

# WindWord

The Newsletter of the Footloose Sailing Association

Leave your disability at the dock



Captain Bob supervising the removal of the Leschi access ramp

## At The Tiller Winter 2022

Ahoy Footloose sailors!

I sure do miss the summer sailing days! The boats are all put to bed at South Leschi while North Leschi is getting new docks. The new marina configuration will take some getting used to and we'll probably have some traffic routing issues until we get things figured out. Our moorage expenses will increase with the remodel, so we'll need to put extra effort into fundraising this year.

### HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

mid-Winter  
Potluck

January 28, 2023

Noon to 2:30

Emmanuel  
Episcopal Church



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

## The Access Ramp Finds A New Home

### At The Tiller (cont'd)

Last year the new website reservation system for the sailing events was a learning curve for everyone so I'm hoping it won't be an obstacle for participation next summer. Also, having Footloose participants and volunteers print out and fill out the registration forms beforehand and bring them to the events speeds up the check in process. You only have to do the registration forms once a year, not for every event. And a reminder that if you don't fill out the Move United insurance form, you won't be covered by our insurance.

We will be having the annual Footloose potluck this winter! It will be January 28 from 12 to 2:30 at Emmanuel Episcopal church on Mercer Island, 4400 86th Ave SE. As usual, bring what you want and remember that we'll be cleaned up and have everything put away by 2:30.

Footloose always has ongoing efforts by volunteers in meetings, fund raising, administration, outreach, paperwork, accounting, maintenance, trailer and boat sales. A big thank you to the Footloose Volunteers as well as all the businesses and organizations that support us!

You can keep up with Footloose on our facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/FootlooseSailingAssociation/>

or at our website:

[footloosedisabledsailing.org](http://footloosedisabledsailing.org).

fair winds, Captain Bob



ADA access to Leschi was limited to the walkway at the north end of the marina in the past. This meant people going out the main dock had to go to the north end and then traverse the rather narrow dock along the shore before going out the main finger dock. Many years ago Footloose's great friend Michael Freeman donated the ramp that gave everyone access at the main gate.

The renovation of the Marina means the ramp is no longer required. Captain Bob did some searching and found a family in Tacoma with two daughters with cerebral palsy who can use the ramp.

There was some concern that the people picking up the ramp might not know quite what they were getting into and wouldn't be prepared to take it apart and remove it. Not a problem! These gentlemen showed up with all of the proper tools and in no time had the ramp loaded into the back of their truck.

We are happy to see Michael's ramp continuing to do its' good work and we hope to see the daughters sailing with us next season.

## Marina Renovation Update



Under Construction



Old Slips, New Docks

Renovation work started up after the end of the 2022 season. Pilings are being updated where required, and the old decks are being removed and replaced with fiberglass grating.

Eventually most of the docks, with the exception of the ones along the shore, will be replaced with new floating ones. A twelve-foot wide, 8-foot deep dock will run along the east limit of the marina, providing a breakwater for all of the docks.

Permitting and other issues continue to be a challenge for Marina Management. They are

hopeful all of the work will be completed in two years.

The staged construction means that the locations of our loading areas and hoist lifts are in flux. Footloose Board members are meeting with Marina Management on an ongoing co-operative basis to ensure solutions are found that work for both parties.

The Spring version of Wind Word should have the layout that we will be working with at the start of the season.

## Your 2023 Footloose Board Members

The following people will form the 2023 Board:

Bob Ewing – President  
Ken McKenzie – Vice-President  
Rowly Stow – Secretary  
Keith Seiler – Quarter Master

### Members At Large

Matthew Fraser  
Kris Henning  
Tom Moberg  
Nancy McCraney  
Polly Newcomb  
Tammy Reed



Joe's Vision with a full crew



Surprise under clear skies



Laurel and Teresa enjoying it all



Setting up the crews



Aaron + Martin 16 = A good time



Show your support for Footloose by shopping at our website for hats, mugs and notebooks.

## Volunteers Are Like Yachts

No matter where they are,  
 they arouse your curiosity. Who are they?  
 Where did they come from? Why are they here?  
 They could stay moored where it's safe  
 And still justify their being,  
 But they choose to cut  
 through the tough waters,  
 ride out storms and take chances.  
 They have style. They are fiercely  
 independent. If you  
 have to ask how much they cost,  
 you can't afford them.  
 Volunteers are the only human beings  
 on the face of the earth who reflect  
 our nation's compassion, unselfishness,  
 caring, patience and just plain loving  
 one another. Their very presence  
 transcends politics, religion, ethnic  
 background and marital status.  
 It frightens me somehow, to imagine what the  
 world would be like without them.

THANK-YOU!

Erma Bombeck



Another usual setup day. Cliff doing the chase-boat jig, Peter supervising, John standing on the deck, but wait, Tim helping with the Martin?



## THANK-YOU CONTRIBUTORS

Footloose is funded entirely by donations, with no government grants. Without the support of the people and organizations listed below we would not be able to provide our sailing experiences.

Our heart-felt thanks to:

- Shilshole Bay Yacht Club
- Benevity - Starbucks Corporation
- WA State Combined Fund Drive
- Emmanuel Episcopal Church - Mercer Island
- Teresa & David Wu
- Bruce Ford
- Barb Loughran
- Bob Doolittle
- Susan Arrieta
- Polly Newcomb
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- WA State Employees
- Windworks Sailing
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- Ted and Maria Bennett
- Clifford Cooley
- Newcomb Foundation
- Sharon Mayo
- Sue & Rowly Stow
- Shilshole Bay Yacht Club
- State of Washington employees
- RUCODA Foundation
- anonymous
- David Andrew
- Network for Good - facebook donations
- Windworks - Julia Christie, Mark Evans

Footloose is raising operating funds by selling the following items:

- 18-foot Interlake dinghy with trailer
- 16.5-foot Catalina dinghy
- Sundolphin tender
- 2,300 lb. capacity trailer suitable for 20-foot sailboat

Please contact Footloose if you are interested in any of these.



**EDITOR'S NOTE** – Thank-you to everyone that provided photos for this edition of Wind Word.



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