

Lake Townsend Yacht Club

Tell Tales

MARCH, 2024



HAPPY
St. Patrick's
DAY



“May the strength of God pilot us, may the wisdom of God instruct us, may the hand of God protect us, may the work of God direct us. Be always ours this day and for evermore.”

— St Patrick

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN

2024 Membership Renewals Are Due

The Benefits of Membership

Competitive Fun Sailing

On the second Saturday of each month (March-October) we hold our regular LTYC race series. This is 'around the buoys' racing where courses are laid out and there is a Signal Boat (pontoon boat) which carries the Race Committee who administer the race. There are specific times set to attend an online competitors meeting prior to the race day and to have your boat at the starting area to race. Typically, there are three races run.

Social Fun Sailing

On the fourth weekend of each month (March-October) we have a Sail-abration! There is no set time or agenda. This weekend is for daysailing and cruising just for fun. Club members are there who may either invite you to go sailing on their boat or give you advice about sailing your boat or a rental. It's a good time to practice and improve your sailing or racing skills. Best way to learn is to be onboard with one of our experienced skippers.

Other Benefits

Seminars and training for beginning and intermediate sailors

Availability of club boats including one Lightning, two Flying Scots, two Wayfarers, and one Tanzer 16. All are ready for use, mast-up and on trailers. For more information, see the [club sailboat usage policy, agreement, and reservations](#) in the Members' Cove.

You can join the Lake Townsend Yacht Club or [renew your existing membership](#) by clicking the button below.



New Membership

Membership Renewal

Season Opener

Lake Townsend Yacht Club is planning a fantastic event to celebrate Spring and our great club. We're calling it Spring Fling with a Fowl Regatta!

On Saturday, April 6, 2024, come out to the lake to sail and dine.

If you do not want to sail, come on out to Shelter 10 around 3:30PM for a great meal and festivities.

If you do not want to participate in the fun race, then go sailing around noon and watch the race from your boat!

If you plan to participate in the meal, please sign up so that we will have enough food.



Sign up here!

[LTYC Event Reservations - Google Sheets](#)

The day will begin around 9:30-10AM with boat preparation. At 10:30, join fellow sailors at the Racing Shed under the tree for a competitors' meeting. Here we will answer questions concerning the rules for the Fowl Regatta.

The Fowl Regatta consists of two races of sailing to six buoys spread out around the lake. In the first race, each boat will pluck a plastic bag containing a playing card from any 3 of the 6 buoys and the crew of each boat will touch the other 3 buoys. The final two cards for the poker hand will be dealt at shelter 10 in the order of finish of the race. These playing cards will become a poker hand that will be ranked after the meal at Shelter 10. In the second race, the crew of each boat will touch each of six buoys. The specific rules for these races are in the Fowl Regatta SIs which will be provided to participants at the skippers meeting. The final score for each boat will be a combination of their finish place in the two races and the rank of their poker hand.

After we sail two races, and derig our boats, we will meet at Shelter 10 for food and camaraderie. This will probably occur around 3:30pm. After we dine, we will score the Fowl Regatta poker hands and award the winners.

Please sign up here: [LTYC Event Reservations - Google Sheets](#)

Join us at Lake Townsend on April 6, 2024!

Let's Learn to Sail!

Of the 24 separate classes we have scheduled for this year, 16 of them have already been filled!

Don't miss out. Register early to make sure you get one of the rapidly disappearing slots. Early registration will give you the widest range of choices and if you want this training wouldn't it make sense to get it as early as possible rather than at the end of the sailing season?

There are Beginner courses, Intermediate courses, Individual lessons, Sail Camps for Juniors, and even a Learn to Race course.

You can still choose between the 8 classes that still have room (assuming you act now), so check out [this year's schedule](#) and then click on the link to the Online Registration Form.

Visit the LTYC Site to sign up for one of the classes listed.

Learn to Sail:

[Learn-to-Sail \(laketownsendyachtclub.com\)](http://laketownsendyachtclub.com)

Volunteers Needed!

All classes are in need of volunteers. Visit <https://laketownsendyachtclub.com/activities/InstructorSignUp.asp> to sign up as an Instructor, Assistant, or Scat Boat Driver.

