

Ship-to-Shore

The South Sound Sailing Society's Newsletter

Volume 53 Issue 4

December 2023

www.ssssclub.com



December Meeting: Charity Auction and Potluck

Our annual fundraising potluck dinner and auction will be Tuesday December 12, at the Olympia Yacht Club. Please note the time change: Doors will open at 18:00, the potluck dinner starts at 18:30.

Please bring a main dish, salad, or desert for the potluck. It helps others if you place a label on your dish to warn of any allergens, such as dairy or nuts, if they are present. You may also want to label any gluten free dishes that you create. Please help us reduce waste and reduce plastic use by bringing your own place settings. Beverages will be provided.

The auction will once again benefit the Thurston County Food Bank. Last year we raised \$27,465 for their programs. The auction will feature goods and services donated by local businesses and individuals. Some of the donations featured this year include:

Four-hours of sailing instruction with ASA Sailing Instructors Bob Hake, Robert Butts, and Mike Clidas

Two-hours of boat detailing including chemical charge by Trina Laur.

Four-hours of sailing instruction or leisure sail aboard Puelche, a Jeanneau 45.2, with ASA Sailing Instructor Rod Macaya.

Four-hours of docking, anchoring, or sailing instruction on your own boat with instructor Mary Campbell.

Sailboat Bottom Cleaning, Hull Inspection and Zinc Replacement (if needed) by Alan Hoffman.

Sailboat Hull Cleaning by Villines Diving Service.

Four-hours of skilled work or instruction from Meredith Anderson.

Up to 4-hours of rig tuning including dockside and dynamic/under sail tuning (Olympia only) by Jason Vannice and Aloft Marine.

50% off a round-trip haul out at Swantown Boatworks (discount only for crane time, not environmental fees and storage). Includes blocking.

\$500 off on a full marine survey.

The list will grow as more donations are received.

In keeping with our traditions, we are asking Members to decorate a wine bottle to sell in the auction. Several Members have indicated that they will be providing decorated wine bottles.

[See photos inside] If you have additional boating-related high value items that you would like to donate for the auction, please contact Jim Larsen or Bob Butts..

Bob Butts, Emma Lee



Herron Island Race photo by Chris Reitz

Happy Holidays

Vashon Race, TYC
December 2

Race 1 Southern Sound Series

Lighted Ships, OYC
December 2

Board Meeting
December 5

Hope Island Race
December 9

General Meeting
December 12

Visitors Welcome

Doors open at 18:00 eating starts 18:30

Board Meeting
January 2

Duwamish Race, TTPYC
January 6

Race 2 Southern Sound Series

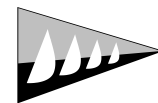
General Meeting
January 9

Visitors Welcome

Doors open at 18:30 meeting starts 19:00



New Due Dates SSSS Dues : Toliva Kitchen : Yaquina & Sequim Bays : PHRF Dues



Commodore's Corner:

There is only one item I want to share this month and that is a *change in Membership renewal dates*.

Historically, all Member renewals were due in September. A few years ago we adopted a policy that a Member's renewal date would be the day of the year upon which he or she first joined. After considering how we might improve timely renewal and simplify the process for both the Membership and the officers overseeing it, in its November meeting the Board adopted a policy establishing September first or May first as official renewal dates.

New Members will be assigned a renewal date base on when they join:

1. Those joining September through March will renew their Membership in September.
2. Those joining April through August will renew their Membership the following May.

Existing Members will be transitioned to either September or May as follows:

1. If your renewal date is *September through January* your 2023-24 dues are due now, if you have not already paid them. Your dues will next come due in September 2024. September will be your renewal date.
2. If you are due to renew in *February through March* 2024, you do not need to renew until September 2024. September will be your renewal date moving forward.
3. If your renewal date is *April through August* 2024 you will be asked to renew in May 2024. May will be your renewal date moving forward.

We realize this is not a perfect transition plan, but hope it will simplify things going forward. You will only need to remember whether you pay dues in the spring or in the fall. Thanks to Steve Worcester for doing most of the work on this, and to the board for their thoughtful input.

