

AUSTIN YACHT CLUB

# TELLTALE

May 2017



## Holy Easter Laser Regatta!



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### SAVE THE DATE

May 12-14 J22 SW Circuit Regatta  
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May 14, 21 Small Boat Intro to Sailing  
May 20 Learn to Sail Small Boats  
May 20 Powerboat Safety Course  
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May 27-18 Turnback Canyon Regatta

May 27-28 Spring High School Regatta  
Jun 3 Sail 4 Kids  
Jun 4, 11 Summer Series #4, 5  
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Jun 9 MoonBurn #2  
Jun 10-11 Women's Clinic  
Jun 11 Chapparral de Mar Regatta  
Jun 22 Board of Directors Mtg  
Jun 24 Dog Days Series #1





Easter Laser Regatta Participants  
Photo by Fred Schroth



## From The Commodore by Wade Bingaman



Yes, its that time again – time for the Turnback Canyon Regatta. It's a 20-plus mile sail on Saturday up the lake to Lago Vista with a great festival and party that evening. It is followed on Sunday by the 20-plus mile return and closing activities at AYC. If you have never tried it, you should. Here are my reasons:

First of all, I guarantee you that if you go, you will have stories to tell that you will remember for the rest of your life. I remember one time . . . . . well I can't really

talk about that in this article, but take my word, it was amazing. And I bet you every other sailor who has gone also has some wild tales to tell.

Next, the sail up the lake is a trip worth taking. Even if you have been in years past, you would not believe the beautiful boats, houses and parks to view along the way. And while you are looking at the scenery, those people will be looking at you. Our sailboats are a major attraction as we sail up the lake and arrive at Lago Vista.

Finally, we are not guaranteed to have the opportunity to sail this regatta every year. Low lake levels made it impossible for several recent years.

A big regatta means a lot of work. Our staff – **Jackie, Tom, and Coleman** – will be working extremely hard and long hours to make this event a success. When you see them, let them know you appreciate all they do. They are doing it for your enjoyment.

Our Regatta Chair, **Diane Covert**, has also put in a lot of time and effort to make the regatta great. She was the Chair for last year's successful Turnback, and she believes this year will be even better. Check out her article on page 13.

So the time is right. The table is set. Time to enjoy Turnback.

## Vice Commodore Report by Bill Records



The final preparations for Turnback Canyon are underway and Regatta Chair, **Diane Covert**, has met with the Lago Vista Property Owners Association. They are happy to include AYC in their Lago Fest.

Those of you who sailed in last year's regatta know what a great event they put on. The anchorage was good as well as the food and entertainment. And with a full lake, everyone enjoyed the beauty of Lake Travis.

I hope those of you who own big cruising boats will get your boats ready and sail. The Roadrunners will clean your topsides as well as bottoms.

This year we have support from businesses around the lake in the form of sponsorships. Appreciation goes to **Qualtech Auto, Winkley's/Sailboat Shop, Boathouse Grill, Texas Sailing, Sail ATX charters, Shack 512, Sail and Ski**. If you get a chance, give these sponsors your business and thank them for their help.

I hope to see you at Lago Vista!

## Welcome New Members!



**Brian Wann**  
(Associate Probationary)

Brian is the son of long-time former AYC member Trenton Wann. Brian grew up at AYC and has experience sailing Lasers, J24s, J30s, San Juan 7.7s, etc. He is excited to get back into Laser racing in particular.



**Heath Phillips**  
(Young Adult Probationary)

Heath is new to sailing but has been interested for several years and has participated in the AYC Racing School. Heath has crewed in several races, including one of the 2017 Frostbite races (with **John Burke**), and more recently with **Jorge Martín-de-Nicholás** for Governor's Cup. Heath has recently purchased a SC21 and is excited about sailing and racing at AYC.



**Page Fowler**  
(Student)

Paige has been participating in the high school sailing program at AYC. She participated in the Opening Day Un-Regatta and the High School Regatta. She plans to join the Lake Travis High School sailing team. Her Mother, **Kendal Fowler**, is pictured with her.



