

# FHSC Working Jib

Friday Harbor Sailing Club

March 2024

## HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING AT the Sailing Club

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### Wednesday, March 20 at 5:30 PM

General Meeting and Potluck at the Grange.

The program for this meeting will be a talk by  
Shona Aitken from Wolf Hollow Wildlife  
Rehabilitation Center



SV Alethea finally catching up to the SV Fairhope on the  
race from Sidney to Friday Harbor July 2023



***Get involved and don't miss out on our fun club activities!!***

**Sign-up for your club activities on the**

**The club's website**

**[www.fridayharborsailing.com](http://www.fridayharborsailing.com)**

NOTE from your WEBMASTER: Make sure your email account has  
[fridayharborsailing.com](http://fridayharborsailing.com) as a whitelisted or trusted sender of emails so club communications  
do not end up in your spam file!!

## COMMODORE REPORT BY Val Veirs

The Friday Harbor Sailing Club is 45 years old this year. It seems a good time to reflect on the history of the club and think about the hopes and dreams that we members have for the future of our club. Our Fleet Captain, John Salinas, mentioned to me a planning process with the title SWOT. **A SWOT analysis is designed to facilitate a realistic, fact-based, data-driven look at the strengths and weaknesses of an organization.**

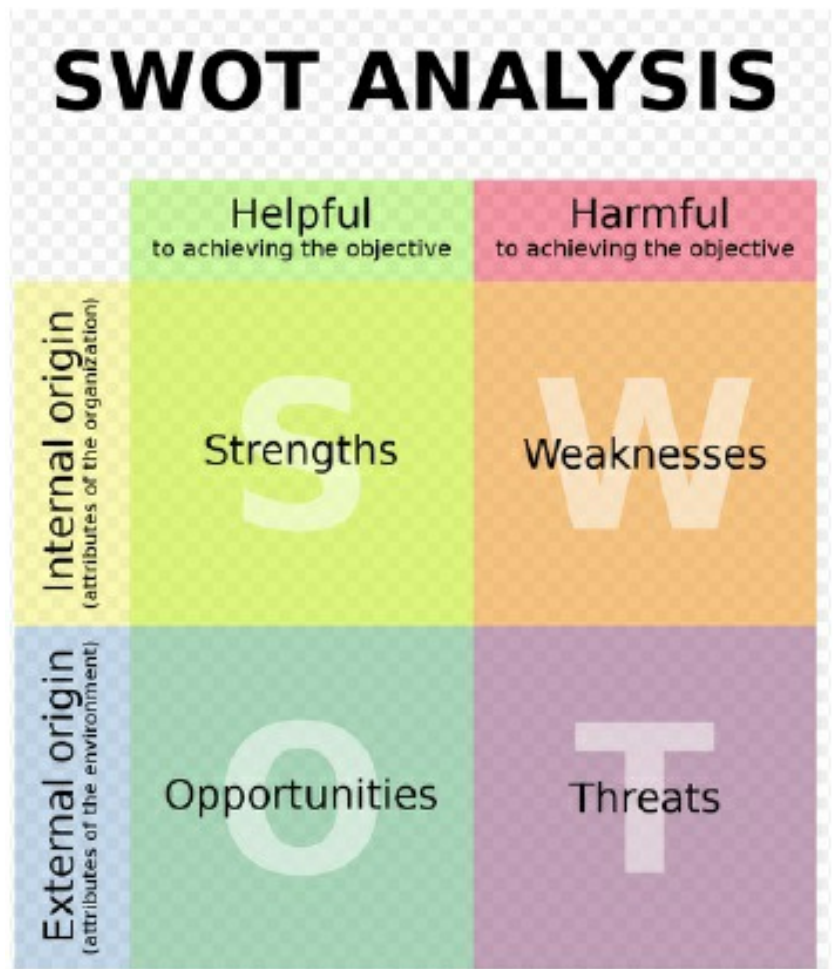
The Board of the Friday Harbor Sailing Club is starting a year-long conversation about the next years for our Club. I invite all our members, old and new, to send me their thoughts in these four categories:

1. Strengths
2. Weaknesses
3. Opportunities
4. Threats

You can email these to me at [commodore@fridayharborsailing.com](mailto:commodore@fridayharborsailing.com) and I will share all such suggestions anonymously. Please do this now, in March, so we can benefit from your insights!

This morning I met for an hour with our Charter Member Gary Boothman, whom you may know from his years as Mayor of Friday Harbor.

Gary was a very active racer in the early years of the club. The trophies that we award each year originated in the early years. Here is Gary and one such trophy in 1979. This photo is from our historical archive, much of which was compiled over the years by Gloria Bentzen.



## *COMMODORE REPORT continued*

I asked Gary how racing got started.

“What did sponsoring a race mean? It just meant, you said, I will run the race.