John Martens, Djinn

Cruise News Halloween Cruise

The annual Halloween Cruise was held at Longbranch Marina on October 27, 28, and 29. The event was attended by 21 people and 2 dogs, arriving in 9 boats and one car. The weather was crisp and clear. Those who arrived on Friday were treated to great sailing



Halloween Cruise photos by Jim Larsen

Racing On Island Time

As this newsletter reaches you, we will have just finished both the Squaxin and Vashon Island Races. Hopefully, it was a nice breeze. Herron Island in early November was wet, breezy and sunny. My crew had smiles on their faces as we had a good match race with *Dash* up to Dofflemeyer Lighthouse. Then the old water line formula movie kicked in as *Dash* crossed the line first.

Hope Island will be our last race in December before the Holidays. Bring out friends and family as this can be a quick race up and back. Let's see who finds the best direction around the Island and the best holiday lunch!

In January we will also have Experienced Racers speaking at our Meeting. Also our local expert,

Andrew Kerr, putting on an evening seminar January 17th. Next newsletter we will have more details on location. In the meantime, mark your calendar.

Speaking of movies, we will be Co sponsoring the *Wizard Of Zenda* in February, with Olympia Community Sailing, as a fund raiser for them. The life of Buddy Melges, a great

story of a sailor from Wisconsin who had an amazing racing career. He won at the highest level in almost all kinds of boats, from scows and dinghies to America's Cup boats, including iceboats, the Olympics, Star Championships, While running a successful boat building company.

Take a little time during December to create that Christmas wish list for the boat. Then I hope to see you in Des Moines for Duwamish Head Race sponsored by Three Tree Point YC.

Derek DeCouteau, Misty and Aurora

PHRF Dues

2024 PHRF Dues are due January 1. TTPYC will check for Duwamish Head. Pay on line.

Pay before January 1 and save \$5.

Jim Larsen, TYA

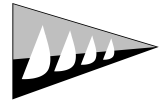


winds all day. The weather for the remainder of the weekend was cool and dry.

Richard and Sabra of *Jolly Rumbalow* organized the pumpkin carving contest, and Richard's creation was voted the first place winner by the attendees. The award for best decorated boat went to Wayne and Roxanne aboard *Neko*.

Our musical entertainment after dinner was provided by the duo of Cap'n Matt and Tugboat, Matthew Mueller, who entertained us with sea shanties and humor until the temperature dropped so low that we all decided to run for cover.

Several people pitched in with skillets and griddles to cook a big pancake breakfast on Sunday morning. Now the decorations are going back to the storeroom for another year. Mark your calendars for the 2024 event to be held October 25, 26, and 27.



Southern Sound Series Report

TYC's Winter Vashon Island Race, the first Race of the 203-24 Southern Sound Series, was sailed December 4th! This kick-off race is the first of the four Southern Sound Series Races.

The Duwamish Head Race is up next, kicking off the New Year on January 6th. The Race is sponsored by the Three Tree Point Yacht Club, with the start/finish off the Des Moines Marina. Like Winter Vashon this race requires a pre-race transit from Olympia to: TYC guest dock, Gig Harbor, or possibly on to Des Moines Marina.

The race itself starts just outside the Marina, heads north into Elliott Bay, around the Duwamish Head dolphin, across the Sound to Blakely Rocks and back to the finish line at Des Moines. There are approximate maps of the route at the ssseries.org web site. This Race often draws the biggest fleet of boats for the Series races and often has the best winds.

Register for the Duwamish Head race at: www.regattanetwork.com/clubmgmt/applet_registration_form.php?regatta_id=27210

If you are new to this Series, these races are the biggest draw in the southern sound with boats ranging from Cal 20s to TP 52s and larger. Beyond the normal PHRF fleets, there are also a PHRF and non-PHRF Commodore's flying sails fleets and non-flying sails Cruising fleets. Boats in all the PHRF fleets must have current PHRF membership. The non-PHRF Commodore's flying sails fleet and non-flying sails Cruising fleet race on a boat to boat basis with no handicap, while all the PHRF fleet utilize their respective handicaps.

