

WINDWORD

The Newsletter of the Footloose Sailing Association

Leave your disability at the dock



At The Tiller

How Footloose Was Started and It's Early Years

Ron Singleton, Fred Hayes and Bob Ewing are the original founders of Footloose. Ron became interested in disabled sailing when he read an article about Shake-a-Leg and the pivoting seat they were using. He moved to Seattle in 1989 with the idea of getting some kind of group together for disabled sailing. At a meeting at the Center for Wooden Boats he met Fred Hayes who got him an entree to the Seattle Yacht Club. A pitch was made for disabled sailing and SYC ended up donating two Columbia 21 sailboats (Klickitat and Eoghan) through the Sailing Foundation and money for the first rotating seat. Ron then came up with the name Footloose and put a notice in a disabled sports flyer for a meeting in October of 1990 (continued on Page 2)

Footloose Mid-Winter Potluck Party

Saturday, January 19, 2019

12:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Emmanuel, The Episcopal
Church, Mercer Island

4400 86th Avenue SE



Footloose is an all volunteer
501(c)(3) organization
funded entirely by
donations.

How Footloose Was Started (cont'd)

attended by Ron, Fred and Bob Ewing. A second meeting a month later was attended by more interested people and Fred started the process to setup Footloose as a 501 C-3 incorporated in Washington state as a chapter of Disabled Sports USA. In 1991 a board of 9 was formed and Ron became the first Footloose president. Liability insurance was purchased through DSUSA and moorage negotiated at the north Leschi marina through Seattle Parks and Rec. Member Bob Jones got meeting space at the Corinthian YC Leschi facility.

A sailing program started coming together in 1991 with 9 day sails on Lake Washington and invites to races in Chicago, Vancouver, B.C. and San Diego. The Blake Island event started a year later with Dave Lambert, Sue Hunt and several stroke and head injury sailors. A yearly weekend event at the Center for Wooden Boats came after that.

In the winter of 1991, Bob Ewing went to visit the head of sailing for the disabled in Australia and came back with news of a great little two person sailboat called the Access Dinghy (now Hansa Dinghy). Footloose was in the process of buying our first Martin 16 (Cleveland) at the time, so the first Access Dinghy (Mrs. 'B') was donated by Dennis Hannan. We needed a chase boat for the dinghies, so the thirteen foot Boston Whaler was donated by Fred Hayes in 1992. Our fleet grew over the next few years adding three more Access Dinghies and another Martin 16 with Martin joystick & sip and puff controls. The rest is history and now here we are in 2019 !!!

This is just a small sample of the many generous people who have come together with lots of good work to make Footloose happen as an all volunteer organization.

Ron Singleton
Bob Ewing

The Footloose Board of Directors

Footloose would like to acknowledge and thank Susan Zajac and Mary Nickerson for their time and efforts on the Board and at Footloose events. Susan has moved to the east coast and we wish her the best. Although Mary has left the Board we still hope to see her at the events. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please let us know.



Herding Cats at the start of a sail day

Your Involvement with Footloose

Come and join us on a sail day if you are interested in participating or volunteering or both. No training or experience is required. If you have any questions we have many people who can answer them. If you have questions now, please feel free to contact us. (see Page 5 for details.)

A New Boat Will Be Added To The Fleet

Footloose is happy to announce that sufficient funds have been committed to allow us to purchase a new, or nearly new, Capri 22. This will allow us to retire one of the Columbias which, although they are great boats for our purposes, are getting a little tired. The Capri 22 is a higher performance boat than the Columbia and will allow for more lively sails. With an easily reefed main and self-furling jib it can also be tamed down for more comfortable rides.



The Start of The Sail Day



The Crew Inspecting a Capri 22

Martin Upgrades

In our continuing efforts to improve the sailing experience in the Martins (and to try and keep up with the carefully cared-for Access dinghies) several modifications have been made. Windex wind indicators have been added to the tops of the masts so that we can finally find out where the wind is coming from on those light wind, high boat chop days. The rear seat of Martin 8 has been replaced with a flat seat. This will give the volunteer a little more room behind the big black seat. Bags have been installed in the cockpits to keep the batteries more accessible and out of the way.



New View from the Martin Cockpit



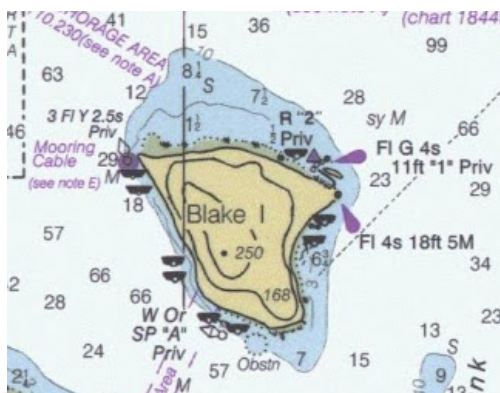
Martin 8 Bench Seat

Contributors

Footloose would like to acknowledge and thank the following people and organizations that contributed financially in 2018.

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Important Notice

The Timing for Blake Island Has Changed

The 2019 Blake Island Trip will start on Sunday, July 21st and run for two days with the return trip on Tuesday, July 23rd.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT FOOTLOOSE

Web site – footloosedisabledsailing.org

Email – info@footloosedisabledsailing.org

Like us on Facebook – Footloose Sailing Association.

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



Footloose 2019 Sailing Schedule

April 27 – Setup Day

May 4 – Opening Day – first daysail

May 18 – daysail

June 1 – daysail

June 15 – daysail

June 29 – daysail

July 13 – daysail

July 21 – 23 – Blake Island two night camping trip

August 10 – daysail

August 24 – daysail

September 7 – daysail

September 21 – last daysail

October 5 – Shut down. If bad weather, October 6