



The Potter Yachter

Newsletter of the Longest Lasting West Wight Potter Club in the World

February 2015

“Great Scot with the Wee Boat”

David White Named Potter Yachter of the Year

by Carl Sundholm

It was a distinct pleasure to give the “Potter Yachter of the Year” Award for 2014 to Scotsman extraordinaire, David White, to honor his numerous contributions to the Potter Yachters.

It is always good to see the familiar red sails of his West Wight Potter 19 on the horizon at our events. Ever since I have been a part of the Potter Yachters, David has been one of the most organized and one of the most adept West Wight Potter 19 sailors that I have known. Whenever someone has needed something, be it anything from a tool, to binoculars, to exotic drinks at an overnight, David typically graciously and unselfishly comes up with whatever is needed.



David White (left) accepts the award presented by Carl Sundholm

But with regard to the “Potter of the Year” Awards, actions speak louder than words. David has been one of our most unselfish and stalwart first responders in keeping an eye out on others and helping people out on the water. I can recall in 2010, when howling winds on Woodward Reservoir capsized Dave Candey’s Potter 15, David was there for the rescue. In 2012 at Tomales Bay, when Rick Keith’s Potter 15’s shear pins broke making his outboard motor effectively proplless, *Wee Boat* was there for the tow. And most recently, in 2014 at Tomales Bay, when Cindi Baumgard began drifting motorless out of control, David White and *Wee Boat* were there to assist in the tow to safety.

As the inscription on the award reads, David White is indeed a “Great Scot with a Wee Boat.”

Many thanks from all of us! – 

Ship’s Stores for sale. Send orders to **Pat Brennan:**

Show your colors! Fly an official Club Burgee on your next sail!

- Burgees \$25.00
- Bumper stickers \$ 2.50 (just shows the burgee; no text)
- Patches \$ 2.50 (Both round and burgee shaped)
- Info Packets \$20.00 (Primarily P-15 information)

Or head over to our CafePress website and buy a Cap, Stein, or T-Shirt with the club logo on it.

Visit: <http://www.cafepress.com/potteryachters>

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The Commodore's Corner

By Rob Sampson

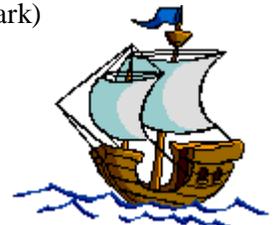
Welcome to a new year of Potter Yachting (with whatever kind of boat you have)! It's always exciting to get the new event calendar out there. I'm intrigued by the 2 new lake sails we have on the schedule, Union Valley Reservoir in late June and Scotts Valley Reservoir in August. I hope they will have enough water and will come to pass with our continuing drought. Let's pray for the "Pineapple Express", our local rainmaking atmospheric river to occur between now and then.

Our first sail will be the St. Patrick's Day Weekend Sail and Dinner at the Peninsula Yacht Club in Redwood City. As Carl mentioned in the meeting, this may be the last year for the Peninsula Yacht Club in their current location due to pending land sales and development. The Peninsula Yacht Club is hoping for a good turnout of Potter Yachters at this (maybe last) traditional event. Note that the Sail and Dinner will be on March 21 (the week after the real St. Patrick's Day)

