

Telltale



January 2004

Monthly Newsletter

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Austin Yacht Club

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Newsletter

Yolanda Cortés Mares, Editor
E-mail submissions by 5th of
month to ymares@vvm.com.

AYC Business Hours

Tuesday - Friday
8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Saturday & Sunday
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

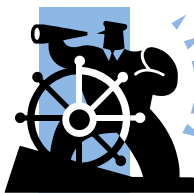
Closed Mondays

Closed Club Holidays

New Year's Day	1 January
Easter Sunday	11 April
Independence Day	4 July
Thanksgiving Day	25 November
Shopping Day	26 November
Christmas Day	25 December

From the Commodore

by Doug Laws



Happy New Year! It looks like AYC activities continued through December and are off to a flying start for 2004. We had a great annual banquet, "Left Over" Wild Turkey Regatta, an informal New Years Eve party, major construction activity, and a preliminary budget meeting for your new board. Sailing and racing for the new year started with the Red Eye regatta on new year's day, sponsored by the keel fleet, and always a fun event no matter what the weather brings.

I hope you have seen the new walkway between the office and club house. This walkway is stronger and wider than the old walkway and also incorporates a handicap ramp and hand rails to code. Many thanks to Dave Gamble and last year's B & G committee and to Danny Lien who volunteered as project manager. Please express your appreciation to Fred Schroth and John Bartlett who loaned us heaters to keep the new concrete from freezing on a cold night, and to Danny Lien and Tom Cunningham for tending the heaters thru the night.

We have a new social chairperson this year, Sharon Woodul, and she is already busy planning special events for 2004. Please give her any suggestions for activities, and more important, offer to work on her committee. We also have a new Telltale Editor, Yolanda Cortés Mares. She and her husband are new members and I really appreciate her enthusiasm in taking this important job. Gail Bernstein was editor for two years, so be sure and tell her thanks. Finally, I want to recognize Ken Jolly for the great job he has done as web master for the AYC web page. He will continue to manage our web page for 2004, so many thanks Ken.

There are several carry over projects this year that are important for AYC. The biggest is completion of the new south cove board boat dock. John Fitch and his fleet committee did an outstanding job on this project last year. Materials have been purchased and dock work parties are planned for each Saturday starting in January. Jon has agreed to complete the project and plans to have the dock completed by

(Continued on page 9)

From the Vice Commodore

by Danny Lien



It is January 3rd, 2004, still early in the New Year – It is a Saturday and only about half past nine in the morning as I drive in to the Club. A norther is forecast for tomorrow but today is balmy and very windy. Still, with the cold water and overcast skies, I expect to see very few persons at the Club this early in the

morning.

Two boats are getting a washdown in the work area, a Laser is being launched from the north ramp and a couple keelboats are already lining up to pull out. Another John Fitch gathering is setting out gear and tools on the south ramp for a dock work party, and kids are sailing Optis in the south cove around the Junior dock with coaches watching. The ever-present Steve Gay is checking out the high school 420s, as the team has a scheduled practice tomorrow and a planned regatta in Dallas on January 17th. He says Cedar Park High School will be represented and maybe also Lake Travis High School if they can fill out their team with a couple more kids by then. I was thinking that to be a little optimistic for January, but all the activity bodes well for spring. Looks to me like it will be a good year!

Item two: I am pleased to acknowledge the 2004 AYC Regatta Chairs. Junior Roadrunner – Terri Rush and Bill Hawk as co-chairs, Spring Regatta – Augusto Villalon, Centerboard Regatta – Kamille McIver and Bruce Foster, Turnback Canyon– Dave Speed and Judith McCrackin, Governor's Cup – Missy and Bob Gallant, AYC Team Championship – Kevin Reynolds, Fall Regatta– Jeane and Bob Goldsmith, and for the AYC Night Race – Frank Woodul. AYC is built on volunteers: many thanks to these folks. The events should be fun and should they ask for your help please consider supporting them as an additional volunteer.



Item three: As some of you already know, the Keel fleet has offered funds toward a windspeed/direction indicator on the point with a receiving monitor at the clubhouse area with thoughts of a possible link to the AYC website. After logistics and equipment purchase costs are finalized, they are prepared to offer a proposal to the Club for its approval at the next Board Meeting. I overheard some of the Keel Fleet say that they had some reserve funds and wanted to do something for the Club with the money. I bet the proposal is accepted and the weather monitor becomes a popular place for us all.



