



The Potter Yachter

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

July 2016

Report: Union Valley Campsail

by David White



The Union Valley campsail, officially June 18-19, was very successful and well attended: 30 people, 13 boats, along with at least 4 dogs. Unlike last year, it was cold enough for a campfire morning and evening, plus all day the first few days we were there. By Saturday, it was warming up, and when it came time to leave on Monday, it was perfect, of course.

However, winds came up every morning, and lasted for hours every day. Several said it was the best sailing they'd had in a while. Winds were generally not gusty, out of the southwest, as usual.

Most boats beached near the campsites or anchored out a ways. A few sailors slept on their boats, some in RVs, and the rest of us in tents.

Arriving on Wednesday, June 15th, were Dan Phy (in his Compaq picnic cat); Don and Judy Person (P15, *Sarah Anne*, of course); Guy and Rocky Light (Monty 15, *Greenlight*); and 5 of the White family, including Cheryl and myself, Theron, Anthony and Grant (P19, *Wee Boat & 2* kayaks). Thursday brought (See *Union Valley* continued on page 4)



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The Commodore's Corner

By Rob Sampson

With the two June Camp/Sails finished, it's time to look forward to Monterey and the **Cruiser Challenge**. If you haven't signed up and plan on going, sign up as soon as possible (by July 8 if you want reserved parking). Go to <http://cruiserchallenge.com/>

Monterey is a wonderful place to sail. The scenery is fantastic, with opportunities to see seals, sea lions, otters and sometimes whales. The short chop we experience in many sailing locations is replaced with large rolling ocean swells. The winds are usually light to moderate.

Staying on your boat in Monterey is quite a bargain compared to hotel prices there, and there are great restaurants close by. The Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club does a nice job hosting us and last year we had a great spontaneous dock party as well. Hope you can make it.



See you on the water,

Rob — 



Club Events on the Horizon

[Event Calendar](#)

- July 23 (Sat-Sun) [Cruiser Challenge 17](#) (Goose & Dick H)
runs the gamut from easy to advanced, depending on winds and course; overnight at dock
- Aug 20 (Sat) Richmond [to Angel Island or alternative] (Jerry B)
can be intermediate to advanced, depending on winds and waves in the bay; destination will depend on conditions; optional overnight at Marina Bay Yacht Harbor in Richmond
- Aug 27 (Sat) Lake Hennessey Sail (Rich M)
quiet, easy day sail; no motors over 10 HP; no camping or swimming; new launch ramp
- Sept 10 (Sat) Alameda to Clipper Cove Picnic Sail (Carl S)
typically an easy day sail with a quick picnic at Clipper Cove, although it has been intermediate windy on occasion

Upcoming: August 20, 2016

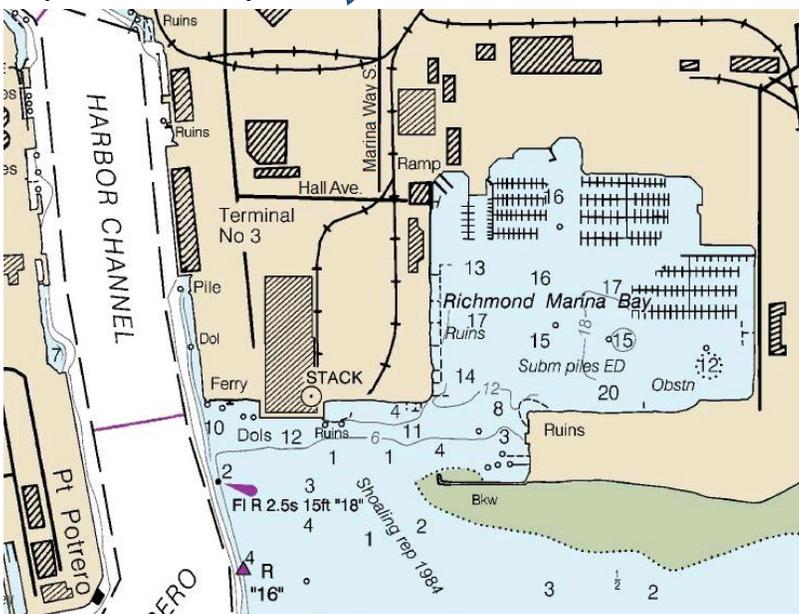
Richmond Sail & Possible Overnight

Sailhost: Jerry Barrilleaux

We will be launching at 9 AM on Saturday for a possible sail to [Angel Island](#). We can make this an overnigher at [MBYH](#). I plan to get a slip for *Sunshine* for a few days. The launching ramp parking requires two five-dollar bills to enter. If you decide to get a slip for a few days, see the Harbor Master first. She will give you a magic pass to the launching area.