Youth Sailing Report

The High School Sailing Team (John Spinos and Preston Miller in A fleet and William Brady and Ellie Spinos in B fleet), attended the North Points #7 Race on February 24th and 25th at



James Island Yacht Club in Charleston, SC where the forecast was for only 5-7 knots of wind both days. By race time the wind was a steady 15 knots with gusts to 21. Our team did very well Saturday morning both racing and holding the boats down, however so many other teams were capsizing that they had to postpone the races as the winds were 16-17 sustained with gusts 28-30. At one point there were 6 boats turtled, but again not us. The current was moving 2-3 knots as well, so for the boats that flipped, the current drove many of the masts into the mud.

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So several boats came out of the water with the mud sail of shame. What is the mud sail of shame you ask, adding some pictures to give an idea.

Take note of the top panel of the mainsail—that's some pretty black mud.



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Clean Up Days at the Lake

On Saturday and Sunday, March 16 & 17, over a dozen club members, armed with brushes, mops, buckets, tools and 3 power washers, tackled the winter's grime on the club's committee boats and sailboats, and reorganized the equipment shed (labeling virtually everything) and the race shed.

The city's rental boats were also flipped to prepare for this season's rentals.

We had a fantastic couple of days together and got to know each other better, while working towards the same goal...

Making Lake Townsend a better place to go Sailing!



Most of the Work Party on Saturday (a couple had left before we got the photo)

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Courtney Dragiff power washing a Scat boat

Kim Jones scrubbing boat covers



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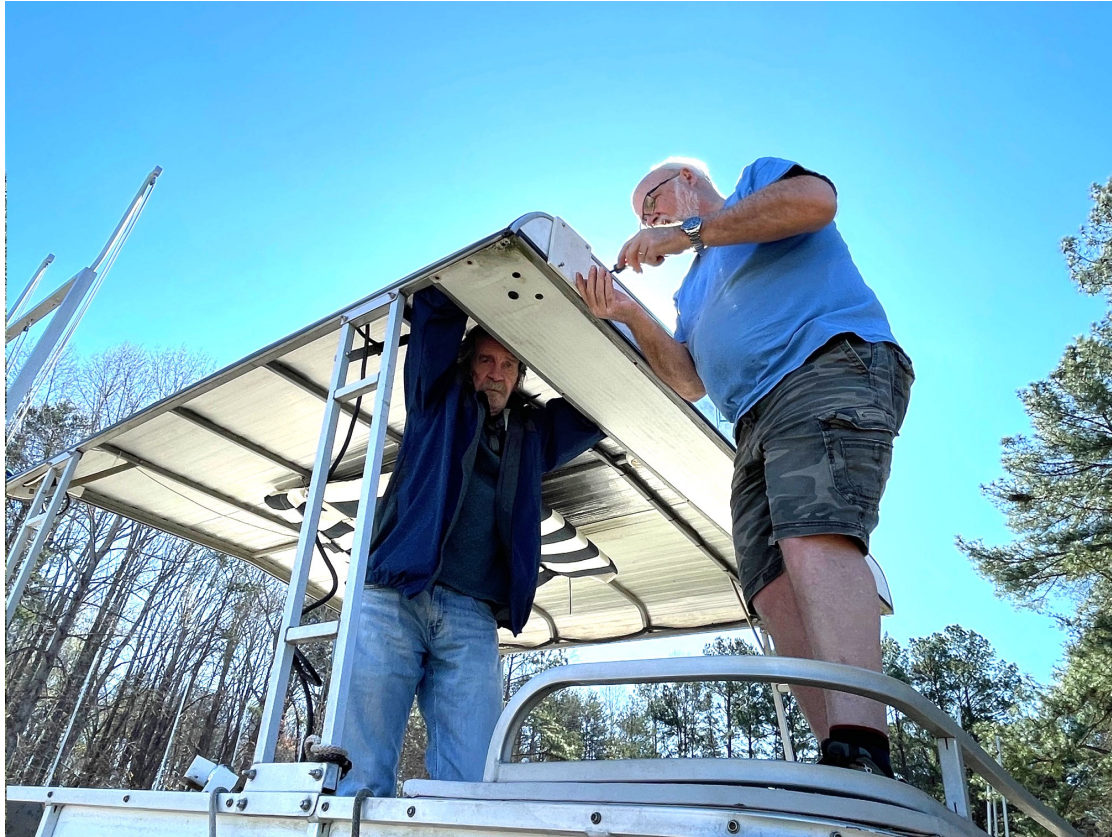
Dan Berry scrubbing boat covers

Dan Berry, Jason Reiner, and MarieLyn Lavoie organizing and cataloging spare sails.



