

Lake Townsend Yacht Club

TELL-TALES

February 2026



LTYC



GREENSBORO
PARKS & RECREATION

A Message From The Commodore



Saturday-Series Racing, January 2013

Fellow Lake Townsend Yacht Club members,

It's truly an honor to write to you as your new Commodore. As I step into this role, I can't help but reflect on how meaningful this club has been to my family and me over the past 13 years.

I joined Lake Townsend Yacht Club after what felt like a leap of faith—driving all the way to Ohio to purchase Flying Scot 3633. Not long after bringing her home, I jumped straight into racing alongside my daughters, Laina and Celia. From the very beginning, we were welcomed into the club with open arms. Together, we soaked up every bit of sailing and racing knowledge we could from fellow club members who were always willing to teach, encourage, and share their passion. Those early days on the water shaped not only our sailing skills, but also some of our favorite family memories.

As Commodore, I am excited and grateful for the opportunity to help lead our club into its 50th year. We have an incredible history and an even brighter future ahead. I'm especially passionate about growing our membership and raising awareness about sailing on beautiful Lake Townsend. This lake is a gem, and our club activities are among the best ways to enjoy it.

Sailing is so much more than a hobby. It's an amazing way to build skills, challenge yourself, and spend meaningful time with friends and family. Most importantly, Lake Townsend Yacht Club is a welcoming, supportive, and friendly community—one that I am proud to be part of and proud to represent.

I look forward to sailing, racing, and working together with you to ensure our club continues to thrive for many years to come.

Fair winds,

Mark Wilson
LTYC Commodore



C'mon...SHOW The Love!



Get Your 2026 LTYC Membership Today!

The Benefits of a LTYC Membership

Competitive Fun Sailing

- On the second Saturday of each month, the club holds its regular LTYC race series! A course is established, race-around-buoys are set, and the Race Committee administers the race from the club signal boat. There is a preset captain's meeting on the day of the race which details race specifics and launch and start times. Typically, three races are held the day of the event.

Social Fun Sailing

- On the fourth Saturday of each month, we have a Sail-A-Bratton! There is no set time or agenda. This is a day of just cruising and having fun. Club members are present 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 great time to practice and improve your sailing or racing skills.

Other Benefits

- Members enjoy free food, drink and camaraderie at all club socials following racing events. Racing participation is not mandatory, but volunteer assistance on race day is both encouraged and appreciated. It's also an awesome way to get to know club members!
- Members enjoy many opportunities to hone sailing skills and contribute to the club's success by volunteering to lead or assist with LTYC's sailing education classes and kids sailing camp.
- Members have the opportunity to help with LTYC-sponsored regional High School Sailing Team activities and events.
- Members can take advantage of ongoing club seminars and training for beginning and intermediate sailors.
- Members have access to all club fleet boats and club fleet boat launches, free of charge! Club boats include five Sunfish (first quarter 2026), three Flying Scots, two Wayfarers and a 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 on the LTYC website.

Membership Renewal

New Membership

C'mon...SHARE the love!!

Give The Gift Of Sailing!!



Yes, Valentine's Day has past, but it's never too late to share your passion for sailing with loved ones and friends alike!! LYTC will continue offering an affordable, three-hour Discover Sailing experience for up to **TWO** on beautiful Lake Townsend, hosted by a seasoned club sailor. This great deal is only \$75 for up to **two** individuals and will include sailing, boat and safety basics and real hands-on, on-the-water experience, designed to spark interest in this great sport and, of course, our great club and membership!

BONUS! In addition to an unforgettable three-hour experience, your giftee(s) will have immediate follow-up access to a "Member Mentor," who can help them chart a course for con-

tinuing club education, event participation, networking and membership!

To order this one-of-a-kind sailing experience, visit [Discover Sailing Order Form](#) to make your purchase. We will forward a copy of your gift certificate that you can print and/or email for gifting. Pay Pal, and major credit cards are accepted.

For information on gifting lessons, email education@laketownsendyachtclub.com

For information on gifting a membership, email membership@laketownsendyachtclub.com

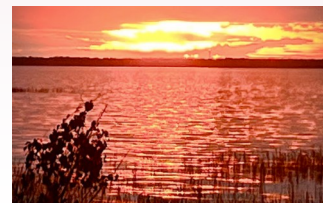
Wayfarer Nationals: Fun, But Formidable



Story by Jim Heffernan; Photos by Otto Afanador

The 2026 Wayfarer Nationals were sailed January 30 to February 1, as part of the annual Midwinters "Groundhog" Regatta held on Lake Eustis just north of Orlando. Seven crews and one additional crew member from Fleet 15, based at Lake Townsend Yacht Club, left the cold, sleet and freezing rain of North Carolina and traveled to sunny, and somewhat chilly, central Florida. Unfortunately, the so-called bomb cyclone managed to affect every aspect of the three day regatta.

