



Telltale

June 2008

Monthly Newsletter

Inside this issue...

Turnback Canyon Photos
AYC Pet Policy Under Review

Also...

2008 Turnback Regatta Keel Fleet Race Results!



June 18, 2008
Full Moon Raft-Up



July 5, 2008
Independence Cup



2008 Turnback Action!

Board of Directors

Commodore	Bob Goldsmith
Im. Past Commodore	Eric Nelson
Vice Commodore	David Lewis
Secretary	Randolph Bertin
Treasurer	Tom Romberg
Race Commander	Steve Eller
Buildings & Grounds	Jim Casto
Fleet Commander	Chris Dwight
Sail Training Commander	John Grzinich

AYC Staff

General Manager	Bob Woods
Bookkeeper	Pam Radebaugh
Head Caretaker	Tom Cunningham
Assistant Caretaker	Kim Erlich

Austin Yacht Club

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E-Mail & Web Site

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Newsletter

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

AYC Business Hours

Tuesday: noon—5:00 p.m.
Wednesday-Sunday: 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Closed Mondays

Closed Club Holidays:

New Year's Day	1 January
Easter Sunday	23 March
Independence Day	4 July
Thanksgiving Day	27 November
Shopping Day	28 November
Christmas Day	25 December

Board Member E-mail addresses:

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commodore@austinyachtclub.net
secretary@austinyachtclub.net
treasurer@austinyachtclub.net

Cover photo: Trimarans at 2008 Turnback Canyon
Regatta (photo by Bill Records)

Austin Yacht Club 2008 Race Calendar

May 31 – Jun 1	TSA / Area F Mallory Cup Qualifier
June 4	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
June 7 - 8	Centerboard Regatta
June 11	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
June 14	Summer Series Race #1
June 18	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
June 21	Summer Series Race #2
June 25	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
July 2	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
July 5	Independence Cup (Keel Fleet Event)
July 9	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
July 12	Summer Series Race #3
July 16	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
July 19	Summer Series Race #4
July 23	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
July 26	Summer Series Race #5
July 30	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
August 2	Summer Series Race #6 (EOS Buffet)
August 6	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
August 13	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
August 20	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
August 27	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
September 3	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
September 7	Leukemia Cup Warmup Race #1 (1:30 p.m.)
September 10	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
September 13	Night Race (Fleet Event)
September 14	Leukemia Cup Warmup Race #2 (1:30 p.m.)
September 17	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
September 21	Leukemia Cup Warmup Race #3 (1:30 p.m.) (EOS Buffet)
September 24	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
October 4 - 5	Leukemia Cup Regatta
October 8	Senior Club Championship
October 11 – 12	Sunfish Regionals (Fleet Event)
October 18	Southcoast Intergalactics—Continued
October 19	Winter Series Race #1 (1:30 p.m.)
October 26	Winter Series Race #2 (1:30 p.m.)
November 2	Winter Series Race #3 (1:30 p.m.)
November 9	Winter Series Race #4
November 16	Winter Series Race #5 (EOS Buffet)
November 22	Wild Turkey Regatta (Fleet Event)





Independence Cup
The AYC Keel Fleet
Invites racing sailors to this racing event
on
July 5, 2008

AYC 2008 Non-Racing Events

June 7	PB&J
June 9-13	Junior Summer Camp Week #1
June 12	KHF Handicap Review Committee (7:00 p.m.)
June 14	PB&J
June 14-15	Monthly Weekend Office Closing
June 16-20	Junior Summer Camp Week #2
June 18	Full Moon Raft-Up (Keel Fleet Event)
June 19	New Member Candidate Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
June 21	PB&J
June 22	Harbor Work Party
June 23-27	Junior Summer Camp Week #3
June 26	AYC Board of Directors Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
June 28	Caribbean Party
June 28	PB&J Junior Windsurfer Series
June 30-July 2	Junior Summer Camp Week #4
July 7-11	Junior Summer Camp Week #5
July 12	PB&J Junior Windsurfer Series
July 17	New Member Candidate Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
July 19	PB&J Junior Windsurfer Series
July 24	AYC Board of Directors Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
July 26	PB&J Junior Windsurfer Series
August 2	PB&J
August 9	PB&J
August 14	KHF Handicap Review Committee (7:00 p.m.)
August 16	PB&J
August 21	New Member Candidate Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
August 23	PB&J
August 28	AYC Board of Directors Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
September 18	New Member Candidate Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
September 25	AYC Board of Directors Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
October 16	New Member Candidate Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
October 23	AYC Board of Directors Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
November 13	New Member Candidate Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
November 13	KHF Handicap Review Committee (7:00 p.m.)
November 20	AYC Board of Directors Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
December 6	2008 AYC Annual Banquet

