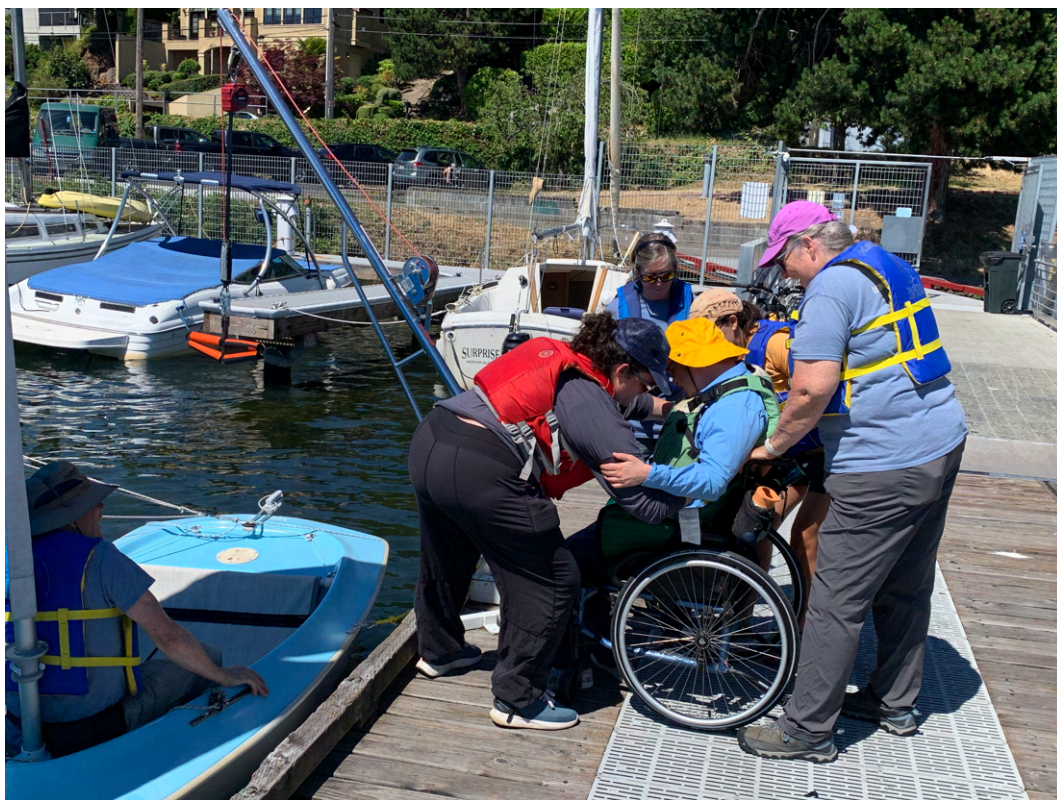


WindWord

The Newsletter of the Footloose Sailing Association

Leave your disability at the dock

Thank-you Volunteers And Caregivers



Everyone at Footloose would like to thank the volunteers and caregivers that allow us to provide sailing opportunities for those that just need a little help. It was a great season and we hope to see you all on the water next year.

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Footloose is a
member of



Move United is the
national leader in
community adaptive
sports.

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

At The Tiller Fall 2025



Ahoy Footloose Sailors!

Here we are at the end of another sailing season and it's always a sad day putting Footloose to bed for the winter. Our annual participation numbers are mostly good considering the cold, wet spring we had. We did have a great day when the blind veteran group from American Lake came to sail with us! The reservation system had to be shut down because of flaws. Maybe we can get it going again next year as a cart system so multiple reservations can be made with just one visit to the website. When it works right it gives us better information on the people participating and the boat assignments before the event happens and it speeds up the process at check in.

Some of you may have noticed the Seattle Fire Department now has a presence at the marina with two large rescue jet skis. This will add to the safety level for our sailing events and we have added man overboard flotation equipment to our chase boat at their suggestion.

We will plan on having our midwinter potluck in January or February so keep watch for an announcement on the website, facebook and the winter newsletter.

