

# Ship-to-Shore

The South Sound Sailing Society's Newsletter

Volume 53 Issue 5

January 2024

www.ssssclub.com

## January Meeting: Racing with Carl Buchan

Join your sailing colleagues for the evening of January 9<sup>th</sup> with sailboat racing champion Carl Buchan, who will share his adventures racing this summer in a double-handed race around the Isle of Wight in England. The annual Round Isle of Wight Race (RIOW), which starts and finishes in Cowes, was the course for the first America's Cup. Carl will also share racing tips and other sailing adventures he has had during his half-century of sailing.

Carl got his inspiration from his father, Bill Buchan, a National Sailing Hall of Fame Inductee. At the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games both father and son won Gold Medals in sailing in different classes. In 1984, Carl won the US Single-handed Championship for the O'Day Trophy as a 17-year-old and one year later won the World Single-handed Youth Championship. Buchan was named College Sailor of the Year in 1977. Buchan is a tall, slender sailor and well suited for the Laser Class. He won the US Nationals three times (1978, 1980, 2000) and the North American Championship in 1992. In addition, Carl and his wife, Carol, won the Tasar World Championship in 2001.



Red Ruby and sister ship

The Meeting will be in-person at the Olympia Yacht Club located at 201 Simmons St. NW. Doors will open at 18:30 and the Meeting will begin at 19:00. The Meeting is open to both Members and non-Members, so invite your crew, dock mates, neighbors, and others who are interested in sailing.

Non-OYC members can park on the street or on the east side of the parking lot that is next to the Olympia Oyster House.

We hope to see you there.

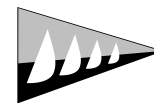
Bob Butts, Emma Lee

## Andrew Kerr Seminar: How to make my boat go Fast?

The 2024 Andrew Kerr Racing Seminar, will be held Wednesday evening 18:00-21:00, January 17<sup>th</sup> at the Olympia Yacht Club, 201 Simmons Street NW. Great way to start out the New Year. Skippers, Crew, OCS members, Racers and Cruisers, *all will benefit* from the rich information provided by Andrew.

Andrew Kerr will return for a one night only seminar on Sail Trim, Racing Starting Tactics and Strategy. Experienced advice on for optimum performance in any sailing condition. Andrew is a full-time racing coach for the past 35 years at North Sails University and Kerr Sailing. Andrew has a calm demeanor in his approach to maximize every team's performance.

- 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
- Land Cruise to P.T.  
**January 12-14**
- Andrew Kerr Seminar  
**January 17**
- Eld Inlet Race  
**January 20**
- Henderson Inlet Race  
**February 3**
- Board Meeting  
**February 6**
- Melges Wizard of  
Zenda  
February 10
- General Meeting  
**February 13**  
Visitors Welcome  
Doors open at 18:30 meeting starts 19:00
- Toliva Shoal Race  
SSSS/OYC  
**February 16 dinner**  
**February 17 Race**  
Race 3 Southern Sound Series



He has helped many Teams win major championships from local club races to World Championships.

All South Sound Sailors, Olympia Yacht Club, Olympia Community Sailors, Members and Non-members and their Crew are invited

Skippers: \$20 Crew: \$10

Under 18: Free

**Topics and Questions:** If you have specific areas or subjects you'd like Andrew to address at the seminar, email him at [Kerrsailing@aol.com](mailto:Kerrsailing@aol.com)

If you have any questions about the event, contact Race Committee Chair, Derek DeCouteau at [rcchair@ssssclub.com](mailto:rcchair@ssssclub.com)

There will not be a Zoom option this year.

After a few decades of sailing, I always leave the seminar with helpful advice for the next race or sail.

**Derek DeCouteau, *Misty and Aurora***

## Cruise News

### Land Cruise to Port Townsend

We are going to do a land cruise! Join your SSSS friends for a winter visit to Port Townsend January 12-14. We recommend staying with us at The Swan Hotel in Port Townsend (<https://theswanhotel.com/>), or in one of the other rooms or campgrounds available in the downtown area. [Or if you have the time, come by boat. It makes for a nice winter cruise; you can dock hop all the way. Ed.] We will have opportunities to socialize together in one of the local establishments while not out enjoying beautiful Port Townsend.

The coordinators for this event are Jim and Diana Findley.

**Jim Larsen, *TYA***

## S-t-S Needs You

I have been reprinting the adventures of past times by past Members. While they are very well received, one might be led to think our current Members are not doing much of anything. If that is not true, if you have been using your boat, we want to hear from you.