These races are some of the most interesting and at times exciting races. Being a part of a big race fleet is something special. The slower boat

fleets get the earliest starts and get to watch as the faster boats play catch-up. If we have our normal southerly wind, the early starts get to watch as the faster boats rainbow of spinnakers work to catch you, quite a sight!

Any conditions are possible for this and any of the Series Races. Over the years we've had everything from very windy, read gale warnings, to drifters, sunny skies to steady gray clouds with rain, so cold spray was freezing on the deck to balmy drifters, and everything



Some of past year's wine bottles Our holiday auction started by auctioning decorated bottles



in between! Like they say about the Swiftsure Race:

"It's Always and Adventure!"

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 and join the PHRF. The Notice of Race and Sailing Instructions are posted on the Southern Sound Series web site at <http://www.sssseries.org> or on the SSSS web page under PHRF Racing, Southern Sound Series Racing. Registration for the races this year will again be through the regatta network with

Give it some thought, and round up your crew and sail the races representing SSSS!

Jeff Johnson, Folie `a Deux, SSS Rep.

The Best Party of the Southern Sound Series Goes On!

Last month I announced that Toliva Kitchen is looking for a new skipper and this month I am delighted to announce that Bob Hargreaves answered the call. The Party will go on!! Bob has worked in the Kitchen over the years and has a good idea of the overall event and the set-up. He knows many crew members.

Importantly, he bridges that critical relationship between SSSS and OYC. Toliva Kitchen is in great hands!

It didn't hurt that Bob knew he has a dedicated Kitchen Crew ready to make the show happen.

Toliva Race Weekend is the product of a cadre of amazing volunteers who do everything from run the race on the water to feed 100-150 people dinner, breakfast, and super soup. Toliva

simply would not be what it is without them. The Kitchen Crew is a big part of this. It's a genuine team endeavor – from chopping, slicing, and dicing to baking, roasting, stirring, and serving – this team is on from Thursday evening until Sunday morning for one very full weekend in February. It's fun, it's crazy at times, and it's always rewarding.

As I bow out of my role and gratefully hand this over to Bob, I want to take this last opportunity to recognize the wonderful people who've stepped up to make Toliva Kitchen happen over these last many years. You're the best. Thank you.

As Bob takes over the helm of Toliva Kitchen he is skippering the sharpest crew of the entire race weekend. The Best Party of the Southern Sound Series goes on! Wondering how to be a part of this fun crew? Track down Bob or me at a Meeting or shoot either of us an email, and we'll get you dialed in.

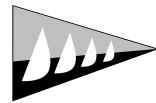
Thank you, Bob and Toliva Kitchen Crew! Here's to a fantastic 2024 Toliva Shoal Race weekend!

Thera Black

S-t-S Report

The cruising season is over. Time to remember where you went and plan for next season. As you do, share some of your memories. Write us. Members get ideas and inspiration from others. We want to hear from you.

We need photos! Take your camera sailing and send us copies.



From our archives, two interesting places to sail that might not be on your radar. If your boat fits on a trailer they are within easy reach. If you go to Port Townsend, Sequim is close and a good jumping off place for crossing the Strait.

Letter: Yaquina Diary

There's a place on that very smooth Oregon coast where the water indents to the land, Yaquina Bay at Newport. Lucky for us the Yaquina Bay Yacht Club hosts two sailing regattas per year. The bigger of the two is held annually on Columbus Day weekend.

We want to tell you that it is a very fun place to sail. First, you have the Yaquina Bay Bridge: a lovely arching bridge built by the Conservation Corps back in the 1930s that launches from an escarpment on the North, rises to a peak mid span, and then gently descends to the South Bay lowlands. It's always a beautiful site to behold as you sail.

Then there's the sea life. Sea lions barked a greeting from the breakwater on the North side as we sailed our boat from the boat ramp to the Embarcadero Marina. What are they saying we wonder? As we race, they surface and exhale with a grunt. And, seals come up and do the periscope. Before heading out to racing one morning and right from the dock, a sailor was taking time to harvest his crab pot; a full moon and a big tide helped make the harvest plentiful.

The other thing that makes this such a fun place is the current. At the height of the tide change we were registering 2.0 knots of current in the channel. So it paid to be in it when you wanted to go with it, and somewhere else when not! Of course, we tested the edge of the bay by touching bottom. We followed a bigger sailboat into the shallows! We have been to Newport so many times that to not touch and go would be boring; having a swing keel helped take the worry out of the equation.