Footloose always has continuing efforts by volunteers in meetings, fund raising, administration, outreach and promotion, paperwork, website, accounting, maintenance, trailer and boat transport and 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

fair winds, Captain Bob

A letter from Texas

August 19, 2025

On behalf of my wife and myself I am pleased to send this contribution to Footloose Sailing. The entire experience we had last week couldn't have been handled better and it was so meaningful to me.

So much that we came all the way from Austin, Texas to enjoy this experience.

As a former avid sailor I had given up on the idea that I could ever sail again being permanently in a wheelchair. You guys made it so simple and handled everything so professionally. The whole experience really had an impact on me as well as Susan.

Please keep doing what you're doing. You're making a lot of people live their dream.

Thank you
Don Martin and Susan Anthony
Austin, Texas

The Season – Part II



Blake Island (cont'd) - Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, this year 23 Footloose people and two dogs made it for the relaxing fun and hanging out together with the beautiful sweeping views of Seattle and Mount Rainer across Puget Sound. A long time Footloose family member Kris Henning says, "Blake Island is always an adventure, from the deer and raccoons, but the best adventure is the company".

August 9 – with temperature in the high 70's, northwest winds in the 5 to 10 mph range and lots of participants and volunteers, it was too busy a day for photographs. But that is a good thing. For the first time in a while a Martin made two sails, with Rich and Aaron.

July 12 – Winds out of the NW up to 12 miles an hour, clear skies and the temperature in the low 80s, a great day for a sail.



August 23 – A dozen volunteers supported Inspiration, Joe's Vision, Surprise and an Access dinghy voyaging out for the first sail. Surprise and an Access dinghy also sailed in the afternoon. "A good time was had by all." Well almost. Surprise had to return early from both outings with cases of mal de mer.

July 27-29 – Blake Island - This last July boats left from North Leschi, Shilshole and Gig Harbor to converge on the state park on Blake Island for the annual two night Footloose camping trip. Typically held in the last part of the month on a (continued)



The Season – Part II (cont'd)

September 6 – The day started with no wind at 10:00 am, then picked up nicely with a north breeze. This shifted to a strong southwest wind that sent 2 Access dinghies back to the dock. And then, as is the norm, the wind became light again. Joe's Vision was out for the first sail, Inspiration did the second sail, and Surprise did both.



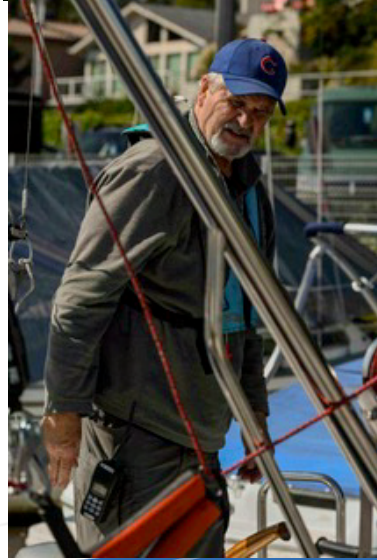
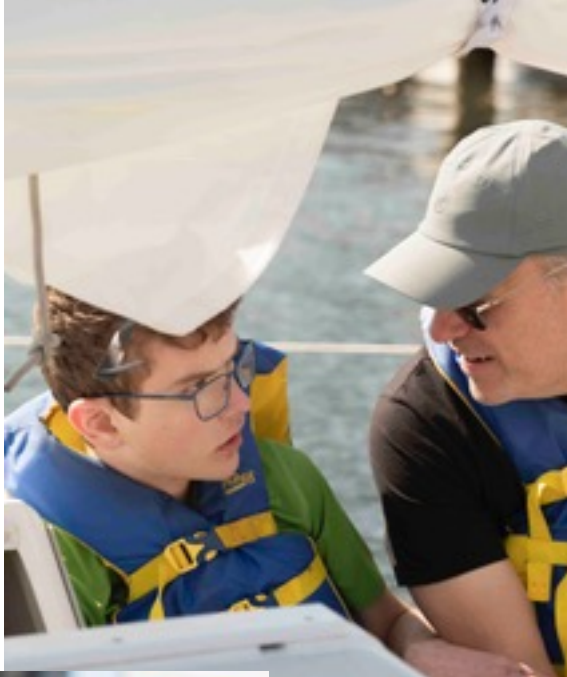
October 4 – A crew of 11 participants and volunteers closed the fleet down for the season. For the big boats this included sail and motor removal, and installation of the winter covers. The chase boat towed the Martins to the Stan Sayers boat launch where all three boats were loaded on trailers and hauled out. The sails, spars and rudders were removed from the Martins and all three boats were towed to their winter storage.

