



# Whoo News

## April 2018

### April Showers?

It appears that this is going to be one great boating year. We are gearing up to participate in our 2nd boat show and hope to see many of our friends stop by our booth, E-04, to say hello. Don't forget to purchase your discounted tickets before the end of March, they then go up to regular price.

We turn around from the boat show, and have our Annual Nautical Swap Meet, which is always a fun time. I seem to find something I desperately need at each seller's space. Yes, I'm a professional thinker of "fun things to do" around here, and always open to your ideas.

We are getting calls for reservations and events, so if you are planning on doing something with family or friends this year, be sure to call us to get a space to enjoy your group. We are also looking at doing some arts and crafts days on Saturdays, so keep an eye out for dates and the projects we will be doing - you don't need to be an artist, or even good, to have a great time.

And, just in case we haven't told you lately, thank you for choosing to stay with us and being a part of our very special community.

Devery, Max, Abby, Stephanie,  
Twitchell and  
Captain Jack Sparrow

### What's Next and What's Coming Up...

#### April 15-16

Time is up, taxes need to be done and in - Argh!!

#### April 19-22

Pacific Sail and Power Boat Show (there is still time, see special \$savings\$ on page 2 to make your plans)



#### May 5

Just a month away, Owl Harbor's Annual Nautical Swap Meet. Call us for more details

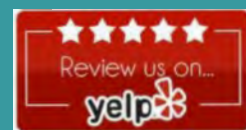


#### May 13

Happy Mother's Day

#### May 28

Happy Memorial Day - Enjoy!



[www.OwlHarbor.com](http://www.OwlHarbor.com)

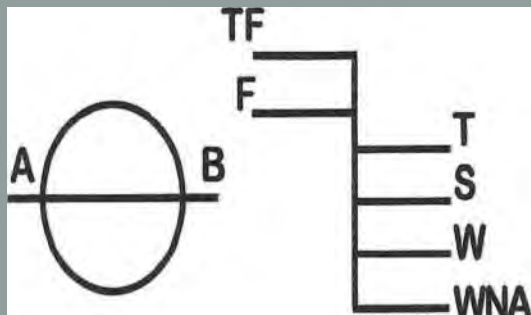
# Updates.....

**\*Plan your visit April 19-22, 2018 to the Pacific Sail and Power Boat Show** and get your tickets at an extra discounted rate. Purchase your standard ticket by March 31 and get \$2.00 off, plus enter your special code available from Owl Harbor Marina and get an additional \$2.00 off your ticket price (must be purchased by March 31 to apply). Be sure to use your code from us: OWLHARPBS18 for savings. **View more information at [www.PacificBoatshow.com](http://www.PacificBoatshow.com)**

**\*Gather your goods for Owl Harbors Annual Nautical Swap Meet.** May 5 from 8-Noon to buy, sell and trade all those great boating items. Space is free!

**\*Our barn owl has started sitting in the Owl box on her eggs.** Stay tuned for pictures to come.

## Plimsoll Marks



If your boating takes you down to SF Bay or along the shipping channels in the Delta amid ships, tugs and barges; you will see a symbol like the one to the left. You are looking at the Plimsoll lines or load marks for that particular vessel. Hopefully these symbols will raise a lot of questions, like what is the purpose; what does it signify, who determines the location; do all vessels have the same markings; and finally, how did the symbol evolve and where?

Plimsoll lines are on both port and starboard of the vessel. They are used to indicate the minimum freeboard required for each vessel. Indirectly, freeboard also defines the maximum tonnage the vessel can accept. Freeboard is the vertical distance from the weather deck to the water level. The maintenance of freeboard is of vital importance as an efficient means of protection of all openings in the hull and superstructure, for protection of the crew in heavy weather, and for rapid draining of water coming aboard from waves and precipitation.

The Plimsoll mark illustrated is for tankers and cargo ships. There are other similar but different marks for sailing ships, passenger vessels, timber carrying vessels, vessels engaged in US coastwise voyages. There are also load line marks for vessels used exclusively in the Great Lakes.

Each of the lines associated with Plimsoll or load lines is for a specific sailing location of the subject vessel. Each line reflects the change in water density due to location or temperature. The density of fresh water is less than that of sea water and the density of warm water is less than that of cold water. A ship will float higher in dense water. The higher a ship floats, the greater the freeboard. Since fresh water is less dense than sea water, a loaded ship will float lower in fresh water, thus have less freeboard. The Plimsoll lines accommodate this change in water density.

Plimsoll lines are part of an international agreement and in the United States, are regulated by the US Coast Guard. The primary ship characteristic for determining minimum freeboard is overall length. Subsequently a large number of corrections are applied to the length to finally determine the placement of the Plimsoll lines.

The lettered lines in the figure reflect the density of water in which the vessel is floating. The lines on the left are for fresh water while the right set of lines is for sea water. "TF" is for tropical fresh water and "F" is fresh water. "T" is tropical sea water and "S" is summer sea water. "W" and "WNA" stand for Winter and Winter, North Atlantic respectively. The line that goes through the center of the disc is the "S" line.

The load line regulations required a vessel to be so loaded when departing, the appropriate seasonal mark will not be submerged. The regulations identify the seasonal and permissible voyage locations.

The one other feature indicated by the Plimsoll marks is the agency which determined the proper location of the marks. In the example shown in the start of this article, "AB" indicates the American Bureau of Shipping. Other nations will indicate the agency they use. "LR" is Lloyds Registry which is used by British vessels.

Samuel Plimsoll was a member of the House of Commons in the English Parliament in 1876. He was concerned about the loss of British seamen's lives and of British ships because of overloading. He persuaded the law makers to add markings on the ships to indicate safe loadings. His efforts immortalized himself in the nautical world.

The next time you see a ship or tug look for the Plimsoll mark.

P.S. Two things I have never seen on submarines: Plimsoll marks or screen doors. --Sid2

Thank you Sid for this great information. Sid and his wife Mary are avid boaters and can share a lot of great information and stories. Look for more news and noteworthy things from Sid and Mary in future newsletters.



# Spring Has Sprung for Pets at Owl Harbor

