

Lake Townsend Yacht Club

Tell Tales

NOVEMBER 2024



give thanks for
UNKNOWN
BLESSINGS
already on their
way.



News Flash!!

2024 Annual Meeting

Date: Saturday November 23, 2024

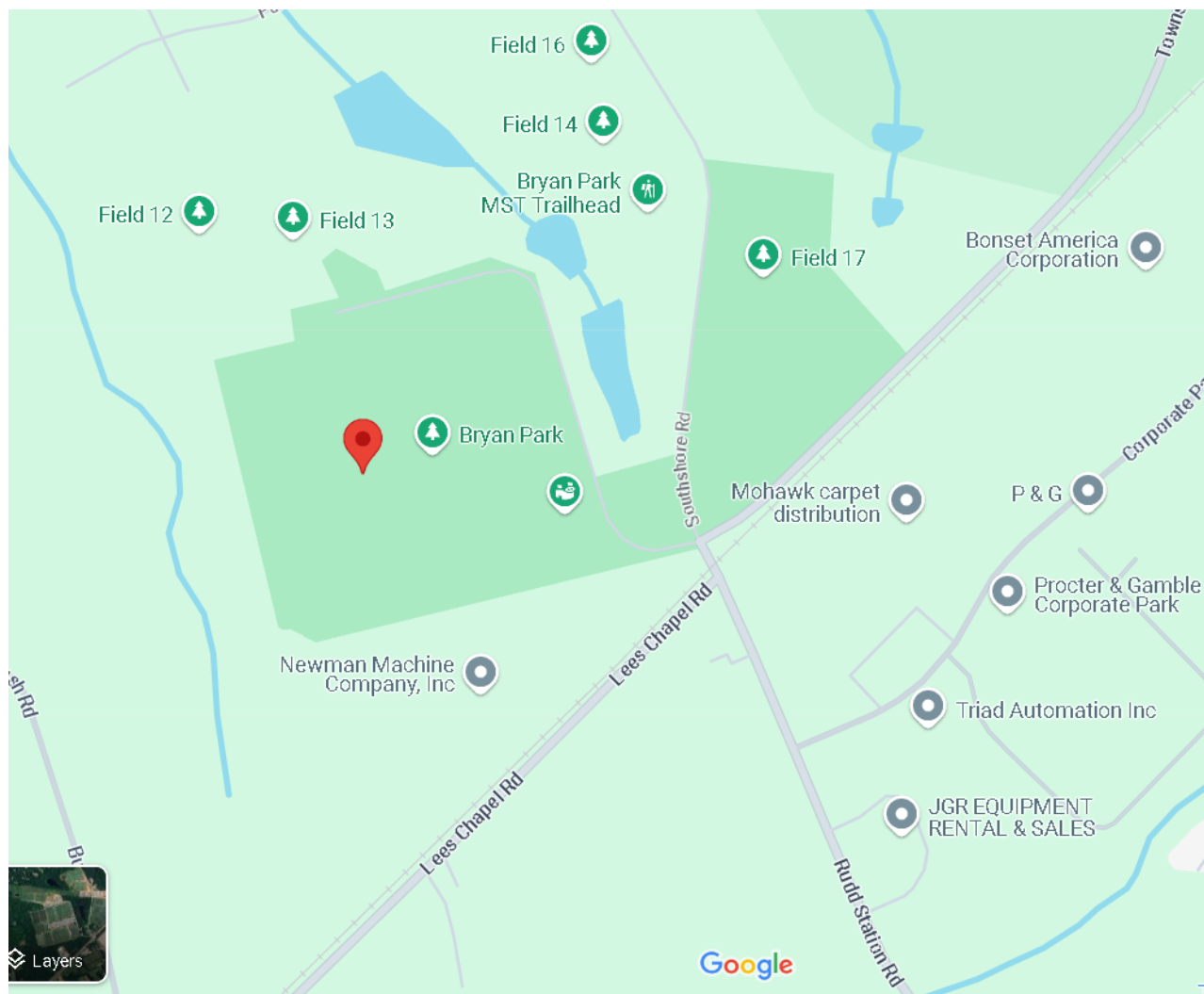
Time: 4pm to 6pm

Location: Bryan Park Soccer Complex Building

Address: [2105 Townsend Rd, Brown Summit, NC](#)



Food: Club will provide hors d'oeuvres, Salted & veggie snacks, drinks....
You bring Pot-Luck favorites and/or desserts to share



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At the annual meeting, members will vote on the proposed 2025 Board of Directors and proposed 2025 Budget.

In the meantime, we are currently looking for Board Members to assume the following positions:

- Marketing
- Social Event Coordinator
- Social Media

If interested, contact Andy Forman via email at commodore@laketownsendyachtclub.com

We need a quorum so please attend. If you must, you may vote via proxy.



