

Ship-to-Shore

The South Sound Sailing Society's Newsletter

Volume 54 Issue 4

December 2024

www.ssssclub.com

December Meeting: Annual Holiday Potluck & Auction

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

Our annual Dinner and Charity Auction will be Tuesday, December 17 at the Olympia Yacht Club. Please bring a main dish, salad, or dessert for the potluck. Also, help us reduce waste and reduce plastic use by bringing your own place settings. Beverages will be provided. The auction will benefit the Thurston County Food Bank. Last year we raised more than \$30,000 for their programs.

The auction will feature goods and services donated by local marine-oriented businesses and individuals. In keeping with our traditions, we are also asking Members to decorate a wine bottle to sell in the auction. If you have a wine bottle or a boating or vacation-related high value item that you would like to donate for the auction, please email porgrams@sssclub.com.



Doors will open at 18:00 and the potluck dinner starts at 18:30.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Bob Butts, Emma Lee

Commodore's Corner:

Thanks to Jim Larson for a fantastic shanty on the *Pirates of Budd Inlet*.

We had a great turn out for our November Meeting to hear about Olympia Community Sailing programs and their plans for a small boat center. A small boat sailing center would be a great addition to our community and I am sure SSSS will work with them to help make it a reality.

We held an impromptu racers corner during the break helping to create a way for folks to ask questions about racing. Speaking of racing we need volunteers for the Race Committee boat. Please contact Tucker Smyth, rcchair@SSSSclub.com.

We are taking orders for fleece jackets with the SSSS logo. Please contact me, mail below, if you are interested in ordering one.

There are some great educational events coming up in 2025 starting with the Andrew Kerr Racing Seminar on January 16th from 18:00 to 20:00 at the View Point Room at Tugboat Annies. Stay tuned for details on our popular New Sailor/New Boat Owners 101. I am still hoping for feedback from our Members on what additional types of education you would like to see.

Nina Goodrich, commodore@sssclub.com

Happy Holidays

Hope Island Race
December 14

General Meeting
Holiday Pot Luck
Fund Raiser
December 17

Visitors Welcome
Doors open at 18:00 eating starts 18:30

Duwamish Head
Race, TTPYC
January 4
Southern Sound Series Race 2

Board Meeting
January 7

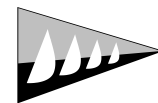
**Andrew Kerr
Seminar
January 16**

Eld Inlet Race
January 18

General Meeting
Jeff Causy
America's Cup
January 21

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

Death of a Sailor : Arrive Australia : Toliva Help : Cruise Report : PHRF Dues Due



RC Report

Where do you go to get your forecasts? Sourcing the best possible information about wind and weather is crucial to our sport. I want to know ahead of a race if I should be expecting a drifter or if a system is moving through the area that could mean very high winds. If I see in the forecast winds up to 20 kts. steady on race day, I know this can mean gusts to speeds at least half again as much. Racing a Melges 24, I just might decide to stay home, or at



Squaxin Island Race photo by Tom Badger

least have a plan to retire and duck in somewhere before the finish if things get too wild. And if the forecast says 0 to nothing, I'll plan for 1 or even 2 less crew that day. But we all know you just can't be sure about the weather. Forecasts are often wrong.

When someone tells me their prediction for wind and weather, I always want to know where they got their forecast. It seems that weather apps are very popular with sailors in our community. I have subscribed to *Sailflow* in the past, and tried others such as *PredictWind*, *Wind Alert*, etc. There's even a link on our web site to *Windy.com*. I like apps with maps where you can zoom in to the area of interest and click on actual weather stations that show the present wind speed and direction in addition to the last few hours, and the forecast into the next day.

But where do all these weather apps get their data, you might ask. If you look carefully at any of these, you will see the models on which their forecasts are based. Take *Windy* for example. At the bottom

right corner of their display, you will see "forecast models" with acronyms like GFS, NAM, or HRRR. I am most familiar with the Global Forecast System computer model as used by the UW Dept of Atmospheric Sciences.

Their web site is an amazing source of weather information. And I prefer going there rather than using a weather app, specifically a thing called the WRF Pacific Northwest model found at <https://a.atmos.washington.edu/wrfrt/gfsinit.html>. Many Washington sailors like myself have been using this web site since the 1990s and I find it to be remarkably accurate. The UW publishes these computer runs twice a day, in the morning and evening. I click on "Western WA 10m Wind Speed" in the 12 km domain section and then on the number of hours in the future that I will add to the time of the forecast (ie. 4 pm plus 18 hrs.)

When someone said to me, this last week, "Watch out. We're about to be hit by a bomb cyclone". I went to WRF-GFS and told them with some confidence "No were not, not here in Olympia". According to the UW wind maps, the wind speeds were quite high north of Seattle and also out on the coast, but it showed only moderate wind speeds in the South Sound. And thankfully, this turned out to be what happened.

