

Lake Townsend Yacht Club

TELL-TALES

March 2026



LTYC



GREENSBORO
PARKS & RECREATION



Lucky You Found Us!



Get Your 2026 LTYC Membership Today!

The Benefits of a LTYC Membership

Social Fun Sailing

- On the fourth Saturday of each month, we have a Sail-A-Bration! 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.

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.

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

Time Flies Like A Spinnaker!

Opening Day Is April 4!!



Ahoy Sailors! Lake Townsend Yacht Club is planning a fantastic event to celebrate Spring and our great club. We're calling it Opening Day with a Poker Run!

On Saturday, April 4, 2026, come out to the lake to sail and dine. There is a spot and an activity for everyone.

If you do not want to sail, come on out to Shelter 10 around 3:30PM for a great meal and festivities. If you want to sail but do not want to participate in the fun races, 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 9:00AM with boat preparation. At 10:00, join fellow sailors at the Racing Shed under the tree for a competitors' meeting. Here we will answer questions concerning the rules for the Poker Run.

The Poker Run 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 Poker Run SIs. 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 Poker Run poker hands and award the winners.

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

We look forward to seeing you at the lake Saturday April 4!



Member's Cove

From Young Dreamer, To Wayfarer Sage

By AnnMarie Covington

When I was knee high to a grasshopper, I was with my parents at one of the North Carolina beaches. A man with his little Styrofoam Snark sailboat was near the shore on the sound side of the island. I was very shy, but I really wanted to ride on the sailboat. I received permission from my Dad to ask the man to take me for a ride. The man took me out and back, maybe 5 minutes total, and I was hooked (first epiphany). In Fayetteville, NC in the 60s, there were no opportunities that I knew of to learn to sail, especially as a 5 year old. So I drew sailboats, made needlepoint designs of sailboats, built model sailboats, anything I could think, short of actually sailing.



When I was a freshman in college, I took a one semester physical education class in sailing. We had on shore classes and sailed a Flying Scot a few times on Kerr Lake. I could make the boat move if the wind was right.

I bought a Sunfish a few years later. I only found a few opportunities to sail it and realized that my life had other priorities at that time.

Fast forward many years as my life moved on; children were born and grew up and then had lives of their own. I bought a Hobie Tandem Island, which is basically a lawn chair with a sail. It is a trimaran with peddles that move fins to propel the boat when the wind is not strong enough. It also is easy to paddle if the water is too shallow for the fins. I enjoyed many quiet sails on Farmer Lake near Yanceyville with my chiweenie, Keetin. I also sailed it, fully loaded with camping gear, to Hammocks Beach State Park on Bear Island near Swansboro, NC and spent the weekend there. I sailed it at several other interesting shallow water coastal places.



My life was too quiet, though. I knew I needed something fun, physically active and social to become involved in. Sailing with other people was the perfect solution!

In April 2012, I joined Carolina Sailing Club and Lake Townsend Yacht Club. Before the first race, I didn't think I would like racing. I thought I wanted to be free to sail where ever I desired. However, during the very first race I knew I loved it (second epiphany). I crewed for many different skippers on different classes of boats in all the CSC and LTYC club races. I pestered the skippers with questions and soaked up the information about sailing and racing.

Continued on next page

Member's Cove

From Young Dreamer, To Wayfarer Sage

In early June 2012, Mike Sigmund, a Buccaneer skipper at CSC, introduced me to Jim Heffernan, who was restoring Wayfarer 276 at the time. The first time I sailed with Jim in the Wayfarer, I knew the Wayfarer was my class of boat (third epiphany). I helped Jim restore W276 during the summer of 2012. In September, I brought 276, "Epiphany", home and began skippering.

I asked many of the best skippers that I had been crewing for, to crew for me. And I again pestered them with questions. While sailing 6 days a month, 3 races a day, with some of the best skippers in the area, I became a knowledgeable skipper fairly quickly.

In the Governor's Cup Regatta, the winning skipper of the class with the most boats wins the Governor's Cup trophy. In mid-June 2012, I was planning to crew for a Thistle skipper at the Governor's Cup. Mike Sigmund walked up to me in the parking lot to ask if I'd be willing to skipper a Buccaneer instead of crew for a Thistle. Mike had brought an extra Buccaneer and had a fellow from Florida for crew, and needed a skipper because he really wanted the Buccaneer class to win the Cup. I had never skippered in a race before, but I had crewed for Mike a few times. If Mike thought I was capable, I was interested. The Thistle driver agreed to trade me for a crew that Mike had brought.



