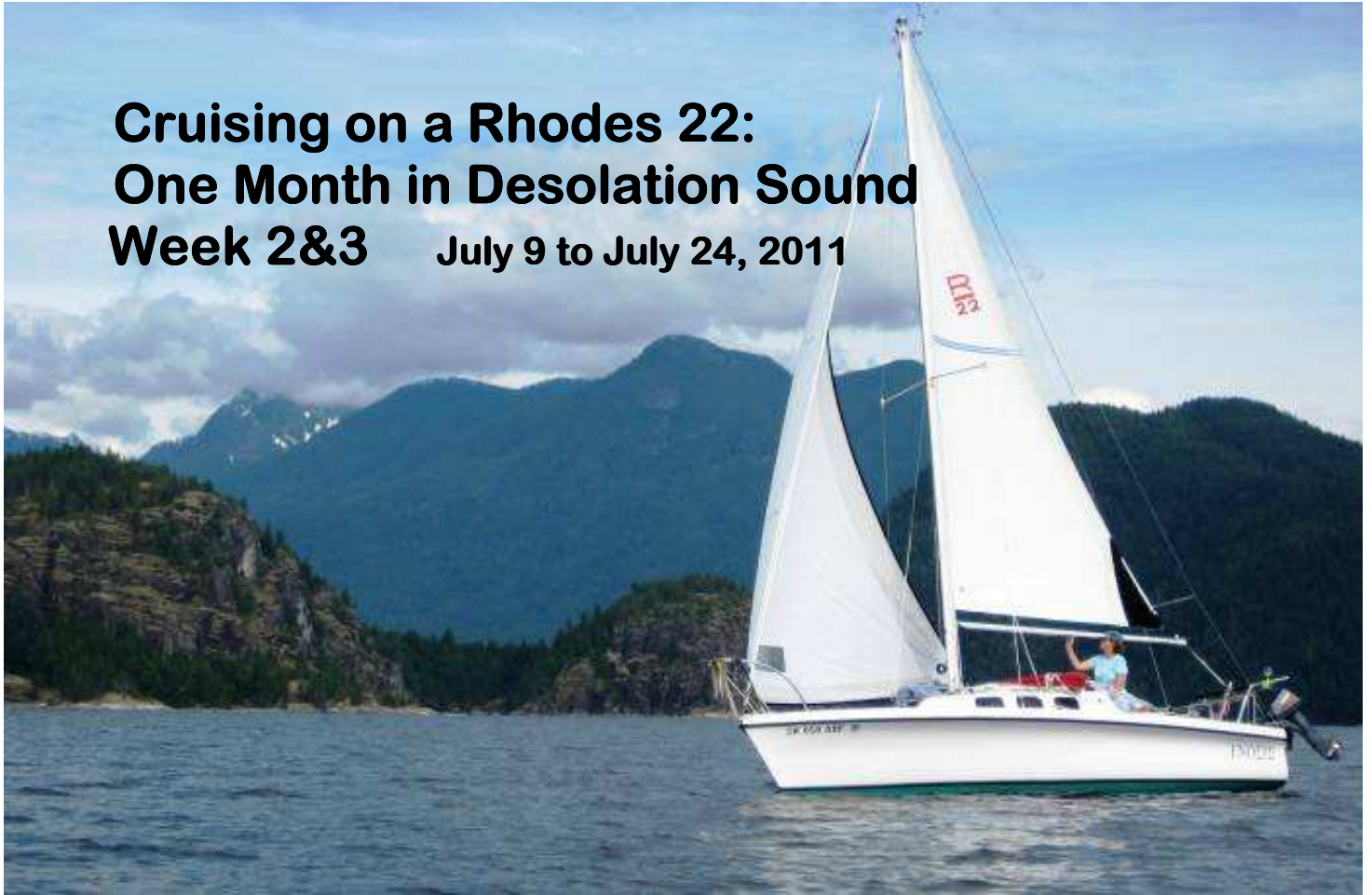


## **Cruising on a Rhodes 22: One Month in Desolation Sound Week 2&3     July 9 to July 24, 2011**



**This portion of the time sailing in Desolation Sound has a bit of a different format. Not having sailed during this time, I do not have a lot of anecdotal information but Pat and his friend Joel took some excellent pictures in week 2. In week 3 Pat and my sister sailed the boat for another week or 10 days and took even more cool pictures. I did join them at the very end and provide some commentary for the last few days.**

