

Telltale

February 2005

Monthly Newsletter

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Groundskeepers	Tom Cunningham Matt Elliott

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Newsletter

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

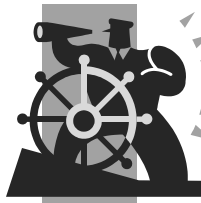
AYC Business Hours

Tuesday-Friday: 8:30 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



2005 AYC Budget:

In the January Board meeting approval of an annual operating budget for 2005 was granted. A separate cash flow balance between AYC and the LLCs, Roadrunner Dock Company and Beacon Land Company, was also prepared. Remaining to be completed is a consolidation of both the operating income/expenses and the three companies' cash flow into one document. For those interested, the budget will be available in the AYC office. The good news is that by our yearly projections we are not living lean. The board as a whole felt that we have sufficient cash reserve and escrows (insurance, tax, harbor, and buildings-and-grounds) to leave the dues structure the same as last year's. The budgeting process was very interesting. Input from the club to this commodore was about 50-50% between "Do not raise dues" to, "Let dues follow the rise in the consumer price index so that we are not faced with a significant increase in a later year". The board requests the newly adopted Long Range Planning Committee to address the issue of sufficiency of cash reserves and escrows.

Long Range Planning Committee

(LRPC): I am pleased to announce that by the approval of the AYC 2005 Board, **Bob Goldsmith**, **Lanelle Montgomery** and **Hap McCollum** were selected for the Long Range Planning Committee for 3, 2, and 1 year terms respectively. All agreed to serve and I consider them to be highly qualified to assist the board and to help the club to maintain our proper course. Many projects at AYC span more than one year and this committee will provide guidance to the board and will maintain documentation of long range planning. They have made one of their first tasks to be a compilation of existing surveys, flood parking plans, marina permits, etc. I have made recommendations to the LRP Committee concerning traffic/driveways at the top of the south ramp, my endorsement of long range harbor planning potentially including excavation under the docks 3-6 area with possible consideration of a breakwater, and as stated previously, consideration of sufficient annual cash reserve. The Committee requested that I forward their email addresses to all club members. They are: bob@goldsmithandbogisch.com, lanelle@austin.rr.com, and mmcollom@austin.rr.com. So if you wish to lobby for a major capital improvement or other changes please email the

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2005 AYC Frostbite Series Mid-Event Summary

PHRF/Class A Fleet:

1: Leonard, B./ Buck, G. 2: Shull, R. 3: Harden, R.

PHRF/Class B Fleet:

1: McDavitt, L. 2: Kuc, J. 3: Burke, J.

PHRF/Class C Fleet:

1: Hawn, B./ Wann, T. 2: Johnstone, J. 3: Bertin, R.

PHRF/Class D Fleet:

1: Northup, B. 2: Dwyer, W. 3: Galloway, D.

2005 AYC Muy Frio Centerboard Regatta - Race Results

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1: Grogono, D. | 6. Moore, B. |
| 2: Henkel, C. | 7. Mashl, M. |
| 3: Baker, J. | 8. Jessich, D. |
| 4. Mitchell B. | 9. Frank, J. |
| 5. Eno, B. | |

Please Note: This publication of AYC 2005 Race Results is for informational purposes only, for the benefit of those who have yet to venture into the realms of internet technology. To the extent any information contained in this publication of AYC 2005 Race Results conflicts with information published in the AYC webpage at www.austinyachtclub.org, the AYC webpage shall control.

AYC Invites You To

AYC 2005 OPENING DAY

Sunday, March 6, 2005

10:00 Brunch

11:00 Opening Day Ceremony

12:00 Skippers Meeting

1:30 First Signal, Spring Series Race #1

A drawing will be held among AYC members present for a \$2,000 gift certificate redeemable for sails or boat canvas for a boat at AYC!

(Donated by John Bartlett of Bartlett Sails and Awnings)



2005 Racing Schedule

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| February 5 | Frostbite Series #3 (1:30 FWS) |
| February 5 | AYC Muy Frio Centerboard Regatta |
| February 6 | AYC Muy Frio Centerboard Regatta |
| February 12 | Frostbite Series #4 (1:30 FWS) |
| February 19 | Frostbite Series #5 (1:30 FWS) |
| March 6 | Spring Series #1 (1:30 FWS) |
| TBD | AYC Spring Regatta |
| TBD | AYC Centerboard Regatta |
| TBD | AYC Turnback Canyon Regatta |
| TBD | AYC Governor's Cup Regatta |