Well, we started the first race, rounded the first mark and the crew said, "I can't do this anymore. My knees hurt". Mike had said I needed to start all three races, so I explained to my crew that we would finish the first race, and start the second race. Then I would take him to shore and return in time for the beginning of the third race. Now by the time the third race started, the wind had picked up to about 16 mph. I left the jib furled and started the third race singlehanded. As I rounded the upwind mark during the last lap, I decided to follow some Thistles. After a few minutes, I realized they were heading for shore, not for the finish line! It's easy to get turned around on an unfamiliar body of water.



Not Pictured Gareth Ferguson

Member's Cove

From Young Dreamer, To Wayfarer Sage

That evening, most of the Buccaneer sailors gathered at a nearby Buccaneer sailor's house for dinner, swimming and camaraderie. As I was walking to the pool, a fellow pointed his finger at me and asked, "Are you the one who singlehanded in the 16 mph wind having never skippered a boat in a race before"? I just grinned and shrugged my shoulders. That fellow was Andy Forman.

Gradually, over the years, I became more and more involved at LTYC and with the Wayfarer community. I have so many incredible friends, and a husband, that I would never have met if I hadn't become a sailor at LTYC and CSC. Sailing and racing have enriched my life in incalculable ways.



Perspectives From The Helm - Racing Maxims To Remember (Pt. 1)



Shared by Jim Heffernan

Uncle Al (aka Al Schonborn), an accomplished Canadian sailor and instructor in multiple sailing classes, would always share some maxims to remember with his students and sailing friends. In his book “ Kiss Your Dinghy”, he features some of his most known and often repeated words to live by.

When in doubt, let it out. Going upwind, especially in light air, sail as high as you can but the moment you feel slow at all (doubt) then ease sails and get speed back up. A faster boat makes better distance to windward and lets your centerboard work better. When off the wind, ease your sheets frequently to the edge of a luff - that being the only way to avoid oversheeting.

Up in the lulls and down with the puffs. Gusts often run in streaks. If you are sailing downwind in the lull between streaks, it usually pays to head up until you enter a wind streak. At that point, you run down to avoid sailing across the streak and out its other side into another lull.

Avoid messes of any kind. Collisions are always slow and maybe even incapacitating. Congestion is also slow. Avoid pile-ups at the start and at marks.

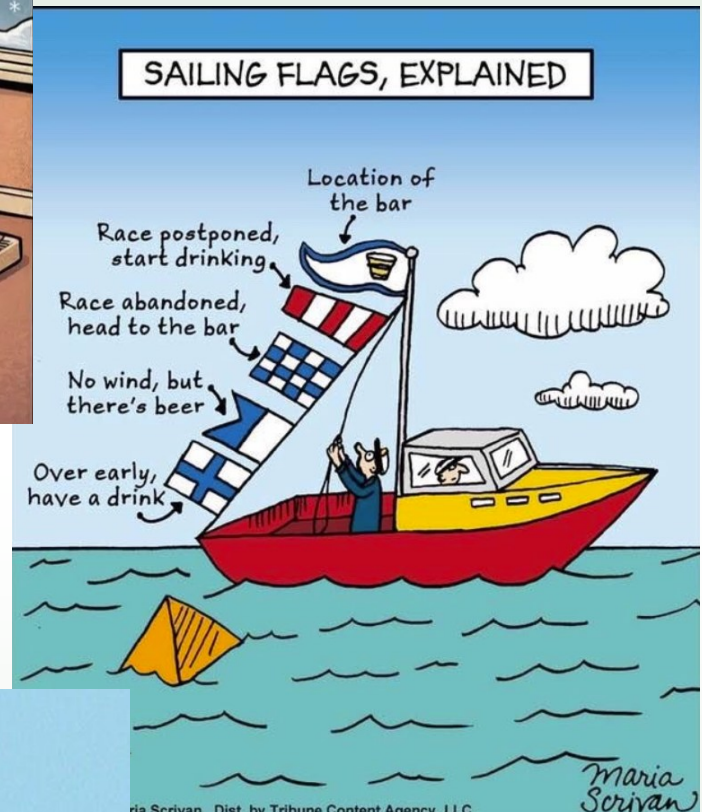
Think ahead. In the boat, prep in advance for things like a rounding that must go without a hitch (e.g. keep feet clear of sheets and off of the spinnaker halyard and ensure centerboard down) Discuss with crew what you plan to do if you converge with another boat. (e.g. defend your side of the course by tacking/gybing before the other boat arrives? Or make the other boat tack/gybe? What is the emergency plan. Be clear in your mind at all times how you will react if a boat suddenly appears that you had not (fore) seen. If a collision is unavoidable, luff up!. Luffing slows the boat down and minimizes impact.

