



The Potter Yachter

Newsletter of the Northern California West Wight Potter Club

Feb./Mar. 2004

Sailing & Event Calendar

February 25, 7-9 pm
Tides and Currents of the Bay at OCSC

February 28, 7-9 PM
Weather for Bay Area Sailors at OCSC

March 6 & 7
Docking and Marina Procedures Classes
RSVP Required.

March 20
Delta Day Sail. Launch at B&W sail to
Korth's Pirates Lair for lunch, and re-
turn to B&W.

April 2-4
Potter Rendezvous at Coyote Point
Yacht Club. Dinner with guest speakers
from International Marine. RSVP req'd.

April 24
Salt and Pepper Sail on Estuary. Launch
at Estuary Park and/or Grand Ave. Ala-
meda.

May 1-2
Brannen Island to Lundborg Landing @
Bethel Island.

June 5-6
Lake Sail and Overnight Campout at
Woodward Reservoir.

July 17-18 SCA Cruiser Challenge in
Monterey.

August 7-8 Eagle Lake Lake Sail and
Campout.

September: Tomales Bay Sail and Beach
Campout. Date to be announced.

October 2-3 Monterey Bay Over night.

November 6-7 Richmond Over night.
Sail to Loch Lomond on the 6th and
Angel Island on the 7th.

Docking and Marina Procedures March 6 & 7 at Richmond Marina

Back by Popular Demand!

Several years ago, we offered an in-
troductory Docking and Marina Pro-
cedures class, and it received rave
reviews. So we're repeating it this
year, and we've added a second day
for advanced topics.

Our instructor is Sandi MacLeod,
senior US Sailing Certified Instructor
with more than a decade of teaching
experience.

Sandi has made multiple trips across
the ocean, including the 1997 Trans-
Pac and several deliveries. She has

sailed extensively
on the West
Coast, in British
Columbia, the San
Juans, the Carib-
bean, the Florida
Keys on the East
Coast and near Tahiti in the South
Pacific. Sandi was the first woman
instructor certified by US Sailing as
a Coastal Passagemaking instructor,
and is one of only two women cur-
rently certified to do so.



Sandi MacLeod

(Continued on page 4)

March 20th: Delta Day Sail Korth's Pirates' Lair for Lunch



We will be launching at 9 AM from
B&W Resort and sailing over to
Korths Pirates Lair for lunch. Korths
has to be the prettiest Marina on the
Delta. Great food, a pretty lawn, and
even a gift shop. After lunch we can
play around on the Stockton channel
before heading for home.

To get to B&W Resort go over the

Antioch Bridge toward Rio Vista.
Turn right on Highway 12 then go
about 4 miles, and just BEFORE you
cross a bridge turn left on Brannon
Island road. This will take you to the
ramp. Please try to be there on time
as we need to raise the bridge for the
fleet.

See you there!

Jerry Barrilleaux, P19 Fleet Capt.

Inside this issue...

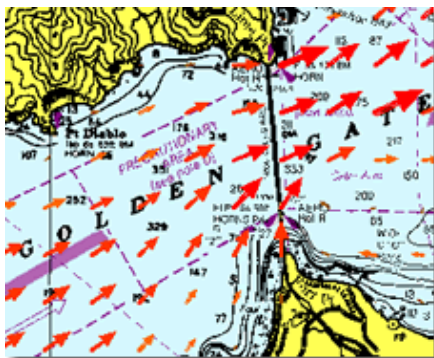
*Weekend Rendezvous at Coyote
Point Yacht Club with Dinner and
Dancing... Seminars at OCSC....
Minutes of the Annual Meeting on
January 11, 2004*

SF Bay Sailing Seminars

Wednesday, Feb 25, 7-9 pm

Tides and Currents of the Bay with Kame Richards

\$15 at OCSC Clubhouse, Berkeley CA.



Kame Richards, owner of Pineapple Sails, gives an exceptional presentation and slide show on the tides and currents in San Francisco Bay. Kame's emphasis is on applying tide and current knowledge to give cruisers as well as racers a competitive edge.

You will actually see the currents in action from satellite photos as you learn the tricks of using the currents to your advantage.

Presented by Olympic Circle Sailing Center, Berkeley CA.

The cost is \$15 per person, payable in advance by credit card. Call 800-223-2984 for reservations. More info can be found online at www.ocscsailing.com

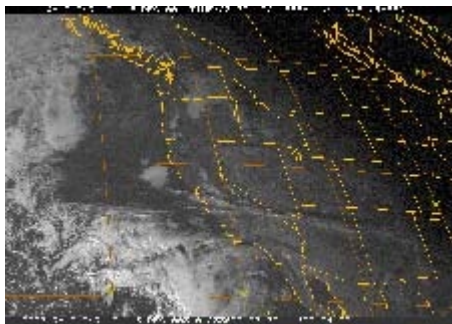
Saturday, Feb 28, 7-9 PM

Weather for Bay Area Sailors Seminar

\$15 at OCSC Clubhouse, Berkeley, CA.

