

Ship-to-Shore

The South Sound Sailing Society's Newsletter

Volume 53 Issue 6

February 2024

www.ssssclub.com

February Meeting: Maintenance and Skill Building

The daylight hours are gray, the days short, and the forecast is for another week of rain. Time to get the SAD light out, get more exercise, and, most importantly, begin getting your sailboat ready for spring and summer sailing adventures!

The South Sound Sailing Society's February Meeting on February 13 will provide our Members and guests with an opportunity to explore a variety of sailboat maintenance and repair topics, and learn an essential sailing skill or two. We will have individual tables for each topic and three 25-minute sessions.

Topics currently under consideration include: Painting your bottom; How to reclaim your boat's former gel coat glory; Outboard motor selection, maintenance, and repair; Diesel maintenance; Sailboat electronics; Sailboat rigging; Who can help teach me to sail; and more.

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.

Bob Butts, Emma Lee



Harpoon, a Swan 44, 1979 Toliva Shoal Race
photo Roy Montgomery

Are You Racing Toliva? Or Just Hungry?

Either way, you are invited to partake of a pre-Race dinner and breakfast; and a post-race soup fest; and we are not talking about some boring canned soup here, rather a mouth-watering, piping hot, made from scratch choice of beef barley and cheesy-potato soup that even your grandma would make the trip in to sample!

This year we will reprise Thera's brilliant menu offerings from last year: for dinner, a pulled-pork entrée with choice of sides: mac and cheese, baked beans, and coleslaw or, some of each! And of course a selection of yummy dessert items, all washed down with your choice of beer or wine, or both, if you are not driving! For breakfast, look forward to freshly scrambled eggs, perfectly grilled hashbrowns, along with bacon and/or sausage, coffee, orange juice, bagels and cream cheese, and yogurt to boot! You must be devoted to a serious diet if you are not getting hungry just reading this.

Dinner starts at 1800 on Friday, February 16, for a mere \$15. Breakfast is served from 0700-0830 on the day of the race, Saturday, February 17, for a measly \$5; the best deal in town, possibly including from your own galley! Soup service starts when the first finishers arrive back at the clubhouse on Saturday afternoon, or evening, or night, or, Heaven forbid, on Sunday morning! And, if you are tapped out from spending your last \$20 on dinner and breakfast, never fear, we will spot you the \$0 it costs to enjoy the scrumptious soup!

As most of you know, this will be my first year at the helm as Toliva Kitchen Skipper; and, notwithstanding Thera's incredibly meticulous hand-off notes and detailed briefings (or maybe

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
SSSS/OYC
Dinner
February 16
Race
February 17

Race 3 Southern Sound Series

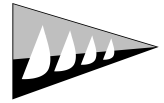
First Aid for Boaters
February 24
Class full

Board Meeting
March 5

Skookum Inlet Race
March 9

General Meeting
March 12
Visitors Welcome

Doors open at 18:30 meeting starts 19:00



A Sailing Film Festival

Featuring *Melges: The Wizard of Zenda*

To benefit Olympia Community Sailing's Youth Sailing Programs

because of them!?), learning how to steer this ship and keep her afloat has been like drinking from a fire hose! (You would think that with all my years in the military, I would know better than to raise my hand and volunteer for extra duty!) All kidding aside, this is an exciting assignment, and I look forward to working again this year with the hard working, dedicated, competent, and fun group of Toliva Kitchen volunteers, without whom none of this would ever happen. And if any of the rest of you have even the slightest inclination, forget everything you ever learned about not volunteering, and raise your hand to join this august group; the experience is guaranteed to give you a warm fuzzy and put a smile on your face, or your money back!

On behalf of the entire Toliva Kitchen crew, we look forward to seeing you at the best party in the Southern Sound Series, whether you are racers, or would just like to rub shoulders with racers from around the Sound, or even if you are just hungry. Come to your party, and bring your appetite!

