



Commander  
David Knight  
724-513-5316

Tellico Cruising Club  
March 2026 Newsletter

## Commander's Corner

First Officer  
Bob Reed  
630-589-6585

The boating season will be upon us before we know it. The lake level will start rising at the end of March. Now is a good time to think about your boat equipment and what might need some attention. Better now than when you need to use it. That is especially true of your safety equipment.

Second Officer  
Jeff Atwell  
(630) 215-8220

We had the dry land raft off to Fulins in February. A good time was had by all. Thanks to Bob and Mary Reed for organizing it. Next up is the St. Patrick's Day Luncheon on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Our first water activity is the Blessing of the Fleet. Following that is the Potluck at Tugaloo. The date has yet to be determined. Jeff Atwell is working on getting all the details together.

Bursar  
Larry Best  
(646) 872-8802

On the horizon, we are teaming up with the POA to help celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of the USA. We will be organizing a boat parade for July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Rick Creange has stepped up to lead the planning committee. Bill Whipple has also volunteered to help. If you are interested in being part of the organizing committee, please let Rick know. Details will be up coming.

Scribe  
Terry Ylvisaker  
865-408-0294

As usual, we are seeking Raft-Off Captains for our weekly raft-offs. Please contact Jeff Atwell or look for signup sheets at the membership meetings. It's vital that we have enough captains to cover these events that start in May and run through September, or beyond, if the water stays warm. If you haven't captained a raft-off before, contact us to see what it entails.

Immediate Past  
Commander  
Richard Pope  
818-512-8083

Also, the lake clean-up day is March 21. David Leftwich is the TCC coordinator. Contact David at [davidleftwich@gmail.com](mailto:davidleftwich@gmail.com) to sign up. Let's have a good turnout. See the flyer attached to the newsletter.

Member at Large  
Paulette Jennings  
865-438-5092

Communications  
Officer  
Glen Hukins  
973-570-5147

As always, keep safety as a priority.

Service Officer  
Pam Schell  
423-462-1094

David Knight  
Commander

## First Officer Report – March 2026

There are many Tennessee laws codifying boater safety and requirements. I have posted the TWRA Boating Handbook to the club website [here](#). This handbook spells out laws and boating safety recommendations.

I would encourage you to read the whole thing, but in particular the sections on personal flotation devices (PFDs) and engine kill switches, as these are areas where the laws have changed in recent years.

You must have a Coast Guard approved PFD for all passengers on your boat, and they must be age / body size appropriate – i.e. an adult size PFD is not appropriate for a small child and vice versa. You must also have a CG approved throw cushion or life ring, and it should be readily available, not buried at the bottom of a locker or compartment.

If your boat is equipped with an engine kill switch with lanyard, you must use this any time you are on plane. As a personal anecdote, I often forget that I have the lanyard clipped to my shirt and end up shutting the engine off unintentionally while preparing to dock or tie off. I added an extension to my lanyard so that I can clip it to the left side of my body instead of the right side. That extension lying across my lap is a good reminder that I am still “hooked up”.

As a final note, I want to let you know that I am not great with responding via text or cell phone. Most of the time my cell phone is sitting on the kitchen counter charging while I am elsewhere. Because of my tech background, I am always more accessible via email at [saxhound@sbcglobal.net](mailto:saxhound@sbcglobal.net).

Bob Reed – First Officer

## Second Officer Report March 2026

We have a full roster of fun activities scheduled for the 2026 season. Please refer to the March Newsletter for more details and Mark Your Calendars.

\* **St Patrick's Day - TCC Boaters Luncheon** - March 17, 12:00 pm at the Yacht Club Main Dining Room. Order from the Menu. Corned Beef and Cabbage will be available. Wear Your Green. Sign up at the table, March 11 Membership Meeting or contact Dianna Vanoni 720-237-4359

\* **Blessing of the Fleet**, May 12th, 9:30 am. The Annual Blessing of the Fleet will be open to all Tellico Boaters. Get your boat and you blessed for a safe and fun upcoming boating season. At 9:30 am all Boats are to meet across the lake from the Yacht Club at Mile Marker 8.4. Then proceed across the lake in procession into the harbor turning around to come up to Bill Hall's dock (across from the gas pumps) for the pastor's blessing of your boat. After you have received the blessing proceed into the main channel to leave. Sign up at the table, March 11 Membership Meeting or contact Jeff Atwell 630-215-8220.