The Richmond channel is some of the best Potter sailing you will find. There is also a restaurant nearby, but the sandwich shop is now closed.

The phone number for Marina Bay is (510) 236-1013
See you there! Jerry B. — 



The NOAA Chart for the area is available online for free: <http://www.charts.noaa.gov/InteractiveCatalog/nrnc.shtml>

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 the Pt. Richmond/San Rafael Exit onto 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



View of Pt. Potrero Turn.

Photo: David Soule

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

Officer's Club

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www.potter-yachters.org

(Union Valley continued from page 1)

Rob Sampson (P14, *Espero*); John Chille and Pam Cabot (Monty 12). Friday: Dick Herman (Scamp, *Klompen*); Kevin Crowder (Compaq 19, *Aurora*); David Soule (Cross 18+, *Radio Flyer*); Dave and Francesca Kautz (O'Day 192, *Trailer Trash*); Judy Blumhorst & son Joe (a Pico & L Snark); Dana and Cynthia Suverkrop (P15, *Sip*); Rafael Davidson (Sun Cat 17, *La Falugia*), and 'Goose' Gossman. [Apologies for spelling or boat name errors.]



Photo: Rob Sampson



(clockwise from upper left): Guy admires David Soule's Tri; Francesca, Rob, Dave, Kevin, and 'Goose' enjoy the fire; the potluck spread; Potters on shore; Kautz cartop; beached.



Photo: Rob Sampson



Photo: Rob Sampson

Saturday brought six more White family members (kids aged 8 to 16) and all had a good time, whatever the weather. We took over four or five campsites, depending on the day, so plenty of space; plenty of shade, too, though not much was needed. Plenty of tales to be told, and interesting sail info from Judy.

Thanks to everyone for the plentiful, varied and delicious potluck on Saturday. Theron and Arlene White cooked up tasty ribs for everyone.

Cheryl and I want to thank everyone who helped with Theron's incident on Sunday. He is fine and back home.

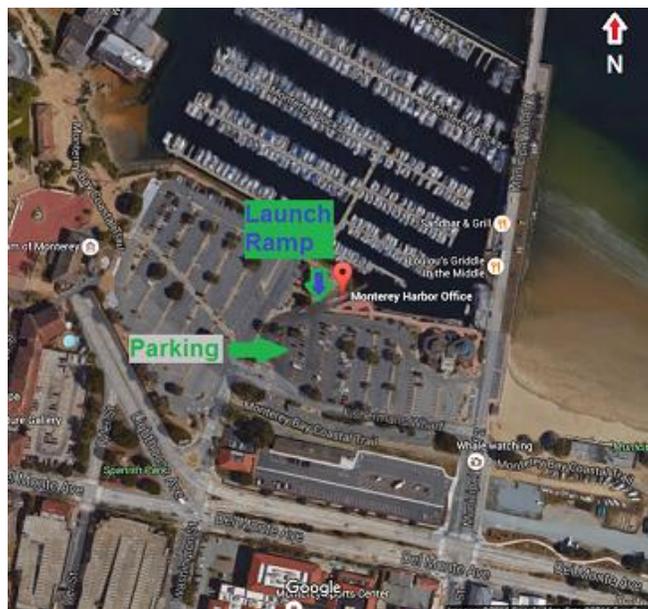
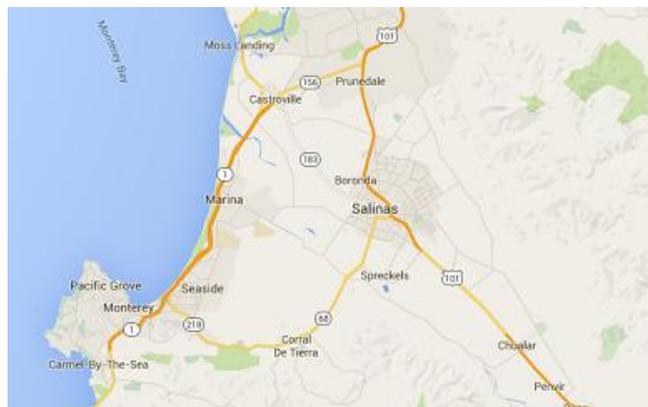
David — 

