



The Wayfarer

SKIMMER

United States Wayfarer Association

Spring 2012-2

COMMODORE COMMENTS

Jim Heffernan, W1066, W2458

After 50 years of sailing and racing a variety of boats, one would think that I have a pretty good handle on how to make a sailboat efficiently move through the air and water. For the most part, I do. However, the first four races at the last Wayfarer Midwinter Championship at Lake Eustis reinforced my own fears that I could not effectively handle a Wayfarer in the upper limits of a Force 4 wind with some gusting into the Force 5 range. The Beaufort Wind Scale describes the Force 4(13-18mph) as a "good working breeze, where sailboats carry all sail with good heel". The Force 5(19-24mph) is described as a Fresh Breeze where "sailboats shorten sails". This might apply to working boats but the dinghy sailor wants to go fast and keep the sails flying. Thus comes the challenge to handle the boat well and keep the slimy side down. Among the many fine sailors that participated in this year's event there was also a visiting sailor from Ireland, Trevor Fisher, who showed us all the proper way to get around a race course in heavy air without capsizing while staying ahead of the fleet.

After the regatta he shared his "secrets" which he had gleaned from a fine book by Eric Twinline, called, "Sail, Race and Win." Now the non racing sailors who are reading this might say, "How does this apply to me? I will just reduce sail by reefing and head home or keep going while enjoying the wind." Well, Eric's book had a chapter entitled "Survival Racing." It could have been labeled "Survival Sailing" since at some time or another either by choice or bad timing we end up with more wind than we need while day sailing, cruising or racing and we don't have a mainsail that we

can reef quickly. Here are a few technique quotes from Eric's book.

1. "Knockdown capsizes on the boat usually happen because the jib is cleated board tight and the helmsman spills wind by completely letting go of the mainsheet." He suggests that with strong winds and gusts the jib should be eased and slightly luffing and the main eased with the first third or so backwinding.
2. "Big gusts cause the most trouble, but a capsize can usually be avoided by spotting them before they arrive." I can attest to this as we shipped water over the side before racing while not minding the wind gusts. Eric says to "read the water and predict to the second the moment the full force of the gust will strike, which will enable you to ease the jib and sit out fully before the gust strikes. Then the first impact of the gust drives the boat forward rather than sideways."
3. "The aim when sailing a dinghy to windward in heavy conditions should always be to sail dead upright." The boat must not be allowed to heel, whatever it takes to achieve that, including spilling wind from most of the mainsail and most of the jib."
4. "Lifting the centerboard a third of the way will make most dinghies easier to hold up on the beat in the heaviest weather, though leeway is increased".
5. Downwind without a spinnaker. "To control the boat on a run you must have the kicker (boom vang), tight enough to prevent the top of the sail

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USWA ANNUAL DUES		
Full membership	One year	\$20.00
Full membership	Three years	\$50.00
Associate Membership		\$15.00
Associate Membership is available to non-Wayfarer owners,		

BAYVIEW YACHT CLUB –ONE DESIGN
Detroit, Michigan, June 1-3, 2012
Jim Best, W911

For the past year Nick Seraphinoff and I have been trying to figure out how and where to have a Wayfarer regatta here in Detroit. This past winter I was at a planning meeting for the Bayview Yacht Club One Design Regatta when they announced they were going to invite dinghies. We had our solution!

Bayview Yacht Club, at the mouth of the Detroit River and Lake St. Clair, has hosted a one design regatta for a number of years. In the past the regatta has been limited to keel boats. This year dinghies have been

invited. The dates of the event are June 1, 2, 3 with the dinghies racing Saturday the 2nd and Sunday the 3rd.

The race course for the keel boats will be out in the lake and the course for the dinghies will be in the river in front of the club. Their intent is to sound a warning gun at 10 AM and run consecutive races, as many as are practical for the weather that day. Racers should plan to bring food, drinks and water when they launch.

The current in the Detroit River will provide a challenge, but since most of us don't sail in current, we will all have the same disadvantage. On the positive side, quite often when there is no air in the lake there is air in the river. Also the dinghy course is minutes from the launch at the Bayview and for better or worse, all of the spectators on the lawn will get to watch us race.