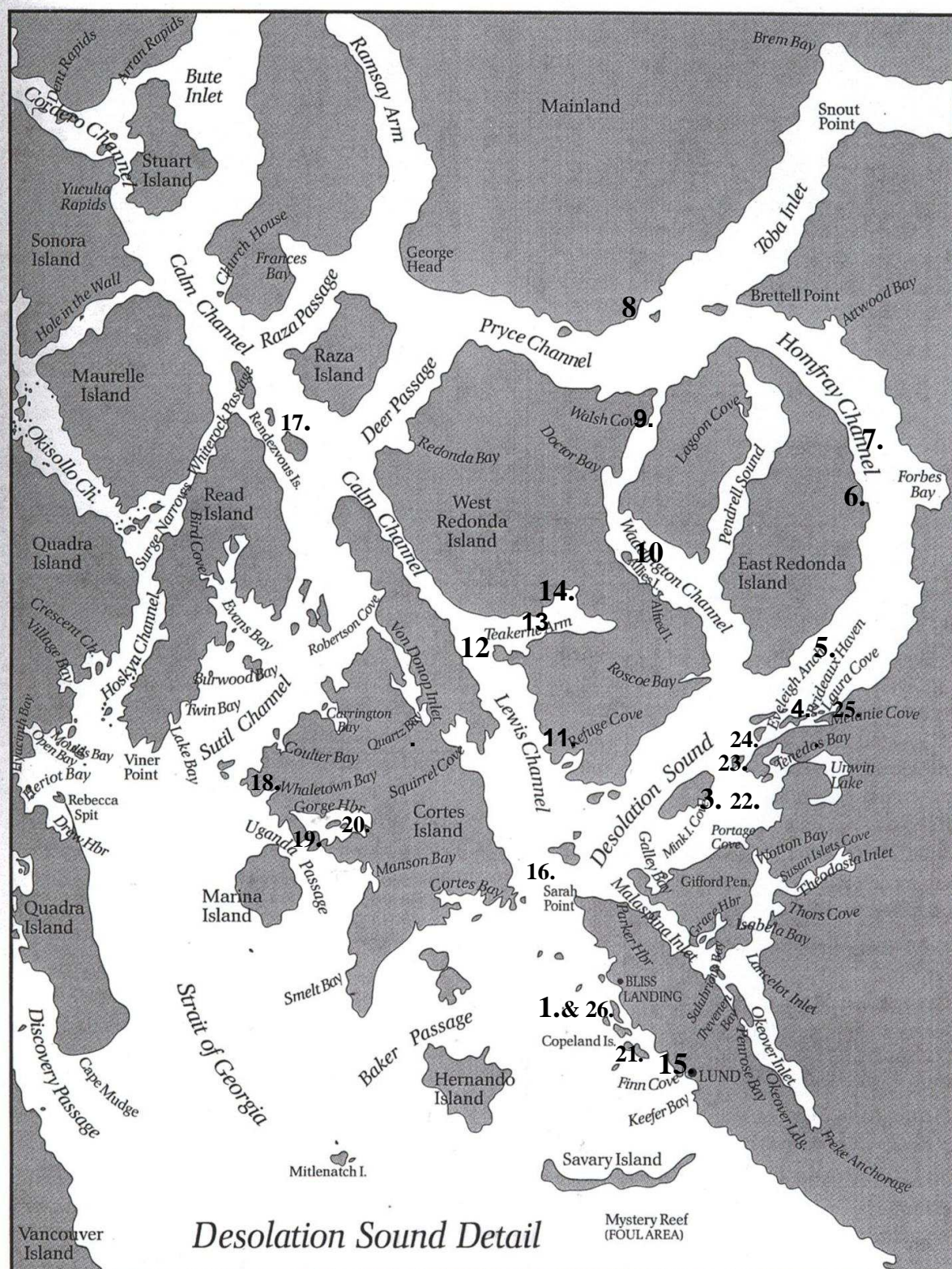


1. Northbound from Lund in the Thulin Passage channel behind the Copeland Islands



3. Seal in east end of Desolation Sound proper, near Mink Island





The numbers correspond with the pictures; the smaller font is for the second week, can you plot the courses?





