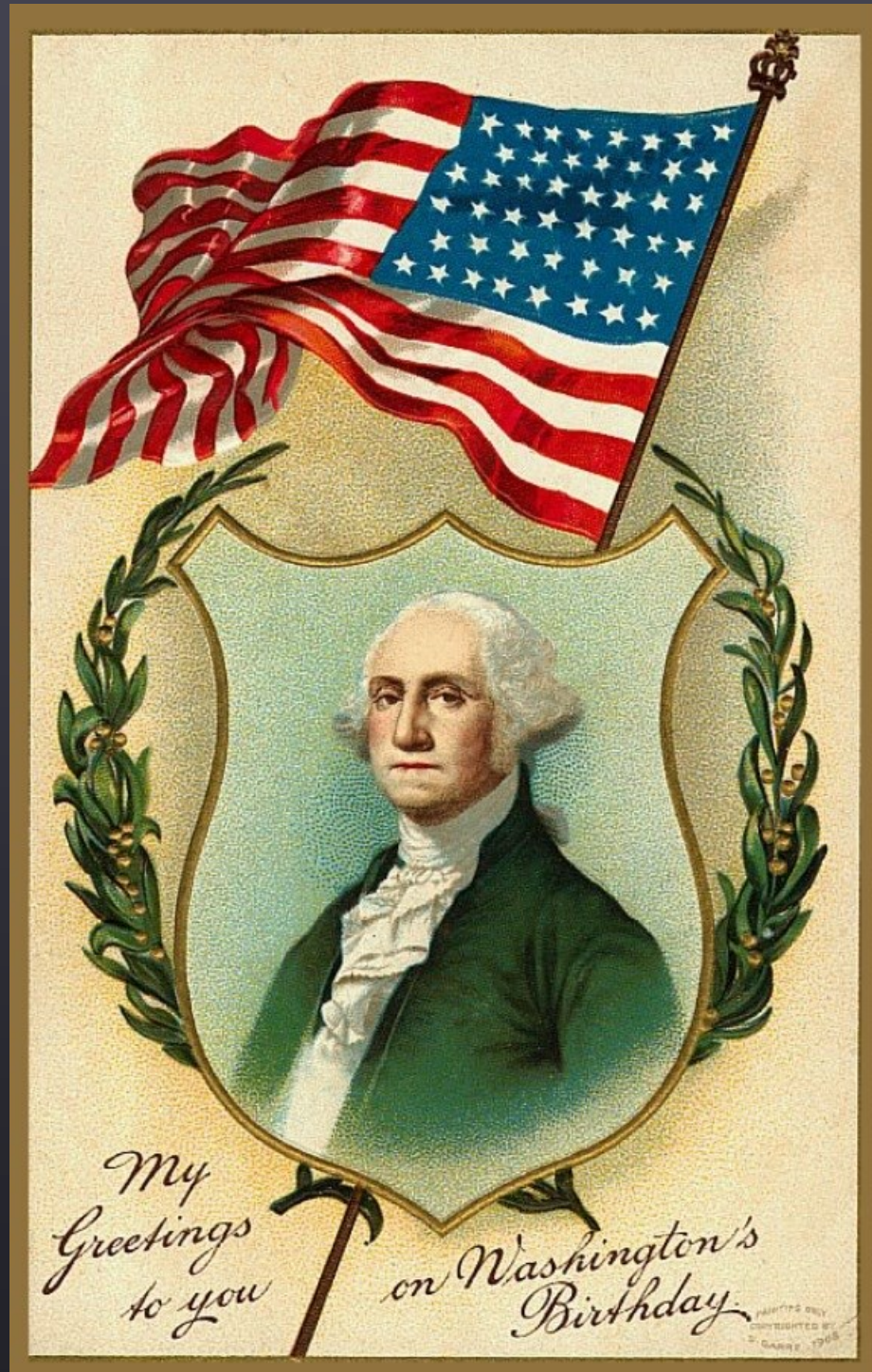


Lake Townsend Yacht Club

Tell Tales

FEBRUARY, 2024



Eight Bells – Steve Raper

It is with sadness and humility that we honor the passing of Steve Raper, a life long member of LTYC, with a Celebration of Life consisting of fond memories from a number of our members of Steve's friendship and his many important contributions to LTYC and sailing in the GSO area.