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Sid Hale and Phil Leonard installing new air horn on committee boat

Scott Bogue airing up trailer tires



The Last Sail

By Scott Bogue

"It's macular degeneration, Mr. Gallo," said the doctor. "We can treat it, but we can't cure it."

"I hope you will consider using a walker. Everything we've tried hasn't solved your balance problems."



Tony Gallo sat at a picnic table under the shade of an enormous, spreading oak tree and looked out at the harbor. His memory filled in details that he could no longer see. A light breeze ruffled the water, and his mind instantly catalogued it: 1 to 2 knots out of the north-northwest. His competitors used to say that he could see the wind; what else could explain his many regatta trophies?

His Highlander rocked gently alongside the pier. He had owned *Arielle* for nearly 60 years, through job changes, moves, and raising a family. He could just make out his grandson Matthew, who was transferring equipment, food, and water into the cockpit. At 18, Matthew was an instinctive sailor. After sailing with Tony for only six years he had grasped what it had taken Tony many years to learn. Tony never forgot that his daughter and son-in-law viewed boats and water as being inherently dangerous; it was a measure of their love and trust that they had allowed twelve-year-old Matthew to start sailing with his grandpa.

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Now, at 86, Tony had come to a decision. Since his late seventies he had increasingly relied on others to transport, set up, launch, and prepare *Arielle* for a day on the water, drive him to the lake, and be his eyes out on the course. For the last two years it had been Matthew, but in two months Matthew would start college, oceanography. Now the day was here: this would be his last sail. But would his memories, and being included in the yacht club's social activities, be enough? He didn't know.

Tony didn't need his eyes, or a good sense of balance, to sail *Arielle*; he knew her every mood, her every wish. As soon as they were clear of the harbor, Matthew set the tiller tamer and helped Tony move back to the helm. Then, "A little to starboard, Grandpa," said Matthew. "I just want to give that buoy enough room." The breeze picked up a little and shifted, but there was no mark to tack toward and no-one to overtake, so Tony held their course. The sun hung brilliant in a cloudless sky and the early Spring air was fresh and cool. Tony lost himself to the old, old joy of being under sail.

They hove-to to eat lunch, neither one saying much. There was no need to; it was enough to be there. Then Matthew broke the silence: "Grandpa, I know you want me to have *Arielle*, but Mom and Dad won't let me keep her at the house until I graduate. And I know how expensive it is keep her in storage. Maybe you can find someone who will love her as much as you do."

Tony spread peanut butter on a slice of apple, and took a bite. Instead of answering, he said, "Do you think your mom and dad will let you keep sailing? Once you get to school?"

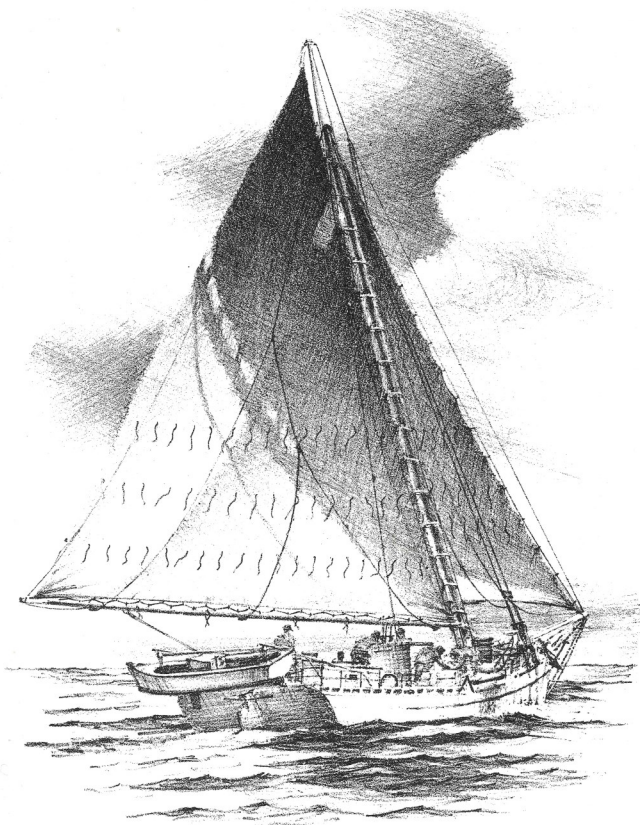
"I hope so," Matthew replied. "They know I'll be around water at school. And maybe I can find a club and do some racing." He looked away. "I really want to do that, Grandpa. But it won't be the same without you."

