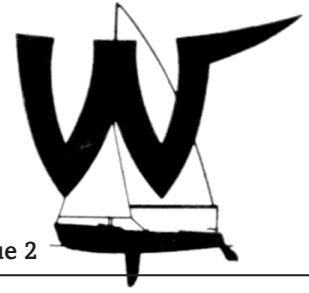


The Wayfarer SKIMMER

United State Wayfarer Association – www.uswayfarer.org

Summer 2019, Issue 2



The fleet takes on the windward leg of the 62nd Governor's Cup on Kerr Lake, which straddles the state lines of Virginia and North Carolina. *Photo by Phil Leonard*

Kerr Lake a fine place for a championship

By Richard Johnson
W10973

Kerr Lake has long been my favorite North Carolina inland lake. My first trip to sail there was with my oldest daughter, Alyssa, in the Free Range Chickn' a decade or so ago. It's a wide lake with relatively low banks and a long north, south fetch.

The weather was exceptional for this year's North Carolina Governor's Cup, which was also the Wayfarer Eastern Championship. After a two week warm spell with temps near 100F, a cold front rolled in bringing rain and comfortable almost Canadian like conditions. The rain, more a deluge, raised the lake level to within a foot or less of shutting down the ramp and the regatta.

But in the end, clear weather, cool temps and 10-20 kts of breeze prevailed for the June 15-16 event. There were 103 boats on the lake, on

‘The Wayfarer fleet had 13 solidly competitive boats. This is impressive considering we started at the Governor's Cup a few years ago as open class wanna-bes.’

two courses, in a very well-run regatta. If you had to pick a couple of days to spend in sailing eternity, those two days would not be a bad choice.

The Governor's Cup has been going on longer than I have been alive and hosts several fleets. The most prominent classes are the Flying Scotts and Buccaneers. The Flying Scotts are prominent for their girth and the Buccaneers for the Pirate "Grrrrs". And they both bring a lot of

boats to this event. The Lasers were the largest fleet and, therefore, were everywhere.

The Wayfarer fleet had 13 solidly competitive boats. This is impressive considering we started at the Governor's Cup a few years ago as open class wanna-bees. It was especially nice to have Marc Bennett and Julie Seraphinoff from East Lansing, Mich., and David and Anne Pugh and

continued on page 10

Clark Lake regatta in jeopardy

Shannon Donkin, cracker-jack crew for Al Schonborn, as well as an experienced Rebel sailor, reached out to let Wayfarer sailors know the annual fall regatta at the Clark Lake Yacht Club is in danger of being cancelled.

She said club members say the motor boats are kinda taking over the Jackson, Mich. club and they want to do away with the September regatta. "They (members) are encouraging all and any sailboats to show up for this year to help show it's a great event," Shannon, who grew up at CLYC, said. The regatta, officially named the Tim

Dowling Memorial Regatta, has long been on the Wayfarer racing calendar. If you haven't been to the regatta, here's what you can expect:

- Free camping on the beautiful club grounds. Bath facilities, including showers.
 - Reasonably priced and good food provided by dedicated members.
 - Leisurely Saturday morning start and early end on Sunday for those of you travelling.
 - And challenging sailing on a beautiful inland Michigan lake.
- Julie Seraphinoff

'Maiden' showcases inspiring sailors

W11222's Anne Pugh of Oakville, Ontario closely followed the story of British skipper Tracy Edwards and her first-ever, all-female crew to enter the Whitbread Round the World race in 1989.

The women sailing Maiden had little support from male competitors. Their second place finish in the 1989-1990 campaign shocked the sport and proved women are equal to men.

Anne, then living in England with husband David, was inspired to embark on her own around-the-world adventure. She took part in the BT Global Challenge 2000/2001 on LG Flatiron (and won). David did the Global Challenge in 2004/2005 on BP Explorer (finished third). Ask Anne and David to tell you some stories.

A recently released documentary "Maiden" tells the story of Edwards and her crew of women. The film is getting rave



reviews. It uses archival film shot during the campaign, along with new interviews with Edwards and her crew. While it is currently in theaters, the film will likely be available for streaming in the near future. Check out the documentary's trailer.

Also, Terry Gross did a fascinating interview with Edwards on her NPR radio program "Fresh Air." The story is exciting and inspiring.

-Julie Seraphinoff

National officers	Race Captain/WIC Rep -	Area Representatives
Commodore - Jim Heffernan • Chapel Hill, NC • 919-942-6862	Marc Bennett • East Lansing, MI • 517-898-6617	Michigan Area - Mike Anspach • Birmingham, MI • 248-283-8700
Vice Commodore - Dave McCreedy • Canton, MI	Cruising Secretary - Chip Cunningham • Oxford, MI • 248-628-0670	Northeast Area - Thomas Graefe • Norwell, MA • 781-659-2441
Secretary - Linda Heffernan • Chapel Hill, NC • 919-942-6862	SKIMMER Editor - Julie Seraphinoff • East Lansing, MI • 517-420-8391	Southeast/WIC Rep - Richard Johnson • Oriental, NC • 704-661-8135
Treasurer - Michele Parish • Oriental, NC • 704-651-7394		Florida Area - Dave Hepting • Leesburg, FL • 352-250-6773
Measurer - Tony Krauss • Bay View, OH • 440-554-7820		
USWA Annual Dues		
Full membership - One year, \$20; Three years, \$15 per year		
Associate membership available for non-Wayfarer owners - One year, \$15		
Dues may be paid through PayPal or by check to USWA and mailed to: Treasurer Michele Parish, 355 Winding Creek Drive, Oriental, NC 28571		