Events like these remind each of us of the impact we have on our colleagues, friends and club mates and how much we enjoy sailing. It is by participating in club events that these life long bonds are created.

Fair winds to Steve and Let's Go Sailing to the rest!

From JC Aller:

Steve Raper, a great friend and long-time Member of Lake Townsend Yacht Club, passed away on January 26th. Steve was famous for introducing many, many people to the world of sailing and to Lake Townsend Yacht Club. He was instrumental in establishing our club in its early days, even going so far as to put his office phone number on the club website that he created and managed until just a few years ago. I'd stop in at the lake sometimes to check on my boat or otherwise kill an hour or two and almost invariably found him there, helping some new sailor to rig a city rental boat, fixing some piece of equipment, or shooting the breeze with Byrd or whoever else happened to be around. He and I loved sailing and playing guitars, and we shared that love together. Steve's health kept him away from us for the last few years, and we missed him then. Its too bad more of us didn't get to know him.

Eight bells, Steve.

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From Nancy Collins and Uwe Heine:

It was summer of 2006 when Nancy first discovered there was a lake with sailboat rentals nearby and we rushed over to check it out. Soon after that we were at the lake renting a Laser Pico and there on the dock was the kindest, most welcoming soul you'd ever want to meet. He told us about LTYC and before long we had a new extended family centered around sailing. Steve was an animal lover. He had a pet turtle and a dog named Townsend. He looked after the white duck AFLAC, who became a mascot and followed the sailboats out of the marina. Steve was a big part of making LTYC the welcoming community that it is. We will dearly miss him.

From Joleen Rasmussen:

Steve Raper joined the club in 1986, just 8 years after the club was founded. For over 30 years, Steve's carrot top could be seen at nearly every single club event in his Flying Scot. Steve was a very competitive racer. Even so, Steve could always be found at the lake on a nice day taking new club members sailing. Steve introduced the idea of a first sail to Greensboro long before First Sail became a national sailing campaign. Steve assisted every year as a lead sailing instructor for our sailing classes.



Besides sharing his love of sailing with others day in and day out, Steve also shared one of his other major enjoyments with the Club. In doing so, Steve lead LTYC into other firsts as well. As an IT professional for the City of Greensboro, Steve used his technology expertise to setup an online database and membership report. Steve also set the Club up with state of the Art online event registration and payment years before the likes of Regatta Network. The Club website was rolled out in 1997 and was Steve's brain trust. In recognition of the value of the website to the club, the board created Website as a director position and Steve joined the board as Website director in 2004. Steve guided the board as the Club' defacto technology officer turned the position over to our current Vice Commodore, Mark Wilson in 2017. Can anyone remember Lake Townsend prior to its website?

Steve then passed on his sailing legacy when Steve gifted his precious pride and joy, "Baby", to a club member who shared Steve's passion for taking other sailing. Otto Afanador carries on Steve's legacy of taking others out in Steve's "Baby", just for sheer joy of sharing our love of sailing with others.

Steve gave so much to promoting sailing and communications. It is LTYC members like Steve Raper that has Lake Townsend Yacht Club known as a very friendly club.

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From Hudson Barker:

We will miss our long time good friend Steve Raper who passed away early this year..

As computers came along to assist in offices and business Steve did computer work for the City of Greensboro. The Parks and Rec Department was lucky enough to have Steve on their team. As the City and Parks and Rec were persuaded to increase sail-boating activity on Lake Townsend, teaching sailing classes was thought to be a helpful and logical activity.

