

March 1984



POTTER TO POTTER

Newsletter of the Northern California West Wight Potter Assn.

Commodore Barbara Simpson (415) 254-2621 Secretary/Editor John Ockes (415) 656-2984
Historian Frank Winans (916) 421-4295



Saturday, April 7
Sunday, April 29

Coming Events

Annual Luncheon, Encinal Yacht Club
Opening Day on the Bay



From the Bridge

Another beautiful day for a sail greeted a fleet of 16 boats at the San Leandro Marina on March 4. As we were all getting rigged and preparing to launch, the US Coast Guard Auxillary was performing marine examinations. Much to my dismay, half of our gear was left in the garage.

Eventually we all got away from the dock and motored out of the channel under warm skies and light winds. A few potter-yachters sailed over to Oyster Point, I believe. About 2 pm. the wind picked up and we had a good ride home. Negotiating through the harbor was a little tricky with the wind coming straight down the mouth of the channel.

Twelve of us enjoyed dinner at Casa Maria with sea stories, laughter, and a warm conviviality that comes with this group.

As my year of being your commodore comes to a close, I want to thank all of you for your support, help, and ideas. We have had some fun and sharing of good times in the past year.

Frank Winans will be retiring as historian where he has served for two consecutive terms and has done a great job. He has a way with words in putting together our almanac that has really made for delightful reading. Our thanks go out to Frank for a job well done.

John Ockes will be continuing as secretary/editor and we are really thankful for that. He has just done a wonderful job bringing creativity and a professional look to our newsletter. It has been great working with John over the last year and he is a real asset to our club.

The annual luncheon and election of officers is next month, so come have lunch, install a new Commodore and Historian, and make plans for our National Regatta. Hope to see you there.

Barbara J. Simpson

Those in attendance at the March 4 sail out of San Leandro were the following: Ron & Aldrene Lamb, De & Sydney Marsh (512), Ray & Connie Monroy (P-19), John Graham & Charlie Nearing (312), John & Anne Ockes (1060), John & Agnes Quill with son John (222), John & Barbara Simpson (266), Jerry Barrilleaux stopped by, Mike Bartunek & Claudia Hassler (748), Don & Dee Bernreuter (817), Stan Butler (850), Terry Gotcher (821), Don Wison (P-19), Bruce Seese (P-19), Bill Sptietsma & Gail Frankel (1205), and Gwen & Mahendra Singh with Dinky (706).

WEST WIGHT POTTER

*****SPECIAL EVENT*****

Basic Sailing and Seamanship.

Whether you're a novice sailor or an old salt with many years of experience, the free classes put on by the US Coast Guard Auxillary are for you. There is a total of 15 classes which meets Monday and Wednesday nights, 7:30-9:30 pm, beginning April 2 at Sunnyvale Junior High School, 1080 Mango Street, Sunnyvale. Telephone Gordon Yeadon for more information at (408) 248-9551 or (408) 738-5521.

Many Powerboat Squadrons or US Coast Guard Auxillaries gear the classes toward powerboats. Bill Sprietsma tells me these classes in Sunnyvale are geared toward sailing and that some of the subjects that will be covered are rigging, trailer-sailing, equipment for you and your boat, radio-telephone, piloting, engines for sailboats and others plus a lot of free handouts. The textbook and materials cost about \$15 and will be a welcome addition to your library. There is also a completion certificate which qualifies you for 10% of your boat insurance.

come sail with us!

The 17th Annual West Wight Potter National Regatta

To all West Wight Potter Skippers: You and your family are invited to join in the 1984 West Wight Potter Regatta to be held at the Encinal Yacht Club, June 30 & July 1, 1984. The regatta will consist of three races: two held on Saturday and one held on Sunday right after the ladies "Powder Puff" race. Skipper's meeting at 10:30 am each day.

Trophies will be awarded to the first three winners of each class: Gunter rigged, Mark I and II's, and Potter-19's. The entry fee for this special event is \$5.00. An overnight docking berth will be available to the first 25 entrants who request one for their Potter.