**James Denny**  
(Senior Probationary)

James and his wife, Sarah, began sailing in 2012 when they purchased a C-22. They have enjoyed sailing ever since, and have connected with the All Catalina Fleet 69, including AYC members **John Grzinich, Steve and Cheryl Pervier and Diane Covert**. Sarah has participated in the AYC Women's Clinic and they have crewed with **John Grzinich** during several races in 2016. In James' words, they believe that "AYC is the best place to continue to learn and get better at what we intend to never stop enjoying."

## Sail Training Report

by Carolyn Wilsford



### Scott Young Start Clinic

The "Scott Young" clinic was great! Could have had a few more boats, but everyone thoroughly enjoyed having **Scott** come on board and coach skippers and their crew. **Scott** had a great time with this group. A big thank you to **Chris Thompson**, **Sea Scouts**, **Coleman Terrell**, **Kelly & Tracey Hawk** for all your help with this clinic.



### Women's Clinic

The first Women's Clinic was an enormous success, all on J-22s. We had 10 non-members taking notes, asking questions and having a really enjoyable time. Presenters included **Rachel Loziuk**, **Molly Lewis**, **Gretchen Douglas**, and



**Terry Schertz**. Students were taking notes in their US Sailing Books, building models of boats while connecting sailing terms and taking a visual matching quiz of boat parts. It was an actual classroom! I believe we might be getting some new members and all wanting to know what's next?

The next Women's Clinic is scheduled for June 10 & 11 and will be chaired by **Molly Lewis**. The Sep 30 & Oct 1 clinic will be chaired by **Renee Ruais**, and it's another circuit stop for the J-24 fleet. Rumor has it that all ladies will be able to get in on the party fun with the J-24 fleet.

I want to welcome all ladies to register for LCYC's "Sew Mad" Regatta at Canyon Lake on August 26, and finally we are having an AYC Women's Regatta on October 28. Come on ladies let's have some fun together!!

Thank you, **Vic Manning**, for setting a course, **Bill Records** for taking photos,

**Carol Frick** for providing delicious meals with her fantastic culinary talents and **James Wilsford** for his luscious mushrooms on the potatoes. Last, I want to mention that several ladies stayed for the series race and got to experience yet another boat.



More fun to come:

May 20 – "Small Boat" (FJs) Clinic given by **Lauren Crouch** for beginners and intermediate sailors.

May 20 – "Power Boat Safety" training with **Vic Manning** utilizing the AYC chase boats.

## Building and Grounds Report

by Chris Thompson



The South side of point sign is complete; replacing the lighting fixtures is the last item to complete this project. Thanks to the work team of **Hector Lujan**, **Ken Berringer**, **Jeff Wigzell**, **Charlie Lancaster**, and **James Bland** for balancing on the scaffold on a blustery day. Check out **Bill Records'** photo on the back inside cover of this edition of the Telltale.

The **Seas Scouts** did a great job clearing the shoreline of trash as part of their service project last month.

The new main sign is ready for assembly and setting of the steel posts is underway. Thanks to the **Sea Scouts** for their labor in digging the holes and **Ed Taylor (& Tom)** and **Taylor Press Products** for their metal working expertise.

The office remodel is underway with **Diane Covert** assisting with the project. AYC member **Frans Dahmen** is providing his carpentry expertise to perform the minor construction needed. The office will be reconfigured and new carpet is slated for June installation.

New extension ladders (2 @ 16') are in the work area; the 12 foot roller step is ordered and we are waiting on delivery. Please observe proper safety procedures when using a ladder to access your boat. The extension ladder should extend at least 3 feet above the edge you are climbing up to. Tie the ladder off to something stable if possible. Stand at the base and put your arms straight out in front of you on the ladder at shoulder height. This is the correct lean angle for the ladder. A-frame ladders should not be leaned against surfaces for climbing.

*continued next page*



The insurance settlement for the remaining roof areas has been received. This will allow us to complete the rest of the roofs on almost all AYC buildings.