*We need photos!!* They keep this rag interesting. Take your camera sailing.

## South Sound Racing Experts, Education and a Movie

January and February is our slow time when it comes to Racing. The diehards they will be racing Duwamish Head in Seattle this first week. With the first Club race, Eld Inlet on the 20<sup>th</sup>. This leaves plenty of time for skiing, or ...time to catch up on reading, planning or watching a movie. So we have prepared three great



Vashon Island Race photo by Bob Butts

events to keep you in the game.

Starting **January 9<sup>th</sup>** at the Meeting we have **Carl Buchan** speaking about his time in England double-handed racing with Jonathan McKee.

**January 17<sup>th</sup> Andrew Kerr Seminar** at OYC that focuses on boat speed and teamwork. Skills that apply to every sailor racer or cruiser.

**February 10<sup>th</sup> *The Wizard of Zenda*** movie, the life of Buddy Melges, Olympian and founder of Melges Boatworks.

Now perhaps you are asking yourself, why would I want to see all three events. For starters, Carl Buchan and Buddy Melges are the only two Americans to ever win both Olympic Gold and the America's Cup. Andrew as a professional coach can explain in easy to understand terms how they accomplished it.

Join us for a great start!

**Derek DeCouteau, *Misty and Aurora***

## Toliva Dinner

A Big Party! Even Bigger Boots!!

As Thera Black captioned her article in last month's Ship-to-Shore, "The Best Party of the Southern Sound Series Goes On!" Of course, that means her famous pre-race dinner and breakfast, and traditional post-race piping hot soup for the Toliva Shoal Race, which is jointly sponsored by SSSS and OYC and is scheduled for February 17 this year! With close to three decades of tirelessly

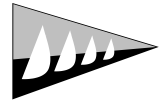
working this event, and the last fifteen years at the helm, Thera has certainly earned the heartfelt appreciation of not just our clubs, but the entire Southern Sound Series racing community! Not only that, she has certainly earned a break!

It was high honor indeed to have Thera pass me the baton as the Toliva Kitchen Skipper, even though I know full well I will probably never be able to fill her boots! But dread naught, for Thera leaves behind,

and, if we are lucky, will also work with, a dedicated and well-trained cadre of volunteers who will continue to pull this party off with aplomb! Last year was my first full immersion with this group and its efforts, and I can tell you it was a blast: great people who roll up their sleeves and "get 'er done" with smiles and good humor to spare; by the bye, if you are so inclined, there is probably room on the team for you, too, and if you are a member of OYC, think CSP!

Even if you are not a racer, you are still invited to participate in any or all of these mouth-watering party events, which are always a great deal: \$15 for the Friday night dinner; \$5 for the day of the race breakfast; and the post-race soup is gratis. Proceeds, after costs are recouped, benefit South Sound Junior Sailors, so, everyone is a winner. Come take part in your party!

**Bob Hargreaves, *Bright Angel***



## Southern Sound Series

Winter Vashon Report,  
Duwamish Head Next Up!

Winter Vashon, the First Race of the 203-24 Southern Sound Series, is in the books with 66 registered boats and about everything you can expect from NW winter sailing!

Early forecasts for race day jumped back and forth from rain and plenty of wind to possible freezing temperatures with rain and little wind and back again. Forecasts for the transit to Tacoma Yacht Club for SSSS racers painted the same picture. We SSSS racers plan our transits north based on both Tacoma Narrow's currents and weather forecasts, with *Jolly Rumbalow* and *Folie `a Deux* picking a Thursday transit for better weather but earlier tides and others making the move on Friday with better currents but more forecast rain and wind. Surprise, surprise, the forecasts were off. The Thursday transits began with clouds and flat water but devolved to rain and a windy finish, a typical NW slog! The Friday transits did have a strong southerly wind but no rain and even sunshine! So much for trying to read forecasts for transits needed for TYC's Winter Vashon, TTPYC's Duwamish Head, and GHYC's Islands Race!

Similarly, forecasts for race day bounced all over including gale warnings. All racers we pleasantly surprise to see sunny skies and a strong southerly wind after a very windy and rainy Friday night.

The PHRF and Non-PHRF cruising classes set off after a briefly delayed start with an assortment of reefed and unreefed mains, various foresails, but no spinnakers with the gusty winds. The cruising boats were well on their way in to Colvos Passage before PHRF class starts.