**2. Bald eagle in a small bay near Mary Point, Cortes Island**



**4. Seal at entrance to Prideaux Haven**





**5. Entering south end of Homfray Channel**



**6. East Redonda Island in the middle of Homfray Channel, NW of Lloyd Point**





**7. Natural stairs on East Redonda Island descending to over 1200 feet in Homfray Channel**



**8. Waterfall above the small hydro plant at the *Wilderness* resort at the entrance to Toba Inlet**



**9. False Pass at Walsh Cove, Waddington**





**10. Bald eagle in Waddington Channel between East and West Redonda**



**11. Refuge Cove, West Redonda Island**

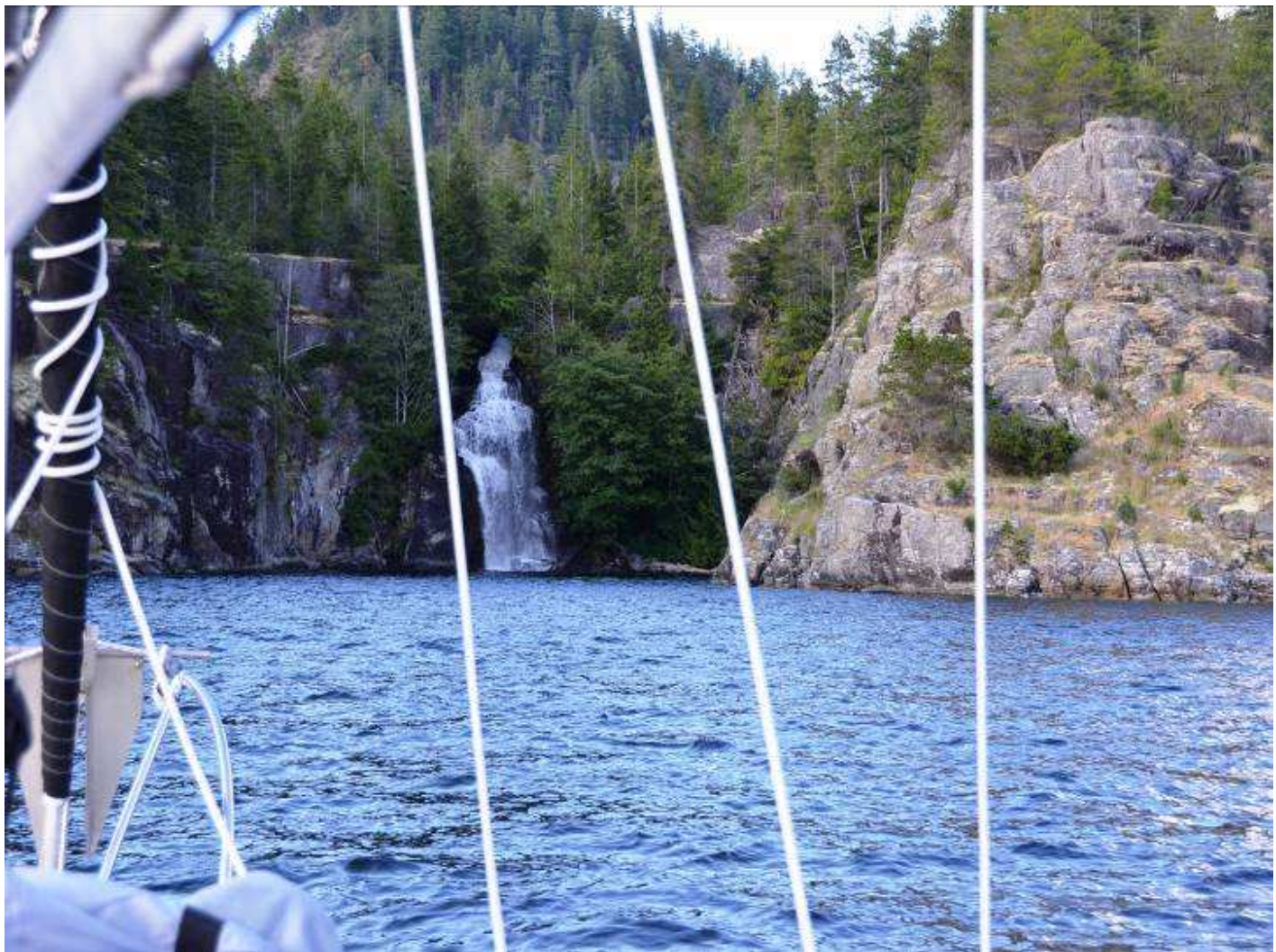




12. Pat sailing into Teakerne Arm, West Redonda



13. Kayakers camp at Cassel Falls, Teakerne Arm



**14. Cassel Falls, West Redonda Island**





**The crowded harbor of Lund and the end of week two of sailing in Desolation Sound  
Week "3" Pat & Greta**



**17. At anchor behind a small island on SW corner of South Rendezvous Island in Calm Channel**



**16. Greta steering up Lewis Channel**





**18. The library at Whaletown**



**18. Small church at Whaletown on Cortes Island**



**18. The post office in Whaletown on west side of Cortes Island**



**19. Entrance to George Harbor, West Cortes Island**



**19. Madrones at Gorge Harbor entrance**



**20. The resort at Gorge Harbor**





**20. Back from the *hot showers*; docked at the resort in Gorge Harbor**

After spending their last night alone, Greta and Pat sailed the short distance to Lund and met me there the next morning the July 21. We restocked and then left around noon headed north to Desolation Sound. The weather was



**20. At anchor amongst islets in the SE corner of Gorge Harbor**



**21. Bald eagle with a fish head that a boater fed to it on the southwestern most Copeland Island**



**21. Bald eagle in the Copelands**

great and the wind an easy 10 knots from the SSW. I haven't been sailing with my sister in several years and I was looking forward to this time. She and Pat sailed with me for only another three more days and then they had to return to Vancouver. I met up with Michael Thomas a friend of Greta's and sailed a week, then Pat and he exchanged places and I got to sail for *another week*.