SKIMMER is a publication of the United States Wayfarer Association

What's ahead

Cruises

North American Rally - Aug. 10-17, Killbear Provincial Park, Ontario (preview Page 4)

International Rally #25 - Aug. 17-18, Kragenaes, Denmark

Racing

Worlds - July 20-26, Greystones

Sailing Club, County Wicklow, Ireland

Follow along on the North American Wayfarer Facebook group and USWA and CWA web sites

North American Championship - Aug. 17-18, TSCC, Toronto

US Nationals Championship - Sept. 7-8, Tawas Bay Yacht Club, Tawas, MI (preview Page 9)

Tim Dowling Memorial Regatta - Sept. 21-22, Clark Lake YC, Jackson, MI

Wayfarers on Wamplers Regatta - Oct. 19-20, Wamplers Lake, MI (preview at www.uswayfarer.org)

HOT VII - Oct. 25-27, Greensboro, NC
Old Brown Dog Regatta #8 - Nov. 2-3, Catawba YC, Charlotte, NC

Web sites

United States Wayfarer Association - www.uswayfarer.org

Canadian Wayfarer Association - www.wafarer-canada.org

Wayfarer International Committee - www.wayfarer-international.org

UK Wayfarer Association - www.wayfarer.org.uk

Social Media

Facebook - Wayfarer North America, Wayfarer Sailors of the World (*editor's note: These sites are always looking for material. Let's boost our Wayfarer presence. Join the groups!!*)

Hans Gottschling
The Dinghy Boat Cover Specialist
for 40 years

www.gottschlingboatcovers.com
Phone: 905-277-33-6
1655 Coram Crescent, Mississauga, ON L4X1L1

Summer 2019

Blessed with breezes



Uwe Heine and Nancy Collins lead the fleet during the June 1-2 42nd Mayor's Cup on Lake Townsend in Greensboro, NC. Photo by Linda Marsh

Heine/Collins first at annual Mayor's Cup

By Uwe Heine
W10978

The 42nd Annual Mayor's Cup on Lake Townsend included a fleet of 10 Wayfarers. Other fleets included Flying Scots, Tanzers and an open fleet.

North Carolina is a nice mid-way stop for people traveling north or south in the spring and fall. The state offers several great venues and regattas where Wayfarer participation is on the rise.

For this year's Mayor's Cup on June 1-2, Lake Townsend was blessed with nice moderate breezes and mild temperatures on both Saturday and Sunday. A front had passed on Friday, so Saturday winds were out of the north, the short dimension of the lake, and shifty. This was challenging for RC and the PRO, Alan Backus.

Nonetheless, they set up a good course based on the average wind direction. The course was a "WDR2" which is a windward/leeward course with a reaching leg from the leeward mark to the right side of the course for the finish. This is a great way to keep

finishing boats out of the way when there are multiple fleets starting.

As we prepared to race, it was apparent the wind was making some major oscillations of up to 30 degrees on either side of the average. We planned our starts to leave room to tack quickly, paying less attention to which side of the line was favored at any given moment. Several times port tack ended up being favored and having freedom to tack paid off.

We had a couple of tight tactical moments at the reaching mark that worked out in our favor for some exciting close finishes. In one race Ann Marie Covington in W11134 was just barely ahead of us on the inside, coming into the zone on starboard tack under spinnaker. We had jibed onto port earlier and had to leave room for her on the inside.

While she had a good position, she did have to make a tighter turn and jibe to port at the mark. We charged in on port tack below her and only had to angle up a bit to reach. With a lot of speed, our momentum pulled us through her wind shadow and we got our bow and spinnaker into clear air and nosed ahead for a first place finish!

Sunday again had nice wind and mild temperatures (much appreciated as the week before it was in the high 90s!) and the wind was out of the southwest, coming down the full length of the lake. This made for much steadier wind and allowed a longer course, making RC's job a lot easier. It was a great weekend of racing.

As usual, Lake Townsend Yacht Club provided a great spread of food, libations and camaraderie. Come and join us next year if you can!

Lake Townsend Yacht Club										
2019 Mayor's Cup										
Wayfarer Class										
Class=Wayfarer ScoreMethod=One design (Finish position)										
Overall Results										
Sail	Skipper	Crew	Total	One	Two	Three	Four	Five	Six	
1	10978 Heine,Uwe	Collins,Nancy	10	1	1	1	1	2	4	
2	2458 Heffernan,Jim	Heffernan,Linda	12	2	2	2	3	1	2	
3	864 Leonard,Phil	Leonard,Cathy	20	3	3	5	2	6	1	
4	11134 Covington,AnnMarie	Reiner,Jason	25	4	4	4	5	3	5	
5	10945 Trudena,Evan	Kayashima,Yukako	30	5	6	3	4	5	7	
6	449 Butler,Ken	Walters,Gail	33	6	5	6	6	7	3	
7	11148 Forman,Andy	Francis,Bill	38	7	7	7	7	4	6	
8	3446 Kraowski,Minch	Freyeldenhoven,Sieve	49	8	8	8	8	8	9	
9	9411 Durack,Kim	Collins,Ryan	61	DNC	DNC	DNC	DNC	9	8	
10	276 Grefe,Annette	Afanador,Otto	64	DNC	DNC	DNC	DNC	10	10	

Summer 2019

Fleet 15 revels in excellent season

What can be said except we have an amazing fleet, with great competition and great camaraderie.