The racing commenced with three fleets: PHRF, Santana 20, and C-15s. We sailed our vintage San Juan 21. The wind the first day was ideal. To do well, we needed to keep a sharp eye out for crab pots and the corresponding skiffs with locals doing what they like to do best while tolerating what we like to do best! We learned that contrary to our fantasy, a boat pulling a crab pot has rights over a sailing vessel and, hooking a crab pot is definitely a speed-killer.

All in all, day one was a fine day for us. Day two was another story. The day broke with sunshine for our walk with the dog on the beach, and this gave way to low-hanging clouds with not a breath of wind. Anchors were thrown prior to the start of the first race as we waited for the wind to come up. Two hours later a small breeze filled in.

Tactics were even more critical due to the light air and current. A bad decision, OK two bad decisions, added to our point total tremendously. However, we finished the day with a smile. We dropped off one of the crew at the Embarcadero to shuttle the car over to the launch ramp and the remaining two of us sailed leisurely across the bay.

As we were crossing the channel, all of a sudden we heard a very loud BEEEEEP. We looked and saw an 80 foot Coast Guard ship towing in a boat. We realized the horn blast meant: "I'm way bigger than you, and very busy, so please tack immediately and vacate my waterway!"

Later in the day, it was recounted how this Coast Guard vessel, with its bow and probably stern thrusters, took the boat in distress right into the marina, and nestled it right into the slip. Wish we could have seen that!!

As we reflect back on the weekend we know a good time was had by all. There were some close races and some upsets. But the Friday night bonfire on the beach, the Shrimp Feed Saturday night, the racing, and the chance to spend time with very good friends, makes this regatta one that will always be on our calendar. Thanks to Yaquina Bay Yacht Club for another great year.

Joe and Myra Downing

Explore Sequim Bay

Anyone who plans to cruise as far north as Port Townsend, for one of the many summer events, should allow another day or two and explore Sequim Bay. Of all the lovely places to sail in our Northwest, Sequim Bay is probably the finest. The entrance is guarded by two long sand spits which stop all the wave action from the Strait of Juan de Fuca, but allow the winds to blow clean and unruddled from the north. The shores are sparsely inhabited, and green hills rise to the south.

The high stone breakwater of the John Wayne Marina, on the western shore, protects an extensive moorage. There is a gas dock, a store, showers, restaurant, everything for a cruising sailor's convenience. The trailer sailor enjoys all of the above, plus a fine, all tide, double ramp with a wash down area to clear off the salt before taking to the road.

There is also camping, launching and a dock at Sequim Bay State Park, at the south end of the bay.

This would be a good place to have non-sailing friends meet to spend an overnight aboard and to sail the bay. The combination of good winds and no chop is an especially pleasant surprise for beginners who visualize bounding boats and flying spray.

We have been told the bay can get quite wild when a southerly blows down from the tops of the Olympics and sends waves crashing into those sand bars at the north, but this must be mostly a winter phenomena as we have yet to encounter it.

Good Sailing

Jean Gosse

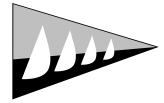
Sunny Sequim

We were the first boat to use the ramp at the John Wayne Marina. The book said it was a nice new marina. Too new. No docks. The parking lot was not paved. But the ramp was poured. So we launched and crossed the Strait, just missing the tide at Cattle Pass; but that's another story. I hear the Marina is past its prime now.

My next trip I brought the Hobie. We stayed at the State Park. Not exactly a wilderness experience there between the highway and the Bay. But we spent most of our time on the water. The ramp was good for us, but not for anything much bigger. The Hobie is a good boat for the Bay. We beached on the spit at the entrance to look at the faces someone had carved in the sand cliff. At high tide we sailed up indentations in the shore that were dry at low tide. We went outside the Bay, sailing to Dungeness Spit.

When we returned from our San Juan cruise, I got a chance to sail around the Bay. Nice Force 3 wind. No waves to speak of. I traded tacks with a local who was sailing a similar sized boat. When we hauled out he came by to visit. He said that this was the normal wind in the Bay when it is sunny. And "According to the Chamber of Commerce, 'It is always sunny in Sequim.'"