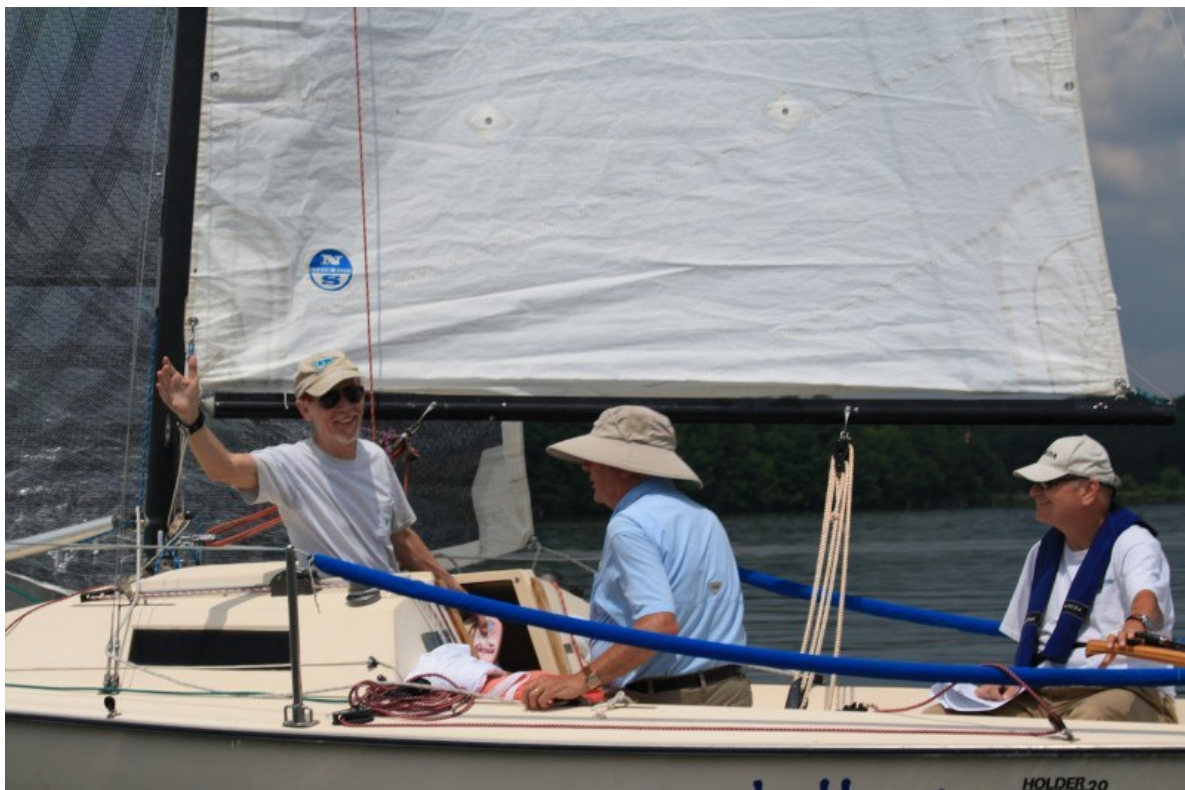
Steve helped the team computerize from mimeograph promotion materials sorted and mailed out by hand to web-site on-line sailing class promotions and on-line registrations and on-line payments. Steve was really helping us do things in a modern way!

When the on-line promotional flyer needed a telephone number for people to call asking questions, Steve just inserted his own office phone number and answered those calls. By that time Steve was teaching lots of sailing classes in his free time and on weekends, so Steve knew the answers to the questions.

Many times Steve would discuss “beginner classes” with people on the phone and persuade them to sign up and then call and remind them to show up. Steve often taught those beginner classes and then afterwards took those new sailors out for a sail on his boat.

We sort of thought of Steve as the “Front Door Of The Sailing Club.”

After helping get sailing classes started Steve recognized the need for teachers and he quickly stepped in to help teach classes, lots of classes.



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From Bill Grossie:

My wife, Sonja Hughes and I met Steve Raper at the 1996 Change of Watch dinner. Within a couple weeks we were on Lake Townsend sailing and racing. Steve loved sailing and teaching and encouraging new sailors. I crewed for Steve before buying a sailboat. He was disappointed we did not purchase a Flying Scot like his Scot "Baby". A computer programmer of the highest order, Steve created the Lake Townsend Yacht Club website and the Club's presence on the world Wide Web.

