



# *The Typhooner Newsletter*

## *December 2025*

The editor has selected this photograph of **Freedom**, Richard Zinser's Cape Dory Typhoon Weekender as the best picture of this *Typhooner*. **Freedom** sails on Lake Lavon, which is northeast of Dallas Texas. Thank you for sharing this great picture.



# The Editor's Reflections

A little over a year ago a group of us discussed establishing an association for Typhoon sailboats. We were amazed that there wasn't a national association of Typhoon sailors and we decided to create one. The founding group of Typhoon sailors were Lee Cagwin of Henderson Harbor New York, Chip Gavin of South Portland Maine, Dave Hemenway of Montville Connecticut, Doug Jesseman of Benson Vermont, John Lesage of Guilford Connecticut, Edward Linky of New Jersey, Robin Payson of Rockport Maine, Kevin Stepko of Kilmarnock Virginia, Bruce Topolosky of Madison Connecticut, and Tim Harriman of Fort Collins Colorado. This group formed a steering committee which guided the development of our new Typhoon group. The Cape Dory Sailboat Owners Association (CDSOA) sponsored the development of this new association which we called the Typhoon Class Association (TCA).

The TCA's mission statement is "The Typhoon Class Association is a group of Typhoon sailboat enthusiasts and fleets with the goals of building a community of sailors who enjoy each other's company, provide support for maintaining and promoting Typhoons, encourage local Typhoon fleets and communication between fleets, and hold recreational and Corinthian racing events." We spent our first year getting organized, establishing bylaws becoming a nonprofit legal identity, establishing Typhoon racing specifications, improving communication between Typhoon fleets across the country and getting to know each other. We have produced four Typhooner newsletters that have been well received by the Typhoon community.

In Fall 2025 the TCA Steering Committee and the CDSOA agreed to have the TCA become a fleet under the CDSOA organization effective January 1, 2026. This will enable me to use the CDSOA website to manage the Typhooner mailing list which has grown to nearly one thousand people- way too much to handle with a spreadsheet. It will also allow TCA members to be part of the Cape Dory community. We have had a VERY successful first year and have built the foundation for the TCA to thrive in the future. We currently have six Typhoon fleets in the TCA and have had communications with many other Typhoon sailors who are interested in becoming a TCA Typhoon fleet.

# Fleet reports

## **The Centerboard Yacht Club (CYC) fleet in South Portland, Maine**

Two Typhoons sailed in the Centerboard Yacht Club Bluewater Regatta in August. Chip Gavin won the White Sails Class sailing single-handed in addition to winning the Cape Dory/Alberg trophy. James Kuper came in second in his Typhoon **Brigitte** in the same class sailing with Danielle Kuper who is a former commodore of the Rappahannock River Yacht Club in Virginia. Typhoons raced in many of the CYC Wednesday night races and other Typhoon owners in the area have contacted CYC about joining in on the fun. Fleet Captain Chip Gavin can be emailed [atcdtycascobay@gmail.com](mailto:atcdtycascobay@gmail.com).

## **Eastern Long Island Sound Typhoon Fleet**

There are five Typhoons moored in Stonington, CT and at least another six in the Fishers Island Sound area. Members of the Stonington Harbor, Connecticut Typhoon fleet participated in the Stonington Small Boat Association Weekly races. The Stonington Small Boat Association is a very welcoming group which has encouraged Typhoons to race with them at no charge. The Stonington Harbor Yacht Club has invited the Typhoon sailors to join their post racing parties. Dave Hemenway has enjoyed meeting other local Typhoon sailors at these events.

Dave Hemenway and Jeff Parker had fun match racing their Typhoons in the upper Thames River, which is a great place to have informal Typhoon races.

