



The Potter Yachter

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

May 2015

Report: Oakland Estuary Sail Great Showing at Strictly Sail Boat Show

by Pat Brennan



Photo: Don Person

The April 11th Oakland Estuary sail, held in conjunction with Strictly Sail Pacific, went off smoothly. About a dozen boats participated. Most rigged and launched from Grand Street at about 9:30 AM, with three that had stayed overnight at OYC joining the fleet. It was a beautiful day and as usual the winds were very light in the morning building to a nice breeze in the afternoon. The light breeze allowed for a stately parade by the Strictly Sail show at Jack London Square at noon led by Past Commodore Bud Kerner. We blew our horns as we passed by to make sure we were noticed. Apparently we *were* noticed, as it is reported that a photographer from Latitude 38 was taking pictures of our parade.

(Strictly Sail continued on page 8)

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

One thing I like about going to boat shows, other than looking at all the new hardware and devices, is checking out the architecture of boats. Spaces the size of closets on land, are considered to be large cabins on a boat. There are lots of creative ideas for storage and for making the spaces more interesting. It's a study in minimalist living. The West Wight Potters and other small boats are at the pinnacle of small living spaces, and within our group there is a lot of additional customization people have done to make those small spaces even better.

Some of us stayed at the Oakland Yacht Club on our boats during Strictly Sail. as usual, they were great hosts and made us feel right at home. We had 11 boats in the parade of boats past Strictly Sail on Saturday. Thanks to Pat Brennan for hosting the event and to bud Kerner for leading the parade.

It was good to see Gig Harbor Boatworks (with the fiberglass SCAMP) and Sage Marine (with the Sage 17) in booths at the boat show for the first time, along with International Marine and the beautiful Voyager 20 in the water. I think the more small boat manufacturers that come to Strictly Sail, the better.

Well, I'm off to sail in southern latitudes on a slightly larger sailboat for a few weeks. I hope to be able to make it to the Delta sail with Jerry Barrilleaux when I get back. That's always a fun sail. -



Gig Harbor Boatworks' SCAMP with a bigger living space



Goose and Bud Kerner admire Gale and discuss boats



Club Events on the Horizon

- May 16 (Sat-Sun) Delta Overnight Sail (Jerry B)
easy but sometimes intermediate when it's very windy; overnighting in boats moored at docks
- June 6 (Sat-Sun) Woodward Reservoir (Rich/Kevin)
easy to somewhat intermediate if windy; overnight in boats moored on the beach, or bring a sleeping bag & tent and camp on the beach
- June 20 (Sat) Lake Hennessey Sail (Don/Carl)
- June 20 (Sat) Alameda Sail sponsored by Latitude 38 (see Mailbag, page 3)
- June 27 (Sat-Sun) Union Valley Reservoir Overnight (David W./Kevin)
see details in next newsletter
- July 25 (Sat) Cruiser Challenge XVI (Goose; parking: Kevin/Rich/Dave & Sharon S.)
can run the gamut from easy to advanced, depending on winds and course
-- See cruisercchallenge.com for more information and to fill out a [registration form](#)

Upcoming: Delta Overnight Sail, May 16 & 17

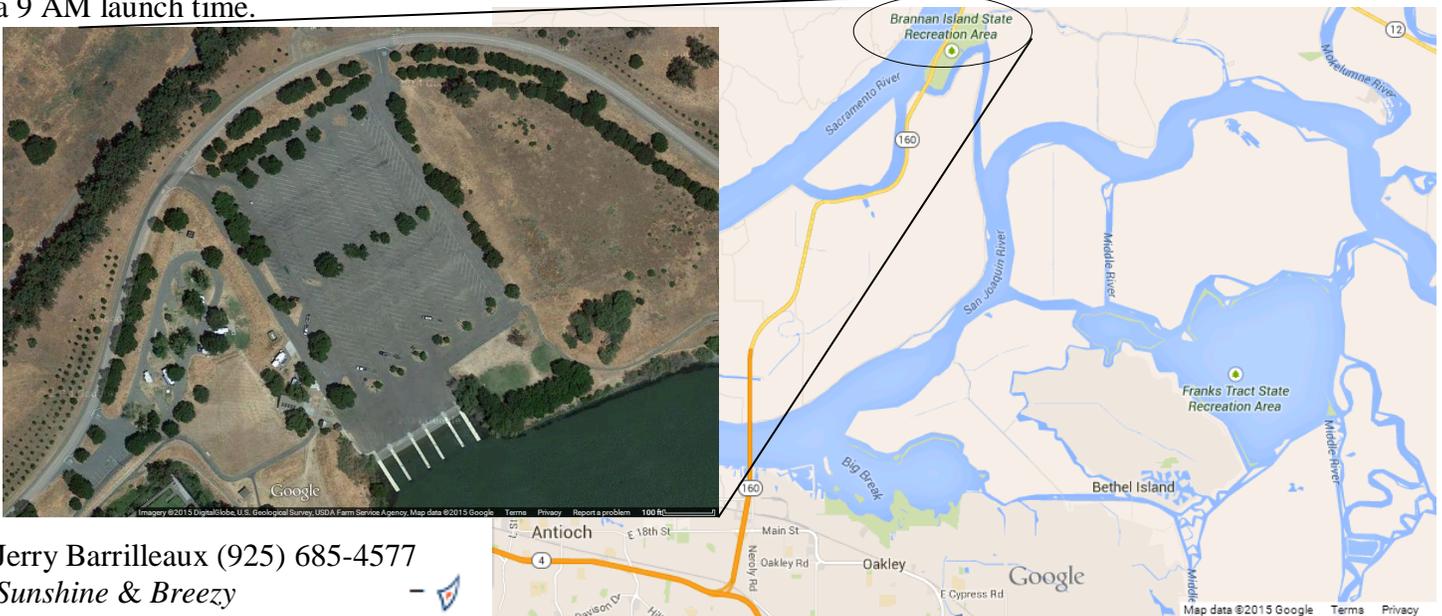
Get Ready for Another Fun Weekend!

