



# The Potter Yachter

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

Jan/Feb 2019



Congratulations to  
*Potter Yachter*  
*of the Year:*  
**Dick Herman**

Dick Herman (left) receives his award from Commodore Eric Zilbert.

Photo: Carl Sundholm

**E**very year since 2004, we've selected an individual who has contributed something very special to our group. It was first thought of to recognize a Potter Yachter exhibiting the Potter traits of friendliness, helpfulness and service to fellow members. Dick Herman, ATUS Admiral & Senior NOG, has certainly exhibited those characteristics on multiple occasions as a consummate organizer, superb storyteller, adept rescuer, and good friend. He has gone above and beyond that which was necessary in support of his fellow

(See *Congrats* continued on page 3)

**Ship's Stores for sale. Order from Kevin Crowder:**  
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 the 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 Eric Zilbert

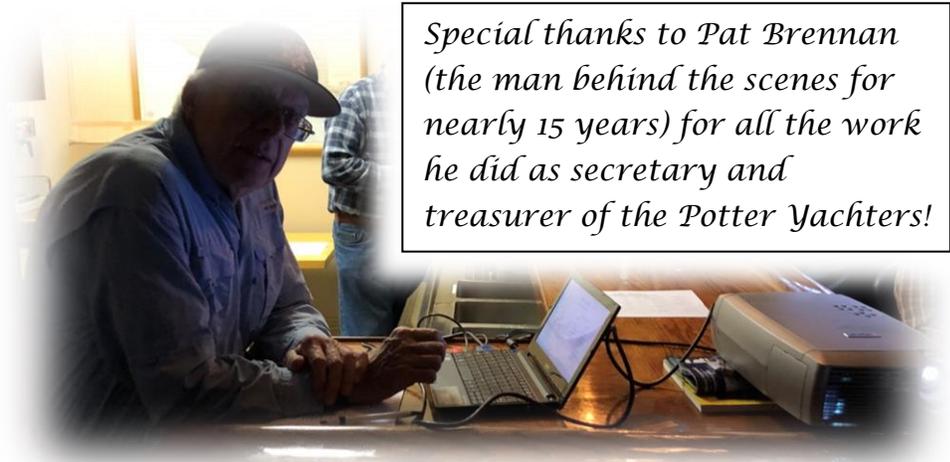
Another year, another fantastic sailing calendar. Greetings to all of our members, and to all who receive or check out this newsletter. We kicked off 2019 with a very successful annual meeting on January 20. It was very well attended, and we took care of a lot of business, including the election of officers and establishment of a draft sailing calendar. Congratulations to all of the officers on their election, particularly Kevin Crowder who is taking on the responsibilities of Secretary/Treasurer, one of our most important positions.

Also, congratulations to our Potter of the Year, Dick Herman. Some have noted that Dick is the first non-Potter sailor to receive this award. This precedent setting move is partly a recognition of the fact that all of us do not sail a Potter, but that we all sail in the spirit of the Potter. Namely, we all enjoy sailing trailer-able sailboats that provide tons of challenge and excitement without requiring a huge investment. I find it a great privilege to lead this group of adventurers, gunk-holers, and recalcitrant backbenchers that make up our membership. If you want to join us it is not to late! All it takes is \$25 and you can be one of us.

So, enjoy this newsletter and the ten or so others that will come your way this year. Our next event will take place on February 24 and will feature a panel of distinguished members discussing *Planning and Preparing for Extended Cruising* in a small sailboat. We will meet at the Oakland Yacht Club for breakfast at 9:00 and the meeting to begin at 10:00. Looking forward to a great turnout. If you want to sail-in or spend the night, contact the [Oakland Yacht Club](http://Oakland Yacht Club) at (510) 522-6868. See you then!



