developers, musicians, record label workers and record junkies quipped and questioned Westergren with concerns about the process and intentions of the project.

Westergren is adamant that his goal is purely to introduce new music and

budding bands to listeners who may have become disconnected from new music because of their age and their busy lives. But with the recent addition of more banner ads to the seven-month-old free service, many at the event questioned the authenticity of Pandora.

“You can try and save the world, but at some point this business comes down to money,” said Daria Kelly, an employee of Oakland hip-hop record label Hieroglyphics. “Where’s the money coming from? I’ve bought banner ads and they don’t bring in that much money.”

“We’re not going to slot music because someone is paying us — never, ever,” Westergren responded. “You’ll never hear a song unless it’s relevant by the Genome.”

Interactivity is Pandora’s main advantage to the popularity ratings-based programming of traditional radio. A listener shapes his or her own radio stations and advertising is a passive backdrop in the experience.

“The Genome doesn’t require any level of popularity to make a band be played,” Westergren said. Song selection is based on similarities in a song’s structure and sound initially, and is then refined by a simple thumbs up or down by the listener. Occasionally Pandora may ask a listener to give an email as to why they gave a thumb down to help improve the process. His favorite response to the query — “Come on man, it’s Journey.”

The system has a human element as its foundation. All of the songs on Pandora are analyzed by a group of 42 musicians to determine the song’s Genome attributes. And Westergren’s past as a musician has

made him aware of music’s intangible appeal and of the need for musicians to make a better living. When he founded Pandora he was a musician struggling to get his band heard. “I know firsthand what it feels like to be a needle in the haystack (of the music industry),” he said.

By getting the listener to the musicians without the costs of the traditional record industry, he hopes to bring more money to the creators. As many in the audience would attest to, this is an idealistic goal, but the momentum of Pandora’s growth to 2.5 million users in seven months lends to its substance.

“We’re not going to slot music because someone is paying us — never, ever. You’ll never hear a song unless it’s relevant by the Genome.” — Paul Westergren



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6:30am	6:55am	7:00am	7:25am
7:30	7:55	8:00	8:25
8:30	8:55	4:35pm	5:00pm
-----	4:30pm	5:35	6:00
5:05pm	5:30	6:35	7:00
6:05	6:30	7:35	8:00
7:05	7:30		

No service on weekends

## Angel Island - Tiburon Ferry

Wednesday - Friday	
Tiburon to Angel Island	Angel Island to Tiburon
10am, 11, 1pm, 3pm	10:20am, 11:20, 1:20pm, 3:30
Weekends	
Tiburon to Angel Island	Angel Island to Tiburon
10am - 5pm hourly	10:20am - 5:20pm hourly

\*Monday Thru Tuesday Flexible Schedule. Call (415) 435-2131 www.angelislandferry.com Bicycles \$1.00

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Weekday	Weekends	
10:00am	10:00am	
10:45	10:45	
11:15	11:15	
12:00pm	12:00pm	
12:30	12:30	
1:15	1:15	
1:45	1:45	
2:30	2:30	
3:00	3:00	
3:45	3:45	
4:15	4:15	
5:00	5:00	

## Golden Gate Ferry

### LARKSPUR \*

Weekdays (excluding Holidays)				Weekends and Holidays			
Leave Larkspur	Arrive S F	Leave S F	Arrive Larkspur	Leave Larkspur	Arrive S F	Leave S F	Arrive Larkspur
5:50am	6:20am	6:25am	6:55am	9:40am	10:30am	-----	-----
6:35	7:05	7:10	7:40	11:00	11:50	12:30pm	1:20pm
7:10	7:40	7:45	8:15	1:30pm	2:20	2:30	3:20
7:50	8:20	8:30	9:05	3:30	4:20	4:30	5:20
8:20	8:50	9:10	9:45	5:30	6:20	7:00	7:50
9:15	9:50	10:10	10:45	One-Way Ferry Fares			
10:10	10:45	10:55	11:30	LARKSPUR SAUSALITO			
11:10	11:45	11:55	12:30pm	Daily Daily			
11:40	12:15pm	12:25pm	1:00	Adult Cash Fare \$6.75 \$6.75			
12:40pm	1:15	1:25	2:00	Frequent Rider Ticket (Book of 20 Tickets) \$4.25 \$3.60			
2:15	2:50	3:00	3:30	Seniors (age 65+) with Medicare or approved I.D. \$3.35 \$3.35			
2:50	3:25	3:35	4:05	Youth (ages 6-18) \$3.35 \$3.35			
3:40	4:15	4:25	4:55	Children (age 5 & under) FREE FREE			
4:15	4:45	4:55	5:25				
-----	-----	*5:20	6:05				
5:10	5:45	5:55	6:25				
5:35	6:10	6:20	6:50				
6:35	7:10	7:20	7:50				
7:20	7:55	8:10	8:40				
8:10	8:45	8:50	9:20				
8:50	9:25	9:35	10:05				