Upcoming: Friday to Sunday, July 22,23,24 2016
17th Annual Cruiser Challenge!

Sail Hosts: Dick Herman & 'Goose' Gossman

The [Cruiser Challenge](#) is a great get together by The Potter Yachters at Monterey Bay, CA. Friday, 22 July; folks arrive, rig and get boats into the water. The racing (low key type) is Saturday 23 July. Folks not wanting to race are warmly welcomed to come out and join the fun, including dockside social time & dinner at Monterey Peninsula YC.

For 2016 there is additional activity ... so even more fun, if that's possible. A new and simple "set time" starting sequence will be in place allowing those with motors to get to the starting line at the correct time. As those sailing will still have right-of-way, anyone using their motors will not have any advantage. The fastest sailors will prove themselves on the course, but everyone will have a better chance to start with the pack. Also, at the PY'ers annual meeting last Sunday, Goose put out the suggestion that intrepid sailors looking for a fresh experience can launch at Moss Landing on Friday, sail down 3-5 hours to Monterey for Cruiser Challenge activities Saturday, and sail back to Moss on Sunday for some fleet whale watching and/or informal racing.



THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

Thanks also to Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club!

Parking: We have 16 spots in ROW I and 3 spots in ROW H. You will be directed to your spot.

[Directions to Monterey Municipal Harbor/Marina](#)

From north of Monterey:

Take 101 South to 156 West
Continue through Castroville onto Hwy 1 South
Take the Pacific Grove/Del Monte Ave. exit
Turn right at Fisherman's Wharf/Figueroa St.
Then turn left towards the launch ramp.

From south of Monterey:

Follow directions above using Hwy 101 North, **or**
Take Hwy 1 North, exit Aguajito Rd. (exit 401A)
Turn left at the first signal light (Aguajito) then
Go under Hwy 1 and across Fremont St.
When the road ends in a 'T' (can't go straight),
Turn left at the signal light (onto Del Monte Ave)
Turn right at Fisherman's Wharf/Figueroa St.

Harbormaster: (831) 646-3950; night 594-7760

[Municipal Marina layout maps](#) are available in the "Harbor & Marina" Department on www.monterey.org

VERY IMPORTANTLY, as this would impact our reserved parking arrangements with the city of Monterey (which we have to commit big \$\$\$ to well before the event), anyone considering cruising in should contact me, Goose (micgoose@aol.com), at your earliest convenience.