We had a luncheon meeting on Saturday, November 22, at Flanders Fish Market in East Lyme, CT. Nine people attended this event and we all agreed that we want to get together again. A major initiative for this group is connecting with other Typhoon owners in our region. We know many Typhoons sail in the region, but we haven't connected with their owners. We are hoping the new Cape Dory Sailboat Owners Association (CDSOA) membership directory will help us in this effort. Fleet Captain Dave Hemenway can be emailed at [davidahemenway@gmail.com](mailto:davidahemenway@gmail.com).



I couldn't resist putting this picture of yours truly sailing my Typhoon Daysailer **Blue Moon** on the Thames River this Fall. The picture was snapped by Jeff Parker, the owner of **Recent Chill** who also sails on the Thames River.



## **Henderson Harbor Yacht Club (HHYC) in New York**

The HHYC Typhoon Fleet is up to 14 boats with one swap within the club and the addition of a new boat to the fleet. A new Social Member this year used the club boat to race. There are also several HHYC members currently in the hunt for a Typhoon. We are one of the larger fleets nationally and have been represented on the TCA Steering Committee by Lee Cagwin. There are now national events up and down the East Coast that these boats can be trailered to.

Besides being used weekly for club fleet racing the Typhoon has been utilized for WOW, for the Club Boat subscription program – Spirit -, and the HHWSP Adult Sailing program. Additionally, in past years the Typhoon has been used for the Women's Challenge Cup and the HHWSP Instructor's Race.

Our thanks go to all the fleet members participating and to Joe Rosenfeld for our award flags, our Longer Distance Trophy, and custom Typhoon bags by the JOEBAGS Corporation.

This year's fleet racing schedule had 28 individual races plus 5 for the Commodore's Cup and the Longer Distance Race. The HHYC Typhoon Captain, Lee Cagwin, can be emailed at [lcagwin1@twcny.rr.com](mailto:lcagwin1@twcny.rr.com).

## **The Penobscot Bay Typhoon Fleet in Maine**

The Typhoon community in midcoast Maine has continued to grow because of the efforts of Robin Payson, the proprietor of Bohndell Sails & Rigging in Rockport, Maine. Five Typhoons entered the Camden Classics Cup this summer and three competed in this regatta. Robin is coordinating with other events in the area that will encourage Typhoon sailing and racing in either one design or PHRF formats. Robin can be contacted at [robin.e.chace@gmail.com](mailto:robin.e.chace@gmail.com).

## **Rappahannock River Yacht Club (RRYC) in Irvington, Virginia**

The Rappahannock River Yacht Club, in Irvington Virginia held the last of six Wednesday Evening races on October first. Eleven different boats participated during the six weeks of racing with an average of seven boats showing up each race night. Three races were held on each of the six Wednesdays. The weather cooperated for most of the series except for one evening where the lack of winds caused a cancellation. That race was conducted on the makeup date at the end of the season.

Weeks one through four of racing were dominated by **Mad Cow** and **Sweet Pea**, battling each other for top honors. At the end of the first four Wednesdays of racing and twelve races under their belts these two boats were tied, each having accumulated five first place finishes. **Marilise**, who sailed consistently well the entire series managed to grab one first place finish while **Not So Hot** had the other first. **Sweet Pea**, unavailable to participate in races five and six, ceded her chances at top honors to **Mad Cow**. The final two race weeks were very close and competitive races. During the first race of week five, the top three boats crossed the finish line with an overlap. That night, **Mad Cow** managed to snag two more firsts and a second. **Mariise** had one first and two thirds while **Mental Floss** and **Goldfinch** finished with some seconds, thirds and fourths close behind the lead boats. The final Wednesday of racing had **Mental Floss**, **Marilise** and **Mad Cow** each take a first place finish while **Goldfinch** and **Ad Astra** stayed with the leaders to share some close second, third and fourth place finishes.

The fleet gathered on October 8 for a social to present awards, swap stories and plan for the 2026 season. One of the highlights of the 2026 season will be the Typhoon Nationals which will be held in late May 2026 at RRYC. Kevin Stepko is the RRYC Typhoon Captain and he can be emailed at [sztopko@gmail.com](mailto:sztopko@gmail.com).