This new 2025 Slate of Officers will be installed at the Change of Watch meeting/party (to be announced).

2024 Fall Poker Run

by AnnMarie Covington

With perfect temperature, but no wind, we gathered at Lake Townsend Yacht Club on October 26, to prepare for the Poker Run Race.

The Poker Run is a sailing race around the perimeter of Lake Townsend complicated by the requirement to pick up a playing card or touch each of 6 marks during the journey. In all previous runnings of the Poker Run, I have been PRO and watched in envy as the competitors enjoyed the races. This year, Andy Forman was coerced into taking my place as PRO so that I could sail with my crew, Shauna Rankin-Byrne.

At noon, the PRO began the 3 minute sequence to start the race in very light wind. The two 420s started first. The lone Wayfarer and four Scots began the second start. The wind puffed and lulled during the race. Andy and Sean noticed that the sailors were progressing more slowly than anticipated, so they quickly drove the SCAT boat to the farthest mark and moved it closer. The race lasted exactly the recommended one hour. Competitors who stayed away from the tree lined shores tended to keep the wind in their sails more consistently.

Having a prior commitment, one of the 420s headed to shore after the first race. With only one 420 racing, the PRO decided to combine the two starts into one for the second race. The second race began with a radical wind shift at the start. It was a port tack start and straight to the first mark. The wind quickly increased in velocity and filled in all over the lake. As my crew reached out to touch the second mark, she lost her balance and fell backwards over the thwart. She lay like a turtle with her arms and legs in the air, holding on to the main sheet! She hadn't touched the mark, so we had to return. We were so busy laughing that it took a while for us to return to the mark. During that time, Tom Bews with Annette Grefe in a Scot caught up to us, passed us and touched the mark. Now we were in catch up mode. We tried and failed many times to sail better than Tom and Annette, but they remained in the lead. On a downwind leg, in light wind, with Shauna standing just behind the mast flying the spinnaker, we were sailing by the lee and one of the infamous Lake Townsend auto gybes startled me. Now Shauna was stuck between the vang and the front deck! Being the complete trooper that she is, she moved the spinnaker pole to the other side, and tried to wiggle through the vang. Failing that, she climbed through the jib sheets and walked around the front of the mast, smiling and laughing the whole time. On the final reach to the finish, we stayed high and gradually gained on Tom/Annette. In the last 20 yards we passed them and finished a boat length ahead!

Back on shore, after derigging the sailboats and putting away the SCAT boat, we gathered for pizza at the shelter. During joking and teasing and discussing sailing adventures, the poker hands were completed. The scoring, based on the finishes of the two sailing races and the ranking of the poker hand, determined that AnnMarie and Shauna earned bragging rights as the 2024 Fall Poker Run winner.

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The RC team consisted of Andy Forman and Sean Brady

The sailors included:

Flying Scots

- David Duff and Matt Felmlee
- Tom Bews and Annette Grefe
- Ron Washburn and Hudson Barker
- JC Aller and John Russell

David Duff and Matt Felmlee

Wayfarer

AnnMarie Covington and Shauna Rankin-Byrne

420s

- Preston Miller and James Lewis
- William Brady singlehand

2024-2025 Frostbite Series

The 2024 Summer Series is finished, and Saturday the 9th of November marked the beginning of the 2024-2025 Frostbite Series.

We got in 3 windward leeward races using our standard Winter course in moderate winds with 7 boats competing. Each race was 2 laps of the course. Winds clocked back and forth enough that the best strategy was to play every shift.

As normal for this series, we sailed as a single handicapped fleet using the Portsmouth Handicap System.

First Place was taken in a Wayfarer by AnnMarie Covington with her crew Shauna Rankin-Byrne. In second was Annette Grefe with Tom Bews in a Flying Scot, and Andy Forman with Matt Felmlee (in a Wayfarer) finished third.

Race Committee:

PRO	Sid Hale
Sig Recorder	Virginia Summerell
Signal Flage	Richard Vaughn

Scat 1	Kim Jones
	Mark Wilson

A full set of scores can be found [HERE](#) on the LTYC web site.



Seamanship Under Sail - Make This Three-Corner Sail Inspection

Captain John,

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

Captainjohnskippertips.com

If you are anything like me, it's the little things we forget in sailing that rise like a shark to bite us in the hind parts when we forget to do the diligence. Like getting into a rush to hoist sail and get going. Here's a lesson learned from my past that could save you time and effort one day...

I sailed my Cape Dory 27 out of the anchorage and into clear water, or so I thought. It was a gusty day, and it looked like we were close to the shoal downwind. If I could hoist the working jib fast enough, I could avoid the mud flat close aboard to leeward.