Sail Host: Jerry B.

There will be some changes to the Delta Sail this year due to the B&W Bridge being closed for several months. We will be launching from one of the best ramps in the Delta, [Brannan Island State Rec. Area](#). Then we'll sail to the [Spindrift Marina](#) on the [Delta Loop](#) for an overnighter. The fee for launching and overnight parking is \$18.00 (have cash to put in envelope). The fee for docking at Spindrift is \$10.00 per boat, and there will be plenty of dock space for our fleet. Spindrift has clean restrooms with flush toilets and showers, and a [GREAT place to eat across the street](#). They have some of the best food on the Delta with very reasonable prices. The bar should have live music Sat. night. Sunday morning we will have breakfast and head back, hopefully before the wind kicks up. The sail back is upwind, so bring extra fuel. (motors are required!)

For those so inclined, there's a nice [KOA Campground](#) across the street, too.

From the east Bay, take highway 4 to 160 Rio Vista. Go over the Antioch Bridge and get ripped off for \$15.00. Keep going and just after you cross the next bridge, the park entrance will be on your right. Let's try for a 9 AM launch time.



Report: Benicia Sail

Wind in Benicia Makes For Fun Sailing

We had more than sixteen boats out at Benicia over the weekend! It seems like every year Goose suggests that Southampton Bay would make for a nice anchorage, but nobody has ever taken him up on that until this year. So, kudos to Phil for being the first Potter Yachter to overnight there in his P-19 for the scheduled Benicia Sail. "The wind picked up around 2 AM but the anchor never dragged," Phil said, adding, "It was a worthwhile experience." Notably, he spent the next night at Benicia Marina where he reported getting a full night's sleep.

The wind was blowing in Carquinez Strait, but it mellowed after the bridge on the way to the mothball fleet. Contrary to prediction, a strong flood made for a slow upwind sail back. And even the old salts kicked on their engines to make it under the bridge in strong, shifty wind conditions.

Thanks to Gayle and Goose for opening their home and providing a delightful evening and delicious meal.



Photo: Jim Smith

Skipper keeping watch



Photo: Goose

Rich & Mary McDevitt, and Don Person sailing the distinctive red/yellow.



Pre-launch, Saturday morning

Photo: Don Person



Photo: Goose



Photo: Phil Marcellis

Attendees: Larry Tkach (Peep Hen), Ralph and Al (Vagabond 17), Rafael (Compac), Ted and Joan (Compac), Mark and Cynthia (Compac), John and Pam (At Last), Don Person (Sarah Ann, P-15), Rich and Mary McDevitt (Minnow, P-15), JP (P-15), Dave Bacon (P-15), Ed Dove (P-15), Jim Smith (Ramblin' Rose, P-19), Jerry/ Carol B. (Sunshine, HMS-18), Phil M. (P-19), Eric Z. (Riptide, P-19), Bruce McDevitt (P-19), Bud (Cat's Meow, P-19).



At Last out of Ventura, CA



Phil M.



Dave Bacon and Jerry B.



Ed and Ryan Dove



Jim Smith



J.P.



All photos on this page by Don Person

Upcoming: June 6th, 2015

Woodward Reservoir Overnight

Sail Hosts: Rich McDevitt & Kevin Crowder

!! News Flash! Beginning Wednesday, April 1, 2015, Woodward Reservoir is open for recreational swimming all summer. !!

The restriction on body contact with water at Woodward Reservoir was lifted as of April 1st (we'll just call it a coincidence and not an April Fool's joke), so we're good to go!