2004 Racing Schedule

January 1st Red-Eye Regatta
17th Frostbite Series #1
24th Frostbite Series #2
31st Frostbite Series #3

February
7th Frostbite Series #4
14th Frostbite Series #5
28th J-80 Circuit
29th J-80 Circuit

Safety Advisory

Harnesses in mast work can become deadly whenever you are suspended for a period of over 5 minutes in an upright posture, with the legs relaxed straight beneath the body. The resulting "suspension trauma" can cause unconsciousness at 5 minutes and death at 15 minutes. For more information, please read: "Will Your Safety Harness Kill You?", an Occupational Health & Safety magazine March 2003 article which can be found at Vol.27, No.3, , Pages 86-90, or at the following website: <http://www.cdc.gov/elcosh/docs/d0500/d000568/d000568.html>.

Which boats require Texas Registration? Who needs mandatory education?

by Vic Manning



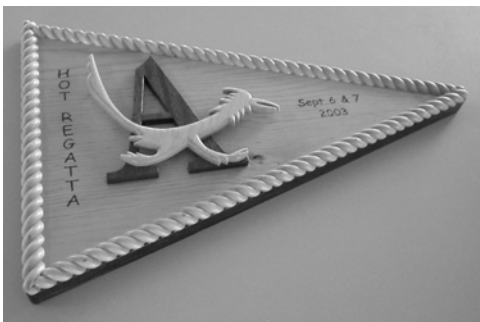
There was an article published by someone (not listed in the article) on page 9 of the Telltale last month, under the article "USCG Documented Vessels, requires Texas Registration", that could be miss leading as printed. The first bullet states that "All recreational vessels-----boats 115 feet or less in length are required to be registered", however that statement was from the Documented Vessels section of the digest and does not include undocumented vessels. The effect is, people might have mis-read the first line and believe they must register a Laser, Opti or Sunfish while in fact that is not correct. Boats less than 14', that are not documented by the USCG are not included in that statement.

Please see page 6 of this January Telltale for extracts of the new boat registration and mandatory education requirements from the "Texas Parks & Wildlife Digest of the Texas Water Safety Act", as posted on their website. Note the Mandatory Education for people under 18, sailing boats over 14' or driving a power boat over 10 hp, which includes any AYC club owned power boat.

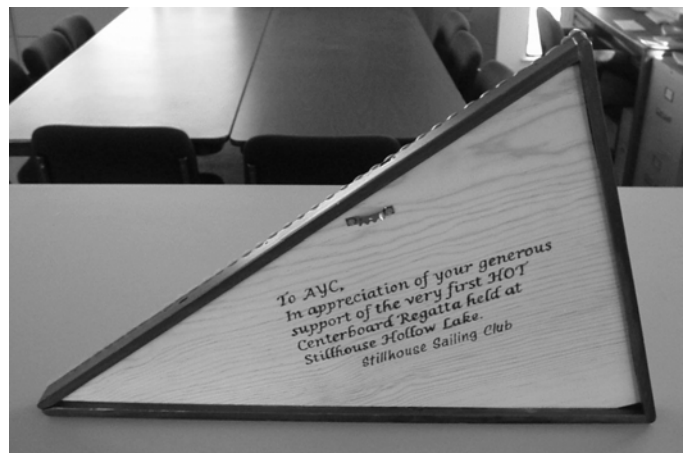
AYC Appreciation Plaque Presented

By Steve Wesson

Back in September of 2003, the Stillhouse Sailing Club in Belton, Texas, presented its First ever Heart Of Texas Regatta to sailors of the region. Members of the Austin Yacht club were kind enough to make the loan of several racing code flags and other equipment in order that we might more easily accomplish this end. The event, in our opinion, was a success. Special thanks to Terry McDermott, Rod Etheridge, Vic and Pat and the "Sunfish Gang", Renee and Fred and the "Laser Gang" and others who helped and attended.



SHSC Commodore, Marty Stanek, factured a hand-carved wooden replica of the AYC Burgee to be presented as an appreciation award to "Big Brother" Club, AYC. On December 4th, Steve Wesson, being one of many members with dual Citizenship, presented the award to Commodore David Bernstein and members of the AYC at their annual membership meeting.