\*All weekdays trips except on (5:20pm SF departure) are operated by high-speed catamarans. Weekend service is provided by high capacity Spaulding vessels.

### SAUSALITO

Weekdays (excluding Holidays)				Weekends and Holidays			
Leave Sausalito	Arrive SF	Leave SF	Arrive Sausalito	Leave Sausalito	Arrive SF	Leave SF	Arrive Sausalito
7:10am	7:35am	7:40am	8:10am	-----	-----	10:40am	11:10am
8:20	8:45	10:15	10:45	11:20am	11:50am	12:00pm	12:30pm
10:55	11:25	11:35	12:05pm	12:45pm	1:15pm	1:25	1:55
12:15pm	12:45pm	12:55pm	1:25	2:10	2:40	2:50	3:20
1:55	2:25	2:35	3:05	3:35	4:05	4:15	4:45
3:20	3:50	4:00	4:30	5:00	5:25	5:35	6:05
4:45	5:15	5:30	6:00	6:20	6:45	6:30	7:00
6:10	6:35	6:45	7:10				
7:20	7:50	7:55	8:20				

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For Larkspur and Sausalito website:www.goldengate.org

### HOLIDAY SERVICE: Larkspur & Sausalito

In effect on Martin Luther King, Presidents', Memorial, 4th of July, Labor Day, modified Holiday service is operated on the Day after Thanksgiving.

### NO SERVICE: Larkspur & Sausalito

No ferry service on New Year's, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day.

## Blue & Gold Ferry

### ALAMEDA/OAKLAND

### ALAMEDA/OAKLAND

Weekdays to San Francisco				Weekends and Holidays to San Francisco			
Leave Oakland	Leave Alameda	Arrive Ferry Bldg.	Arrive Pier 41	Leave Oakland	Leave Alameda	Arrive Ferry Bldg.	Arrive Pier 41
6:00am	6:10	6:30	-----	9:00am	9:10	-----	9:35
7:05	7:15	7:35	-----	10:40	10:25	11:10	11:25
8:10	8:20	8:40	-----	12:20pm	12:10	12:50	1:05
9:15	9:25	9:45	10:00	1:55	1:45	2:25	2:40
11:00	10:50	11:30	11:45	4:00	3:45	4:30	4:45
12:45pm	12:35pm	1:15	1:30	5:45	5:30	-----	6:20
2:30	2:20	3:00	3:10	7:20	7:05	7:50	8:05
4:40	4:30	5:10	-----	8:55	8:45	8:25	9:30
5:50	5:40	6:15	-----	10:30	10:20	-----	11:00
6:20	6:10	-----	7:00	Weekends and Holidays from San Francisco			
6:55	6:45	7:20	-----	Leave Pier 41	Leave Ferry Bldg.	Arrive Alameda	Arrive Oakland
7:55	7:45	8:20	-----	8:30am	-----	9:10	9:00
8:55	8:45	-----	9:25	9:45	10:00	10:20	10:35
Weekdays from San Francisco				11:35	11:50	12:10pm	12:20
Leave Pier 41	Arrive Ferry Bldg.	Leave Alameda	Arrive Oakland	1:10pm	1:25pm	1:45	1:55
-----	6:30am	7:15	7:05	2:50	-----	3:45	3:55
-----	7:35	8:20	8:10	4:55	5:10	5:30	5:40
-----	8:40	9:25	9:15	6:30	6:45	7:05	7:15
10:15	10:30	10:50	11:00	8:10	8:25	8:45	8:55
12:00pm	12:15pm	12:35	12:45	9:40	9:55	10:15	10:25
1:45	2:00	2:20	2:30	ALAMEDA/OAKLAND FARES:			
3:45	4:10	4:30	4:40	One Round 10Ticket 20Ticket Monthly			
-----	5:20	5:40	5:50	Way Trip	Book*	Book*	Pass
-----	5:45	6:10	6:20	Adult (13+)	\$5.50 \$11.00	\$45.00 \$80.00	\$150.00
-----	6:25	6:45	6:55	Child (5-12)	\$2.75 \$5.50		
-----	7:25	7:45	7:55	Child under 5**	FREE FREE		
-----	8:25	8:45	8:55	Senior (65+)	\$3.25 \$6.50		
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# BREW REVIEW