Steve Worcester



SSSS Membership

You pay your dues and you become a Member. You are entitled to all the privileges of Membership. You are welcome at all SSSS events. But to fully be a Member you need to participate. You need to get out on the water with the Club. You need to race: big boat, small boat, your boat, or crew. You need to go on a SSSS Cruise or two. To truly be a full Member you need to get involved. Crew on the RC boat, help with the Toliva Race, organize a Cruise, share your knowledge/experience with a S-t-S article or presentation, take a position on the board, take photos for the S-t-S ... There is a lot that needs doing, and even more that could be done. This is a volunteer run club. Keeping it going and making it better depends on you, the Members. It is your Club, it is what you make it.

Steve Worcester

Herron Island Race November 4 Island Series Race # 1

Transition was the RC Boat with help from Magic. Quest was the Mark Boat

Points	Sail No.	Yacht Name	Yacht Type	Rating	Finish Time	Correctd Time
Div. 1 Start Time 10:00 Distance: 24.5 nm						
0.75	79	RUFUS	MEL	93	14:05:55	13:27:57
2.00	12	PAX		-10	13:30:51	13:34:56
3.00	38044	MAKO	SYD 38	39	13:56:07	13:40:12
4.00	73392	BODACIOUS	BENE 35 S5	129	14:34:16	13:41:36
5.00	5165	RAVEN'S HAVEN	ARCONA 380	66	14:12:24	13:45:27
6.00	69432	SHAKA	HOB33	96	DNF	
Div. 2 Start Time 09:35 Distance: 20 .8 nm						
0.75	29718	AURORA	RANC 33-1	156	14:03:44	13:09:39
2.00	63337	DASH	BEN 345	135	14:00:04	13:13:16
3.00	50105	JOLLY RUMBALOW	C&C 34	135	14:08:32	13:21:44
4.00	79182	FOLIE A DEUX	BENE 35 S5	132	14:11:46	13:26:00
5.00	5421	EMMA LEE	CATA 30	225	14:45:12	13:27:12
6.00	39110	KOOSAH	PEAR 36-1	177	14:30:15	13:28:53
7.00	28054	DREAMTIME	OL 911	135	14:35:51	13:49:03
8.00	59924	ECHO	CATA 38	156	14:47:10	13:53:05
9.00	64985	LIBERTY	C&C 35	123	DNF	
9.00	79128	COLOR MY WORLD	CATA 30	225	DNF	

Squaxin Island Race November 17 Race Abandoned no wind Transition was the RC Boat

Ditty Bag For sale

Caliber 28 1986 Well maintained cruiser, 160% genoa; cockpit cushions and bimini, AGM batteries, 16 HP Yanmar 900 hours. \$11,750 or BO. Call (206) 437-2385

Cal 25 1975 with Honda 9.9 ob, skiff, and four sails. \$2,000 or b/o. Interested? Contact (360) 456-3339

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

Aloft Marine llc

Rigging - Electronics - Maintenance

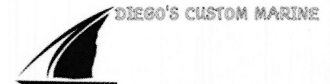
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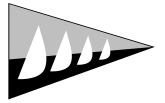
If you are having a problem receiving the Ship-to-Shore, would like to submit a letter, article, or photo, run an advertisement, or have other questions or concerns contact the **Editor : Steve Worcester**

(360) 352-9283 e-mail: sts@sssclub.com

Deadline for submissions is the second Tuesday of the month.

2023-24 SSSS Board Members

Commodore	John Martens	(360) 561-2822
Vice-Commodore		
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Race Chair	Dereck DeCouteau	(253) 221-6912
Cruise Chair		
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PHRF Handicapper	Rafe Beswick	(360) 250-5252
D Class Handicapper	Richard Bigley	



Eagle Island Race photo by Colleen Carbery



Squaxin Island Race photo by Bob Butts



Herron Island Race photo by Chris Reitz

Messing around with boats, Halloween Cruise photo by Jim Larsen



Take Your Camera Sailing

South Sound Sailing Society
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