Bob Hargreaves, *Bright Angel*
svbrightangel@yahoo.com;
(360) 561-8144

This event, held in partnership with South Sound Sailing Society, will take place at The Olympia Yacht Club on the evening of Saturday, February 10. We will show the feature film *Melges: The Wizard of Zenda*, a documentary exploring the life of sailing legend Buddy Melges.

We will also show a short film made by Olympia Community Sailing's former high school sailor and current coach Avian de Keizer Mendoza.

Tickets went on sale January 11 for the 19:00 showing. Buy them on line at <https://www.olympiacommunitysailing.org/film-festival>. If we sell out all 110 tickets, a late afternoon showing will be added.

Sponsorships are available at four levels.

Platinum \$2500 Gold \$1250 Silver \$500 Bronze \$250

Sponsor benefits include: Your logo and/or name on signs at the event and on the OCS web site. Acknowledgement of your sponsorship during the program. Event tickets to use, or give to staff, friends, family, etc. More young sailors, and our thanks.

To sponsor or to discuss additional sponsorship or in-kind donation opportunities, please call. (360) 888-2252 or email katie.hurley@me.com

Katie Hurley



Andrew Kerr Seminar photos by Bob Butts



Winter Race Report

January was our Race Education Month with Guest speakers Carl Buchan and Andrew Kerr and his annual seminar. If you missed that we have one more human interest movie, *The Wizard of Zenda*

playing February 10th at Olympia Yacht Club in two showings. The story of Buddy Melges, Olympian, World Champion, America's Cup Skipper and successful founder of Melges Boat Works. A leader in the sport of sailing, don't miss it.

Locally, the Inlet Series started January 20 with the Eld Inlet, the perennial *Koosah* on station as the mark boat. Likewise for Henderson Inlet which is this first week of February, mark boat *Rock Paper Scissors*. Please check the web site for Results and calendar for the remaining two Inlet Races. These races are short enough to get your boat and crew together for a nice sail and lunch.

Preparation is now underway for our local favorite, Toliva Shoal Race, hosted

by SSSS and Olympia Yacht Club. For me, mostly inside at the computer, looking at currents, wind predictions and reminiscing over past races. Others, are doing the heavy lifting, preparing meals, Race Committee, organizing personal and logistics.

Third in the South Sound Series, this can have a wide range of conditions. Always a fun day on the water once you warm up. Every race in over 50 years has had a story, some stood out more than others. From 35 knots of horizontal rain in Dana Passage to a zephyr reaching down and taking us for a memorable solo ride to McAllister Creek. Join us to make your own memories.

As always, if you don't have a ride or crew, we are looking for RC volunteers. Openings available second half of the Inlet Series. Contact me and we can set you up.

Derek DeCouteau, *Aurora* and *Misty*

Toliva Information and Registration ssseries.org

SSSS boats at

Duwamish Head TTPYC

Second Southern Sound Series Race

1	Bodacious	PHRF 6	13 0A
4	Ravens Haven	PHRF 4	21 0A
5	Shaka	PHRF 5	25 0A
5	Aurora	PHRF 7	39 0A
5	Strider	PHRF 6	41 0A
6	Folie `a Deu	PHRF 6	47 0A
7	Mako	PHRF 2	12 0A
7	Rock, Paper,...	PHRF 4	40 0A
9	Magic Dragon	PHRF 5	37 0A
1	Emma Lee	Cruising NFS	
2	Koosah	Cruising NFS	
1	Jolly Rumbalow	nonPHRF	

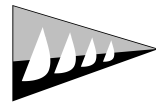
SSSS Teams

SSSS 1, Mako, Aurora, Strider

3rd tie 92/170 pts.

SSSS 2, Ravens Haven, Magic Dragon,

Folie a Deux 4th 105/184 pts.



Southern Sound Series Duwamish Kicked Off New Year

Duwamish Head captured the best of winter sailing in the northwest! Many long time sailors agree that this was the best Duwamish Head in many years and was enjoyed by 64 registered boats. SSSS and OYC were well represented with 12 boats participating in the race.