AYC Upcoming Non-Racing Events

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| February 21 | TX Parks & Wildlife Boater Safety Course (2 Night Course) |
| February 22 | TX Parks & Wildlife Boater Safety Course (2 Night Course) |
| February 22 | AYC Membership Meeting |
| February 26 | Racing Clinic & Starting Techniques |
| February 26 | 2005 New Racing Rules Seminar |
| February 26 | Junior Learn To Sail Clinic |
| February 26 | B & G Spring Work Party (8:30 a.m.) |
| March 5 | Junior Learn To Sail Clinic |
| March 5 | Race Committee Seminar |
| March 6 | AYC 2005 Opening Day |
| March 12 | Junior Learn To Sail Clinic |
| March 13 | J-24 Fleet Social |
| March 26 | Junior Learn To Sail Clinic |
| 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 10 | First Aid / De-fib Training |
| TBD | Children PB & J Clinic |
| TBD | AYC Luau |

Fleet Commander Notice

By Thomas Gairloff



In this article is a list of boats and trailers which remain on the grounds and/or on the point as part of the Dry Sail Area evacuation of last years' flood. If you own any of the boats or trailers below please make arrangements to move them back into their proper storage location. Due to the poor condition

of several of the boats and trailers and the lack of names on trailers the staff and volunteers can no longer just move these boats back to their proper storage location. If these boats and trailers are not placed in their proper location by FEB 28, 2005 they will be hauled to a location appropriate for their status at the owner's expense. The club and any staff or volunteers will not be responsible for damage due to relocation of these boats due to poor condition of either boat or trailer.

Please make an effort to get these boats back to their proper storage area prior to Feb 28, 2005 to help make the grounds more attractive for AYC opening day.

Name on trailer and owner has a DSA slip:

- Towable as is: \$20.00
- Requires tow dolly: \$50.00

NO name on trailer and owner cannot be identified:

- Towable as is: \$20.00 plus 3x DSA slip fee (\$93.00) monthly till boat is claimed
- Requires tow dolly: \$50.00 plus 3x DSA slip fee (\$93.00) monthly till boat is claimed

For several years there has been an on going informal

On the Point			
Galvanized trailer		None	Eno
Galvanized trailer	Dual Axle	None	Schroth
Galvanized trailer	Single Axle	None	Johnson
Laser	White/Gray Deck		Spencer
Galvanized trailer	Small Laser/sunfish	None	None

debate over the installation of hydro hoists at AYC. Many pros and cons have been presented with no real action taken or formal study or report filed. Therefore, a review and study of Hydro hoist effect on AYC docks has been started.

Slip WS #2-6 has been outfitted with a proto type hydro hoist designed to lift a 21 ft one design boat hull max of 20" above the surface, leaving keel and rudder in the water.
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Sail Training By Neil Jones

Attention everyone! As promised AYC Sail Training goes into full swing this month. Check the schedule below and sign up for those classes you thing would benefit you, your spouse or child. Please remember that AYC is all about spreading the joy of sailing, so these classes are open to the public. Tell that friend that is looking for the right sport or has crewed for you and is interested to sailing. The juniors start getting wet this month, sorry it's cold, in preparation for Road Runner Regatta. If you have a junior looking to have some fun, please get them signed up!

See you at the lake!

Neil B. Jones, Sail Training Commodore

Month	Date	Day of the Week	Time	Description
Feb	21st	*Monday	18:30 - 20:00	*TX Parks & Wildlife Boater Safety Course 2 Night Course
Feb	22nd	*Tuesday	18:30 - 20:00	*TX Parks & Wildlife Boater Safety Course 2 Night Course
Feb	26th	Saturday	9:00 - 12:00	Racing Clinic & Starting Techniques
Feb	26th	Saturday	13:00 - 15:00	2005 New Racing Rules Seminar
Feb	26th	Saturday	13:00-16:00	Junior Learn to Sail
Mar	5th	Saturday	13:00-16:00	Junior Learn to Sail
Mar	12th	Saturday	13:00-16:00	Junior Learn to Sail
Mar	26th	Saturday	13:00-16:00	Junior Learn to Sail
Apr	2nd	Saturday	13:00-16:00	Racing - Spinnaker Clinic
Apr	2nd	Saturday	13:00-16:00	Junior Learn to Sail
Apr	9th	Saturday	13:00-16:00	Junior Learn to Sail
Apr	9 th	Saturday	8:30 - 16:00	CPR
Apr	10 th	Sunday	8:30 - 12:00	De-fib Training



