



## Meet Our Team

### Whidbey Island Race Week Advisory Board

#### **Schelleen Rathkopf, Seattle, Washington**

Owner and producer of Race Week, Schelleen Rathkopf has been at the helm since 2014. At this time, she created an Advisory Board of longtime Race Week participants and professionals in the industry to participate in shaping the event to build the sport of sailboat racing in the region. She also created a successful Kids Camp program at Race Week that includes a youth sailing program, making Race Week a regatta that appeals to the entire family. Prior to starting a family, Schelleen had 20 years of professional marketing and promotions experience in the Seattle market, including positions such as Promotions Director at Seattle Magazine and Sponsorship Coordinator at KING Broadcasting Company. Additionally, Schelleen served as the Sponsorship Coordinator for the Mallory and Irvine Research Expedition on Mount Everest in 1999, where she worked on the expedition's sponsor procurement and sponsor fulfillment on Mt. Everest. She learned to sail in 1996 at the Mount Baker Sailing and Rowing Center in Seattle and in addition to 16 years of Race Committee work for Corinthian Yacht Club in Seattle, Schelleen has also raced on a variety of boats including J24s, SJ24s, C & C 32, Olson 30, Cookson 12M, and a Star. She also owned and skippered her own boat, *Isaura*, a San Juan 28 for several years. Schelleen has been certified as a professional organizer through NAPO (National Association of Productivity and Organizing Professionals) and owns and operates Stuffbusters of Puget Sound, a home organization business she created in 2017. Schelleen holds a BA Degree from Willamette University in Salem, Oregon, where she majored in Art History.

#### **Charley Rathkopf, Seattle, Washington**

Charley Rathkopf has a long history of involvement with Whidbey Island Race Week and has been serving as Principal Race Officer (PRO) since 2004. Prior to this, he served as mark boat operator and Deputy Race Officer for four years. Charley is a US Sailing Certified Regional Race Officer and has been running sailboat races on Puget Sound since 2000. He grew up in Stuart, Florida where he learned to sail and race Sunfish, Hobie Cats, and windsurfers and was eventually sponsored by the Bic/Dufour sailboard company. While attending the University of Florida, where he received his BS and master's degrees in Electrical Engineering and his master's degree in Business Administration, he competed in several Hobie national championships, placing 6th on one occasion on the Hobie 14 Turbo. After college, he raced keelboats in Florida and Louisiana. He eventually moved to Seattle, where he quickly became a regular on the sailing scene and racing on a variety of larger keelboats and Stars and crewing in the Star Worlds in Marina del Rey, California as well as several Bacardi Cups in Miami, Florida. Charley works as a computer software engineer at Pacific Interactive in Seattle, where he has been designing computer AV control and digital signage systems for Cisco Systems, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Caesars, Seattle Art Museum and the Experience Music Project. Here is a summary of Charley Rathkopf's Race Committee work:

- Whidbey Island Race Week, Oak Harbor, Washington / 2004-2017
- Seattle NOOD (National Offshore One Design) Regattas in Seattle, Washington / 2008-2014
- Puget Sound Spring Regatta (PSSR), Seattle, Washington / 2002-2018
- Puget Sound Sailing Championship (PSSC), Seattle, Washington / 2002-2017
- Laser North Americans / 2005
- Miami Olympic Classes Regatta / 2006
- Winter Vashon / 2007, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018

National Team Racing Championship, Seattle Yacht Club / 2010  
Corinthian Yacht Club's Wednesday Night Race Program / 2002-2018  
San Juan Island Round the County / 2013-2018  
T Town Sailing Championships / 2014  
Cal 20 National Championships / 2015  
Hobie Wave Youth National Championships / 2015  
Star District 6 Championships / 2015, 2017  
Farr 30 World Championships / 2015  
CGODS, Columbia River Sailing Association, Cascade Locks / 2017

