

Bay Area's Largest Recycler Celebrates 30 Years at the Port

See Inside

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #688
Redwood City, CA



Currents

The Port of Redwood City

www.redwoodcityport.com

Spring 2006

Schooner Alma Scheduled for Public Visits May 13-14

Part of San Mateo County Sesquicentennial & National Maritime Day Celebration

To celebrate San Mateo County's 150 year Sesquicentennial and National Maritime Day, the historic scow schooner, *Alma*, will visit the Port of Redwood City for public dockside tours on May 13-14 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. In conjunction with the San Mateo County History Museum and the Woodside Store museum, a variety of activities will take place both at the Port and at the History Museum in Redwood City on Saturday, May 13:

- The Starboard Watch Sea Shanty singers
- Historic railcar tours
- Marine Science Institute Mobile Unit
- Try your hand at tying nautical knots
- Historic woodworking shingle demo
- Historic Port photo display
- Ride free shuttle to the History Museum Day festivities
- Charles Parsons Collection of 23 authentic model ships
- Maritime Film Fest
- Kid's crafts & activities at the Museum
- Enjoy lunch at Arrivederci Restaurant!

Sponsors include the Port of Redwood City, Cemex, Bay Chemical Solutions, Seaport Industrial Association, and Cargill Salt.

The 1891 scow schooner *Alma*, a historic vessel moored as part of the collection of the National Maritime Museum, San Francisco, is an excellent example of a once-common, vernacular work-a-day craft found on the major waterways of the United States from Colonial times through the 20th century. *Alma* was average in size, but she was unusual in that, unlike many of the scow schooners then built on the bay, she had a cross-planked bottom. This construction, requiring heavier scantlings, may have contributed to her longevity.

Other Sesquicentennial Activities Include Special Display During 4th of July Parade

- Redwood City 4th of July parade to showcase the sesquicentennial Museum on Wheels, re-enactment of the first raising of the American flag in San Mateo County at Woodside Store.
- July 29: Redwood City Court House Square unveiled; the restoration of the Old Courthouse celebrated; three new exhibit galleries open.
- Aug. 11-20: San Mateo County Fair will showcase the Sesquicentennial.
- An historic steam locomotive will visit various cities in the County on Aug. 12, with each city having celebrations and presentations.
- Oct. 1: San Mateo County Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow celebration at the History Museum, with booths and activities on the plaza. Unveiling of the Wells Fargo Learning Center within the museum. Re-enactments, fashion show, and special demonstrations.
- Nov. 4: A tribute to all the immigrant groups who have come to the County will take place at the museum, featuring the preparation of ethnic foods, music, and dancing.
- Nov. 18: Chautauqua focused on the great entrepreneurs of San Mateo County at the museum. Corporate exhibits will be showcased.

For information on more events and updates, visit

www.smc150.org



The tallship *Alma* will be available for public tours May 13-14 at the Port of Redwood City.

National Maritime Day Recognizes How Ports Benefit Our Local Economies

Monday, May 22, is officially National Maritime Day. It is the day the nation—and particularly those in the U.S. maritime industry who are responsible for handling America's imports, exports, domestic shipments and its millions of annual cruise passengers—pay special tribute to the benefits that the maritime industry provides this country.

According to the Seaport Industrial Association (SIA, www.seaportindustrial.com), the businesses at the Port of Redwood City and surrounding industrial area combine to:

- Provide more than 600 local, family-wage jobs.
- Pay more than \$1 million annually to Redwood City's budget.
- Combine to provide materials and recycling for Peninsula homes, yards, and businesses.

Nearly every American depends on the maritime industry for the products they use everyday, whether the goods are imported or produced domestically. Many others depend on the maritime industry for their livelihoods. According to Pennsylvania-based consultant Martin Associates, the annual economic impacts of U.S. waterborne cargo movements provide:

- 1.1 million direct, induced and indirect jobs.
- 3.8 million waterborne export-generated jobs.
- \$44 billion in personal income.
- \$56 billion in transportation service revenue.
- \$16.1 billion in federal, state and local taxes

The Port of Redwood City, which celebrates its 70th anniversary in 2007, receives no tax subsidies and in fact provides funds each year to the Redwood City general fund.