We have fond memories of sailing trips with Steve to Smith Mountain Lake where when not sailing, he would sing and play his guitar.

The Lake Townsend Yacht Club and sailing never had a stronger advocate and his contribution to the club will be long lasting.

From Carol Moates:

Steve just dropped out of contact in 2018, I finally got him on the phone and ask if he would meet me for lunch, but he said maybe later? Steve loved the Yacht club and was totally dedicated to promoting and supporting the success of it. He was at the lake on weekends and during the week, taking people sailing and promoting classes. He taught classes and was there to assist even when he was not scheduled. He and Starling traveled to several major FS races and scored quite well. He was a detail person and wanted everything done just right. Always at the marina for workdays and keeping the small boats in working order. He was the go-to information voice for Yacht club questions and class inquiries. He was good friends with all of us and served on the board for many years.... always a board member. The News and Record did several features and interviews with him. We can thank Steve for his dedication and love to this club and for its success. I am personally thankful for Steve and so many others who have made LTYC such a successful club, so many people have been introduced to the sport of sailing. I am so proud of the members who have taken such an active role in keeping this club alive and thriving, it's amazing to see what dedication by volunteers can accomplish! I love this club and Sure loved Steve.

**From Ken Butler:**

My memories of Steve Raper and Lake Townsend Yacht Club.

One of the club members I meet early on was Steve. Steve had a passion for sailing and taking club members and guests out on the lake on his Flying Scot sailboat. I believe Steve bought it locally and it was always well cared for. When Steve could no longer care for his Flying Scot, and to insure his memory would remain part of LTYC family, he made her a special gift to the LTYC family.

The other passion Steve had was music and playing the guitar, Merle Fest and LTYC Jam Sessions. Steve, JC, Scott, and Alan. Was always fun. Some of my favorite memories.

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In addition to the many remembrances from the fellow club members above, Steve was the 2015 recipient of the Kent Taylor Service Award.

The Kent Taylor Service Award is given each year to recognize exceptional service to the Lake Townsend Yacht Club. Past recipients of the award, by secret ballot, choose the recipient for the current year.

Since 2013, the recipient has also received a "blue jacket" embroidered with their name and the club burgee.

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN

2024 Memberships 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 four Tanzer 16s. All are ready for use, mast-up and on trailers. For more information, see the [club sail-boat 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

Regatta Chairperson Needed for HOT XI Charity

This has been a very fun and well attended Regatta for our club. We've had sailors come from as far as Canada, Michigan and Maryland. The HOT Regatta has been a part of the Wayfarer Fleet 15 schedule of races for several years. Hopefully there will be more fleets to attend, such as the Flying Scots. (Yes, that's a dig ;-)

If you decide you want to take this over, you have the option of selecting the charity you want LTYC to support (with LTYC board approval), or you can continue with Earlier.org. Working with Kara at Earlier is really fun and she makes the job so much easier, not to mention that breast cancer research is a very worthy cause.

I am in the process of putting together instructions including a timeline of things that need to be done that will be very helpful, and I will help you with whatever you need.

The very first thing to be done is to get a PRO. Jerry Thompson has been PRO of HOT for 9 of the 10 years and you need to contact him early enough to get on his busy schedule. There are other options if Jerry is not available which will be included in the instructions.

Several of the companies and restaurants that have supported LTYC / Earlier will most likely do so again. Working with them is easier because they're familiar with our regatta and Earlier.org. If you decide to choose another charity, (hopefully it'll be local), restaurants are more likely to contribute or give us a discount if you have a form from the charity that shows them how to write off their contribution or discount.

Since we stopped doing an auction, except for maybe one or two items, the job is much simpler.

I hope you will consider and commit to taking this job on. It is very fulfilling but I'm not going to sugar coat it, at times it's a lot of work. You need to commit as soon as possible because there are tasks that can be done now that'll make life easier for you as we get closer to October.

Thank you for considering the position and do call me if you have any questions.

Trish McDermott

336-707-2846

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February “Snow Flake” Race... didn't happen

While we were all looking forward to a great day of racing...