An estimate for the water line project has been obtained; attempting to get other bids.

Estimates for sink/water fountain installation and urinal repairs are also in hand. We hope to proceed with these projects soon.

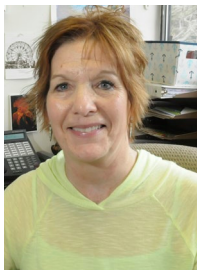
We are pricing new BBQ grilles for the grounds and picnic tables for the playground area. The table at the point was painted to cover the rough surface.

Repair of the pool railings with stainless steel hurricane brackets is one of the small projects that is at the top of the short term list to complete.

More work session are forthcoming (I know – give more notice!) as I work things around my own and AYC's very busy schedule.

### Notes from Your GM

by Jackie Wheelless



There are changes happening RIGHT NOW in the AYC office! Thank you to **Diane Covert** who is planning, organizing, recruiting and overseeing this project and to **Frans Dahmen** who is doing all the hands on transformation. This project is happening in stages over the next few weeks and it will be a very welcome sight once completed!!!

The pool is scheduled to open on May 20!!

Don't forget. . . . .the AYC winter apparel is on sale through the month of May – come get yours now, there's a very, VERY limited supply!!!!

Please be aware that the lake level is dropping close to a half a foot per week right now. You may not be able to sail where you've been used to sailing so please be aware of your surroundings and the water level.

With Turnback Regatta visitors headed to AYC later this month, please help us remind everyone that parking on the Point will be allowed; however, please be sure to park at an angle to maximize the number of boats that can park and please make sure no one parks close to the ramp and hinders boat launching and retrieval. See you at Turnback!!

### Sailing Director Report

by Coleman Terrell



This month started off on a sad note, as we had to say goodbye to AYC's assistant coach **Gracie Bulgerin**. **Gracie** had worked at AYC for almost a year, and had been doing an outstanding job with our junior sailors. However, she had to leave due to a heavy workload at school and some unexpected transportation issues. I wish her the best of luck with school!

The Sail Training schedule for the spring certainly has been busy. We've been putting on clinic after clinic with strong attendance rates throughout. The Women's Clinic was well attended last weekend, May 6&7, and aside from a lack of wind on Saturday, it could not have gone better. **Carolyn Wilsford** and her team of instructors did a great job putting the clinic together with a great emphasis on racing than in the past years and

I really like the idea of finding boats for the participants to crew on for the series races.

Saturday the 6th was also an introductory regatta for our high school sailors! We had good breeze in the morning but it died out around 1pm or so, forcing the sailors to drift through the last few races. However, everyone seemed like they were having a great time and many of our new skippers got to experience their first real regatta!

Sunday the 7th was the 3rd of 5 sessions of the Introduction to Smallboat Sailing series, (formerly known as the Adult FJ Class). The new class time of 11-1 on Sundays has worked out well, leading to an increase in attendance from the participation we saw in the Fall. With 10/12 spots filled, and all of those spots filled by non-members, I am hoping this class can generate a new member or two.

Summer Camps & PB&J are right around the corner, with PB&J beginning on June 3, and Summer Camp beginning on June 12! Don't forget to sign up your sailors! To get member pricing, use the coupon code provided by the office upon request. The links to register are on the AYC website!

Lastly, on May 20 we have two clinics going on simultaneously. We have a smallboat clinic being taught in FJs (this is a one-day course) and **Vic Manning** is teaching his powerboat safety course! Please sign up online or call the AYC office for questions!