From The Commodore

By Bob Goldsmith



Scary, exciting, liberating, frustrating, infinitely ambitious and thoroughly amnesiac. If you live in a high tech community like Silicon Valley or Redmond or Austin, you already live in this world. It's hard to imagine more exciting places to be.

-The Next American Frontier, The Wall Street Journal, May 19, 2008.

We have an issue at AYC that challenges our creativity as denizens of this city on the Next American Frontier. It is divisive and controversial enough that this entire column will be devoted to it so please allow me to direct you to the other excellent articles in this issue for general news. To cut to the chase, AYC's current pet policy reads as follows: *No pets are allowed on Club property at any time. In addition to being responsible for any damage or inconvenience caused by any pets which may be present in violation of this rule, repeated violators will be subject to a fine imposed by the Board of Directors for each violation of this rule.* The pet policy as written above has not been consistently enforced. Matters have come to a head because of complaints, and it is time to review AYC's pet policy.

Arf, arf..... dogs, of course, are the issue. Some members enjoy walking their dogs in secluded areas of the grounds where they present little or no problem. Other members have brought pets into the clubhouse/dock area where they have annoyed members and left unfortunate "presents" which the staff does not appreciate having to clean up. Members on both sides of this issue feel that things which are important to them about AYC are threatened.

In addition to its reputation for innovation, tolerance and a firm place on the leading edge of what's happening, Austin is ranked as the second most dog friendly city in America, and lots of people in Austin have dogs and love them. More to the point, lots of AYC members have dogs and love them. On the other hand, yacht clubs generally ban pets on the premises just as does AYC in our spottily enforced pets policy.



(Continued on Page 7)

Thoughts of Vice

By David Lewis



Downwind start at Turnback (Photo courtesy of Bruce McDonald).

"Hard pressed on my right. My center is yielding. Impossible to maneuver. Situation Excellent. I am attacking..."

—Ferdinand Foch, at the Battle of the Marne

Sounds like a downwind start under spinnaker with a square line and 8-10 knots of wind—sounds like Saturday morning at Turnback Canyon Regatta 2008! If you missed it, you missed a great regatta and the first Turnback in 10 years to not include the traditional (or what seems to have become traditional) rain storms. **Bruce and Susie McDonald** and their cadre of volunteers did an all-around excellent job! We had good wind both days, good times, good food, and good music at Bar K, and a great raffle before the trophy presentation on Sunday. And, as a silver lining on the cloud of \$4 a gallon gasoline, there seemed to be a lot fewer devil boats racing up and down the lake this year than there have been in years past, which made the sail up and back just that much more pleasant. The only disappointment about this year's Turnback regatta was that we didn't manage to achieve the 100 boat mark that we had hoped to achieve. Not that many years ago it was not unusual to see 150 boats sailing in Turnback. However, I don't think we have managed to break 100 in the last 10 years, and the last several years have seen participation fall below 80. That worries me. Turnback Canyon regatta was the first regatta I ever sailed in at AYC and it has always been my favorite (notwithstanding the bad things I said about it the year that it took me 8 ½ hours to make it to Bar K—that was just the heat talking and I took it all back later). I personally would hate to see Turnback just fade away, or get whittled down and reformatted into just another regatta. Turnback is special. It's different and it's a special tradition at AYC—it's the source of a wealth of great stories and an important part of what makes us unique. I know there are quite a few people at AYC who race fairly regularly, but who rarely race in regattas. When I've asked them why, I've gotten a variety of answers. "I don't like the way the fleet splits work out—I hate racing against those &#%@"

