

Telltale

April 2005

Monthly Newsletter

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Newsletter

Yolanda Cortés Mares, Editor
E-mail submissions by 5th of
month to: ymares@earthlink.net

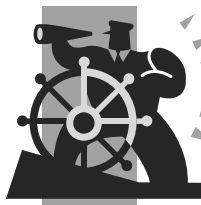
AYC Business Hours

Tuesday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday: noon —5:00 p.m.
Closed Mondays

Closed Club Holidays:

New Year's Day	1 January
Easter Sunday	27 March
Independence Day	4 July
Thanksgiving Day	24 November
Shopping Day	25 November
Christmas Day	25 December

From The Commodore By Danny Lien



Is Big Brother Watching? - No, not really, but if you don't already know about it, there is an AYC Website linked real-time camera

mounted on the clubhouse front deck ceiling which can pan from docks 1-5 and zoom from the point to the pool. For website browsing, but this is pretty cool! It is an asset brought to us by a KeelFleet donation and further setup work by **Winston Bumpus** and **John Mandell**. Many members are utilizing the camera to check out their boats after a storm, or to watch the progress of the hydro-hoist test, or in combination with our AYC weather station data, to gain a further look at the lake conditions before deciding to drive out to the Club. It is also whispered that the nighttime skinny-dippers are now requesting slips on Dock 6 --- which is out of camera view. Seriously though, the Board wanted to ensure that all members know of the presence of the camera. It was discussed and we felt that picture resolution and frame speed is such that it is good asset for viewing harbor conditions but probably not for people watching.

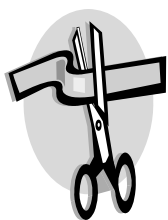
Member Boat I.D. Numbers – Speaking of Big Brother, there is a move to have all AYC on-premises boats be

identified by a small AYC Logo sticker with a unique number I.D. matched to a slip assignment. After the last flood and attendant boat moves, **Tommy Gairloff** – Fleet Commander and his harbor committee spent a lot of time trying to match boats to slips and respective members. It is an ongoing issue. There may be an article in this publication from **Tommy** about his plan. For the record, whenever I get a new outboard motor or lawnmower or the like, before I use it, I remove all stickers, warnings and logos that I can get off cleanly. That's how I feel about most stickers. Still, I told **Tommy** that I would endorse the Harbor Committee effort to identify boats. Slips will still be loaned out to member friends when vacant, newly acquired boats will be stored on grounds, etc. but my guess is that the communication to the office and Harbor Committee about temporarily stored boat, slip trades and 'loose' boats may increase to a more workable arrangement.

Upcoming Activities - With the last billing you received a two sided flyer listing April and May AYC events. Unless you are out of town representing AYC at another Regatta I hope that you can come out and participate in the Spring Regatta April 23-24 and the CB Regatta April 30-May1. Reminder: If you want to try for the over

(Continued on page 7)

AYC Opening Day By Carolyn Wilsford



How about that Opening Day brunch and ceremony? **Claudia Bartlett**, you sure know how to kick off the sailing season in style with festive, fun and joyous flair. Thank-you for all of your efforts in organizing this event. It's going to be a tough one to top! Starting with the balloons to show "Hey its happening right here", to the fabulous buffet of assorted cheeses with table tents labeling what luscious spreads to put on your croissant or bagel. Then the whiff of tuber roses surrounding the gorgeous silver fruit bowl with fresh fruit salad. Moving next to breakfast tacos and ending with bloody mary's. A breakfast for sailing champions. Oh, don't forget the mimosa's. An extended thank you to **John Bartlett** for conducting such a generous raffle. Congratulations **Tommy Gairloff** on your win. In addition, many thanks to **Lauren and John Foster, Corey and Chris Block** and **Norma, Danny and Rebeka Lien**.

What a delightful ceremony to take part in. The history of the bell from Danny, the flag raising from the Honor Guard, the National Anthem sung by **Bonnie Chambers**, the recognition of founding fathers, past commodores and fleet captains by our present commodore. Thank you **all** for coming to celebrate the start of another great sailing year.

It was fantastic.



