



## Sailing Director's Report *by Katie Wuori*

Big Tree saw the windiest summer it had in recent years. On opening day, as we held the AM classes, gusts began to build and climbed to a small craft advisory by noon, which meant canceling the PM groups; the next day was calm. So started the trend for the 2022 season. The instructors got scads of time on the rail, students became acclimated to reading the wind and understanding how to compensate for the fast, ever-changing (sometimes confusing) conditions. Low-wind or no-wind days were focused on learning how to move boats with currents, weight, and patience—waiting for the dark flutter on the southwest horizon, signaling the higher wind was creeping up the bay. There was only one day we were rained out this summer; the other closures were due to winds unsafe for a small boat to venture out in. Our membership numbers are slowly rebuilding as people venture back into the wild and out of their homes. Our adult memberships held the highest increase, while our teen numbers were down. Classes continue to be busy, as well as inquiries about recreational sailing, and we saw an uptick of alum members returning with the next generation of seafarers.

A new head instructor position has become official; Rylee Sienkiewicz will fill that role and take over the Dinghies 2 class in the afternoon and some other daily duties. This summer, Dinghies 2 will be expanding its reach beyond the sailing boundaries of Seal Harbor as we are collaborating with some surrounding programs for further racing opportunities. Hendrix Lovett returns with adventures from the Pacific Ocean, Matt Britton spent a semester at sea through Ocean Classroom and comes back with seamanship skills to share. Ginger Anderson-Willis and Jackson Cleveland carry on their knowledge of the BTB fleet and curriculum. Caleb Reed, Luke Neve, and Max Mueller, all junior instructors last summer, will join the ranks as instructors. Tobias Conover and Grace Harley filled in where needed the previous summer and will be making a few appearances on the float. I am very grateful for their flexibility and willingness to help meet the needs of our members. Thank you, junior instructors and instructors, for your dedication, creativity, and thoughtfulness you put into every member. All of you are the finely tuned rigging of BTB.

Along with the upgrade of the new 420 fleet last summer, we will be welcoming a new fleet fresh off the container ships from Portugal our new laser fleet. This has been over a year in the works, and it has been interesting to watch the supply chain kinks figure themselves out. With the 25 anniversary and the capital campaign behind us, we are naming the boats! This has been much discussion of the members as long as I can remember, please see "Let the Naming Begin" article inside for details.

I will end this report with a huge thank you to the Brigham Family for hosting our 25th anniversary party, Bonnie and Earl MacKenzie for organization, and Merry Alderman, Treasurer, for her tireless work for the capital campaign and the organization of the celebration. And of course, all of you whose love for sailing, the island, and Penobscot Bay. I hope to see you out on the water!



*Merry Alderman, BTB Treasurer*



*Katie Wuori, Director  
Bonnie MacKenzie, Secretary*



*The joy of sailing!*



*Pulling pork at the BTB 25th Celebration!*





## Sailor of the Summer

Sailor of the Summer - Caleb Reed  
Caleb has probably clocked close to the same number of days on the float as I have the past few years. He is a quick learner, thoughtful and helpful around the float and while sailing with others. His passion for sailing, love and respect of the sea are attributes we look for when picking a sailor of the summer. Congratulations Caleb!



## Dudley Awards

Awards are given to sailors that have distinguished themselves!

**Max Mueller** - Quiet Commander

**Henry Gardner** - Novice to Nautical in Four Weeks

**Luke Neve** - Master of the Bowline and Exuberant Learner

**Sebastian Chamier** - Unpretentious Subtle Sailor

**Cal Rita** - Poggie to Shark

**Gauge Dakers** - Sea-b-Laser

**Dudley Ladd** presents "The Craft of Sail" by Jan Atkins to each recipient of a Dudley Award! Thank you Dudley!



## Islesboro Central School Race Team

by Tracey Wuori

In the 2022 fall, two students participated in the high school racing program through the Apprentice Shop in Rockland, Alma Bewsher, grade 10, and Matt Britton, grade 10. There was no "official" ICS Sailing Team due to transportation issues, coach schedules, and student interest. Tracey is happy and excited to write that in the 2023 spring, the sailing team will have a coach and program ready to grow. The team will travel to Rockland twice a week to train with other high schools and travel to regattas on weekends of April and May. Seven sailors will make the team: Luke Neve, Caleb Reed, Ford Glotzel, Alma Bewsher, Tobias Conover, Jett Lindelof, and Matt Britton. The first regatta was on April 8 with Mike Horn as a coach and Tracey Wuori assistant coach.