The warmest temperatures of the week were forecast (almost 70° F) despite the overcast skies, and no rain was expected until the evening

Only 4 boats were registered to race that day, and winds were very light as we meandered out of the cove and headed for the starting area.



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Then, as we left the cove we caught the westerly winds at around 12 mph and it looked like it was going to be a great day on the lake but on the other side of the lake PRO AnnMarie Covington was getting a wind reading of 16 mph with gusts well over 20 in the starting area.

We weren't even half way to the committee boat when we felt it, too.

Due to the high winds, the racing was canceled and we turned around and headed back to port. and her Race Committee called off February's Snowflake racing because the average wind velocity grew to 16 mph with gusts of well over 20 just as the race committee was setting the course.



John Russell and JC Aller racing back to port before the wind got any heavier. The rest of us weren't far behind.



Important Reminder

Learn To Sail Volunteers Needed

Don't all jump at once... but don't be bashful either.

Last year we put on 17 different events and positively impacted 66 different people, but to make all this happen, **volunteers are critical**. Both instructors and safety boat support staff are needed.

Besides the revenue this generates for Lake Townsend Yacht Club, these efforts go a long way toward promoting sailing and boating safety in our community.

This year the club has planned:

4 Private Sailing Classes

Limit 2 students per class

In person instruction + 2 days on the water

2 Junior Sailing Classes

Limit 6 students per class

In person instruction + 4 days on the water.

6 Adult Beginner Sailing Classes

Limit 6 students per class

In person instruction & 2 days on water

10 First Sail Experiences—**URGENT!!** These have all been sold and we need instructors.

1 – 2 students per class for 1 day on the water.

1 - Intermediate Adult Class

1 day shore-based instruction + 2 days on the water.

1 - Learn to Race Class

2 days shore-based instruction & 2 days on the Water

Sign up HERE or...

Contact [Ron Washburn via email](#) to see how you can help.



How to Tie the Rigger's Hitch Sailing Knot

Captain John,

[Www.skippertips.com](http://www.skippertips.com)

Captainjohnskippertips.com

Learn this tough-as-nails super sailing knot you can use to lash a piece of gear to a rail, remove a jammed sheet from a winch, or tie off a safety line to go aloft. Grab a piece of line now and give it a 'tie'.



In past articles, I've recommended the Rolling Hitch when you need a no-nonsense knot that will hold in place and not slip or slide. Use the rolling hitch to tie off a fender or remove a jammed Genoa sheet from a winch. But, there are alternates to the original Rolling Hitch that can offer a better grip on super slick surfaces.

Now, you may come across boaters in the yacht club bar that may challenge you that their Rolling Hitch beats your Rolling Hitch. Sounds like something out of kindergarten, but, then again, fill a sailor with too many rum punches and watch out!

So, when you hear stuff like this, turn to one of the world's most respected compendiums of 'knot-tying' knowledge: Ashley's Book of Knots. Ashley's illustrates both versions of the rolling hitch. And, world-class rigging expert and author Brion Toss calls the alternate version the 'Rigger's Hitch' sailing knot. In honor of the late master rigger, I will use that name for this unique knot.

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Three Steps to Tie the Rigger's Hitch

Today's high-tech synthetic lines have slippery outer cores. The extreme example would be polypropylene--that bright colored ski-rope that floats. Ever tried to tie a knot into that stuff? It can be a study in frustration! Modern cored or braided lines might not be quite as slick, but they can come close.

If you use slick synthetics for your Genoa sheets and the sheet jams onto your winch, the Rigger's Hitch might be the perfect knot to use to remove the jam and get you sailing again. Grab one to two feet of line. Practice tying the 'Rigger's Hitch' with the steps and illustrations below.

1. Note how the hitch starts similar to the Clove Hitch (far left illustration). Pass the end of the line over the standing part in a direction AWAY FROM the intended load. Here, the load lies to the right. Hitch to the left. Go to the next step.
2. Grasp the standing part of the line with your non-dominant hand. Hold it in place. Make a second hitch adjacent to the first hitch (middle illustration). Tuck the end of the line beneath the second hitch (far right illustration).
3. Remove all slack to make the knot tight and compact. Do this BEFORE you place a load onto the knot. Ease the load onto the line. This will allow the hitches to squeeze and hold. For additional security, add two half-hitches beneath the knot.

