

Sailor of the Month - Steve Bechtold

I was born 7-28-1946 in San Mateo, CA, where I was raised for my first 19 years. Graduated high school and entered community college in 1964. I found partying and playing more fun than attending college. I lasted 1 ½ years before I was kicked out. No worries though, the Army was more than happy to have me, the draft you know. I chose to join the Navy in order to stay out of Vietnam. So I spent approximately 3 of my 4 year enlistment in or off shore of Vietnam. Bright spot of my time in the Navy, I met and married Trish. After the Navy I finished school and went on to become a certified "master automotive technician". Worked at various jobs, and was hired by the City of Roseville in 1980, where I worked my way from a tire and oil changer to the city's fleet manager during my 22 years there. I Retired in 2002. Hobbies over the years have include, getting a pilot's license, 4 different sailboats, bicycle riding, motorcycles and after retirement, RC airplanes. We have spent summers in Anacortes for 15 or so years, and in 2012 I saw a group sailing RC boats and thought it looked fun. Got my first little sailboat, a Soling 1m, in 2013, and raced it last summer, here in Anacortes. I didn't take it too seriously, but had fun. And people associated with this sport/hobby are great. We returned to Anacortes for the 2014 season and I started sailing the little boats again, still fun and the people are still great. And somehow I am the inaugural winner of the DPMYC perpetual Soling trophy for July 2014.