## **Rocky Mountain Fleet in Colorado**

All sailing is good sailing—and that holds true at Carter Lake, a stretch of water that sits at 5,760 feet, just east of Rocky Mountain National Park in northern Colorado. Small but scenic, Carter Lake is home to the Carter Lake Sailing Club, a tight-knit community, proud to be the oldest club of its kind in the state. Its members share more than a love of sailing; they share gratitude for the season, a generous willingness to lend a hand, and decades of knowledge, hard-earned but freely shared. The season is short but lively, with the club hosting a variety of races and social events. On any given weekend, you'll find everything from sleek racers to comfortable cruisers—and, of course, a devoted fleet of Cape Dorys.

Here at Carter Lake, the sailing is good, but the water is as fickle as the clouds above it. The wind doesn't sweep cleanly across the surface the way it does on the open sea. It tumbles, curls, and slides down ridgelines, sometimes changing its mood within the space of a single tack. The changing winds teach patience and resilience and also hone intuition, the practice of reading those small signals that make the difference between catching a fresh breath of speed or stalling into a pocket. This is part of the lake's charm.

For sailors like Jim Foy, that unpredictability is what makes Carter Lake so special. Foy sails a 1978 Cape Dory Typhoon, hull number 1511, affectionately named

“Music.” With her sweet lines and full keel, she is calm and steady against Carter’s mischievous winds. She is one of six Typhoons that make up a small, but fun fleet. Racing throughout the summer, the group of Typhoon owners compare gear, strategies, and stories of the day, along with some friendly rivalry. Foy has a knack for teaching new sailors and encouraging Typhoon owners to connect. He hopes to see the Typhoon fleet grow even larger in seasons to come, knowing that when paired with the lake’s shifting temperament, the Typhoon truly shines.

In October, the Colorado sailing season drifts toward its close. Soon, the dock will be pulled from the water, and the countdown will begin to Spring, but in the meantime, the enjoyment of sailing simply changes. Focus turns to winter projects—fresh paint, new sails, and strategies for the spring races ahead. But like all club members here at Carter agree, it is well worth the wait. We know that all sailing is good sailing—but on a lucky day, mountain lake sailing can be truly magical.

During this summer, our fleet of Typhoons grew from four boats to six boats actively racing. In addition to this, there are other Typhoons on the lake that we are reaching out to and hope to add to our racing fleet during 2026. Importantly, the fleet has captured the interest of at least two younger families who are interested in the Typhoon and have committed to crewing on Typhoons for the 2026 sailing season. We hope to find good boats at affordable prices for these families during 2026. Any assistance from the members of Typhoon Class Association (TCA) locating good boats on trailers that need a good home is appreciated. We will come get them.

The summer of 2025 featured some epic sailing in the Rocky Mountains! The first big race was 5/31-6/1 and featured 4 Typhoons in the **Carter Lake Columbia Cup**. Jim Foy in **Music** took the honors of finishing first among the Typhoons with Tim Harriman in **Raven** finishing second, John Clarkson in **Sparrow** taking third, and Aaron Woodcox in **Caddis** finishing fourth. The second big race of the season took place 6/7-6/8 and featured 4 Typhoons fleet racing in the **Carter Lake Open**. Tim Harriman took first place for this race, with Jim Foy finishing second right on his heels, John Clarkson in third, and Aaron Woodcox in fourth.

Tim Harriman took **Raven** on the road to Dillon Yacht Club for the Dillon Open on 8/23-8/24. This is the premier regatta in the Rocky Mountains and is also the country’s highest regatta at 9,017 feet. Mountain weather is an issue here and requires a weather-eye all day. Jim Foy crewed for Tim Harriman for this race, and it was great to get a Typhoon racing PHRF with a spinnaker on Dillon

Lake! During this race we experienced moments of beautiful mountain sunshine, then rain, then sun again, thunder, and hail. Through it all, the Typhoon sailed hard in 15-18 knots gusting to 20. Tim and Jim finished in 8<sup>th</sup> place in the PHRF B fleet of 13 boats. This is a lake you need to understand, react to wind shifts, pick the favored side, and be able to handle significant wind. Jim will be towing **Music** up to Dillon next year along with **Raven** and we have a plan to move the Typhoons up the PHRF finishes next year!