AYC Cordially Invites You to its

Spring Regatta

April 22—24, 2005

For more information, please visit the AYC website or call the Spring Regatta Chairperson, Augusto Villalon



2005 Racing Schedule

April 2	ISSA Mallory/Baker Qualifier
April 3	Spring Series #3 (1:30 FWS), ISSA Qualifier
April 10	Spring Series #4 (1:30 FWS)
April 17	Spring Series #5 (1:30 FWS)
April 22- 24	AYC Spring Regatta
April 29- May 1	AYC Centerboard Regatta
May 4,11,18,25	Wed. Night Sunfish/Laser Series
May 6,13,20,27	Keel Fleet Beer Can Series
May 15	Summer Series #1 (J24)
May 21,22	South Coast Intergalactics
May 22	Summer Series #2 (Keel D)
May 27-29	AYC Turnback Regatta
September 17	AYC Governor's Cup Regatta
September 18	AYC Governor's Cup Regatta

AYC Upcoming Non-Racing Events

April 2	Racing - Spinnaker Clinic
April 2	Junior Learn To Sail Clinic
April 9	Junior Learn To Sail Clinic
April 9	First Aid / CPR Training
April 9	U.S. Coast Guard Safety Inspection
April 10	First Aid / De-fib Training
April 16	Laser/Sunfish Novice Sailor Racing Clinic
May 5	Beginning Adult Keel Fleet Clinic
May 9,10	Texas Parks & Wildlife Boater Safety Class
May 14	Racing Clinic
May 23	Full Moon Raft-Up
May 24	Membership Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
May 26	AYC Board Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
June 11,18,25	Children PB & J Clinic
July 2	AYC Island Holiday Party and Luau
July 9	Children PB & J Clinic

Editor's Note: Due to an unknown computer virus, DSL hook-up hardware and software incompatibilities, and 98% of C-Drive utilization, this Editor had to take her computer to the local computer doctor who de-fragmented the hard drive, re-installed all the programs, helped change the e-mail program, and translated what all this means in plain English. Well, one year with no computer problems was, indeed, wonderful. Due to all these technical changes, this issue of Telltale is a few days late in the making, just as the March issue was. From now on, though, we're back on track. Please forward your articles by the 5th of the month to the Editor at the new email address: ymares@earthlink.net. Thank you!

Sail Training Notice By Neil Jones



As spring is upon us, our Sail Training is in high gear. Currently we have finished our second annual learn to sail program for juniors and our adult classes continue to bring many of us up to a higher level of sailing.

The next junior events will be our PB&J series and our summer sailing camps in June. If you or a friend has a child that is interested in sailing, get them involved with one of these activities. Please contact the main office so we can get you or your friends registered for a class.

For the adults, if you or if you have a friend that is interested in being taught to an ASA Certified Keel Boat course, AYC will begin offering classes this spring. Our ASA Certified Adult Training staff will offer Keel Boat Training through the AYC office. Contact the main office or myself if you are interested.

A sincere "Thank You" goes out to all of the volunteers, chair persons and staff for the assistance in the recent TSA and High School sailing events. Only by having such a staff of experienced and helpful people can AYC host such events! Keep up the good work!

Fair winds to all,
Neil B. Jones, Sail Training Commander



Spruce up your small boat and come on out for the annual

AYC Centerboard Regatta

Saturday, April 30th and Sunday, May 1st

Enjoy the excellent spring winds, mild temperatures, and keen competition.

Registration is only \$25 (\$20 for US Sailing members) with no late fee for those folks who watch the weather until the last minute.

Dinner is bratwurst with all the trimmings.

Check out the Notice of Regatta and Registration Forms on the AYC website and at the back of this Telltale and join the fun!

High School Sailing By Steve Gay

The Austin Yacht Club hosted SEISA Mallory Qualls '05 on Sunday, April 2, 2005 and 8 races were completed in light winds 4-5 mph and dying from East then NNE. One race was abandoned for each fleet. "A" sailed in FJ's and "B" in 420's and each fleet completed 4 races. There were no protests filed, no breakdowns, all RP forms were on time. Cedar Park withdrew on Thursday and W.B Ray (Corpus) and **Westlake withdrew on Friday. Thanks to **Steve Gay, Neil Jones, Dave Speed, Janice Hazeldine** for race committee work. We missed you **Larry**. Results are as follows:

A fleet	race 1	race 2	race 3	race 4
Jesuit	1	1	1	1 = 4
Rockwall	2	2	2	2 = 8
Lake Travis	3	5	4	3 = 15
St Stanislaus	4	3	5	4 = 16

*Lake Dallas 5 4 3 5 = 17

B fleet	race 1	race 2	race 3	race 4		
Jesuit	1	1	1	1 = 4	A+B = 8	1st
Lake Travis	3	3	2	2 = 10	A+B = 25	3rd
St Stanislaus	2	2	3	5 = 12	A+B = 28	4th
Rockwall	4	4	4	3 = 15	A+B = 23	2nd
Lake Dallas	5	5	5	4 = 19	A+B = 36	5th

* Lake Dallas joined ISSA/SEISA at the Regatta.