The early PHRF classes also hesitated to pop their chutes uncertain of what the winds would be like once past the shelter of Point Defiance. In clearer air, the colors of spinnakers bloomed all over Colvos Passage with steady winds of 15 to 20 knots. On *Folie*, theoretical hull speed of 7.1 knots, we often saw speeds in the upper 8 knots, making for some white-knuckle sailing. So white knuckled that *Folie* had her first semi broach in a 25+ gust, but thanks to a great crew the recovery was quick.

Even without spinnakers, the non-flying sails cruisers were making big time toward the north end of Vashon Island as the faster PHRF fleets raced to catch them. With the southwesterly winds the passage north made for a long port reach.

Approaching the turn mark north of



Vashon Island Race photo by Bob Butts

Vashon, we were pleased to see the red-hulled *Jolly Rumbalow*, captained by Richard Bigley, in the first few boats to round the mark and head south with full sails. Except for those early boats to the mark, most of the fleet found the wind dying as they approached the mark. After not a single gybe all the way north we rounded the mark and found that the chute continued on the same tack, a preview of the games to be played. The wind, what there was of it, played Ring Around the Rosie, in the noon time sun. Boats were headed in every compass point, some on port, some on starboard, and most with sagging sails.

Finally the wind began to fill in and the compressed fleet again headed south with now filling full mains and big foresails. Quickly the winds returned to full force as the fleet moved south and reefs and sail changes to smaller foresails appeared. Boats were scattered from Three Tree point to Browns Point, some very much

over powered. The final boats back to the TYC start/finish line finished in the last of daylight. It was truly a great day to be sailing!

Next up in the Southern Sound Series, and bringing in the New Year, is Three Tree Point Yacht Club's **Duwamish Head**

**Race on January 6<sup>th</sup>**. If you just received this S-t-S it's not too late, if you hurry.

The race starts off the Des Moines marina pier, 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, 30.8 nm. If needed, the race can be shortened at the Duwamish Head dolphin or the north side of Blakely Rocks. Like Winter Vashon this race requires a pre-race transit from Olympia to TYC (guest dock is available), Gig Harbor, or possibly on to Des Moines marina. For those racing in the PHRF fleets, remember, you need to have your PHRF membership up to date. The non PHRF cruising classes race boat for boat and do not need to have a PHRF membership or rating. This race often has the most racers of the Series and often the best winds.

The Series has started off with a great race with more to come. Gather up a crew and come join in on the race.

**Jeff Johnson, Folie `a Deux**

**Next Month's Race is our  
Toliva Shoal Race!**

### SSSS boats at Winter Vashon TYC

First Southern Sound Series Race

Mako	2	PHRF 2	9 0A
Ravens Haven	3	PHRF 4	16 0A
magic dragon	3	PHRF 5	20 0A
Aurora	4	PHRF 7	28 0A
Strider	4	PHRF 6	41 0A
Folie `a Deux	5	PHRF 6	43 0A
Intrepid	9	PHRF 4	30 0A
Koosah	1	Cruising NFS	
Emma Lee	2	Cruising NFS	
Jolly Rumbalow	2	nonPHRF	

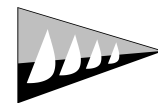
#### SSSS Teams

**SSSS 1**, Mako, Aurora, Strider

4<sup>th</sup> tie 78 pts.

**SSSS 2**, Ravens Haven, Magic Dragon,

Folie a Deux 6<sup>th</sup> 79 pts.



## MELGES The Wizard of Zenda

The Melges movie is indeed coming! February 10. Doors open at 18:00, movie at 19:00 at Capitol Theater downtown. We will have a link for tickets soon.

The movie is put on by, and a fund raiser for, Olympia Community Sailing, with sponsors that include SSSS.

**Janet Hubbard**

*MELGES: The Wizard of Zenda* is a documentary about one of the greatest sailors you've never heard of. With unlimited access to behind-the-scenes archival footage, this sports biography captures the untold story of Buddy Melges, a tenacious competitor with a fiery attitude and the winning record to back it up.

You'll hear from fellow world class sailors and competitors, like America's Cup champion and former ESPN sailing analyst Gary Jobson; three-time champion Dennis Conner, the sailor they call 'Mr. America's Cup'; John Bertrand, the Australian skipper who shocked the world by breaking the 132 year U.S. winning streak; and Bill Koch, the billionaire yachtsman who partnered with Buddy to chase the cup in 1992.

