



The Potter Yachter

Newsletter of the Northern California West Wight Potter Club

July 2013

First Sail At New Spicer Meadow Reservoir Is A Rousing Success!



06/27/2013

By Kevin Crowder

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06/29/2013

We were there in the Hi Sierra during the heat wave. It was warm but much better than in the valley. Our hi was around 85 to 90 on the week end. Cooled off real nice in the evening. With a nice clear

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The Commodore's Log

Jerry Kergan's last edition of the Potter Yachter was especially well done, with a really fine write-up of our Woodward overnight and a very interesting story by David White. Jerry's work as editor, author, and photographer for the Potter Yachter is extraordinary and we all owe him a deep debt of gratitude for all he does and all he has done for us.

As I indicated in my last edition of the Commodore's Corner, Jerry has been fighting through some serious health set-backs and challenges. As of this writing, Jerry advises that the week before Cruiser Challenge he will be entering Community Hospital of Monterey Peninsula for by-pass surgery that will keep him in the hospital for four or five days. The prospect of surgery is always daunting, presumably even for a man of Jerry's spirit and stature, so Jerry should know that all of our thoughts and prayers are with him for a successful procedure and for a speedy recovery. We all look forward to seeing you back on your feet and joining us out on the water after all this is over.



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EVENTS ON THE HORIZON:

July 13 (Sat)

CRUISER CHALLENGE XIV & OVERNIGHT
Monterey (Goose)

August 10 (Sat)

RICHMOND DAY SAIL (Neil Dorf)

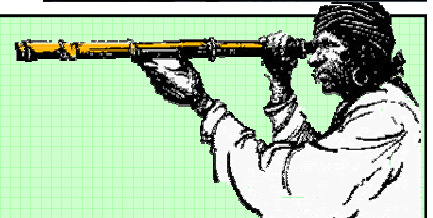
August 17 (Sat)

DELTA – 6 BRIDGES OVERNIGHT SAIL (Bud Kerner)

SoCal Potter Events

July 27th (Sat)

Alamitos Bay—Long Beach <http://howies.net/socalpotter/ramplosalamitos/>



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(Commodore's Log.: continued from page 2)

Turning to the topic of sailing, since the last writing we had some great sailing adventures and get-togethers.

On June 1-2, 2013, I was able to attend our Woodward Reservoir sail and overnight get together. Before that weekend, we heard on the News that the Saturday temperatures at Woodward in the foothills would be pushing 100 degrees. I decided it would be best to go up Friday afternoon.

After burning the proverbial midnight oil to get my office work done to free the time on Friday afternoon, albeit a bit bleary-eyed, I picked up my son Sam with my boat Dagmar in tow, and we were headed for Woodward Reservoir.



We made it up there by 3 pm Friday afternoon. It was good to see that a campsite had already been established at Area T. The Google earth photo that Rich McDevitt posted was extremely helpful in re-locating the campsite. As we drove into the campsite, it was good to see that the best campsites had been secured for us by Jerry Kergan, and to have our new home base enhanced by Bud and Linda's and Phil's RVs. I found our group engaged in lively conversation while sitting in chairs set up in the valuable shade created by the Newhall's camper canopy. Some had come early on Thursday and had done some sailing, while others arrived on Friday.

Sam and I proceeded to select a site to set up our "Taj Mahal" sized tent. At first we toyed with the idea of setting up part of the tent closer to the shade of the trees and the beach, but unfortunately the best areas to set up are marked with signs that say no tents past this point. So, to avoid the prospect of having a ranger tell us to move the tent after it was set up, we complied with the local ordinance and made sure no part of our tent transgressed the invisible line between the sign posts.

Conditions were pretty calm Friday afternoon, so the boats pretty much stayed on the beach. Others joined the group arriving later that afternoon, and we all had a great dinner and campfire that night.

The next morning a breeze picked up. Sam and I took Dagmar to the boat ramp, slid her off her trailer, and readied to take advantage of the sailing opportunities before the thermometer started climbing into the 90s. Rich and Mary McDevitt had just pulled in and we saw them setting up at the ramp. We enjoyed some sailing in light winds that morning, ranging from 0-5mph.

