

WINDWORD

The Newsletter of the Footloose Sailing Association

Leave your disability at the dock

Your chance to be at one or both of the starts for the R2AK Race to Alaska.

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2017 Loose Screw Award Winners

Bob Ewing, the President of Footloose, had the honor of presenting the 2017 Loose Screw Award to Gerri Lake and Jane Smith at the latest Midwinter Party.

The Loose Screw is awarded annually to two volunteers to recognize their outstanding contributions to Footloose.

Gerri Lake served on the Footloose Board from 2011 through 2013. She and Jag Lake set up a Footloose auction and helped with other auctions. They also ran an annual fundraiser in the Everett area for many years. Unfortunately the award was given posthumously as Gerri passed away near the end of last year.

Jane Smith organized an article in the Seattle Times last summer. This article resulted in a marked increase in interest in Footloose and upped the attendance at the sail days. Jane also held a meeting for fundraising and has helped connect Footloose with the Seattle Yacht Club for public relations and fund raising.



UPCOMING

- April 28 Setup day – more details on Page 2.
- May 5 Opening Day – first day sail
- May 19 Day Sail
- June 2 Day Sail

See Page 6 for the full schedule



Footloose is a 501(c)(3) organization funded entirely by donations.

Footloose Outreach

Ken McKenzie and Ben Lobaugh donated their time on Saturday, February 3, 2108 to help promote Footloose. The Edmonds School District hosted a Recreation and Resource Info Fair for people from ages 0 to 21 with special needs. Almost 30 organizations were present. Ben and Ken made many worthwhile contacts with individuals and other organizations that work with people with disabilities. These organizations included the Department of Social and Health Services and Seattle Children’s Bothel.

If you are aware of other Fairs, information sessions or specific groups that Footloose should be part of or should contact, please let us know. One of Footloose’s goals is to serve as many people as possible.



No, this isn’t the real setup at Edmonds but you can still picture Ken and Ben standing here promoting Footloose.

Setup Day



Setup Day for the 2018 season is on April 28. People will be required to load equipment at Bob’s, tow the chase boat and Martins (shown above) to the boat launch, launch the boats and move them to Leschi, clean the Columbias, put the sails on the Columbias, dust off the Access dinghies and generally make sure everything is ready for the May 5 Opening Day sail. If you can help, or just want to get an introduction to the volunteers at Footloose, please be at Leschi at 10:00 am on Saturday the 28th.

Leschi Marina under new management

The City of Seattle has passed management of Leschi to Marina Management LLC. A new fob security system, instead of the keys, is being installed and over the next few years the older docks will be replaced. Footloose has been assured that the improvements will not change our operation. We will keep you posted.

R2AK 2018 Race To Alaska



Photo courtesy of r2ak.com

The Race to Alaska is a 750 mile boating event that starts in Port Townsend and runs up the Inside Passage to Ketchikan in Alaska. The paddleboards, kayaks, canoes, row boats, dinghies, sloops, catamarans and trimarans can only be powered by the wind and/or the crew members. Once the vessels leave Victoria no external support is allowed.

Stage 1 starts in Port Townsend on Thursday, June 14th and finishes in Victoria, B.C. Participants must finish this leg unassisted in order to proceed to Stage 2.

Stage 2 starts in Victoria on Sunday June 17th and finishes in Ketchikan.

YOU CAN JOIN THE FUN AT THE START

Gail Oldroyd has generously donated two days accommodation at the Commander's Beach House in Port Townsend and another two days at the Rosewood Inn in Victoria.

Footloose will be auctioning or raffling off these two opportunities in the near future. Please watch our website or Facebook page for details.



Commander's Beach House – available June 13 and 14.



Rosewood Inn – available June 15 and 16

MERCER ISLAND ROTARY CONTRIBUTES NEW ELECTRONICS



Footloose has 2 Martin 16 dinghies. The equipment shown above allows a sailor with minimal upper body strength to steer the Martin 16 and adjust the sails. A battery (not shown) powers both the autohelm (the black tube at the bottom of the picture) for steering and the winch (the beige box with two blue wheels) for sail control. A joystick or sip&puff mounted on the Martin 16 Power-Assist box controls the autohelm and winch with minimal effort by the sailor.

