



The Potter Yachter

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

March 2016

UPCOMING: Saturday, March 12, 2016

The Potter Yachters' Season Opening St. Patrick's Day Weekend Sail

by Carl Sundholm



Don sails *Sarah Anne* past the wreck of the USS Thompson

The sailing season is upon us. It is time to pull the boat out of storage, dust it off, fix what needs fixing, and get your boat out on the water for the 2016 sailing season. It's time for the Potter Yachters to rally the troops and set sail with the tide.

The tides will be rising on Saturday, March 12, 2016, from a low tide of 0.0 feet at 9:12 a.m. PST to a high tide of 7.4 feet at 3:26 pm (measured from Redwood City Wharf 5). The tentative plan of action is a sail out Redwood Creek to anchor at the wreck of the USS Thompson for an on-the-water picnic lunch.

To reach the Thompson at high tide, we should plan to meet at the [Redwood City Marina Boat Ramp](#) at 9:00 am. There may be a brief captain's meeting at the ramp to confirm the plan for the day. Remember to keep your radio tuned to Channel 68. We will sail out Redwood Creek to the Bay, and if upon reaching the Bay the weather is hospitable, we will continue sailing out to the [wreck of the USS Thompson](#) for anchoring and lunch. If the winds are uncomfortably high on the Bay, we will make it a day sailing around the (St.Patrick continued on page 4)

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

With the new sailing season upon us, it's time to get the boat out of mothballs and get ready to go sailing. I think a raccoon has been living on my boat in the boatyard during the winter. The cockpit and deck are full of muddy footprints so I'll be doing a good washing before the first sail.

The Redwood City sail is coming up on March 12. It's always a fun event and the St. Patrick's Day dinner at the Peninsula Yacht Club is awesome. If that's not enough, I just found out that the tall ships Lady Washington and Hawaiian Chieftain will be doing a Battle Sail in the same area during our sail. That should be quite a show. If you want to make a weekend or longer of it, [Peninsula Yacht Club](#) has offered free mooring before, during, and after the event for any Potter Yachter who wants to stay longer.

We had to cancel the Dick Herman talk at the last minute due to unforeseen circumstances. We're hoping to reschedule later in the year.

Hope to see you out on the water,
Rob — 



Tall Ships will do battle again this year!

It's time to pay dues (\$25/family) – Now accepting PayPal.

Mail a check to Pat (see *Potter Yachter Membership*, page 11) or send it by [PayPal to your friend pat-brennan@sbcglobal.net](#) indicating "2016 Potter Yachter dues" in the notes.

Club Events on the Horizon

[Event Calendar](#)

- March 12 (Sun) St. Patrick's Day sail with overnight(s) option (Carl)
easy to intermediate, depending on how far out into the Bay we go and on how windy it is; Peninsula YC in Redwood City is hosting dinner and offering free dockage for attendees
- April 9 (Sun) Richmond Sail and Strictly Sail Boat Show (Pat)
easy to intermediate, depending on how far out into the Bay we sail
- April 16 (Sat-Sun) Benicia Sail with Overnight Option (Goose)
intermediate when wind picks up; folks usually overnight at dock; possible mini-cruise after

Participation in Potter Yachter Sailing Events

Recommended Gear and Safety Equipment Guidelines

For Potter Yachter sails, we recommend that you bring the necessary gear in working order to ensure that you are able to control your vessel under the conditions at hand. We further suggest that you bring sufficient safety equipment to deal with adverse circumstances and meet applicable laws and United States Coast Guard regulations. Our guidelines for gear and safety equipment include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. U.S.C.G. approved Personal Flotation Device for each person (Type I, II, III, or V)
2. U.S.C.G. approved Visual Distress Signals (e.g. flares, etc.)
3. U.S.C.G. approved efficient Sound-Producing Device (e.g. Air Horn, etc.)
4. U.S.C.G. approved B-1 type hand portable fire extinguisher.
5. U.S.C.G. approved throwable device (e.g. boat cushion, ring or horseshoe buoy).
6. Working Motor (with sufficient clean gas)
7. Tow Line (150 feet)
8. Marine VHF Radio
9. Anchor, chain, and 250 feet of line, sufficient to secure the vessel
10. First Aid Kit
11. Manual Bilge Pump and Bailing Bucket

Sailing can be a dangerous activity so please be careful, be prepared, and be safe.

