



**February 1, 2023**

**President's Report**

1 Roger Williams  
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**Listening Sessions 1/31/23**

Alan Ostfield, Andrew Clouston and I continued a new tradition of spending time with local sailing constituents from Central and South Florida to learn their challenges, needs, desires and complaints. These were 75-minute segments for 1-6 people per session all day. In this spirit, Alan and I will host a coffee with Rich and Alan session in the Exhibitors' Pavilion on Friday morning at 7 so that SLF attendees will have a similar opportunity.

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Results from the session yesterday will be shared by me, briefly and orally, in my opening remarks Feb 1.

**Sailing Leadership Forum**

As you've heard, we have a record number of sponsors. The newer news is that we are approaching 500 registrations and usually have a burst of 'same day' registrations on Wednesday and Thursday of next week. Great early news. Katie Ouellette has done the usual magnificent job of recruiting, organizing, negotiating and herding. I feel we are well set up to deliver.

**Keelboat Certification System Operators Stakeholder Meeting Feb 1**

About 20 operators are gathering at 1PM on Feb 1 at the Island Grand to drive consensus on what they need from US Sailing to help them to succeed at their missions. They are going to build a list of needs and requests that center around US Sailing's agility and effectiveness at serving their needs as they deliver US Sailing Certifications to their students. Andrew will gather this work product and collaborate with the stakeholders to, among other things, increase the certified instructor corps, more precisely target marketing and promotion and create 21<sup>st</sup> century electronic navigation curriculum.

**Judges Annual Meeting Feb 10**

I will report back on results of that and will be sure to echo the Board's appreciation for the work they do. The discount on membership and the waiving of fees for continuing education made a large impact so we are starting off on a good foot.

**The Ocean Race Stopover**

I was hoping US Sailing could take advantage of the Stopover to create some donor and VIP stewardship while we had board members in RI for our May meeting. While we are still discussing, the race organizers are quite tight with any opportunities, wanting to ensure that their own sponsorship and marketing goals are met, which is understandable. More to follow in the coming weeks.





## **Port of LA on a new, well-funded community aquatic center for neighborhood of Wilmington**

Alan, Marie, Paul, Chris Childers and I have been meeting with Port of LA, firstly to discuss the new center's qualifications for the Siebel program but the conversation has expanded to include a proposed relationship to consult with the Port to ensure the center, which will have capital funding from the port, is created with professional guidance on what a proper aquatic center should have. This will include a consultancy contract that Alan and Chris Childers are drawing up. This is a bit of a unicorn project as most community sailing centers start out much more boot strapped than this well-funded project, but it will give us some practice at a new service that might be useful to community sailing center start-ups to keep them from making the inevitable mistakes normally made by local leaders in a community who are doing this for the first time. Importantly, it will give staff experts a chance to spread their wings in a new, meaty, interesting project that serves the community sailing and diversity missions of US Sailing.