Don't be greedy. These maxims apply particularly well in our frequent oscillating wind conditions.

Cross 'em when you can. On a beat you are headed and can now cross the boat to windward who was ahead of you. Don't wait for a juicier shift to bring fatter gains. Instead, tack and consolidate your gains while you can.

Don't let 'em cross you. If you are the freshly knocked windward boat and think you might still be able to starboard the guy who just tacked to try to cross you, don't give into the temptation to go after him. Do tack to the new favored tack right away and remain placed to get your lead back on the return shift.

The Knot-So-Serious

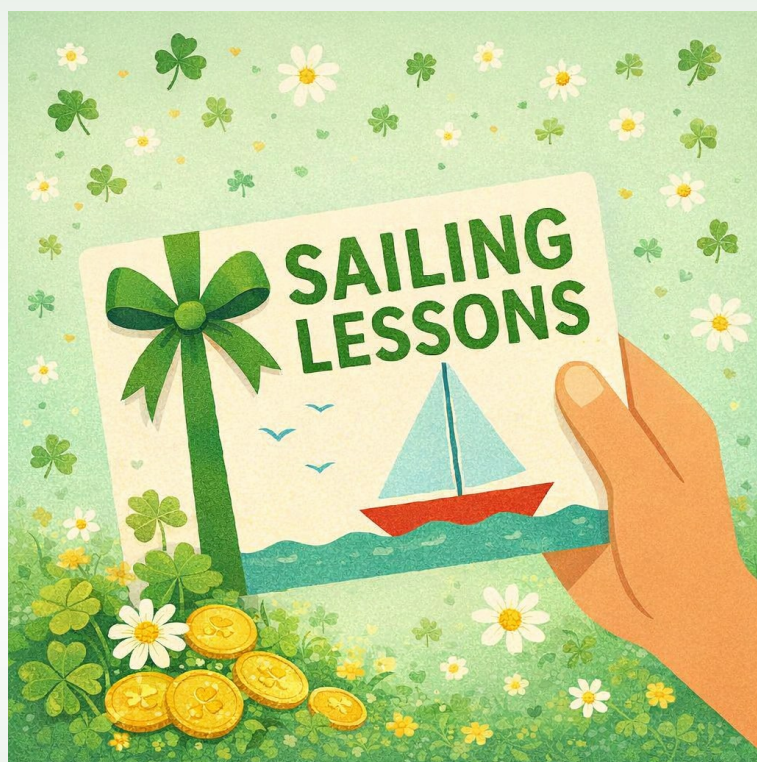


Thanks to Phil Andrews for his contribution (top funny) and sparking a great idea for the page! If you have one send it along!

newsletter@laketownsendyachtclub.com

Give The Gift Of Springtime Sailing!

Spring is here and it's the perfect time to give some lucky one (s) the gift of sailing! 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 continuing 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

Sailor To Sailor

Get “Windy!” Share Your Sailing Story!

Every sailor has a beginning—a moment when wind, water, and curiosity came together and set them on a lifelong course. Maybe it was a childhood summer camp, a friend’s invitation, or the simple thrill of watching sails fill on a breezy afternoon. However your journey started, it’s part of the rich tapestry that makes our club such a vibrant community. We’d love to hear how you first found

your way to sailing and what drew you back for more.



Of course, no sailor’s story is complete without a favorite boat. Whether you swear by the simplicity of a Sunfish, the elegance of a Wayfarer, the speed of a Laser, or the comfort of a cruising keelboat, your preferences say something about the sailor you’ve become. Tell us which boats have captured your heart and why—was it the feel of the helm, the challenge of the rig, or the memories made aboard?

We’re also inviting you to share the adventures that have shaped your time on

the water. Maybe you’ve weathered an unexpected squall, discovered a hidden cove, or enjoyed a perfect afternoon race where everything just clicked. Big or small, triumphant or humbling, these stories remind us why we sail and what keeps us coming back to the lake again and again.



Your experiences inspire new sailors, strengthen our community, and celebrate the spirit that makes our club special. Send us your stories—funny, heartfelt, daring, or reflective—and we’ll feature them in upcoming newsletters. Let’s fill our pages with the voices of the people who make this club more than a place to sail. It’s your turn at the helm; we can’t wait to hear what you have to share.