As race day approached, captains and crews watch every changing forecasts. Heavy wind, little wind, rain, clouds, maybe a little sun, just about every possibility but all pretty all much foreseeing dying winds by mid-afternoon. Most of our boats had transited to Tacoma Yacht Club by Friday and headed out to the Des Moines Marina start line under gray skies and moderate southerly winds.

The cruising fleets started at 09:30 and those with flying sails did quick hoists of their spinnakers to take advantage of the southwesterly breeze. The first of the PHRF classes took off at 10:00 and the chase was on as they also popped their chutes. As the fleets headed north, some headed across to the west side of the channel,

some stayed east, and some tried to take advantage of the out-going currents mid channel. *Folie* chose the latter and it paid off as those to the east and west seemed to be making slower progress. Judging the winds and the forecasts, informal bets began on will we sail the whole course, end at the Duwamish Mark, or maybe Blakeley Rocks? That was answered as the winds steadily built, in contrast to some forecasts, with the fleets working north and gusts pushing 20 knots. The increasing winds made for a quick trip north with the Sound covered with colorful chutes stretching from Burien to Alki.

Rounding Alki brought decision time, keep the chute up on a beam reach and gusty winds or take the less tense path and hoist a genoa. As we watched some near knock downs, our decision was easy, go to the genoa. Good decision, as we watched some battling to switch sails and do a little shrimping trying to bring in their spinnakers under now clearing skies.

One of the best sights though for those of you that know *Sir Isaac* was to see her flying two full mains and A-sim. That boat was made for those conditions!

Some did manage to carry their chutes and gybed around the Duwamish Head dolphin while most had switched to various head sails for the beam reach across the sound to Blakeley Rocks.

Once the rocks were put astern it was decision time again, take the rhumb line back south or hug the east or west shores to minimize opposing current. Those that stayed west or center channel fared better as the east siders at times seemed to be at anchor. As the afternoon progressed, the winds did drop, shifted more northwesterly and squally clouds rolled back in to the south. On *Folie* it was decision time again after passing Three Tree Point, pop the chute again? With the now lighter winds and relatively short distance to the finish, we popped the chute and



Spinnakers headed north photo by Jeff Johnson

flew it by hand without the spinnaker pole till we crossed the finish in the gathering darkness. After a quick spinnaker drop we headed south under just the main and the then increasing wind, back up to the mid twenties. Along with the wind came the squall and some heavy rain, so much for keeping the sails

dry. Some south sound boats headed back to Olympia after the race while others spent a second night at TYC with the transit back south on Sunday.

Pretty much every skipper and crew agreed that this year's Duwamish Head was the best in memory and many smiles. Three Tree Point Yacht Club ran a great race with ideal winter conditions!

I should provide notice that in the future, boats transiting north must respect the limits of TYC's reciprocal moorage space: four boats in the western most V dock. Boats must register, pay for power use, \$2.00/night, and fly their burgee. Alternatively, seek other transient moorage.

Our Toliva Shoal Up Next Up!

The Toliva Shoal Race, our Southern Sound Series Race, sponsored by SSSS and OYC, is next up on February 17th! This race starts at Olympia Shoal, proceeds through Dana Passage, leaves the Nisqually #3 mark and Anderson Island, Toliva Shoal, the #1 mark NW of Eagle Island to port, and back to Olympia Shoal, 38.4 NM.

Toliva is special with the Friday night pre-race feast, great sailing, and post-race gathering at OYC. Thanks to the many volunteers who make this a special event! Let's show those volunteers our respect by getting out there and racing!

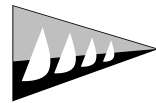
Jeff Johnson, *Folie`a Deux* SSS Rep.

S-t-S Needs Toliva Photos

We always want photos for this rag. Toliva however, is special. This is our biggest event. Our guests bring some photogenic boats. They like to have their pictures taken. Take your camera on the Race. Send us copies.



Sir Isaac, photo by Jimmie Grant



Youth Sailing/OCS

Olympia Community Sailing continues to support ongoing summer opportunities for South Sound Youth to learn to sail, as well as competitive youth racing teams year round. In recent years, the sport has grown significantly in the region. This has included added numbers to existing programs in Washington and Oregon, and also many communities launching new programs.