Cruiser Challenge 17

RACE RULES & PROCEDURES

- I. Avoid collisions.
- II. The basic USCG ColReg “Right of Way” rules apply. In order:
 1. A boat being overtaken has the right of way
 2. Sail has right of way over Power.
 3. A boat on starboard tack has the right of way over a boat on a port tack.
 4. The boat to the leeward has the right of way over the windward boat.
 5. **However**, boats within two boat-lengths of a mark that have overlap must be given room to round the mark, regardless of which tack they are on, or which boat is downwind.
- III. Racing Divisions:
 1. Division A, large class: 20’ to 26’ LOA. (Division A & B start together.)
 2. Division B, medium class: 15’1” to 19’11” LOA.
 3. Division C, small class: 15’ LOA or less.
 4. The Race Committee reserves the right to move boats into different divisions if suitability is in question in order to “level the playing field”.
- IV. Hard start times. Race start times will be confirmed at the skippers’ meeting with any changes announced on the VHF once the fleet is on the. Starts will be in “pursuit” format with Division C (small class) starting first, followed 10 (ten) minutes later by the combined A & B (large and medium class) start. We will try to start:
 1. First race: Division C (small class) starts at 11:30 am. Division A & B (large and medium class) starts at 11:40.
 2. Second race (winds and time permitting): Division C (small class) starts at 1:30 pm. Division A & B (large and medium class) starts at 1:40 pm.
 3. **However**: due to conditions once on the water, the start times for the first race may be delayed 30 (thirty) minutes until 12:00 noon. Listen on the radio for changes and for the five-minute warning horn (five blasts) sounding before the start of the Division C (small class) race. If the first race at 11:30 am is delayed, expect the second race at 1:30 pm to be cancelled.
- V. Horn signals will be kept to a minimum to avoid confusion.
 1. A five-minute warning horn with five blasts will sound before the first race at 11:25 am, and at 1:25 pm for the second race.
 2. A single horn blast will sound announcing the race start for Division C (small class), and a single horn blast will sound announcing the race start for Division A & B (large and medium class). Remember, Division A & B will always start 10 (ten) minutes after the start of Division C.
- VI. All horn signals will be backed up with an announcement over the VHF radio.
- VII. Radio use is encouraged and will be used extensively by the Race Committee. The frequency will be announced at the skippers’ meeting. If in doubt as to what is happening, sail or motor to the committee boat and ask for clarification.
- VIII. A skipper may use the boat’s motor up to one minute before the start time for his or her class. It is the skipper’s responsibility to stay clear of boats under sail and to stop the motor one minute before start time. The one-minute warning to stop engines will be announced over the VHF.
- IX. The race course will be briefed at the skippers’ meeting. Expect an upwind leg to Mile Buoy (R’4’), followed by a downwind leg to a marker the cannery, then a short upwind leg to the start/finish line.
- X. Special Cruiser Challenge 17 racing rule: HAVE FUN. — 

Unofficial Potter Sail: Friday July 22 & Sunday July 24

Moss Landing to Monterey and Return

So far, there are 28 boats signed up for this year's [Cruiser Challenge](#). If you haven't registered yet, **now** is the time to do so. You can even pay via PayPal. It doesn't get much easier!

There are currently four people planning to sail from Moss Landing and get a slip in Monterey for Saturday's event, then sail back Sunday.

Keep in mind that YOU are the final authority on whether you can make the trip, so study the chart (note the restricted/prohibited area), check on the weather, and be ready to drive your boat to Monterey if needed. If Sunday weather is bad, we'll find someone to shuttle us to the trailers and safely haul out in Monterey.

Having said that, here's some info for any Potter Yachters thinking about making the trip:

The general plan is to leave the harbor anywhere from 9am to 11am on Friday. Some folks will arrive on Thursday. The city lot usually has plenty of parking for about \$17/night (pay the iron ranger). You might get permission to park at Elkhorn Yacht Club for free, if there's space.

The folks at Elkhorn Yacht Club are very welcoming and it's always a pleasure to spend time there. Bud Kerner was thoughtful enough to let them know they'll have some Potter Yachters visiting that weekend. And he also found out that the bar will be open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday nights, with a "Grill Your Own Burger" special on Sunday night; you get a frozen burger and a Beer for \$6. At least one of us will be staying there Sunday night at the guest dock after Sunday's trip from Monterey back to Moss Landing. Derigging can wait until Monday morning. —

Directions: Get onto Hwy 101, then Take exit 336 (Hwy 156) towards Monterey Peninsula, take Hwy 183 through Castroville to Hwy 1 north, then turn left into the parking lot just after the bridge over Elkhorn Slough.