After a siesta in the shade for most of mid-day, most of the group set out for an afternoon sail which turned out to be really fun. After that, a beautiful sunset, a sumptuous pot luck dinner, great fun, music, and conversation into the wee hours made this was one of my most memorable and enjoyable Woodward Overnights ever.

Then there was our Wine Country Lake Hennessey sail on June 15, 2013.

When we started this fantastic day sail last year, it was 102 degrees and although Rich McDevitt wrote it up as the "Wake and Bake," we really had a lot of fun. When this year's temperatures for the event were predicted to be much more pleasant in the mid to low 80 degree range, I felt it would be even

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better than last year.

Let it be said that I feel a guilty pleasure in the Lake Hennessey sail because it seems to be such a well-kept secret that this is one of the best Potter Yachter sails there is from the standpoint of a beautiful environment to sail in, with absolutely no wakes from motor boats; in fact we virtually have this entire lake to ourselves. As you probably know, Lake Hennessey rules only permit boats 16' and under and motors 10 hp and under. That is great for keeping out the riff raff, but it meant that I could not bring my 18-19 foot P-19 Dagmar. Thankfully, Rich McDevitt allowed me to sail Minnow, while he sailed in Rick Keith's Potter 15. With Rich's P15 I got the same feeling I got when sailing with Jerry Barrilleaux on his P19 Sunshine: a very balanced, straightforward, and well thought out boat.

Also in attendance were Don Person, Jim Smith, and Steve Potter in his converted kayak sailboat, as well as newcomers Dana Suverkrop in his P15 and George Corrigan and wife in their Montgomery 15.

Motors were neither necessary nor attached (or at least not used) by the majority of the boats because these were superb conditions. We started at 65 degrees and got up to the low 80 degrees, with winds mostly between 5-10 mph. It was a beautiful sunny day for Pottering about the reeds and shoreline and finding the windy spots behind the dams.

We all went down to the far end of the lake and then enjoyed a long group run together with our boats within feet of one another all the way back to the dock. We saw the fishermen going in around noon and figured we would do the same as the day became hotter. Then we spent some time in the shade together, conversing and relishing the beauty of the lake and its surroundings, and a few others ventured out for a little more sailing before calling it a day.

All in all, thus far we have had some really great sails and overnights, and look forward to more. As of this writing, we are looking forward to a brand new sail and overnight brought to us by Kevin Crowder at New Spicer Meadows.





cool lake to swim and sail in. I asked all that were there if they would like to come back and I think all said yes. Did not hear a no. The lake had some nice winds good sailing. A little light but with some good gusts. I sailed all day on Sunday had real good wind even thought of reefing but it was just long lasting gust. Ran or sailed up to another P15 new member from Vallejo. He and his family where boat camping far end of the lake. The camp ground had plenty of trees flat not too dusty like most US forest camp grounds. I counted 7 boats came for the outing. Attending was David and Sharon 4 footed crew Kayle, Dan, Becky and Neal,

Robb with his dog Wheezy, Jim and fist mate Skipper, Bud and Linda thanks for the fire wood. Also Dan thanks for bringing wood. Then camp cook Dan's friend Todd. Made some great eggs and spaghetti. We had a PY last minute pot luck Saturday night. Lots of good eats. Todd his new mate with him 4 footed Tasha the lush. Watch your drink. We also met Aaron, Kimmy and family there with there



P15. They came all the way from Bear Valley. Just up the road from the lake.

Thank you all for make this a week end to remember I am looking forward to another PY outing at New Spicer Meadow Reservoir.

The Vessels & Skippers

P-15 Skippers

Bud & Linda Newhall
Robert Sampson

Montgomery 15

Neil & Becky Dorf

Others

Dan Ricker
Kevin Crowder

P-19 Skippeers

Jim Smith



Cruiser Challenge IV

Host: Cruiser Challenge Committee—Jim “Goose” Gossman, Chair

When: Saturday, March 16th, 8:00 AM Launch Time

Where: Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club / Monterey Marina.

Fees: See <http://cruiserchallenge.com/>

Meals: Picnic lunch aboard your boat.