Sorry to be a broken record, but we still need RC volunteers for many upcoming races. So once again, I am asking that boat owners who race, or any Member, to please go to the RC Duty roster on our web site and help us fill these positions.

And if you attempt to log in but can't, that probably means you haven't paid your Membership dues. And if you race your boat, this also means



Squaxin Island Race, photo by Carole Mathews

you haven't paid your race dues. I'll be reaching out to individual boat owners who are racing but have forgotten to take care of this.

And here's another reminder of the Andrew Kerr seminar scheduled for January 16th from 18:00 to 20:00 at the View Point Room, below Tugboat Annie's at Westbay Marina. Info on how to sign up for this event is forthcoming, with an announcement to be made at our December Meeting.

Tucker Smyth, rechair@ssssclub.com

The Southern Sound Series continues
Duwamish Head Race,
 TTPYC, January 4
 Information and registration
 on the Series web site

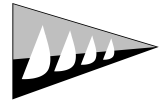
A Note on the Weather

Tucker was asking where you get your weather forecasts. Taking that back a step, they all come from the Federal Government, the National Weather Service. Wherever you get your forecast, the weather data comes from them. They have been collecting weather information across the country for over 150 years.

Starting in the 1990s, enterprising Federal employees greatly improved the accuracy of weather forecasting. They networked all the various information that the NWS collects, from weather balloons to radar images. Then they put it together on line, free for the public. Much more data, much better forecasts.

Those making your app repackage that data for you. They may even use the data to make their own forecasts. Note that however much they charge, when studied, none have proven *consistently* better than the NWS (that is USA forecasts, weather routing across oceans is an other story).

Ed.



Death of a Sailor: Frank Neumann

Frank was an very active Member. He raced in every venue we offer. I met him when I took him out in my Star, before he got his own. He crewed PHRF, and though he bought his J24 to cruise, he raced her too. He even spent a season racing a Laser. Ed.

The south sound has lost one of our finest sailing Members in the death of Mr. Frank Neumann. The Crew on *Bodacious* was lucky enough to have Frank sail with us for several years at our local races here and the Southern Sound Series, Race Week, and Tri Island Series up in Seattle. Frank was always up for about anything and always reveled in a good sail, a beautiful sunset, a great mountain view or just a good beer with friends. If you were lucky enough to know Frank you would know he had a Zest for Life that few people have. It seemed he was always sailing, skiing, hiking, biking or kayaking both here or in Europe, where he would often go to visit family and get in a good hike or climb. Often he would get in two or three days of skiing in the week before he would sail with us on Saturday! He was an inspiration to me and to our whole crew because of his abilities and the good health he enjoyed right up until the end. It came as a complete surprise to learn of his passing. I was looking forward to trying to keep with him skiing again this year.

A short story about Frank: about five years ago in March Frank invited me to go skiing with him up at Crystal Mountain after a big dump of spring snow. Now keep in mind Frank is about 15 years older than me. The very first run of the day he took me to the very top of the mountain and after a long traverse we came to one of his favorite runs. It was a

black diamond chute that was prone to avalanche but he said was now perfectly safe as the ski patrol had already Shot it with explosives and opened it up. He took off down that



Squaxin Island Race photo by Tom Badger

steep pitch with the grace and poise that only comes from a lot of time skiing the steep and deep! I usually don't get very tired skiing but that day Frank absolutely skied my tail off! I hope when I am almost eighty that I will still be able to do half what Frank could do!!

Of course Frank was an excellent sailor as was both good on tactics and sail trim and could do everything asked of him. He will be greatly missed!! Farewell Freind!

The Crew of *Bodacious*

Cruise News Hallowe'en Cruise

It was a small but might band that gathered at Longbranch Marina on the last weekend of October for our annual Hallowe'en Cruise. Those arriving by boat included Connie Bunyer and Scott Voltz on *Traveler*, Darris and Jolene Baldrige on *Sans le Sous*, Marvin Young and Fran Williams on *Pleiades*, and Carol and Colin Elewskii on *Alberta*. Nina Goodrich and I camped in our trailers at Penrose Point State Park while Meredith Anderson, Jeannette Rogers and Loren Ferro drove in for the Saturday festivities.

We missed the two couples who were stuck at their docks with Covid, and another who was dealing with a family medical emergency.

The weather turned out to be better than anticipated. It was not that cold, and only a bit misty both days and the rain held back until

everyone was under cover for dinner ... and then the skies opened in the middle of the night. Winds were light.

