

Ship-to-Shore

The South Sound Sailing Society's Newsletter

Volume 50 Issue 4

December 2020

www.ssssclub.com



Commodore's Corner: The Future of Racing

We have a great organization, but I still wonder how we can be better. So, I may be dedicating succeeding Commodore reports to focus on various aspects of the Club and how they may be improved. I'm going to throw out some thoughts, and see if we can start a conversation with the members.

This month I want to discuss where we might be going with racing, which is one of the major activities of the Club. Logistically, we have over 200 individual Memberships in the Club, and over 700 people that use our Facebook page, so how many sailboats and potential racers are in our area? That would be hard to calculate. On a typical race day, we get between 15 to 28 boats on the water, in four classes. And then, the Toliva Shoal Race, sponsored by SSSS and OYC, can draw up to 60 boats, mainly dependent on weather conditions. I would like to see the number of sailboats that race to double over then next few years. Wouldn't that be magnificent to see on the water?

As a Club, we offer a variety of racing venues: Winter Series, for the hard-core sailors, the Summer Series great fun on Wednesday nights, the Hope Island Dash, race whenever you get the feeling, single and double-handed races, one-design Star races, and Dinghy racing.

The Club provides many different awards for racing. I used to be amused at getting a 3rd place award in a race or series, but then I

thought about people that get a bronze (3rd Place) medal in the Olympics, so not so bad. I also wonder what it will take to get those people that purchased sailboats to come out racing. To them, I say: Well, you bought a sailboat, now go out and use it, racing, cruising, or day sailing.

It is advisable to get some experience by crewing on other boats before you enter a race, but matching crew and boats seems to be more difficult than it should be. We need to fix that issue too. Some competitive racers may cringe at this, but I would advise people that know sailing basics to try racing in the D-Fleet, non-flying sails, and just try to stay out of the way of other boats for the first couple races.

As for needing crew, I wish we could have some app like one of the dating apps. Generally, the skipper and crew need to match up a little, or at least like each other because some days are long and wet. Under normal circumstances, each boat probably should have five to seven people on board, at a minimum. So, there seems like we have a lot of opportunities to crew on one of the sailboats. After you have exhausted your list of your last two friends that you still have, skippers need to reach out and try a few new people. And, if you volunteer to crew, remember that the skipper is looking for reliable and hard-working people that are willing to learn. Finding like-minded people to race with you is a challenge, but sometimes it just happens. Recently, I have seen a couple all-women crew on sailboats, and they seem to enjoy themselves a lot, and are good sailors.

When I started writing this, I really wanted to talk about what is going on in the international scene, especially with the America's Cup, if we are talking about the future of racing. The next America's Cup will be going back to monohulls (I like that because I could never relate to catamarans). But they are still using foils. Their organization touts the fact that they are pushing the limits of sailing and developing new methods, as long as you have millions to spend on a sailboat. The videos of the testing trails look amazing. My point here is that many of us have 30



Decorated wine bottles from years past

Happy Holidays

Board Meeting
December 1

Registrations Due
Vashon Island Race
December 1

Lighted Boats, OYC
December 2
Parade only, No socials

Vashon Race TYC
December 5
Start of the Southern Sound Series

Lighted Boats, OYC
December 5
Parade only, No socials

General Meeting Zoom
Decorated Bottle Auction
December 8

Visitors Welcome
Doors open at 1850, Meeting starts 1900

Hope Island Race
December 12

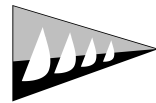
Board Meeting
January 5

Duwamish Head
TTPYC
January 9
Second Southern Sound Series race

General Meeting Zoom
January 12
Visitors Welcome

Doors open at 1850, Meeting starts 1900

Give Them Space : New VC : PHRF Dues Due : Holiday Trees & Wreaths



years old boats, and even new boats haven't changed dramatically over that time. Can we expect some design shift in the future? Probably not.

Finally, a word of caution. The **Governor's new plan** concerning boating during the plague **has a limit of 5 people on a boat**. Boating is still one of the safest outdoor activities that we do, but use your common sense. Stay healthy, and go sailing safely on the southern end of the Salish Sea.

Next month The Future of Cruising.

Richard Wells, PenOziequah

Cruise News

Halloween Cruise

After getting a late start out of Swantown on Friday I found the wind and waves a little too sporty for me to sail (I hope I'm not paying for SailFlow). Fortunately I had just cleaned my bottom and was able to motor in record time to Longbranch Marina for the 2020 Halloween Cruise. This was the first Club Cruise in a while and, despite the bumpy ride out, it felt good to be back out there on the water. As I pulled into Longbranch, Rich and Michelle Wells and Joe and Myra Downing were already there to catch my lines. Unfortunately Joe and Myra had a previous engagement and had to head out almost immediately.