The J/24 Fleet Stirs Things Up at Frostbite

6 J/24s registered and 5 left the dock to participate in the opening Frostbite race. While the temps held in mid 50's under clear blue skies, the fleet still got its share of good ol' frostbiting thrills and spills in the 25 with 30+ gusts breeze! At the top of the first beat the J/24 Fleet was well represented by **mr. happy** rounding first and **Pam & Butch Wilson's Aeolian**, with guest skipper **Kelly Holmes** from DFW, close behind. In fact, except for a lonely J/80, all the other J/24's (**Dave Broadway's Superman**, **Dave Gamble's OOH-AAH!** & **Fred Schroth's Psycho**) rounded the weather mark in front of the rest of the handicap fleet. **mr. happy** promptly set it's chute and just as promptly broaches in front of the whole fleet; funny thing, after seeing **mr. happy** sliding toward Starnes Island on it's side, no one else sets a chute at the top of the course! As **mr. happy** recovered and started to limp downwind while taping up it's torn spinnaker, several boats pass them and as the breeze lays, some even set their kite. Eventually most the J/24 Fleet is enjoying a surf'n' good time and that torn up chute was nursed along to pull **mr. happy** back into the hunt, in front of the J/24 Fleet and even closing the gap behind the lead boat, that pesky J/80! While **mr. happy** worked on staying close to the J/80 on the chance it could win on corrected time, the rest of the J/24 Fleet was enjoying our hallmark one design racing within a handicap race fun...**Superman** was pressing on **Aeolian's** small lead and **Psycho** was keeping **OOH-AAH!**'s attention away from trying to make a move on **Superman**. All this one design racing pushed the J/24s further ahead of the rest of the handicap fleet and when it was all done the 5 J/24's out that day placed in the top 6, with **mr. happy** correcting out over the J/80 to finish first on corrected time and **Aeolian** holding onto 3rd overall (and 2nd in the J/24 Fleet) by a scant 11 seconds over **Superman**. In spite of that J/80 it was still a J/24 sweep in my mind since that J/80 was driven by an ex-J/24 owner/driver to boot!

The second race of the Frostbite series saw light NE winds and mild temperatures. It also saw 4 more J/24s show up, making the J/24 Fleet a full 50% of the 20 boat 'A' fleet racing that day! Once again the J/24s came out on top, placing first and second and taking 5 of the top 7 corrected time finishes. Yes, we needed the computer to correct out over the vast majority of the fleet since it is really difficult in a light air, minimally tactical race to beat scratch boats with significantly longer waterlines...but the real story once again was the great one design rac-

ing our Fleet had. **Tony Slowik's Yikes!**, driven by young turk **Patrick Reynolds**, skillfully (I would never say luckily!) played the right mix of high road and low road options on the longer reachy legs to be the first J/24 to finish, with another young turk, **Ryan Harden** driving **Running on Empty**, just 43 seconds behind them. Once again close one design racing pushed J/24s to the front of the corrected fleet standings, with both of them correcting out one-two. Next in the J/24 Fleet were 2 more boats that closely raced each other across the whole course; **Roger Harden's 'Gucci'** and **mr. happy**, who finished within one second of each other. Guest skipper **Kelly Homes** drove **Aeolian** to a fifth place J/24 finish and corrected out to be 7th overall to stay close to series leader **mr. happy** in over points for the series.

The conditions for race three of the Frostbite series actually saw some sun (for a little while) and pretty decent 5 to 10 S - SE breeze. As the eight boat J/24 Fleet left the harbor, no one knew at the time that the outcome of this race would be influenced more by a powerboat than the usual boat prep, crew skill and mother nature! But soon this mysterious powerboat's influences were being felt by the J/24 Fleet; first noticed as a too close to the start line stinkpotter, it's ominous 'long arm' became clear as the boat turned abeam to expose "Game Warden"...well at that point the J/24s that were shiny white and unnumbered (clearly signs of an outlaw...) scattered! But the drop of the Prep flag brought them back to the line and soon the race was off. Starting with speed at the pin and playing the favored left side, **mr. happy** was leading the J/24s (and probably the whole fleet on corrected time) into the weather mark with **Running on Empty** and **Yikes!** just a little further back. With a J/29 and the 11 Metre just seconds ahead, things were looking good for this J/24 trio when the blue light special show started and, yup, that long arm of the tax man came down on **mr. happy** and **Yikes!**, making them go home early with DNFs. Even **Running on Empty** was distracted for a time over a discussion about their legal but black on red tax numbers. Well at least another J/24, **Rag Tag** being sailed by **Bill Hawk**, was poised to fill the gaps and moved in behind **Running on Empty**. Yours truly can't find his notes from the rest of the race for some reason :-)) but the scores show that for the first time during this Frostbite series a J/24 did not correct out first...**Running on Empty** was the first J/24 and was third overall (just 49 seconds out of first) and **Rag Tag** was fourth overall just a little over a minute later. **OOH-AAH!**, **Superman** and **Aeolian** rounded out the top 5 J/24s in 8th, 9th & 10th overall respectively.

So with 3 out of 5 races done (when does that throwout kick in?!), things are more open than ever, scoring wise, between the J/24s as well as between our Fleet and the rest of the handicap fleet in general. **Running on**

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The key thing I must do in my first telltale article as the new fleet captain of the Catalina 22 fleet is acknowledge the fantastic job done by the past fleet captain **Wade Bingaman**. Wade has held the position for several years and never wavered in enthusiasm. He built up fleet racing participation to the point where we justified our own starts. He initiated major events like the C22 training course we held last year. His organization skills made sure we did a great job on race committee. Thank you, Wade. You set the bar high, I'll have to work hard to keep it there. Wade is doing the AYC series trophies again this year and I can tell you he's working on an even more impressive trophy than past years. Wade's the 'Trophy Man'!