Catalina 22 Year In Review

by Wade Bingaman

Once again its time to take stock of where we are as a fleet - a State of the Fleet report - if you will. Where we stand and where we're going.

The annual holiday party was a huge success. Enough thanks cannot be given to Joann and George Robison for once again allowing us to invade their home. Viva Rogers and Mary Ann Fitch helped Joann make sure we didn't go hungry. Now the easiest place to make my boat lighter is for me to go on a diet. Jon Fitch arranged for two lovely ladies to deal blackjack. Winners at the tables were: Ted Owens who only played three hands but bet the farm each time and won. (There will be a rule against that next year.) Ken Ayres took home a prize. Finally, Art Bussey's guests, Andrea and Aaron Colunga were both winners - obviously a family of pros. The winners of most improved captain and crew were also announced. To no one's surprise, Peter Broberg was the star captain, and Chip Bryant the outstanding crew. These two clearly made huge progress over the last year. The party was entertained by the singing of David Rayberg and other shameless fleet musicians. All in all, it was a most enjoyable evening.

Another important matter for the fleet is the level of membership and participation. In 2003 the trend was good. We added John Gres as a new fleet member and were glad to see Johannes Brinkmann become an active racer again. We averaged over 7 boats for every series race, with a high of 13 boats participating one weekend. With these kind of numbers, I have been lobbying the powers at the club to give us our own separate start. One of the largest fleets at AYC should not have to share a start with another fleet.

Our activities are not just limited to series races. We sent boats to Nationals in Idaho, NOODs at HYC, Wursthfest State Spinnakers, Grapevine Genoa Regionals, and State Genoas at Lake Canyon. AYC entrants placed at everyone of these events. Road trips are lots of fun. I urge anyone who hasn't traveled to strongly consider it. Adventures are always exciting. It also improves your sailing to try new lakes and learn from new competition. Nationals in 2004 are in Georgia, not too close, but Canyon lake is as close as it gets and will be hosting C22 events next year. Don't give me this "I don't have a trailer" stuff. I guarantee you, if you want to go, I'll find you a trailer.

Plenty of boats and lots of racing means we need crew. Our fleet has been generating many new sailors. Jenny Loehlin, Fitch's crew, now owns and races her own centerboard boat and won the AYC Corinthian Women's Sailing Award in '03. Dane brought in Carol

Peterson and Kamille McIver. Bob Jones tutored Catherine Hawkins. Tom Peel joined Johannes on Strings Attached. Chip Bryant, schooled by Andy, is now excellent crew. Peter Broberg has even trained Jim Eskew not to fall off the boat. I know I left out plenty of others, but my point is that our fleet is creating many good sailors.

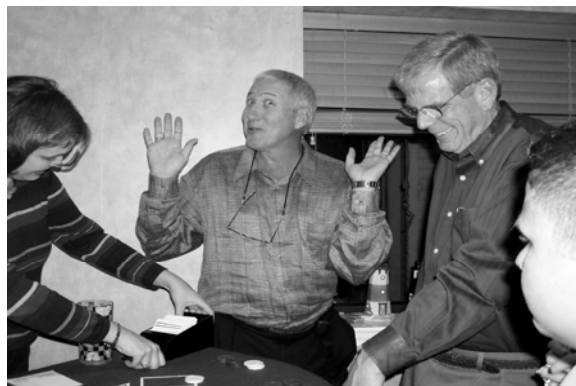
usual AYC tapped our fleet for help. Many of you did do registration for Fall Regatta. I served on the Membership Committee and procured the trophies for the AYC series races. The Harbor Committee was headed by Jon Fitch with additional members being Jenny Loehlin and Ted Owens. Jon was given the project liken to the Egyptian pyramids - rebuilding all the south cove docks. Much like the pyramids, the job is lasting beyond Jon's reign as chairman. Incredibly, Jon has agreed to continue being in charge of the project until its completion, which is not likely until spring. Since our fleet uses the south cove docks more than any other keel boat fleet, all of us should try to help Jon and Mary Ann (food) on Saturday mornings.