By the afternoon of the following day a few more Members showed up: Alan Hoffman on *Kind of Blue*) Jim Findley on *Nightwind*, Peter and Bridgette Wilcox on *Natura*), and potential future members Chuck and Day on *Magnolia*. It was refreshing to see Members after all this time, and gave me a real appreciation for the social aspect of our Club. Zoom Meetings are a sad substitution for actually meeting up.

Around 14:00 the band *BACKLASH* arrived and began setting up under the pavilion. By 17:00 they were ready to go, complete with lighted stage and costumes. Not to be out done, Rich and Michelle transformed into ninjas, Bridgette dressed in her best oriental garb, and Jim Findley worn a curly-fry mask (not sure that was intentional though). The band was awesome and played enthusiastically for over four hours. They said they had a great time and I hope we can get them back next year.

BEST COSTUME: Bridgette Wilcox

BEST DECORATED BOAT: *s/v PenOziequah*

BEST PUMPKIN: Jim Findley

Touch wood that by October next year we can fill the marina and show Longbranch how to put on a proper Halloween Cruise Mark it on your calendar!

Rich Adams, Mutable Fire

Southern Sound Series Report

The First Race of the 2020-21 Southern Sound Series is a Go with a COVID inspired variation!

The first Southern Sound Series race, The Winter Vashon will be held on December 5th. For this race, and future Series races if participation warrants, there will be single/double handed class or classes. So, you can think about going it alone or with one other. The intent is to encourage participation while still addressing concerns about COVID exposure. This may also help get some smaller boats out for the race as well.

This race starts just off the Tacoma Yacht Club, proceeds up Colvos passage, around a mark boat at the north end of Vashon Island, and back down the east side of Vashon to the finish at the yacht club, about 30.7 nm.

For those heading up from Olympia for the race, spaces will be available Friday and Saturday nights at the TYC guest docks or if you want over at Gig Harbor.

Due to guidelines related to COVID-19, there will not be a Friday or Saturday night meal/party/get together at TYC. However, dinner can still be had, with reservations at the TYC dining room.

For those of you new to this race series, these races are the biggest draw in the southern sound with boats ranging from Cal 20s to TP 52s and larger. Those of us, myself included, with slower boats get the earliest starts and get to watch as the faster boats play catch-up. If it is, as normal, a southerly

wind, watching the rainbow of spinnakers behind you is quite a sight!

Beyond the normal PHRF fleets, there are also a Commodore's Flying Sails fleet, a Non-Flying Sails fleet, and this year, most likely, single/double handed fleet or fleets. Looking back on ten years of these races I can honestly say that they have been some of the most interesting and at times exciting races I've done. Just being a part of a big race fleet is something special.

If you are new to racing and do not have a PHRF rating please contact Rafe Beswick at rafebeswick@hotmail.com, for a PHRF rating, or if sailing in the Commodore flying

sails or Cruising non-flying sails fleets contact Richard Bigley at bendigo@comcast.net for a Series rating.

Keep an eye out for the posting of the 2020-21 Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions on the Southern Sound Series web site at <http://www.ssseries.org>. Registration for the races this year will again be through Regatta Network which should be linked off the Series web site.

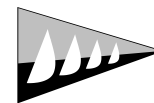
Next up and kicking off the New Year will be the Duwamish Head Race, January 9th, sponsored by the Three Tree Yacht Club, off the Des Moines marina. Watch for any up-dates in the Ship to Shore, or the series web site at ssseries.org. Hope the COVID situation start to improve and we'll see you on the water!

Jeff Johnson, Folie `a Deux



the band above, Jim Findley below photos by Rich Adams





RC Report

Happy Holidays! We are wrapping up the Island Series and starting our Inlet Series. SSSS winter sailing is nearly half over as we start the Inlet Series. I'm happy with the good attendance of sailors, including the usual suspects and many new faces. The Eagle and Herron Island races provided a variety of challenging conditions from reefed mains to drifting, windy with sun and calm with rain showers. On Herron Island, one Class 2 boat even got back to the start/finish, completing their 18.6 mile course in just under 8 hours. An excellent light air effort by *Aurora!*

It seems most racers are enjoying the casual format, even with the personal responsibility of self reporting finish times. I adjusted the cut off time allowing extra time to e-mail each boats report. Always check the casual temporary sailing instructions for each race at Racing>PHRF>Sailing Instructions.