Wade & Johannes fill up



Wade explains why his stack of chips is small

The C22 Fleet wrapped up 2004 with a great Christmas Party hosted by **Ted and Barb Owens**. In keeping with what has become a C22 fleet tradition started by **Jon Fitch**, the party included not only great food prepared by fleet members, but a night of gaming at the blackjack table for door prizes. Ted took the honors for the 2nd year in a row.

The C22 Fleet kicked off 2005 with our annual January fleet meeting to get organized and put plans in place for the year. Wade arrived early and started a fire. We had about 15 people attend, both captains and crew. This is an exciting year for the C22 fleet as the Nationals are being held at nearby Canyon Lake in June. Last year they had close to 60 boats in Georgia. **Bob Gross** from LCYC is already working hard try to attain similar number for this year. We also expect to see some folks race the new Catalina 22 sport. The meeting started with introductions, including new fleet member **Allen Breeze** who is restoring a 1973 C22. Then we got down to business.

Here are the Minutes of the 2005 Fleet Meeting;

I. Dues: Since we over spent last year, we agreed to tighten our belts and "only" have margaritas and chips after series racing in order to keep the dues the same as last year. We'll schedule a potluck during the season.

II. Racing schedule: Only 4 series at AYC this year. Spring - genoa, Summer - spinnaker, Dog Days - spinnaker, Fall - genoa.

Note: We only have RC duties twice for series racing this year. Plus we will contribute to regatta support as well.

III. Officers:

- Captain/Web Master - **John Grzinich**
- Chief Measurer - **Bob Jones**
- Treasurer/RC - **Wade Bingaman**
- Photographer - **Jon Fitch**
- Crew Coordinator/Food Coordinator - **Roy Crouse**

IV. AYC will not host any C22 state or regional event this year as all are already scheduled at other yacht clubs.

Nationals at Lake Canyon beginning June 12 - at least 4 indicated they will go and we are hoping for more. Remember, there is a Silver fleet for novice racers to encourage everyone to come and enjoy the event.

V. Fleet Activities:

Boat repair/tuning/measuring Day - Saturday, Feb. 26, 10am (one week before opening day).

Opening Day March 6th - all fleet members are urged to attend opening day ceremonies and be on the line for a high C22 turnout.

Crew Training Day - chance for novice crew to learn the ropes - will be a Sat. in April.

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The following actions were approved at the January Board meeting:

New Senior Members

Philippe & Isabelle Bettler applied for senior membership. Philippe has been sailing since 1974 in France and Brittany on boats ranging up to 36 ft length. He has also been crewing at AYC for the past year. He has racing experience on multi-hulls and as crew at AYC. They have two children they want to interest in sailing. Philippe presently owns a laser.

Young Adult Member

Sara Baker has applied for Young Adult Membership. Sara is the daughter of Honorary Member **Jim Baker**. She and her brother **Jonathan**, grew up sailing and racing at AYC. She has experience in Optimist, Sunfish, Laser, 420, Ensign and J boats. She has also instructed at AYC, TCYC and Newport Harbor YC. She presently sails a Kiwi.

Please welcome Sara and the Bettler's to AYC.

Senior Probationary Review

Spencer Williams' probationary period ended November 30, 2004. He submitted his record of racing and volunteer activities for the past twelve months and was well above requirements

Resignations

Reynaldo Garza- Probationary Associate Member, has asked to resign from AYC until such time as his children are through college, then he hopes to return. Meanwhile, he plans to sail in regattas.

Greg & Stephanie Vanginault are on Leave of Absence that expired in December. They live in Lub-

bock and do not plan to return to Austin for at least two years. At such time, they plan to rejoin AYC and become active in the Catalina 22 Fleet.

Honorary Member

Ray Lott has resigned from AYC. However he was Commodore in 1982, very active in racing and provided a great deal of service to AYC. In recognition of Ray's service, he and **Lenore** have been approved for Honorary Membership. Thanks for all your hard work over the years and come visit AYC often.

Membership Policies and Procedures

Section 16 F (1) of the AYC Handbook defines Junior Student Members and states "Memberships are for a maximum of one year, and all Junior Memberships expire on September 1." This sentence has been deleted. In the future this will mean that a junior student membership will continue until such time as the student graduates from high school or resigns.

Obituaries

Mrs. Barbara Lagow, widow of **Atwell Lagow**, died January 19, 2005. Atwell Lagow was Commodore of AYC in 1959.