Tony didn't trust himself to speak. Instead, he packed up what remained of their lunch, saving out a granola bar for the way home. Many were the days, he remembered, when a granola bar was all there was time for, between races. Matthew busied himself with the jib sheets, Tony released the tiller tamer and sheeted in the main, and *Arielle* headed for home.

"You know," said Tony, as much to himself as to Matthew, "As long as I have known Steve Frampton, he's been looking for a Highlander as nice as *Arielle*. But with three young kids, he can't justify the expense."

Matthew eased the jib, then turned to look at Tony. "Why don't you just give *Arielle* to him, Grandpa?" he said.

A smile slowly spread across Tony's face. "I think I will," he said.

*Chesapeake Skipjack**John Moll*

While many remembrances from club members were published here in last month's issue, the LTYC Board has since received this card from Charlotte and Dan Layton along with a monetary donation to the club.

We felt it was important that their thoughts should be shared with all club members.

Fair Winds

Steve Raper, besides being an extremely knowledgeable sailor was one of the gentleness people I have ever known. He was always thoughtful, kind, and willing to help everyone whenever the need arose. I have never known him to say unkind word to, or about anyone

When my husband, David, had his first stroke, I was out of town. After driving 6 hours to Cone Hospital--Steve was right there at Cone waiting with the rest of our family.

After several months of rehab, Steve decided that David needed get back "on the water". He rigged the halyard to lift David aboard and another LTYC member to steady him and off they went for a very special sail.

As Jesus spent a great deal of time in a boat, I'm certain that Steve is continuing to enjoy the peace and joy of sailing.

Charlotte & David Layton



Want to Sail Faster? Begin with This Sail-Trim Secret...

Captain John,

Www.skippertips.com

Captainjohnskippertips.com

Where does sail trim begin and end? How can one simple adjustment affect your sailboat's speed, power, and performance when day sailing, cruising, or racing?



Hoist your mainsail. Position yourself beneath the boom and look straight up toward the head of the sail. You can see the concave shape formed by the sail from luff to leech. In the illustration, the full-length battens help you see this.

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Draw an imaginary straight line parallel to the boom anywhere along the sail. These are called 'chords' or 'chord lines'. Note in the illustration how the chord lines (red lines) and sail surface form a virtual 'wedge' shape.

Think of draft as the deepest part of each of these wedges (blue lines). Your sailmaker designs your mainsail with the draft located about 40% to 45% aft of the luff. Fly your mainsail in a light to moderate breeze, and you can expect the designed draft to remain in this location.

But, as the wind builds, draft begins to creep aft, which results in excessive weather helm. The wheel or tiller will become hard to hold, the boat heels too much, and speed will suffer. How can you adjust mainsail draft to keep your boat sailing fast and balanced?

Follow these three easy steps:

1. Wrap two to three turns onto the mainsail halyard winch drum and Insert the winch handle. Sight up the sail to a point about midway up the luff.
2. Grind at a slow pace and watch for a faint, vertical crease to begin to build along the edge of the luff. Stop grinding.
3. Ease the halyard tail until the crease just disappears. Belay the halyard. Draft should now be back in its designed location.

Test the wheel or tiller. You should be able to steer the boat with two to three fingers. In higher winds, reef the mainsail and add or reduce headsail area to achieve balance. Listen to your helm. If the boat is easy to steer, she's balanced.