Our final big race of the season took place on 9/27-9/28 and featured 6 Typhoons sailing in the McCann Cup. Winds were beautiful for the McGann Cup with 8-10 knots typical and occasional gusts to 15. There was definitely a favored side of the lake for this race, and the shifty mountain air tested all the Typhoon skippers and crew. Tim Harriman finished first in **Raven**, with Jim Foy close behind in second sailing **Music**, Aaron Woodcox finished third in **Caddis**, Greg and Ken Ludwig finished fourth in **Valkarie**, Mark Hafen finished fifth in **Aralia**, and John Clarkson finished in sixth sailing **Sparrow**.

For further information on the Rocky Mountain Typhoon Fleet, please email Tim Harriman at [timh@kengariff.com](mailto:timh@kengariff.com).







Jim Foy sailing **Music**

Jim Foy owner of **Music**, Typhoon Weekender #1511 made in 1978 formerly named **Dragonfly**, has done extensive work making his Typhoon the best she can be. He has reconditioned and painted the hull, is replacing the teak and has ordered a complete set of sails from Robin Payson at Bohndell Sails & Rigging in Rockport Maine. It appears that these Rocky Mountain sailors take their Typhoon sailing to another level with their hats matching their boats...





### **Other Typhoon Sightings:**

The Ithaca Yacht Club (IYC) on Cayuga Lake has a couple Typhoons owned by IYC. The Typhoon **Alva Anne** was restored by IYC members about ten years ago and produced a blog about her restoration (<https://alvaanne.blogspot.com/>) The person responsible for them is Gwen Elizabeth Bullock <[gwenelizabethbullock@gmail.com](mailto:gwenelizabethbullock@gmail.com)>.

There are currently six Typhoons sailing out of the Otsego Sailing Club in Cooperstown, New York. Their website is at <https://www.otsegosailingclub.com>. Nathan Fenno is coordinating this fleet and can be emailed at [nathanfenno@yahoo.com](mailto:nathanfenno@yahoo.com).

Doug Jesseman, who is the CDSOA Northeast Fleet Secretary/Treasurer, sails his Typhoon **Aeolus II** (and his Cape Dory 36 **Free Spirit**) on beautiful Lake Champlain which is between New York and Vermont in New England. He looks

forward to traveling to regattas with his Typhoon. Doug had a Typhoon many years ago and decided to get another one that he could restore this past year. In 2016 he organized a gathering of Lake Champlain Cape Dory sailors and he looks forward to coordinating another one in 2026. Doug can be contacted via email at [dougcd36@gmail.com](mailto:dougcd36@gmail.com).

Kyle Lepley in Newport, Rhode Island has owned the Typhoon Weekender **Searunner**, hull # 255 for 35 years. He has noticed that there are several other Typhoons in the area and is working to communicate with them. Kyle's email is [kyle.lepley@gmail.com](mailto:kyle.lepley@gmail.com).

Tom Conwell, who sails his 1979 Typhoon Weekender out of Mattapoisett, Massachusetts on the western side of Buzzards Bay, is looking for other Typhoon sailors in this area. Tom may be contacted via email at [tomjconwell@yahoo.com](mailto:tomjconwell@yahoo.com).

Ida Little enjoys sailing her Typhoon on the beautiful waters around Cape Cod. There must be more Typhooners in the area! She would like to hear from them. Ida can be emailed at [idalittle@comcast.net](mailto:idalittle@comcast.net).