HMS Marine will be hosting a luncheon on Saturday, June 30, and dinner will be available at the yacht club that evening. So don't set there with your sails luffing, get your entry fee and form in now.

Directions to Encinal Yacht Club: The yacht club is located at the foot of Sherman Street on the estuary in Alameda. Follow the signs to the Travelodge Motel, the club is next door.

Jerry Barilleaux, Regatta Chairman

1984 WEST WIGHT POTTER NATIONAL REGATTA ENTRY FORM

HULL NUMBER _____ BOAT TYPE (Circle One): Gunter Rig, Potter-15 Mark I/II, Potter-19

NAME _____ NUMBER OF PERSONS ATTENDING EVENT _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE NO. () _____

I need an overnight berth for my Potter: YES _____, NO _____ \$5.00 Entry Fee enclosed _____

Send this form with the entry fee to: BARBARA SIMPSON, 12 BROOKWOOD ROAD, ORINDA, CA 94563

STATEMENT OF SKIPPER: I assume the risk of all hazards of the races for the 1984 WWP National Regatta on June 30 and July 1, 1984. I agree that I shall hold blameless the Northern California WWP Association and its members, the Encinal Yacht Club and the San Jose Sailing Club and their member from liability for any injury, damage, or loss incurred by my entry in the event and related activities, releasing and waiving any and all claims that might arise from my participation.

SIGNATURE _____, DATE _____

It shall be the responsibility of each skipper to ensure that his/her vessel complies with the appropriate US Coast Guard rules and equipment.

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OFFICIAL BALLOT OF THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WEST WIGHT POTTER ASSOCIATION 1984

I nominate the following members to the office or committee listed below. The term of office will be from the election at the annual luncheon 1984 to the next annual luncheon and election in 1985.

FOR COMMODORE: _____	FOR VICE-COMMODORE: _____
CONTINGENT CHOICE: _____	CONTINGENT CHOICE: _____
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: _____	COMMITTEE TO PLAN SAILING EVENTS: _____
CONTINGENT CHOICE: _____	_____
FOR HISTORIAN: _____	_____
CONTINGENT CHOICE: _____	_____

Deposit this ballot in the ballot box at the annual luncheon or send it to Commodore Barbara Simpson by April 4.

* * * * *

COGITATE WITH US...

Annual Luncheon, Northern California West Wight Potter Association

Our annual luncheon will be held at the Encinal Yacht Club on Saturday, April 7, beginning at 11:30 am. The yacht club is located in Alameda at the foot of Sherman Street on the estuary. From highway 17, take the 29th Street bridge to Lincoln Avenue and head north to Sherman Street. From the Webster Street Tube, continue on Webster to Lincoln Avenue and head south to Sherman. Another way of getting to the yacht club is to follow the signs to the Travelodge Motel. The club is next door to the motel.

To make our luncheon simple this year, our commodore has taken the liberty of having only two entrees: Cheeseburger \$5.25 or Ham & Cheese Crossiant \$5.50. The prices include tax and tip and also includes your choice of potatoe salad or French fries. Dessert is \$1.00 more.

After the luncheon we will convene in the private meeting room downstairs. The purpose of this general meeting is to elect our new officers and to plan our future sails. WARNING, you cannot refuse a nomination if you are not there. Also, your input to the dates and places of our sails is important too.

There is a scheduled regatta at the Encinal Yacht Club and there will not be any room for any guest boats at there dock. Launching at the club is by a sling hoist anyway.

What's doing

Opening Day on San Francisco Bay: Sunday, April 29



Last year we met at the 5th Street launch ramp in Oakland with the thought of joining the flotilla of boats parading past the St. Francis Yacht Club. A few brave souls attempted to sail out the estuary but were turned back by the inclement weather.

The time and place for launching will be decided upon at the annual luncheon. Also, it will be announced in the April newsletter.

WOULDN'T YOU RATHER BE SAILING?

Announcing

The Northern California West Wight Potter Association would like to extend a welcome to:

Harold and Biene Vallee
12412 Reva Street
Cerritos, CA 90701

Address Correction

Claudia Hassler
30 Los Cerritos Drive
Vallejo, CA 94589



"Welcome aboard..."