On the planning horizon, we are planning for the annual racing seminar with Andrew Kerr. As I write, the date is not yet set, but will likely be later in the year than years past. Stay tuned.

Eric Egge, Fjord



Herron Island Race
Photos by LeeAmme Egge



Nurse Logs and Sailing Education

I was at a friend's house the other day and noticed a magazine on her coffee table. While she was getting ready to join me for an outing I picked it up and started paging through it. A few pages in there was an article in it called *Mother Tree* by Heidi Walker, self described as a Hike and Photography Leader. In it she mentioned how at one time her mother had explained to her how fallen trees in the forest become nurse logs for new trees by becoming the soil they grow in.

She wrote, "Growing from the higher vantage of a nurse log helps the trees and bushes thrive, as a mother encourages growth towards success for her children."

It was a short article and only required a few minutes to read, but I was struck by the concept, though I had been familiar with it since my childhood hikes in the woods of Indiana. The older fallen trees, helping to nurture younger more supple ones as they stretch toward the sun to grow and thrive.

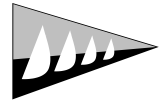
Now I don't equate myself or others as fallen, old or moldy, no evidence of bugs crawling in and out, nor pieces of old rotting wood walking the docks here, and lets pray that our boats don't resemble this either. But I do equate our sailing education programs as *nurturing* and encouraging. younger boaters/sailors who will form and grow and eventually stand on their own.

Considering that we start our summer sailors at 8 years old, we really do provide some long term nurse logging for them. They can grow through almost 10 years of sailing, learning to race on four different teams, and 3 or 4 different boats. And when they qualify, traveling to regattas around the country introduces them to other places, other cultures. faces and traditions different than their own. They are also learning about weather, sea life, having adventures and forming friendships, learning how to be a teammate and maybe even a leader in the role of skipper and helmsman. Some of these young athletes are already boat owners and OYC members and even South Sound Sailing Society Members participating in races on a regular basis. Our program has grown in less than 7 years from about 5-6 sailors to over 80 sailors participating on race teams and practicing on a regular basis. Our summer program has grown from about 120 summer participants to over 400, excluding this past covid summer which still had over 200 sailors. Our sailors from 7 years ago are now coaching and teaching for us and other programs. So not only are we nurse logging our sailors here and now, but those sailors may also follow that cycle and provide the seeds for others as well. Our High School teams are so enthusiastic,

they will be practicing throughout the winter months on half day school days, holidays and weekends. They are reaching for the sunshine in the winter months, just as young trees do, quenching their thirst for sailing experience through the harshest of months.

All this cannot be done without the help of OYC and South Sound Sailing Society members, parents of the race teams and especially a new entity, Supporters of Olympia Community Sailing, SOCS. SOCS is a non-profit formed by past and present parents and friends of our race team members. The money they raise and donate to our program is used for boats,repairs, equipment and scholarships. They are providing you an opportunity as OYC members and friends of the Sailing Education Program with a venue to raise funds during the holidays by selling Christmas Trees, wreaths and Holiday garlands at a tree lot owned by one of the SOCS members. Essentially being a Nurse Log. Your purchases will be supporting a new crop of sailors who will much appreciate your steadfast support.

Put this on your calendar! **Please support our program by purchasing your holiday tree, wreaths or garlands from the SOCS folks.** It is tax deductible. The dates of the sale are November 28th and December 5th 10:00 - 16:00. The address is 6300 Sunrise Beach Rd. and is on the corner of Steamboat Island



and Sunrise Beach Rd. Just head out Steamboat Island Road; it's on the right, you can't miss it!!!!

Please support our Program. Buy a tree or wreath, keeping the nurse log in mind. Purchasing them will help keep our young sailors inspired, excited and reaching out towards a long bright future. Thanks All.

Mary Fitzgerald



Take the Pledge to "Give 'em Space" A New Approach to Help Orcas Survive

Unless you've been hiding in your bilge for the past 20 years, you're surely aware of the fight of our Southern Resident Orcas to survive extinction. After reaching

a peak population of 98 individuals in 1995, their numbers have since declined to 72. September 2020 offered a glimmer of hope, however, with two calves born and one female still pregnant at the end of the month.

There is a very real possibility that Orcas may be "loved to extinction" by commercial whale-watching companies and the unwitting attention, or inattention, of recreational boaters. *As recreational boaters, we have a unique responsibility to help them survive.*

Orcas need space to forage and rear their young. Coming too close risks separating calves from their mothers, disrupting feeding activity, and injuring individual whales. And noise pollution from vessels, motors, depth sounders, can prevent Southern Resident Orcas from using echolocation to catch prey.