## Triple Rock Brewery & Alehouse

BY JOEL WILLIAMS

Right in the heart of downtown Berkeley on Shattuck Street, just blocks from the UC Campus, is Triple Rock Brewery & Alehouse. But, owners and brothers John and Reid Martin had an uphill battle convincing city officials that a small brewery would fit into the downtown commercial district. Since no one had heard of a brewpub at the time, the thought of a beer “factory” being located

next to the shops and restaurants in the area had raised some concerns. It took several meetings and city hearings before the Martins were granted the seven zoning variances needed to construct what they now proudly call the “Oldest Original Brewpub” in America.

Although Triple Rock was the fifth brewpub to open in the U.S. in March of 1986, it is the only one of those five that still uses the original brewing equipment and is owned and operated by the original founders.

The décor can probably be best described as classic American dive bar,

which is just fine for a brewpub. There are hard wood floors, wood paneling and an antique wood bar. Get the picture? Well now, throw in hundreds of pieces of antique beer related memorabilia and you have an unpretentious place where you can kick back and enjoy some great craft-brewed suds.

I sat down with head brewer Christian Kazakoff and a few of the regulars at the bar on a Friday afternoon and we tasted the 10 beers that were on tap. All of them were true to style, as can be expected from a brewpub that has been around for over 20 years, but the two seasonal summer specialties impressed me the most—Punchy’s Left Coast Pilsner and Millstone Hefeweizen. Both are traditional German styles that require special yeasts to produce.

Punchy’s Left Coast Pilsner is made with German Lager yeast and fermented twice as long as beers made with their house Ale yeast. They use all German malt and Czech Saaz hops which results in an authentic German Pilsner that is light, crisp and clean, perfect for the summer.

Since most of the students are gone in the summer, “it gives us a chance to play with a lager yeast which ties up a tank,” said Kazakoff. “It’s a traditional Pilsner, but we “Californiaize” it a bit and go a little on the hoppy side.”

Millstone Hefeweizen is an excellent example of an authentic unfiltered Bavarian wheat beer that is quite unique due to the clove and fruity flavors that Bavarian yeast strains impart. German wheat beer is one of my favorite beer styles, and Kazakaoff uses 70% wheat malt that produces a light and refreshing beer. Millstone is also made with a traditional Bavarian yeast strain but Kazakoff ferments it at lower temperatures to keep the clove and fruity flavors from becoming too overpowering.

Triple Rock’s summer seasonal beers

are refreshing, authentic examples of their respective styles. They won’t last long though, so be sure to stop by and enjoy them on the popular outdoor patio on the roof.



Triple Rock Brewery & Alehouse 1920  
Shattuck, Berkeley, CA 94704  
510-THE-BREW [www.triplerock.com](http://www.triplerock.com)

*Joel Williams was a professional craft brewer for over 7 years at several breweries. He earned a Diploma in Brewing Sciences in 1996 from the world-renowned Siebel Institute of Technology in Chicago.*



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**Gordon Biersch**

# Hail to the Margarita King

BY DIANNE BOATE & ROBERT MEYER

**G**iovanni, The Margarita King, is making new waves - air, sound and otherwise, with his special product, The Margarita King Cocktail. Everything you need is already in the bottle: double gold, prize winning tequila from Mexico, a special blend of lemon and lime juices, sugar cane, and a unique double distilled orange liqueur. It was formulated by Giovanni himself, who earned his Margarita King title the hard way.

When we sat down to talk, Giovanni explained that had been planning a career in architecture. He had one year to finish his studies in Colombia, South America, but the opportunity to come to the U.S. was irresistible.