So, I hauled on the halyard lickety-split, cleated the line, dashed aft to the cockpit, grabbed the tiller, turned around, and my heart dropped to stomach level. The working jib flapped like a limp noodle in the building breeze. The tack snap shackle had popped off the stemhead fitting. Now, the sail was slack from top to bottom. And we were getting closer to the flats by the minute.

So, I dashed forward again, slacked off the halyard, belayed the line, made my way forward, and just as I got the snap shackle attached, we hit bottom. Nothing was damaged except, of course, my pride and ego. The little Bruce 2.5-pound anchors in the aft cockpit locker proved their worth that day.



I was able to cast one anchor far astern, then use the sheet winch to inch our way off the shoal. Then, I'd cast the second mini-Bruce out past the first and repeat the procedure. Soon enough, I hauled 'Winged Victory' into clear water. But, as you can see, getting in a rush stacked the dominoes against me that day. Follow the three easy steps below to help you avoid a scenario like this in the coming sailing season.

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1. Secure the Head

Most sails have three corners secured by a shackle or sheet. So, it pays to check each with care before you put it under load. In the case of a halyard shackle, make sure the pin seats into the detent (in the case of a shackle secured by a pin). Inspect the splice or knot for wear. Tie a fresh knot as needed.

2. Secure the Tack

Tack shackles are easy to forget, often hidden beneath the bulk of the hank-on jib or the bulk of the furling sail. But, as this sea story reveals, a simple check and twist to tighten the screw pin in the shackle can make a big difference. Snap shackles are popular, but they can pop open without warning. Consider taping the bale on a snap shackle with easy-to-remove rigging tape.

3. Secure the Sheets

And, of course, don't forget those sheets. In previous articles, I shared my favorite clew knot, the Lark's Head. I've never had the knot fail to do the job, and it snags less on shrouds and hatches. Most sailors prefer the bowline, but I'll take the Lark's Head any day of the week over big, bulky bowlines tied onto the clew (learn how to tie the Lark's Head in my next newsletter).

Racing Tactics (videos)

from: **SailZing**
Courtesy YouTube



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

US Olympic sailing team of Stephanie Roble and Maggie Shea explain how downwind sailing tactic to manage wind shadows of other boats on downwind legs of the racecourse, covering other boats, mark exits, picking a lane, and downwind mark approaches.

The JUMP

Who is going to be able to "jump"?

Who is on defense here?

38:33 / 1:07:49

December 2024						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
25	26	27	28	29	30	Dec 1
					HSST - No Practice	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			● 7pm Board Meeting		HSST - North Points #4 CY!	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
					Old Frosty Races	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	Christmas Eve	Christmas Day			Social Sail	
	Closed, LT Marina	Closed, LT Marina				
30	31	Jan 1	2	3	4	5
	New Years Eve	Closed, LT Marina	● 7pm Board Meeting			
		Membership				
		New Years Day				

January 2025						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
30	31	Jan 1	2	3	4	5
	New Years Eve	Closed, LT Marina	● 7pm Board Meeting			
		Membership				
		New Years Day				
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
					Frigid Digt Races	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
						● 5pm 2025 Change of Wate
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
					Social Sail	
27	28	29	30	31	Feb 1	2



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After a couple of months of part-time work, the dock resurfacing is complete, but...

There is still more to do!

Plans are to place bumpers on the concrete walls on either side of the boat ramps to help eliminate/minimize potential damage while launching or retrieving boats from the water.

No scheduled work dates have yet been planned for the remainder and there is still some design work and material sourcing to do before in preparation, but we'll be sure to let everyone know in the near future.

CLASSIFIED ADS

YOUR AD WILL RUN 3 MONTHS.

IF NOT RENEWED BY ADVERTISER, THEY WILL BE DELETED.

SEND YOUR CLASSIFIED TO :

newsletter@LakeTownsendYachtClub.com



Price Reduced!:

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 \$2500 or best offer!

Annette Grefe 336-207-1401 (text) or 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

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

Next newsletter deadline: Dec 15, 2024

Lake Townsend Yacht Club Board

Commodore: Andy Forman	◆ commodore@laketownsendyachtclub.com
V. Commodore/Racing: Mark Wilson	◆ vicecommdore@laketownsendyachtclub.com
Rear Commodore/Education: Ron Washburn	◆ education@laketownsendyachtclub.com
Treasurer: Kim Jones	◆ treasurer@laketownsendyachtclub.com
Secretary: Ted Sikorski	◆ secretary@laketownsendyachtclub.com
Equipment: Mark Green	◆ equipment@laketownsendyachtclub.com
Membership:	◆ membership@laketownsendyachtclub.com
Social Event Coordinator	◆ lgs@laketownsendyachtclub.com
Marketing:	◆ marketing@laketownsendyachtclub.com
Newsletter: Sid Hale	◆ newsletter@laketownsendyachtclub.com
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.