** New team to join in the Fall

Jesuit, St Stanislaus and Lake Travis competed on April 3, 2005 in 420's and Lake Dallas and Rockwall competed as composite teams (not to advance) in FJ's on a digital "N"

(continued on Page 5)

J[®] 24

Another Great J/24 Social

The J/24 Fleet continued the fun theme set by the Club for Spring Series during the Opening Day ceremonies by holding a great Cajun themed Gumbo social after the second set of Spring Series races. **Barb Prasher's** gumbo was well appreciated along with all the other side dishes. The windy conditions forced us to move closer to the clubhouse, I won't comment on the coincidence (?) that the Fleet ended up in the kid play area!



Tony Slowik's YIKES! presses hard on Dave Gamble's OOH AAH! during race 5 of Spring Series

And after a couple of weeks break, Spring Series racing returned recently and the J/24 Fleet took full advantage of that by continuing to place 8 boats on the line. The racing continues to be tight across the board, we have had 4 different race winners in the 6 races so far. **Dave Broadway's Superman** is back in the overall lead doing his consistency thing (a string of seconds). But he better watch out as **Dave Gamble's OOH AAH!**, driven by our Commodore **Danny Lien**, was seen out practicing one evening recently (that AYC webcam comes in handy!) and their scores show it with a big upswing, placing them currently in second place, just a few point out of first. But there is plenty of racing left in the Series! And speaking of that, if you haven't been out regularly yet, you should definitely plan on coming out. We still have boats ready to race but end up staying at the dock due to crew consolidation so don't hesitate to come out and grab a ride, there are always available! Plus the conditions have been great and should continue to be so...hey it is the windiest time of year right now.

Series Scoring Note

As you may know, the PRC is tracking Series participation to determine what Fleets will be combined in later

Series racing to reduce the number of starts during such. This means that it is very important to cross check the scores that get posted on the web after each weekend. Many RCs don't take the time to determine the number of starters, rather they just write down who finishes. That means in cases where you may withdraw during a race that you will be scored DNC (which would not count as a Series participation point for the Fleet), in fact you should be scored DNF in such situations (which would count toward Fleet Series participation). If you start a race but don't finish it, be sure to let the RC know...worst case send **Bill Hawk** at whawk@austin.rr.com a note after the fact if you see that happen in the posted scores the following Monday.

Upcoming AYC Fleet Obligations

Time to pull out your day planner and put some of our Fleet's AYC obligations on it...we have Series race Committee duty on May 14th, August 20th and October 15th. Also Spring Series is coming up on April 23rd & 24th so expect our Fleet Captain to start making calls soon to find people to help with that RC.

We also have a new twist on our Fleet obligations this year...hosting the Dog Days Series Buffet on September 10th (which is a Saturday evening). The Fleet will need at least 1 person to record AYC charges, 3 people to serve, and 2 to clean up for a total of 6. Anyone have any food theme ideas?

We have plenty of opportunities to everyone to help the Fleet with our club obligations without disrupting their life...just do it!

Fleet Recognition Events

After getting input for some of you, our Fleet Captain **Tom Lappin** has asked me to report that we will have 2 Fleet Recognition items this year; a Fleet Participation Trophy and a Fleet Champion Trophy.

The Fleet Participation Trophy will be awarded to the boat that has the highest score based on each getting 1 point for each AYC series event that a boat starts in. No bonus points will be given for participation in AYC regattas, out of town regattas of any kind nor for doing RC duty. Note that the Club is scoring a Club Championship based on AYC Regatta scoring so you can be both!

Tom felt that the Fleet Champion should be the best AYC J/24 team and so that will be determined by the results from the 2005 AYC J/24 Texas Circuit stop. The highest placing local J/24 will take that honor.