Giovanni found a job as a busboy in a restaurant and eagerly learned all he could about the business - the bar, the food, the service - and the restaurant gods smiled, for soon Giovanni was inventing and perfecting his famous margaritas. He became co-owner of a restaurant and began to be the showman that would attract customers to his door.

Over the past 20 years Giovanni has opened 10 popular restaurants in San Francisco, but how did he get the title of Margarita King?

In 1987, a Margarita making contest was announced in the San Francisco Chronicle. Giovanni entered and won. A Chronicle writer hailed Giovanni as "The Margarita King" and the name stuck. He won the contest the next year, the year after that, again the next year, and two more years after that!

Giovanni secrets to success are practice, balance and quality. He says, "I made thousands of Margaritas trying to perfect the flavor and balance. I put nothing but the best ingredients available in my product. I learned in life you give the best you get the best."

And, he has become a true success and remains the kind and caring man we met 20

years ago. Giovanni radiates good will and good feelings. He is generous with his time and abilities and products to help charities. At a glance, we'll call to mind a line from an Emerson essay which says, "I look on that man as happy, who, when there is a question of success, looks into his work for a reply, not into market, not into opinion, not into patronage." (Worship, 1860.)

Beyond margaritas, we could talk to this man of many interests about many things for hours. His musical ability to crank out mystical rhythms with two kitchen spoons is legendary. In fact, while Robert and I were talking to him a beautiful package from Tiffany's arrived. It was birthday present of two sterling silver spoons.

This year, at the Wine and Spirits Wholesalers Convention in Las Vegas, Robert was walking with an acquaintance and saw Giovanni in the distance doing his "King Thing." Robert said, "Ah! There is Giovanni, I wonder if he has his spoons with him." The other person said, "Aw, come on Bob, do you really know Giovanni?" In reply, Robert walked over and asked, "Did you bring your spoons with you?" Giovanni flashed his famous smile and whipped out the spoons and performed a small staccato rhythm.

Yes, it's good to be friends with the Margarita King.

Beautiful bottles of Margarita King Cocktails are widely available at major stores that carry cocktail beverages. Also, check out the twirling margarita glasses at [www.themargaritaking.com](http://www.themargaritaking.com)

## Rosenblum Cellars Pre-Harvest Open House

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[www.RosenblumCellars.com](http://www.RosenblumCellars.com).

*Dianne Boate is a freelance writer and photographer, currently studying botanical illustration. Robert Meyer is a consultant to the wine and spirits industry. At home, he makes his margaritas (more tequila) and she makes hers (more lemon juice), but they always salute each other, making it this far, with the good clink of green-tinted margarita glasses.*



Cafe society blooms, unexpectedly at the Cannery. Even locals are finding new reasons to like Fisherman's Wharf.



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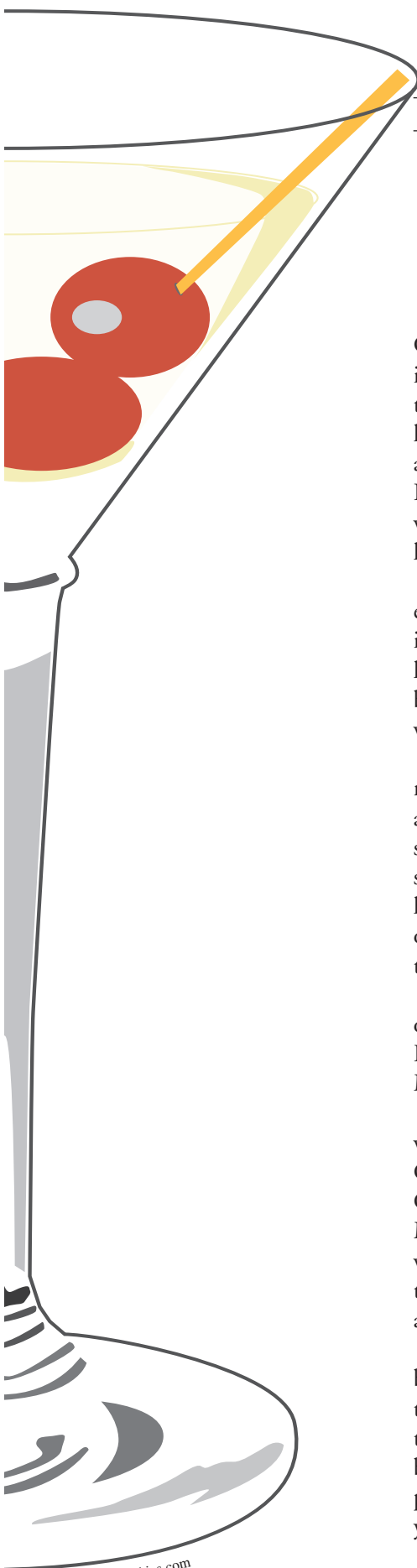