Again, big thanks to Carl for his 3 years as Commodore of the Potter Yachters! – 

Potter Yachters Amended Scheduled for 2015

03-21-15	Sat	St. Patrick's Day Weekend Sail and Dinner at the Peninsula Yacht Club in Redwood City (Carl)
04-11-15	Sat	Oakland Estuary Sail and Strictly Sail Boat Show, April 9-12 (Pat)
04-18-15	Sat	Benicia Sail with Overnight Option (Goose)
05-02-15	Sat	Moss Landing/Elkhorn Yacht Club Sail with Overnight Option (Mike/Bud)
05-16-15	Sat	Delta Overnight Sail from B & W Resort (Jerry B)
06-06-15	Sat	Woodward Reservoir Overnight (Rich/Kevin)
06-20-15	Sat	Lake Hennessey Sail (Don/Carl)
06-27-15	Sat	Union Valley Reservoir Overnight (David W/Kevin)
07-25-15	Sat	Cruiser Challenge XVI at Monterey (Goose; Parking Committee Kevin/Rich/Dave and Sharon S.)
08-01-15	Sat	[Dinghy Delta Ditch Run - Rio Vista to Lake Washington; not a Potter Yachter Event (Dave Candey)]
08-08-15	Sat	Richmond to SF Bay Sail [Angel Island or other destination, conditions permitting] (Jerry B)
08-15-15	Sat	Scott's Flat Reservoir Sail with Overnight Option [near Nevada City] (Mark)
09-12-15	Sat	Alameda to Clipper Cove Picnic Sail (Carl)
09-26-15	Sat	Tomales Bay Overnight Sail (Eric)
10-03-15	Sat	Moss Landing to Monterey Sail and Overnight (Mike/Bud)
10-17-15	Sat	Delta Bridges Sail and Overnight (Bud)



*All reservoir sails subject to modification or cancellation depending upon drought conditions.

**Caveat: Sailing can be a dangerous activity so please be careful and keep an eye on your fellow sailors. Participation in any Potter Yachter event constitutes agreement that each participant, and their guests or crew, assume all risk of any injury or damage they may suffer relating to any such event, and waive any claims of ordinary negligence against other Potter Yachter participants and the Potter Yachters relating to any such injury or damage. Have fun and sail safely.

Club Events on the Horizon

- Mar. 21 (Sat) St. Patrick's Day Sail/Dinner at Peninsula Yacht Club (Carl)
easy to intermediate, depending on how far out into the Bay we go and on how windy it is; this may be our last chance to enjoy the Peninsula Yacht Club in Redwood City
- Apr. 11 (Sat) Oakland Estuary Sail and [Strictly Sail Boat Show](#) Apr. 9-12 (Pat)
easy sailing around the protected estuary; launch at Grand St. ramp where parking is free but you may have to get a spot on the street; some folks overnight at [OYC](#) during the show
- Apr. 18 (Sat-Sun) Benicia Sail with overnight option (Goose)
easy to intermediate, depending upon the winds and destination; overnight possible at dock or at anchor for individuals who choose to; plentiful parking and nice ramp

The Potter Yachter's Annual Meeting January 18, 2015



Back Row: Kevin Crowder, Dori & Mike O'Toole, Mike Swartz, Bruce Mossman, Rich McDevitt, Dick Herman, Sharon & David Soule, Pat Brennan, Jim Smith, Harry Gordon, Don Person, Chuck Lee, Rob Sampson, "Goose" Gossman, Carl Sundholm, Dave Bacon, Pam Griggs, Dave Candey, Bruce McDevitt, Katie Taylor. **Front Row:** Terry Gotcher, Judy Blumhorst, Mark Conry, Ed Dove, Herman Ward, Danny Ward, Bud & Bobbi Kerner, Dan Phy, Cheryl & David White. **Attendees not pictured above:** Kjeld Molvig, Gerry Nolan, Jerry & Carol Barrilleaux, Dave Kautz, Eric Zilbert, Russell Swartz

By Carl Sundholm

Our January 18, 2015 Potter Yachters' Annual Meeting again boasted robust attendance and participation.

Attendees enjoyed a delicious and abundant breakfast in the OYC dining room, before moving downstairs to the Regatta Room for the annual meeting around 10:15 am.



The meeting was called to order around 10:39 a.m. by Commodore Carl Sundholm with the ringing of the meeting bell, with Commodore Elect Rob Sampson side by side.



Handouts were provided with the Agenda, List of Officer Candidates, and updated Potter-Yachters On-the-Water Phone List. The 2015 Potter Yachter Calendar was made available for sale.

New members introduced themselves and were welcomed into the Club.



Secretary/Treasurer Pat Brennan gave his usual unusually systematic and detailed financial report of the Club. Pat advised that consistent with the Potter Yachters being a (purposefully) loosely structured voluntary non-profit association of nautically inclined small boat sailors who like to sail together, the Club remains in good financial condition with a modest cash reserve remaining in the five thousand dollar neighborhood, despite keeping our dues at \$25/year for as long as most members can remember.

