

COMMUNITY LEARN TO SAIL

Southern Idaho Sailing Outreach Newsletter | Spring 2023



Go Time!

The 2023 youth sailing camps are ready to launch. SISO, Boise Parks and Recreation and Idaho State Parks and Recreation are excited to announce **80 Treasure Valley Youth will have the opportunity to learn how to sail this summer.** Scheduled camps include three basic learn to sail camps, one all girls basic learn to sail camp, three intermediate sailing camps and one racing camp.

Youth Sailing Classes begin June 5, 2023. All classes will be held at our Sailing Center at Spring Shores Marina, Lucky Peak State Park. **Registration through Boise City Parks and Recreation opens April 17, 2023. Classes fill up quickly. Help us get the word out to anyone you know that would like to give their kid(s) an opportunity of a lifetime.** For more information about our youth sailing camps and how to register, visit our learn to sail page at sailingoutreach.org/learn-to-sail

Camp Schedule

- June 5 –9: Intermediate Sailing Camp
- June 12-16: Basic Sailing Camp
- June 19—23: Basic Girls Sailing Camp
- June 26- June 30: Intermediate Sailing Camp
- July 10-14: Basic Sailing Camp
- July 17-21: Racing Sailing Camp
- July 24-28: Basic Sailing Camp
- July 31– Aug 4: Intermediate Sailing Camp

Come Volunteer with Us

Have fun, learn something new, enjoy the great outdoors, be amazed beyond your wildest dreams and witness the magic of youth sailing. **No sailing experience required.**

Our volunteers learn new skills, make new friends and have the satisfaction of knowing they have contributed to providing opportunities for kids to learn in a fun and safe environment. Providing education under sail provides experiences that will positively influence the well-being of kids for years to come.

For details of becoming a volunteer contact Steve Christiansen @ steveskisail@gmail.com





A Personal Example from Youth Sailor to Board Member

Welcome to the Board our new member, **Kate Gehrs**. She is a certified Level 1 Small Boat Sailing Instructor with US Sailing and joins the Board as our Youth Racing Advisor. We are grateful and excited to have Kate join the Board. Kate brings sailing expertise and perspective from her experiences as a competitive youth sailor. Her history of learning to sail as a young girl developed into her understanding and passion for sailing education. **Kate brings a personal example of youth sailing sustainability to the Treasure Valley.** Below is a look into Kate's sailing experience.

Ahoy! My name is Kate Gehrs, and I am a SISO sailing instructor and the newest member of the SISO Board. I moved to Boise in 2019 from the east coast but grew up in Houston, TX, where I caught the sailing bug at a young age. **My first sailing memory was when I was five years old, lying on my belly at the bow of a Sunfish on Galveston Bay, my mom at the helm, letting the waves splash over my head.** By the next summer, at age six, I was racing my own sailboat!

As a young kid, sailing made me feel strong and independent. On land, I was responsible for rigging and maintaining my own boat. Then on water, I was free! I learned how to make my own decisions based on the wind and waves; how to strategize and navigate a fleet of 100+ other young sailors; how to respect my own boat and other boats around me; and most of all, how to enjoy friendly competition.

I qualified to join the US Sailing Optimist National Team at age thirteen, opening many new doors to the sailing world. I met new teammates from around the country and had the opportunity to travel across the US and even to Nieuwpoort, Belgium, to represent the United States at the Flanders Youth Regatta on the North Sea. Racing against other youth from different nationalities in a foreign country, without my parents, was one of my most impactful childhood experiences. Talk about a confidence boost!

When I grew out of the Optimist dinghy at age fifteen, I started racing in the doublehanded 420 and singlehanded Laser Radial. While the competition was always fierce, sailing became more about friendships. My best friends were traveling and racing regattas right there with me. Around this time, **I came to appreciate the balance between the chit-chat that occurs on land and the tranquility and silence involved in sailing a boat by yourself.** Sailing can be a great time to practice concentration and reflection, whether the wind is blowing 2 knots or 20 knots.

One of the best parts of sailing is that it truly is a lifetime sport. I took a break from sailing when I attended college, and it wasn't until over a decade later, when I moved to Boise, not knowing a soul, that I found sailing again. I googled "Idaho Sailing," and SISO's sister organization Southern Idaho Sailing Association, popped up. As many know, sailors are among the friendliest people you will ever meet. The Idaho sailing community welcomed me with open arms, and I could not be more grateful!

As a mom of a two-year-old and a 5-month-old, I don't get out on the water as often as I would like, but I still feel like a kid every time I get the chance to sail! I always look forward to the thrill of going fast, the friendly competition, and the opportunity for reflection. **Most of all, I look forward to the days when my kids participate in the SISO sailing camps, catch that same sailing bug, and discover all the adventures it can bring.**



Kate sailing her first regatta on Galveston Bay at age six.



