

Ship-to-Shore

The South Sound Sailing Society's Newsletter

Volume 54 Issue 8

April 2025

www.ssssclub.com

April Meeting: What's Up at Northwest Maritime?

(Note that it is the *third* Tuesday of the month)

Our April Meeting will feature Jesse Wiegel, who is the Race Boss at Northwest Maritime in Port Townsend. Jesse will share an inside look at Northwest Maritime and its many projects, from hands-on youth and adult maritime education programs to the bustling boat shop and the beloved Port Townsend Wooden Boat Festival. As Race Boss, Jesse's particular focus is on Northwest Maritime's adventure races: Race to Alaska, SEVENTY48, and WA360 returning this year to the waters of the South Sound. He also coordinates the Salish 100 cruising event, which brings small boat enthusiasts together for a scenic and communal journey through Puget Sound. Come ready with any and all questions you may have about these events!

Jesse has spent a career immersed in boats, from sailing the coastal waters of Maine as an Outward Bound instructor to crossing oceans aboard square riggers. His experience includes working on traditional schooners, care taking historic vessels, and teaching maritime skills on both coasts. A Western Washington native, Jesse came home after the pandemic to return to Northwest Maritime, where he now runs some of the most ambitious adventure races on the water.

The Meeting will be on April 15 at the Olympia Yacht Club. Doors will be open at 18:15 for a social "three quarter hour" with the Meeting beginning at 19:00. Bring your significant other, your crew, and other guests.

Bob Butts, Emma Lee



Islands Race photo: John Glanville

Commodore's Corner: Time to Get Things Done

It's that time of year when all those chores on the boat we could have done in the winter really need to be done. I love getting out on our occasional sunny days to clean and organize my boat. My daughter, a great organizer of small spaces, taught me to take everything out, look at each item and decide if it really needs to go back. This is not in my nature. I come from the school of well I might need this someday and it can fit if I squeeze it in just here. She knows me well enough that she will often review my work and question things like, "do you really need all those tools, you took out your diesel engine and replaced it with an electric motor" She is right of course, but I am used to having a full bag of tools. I will say that I do enjoy my small cabin more after I have followed her rules of small spaces. The next step is even harder for me. All of the things I agree to take out of the boat often end up in a nicely labeled tote that ends up in my garage because I might need it someday.

It is time to recruit new Board members. I would like to enlist the help of all former Board members to talk with Members about serving on the Board. Former Board members are also welcome to join again. Open positions include: Commodore, Vice Commodore, Secretary, Cruise Chair, and Race Chair. The current Board will support all new Board members in their positions. Please reach out to me if you are considering one of the open positions.

Nina Goodrich, commodore@sssclub.com

Board Meeting
April 1

McAllister Creek Race
April 5

Jo Emma Cruise
April 12-13

General Meeting
April 15

Visitors Welcome
Doors open at 18:30 meeting starts 19:00

OYC Swap Meet
April 19

Spring Series, PHRF, Starts
April 26

Dinghy Racing Starts
May 1

Spring Series
May 3

Star Clinic
May 3

Star Racing Starts
May 5

Board Meeting
May 6

Dinghy Racing
May 8

Spring Series
May 10

Star Racing
May 12

Dinghy Racing
May 15

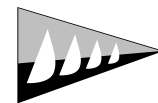
Spring Series
May 17

Star Racing
May 19

General Meeting
May 20

Visitors Welcome
Doors open at 18:30 meeting starts 19:00

LifeSling Clinic : Summer Racing Starts : Harstine GT : SS Series : Frye Cove Cruise



Race Chair's Report

As I write the official results for the Southern Sound Series have yet to be posted. But the S-t-S Editor tells me my article is overdue. I still want to send congratulations to the SSSS competitors who placed. See the Islads Race/Series report.

At the March Meeting, we put on our Sailboat Skills clinic which included an Introduction to Sailboat Racing. This was intended to inform anyone interested in



March Meeting photos: Steve Worcester

our Club racing, how to get started. We talked about the 5 basic things boat owners will need before venturing out on the race course for the first time.

These are: 1.) downloading and reading our 2024-2025 Sailing Instructions; 2.) learn the starting sequence, which is explained in the sailing instructions; 3.) have the required safety gear, as per the list found on our web site; 4.) if you want to be scored, contact our PHRF handicapper, Rafe Beswick, to get a handicap; and 5.) monitor VHF channel 72.