Dinner at Peninsula Yacht Club (see <http://cruiserchallenge.com/>)

Phone #s:

“Goose” Gossman Cell: 650-575-7757

Peninsula Yacht Club (831) 372-9686

Monterey Harbormaster (831) 372-9686

Office Hours: 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Friday, July 12

5:30 pm:

The Bar at Monterey Yacht Club opens
Happy Hour at Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club.

NOTE: Happy Hours is open to the public; this is not an official CC-XIV event.

Saturday, July 13

Before 8:00 am:

Rig and Launch

Pay Parking and Berth Fees at Marina Harbormaster's Office. Arrive before 8:00 am and park, rig and launch at the Monterey Yacht Harbor.

Check in with the Harbormaster upon arrival for your berth assignment and reserved parking space. The Monterey Marina does not accept berth reservations for groups in advance but there's no worry -- the staff at the Harbormaster's office says there will be plenty of slips if you arrive on time.). See the “Reservations, Fees, Parking” page for parking arrangements and fees. <http://cruiserchallenge.com/>

In 2012 approximately two dozen skippers arrived with their boats on Friday or earlier, which made their Saturday schedule much more relaxed.

8:00 - 9:00 AM.

at the Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club

Event Registration. Sign in and complete the required liability waivers. Pick up your logo gear, if you ordered any.

9:00 AM:

Skipper's meeting at MPYC. We will pass out course maps and explain the starting sequence.

11:30 AM.

Start of the first race, followed by lunch on the water. Pack a lunch to eat on your boat after the first race.

A description of the format for this race and of the awards for the participants can be found here

<http://cruiserchallenge.com/>

1:00 PM:

Start of second race. Conditions permitting, a third race will follow. The racing continues. If you decide to drop out and head for the bar at the yacht club, you won't have far to sail!

