



APRIL 1986

Potter to Potter

Newsletter of the Northern California West Wight Potter Assn.

Commodore: Bill Sprietsma 408/379-5474
Vice Commodore: Rob McClain

Secretary/Treasurer: John Ockes 415/656-2984
Historian: Barbara Simpson

Sailing Schedule



April 27, Sunday	Opening Day on San Francisco Bay
May 4, Sunday	Del Valle Reservoir, Livermore
May 17, Saturday	Clear Lake, Lake County
June 7-8, Sat/Sun	Woodward Reservoir, Oakdale



At The Helm, Again

The annual luncheon was held at the Encinal Yacht Club on Sunday, April 13, 1986. Those in attendance were: Don Bernreuter (#817), John & Barbara Simpson (#266), Stan & Dorothy Butler (#850), John & Anne Ockes (#1060), Bob & Patti Fredericks (#1244), Mike Bartunek & Claudia Hassler (#748), Bill Sprietsma & Freda (#1205), Joe & Jackie Wheeler (#810), Mr & Mrs Gordon Wong (#53), Ray Riehle, Frank Winans (#691), D.L. & Sydney Marsh (#512), Bill & Joyce Wight, and Terry Gotcher (#821).

After lunch all adjourned to the Regatta Room to conduct the meeting for electing new Officers.

Your new association officers are: Commodore Bill Sprietsma (2nd Time)
Vice Commodore . . . Rob McClain
Secretary/Editor . . John Ockes
Historian Barbara Simpson

John Ockes gave the treasurer's report. There is a balance of \$1237 in the treasury. It was voted upon not to reduce or prorate dues but there may be an extension of this year's dues depending on our expenditures in the future. In another matter, we will be ordering more West Wight Potter caps and burgees and pay Bill Sprietsma for the balance on hand.

The WWP National Regatta in August was discussed. It will be held again at Encinal Yacht Club August 2nd & 3rd. Terry Gotcher will be in charge of the activities on the water and Barbara Simpson will be in charge of the land activities. Instead of a sit-down banquet, we will have an informal barbeque after the last race on Saturday in the grass area. There are now four Montgomery-15 sailboats in the association and they will be provided with a separate start in the regatta.

Future sails were gone over, especially the Long Beach to Catalina Island sail that is scheduled for June 20-23. Terry Gotcher will again be the contact for this sail (408/238-3656). This is a 6-7 hour sail and not recommended for the "faint of heart." Members are encouraged to call the commodore and give suggestions on places to sail.

Finally, a heartfelt thanks from all of us to our past officers who make this all possible. To Mike Bartunek and Claudia Hassler who never missed a sail--even when no one else showed up. To John Ockes whose dedication as secretary/editor has brought us one of the best newsletters for the past 3 years, and also to Anne Ockes who I know helps with all those other details in mailing our the newsletter. And to Jerry Barrilleaux as our historian who has served our association over the years in many capacities.

Barbara Simpson (#266)

Next Sail: Sunday, April 27

Opening Day on SF Bay

On Saturday, set your clocks ahead 1 hour because Sunday is the first day of Daylight Savings Time. This annual event is sponsored by the Pacific Interclub Yacht Association and will mark the 101st time for such a fete on the Bay. The decorated boat theme this year is "Disneyland Fantasea."

Launch time will be right after the 9:00 am skipper's meeting. Bring a picnic lunch. We will launch at Clipper Yacht Harbor (next to Caruso's Sportfishing in Sausalito) which is at the foot of Harbor Drive on Richardson Bay.

Directions: From Route 101, take the Sausalito turnoff on Bridgeway Blvd. (first exit from north, last exit from south). Follow Bridgeway about 1/2 mile east to Harbor Drive, then Harbor Drive to the Bay and ramp. Nominal charge. Plenty of parking.

The Opening Day also salutes the America's Cup. The boat parade around the Bay will be from Raccoon Strait to the Gate and down along the San Francisco Cityfront. It was reported last year that Ayala Cove on the Angel Island side of Raccoon Strait looked like filming for "Rambo II" had begun because of the water balloons among boaters. On the peninsula side of Raccoon Strait, boaters proceeded past the Corinthian YC for the blessing of the fleet.

A SALUTE TO THE AMERICA'S CUP

WELCOME ABOARD NEW MEMBERS:

Paul & Natalie Apfel. Deckhands: Bill, Paul Jr & Janet
2278 Central Park Drive, Campbell, CA 95008
Telephone: (408) 377-2285
P-15 #1154 "Little Toot"

Steven Fitzpatrick & Peggy Kuebler
P.O. Box 50368, Reno, Nevada 89513
Telephone: (702) 356-8105
P-15 #1381

Bill "C" Day
2525 Fairgrounds Drive, #215, Vallejo, CA 94589
Telephone: (707) 557-1790
Montgomery-15, #M363

Jacque & Patricia Robinson
2573 Hidden Valley Lane, Napa, CA 94557
Telephone: (707) 224-4454
To purchase a P-15



Sail-ing (sa-ling) n. the fine art of getting wet and becoming ill while going nowhere at great expense.

WEST WIGHT POTTER

Next Sail: Sunday, May 4, Del Valle Reservoir, Livermore



Directions: From Route 580 at Livermore, take the Livermore Avenue turn-off and drive south. This is Route 12. You'll pass Concannon Winery on your left where Livermore Avenue turns into Tesla Road (also Route 12). Continue a short distance then turn south on Mines Road until you get to the park entrance. There is an entrance fee for car and trailer.