We have, overall, seen excellent participation this year from the fleet, as well as a number of visitors to a couple of our regattas. Thank ya'll out of towners, for comin' from afar, as we like to say it in the South!!

This fall come down for the warm fall weather and beautiful colors of the leaves and attend the HOT and Old Brown dog regattas in late October and early November.

We will, once again, be competing towards a Fleet 15 trophy, but this year we have added three more events to bring the total number of possible points-earning regattas to 14. We have added two new venues to the list of regattas, as well. I am personally looking forward to sailing on Lake Norman in September since I have never sailed on that huge lake.

I hope we get a good turnout for the one-day regatta. The second thing we altered was the ability to single hand in any of the regattas on the list.

So far, we have completed five out of the 14 regattas on the calendar. The Mid Winters at Lake Eustis (which I was unfortunately unable to attend), Cinco De Mayo, Pirates on the Pungo, LTYC Mayor's Cup and NC Governor's Cup regattas complete the first half of the year.

We had a good contingency of Fleet 15 boats at the events: seven at the Mid Winters, 10 at the LTYC and 12 fleet 15. There were a total of 15 boats, including our friends from the North, in the NC Governor's Cup, making the Wayfarers the second largest fleet at that regatta. One hundred and three boats total competed.

This regatta, which was the Wayfarer Eastern Championship, also saw Pete Thorn in his maiden voyage on Wayfarer W6066. He has put in a lot of hard work for several years and done a tremendous job restoring her.

This regatta was a huge success for the Wayfarers. As of June 30, the top three points earners are: Uwe Heine and Nancy Collins with 33, Jim and Linda Heffernan with 31 points, and Jim Cook with 21 points.

There is still plenty of time to earn points since the majority of the points earning regattas are yet to be held. We have added a new member to the fleet: Marty Segal, who purchased W2123 from Bryan Giemza. Welcome aboard Marty and we'll see you at Lake Townsend Yacht Club in the near future!! Another recent add is Bill Frances who purchased a lovely Mark IV W11148. He has been very active in club events and learning loads about his new Wayfarer.

The second half of the year looks promising as well and will include a number of Fleet 15 boats heading to the rally in Killbear in August. This will be my first visit to this venue and my first visit to Canada, at least on land. I think we have six Fleet 15 boats attending and several fleet folks going without their boats.

continued on page 5

Not too late to join in fun at Killbear rally

North American Cruise Rally - Killbear Park, Parry Sound Ontario

The annual gathering of Wayfarer cruising sailors is just around the corner. Last year we were on the salty waters of the Atlantic and this August 10-17 we will cruise on the Georgian Bay waters near Parry Sound, Ontario, Canada. Currently, 29 boats with 60 plus sailors have advised our organizer, Alan Asselstine, they are planning to attend and either camp at Killbear Provincial Park or snag a comfortable cabin nearby.

Georgian Bay is one of the premier cruising areas on the Great Lakes. The bay is so full of natural wonder and beauty that even the small vessel cruise lines make Parry Sound a destination. Our camping area lends itself to campfires with guitar playing sailors. Be sure to bring your instruments. The beautiful beaches are great for walking or swimming. The park has a network of walking or biking trails.

This year the cruisers will have the opportunity to participate in a long distance race. Sailors can join directly from the beach near Lighthouse Point Campground and then sail around a designated island or two before returning to home base. While exercising the usual navigation and weather/wind skills required of cruising sailors, the racers will have to add in some strategic moves to compete well. Should be a lot of fun for the experienced and novice sailor!

Like at all rallies, the organizing committee is planning a variety of social evenings for all to enjoy after a day of sailing. With many experienced sailors in attendance, there will be opportunities to get advice on rigging your Wayfarer and sailing it. If you need crew or want to crew, no problem, as each morning arrangements are made so that all wishing to sail are able to sail that day.

We really would like to see some of the Michigan Wayfarer owners show up. Parry Sound is only a six-hour drive from Detroit. Many of the campsites in Lighthouse Point are already taken, but sites are available throughout the park and there is also lodging outside the park.

Contact Alan Asselstine at [majam41@gmail.com] if you have questions or want to be added to the rally participant list.



By Jim Heffernan
USWA Commodore
W1066



This was the ongoing story of the Wayfarer Ontario Championships: Sue Pilling and Steph Romanuk of Parry Sound, Ontario (W397) battling it out with Marc Bennett and Julie Seraphinoff of East Lansing, Mich., the only U.S. boat in the 10-boat fleet. The two teams ended the regatta tied with 15 points. Photo by Al Schonborn

Could be a Wayfarer regatta first (or last)

By Julie Seraphinoff
W11221

Phew! Day one of the Canadian Championships was in the books. After up and down annoying winds, I was ready to settle down around a nice bonfire, sip a glass of wine and feel relieved we had managed to end the day in first place after four races.

Oh but wait, gracious host Anne Pugh received a text from a friend, congratulating her and skipper David on sitting in first place for day one of the June 8-9 regatta.

Huh? We weren't anywhere on the results as posted at the Royal Canadian Yacht Club.