Regards,
Eric, Austin J/24 Fleet Reporter



The spring series is in full swing and the C22 fleet participation continues to grow with each race. I know more are on the way. When I was finishing up putting my boat back together last weekend in the work area there were 3 C22's in addition to mine. So the action in the C22 fleet has not only been on the water, but also on the

work pad. One great characteristic of the C22 fleet is a spirit of cooperation and the willingness to help each other out, not only with sharing sailing technical skills, but also with manual labor. Of course there is no boat labor more messy than doing a bottom job, so the true test of fleet camaraderie is to help your fellow sailor do a bottom job. The next photo shows this C22 spirit in action, **Jon Fitch** helping **Ken Ayers** sanding off bottom paint in preparation for new coat of paint on his C22. **Ken** and **Jon** looked like ghosts after several hours of sanding under a trailer.



There also has been plenty of C22 action on the water for the 3 spring series races. We have had an excellent turnout for each race. In the 3rd series race we put 11 boats on the line. The C22 fleet will be doing race committee for the 4th race, so the series will be decided in the fifth and final race. The current standings after the 3 series events, and 6 races are; **Ted Owens** in 1st place, **Wade Bingaman** in 2nd place, **Jordan Owens** in 3rd place, and **Bruce Foster** in 4th place. It should be exciting to see who goes home with one of those beautiful new 3 dimensional wood sailboat trophies **Wade** has ordered.

One other area of competition we have going this year in the C22 fleet is our own version of the blue duck, called the "Worn out Keel Pin" award. This was actually where I

was the most competitive last Sunday, scoring 3 points, one for loosing my boom vang, one for putting too many people on the back of boat during mast raising, the one for leaving my truck in gear in the drysail area where it started to roll away with many of the fleet members around to watch. It's nice to be in lead for something. Fortunately, no harm done, and we all had fun!



The C22 fleet has 4 boats registered for the Gold Fleet at the C22 Nationals in June at Canyon Lake. Last time I checked there were a total of 29 boats signed up for the Gold Fleet, and 10 for Silver fleet. We should see some people with the new Catalina 22 Sport at the Nationals. I can't wait see how the boat does against the old original boats. Dale McCafferty, the C22 National Sailing Association chief measurer was the winner of a complete set of new C22 Sails from John Bartlett in the early registration raffle for the Nationals. AYC's Vic Manning has will be running the races as PRO. See you on the water.

C22 Fleet Captain - John Grzinich

H.S. Sailing *(Continued from Page 3)*

course.

The following day we raced 20 races in two fleets (FJ's and 420's) to determine what team advanced to Martin Co, FL to race for High School Team Race Nationals in May. Jesuit (New Orleans) won again with a perfect 8 wins and 0 losses taking the Gold. St Stanislauf was 2nd at 4-4 for the Silver and Lake Travis was 3rd at 0-8 to win Bronze in the Final Round. **Tyler Jones, Brittany Speed-Rosales, Cory Thornton, Preston Bach, Sara Bach** and **Lane Marqués** from AYC sailed for Lake Travis. By the end of the day the wind was 21 gusting to 30.

Membership News By Doug Laws



You are invited to attend the New Members Social scheduled at 6:00 pm, May 27th, just before the Beer Can race. Please come early for snacks, meet new members and take them sailing if they want to crew.

The following actions were approved at the March Board meeting:

Probationary Review

Winston Bumpus has satisfactorily completed his probationary requirements for racing and club volunteer activities. Welcome Winston, as a full senior member.

Membership Resignation

Barton Hammond and **Brian Schuller** have submitted their resignations from senior membership in good standing. We hope that some day you will be able to rejoin AYC.

Leave of Absence

James Puryear and **Robert Tomaszewski** have re-

quested membership change to Leave of Absence for one year as they will be temporarily residing over 200 miles from Austin. We hope you will return to Austin soon and resume active member status.

Non Resident

Harold Downey and family are moving to Grenoble, France for two years and have requested membership change to Non-Resident.

AYC Membership Status

	Fed EOM	Add	Sub	Mar EOM
Senior	347		4	343
Associate	15		1	14
Young Adult	5			5
Juniors	11	3		14
Ol'Salt 10 Year	12			12
Non Resident	6	1		7
Total				
Paying Members	396			395

Errata

By Renee Ruais

Committee Update

Joe Mancuso was inadvertently left off the list of Harbor Committee volunteers. Joe is a very active J24 sailor as well as an appreciated volunteer in many ways at the club. We regret the error.



Secretary Report

By Renee Ruais



The Directory was completed before opening day and was available for pickup at the club for a short time after that. Those that weren't picked up at the office by members or personally delivered by **Terry McDermott** (Thanks Terry!) were mailed out shortly afterwards. If you did not receive yours, please stop by the office and see if it was returned. Also, if you see any problems with your listing... let me know! I personally updated all of the records, thanks to so many of you who returned the information update forms! I am not perfect, however, so if I made a mistake on your information, please let me know.