\* **Annual TCC Potluck Luncheon**, May 12th 1:00 pm. The Luncheon is for All TCC Members Only at the Tugaloo Pavilion - Same Day as the Blessing of the Fleet. Bring Your Own Beverage and Favorite Dish to share with Club Members. Dessert provided by our club. Sign up at the table, March 11 Membership Meeting or contact Jeff Atwell 630-215-8220.

\* **Raft Offs** begin May 23 for 17 succeeding Saturdays ending Sept 19. Sign up to be a Raft Off Captain at the Raft Off Table starting at the March 11 Membership Meeting. Also please let us know of any ideas you might have for Raft Off Themes. You can also contact Jeff Atwell 630-215-8220.

\* **3rd Of July Boat Parade** As a final note, this year our Cruising Club has been invited by the POA to lead the First Annual 3rd of July boat parade in conjunction with the Annual Village Celebration at the Yacht Club. More details to follow.

Jeff Atwell - Second Officer

## JULIET's "Gal"entine Lunch



## ROMEO's Lunch at Walk Ons"



## Lunch at Fulin's



# WATeR & Shoreline Cleanup

(WATERSHED ASSOCIATION of the TELLICO RESERVOIR)

## Shoreline Cleanup – Saturday March 21, 2025

9 a.m. - Noon

**In March 2025, over 250 volunteers, representing 23 community organizations, including the TCC, collected 4.1 tons of trash! Will you help this year and represent the Tellico Cruising Club? If yes, send an email to [davidleftwich@gmail.com](mailto:davidleftwich@gmail.com) to sign up.**

- WATeR will provide gloves, grabbers, trash bags and (if working near a highway location) safety vests. There will be 4 dumpster locations for disposing of trash.
- The TCC volunteer group will have an assigned cleanup location and meet there.
- No water or food is provided, so plan accordingly. Some groups elect to go to lunch together after the event.
- Wear warm and comfortable clothes, you don't mind getting dirty!
- Re. physical requirements, the terrain will not always be totally flat, so volunteers should be steady walkers. WATeR strongly discourage attempting to reach areas that could easily result in a fall (e.g. climbing down riprap)

**David Leftwich will represent the TCC at the WATeR Captains' Lunch on Saturday March 14, and be given all the information and supplies needed for our team. Details will then be communicated to the TCC volunteers by email.**

### About WATeR

The Watershed Association of the Tellico Reservoir or WATeR was founded in 2000 by Bill Lenoir and Brian Baxter and recognized as a nonprofit organization in 2001. Since its origins, the organization has been composed of volunteers who have been quietly helping maintain and promote a clean, healthy water ecosystem in Loudon County for almost years.

A watershed is all of the land that catches rain, water or snow and drains into a body of water. WATeR helps to maintain the 357 miles of land that surrounds the Tellico Reservoir, which begins at the Tellico Dam at one end of Highway 444 and ends at Chilhowee Dam.

WATeR also helps to promote healthy water and water habits for all 15,560 acres of surface water of the Tellico Reservoir.

# ROMEOs March Lunch

Tuesday March 24, 2026 12:30 PM

Tennessee Tap House

350 N. Peters Road

Knoxville, TN 37922



**JULIETS LUNCH  
THE LOCAL BITE**

**Tuesday, March 24  
12:30 NOON**



**WHERE:**

**THE LOCAL BITE**

**1562 TN - 72**

**Loudon**

**WHEN:**

**Tuesday, March 24**

**12:30 NOON**

**Questions?**

**Mary Reed (630) 240-2072**

**[gaphound@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gaphound@sbcglobal.net)**



# **Annual TCC Boater's Luncheon Tuesday March 17, 2026**

**12:00 PM**

## **Yacht Club Dining Room**

*Order Off the full Menu*

*Corned Beef and Cabbage will be on the menu*

**Sign up at the February  
or March Meeting  
Contact Dianna Vanoni  
720 237-4359**



# Blessing of the Fleet

May 12, 2025

*Rev. Ingrid Schalk Officiating*

The Tellico Cruising Club is holding its annual Blessing of the Fleet. This event is open to ALL Pleasure Vessels on Tellico Lake.

9:30AM Vessels gather across the lake from Tellico Village Yacht Club, near MM 8.4

10:00AM Vessels follow lead boat and proceed slowly in line to the turn around point then proceed to Bill Halls dock , across from the Gas dock, for the Blessing. Proceed past the dock after you have received the Blessing and continue out.