Scuttlebutt

from: **Scuttlebutt Sailing News**

[Tips for Getting Into Local Racing](#) (CTRL-Click to open in new window)

Published on February 28th, 2024



We invite ALL members of LTYC to participate in our racing series!

It doesn't matter whether you have prior racing experience, and there is no long-term commitment. You may decide that it's not really your cup of tea, and that's OK... but you won't know unless you try, and we want to at least give you that opportunity.

If you're interested, you should let others know by clicking [HERE](#) and entering your information in the spreadsheet and then just show up at the lake between 9:30 and 10:00am.

If you don't have your own boat to sail, we will make every effort to get you onto a boat with one of our experienced racers. You can just show up... or enter your info in the light green section of the spreadsheet (at the above link). If we can't get you onto a boat with another racer, we can put you onto one of the committee boats to experience that side of the racing experience.

Racing Tactics (videos)

from: **SailZing**
Part 1 of 4-part series

Sailboat Racing Tips: Upwind Mainsail Trim: Shaping your Sail, Part 1 - Angle of Attack
(CTRL-Click to play in new window)

Welcome to our video series on upwind mainsail trim, presented by SailZing.com. Today's topic is Angle of Attack, which is part 1 of the unit on shaping your sails. .



Continued on next page

from: **SailZing**
Part 2 of 4-part series

Sailboat Racing Tips: [Upwind Mainsail Trim: Shaping your Sail, Part 2 - Camber](#)

(CTRL-Click to play in new window)

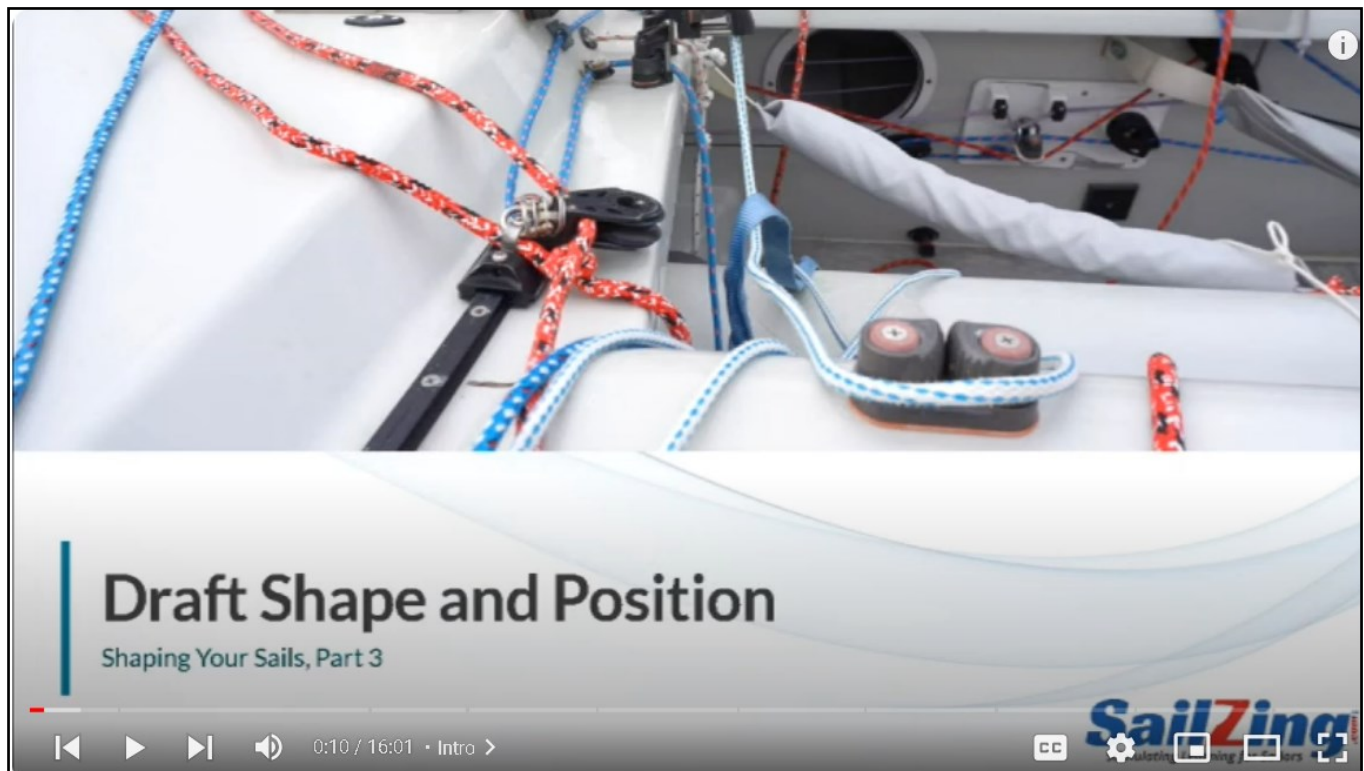
Welcome to our video series on upwind mainsail trim, presented by SailZing.com. Today's topic is Camber, which is part 2 of the unit on shaping your sails. In this series we're distilling lots of technical material into clear explanations using a visual approach. .