We are proud to host multiple clinics each year as part of OCS's support of youth sailing locally and regionally. We are also excited about the team's recent trip to the Keelboat National Invitational and our sailors' excitement about racing an increasingly wide range of boats.

Most recently, OCS sailors had the opportunity to participate in the annual Rose Bowl Regatta in Long Beach, California. Rosebowl 2024 was one for the books!

In the last eight years that OCS has traveled for Rosebowl, we've never been delayed for too much wind! Sunday saw big breeze, and Gold Fleet got the chance to sail in the flat waters of Alamitos Bay rather than the open swell off Long Beach.

Olympia High School placed 16th overall in

Gold Fleet, out of 37 boats, and CHS placed 14th in Silver; the highest OHS and CHS have ever placed at this event! Congrats to OHS sailors Sophia H. A Fleet skipper '24, Cate G. A fleet crew '27, Liam P. A Fleet crew '25, Charlie S. B Fleet skipper '24, and Levi M. B Fleet crew '24; also CHS sailors Alijah M. A fleet skipper '25, Seher K. A fleet crew '27, Aidan B. B Fleet skipper '25, and Ryan S. B Fleet crew, '25 for their success!

We love this event because we can take a big crew of sailors spanning many years in school and skill sets, and this year was no different. With 17 sailors and two schools, OCS sailors got the chance to bond with teammates and make connections within our vast team. Of course the sunny skies, palm trees, and sandy beaches (and toes!) were a highlight of the trip.

Olympia's Coach Sarah Hanavan, in addition to serving as the Executive Director for OCS, is also currently the president of NWISA, North West Interscholastic Sailing Association, which is our district's organization for scheduling regattas, organizing qualifiers, and helping to launch new programs.

We're looking forward to a busy season ahead with teams competing in both Fleet Racing and Team Racing for District Titles!

While that goes on, OCS will also be laying the groundwork for a summer full of STEAM camps, learn-to-sail programming, and introducing new sailors to the sport.

Janet Hubard

First, Give Us a Good Stiff Breeze

Reprinted from *Sailing: The Beauty of Sail*

The annual Toliva Shoal Race, held in February, has, sampled most of the varieties of weather available in the northwest, including fog, calms and snow. So it was that this year's [1979] participants, tucking in a hearty breakfast at the Olympia Yacht Club, glanced out over a cold, grey, rainswept, windswept stretch of water and thought only, "Good, there's wind." Rain? More or less inevitable, and what racing sailor would swap a knot of wind for a blink of sunshine?

First and foremost, give us a good stiff breeze. Stiff it was, out of the south, blowing right up Budd Inlet from Olympia's capitol as some 130 boats from 22 to 67 feet ran out to the starting line for the 1979 race. This is the last of a series run by the South Sound Sailing Society with facilities, for this race, provided by the Olympia Yacht Club. It is also thought of, by many sailors from the more northerly reaches of Puget Sound, as the first major race of the season. Hence it is usually well attended.

The course covers a total distance of 38 miles, heading out of Budd Inlet, 'round Dofflemeyer Point, with its inevitable crowd of spectators apparently quite oblivious to the weather. Thence along Dana Passage, past Anderson Island to



Carl Buchan speaking at our January Meeting

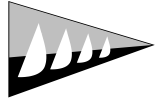
photo by Steve Worcester

the Toliva Shoal buoy between McNeill and Fox islands, and return. In this part of the sound winds and tides are tricky. What was a good steady 20 knots can suddenly become maybe 35 for a few exciting minutes as the wind funnels through a valley on the nearby hilly land. Tides do run in complicated directions and a foul one can cause beach-crawling and navigation by depthsounder.