The decorations were mounted in minutes by a willing crowd of volunteers and Jeannette supported the pumpkin carving by gutting a gourd for anyone who wanted to carve. The potluck included chili and sweet potato curry soup

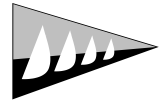
with the requisite apple dessert, along with salads and hearty breads. Connie, accompanied occasionally by Meredith, serenaded us in several languages, and Marvin regaled us with a dramatic reading of Robert Burns' *Tam O'Shanter*.

There was the traditional judging of costumes (see photos here and on the SSSS Facebook page), decorated boats and pumpkins, rewarded by fabulous prizes as usual!

Nina and I had coffee and breakfast burritos ready for everyone at 08:00. and with everyone pitching in, we had eaten, cleaned up, and were ready for departure by 09:30 with the skies promising a dry return for the boaters.

Mary Campbell

Photos on the back cover.



We're headed to Australia!

We've been making good progress. The first day of our passage we had a downwind start. There was a squall system to the South that gave us a burst of wind, 30 knots, so we furled the jib and flew with our reefed mainsail. We didn't get wet and watching the lightning that evening was pretty and humbling. We were fortunate to skate by.

The next morning the wind had faded and we motored for about a day. We kept our progress up and watching the wind models closely. Sure enough we got our turn to "Champagne sail". It was fun while it lasted. The next chapter was the wind backed a complete 360 over time. We followed it right into some heavier seas that the low had sent North.

The seas have settled some and we currently have a nice 12-15 knot winds with a 250 degree heading.

We changed our destination. It's now Southport, just south of Brisbane, instead of Coffs Harbour. The new low is coming up the coast and we don't want to be in it. ETA to Southport is ... wait no jinxing



here. We are 360 nautical miles from our new destination.

Pictures. Adam caught a delicious yellowfin tuna yesterday. Yay!!!

Judi

Channel Fever. We're getting clooooooser to Southport Yacht Club. As of 18:00 Seattle time, we had 125 nautical miles to go. We're making 6 knots over ground in 12 knots if wind. We're

starting to get a little help with the currents, too. Brisbane has rain, but we don't yet.

Our current course is a sweet beam reach. The crew is enjoying the ride. Thank you, Adam, for inviting me on this passage.

Judi

Land ho!!!

We have arrived in

Southport Australia! That's about an hour south of Brisbane.

The pre sunset had a parade of clouds celebrating and soon a 25 knot southerly breeze met us to join the fun (wait, the seas got choppy against the current). We had big smiles, anyways. Adam had just sailed from Olympia all the way to Australia!

Ashore, family and friends celebrated with us after we met with customs officials and the bio security officer. The group cheer was beaming brightly! The day was remarkable!

I will hotel in Brisbane tonight so I can catch the early airtrain to the airport in the morning.

Happy Halloween!!

Judi

Thank you for following along my adventures! I realize that I haven't updated everyone about my return to the states. My bad.

On Halloween, I flew back to Olympia to join in



the fun with the trick or treaters. It's tradition. I help the pumpkin house by soliciting donations.

Two days later, I was racing aboard *Liberty* in the Heron Island Race. The weather was a little chilly, but I managed to stay warm. It was a fantastic day to be on the water.

My adventures in the South Pacific were fun and memorable. Thank you Adam and Ingrid for inviting me aboard.

In closing, I look forward to visiting each you all soon.

Judi Kruller

Stories Needed

Did you enjoy reading of Judi's adventures? It is your turn now. We want to hear from you.

Herron Island Race, November 2, Island Series

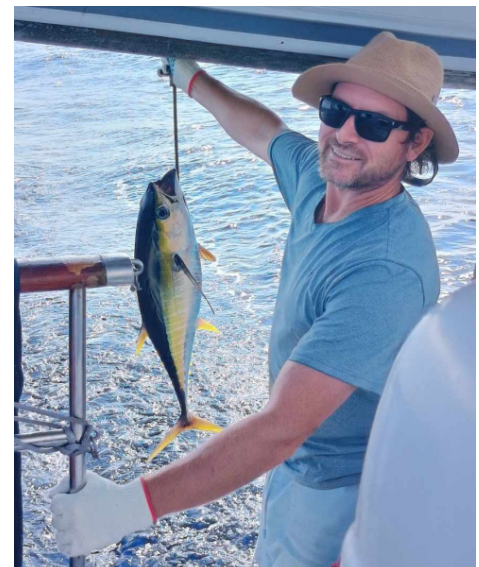
RC Boat: *Transition* assisted by *Jolly Rumbalow* Mark Boat: *Quest*

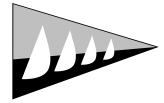
Class 1 Start - 10:00 Distance - 24.5 nm