Suddenly the wine around the campfire at the Pugh's Oakville, Ontario, Canada home took on a new role.

My skipper Marc Bennett and I did everything we were supposed to do: We sailed by the committee boat and shouted our sail number as check in. Each time we crossed the finish line, the committee recorded our number and even shouted it out in recognition of two firsts.

And we were nowhere in the standings? Talk about a moment taking wind out of our sails.

Sunday had a different feel for us as we sailed out of the Outer Harbor off Toronto Island and went directly to the committee boat. They said they didn't have our sail number as part of the 10-boat Wayfarer fleet. And we were told not to worry, they would sort things out. (We were later

given an excuse about a sail number typo. Hmmm?)

So we sailed and tried to shake off the weird feeling of not existing. After all, we were hanging out with our favorite Canadians and enjoying solid, competitive sailing.

Again, the day featured tricky winds. First race of the day, Mike and Marg Duncan of Mississauga Sailing Club sailed to a fine first and Parry Sound's Sue Pilling and Steph Romanek second. We finished sixth.

We bounced back with a first in race six, followed by Sue and Steph in second. Race seven saw Sue and Steph take first and us second.

But it was race eight where the winds got especially tricky and especially annoying.

Kit Wallace and George Waller in W994 found their own personal wind and had a beautiful first place. They were followed by Jan d'Ailly and son Hendrik in W10964.

The rest of us would have wind. And then didn't have wind. Marc and I sat barely moving and watched Sue and Steph go out a bit into the lake and ride a wind stream to third place. We toddled in at fourth.

In the end, Sue and Steph had 15 points and we had 15 points.

We were awarded first because we had more firsts (3-2). Sue and Steph were second and David and Anne third with 23 points.

But the coolest thing ever was the official standings from RCYC had us also in last.

First place and last place all in one regatta. This may very well be a first.

Confusion reigns at annual BOD

By Dave McCreedy
W10861

Eight Wayfarers (actually seven) descended on the Bayview Yacht Club in Detroit (actually the Crescent Sail Club in Grosse Pointe) on June 1 and 2 (actually only 6/2) for the annual Bayview One Design Regatta (yeah, that part's right) in which your author finished second (actually fourth). If you are confused by this, well, so were we.

Leading up to the race - in which eight Ws were registered - it appeared we would be launching out of Bayview and sailing in the Detroit River. But then the sailing instructions came out showing our course out in Lake St. Clair - a mere six nautical miles from BYC. Hmmm.

We eventually did get confirmation that several classes of dinghys, including the Dubs, would race out of Crescent. So seven out of eight of us showed up there (Uncle Al couldn't make it) and got rigged for a Saturday 10 a.m. start.

But then no wind, a thunderstorm and, for me, a centerboard that I didn't realize was broken until we got out on the lake. Racing canceled for the day.

Saturday's difficulties aside, the three races we got in Sunday made up for a lot.

The storm had churned up Lake St. Clair, meaning we went out to high winds and serious chop. The committee started things right on time, and five Mark IVs led the way to the windward mark. Four of them flew spinnakers but the fifth - yours truly - chickened out. Marc Bennett and Julie Seraphinoff beat out David and Anne Pugh for the bullet in that one, followed by Rob Wierdsma and Simi Ahluwalia, then Tony Krauss and Nick Seraphinoff. The University of Michigan Sailing Club trio of boats - Dave McCreedy/Angela Brazil, Dave Wilpula/Art Christensen, and Matt Dailey/Nick Burtka - finished five, six and seven, respectively.

Race two featured another one-two finish by Marc/Julie and David/Anne. Angela and I had passed everyone, but the two front-runners coming down the last run and were sailing a bit higher (on port) than Rob/Simi and Tony/Nick. Although our jib was still pulling, we seemed to be going very slow as we got near the finish, with the two other Mark IVs coming up on our starboard quarter. The chop was so heavy and the air was so light by then that all the masthead fly was doing was spinning around. Out of impatience more than anything, I decided to jibe. Big mistake. Both pursuing boats passed us. Another fifth. Dave/Art and Matt/Nick, despite good starts from both, finished sixth and seventh.

By race three, the wind had calmed considerably and shifted right. Angela and I were later than I wanted coming around the committee boat for the start, but still on time. In fact, we found ourselves closehauled with the inside track, perfectly timed to hit the line at the gun. Only problem was that Marc/Julie were below us and somehow had more speed. We couldn't point as high,

Fleet 15

from page 3

Uncle Al I need a map of the sailing area? Can you hook me up?

The upcoming regattas that are on the Fleet 15 docket are:

Aug 3-4 either the VA Governors Cup regatta in Ware River, VA or the SAYRA regatta in Wrightsville Beach, NC. Majority rules or we can split the fleet and go to both. SAYRA is another venue I have never sailed on, so I am leaning towards that regatta. I have heard it is on the ocean. Should prove interesting.

Summer 2019



Dave McCreedy sets the main sail for W10861, while crew Angela Brazil keeps the boat steady at the dock at Crescent Sail Club in Grosse Point, Mich. during the BOD June 1-2. Photo by Julie Seraphinoff

and they bumped us and made us do turns.

Fortunately, we were then able to pick off boats one by one. We tangled with Matt/Nick for a couple port/starboard crossings, then Dave/Art, then Tony/Nick. We caught the Pughs either at the windward mark or right after.

