

# COMMUNITY LEARN TO SAIL

Southern Idaho Sailing Outreach Newsletter | Fall/Winter 2021



## Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow

It's never too early to practice your snow dance, or perhaps even pray for a good snow year. We were reminded of this back in August, when the combination of a low snow pack, dry spring and hot summer meant severe drought and low water levels.

In spite of Mother Nature's curve ball, we couldn't have asked for a more successful 2021 sailing season. Even so, SISO made the difficult decision to cancel the final youth sailing class of the season in mid-August. Lucky Peak Reservoir's water level dropped at unprecedented speed. SISO and Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation worked diligently to develop options that would accommodate the final camp, taking into consideration that docks would likely be beached before the end of class. This effectively eliminated safe access to the water and would seriously impact the quality of the camp experience.

We are hoping for a big snow year to fill the reservoir once again, but just in case Mother Nature doesn't deliver, we are prepared. With the help of Idaho State Parks and Recreation, the low-profile docks have been reconfigured to accommodate the sailing program even better! If the reservoir does not fill or is late to fill next year, we have options to get kids out on the water.

Thank you Surat Nicol and the IDPR staff for always looking out for the best interest of SISO and the Youth Sailing Program. It's time for us all to be kind to Mother Nature and hopefully she will return in kind much-needed relief from the ongoing drought.



*Intermediate Sailors Racing to the Windward Mark*

## Race for Knowledge

Young sailors were introduced to racing during the final two days of intermediate sailing camp last summer. These campers went from learning the sailing basics to grasping the thrill that comes with competing on the open water.

Naturally these sailors were ready to learn techniques of how to sail faster than the other boats, which quickly expanded to rules of the road, strategy and racing tactics.

This quest for knowledge provided validation for SISO to offer opportunities for intermediate sailors to continue improving their sailing skills, consequently we will offer a racing camp next summer. Watch for details in next spring's registration information.

SISO, City of Boise Parks and Recreation and Idaho Department of Parks are extremely excited about the future of youth sailing and the learning opportunities sailing camps are providing Treasure Valley youth.

# SISO By the Numbers

Isn't it amazing how time flies when you're having fun? Especially if you're giving kids an opportunity to expand their horizons by learning to sail! It is hard to believe that approximately 1,500 days have passed since SISO was incorporated in October 2017. After four years, we take a moment to reflect on the numbers accomplished through your input, donations, volunteer hours, dedication and partnerships. Many thanks to all of you that have made these numbers possible!

**"There is always strength in numbers. The more individuals or organizations that you can rally your cause, the better." -Mark Shields**



## 1,500 Days of Dedication by Many

- 1 On-site owned storage container for boats and gear (SISO World Headquarters).
- 2 Used safety/chase boats.
- 5 Strategic partnerships in place with Idaho State Parks, Ada and Boise Counties, Boise Parks and Recreation, Challenged Athlete Foundation (CAF) and US Sailing.
- 7 US Sailing Certified Adaptive Sailing Instructors.
- 7 Silver (\$10,000+) sponsors.
- 8 Graduated from the inaugural 2021 all-girls camp.
- 10 Graduated from 2021 first-ever intermediate camp.
- 10 US Sailing Level 1 Small Boat Certified Instructors.
- 11 Challenged athletes attend sailing camps 2021.
- 12 RS Zest sailboats in the SISO fleet.
- 41 In-kind donations.
- 83 Youth sailor graduates.
- 213 Cash donations.
- \$59,145 worth of in-kind donations.
- \$132,483 in successful grants.
- \$146,610 in cash contributions.
- Numerous kids on the waiting list to learn to sail!



Photo: Challenged Athlete Foundation



Photo: Challenged Athlete Foundation



# Don't Miss Out!

## Only Five Silver Sponsorships Remain

SISO is excited to recognize and showcase our Silver Sponsors, including corporate and individuals that have donated \$10,000 or more to youth sailing education. To date we have the following silver sponsors:

- **Dick and Becci Armstrong:** Boat named in recognition of their daughter's pet grooming salon *The Pet Groomers*.
- **Winston H. Moore:** Boat named in recognition of his late wife *Diane*.
- **Eric and Nancy Davis:** Boat named *Jack* in honor of their grandson.
- **Lombard / Conrad Architects**
- **Idaho Central Credit Union**
- **Southern Idaho Sailing Association (SISA)**
- **Challenged Athlete Foundation (CAF)**

Many thanks for your generous donations and trust in SISO!

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



# Aye on the Wind:

## Interview with Pat and Bob Entwistle

Bob Entwistle is a retired Forest Service landscape architect, who raced sailboats with SISO's parent organization, Southern Idaho Sailing Association (SISA) for 50 years. He's a former club Commodore, Bogus Basin ski patroller and river runner. SISO Instructor JT More visited with Bob and his wife Pat in early November for a fun conversation.

