



Coyote Point Marina

January 2021

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“It All Worked Out!”

What is it about boats that brings out the stupid in all of us? It’s an easy search on YouTube to see hundreds of boating mishaps, from submerged vehicles at the launch ramp to massive collisions of cargo ships. Some are hilarious to watch, others not so much. As I look back at my 45+ years of boating experience I must admit that I am still not immune to the occasional preventable blunder.

When I first had “Shannon”, my Pacific Seacraft 37 sailboat, I had a penchant for operator errors that led to fuel problems, thus a dead engine at all the wrong times. On one such occasion, I decided to sail in to the slip at night with untrained crew aboard. The story is long but suffice it to say that it involved running aground in the harbor, paddling a kayak to the dock with a line, and six strong guys on the dock manhandling the heavy boat down the slipway and into the slip. As we often say in boating, “it all worked out.” The last time I arranged for my fuel supply to fail inconveniently it resulted in a big black eye that some of you may remember adorned my visage for the duration of the Half Moon Bay cruise-out a few years ago. I’ll tell you that story some day . . . it’s worth a chuckle.

This summer I was working on the batteries of our Sea Ray 280, “Cardinal Rule”. The batteries are in the engine compartment under a large hatch in the middle of the cockpit. When the canvas guy showed up to look at our bimini, I climbed out to meet him, leaving the hatch open. Then while showing what we wanted done to the canvas top I walked right in to the open hatch and went down VERY hard on top of the batteries and engine mounts. I was stunned and thought for sure I was hospital bound. I managed to climb out of the compartment and lie on the deck, winded and head spinning. I was bleeding

from several places and could hardly think straight for several minutes. Eventually I recovered enough to assess my injuries and found that they were not serious. I was able to resume the weekend’s boating activities, with bandaged feet and a new-found caution about moving around on the boat. Once again, this time, it all worked out.

My list of misadventures goes on and on. When I was 12 I neglected to fully secure the outhaul on a Laser. When the wind piped up and I started hiking out the outhaul came loose, the sail depowered, and the boat rolled quickly towards me. I fell off backwards in to the freezing waters of Lake Whatcom and the boat sailed away from me unmanned. I ended up being rescued by the chase boat and it all worked out. Last summer when our runabout overheated (operator error) I tried to replace the impeller in the outdrive while waist deep in muddy Delta water. The YouTube video that showed the impeller in the outdrive was a different model outdrive, and instead of opening the water pump I opened the gearbox. I then dropped a critical part into the gear box and could not retrieve it. Thanks to TowBoat US, it all worked out.

I have experienced groundings, near collisions, crash gybes, engine trouble, navigational errors, gear failures, injuries to myself and crew, high winds, heavy seas and any number of difficult situations, most of which were preventable. In each case, resilience, problem solving and sometimes dumb luck has kept me happy, healthy, and loving boats more and more all the time. The best advice I can offer is to be more cautious than you feel is necessary and be as prepared as possible. This way when adversity strikes you will be able to tell the story later, ending with the declaration “It all worked out!”