Kate enjoying some sunshine during sailing camp at age ten.



Kate racing a Laser downwind in high school.



Kate participating in an Optimist USNT practice at age thirteen.

True Story

A Rabbit Fell Out of the Sky

In early 2022, our Chase Boat Challenge fundraising effort was successful, and we were in hot pursuit of a Boston Whaler Montauk 150 (later AKA Doris D). Alarming, we discovered that only two of these boats existed west of the Mississippi River! They were both held by Trudeau's Marine, the Boston Whaler Dealer in Spokane.

Gary Trudeau explained both Whalers were similarly equipped. One was white, the other blue. The SISO Board, realizing the shortage and urgency, approved an immediate deposit on the white one. Upon our calling the dealer to confirm a SISO purchase, Gary said, "Well, you'll have to take the blue one because a guy from Montana just bought the white one." He went on, "And, he says he knows you guys and your sailing club, SISA. His name is Marc Welt."



Wow. Small world for sailors in the mountains! Indeed, Marc had been a SISO supporter and was known by several board members. We began communications on aspects of new Whaler ownership; engine break-in, trailering hardware, bimini and covers, etc. Trading info with Marc helped us dial in the Doris D with confidence in short order, and the boat performed incredibly well in its first season of service.

Flash forward to January 2023. The SISO piggy bank still had funds from the first chase boat campaign, with enough additional donations from our generous supporters that we could afford another chase boat. We were committed to the second Whaler for all the same reasons as the first; safety, access to the students and dependability. It would be tight, but the Board approved the purchase of another Montauk 150 on January 21, 2023. Again, it was through Trudeau, as part of his 2023 allotment. Supposed to arrive in April or May, just in time. Lots of coordination began; confirming a blue color to match Doris D, prop guard, propeller pitch, bimini, rails, etc. Extremely exciting and another significant step for SISO.

Like sailing on a mountain lake, the wind shifted abruptly just two weeks later. On February 4, SISO received in the mail an official notice from a Boise law firm entitled INFORMATION TO HEIRS AND DEVISEES, IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARVIN CLEMENT WELT, aka MARC WELT, PhD.

Deeply saddened to learn of Marc's unexpected passing, we waited for more information as to what the notice would lead to next. Our networking with other SISA members and Marc's siblings revealed a very interesting profile of Marc.

His PhD was in fish biology, a field in which he had been professionally published. He traveled extensively, including to Antarctica and several trips to the Galapagos Islands. Never married and having no children, Marc had time for boat projects, and there were many over many years including power boats, sailboats, and dozens of kayaks. Most of his youth was spent living at Taliesin West, Frank Lloyd Wright's home and school for architects outside Phoenix, where Marc's stepdad was curator for over 40 years.

Marc passed due to an aggressive bone cancer. His wish was to have his remains distributed 'amongst the fish in the Galapagos Islands', provisions for which were made in his will.

And, particularly noteworthy, Marc's nickname was Rabbit.

Soon, SISO was informed of the specifics of what **Marc bequeathed us through his will. Title to his new Boston Whaler Montauk 150 that we had purchased a week apart, and a 1999 Seward 25 sailboat.** The Whaler has less than one hour on the engine.

These gifts represent the largest single donation to SISO to date. While we will always be donor supported, we are beginning to be financially prepared to face equipment repairs and replacements, and even take on additional aspects of sailing instruction such as adult or adaptive sailing, both requiring different types of boats. We are hugely grateful.

Finally, the obvious name for our new boat is fittingly RABBIT, a tribute to Marc and a reminder of his life and commitment to the advancement of youth sailing. Thank you, Rabbit.

Appreciation of All the Support!

The SISO Board of Directors recently delivered plaques to recognize and commemorate sincere appreciation to several individuals and businesses who have made donations of \$10,000 or more to Southern Idaho Sailing Outreach. Their gifts have made our fleet of boats, docks, base camp and operations possible.

TOGETHER, WITH YOUR HELP, WE ARE ENRICHING THE LIVES OF IDAHO YOUTH WITH THE SKILLS AND MAGIC OF SAILING, SAFETY, CONFIDENCE, BOAT HANDLING, FRIENDSHIPS AND THE REALIZED PROMISE OF A LIFE-LONG OUTDOOR PURSUIT.

