

Sail Training Report – by Carolyn Wilsford

Another great time was had by all thirteen non-members who attended the “Women’s Clinic”. We switched up the format and after reading the comments, it looks like an overnight option might be another draw especially with traffic issues from Friday evenings.

So we started with a beer can that helped give these ladies another opportunity to be on a different boat. Some even mentioned that being thrown into sailing right off the bat was super helpful and allowed for a lot of questions to be asked. After everyone got their burgers, Bill Records and Fred Schroth gave a chalk talk about race preparations and tactics. Thank you gentleman, you were well received and the ladies loved you.

Thank you Natalie Harden for such an informative presentation about the “Start” line. All ladies wrote how excellent the presentation was and how they had no idea of how technical it is.

Then came my two guys to the rescue, Ed Pierce and Keith Denebeim who graciously brought their remote control boats out for us to play with. Their “Hands on Learning “ lesson was off the top and many of the ladies wrote “Remote control boats were soooo cool”. (Maybe this is the activity to have when we can’t control mother nature.)

After lunch we finally got on the water and had some great start practices with all types of boats including Robin’s 31’ Trimaran “Abandoned Assets”.

On the water, we had Kurt Carson and Ray Schull setting the line going through the 5 minute sequence starts and doing W1’s with an offset mark. Thank you guys for all your help and patience with the girls😊.

Last, I want to thank my husband, James Wilsford, for cooking Portobello mushrooms with caramelized onions and gorgonzola cheese, sweet potatoes, salad and pineapple upside down cake. Everyone was so complimentary about the food. My comment, “Thank you , that was my husband😊”. Hon, you did a fantastic job yet again😊 Love you.

Our debrief was very casual, but I did go around and ask the ladies to mention one thing they had learned that day. Comments included “Sensitivity at the helm, tacking verses jibing, spinnaker sets and dowses, and reading the wind were among just a few responses I got.

Other comments to share:

“Linda McDavitt & Gretchen Douglas are excellent instructors.” (We already knew that, but are glad others realize it too😊).

“Where do I sign up for the next one?”

“Loved It”.

“Thank you! Money well spent.”

“Keep doing it”.

“Loved this experience! Thank you!

“Future Team Building?”

“Switch boats” and do round robins next time?”

It was great fun. Thank you again everyone!

Next, Bill Records had ten non-members with his "Learn to Sail" clinic on May 19th. Thank you Jim Pearce and Andre De La Reza for helping out and volunteering your time. Your safety lesson was great and an added bonus to this clinic. I'm sure you will be asked again.