The Red Jacket Regatta, an annual race held at the Apprentice Shop in Rockland, held light winds, something the Big Tree Sailors were not used to. In big winds, big movements and adjustments are needed for optimal performance to keep the hull flat, where light wind and influential currents need small, delicate movement and lots of patience to be at the head of the fleet. The day was educational and our BTB representatives learned a lot watching other teams and how they moved in light air days. Louie Glozel, Robert Conover, Matt Britton, Caleb Reed, Katie Wuori coach.

## 2022 Spring/Fall Workday Volunteers

Thank you to Tracey and Terry Wuori, Robert Conover, Dakota Mooney, Carter Jerman, Bonnie MacKenzie, Mike, Tristan and Max Muller, George Evans, Ken Smith Luke Neve, Lucy Hartley and Caleb Reed for helping in June.

The fall workday was split into two days, one taking care of the dinghies and gear off the float: Thank you to the instructors and people on Mosley's dock for lending a hand with the gear. When the mercuries were hauled the following week, another crew gathered to bring them to the parking lot and cover them for the winter. Thank you to Ken smith, Terry Wuori, Tracey Wuori, Rylee Sienkiewicz, Drew Dankert, Luke Neve, Caleb Reed and Harry Brigham.

## Know How to Sail? Come Recreate with Us!

The summer of 2022, there was an uptick of curiosity about how to "rent" a sailboat and "free" sail. Here are the tidings. The language we use for free sailing is recreational sailing, you are "free" of class time and instructors counsel, but you still need to be a member of BTB to legally use the boats, follow the rules and boundary lines. If you know how to sail and have other family or friends who do not, you can "captain" the boat with others as crew members. Each person sailing needs to fill out a medical/release form and must be age ten or above, and you, as "captain," need to be comfortable handling the boat with non-sailors aboard. For members new and old who know how to sail and would like to use a BTB boat; recreational sailing happens during the open hours. Call (207) 691-0197 to arrange a time to come out to the float, go over rules, expectations and the idiosyncrasy the boats and program holds, go through competency check with an instructor including rigging and unrigging the boat of your choice and capsizing and righting the dinghies (see the membership and program registration form top of the second page *Recreational Sailing/Refresh* in this newsletter or online at [www.bigtreeboating.org](http://www.bigtreeboating.org)). Once you have completed this, the boats are yours to use. Safety is number one at BTB. Please be aware that classes have precedence over recreational sailing.

Recreational sailing hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 11:00 - 4:00; Tuesday from 11:00 - 6:00; Friday from 11:00 - 5:30; Saturdays from 1:00 - 5:00. Please call in advance to reserve a mercury sloop, laser, or 420 for recreational sailing. Classes have precedence over boats, and Big Tree does close at 4:00 if there is no one sailing.

### Ken's Corner - What's for Sale

1. 14' O'DAY JAVELIN, WITH 2.5 HP MERCURY, 4 STROKE OUTBOARD, AND SHORELAND TRAILER \$1,500
2. 14' O'DAY JAVELIN, WITHOUT MOTOR OR TRAILER \$500
3. 7' COMPOSITE DINGHY \$300
4. 25' WESTERLY MARINE WITH DIESEL



\*\*\***A BIG thank you to Alex & Kendra Brigham** for the use of their orchard for the BTB 25th Celebration  
 \*\*\***Thank you to David Leuschen** for the use of his second floor garage for BTB gear storage  
 \*\*\***Thank you to IME** for floats, moorings, two whalers and inflatable maintenance  
 \*\*\***Thank you to PYY** for hauling and launching the mercurys, storage and maintenance of Betsy  
 \*\*\***Thank you to Merry Alderman** for all her hard work on the capital campaign  
 \*\*\***Thank you to Lindsey Higginson and Jane Wharren** for selling BTB merchandise at the celebration  
 \*\*\***Thank you to Bonnie & Earl MacKenzie** for setting up the venue and making sure it looked beautiful  
 \*\*\***Thank you to the Island Market** for donating the pig  
 \*\*\***Thank you to Sherry Conover** for cooking and behind the scenes coordination  
 \*\*\***Massie Ritsch & Zach Conover** MCs & Auctioneering  
 \*\*\***Michael Hutchison** for being in charge of sound & music  
 \*\*\***Sporting Club** for lending us their tents  
 \*\*\***Mike Horn** for rigging the 420's

## Tuesday Evening Adult Racing

The adults came out to play when the wind wasn't howling too hard, and they could escape the toil of life for some good ol' fun. BTB had a handful of core adults who took turns racing lasers with more laughing and comradely than competition. The Tuesday evening sails were a success. If you are 16 or older and know the basics of laser sailing, join us to "shake out some cobwebs", get wet, round some marks and scuttlebutt with salty souls!