There were two starts for IOR boats, Division 1 and 2 (half ton), six PHRF starts and the San Juan 28s and 24s each raced as classes. *Weatherly*, Alan Buchan and Lynn Sommer's 12-Meter from Tacoma, looked like this was her kind of day as she passed swiftly by us on her way to the start. So it proved to be, very convincingly, as she came in first to finish, first IOR (47.6 rating), and broke the course record. Her average speed was 8.4 knots. The previous record, also set by *Weatherly* was 8.2 knots. *Chiron*, a Frers 47 owned by Archer, also of Tacoma, took second place and first place among the half tonners went to Alan Holt's *Ladybug*, skippered by Linrothe.

The fact that this Southern Sound is a delightful cruise, with its many islands and inlets, was a little hard to remember as I regarded the competing boats, without envy, through a rain and spray splattered lens. It was obvious though that everyone was enjoying the exciting salting and the keen competition particularly among the smaller boats. There was one crew on a tiny Tanzer 22. Oilskin clad figures, perched high on the weather rail they were going to windward in 20 knots, their lee deck permanently buried and every wave coming over. At times it was hard to separate boat from water. They grinned and waved as we passed. It was a good race. Fresh winds, fast times and a minimum of gear failure — and that's really all that matters, isn't it?

Roy Montgomery



Is Any One Cruising?

All our stories in the last few S-t-S are from our archive. Are there any Members who still use their boats? Did any one go North last summer? We want to hear from you.

PHRF Dues Are Due Now

We will be checking at Toliva and there after

Land Cruise Postponed

It was rescheduled and, if it does not snow again, it should have happened by the time you read this. We should then have a report next month.

The First Aid for Boaters' Class is Full

Ditty Bag

For sale

Custom 36' 2008 **Gaff Ketch Motorsailer**. AK veteran. Spacious, seakindly, efficient family fun. Sleeps 6. NWSWB-built. Easy to maintain, all silicone bronze fastened woody. New 12" electronics. Achilles RIB. At Martin's A. \$279.5k. Call (503) 490-5407

Passport 42, Sidetrack, for sale - \$159,500 OBO Details on yachtworld.com/yacht/1985-passport-42-9184539/ Gary Wilson gw62469@gmail.com

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.

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Eld Inlet Race January 20

Transition was RC Boat. *Koosah* was the mark boat. Thank you. Corrected times have not been adjusted for starting differences

Points	Sail No.	Yacht Name	Yacht Type	Rating	Finish Time	Correctd Time
Div. 1 Start Time: 11:31 Distance: 6.1 nm						
0.75	38044	MAKO	SYD 38	39	14:30:32	14:26:34
2.00	12	PAX		-10	14:26:05	14:27:06
3.00	18324	ROCK PAPER SCI	EXPR 37	72	15:33:31	15:26:12
4.00	33	GRU	CORS 300	48	15:51:15	15:46:22
5.00	007	007	J 99	81	DNF	
5.00	69399	FLYING CIRCUS	EXPR 37	72	DNS	
5.00	69432	SHAKA	HOB33	96	DNF	
Div.2 Start Time: 11:15 Distance: 6.1 nm						
0.75	29718	AURORA	RANC 33-1	156	15:06:50	14:50:58
2.00	69804	REIFF	J35C	123	15:55:27	15:42:57
3.00	5421	EMMA LEE	CATA 30	225	DNF	
3.00	50105	JOLLY RUMBALOW	C&C 34	135	DNS	
3.00	59924	ECHO	CATA 38	156	DNF	
3.00	79128	COLOR MY WORLD	CATA 30	225	DNF	
3.00	79182	FOLIE A DEUX	BENE 35 S5	132	DNF	

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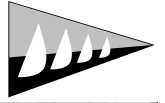
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(360) 352-9283 e-mail: sts@sssclub.com

Deadline for submissions is the second Tuesday of the month.

2023-24 SSSS Board Members

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photos of the
1979 Toliva
Shoal Race
Courtesy of
Sailing
magazine
photos by
Roy
Montgomery



Take Your Camera Sailing



South Sound Sailing Society
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The Sea off Satta in Suruga Province, from The Thirty-six Views of Fuji, Utagawa Hiroshige