The first important fleet event in 2004 is the annual fleet meeting. It will be held on Wednesday, January 14 at 7:00pm. This is when we will elect fleet officers. Much thanks to this year's volunteers: Jim Johnstone, photographer - Bob Jones, measurer - Viva Rogers, food coordinator - Roy Crouse, crew coordinator - John Grzinich, webmaster. At the meeting we will also be discussing State Genoas, which we will host, fleet building ideas, dues, scheduling a boat work day, and genoa/spinnaker series scheduling. We need you there. Our fleet success is no secret. It takes work on all of our parts.

But all of our hard work has paid off in creating a fleet that we can enjoy. You can race with lots of boats and laugh with lots of friends. We've got another fun year to look forward to in 2004.

(continued on page 8)

Crouse jokes with Paul:



J- 24 Fleet

by Eric N. Nelson

The J/24 Fleet didn't miss a beat over the Holidays with lot's of activity both on and off the water, let's hope everyone is ready for more in 2004...

The Annual J/24 Fleet Party, Italian Style! Barb and Dave Gamble opened up their home for us again this year for our Annual Fleet Party. I guess we all behaved better than I thought last year as I noticed they left the rugs in place this year! And that was pretty brave considering our Italian Dinner theme meant more red wine was flowing than in past years. With the cold front that rolled in earlier that day providing the appropriate temperatures and the Gamble's great decorating, the 45+ partiers had plenty of reasons to get into the Holiday spirit...it was even cozy outside on the patio thanks to the propane 'dome' heaters. Of course good wine needs the right food to go with it and this year once again the food was pretty special...it is always fun to graze the different family recipes that get brought for the various appetizers, side dishes and desserts (and the few store bought ones weren't too shabby either!). Just enough lasagna (but unfortunately none of that great chicken cannelloni) and desserts were leftover for an impromptu social after the Wild Turkey race...more on that later! After dinner Stephen tried to keep all of our attention as he recognized our 2003 AYC Series hardware winners (mr. happy, Superman, and Out of Control), our 2003 Fleet Champion (Dave Broadway is making a career out of this one!) and our 2003 Fleet Officers (Thanks again to Stephen Burke, Amy Davidson, Robbie Nelson, Brenda Spletter and Eric Nelson). He also mentioned a little about Fleet activity beyond the club level...did you know that our Fleet had a least one person (with the majority of the time with multiple crews/boats) at every 2003 Regional, National and International J/24 Class event that passes down to our local Fleet (e.g. Midwinters in Miami, Southwest Regionals in Ft. Worth, the North Americans in Mexico, the Nationals in Milwaukee and the Worlds in the Netherlands). Stephen was doing a pretty good job of managing the crowd until he went to refill his wine glass

and accidentally gave the floor to the wrong person, who immediately moved to re-elect Stephen as our 2004 Fleet Captain...a quick round of applause was taken as a vote by acclimation and it was all over as Stephen mumbled sometime about getting the job done right this coming year (or was that the comments from the peanut gallery?!). Things quickly moved on to the Gift Exchange, which in spite of some small rule changes, seemed to be as fun and take just as long as always...I noticed that this year there seemed to be fewer goof gifts so look out next year as the pendulum is sure to start swinging the other way soon! More socializing was had after the exchange and everyone felt much safer as the Karaoke machine was disconnected before any takers could be embarrassed...Joe 'the spin man' Mancuso said we won't be that lucky next time so be ready! As people helped clean up there was big talk about racing the following day in the postponed Wild Turkey race...most of which actually happened as you will see as you read on.

J/24s Clean Up at Wild Turkey: You know the PHRF fleet should consider moving Wild Turkey off the J/24 Canyon Circuit stop date every year as they make a lot of money off our entry fees when we can show up! We had 5 boats come out for the one scheduled distance race; mr. happy, Bon Temps, Yikes!, Psycho and OOH-AAH!. The fleet split worked out to where we basically had a one design fleet of J/24s for B Fleet but we were still able to mix it up with the traditional PHRFers as we started with the A Fleet (J/80s, the 11 Meter, a J/29 and the Hobie 33). With a clear sky and good SW winds it was another short sleeve December day on Lake Travis. The RC gave everybody a triple W/L between K and E for a short (about 4.5 miles) race. The J/24s put on a mini starting clinic with mr. happy nailing an "at speed" starboard at the boat timed start and Bon Temps nailing an "at speed" port at the pin timed start with the other J/24s on the line in between (and everyone else watching from the 3rd row!)...Bon Temps crossed the whole fleet, tacked and laid the weather mark to just beat mr. happy to be first at the weather mark. Crew work allowed mr. happy to punch out some downwind...but all found themselves

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www.austinyachtclub.org



Need up-to-date club information? Checkout the AYC web site. Ken Jolly keeps it current with all the latest info, racing results, photos, and links to other sailing sites.