Eligibility and Regatta Rules are here: <http://cruiserchallenge.com/>

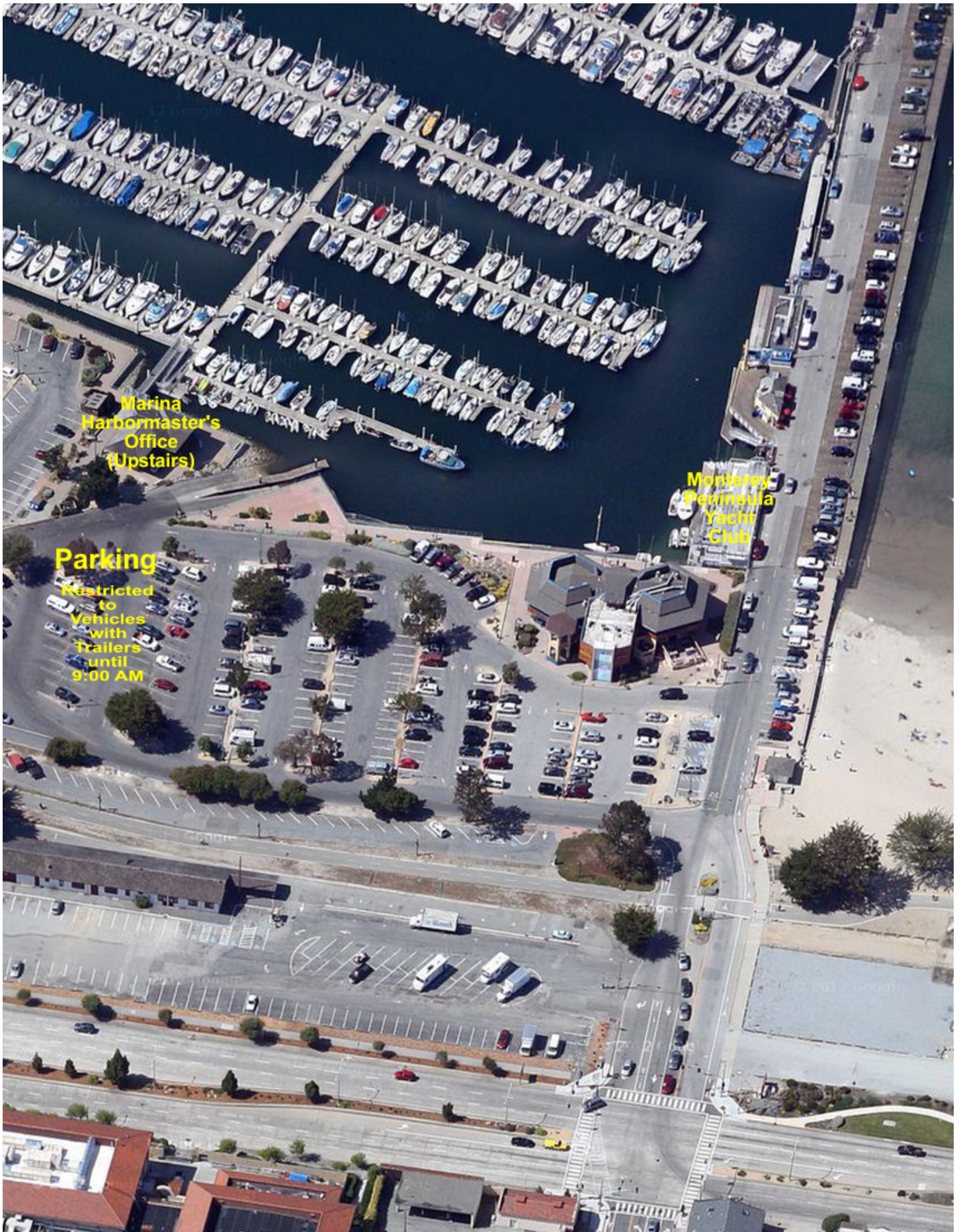
4:00 pm

Bar opens at MPYC The no host bar at Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club opens.

5:00 pm

or as soon as race results are compiled The Awards Ceremony begins! Immediately following the ceremony dinner will be served at MPYC

Sunday, July 14 Noon Inaugural "Dory Taylor Cup"



(continued page 8: Redwood City)



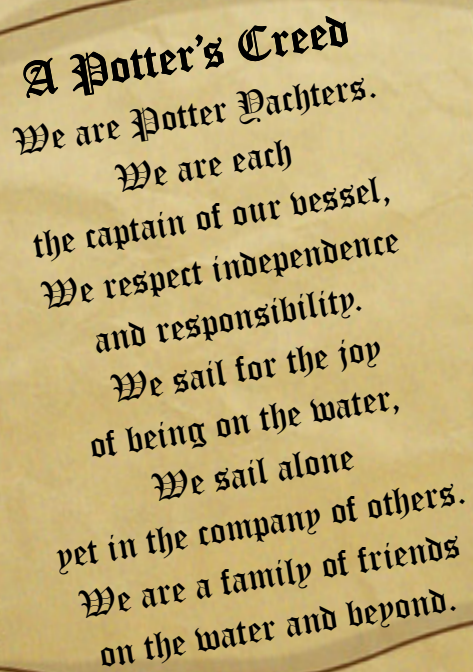
Patrick Brennan
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Alameda, CA 94501

With a Grain of Salt

The **Potter Yachter** is a forum for exchange of ideas and information among West Wight Potter (and other mini-yacht) sailors. But we Potter Yachters are mostly a bunch of amateurs finding our way by trial and error and luck.

You will probably find some very helpful tips or ideas in the Potter Yachter that will enhance your sailing experience, but you may also find some ill-advised suggestions or ideas that just don't work for your particular boat, your sailing environment, your level of sailing experience, or your boat-working skills. So please understand that any sailing tutorials, suggested boat modifications, recommended cruises, etc., are the opinion of the author, based presumably on his or her personal experience and judgment at the time the article or letter was written.

If a Potter Yachter believes s/he has a good idea and submits it to the newsletter for publication, we will usually pass it on to the rest of you in the newsletter, but take it "with a grain of salt" and a large portion of your own good judgment, and perhaps get a second opinion before undertaking a modification or cruise or sailing technique you read about in the **Potter Yachter** (or any other publication)
- *The Editor*



A Potter's Creed
We are Potter Yachters.
We are each
the captain of our vessel,
We respect independence
and responsibility.
We sail for the joy
of being on the water,
We sail alone
yet in the company of others.
We are a family of friends
on the water and beyond.