ATTENTION JUNIOR SAILORS!

Jr. Sailing Camp Session One June 13-17
Jr. Sailing Camp Session Two June 20-24
AYC Advanced Sailing Camp June 27-July 1

For more information, please visit the AYC website or call the AYC office.

Commodore...(continued from page 1)

all 2005 Regatta Champion, don't waste your race throw-outs early in the season by missing all or part of Spring Regatta races. If you plan to be at the Club for the Regatta festivities and are not racing, you can also do your part either weekend by helping with the SEISA Women's and/or CO-ED Dinghy Championships. At last word **James Morley**-UTST President is still looking for Race Committee. These events are the southeast regional qualifiers and they will determine which local region college teams compete in the North American Collegiate Dinghy Nationals here at AYC June 1-10.

Full Moon Raft Ups - You may also notice in the flyer the scheduled May 23 Full Moon Raft Up which happens to fall on a Monday. There have been a number of Full Moon parties held near the Club at a residence for a few years; attended by some Club members. Last year on one full moon, through an AYC facilities usage request, that party was moved to the Club. From all accounts I am sorry I missed it. The neighborhood parties have been recently suspended. Some of us at AYC think that it would be a good idea to share the Lake and the full moons and food and drink at the Clubhouse in cooler times, and to raft up on boats during warmer times. This is planned as a "bring your own" food, drink, anchor and fenders. To kick off the idea, on May 23 we plan to anchor over the Travis Landing Park shoals just south of the AYC Point, at dusk. If two boats show up I will consider it a success and if more plan to come I'm sure I can talk a motorboat owner into a ferry service from the South Cove Dock Jr. Pavilion to the raftup. Check your anchor and running lights. If you feel this is too unorganized please email me and I will gladly announce that you have assumed control of the events.

New Gate Code- 9463 or Nine Four Six Three. If you want an acronym to remember it by, 9463 spells W-I-N-E. I notice that the old code continues to work at the gate but be warned, it will be discontinued. Also, if you want the code to the Clubhouse South door, you may get it from the office.

Race Management - Opening Day was a success, again many thanks to **Claudia Bartlett** and **Lauren Foster** and their committee. Another success came out of the discussion that; "the line was too long" and, "the legs were too short". Race committee issues seem somewhat weather derived: good winds and good wind direction makes for good race committee. Opening Day wind was from the east and RC (AYC Board) did not want to set a 'W' beyond X-mark, so from where we were set, the RoundTheBuoys legs were short, and yes, we maybe did set the line too long. (Picking the right jibe at the top was critical.) The good that happened from all of this is that **Bill Hawk**-Race Commander scheduled a meeting of all Fleet Captains. I

attended and heard a good discussion of how we can try to accommodate all fleets on any given series race day, poison line, length of race, etc. To me, series racing is the lifeblood of the Club, (including Wednesday nights), and we are known for running good Club races. My thanks to all RC!

Danny Lien



Ellen MacArthur

Did you know? At age four, Ellen began sailing with her aunt on "Cabaret", and used all her spare time to read sailing books. She started saving school dinner money at the age of eight to buy her first boat, which she bought at age 13, a dinghy. She bought her second boat at age 15, a small keelboat, and her third boat at age 17, a 21 foot Corribee. In 1994, she had her debut into full-time yachting, working on an Open 60ft yacht and teaching sailing to adults at the David King Nautical School. That year, she achieved RYA Yachtmaster and Instructor's ticket, at age 18. In 1995 she sailed single-handed around Great Britain. Her first transatlantic passage was on her 20th birthday, and she placed 3rd in her class in her first transatlantic race that year.

Who is Ellen?

She is the fastest person to sail both non-stop and single-handed around the world, breaking the world's record, at age 28, by circumnavigating the world in 71 days, 14 hours, 18 minutes, 33 seconds, in a 75 ft. B&Q trimaran. Ellen was the youngest sailor in history to take on this challenge, a record only attempted five times before in sailing history and only one sailor made the distance non-stop. Having battled storms and high winds for much of the journey (almost colliding with a whale at one point), with only a webcam for company, Ellen broke the world's record on February 7, 2005, as she crossed the finish line. Freeze-dried meals were reheated on a single burner stove; her water supply was desalinated from the sea and during her voyage, and she slept an average of 30 minutes at any one time - but never for more than four hours a day.