South Coasts." "I like series races better—it's too hard to free up a whole weekend for a regatta." "My wife/husband won't let me race two days in a row." "Registration is too expensive." "I don't like long distance races." "I don't like having to commit without knowing what the weather's going to be like." And so on. I guess it just goes to show that you can't please everybody. But, if you buy into the idea that it's important for the long-term health of the club to offer a variety of events, including both social and racing events, regattas seem to be an important component of our offering. But regattas are expensive. And the club operating budget is set up in such a way that regattas are expected to be basically self-supporting—unlike the series races and most of the social events, which are subsidized to a much greater extent through dues and slip rental fees. Regattas are not only expensive, but there are a lot of fixed costs—costs that either require a commitment well in advance or that essentially don't change based on the number of entrants. Trophies have to be bought in advance. Food has to be ordered in advance. Shirts and hats have to be printed and paid for in advance. The band charges the same amount whether they play for ten or for a hundred. The chase boats use about the same amount of gas to run a regatta for 50 boats as they do to run one for 100 boats. About the only real expansion joint in the whole apparatus is beer—if nobody shows up, it doesn't get drunk and we don't have to pay for it. But that's not much to pin a budget on. It's nice to be able to wake up on Saturday morning and look out the window and say "It kinda looks like rain—I think I'm going to blow this one off." But, somewhere there's a Regatta Chair looking out his or her window thinking "Uh-oh, I hope everyone doesn't wus out on me and leave me holding 30 extra tee shirts and 40 pounds of brisket."

So, what's the message? The more boats we have, the less expensive it is and the more bells and whistles we can have. The more boats we have, the more the sponsors feel like they're getting their money's worth and the more sponsorship support we'll get. The more boats we have, the better the fleet splits will be and the better the competition will be. The more boats we have, the better the parties will be. The more boats we have the easier it will be to put together a reasonable budget and take some of the pressure off the Regatta Chairs to pull miracles out of a hat (which, in turn, will make it a lot easier to recruit Regatta Chairs). Okay, more boats won't solve the two-day commitment problem, but, suck it up—you deserve a two-day sailing weekend two or three times a year! Support AYC regattas! Don't let them dwindle away into a few little nothing events and a collection of faded posters. We're being squeezed from all sides—money, time, and little Suzy's soccer practice. The center is yielding and it's impossible to maneuver. Time to attack!

Sail Training Report By John Grzinich
(Photos courtesy of Bill Records, except where noted)



Adult Keelboat Learn To Sail Clinic students on May 17.

Adult Training

ASA Training continued to get additional sign ups this month. This seems to be an indicator of a trend in improved interest in sailing and an opportunity for new members!

We held a great "Adult Keelboat Learn to Sail" Clinic on Saturday May 17th. We had 16 students, most of whom had



little to none sailing experience. After a short introductory lecture on sailing concepts we headed down to rig the boats. The wind was very light, but after taking the students through rigging and set up at the docks, we headed out on to the lake to find some breeze and get the students some on the water sailing experience. We had 5 boats for the class. Many thanks to the coaches



Johannes Brinkman with his Catalina 22, **Bill Records** with his Pearson 26, **Elliot Bray** with his Ensign, plus believe it or

not, **John Howard** with his trimaran (yes, learn to sail on a tri!). I had my C22 Sport to round out the training fleet. Even though the breeze was very light and shifty, we managed to get some sailing in before the lunch break. We docked, took in a nice lunch in the clubhouse, and did the knot tying exercises before heading back for a few more hours of light air sailing. All the students did manage to get in tiller time, and sheet handling practice. Back to the docks about 4PM, so the students could do some sail folding practice before the happy hour and class wrap up. All in all, the students seemed pretty happy with the sailing experience in spite of the light winds. Truth is, I think we actually got in more sailing than the South Coast fleet who only managed one race for their Intergalactics being run the same day. Since I had some people on the wait list for the adult learn to sail clinic, and we are getting quite a few interest calls to club as well as email requests, I will be scheduling another adult learn to sail this year. In order to keep the momentum going for the adult students who completed the clinic, I am staying contact via email, and we (the coaches) plan to invite the students back to come sail with us in a Friday beer can race.



Junior Training

Christopher Dwight has been doing a fabulous job running a Saturday afternoon training session for the juniors.