February 2004 Submissions deadline for the

Telltale February Tell-tale will be February 5,

2004. Please email all articles to Yolanda Cortés Mares at ymares@vvm.com on or before February 5. If you have any questions, Yolanda can be reached by phone in Salado at 254.368.3702.

A Digest Of The Texas Water Safety Act

Texas Registration and Title Requirements

Title applications and manufacturer's statement of origin (MSO) must accompany a request for boat registration for new boats and outboard motors.

Exempted vessels – All (non-motorized) canoes, kayaks, punts, rowboats, or rubber rafts (regardless of length) when paddled, poled, or oared and sailboats under 14 feet in length when windblown.

Registration of USCG Documented Vessels

Effective January 1, 2004, vessels documented by the U.S. Coast Guard are no longer exempt from state registration requirements.

Requirements for registering a documented vessel:

- Application for Vessel (form **PWD-143**);
- Current USCG Documentation Certificate (or copy);
- Verification of sales tax payment; and
- Payment of registration fee.

If sales tax has not been paid, a Bill of Sale or Invoice is also required and sales tax fee will be assessed at time of registration. A bill of sale or invoice must contain:

- the date of sale;
- sales price;
- description of the vessel and/or outboard motor (make, TX or serial number and year built);
- purchaser(s) name; and
- seller(s) signature.

Exempted vessels:

- Documented commercial vessels used in coastal shipping; and
- Documented vessels exceeding 115 feet in length.

Documented recreational vessels, shrimp boats and other commercial fishing boats are not exempt from state registration, unless they exceed 115 feet in length.

Texas Certificate of Number - (See the complete digest for all registration requirements)

The certificate of number (registration), if required:

- Must always be aboard and available for inspection by an enforcement officer;
- Is valid for the two-year period shown on the certificate; and
- **NEW** – Must also be aboard USCG Documented vessels that require Texas registration.

NEW – USCG Documented Vessels:

- May display **ONLY** the Validation Decal (not the Registration Number) on both sides of the bow of the vessel and maintain current USCG Documentation; OR
- Display the state assigned TX numbers and the Validation Decal if USCG Documentation is relinquished.

Mandatory Boater Education

A TPWD certified boater education course and photo I.D. is required for any person born on or after September 1, 1984 to operate (1) a vessel powered by motor of 10 horsepower or more; or (2) a windblown vessel over 14 feet in length.

**Boater Education courses from other states are acceptable if NASBLA (National Association of State Boating Law Administrators) approved.

Exceptions: A person is exempt from the mandatory boater education requirement if the person (1) is at least 18 years of age; (2) is accompanied by a person at least 18 years of age who is exempt from the course or who has completed the course; (3) holds a master's, mate's, or operators license issued by the U.S. Coast Guard; or (4) is otherwise exempt by rule of the department.

Laser Fleet News

By Renee Ruais



I think the Laser Sailors have begun their standard hibernation for the winter. If you look carefully, you can probably see them 'frostbiting it' on some larger boats, maybe a J80, a J24, whatever that is that Deke sails, and other boats we dare not mention.

Talented and dedicated sailors they most certainly are, but most of them are not very hardy and cannot tolerate the winter on a wet boat. If you've got a keel boat and are looking for crew for the Frostbite series, let me know (RMRuais@austin.rr.com) and I'll see if we can put a laser sailor in place! In the meantime, Laser sailors, drag your boat home and beef it up for the spring sailing season! If you haven't upgraded your rigging, I hope Santa was good to you and bought it for you. Winter is also a good time to buy new sails and put numbers on. I'll be bringing mine into my garage to re-seal all the deck fittings...assuring a nice dry hull for next season. Well...as soon as I make room in the garage, anyway.