Send To Andy Brunk—newsletter@laketownsendyachtclub.com

Member Racing

"March Madness" Race, Closes Winter Series

Bednar, Ray singlehand	WF 11
Bews, Tom singlehand Gavin Kidd John Russell	FSCT 3801
Covington, AnnMarie Shauna Rankin-Byrne	WF 11134
Duff, David Matt Felmlee	FSCT 1104
Jones, Steve Wendell Gundlach	FSCT 6101
Kidd, Gavin Frasier Kidd Adrian Michael Tim Sherwood	FSCT 4049
Leonard, Phil Cathy Leonard	WF 864
Shelton, Randy Candice Shelton Andy Brunk	FSCT 2776
Thorn, Pete Ray Bednar Regina Ali	WF 10978
Wilson, Mark Finley Wallace	FSCT 5451

Race 1 started at 11:30 on Saturday, March 14. Winds were 7.3-15.6 mph. The winner finished 3 laps in around 20 minutes. Race 2 course was lengthened to add time. As the winds lessened, race 3 course was shortened. (2.2-12 mph).

On the first leg of race 3 Peter Thorns wayfarer capsized after a when it took on a sudden puff of wind. He and his crew had the boat righted in less than 15 minutes and race committee assisted. Righting tip: Uncleat the sheets of a capsized boat so its sails will not be resistant in the water. point your boat into the wind before righting it. *Race report and photos by Cathy Leonard*



Signal, Andy Forman, Cathy Leonard and Jim Heffernan
Scat was Kim Jones and Trish McDermott.



From The Boatyard

Ready to Rig and Roll: Spring Tune-Ups for Your Small Sailboat and Trailer

Spring often arrives before sailors feel ready, turning frosty decks into warm invitations to get back on the water. Before launching, though, a bit of spring maintenance can prevent headaches and ensure a smooth start to the season. Think of it as waking up both your boat and trailer after their winter rest, a ritual that sets the tone for the months ahead.



Begin with the hull—rinse away dust and pollen, then inspect for cracks, soft spots, or gelcoat blisters. A fresh polish restores shine and protects against rising UV exposure, and boats stored outdoors may need extra attention to fittings and hardware that loosen or corrode over winter. Taking the time to look closely now often reveals small issues long before they become expensive repairs.

Rigging comes next. Check halyards and sheets for fraying, make sure blocks and pulleys spin freely, and inspect shackles,

cleats, and stays for corrosion. Unroll sails to look for stretched seams, tears, or mildew, and repair issues early—especially on simple rigs like Sunfish sails that take a beating in spring winds.

A well-prepared boat still needs a dependable trailer. Check tire pressure, cracks, and tread, including the spare. Because trailer tires sit idle for long periods, spring is when hidden problems appear. Grease wheel bearings annually, and replace or repack them if you notice grinding or resistance. Test trailer lights and wiring, watching for loose or moisture-affected connections.



Finally, inspect the winch strap, bow stop, and tie-downs to ensure the boat stays secure on the road. A few minutes of tightening and adjusting can prevent shifting or damage during transport. With the hull cleaned, rigging tuned, and trailer ready, you're set for a confident start to the season—prepared to launch the moment that first perfect spring weekend arrives.

Set Your Course: Sunfish Sailing Saturdays Are Here!



Last autumn, LTYC added five Sunfish to its fleet, providing new sailors with a great gateway into our sport. But for the intermediate to advanced sailor, the Sunfish is a boat full of surprises—simple on the surface, yet incredibly expressive once you know how to make it move. After you've mastered

the basics, the boat becomes a place to fine-tune your instincts: small adjustments to the sail, slight shifts in your balance, and learning to sense changes in the wind before they reach you. For the experienced sailor, sailing a Sunfish is about finding speed through feel rather than force, and discovering how little tweaks can make the boat come alive.



Considering this, LTYC is pleased to offer Sunfish Sailing Saturdays, for the *experienced* sailor, the fourth Saturday

of each month from April through October. These events are not lessons, but opportunities to spend time honing already estab-



lished sailing skills, hosted by already experienced Sunfish sailors. Sunfish Sailing Saturdays will be an opportunity for attendees to Practice drills to improve skills, and sail for fun as well as rigging, launching, de-rigging and covering and storing the boats. The club's five boats are available for use but the sessions are open to an unlimited number of participants who can bring their own boats. The sessions will be from 10:00 a.m. to approximately 3:00 p.m.



Sunfish Sailing Saturdays are sure to be popular so early signup is encouraged. The link to sign up for SSS is <https://laketownsendyachtclub.com/activities/SignUp.asp>

Sunfish Sailing Saturdays! See you at the lake!

Calendar of Events

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)

2 MAY, SAT

- Great 48 (LNYC) (Day 1/2)
- Cinco de Mayo Regatta (BSC)

3 MAY, SUN

- Great 48 (LNYC) (Day 2/2)

7 MAY, THU

- 6pm Board Meeting



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
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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.

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