This feature length documentary takes you beyond the headlines to explore Buddy's extraordinary life. With interviews, archival film footage and video gathered across five decades, you'll learn about a sailor from a working-class family in southern Wisconsin who built a resume of winning that made him one of the greatest sailors of all time.

Discover the driving force behind Buddy's continuous quest to challenge himself by moving from class to class to test himself against the greatest sailors in the world. Competitors and historians explain how Buddy sailed not like an engineer, but as an artist. His sailing was less about science — more about artistic expression.

Whether art or science, Buddy was a fierce competitor who shared what he learned with anyone willing to take the time to ask. His legendary career seems almost mystical, and earned him the well-deserved nickname: The Wizard of Zenda.

**from the movie site**

The movie was made by a nonprofit formed to make the movie. It is being shown around the country by sailing clubs as a fund raiser for them. In this case for Olympia Community Sailing. It has been well received by the national sailing community.

Should make for a fun and interesting evening.

**Steve Worcester**



Squaxin Island non Race

## Three Hour Voyage

reprinted from the April 1999 S-t-S

Can you close your eyes and return to a favorite sailing trip? One that was so inspiring that you feel like you are back there? I had a trip like that in early December.

It started out without much fanfare. An easy start out of the slip, sails went up quickly and smoothly, a little cool, then right into the channel. The Wave Walker was doing the job she was designed to do. She came smoothly out of Fiddlehead into that channel like she always does. Then just past West Bay Marina, 10 minutes out, this trip became a memorable one for me.

I saw a spout spewing vertically from the surface of the water. I just had to see what it was. As I approached, I saw the source of the water spout, a gray whale, 25 to 30 feet long, complete with barnacles! That whale performed its magic for about the next hour, rolling up to show its back, spewing a fountain of

water, then plunging back into the depths of the Sound. While the whale had his breakfast, I drank in the beauty of it all. Both of us continued until we were satiated.

The whale was gone as quickly as it had come. I returned to the crisp cold wind of a sailing trip I will remember for years.

The trip that day was short in time, not more than three hours, but the memories will last a long time, maybe forever. When I am not able to go out on the water for one reason or another, I close my eyes and live this one over again.

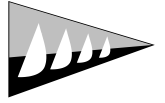
**Debbie Behre**

Have you had a memorable day on the water? A favorite day sailing? We want to hear from you.

## Hope Island Race December 9

*Transition was the RC Boat, with help from Willie Tippit.  
Mako was first Over All*

Points	Sail No.	Yacht Name	Yacht Type	Rating	Finish Time	Correctd Time
Div. 1: Start Time: 10:00 Distance: 13 nm						
0.75	38044	MAKO	SYD 38	39	12:32:54	12:24:27
2.00	12	PAX		-10	12:31:40	12:33:50
3.00	73392	BODACIOUS	BENE 35 S5	129	14:25:44	13:57:47
4.00	007 007		J 99	81	DNF	
4.00	33	GRU	CORS 300	48	DNF	
4.00	79	RUFUS	MEL	93	DNF	
4.00	5165	RAVEN'S HAVEN	ARCONA 380	66	DNF	
4.00	69051	SPIRIT	BENE 36.7	81	DNF	
4.00	69399	FLYING CIRCUS	EXPR 37	72	DNF	
4.00	69432	SHAKA	HOB33	96	DNF	
Div. 2: Start Time: 09:35 Distance: 13 nm						
0.75	69804	REIFF	J35C	123	13:29:34	13:02:55
2.00	29718	AURORA	RANC 33-1	156	13:48:20	13:14:32
3.00	69927	BALDER II	ERIC 38	126	14:43:43	14:16:25
4.00	50105	JOLLY RUMBALOW	C&C 34	135	14:53:24	14:24:09
5.00	39110	KOOSAH	PEAR 36-1	177	15:21:59	14:43:38
6.00	381	YONDER STAR	CAT 320	171	DNF	
6.00	5421	EMMA LEE	CATA 30	225	DNF	



## First Aid for Boaters: February 24

SSSS, OYC, and OCS are co-sponsoring a class on First Aid for boaters. In addition to basic first aid, CPR, and the use of AEDs, the class will go into greater depth for trauma, control of serious bleeding, head neck and spinal injuries, patient handling and evacuation procedures. It begins at 09:00. The registration fee is \$99. The **class will be limited to 20** individuals. More information in next month's S-t-S or on line, where you can also register. [northwestresponse.com/course/first-aid-plus-for-boaters-february-2024-olympia-yacht-club/](http://northwestresponse.com/course/first-aid-plus-for-boaters-february-2024-olympia-yacht-club/)

We hope you will join us.