The Thursday practice day was perfect for noodling about and shaking out both the boat and brain cobwebs. One romantic Wayfarer crew stayed out through the sunset, enjoying the fading colors of the red sky at night and gentle wind.



Friday was forecast for a west wind at 6-8 down the middle of the lake. Never happened! Instead, the hint of a nor wester quietly came in and a good race was sailed. Race Committee set up quickly as the wind was dying and shifting ninety degrees to the predominant SW. Alas, no one got to the first mark within the time limit stated in the Sailing Instructions. So we drifted around until the PRO, a seasoned wind whisperer, detected a building zephyr and set a course allowing us to get a second race on day one. The finish positions became scrambled so that many crews were close at the end of the day.

Cont. Pg. 5.



Wayfarer Nationals: Fun, But Formidable



Day two. Forecast was spot on and influenced by the nasty bomb cyclone which had moved further offshore. We got an exciting and lively first race with bright spinnakers visible to the thousands of spectators on shore- just kidding!

Shortly after the second Saturday start, wind and waves became a bit frisky. The Wayfarers being sailed single handed quickly and wisely departed for shore, as others continued on using their best tacking and gybing techniques in the surfable waves. The race was completed and all scooted to shore for a lunch break as the winds freshened significantly. By the end of lunch, it was apparent we were done for the day as the tethered boats heaved up and down testing the breaking strength of their painters. One painter failed the test and the boat was quickly saved. All hands were called on deck to help retrieve all the bouncy craft safely onto their dollies or trailers.

The decision was taken by the PRO to stop all racing for the day and cancel Sunday's races as well in light of temperatures forecast to be in the low thirties.

Who did well amongst the vagaries of wind and sea? Dave Mooring and daughter Ava, seasoned local sailors who finished second in the 2022 Internationals. They placed first in all four races. What a team! The rest of the competition was quite strong such that the best our LTYC sailors could manage was a fifth by Uwe and Nancy. One design racing at it's best!

North Carolina Boats and crews that participated:

Uwe Heine/ Nancy Collins, W11338, Anansi

Annmarie Covington/Gareth Ferguson, W11134, Intrepid

Andrew Forman/Chad Fogleman, W10888, Knights of Mayhem

Ali Kishbaugh/Mike Sigmund, W11137, Calypso

Jim and Michael Heffernan, W8705, DawnTreader II

Richard Johnson/ Michelle Parish, W11336, Fetch

Raymond Bednar, W4271, Blackhorse

Marie Lyne Lavoie, crewing in W3488



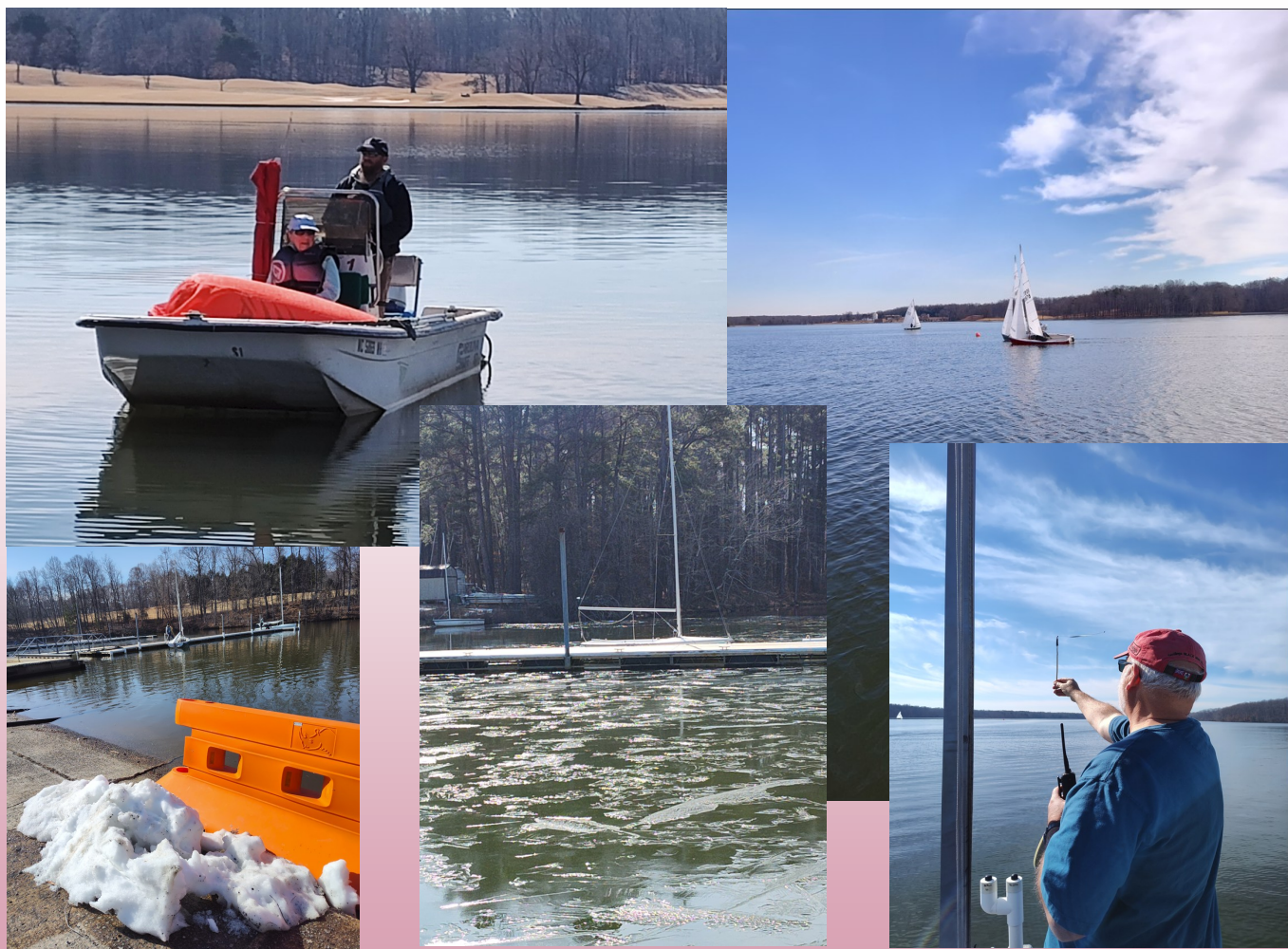
Member's Cove

“Snowflake” Frostbite-Series Race, Warms Valentine Hearts

Photos and editorial contributions by Cathy Leonard

It may have taken an ice-cutter or two to pave the way for the Scots and Wayfarers sailing the day, but what started out a chilly Valentine’s Day morning, blossomed into a beautiful and heart-warming 60-ish day. A mix of sun and clouds and some relatively friendly winds allowed for three, double-lap races and an always pleasant after-sail social at shelter ten.

All arrived by 9:30 to a lake spotted with ice sheets that first appeared to be better perches for birds than friends of boat hulls. But not to be “race thwarted,” six sailboats and two race-committee boats ventured out on the water and to the would be winter course. After a brief 20-minute delay to the first race start, the wind filled in nicely and the fun began. Race committee recorded winds of 3.3 -7.2 knots over three races, and the wind direction stayed consistent allowing for the course to remain unchanged for place for the three races. The first race resulted in a tie between Andy Forman and Peter Thorn and Crews. **Cont. Pg. 7**



Member's Cove

"Snowflake" Frostbite-Series Race, Warms Valentine Hearts

Race Committee

Jeanne Allamby (Signal Flags), Steven Jones (Scat Captain), Cathy Leonard (Signal Recorder), Phil Leonard (Signal PRO) Cheri Shelton (Scat Mate) Ron Washburn (Overall Land and Sea Coverage)

Skipper

AnnMarie Covington
Mark Wilson
Randy Shelton
Robert Bouknight
Pete Thorn
Andy Forman

Crew

Shauna Rankin-Byrne
Finley Wallace
Andy Brunk
Trish McDermot
Ray Bednar

Boat

Wayfarer 11134
Flying Scot 5451
Flying Scot 2776
Flying Scot / Saint Elmo's Fire
Wayfarer 10978
Wayfarer 10888



Member's Cove

"Snowflake" Frostbite-Series Race, Warms Valentine Hearts

Additional Race-Day Photos by Ron Washburn



Share your on-the-water experiences for future editions of Tell-Tales! Send pictures and context to newsletter@laketownsendyachtclub.com

Set Your Course:

Discover the Joy of Sailing on a Sunfish



Learning to sail on a Sunfish sailboat offers an ideal entry point into the world of sailing. The Sunfish is famously approachable: lightweight, simple in design, and easy to rig. For beginners, this means less time wrestling with equipment and more time actually learning how wind, water, and sail interact. Its straightforward setup helps new sailors build confidence quickly, making the learning curve feel exciting rather than intimidating.