Launch time: 10:30 am. Bring along thou, cheese, and wine glasses. Someone may make a detour at the winery for our refreshments when we stop for a picnic lunch near the dam at the north end of the reservoir. We may stop at Smorga Bob's on 1st Street near the 580 freeway after the sail.

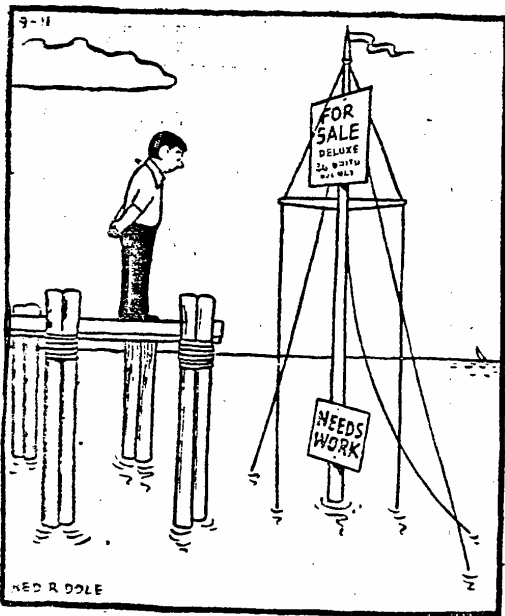
And The Following Sail: Saturday, May ¹⁷24, Clear Lake, Lake County

Clear Lake is about a 2½ hour drive from the Bay area. The lake is 19 miles long and 7½ miles wide at the widest point with over 100 miles of shoreline. We will mee. at the docks of Konocti Harbor Inn on Konocti Bay at 11:00 am sharp for a skipper's meeting and be rigged and ready for sailing. There is a launch ramp here or at Clear Lake State Park at Soda Bay which is a short distance up from Konocti.

If you plan to stay overnight at the State Park, call (707) 279-4293 for reservations or call a Bass outlet. For a reservation at Konocti Harbor Inn, call (800) 862-4930 or (707) 279-4281. More than one camper can stay at a campsite at the State Park.

Directions: From the Bay area, take Route 80 to Route 29. Drive thru Lower Lake then turn on Route 175 (Soda Bay Road). Konocti Inn is located at 8727 Soda Bay Road. Or continue on Route 29 to Kelseyville then follow the signs to Soda Bay and the State Park.

Send us your news



AHOY!

Sailing out of the estuary one January day, I was hailed by a gentleman on a large inbound ketch: "Hey bubble, what kind of bird is that?"

The question startled me, so by the time I had swallowed my champagne and formulated an answer, the ketch was far beyond the range of my voice. Now it remains uncertain in my mind whether this was a fellow sailor curious about the identity of my small vessel, or a bird-watcher who had misplaced his bifocals and thought he had discovered a new species. I shall attempt to answer in a way satisfactory to either.

This bird (boat) sir, is a member of the Family: sailboat, Genus: cruiser, Species: West Wight (HMS Marine), Common Name: Potter As to Class: a good deal of it, Sir, a good deal.

One might say the Potter is fairly common. A flock of about one hundred or so exists in various habitats around the San Francisco Bay and Delta. First introduced from the Isle of Wight where it was well known around the English Channel, and was occasionally noted as far north as the Scandinavian countries. It has since been reported in such sunny climes as Hawaii and Tahiti.

Migratory, you might say. Frequently seen following a van or a small car on its way to northerly or southerly waters. It is generally content in a garage or back-yard from Monday to Friday. It is noted to seem the happiest on weekends though, when it gathers in loose flocks of five to twenty on open waters and in small nesting groups at a convenient beach or pier. Solitary individuals are often seen as well, unexpectedly, at almost any point on the Bay, or any of the smaller waters in the Western United States.

Some have reported this Species as flightless, but I assure you, this impression is only in dead calm and observation during 25 knot winds out of the northwest will immediately correct this erroneous opinion.

The Nautical specifications of this boat (bird) Sir, are as follows. Length: 14' (15' including the Outboard bracket), Accomodations: sleeps two in 6½' of comfortable coziness, Sloop rig: the Mark II has a long batten in its 68 square foot main sail which gives it a "gaf" appearance, and a 23 square foot jib, (the earlier Mark I boat has a sliding Gunter rig with a Marconi Main). Many variations are seen, and most owners seem to enjoy making small changes to fit their personal desires.

There is an active and fast-growing group sailing these versatile small craft in this area. The West Wight Potter Association of Northern California, better known as "The Potter-Yachters", was started in 1978 through the efforts of Jim and Carol Mangles of San Jose. From an initial group of a few families, the club has progressed to 101 fabulous Potter yachts with members residing in six different states. The club schedules 2 regular sailing events during the summer months and one scheduled sail each month the rest of the year. Locations of these sails have varied from the coast of Monterey to San Francisco Bay, to "Out the Gate", to Angel Island, to Woodward Reservoir and Lake Camanche, and also just a great deal of "just Pottering around."

You will see more of these handy pocket cruisers as the "Era of Limits" restricts the convenience of larger boats. The special friendliness of cruising in company with other Potter owners is an unusual treat in these times of competition and stress. If you would like more information about the club or the boat, please call or write the manufacturer: HMS Marine, Inc. 904 W. Hyde Park Blvd. Inglewood, CA 90302, (213) 674-4540 Perhaps we will have a chance to meet you at our next sail.

Don Bergst (#797)



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