ONCE A SAILOR, ALWAYS A SAILOR

MAJOR DONOR RECOGNITION

- W.H. Moore Company
- Dick and Becci Armstrong
- Retail West Properties
- J.T. More and Sue Jurf
- Lombard Conrad Architects
- Betty Palmer
- Idaho Central Credit Union
- Challenged Athletes Foundation Idaho
- Alan and Alice Crockett
- Harald Streif and Family
- Southern Idaho Sailing Association



IN-KIND DONOR RECOGNITION

For on-going operational support for SISO activities and promotions, thanks go to:

- Boise Office Equipment
- Golden West Advertising

Winston Moore and son, Jeff, of W.H. Moore Company whose \$25,000 investment during SISO's inception was based on their belief in the value of our mission and confidence in our governance. Winston's donation was instrumental in the purchase of our fleet of 12 RS Zest sailboats, making SISO a reality. THANK YOU, WINSTON AND JEFF.



New Silver Sponsors

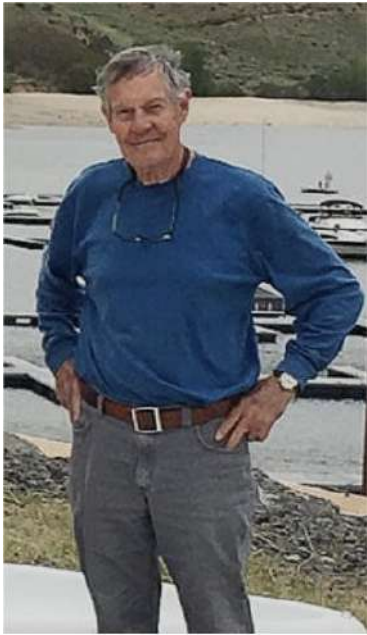
SISO is excited to recognize and showcase our two recent individual Silver Sponsors that have donated \$10,000 or more to youth sailing education. **Thank you Betty Palmer, and Alan and Alice Crockett.** We can't wait to see kids sailing your boats this summer. Big smiles and sailing fast with confidence.

- **Betty Palmer:** Boat named in recognition of her dog "Bandit."
- **Alan and Alice Crockett:** Boat named in recognition of sailing vessel "Bluenose." Refer to **Nautical Knowledge: "Bluenose"**, Page 6, for the history of this sailing vessel.

And **THANK YOU Bob Moore, Jr. and Golden West Advertising** for your generous donation of time and materials to apply logos to the sailboats.

Don't miss out! We have one RS Zest sailboat available that is just waiting to recognize your contribution to youth sailing.





Farewell to Outgoing Board Member

Howard King has decided to step down from the SISO Board as Co-Chair in pursuit of other passions that are waiting his attention. Howard’s vision and commitment helped establish SISO’s path to success.

From the very beginning Howard was a dominant participant for making SISO the organization that it is today. His brainstorming of ideas on how to navigate through the process of working with public agencies provided SISO the ability to form alliances with key agencies that support our mission.

Thank you for all you have done. **Your initial vision and ideas to create a youth sailing program in southern Idaho have become reality.** Your dedication and insight has helped create this incredibly successful program. We couldn't have done it without you.

We are grateful to Howard for his years of service to the Idaho sailing community, and wish him the best in his "actual" retirement.

You will be missed. Thank you, Howard!



Grant Awarded!

In February, SISO was Awarded a \$1,000 “Grow Boating” grant from the Northwest Marine Trade Association based in Seattle.

“We are very pleased with the diversity of grants we were able to award this year – with both geographic and activity diversity,” said Mike Kirshenbaum, NMTA board member and chair of the Grow Boating committee. **“We awarded grants to organizations across the region for youth and adult sailing, fishing and power boat activities.** Additionally, many of the organizations will be using the grants to provide scholarships to their programs to low income or disadvantaged youth.”

Other sailing-based awards by MNTA went to:

- Corinthian Yacht Club (Seattle)
- Oregon Women’s Sailing Association (Portland)
- Bremerton Yacht Club Sailing Foundation (Bremerton)
- Anacortes Waterfront Alliance (Anacortes)

As always, we will make good use of these funds, but it is extremely encouraging to be judged and selected among other noteworthy peer organizations in our larger multistate region. SISO is earning wide respect in the Youth Sailing Community.



Together we continue to provide kids an opportunity to excel in life by learning through sailing.

We couldn't have made youth sailing possible without your financial support.

Because of the outstanding support from our community, we now have a cadre of 15 certified sailing instructors, a fleet of 12 state of the art instructional sailboats, and two reliable coach/safety power boats. **Maintaining this infrastructure - with its associated costs of insurance, fuel, moorage fees, etc. - requires continuing support.**

Our local Learn to Sail Program will open up a lifetime sport for youth to the world of sailing in Idaho and beyond. Boise Parks and Recreation will offer scholarships for underserved youth, making the sport of sailing truly available to everyone. Our dream is to send a young sailor from Idaho to the Olympics someday.