Fair Winds, Eric



*Special thanks to Pat Brennan (the man behind the scenes for nearly 15 years) for all the work he did as secretary and treasurer of the Potter Yachters!*



Club Events on the Horizon		<a href="#">Check Calendar</a>
Feb 24 (Sun)	Lecture Series: Planning an Extended Cruise <i>Led by Dick Herman, Bud Kerner, and Phil Marcellis; meet in Oakland Yacht Club's Regatta Room @ 10am; those who wish to bring their boat may call OYC to arrange for overnight stay at their dock;</i>	(Eric Z)
Mar 16 (Sat)	St. Patrick's Day Cruise from Redwood City <i>Launch @ Redwood City; drive to dinner at Coyote Point YC; CP sail can be rough; For dinner at CPYC please RSVP by Feb 21 to <a href="mailto:newsletter@potter-yachters.org">newsletter@potter-yachters.org</a></i>	(Carl S)

(Congrats continued from page 1)

Potter Yachters at every opportunity. His leadership during the Pacific Northwest Messabouts springs to mind as an easy example of his willingness to shepherd the Potter Pod. You'll surely agree that he is well deserving of this award.

The award was presented by Commodore Eric Zilbert at the annual meeting, and the inscription (which was penned by Dave Bacon, in place of Dick Herman who usually thinks up the inscriptions) reads:

2018  
*Potter Yachter of the Year*  
*Dick Herman*  
*Ashore and Afloat*  
*Leads by Example*

**Recipients of the Potter Yachter of the Year Award:**

- '18 Dick Herman
- '17 Bud Kerner
- '16 Phil Marcelis
- '15 Jerry Barrilleaux
- '14 Dave White
- '13 Don Person
- '12 Dory Taylor
- '11 Goose
- '10 Dave Bacon
- '09 Rich McDevitt and Carl Sundholm
- '08 Steve Potter
- '07 Dan Phy
- '06 Pat Brennan
- '05 Don Person
- '04 Terry Gotcher

Page 3 of [Feb 2005 PYN](#) introduces the first annual Potter Yachter of the Year award. See sidebar for a list of recipients who have likewise shared in this honor.

Please join us in congratulating Dick on his award the next time you're sailing with him! — 



**It's time to pay dues (\$25/family)**

Mail a check to Treasurer Kevin Crowder (see [Potter Yachter Membership](#), page 9)

**Officer's Club**

**Commodore:**

Eric Zilbert

[Commodore@potter-yachters.org](mailto:Commodore@potter-yachters.org)

P-19, #629, *Riptide*

**Vice Commodore:**

Rob Sampson

[Vice-Commodore@potter-yachters.org](mailto:Vice-Commodore@potter-yachters.org)

P-15, #367, *Espero*

**Newsletter Editor:**

Phil Marcelis

[Newsletter@potter-yachters.org](mailto:Newsletter@potter-yachters.org)

P-19, #1487, *Family Time*

**P-15 Fleet Captain:**

David Bacon

[P15-fleet@potter-yachters.org](mailto:P15-fleet@potter-yachters.org)

P-15, #2636, *Ah Tiller the Fun*

**P-19 Fleet Captain:**

Carl Sundholm

[P19-fleet@potter-yachters.org](mailto:P19-fleet@potter-yachters.org)

P-19, *Dagmar*

**Webmaster:**

Phil Marcelis

[Webmaster@potter-yachters.org](mailto:Webmaster@potter-yachters.org)

**Secretary/Treasurer:**

Kevin Crowder

[Treasurer@potter-yachters.org](mailto:Treasurer@potter-yachters.org)