Points	Sail	Name	Yacht	Handicap	Corrected	Finish
0.75	28829	Anarchy	ANT27	87	14:02:04	14:37:36
2	35	Angel Eyes	J99	78	14:02:55	14:34:46
3	79	Rufus	MEL	93	14:06:01	14:44:00
4	69399	Flying Circus	EXPR 37	72	14:08:13	14:37:37
5	69051	Spirit	BENE 36.7	81	14:21:58	14:55:03
6	12	Pax	FAR 32	-10	14:28:07	14:24:02
7	61733	Ziva	First 36	57	14:31:06	14:54:23
8	69432	Shaka	HOB 33	93	DNF	

Class 2 Start - 9:35:00 Distance - 20.8 nm

Points	Sail	Name	Yacht	Handicap	Corrected	Finish
0.75	29718	Aurora	RANC 33-1	156	13:15:05	14:09:10
2	64985	Liberty	C&C 35	123	13:39:16	14:21:54
3	79182	Folie A Deux	BENE 35 S5	132	13:41:27	14:27:13
4	142	Chinook	BEN 11.5	168	13:45:16	14:43:30
5	50105	Jolly Rumbalow	C&C 34	135	13:47:13	14:34:01
6	241	Indigo	CATA 380	147	13:56:41	14:47:39
7	24601	Yonder Star	CAT 320	171	13:57:52	14:57:09
8	5421	Emma Lee	CATA 30	225	14:03:33	15:21:33
9	79128	Color My World	CATA 30	225	14:09:12	15:27:12
10	11	Coral	Beneteau 381	168	14:21:31	15:19:45
11	59924	Echo	CATA 38	156	14:37:51	15:31:56





Toliva? Isn't it a bit early . . .

We have just made it through Thanksgiving, we have the December holidays and parties ahead of us, and then there is New Years . . . so, why are even thinking about Toliva just yet? (Seems rather like finding the stores full of Christmas stuff before Halloween!) Well, we all know how challenging it can be to plan that perfect Valentine's Day, and it is never too early to get those ducks in a row, so SSSS is here to help!

The next Southern Sound Series Toliva Shoal Race, sponsored by South Sound Sailing Society and Olympia Yacht Club, will be held on February 15, 2025, which means the ever popular, inexpensive, and fabulous pre-race dinner, which is open to everyone in SSSS and OYC whether you are a racer or not, will be served up on, you guessed it, you are way ahead of me on this one, Valentine's Day! There you go, you have got Valentine's Day dinner sorted; see how easy that was?

Those of you who have been around a while know that the Toliva pre-race dinner is not the only offering in what has been called The Best Party of the Southern Sound Series. There are pre- and post-race libations, a piping hot breakfast the morning of the race, and a bowl, or two, or three, of delicious home-made soup to take the chill off and fuel the bragging, or tales of woe, as the racers return. And it goes without saying that it takes a stalwart crew of convivial volunteers to pull this all off! Those who have served on the Toliva Kitchen Crew before, we've got your number. But, if you haven't, and you would like to step up and pitch in, give us a shout. We'd love to have you aboard! Drop me a line at svbrightangel@yahoo.com and we will keep you in the loop to sign up for a shift or two when the time comes. But it is a bit early for that just now! Cheers,

Bob Hargreaves, Bright Angel, Toliva Kitchen Skipper

Ditty Bag For sale

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.

Catalina 34 mainsail. Leech 38'-6, Luff 36'-11, Foot 11'-3. It is serviceable, but has two rips that were repaired and a small one (6") needs repair. \$100 Gary Wilson gw62469@gmail.com

Portable fuel polisher/tank cleaner - Algae-X model TK-180 XY \$500/obo, More info at <https://static.webshopapp.com/shops/078208/files/093549440/tk180xt.pdf> Gary Wilson gw62469@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.

PHRF Dues are Due

They will be checking at Duwamish Head!

Aloft Marine llc

Rigging - Electronics - Maintenance

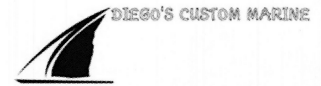
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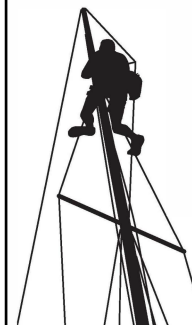
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If you are having a problem receiving the Ship-to-Shore, would like to submit a letter, article, or photo, run an advertisement, or have other questions or concerns contact the **Editor : Steve Worcester**

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

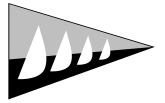
Deadline for submissions is the second Tuesday of the month.

2024-25 SSSS Board Members

Commodore	Nina Goodrich	(360) 972-4526
Vice-Commodore		
Secretary	Colleen Carbery	(609) 284-6745
Treasurer	Darris Baldrige	(360) 561-5100
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PHRF Handicapper Rafe Beswick (360) 250-5252

D Class Handicapper Richard Bigley



Halloween Cruise
Photos by Mary Campbell



Take Your Camera Sailing



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