## 22.. Greta sailing up to Desolation sound, East Redonda Island in the background

Our plan for these three short days and two nights was to sail up to the beginning of Desolation sound from Lund. We sailed NW along the Copeland islands then around Sarah Point and into Desolation Sound, past Mink Island and then slipping into a place known as the Otter Pool. This was just west of Tenedos Bay between the peninsula and the small island of Otter Island.



The south entrance to the “otter pool” is narrow but pretty deep with steep sides. We chose to sail in for the grand entrance effect; that and the motor was still acting up. Wing and wing we entered the cut and found a quiet protected cove that was perfect for our first night together. I dropped anchor and then jibed and headed for the steep shore

## 22. Sailing in wing and wing, narrow but deep



snubbing the anchor a few boat lengths away. Greta rowed in with a shore line in the dinghy and eventually we were able to secure a line to a small hemlock tree. There were several boats in the small cove and everyone was welcoming and friendly. By evening only a few boats remained to spend the night.



**23. Anchored with a stern line to shore**

When all was secure we all piled into the dingy and with the warnings about bear sightings a few days earlier by one of the boats we ventured ashore. The granite slope was very steep but climbable as it was composed of many large moss



covered stone ledges. We were eager to get what we would hope would be some nice shots of Enosis at anchor. We found a neat bench pushily upholstered in three inches of rock moss. The view down to the boat and 40 miles out to the snow covered mountains of the mainland and Vancouver Island was well worth the climb.