AYC Membership Status

	Initial 05	Add	Sub	Jan EOM
Senior	346	1		347
Associate	16		1	15
Young Adult	4	1		5
Juniors	11			11
Ol'Salt 10 Year	13		1	12
Non Resident	7		1	6
Total Paying Members	397	2	3	396

Secretary Report

By Renee Ruais



With the start of a new year, I've been working hard to get the membership database updated and published before opening day. So far, we're on-track, thanks to so many of you who returned your information updates as requested

by the end of January. A draft copy of the directory is in the AYC office for review this week. This year, I'm very thankful that **Yolanda** is going to continue to publish the TellTale, she did a great job last year, and with her continued support, it is something I don't have to worry about at all. If you see Yolanda, please remember to thank her!

Renee Ruais, 2005 Secretary

Commodore...*(continued from page 1)*

committee a note. **Hap McCollum** is the current chairman. Their first report back to the club should be by the April board meeting and another is expected around November. Their help is appreciated!

AYC Regatta Championship for 2005: **Paul Ballett** and the scoring committee are working toward a scoring system that recognizes an annual Regatta Champion at the end of this sailing season. I appreciate his efforts. An annual award may tie our Regattas together as an annual competitive series. If you have experience with other racing venues that do this successfully you might want to contact Paul or **Larry Ratliff**. In the recent past, I recall that the Keel Fleet's (MORC and PHRF) annual trophies were sought after.

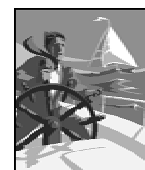
Donations for the 2005 Inter Collegiate Sailing Association North Americans (Women's - Coed - Team Racing): My understanding is that our AYC affiliated UT Sailing Team has pledged to date to fund up to three or four new Flying Juniors. Recall that eighteen new boats will be needed for the annual championships to be held here June 1st through 10th. Vanguard Boats will supply about half of the FJs needed to make a full fleet for the championship events, but UTST needs to fund the purchase of a minimum of about eight to twelve boats to rebuild their home fleet. In addition, for the event UTST will be supporting everything from Regatta banquets to the rental of the port-a-potties. Should you wish to contribute please make your donations through the AYC office to secure tax deductions and to assist the AYC in keeping a tally of donation records (Confidentiality will be maintained if desired.). On another collegiate sailing note, there were 10+ college teams here last weekend for the TRUX Qualifier and UTST scored 4th place, but only 2 points out of 2nd place. There is currently a UTST Alumni Regatta scheduled here in March and two SEISA Qualifiers scheduled here in April/May. The Qualifiers are to compete for SEISA (southeast region) berths in the upcoming June NA Championships. Thanks to **Steve Gay** for his efforts in organizing the upcoming Championship Regattas.

At the last Board Meeting two changes to the AYC Handbook were approved: Junior membership is no longer limited to a one-year term requiring reinstatement annually. Junior memberships may now continue as long as other requirements are met. Also, Reservations for AYC Cabins and Shelters may now be made for up to six calendar months at any time of the year. Existing reservations granted through the end of 2005 will still remain valid. Do note that reservations made by AYC members up to five days before an "Open AYC Regatta" are still on a 'waiting list basis' and subordinate to out-of-town race participants. For the record, I have suggested to the office

staff that out-of-town means outside of the Austin Metro area, as defined by a geographic circle around the club with a radius the distance from the club to the farthest point of south Austin city limits. The Cabins are popular!

This is likely the last Telltale before Opening Day 2005: I want to thank **Claudia and John Bartlett** for their contributions. Claudia is chairing Opening Day and is providing refreshment. John has pledged a \$2000-value coupon from Bartlett Sails and Awnings. The coupon will be redeemable for an AYC boat's canvas and/or sails. Also at Opening Day we will again recognize club members and affiliates who have passed on this last year and ring the bell in their memory. If you know of anyone that should be recognized, please notify the office.

Is Your Boat Registration Current? To my count there are about six legal authorities that consider Lake Travis or part of it within their jurisdiction. A TPWD-Game Warden boat pulled alongside a number of Frostbite racers Saturday, February 5th and gave warnings to a couple of boats stating that if they didn't leave the lake they would be ticketed for non-compliant TX Registration. Race Committee informs me that withdrawing from a race under these circumstances likely will not be considered grounds for redress. Yes, RC was asked, though informally. Last year a Travis County Sheriff Boat sat outside the start pin a number of race days and waved off motorboats to help keep the line clear and uncongested. That alone is worth the price of my registration, if I can just find the card in the spin bag I can show that I am current.
Danny Lien



College Sailing By Kristen Johnston

You Think You Know, But ... Picture this: twelve college kids piled into a van already full of pillows, sleeping bags, over-packed suitcases, and a makeshift TV stand and bed in the back. You're looking at around fourteen hours straight of "bonding time" broken only by obnoxiously-frequent bathroom breaks, gourmet Taco Bell dinners, and dance marathons in the back seat listening to anything from Earth, Wind & Fire to Duran Duran. All of this in order to spend a weekend sailing for up to sixteen hours over the course of two days.