For Sale: Potter-15

CLASSIFIED

Jim Mangels is selling his Potter-15 and is offering this boat at a very good price. This P-15 comes with a trailer, 2 HP Johnson outboard motor, Genoa sail, jiffy rigs and is a Mark II model built in 1978. For more information, call Jim at (408) 255-8579.

For Sale: Potter-19

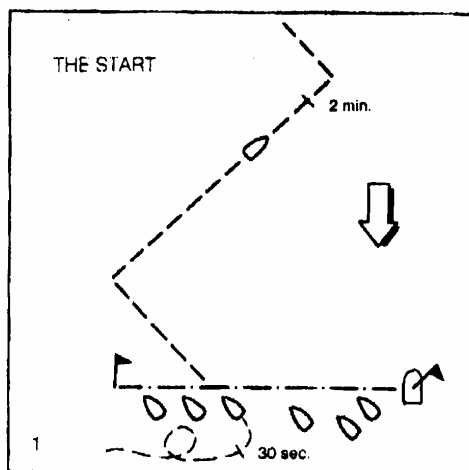
This P-19 is about 8 months young and in showroom condition. It comes with a Dilly trailer, 2.5 HP Suzuki outboard motor, Blue & White sails, bow pulpit, running lights, and a variety of optionals that only Bruce Weese can describe. In a few months, Bruce and his family will be moving east due to a job transfer. \$8,000 is a darn good value for this yacht, sail #219. Telephone: (707) 426-1067.

Watching the Whales

To view the migration of the California gray whale, call the San Francisco Bay Chapter of the Oceanic Society for information about their expeditions at (415) 474-3385. Detailed information can be had at Building E, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco, CA 94123.

STARTS

There's more to the start than you think. It's a process, not a moment in time.



Most people think about only one moment, the gun, when they plan a start. Actually, two other moments are just as important.

1. 30 seconds to go. At this moment, you should be in the midst of a well planned final approach. In planning your start, decide where you want to be 30 seconds to go. Pass through that checkpoint during your approach. If you hit the checkpoint on time, then your start will be clean and on time.
2. Two minutes after the gun. A good start is a means to an end. A plan that makes you look good at the gun but has you fading away two minutes later is not going to help you very much. To look good here, you'll have had to be moving well since the gun in clear air, preferably with a hole available to leeward should you need to power off. By now, you should know whether you've hit the first shift.

Most of the time you do not have to win the start to win the race.



With a fair wind and 1,000 miles from Hilo, John Van Ruth snapped a photograph of a sunset at sea, characterized by a beauty undimmed, a mood of haunting permanence. Rigging of his tiny ship is in foreground.

'Works, Canoes, Parade Mark July 4 Celebration

A huge fireworks display, a medal race, and a parade will highlight the celebration Fourth of July in Hilo.

The celebration will begin with the annual parade at 9 a.m. which starts from Kilauea, Waipouane and down onto Kaneohe and winding up at Moohau Park.

Some 1,200 persons are expected to take part in the parade which will be led by a police escort, color guard, the County Band, and officials, who will be followed by members of the County government centers and other groups in rural and South Hilo.

Groups participating in the parade will be Hawaiian Kulanui Nausau Spectals, Hilo Armyory Specials, Waialeale Recreation Club, Hilo Police, Hilo Police Kanaiani Panikou, Papekoo Honoru, Hialeale, Carvalho Park, Pihonua School, Kumana, Ernest de Silva, Keakaha, Lincoln Special, Hilo, Lanaila and Andrews gym.

The fireworks display, which will be put on by the Leleia Club, will be the highlight of the celebration.

The parade will originate from the Prince David Kawmanakua Hawaiian Civic Club. It will take place in Hilo Bay. The display will begin at about 8 p.m. Tuesday.

Two teams from the Hilo Police Department and the other from Kona's Kai Opua Canoe Club—will participate in the race.

The fireworks display, which will be put on by the Leleia Club, will be the highlight of the celebration.