As of today we have five boats registered with commitments from at least three more. The cost for two days of racing is \$80.00, until May 11th, then it will be \$130 and all entries must be in by May 25th. Unfortunately the entry fee does not include any lunches but food and drink will be available at the clubhouse. Both Mount Gay Rum and Bells Beer are sponsors and there will be entertainment both Friday and Saturday evening.

Even considering the stiff entry fee this regatta will be well worth attending and great exposure for the Wayfarer class. A lot of Lightnings are registered so this will be a wonderful opportunity to show how much lighter and easier to handle a Wayfarer is.

You can register online by going to www.byc.com, "Bayview One Design Regatta," Online Entry Form. The website lists event features, schedule and current entry list. Be sure to sign up before May 11th! Hopefully this will become an annual event on the Wayfarer schedule. If you have any questions please email me at jbestjr@comcast.net

JOIN US AT BAYVIEW!
I'll help you launch your Wayfarer!
By Nick Seraphinoff, W10864

The first weekend in June Wayfarers will race for the first time in the dinghy class of the Bayview Yacht Club One Design Regatta in Detroit, Michigan. Jim Best and I have been enlisting Wayfarer sailors from southeast Michigan and Canada to join us in this competition.

At the club there will be two hoists available for our use and we will be allowed to dry sail, meaning we will be allowed to take our boats out of the water every night. I will have multiple sets of bridles there and will help set your boats up for lifting. For anyone that has not used a hoist for launching, I think you will like it a lot better than using a ramp. I will be happy to answer your questions about setting your boat up for lifting. Please contact me at nseraphinoff@comcast.net or call my cell 586 206 5900.

Mary and I will be putting up a lot of people at our home which is about two miles from the club. We have lots of room and I think we could even put some tents in the back yard. Again--- Contact me.

If you can't race, just show up to cheer us on and help promote the Wayfarer class!

CHESAPEAKE CRUISE RETURNS TO CHOPTANK RIVER AREA

May 27-June 2, 2012

By Dick Harrington W887

During most of my adult life and time of strong sailing interest, the three women in my life tried hard to keep me happy. It was rewarding to me that each of them enjoyed participating in my Wayfarer sailing activities. I always preferred to sail with my wife as opposed to one of the guys. But when racing started to strain our relationship, Margie, my wife at the time, and I changed course. We became active in organizing the North American Cruising Rally. The atmosphere of the NA Rally is low key and supportive of family participation. The emphasis switches from pure sailing competition to that of exploring picturesque locations, seamanship, and group camaraderie.

The Chesapeake cruise, which takes place on Maryland's Eastern Shore, is not unlike the NA Rally. It is intended to attract couples, as well as the guys. Of course, a pair of gals would certainly be a welcome addition! Although, at least one member of the crew needs to be an experienced sailor, the sailing is generally fun and easy. Jane, who is in her mid-70s like me, and didn't start sailing until a few of years ago, has participated in the last several cruises. She is quite comfortable being with me when we are part of a group.

Of the four boats we have participating this year, two are couples. (On prior cruises we've had more.) *Oxford*, located on the *Choptank River*, is our starting point. This is a delightfully picturesque, historic, village that everyone should see. Although we dinghy sailors will be just peons in a renowned big boat yachting center, *Campbell's Marina* on Town Creek has treated us very nicely. Our tie-up spot will be in a small, pretty, and quiet location. The comfort facilities are immaculate. As will be the case throughout the cruise, the only camping aspect will be sleeping on the boats while moored in marinas. After settling in at Town Creek, we'll head out to dinner at a nearby place.

The name *Tilghman Island*, our next stop, also conjures up thoughts of historic happenings that took place on the Chesapeake. Though a little busy at times, Tilghman Island is another very picturesque spot. To get to our destination, *Knapps Narrows Marina*, we will navigate the narrows, pass through the lift bridge, and possibly, depending upon the state of the tide, encounter a tricky tidal current as well...all of which is part of the adventure associated with cruising the Chesapeake.

Our next stop is *Slaughter Creek Marina*. Located on the *Little Choptank River*, this entails a lengthy sail southward. Upon departing Tilghman Island, though now on the big Bay itself, we'll be in shallower waters. Thus we'll be leaving the yachting world behind us. The boats we'll see will be those of watermen or sport fishermen. The waters soon become remote and the feeling one experience's is that of true adventurer.