There is a well written section on our web site that describes in more detail these minimum requirements to race. Navigate to *More about SSSS PHRF Racing* from the PHRF racing page.

The purpose of racing is to have fun and develop sailing skills. My dad used to tell me that those who race, learn to sail their boats better, even if their main interest is cruising. Our Club's friendly, and

somewhat informal approach to racing, places the emphasis on having fun. If your new to racing, I recommend you not be overly concerned with the results or where you end up in the standings. Look at racing as a way to improve your boat handling abilities, your overall knowledge of the sport, and to gain experience with time spent on the water.

The Winter distance racing ends with McAllister Creek on April 5th. And the Spring Series buoy racing starts up on

April 26th.

We are planning to offer pre-race practice sessions for boat owners who want to start PHRF racing.

On any



Saturday of the Spring Series, around 10:00, look for the red hulled C&C 34 *Jolly Rumbalow*. She will likely be anchored off of the "Yellow" SSSS buoy, near the Budd Inlet #5 channel marker, creating a practice starting line. We will attempt to go through several 5 minute starting sequences. The idea is to familiarize skippers with the signal flags and allow them the opportunity to line up and time their approach and crossing of the line. They then can proceed if they wish to the actually starting area and participate in the race beginning at noon.

If interested in participating in our practice starts, email me or just show up on race day.

Tucker Smyth,
rchair@ssssclub.com

Portsmouth Racing

Get your small boat ready. **We start racing Thursday, May 1st.** We race just north of the Port. Look for a yellow run-about. Come on out and have fun with us. Any questions, email skaga@turbotek.net.

Jim Findley

Star Fleet

The Budd Inlet Star Fleet announces the start of the Summer Racing Season! Join us as a crew member, a skipper of your own Star, or as a race committee volunteer. Monday nights from May to August. The Star Fleet is kicking off its 2025 Summer Racing Season Saturday,

May 3rd Starting with a clinic at Tugboat Annie's banquet room at 09:00 followed by race practice!

For more than two decades, SSSS Star skippers and crew have enjoyed spirited racing in the two-person, 22-foot open vessels. The supportive fleet atmosphere cultivates improved sailing and racing skills on the beautiful waters of Budd Inlet. Experience the thrill of these former Olympic-class boats and the camaraderie of the Star sailors on Mondays starting May 12th from 17:30 to 20:00. For more information, please join our email list by visiting our page on the SSSS web site.

Patrick McLaughlin

If you are interested in racing a Star this summer, there are boats available to buy and possibly to charter.

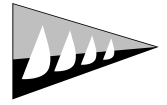
Harstine Grand Tour

Our 15 boat limit is filling up fast. If you are interested in the Harstine GT 5.0 adventure/race with an over night stop in Jarrell's cove email skaga@turbotek.net. We'll get you the Notice of Race, Application, Sailing Instructions, chart, and tide and current tables. You can decide if you are man/woman enough to take on the challenge.

Jim Findley

PHRF Sailing Instructions Are Changing

Beginning with Spring Series Race #1. New Triangular course option for all buoy races. The [Sailing Instructions](#) are on our web site.



Islands Race a Full-on Series Wrap Up

The Southern Sound Series wrapped up in pretty much the same way she started. December's Winter Vashon came in like a lion, provided an "exciting" race and the Islands Race similarly went out like a tiger! With forecasts of SW winds ranging upward from 10 knots to gusts in the low 30s and "showers" the racers headed to the starting area. Even before the start many reefed mains could be seen along with blades or heavy "3s" on forestsays.

The cruising class got the first start at 09:30 and quickly headed north with a gusty southeasterly wind, not a spinnaker to be seen. By the start of the first PHRF classes, the cruisers were well on their way north on the new Islands Race Course. With Corinthian Yacht Club Tacoma now sponsoring the race, a new course has been set for the Race. From Browns Pont the course basically heads north up the eastern side of main channel east of Vashon Island leaving all traffic separation buoys to port. One tricky spot includes also leaving a permanent CYCT buoy, just south of Three Tree point to port as well. More on this to come! After working north to a turn mark north of Blake Island the return is down the west side of the channel again leaving all traffic separation buoys to port. The course is a great tour of the Tacoma to Seattle waterway!