I will take responsibility. I will put the race on. I will set the marks. You know, I will run the start and I will be the committee boat. I won't be racing that race and that's just all it was. And I knew in case there was a trophy, I would pay for the trophy or any trophies that were awarded. This is where our trophies have all come from.”

Gary shared lots more memories from the past and thoughts for our club's future. I plan to bring these to our attention as this SWOT process evolves.



Now, 45 years later, we, at this moment, have transformed to a group more of cruisers than racers. I found, in a 1979 newspaper article about the formation of our club, a quote from a person who, even though surrounded by racers, wanted a cruising club. Jo Bailey, skipper of the Sea Witch, wanted a simpler club. Her recommendation: “The Last Real Sailing Club: No rules, no dues, let's cruise”.

So, as we kick-off our 45 year, please take a few minutes to give us your SWOT! What works and what doesn't? Where should we be 5 years from now, at 50? Do it this March!!

Thank you for helping the club evolve.

Val Veirs, Commodore

## *VICE COMMODORE REPORT BY Sam Johnston*



The FHSC general meeting for March is nearly here! Wednesday, March 20, we will meet at the Grange starting at 5:30 PM for a potluck dinner and welcome Shona Aitken from Wolf Hollow Wildlife Rehabilitation Center here on San Juan Island. She will talk to us about what kinds of wildlife we might encounter out on the water and on the islands.

### **Walking the Docks on a Windy Day**

We've had our share of windy days over the last few weeks, and anyone with a boat in the water has likely checked in on their boat to make sure everything is ship shape. Recently, another FHSC member and I were walking the docks at Roche Harbor doing just that, when we came upon a fairly large power boat that was pounding its bow onto the dock with each wave that arrived. While there were four lines leading up to the boat – bow, stern, and two apparent spring lines - we soon discovered the problem with the tie-down.

The 'spring' lines were actually a single line attached to the bow cleat aboard the boat, led to a dock cleat near the center of the boat, looped around it once, then lead aft to the stern cleat on the boat. With wind and wave action, this single line simply slipped around the base of the dock cleat and allowed the boat to drift forward and impact the dock. With the help of the friendly Roche Harbor staff, we added two spare lines (which were luckily available aboard the boat for Roch Harbor staff to use for situations just like this). These lines were directly attached to the same center dock cleat, then attached to bow and stern cleats on the vessel. In this way we added true spring lines to keep the boat at the same fore-and aft position in the slip – with the bow well away from the dock.

On that same day we found another boat with the same 'spring' line problem, but because of the direction of the wind and waves, the boat was not in danger of hitting the dock. The two lessons we learned on that cold and blustery day were: a) spring lines need to be firmly attached to both the vessel and the dock cleat to be effective, and b) keep spare lines outside your boat and available to others in case they are needed when you are not around.

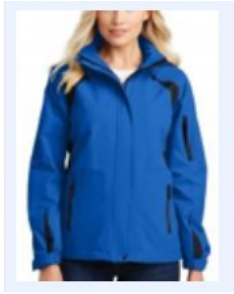
## *FROM THE QUARTERMASTER*

# All ready to be Ship Shape and Bristol Fashion?

Time to Gear UP! Check out -

<https://fridayharborsailing.com/store/>

email Sandy at [salmon\\_sandy@msn.com](mailto:salmon_sandy@msn.com) with your order and suggestions.



## *Website Tidbits*

([fridayharborsailing.com](http://fridayharborsailing.com))

It's never too early to start planning your Race and Cruise participation for the coming season! It's easy - just go to the club [website](http://fridayharborsailing.com) Home Screen and select Calendar from the top menu or click on the large blue **CALENDAR** button at the bottom. Scroll down the online Calendar to view the Cruises (yellow with a boat icon) and Races (blue with a burgee icon). You can also choose Race or Cruise from the Type pulldown menu at the top right above the Calendar to see just the listings for that type. For any FHSC event you can click on **info** to see details of the event; click **signup** to, of course, signup; click **list** to see who else is going. And it is always good to check the events again as their dates get closer for the latest updates.

To familiarize yourself with some basic information about the club, take a look at the **Sailing Club** menu items. Under **Club** you can see *History* of how the club started. Under **View** you can see photos and contact information for all the *Officers*, and see some informational *Documents* including a list of all Officers Duties.

Stay informed, become involved, and join everyone for another year of fun club activities!

# Friday Harbor Sailing Club

## Monthly Meeting for March

Wednesday, March 20, 2024, 5:30 pm  
at the Grange in Friday Harbor

**Potluck and Program:** Bring something to share, your table setting, drinking glass and drink.

**Program:** Shona Aitken from Wolf Hollow Wildlife rehabilitation Center will talk about wildlife in the islands.

Members: Come and re-connect!

Visitors: We are delighted when visitors join FHSC local cruisers and racers!