**Spring Work Day #1**  
**Saturday, June 17th, 9:00 - 12:00ish (rain date Sunday June 18th, 9:00 am) at parking lot across from Moseley's Dock. Please wear old clothes you do not mind getting painted on or wet!**  
**Fall Work Day #2**  
**Saturday, August 12th at 9:00 - 12:00ish in the parking lot across from Moseley's Dock Date and times may change dependent on weather and tide- please join the BTB Facebook or Instagram page for updates and other last minute details.**  
**\*\*Many hands make light work so please join BTB members and instructors as we prepare the mercurys/dinghies to launch**

Big Tree Boating is scheduled to open on **June 26** and run for seven weeks until **August 11**.

Hours of operation are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 10:30 - 4:00. Tuesday 10:30 - 6:00 (4:00 - 6:00 18+ racing, please call to sign up before noon that day).

Fridays from 10:30- 5:30, Saturdays from 1:00 - 5:00, closed on Sundays.

AM classes (Crew, Skipper 1, and Intro to Dinghies) run from 10:30 - 12:30 Monday - Friday, and PM classes (Skipper 2, Advanced Dinghies, and Racing Techniques) are from 1:30 - 3:30 Monday - Thursday.

Adult laser racing (16+): Tuesday evenings 4:00 - 6:00 - Call by noon to reserve your boat! (207) 691-0197



## President's Report by Ben Alexander

Dear Big Tree Boating Community, I am thrilled to see the days getting longer and the snow melting which are both signs that another exciting season at Big Tree Boating is dead ahead. First, though, I would like to thank all of you who came out to celebrate with us last August. We had close to 300 people join us on the Brigham's Orchard to eat, drink and honor Big Tree Boating's 25th year offering sailing to the Islesboro community. A special thanks goes out to all who volunteered their time and effort.

Looking ahead to the upcoming season I am thrilled to welcome back Katie Wuori and a cast of familiar faces who will be on docks eager to teach sailing. Our new fleet of Lasers are scheduled to arrive on the island by the end of May. Thanks again to all of our donors - without whose support we would not have our program and a new fleet of boats.



We also have a few boats for sale including a 26 foot Westerly which will be moored in Seal Harbor this summer. If you are looking for a new boat or would like to donate one to Big Tree Boating, please contact Ken Smith at [75bravo@gmail.com](mailto:75bravo@gmail.com). I

look forward to seeing everyone in a few short months! Here is our registration link:  
[bit.ly/BTBRegistration2023](http://bit.ly/BTBRegistration2023)

## BTB - Board of Directors

Ben Alexander - President  
Merry Alderman - Treasurer  
Bonnie MacKenzie - Secretary & Newsletter Editor  
Katie Wuori - Executive Sailing Director  
Ken Smith, Rachel-Rolerson Smith, Lindsey Higginson, Gabe Pendleton, Josh Conover, George Evans, Sherry Conover, Philip Ladd, Mike Horn, Richard Grisaru, Harry Brigham and new members: Tracey Wuori and Todd Siekman.

For details and more information visit: [www.bigtreeboating.org](http://www.bigtreeboating.org) or email questions to [bigtreeboating@gmail.com](mailto:bigtreeboating@gmail.com). The quickest way to get a response is to call or text the BTB phone: (207) 691-0197 (June 1 - August 15). Registration will open in May. Follow the Instagram or Facebook page for Big Tree Boating, Islesboro, Maine, for program, weather updates, and other daily information (updated regularly from June 26 - August 12).



BTB is saddened by the passing of John Higginson, one of our founding board members, on Feb. 14th, 2023. He was President for many years until he convinced his wife Lindsey to join the Board. She soon became President and served for 20 years. John was Captain of the Harvard Heavyweight Crew team and then went on to Coach the Harvard Lightweight Team from 73'-78'. In 2017 Harvard dedicated a new boat in his honor, *John Higginson 62'*. He competed for many years in Masters' Rowing Competitions. His quick wit and sense of humor will be missed. We are hopeful Lindsey will continue to be on our Board and spend summers on Islesboro.



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