With the start of the PHRF fleets, some spinnakers did bloom across the sound, many judging it best to also keep that foresail up as well. Then the fun started! From *Folie* traveling over 8 knots, with a more conservative single reefed main and #3, we watched as the spinnaker boats did take off, some under control, some in a constant fight, and some rounding up repeatedly. The fun really started as the boats began to converge on the CYCT buoy at Three Tree Point. That buoy is not that far south of the rock jetty at the point. With semi controlled spinnaker boats on both sides, we had to watch out for sudden spinnaker round ups or broaches from either side.

We were glad to round the mark in the clear and watched as spinnaker boats battled with the now SW winds more on the beam. Some quickly opted to stow those chutes with a couple very colorfully "shrimping" in the process. A few seemed to bounce back and forth between control and wild round ups. Some also handled the



Islands Race photos: John Glanville

quick turns very well. Our own *Bodacious* was an example of the later. It was amazing to watch an Antrim 27 planning along rock solid, at least 15 knots, roster tail flying behind. While downwind sailing in calmer conditions can be quite relaxing, shifty winds in the 20s with much higher gusts can make for some attention focused, white knuckled sailing!

Once round the Blake Island mark the beat back south began. A starboard tack was the definite favored tack with long

good VMG runs before having to tack back west. For some this was a bit of a trap. If that starboard tack was held too long, it was a tough 0 VMG port tack to get back to the port rounding of the traffic buoy off Point Robinson.

Intermixed with all the winds and waves were the squalls! While there was mostly sun at the start, clouds filled in but stayed dry on the northward leg. Then things got ominous. You could see them coming, those dark gray veils from cloud to ground that you cannot see through. As they approached the winds would pick up quickly, often varying angles 20+ degrees. Along with the wind came the rain or at times stinging sleet, all the while breaking through waves dousing those on the rail all the way back to the helm. While only occasionally glancing at our anemometer, I was kind of busy, I only saw a peak gust of 28 knots, but Tacoma Airport recorded a gust of 44 which is probably more accurate. Oh, sailing in full conditions!

They like to say sailing the Swiftsure is "always an adventure", the same can be said of the Southern Sound Series. Over the four month Series this year we had times of sun, rain, squalls, and wind from 0 to the 44. This year every race wrapped up before dark, which says a lot about both the good sailing conditions

and the wise decisions of the various sponsoring clubs' race committees. A special THANKS to our very own race committee, *Transition*, and all the SSS/OYC volunteers, and SSS/OYC racers that made this year's Series a success! Hope to see you all out there next year! Winter Vashon is coming up December 6th!

Congratulations to SSSS/OYC boats who placed in the Series:

Redline, 1st PHRF 5; *Rock Paper Scissors*, 2nd PHRF 4; *Aurora* 2nd PHRF 7; *Bodacious* 4th PHRF 6; *Anarchy* 5th PHRF 5; *Jolly Rumbalow* 1st unrated NFS

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

SSSS/OYC Boats Sailing the Islands Race

PHRF6: 1st*Bodacious*

PHRF3: 2nd*RockPaperScissors*

PHRF3: 4th*Athena*

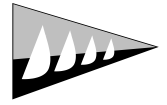
PHRF5: 3rd*Redline*

PHRF5: 4th*MagicDragon*

PHRF6: 5th *Folie`aDeux*

Non-PHRF NFS: 1st*JollyRumbalow*





Cruise News

Do you love cruising? Spending a lazy weekend getting away from it all on the water? Plunking the dinghy in the water and poking around the shoreline? Pot lucking with friends? If, so, I invite you to consider signing up for the Cruise Chair position on the SSSS Board for the 2025-6 year..

I have served on the Board three times since I joined: As a brand new boat owner, I was recruited to be the Cruise Chair almost 30 years ago ... I was hesitant, because I had only owned a boat of a few months. I had not even done an overnight in it. But it was one of the best decisions I ever made, being the Chair. It:

- * caused me to get out on the boat no matter what the weather forecast. Doing that, I learned that the weather is never as bad as it looks from your living room, and that with the right clothes, even a cold rainy trip home can be exhilarating. I also got more practice docking, anchoring and sailing in all kinds of weather, because I wasn't just picking the nice days to go out.

- * allowed me to get to know a lot more people in the Club. I have made many good friends who later became crew, or invited me to join them on their boat.

- * gave me a feeling of giving back to the Club *and* the general community. I looked forward to the board meetings as another fun social event. One in which we planned events that would be fun and rewarding not just to Members, but to aspiring sailors and organizations like the Food Bank, who benefit from our annual auction.