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Use these sailing tips to help you choose the best sailing knot to make sailing or cruising safer. Pass along knot tying tips like these to your sailing crew or partner to help them become more confident sailors on the waters of the world.

# Scuttlebutt

from: **Scuttlebutt Sailing News**

[How to Prepare for the Sailing Season](#) (CTRL-Click to open in new window)

Published on February 5th, 2024



# Racing Tactics (videos)

from: ILYA & SailZing  
Courtesy YouTube

**Sailboat Racing Tips:** [Starting Strategy with Roble / Shea Sailing](#) (CTRL-Click to play in new window)

Olympic Sailing Team members Roble-Shea Sailing explain Starting Strategy. Steph and Maggie shared many insights that go beyond the advice most of us have learned. The interaction was rich, with pre-planned polls and lots of viewer questions.

The image shows a YouTube video player with the title "LINE SAG". The video content is an aerial view of a 49er FX Gold Fleet Qualification Race 8 in Aarhus 2018, showing a line of sailboats on the water. The player interface includes a title bar, video title, progress bar, and various control icons. On the right side of the player frame, there are logos for ILYA, Roble/Shea Sailing, and SailZing. The video player shows a timestamp of 3:01 / 36:56 and a "00:00" indicator.

| Today < > March 2024 |     |     |                          |       |                                                                                                              |                                   | Month |  |  |  |
|----------------------|-----|-----|--------------------------|-------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| MON                  | TUE | WED | THU                      | FRI   | SAT                                                                                                          | SUN                               |       |  |  |  |
| 26                   | 27  | 28  | 29                       | Mar 1 | 2                                                                                                            | 3                                 |       |  |  |  |
| 4                    | 5   | 6   | 7<br>● 7pm Board Meeting | 8     | 9<br>March Madness Races                                                                                     | 10<br>Rental Fleet Inspection Day |       |  |  |  |
| 11                   | 12  | 13  | 14                       | 15    | 16<br>HSST - North Points #7 (CYC-Wrightsville Beach)<br>Cleanup Day - LTYC<br>HSST - 1st Practice (if not ; | 17<br>St. Patrick's Day           |       |  |  |  |
| 18                   | 19  | 20  | 21                       | 22    | 23<br>HSST - No Practice (Spring)<br>Social Sail                                                             | 24                                |       |  |  |  |
| 25                   | 26  | 27  | 28                       | 29    | 30<br>HSST - No Practie (Easter)                                                                             | 31                                |       |  |  |  |

| day < > April 2024 |     |       |                          |                                   |                                                                                               |                                  | Month |  |  |  |
|--------------------|-----|-------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| MON                | TUE | WED   | THU                      | FRI                               | SAT                                                                                           | SUN                              |       |  |  |  |
| Apr 1              | 2   | 3     | 4<br>● 7pm Board Meeting | 5                                 | 6<br>HSST - Practice                                                                          | 7                                |       |  |  |  |
| 8                  | 9   | 10    | 11                       | 12                                | 13<br>HSST - LTYC Miss Piggy o<br>Miss Piggy Regatta                                          | 14<br>HSST - Azalea Bowl - CYC   |       |  |  |  |
| 15                 | 16  | 17    | 18                       | 19                                | 20<br>HSST - No Practice                                                                      | 21                               |       |  |  |  |
| 22                 | 23  | 24    | 25                       | 26<br>● 5pm Adult Sailing Class 4 | 27<br>HSST - Opening Day Regatt<br>Social Sail / Opening Day R<br>● 9:30am Adult Sailing Clas | 28<br>● 9:30am Adult Sailing Cla |       |  |  |  |
| 29                 | 30  | May 1 | 2<br>● 7pm Board Meeting | 3<br>● 5pm Adult Sailing Class 4  | 4<br>HSST - Practice (SAT)<br>● 9:30am Adult Sailing Clas                                     | 5<br>● 9:30am Adult Sailing Cla  |       |  |  |  |



## CLASSIFIED ADS

YOUR AD WILL RUN 3 MONTHS.

