



Detroit Community Sailing

2023 Annual Report



Programs at a Glance

2023 Adult Learn to Sail (ALTS) Programs

- Beginning Session 1
- Beginning Session 2
- Intermediate Session
- Keelboat Race Crew Training Tuesdays
- Keelboat Race Crew Training Wednesdays *(New in 2023)*

2023 Youth Learn to Sail (YLTS) Programs

- UofM/Inland Seas Schooner STEM Outing
- Metro Detroit YMCA Water Safety
- Beginning /Intermediate Session 1
- Beginning /Intermediate Session 2
- Beginning /Intermediate Session 3 *(New in 2023)*
- Youth Keelboat Experience *(New in 2023)*
- After School Sailing

2023 Highlights – Makes Me Smile

I'm smiling as I look at the above lists. Our team has done a wonderful job increasing access to Detroit's waterways. We increased our capacity by adding programs and extending our season. We started youth sailing immediately after schools let out in June and continued into the start of school in September. The longer season and added programs would not be possible without our supporters providing money and equipment and our long-term volunteers giving more of their precious time.

David Pardy is an example one of our long-term volunteers. He has become indispensable because of his versatility to jump in anywhere he is needed. Another example of support comes from the Youth Nautical Education Foundation. The YNEF has provided us with needed equipment, including boats and financial support to sustain and grow our program. More on Dave and the YNEF on page 2's Spotlights.

Uncertainty continues for the future of the Detroit Boat Club building also known as the Belle Isle Boathouse. Next season will mark our program's 7th year at the Boathouse site. Continuing at this location is preferred because this stretch of the Detroit River is arguably the safest location on the river for young sailors. It's pleasing to see a growing passion to preserve the building. However, without a significant intervention soon, its future is in jeopardy. Because of this we are exploring some interesting alternatives. If successful, we can further expand our program and reach an even broader audience. We will share these plans soon...stay tuned.

I'll end with thanking current treasured supporters and volunteers, without you our results would not be possible.

Thank you,
Harry E. Jones
President, Detroit Community Sailing Center
Having Fun While Learning to Sail

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Detroit Community Sailing

Spotlight - Volunteer and Supporter

Dave Pardy **A Volunteer Who Makes Us Smile**

David Pardy, started volunteering with us over ten years ago when he was invited to check us out by Bill Lane, a fellow American Sailing Institute and Challenge the Wind instructor. What is special about Dave is his amazing skill versatility and willingness to step in where he is needed. Because of his US Sailing Certified instructor training and multi boat sailing experience, Dave keeps the program going when that unexpected thing that always happens, happens. When asked what keeps him coming back he said "I realized that programs like this are avenues where our next generation of sailors can come from. I keep coming back because the kids and other staff are great to work with and I personally want to see programs like this succeed. It gives as much or more to me than I give to it." If you are looking for a new adventure and would like to learn more about volunteer opportunities visit our [website here](#).



Dave coaching new sailors on a Flying Scot's sail trim

Youth Nautical Education Foundation **A Long – Term Supporter Who Makes Us Smile**

The Youth Nautical Education Foundation (YNEF) is a valued long-term supporter, playing a key role in our growth and sustainability over the last 10 years. The mission of the foundation is to promote national and international amateur sailing, maritime education, competition and water safety.

For the past 3 decades YNEF achieves their mission with outreach programs, training activities and provision of sailing equipment. In addition, they organize, promote and sponsor regional, national and international regattas.

The Foundation has had a significant impact on the sport of sailing in Michigan by supporting local high school sailing programs, individual sailors, and community organizations like ours. We are honored and exceptionally grateful to be the recipient of YNEF outreach.



YNEF Sponsored 2023 High School
Regatta on Lake St Clair

Detroit Community Sailing

Challenge the Wind Youth and Adult Learn to Sail Program Details



Youth Programs

Beginner and Intermediate Learn to Sail – Is a two-week learn-to-sail session taught by US Sailing certified instructors and volunteers with years of experience. We use US Sailing's standard curriculum. Every participant learns to sail. The course emphasizes teamwork and the physics of sailing. The sailors are exposed to our rich local marine environment. The Intermediate program runs concurrently to advance the skills of returning participants and complete their "Skipper" qualification.

Assistant Instructors - Returning sailors, with experience and sailing skill certifications, can assist in coaching in a paid position.

Water Safety – Is a challenge with the demographics we serve. It's also an opportunity. Through the Metro Detroit YMCA we offered a 4-day Water Safety Course to our sailors. It is focused on staying safe around water, basic swim strokes and deep-water life jacket training.

STEM in Sailing programs – Our base program includes emphasize on sailing's science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). We offer two STEM programs depending on the demand. First is a one-week STEM in Sailing experience that included hands on experiments demonstrating sailing's math, physics, and marine environment appreciation. Second is a half day outing on the Inland Seas schooner. The University of Michigan and the Inland Seas Educational Association in Sutton Bay MI made this wonderful program available to our participants. The program emphasized marine biology, the Detroit River's African American history, protecting our marine environment and tall ship seamanship while sailing on the Detroit River.

After School Sailing Practice to Stay Engaged – We extend the sailing season into the start of school with after school sailing practice.

Adult Sailing Programs

Beginner Learn to Sail – These classes are designed for both the novice who has never been in a sailboat as well as for sailors with some experience who want to learn how to sail on their own. New sailors learn the parts of a sailboat, steering, setting sails, docking, wind awareness, etc. in a friendly, welcoming environment. At the end of the course the new sailors have the confidence to safely sail a boat as the skipper.