Vice Commodore
Carl Sundholm



Caveat: The Potter Yachters are an informal, non-litigious, sailing club. Therefore, participation in any Potter Yachter event constitutes agreement to assume the risk of injury or damages arising out of that event as it concerns the Potter Yachters and their members, and an agreement to waive any claims against the club and its members relating thereto. Have fun and sail safely.

Officer's Club

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Pat Brennan
pat-brennan@sbcglobal.net
ComPac Legacy, #1, *Latis*

Website:

www.potter-yachters.org

(St. Patrick continued from page 1)

Redwood Creek estuary and have lunch there.

The [Peninsula Yacht Club](#) is inviting the Potter Yachters to their annual St. Pat's weekend of March 12-13. Free docking and launching; come early, stay late.

There will be a \$6 club dinner on Friday for early arrivals (7:00 pm dinner).

The Peninsula Yacht Club Bar opens 6 PM both Friday and Saturday. Saturday they will serve the traditional Irish corned beef and cabbage dinner +extras and desserts at 6:30 PM for \$17 adults, \$10 child 12 and under. A vegetarian option will be available if requested. The dinner will be followed by the usual party with live music and dancing beginning at 8 PM. Sunday full breakfast will be served \$6 from 8 to 9 AM.



After breakfast, there is an optional yoga session with Orlene at 9:30. [RSVP to Edward Stancil](#) at 650-771-1945 (Port Captain and Director of cruise-ins, PYC) 1548 Maple St., Redwood City, CA 94063. Other trailer sailors are also welcome to join the fun. Low tide 9 AM; good time to meet up at the club. High tide Saturday is about 3:15 PM.

Be sure to attend since this may be the last St. Pat's Day dinner at Docktown with the Peninsula Yacht Club, considering the same forces of "re-development" of the Redwood City harbor area that had the Pete's Harbor local land owners selling their lands to developers, and terminating the leases of resident boat dwellers, are now focusing on Docktown.

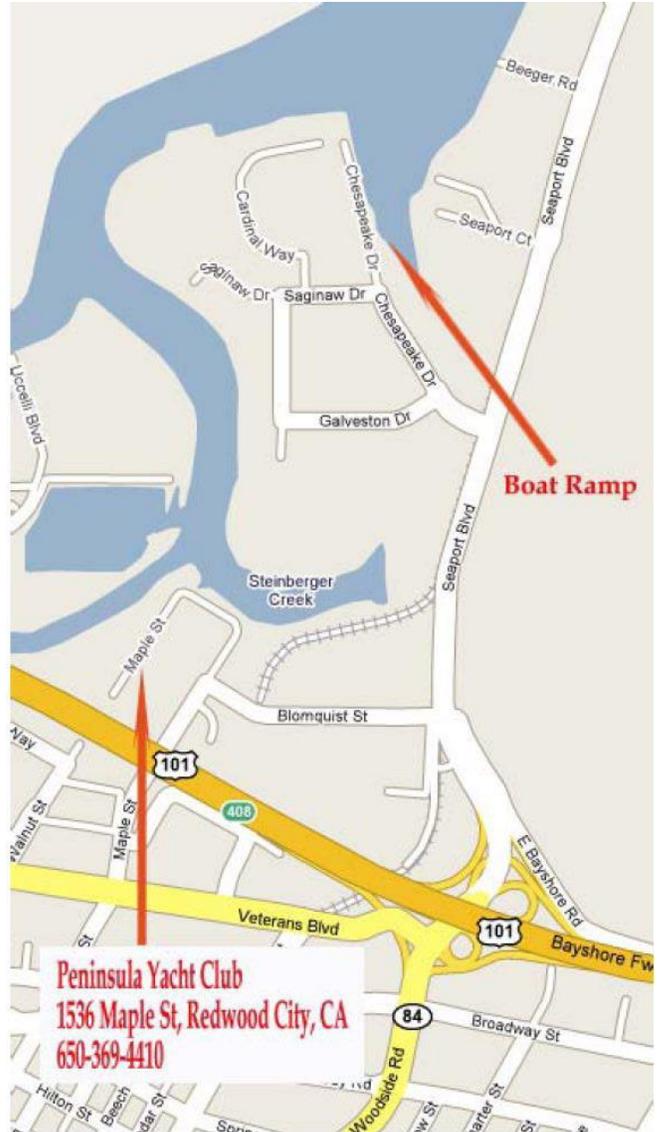
This year, from 2-5pm, the tall ships will be out with their cannons blazing. That will make for a picturesque sail.