SISO is once again participating in Idaho Gives this year. We appreciate your on going support. For more information, visit idahogives.org/organizations/southern-idaho-sailing-outreach

Nautical Knowledge: "Bluenose"

Bluenose was a fishing and racing gaff rig schooner built in 1921 in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, Canada. A celebrated racing ship and fishing vessel, Bluenose under the command of Angus Walters, became a provincial icon for Nova Scotia and an important Canadian symbol in the 1930s, serving as a working vessel until she was wrecked in 1946. **Nicknamed the "Queen of the North Atlantic"**, she was later commemorated by a replica, Bluenose II, built in 1963. The name Bluenose originated as a nickname for Nova Scotians from as early as the late 18th century.

After a season fishing on the Grand Banks of Newfoundland, Bluenose set out to take part in her first International Fisherman's Cup. The International Fisherman's Cup was awarded to the fastest fishing schooner that worked in the North Atlantic deep sea fishing industry.

Bluenose International Fisherman's Cup Race History:

- 1921: Defeated American challenger *Elsie*
- 1922: Defeated the American challenger *Henry S. Ford*
- 1923 : Tied the American challenger *Columbia*
- 1926: Defeated Canadian Challenger *Haligonian*
- 1930: Lost to American Challenger *Gertrude L. Thebaud*
- 1931: Defeated American Challenger *Gertrude L. Thebaud*
- 1938: Defeated American Challenger *Gertrude L. Thebaud*

This was the last race of the fishing schooners of the North Atlantic

Source: Wikipedia



Bluenose sailing in 1921

History / Characteristics

Port of registry	Lunenburg, Nova Scotia	Type	Schooner
Displacement	254 long tons	Length	143 ft 1 in o/a 111 ft 11 in LW
Builder	Smith and Rhuland	Beam	26 ft 11 in
Launched	26 March 1921	Height	126 ft 0 in
In service	April 1921	Draught	15 ft 11 in
Out of service	1946	Propulsion	Sails
Fate	Foundered on reef January 28, 1946	Mainmast, height from deck	126 ft 0 in
		Foremast, height from deck	102 ft 8 in
		Sail area	10,000 sq ft
		Mainsail area	4,150 sq ft
		Crew	20





A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

Scholarships Available

Boise City Parks and Recreation is proud to offer the Kristin Armstrong Youth Scholarship to qualifying youth participants within our community. This scholarship program is designed to help meet the needs of families within the community to access youth recreational programs and activities at a reduced rate. It is recommended to sign up early.

For detailed requirements and conditions call Fort Boise (208) 608-7680 or applications can be found online at:

<https://www.cityofboise.org/departments/parks-and-recreation/scholarships>

Through your generous donations, SISO is growing one step at a time. Our future is bright and youth sailing in the Treasure Valley is ALIVE!

Help Make Youth Sailing Possible

Youth sailing education in Southern Idaho is in great demand. Help make sailing accessible to all Treasure Valley Youth.

Be part of our success!

SISO is a nonprofit organization that promotes a healthy, active lifestyle through youth sailing education.

Thank you for considering becoming a program advocate today by making a tax-deductible donation.

- ❑ **Online:** sailingoutreach.org by credit card or PayPal
- ❑ **By check:** Payable to: Southern Idaho Sailing Outreach Corporation



CONFIDENCE

Noun: a belief in oneself, the conviction that one has the ability to meet life's challenges and to succeed and the willingness to act accordingly.

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John Burke, Sailing Instructor

Steve Christiansen, Lead Sailing Instructor

Kate Gehrs, Sailing Instructor, Youth Racing Advisor

JT More, Sailing Instructor

Tina Klamt, Member at Large

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Idaho Dept. of Parks and Recreation

Marie Hattaway
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Clay Lee
Boise Parks and Recreation

Paul Hoy, Sailing Instructor, Media Specialist

Kent Reetz, Sailing Instructor

Vince Serio, Sailing Instructor

THANK YOU!!

Your generous financial support gives Idaho's youth the opportunity to learn and grow through sailing.



Youth sailing camps provide lessons in sailing and safety including: discovering how systems like sails and lines work together and how to manage those systems to power a boat; building self-confidence when mastering new skills; and experiencing the adventure of exploring new places and outdoor activities.

We hope that a SISO youth sailor from landlocked Treasure Valley will one day go on to pursue the dream of sailing in the Olympics.

Jim Acee
Saadia R. Akhtar
Dave Arellano
Dick and Becci Armstrong
Tom and Leslie Arnold
Terry and Jane Baird
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Mike and Nancy Ballenger
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