- Mark Bettis, Harbormaster



Full Moon Third Quarter		28-Jan 6-Jan		Tide and Current Tables		January 2021		New Moon First Quarter		12-Jan 20-Jan					
Fri 1/1	8:30 Slack 10:42 F 1.0 13:12 Slack 17:42 E -1.9	2:35 6.2 H 7:19 3.2 L 12:49 7.9 H 20:11 -0.9 L	8:42 Slack 13:18 E -2.0 16:36 Slack 19:00 F 1.3	2:08 2.5 L 8:19 8.5 H 15:46 -0.5 L 22:27 5.8 H	Sat 1/9	8:42 Slack 13:18 E -2.0 16:36 Slack 19:00 F 1.3	2:08 2.5 L 8:19 8.5 H 15:46 -0.5 L 22:27 5.8 H	7:54 E -1.0 10:54 Slack 12:42 F 0.6 15:24 Slack	3:43 6.6 H 9:25 2.6 L 14:38 6.5 H 21:35 0.2 L	Mon 1/25	9:30 Slack 13:48 E -1.5 17:36 Slack 20:12 F 0.9	3:39 3.3 L 9:10 7.8 H 16:49 -0.3 L 23:44 5.9 H	Tue 2/2	7:48 E -1.5 10:54 Slack 13:06 F 1.1 16:12 Slack	3:41 7.1 H 9:48 1.7 L 15:24 6.2 H 21:47 0.7 L
Sat 1/2	9:18 Slack 11:30 F 0.9 14:00 Slack 18:30 E -1.9	3:14 6.3 H 8:07 3.1 L 13:34 7.6 H 20:51 -0.7 L	9:36 Slack 14:18 E -2.1 17:30 Slack 19:54 F 1.4	3:09 2.8 L 9:07 8.8 H 16:36 -1.0 L 23:25 6.2 H	Sun 1/10	9:36 Slack 14:18 E -2.1 17:30 Slack 19:54 F 1.4	3:09 2.8 L 9:07 8.8 H 16:36 -1.0 L 23:25 6.2 H	8:42 E -1.0 11:54 Slack 13:42 F 0.5 16:24 Slack	4:20 6.6 H 10:27 2.4 L 15:32 5.8 H 22:16 0.8 L	Tue 1/26	7:30 F 0.8 10:12 Slack 14:36 E -1.6 18:12 Slack	4:23 3.2 L 9:53 8.0 H 17:25 -0.6 L 0:00 0.0 L	Wed 2/3	8:36 E -1.6 12:00 Slack 14:12 F 1.0 17:30 Slack	4:22 7.4 H 10:57 1.3 L 16:41 5.4 H 22:35 1.5 L
Sun 1/3	7:24 E -1.1 10:18 Slack 12:24 F 0.9 15:00 Slack	3:53 6.4 H 9:03 3.0 L 14:24 7.1 H 21:35 -0.4 L	7:36 F 1.1 10:36 Slack 15:12 E -2.1 18:18 Slack	4:06 3.0 L 9:56 9.0 H 17:24 -1.3 L 0:00 0.0 L	Mon 1/11	7:36 F 1.1 10:36 Slack 15:12 E -2.1 18:18 Slack	4:06 3.0 L 9:56 9.0 H 17:24 -1.3 L 0:00 0.0 L	9:18 E -1.0 12:54 Slack 14:48 F 0.4 17:30 Slack	4:57 6.7 H 11:35 2.2 L 16:39 5.1 H 23:00 1.5 L	Wed 1/27	8:12 F 0.9 11:00 Slack 15:18 E -1.8 18:48 Slack	0:18 6.1 H 5:03 3.1 L 10:35 8.2 H 18:00 -0.8 L	Thu 2/4	9:36 E -1.6 13:06 Slack 15:18 F 1.0 18:54 Slack	5:08 7.6 H 12:13 0.9 L 18:19 5.0 H 23:34 2.2 L
Mon 1/4	8:18 E -1.2 11:18 Slack 13:24 F 0.8 16:06 Slack	4:34 6.6 H 10:10 2.7 L 15:23 6.4 H 22:21 0.1 L	8:24 F 1.1 11:30 Slack 16:00 E -2.2 19:06 Slack	0:15 6.4 H 5:01 3.0 L 10:44 9.0 H 18:09 -1.4 L	Tue 1/12	8:24 F 1.1 11:30 Slack 16:00 E -2.2 19:06 Slack	0:15 6.4 H 5:01 3.0 L 10:44 9.0 H 18:09 -1.4 L	9:54 E -1.0 13:54 Slack 16:06 F 0.5 18:42 Slack	5:36 6.8 H 12:44 1.8 L 18:08 4.6 H 23:50 2.1 L	Thu 1/28	9:00 F 1.0 11:42 Slack 16:00 E -1.9 19:24 Slack	0:51 6.2 H 5:42 3.0 L 11:17 8.3 H 18:35 -1.0 L	Fri 2/5	10:42 E -1.7 14:12 Slack 16:30 F 1.0 20:18 Slack	6:00 7.8 H 13:29 0.4 L 20:04 5.1 H 0:00 0.0 L