Woodward is a great place to bring your water toys, kids, sailboards, kayaks, etc. And, don't forget some sunscreen and bug repellent. Weather is typically warm to hot with great sailing winds. We camp about 10 yards from the shore. Some sleep in tents, some in boats, and some in RV's. Restrooms are pit toilets at the campsite, and you can commute to flushers and showers, if you prefer. No potable water at the campsite, so bring your own. There are picnic tables but portable tables are welcome and you can never have too many chairs to put around the Potter campfire circle. Nothing is for sale in the park, so if you need it, bring it with you. Town is 10 miles away.



photo: Phil Marcellis

DIRECTIONS: Woodward Reservoir, CA.

Take 580 East/205 East to Tracy, continue on I-5 North, then take 120 East to Manteca and follow it through Escalon, finally turning left at 26-Mile Road. Woodward Reservoir is located at: 14528 26-Mile Road, a few miles north of Oakdale off Hwy 120.



Photo: HGordon

Launch at Bayview Boat Ramp.

This is a short walk to our campsites and you will need to move your vehicle to the camp site for overnight parking. Deputies patrol the parking areas and have left "notes" about license plates on trailers, so make sure your tags and stickers are up to date. Quagga Mussels are not welcome here so we might have extra paper work.

Camp at **Area T** by Pelican Cove, this area has a nice stretch of shore for our boats and provides good wind direction for landing and departing from the shore. This is the same location we've been at for many years. Campsites are first come first served, so if any early birds can arrive Friday (or even Thursday!) to plop some camp chairs down and stake a claim, it will really help out.

Pot Luck and Happy Hour. Depending on the wind, heat, mood, we start the pot luck with a happy hour(s!). We'll shoot for an eat time of 6:30 PM. If you are early or late, don't fret... we'll still eat your stuff.

Typical turnout for this is 10 to 20+ boats and usually closer to 20, so if you are new, old, want to look at other boats, want to hear tales of the seas, how these boats have saved our buns many times over, or if you are just tired of watching your lawn die, this is a weekend prescribed for you. - 🚩





Bud Kerner sent in the following announcement for publication:

We are going to have two sails on the 20th of June. The Lake Hennessey Sail shown on the sailing schedule for 2015, and Latitude 38's sail in Alameda. The Alameda sail will start at the Grand Street ramp, and is sponsored by Latitude 38. I will have detailed information for the June newsletter.



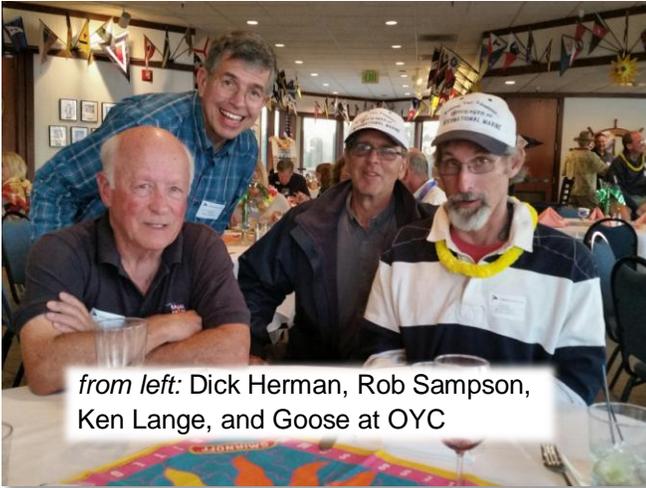
Dana Suverkrop writes:

We're down in Panama City and I found this Potter 15 outside Hunts Oyster Bar in the St. Andrews historical district. I checked the hull number - 1199 and it was built in May of '82. I was told that the person who donated it to the restaurant insisted that it should stay and not be sold. Looks like a fixer upper!



(Strictly Sail continued from page 1)

About half the skippers then broke for lunch at the Rusty Pelican. The rest of the afternoon was taken up either with more sailing or a visit to the boat show. One of the attractions at the show was Dick Herman handing out copies of his recent book "Scamp" at the Gig Harbor Boatworks booth. Most then hauled out and headed for home although Commodore Rob Sampson apparently enjoyed himself so much that he didn't leave until Monday. -



from left: Dick Herman, Rob Sampson, Ken Lange, and Goose at OYC



Photo: Rob Sampson

Voyager 20 on display at Strictly Sail Pacific



Photo: Don Person

Brave Yachters dodging the racing shells



Photo: Don Person

Who Dat?! Seen 1 PM Wednesday on the Estuary



Photo: Don Person

Lining up to start the parade



Photo: Don Person

Brave geese dodging the Yachters



Potter Yachters parade past the *Strictly Sail Pacific* docks

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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
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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*