## AYC SPRING CLEARANCE!

May 1-May 31

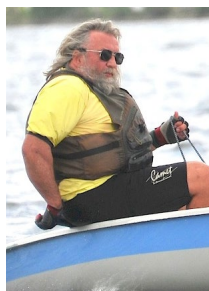
ITEM	REG PRICE	SALE PRICE
AYC Visor	\$10	\$7
Men's Fleece Vest	\$30	\$21
Men's Fleece Jacket	\$30	\$21
Ladies Fleece Jacket	\$35	\$25
Soft Shell Jacket	\$45	\$32
Large AYC Sticker	\$5	\$3

**HURRY! VERY LIMITED SIZES!**

**Buy early for birthdays, anniversaries,  
Christmas, etc.**



# 2017 Easter Laser Regatta



Fred Schroth  
Regatta Chair

Certainly the regatta chair has to write all the obligatory thank yous. Thank you to every single person involved with AYC for letting me take over our playground year after year after year so my wonderful support crew can create the exact party I want to see put on. The philosophy has always been, "Let's do everything the way I think is the best fun and hope others find it as wonderful as I do."

Certainly, we all work to accommodate other folks' preferences but we try always to pick a best way as opposed to a dumbed down compromise.

Thanks again for letting me do it!!!

As everybody who has even briefly come within earshot of me since that Saturday afternoon knows, I won the last race Saturday. As the whole world slows down and intensifies for "that guy out front" I realized a couple days ago, I remember almost every significant part of that race. As the Telltale is for mostly racing sailors who probably would love to win more races, (I swear this isn't just me taking an opportunity to brag about being the oldest fellow ever to win an Easter Regatta race) this is an abbreviated blow by blow of the anatomy of winning one race.

After Race 4 I grabbed a couple bottles of water from the Chase boat and headed downwind for the next start. Rather than hurry, as we had to wait for everybody from each fleet, I lugged my way downwind while watching all the puffs and lulls. The general wind had been from about 150 to 180 all day.

It was obvious there were huge left hand shift puffs coming from 140 or even 120. They were blowing about halfway across the course and dissipating as they hit the more southerly shore breezes.

Back in about 1988 **Bob Harden** suggested we play the left in a J-24 Regatta because, "I have never been burned going left late in the day." I sat by the starting line and watched three big puffs cross from Windy Point and Cyprus Creek and decided to go with **Bob's** philosophy.

As the line was relatively square and I wanted to protect the left side for myself, I started at the pin. One of the left shift puffs was dying at the start and I could almost port start the fleet. **Griffin Orr** let me cross but I couldn't cross everybody, didn't want to be on the right, and it was already time to tack left to hit the next lefty.

The fleet went right. **Griffin**, spotting my 100 pounds of rail meat, came with me. Fifty yards later, the first left shift had us pointing almost at the mark. It died. We hitched left another twenty yards, flopped onto port and reached to the mark.

It is awfully fun to reach with your boom three feet eased while looking at everybody a hundred or yards to leeward with less wind from a different direction. Close reaching in breeze is absolutely designed for the fat fella who can hike so **Griffin** didn't keep up.

I rounded the mark gasping for air and headed down the run with a huge head start. There was a nice big wave waiting and I rode it all the way to the leeward mark.

Upwind was more of the same. Use those left puffs but don't get greedy. Stay between the fleet and the mark. Everything was fine on the first reach as it was accomplished in a big puff. Then the wind died and the fleet had lots and my boat sunk to the gunwales and waited.

**Dave Chapin** caught me just before the leeward mark and headed right. I tacked as soon as I could because there was another left puff roaring across the lake. When we were fifty yards up the beat, I had most of my lead back. The fleet followed **Dave** and by time I got to the weather mark I was counting chickens.

There was a nice breeze for the run so I held enough lead to sail fifty yards on each tack and position myself to stay between the finish line and whoever rounded next. The way things fell in place I was able to stay slightly left of the pack. Every time I was about to eat a bit of header to reel in an attempt to get around on either side, the threatening boat tacked.

I am still not entirely certain they didn't have a deal to let me win one but the lesson is:

- Look at the filling breezes between races.
- Listen to **Bob**. Remember what he said until the right time. Don't be greedy.
- Thank everybody ... Thanks for another great year!!!