IF NOT RENEWED BY ADVERTISER, THEY WILL BE DELETED.

SEND YOUR CLASSIFIED TO :

[newsletter@Laketownsendyachtclub.com](mailto:newsletter@Laketownsendyachtclub.com)



### For Sale:

With a heavy heart...

I've decided to put Epiphany up for sale. She is a beautiful Mark I woody Wayfarer, built, we think, in 1962 from a kit, owned for some time by Al Schoenborn's brother, Mike, and refurbished by AnneMarie Covington and Jim Heffernan in 2017. She is rigged for racing, with a solid main, jib and spinnaker, and a new centerboard (built by Richard Johnson). She also comes with:

New Load Rite trailer with guide posts (2021, \$2,000 value)

Beautiful wooden benches

Reefing sail

Storm jib

Gottschling cover

Boom crutch

Optional mast flotation and motor mount

I LOVE this boat – very comfortable, handles very well. Have put lots of TLC into her upkeep – sanding and varnishing yearly. However, she has a slow leak from the center trunk area, and I do not have the skill, tools or space to be able to fix that. I would really like for her to stay at LYTC or at least within the Fleet 16 community. Asking \$3500 – negotiable.

Annette Grefe 336-207-1401 (text) or [agrefemt@icloud.com](mailto:agrefemt@icloud.com)

See photos below...

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### **Please Like LTYC on facebook**

- Check in at LTYC on facebook
    - Tag us
  - Write an endorsement for LTYC
  - Like LTYC on the "Like" page
  - Post a review of LTYC on FB
- **If you need help to post pictures or a video on our page, please contact JC Aller at [aller.jc@gmail.com](mailto:aller.jc@gmail.com)**

Please follow our High School Racing Team on Instagram at [lycsailingteam](https://www.instagram.com/lycsailingteam), and of course, on facebook at [www.facebook.com/laketownsendyachtclub/](https://www.facebook.com/laketownsendyachtclub/)

**Next newsletter deadline: March 17, 2024**

## ◆ Lake Townsend Yacht Club Board

|                                        |                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Commodore: Andy Forman                 | ◆ <a href="mailto:commodore@laketownsendyachtclub.com">commodore@laketownsendyachtclub.com</a>       |
| V. Commodore/Racing: Mark Wilson       | ◆ <a href="mailto:vicecommdore@laketownsendyachtclub.com">vicecommdore@laketownsendyachtclub.com</a> |
| Rear Commodore/Education: Ron Washburn | ◆ <a href="mailto:education@laketownsendyachtclub.com">education@laketownsendyachtclub.com</a>       |
| Treasurer: Kim Jones                   | ◆ <a href="mailto:treasurer@laketownsendyachtclub.com">treasurer@laketownsendyachtclub.com</a>       |
| Secretary: Ted Sikorski                | ◆ <a href="mailto:secretary@laketownsendyachtclub.com">secretary@laketownsendyachtclub.com</a>       |
| Equipment: Mark Green                  | ◆ <a href="mailto:equipment@laketownsendyachtclub.com">equipment@laketownsendyachtclub.com</a>       |
| Membership: Ali Kishbaugh              | ◆ <a href="mailto:membership@laketownsendyachtclub.com">membership@laketownsendyachtclub.com</a>     |
| Social Outreach:                       | ◆ <a href="mailto:lgs@laketownsendyachtclub.com">lgs@laketownsendyachtclub.com</a>                   |
| Marketing: Courtney Dragiff            | ◆ <a href="mailto:marketing@laketownsendyachtclub.com">marketing@laketownsendyachtclub.com</a>       |
| Newsletter: Sid Hale                   | ◆ <a href="mailto:newsletter@laketownsendyachtclub.com">newsletter@laketownsendyachtclub.com</a>     |
| Social Media, City Liason: JC Aller    | ◆ <a href="mailto:socialmedia@laketownsendyachtclub.com">socialmedia@laketownsendyachtclub.com</a>   |

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.**