The actual regattas work like this: report time is 9:00 a.m. with a skippers' meeting shortly afterwards. Each team picks up their sailing instruction packet and rota-

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The Ensign fleet held their annual meeting January 22, hosted by **Jim and Carolyn Wilsford** at their beautiful home, where they were also celebrating the completion of a new deck overlooking lake Travis. Our first order of business was to sample some deliciously colorful cactus margaritas, and enjoy a variety of munchies. Eventually we got around to the election of new fleet officers for the coming year. **Jonathan Baker** was elected to succeed **Jim Wilsford** as Fleet Captain (with only one dissenting vote, cast by Jonathan's sister **Sarah**). **Randolph Bertin** was selected to take over the duties of Secretary from **Franz Dahmen**, and **Bill Hawk** is going to remain the Treasurer, as no one was able to wrest the checkbook from him. In our only other official business, we adopted Scotch Mist as the official Ensign fleet beverage--come out to the season opening Spring Series for more details.

The rest of the evening was spent discussing movies, family, skiing in Colorado, houses, jobs, refinishing tables, children, deck building, and, if you can believe it, SAILING. A number of Ensign fleet members had spent the afternoon battling windy conditions in the opening race of the KHF Frostbite series, some as skippers and others as crew, albeit everyone in boats other than Ensigns! No one managed to distinguish themselves either for good or bad, though **Randolph Bertin** and **Tom Nelson**, too lazy to untie the fenders from their Beneteau 235, looked like greenhorns as they occasionally trailed a stray fender or two over the side after a gust sent the boat heeling; they also forgot to take note of the course and spent half the race wondering if they were going to have a proper finish!

We also discussed the coming season with a great deal of excitement as the Ensign fleet is actively growing, adding several new owners over the course of last year. We anticipate having a solid increase in the average number of boats making starts during 2005. And if the results from last year are any indication, the fleet is going to be wide open in terms of competitiveness. In five series and a regatta over the course of the year, we had four different sailors claiming the top spot: **Tom Groll**, **the Wilsfords**, **Jonathan Baker**, and the Frying Dutchmen (aka **the Dahmens**). And **Bill Hawk** finished a strong second in three series and third in another. Fleet newcomers **Tim and Julie McKenna** as well as **Randolph** and **Tom** (not sporting fenders) looked to be making significant improvements in their limited action

during the Fall Series, with **the McKennas** picking up a second place finish handicap racing in the Wild Turkey Regatta. **Robin Drummond** is another new Ensign owner who is working with her father and son to get 716 race ready for the upcoming season, and we are looking forward to seeing them on the line as well.

We also would like to encourage all those Ensign owners who haven't been out recently to consider joining us on the water in 2005. We would like to involve as many fleet members as possible in various events, so please let us know what would serve to bring you out to the Austin Yacht Club this year. Would you be more likely to race if we have one series that is conducted without spinnakers? Would you be interested in coming out for a fleet social sail? Do we need to have post race cookouts with better food and/or drinks? Should we set aside some time for an Ensign clinic? Please contact new fleet captain **Jonathan Baker** [jbaker134@austin.rr.com] or secretary **Randolph Bertin** [rbertin@wt.net] and let us know what would interest YOU.

We are really looking forward to another year of enjoyable sailing and good times -- but remember, you must be present to have fun.

College Sailing... (Continued from Page 7)

tion schedule (college sailors switch boats between their A and B teams every two races), then rig their boat and heads out on the water.

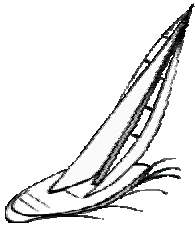
Actual collegiate racing is quite different from any other kind of racing you may have experienced. The courses are very short and fast-paced, lasting no more than 12-18 minutes for small fleets and 18-25 minutes at national events. Because of this, most of your race is dependent upon the start and how well you play the shifts. The boats are so similar that there are few tuning and speed differences. Therefore, it is left mainly to the skipper and crew's boat handling (how well they can roll tack/jibe) and their tactics. Kinetics are legal in college, so the racing can be very physical. A good roll tack can mean the difference between rounding a mark in second or seventh place, and expert crews can come out of a tack going faster than they were going in.

Teams do as many races as it takes to make a full rotation, which means that each team sails two races in every boat in the fleet. That way, if there is a scratch boat, everyone sails it. In a typical weekend as many as 20 races are sailed. Racing lasts until around 2:00 Sunday afternoon, so you can only imagine how quiet the ride home is...