Membership by David Bernstein



It's January, and to be honest, your membership chairman is in Florida, and the new committee has yet to meet. However, you may like to know that your 2004 Membership Committee is made up of PC David Bernstein, ably assisted by PC Claude Welles, returning committee member and Catalina 22 fleet member extraordinaire Wade Bingaman, ace night Race chairman Frank Woodul, and to give a little grace and youth to the committee, new member Kamille Mc Iver. We are all looking forward to meeting many new prospects and bringing lots of new members to AYC in the coming year. If you have any comments, questions, or leads on new members, please contact one of us.

Secretary's Report

by Renee Ruais

The new board met on Saturday, December 13th, in order to review the proposed budget. No formal decisions were made, but it was abundantly clear that the previous board and the office staff had done a fine job of preparing the preliminary budget. Commodore Laws walked us through the budget, allowing time for each board member to ask questions about items they are responsible for or were curious about. For most of us, this was the first detailed look at club operations, and a lot of questions were answered! In addition, we all got a sneak peak at the other board members views and got a chance to get to know each other a little more. While the previous board left large shoes to fill, I'm confident that the new board will do their best to fill them and do their best for the club. There will be a budget final review and approval meeting on Saturday, January 10th. The next regular board meeting is in January, on the 5th Thursday at 7:30 pm. Regular board meetings will follow the rest of the year on the 4th Thursday of the month...always at 7:30. Board meetings are open to membership, items can be submitted to Nancy to be placed on the agenda, preferably two days in advance of the meeting.

Keel Fleet by Bob Gallant

The Red Eye Regatta was held on January 1st, in wonderfully warm, and a little overcast weather. The regatta started with a great brunch prepared by Barry Bowden, and Claude Welles. JoAnn Welles did a great job with registration, fleet splitting, and race committee. Thirty two boats and crew showed up for two spinnaker, and two non-spinnaker starts. The wind started at around 12, and lessened throughout the race, causing us to have to shorten the course for the D fleet gang. Along for the ride this year was Jill Waterman, who photographically documents New Year's festivities each year in an different city. Past locations have been, Shanghai, Rio De Janeiro, Israel, Berlin, Paris, London, Montreal, Mexico City, and many US cities. Please visit her internet site in the near future to see Austin's New Years festivities at: <http://www.newyearphotos.com>. After race festivities included beer, hot buttered rum from Vic and Pat Manning, and once again, food from Claude and Barry. Trophies went three deep in each of the four fleets. A great time was had by all. Additional thanks to the following individuals for making the 2004 Red Eye a success: Bob Perry - Missy Gallant - Kellye Gallant - Terry McDermott - Larry Ratliff - Tom Cunningham - Nancy Boulmay.

Catalina 22 (continued from page 4)

The Fleet Bets:



Entertainment?:



Chip—Most Improved Crew:



J-24 (continued from page 5)

The J-24's start to close ranks as they do their pre-start maneuvering at the Wild Turkey Regatta:



Sail Training by Ira Rush

The Sail Training team is busy putting plans in place for a great year of Sail Training (and related) activities. First, I am happy to welcome Vic Manning to the Sail Training Team. Vic will be managing the Adult Sail Training activities which will include a wide range of programs: Racing clinics, Centerboard Learn to Sail classes, Beginner Adult Keel Boat, TX Parks & Wildlife Boater Safety, Coastal Navigation, Bareboat Charter course. We are also working on a plan to offer private lessons for Club and Non-Club members that will help satisfy some of the demand for learning to sail in the Austin community. Of course Vic is not doing all of this himself, but has a roster of folks that are helping to put the programs in place. Go Vic!

On the Junior side, Steve Gay is currently coaching a High school team that is practicing through the winter as weather allows. This spring, we will be structuring a Junior Racing Team for Club and Non-Club members. The team will have a fixed length "Season" starting in March and running through May. For the "littler" Juniors, we will continue with the successful PB&J program. John Morran and Doug Kern have agreed to run this activity again this year. PB&J will be offered during the month of June.

We expect to have plenty of opportunity for Club and Non-Club members to learn over the next year. Stays tuned to the Telltale and check the Website (in the future) for more details!

