

STYLE

WEEKENDS ON THE SEA

WHETHER THEY'RE BRAVING PACIFIC STORMS OR REMINISCING ABOUT THEIR FIRST BOATS, THESE FIVE SAILORS ARE HAPPIEST WHEN THEY'RE ON THE WATER. SO, FITTINGLY, WE TOOK THEM OUT ON SAN DIEGO BAY TO TRY OUT THE SUMMER'S NEWEST NAUTICAL WEAR.

INTERVIEWS by *Claire Martin* PHOTOGRAPHS by *Max Kim-Bee* FASHION by *Patti O'Brien*



Damian Vaughan, left, wears a sweater by NAUTICA, \$198; shirt by NAUTICA JEANS CO., \$50; pants by GAP, \$50; watch by CORUM, \$10,000. Koehler wears a polo by VINEYARD VINES, \$62; pants by ERMENEGILDO ZEGNA, \$275; watch by SEIKO.

"I grew up in a boatyard. We have a family photo of me in diapers, sitting on a brand-new engine that's being installed in a boat. When I was seven my old man gave me a little sailing dinghy that was a complete piece of crap. He made me learn the hard way: Before I could take it into the water, I had to fix it. Times were different then; the old guys around the boatyard were hardcore. You learned fast and hard, and if you did something stupid you wore it for a long time."

C.F. KOEHLER (*right*), 43,
OWNER OF KOEHLER KRAFT BOATYARD,
SAN DIEGO



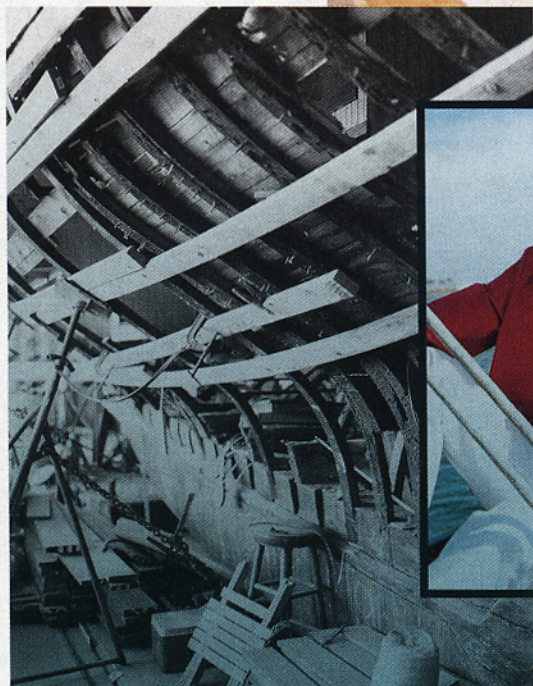
From left: Koehler wears a shirt by **GANT**, \$95; pants by **ERMEGILDO ZEGNA**, \$275. Vaughan wears a sweater by **CALVIN KLEIN**, \$88; shirt by **GANT**, \$95; pants by **GAP**, \$50. Tim Muller wears a sweater by **ETRO**, \$420; shirt by **DKNY**, \$60; pants by **ETRO**, \$443; watch by **SWISS ARMY**, \$350.

"Buying a 30-foot sailboat to live on in San Francisco Bay without really knowing how to sail was the most impetuous thing I've ever done. With sailing you're trying to master the elements, which is essentially impossible to do. And sailing the boat you live on is very daunting; you have to fasten down every single item in your home. I sold the boat when I moved to Southern California four years ago, but I go back to San Francisco occasionally, and I just stand there looking at it. I fantasize about buying it back."

DAMIAN VAUGHAN (*center*),
33, CONSTRUCTION MANAGER,
LOS ANGELES



Reisert wears a pullover, \$70, and shirt, \$60, both by **PERRY ELLIS**; pants by **GAP**, \$50; watch by **CORUM**, \$5,900. Blake Pearson, below, wears a jacket, \$680, shirt, \$330, and jeans, \$225, all by **PRADA**; watch by **OMEGA**, \$2,680.



“Three years ago my wife and I went to Egypt and spent 10 days sailing the Nile from Aswan to Luxor. We sailed a felucca, which is a traditional, 30-foot wooden boat with cotton sails that the Egyptians used thousands of years ago. The southerly winds pushed us north past ancient temples, transporting us back to what life was like then.”

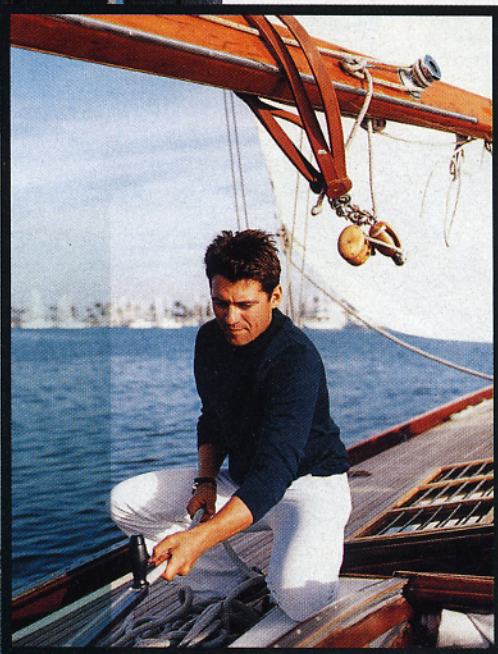
MARTIN REISERT (*above*), 32, MIDDLE-SCHOOL TEACHER, SAN DIEGO



“One night I was with a group of clients, heading from Miami to Gun Cay in Bimini. It was a full moon, and the entire sea was frothing with 40-knot winds. Waves would crash on us, sending a shudder from stem to stern. Water poured in, we lost the engine for six hours, and the sails blew out. For the 14 hours we were out there I didn’t see a single passenger except for one lying at the bottom of the stairs, puking. As the captain you have to maintain your cool, but I remember thinking, Shit, I hope I didn’t just kill 17 people.”

TIM MULLER (*left*), 31,
BOAT CAPTAIN, SAN DIEGO

Muller wears a shirt by DKNY, \$50; pants by ETRO, \$443. Reisert, right, wears a sweater by NAUTICA, \$80; jeans by ARMANI, \$295.





"It's been a dream of mine to sail with friends down to the farm we own near Dominical in Costa Rica. I'd get a 30-foot catamaran, which has a light, geometric design that's great for high speeds; you can capture a lot of wind, bend the boat over, and lean on it. When I'm older and get the boat, that's what I'll do."

**BLAKE PEARSON, 32,
REAL ESTATE AGENT,
SAN FRANCISCO**

Pearson wears a polo shirt by **RLX**, \$85; shorts by **POLO BY RALPH LAUREN**, \$125. All grooming products by **CLINIQUE SKIN SUPPLIES FOR MEN**.

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Where to Buy, page 154.