VHF Channel 72: Check in and monitor Channel 72 throughout the event. ( If you have one) .When it is your turn, approach the dock slowly and check in again with your boat name. (or use a sign with your name).

Contact: TCC 2nd Officer — Jeff Atwell  
Text/Call @ 630-215-8220



# Annual TCC Potluck Luncheon

May 12, 2025

Open to ALL TCC Members

When: 1:00PM

Where: Tugaloo Picnic Pavilion

What to Bring: Your own beverages and a dish to share with fellow club members.

No cost for TCC members

Come and enjoy some comradery with fellow members.

Signup at General Meeting

Or

Contact: TCC 2nd Officer -- Jeff Atwell

At

Text/Call @ 630-215-8220



**U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary**  
**Tellico Lake & Kingston, TN**  
**Boating Safety Classes**  
**2026 class schedule**

All classes will be held in the top floor meeting room of the  
Tellico Village Yacht Club located at:

100 Sequoyah Rd.  
Loudon, TN 37774

Unless otherwise noted

Tu. 1/27 & Th. 1/29	Boat America	1-5 pm each day
Tu. 2/10 & TH. 2/12	Boat America (Kingston, TN)	5-9pm each day
Tu. 2/24 & Th. 2/26	Boat America	1-5 pm each day
Thur. 2/12	Now in Command for Men & Women	1-4 pm
Tu. 3/24 & Th. 3/26	Boat America	1-5 pm each day
Tu.3/31 & Th 4/2	Boat America (Kingston, TN)	5-9pm each day
Tu. 4/14 & Fri. 4/17	Boat America	1-5 pm each day
Tu. 5/5 & Th 5/7	Boat America	1-5pm each day
Tu.5/12 & Th 5/14	Boat America (Kingston, TN)	5-9pm each
Tu. 5/26	Now in Command for Women	1-4pm
Tu. 6/9	Personal Watercraft	1-4pm

FOR COMPLETE SYNOPSIS AND OTHER DETAILS SEE FLIERS THAT  
ARE AVAILABLE ON TELLICO LIFE AS WELL AS ADVERTISED ON  
NEXTDOOR AND THE TELL-E-GRAM.

DISTRIBUTION OF CLASS MATERIAL AND PAYMENTS WILL BE DUE  
TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO CLASS DATES.

**Beware - classes fill quickly and there is no online  
registration, YOU MUST CALL TO MAKE  
RESERVATIONS**

Mike Colacone @ 352-804-8257 [Mc195@duck.com](mailto:Mc195@duck.com)





#### 2026 USCG free Vessel Safety Check Schedule

Your Tellico Village U.S Coast Guard Auxiliary will be conducting free Vessel Safety Exams for the boating public in 2026. Vessel Examiners will ensure that all boaters meet the Tennessee Boating Laws and Responsibilities according to the Tennessee Boating Handbook. This is not an enforcement activity.

Simply, it is to ensure boaters have a safe, enjoyable boating season.

Sat.- 4-25-26-Popular Springs & Lenoir City Boat Ramps-

Sat.- 5-02-26-FT.Loudon Marina Docks-9AM to 12PM.

Sat.-5-09-26-WindRiver-9AM to 12Pm.

Sat.-5-16-26-Tellico Harbor&Cherokee Docks-9AM-12PM

Thurs.-5-21-26-Yacht Club & Tugaloo Beach-9AM to 12PM

Thurs.-5-28-26-Ft. Hill & Kahite Docks 9AM to 12PM.

Thurs.-6-04-26-Rarity Bay Community Docks-9AM to 12P

Thurs.-6-11-26-Tanasi Club House Docks & Tanasi Basin. 9AM-12PM

Thurs-6-18-26-Tanasi Lagoon & Chatuga Borkeshe Docks 9AM to 12 PM

Vessel Examiners will ensure that all boaters meet the Tennessee Boating Laws and Responsibilities according to the Tennessee Boating Handbook. This is not an enforcement activity. Simply, it is to ensure boaters have a safe, enjoyable boating season. All Boaters may go to any location for the Vessel Safety Inspections. Please RSVP Craig Anderson by Emailing

[tellicocoastguardaux@gmail.com](mailto:tellicocoastguardaux@gmail.com)

# TCC Contact List

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