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Close Hauled

"A sailing program serving Pittsburgh area high school students and others"

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Thanks to our supporters

Our progress this year would not have been possible without the help and support of numerous individuals and organizations. We still have a long way to go but with their help we're off to a great start!



Don Carpenter (deceased November 2018) - Don was a friend and fellow sailor with our chairman, Joe Kirk. What started as captain and crew for Moraine Sailing Club races grew to a friendship for many years. While Don faced the tragedy of cancer, he decided to make a major contribution to PPSL, our first contribution. His love and support for sailing will always be greatly appreciated.



State Senator Wayne Fontana –Senator Fontana secured a \$73,000 grant that supports much of our efforts this year. The grant permitted us to acquire our fleet of RS Quest sailboats, purchase and make improvements to the sailing dock and safety boat as well as support other operational expenses. The Senator emphasized how important it is to have a program that is inviting to non-sailors. He also offered salient advice as we made our way through the review and approval process. We deeply appreciate the Senator's support and guidance.



Pitt Sailing Club (PSC) and Geoff Wells – PPSL board member and former Pitt sailor Geoff Wells brought both his skills and other PSC members to help move and assemble our fleet of RS Quest boats. Geoff and the Pitt Sailing Club have been essential in our efforts to test our new fleet and Covid-19 protocol. In addition to their sailing skills, a number of PSC member have backgrounds in youth sailing, including sailing camps. The partnership with PSC will be a major part of the future growth of our sailing program.



Captain Evan Clark – While board member Evan Clark serves as a captain of the Rivers of Steel boat "River Quest, he also is an excellent and very affordable marine contractor. He developed and fabricated the innovative design for the sailing platform's launch and recovery system as well as oversaw the retrofitting of the former gas dock and our safety boat. Evan's efforts have been another essential part of getting our program underway.



Captain Wayne Jones, Owner of Branchport Marina - After many phone calls, emails and visits to other marinas that could not accommodate us, we found Branchport Marina and Captain Wayne Jones. He provided a docking location and sold us a former gas dock (now our sailing platform) and our safety boat - all at a great price. We're now working on arrangements for winter storage. He's been a great partner and a genuine enthusiast for our program.

Recruiting for the Fall Skippers Program

We are recruiting experienced are high school sailors for our Fall Skippers program. This <u>free program</u> is open to high school students with prior sailing experience. If the email for this newsletter did not include an application, please email <u>sailpittsburgh@gmail.com</u> with "Skippers Program" in the subject.

We invite you to visit our website and consider making a donation to this new and exciting sailing program with a key goal to promote youth sailing in Pittsburgh. www.pittsburghsailing.com