PBJ sailors in breezy conditions on June 7, 2008, under the watchful eye of coach John Morran in a Kayak (Photo courtesy of Editor)

By the time you read this, **Doug Kern** will have kicked off this summer's first PB&J session for the 4 to 9 year olds. Doug's reputation for teaching the young children how to sail is so widely recognized, the PJ&J sessions have a huge wait list, with all sessions full. The July session which was originally targeted for windsurfing, is now being modified to include the basic sailing lessons
(Continued on Page 13)



The AYC Keel Fleet invites sailors to participate in the

Independence Cup

Sailboat Race and Party at Austin Yacht Club

July 5th, 2008



Declare your independence from the routine tasks of daily living and join the First annual Keel Fleet Independence Cup race/party. The race venue will be the main basin of Lake Travis around permanently located marks. This inaugural event features the opportunity to have your name be the first to be engraved on the **Independence Cup**. The Cup will be awarded jointly to the best corrected time mono hull yacht racing in a PHRF Spinnaker class yacht and the best corrected time mono hull yacht racing in a PHRF Non- Spinnaker class. Following

the race a sumptuous Fajita dinner with all the fixings is being served up. The Independence Cup and all class awards will be presented following dinner.

Invited Classes:

PHRF Spinnaker, PHRF Non Spinnaker. Portsmouth Handicap Multihull.

Schedule July 5, 2008

Pre-Registration: To insure adequate food and awards please preregister your intention to race by sending an email to event chairman Barry Bowden (bbowden1@austin.rr.com) today!

Registration : Noon to 1PM at AYC Clubhouse

Skippers Meeting: 1PM

First Signal : 2:30PM (Race is planned to last 2 to 3 hours)

Fajita Dinner : Following race approximately, 7PM

Awards : Following Dinner

Entry Fees: \$20 for AYC Keel Fleet Members, \$25 for non members. Entry fee includes 2 Fajita Dinner tickets Additional Dinner Tickets: \$5 per person. **Independence Cup**



Additional Information: Contact event Chairman Barry Bowden (bbowden1@austin.rr.com)

Harbor News

By Christopher Dwight, Fleet Commander

Harbor Work Party - Sunday 22 June 2008

In addition to normal wear and tear, the North East winds on Tuesday, May 27th added some additional damage to our dock systems. Please plan to come out for a Dock Work Party on Sunday, June 22nd to help re-secure foam, fix J-Bolts, repair floatation cross-ties, and perform other maintenance. For more details, please look for flyers posted around the AYC grounds or check the AYC web site calendar for Sunday June 22nd <http://www.austinyachtclub.net/showArticle?startDate=06/22/2008>.

Harbor News

As many of you are aware, we had significant winds the evening of Tuesday, May 27th. The high winds and resulting waves resulted in several boats breaking free. This hazardous situation not only results in damage to those boats that broke free, but also to our dock system and sometimes adjacent boats.

To help prevent similar problems in our next storm event, the Harbor Committee asks that you thoroughly examine your dock lines for chafe damage, ensure appropriate dock line size (3/8" as absolute minimum for boats 26 feet and less, 1/2" as absolute minimum for boats over 26 feet), and appropriate material (nylon lines absorb shock and are less likely to have sudden failure - old sheets, Dacron and polypropylene lines don't stretch, causing increased wear to both boats and docks). Also be sure to examine your boat hardware where lines are attached. Over time, bolts and backing plates can work loose and lead to failure.

Some boats have been identified as having significantly chafed or critically undersized dock lines. Slip holders of these boat will receive a letter reminding them of Harbor Rule 22 regarding unsafe storage conditions. This letter will request that damaged or undersized lines be replaced by the owner within a specific time frame, or the lines will be replaced by the Harbor Committee and the slip holder account charged. If you happen to receive such a letter, please take a few minutes to verify your dock line condition and make any remedies. Your cooperation and understanding are greatly appreciated.

The Commodore... Continued from Page 3

I am going to ask you to tell the Board if a total ban on pets is in keeping with AYC's role as the yacht club in one of America's most progressive cities. Maybe it is or maybe there is a way to accommodate our dog owners somewhere on AYC's 35 acres. It is your yacht club, and we need to hear from you. Bricks with notes tied to them and thrown through the window are not encouraged, but you can email me at commo-dore@austinyachtclub.net, and your opinion will be heard. Please do.

Pet Policy comments received thus far...