### History

#### JT More: How did you get involved in sailing?

**Bob:** *I was employed in Idaho with the Forest Service starting in 1961 and started sailing with folks on Lake Lowell in the early 1970's. It was the beginning of SISA and loosely organized, but people were really having fun. I was a college track and field athlete but never really excelled. Sailboat racing was something that appealed: I loved learning and was competitive from the start.*

### Experience

#### JT: What kind of boats did your race back in the day?

**Bob:** *I started crewing on friends' monohulls and then moved to Hobie 16's*  
**Pat:** *Bob had 3 Hobie 16's before we switched to a Catalina 25. We were tired of getting wet. It was more comfortable but very slow going in the SISA open class.*  
**Bob:** *We then tried Catalina 22's. They were drier than a catamaran and my favorite. At the time there were 15 to 18 boats in the SISA C22 fleet. I liked one design racing, really being able to tune the rig and having more sail controls. Over the years, I sailed in one Hobie national competition and eight C22 nationals. I think my best finish in Nationals was 8<sup>th</sup>. SISA hosted the C22 Nationals on Lake Cascade in 2003.*

#### JT: Any thoughts on your other boats?

**Bob:** *Before moving to a C22, I purchased a 27' Stiletto (a LARGE high performance beach catamaran: epoxy-saturated fiberglass over a Nomex honeycomb core) in Florida.*  
**Pat:** *It was too big.*  
**Bob:** *Yes. It took too long to set up, needed too many crew and..... was way too fast. We would run out of sailing space in Idaho quickly. The Corsair 27 (trimaran) that I sailed on with Dick Armstrong is a much better boat.*



Photo of Stiletto (but not Pat and Bob's boat)



Bob rigging his Hobie 16 in the early 70s



Hobie Beach, Lake Cascade



Bob on his Catalina 22



Bob at the helm of his Hobie 16, Lake Lowell

## Memories

**JT: Were there any memorable moments on the water?**

**Bob:** Many. I remember a race on Redfish Lake where it was blowing so hard that the Hobie's couldn't round a mark and were sailing at full speed right up onto the rock beach. Pat doesn't swim and ended up in the water, waiting for me to rescue her. She didn't realize how shallow it was.

**Pat:** It was so funny – Bob came over and suggested I stand up. The water was only waist deep. I crewed on the Hobie's for 3 or 4 seasons. Walking around on the beach, Bob would yell "gonna blow like stink" and I hated getting that feeling in the bottom of my stomach. There was one season we did not race at all but ran every regatta instead.

**Bob:** Yes. The club paid us \$50 to tow Rachael (SISA race committee boat) to and from regattas the entire season. At a big regatta on Payette Lake, we once had 106 boats starting. There were A, B, and partial Hobie 16 C fleets in the early 1980's.

## SISA Thoughts

**JT: 50 Years in SISA is a long time.**

**Bob:** We really enjoyed the competition, people and camaraderie of the beach scene at Cascade, CJ, Lake Lowell and North Beach (Payette Lake). There were couples and families with young children all hanging around the campfires. I recall racing with the Insingers, John Watson and the Armstrongs. Doris Denney was also there racing her Laser - they were all strong sailors.

**Pat:** We were a bit older than most of the Hobie sailors, but it was a great mix of people. Sue Insinger was competitive. She would often yell at John "S\*\*T JOHN!" when they screwed up. Eventually, John bought a new Hobie 18, wrapped it up and temporarily named it "S\*\*T JOHN!" as a not-too-welcome surprise for Sue.

**Bob:** Sometimes the cat sailors would get a little crazy up at North Beach.

**Pat:** It was very fun. Being involved with SISA and racing sailboats filled our summer calendar. It was important to us, both recreationally and socially.

**Bob:** ... and .... I liked sailing fast.

## Final Words

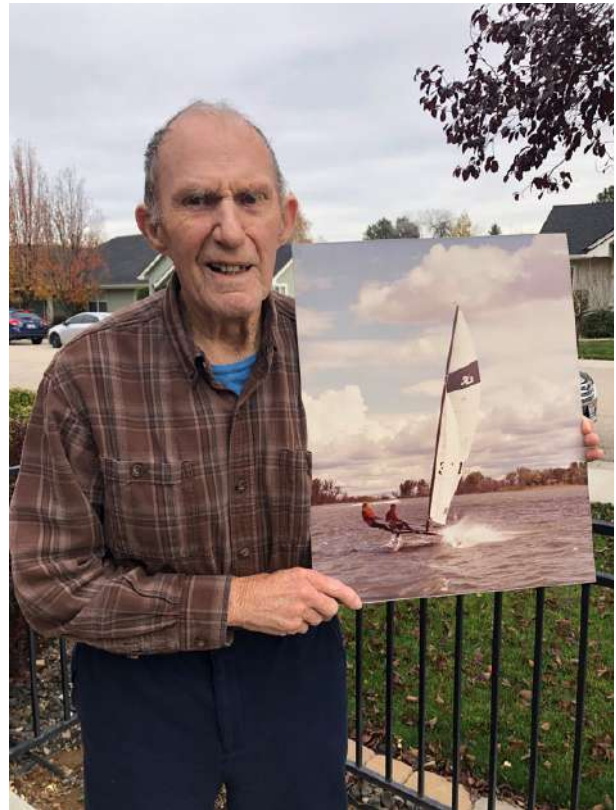
**JT: Pat and Bob, thank you so much. I hope you can visit SISO at Spring Shores and coach up the kids this summer.**