The wind was continuing to go right, and by the time we were going back up the second leg, everyone could fetch the mark on starboard. Downwind it was a beam reach, then a close reach.

About that time we passed Rob/Simi, but we were both struggling to carry the spinnaker and they were right behind us. After a couple minutes of this, they doused and were catching up fast. We followed suit, pulled the spinnaker down, and maintained the lead across the line for second. Rob/Simi third, then David/Anne, followed by Tony/Nick, Dave/Art, and Matt/Nick.

Those keeping score at home will note that, given the above finishes, David/Anne came in second. Much to my amazement, the official results scrolling on the TV at Bayview had me and Angela in that spot. Could there have been DSQ's or OCS's that I was unaware of? Did we somehow actually beat Rob/Simi and Tony/Nick in that second race?

Marc quickly disabused me of that notion: the scoreboard was all wrong. Big surprise.

Final results

Marc Bennett/Julie Seraphinoff: 3
David/Anne Pugh: 8
Rob Wierdsma/Simi Ahluwalia: 10
Dave McCreedy/Angela Brazil: 12
Tony Krause/Nick Seraphinoff: 12
Dave Wilpula/Art Christensen: 18
Matt Dailey_/Nick Butka: 21

There is a new publication called "The Beat," published by Jerry Thompson, who is a US Sailing Judge. In that publication, he recaps a number of local regattas from various fleets from different boats such as Flying Scots, Buccaneers, Tanzers and, of course, the Wayfarer.

We present articles to Jerry to be included in "The Beat." The idea of this publication is to promote sailing in general, build camaraderie among all sailors and to provide exposure so others can see what different fleets are doing.

There is also a trophy race that is awarded to skippers who attend a certain number of regattas

that they have selected. There are six regattas on that list and we have chosen most if not all on our list of Fleet 15 regattas.

Let me know if anyone wants to receive this publication and I will be glad to hook you up with Jerry. It is a short and sweet publication and it's free.

OK Fleet 15, let's finish the second half of the year in great fashion!!

I'm looking forward to seeing most of you soon.

Fair winds!!

Fletcher regatta kicks off northern sailing season



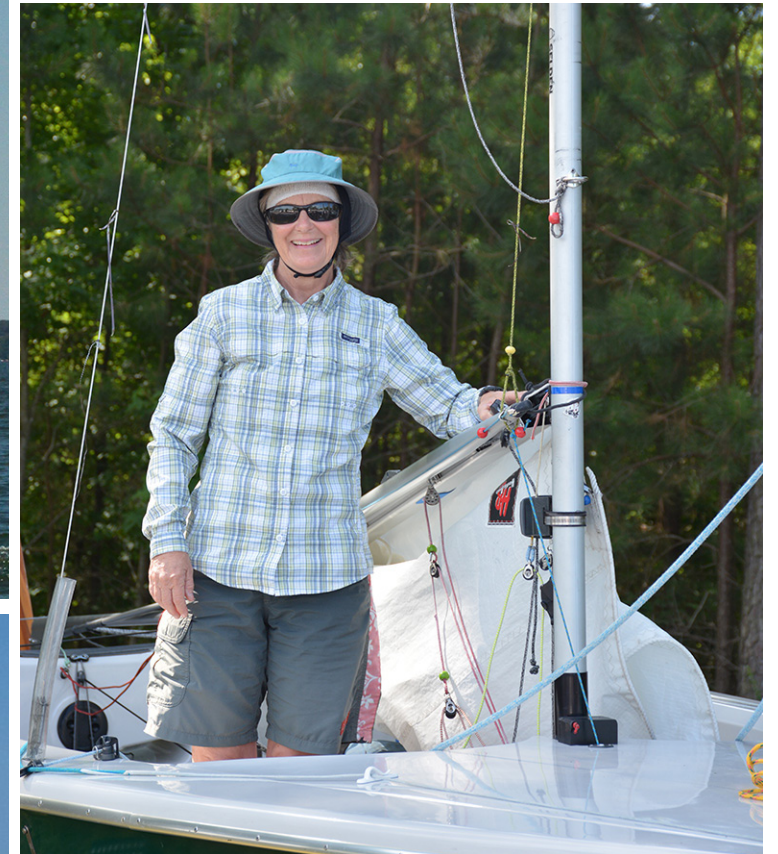
Nine boats turned out for the annual Jim Fletcher Memorial Regatta at the Lansing Sailing Club on Lake Lansing, Hallett, Mich. The May 21 regatta is the kick-off event for sailing in Michigan and Canada. Peggy Menzies and Jo McGlew (above) finished third after the six-race series. Tony Krauss of Cleveland, Ohio and Robert Mosher of Haslett (left) shook out the winter cob webs and finished eighth for the day. David and Anne Pugh of Oakville, Ontario in W11222 (bottom left) battle it out with Marc Bennett and Julie Seraphinoff of East Lansing, Mich. in W11221. Bennett/Seraphinoff finished first with nine points. The Pughs finished second with 10 points. Marc Bennett (below, bottom) with Maribeth Fletcher during prize giving. The regatta is named in honor of Maribeth's deceased husband Jim who was a great champion of Wayfarers at LSC. A perpetual trophy featuring a broken center board is in the works. (yes, there is a story there). Alannah and Jan d'Ailly (below) made the trip from Waterloo, Ontario for the event, which is scheduled every year to coincide with the East Lansing Art Festival. One day of sailing, one day of cruising the festival. *Photos by Stephen Wagner*