ComPac19, *Aurora*

**Website:** [www.potter-yachters.org](http://www.potter-yachters.org)

**Facebook:** [fb.me/PotterYachters](https://fb.me/PotterYachters)

# The Potter Yachters

## DRAFT Sailing Event Schedule for 2019

01/20/19	Sun	Potter Yachter Annual Meeting	
02/24/19	Sun	Potter Yachter Lecture Series: <i>Planning an Extended Cruise</i>	Eric Z./Dick H.
03/16/19	Sat-Sun	St. Patrick's Day Redwood City Sail and Dinner at the Coyote Point Yacht Club, San Mateo w/ Overnight Option	Carl Sundholm
04/06/19	Sat	Richmond Sail and Power Boat Show (Boat show is Thursday through Sunday, April 4-7, 2019)	Pat Brennan
04/13/19	Sat-Sun	Moss Landing/Elkhorn YC Sail with optional overnight	Bud Kerner
04/26/19	Sat-Sun	Benicia Sail with optional overnight and cruise to Napa	Goose Gossman
05/18/19	Sat-Sun	Delta Overnight Sail	Jerry Barrilleaux
TBD	Sat-Sun	Woodward Reservoir Overnight *	Herman Ward
06/22/19	Sat-Sun	Union Valley Reservoir Overnight *	Kevin Crowder
07/20/19	Sat-Sun	Loch Lomand Overnight	Goose Gossman
08/03/19	Sat	20th Annual Cruiser Challenge in Monterey	Dana Suverkrop
TBD	Sat	Huntington Reservoir Overnight*	Jim Hunt
TBD	Sat	Richmond Sail / Overnight	Jerry Barrilleaux
08/31/19	Sat	Lake Hennessey Sail *	Rich McDevitt
09/14/19	Sat	Alameda to Clipper Cove Picnic Sail	Carl Sundholm
09/28/19	Sat-Sun	Tomales Bay Overnight Sail	Eric Zilbert
10/12/19	Sat-Sun	Moss Landing to Monterey Sail and Overnight	Bud Kerner
10/26/19	Sat-Sun	Delta Bridges Sail and Overnight	Bud Kerner

\* Reservoir/Lake sails are subject to modification or cancellation depending on 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.

**Upcoming: Sunday, February 24, 2019 - Breakfast and Lecture at Oakland Yacht Club**

## **Planning an Extended Cruise – by Dick Herman, Bud Kerner & Phil Marcelis**



You're invited to join us from 10-noon on February 24<sup>th</sup> in the [Regatta Room of the Oakland Yacht Club](#) for a talk on the subject of planning an extended cruise. The presenters for this year's offering in the Lecture Series have multiple years of combined experience in planning itineraries for the SF Delta, the Pacific Northwest, and SF Bay, as well as quite a few sea-miles along the California Coast.

Dick Herman has planned more than 15 jaunts to the San Juan Islands and Puget Sound. His usual attention to detail is evident in every cruise booklet he has produced. He'll focus on the 6 P's and will undoubtedly provide countless nuggets of useful info for future planners.

Bud Kerner has cruised the Delta and made several trips out the Golden Gate. In what appears to be an attempt to sail the entire coast, he's racked up quite a number of miles under his keel.

Phil Marcelis made his planning debut creating an SF Bay Area Messabout which included a layover in San Francisco. He'll identify some difficulties of leading a large group of small sailboats into overcrowded marinas.

As usual, Oakland Yacht Club offers a tasty breakfast upstairs starting at around 9 a.m., and then by 10 a.m. (or whenever folks appear to be done eating) we'll head down to the Regatta Room, which we've reserved for the whole day. A sample [breakfast menu](#) and [directions to the club](#) can sometimes be found on their website: [www.oaklandyachtclub.net](http://www.oaklandyachtclub.net)