The previous record was set by French sailor, Francis Joyon, on board a 90 foot multihull IDEC in February, 2004: 72 days, 22 hours, 54 minutes, 22 seconds.



The Spring Series has been a study in contrasts as far as weather is concerned. While opening day saw mild winds mixed with rain and cold, the second set of races brought fairly strong winds along with sunshine. The difference in conditions on the water, though, did not translate into big differences in order of fin-

ish. On March 13, **Jonathan Baker**, his sister **Sarah**, and **Will Angst** picked up an extra crew member aboard **J. Seagull** (borrowing **Linda McDavitt** from the South Coast fleet) and continued their strong sailing, finishing first and second, to give them a pretty solid lead in the series.

Mirroring the results of **J. Seagull** that day was **Franz Dahmen**, who finished second and first, and, though not sailing on opening day, may end up putting some pressure on the series leaders over the final two days of racing.

Tim and Julie McKenna, sailing with crew member **Carl Myers**, are also still very much in the hunt this series, as they are currently in second place overall, having picked up two third place finishes to go with their opening day success. I must own up to a correction, though: in last month's Telltale, I reported that the **McKennas** had claimed second place in the first race of opening day. As it turns out, **Jim Casto** edged them out by 2 seconds! So, a belated congratulations to **Jim**.

Conditions certainly made for some pretty exciting racing on the 13th, perhaps a little too exciting for **Randolph Bertin** and **Tom Nelson** as they managed to interfere with one boat (apologies to the **McKennas**) and came within inches of hitting another when trying to get into the clear for their penalty (still not sure how they missed hitting **Franz**). They eventually settled down enough to complete both races without further incident, and with half the series in the books, they are working hard to hold onto third place.

Tom and Kelly Groll also came out to sail, but after the first race decided that sailing shorthanded in high winds was not worth incurring marital strife (or maybe **Tom** was fed up with getting his butt kicked by a rookie!). They will certainly be back for some good competitive sailing, though, and are expected to garner some high finishes before this series is out.

Overall, fleet members were glad to have got back

home after a rough ride without any major damage or injuries!

The following week, on March 20, at least four Ensigns were out on the water. It wasn't a race day, however, but just an opportunity to sail on a beautiful Sunday afternoon with building winds and beautiful skies. **Bill and Kelly Hawk** went out with their twins aboard **Prickly Pair**. **Randolph and Suzanne Bertin** took their twins out as well, along with an out of town guest (who remarked that the boat was 'cute', though I am not sure exactly how that is supposed to be interpreted... I think the last boat she had been on was some 40-something footer). **Frank Woodul** was also out on the water with an unidentified crewman, logging some time on Ensign #325. And last, but not least, **Robin Drummond** and her father **Bill** pulled away from the dock for a shakedown cruise aboard Ensign #716 (**Robin** says 'thanks' to some last minute equipment loans and gifts from a few other kindly Ensign sailors). Overall, they fared well, with everything seeming to be in order, though they did break a traveler car on a flying jibe, which was later repaired. **Robin** says it will take some time to get used to sailing the boat, but they plan to join the fleet for the conclusion of the Spring Series.

On April 3, we were favored with another beautiful sailing day on Lake Travis. Unfortunately for us, the Ensign fleet drew race committee assignment for the day. Even though we missed out on what looked to be a great racing opportunity, we sure didn't lack for excitement. Things started to get interesting when the starting pin anchor line snapped, setting the buoy adrift with under ten minutes to our first scheduled starting sequence. Unfortunately it seems that the folks running the ISSA qualifier that day had appropriated all the paddles of line for setting marks, and we didn't have any extra available. We decided to tie the pin off on the nearby channel marker and get our initial start sequence under way. After the initial postponement, we got things rolling (only) five minutes behind schedule. After A & B fleets were under way, the next bit of excitement came when one of the sailboats in the next start decided to have a closer look at the race committee boat: perhaps they needed to use the head. At any rate, they sailed right into us, ripping off one of the stern towers with their bow sprit and consigning some numbers of the course designation to the bottom of the lake. We managed to dislodge our unexpected visitor after a frantic couple of minutes, somehow managing to keep the start sequence intact. Luckily no one appeared to be injured: a bit of duck tape and some extra wood to jury rig the tower and we were back in business. Once all the boats were under way, **Tim McKenna** reminded us all that we aren't supposed to