Many of you are familiar with the westerly summer wind machine we have in the Bay. But do you know about Central California's microclimates?

Do you know that there are often lightning storms on the Bay? Do you know why Sacramento's tule fog is more dangerous than San Francisco Summer fog? Anatomy of a winter storm, how to predict Santa Ana conditions on the Bay and other useful weather information. You'll learn it all.



Presented by Olympic Circle Sailing Center, Berkeley CA.

The cost is \$15 per person, payable in advance by credit card. Call 800-223-2984 for reservations. More info is online at www.ocscsailing.com

-Judy Blumhorst, Education Captain.

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P-19 #266 *Redwing*

April 6 & 7: Potter Weekend Rendezvous at Coyote Point Yacht Club



Dinner Party with Special Guests Ryan Forrest and Dave Dressler of IM

Come by land or come by sea – just be sure to come! The first week in April is the perfect time to spend the weekend on the Bay.

The Coyote Point Yacht Club, in San Mateo, has graciously invited us to hold a Potter Rendezvous with a Dinner and & Dance party at their clubhouse and docks on Saturday and Sunday, April 3-4th.

If you can't attend the whole weekend, at least come for a day sail or for the dinner party on Saturday night!

CPYC has a 275 foot long guest dock and the clubhouse has spacious baths and showers for guests who wish to stay overnight. The beautiful clubhouse will be open all day Saturday for us to hang out, renew old friendships and form new ones.

The clubhouse is a warm and gracious place to hang out. It has sweeping views of the South Bay, comfy chairs, and amenities like a pool table and big-screen TV. The bar opens at 11 am on Saturdays and Sundays, and stays open until 10 pm.

Hors d'oeuvres will be served at 4:30 in the bar and dinner will be served at about 6 pm, followed by our special guest speakers. We'll enjoy a full

service, full course pasta dinner, including beverages and dessert, prepared by the CPYC catering staff.

After dinner, Ryan Forrest, the new owner of International Marine, and Dave Dressler, the outgoing owner, will speak on the latest news from IM.

Following the presentation, we'll turn up the jukebox and have a real party.

Logistics and Details:

RSVP by March 26th to Commodore Rich McDevitt at commodore@potter-yachters.org or by phone at 925-829-7792.

When you RSVP, please indicate your

- **boat model**
- **date of arrival by land or water**
- **The number of people attending dinner on Saturday.**

The cost of dinner is **\$15 per person**, payable at dinner by cash, check or credit card.

Rich will snail-mail you a "cruising package" with charts of the marina,

directions by land, directions by sea, instructions for launching and parking at Coyote Point Marina. You must RSVP to receive a **coupon for free launching and trailer parking**

Skippers who prefer to arrive early on Friday, rather than Saturday or Sunday should contact CPYC's Port Captain, Carter West, in advance so he can make arrangements to have somebody meet you there. He can be reached at 650-520-7382.



You can find out more about Coyote Point Yacht Club online at <http://www.cpyc.com/home.html>.

For info on Coyote Point Marina and Coyote Point Museum for Environmental Education, and the Park, go to <http://www.coyoteptmuseum.org>

-submitted by Judy Blumhorst



(Docking class, con't)

The class will consist of a lecture followed by an on-the-water-demonstration. All participants will receive written materials to take home.

The classes are free to all paid-up 2004 members of the Potter Yachters. Non-members may join the club for \$24 (per family) on the day of the classes and attend the classes at no further charge.

Please bring a bag lunch for both days. We will take a short lunch break.

You do not need to have your boat there to participate. However, it would be very valuable to have your boat so you can practice on our own after the class ends. There are plenty of empty slips at the Richmond Marina for practicing.

The class will be several hours long, so it's best to launch your boat and put it in a slip before the class starts.

If you want to bring your boat but you don't want to rent a slip, we recommend you rig your boat and leave it in the parking lot at the ramp. Launch after the class ends. You should have about 3 hours for practicing.

There is a \$5 fee for launching. Slips are \$15 plus key deposit. The Harbormaster's office opens at 9 am; their phone is 510-236-1013.

-Judy Blumhorst, Education Capt.