**Bob Butts, Emma Lee**

## Island Series

RC Boat : *Transition.*

No Over All in Series as the Divisions sailed different courses.

place	Sail No.	Yacht Name	Skipper Name	Rating	Strt	Herron	Hope	Total
<b>Div. 1 Races: 1 to 2</b>					<b>6 Strt 12 Str</b>			
1	38044	MAKO	Vannice/Cassal	39	2	3.00	0.75	3.75
2	12	PAX	Rod Tharp	-10	2	2.00	2.00	4.00
3	79	RUFUS	Tucker Smyth	93	2	0.75	4.00	4.75
4	73392	BODACIOUS	J Rosenbach	129	2	4.00	3.00	7.00
5	5165	RAVEN'S HAVEN	Aaron Schofield	66	2	5.00	4.00	9.00
6	69432	SHAKA	Matt Niles	96	2	6.00	4.00	10.00
7	69051	SPIRIT	Steve Jones	81	1	7.00	4.00	11.00
7	007	007	Scott Rowley	81	1	7.00	4.00	11.00
7	69399	FLYING CIRCUS	Dave Elliott	72	1	7.00	4.00	11.00
7	33	GRU	Drew Phillips	48	1	7.00	4.00	11.00
<b>Div. 2 Races: 1 to 2</b>					<b>10 Str 5 Strt</b>			
1	29718	AURORA	Chery Bideman	156	2	0.75	2.00	2.75
2	50105	JOLLY RUMBALOW	Richard Bigley	135	2	3.00	4.00	7.00
3	63337	DASH	Garner Miller	135	1	2.00	6.00	8.00
4	69804	REIFF	Tom Nelson	12	1	10.00	0.75	10.75
5	39110	KOOSAH	Dave Knowlton	177	2	6.00	5.00	11.00
5	5421	EMMA LEE	Bob Butts	225	2	5.00	6.00	11.00
5	79182	FOLIE A DEUX	Jeff Johnson	132	1	4.00	7.00	11.00
8	69927	BALDER II	Myra Downing	126	1	10.00	3.00	13.00
9	28054	DREAMTIME	Bart Maupin	135	1	7.00	7.00	14.00
10	59924	ECHO	Steve Miller	156	1	8.00	7.00	15.00
11	64985	LIBERTY	Andy Saller	123	1	9.00	7.00	16.00
11	79128	COLOR MY WORLD	Mark Holt	225	1	9.00	7.00	16.00
11	381	YONDER STAR	Gam Tibbett	171	1	10.00	6.00	16.00

## PHRF Dues Are Due

PHRF dues were due January 1. SSSS gives you a grace period. We do not check until Toliva.

### 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

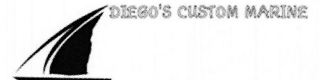
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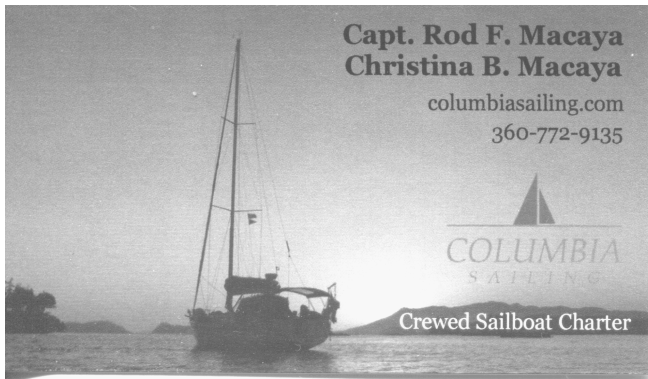
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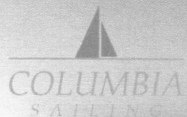
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If you are having a problem receiving the Ship-to-Shore, would like to submit a letter, article, or photo, run an advertisement, or have other questions or concerns contact the **Editor : Steve Worcester**

(360) 352-9283 e-mail: [sts@sssclub.com](mailto: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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<b>PHRF Handicapper</b>	Rafe Beswick	(360) 250-5252
<b>D Class Handicapper</b>	Richard Bigley	



## Take Your Camera Sailing



Vashon Island Race photos by Bob Butts

**South Sound Sailing Society**  
P.O. Box 1102  
Olympia WA 98507



Viewing the Sunset over Ryogoku Bridge, from *The Thirty-Six Views of Fuji*, Hodogaya Hokusai