The Mercer Island Rotary Club recently purchased one of these units for Footloose. On behalf of Footloose and our sailors we are very happy to acknowledge their support.

Contributors

Footloose would like to acknowledge and thank the following people and organizations for their financial contributions over the past year.

Adobe Foundation
Ray Archer
Argosy Cruises – Peter Robinson
Ron Breitenbach
Diane Brening
Lesley Chapin and Paul Wyckoff
Challenge Sailcloth
Clifford Cooley
Michael Dorsey Memorial – Larry & Shannon Clark
Michael Dorsey Memorial – Gary & Beverly O’Rielly
Michael Dorsey Memorial – SBCY
Michael Dorsey Memorial – Howard & Rita Stoess
Elliott Bay Marina
Emmanuel Episcopal Church – Mercer Island
EZ Loader Boat Trailers
Bruce Freundlich
Bruce Ford
Ann Girvin
Carol Hasse & Port Townsend Sails
Katherine Holloway
Glenn Hebert
Nancy Kick
Memory of Gary G. Kohler – Dale Platt Family
Memory of Gary G. Kohler – Reah DePriest
Memory of Gary G. Kohler – Len & Gaye Marklund
Judy Kelly
Toni Lynch
Jonathan Morasch
Navillus Real Estate Development and Investments – Robert Sullivan, Pendleton Sullivan, Jefferson Renshaw

(Continued on next page)

Contributors – (continued)

Newcomb Foundation - Polly
 Mora Olson
 Amanda Pinard
 Rec Room Bar & Grill – Gerri and Jag
 Rotary Foundation – Mercer Island
 Terry Scidmore
 Shilshole Bay Yacht Club
 Patti Spencer
 Karol Stevens
 Rowly Stow
 Nicholas Sumbles
 Washington Women’s Foundation – Susan
 McLeod
 JD Weiner
 David Wolter

Footloose 2017

2017 was a fabulous season for Footloose. With 9 daysails, 45 volunteers were able to provide sailing for 165 participants. The traditional 2 days at Blake Island was also a great success. A special mid-week sail was added for a group of participants suffering from Parkinson’s disease.

Many thanks to the participants that joined us and to the volunteers that made it possible.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

More information about Footloose activities and how to join us a sailor or a volunteer is available by any of the methods shown below. Remember, you don’t have to have any sailing experience in order to join the fun at Footloose.

Web site – footloosedisabledsailing.org

Email – info@footloosedisabledsailing.org

Like us on Facebook – Footloose Sailing Association.

Fund Raising

Adobe, on behalf of Board member Todd Heckel, had been donating over \$5,000 per year to Footloose. Unfortunately due to family issues Todd had to leave the Board and consequently this funding has stopped.

Funds were raised in the past by an annual auction. However the amounts raised in the most recent events did not reflect the time and effort put into them.

Consequently Footloose is currently relying solely on individual donations from people and organizations.

We are investigating other funding sources but now more than ever Footloose needs your financial support. Thank-you.

New For 2018

This season Footloose will be running a pilot program by offering mid-week sails for groups. The intent is to service groups that operate only during the week and also to eliminate over-attendance during the regular Saturday sails. These outings will be on one Columbia and will be restricted to people that can board without the use of the Hoyer lift.

If you know of a group that would be interested, please have them contact us. Sails will be by reservation only.

Please forward this Newsletter to anyone you know that may be interested in sailing or volunteering with, or donating to, Footloose.



Footloose 2018 Sailing Schedule

April 28 – Setup Day

May 5 – Opening Day – first daysail

May 19 – daysail

June 2 – daysail

June 16 – daysail

June 30 – daysail

July 14 – daysail

July 28-29 – Blake Island overnight camping trip

August 11 – daysail

August 26 – daysail

September 8 – daysail

September 22 – last daysail

October 6 – Shut Down Day

– If bad weather, October 7