J-24 *(continued from page 5)*

racing the A fleet boats at some point as they slowly used their longer waterlines to overtake all of us. But even with no real tactics (mostly one tack beats and I think the only boats to jibe off the wind were the J/80s due to their hotter jibe angles), mr. happy was able to keep enough boat speed up to correct over the entire A Fleet...Bon Temps and Yikes! also corrected out over most of A Fleet, losing by only tens of seconds to 2 of the J/80s. Since trophies went out on a per fleet basis, all five J/24s sweep B Fleet with mr. happy, Bon Temps and Yikes! finishing 1-2-3. The race was fairly short, time wise, so the RC gave those who wanted a second "unofficial" race (class move PRO and RC!)...the wind by then had backed enough to make the course a true reach fest but the J/24s stayed out and enjoyed mixing it up with the A fleters again. And it was a good idea no one kept scores on this one as it took almost the entire 3 laps for the J/29 and 11 Meter to pass the J/24s scratch! It sure seemed clear that One Design sailing really does make you a better boat speed sailor in addition to providing close tactical racing...the J/24s had both this day! The fleet hooked up afterwards to eat the Annual Party leftovers under the oak trees...we were having so much fun some of us forgot to go to the trophy presentation in the clubhouse...but in the end there was plenty of Wild Turkey whiskey available at the J/24 tables! It was a fun day to be out racing and great to see both Fred Schroth and Hap McCollum out on their J/24s after such a looong absence!

Red Eye Rematch: Our Fleet was the largest one design fleet at Red Eye, matching our Wild Turkey attendance with 5 boats; Trojan Horse, Ammo Box, Double Trouble, Yikes! and mr. happy. This time the fleet split

was such that the J/24s were put into A Fleet...so besides racing against ourselves, we had the 11 Meter, a J/80 and a couple of other more traditional PHRFers to keep an eye on. With variable southerly winds the 11.8 mile course took some time to complete and being basically another "waterline" race (I guess they all are...like Wild Turkey, only minor tactical calls came into play and those were more 'stay in the wind' type of calls), the fleet really stretched out. The wind was up and down, more so going light later in the race, favoring the faster rated boats. So most of the excitement was centered around speculating on corrected time calculations and watching the weather and leeward horizons for time hacks as boats rounded the far flung marks. mr. happy knew they must still be in hunt when they saw both the 11 Meter and the J/80 drop sails and hang around the finish area as they approached...finishing 15 minutes behind the 11 Meter and about 8 and half minutes after the J/80, mr. happy still corrected out over both of them easily. Yikes! almost did the same but fell short by less than a minute to end up fourth, Double Trouble finished just a few more minutes behind Yikes! to end up fifth overall.

Frostbite Starting January 17th: As you can see from the above results, J/24 sailing in the PHRF races can be fun and profitable! It is a great time to practice boat speed techniques and there is less emphasis on fleet tactics so it can be a good way to get some driving practice (and a little crew work at the far flung mark roundings). If recent past history is any indication, we will have a J/24 Fleet within whatever PHRF fleet split comes about so consider coming out and racing some if not all the Frostbite races!...and if you want to crew, just show up. Don't forget that this PHRF run series is held on Saturdays starting January 17th for the next 5 weekends.

From the Commodore *(Continued from page 1)*

April. David Bernstein has previously written in the Telltale about proposed changes to the AYC organization structure. He will continue to coordinate this project and bring it to the board for consideration this year. Finally, AYC agreed to participate in the Clean Marina program and work will be needed on docks and work areas to comply.

Please thank the keel fleet for their gift of wind instruments for AYC. After all, what kind of a yacht club are we without wind instruments? The beer can series sponsored by the keel fleet have been very popular and profitable, so they have voted to use some of their funds for the benefit of the whole club. Many thanks. Wind instruments

are certainly needed and will be appreciated.

There is a very busy race schedule planned with series races, five regattas plus special fleet circuit events, Junior RoadRunner and Easter Laser. Ken Jolly has a draft 2004 calendar on the web page you can check for planning your activities. The January board meeting will be the fifth Thursday, January 29th at 7:30. Normal board meetings will be on the fourth Thursday of each month. However, in January, two board members will be at Key West race week. So, we moved the date so they could participate. You are welcome and encouraged to attend all board meetings.

Austin Yacht Club
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Many Thanks to our AYC Telltale Sponsors!



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