Tue 1/5	9:12 E -1.3 12:30 Slack 14:30 F 0.8 17:24 Slack	5:16 6.9 H 11:25 2.3 L 16:37 5.7 H 23:11 0.7 L	9:18 F 1.1 12:18 Slack 16:48 E -2.1 19:54 Slack	1:01 6.6 H 5:54 3.0 L 11:32 8.8 H 18:53 -1.3 L	Wed 1/13	9:18 F 1.1 12:18 Slack 16:48 E -2.1 19:54 Slack	1:01 6.6 H 5:54 3.0 L 11:32 8.8 H 18:53 -1.3 L	10:42 E -1.1 14:48 Slack 17:12 F 0.5 19:54 Slack	6:16 6.9 H 13:48 1.4 L 19:53 4.6 H 0:00 0.0 L	Fri 1/29	9:42 F 1.1 12:24 Slack 16:42 E -2.0 20:00 Slack	1:23 6.3 H 6:22 2.8 L 11:59 8.2 H 19:11 -1.0 L	Sat 2/6	7:12 Slack 11:54 E -1.8 15:18 Slack 17:42 F 1.1	0:45 2.8 L 6:57 8.0 H 14:36 -0.1 L 21:28 5.5 H
Wed 1/6	6:12 Slack 10:12 E -1.5 13:36 Slack 15:42 F 0.9	5:59 7.3 H 12:41 1.7 L 18:09 5.2 H 0:00 0.0 L	8:06 Slack 10:06 F 1.0 13:06 Slack 17:30 E -2.0	1:44 6.7 H 6:45 2.9 L 12:19 8.4 H 19:35 -1.1 L	Thu 1/14	8:06 Slack 10:06 F 1.0 13:06 Slack 17:30 E -2.0	1:44 6.7 H 6:45 2.9 L 12:19 8.4 H 19:35 -1.1 L	7:00 Slack 11:24 E -1.1 15:36 Slack 18:12 F 0.6	0:49 2.6 L 6:58 7.1 H 14:43 0.9 L 21:20 4.9 H	Sat 1/30	8:12 Slack 10:30 F 1.1 13:12 Slack 17:24 E -2.0	1:56 6.5 H 7:06 2.5 L 12:43 8.0 H 19:47 -0.9 L	Sun 2/7	8:24 Slack 13:06 E -1.9 16:18 Slack 18:54 F 1.2	2:01 3.0 L 7:56 8.2 H 15:35 -0.6 L 22:28 5.9 H
Thu 1/7	6:54 Slack 11:12 E -1.6 14:36 Slack 16:54 F 1.0	0:07 1.4 L 6:44 7.7 H 13:51 0.9 L 19:48 5.1 H	9:00 Slack 11:00 F 0.9 13:48 Slack 18:06 E -1.8	2:25 6.7 H 7:36 2.8 L 13:04 7.9 H 20:16 -0.8 L	Fri 1/15	9:00 Slack 11:00 F 0.9 13:48 Slack 18:06 E -1.8	2:25 6.7 H 7:36 2.8 L 13:04 7.9 H 20:16 -0.8 L	7:48 Slack 12:12 E -1.2 16:18 Slack 19:00 F 0.7	1:51 3.0 L 7:42 7.3 H 15:30 0.5 L 22:21 5.3 H	Sun 1/31	9:06 Slack 11:18 F 1.2 14:06 Slack 18:06 E -1.9	2:29 6.7 H 7:53 2.3 L 13:30 7.6 H 20:25 -0.5 L	Mon 2/8	9:30 Slack 14:06 E -2.0 17:12 Slack 19:48 F 1.2	3:10 3.1 L 8:54 8.4 H 16:27 -0.9 L 23:17 6.3 H
Fri 1/8	7:48 Slack 12:18 E -1.8 15:36 Slack 18:00 F 1.1	1:07 2.0 L 7:31 8.1 H 14:51 0.1 L 21:16 5.3 H	9:54 Slack 11:48 F 0.7 14:36 Slack 18:42 E -1.6	3:05 6.7 H 8:29 2.7 L 13:50 7.3 H 20:56 -0.3 L	Sat 1/16	9:54 Slack 11:48 F 0.7 14:36 Slack 18:42 E -1.6	3:05 6.7 H 8:29 2.7 L 13:50 7.3 H 20:56 -0.3 L	8:36 Slack 13:00 E -1.3 17:00 Slack 19:42 F 0.8	2:48 3.2 L 8:26 7.5 H 16:11 0.1 L 23:06 5.6 H	Mon 2/1	7:00 E -1.4 10:00 Slack 12:12 F 1.1 15:00 Slack	3:04 6.9 H 8:47 2.0 L 14:22 6.9 H 21:04 0.0 L	Tue 2/9	7:24 F 0.9 10:30 Slack 15:00 E -2.0 18:06 Slack	4:10 2.9 L 9:49 8.4 H 17:13 -1.0 L 23:58 6.5 H

Tide corrected to Coyote Point Marina. Current 2.3 nm NNE of Coyote Point: Max Flood (F), Max Ebb (E)