1. *My \$0.02 - leave the pets home – Tom Lang*
2. *If you are adding it up, my two cents is a strong No Pets. And I have a vote! – Randolph Bertin*
3. *As to the pet issue... I am one of those members who loves pets, so I don't have a problem at all with dogs on AYC property as long as the owners pick up their own dog poop, the dog is not vicious, and the dog is on a leash. As for cabin rentals, a hefty pet deposit would certainly be appropriate (i.e., \$50 or more). We own three dogs: two Miniature Dachshunds and a Catahoula (large herding dog) and no matter how careful and vigilant we are, they can be destructive, they can carry fleas, they can bite, and they can defecate where we don't want them to. They are, after all, animals. I've even been bitten by a "friendly" neighbor's dog (the neighbor happened to be a lawyer!). So, if AYC adopts a "pets welcome" policy, then the owners must be prepared to carry a poop-picker-upper (Ziploc bags work just fine), have an up to date rabies certificate that they can readily present (for lodging at AYC cabins and in case of potential bites), sign a document assuming all liability in case their dog bites someone, pay any additional damage above and beyond the pet deposit, and pay all damages to any AYC property (broken pots, torn pillows, chewed furniture, etc.). I propose that we provide a designated pet walking area so that we don't have to worry about our Fugiwas and Sperrys stepping into the wrong kind of brown soil before boarding our pristine sailboat decks. I also propose that there be an absolute prohibition of dogs in the swimming pool area (for obvious reasons). In addition, I would propose that all dogs considered "dangerous" (i.e., Rottweilers, Pit Bulls, etc.), be specifically named and prohibited from all AYC property. The reason for this is that AYC is promoting the sport of sailing and expanding junior sailing programs. Therefore, the probability is high that there will be children on AYC property. Dangerous animals are incompatible with kids. Not only are the kids at risk, but the liability to the Club would be potentially quite severe. There might be a City ordinance that specifically names the dangerous dogs in Austin and that AYC can copy from. Perhaps also a requirement can be imposed on the members that each AYC member who intends to bring a dog onto AYC property have a rabies certificate on file and identifies the dog? We can merely provide a form for the dog owners at the office that they can fill out and sign, naming their dog, identifying the member's name and address, identifying the dog breed, assuming all risk, indemnifying the club, and attaching to it an up to date rabies certificate. That way, if there is any doubt that a stray dog belongs to a member, it can be checked out and anyone not having a form and certificate on file can be subject to having the dog pound take their Fido away. Thank you for asking for opinions on this issue. It's a big issue and many factors must be considered. – Yolanda Cortes Mares*



September in May

Fred Ford, who had joined the AYC last fall, kept telling us about a boat out in Florida that was being worked on for him and once it was ready he would be bringing it to Texas. Well, it turns out that boat in Florida used to be **Zeke Durica's Ensign # 972**. And being the fabricator of the Ensign Classic, **Zeke** knows a few things about making and restoring Ensigns (and sailing them, too, apparently), and even if his schedule might have been a little slow for the anxious new owner, the boat was eventually finished and ready for the long haul. Sure enough, Fred's Ensign, re-named **September**, came into town looking about as beautiful as ever. It didn't take long to get the mast up and drop her in the water, and by the end of the week, it was time to race! Unfortunately, the Spring Series had just ended. Of course, there is always...

Beer Can

With no fleet racing scheduled for most of May and half of June, the best opportunity for Ensigns to compete might well have been the beer can races. Five Ensigns turned out to race on Friday, May 16, including the debut of **September**. **Fred Ford** managed to "coerce" **Tom Groll** into helping him with a shakedown of his new boat around the buoys. It was a good choice, as the two of them managed to get around the course ahead of the rest of the fleet, with **Elliott Bray** sailing **#810** close behind. Experience pays off as Elliott was joined by some veteran sailors, of the most veteran sailors at the club: including one **Pat Kimbrough**. I vaguely recall seeing **Deke DeKeyser** aboard as well. **Sarah Baker** was sailing **J. Seagull** with some help from **Eric Faust**. They were going non-spinnaker, but their advantage in starting early was lost on the first leg when the wind fell allowing the spinnaker boats to catch up. **Bill and Kelley Hawk**, sailed with one of their daughters and decided to go against the trend head towards K mark first with the rest of the fleet heading North to B. As it turns out, that wasn't the best choice. **Randolph Bertin** and his crew were up and down, eventually finishing in the middle. Although I have raved more than usual about some of the beautiful sailing days we had this spring, I think it has really been justified. Either that or I am just appreciating those days more. But the truth is, with what was probably the final North breeze until some time late Fall, it was just incredibly beautiful on the water that evening: clear, cool, modest breeze, and a full lake. **Mitch Barnett**, though not racing, was on the water enjoying an evening sail

with some friends. Six Ensigns on Travis on a Friday. Not bad.