A new program launched in October encourages recreational boaters to take the pledge and help protect resident Orca populations. Please check out the link below and if you choose, add your name to the list of individuals and recreational boaters who have signed-up to help the Orca survive:

<https://www.givethespace.org/>

Basically, your agreement is to stop watching southern residents and "Give Them Space" to rear their young. The new recommendation, and your voluntary commitment, is to *stay at least 1,000 yards, about 1/2 nautical mile, from Orca pods.* The current federal and state distancing regulations of 200 and 300 yards, respectively, are simply not enough to avoid disturbing Orca behavior through vessel noise.

Another web site, <https://www.bewhalewise.org/> provides guidelines for vessel operators when Orca are present with links to federal, state, and Canadian regulations regarding Orcas and other marine wildlife. It also provides a method to report violations on-line.

Best practices when encountering Orca are:

Maintain a distance of 1,000 yards from Orca pods

Slow down to 7 knots or less when within 1,000 yards of Orca pods

Turn off fish-finders and depth sounders

If animals approach within 300 yards, place engine in neutral (if it is safe to do so) and allow animals to pass

Observe voluntary (US) and mandatory (Canada) "No-Go" zones

Stay on the OFFSHORE side of whales when traveling close to shore

Fly the Whale Warning Flag, right, in the presence of large marine mammals to alert other boaters to be "whale wise"



The Whale Warning Flag is available from Fisheries Supply or Pettit Marine in Olympia.

Regulations regarding licensing commercial whale-watching in Washington State are currently under review; information and public comment opportunities are at www.givethespace.org/wdfw-licensing and wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/at-risk/species-recovery/orca/rule-making#public-engagement.

And while we were busy examining our collective navels while stuck in the San Juans this year, Canada released new 2020 Orca protections. Hopefully, we'll be free to observe them next summer!

John Sherman, *Grendel*

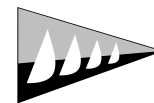
Eagle Island Race October 24

Island Series Race 1

Points	Sail No.	Yacht Name	Yacht Type	Rating	Finish Time	Corrected Time
Div. Pink Start Time/Date: 09:30: Distance: 13.2 nm						
0.75	29718	AURORA	RANC 33-1	177	12:22:57	11:44:01
2.00	9906	L'ESPRIT	KET 41	171	12:23:03	11:45:26
3.00	1102	FJORD	THUN	195	12:32:35	11:49:41
4.00	33333	GRACEFUL MAE	TAR 3500	135	12:24:13	11:54:31
5.00	50105	JOLLY RUMBALOW	C&C 34	135	12:33:40	12:03:58
6.00	63337	DASH	BEN 345	153	12:39:43	12:06:03
7.00	39110	KOOSAH	PEAR 36-1	177	12:50:00	12:11:04
8.00	2222	PENOZIEQUAH	NEWP 31	231	13:11:19	12:20:30
9.00	51496	PANDORA	CAL 36	188	13:02:00	12:20:38
10.00	5421	EMMA LEE	CATA 30	207	13:19:15	12:33:43
Div. Green Start Time: 10:00 Distance: 23.4 nm						
0.75	69399	FLYING CIRCUS	EXPR 37	72	13:55:59	13:27:54
2.00	50921	REDLINE	ANT 27	90	14:15:57	13:40:51
3.00	35	ANGEL EYES	J99	78	14:16:30	13:46:05
4.00	79089	LIGHTLY SALTED	BENE 10R	90	14:26:17	13:51:11
5.00	18324	ROCK PAPER SCI	EXPR 37	72	14:19:33	13:51:28
6.00	10115	ZIG ZAG	TART 101	75	14:21:54	13:52:39
7.00	87652	ALTAIR	J 35	72	14:21:51	13:53:46
8.00	69804	REIFF	J35C	123	14:47:00	13:59:02
9.00	64996	WILLIE TIPIT?	C&C SR33	78	14:31:08	14:00:43
10.00	69051	SPIRIT	BENE 36.7	81	14:38:25	14:06:50

