Sailing to palm-fringed beaches and star-lit coves is just a dream for many. However, for John Welch it is a lifestyle. This retired government administrator who calls Hawaii his home, sails for the Pacific solo. Aboard a 20-foot Pacific Seacraft Flicka named Betty Jane after his wife Welch has made many passages including California to Hawaii, Hawaii to Tahiti and back, Hawaii to Palmyra and back, plus extensive island hopping in the Aloha state.

A memorable voyage.
The Palmyra trip stands out in John's mind. His log recalls that the voyage out "was beautiful, steady NE winds of 20-25 knots and fine weather. Carried a 100 working jib and single reefed main most of the trip. This combination balanced the helm perfectly under the prevailing wind and sea conditions and I averaged over 100 miles per day for the passage; the best days run was 123 miles."

"Hitting a small, low island on the nose with no aids other than a sextant is a good feeling. This is one of the times when you might wish for a companion to share small triumphs and new experiences."

The return to Hawaii proved rough going. "There were absolutely the worst adverse weather conditions possible," Welch recounts. "Why, in one day it would go from gale force 4 to 45-knot squalls, to complete wind shifts right around the compass. During it all, there was never a worry about the boat. She really proved herself," he emphasizes.

Qualit y engenders confidence.

After sailing Betty Jane for four years and 16,500 miles, Welch notes that "there have been no problems with the boat, engine, or gear. The boat is given scheduled maintenance, has been hauled twice, running rigging has been replaced, and 110 jib, main and dodger restitched. Roll and topsides gelcoat remains in good condition."

"The Flicka is possibly the finest 20 footer ever built," he continues. "The boat has to be seen to be believed. Betty Jane has more usable living space than my previous 30 foot racer/cruiser. Also, the Flicka is much easier to sail. And for long distance sailing, I appreciate the Flicka's comfort—more than any other small boat I can imagine."

"I know this may sound a bit over-enthusiastic. However, when it's only you, the boat, and a very large sea, the boat takes on an added dimension. The Flicka inspires confidence. With her, I always feel secure, even under poor conditions," he concludes.

Yes, dreams can be realized aboard Flicka. And even before their day of fulfillment arrives, Flicka can bring you many days of pleasure. She is roomy to accommodate families, easy handling for couples, and an able yacht in all respects; several families even live aboard. Her heritage of achievement and her tradition of enduring quality inspire confidence on every voyage. Sail her soon—your dream is within reach.

Specifications and Further Facts—LOD (loaded) 19' 7"; LWL 18' 2"; Beam 7' 8"; Draft 3' 5"; Cruising Displacement 5500 lbs; Lead Ballast 1800 lbs; Sail Area 250 sq. ft. For a descriptive brochure, send $5 (P&H) to:

Pacific Seacraft
FREE PERI STER
3301 So. Susan St., Santa Ana, CA 92704
(714) 754-1343

Over the past four years, Welch's Flicka has accomplished many long solo trips. Another is planned for this summer.