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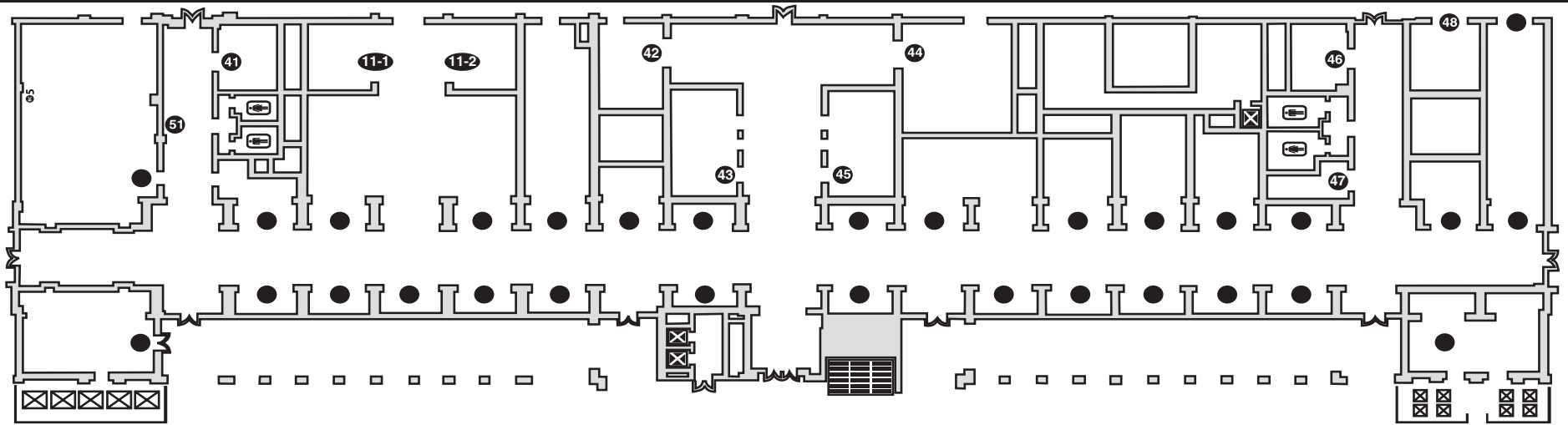
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| 07 Oak Hill Farm of Sonoma | 11-2 Hog Island Oyster Co. | 16 McEvoy Ranch     | 23 Ferry Plaza Wine Merchant           | 29 Village Market                  | 34 Far West Fungi                       | 42 Book Passage                  | 47 Mastrelli's Delicatessen |
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|                            | 14 Scharffen Berger        | 20 Kingdom of Herbs |  |                                    |   |                                  |                             |



**Far West Fungi, Store #34**  
[www.farwestfungi.com](http://www.farwestfungi.com)  
 Phone: (415) 989-9090

**Far West Fungi** is a one-stop destination for mushrooms. The shop carries culinary mushrooms, medicinal mushroom supplements, and even mushroom logs to grow your own at home. Shop owners, John and Toby Garrone, have grown and sold mushrooms for over 20 years.



**Prather Ranch Meat Co. Store #32**  
[www.pratherranch.com](http://www.pratherranch.com)  
 Phone: (415) 378-2917

**Prather Ranch** is a self-sustaining ranch located in the shadow of Mt. Shasta. We specialize in organic, sustainable, pasture-raised meats. The ranch has the distinction of being home to a "closed beef herd," which means extremely healthy animals.



**I Preferiti di Boriana, Shop #33**  
[www.borianafoods.com](http://www.borianafoods.com)  
 Phone: (415) 402-0421

**I Preferiti di Boriana**, translated as Boriana's favorites, offers a taste of Tuscany in the heart of SF. Owner Boriana S. Dimonte imports specialties from Tuscany. Her shop is a Bay Area hearth for the food, wine and culture of Montepulciano.