Race to the mark

Div. Pink Start Time: 09:40:00 Distance: 6.6 nm						
0.75	29718	AURORA	RANC 33-1	177	11:26:30	11:07:02
2.00	9906	L'ESPRIT	KET 41	171	11:28:40	11:09:51
3.00	1102	FJORD	THUN	195	11:33:20	11:11:53
4.00	33333	GRACEFUL MAE	TAR 3500	135	11:28:40	11:13:49
5.00	50105	JOLLY RUMBALOW	C&C 34	135	11:36:00	11:21:09
6.00	39110	KOOSAH	PEAR 36-1	177	11:43:00	11:23:32
7.00	51496	PANDORA	CAL 36	188	11:51:00	11:30:19
8.00	2222	PENOZIEQUAH	NEWP 31	231	11:57:29	11:32:04
9.00	5421	EMMA LEE	CATA 30	207	12:09:40	11:46:54
10.00	69927	BALDER II	ERIC 38	144	DNF	
Div. Green Start Time: 10:00:00 Distance: 11.7 nm						
0.75	69399	FLYING CIRCUS	EXPR 37	72	12:23:40	12:09:38
2.00	79089	LIGHTLY SALTED	BENE 10R	90	12:33:00	12:15:27
3.00	50921	REDLINE	ANT 27	90	12:40:00	12:22:27
4.00	69804	REIFF	J35C	123	12:48:00	12:24:01
5.00	64996	WILLIE TIPIT?	C&C SR33	78	12:40:38	12:25:25
6.00	69051	SPIRIT	BENE 36.7	81	12:46:50	12:31:02



New VC

Bill Hutchinson resigned as Vice Commodore as he moved to Oregon. Alan Hoffman was elected Vice Commodore at the October board meeting, as per our by laws. Thank you Alan.

Herron Island Race November 7

Points	Sail No.	Yacht Name	Yacht Type	Rating	Finish Time	Correctd Time
Div. Pink Start Time: 09:30 Distance: 18.6 nm						
0.75	29718	AURORA	RANC 33-1	177	17:27:57	16:33:05

Race to the mark

Div. Green Start Time: 10:00 Distance: 10 nm						
0.75	79089	LIGHTLY SALTED	BENE 10R	90	15:19:29	15:04:29
2.00	50921	REDLINE	ANT 27	90	15:19:45	15:04:45
3.00	35	ANGEL EYES	J99	78	16:15:22	16:02:22
4.00	64996	WILLIE TIPIT?	C&C SR33	78	16:21:21	16:08:21
5.00	10115	ZIG ZAG	TART 101	75	DNF	
5.00	69051	SPIRIT	BENE 36.7	81	DNF	
5.00	69399	FLYING CIRCUS	EXPR 37	72	DNF	

Div. Pink Start Time: 09:30 Distance: 9.3 nm						
0.75	29718	AURORA	RANC 33-1	177	12:24:45	11:57:19
2.00	50105	JOLLY RUMBALOW	C&C 34	135	12:25:04	12:04:09
3.00	33333	GRACEFUL MAE	TAR 3500	135	12:29:00	12:08:05
4.00	39110	KOOSAH	PEAR 36-1	177	12:36:00	12:08:34
5.00	69141	JODY V	C&C 29	207	12:41:17	12:09:12
6.00	79182	FOLIE A DEUX	BENE 35 S5	150	12:33:21	12:10:06
7.00	69927	BALDER II	ERIC 38	144	12:32:33	12:10:14
8.00	63337	DASH	BEN 345	153	12:41:10	12:17:27
9.00	5421	EMMA LEE	CATA 30	207	13:55:00	13:22:55
10.00	22	KIND OF BLUE	CAT 30	210	DNF	

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Jason Vannice- owner Aloftmarine@gmail.com
 Serving Olympia sailors since 2002 3605565200 text ok

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 2425 Otis Olympia WA 98501 (360) 352-9283 e-mail: sts@ssssclub.com
 Deadline for submissions is the second Tuesday of the month.

2020-21 SSSS Board Members

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Cruise Chair	Richard Adams	(360) 259-8498
Past Commodore	Casey Jones	(360) 878-3324

PHRF Handicapper Rafe Beswick (360) 250-5252
D Class Handicapper Richard Bigley

Ditty Bag

For sale

Yanmar 3GMD Parts: I repowered in June and pulled and replace mine. The block has a small crack but there are many perfectly good parts attached to it. I have a completely resurfaced head with new valves, as well as the rocker assembly and valve cover. I also have many spares because I was cruising in remote places: gaskets, copper gaskets, alternator belts, water pump belts, alternator, starters, etc. If you are interested in any or all e-mail me. I really want to get this out of my garage!
 Mary Campbell @ sailmaryc@gmail.com
 Great **sunbrella dingy cover**, that fits an 8'6" inflatable dingy. It is the right price free!! J Rosenbach
rosenbachplumbing@hotmail.com

Theses ads are free for Members, run three months, and can be renewed. Contact me by the Meeting to be listed.

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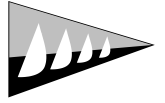
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Take Your Camera Sailing



above: Herron Island Race photo by LeeAnne Egge top right Eagle Island Race photo by Bob Butts Halloween Cruise photos by Rich Adams

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