Being the Cruise Chair has a few responsibilities, including:

- At the beginning of our fiscal year, June, connect with the race chair to set the dates for the Cruises in September, October, February, March, April, and May. Cruises in June have also happened, and some Cruise Chairs helped organize summer events as well. It depends on the chair.

- Attend the monthly board meetings and General Meetings

- Posting the dates and places for the Cruises on the SSSS web page

- Write an article for the S-t-S on the up coming Cruises

- Attend the Cruise and write up an article about it for the S-t-S.

If you cannot attend the Cruise, you can also recruit a Cruise Host who can go in your place and

- Organize the big Hallowe'en cruise to Longbranch Marina

If you'd like to know more about the job, please don't hesitate to contact me at Cruises@ssssclub.com!

Jo Emma Beach, April 12-13

April will find cruisers returning to an old favorite at Jo Emma Beach State Park, on the East shore of Case Inlet just a bit south of McMicken Island. The Park has a floating dock and jetty along with a few mooring buoys, no power or water at the dock, but there is water on site. Anchorage is possible as well, although in unsettled weather, you may want to move overnight to the protection of McMicken Island. This has historically been a great spot to fish and crab, but unless the crab season miraculously opens, you may have to content yourself with watching them scuttle busily below the jetty, blissfully ignorant of their ancestors' fates.

We have rented the covered picnic shelter that includes five picnic tables and a couple of barbecues, so bring along the briquettes to grill your meat of choice to go with the potluck offerings. Happy hour will start sometime around 16:30, with the potluck to follow. There is plenty of parking for land cruisers as well, and it's an easy drive from Olympia. Come and join us, stroll the lovely sandy beach and watch the sun set behind Hartstine Island!

Mary Campbell

LifeSling Clinic June 7 at Olympia Center

One of the biggest risks and scariest events on a sailboat is a person falling overboard. The challenge of successfully rescuing the person in our cold water is even worse if your crew is shorthanded. Using the LifeSling and hoisting tackle, in conjunction with the sailboat's rigging, is a time tested and proven method of getting an overboard victim back to and onto the boat. However, to be sure you are using it properly it is best to get some instructions.

South Sound Sailing Society provides instructions with our annual Lifesling Clinic. This year it will be held June 7, starting with classroom instruction at 0900 in Room 200 at the Olympia Center at 222 Columbia Street NW. This is a fun and challenging way to learn or refresh your skills on how to use the LifeSling.

After the classroom instruction we will do dockside drills on the boats at Percival Landing. Once the dockside drills are finished, we will go out on Budd Inlet to do actual rescues with volunteer victims in survival suits. Each participant will complete a rescue while in sole control of the boat, although under the watchful eye of an instructor.

This is an opportunity to build confidence in your ability to rescue an overboard victim. You will be able to observe what other participants do right and how to overcome common mistakes. If you have taken the class before, please consider taking it again to refresh your skills.

The cost is just \$15 per person. It is especially helpful to learn how to use the LifeSling and hoisting tackle on the boat you sail. If you have a boat, please bring it and your crew. The fee will be waived for skippers who bring two or more crew members.

You will need to bring your life jacket, lunch, basic sailing skills and all your questions. Depending on wind conditions, we usually finish in mid-afternoon.

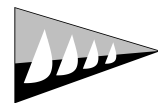
Registration is first come, first served. Space is limited so advance registration is encouraged. Please sign up by calling or texting me at (253) 732-2129 or by email at hsaller214@aol.com. I will be happy to answer any questions you have about the class.

Please also contact me if you would like to volunteer to be a victim for the on-the-water rescues. We will provide a (mostly) dry survival suit, along with much praise and gratitude for your contribution to this worthwhile effort.

Andy Saller, Liberty

Predicting the Tides

The tides are more complicated than most think. The sun, the moon, and the geography are the major factors but by no means the only ones. Oceanographer Dr. Arthur Doodson identified 396 factors that influence the tides. When predicting the tides NOAA takes 37 independent variables into account.



Cruise News

Frye Cove Cruise

It was a small but convivial group that braved the weather for the Cruise/Drive-in at Frye Cove State Park on March 22. Boaters included Kit Dahl on *Music*, as well as Randy Richter and Dash Ruthenburg on Randy's *Bastiat*; drive-ins included Meredith Anderson, Alan Hoffman, Rinda Le Sage, Terry and Dennis Osterstetter, and myself, Cruise Chair.