This was the scene (right) after race 3 of the Wayfarer World Championships were cancelled July 23 in Greystones, County Wicklow, Ireland. Our North American Wayfarer teams have experienced the ups and downs (and capsizes) of sailing on the Irish sea. Representing the U.S. are Jim and Mark Heffernan, and John Cadman and Patricia Kuntz. Canadian teams are Rob and Samantha Wierdsma, Kit Wallace and Jonathan Dart, and Scott Ramsay and Les Sherratt. Follow along on the teams' adventures on the Wayfarer North America Facebook group and the USWA and CWA web sites. *Photo by Patricia Guilfoyle* While high waters on Kerr Lake forced campers to higher ground at the Governor's Cup (below right), the level of post-racing socializing was not affected. The lovely camping facilities were just adjacent to the Carolina Sailing Club. *Photo by Al Schonborn*



Uwe Heine and Nancy Collins in W10978 (left) ready to round the windward mark during the 62nd North Carolina Governor's Cup on Kerr Lake June 15-16. The team went on to finish third in what was also the Wayfarer Eastern Championship. *Photo by Phil Leonard* Anne Marie Covington (below) preps W11134 for competition on the Friday before the Governor's Cup. Anne Marie had a great first day of racing, including taking a well-sailed first in race two. Unfortunately, back problems kept her from sailing Sunday. *Photo by Julie Seraphinoff*



Canadian team Anne and David Pugh (left) took home the first-place Wayfarer Eastern Championship award after a five-race series. *Photo by Al Schonborn* Nick Seraphinoff and Tony Krauss (above) prep for the first day of races at the Bayview One Design Regatta on Lake St. Clair in Michigan on June 1-2. Nick and Mary Seraphinoff hosted the fleet of Wayfarer sailors at their Detroit home. *Photo by Julie Seraphinoff*

Return to Kelleys Island

Wild early spring weather adds to adventure

By Robert Mosher
W3445

Sean Ring and I sailed to Kelleys Island, Ohio about 5 years ago. The weather was stiff. A wave and wind gust almost rolled us. We ended up leaving the boat at the marina and took a cab to the state campground.

Since then, we have wanted to go back and sail to the campground.

The long-term forecast was great for May 11. We committed to each other to do the Kelleys Island trip. Yet here I was hoping Sean, of Cincinnati, would bail out, then I could too.

The short-term forecast kept getting wilder. Winds were predicted to be in the 20-knot range, which always means waves. While taking care of my Mom the last five years, I lost most of my sailing confidence. I knew I could handle the tough sailing, but I didn't trust I could.

Well, Sean made it so I had to go, besides my boat was ready.

We were sailing from Mazurk Access Area, which is a great site, but we had to spot the mast and weave around some branches. Launch traffic was light so we did not have to rush.

We decided to sail with the mains only, and I reefed mine. That meant I was the slow boat, sailing very flat. Sean was zipping about enjoying the sailing.

Conditions were much calmer than I expected. There was some splashing at the bow, but not enough to slow the boat.

The northwest end of Kelleys Island worried me as there might be more wind and waves. Also, the charts showed possible fish nets and poles underwater. But once around, we found nothing to worry about.

We picked the bay out early despite this being our first time on the water around the north side of the island. As we got closer, it became clear it would have been hard not to find the artificial harbor.

Sean made it in first and tied off to a large limestone block with an iron ring from the 1800s. Back then this was the site of the largest limestone works. But the boats didn't seem like they would both fit and the dock just a few feet south was underwater. So we moved down to a



Robert Mosher's and Sean Ring's Wayfarers (above) settle in on shore at Kelleys Island this past May. The two sailors were determined to return to Lake Erie and make the sail to the campground. Sean (left) has camp set up for the night. Robert spent the night camped out in his boat. Photos by Robert Mosher

had to make breakfast using the campground bathhouse as a windbreak. The weather forecast had the few people there a bit spooked. The winds were projected to hit 40 knots and the ferry to the island was going to shut down by 5 p.m. We decided to cut our three-day trip down to two and beat the worst of the weather.

The rule of always dropping an anchor when beaching became obvious as we were now pinned on the lee shore, without much room to start or maneuver.

Sean worked the boats around and gave me a good start, but I wasted it sailing sideways right to the low hanging trees. He then jumped right in the water and got me going. I am just not up to that kind of heroics.

I was doubled reefed which might have contributed to the sideways start, but it was great once I was out.

Sean then started out without anyone to help him. He could not get off cleanly and crabbed and bounced down the shoreline covered with low trees and bushes. Finally, he made it to the beach and there a couple did the unbelievable and went right in the water to help. It took everything they had to push Sean off into the wind.

I was relieved he got out. My emergency plan was to tie off to that old limestone block or the dock that was underwater. Then walk down to get him off the beach. Was glad I didn't have to.

Today, as I sit writing this, an alternative way to help came to mind. I could have sailed up just off shore, anchored and let out my 200-foot of rope and then pulled both Sean and myself off.