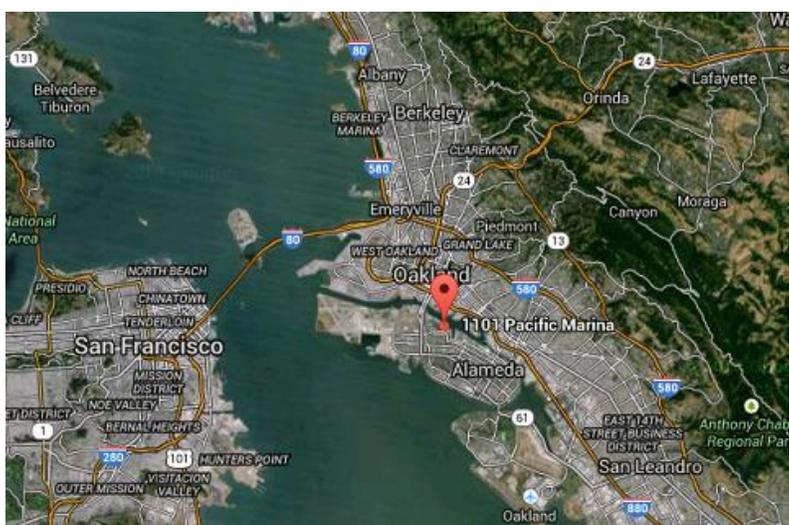
See you there! — 

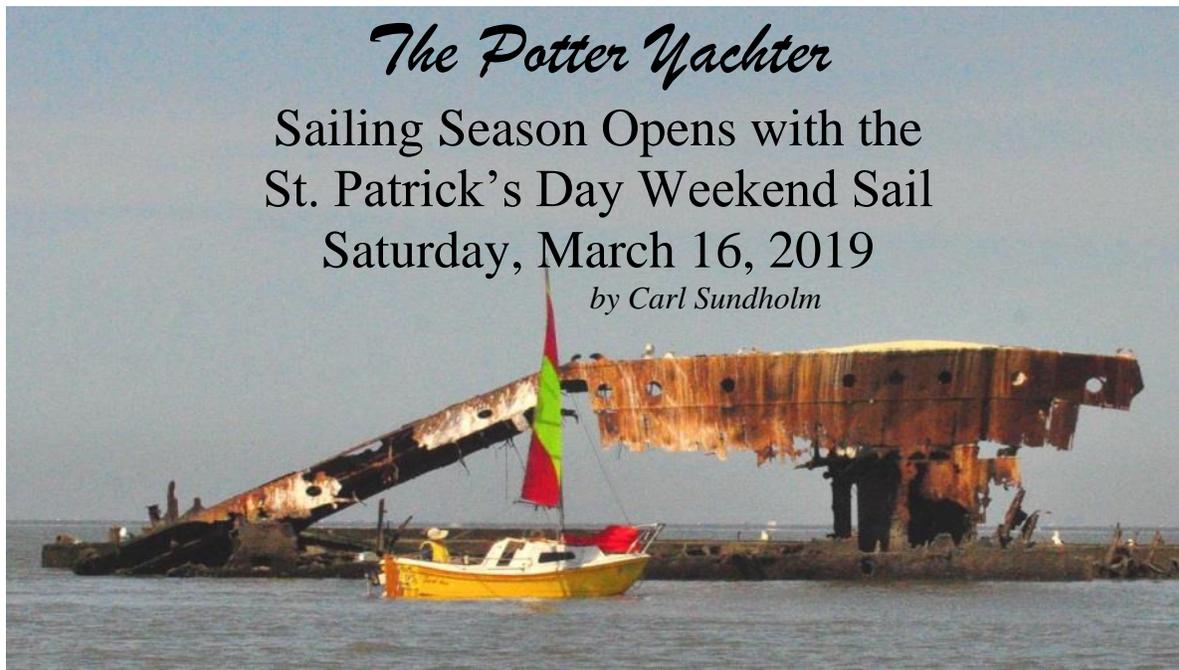
From the North on 80/880 S (Berkeley, Bay Bridge) take Broadway/Alameda exit, turn right on 5<sup>th</sup> at Broadway head to Alameda (see **Tube** below)

From the North via 980 (Walnut Creek) take Jackson Street, turn left under freeway turn left on 8<sup>th</sup> Street, then left on Webster Street follow directions from the Posey **Tube** (below)

From the South (San Jose, Castro Valley) take 880 N to Oakland and exit Broadway turn right onto Broadway, then right on 7<sup>th</sup> Street turn right on Webster Street for the tunnel

From the Webster Street/Posey **Tube** keep left and turn left at Marina Village Pkwy turn right at Independence & left at Triumph Street the club is located at the end of the street. parking is in front of the club house





# The Potter Yachter

## Sailing Season Opens with the St. Patrick's Day Weekend Sail Saturday, March 16, 2019

by Carl Sundholm

As the sailing season draws nigh, sailors' thoughts drift towards getting back out on the water, and for Potter Yachters that typically starts with the Redwood City sail on St. Patrick's Day weekend.

We'll meet at the Redwood City Marina Boat Ramp ([see map](#)) at 9:00 a.m. It's \$5 and includes parking for the day. We'll reportedly be having high tide there at that time.

Weather permitting and subject to last minute changes at the captains' meeting, we intend to set sail out onto San Francisco Bay for a picnic anchorage out to the U.S.S. Thompson wreck. The tide isn't low until 4:30 p.m., so we should be able to raft up for lunch near the wreck, which is in shallow water. There may be a brief captains 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 we get blown away by too high winds on the Bay, we will make it a day sailing around the Redwood Creek estuary.