**23. Overstuffed moss couch, oh, and with a great view**



We had a nice breakfast and left with the tide through the north entrance. Upon rounding the headland to starboard we were suddenly presented with a breathtaking view up Desolation Sound and Homfrey channel. I had to get that shot with Enosis in the picture for Stan. (and you guys too) So Pat and Greta dropped me off on Otter Island and exited a second time. I only wished there had been a bit of wind so we could have sailed out. Oh well, next time!



**23. View from the moss bench of the “Otter Pool, Otter Island to the R.**



**24. Leaving the “Otter Pool” looking NE up Desolation Sound and Homfray**



Our next destination was the provincial marine park of Prideaux Haven. This is an extremely popular destination so we were not surprised to see at least 30 boats in ½ mile long harbor. But, having the advantage of a very shoal boat we were able to work our way through some shallow areas and rocks awash to the head of Melaine cove where we had a perfect spot away from everyone else. This spot was ideal for a leisurely lunch. Before Greta and Pat went off to explore a trail and follow a creek up into the woods I had them drop me off at the base of a rocky slope near the boat so I could climb up for a view. There were lots of huckle-berries and salmon berries on the cliffs and ledges so that was an added treat.



### **25. Enosis at Prideaux Haven, Melaine Cove**

A few hours later it was time to leave and we now had the wind against us unlike when we sailed into our anchorage. There would be some tacking but there was enough wind that we would make slow but steady progress. We wove our way past the rocks and shoals and through the anchored boats. We had a couple of nice conversations with the owner of a large steel hulled sailboat as we crept along. After our third tack past him the wind quit. Bummer. A short time later out came the owner of *Tai Pan* in his powered dingy which he tied alongside of us. He then towed us thru a very shallow side entrance and out into the sound where there was some wind. Aren't sailboat people nice?



We proceeded south around Sarah Point to a tiny cove we had picked out in the northern most of the Copeland Islands. There were some Kayakers 50 yards away on an island to the south and a family camping on a tiny  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre island to the NW. They were locals with a well used old aluminum fishing boat and two rambunctious young boys. Greta and Pat, far braver than I, went swimming in the “surprisingly warm” 66° water, burr!



## 26. Chillin' in Copeland Islands

As we fixed our last dinner together we watched the family camping on their own little island go through universal routine of camping families everywhere. It was a beautiful scene to end the day.





The only fly in the ointment was a pain in my left eye and random streaks and flashes of lights. This was not a good sign. As they persisted and got worse my concern deepened that it might be something serious. I still had 2 weeks of sailing to do, I was supposed to meet up with Michael in Lund tomorrow and now I have this eye problem. Worst case scenario is my retina might be detaching. A friend of mine had similar symptoms and that is what happened to him. Even after several operations he lost a lot of sight in that eye. The better scenario would be the vitreous lining of the eye was detaching from the retina. My attitude was that there was nothing I could do that night except to enjoy the wonderful sense of place, people, and delicious dinner. Oh, and a great shooting star display (if only in my head).

Next morning we sailed out of the small cove and even got the motor going a short time later. In less than an hour we were in Lund and Michael met us a short time later. It was determined that while Michael worked on the motor, Greta and Pat would drive me into the larger town of Powell River; large enough to have a Wal-Mart! There was an ophthalmologist there and without an appointment, we went to the office. I explained my eye problem and that I was not a Canadian citizen. There was about a 20 minute wait and they saw me. After a lot of different tests and procedures, dilation and retinal photos it was determined that it was the best of the scenarios, that of the vitreous lining detaching from the retina. In almost all cases the retina is not damaged and he explained what I should watch out for. He was an avid sailor himself, and as far as me going sailing, he said he would prefer that he came along and observe me for the next two weeks. But then, he had to work, there were his other patients to take care of.... The total bill was \$155, and it would have been much less had I been a citizen. With a clean bill of health it was back to the boat and ready to start week four of sailing in Desolation Sound.



**Old Lund Hotel**