Intermediate Sailing – The next step in learning a new range of sailing skills. This class covers techniques on the finer points of sailing, racing techniques and rules, as well as spinnaker sailing. It is designed to prepare our sailors to join the crews of race boats throughout Detroit and feel more confident with sail trim and heavy weather sailing.

Keelboat Race Crew Training – Designed for our sailors to learn how to crew on our Tartan10, 33-foot keelboat. Participants learn like a boat owner without the expenses of ownership, while learning all crew and skipper positions including maintenance issues, rules of racing, teamwork, and safety.

Crew Connection Events – These social events match boat owners looking to expand their crew roster with our new sailors. The events are put on in partnership with the Detroit Regional Yacht-racing Association and the Lake St Clair Facebook group.

Instructor Training – After achieving their "Skipper's Card" and additional sailing experience, we invite them to join our instructor team to share the passion with new sailors.

Detroit Community Sailing

2024 Challenges and Plans

Opportunities for Further Growth – With Your Help...

Location is an obvious challenge for us going forward. As of this writing we plan to operate our 2024 season on the Boathouse island. Specific to our sailing programs, we plan to continue expanding STEM and Water Safety. New for 2024 we are planning a pilot boat building program in partnership with the University of Michigan's Detroit River Story Lab. Our plan is to build an Optimist sailboat. Once the boat is complete, the participants will join our 2024 learn to sail Session and use the newly built boat. These plans are heavily reliant on our ability to recruit additional volunteers. Check our website for updates on these and other volunteer opportunities.

Help We Need in 2024

beyond donations, falls into these 3 categories:

- 1) **Adding Boats** – Additional boats are critical to addressing the growing demand for our program. Models we specifically need are Optimis or Flying Scots. We prefer complete boats in good condition. We do not have the resources to accept “project” boats.
- 2) **Repairing Boats, Equipment and Docks** - We need professional fiberglass and painting help to address the wear and tear experienced with training boats. We also have additional docks and equipment in need of professional repair.
- 3) **Volunteers** – We are specifically looking for volunteers with:
 - a) Woodworking experience to help with the boatbuilding.
 - b) Science and Math Teachers to help our STEM in sailing.
 - c) Open Water Certified Lifeguards for our water safety initiative.



Detroit Community Sailing

Our Valued Sponsors, Partners and Volunteers

Many support us financially, with wise counsel and with their time. We would especially like to acknowledge the following for their contribution to the program's continuation and expansion:

- *Youth Nautical Education Foundation*
- *Sun Sport Marine*
- *Detroit Boat Club*
- *Friends of the Detroit Rowing, Inc.*
- *American Sailing Institute*
- *Americas Boating Club*



International Order of the Blue Gavel



Detroit Community Sailing

How You Can Help

Donate or Volunteer

We are a 501(c)(3) Federal Non-Profit organization.
100% of your tax-deductible donation goes to the program.

"Give a young person an alternative this summer"

Our fund raising is focused on sustaining our youth program. You can provide a life-changing experience for a Detroit area young person. Your contribution will help a participant learn the skill of sailing and use math, physics, problem solving, teamwork and conflict management skills.



Donate

By Check

Made out to "Detroit Community Sailing Center" and it to:
Detroit Community Sailing Center
PO Box 15065
Detroit, MI 48215

By Credit Card or Paypal
(credit cards are accepted at PayPal site)

PayPal site www.PayPal.com
email ID pay@challengethewind.org

Stock Donations
Contact us at info@sailingdetroit.org for instructions

For more Information on donating or volunteering

Visit: www.sailingdetroit.org
email: info@sailingdetroit.org



Detroit Community Sailing

About Us

Detroit Community Sailing Center, a 501(c)(3), was originally founded as Challenge the Wind Youth Sailing Program in 1994 by the Grayhaven Sail Club of Detroit. Its mission, then, as it is now, is to teach sailing to people who would not otherwise get exposure to the sport. In 2021 we changed the name to reflect our desire to broaden the community we serve and sustain our youth programs.

Board of Governors

Name	Board Position	Professional Positions
Cliff Papin	Chairman	Retired, Engineer, Ford Motor Co.
Harry Jones	President	Retired, Director, Human Resources, Asia Pacific and Africa, Ford Motor Co.
Larry Breskin	Treasure	Owner and Attorney at Breskin Law Firm, past Commodore, Detroit Boat Club
Deneen Garrett	Volunteers	Founder & CEO of Deneen L Garrett LLC, Talent & Leadership Development at AT&T, Podcast Host
Tanagra Weaver	Secretary	Retired, HR Manager, Province of St. Joseph of the Capuchin Order, Commodore, Grayhaven Sail Club
Graziano Galloway-Gooden	Member	Owner, Graziano Galloway-Gooden Design Team
Jon Aubuchon	Member	Owner and Attorney at Aubuchon Law Firm, Commodore Detroit Boat Club
Michael Dixon	Member	Retired, Commercial Banker, Author, past Commodore Detroit Boat Club
Gwen Gipson	Member	Owner, Chargwn Design
Ellen Lewis	Member	President, Lewis Manor Homes, LTD, Regina Homes, Inc., Interlude, Inc.
Jim Neumann	Member	Youth boats and yachting equipment consultant, yacht manager and consultant, former Director of Membership and Marketing at Detroit Yacht Club
Tim Proffit	Member	President at Maren & Associates, Commodore Detroit Regional Yacht Racing Association, past Commodore Bayview Yacht Club
Dave Simon	Member	Chief Administrative Officer at Altair, past Commodore Crescent Sail Yacht Club



Having Fun While Learning to Sail



Sailing Detroit

To:

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