

Pacific Puddle Jumpers,

We'd Love to See Your Passage Data

We would greatly appreciate you taking a few minutes to send us your passage data. Your info will help us write an accurate and interesting report on this year's crossing, and the insights you share may be of great value to future Puddle Jumpers who will follow in your wake.

For those of us ashore, it's been fascinating to follow the tracks of this year's fleet members on the official PPJ tracking page, <https://forecast.predictwind.com/tracking/rally/pacificpuddlejump2023/>. A big thank you to all who participated! While tracking adds another element of safety, it also makes your journey a lot more exciting and illuminating for friends and family back home.

Every year, despite thorough planning and preparation, some boats seem to have much better luck finding consistent wind and a short route through the doldrums. Likewise, some boats make landfall with virtually no breakage, while others suffer serious gear failures along the way.

Excerpts from the info you send will be posted on the PPJ website and published in Latitude 38. Again, we greatly appreciate your info.

Please return to andyturpinatlarge@gmail.com.

Survey Questions:

- How did your passage-making experience compare with your expectations before the trip? Were there any surprises?
- They say a long crossing is often a balance of highs and lows. What were some of the memorable high points, or low points, of your crossing?
- Can you remember the feeling you had when you first made landfall?
- What advice would you give to future Puddle Jumpers?

Passage Data:

- Boat name:
- Boat type, maker & length:
- Owner's names:
- Boat's homeport:

- Departed from where? On what date?
- Made landfall where? On what date?
- How many days was your crossing?
- How many miles logged?
- At what longitude did you cross the equator?
- How many engine hours did you log (for propulsion)?
- Highest sustained wind speed you experienced? Highest gust?
- What percentage of the time did you hand steer?
- Best 24-hour mileage?
- Worst 24-hour mileage?
- What percentage of the time did you use your autopilot?
- What percentage of the time did you use a windvane steering device?
- What percentage of your onboard electricity came from:
 - solar?
 - wind generator?
 - genset?
 - main engine(s)
- Did you catch fish on the way?
- Please list gear breakage and/or breakdowns.

Please return to andyturpinatlarge@gmail.com

Thanks!

Did You Get Your Official Pacific Puddle Jump Burgee?

If you didn't get a PPJ burgee at Shelter Bay, Panama; Paradise Village, Mexico; or from Kevin at Yachts Services Nuku Hiva; or from our associates at TahitiCrew, please send us a note and we'll try to make arrangements to get you one, wherever you are.

Email: andyturpinatlarge@gmail.com

All's Well Aboard Yasukole

We are very happy to report that the father-son crew of the 45-foot Island Trader ketch Yasukole are alive and well in American Samoa, having made landfall last Friday (June 30), after 78 days at sea. They had departed La Paz, Mexico April 14 and, according to skipper Dave Wysopal, really had no gear failures or problems. It had just been a slow trip. A highlight, he said, was when the big ketch became surrounded by hundreds of dorado, which swam alongside her for days. Dave's decision to bypass French Polynesia was apparently weather-related.

While at sea, Dave and 12-year-old Zachary had no idea that family, friends and many others had been concerned about them since mid-May when friends ashore serving as trip monitors stopped receiving regular automated position reports via the boat's Spot device. At the time neither Dave nor his trip monitors knew that there is a huge section of the Pacific where Spot devices are useless. (Yasukole carries no other offshore communication devices.)

Said to be an old-school, self-sufficient mariner, Dave will probably be shocked when he learns that a US Coast Guard SAR crew dispatched from Hawaii flew search patterns for three solid days looking for him and his son. And even more shocked when he is told that although Yasukole was never spotted, that effort serendipitously saved the life of Aaron Carotta, an adventurer who'd been attempting to row around the world. When spotted, he was adrift in his tiny liferaft and unable to communicate, having been forced to abandon his badly damaged open-ocean rowboat. A tanker was diverted to pick him up, much to the delight of hundreds if not thousands of Carotta's fans on social media — many of whom then shifted their concern to locating Yasukole.

Needless to say, we too are thrilled that Dave and Zack are safe and sound. But we're left pondering this zen-like question: Can you be found if you were never really lost?

- Andy Turpin, PPJ