(continued on Page 9)

Centerboard & Laser Fleet News

By Renee Ruais



This weekend, we had the first ever Centerboard Muy Frio regatta at AYC. While turnout was disappointing in the Sunfish and CBH fleets, we had 16 boats overall and the weather was better than we could have imagined. There were 9 Lasers, 3 Sunfish and 4 Portsmouth boats. The weatherman made it very difficult for us, with the forecast changing by the hour in the last few days before the event, but it all worked out very well. RC work – led by PRO **Bruce Foster** – was excellent and the sailors had 7 great races. If only they could have had magic powers to keep the lake patrol away! One Centerboard boat and at least one Keel boat were kicked off of the lake due to lack of registrations. **Rey Garza** and his wife made what I think must be the cutest ever trophies – little snowmen bundled in hats & scarves. The sailors were pretty bundled up, but thankfully it wasn't too cold. I cooked up some chili for the centerboard sailors and **Frank Woodul** made some tasty chicken & broccoli soup for the keel fleet frostbiters. The two groups mingled nicely and enjoyed a post race feast! Beer was provided courtesy of **David Luckenbach** of SailingTexas.com and **John Bartlett** of Bartlett Sails provided some prize bags for us to give away. The AYC Staff took good care of us all weekend, making sure the gates were open, cabins were ready for guests, the clubhouse was cleaned and the beer was cold. I think I've properly thanked the people who helped make this event a success...except one...who-ever it was who cleaned up the kitchen on Saturday night, including my chili pots....THANK YOU!!!

Renee Ruais, Laser Fleet Captain

College Sailing... (Continued from Page 8)

The UT Sailing Team does up to thirty of these events a year, usually only leaving one or two weekends free each semester. A national championship is ten straight days of this grueling schedule. Planning for a national championship and competing in it as well requires a lot of work and dedication, and our team can use all the help it can get. We have received gracious support already from many AYC members doing jobs ranging from helping out with Race Committee to making us hot chocolate and keeping the fire warm during frigid winter regattas. As ICSA Nationals 2005 approaches, the UT team needs more help from the AYC membership. If you'd like to help support UT Sailing, please contact **Danny Lien** or **Steve gay** or visit our website www.texassailing.org for more information. Please feel free to stop by any of our practices (Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3pm till dark) or regattas—Nationals will surely be one you don't want to miss. See you at the lake!

J-24 Fleet... (Continued from Page 4)

Empty is tied for second overall and just 2 points out of first overall and **Aeolian** is just 1 point behind them. **Superman** and **mr. happy** are just 4 and 5 points back of **Running on Empty** in 6th and 7th overall respectively...and the other J/24s all have some other J/24 within less than a handful of points away. Keep up with the latest scores at <http://www.austinyachtclub.org/>.



Little jibs were the order of the day for J/24s going out for the opening race of Frostbite.

2005 Fleet Social Calendar Off to a Great Start

All the competitors that braved the windy first race of Frostbite got a nice treat when we decided to move our Fleet Social into the clubhouse. Setting up inside to avoid the wind gave the rest of the club a chance to experience and taste the kind of fun socials the J/24 Fleet has worked so hard over the years to do and enjoy. After getting over some confusion when we started to ask for 'crew dues' from the non-members as the hungry masses charged our great soup and wine collection, everyone settled in for the comradery. Fortunately we had plenty of a variety of great soups between **Dave Gamble's** Potato & Leek and **Barbara Prasher's** Beef & Barley and Mushroom & Barley (for the veg heads). While I doubt we picked up any boat owner converts, I did see our Fleet Captain, **Tom Lappin**, work the 'crew' crowd for some! Either way it was a great way to give something back to the other fleets since we had plenty.

(continued on page 10)



The J/24 Class insignia on Tony Slowik's "Yikes!" greets the Frostbite fleet from the AYC point.

Fleet Championship Ideas

Tom has asked me to report on the latest thinking for this subject in 2005. Currently things are lining up to have 2 Fleet recognition trophies this year: an overall Fleet Race Champion and an overall Fleet Participation Champion. The Fleet Race championship proposal would be open to boat owners and would be determined using all but only AYC Series scores. The idea would be one collects points for every series race (your finish position or a DNC) using the AYC Series scoring rules and the lowest cumulative score at the end of the Winter Series wins. Participation in the Fleet's Series RC duties would be used to break any ties. The Participation Championship would be open to all dues paying crew and/or boat owners and would be a high score wins arrangement where everyone who participates in an AYC Series race and/or Fleet RC duty would get 1 point. Fleet RC duty participation would be used again in the case of any ties. Note that if you are not a boat owner but want to participate in the Participation Championships, you would need to be proactive in letting the Fleet score keeper (TBD at this time) know that you raced in a race soon after it happens as AYC records won't help us keep track of this and trying to recreate past data will be problematic quickly.

This is only a set of proposals for now but with Opening Day just a little over a month away, we as a Fleet need

to decide what the scoring plan is for these annual recognition items soon...let **Tom** know your thoughts on the current ideas or if you have other ideas on this subject by dropping him a note at tom@bevobus.com.

Upcoming March Social

With the traditional fun Opening Day festivities planned for March 6th (hope you will plan on coming out to be part of a big J/24 Fleet showing!) our next Series Fleet Social is being planned for the following week on March 13th. Look for more on this in my upcoming e-newsletters to the Fleet.