After sailing for quite a while, and rounding several low lying headlands, it will seem like we should by then be at the mouth of the Little Choptank. But don't be fooled- like Jane and me last year - the elusive river mouth still lies several miles ahead. Once inside the Little Choptank, we have to search for the tricky entrance to *Slaughter Creek*. Having found that, we venture into the vast wetlands marshes that make up the marvelous National Wildlife Sanctuary founded on the Eastern Shore. The marina is about 2 miles upstream.

While visiting the Little Choptank region we'll become intimately connected with bald eagles, huge flocks of ducks, and many other amazing marshland animals and waterfowl. No need for a morning wake up call, the ducks will do us the favor! Though the marina is excellent, boasting a very nice pool and part time

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UP CLOSE ACTION FROM 2012 MIDWINTERS

by Richard Kinnie



Dave Hepting and Jim McIntyre concentrate on reaching the windward mark.



Mark Bennett and Julie Price execute an efficient leeward mark rounding in their new Mark IV.



Jim and Cynthia Best hiking out hard to keep their Wayfarer flat in Friday's blustery winds.



Richard Johnson and Michele Parish start the downwind leg and here seem to be assessing whether to put up the spinnaker!



Even with 7 wins, it doesn't always go smoothly! Richard Watterson and Trevor Fisher pop a snarled spinnaker.



Whoops! Andy Douma reacts quickly for skipper, Robin Allardyce, when they capsized at the windward mark. This was one of multiple capsizes on "Freaky Friday."

WAYFARERS prepare for the start of Race 3 on a blustery Friday



Wayfarer wives, Mary Krauss, Lina Rahn and Mary Seraphinoff watch Friday's races from the Committee boat.

Photos above and right by Richard Kingie

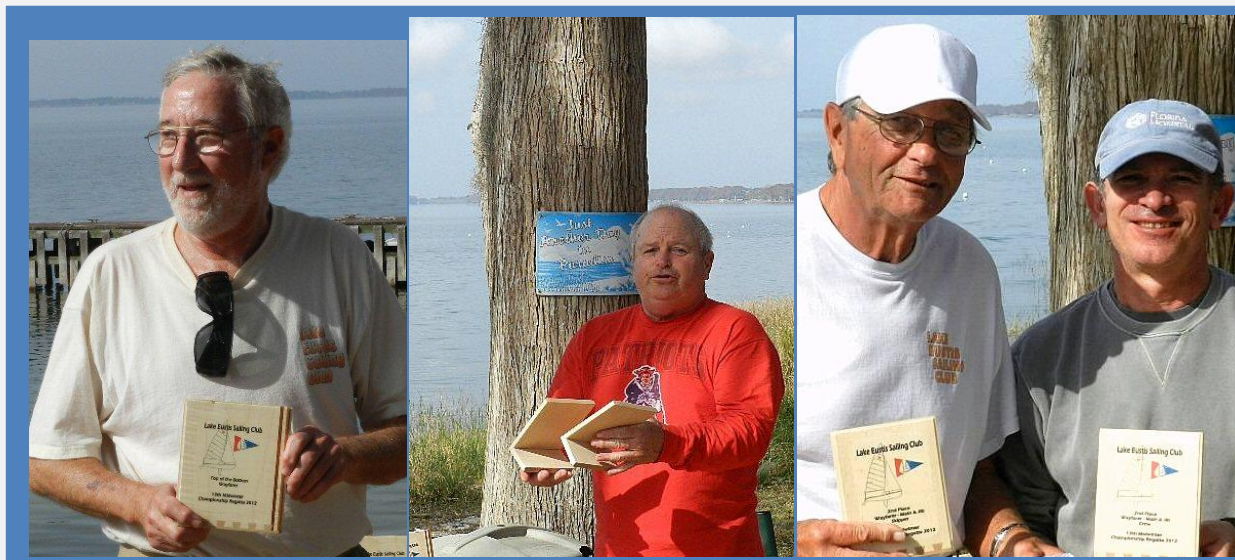


Winners in Non-spinnaker fleet.
Photos by Uncle Al, left to right

1st, Ted Benedict, also Most Improved, and Top of the Bottom, Crew Mike Tighe absent

2nd Butch Minson, Crews Janice Minson and Heather Hill absent

3rd Mike Murto, Izak Kielmovitch



**NORTH AMERICAN CRUISING RALLY
WELLESLEY ISLAND STATE PARK, NY
Saturday, July 14- Saturday, July 21, 2012
by Kit Wallace, W994**

The North American Cruising Rally returns to the marvelous beauty of the St. Lawrence River-Thousand Islands region this summer. Wellesley Island State Park is centrally located in the most attractive part of the Thousand Islands. This location offers fantastic cruising opportunities in both US and Canadian waters, excellent dockage and attractive campsites.