September Outside



September Inside

Turnback and Beyond

Although this isn't a Regatta tailor made for the Ensign, one of our own picked up a solid win with a first place up and a first place back in their non-spinnaker division. Congratulations to **Eagle!**

Series racing resumes with the start of the Summer Series. And though it is a month away, the Ensign fleet is scheduled to have RC duty for Summer Series #3 (July 12) so plan to come help out and make the races a success. We have had loads of wind in the Central Texas area at the beginning of June. Will it stick around until the Series opener on Saturday, June 14? Will the Gravy Boat be ready to set sail? Don't let everyone else have all the fun, get in your Ensign and sail.

Turnback Canyon By Bruce McDonald



Photo above: Steve Vaughn crosses the finish line to take the Bill Levens SR trophy. Photo below: Rick Smith in Flying Tiger on final leg of first race with Steve Vaughn in hot pursuit. (Photos by Bruce McDonald)



Turnback Canyon Regatta 2008

After months of preparation, the annual Turnback Canyon Regatta got underway on Saturday, May 24th, a weekend that would see record setting high temperatures, but fortunately fair winds. Sixty seven boats were divided into 12 classes for a colorful downwind start. After starting the beach cats in the sixth start, **Total Recall** lumbered down course at full throttle beating the first boats to the finish line by a scant ten minutes, the first boat having an elapsed time of just over 2 hours or a VMG of 7.4 knots.

Saturday night featured a barbecue catered by Bee Cave Bistro and music by disc jockey. As the sun went down, the winds remained behind to quell the oppressive record heat. Sunday morning saw the return of sufficient winds to propel the fleet back to the club in

short order. Back at the club, members and guests were treated to a hamburger lunch, copiously flowing kegs and a spirited raffle before trophy presentation. **Steve Vaughn** in his Hobie 33 won the coveted Bill Levens, Sr. trophy for the best corrected time for a spinaker class boat.



Photo above: The fleet at anchor. Photo below: Bobby Crouch and crew take a swim break. (Photos by Bruce McDonald)



Our thanks are due to the AYC staff who worked over time to make the event run smoothly, **Mark Boelens** a new member who headed

up the registration, **Pat Manning** who coordinated the food for the event, **Susie McDonald** who was co-chair, publicity, trophies, prepared the regatta booklet, served on race committee and did photography, **Barb Prashner**, who booked the entertainment and helped with scoring, **Walter Allen** who designed and produced the regatta shirts, **Will Klein, Richard Trocino, Terry and Curtis Byford, Jean Ford, Richard Hughes and Kevin Reynolds**. Thanks to our sponsors: **Sail Time, Texas Sailing, Bartlett Sails, Exit Realty, West Marine, Sail and Ski and McDonald Photography**.

Thanks to our short handed but exemplary race committee: **Steve Eller, Fred Ford, Elliott Bray, Scott Sousares, Paul Horton, Robert Black, Susie and Bruce McDonald**.

For complete regatta results go to: <http://austinyachtclub.net/scoring/>. For more photos go to: <http://www.mcdonaldphoto.com/stock/2008turnback/2008turnback.htm>.



Starting line action on Saturday (photo by Susie & Bruce McDonald)

Turnback Canyon Action

This year's Turnback Canyon Regatta was exceptional in that it enjoyed great sailing weather all weekend. **Bruce and Susie McDonald** did a fantastic job organizing and running this year's event. Thanks to **Bruce and Susie** and their many volunteer helpers for putting on a fun filled event with Racing, Cruising, Beer, BBQ and Music. Turnback Canyon is the longest standing sailboat race on Lake Travis and this year's event enjoyed strong southerly breezes and fair weather all weekend. Missing were the typical springtime thunderstorms and lengthy periods of no wind, although the heat was on high. Nearly all sailors arrived at Lago Vista by 3:30 PM Saturday giving plenty of time for cooling off in the lake and re-hydration with the liquid of choice before dinner. Keel Fleet participation grew from 30 boats in 2007 to 38 this year, and was broken into 4 Spinnaker and 4 Non Spinnaker classes that provide tight racing within each class and the fleet. Overall participation for the event was 67 boats across the 8 Keel classes, the 3 Multihull classes and the Cruising class. All the race results are on the AYC web site at <http://austinyachtclub.net/scoring/>.