SIMS HUGO NEU CORP.

Bay Area Recycling King Celebrates 30 Years at the Port

Despite their complex construction, cars are one of today's most recycled commodities. The reason why is that the steel and iron components, which make up nearly 65 percent of the average vehicle, are too valuable.

The very roots of the automobile recycling industry lie in the steel industry's need for ferrous scrap. Once all the fluids have been drained and all the reusable parts have been removed from an automobile, ferrous scrap processors shred the car and sell the ferrous material to a steel mill.

One of the world's leaders in recycling is Sims Hugo Neu Corp., which just completed its 30th anniversary at the Port of Redwood City, where it has recycled more than 200,000 vehicles per year along with other sources of scrap. Sims then uses Port facilities to export the shredded scrap metal to the Far East and South Asia. San Francisco Business Times ranks Sims as one of the top recyclers in the Bay Area.

Sims Hugo Neu has leased approximately 13 acres adjacent to Wharf 3 since 1975. The Port Commission recently approved Sims' option to continue operations through September, 2015. Sims's option to extend the term of the lease was conditioned on their completion of a modernization program, which they have done and which was verified by the Port, reports Executive Director Michael J. Giari.

Under the terms of the new lease, the rent is adjusted to fair market rental value. In addition to rental payments, the Port receives fees for wharfage, facility usage, and dockage. The wharfage and facility usage fees are on a sliding scale based on tonnage shipped by Sims. The more tonnage shipped the lower the fee per ton.

Last year Sims shipped a record tonnage by ship through the Port of approximately 400,000 metric tons. World wide demand for ferrous scrap metal to be used by the steel making industry is projected to remain strong.

The Basics of Recycling Vehicles

Old vehicles are hauled to Sims Hugo Neu at the Port, where reusable parts are removed. After removing the reusable parts and



other items like batteries, tires and fluids, the hulks enter the shredder.

■ The shredding process, which handles one car every 45 seconds, generates three streams: iron and steel; nonferrous metal; and fluff (fabric, rubber, glass, etc.). The iron and steel are magnetically separated from the other materials and recycled.

■ The iron and steel is then shipped to end markets in the Far East where it is recycled to produce new steel.

New, Expanded Cruises from Port Feature Guest Chefs

The popular Yorktown Clipper Essence of Northern California cruise that starts from the Port of Redwood City is expanding to eight days and seven nights and will feature seven cruises in 2006, each with a guest celebrity chef. The schedule calls for leaving the Port of Redwood City April 21, 28, May 5, Oct. 16, 23, 30, and Nov. 6.

Guests can experience an exceptional glimpse into the history, culture, vineyards, and awe-inspiring scenic beauty of Northern California during a truly unique small-ship cruise through the famed Bay Area. Each day of this voyage is orchestrated to showcase the true essence of the region — the laid-back ambience of Sausalito, the historic appeal of Sacramento, the renowned wineries and vineyards of Napa and Sonoma valleys, and the myriad attractions of San Francisco. The experience is enhanced with gourmet cuisine, fine vintages, and a host of master guest chefs, wine connoisseurs, and other experts who share their talent and



The Yorktown Clipper, shown above, returns for its 14th year at the Port of Redwood City this spring, with a longer and newly-named itinerary. The map to the left shows the voyage and land visits.

expertise.

Guest chefs will include: Dede Wilson, a contributing editor to Bon Appétit; Joanne Weir, hostess of two PBS cooking programs; Loretta Keller, chef at San Francisco's Bizou Restaurant; Martin Yan, host of one of the world's most-watched cooking programs; Gerald Hirigoyen, chef and owner at Piperade in San Francisco; and, Traci des Jardin, owner/chef of Jardinière in San Francisco.

Measuring 257 feet long, 43 feet wide, and with a draft of just eight feet, the Yorktown Clipper was specifically designed for cruising in coastal waters. The ship's easy maneuverability and shallow draft enable exploration of secluded waterways beyond the reach of bigger ships.

For more information and prices, visit www.clippercruise.com or call 1-800-282-7245.



