

CLYC April 2025 Deckhands of the Month!

Ellie Weidner

Dear Yacht Club Members,

On behalf of the Canyon Lake Yacht Club, I am excited to introduce our Deckhand of the Month: Ellie Weidner, someone whose fun-loving energy, adventurous spirit, and big heart for the community have made her a familiar and much-loved face throughout Canyon Lake.

Ellie was born in the picturesque town of Estes Park, Colorado—perhaps best known as the filming location for *The Shining*. Raised in a blended family with one brother and two stepsisters, she had a father who made every day feel special. His motto? "Every day is the first day of the rest of our lives, so let's take today and make it the best one yet". That spirit stuck with Ellie from a young age.

At just 14, Ellie jumped into the working world with enthusiasm. Some of her favorite early memories include working at the local Karmel Korn shop, the movie theater, and the Glassblowers' studio/store. Estes Park was a bustling tourist town in the summer, and Ellie loved being part of the action.

Ellie went on to attend the University of Northern Colorado, earning a Bachelor of Science in Spanish. Being bilingual opened doors in her career, including her work at Kaiser Permanente in the small group markets. She firmly believes in the value of hard work, that people matter more than things, and that "money is paper."

When she was 18, Ellie spent three months in Mexico, where she learned that salsa dancing was harder than learning the language—but she stuck with both. She has since traveled throughout South America, with Ecuador being a favorite destination, and has also explored Cuba, Spain, and Ireland. She especially enjoys discovering local restaurants and hidden gems during her travels, always looking to connect with people and cultures through language and food.

A proud Canyon Laker for the past five years, Ellie was originally drawn to the community during a trip to Palm Springs when a spontaneous Google Maps search led her here. Since then, she has lived both on and off the water, and her current home overlooks the Canyon Lake Golf Course with a stunning view of the valley.

Ellie is also a pickleball enthusiast and actively participates in various clubs around Canyon Lake, including Family Golf, Niners Golf, Women's Golf, the Mermaid Club, the Yacht Club, and previously the Junior Women's Club.

Most recently, Ellie has taken on the challenge of the Burgee Exchange—and she’s done it with style. On trips back to Colorado and beyond, Ellie has returned with three burgees for the CLYC:

- One from the Grand Lake Yacht Club in Colorado, officially recognized as the world’s highest registered yacht club at 8,366 feet above sea level, and located on Colorado’s largest natural lake.
- One from the Colorado Sailing Yacht Club.
- And one from the Napa Valley Yacht Club in Northern California.

Ellie’s passion for travel, connection, and community continues to shine through in everything she does. We’re lucky to have her as part of the Canyon Lake Yacht Club family.

Please join me in congratulating Ellie—our Deckhand of the Month!

Sailor Six Questions & Answers:

1. How long have you lived in Canyon Lake? **5 Years**
2. How long have you been a member of the CL Yacht Club? **3 Years**
3. If you were stranded on an island, where would you want to be? **Castaway Island**
4. What YC event do you look forward to the most? **Full Moon Cruise**
5. Favorite water activity? **Swimming in the Lake**
6. Does your boat have a name? If not, what would you call it? **Hope Floats**