**Bay Crossings, Shop #22**  
[www.baycrossings.com](http://www.baycrossings.com)  
 Phone: (415) 362-0717

**Bay Crossings** is the ferry ticket shop. It also sells nowhere-else-to-be-found post cards and greeting cards featuring the Ferry Building, helpful maps and guides and special edition books. Bay Crossings also publishes a monthly newspaper by the same name, which covers maritime, cultural, environmental and commuter issues and, moreover, celebrates the new urban waterfront lifestyle.



## Fifteen Minutes of Stop and Shop: Convenient parking option for the Ferry Building customer on-the-go

One of the best incentives for locals to shop at the Ferry Building is the 15-minute white zone parking in front of the Marketplace. Customers can run in for pre-orders or last minute groceries and not have to park in the lot. To accommodate our visitors, we ask that the tenants and employees refrain from parking in the white zone. **How the 15-minute stop-and-shop zone works:** Drive to the white zone, leave keys with valet, get a parking stub (valid for 15 minutes). If customers stay over 15 minutes, then their vehicle will be driven to the parking lot. Valet rates apply. *Please note: On Farmers' Market days, white zone parking is available only after 3:30PM.*



# AROUND THE BAY

## Hold on to your childoḡs

Indy Car is here. Learn about the gear, the rules, the points and the physical exptremes drivers endure, learn the Indy Car song and sing it as you endure the traffic on the way to the race. **Sun., Aug. 27, 12:30PM.** [www.indycar.com](http://www.indycar.com)

## The air & wine is better up here

Sip and watch as antique & modern day aircraft perform flybys; or climb aboard a jet fighter to walk through an open cargo plane at Pacific Coast Air Museum's "Wings Over Wine Country" Air Show. **Aug.19-20, 9AM-4PM.** Sonoma County Airport. [www.pacificcoastairmuseum.org](http://www.pacificcoastairmuseum.org)

## Mountain Winery Concerts

Saratoga's summer lineup includes performances by Julio Iglesias, Rosanne Cash, Willie Nelson & Family, Olivia Newton-John, and the chance to get political with Bill Maher. Winery outdoors and wheelchair accessible. Shows rain or shine. [www.mountainwinery.com](http://www.mountainwinery.com)

## Get your flute on

Ian Anderson, founding member of the legendary rock band Jethro Tull, will perform an orchestral collection of Tull favorites with classically trained violinist, Lucia Micarelli. Marin Veteran's Memorial Auditorium, San Rafael. **Thu., Aug. 3, 8-10:30PM.** \$25-90. Tickets available at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com), or at the Marin Center (415) 499-6800, [www.marincenter.org](http://www.marincenter.org)

## Support the animals you love

Remember when you voted for the ugliest dog? Well, Munchkin' won, and she is making a guest appearance at Wags, Whiskers & Wine, the annual fundraiser sponsored by the Humane Society & SPCA. Gourmet cuisine, over 25 wineries & breweries, pet fashion show, silent auction, fat cat casino, bow-wow! St. Francis Winery & Vineyards, Santa Rosa. **Fri., Aug.25.** \$95. Call (707) 542-0882 or visit [www.sonomahumane.org](http://www.sonomahumane.org)

## Four!

Does Four-Man Shamble or Two-Man Net Ball mean anything to you? Then sign up for the Napa Valley Unified Education Foundation Golf Tournament. Entry fee is \$175 per player, which includes 18-hole greens fee with cart, lunch, dinner (including wine) and dancing in The Grove. Registration at 10AM; shotgun-start at Noon. **Fri., Aug. 4.** For more details, call (707) 253-3563 or send an email to [foundation@nvusd.k12.ca.us](mailto:foundation@nvusd.k12.ca.us).

## Our hearts will ḡo on

But don't miss the boat and forget to see the Titanic Exhibition. More than 300 artifacts from the wreck site, including some never-before-seen are on display, along with a 30,000-pound section of the ship's hull, re-creations of the Grand Staircase, a First Class Stateroom, and a simulated iceberg wall. Audio tour available. Metreon, San Francisco. **Through Sep. 15, 10AM-9PM daily.** \$14.95-22. [www.sftitanic.com](http://www.sftitanic.com) or call (415) 421-8497.