Those who participated in the 2009 rally will remember some of the fine sailing we enjoyed. The mid-July dates were chosen to avoid the Alexandria Bay "Pirate Days" event held in early August at which time it is virtually impossible to reserve campsites. The Wayfarer Canadian Nationals Regatta occurs at the end of the week at the Toronto Sailing & Canoe Club, so we hope that those participants interested in racing will find it convenient to attend both events.

At this time eleven boats have reserved campsites or cottages. The target area in the Park for camping and docking is "Area E for Eagle" Sites 17-50 (easier to get) and 50-80 (harder to get). NOTE: In the reservation system you can look at clusters in Area E, and then look at other sites nearby. The reservation website is www.reserveamerica.com; follow to Wellesley Island State Park. The marina has dock slips for \$17 a night. Call them at 315-482-6503.

We are also recommending that participants consider obtaining a Nexus card. This is designed for frequent travelers between the US and Canada, replacing the need for a passport - in effect it's a pre-screening that speeds up border crossings. In 2009 we were unable to land on Canadian soil because current US Customs regulations would require us to check in via a videophone - of which there are none located on Wellesley Island. The Nexus card would allow us to visit Mulcaster Island - part of the Canadian Thousand Islands National Park - or the mainland across from Wellesley Island (where there are some interesting watering holes) and check in with a cell phone call. Having a Nexus card won't be a requirement for Rally participants, but will be useful to move around freely. Check it out.

Send your questions to Kit Wallace,
kitwallace@hotmail.com.

Wayfarer Racing

2012 USWA NATIONALS

Rock Hall Yacht Club,
Rock Hall, Maryland
June 16-17

2012 NORTH AMERICANS

Mississauga Sail Club,
Mississauga, Ontario
August 4-5
Venue for 2013 Wayfarer Worlds
August 5-6, early Worlds
measurement festival

Full details on www.uswayfarer.org,
view Consolidated Racing/Cruising
Schedule or contact
marc27732b@gmail.com.

Chesapeake Cruise continued from page 3
restaurant, it is in an out of the way location - *an understatement*. Based upon last year's experience, we should have the place mostly to ourselves.

Those of us from last year can't wait to revisit the nearby *Island Grill* on Slaughter Creek, the best Bay seafood restaurant this side of Tangier Island.

This year's cruise plan includes exploring deeper into the upper reaches of the Little Choptank, as well as Fishing Creek. I also really hope to make a visit to nearby *James Island*. James Island has the appearance of being another paradise, similar to Watts Island. These additions are new. Also different from last year, we plan to pull the Wayfarers out at Slaughter Creek rather than sail all the way back to Oxford.

There is still room for more boats on this cruise. If you want to join us contact me soon.
Dick Harrington, rmharrington@sbcglobal.com.

Commodore Comments continued from page 1

from twisting off forward when either a gust strikes or the boat buries its bow into the back of a wave. And that is very tight indeed.”

Thanks to Trevor for bringing this fine book from the UK to our attention. Linda and I are practicing his techniques for heavy weather sailing and we have gained considerable confidence in boat handling, even to the point of raising and gybing the spinnaker in winds stronger than our previous fears would allow.

**CWA and USWA PREPARE
FOR THE WAYFARER WORLDS**

The last Wayfarer World Championship held in North America was in August of 2004. That regatta was won by the UK team of Ian Porter and Kevan Gibb sailing W7588, a wooden Mark I that they brought over from England. There were 59 boats entered with North America represented by 35 Canadian and 2 USA crews. Now, August 2013 may seem like a long way in the future but plans are well underway by the CWA and USWA to host the 2013 Worlds on Lake Ontario. USA sailors have begun to commit to this major event with at least eight to ten giving early indications to participate. To assist those crews planning to race in the Worlds, Vice Commodore Nick Seraphinoff has invited anyone interested in the Worlds regatta to join him at his house and beach on Traverse Bay for a few days of race training, boat tuning, skills building and good Wayfarer fun. This event will occur August 7-10, 2012. If interested, give Nick a call at 586-206-5900 or email at nseraphinoff@comcast.net. He has enough room for camping near the house and a great beach for sailing Wayfarers in the clear waters of the Bay and watching romantic sunsets