The Hawaii Tribunes Herald will not publish Tuesday.

ILWU Seeks To Avoid Strike--Martin

The International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union is urging hard to reach an agreement by Sunday night, according to George Martin.

The ILWU international vice president, who is currently on the mainland, is in Hilo Saturday to a group of delegates to the Hawaii Government Employees Association convention meeting in Hilo.

"We want to avoid a strike," Martin said.

Martin said the central issue is "parity" with ILWU workers on the mainland.

"It's the same company,

The issue then, he said, as now, was partly with West Coast workers.

comparable contract, he said, are "pretty damn necessary."

Martin said shipping employers "take advantage of the public's emotions," but did not elaborate.

He noted there has not been a longshore strike in Hawaii in 21 years when, in 1949, dock workers struck for six months.

He's In Hilo Now

John Van Who? Where?

By RUSS WILLIAMS

The guy you may have seen on the news after a night wearing a hat over a floppy shirt is John Van Ruth.

He may be tired because he does other things of questionable psychological merit, such as sail a 14-foot boat from Mexico to Hawaii.

Van Ruth's been on the island for nearly a month after a 10,000-mile voyage from Mexico to Hawaii.

One record that is confirmed is the longest voyage in a West Wight Potter, the 14-footer, designed in England, which Van Ruth

sailed across. He has sailed on only one other boat.

Van Ruth is concerned with settling a matter with the West Wight Potter because he happened to own the boat at the time he wanted to make the voyage.

Named "Freya," the boat was built by a body with a match stick nose, then an ocean going vessel.

But Freya was seaworthy enough to complete the voyage with little damage to the boat.

Van Ruth has owned the boat for two years. He bought it in Inglewood, Calif., sailed the Sea of Cortez, then began planning his journey.

He intended to make a long coastal passage to Panama, but changed his mind and decided to head for Hawaii.

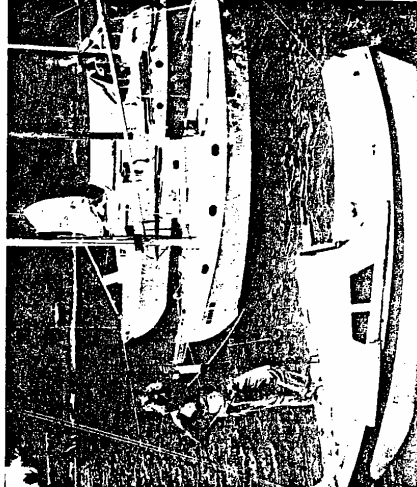
Salting alone was more a quest for salt than a quest for solitude, although Van Ruth reflected that he was glad at times that he was alone. He did take a companion—a cat named Freya—which was his only friend.

He set sail March 14 from Yelapa, Mex. and moored in Radio Bay June 2.

He took adequate food and water for some time and special bottling tequila from Mexico. He caught fish (which he also studies and studies as a hobby) to eat.

Van Ruth was equipped with minimum navigation aids. He learned to navigate accurately shortly before beginning the voyage.

He has a compass, a sextant with ocean dividers, and land which Van Ruth recorded in his log.



Aboard Hilo's Freya, Van Ruth contemplates the boating scene in Radio Bay. His fiberglass craft, though smaller, has sailed more miles in a long cruise than most boats in the bay area.

On April 27, or 14 days out, Van Ruth saw a 5 to 6 foot shark against Freya. He grabbed a 200-gram rubber bullet.

"I shot through his head and he slowly drifted off. I did not want to take a chance and risk hitting him bite a hole in Freya. If that happened I'd really have problems," Van Ruth said.

On May 13, a Japanese freighter drifted upwind of his small craft.

"It is strange how my mental attitude has changed since I began my voyage," Freya as the center of my world (abstractly). Land and people had disappeared from my consciousness. I feel as though my world has become a vast, empty space. I was glad to see it. Hope there aren't too many more around. I'll have to keep a lookout as this area is a shipping lane from coast to coast.