The Keel fleet class winners were:

Class	Boat	Skipper
Spin A	RED / Hobie 33	Henson / Vaughan
Spin B	Mostly Harmless / J29	Ray Shull
Spin C	Bad Moon / J24	Holmes-Moon
Spin D	Vitamin Sea / San Juan 7.7	David Lewis
Non Spin E	Sovereign / Soverel 33	Steve Spademan
Non Spin F	Discretion / J22	Brett Wunderlich
Non Spin G	Sweet Sue / Catalina 27	K. Renard
Non Spin H	Eagle / Ensign	Hap Arnold

The **Jim Henson / Steve Vaughan** team, received the Levens Trophy for the fastest corrected time on Saturday's race to Turnback Canyon.



Strong breezes made fast passage (photo by Susie and Bruce McDonald)



ZEN2 chasing a halyard while racing to Turnback Canyon (photo by Susie and Bruce McDonald)

(Continued on Next Page)

Keel Fleet... Continued from Page 10



The Arnold family in the winner's circle again (photo by Susie and Bruce McDonald)



Payet and crew battle the mighty J's on the Fleet's newest boat, a Viper (photo by Bill Records)



Nothing but smiles and fun aboard B-25 Redneck (photo by Susie and Bruce McDonald)



A restful evening at Lago Vista (photo by Susie and Bruce McDonald)

Upcoming Events

Series Racing June 14th

The Summer Series starts June 14th with two races in June before breaking to start up again on July 12th. Look for more information on the AYC website soon.

Raft Up, June 18th

The Lake Travis Cruising Association for many years sponsored full moon cruises. In 2000, **Vic Manning** started getting a few AYC members to venture out for occasional raft ups on the eve of the full moon. Then **Danny Lien** and **Jim Tillinghast** carried the torch for
(Continued on Page 12)

Keel Fleet... Continued from Page 11

another couple of years. There would often be 7-8 boats anchored and 30-40 people at the raft ups!

Today, many AYC members still like to sail at sunset to avoid the heat of the day and sip a beverage as the sun goes down over the hills. So on full moon nights this summer, we are going to encourage members to join us for a raft up party! We will hold the first raft up of the summer on Wednesday, June 18. If you're out cruising around the Lake at sunset on the 18th, come join us and enjoy the full moon rise over a glass of wine, a margarita or some other beverage of choice!

Look for a "pod" of boats around 7:45 pm anchored just south of the AYC point and come on over! Or hitch a ride with a boat heading out of the harbor - if they can't raft up with us, just ask them to drop you off!



Independence Cup, July 5th

The Keel Fleet is holding a new (and hopefully annually recurring) Sailboat race and party on the July 4th holiday weekend. This year the event falls on Saturday July 5th. The plan for this Keel Fleet event is a single 2 to 3 hour race on Saturday afternoon in the main basin of the lake and following the race, a Fajita dinner and awards at the clubhouse. Plans are also in the making for a Texas Hold'em Poker tournament that afternoon. Please look elsewhere in the Telltale or on the AYC website http://austinyachtclub.net/fleets/keel-fleet/Independence_Cup_Flyer.pdf for the event flyer with all the times details.

The Independence Cup trophy will be awarded jointly to the best corrected time yacht sailing in a PHRF Spinnaker class and the best corrected time yacht sailing in a PHRF Non Spinnaker class. The Cup is a truly grand award donated by the temporarily boatless Non Spinnaker Fleet Captain **Damon Galloway**.

Barry Bowden, the event chairman, assures warm windy weather has been requested so plan to race and/or party and bring lots of liquid and sun screen. If you are not able to race but want to be involved with race committee or ashore give Barry a call or drop him an email.



Crew Signup

We are happy to have **Hector Lujan** back in action organizing the Crew/Skipper signup process for the fleet.