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Centerboard & Laser Fleet News

By Renee Ruais



Laser Update

March has come and gone, along with the Easter Laser Regatta. This annual event drew 34 Full Rigs and 19 Radials from all over the country, including New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma, Kansas, Florida, Minnesota and Nebraska. I can't think of any other one-design boat at AYC that ever has a 53 boat event! The high numbers are a tribute to **Fred Schroth** who puts on a fine event year after year! All the usual volunteers help make it happen, from RC (our HOT Regatta friends) to kitchen duty and support from the AYC Staff. Some sailors drove with their boats and others found local boats to borrow or charter and caught a nice & easy flight into town. Of course, this is the premier Laser event of the year in Texas, so we also had a significant number of sailors from other parts of Texas, including Houston and Dallas.



Photo courtesy of David Luckenbach

The excitement of the event began on Friday afternoon, with many out of town sailors arriving early, getting their boats put together and going for a sail to get a feel for the local conditions. It was an absolutely beautiful day, but we could all see that something was brewing on the horizon. It was slow to get here, but there was no mistaking it when it arrived shortly after 9pm, it was a Texas sized hail storm! Complete with 60-70 mph winds (as recorded by the AYC Weather Station) and golf ball and larger sized hail, it ravaged Hudson Bend neighborhoods, but thankfully spared AYC and the hoards of boats stored there from significant damages. As the storm began, many of the La-

Ensign Fleet... (Continued from Page 8)

attach anything to a navigational buoy, so we were going to have to find a way to reset the starting pin. Eventually some additional line was secured, and we got the pin reset on its own anchor. Unfortunately, after a few moments, it was clear that it was dragging along the bottom, so the scope was increased and it was set again, only to continue its slow drift down wind! The third try was a charm so to speak (that and an extra mushroom at the bottom), and everything held up fine from there. Meanwhile, one of the chase boats was dispatched to assist a couple of Snipe sailors who had capsized their boat on the first upwind leg (yes, the water is still pretty cold), and then later provided support to a Catalina-22 (not an AYC racer) which was dismasted. All in all, it was quite a handful, and though things didn't always go perfectly, we worked hard to do our best. Thanks to Ensign Fleet members **Jim Wilsford, Tom Nelson, Tim and Julie McKenna, Ken Jolly, Tom and Kelly Groll, Franz Dahmen, Jonathan Baker, and Randolph Bertin** for helping out. One prominent race official and Ensign fleet member somehow managed to escape RC duty for the day, only to be seen shortly afterwards crewing on a J/24, claiming he was forced aboard and pressed into service!

It has been a beautiful spring, so come out and join us for the final two race days of the Spring series, April 10 and 17, which will be followed by the Spring Regatta the following weekend. And if you are planning your racing

ser visitors and locals scrambled about to move boats under trees and into some measure of shelter from the hail. Perhaps they should have been moving their cars... few (if any) cars escaped damage.

The Easter Laser Regatta is always memorable on its own, so coupled with this storm, I'm certain that no one will soon forget the '05 event! The storm was, of course, on the edge of a cold front that swept through and left us with strong winds and cool weather for the regatta. In the Full-Rig fleet, **Scott Young** took an overall first place, with the next Austin sailor, **David Grogono**, in fifth place. In the Radial fleet, **John Bowden** (what's he doing in a radial?) took an overall first place, and **Ravi Subramanian** took seventh.

With the Easter Laser Regatta behind us, we're looking forward to the AYC Centerboard Regatta at the end of April and the start of the Wednesday Night races in May. We'll be having a racing clinic on Saturday, April 16 for novice Laser (and Sunfish) sailors who would like an intro to the Wednesday Night Racing format. No registration is necessary, just show up in the clubhouse at noon!



Notice of Race
Austin Yacht Club Centerboard Regatta 2005
April 30 & May 1, 2005

Greetings sailors!

Austin Yacht Club (AYC) is the Organizing Authority and Host for its annual Centerboard Regatta being held, April 30 & May 1, 2005. This is a two-day event for centerboard monohulls and beach catamarans. This regatta combines great racing, a party and a good dinner. We look forward to seeing you on beautiful Lake Travis for this regatta!

Rules

The regatta will be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS).

Eligibility

The regatta is open to all monohull centerboards and beach catamarans. Registered boats will be grouped into various one-design and Portsmouth handicap classes with a minimum of three (3) boats in a class.