### **Joe Cline, Seattle, Washington**

Joe Cline is the Managing Editor of 48° North Magazine. The only thing he's more enthusiastic about than racing boats is sharing (or being a part of) the stories of the PNW sailing community. He cut his teeth in the marine industry scrubbing boats and then managing Seattle Sailing Club, a job he held from 2009 through 2014. It was during this time that he developed a passion for providing advancing sailors a pathway toward progression, whatever their sailing interest. Since then, he's been cheerfully working toward that end with the pages of a magazine and [48north.com](http://48north.com) as his vehicle. He's particularly excited about the first annual Cascadia Cruising Rally that 48°N is facilitating in August. Though he learned to sail at summer camp in his native Minnesota, Joe will be the first to tell you that his love of sailing took flight in Seattle. Some of his first and most formative racing experiences took place at Whidbey Island Race Week. He has sailed at Race Week every year since 2010. You might now find Joe racing a variety of boats, from the TP 52 to the 505, and most things in between especially the Melges 24 and the J/80. In addition to being actively involved in the sailing scene via the magazine and his role on the Whidbey Island Race Week Advisory Board, Joe is also on the Board of Trustees of the Northwest Marine Trade Association, where he is the chair of the Grow Boating committee. Joe has varied interests including music, skiing, and his pup, Arlo and will be getting married in September of 2018.

### **Charlie Macauley, Seattle, Washington**

Charlie Macauley is a US Sailing Judge, Judge Instructor, and a member of the PIYA Appeals Committee. He has participated in every Whidbey Island Race Week except two as either skipper or crew, racing the first ten years on his Backyard 28, Katrinka Finklesplatt. Kat Fink was retired from Race Week competition following Race Week No. 25 in 2007 and replaced with, Absolutely, a G&S One Tonner. After years of racing the G&S, a new Farr 39 ML entered the picture, was named, Absolutely, and Charlie and his crew (that include daughters, Leigh and Shelagh, and his wife Kathy) continue to regularly take a place on the podium in most of the races that the Macauley's participate in. Charlie is also a longtime member of Corinthian Yacht Club of Seattle.

### **Byron Skubi, Oak Harbor, Washington**

Byron Skubi is a retired orthopedic surgeon with over 40 years of experience as a racing and cruising sailor. Member of Oak Harbor Yacht Club since 1980 and past Commodore in 2009, Byron has competed in 32 Swiftsure races and every Whidbey Island Race Week except one from its inception to 2009. He is Chairman of the Board of the Oak Harbor Youth Sailing Foundation and a US Sailing Level I sailing and powerboat instructor. Byron has also served as Oak Harbor Yacht Club Race Committee since 2010 and has been the PRO for San Juan 24 North Americans in 2012 and 2014 -2017, and for the San Juan 21 North Americans in 2014. He holds a US Coast Guard 100-ton Masters License and has been active in the T37 model sailboat racing fleet. Byron lives with wife, Jane Mays, on Penn Cove, Whidbey Island.

### **Larry Munns, Oak Harbor, Washington**

Larry Munns is a retired Naval Officer and Southwest Airlines pilot. A longtime Oak Harbor resident and boat owner since the 1970s, Larry has been a lifelong boater and currently owns and cruises on his Jeanneau 42DS. Larry has a long history at Whidbey Island Race Week. He has raced in the event since the 1980s and has been on the race committee team since 2011. Larry was the past Commodore of the NAS Whidbey Island Naval Sailing Association (WINSA) and Oak

Harbor Sail Fleet Captain. Currently, he is the Commodore OHYC, President of Oak Harbor Youth Sailing and a US Sailing Instructor for local programs in Oak Harbor and Assistant Coach of Wildcat Sailing at Oak Harbor High School.

**Avis Berney, Oak Harbor, Washington**

Avis Berney is a retired marketing, public relations, and recreation professional with extensive experience in managing competitive athletic events in community recreation programs. She is the immediate Past Commodore of the Oak Harbor Yacht Club. Avis learned to sail on the Columbia River in Portland, Oregon and has been on the race committee for Oak Harbor Yacht Club since 2005 and with Whidbey Island Race Week since 2006. In addition to serving several years on the Oak Harbor Yacht Club Board of Directors, she has also served on a number of boards within the Oak Harbor community including Oak Harbor Youth Sailing. She is a graduate of San Diego State University.

**Larry Butchart, Seattle, Washington**

Larry Butchart has raced at Whidbey Island Race Week since 1988. He started sailing with his Dad at age 4 on their home built 16-foot cat boat, and later continued on his home built 6-foot pram. In Jr High, he began racing Hobie 16's and continues to this day to be an active member of the Hobie fleet. Larry bought his first keelboat in 1988, an Olson 25, and still actively sails this boat. As a longtime employee of Fisheries Supply in Seattle, Washington, Larry has raced on many boats and in many different venues. He was a member of the winning crew in the US Offshore Championships at the Naval Academy in 2001 and has also raced in the Caribbean. Larry has served on the board at Corinthian Yacht Club in Seattle and believes that Race Week is one of the most important races in the region to keep the sport and the sailing dream alive.