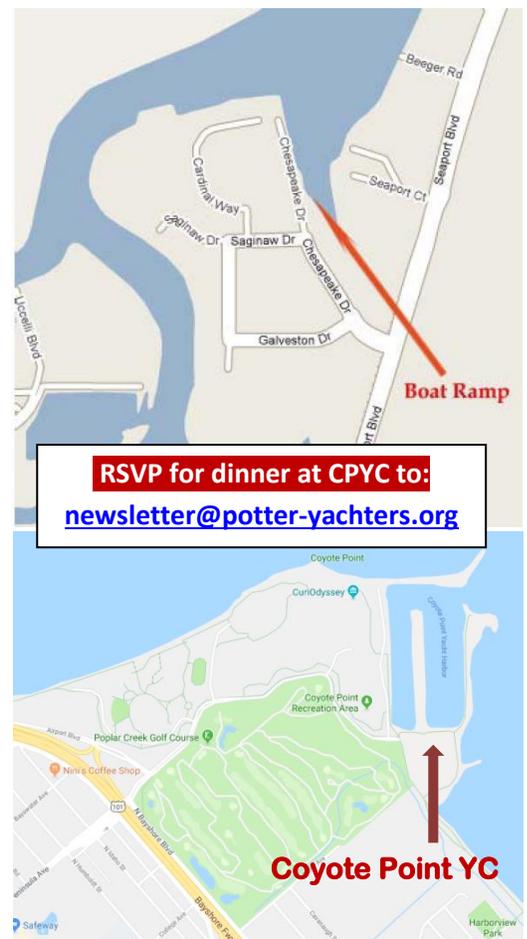
[Coyote Point Yacht Club](#) (about 10 miles north of Redwood City) has said that we're welcome to join their St. Patrick's Day Dinner Party on Saturday night. Some folks had the idea to launch at Coyote Point for an 8nm sail to the wreck, but if sailing conditions are the usual rough seas on an ebb, then it will be preferable to launch/retrieve in Redwood City and [drive over](#) to Coyote Point for dinner at 5 p.m.

**RSVP for dinner at CPYC by Feb. 21!** Email [newsletter@potter-yachters.org](mailto:newsletter@potter-yachters.org)

If you want to stay on the boat at Coyote Point for a night or two, contact Coyote Point YC's Port Captain ( [portcaptain@cpyc.com](mailto:portcaptain@cpyc.com) ).

**Plans are tentative and subject to change at any time due to conditions or otherwise.** **Directions:** Highway 101, Redwood City, take the Woodside Road/Seaport Blvd. Exit, take Seaport Blvd. eastbound (towards the Bay). 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 receipt in your car with the trailer and you're good for the day. — 

Participation in Potter Yachter events is subject to the guidelines published in [March 2016 PYN](#), page 3.



Report: Potter Yachters Annual Meeting  
Members Gathered at OYC



The Potter Yachters membership met once again on January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at Oakland Yacht Club for their annual meeting. After a quick and tasty buffet breakfast upstairs, the meeting convened at 10:30ish in the Regatta Room.

Despite some technical difficulties with the projector, Commodore Eric Zilbert managed the meeting very well. New members Bruce & Janet Dalen and Phillip & Marina Rabideau introduced themselves, the current roster of board members were recognized (and given a huge round of applause), Judy B. and Bob Eeg were thanked for their work in industry, and Dick Herman stood up to introduce his fiancé, Carolyn. We also presented Dick Herman with the Potter Yachter of the Year award. It was all very exciting!

When Pat Brennan returned, he apparently brought whatever was needed to fix the technical problem, and we were treated to the treasurer's report. You can see that report elsewhere in this issue.

There was a vote to keep the dues at \$25, which was approved. We also heard a nomination for Kevin Crowder to become the new Secretary/Treasurer in place of Pat Brennan. With no other changes to the slate of officers, the new board was unanimously approved. (See [Officer's Club](#), on page 3)

There was some discussion about the scheduled sails for the upcoming year, and Eric created a DRAFT sailing calendar, which is including in this issue. Watch for changes in the online calendar.