Registration

Complete the associated registration form and submit to AYC by mail, by fax or in person at check-in. Registration fees must be paid by mail or at skipper check-in, online payment is not available. The registration form is available at [Http://www.austinyachtclub.org](http://www.austinyachtclub.org), click on the Centerboard Regatta section. Mail: Austin Yacht Club, 5906 Beacon Drive, Austin, Texas 78734-1499. Fax: (512) 266-9804.

Entry Fees

The registration fee is \$25.00 per entry. There is not an early registration discount or a late registration charge for this regatta. The US Sailing membership discount is \$5.00 per entry. Registrants have the option of paying entry fees' by check, cash, or reciprocal club charges. All fees must be mailed to AYC or paid in-person at skipper check-in to be a recognized entrant.

Schedule

Apr 27, Wednesday	1700	Early registration closes
Apr 29, Friday	1800-2100	Late registration & skipper check-in Complimentary snacks
Apr 30, Saturday	0830-1000	Complimentary breakfast Late registration & skipper check-in Competitor Briefing Warning Signal First Race of Day Dinner at AYC clubhouse
May 1, Sunday	0830-1000 1030	Complimentary breakfast Warning signal First Race of Day No start after 1200 hours Awards to follow, complimentary snacks at clubhouse

Sailing Instructions

Sailing instructions will be available for official entrants during late registration and skipper check-in on Apr 30, 2005 at the Austin Yacht Club's clubhouse.

Race Format

Courses will be windward/leeward or variations of such. It is the intention of the Race Committee to run up to (6) races over the two day regatta schedule.

Scoring

The Low Point Scoring System as specified in Appendix A of the RRS will apply, except there will be no throw outs, which modifies RRS A2. Boats without the same sail numbers on both the mainsail and the spinnaker, if used, will not be scored, this modifies RRS A4.1.

Prizes

Trophies will be awarded to the helmsman and his crew as follows:

1 - 3 boats	1 Trophy
4 - 5 boats	2 Trophies
6 -10 boats	3 Trophies
11-15 boats	4 Trophies
16+ boats	5 Trophies

Directions

The Austin Yacht Club is located approximately 20 miles west of Austin off of Ranch Road 620 in the Hudson Bend area of Lake Travis. Turn North (right) from Highway 620 onto Hudson Bend Road. Turn right onto Beacon Drive. Follow Beacon Drive to the AYC gate. Detailed map information is also available at <http://www.austinyachtclub.org/info/location.htm>

General

If you have any questions or would like further information please contact the AYC office at (512) 266-1336 or via email at office@austinyachtclub.org. There is not a security guard on site and the Austin Yacht Club will not assume responsibility for property left on the premises.

Restrictions

Pets and Fireworks are STRICTLY PROHIBITED on AYC grounds.

Facilities

There is a clubhouse and outdoor cooking facilities, restrooms with showers, trailer parking areas and a boat repair area. Limited cabin rentals and camping spaces are available through the AYC office at (512) 266-1336. Lodging options nearby include:

Largo Vista Accommodations (nearby):

<http://www.travislakeresort.com>

1918 American Dr., Largo Vista
1917 American Dr., Largo Vista
(512) 267-7181, 1-800-438-6493

Cedar Park Accommodations (15 Miles):

Best Western Cedar Inn
425 E. Whitestone Blvd.
Cedar Park, TX 78613
(512) 259-7300

Comfort Inn
300 E. Whitestone
Cedar Park, TX 78613
(512) 259-1810

Comfort Suites
13681 U.S. Hwy 183 N.
(512) 219-1800

Austin Accommodations (17 Miles):

Holiday Inn Express
12703 North FM 620
Austin, TX 78750
(512) 249-8166

Hawthorn Suites
8888 Tallwood, Austin
(183 & Mo-Pac)

Round Rock Accommodations (20 Miles):

La Quinta Inn
2004 IH 35, Round Rock
512 255-6666

Best Western
1831 IH35 Round Rock
512 255-3222

Additional lodging listings at <http://www.austinyachtclub.org/info/lodging.htm>

Thank you to AYC Regatta Sponsors!

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Thank you, AYC Members, for your support!

Sailboat Shop owners and AYC members, Jacque and Claude Hargrave, appreciate your patronage.

Please let us know how we can help you with your sailing needs, in addition to:

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- **AYC discount on parts & boats (present AYC membership card)**
- **Free delivery to AYC on most call-in orders. 454-7171**
- **Saturday evening delivery on call-in orders on major regatta days**