Upcoming Out of Town J/24 Class Events

J/24 Midwinters run February 23rd through the 27th at Davis Island YC in Tampa, Florida. **Gucci** and **mr. happy** are going, check out their progress during the event at <http://midwinters.j24d10.org/>.

J/24 Texas Circuit's inaugural 2005 event, the Beasley Cup, is March 19th & 20th at Houston YC. We should have a good turn out of AYC J/24s at this regatta since there is no AYC Series race that weekend. With Gosling's Rum as the supporting sponsor and a huge crawfish boil planned for after Saturday's races this will be one to make! Checkout the NOR, etc. at <http://home.austin.rr.com/j24district14/>.

Regards,
Eric, Austin J/24 Fleet Reporter

Catalina 22 News... (continued from page 5)

Crew Training Manual - **Jon Fitch** will develop a manual for new crew to help speed the learning curve

Crew swapping day: maybe June 26, rotate crew members for experience.

Raft Up - Pot luck meal on boats: Following a Spring or Summer series race - everyone to have family and friends attend.

C22 version of Blue Duck award: "Worn out Keel Pin" award.

Recruiting New Fleet Members: We must keep growing. All fleet members are urged to use every opportunity to talk up the C22 fleet and recruit new members.

We are all looking forward to an exciting C22 sailing season. Many are working their boats over the winter. See you on the water in March.

Fleet Commander Notice... (Continued from Page 3)

The fleet commander has organized a committee tasked with this research: documentation of effects and development of design guidelines for a standard AYC approved lift system if results prove this is right for our club. Efforts are already under way to move the AYC weather site web cam to a position where the experimental hydro-hoist and boat can be observed on the web during all weather conditions.

Currently, the proto type is connected to shore power only during the raising and lowering process. Power and/or alternative infrastructure for operating the unit will be a major portion of this study. Recommendations have already been made to study and provide a preliminary design for a single source of air for all hydro hoists on each dock, thus eliminating the need for power at each hoist location.

The goal also is to determine the impact hydro hoists will have on dock installation, dock anchor system, retro fit expense, maintenance and safety, as well as review of additional slip fees for docks with hydro hoist.

All should be made aware this is only a study and is **NOT** a green light by the fleet commander or AYC board for the installation of any additional hydro hoists in any

other docks or slips. As always all dock modification must be approved in writing by the fleet commander who, in turn, will request board approval prior to granting such requests.

The study will be conducted over the next 6-8 months and the fleet commander and the AYC board will reserve the right to terminate and have removed the hydro hoist if there is any detriment to the docks, or level of current dock condition, safety, or ease of dock use, due to the direct result of the hydro hoist installation.

Advantages of hydro hoists for AYC:

- Reduction of ramp congestion
- Reduction of antifouling painted surfaces in the water at all times.
- Ease of sailing for handicapped, older members and members with restricted body use.
- Increased participation in beer can and series events through reduced launch and retrieval times.
- Possibility of hoist framing actually strengthening dock structure.
- Reduction of work area pollutants due to only having

bottom paint on rudders and keels, also reducing the time boats need to stay in the work area during this process..

- More local participation of circuit boats normally dry sailed.

My thanks go to the following for volunteering their time and money to fund this study:

- **John Bartlett** for providing, designing and purchasing the materials for the pro-type hoist assemble.
- **John Mandell** for his engineering expertise, web cam for monitoring, and for heading up the project study committee.

Deadline to return boats to Proper Storage Location Feb. 28, 2005			
Boat Type	Description	Boat Name	Name on Trailer
Around the Grounds			
J-22		Thumper	None
Impulse 21	White	None	Wheat
Ranger		Calamity Jeane	None
Hobie 16	Yellow	None	None (Cat Hauler)
JY		None	None
Wylie Wabbit		None	Hargrave
SC-21	Light Blue	None	Mayfield
?? Center Board	White/Blue	John B	Desaluo
White Catamaran	Broken rudders	Trail n Sail	Desouza
Sunfish	White/green stripe	None	Parlee
Sunfish trailer	Sunfish mast/boom	None	Gerloff
Dock Box	Gray on wheels	None	Gerloff
Laser	White/Blue stripe	None	Tomaszewski
Sunfish	White/Pink deck	None	None
Sunfish	White/Orange stripe	None	None
Hobie 16	With sailboards on trailer white/Blue deck	None	Breen
505	Light blue	One Trick Pony	Tapley
Scow (small)	Orange	None	Witt
Laser	Orange/White deck	None	Macnary
Laser	White/Blue stripe	None	None
Thistle	Black	None	Leach
Nacra 5.2	White	None	None

Attention AYC Members!

Feb. 28, 2005

Is the deadline for returning your boat to the proper storage location!

Austin Yacht Club

5906 Beacon Road
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