Monterey Harbor: Channel 05a 24hrs or (831)646-3950 8-5pm/(831)594-7760 nite

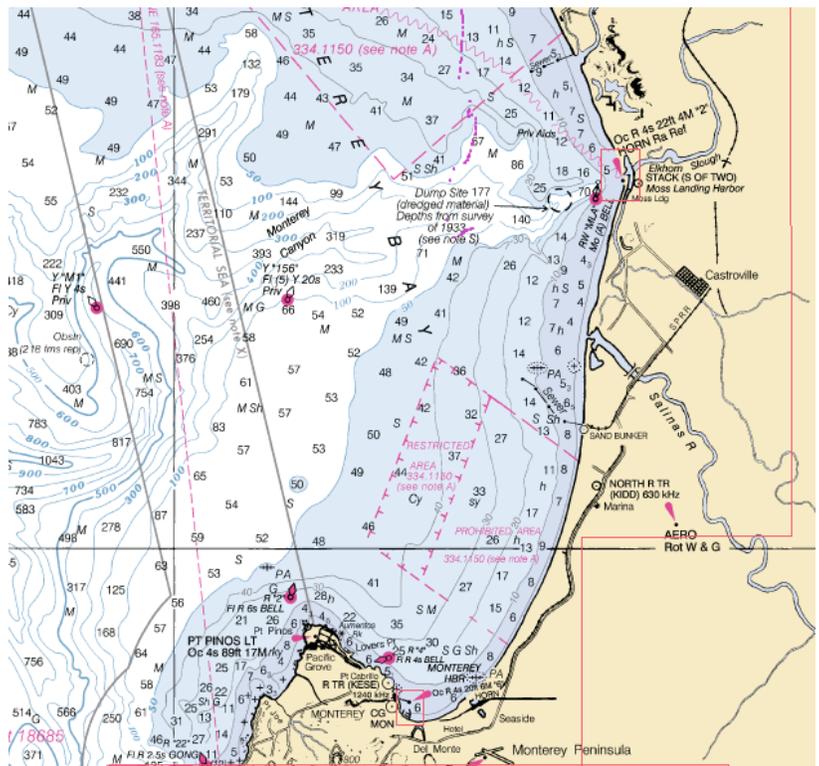


Cruiser Challenge



Cruiser Challenge 17!
Get out there and SAIL!

CruiserChallenge.com



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

Report: Woodward

Woodward: Potter Style

by Rob Sampson

I arrived at Woodward Reservoir Thursday afternoon. I usually go there on Friday, or even Saturday, but I decided to try extending the camping experience an extra day this time. The weather prediction was for

temperatures to get up around 105°, so many Potters were considering cancelling. I drove by the campsite which was empty and proceeded to the launch ramp area. There I saw a rigged potter on a trailer ready to launch with its owner close by sitting in a chair relaxing. It was Herman Ward. Woodward is his usual sailing venue and he was there for the afternoon. He had been on one sail, pulled his boat out and was getting ready to launch and sail again. I rigged my Potter 14 and we both went out for a relaxing afternoon sail. Thursday on



Herman Ward enjoys a Woodward breeze



The author with Winnie



Rich & Carl jammin'



The shade offers Herman Ward a chance to relax

Woodward Reservoir was quite different from the weekend crowd. There were only 4 boats on the water, Herman and I and 2 motorboats. Not a jetski to be seen anywhere. Later Herman went home for the night and I set up camp.

Friday, I went into Oakdale for some supplies and when I got back to camp George and Rebecca Corrigan had arrived with their Montgomery 15. Herman was back for the day to do some more sailing. We relaxed around camp and had a nice dinner before retiring for the night.



George and Rebecca Corrigan (with Winnie)

On Saturday, Don Person, Rich McDevitt, Danny Ward and Carl Sundholm arrived. After a nice day of sailing in light winds, we settled down to happy hour and music courtesy of Rich and Carl. Bud and Bobby Kerner arrived to partake in the Saturday Night Potluck and at dusk Don lit a campfire. The potluck was surprisingly good and abundant considering the small group we had.

Sunday after breakfast folks sailed and/or motored back to the launch



Photo: Don Person



George and Rebecca Corrigan

ramp to retrieve their boats. By noon we had all broken camp and were derigging and heading home. This was the smallest Woodward Campout I had been to with 10 people at the max and 7 boats. The 105° temperatures never materialized but it was still hot, getting up to 95° during the days. All in all, a great weekend with some nice sailing, good food and drink and most importantly hanging out with old and new friends. —



Photo: Don Person

Rob stays cool while Winnie swims



Photo: G & R Corrigan

Waves buffet the Potters tied to shore



Photo: Carl Sundholm



Photo: Don Person

The always plentiful "Woodward Potluck"

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 use PayPal to pat-brennan@sbcglobal.net, or try this link: <http://www.paypal.me/WPatrickBrennan/25> 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*