The weather, although a bit overcast, stayed dry while the nine of us pot lucked at the shelter and shared sea stories as well as aspirations for future cruising. My thoughts were with Kit, Randy and Dash for the trip home the next day which would have provided them with a chance to test the permeability of their foul weather gear.

Mary Campbell

OYC Swap Meet

Saturday, April 19 OYC Parking Lot
Sales 0900-1200

Sellers arrive 0800-0900 for set up.
Public Welcome. No fees

Sell *anything nautical*, from dinghies to sails to nuts and bolts. Someone can make use of items you no longer need

For registration and details, contact Fran Williams
(360) 584-2952 franwil@comcast.net

Ditty Bag

For sale

Capri 25 1983 *Magic* racer/cruiser, 5 hp Honda 4 stroke, fixed keel, draft 4.2 ft., 8 sails including nearly new laminate main, 2 spinnakers & pole, depth finder, radio, stereo, life jackets, LifeSling, cabin and cockpit cushions, great condition, Asking \$4500, Contact Henry Brooks (text or voice) (360) 789-9912.

San Juan 28, 50% partnership \$5,500. To purchase \$13k. Constant upgrades including electric propulsion, B&G VHF, AIS, Depth and Zeus Chartploter. Contact Jeff Hogan at sailorhogan@gmail.com for complete specifications.

Spinnaker: multicolored asymmetric 41'SLU still available. If you would like to look at it or talk about modifying it contact Jim Lengenfelder (360)-790 2521.

1981 New York 36 *Desperado*. Racer/Cruiser OBO. 10' Dinghy, Volvo 17hp Diesel, New Standing Rigging 2013, Recent Bottom Paint Oct 2023. \$24,000 Call, text for more details Jerry @ 503-360-3989, desperado.jerry@gmail.com.

Heavy Dacron main: w/ bag, like new, fits Hobie 33 (33' luff, 12' foot), will deliver, \$500. Jon Knudson (206) 463-6711

Dolly trailer w/dolly: Right-On trailer / Dynamic aluminum dolly. Never been in water! Accommodates up to a 16 foot dinghy. Registered. \$750 (360)269-6282

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.

Sailing Stories Sought

Capt. Dennis Crowley AMS #1350

Crowley Marine
vessel surveyor

www.crowleysurvey.com
360-310-0421
dennis@crowleysurvey.com

www.crowleysurvey.com

- *Damage Appraisals
- *Pre-purchase Surveys
- *Thermal Image Inspections
- *Insurance and Financing Surveys

Commercial, Recreational, and Cargo Surveys

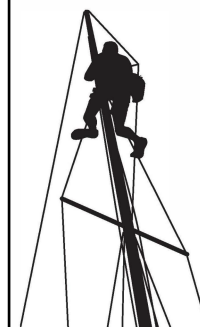
Aloft Marine llc

Rigging - Electronics - Maintenance

Jason Vannice -owner
Serving Olympia sailors since 2002

aloftmarine@gmail.com
360 556 5200 (text ok)

C



EVERGREEN
RIGGING

Cliff Hennen

(360) 207-5016 · (206) 718-5582

evergreenrigging@gmail.com
www.evergreenrigging.com

Splicing • Swaging • Inspections • Furlers • Repairs

FULL SERVICE RIG SHOP NOW BASED IN OLYMPIA

The Ship-to-Shore is published monthly, except July and August, by the South Sound Sailing Society, PO. Box 1102, Olympia WA 98507. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the policies of SSSS. Mention of products or trade names shall not constitute an endorsement by the S-t-S or SSSS of their use.

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 Worchester**
(360) 352-9283 e-mail: sts@ssssclub.com

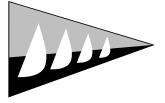
Deadline for submissions is the third Tuesday of the month.

2024-25 SSSS Board Members

Commodore	Nina Goodrich	(360) 972-4526
Vice-Commodore		
Secretary	Colleen Carbery	(609) 284-6745
Treasurer	Mathew Peterson	(360) 529-2263
Program Chair	Bob Butts	(360) 951-6234
Race Chair	Tucker Smyth	
Cruise Chair	Mary Cambell	(360) 491-8990
Past Commodore	John Martens	(360) 561-2822

PHRF Handicapper Rafe Beswick (360) 250-5252

D Class Handicapper Richard Bigley



Take Your Camera Sailing



Islands Race
photos by
John Glanville



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



Print by Edward William Cooke