Maintenance Dredging Project Completed, Helping Bay Area Economy

The Port of Redwood City's vitally needed maintenance dredging has been completed, thus enabling maritime commerce to move by ship more efficiently and economically, Port Chairman Larry Aikins reported.

The Port had been in a critical situation for several years because the inadequate channel depth forced ships to load less than full shipments of cargo to and from the Port. This has been costly and inefficient for shippers using the Port. Port customers import cement from the Far East, gypsum from Mexico, and building materials from Australia and Canada, all used by the construction industry in Northern California. Another Port business, Sims Hugo Neu, exports scrap metal to the Far East.

The Redwood City channel is a federally-approved navigation project maintained at 30 feet (MLLW). Recent conditions have rendered the channel to depths of only 26.5 feet, which severely restricts the ability of ships calling on the port to bring full loads. The \$1.8 million project dredged the port channel to its federally-permitted depth of 30 feet.

Historically, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers performs the port channel maintenance dredging every three years. But it has become increasingly difficult for ports around the nation to secure timely funding. This has particularly threatened the San Francisco Bay region that depends on the construction materials shipped and barged to the region through the Port of Redwood City. The huge



demand for such materials has enabled the port to reach record business in four of the past five years.

In fact, for the first six months of Fiscal Year 2005-2006, that ended December 30, saw the port record its second highest tonnage for a six month period in the modern era. Tonnage for the period was just under one million metric tons.

Photo above is an overview of the Port of Redwood City and the channel as it reaches the wharves. Much of the maintenance dredging occurred in the channel as it stretches in San Francisco Bay, not seen in the photo. To the left is a typical dredging operation. The dredged material is taken to a designated deep water site near Alcatraz.

Update On Proposed Bair Island Restoration Plan

The Port staff recently participated in meetings with the Army Corp of Engineers, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Congresswoman Anna Eshoo's office, and various federal agencies to coordinate activities that would use Port dredged materials as the major source of fill for proposed Bair Island Marsh Restoration Plan. The Port Commission is supporting Congresswoman Eshoo's efforts to secure funding for the restoration in the 2007 federal budget.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the California Department of Fish and Game are proposing to restore tidal action to 1,400 acres of former salt ponds on Bair Island, Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge and the Bair Island

The Port Commission is supporting Congresswoman

Anna Eshoo's efforts to secure funding for the restoration in the 2007



State Ecological Reserve in South San Francisco Bay. The Port of Redwood City could play a major role in the restoration because the EIR and preferred plan by the agencies calls for using dredge materials from the regular Port of Redwood

City channel maintenance. The Corps & U.S. Fish & Wildlife signed a memo of understanding recognizing their common interest in restoring Bair Island with dredged material from future port maintenance projects.

A final EIS on the project is due in May.

The goal of the proposed Bair Island Restoration and Management Plan is to restore Bair Island to a tidal salt marsh to provide habitat for endangered species and other native wildlife as well as



to enhance the public's appreciation and awareness of the unique resources at Bair Island. Once restored, the site will assist with the preservation and recovery of both the California clapper rail and the salt marsh harvest mouse.

The City of Redwood City has introduced some key points it would like to see in the eventual plan, which the Port Commission endorses:

- Dredge spoils from the Port of Redwood City and possibly the lagoons at Redwood Shores are an integral part of any restoration plan. The Port must be adequately dredged to reduce costs at the Port and address the load limits of ships calling upon the Port.
- Bair Island be served by two parking lots; one as show on the FWS plan on Redwood Creek, and another at a location near the San Carlos Airport.
- Close the Whipple entrance to the refuge.
- Access to the refuge be strictly limited to pedestrian access bridges at Redwood Creek and San Carlos Airport.
- Pedestrian flow within the refuge be limited to walkers, joggers, and walked bicycles.
- Allow pets on a lease within the refuge on an experimental basis.

For the full City recommendations, visit www.redwoodcity.org

News & Happening Around the Port of Redwood City

Port , City Firefighters Participates in Statewide 'Terrorism' Attack Drill

Port of Redwood City staff and Redwood City firefighters were among 2,500 local, state and federal disaster personnel from 160 agencies participating in a recent \$1.7 million statewide terrorism preparedness exercise called Golden Guardian 2005.