**Pat:** That would be fun.

Southern Idaho Sailing Association (SISA) SISA is our parent recreational sailing organization, and we share the larger goal of promoting sailing in Southern Idaho. SISA provides expertise and opportunities for sailing, helps maintain our growing fleet of sailboats, coordinates sailboat races and related events, and through membership with the Association, provides continued sailing opportunities for students.



At the helm of Dick Armstrong's Corsair 27 "Panacea"



Bob on November 15, 2021 showing off one of his many photos of doing what he likes.....sailing fast.

Photos: Bob and Pat Entwistle



Southern Idaho  
Sailing Association

# Two by Twenty-Two Chase Boat Challenge

SISO's youth sailing program has three priorities: 1) Safety, 2) Have Fun, and 3) Learn about Sailing. **The number one priority – SAFETY – encompasses a lot in one simple word.** Our instructors have gone through a rigorous certification program with additional training in power boat safety, prevention of sexual harassment, teaching techniques and coaching fundamentals. Before being hired, SISO instructors are fully vetted through background checks and drug tests. We take the safety aspect of our program very seriously.

One of the most important safety components in a youth sailing program is the availability and operation of safety/chase power boats while the kids are on the water. These power boats provide the ability to respond to a variety of potential emergency situations extremely quickly.

The safety/chase boats are also used as the platform for instructors to teach students once they are on the water. The power boats are essential to stay in close proximity to the students (who seem to enjoy sailing fast). They allow SISO instructors to verbally communicate with the students, coach, monitor skill development, and thus interact effectively with the 10 RS Zest sailboats on the water.

SISO currently owns two outdated (and sometimes unreliable) powerboats that were acquired through direct donation and purchase in 2019. However, the age, condition, design, and reliability of our existing powerboats is less than optimal. **In fact: the SISO safety/chase boats are the weakest element in our safety program. Replacement of these boats has become a top priority.**

SISO has done extensive research and held discussions with similar sailing program leaders across the country to select the best option for our application. We have concluded that the Boston Whaler Montauk 15 with 65 hp jet drive motor (not propeller driven due to proximity of students in the water) is the best fit for our program for many reasons. The targeted package for two, including trailers, is budgeted at \$76,000.

**Based on a recent commitment by an anonymous donor, SISO is here-by kicking off the Two by Twenty-Two Chase Boat Challenge. This generous donor will match up to one dollar for each additional safety/chase boat dollar donated. There are also naming rights for each boat at the \$25,000 Gold Level. If two major gifts such as this are received, the 'Matching Donor' will fill the gap to reach the \$76,000 goal. Note, as of this printing we have already received a safety/chase boat donation of \$5,500. The ball is rolling! Train has left the station!**

This is a major fundraising effort. The amount needed, is more than SISO paid for our entire fleet of sailboats combined! It stands to reason however, that the safety/chase boats are our first means of reaching students on the water. Their reliability is paramount to our programs first commitment: safety.

**Please consider a tax-deductible donation to help support this critical need. Mark your check or envelope "Safety/Chase Boats".**



150 Montauk



## Nautical Knowledge: The America's Cup

The America's Cup, informally known as the Auld Mug, is a trophy awarded in the sport of sailing. **It is the oldest international competition still operating in any sport.** America's Cup match races are held between two sailing yachts: one from the yacht club that currently holds the trophy (known as the defender) and the other from the yacht club that is challenging for the cup (the challenger). There is no fixed schedule, with matches held several years apart on dates agreed between the defender and the challenger. The most recent America's Cup match took place in March 2021.



Schooner "America"

The cup was originally known as the 'R.Y.S. £100 Cup', awarded in 1851 by the British Royal Yacht Squadron for a race around the Isle of Wight in the United Kingdom. The winning yacht was a schooner called America, owned by a syndicate of members from the New York Yacht Club (NYYC). In 1857, the syndicate permanently donated the trophy to the NYYC, under a Deed of Gift that renamed the trophy as the 'America's Cup' after the first winner and required it be made available for perpetual International competition.

**America's Cup is considered the oldest trophy in international sport.** (source: Wikipedia)



The Fleet

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](http://sailingoutreach.org)  
by credit card or PayPal
- ❑ **By check:** Payable to:  
Southern Idaho Sailing Outreach Corporation  
2117 N 14th Street · Boise, Idaho 83702



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Photo: Challenged Athlete Foundation

## achievement

NOUN

1. a thing done successfully, typical by effort, courage, or skill.

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# 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.

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