from: **SailZing**
Part 3 of 4-part series

Sailboat Racing Tips: [Upwind Mainsail Trim: Shaping Your Mainsail, Part 3 - Draft Shape and Position](#) (CTRL-Click to play in new window)

Welcome to our series on upwind mainsail trim. This video covers Draft Shape and Position, which is Part 3 of a four-part unit on shaping your sails. .



from: **SailZing**
Part 4 of 4-part series

Sailboat Racing Tips: [Upwind Mainsail Trim: Shaping Your Sail, Part 4 - Controlling Twist](#)
(CTRL-Click to play in new window)

Welcome to our video series on upwind mainsail trim, presented by SailZing.com. Today's topic is Controlling Twist, which is part 4 of the unit on shaping your sails.



Today < > April 2024						
MON Apr 1	TUE 2	WED 3	THU 4	FRI 5	SAT 6	SUN 7
	● 3:45pm WFU Team Practic		● 7pm Board Meeting		HSST - Practice Opening Day - Fowl Regattz	
8	● 3:45pm WFU Team Practic	10	11	12	13 HSST - LTYC Miss Piggy) o Miss Piggy Regatta	14 HSST - Azalea Bowl - CYC
15	● 3:45pm WFU Team Practic	17	18	19	20 HSST - No Practice	21
22	● 3:45pm WFU Team Practic	24	25	26 Alligator Run - Lake Waccamaw	27 Lake it Closed due to Fishin	28
29	● 3:45pm WFU Team Practic	May 1	2 ● 7pm Board Meeting	3 ● 5pm Adult Sailing Class #	4 HSST - Practice (SAT) ● 9:30am Adult Sailing Clas	5 ● 9:30am Adult Sailing Clas

Today < > May 2024						
MON 29	TUE 30	WED May 1	THU 2	FRI 3	SAT 4	SUN 5
	● 3:45pm WFU Team Practic		● 7pm Board Meeting	● 5pm Adult Sailing Class #	HSST - Practice (SAT) ● 9:30am Adult Sailing Clas	● 9:30am Adult Sailing Clas
6	● 3:45pm WFU Team Practic	8	9	10	11 HSST - May Day Regatta May Day Races	12
13	● 3:45pm WFU Team Practic	15	16	17 ● 5pm Adult Sailing Class #	18 HSST - Practice ● 9:30am Adult Sailing Clas	19 ● 9:30am Adult Sailing Clas
20	● 3:45pm WFU Team Practic	22	23	24	25 HSST - No Practice (Memo) Social Sail	26
27	28	29	30	31 HSST - Mayor's Cup Regatta Mayor's Cup Regatta	Jun 1	2

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IF NOT RENEWED BY ADVERTISER, THEY WILL BE DELETED.

SEND YOUR CLASSIFIED AD TO :

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◆ Lake Townsend Yacht Club Board

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Treasurer: Kim Jones	◆ treasurer@laketownsendyachtclub.com
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Social Media, City Liason: JC Aller	◆ socialmedia@laketownsendyachtclub.com

You don't have to be a board member to help out. Everything this club does is done by volunteers. Please contact the individual board members to see how you can contribute.

Thanks for making LTYC the best!

Board meetings are open to all members. They are held virtually, via, Zoom the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.