Dino Harrell's Bow to Stern Boating in Oriental, North Carolina on the Neuse River has a fleet of three Typhoons that they rent out. Oriental is known as the Sailing Capitol of North Carolina and has many beautiful sailing areas. The webpage for their Typhoon rentals is <https://bowtosternboating.com/rentals/cape-dory-typhoon-fleet-of-3>.

John Lockwood, of Sarasota, Florida reports that there are three Typhoons at the Sarasota Sailing Squadron. John enjoys sailing his Typhoon on Florida's Gulf Coast south of Tampa Bay where there are several Typhoons. Don Miller, a longtime CDSOA member and Typhoon sailor, has offered to work with the Tampa Sailing Squadron (TSS) in Apollo Beach to have a midwinter regatta for Typhoons. The TSS and Don have extensive experience running major regattas and would love to see Typhoon regatta on Tampa Bay. The TSS has excellent facilities including a crane and a nice ramp to launch Typhoons. Let's make this happen! If you would like more information about a Typhoon Midwinter Regatta please contact Don at [donaldmiller7a@gmail.com](mailto:donaldmiller7a@gmail.com).



Tampa Sailing Squadron

Ellen White and her husband sail their Typhoon Weekender **Joy** from Gulfport, Florida which is just west of Tampa Bay. They occasionally race in PHRF regattas and have done quite well sailing above the Typhoon PHRF rating of 318. The picture below shows them sailing past a much larger boat.



Here they are sailing fast in their Typhoon.



Photo by T Lock Steiger

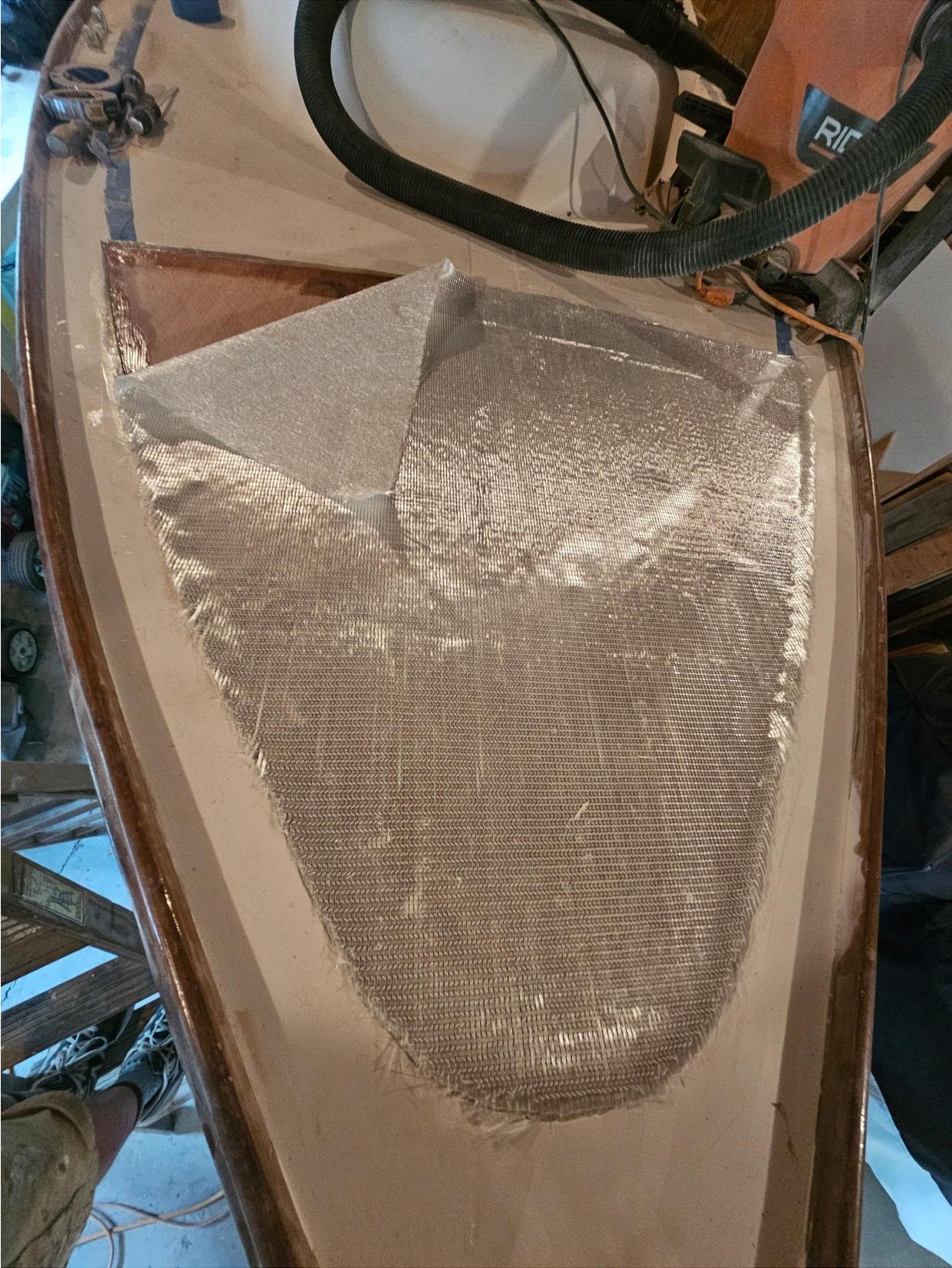
Chris Raphael lives in Saugatuck, Michigan and sails his Typhoon on the east side of Lake Michigan about 150 miles north of Chicago. He is happy to take fellow Typhoon sailors for a sail on beautiful Lake Michigan. His email is [ceraphael@mac.com](mailto:ceraphael@mac.com).