September 20 – The day started out with a welcome visit from one of our longest serving volunteers. He took a bad fall earlier this year and was out of commission for weeks. Fortunately he is back to sailing his boat and hopefully we will see him next season.

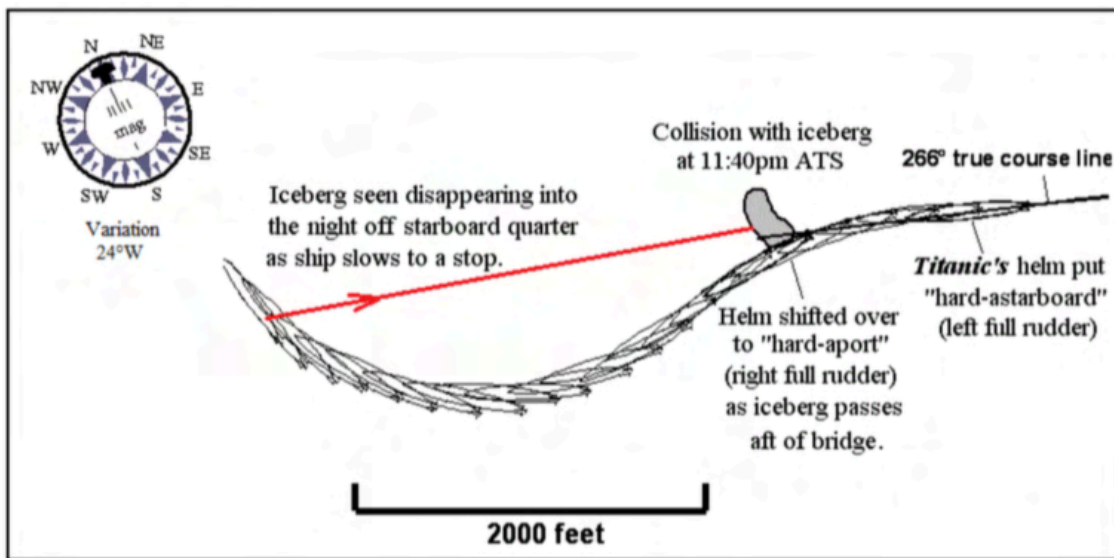
Rich sailed a Martin and Morgaine had her usual Access dinghy sail. Unfortunately Anne and Aaron could not go out for the second sail due to high winds. Bruce took Inspiration out twice as did Bob with Surprise.



Footloose Face Page



Sailing History



The diagram above is from a paper titled ‘*Abandoning the Titanic*’, *Abandoning Reality: The Truth About the SS Mount Temple* by Chirnside et al. The notes state “hard-astarboard” meant left rudder and “hard-apor” meant right full rudder. With starboard being right it would seem that the instruction “hard-astarboard” would result in right full rudder, and the same for port/left. However, back in 1912, directions to the helmsman were given as though they were steering with a tiller rather than a wheel. Putting the tiller “hard-astarboard” does result in the vessel turning to the left. So “hard-astarboard” meant spin the wheel to the left.

Mid-Winter Potluck



Courtesy Lake Lanier Sailing Club Keelboat Fleet

The date and location for the Mid-Winter Potluck has not yet been determined. Once it has been set, email notifications will be sent out and the information will be posted on the website. We hope to see you there.

Notes

Footloose recently received the following email:

Dear Bob,
 I am a blind Dragon Boater and paddle out of Leschi. Several team members are thinking about starting a para Dragon Boat Team and I thought you might have members in Footloose Disabled Sailing (who) might be interested. What do you think?
 Barbara.

If you are interested please contact us at info@footloosedisabledsailing.org

Please forward Wind Word to anyone who may be interested in participating or volunteering with, or supporting Footloose.