Sailing back and forth in the shelter of the breakwall was not too challenging. There were a couple of heavier gusts and a few steep waves past the breakwater. By the time we were off sailing, the wind had

continued on page 4



SMASHED

Great Britain duo breaks circumnavigation record in 60-year-old Wayfarer

By Julie Seraphinoff
W11221

Two lifelong friends and experienced endurance adventurers in the UK showed the heartiness of their beloved W198 by being the first to circumnavigate Great Britain non-stop and unassisted in an open dinghy.

Will Hodshon, 42, and Rich Mitchell, 44, set off from Salcombe Devon on June 15 in Nipegegi (pronounced: nippy gee-gee), a Wayfarer purchased in 1959 by Hodshon's grandfather at the London Boat Show. The duo proceeded to sail 1,390 nautical miles in 15 days and 4 hours.

Despite seeing land and even knowing they were passing pubs, the two chose not to touch dry land during their journey. The last record-breaking circumnavigation was in 2014 in just over a month. Those sailors chose to stop along the way

Will wrote in a post on the UK Wayfarer web site (www.wayfarer.uk.org) that upon return to Salcombe they were escorted to port by a flotilla of 15 boats.

"There were banners and signs strewn up on buildings with Nipe's name and sail number and a big group of people waiting on the jetty with drinks reception," he wrote.

In a press release distributed by Nipegegi Round Britain, Will reacts to their accomplishment.

"I can't believe we've actually done it," he said. "Not only in such good time, but to also complete the non-stop and unassisted aspect, which at times seemed unachievable."

Both men have years of sailing experience. Will has sailed 30 years in a variety of boats and even travelled to Canada in 1997 for the Wayfarer North American Championships. Rich has 20 years sailing experience and began his adventures



Will Hodshon skippers W198 Nipegegi on her course around Great Britain. Crew Rich Mitchell in the fore-space of the well-provisioned Wayfarer. Photos courtesy of Nipegegi Round Britain



on Nipegegi in 2003.

The mobile onshore support team that helped Will and Rich achieve their goal was a family affair. Geoff Hodshon, Will's father, raced Wayfarers for 20 years, including winning the World Championships in 1976. Will's uncle Nick Hodshon came to the task with 70 years sailing experience, including at the professional and Olympic level. Will's wife, Suzanne Gattrell Hodshon, has been sailing for 30 plus years. She handled media and fund raising. And Will's Aunt Penny was an integral part of the team

On the duo's website, Will wrote he grew up in Nipe doing club racing, open meetings, nationals and worlds through the '90s.

Nipe was lovingly refurbished prior to taking on the circumnavigation.

"It's a special moment in Nipe's long history, and so special to complete our challenge in her," Will said. "But also, for the fact that all the Hodshon Family have come together to work on

this project, from all corners of the world, which ultimately has resulted in its success."

The entire family has an affinity to the oceans, both in leisure and work. Will works as a marine geoscientist and Rich, who published research on Marine Plastics for his MSc in Applied Marine Science, used to work as a marine biologist.

This affinity for the oceans was a driving force behind taking on the circumnavigation. Part of the attempt's success is the support of headline partner Pure Iconic Water, alongside Water Smart Foundation. PIW is an innovative water enhancing technology.

"The beauty of the British wildlife around our coast has always astounded me," Rich said. "But what really struck me (during the challenge) was what wasn't there. Our grandfathers would have seen maybe 100 whales. We saw maybe 10. How many will our children get to see? With this in mind, we truly need to look after what we've got and try to restore our nation's riches."

Editor's note: This feature column idea came about during a conversation with USWA commodore Jim Heffernan at the North Carolina Governor's Cup. Jim was pointing out to a sailor that we all love sharing our classic stories of adventures, mishaps and moments. And that's when we decided some of those stories should be shared in the Skimmer. Here is our first Sail Tales story. Do you have a story you'd like to share? Email me at julieseraphinoffprice@gmail.com

Championship

continued from page 1

Uncle Al, all from Oakville, Ontario, Canada, make the trip down to race with us.

I could mention there were other fleets, but I can only remember the boats I nearly and/or did collide with.

The course was laid out as windward/leeward with a tight reach to the finish after the last leeward mark. Each race was twice around. The wind was generally south-ish.

The first race started at noon Saturday. David and Anne, with their typical power and finesse, took the first race. Marc and Julie, ever the technical wizards, followed in second and Ann Marie Covington led the Carolina fleet with an impressive third.

For our part, all I can say is that the failure of our spinnaker pole jaw caused me to fall on and break my tiller. I'm sure it happens to everyone. I would like to thank Fleet 15's commodore Phil Leonard who not only saved us and towed us to the dock, but lent us the tools necessary to cut the tiller, re-attach fittings and get back on the water. Phil, thank you!

While we were fiddling with our boat, the second race started. Bill Jarvis, race committee, said the Wayfarers had the, "Most notable" start in the second race: Everyone on the line, no one over the line, just a perfect start. Better yet, Ann Marie and crew Robert Simac took first place. That is no small feat with David and Anne just behind, followed by Jim Cook and crew Linda Heffernan. A tremendous race and finish for Ann Marie.

Unfortunately, she was not able to race on Sunday due to a back injury.

The third race started with a bang, but without the sound of crunching fiberglass. Frans van Zeeland started on port. I admire his tenacity, but the rest of the fleet was crossing on starboard. I once again landed on my bum, tacked off to safety and, all in all, have had worse starts.