## **Doug Jesseman's Restoration of Aeolus II**

Doug Jesseman recored the foredeck of Typhoon #510 named **Aeolus II**. Here are a series of pictures of this process. We are planning on writing an article about this process, but haven't had the time as I'm still finishing the recoring of Typhoon #1298 **Mistress's** deck. We will complete this article for a future *Typhoon*.













## My Recent Purchase of **Hunky Dory**-a Typhoon Daysailer

Doug Dabney

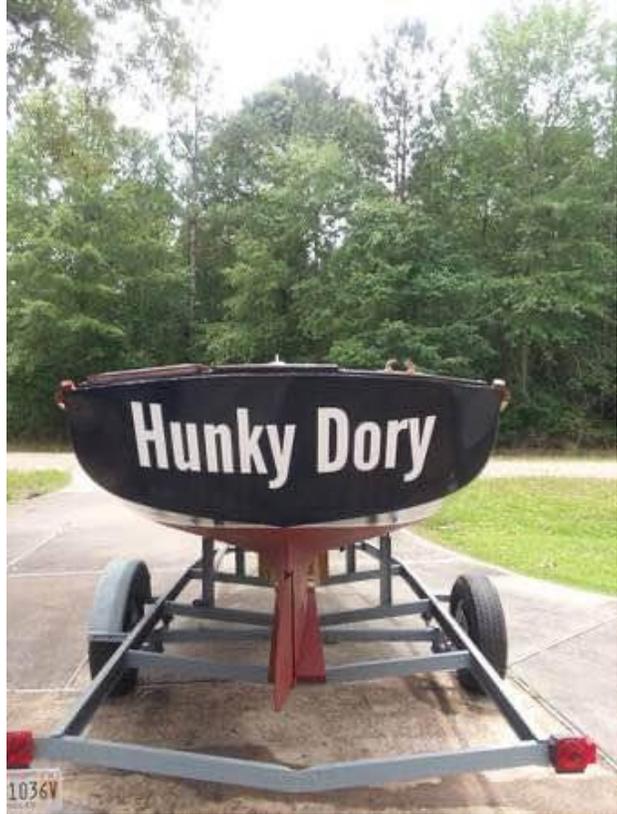
I bought **Hunky Dory**, a Typhoon Daysailer, in August 2025 after being without a Typhoon for about two years. I figured as the owner and head administrator of our Typhoon Owners Group on Facebook, it's time to get another and get back into Typhoons. When I started the Typhoon Owners Group Face book group, I was the owner of a Typhoon Weekender #1777, **Banana Wind**, and sailed and raced it here on Mobile Bay, Alabama. I was really impressed by her ability to stand up to strong winds with full main and 150 genoa. At 6'3" and 300 pounds, I was not too impressed with the shallow cockpit sole and the cabin which was just a junk collector for a guy my size. So I sold **Banana Wind** and started looking at the Cuddy version of the Daysailer.