Here is a map showing both the Redwood City Marina Boat Ramp where we will meet and the location of the unmistakable landmark which houses the Peninsula Yacht Club. Hope to see you there: don't forget to wear green. Directions: Highway 101 to take the Woodside Road/Seaport Blvd. Exit, take Seaport Blvd. eastbound (towards the Bay).



Patty the Pirate will be waiting for you.



To get to the Ramp, continue on Seaport Blvd. until you take a left on Chesapeake Drive and follow it to the end where there will be a parking lot on your left and the ramp on your right. Park in the lot, get an envelope to pay the ramp and parking fee, leave the sticker in your car with the trailer and you're good for the day.

We will aim for meeting up at 9:00 am at the Redwood City ramp. Be sure to bring a lunch, drink, and an anchor to anchor out at the USS Thompson wreck for lunch. We will be on channel 68. See you on the water.

To get to Peninsula Yacht Club, from Highway 101 take Seaport Blvd. east, turning left on Bloomquist Street drive to the "T" in the road and take a right on Maple Avenue which circles around and you will see the familiar powder blue water tank Peninsula Yacht Club building on your right (if you cross 101 you've gone too far).

Looking forward to a great opening day sail and celebrating St. Patrick's Day in the way that can only be done at the Peninsula Yacht Club. —

Do you have a favorite sailing destination? Write about it for a future issue of *The Potter Yachter*! Share all the details you wish you knew on your first visit and let others benefit from your experience. You can also send sailing stories or suggestions to the editor: sail@marcelis.com

Upcoming: Marina Bay YH – Saturday, April 9, 2016

Richmond Sail & Strictly Sail Show

Sail Host: Pat Brennan

Join the Potter Yachters in Richmond for the boat show festivities on Saturday, April 9th. Since the boat show runs from April 7-10, some folks may want to show up on or before Friday and stay past Sunday. Make arrangements directly with [Marina Bay Yacht Harbor](http://www.mbyh.com) (510-236-1013).

We will be launching at Marina Bay Yacht Harbor and expect to be underway by 10am. This event typically involves a parade by the [Strictly Sail Pacific](#) Boat Show which is being held at the Craneway Pavilion this year. If you have a horn, plan to use it as we pass in review. After the parade, some will probably stop for lunch and attend the show, while others may take the opportunity to sail over to [Angel Island](#) (weather permitting). We'll communicate on VHF channel 68.

If you are going to get a slip, Jerry B. says to see the Harbormaster before you enter the parking lot. You might get a passkey to the lot, which saves you \$10.00 on parking.

[But check if you need a parking permit for your dash. –Ed.] The website says that Boat/US members receive a 25% discount on slips, so you'd only pay \$9 per night.

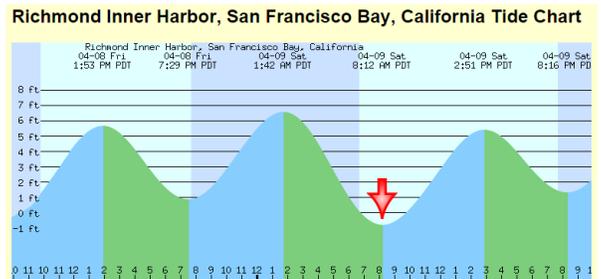
Tide in Richmond at 8am on Saturday will be -0.8 ft., which folks have said makes for difficult launching & retrieval of larger boats like the P-19. The harbor reports slip depth of 10-12 feet at MLLW (0 ft.), so it may be advisable to launch early on Friday afternoon and get a slip for Friday and Saturday nights, then retrieve on Sunday afternoon.