**Saturday, March 6th , 11:00 am
Basic Docking and Marina Procedures**

The "Basic" Class will cover skills such as :

- preparation before docking
- choosing your docking approach
- marina traffic patterns and rules
- communication between skipper and crew,
- correct use of dock lines
- approaches and departures to and from upwind, downwind and side wind slips,
- using ranges to steer in currents and side-winds
- going forward and backing up under power,
- tight radius turns,
- what to do if your outboard quits, and other common emergencies

**Sunday, March 7th, 10:00 am
Advanced Docking and Marina Procedures.**

The "Advanced" class will cover skills such as:

- Single-handed docking and departure under power
- special considerations when motoring into and out of downwind or strong side current slips (like Ayala Cove)
- "parallel parking" in short spaces on side ties
- use of spring lines
- docking under sail power
- back and fill maneuver for turning slowly in a tight space
- additional topics





Minutes of the Potter Yachters Annual Meeting on January 11, 2004

Submitted by Gregory Yu, out-going Secretary/Treasurer

Those in attendance (in random order): John Wheeler (looking for a Potter); Pat Brennan (P-14 Eaglet); Ray & Myrna Lozano (P-19 Rainbow Rd); Rich Kinzey, Leslie Oliver (P-15 Traveler); Judy & Dave Blumhorst (P-19 Redwing); Rich McDevitt (P-15 Minnow); Jerry & Carol Barrilleaux (P-15 Breezy & HMS-18 Sunshine); Dory Taylor (P-15 Petit Liege); Gene Hersom (HMS-18 #38); Danny Ward (P-14); Herman Ward (P-14 & HMS-18); Dave Norris (P-19 Wight Cap); Harry Gordon (P-14 Manatee); Keith & Alex Hubbard (P-19 Sally II); Dan Phy (P-15 ASAP); Dick Herman (Suncat Muddy Duck); Don Person (P-15 Sara Anne); Kathy Bullock (P-15 Sea Diva); David Lawson (P-15 Schatz); Bard Johnson (P-19 Passing Wind); Wes Harrison (P-19 Friendship); Bruce Hood (P-15 Eilidh); Ed Dove (Interested in Potter); Kay Harlick (P-14 #261); Barbara Simpson (owned various Potters); Dave Bacon (P-15 Raven); Greg & Rosita Yu (HMS-18 Sampan); Leroy & Kathy Falk (P-19).

All in attendance enjoyed a delicious and abundant breakfast at the dining room, and moved downstairs at around 10 am.

Meeting was called to order by Commodore Rich McDevitt at 10:15 am

The Secretary/Treasurer report was given by Greg Yu. Our club is in a very healthy financial situation.

Elections:

Rich McDevitt was nominated and re-elected as Commodore. Don Person was nominated and elected as P-15 Fleet Captain. Jerry Barrilleaux was nominated and re-elected as P-19 fleet Captain. Kathy Bullock & Pat Brennan were nominated for Secretary/Treasurer. Pat Brennan was elected. Dory Taylor was nominated and re-elected as Historian. Dory Taylor volunteered as Newsletter Editor and was elected. Judy Blumhorst was elected as Education Captain by Acclamation. Mike Westfield was appointed as Web Master.

Discussion on held on Membership Dues: Stay at \$24? Lowering to \$20 or \$10? The majority consensus was to keep it at \$24.

Suggestion how to spend the Dues surplus: Trophies & Plagues for regattas? Education programs? Parties, BBQ's? Donation to educational programs sponsored by OYC? Donate cleats to City of Oakland for launch ramps???? Markers, lines, floats, etc. for regattas? Non-sailing social gatherings? Group campsite at lakes?

Rich Kinzey motioned that current officers meet and come up with programs and budgets to spend surplus, and was seconded and amended by Dick Herman that budget will not exceed income. Motion passed unanimously.

Sailing Ideas: Rich McDevitt reported that we have been invited by the Coyote Point Yacht Club to a 3-day Regatta on April 2, 3 and 4. They will also provide seminars and speakers.

International Marine will be one of the speakers. More details to come.

Dave Norris reminded everyone of the South Bay Opening Day on April 2nd. He also showed members the new Coast Guard Auxiliary Vessel Examination stickers, and urged all members to obtain a Safety Inspection.

The Lake Yosemite Sailing Association will hold a regatta in May at Lake Merced. It was suggested that Lake Merced is more suitable for P-15's only. Leroy Falk commented that Merced is indeed a small lake but is adequate for P-19's.

Suggestions for Club Sails: Catalina, channel Island, Lake Millerton with Southern California Potters Group, Whiskey Town, Lake Huntington, Black Butte Lake, Delta, Loch Lomond, Tomales Bay, Redwood City, Eagle Lake, Woodward Res., Bruno Island, SF Bay, Lundborg Landing, Monterey Bay, Lake McClure, and the Estuary. Officers will meet to formulate Sail events.

Rich McDevitt reported excellent attendance at 2003 club sails. Going to 1 major event monthly and having unofficial weekly sails seemed to work well.

Judy Blumhorst queried members regarding repeating the Cruisers' challenge. Response was unanimously positive.

Rich McDevitt suggested we should hold another 'Potters only' regatta.

Suggestions were solicited for our web site. Greg Yu suggested that we change the access code and password to the 'members only' area of our web site periodically.

Dory Taylor shared ideas of modifications & hardware to help skippers with medical conditions. He and Jerry Barrilleaux will come up with suggestions and recommendations.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am and gifts were raffled.



The Potter Yachter

February/March 2004

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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 ex-

perience 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*