

WindWord

The Newsletter of the Footloose Sailing Association

Leave your disability at the dock

Thanks for the great sailing season!



Footloose expresses our sincere thanks to all of you for contributing the time and money that allowed us to have a very successful season. Without the support of volunteers and financial backers we wouldn't be.

Upcoming Events

Mid-Winter Potluck
Saturday February
24, 2024

12:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Emmanuel
Episcopal Church
4400 86th Ave. SE
Mercer Island

STYC Blakely
Rock Benefit Race
April 13, 2024



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

At The Tiller Winter 2024



Ahoy Footloose sailors! We had a great 2023 sailing summer with the 2 night Blake Island excursion and 9 daysails out of North Leschi on Lake Washington. The setup and shutdown days went smoothly and we had a very successful fund raiser with the Sloop Tavern which was big fun! We will have the annual mid-winter potluck party this year on February 24 with great food and lots of camaraderie. The annual Loose Screw award will be awarded there. Look for details here in this newsletter! Also, we have been chosen again for the 2024 Sloop Tavern Carol Pearl Blakely Rock fund raiser in early April!

We are setting our sails towards our upcoming sailing season starting with setup day on April 27 at 10am and our first daysail on May 4. There will be more details in the spring newsletter. We will be adding a second davit system at the docks that will help the loading and unloading process. Also, Ben and I will try to make the online reservation system work more smoothly this year. New participants will still have to contact Footloose through e-mail to discuss needs and boats, but the old hands will be able to pick a day and a boat, make a reservation and prepay through PayPal. Then print out and bring the reservation forms from the Footloose Website with you to the event.

Our Thanks to the following people who contributed funds to Footloose in 2023

James Alberding
Bonnie Anderson
Carrie Anderson
Mark Hall and Patricia Angell
Anonymous
Susan Arrieta
Robert & Patricia Baxter
Clifford Cooley
Sharon Clark
Matthew Crane
Wanda Crow
Gregory Davenport
Jefferson Dubrulle
Aaron Dysart
James Evans
Bruce Ford
Bruce Fuentes
Michel Garner
Dan Houston
Marc & Andrea Klimaschewski
Michelle Loprieno
Kuyler Marsh
Nancy McCraney
Ken McKenzie
Tomas Muir
Lauren Nathe
Polly Newcomb
Suzanne Novak
Julie Peck
Christine Perlick
Daniel Randolph
April Rebollo
Tammy Reed
Andrew Ryan
Keith Seiler
Alan Slatter
Sue & Rowly Stow
RadeTrimceski
Laurie Turay
Elizabeth Weibling

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At The Tiller (cont'd)

Volunteers will need to be processed through the Move United background check and disability sensitivity program, plus bring the reservation forms from the Footloose website to the event.

The Blake Island event will be in the second half of July and we will be having a fundraising bbq at the sailing event at North Leschi in early July.

I'm looking forward to lot's of fun and safe sailing this summer!

Please consider supporting Footloose this year because it's the generosity of donations that makes Footloose possible. We are a 100% volunteer 501 C-3 organization so all donations go into running Footloose. A big THANK YOU goes out to our volunteers, donors and businesses that help Footloose because without them Footloose wouldn't exist.

You can keep up with Footloose on our facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/FootlooseSailingAssociation/> or at our website footloosedisabledsailing.org.

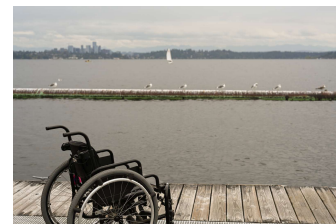
fair winds,

Captain Bob



Our Thanks to the organizations that contributed to Footloose in 2023

Anonymous
 Benevity - American Online Giving Foundation
 CSR Marine
 Elliot Bay Marina
 Emmanuel Episcopal Church Mercer Island
 Fisheries Supply
 Haggard Electrical Contractors
 Hodgins-Atkeson Giving Fund
 Joseph Sullivan Law Office
 Marina Management LLC
 Jeff Blyth - McBain Enterprises
 Newcomb Foundation
 Seaview Boatyard
 Sloop Tavern
 Sloop Tavern Yacht Club
 Dr. Gill at Symmetria Medical
 WA State employees combined fund drive
 West Marine & West Marine Rigging team



2024 Board Members

Bob Ewing – President
 Ken McKenzie – Vice President
 Yvonne Tsui – Treasurer
 Rowly Stow – Secretary
 Keith Seiler – Quarter Master

Members at Large

Matt Fraser
 Kris Henning
 Nancy McCraney
 Tom Moberg
 Polly Newcomb
 Tammy Read

Footloose Sailing



Sharon Mayo

I moved to Seattle on March 18, 2016, and I saw an article about Footloose in the paper. I joined Footloose because I thought if I ever got stuck on a boat, the volunteers would be able to get me off the boat. I have never been stuck! My exercise instructors say I work harder on the days I have sailing. I can now step into the sailboat and step off the sailboat. April 2023, I went with Ben (board member) to a sailboat race and the sailboat went so fast and was vertical in the water. Ben says I couldn't have done that 7 years ago. Sailing in high winds is great, sailing with no wind or low wind is wonderful. Sailing gives me joy and soothes my soul.

I have many memories of sailing. I get to hear Bob's stories. I help Natalie prepare meals at Blake Island. Cassie is good for hugs. Teresa and I laugh. I love all the volunteers and all the people that sail. Everyone has become my family.

I went out in the dingy with Cory (blessed memory) and a boat splashed us. By the time we got back to the dock, Cory had told everyone that we almost died. Watching Kris and Erin spread Cory's ashes was very meaningful.

I love going to Blake Island as it is peaceful and fun. I hate raccoons! I went to Girl Scout camp in the 4th grade and hated it. This last year at Blake Island, it poured, and we sat around and laughed and had fun. I have a wonderful time sailing and being at Blake Island.

Tim (dock master) and I argue about me being on the lift to get into the dingy. I know I am physically capable of getting into the dingy, yet Tim's safety guidelines prevail.

I plan my Saturdays, so I am free to sail all day. I have so much fun, and it delights me. Being on the water relaxes me and rejuvenates me. I love sailing so much that I have gotten my daughter, Ashlei and my boss, Rebekah involved. I can't wait till May, so I can get back into the sailboat, be in the water and sunshine. I love sailing and I love Footloose.

Blessings, Sharon



Thanks Sharon for letting our volunteers and supporters know what Footloose means to you. If any other sailors or volunteers would like to share their thoughts and experiences with Footloose, please email them to me at rfpstow@Comcast.net. Editor

Footloose Facebook Page



Courtesy of
Daniel
Houston

Our thanks to these and all our great
Volunteers!!

You may be interested.

FREE

METROPARKS
TACOMA

**DISABILITY
RESOURCE & RECREATION
FAIR**

**EXPLORE LIFE ENRICHING PROGRAMMING
AND SERVICES FOR ALL ABILITIES**

Connect with local disability advocates,
services groups, and recreation organizations
Provide feedback on Metro Parks Tacoma's
ADA Transition Plan

Enter our raffle and win prizes!

**JANUARY
27
2024**

STAR CENTER
3873 S 66th St
Tacoma, WA 98409

1 - 3 PM

RESOURCES INCLUDE:

- Adaptive Recreation programs
- Aging and Disability information
- Sensory and Autism friendly programs
- Paralysis and Caregiver resources
- and more!

Learn more at
MetroParksTacoma.org/disability-resource-fair

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