One of the greatest advantages of the Sunfish is how honestly it responds to a sailor's input. Because it's a small, single sail boat, every adjustment—whether in steering, balance, or sail trim—produces immediate feedback. This teaches sailors to read the wind, feel the boat's motion, and make quick decisions. These hands-on lessons build strong foundational skills that transfer seamlessly to larger and more complex boats later on.

The Sunfish also encourages independence and self reliance. Its size allows a single sailor to manage



the boat comfortably, giving learners the freedom to experiment, make mistakes, and discover solutions on their own. This sense of autonomy is empowering, especially for young sailors or adults new to the sport. Mastering a Sunfish fosters confidence not just on the water, but in everyday life where adaptability and problem-solving matter.

Beyond skill building, sailing a Sunfish is simply fun. Its light hull and responsive sail make it lively in the water, offering a thrilling ride even in moderate wind. Whether you're gliding across a calm lake or catching a gust that sends you skimming over small waves, the Sunfish delivers a sense of adventure that keeps sailors coming back. It's a boat that makes learning feel like play.

Finally, the Sunfish opens the door to a lifelong passion. Once you've learned the basics on this iconic little boat, you can explore racing, cruising, or simply enjoying peaceful afternoons on the water. Its global popularity means you'll find Sunfish fleets, clubs, and communities almost anywhere. Learning to sail on a Sunfish isn't just about mastering a boat—it's about joining a tradition of sailors who appreciate simplicity, skill, and the pure joy of wind-powered movement.



Lake Townsend Yach Club has five Sunfish that are fully ready to sail this spring! Sign up for your introduction to sailing or a sailing basics class and start the fun!

Calendar of Events

28 FEB, SAT

- Social Sailing

5 MAR, THU

- 6pm Board Meeting

14 MAR, SAT

- March Madness Races

28 MAR, SAT

- Social Sailing

2 APR, THU

- 6pm Board Meeting

4 APR, SAT

- Fowl Regatta (Opening Day)

11 APR, SAT

- Miss Piggy Races

17 APR, FRI

- Adult Sailing Class 1 (Day 1/3)

18 APR, SAT

- Adult Sailing Class 1 (Day 2/3)

19 APR, SUN

- Adult Sailing Class 1 (Day 3/3)

24 APR, FRI

- Hospice Regatta (LNYC) (Day 1/3)

25 APR, SAT

- Hospice Regatta (LNYC) (Day 2/3)
- Social Sailing

26 APR, SUN

- Hospice Regatta (LNYC) (Day 3/3)



LTYC Social Media Connections



Please LIKE LTYC on Facebook!!



- Go to 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

Readers, Feedbackers & Contributors?

Thank you for reading Tell-Tales!

Like what you see? **Tell us!**

Something you'd like to see improved? **Tell us!**

Have an article suggestion or pictures of an outing or event you'd like to share? **Share it**, and we will do our best to get it included in a future issue.



This is YOUR newsletter!

Reach us at newsletter@laketownsendyachtclub.com

Your 2026 LTYC Board of Directors

Commodore: Mark Wilson	◆ commodore@laketownsendyachtclub.com
V. Commodore/ Racing: Steve Jones	◆ vicecommodore@laketownsendyachtclub.com
Rear Commodore/Education: Andy Forman	◆ education@laketownsendyachtclub.com
Treasurer: Rob Bradley	◆ treasurer@laketownsendyachtclub.com
Secretary / Historical: OPEN	◆ secretary@laketownsendyachtclub.com
Equipment: OPEN	◆ equipment@laketownsendyachtclub.com
Membership: JC Aller	◆ membership@laketownsendyachtclub.com
Social Outreach: OPEN	
Socials: Ron Washburn	
Newsletter: Andy Brunk	◆ newsletter@laketownsendyachtclub.com
Social Media/City Liaison: OPEN	
Marketing: Randy Shelton/Ray Bednar	◆ marketing@laketownsendyachtclub.com
Website/Publicity: Sid Hale/Chris Morris	◆ newsletter@laketownsendyachtclub.com

Please note the **OPEN** positions above and reach out if you can be of assistance! But, you don't have to be a board member to help out. Everything our club does is done by volunteers. Please contact the individual board members to see how you can contribute. Thanks for making LTYC its best!

Board meetings are open to all members. They are held virtually, via, Zoom the first Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. If you would like to attend, see the club calendar for times and reach out to membership@laketownsendyachtclub.com for a zoom link.

Classifieds

YOUR FREE AD WILL RUN 3 MONTHS.

**IF NOT RENEWED BY ADVERTISER, THEY
WILL BE DELETED.**

SEND YOUR CLASSIFIED TO :

newsletter@Laketownsendyachtclub.com