Discussion was again held on the issue of whether our dues should be kept at the \$25 per year level, and it was moved, seconded, and unanimously passed by oral vote to keep the dues at the same level for another year.



Rob Sampson was nominated and elected Commodore; Carl Sundholm was nominated and elected as Vice Commodore; Pat Brennan was nominated and re-elected as Secretary/Treasurer; Eric Zilbert was nominated and re-elected as P19 Fleet Captain; Don Person was nominated and re-elected as P15 Fleet Captain; Phil Marcelis was nominated and re-elected as Newsletter Editor; and Mike Westfield was nominated and re-elected as Webmaster. Goose was nominated and re-elected as Cruiser Challenge Coordinator. The Potter Yachter Commodore's Trophy, Flag, and library of the past Potter Yachters was passed on to the new Commodore.



Each event on the proposed Potter Yachter sailing schedule for 2015 was presented and discussed, and changes were made and new sailing events were proposed. The new Potter Yachter 2015 schedule is set forth in the Commodore's Corner section of this issue. Possible changes to the Cruiser Challenge were discussed but ultimately it was decided to simply retain the present format at Monterey. A couple of new sails were put forward and adopted for inclusion in the 2015 Schedule.

The meeting was adjourned at around noon, with group photos being taken by Russell Swartz, and the traditional gift exchange being held amongst those who wished to participate.

On a personal note, I want to thank all of you for making my past three years as Commodore a fantastic ride for myself and for the Potter Yachters. It has been a privilege and pleasure to take the helm of the Club and now to pass it on to one of our best Potter Yachters and a natural for the position, Commodore Rob Sampson. - 



Treasurer's Report

Pat Brennan presented the numbers pertaining to the club. Here's the summary:

Income from Dues & Merchandise=\$2,133. Expenses (Gifts: [OYC], Events, Newsletter, Postage/Supplies, and Additions to Inventory)=\$1,439. Cruiser Challenge reported \$367 in uncollected receivables for a net loss of \$630 which nevertheless leaves us in the black for the year. Year-end cash balance is roughly \$4,800, which is higher than last year and well above our \$4,000 10-year running average.

In addition to cash, we have other "stuff" – merchandise for sale – which amounts to about \$1,600. Half of that inventory is in the form of burgees. ([Buy yours today!](#))

We voted to hold the club dues steady at \$25 per family.

There are 78 boats reported to be in our fleet. 47 are listed as **small** (<=15'), 26 are **medium** (>15' but <20'), and 5 are **large** (>=20'). The majority (55) are reported as *West Wight Potter*, with the balance being made up of *Montgomery* (5), *ComPac* (5), and *other* (7).

There are 73 regular members, and 3 life members on the books. Of those, six out-of-state members live in Nevada (2), New York (2), Missouri (1), and Hawaii (1). There are also six organizations listed: Monterey Peninsula YC, Oakland YC, Peninsula YC, Coyote Point YC, Elkhorn YC, and Muncie Sailing Club. -



Officer's Club

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P-19, #629, *Riptide*

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Mike Westfield
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Secretary/Treasurer:

Pat Brennan
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ComPac Legacy, #1, Latis

Website:

www.potter-yachters.org

Potter Yachter Membership

Join the *Potter Yachters* – the club that has been around since 1978 and, with your participation, will continue to withstand the test of time. We're really a bunch of nice folks who would just love to have other nice folks join us. Your dues help support club activities and publish the newsletter, so you'll be sure to know when we're out sailing, whether that's in the San Juan Islands, Monterey, the SF Bay, or elsewhere. Annual dues are \$25. Make checks payable to "Pat Brennan".

Send your payment (with your name and address) to:

Pat Brennan
1305 Webster Street #C205
Alameda CA, 94501

See us online at: www.potter-yachters.org

Organized in Northern California in 1978, the *Potter Yachters* is the longest running West Wight Potter club. Membership is open to anyone interested in West Wight Potters and other trailerable microcruiser sailboats.



Patrick Brennan
1305 Webster St., C205
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*