There are two restaurants at the marina: [Assemble at Craneway Pavilion](#) (11:30-2:30) is only open to boat show attendees and [Salute e Vita Ristorante](#) (11:30-9:30) for Italian. You may want to bring your own food and drinks. Or try the [Angel Island Café](#) (10-4). See you there! —

We launch at [Marina Bay Yacht Harbor](#):
 1340 Marina Way South, Marina Bay, CA
 Phone: (510) 236-1013
 Hours: Monday - Sunday 9am to 5pm
 Guest slips are typically available:
 \$.50 / foot, minimum \$12 / night
 (Webpage indicates 25% Boat/US discount)

[Directions](#) to Marina Bay (www.mbyh.com)
 Cross street: Marina Way South and Hall Ave.
From Marin:
 I-580E over the Richmond/San Rafael Bridge
 (towards Richmond/Oakland)
 Exit at Marina Bay Parkway
 Turn Right onto Marina Bay Parkway
 Turn Right onto Regatta Blvd.
 Turn Left onto Marina Way South

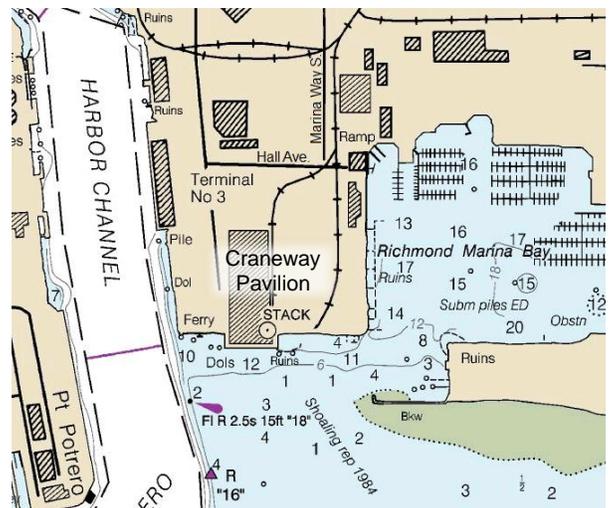
From San Francisco/Oakland:
 I-80 E/I-580 W
 Take Pt. Richmond/San Rafael Exit to I-580 W
 Exit at Marina Bay Pkwy/S 23rd St
 Turn Left onto Marina Bay Pkwy
 Turn Right onto Regatta Blvd.
 Turn Left onto Marina Way South



Tide is quite low at 8am Sat.- More tide/current info at: <http://www.sailwx.info/tides/tidemap.phtml>



Two-Can and Latis parade past the famed **Craneway Pavilion**



The [NOAA Chart for the area](http://www.charts.noaa.gov/InteractiveCatalog/nrnc.shtml) is available online for free:



Have you found the hidden message? How closely do you read the newsletter? Editing the newsletter can be a bit of a chore sometimes, but I keep myself amused by finding funny clip-art to keep you all entertained, or searching the archives for relevant articles from the past, or by embedding some esoteric hidden messages. Oh yes, I've been doing this for quite some time now. If you want a challenge, look through the June 2015 issue of the Potter Yachter Newsletter [See [PYN 2015-06](#)] and tell me if you can find the hidden message. Tell you what; the first person to find it will win a Potter Yachter Pen to impress and amaze your friends! E-mail me: sail@marcelis.com -Ed.

And they're still talking about it...

by Phil Marcelis



Photo: Jerry Higgins

[Peninsula Yacht Club](#) will be remembered for their hospitality during (and after) the Corkscrew "race". The fourth year that PYC hosted a Potter Rendezvous, the Potter Yachters acquired [a certain degree of notoriety](#) for thinking a foray into [Corkscrew Slough](#) might be a fun way to spend St. Patrick's Day. [See [PYN 2010-04](#)] It seems like slough exploration was all the rage back then, and the Potter's minimal draft was being tested. At that time, according to Dick Herman, the grounding was the longest "unscheduled EAD" in recorded Potter Yachter History, and will likely hold that record for quite some time. (Until collective memory starts failing and someone suggests another "race" through the slough.)



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 can join us on sails in person or vicariously through our stories. Annual dues are \$25 per family.

Make checks payable to "Pat Brennan" or send it via [PayPal to your friend](#) pat-brennan@sbcglobal.net and include "Potter Yachter Dues" in the notes.



Or see us online at:
www.potter-yachters.org

Send your payment (with your name and address) to: Pat Brennan
1305 Webster Street #C205
Alameda CA, 94501

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*