Meanwhile, Uwe and Nancy Hein were making good distance down the course. This was their best race. They had a good start, were clear to tack onto port and to the right side of the course for clear air. Approaching the first mark they found themselves in a tacking duel with Marc and Julie, and were able to round first. They held Marc and Julie off for the next two legs.

On the last leg, Marc and Julie were close behind and waiting for an opportunity. By this time in the afternoon, the wind had come up and was both gusty and shift. Uwe and Nancy opted for a safe, early spinnaker douse, allowing Marc and Julie a moment to get by. Uwe said it was the, "Most awesomely fun second

place race we ever had." They finished just ahead of David and Anne. All-in-all, an exceptional way to end the first day.

Back at camp, Michele and I were feeling like a couple of wet kittens. While whining about our bad luck and broken tiller, Marc Bennet mentioned he just happened to have a brand new spare tiller. Better yet, it could be mine, for a few dollars. Well OK, a bunch of dollars. But it was there and ready to go.

Michele kindly gave Marc a check and we were really ready to race. Our second save of the day. Marc, thank you.

Sunday dawned cool and comfortable. There were hushed rumors of more wind than Saturday, which then materialized. It was a warm southern breeze steady in the teens and perhaps gusting into the 20s.

Michele and I were well rested, feeling good about the new tiller, and we enjoy a touch of breeze every now and then. So we were hoping for a good day. Jim Cook had mentioned Friday that his coach used to tell him to sail to the wind. Normally that can be tough, but on that Sunday, puffs were nearly diagrammed on the water, so were easy to find. That was our plan.

Race 4 and 5 were just fun. It was hard sailing, but the runs were outrageous. We did not feel like we had much control. When we would start to death roll, Michele let the pole go forward, I trimmed the main, the motion would stop, then we would let it out and go again. Jim Heffernan with his son/crew Mark Heffernan nearly death rolled in race 4 while prepping to jibe. He moved to the tank, aborted the jibe and kept pushing hard, despite conditions.

At one point in Race 5, I thought we had gotten ahead of David and Anne, and Marc and Julie. We were headed to the windward mark on port. Then David and Anne tacked on top of us about 40 yards ahead. Then Marc and Julie. They did it with the precision of two F15's in formation. It was beautiful to watch and I had to laugh at myself for thinking we might have left them behind.

It was a tremendous weekend for racing. I have to say it was really nice to have David and Anne, Marc and Julie and Uncle Al down to race with us. We truly appreciate your coming all the way down. It put a sharp edge on the racing and for us in the Carolina's it gives us a better benchmark. You are always welcome.

In summary, David and Anne won the regatta with 8 points, Marc and Julie just behind with 11, and Uwe and Nancy finished with a 3rd and led the Carolina fleet.

Sail Tale

continued from page 8

certainly dropped from early morning.

My double-reefed main only hindered my up-wind ability. I tacked back to the west to leave the big bay, but could not clear the outer point of the break wall. I jibed early as tacking with only the main into waves did not always work.

Sean was wishing I would let out a little jib. I was wishing I had a proper spacer so the jib and forestay would not entwine if it went rolled up. I certainly did not want to get closer to that stone wall in a do-or-die situation. So I jibed and sailed east to gain room.

Eventually, I was clear and reaching to a run down the north side of Kelleys. When a wave twisted me a little sideways, I quickly put up most of my centerboard. It was good the wave gently reminded me, as they just kept getting bigger.

The wind was down to around 15 knots and the waves were two feet or more and short. Sean was flying along with only one reef and his tacks and up-wind performance looked sharper.

As I cleared the north end of Kelleys Island, the waves were growing in size. They were coming from the deeper part of Lake Erie into the shallower area and getting steeper, but not breaking. I was headed down wind and wave.

Looking behind me, I saw a very steep five footer coming up fast. I was concerned the wave would push me, or I would surf down and hit the bottom. I could feel the wave pick me up as it was very steep. Just as I thought I was going to slide down the front, the wave harmlessly slid under me.

The waves kept coming, making me nervous. I kept reminding myself to trust the Wayfarer and myself.

Once around the northwest corner of Kelleys, the waves softened near the island. It was still a wild ride south, which required my attention.

Off to the west I could see Sean or his sail canting at wild angles as he played in those crazy wild waves. With his single reef he was sailing fast and the wind was heeling his boat sharply. At times it looked like he might go over. He was at least a half mile away. He was moving much faster now.

From his perspective, did not look as extreme as they did from my vantage point.

Leaving the lee of the Kelleys, I sailed past the gap between the island and mainland. Now the waves were coming from two directions and forming squares with peaks in the corners. My mind was going, "Oh NO! What Now?" But they were mostly harmless. While I sailed along flat and calmly, the waves put on quite a show. Then a pointy mountain bounced up right besides me and the wind threw at least two solid gallons of water in the boat. It was a big amazing surprise. Not a bit of foam or spray with it, just the top of a pointy wave.

Sean called on the radio to confirm the entrance to the harbor/boat launch. He had a water tower and roof lined up and was dead on. I just knew a set of buildings to the north of the launch and much farther north than I remembered. So I convinced him to sail up towards me and off course. It just added a little to his distanced sailed.

In the lee of the mainland, we slowly sailed into harbor, Sean first, then me.

Both Sean and I were convinced I blew the landing by being too slow. I was too lazy to break out a paddle and waited. The light wind kept me going oh so slowly until I touched the dock in the nicest, softest landing ever.