The Worlds will be hosted by the Mississauga Sailing Club and sailed on the adjacent waters of Lake Ontario. This is a perfect venue with the racing close to the club and the winds mostly reasonable in early August. You do not need to be a top level racer to enter. You will learn a great deal just from the experience of being there and wearing a team USA shirt. Competitors are encouraged to take advantage of two regattas to be sailed this year at Mississauga Sail Club to experience the conditions on Lake Ontario in the summer and early fall. The North Americans will be held on Aug 4-5 and the Wayfarer/CL16 Regatta on Sept 15-16. In addition, the CWA will hold an early pre-Worlds

measurement session for Wayfarer boats, sails and equipment on August 5-6 at Mississauga SC.

A website has been set up at www.wayfarer-international.org that has the preliminary info about the Worlds Regatta. Click on the Wayfarer International Committee and look for the “Latest on the 2013 Wayfarer Worlds”. See you at one of the Mississauga events!

Fleet 2, Walled Lake, Michigan

Congratulations are in order for several members of Fleet 2. The winners of the 2011 Fleet 2 racing season are 1st place, Jeff DeBrincat, 2nd place, George Beaujon, and 3rd place, Al Fick. The “Yachtsman of the Year,” honoring members for their support of fleet sailing, was presented to both Al Fick and Mary Krauss who tied in votes. Well done, sailors!

It will be a busy season for Wayfarers in southeast Michigan. Besides the usual five Sunday fleet races, and Wednesday practice races on Walled Lake, there are five additional regattas. Added to the two established regattas at Lake Lansing and Clark Lake are three new competitions. Bayview Yacht Club in Detroit is inviting dinghies to its One Design Regatta in June, Clark Lake is holding a Summer Invitational in July and Master Sailor Nick Seraphinoff is hosting a fun week of racing and skill building at his vacation home near Traverse City, Michigan in August. These events are all listed on the last page of this issue and on the website, www.uswayfarer.org, under the Consolidated Racing/Cruising Schedule.

To keep on top of Fleet 2 events, schedules and information provide your email to Mary Krauss at Wayfarer.MI@gmail.com.



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CALLING ALL WAYFARERS – Highlights of 2012 Events

<i>May 19</i>	<i>Lake Lansing SC W/CL Regatta, East Lansing, Michigan</i>
<i>May 27-June 2</i>	<i>7th Annual Chesapeake Cruise, Oxford, Maryland</i>
<i>June 2- 3</i>	<i>Bayview Yacht Club One Design, Detroit Michigan</i>
<i>June 2, 3</i>	<i>Mayor's Cup, Lake Townsend, Greensboro, North Carolina</i>
<i>June 15</i>	<i>Chester River Downriver Race, Chestertown, Maryland</i>
<i>June 16, 17</i>	<i>Rock Hall Yacht Club One Design Regatta, Rock Hall, Maryland</i>
<i>July 7-8</i>	<i>Clark Lake Summer Invitational Regatta, Clark Lake, Jackson, Michigan</i>
<i>Jul 14-20</i>	<i>13th North American Cruise Rally, Wellesley Island State Park, New York</i>
<i>Aug 4-5</i>	<i>North American Championships, Mississauga Sail Club, Mississauga, Ontario</i>
<i>Aug 5-6</i>	<i>Wayfarer early Worlds measurement festival, Mississauga Sail Club</i>
<i>Aug 7-10</i>	<i>Fun and Training at Nick Seraphinoff's place, Traverse Bay, Michigan</i>
<i>Sept 15-16</i>	<i>Wayfarer/CL16 Regatta, Mississauga SC, Ontario</i>
<i>Sept 22-23</i>	<i>Tim Dowling Memorial Regatta, Clark Lake, Jackson, Michigan</i>

If you know about an Open event in your area, we can post the info here and on the website. For additional Wayfarer only racing/cruising events, visit www.uswayfarer.org and view the Consolidated Racing/Cruising Schedule or contact: jheffernan@nc.rr.com.

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YEAR ON YOUR LABEL INDICATES YEAR YOUR DUES ARE DUE