The victims in the massive terrorism drill were jovial as they smiled through their artificial gore and faked agonizing deaths through their gallows humor. They would have been less cheery, of course, had the attacks on Jack London Square and the Port of Oakland, simulated in this year's Golden Guardian exercise, been real. It all started with three loud explosions and a smoke machine in Parking Lot A of the McAfee Coliseum in Oakland.

Fictionally, that signaled a bombing using VX nerve agent at a Jack London Square farmers market. Simultaneously, according to the script developed over nine months of planning, a sulfur dioxide rail car exploded in Roseville, near Sacramento.

The Port of Redwood City, without notice, was notified during the drill to prepare the Port's wharf 5 for hospital patients being evacuated from Oakland.

Together, the two Oakland bombings were the first of 10 coordinated terrorist attacks in Northern California — a full-scale drill that was intended to stretch emergency agencies beyond their limits.

The Golden Guardian Exercise Series was first introduced in California in 2004, and has become an annual exercise conducted to coordinate response mechanisms of city, county and state governmental entities, private sector and volunteer organizations in response to potential man-made events and natural disasters. The goal of the Golden Guardian Exercise Series is to build upon the lessons learned from this and subsequent exercises conducted throughout the nation, as well as real-world events.

This event qualified the Port for certification of its annual training exercise and provided valuable information on areas that could be improved upon, Executive Director Michael J. Giari said. He recognized Port Operations Manager Don Snaman and Port consultant Aanko Technologies for the good job they performed participating in the Golden Guardian exercise.

Photos from the Golden Guardian Exercise include a startled victim running for help, a poster symbolizing emergency crews working together, an ambulance, and a contaminated firefighter being sprayed down by a colleague.



Port Gets \$1 Million from Department of Boating and Waterways to Improve Launching Facility

The California Department of Boating and Waterways has issued a \$1,080,400 grant to the Port of Redwood City for improvements to its public boat launching facility, Port Commission Chairman Larry Aikins has announced.

The improvements are part of the Port's plans for improving recreational boating opportunities for the community, Aikins said.

"In addition to the thousands of recreational sailors and fishermen who annually use the facility, the launch ramp area is used by community groups who teach sailing and rowing to young people," Aikins said.

The project funded by the grant entails:

- Removal of the existing concrete ramp and construction of a new two-lane launching ramp.

- Installation of a 150-foot long boarding float on the south side of the ramp.
- Demolition of an existing asphalt turnaround and construction of a new 30-foot wide concrete turnaround at the head of the ramp and additional maneuvering area.
- The addition of walkways and curbs.
- Renovation of the existing two-unit restroom for barrier-free access.
- Lighting for the boat ramp.
- Installation of a pay station, information kiosk, and signage.

The Port facility, originally constructed in 1985, is the only public boat launching ramp in southern San Mateo County, and attracts thousands of boaters annually.

Aikins said the Port is also planning to improve the facilities for dry boat storage which are adjacent to the boat launching facility. Final plans and specifications call for the construction of 130 spaces for boats on trailers with new fencing, lighting and gate system. This project will be financed by the Port.

Get Port Agenda, Minutes From Our Website

The Port Commission meets the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 8 a.m. at the Port offices, 675 Seaport Blvd.

Agendas and minutes of meetings can be retrieved from the Port's website at www.redwoodcityport.com

Port of Redwood City
San Francisco Bay



Port Commissioners

Larry Aikins, Chairman
Jack Castle, Vice Chairman
Lewis Miller, Secretary

Telephone: (650) 306-4150 Fax: (650) 369-7636
675 Seaport Boulevard Redwood City, CA 94063-2794
webpage:[www:redwoodcityport.com](http://www.redwoodcityport.com)

Richard "Dick" Dodge, Commissioner
Ralph Garcia, Commissioner
Michael J. Giari, Executive Director

Award-winning Currents : a regular publication of the Port of Redwood City, a self-supporting municipal corporation, providing port, commercial, and recreational facilities to the community. **The Port receives no tax revenues.** —

Editor: Duane Sandul