Hector has arranged for some of the UT Sailing folks to come out for the Beer Can Series as well as Series Races and Regattas. These folks seem eager, so skippers should contact Hector (email hlujan45@aol.com) to pad out the crew and beef up the team before the next race. Anyone interested in crewing, be they member or not, should also contact Hector or use the handy feature of the AYC website at <http://www.austinyachtclub.org/marketplace>.

Max White and the AYC Flag Pole

By Duane Dobson

With the completion of the club house the absence of a real Yacht Club type flag pole became a glaring omission. Into the gap stepped **Max White**. He has been gone for many years but trust me that Max was a real, "hands on get the job done type". The first time I saw the flag pole or what was to become the flag pole, it was a pile of very rusty pieces of pipe of various diameters and lengths lying in a heap at the very southern end of a grassy field that is now Highland mall. I don't know where Max found the pipe but I believe he got it free. I said something to the effect that it didn't look much like a flag pole and Max said, "Wait till it's sand blasted, welded and painted. Do you know what a ready made flag pole x feet high would cost?" Again typical of Max, he had carefully checked it all out. The next time I saw the flagpole it was complete as seen today but lying horizontally on blocks in the parking area west of the club house. The fact that it was fabricated from several pieces accounts for its appearance today. You can see that it goes up about 10 feet, reduces in size and then does it again and again. The commercial ones are usually tapered from the bottom. That this difference is seldom noticed is another tribute. So how are we going to get the thing around the club house and vertical? Max, in charge, says **Paul Keller** will be here with a crane to put it up at 9 AM. At 5 minutes to nine Paul arrived with a truck pulling a lowboy with a crane. Several young men backed the crane off, picked up the flag pole and made the U turn to the lower parking area. In a few minutes the pole was up and bolted to its base. As the crane backed away, it struck the gold ball at the very top and bent it to a 45 degree angle. Max said, "Don't worry about it. It will get straightened next time the pole gets painted. I looked at the pole the other day and the ball was straight so, "Max you were right about that too." At least that is how I remember it.

Note: Facilities request forms are now available on the AYC web site (under the "Information" tab)!



FULL MOON RAFT-UP!!!

When: Wednesday, June 18

Where: South of AYC point, near Travis Landing

Time: Anytime after 7:30 PM

Enjoy the Wednesday night centerboard races, or simply cruise 'til sunset, then come join us for our first full moon raft up of 2008!!

Always lots of fun – bring snacks and beverage of your choice!

Sail Training... Continued from Page 5



Alexandra Mares, 9 years old, sailing solo at PBJ on June 7, 2008 - her fifth year in PBJ (Photo courtesy of Editor)

in Opti's as well, and take up the backlog of people on the wait list.

Just about the time the Telltale hits your mailbox the first week of sailing camp for the juniors should be underway. 3 of the 4 full weeks are full, but we have plenty of openings in the 3 day camp just before July 4th, so if you still thinking about sending a child to our sailing camp, or you know of someone, there still an opportunity get someone enrolled. After a lot of work by **Kelly Hawk** (summer camp director), **Bob Woods** our GM, and myself, we passed the state camp pre-inspection with no problems and received the official state "Youth Camp" license. Kelly has the training plan in place to get the instructors and camp facilities ready for the first week opening day June 9th.

Editor's Note: The "Race (from Galveston) to Veracruz" on June 6 (Regatta de Amigos), organized by the Lakewood Yacht Club and the Galveston Bay Cruising Association, reminds us that racing is a dangerous sport. While racing in the regatta, sailor Roger Stone, aboard the 38 foot **Cynthia Woods**, died while the boat sank. His body was later recovered in the sailboat. Five sailors who survived that tragedy were fortunately found after being afloat for more than a day in choppy seas sharing only 4 lifejackets. Please remember to follow all safety precautions while racing.

More Turnback Canyon Photos...



Photo above: Close action at the start with the F boat fleet. (Photo courtesy of Bruce McDonald)



Photos, clockwise, above: Chill time. Photo right: Weekend at Bernie's. Photo below: F boat Fleet. Photo left: Robert Barlow does some in flight repairs. Photo above left: Enthusiastic kids. (Photos courtesy of Bruce McDonald)



Photo above, below, and right, courtesy of Bill Records.





All photos this page courtesy of Bill Records.



Austin Yacht Club

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Start of 2008 Southcoast Intergalactics at AYU (Photo courtesy of Susie McDonald)

Summer Series Starts June 14!