



TSC Wizard of Zenda Movie Night
By Brian Dolan

On the evening of August 8, 2023 more than 40 members and guests signed up for a private screening of the new Buddy Melges documentary at the Loft Cinema entitled MELGES: The Wizard of Zenda.

This independent feature length film chronicles the extraordinary life of Harry Clemons “Buddy” Melges Jr. and his unparalleled sail boat racing career. No other US sailor has been so successful and celebrated in such a wide variety of boats and classes; Olympic Gold and Bronze Medalists, Multiple World Championships, Multiple National Championships, Yachtsman of the Year and winning America’s Cup skipper. It is also the story of a man that dedicated his life to promoting the sport of sailing and was an outstanding ambassador of the sport. Although Buddy passed away this past May at the age of 93 years his competitive spirit and natural sailing talents will live on through this film.

Simply put the film was OUTSTANDING and words alone cannot describe how enjoyable it was to watch and how well it was put together. The story of Buddy is legendary and truly inspiring. We were also very fortunate to have the screening in a theatre and that we opted for the longer version. It was definitely one of the highlights of the summer for those that attended. Although no one wanted it to end it received a heartfelt and very touching applause from the audience when it was over.

The film was created by QUICKLIER FILM PARTNERS in association with LAKE GENEVA YACHT CLUB and GENEVA LAKE SAILING SCHOOL for the for the purpose of informing, educating, and engaging people and organizations throughout the world to embrace sailing education, safety, and competition. They have opted to make the film available to Yacht and Sailing Clubs through private screenings to help promote the sport.

The TSC screening was a rare opportunity and treat. Currently there have been 16 screenings across the U.S. and Canada and another dozen or more are scheduled from California to Sweden in the months ahead. The producers also expect to show the film to more than 50+ audiences by the end of the year and they are getting rave reviews. So maybe it will be available on a streaming service in the years to come. In the meantime you can secure a copy of the film by making a contribution to the filmmaker's "Sail-It-Forward" Fund and Foundation through their website at [MELGES: The Wizard of Zenda](#)