I saw only a couple Typhoon Daysailers for sale over the years in my area and they were too expensive for me. Fast forward a couple of years and I found a Typhoon Daysailer for sale not too far from me. The owner was asking \$7,500 and had a very nice restoration done to it. I called the guy selling it and to my surprise, he had just lowered the price a bit so I said I'd be interested and wanted to come see it. I must say I was already convinced I would buy it, so with cash in hand, I gathered up a friend of mine and off we went. The seller described how bad of shape the boat was in when he bought it and how much work he had done on his boat. I was impressed with his work and bought her on the spot! We towed my new boat and trailer back to the Buccaneer Yacht Club here in Mobile, Alabama, which is my home club. While rigging her the next day I fell off the boat onto the trailer frame fracturing a few ribs in the process! Yeah, getting on in years comes with limitations, but with 20 years of military service under my belt, I have trouble realizing my limitations. Four weeks later and a few pills helping, I finally got the boat into the water and went sailing.

The first day of sailing was in 4-8 kts of air and was enough to stretch the rigging a bit so I could get the rig centered up. I made a few turns in the slack shrouds and went home for a cold rum drink. The next day, the winds were much higher in the 12-15 kt range and I discovered that the boat is a bit more tender than my Typhoon Weekender was. This boat with a poorly made new main, (look at the foot in the

sailing picture!) and an older but serviceable jib was all **Hunky Dory** wanted when sailing solo. I was also enjoying and cussin' both at how deep the cockpit is on the Typhoon Daysailer version as compared to the Typhoon Weekenders. The Daysailer's combings are much higher than the Weekender's. When heeled over they are a bit more uncomfortable for my back than when I sailed the Weekender. I will have to see about adjusting the design of the cockpit so it is more comfortable for me. As far as the sails go, I will replace the poorly made Southeast Asia Sailmakers mainsail and jib with new sails this year from my local sailmaker, Schurr Sailmakers in Pensacola. I plan to get a nice Asymmetrical Spinnaker for Hunky Dory soon.







## Typhoon ads

### For Sale

1974 Cape Dory Weekender Typhoon Sailboat \$4800

Well maintained 18.5 ft sailboat located in Hartfield VA. Includes: 2hp Honda outboard motor, 2 sets of sails: main, jib, genoa.

Newly replaced deck-drain through-hulls. No trailer.

Pete: 518-222-3860

[pete00betsy@gmail.com](mailto:pete00betsy@gmail.com)





1982 Cape Dory Typhoon Weekender Hull #1757 for sale with single axle long extension Triad trailer. \$7,500. Text George 706.825.1843 or email [George.inman.augusta@live.com](mailto:George.inman.augusta@live.com)

Pluses: Honda 2hp long shaft, Sailors Tailor- Full mooring/trailer cover, Jib cover, main cover, Bunch of stuff needed for “piddling”

Minuses: not race ready, bottom needs cleaned and painted, sails are functional, but need new for racing, some parts are stored at my house.





# Wanted

John Lockwood in Sarasota, Florida is looking for a new mast section for his Typhoon Weekender. If you know of any Typhoon masts near Sarasota, Florida, please email him at [jlock2273@gmail.com](mailto:jlock2273@gmail.com).