At the conclusion of the meeting, there was the traditional gift exchange. Several people had brought in some old *Small Craft Advisor* magazines and other books or sailing supplies, so even if someone hadn't brought a gift, there were still goodies to be taken home. It's time to look forward to many enjoyable sails with good folks! — 



Photo: Carl Sundholm

**Standing** (from left) Kevin Crowder, Mike Kennedy, Pat Brennan, Ted Tome (back), Bruce & Janet Dalen, Harry Gordon (above), Marina Rabideau (below, with 1-year old), Jerry Barrilleaux, Dave Kautz, Dana Suverkrop, Bruce Mossman, Bud Kerner (back), Bobbi Kerner, Rich McDevitt, Dick Galland, Carolyn & Dick Herman, David Bacon, Rob Sampson, Eric Zilbert, Phil Marcelis, Bruce McDevitt, Mark Sabin, David Myers, Goose, Bob Eeg, Carl Sundholm. **Seated** (from left) Phillip Rabideau (with son), Rebecca Corrigan, Alan Koepf, Don Person, George Corrigan, Dan Phy, Laura Barber (with grand-daughter), Jon Barber, Judy Blumhorst, Larry Tkach, Katie Taylor, Craig Smith, Cynthia Shallit, Jim Hunt, Gerry Nolan.  
**Attendees Not Pictured Here:** David & Cheryl White, and Alan Roberts.

# More Annual Meeting Photos by Phil Marcelis



## Treasurer's Report : We're Still Afloat!

Pat Brennan made a PowerPoint presentation at the annual meeting about the state of the club finances. You'll be happy to know that our group has paid all its bills and still has money left!

After expenses, the club had an excess of \$875. The Cruiser Challenge generated an additional \$558 after expenses, so our year-end cash balance is \$5,133.

We maintain an inventory of bumper stickers, burgees, patches, and information packets. We had a substantial inventory of calendars, but they were probably all sold at the meeting.

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

As of Jan. 1, 2019, the club has 76 regular members. Out-of-state members include Hawaii, Michigan, Nevada (5), and Oregon (3). We lost members in New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.

Skippers self-reported 76 boats in our fleet. Of those, 51% are less than 16-foot LOA, and 9% larger than 19-foot. The majority of models owned are still reported as *West Wight Potter* at 64%, followed by "other" and then *Montgomery* and *Com-Pac*.

We still have a sort of "reciprocal club" relationship with Monterey Peninsula YC, and Peninsula YC, and we are very welcome at Elkhorn YC, Coyote Point YC, and Oakland YC. —  [Any mistakes in this report are the editor's. —Ed.]

Members			
Typical Year		2018	
60	Renewing Members	62	
10	New Members	14	
70	Paid Membership	76	



Potter Yachters	
Financial Summary	
CASH FLOW - Excluding Cruiser Challenge	
<b>INFLOWS</b>	
Memberships	1925
Merchandise	
Burgees	175
Calendars	380
Information packets	40
Patches and Stickers	58
TOTAL Merchandise	653
Other Income	5
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>\$2,583</b>
<b>OUTFLOWS</b>	
Computers - Web Hosting	146
Donations	
Oakland Yacht Club	300
Elkhorn Yacht Club	300
TOTAL Donations	600
Event Expenses	537
Postage and Delivery	174
Printing	163
Supplies	61
Bank Charges	27
<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>	<b>\$1,708</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$875</b>

Potter Yachters	
Financial Summary	
Cruiser Challenge XX	
<b>REVENUE</b>	
Dinners	\$613
Parking	1121
Registrations	1950
Sponsors	220
Other Income	12
<b>TOTAL Revenue</b>	<b>\$3,916</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Donation, MPYC	\$300
Facility Rental	250
Food	1394
Subtotal - MPYC	1944
Awards	245
Prepaid Parking	1152
Misc.	17
<b>TOTAL Expenses</b>	<b>\$3,358</b>
<b>NET</b>	<b>\$558</b>

Year	Participants
X	35
XI	40
XII	45
XIII	38
XIV	30
XV	35
XVI	32
XVII	30
XVIII	30
XIX	30
XX	30

## 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 "Kevin Crowder" and include "Potter Yachters Dues" in the notes.



Find us on:  
**facebook**

Or see us online at:  
[www.potter-yachters.org](http://www.potter-yachters.org)

Send your payment (with your name and address) to:  
Kevin Crowder  
P.O. Box 124  
Standard, CA 95373

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.



Kevin Crowder  
P.O. Box 124  
Standard, CA 95373

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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