Perhaps his most unpleasant encounter was with land, specifically Cape Kumakahi on his 78th day out.

Wind and waves pushed him close to shore, but three days out he was able to tack offshore, so he had to paddle hard.

Exhausted, Van Ruth drifted for offshore then sailed into Hilo Bay where he sighted him and radioed a boat to tow him into Radio Bay.

Van Ruth likes Hilo and plans to make the rainy side of the island his home. He's looking for a job and will probably stay where he is for a while. He is preparing her for a passage to Australia.

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Bulletin

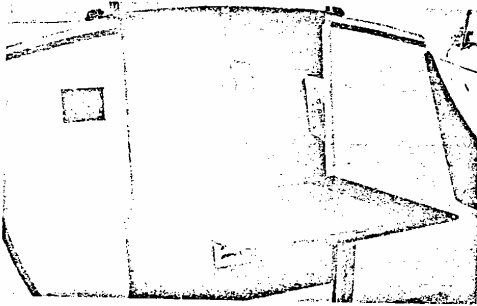
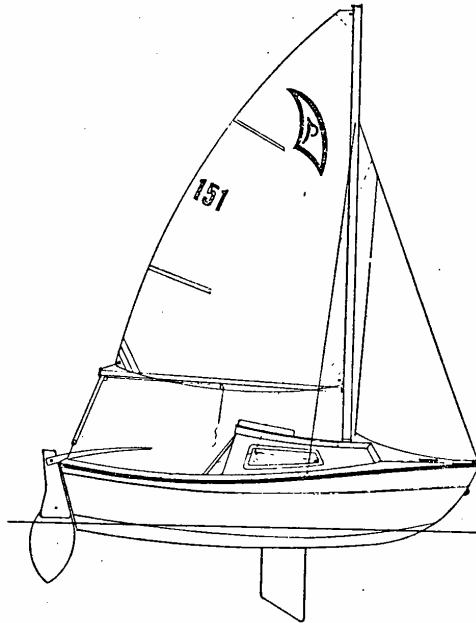
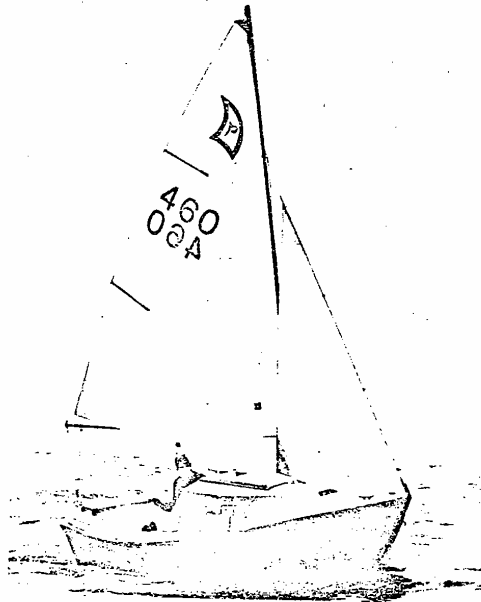
SAIGON—A hijacked Pan American Airways jumbo jet has landed in Saigon.

One of the hijackers was killed on the runway at Saigon's Tan Son Nhut International Airport. His body lay on the concrete, which was apparently the plane. No other casualties are reported.

N.W. BELL

Here is the finest mini-yacht built in America. Designed for the North Sea, she's more than competent for offshore cruising. Two 6'3" bunks and 6'6" cockpit make her 2 plus 2. All

fiberglass — mahogany trim — self-bailing — non-sinkable — sliding hatch (not shown in drawing). Over 450 boats in the United States. New this year — all fiberglass interior — and — one piece aluminum mast.



L.O.A.	14'	Spinnaker	65'
L.W.L.	11'9"	Displacement ..	540 lbs.
Beam	5'3"	Ballast (wt.) ...	105 lbs.
Draft	7"-2'8"	Head room	39"
Sail Area	72'	Berths	2
Main	52'	Auxiliary	Outboard
Jib	20'	Designer ..	Stanley Smith
Genoa	42'	Price less sails .	\$1595.