## Learn Arabic

Two "Introduction to Arabic" courses are being offered at Pacific Arabic Resources language school. The program is comprehensive and is offered Wed., eves, **Aug.30-Nov.1, 7:30-9PM.** Cost \$220, includes materials. Registration and calendar [www.pacificarabic.com](http://www.pacificarabic.com) or please call (415) 644-0110.

## Joy of 250 sakes

Joy of Sake is the largest sake tasting held outside of Japan and features over 250 of the world's finest sakes, together with an array of appetizers from 16 of the Bay Area's leading restaurants. **Aug. 31, 6-8:30PM,** Moscone West, San Francisco. Tickets, \$70 per person, at [www.joyofsake.com](http://www.joyofsake.com) or call (415) 359-9138.

## Beds, Bikes, Breakfast

Try out the new California Association of Bed and Breakfast Inns Beds, Bikes & Breakfast travel program. More than 80 CABBI B&Bs throughout CA are officially bike-friendly, and offer secured bike storage facilities and breakfast to fuel a day of two-wheeled sightseeing. Many inns offer laundry facilities and bike trail maps. For more information, visit [www.cabbi.com](http://www.cabbi.com), or call (800) 373-9251.

## Antiques by the Bay

Did you know that one of the largest outdoor antiques and collectibles shows happens the first Sunday of every month at the former Alameda Point Naval Air Station? Everything sold must be least 20 years old. **Aug. 6,** gates open 6AM-3PM. [www.antiquesbybay.com](http://www.antiquesbybay.com)

## Dragonboating down south

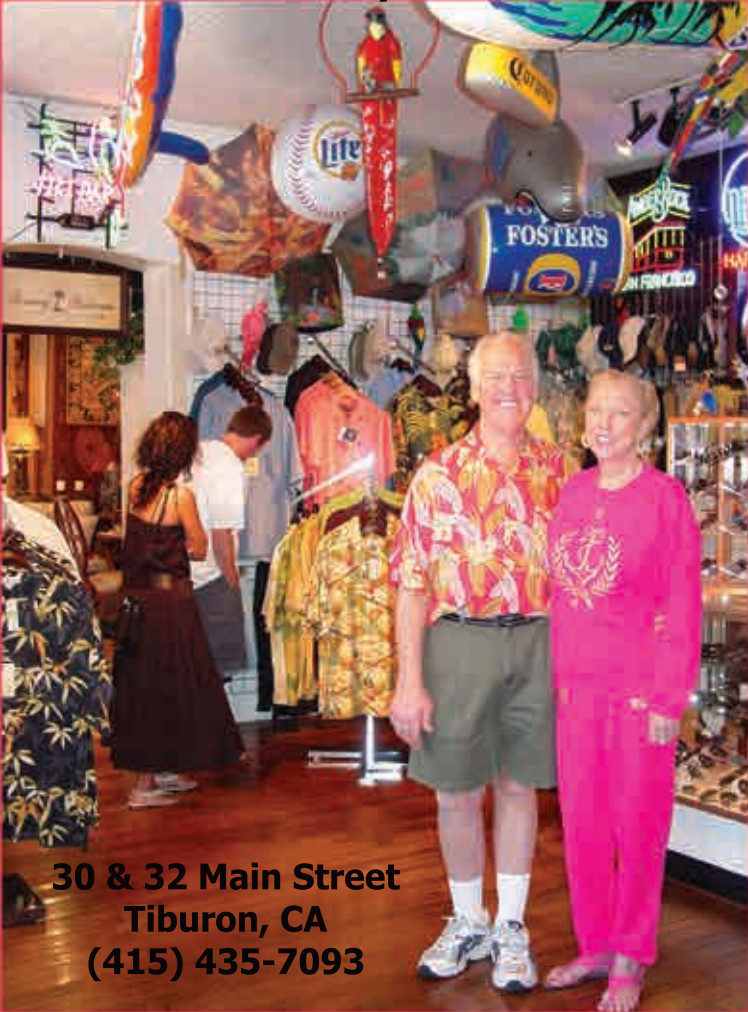
Next month Dragonboats will race across the San Francisco Bay. Watch or grab some energy and some magic power and show up to learn how to paddle a 22-person dragon canoe yourself. Free lessons in Foster City **every Sat., 10:30AM-Noon.** Equipment provided. Rain or shine. [www.bayareadragons.org](http://www.bayareadragons.org)





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