Photo Bruce McDonald



# 2017 Easter Laser Regatta



Photos Bruce McDonald



continued next page



# 2017 Easter Laser Regatta





# 2017 Easter Laser Regatta





## ***HONORING OUR SENIOR SAILORS 70 AND OLDER***



### ***CHAPARRAL DE MAR REGATTA***

***June 11, 2017***

*Embedded in the Summer Series 5 race  
Boats and crews provided by the Ensign Fleet 30  
Old Salts meet in the AYC clubhouse 12:15p for  
skipper's meeting and boat assignments  
Post race Awards and Refreshments  
See NOR under Racing...Regattas on the AYC  
website for details.*

**Competitors Register with Danny Lien:  
[dannyrlien@gmail.com](mailto:dannyrlien@gmail.com)**



## Sail 4 Kids!

**Saturday, June 3, 12:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.**

AYC is hosting Sail 4 Kids on Saturday, June 3. Sail 4 Kids is an outreach program to provide children from the Baptist Children's Home a day on the water sailing. The Round Rock Kiwanis is coordinating the effort and will host a post sail picnic. AYC member, **Doug Laws**, is chairing the sailing portion.

The children will have PFDs and signed liability releases. Age range is elementary through high school.

We are asking for **skippers with a boat, and one or more crew, to volunteer from 12:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 3.** Sail with the children for approximately 1.5 hours ... nothing fancy, just a sail. This will be a new experience for most of them. Details about skipper's meeting to follow and boat assignments at a later date.

**Skippers will meet on the AYC patio at noon. The children arrive at 12:30 p.m.** We will welcome them, establish safety rules and assign children (2-5 per boat) according to your wishes. You should have your boat ready to go before the meeting. We will sail from 1:00 p.m. to about 2:30 p.m. The children have a picnic on our campus ... you are invited to attend. Your option.

We have 25 children signed up and a waiting list. This is a worthwhile event.

Please advise **Fred Ford** via email at [ffordf@gmail.com](mailto:ffordf@gmail.com) if you can help us with this effort and the number of children your boat can accommodate.

With your help we can increase the number of participants!

## RACE MANAGEMENT & POWER BOAT TRAINING



**May 20, 2017**

**SEATING IS LIMITED TO 8 PER SESSION  
NO CHARGE**

Session 1: 10:00 a.m. - Noon

Session 2: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Session 3: 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Register online or call the AYC office to sign up. Training will be on the water in AYC Chase Boats and will include: Boat handling skills used during events; Rescue; Course management; Communication; and How to use the equipment for races. Instructor: Vic Manning

**Is your boat dirty?  
Are you too busy to clean it?**

**We're here to help:  
ETHAN@HASYSTEMS.COM**



We clean boat hulls, and scrub and polish decks.  
All proceeds go to regatta entry fees.  
Contact us for a quote.



# TurnBack

## Canyon Regatta

### AYC 2017



- ▶ Memorial Day weekend May 27-28, 2017
- ▶ 2 days, 20+ miles on Lake Travis up and back from Austin Yacht Club to Lago Vista.
- ▶ Open to all sailboat classes.
- ▶ Awards, t-shirts, pre/post race parties at AYC. Overnight anchorage and camping, LagoFest party in the park at Lago Vista.
- ▶ Online registration and info: [www.austinyachtclub.net](http://www.austinyachtclub.net)
- ▶ LagoFest information: [www.lagofest.com](http://www.lagofest.com)



## Turnback Canyon Regatta Update

by Diane Covert



The historic two-day long-distance format, "Turnback Canyon Regatta" is the classic race that started in the 1950s and is still the biggest regatta of the year. In addition to super-fun social activities, we expect to have fleets of multi-hulls, keel boats, and one-design boats participating in the regatta on Memorial Day weekend.

Turnback 2017 will take place on Saturday, May 27 and Sunday, May 28, sailing up the lake to Bar K Park in Lago Vista, then back.

**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN** – see the AYC website for full information (<http://www.austinyachtclub.net/2017-turnback-canyon-regatta>). We hope that many AYC members will participate, and we expect a number of boats from other clubs and locations.

Pre-regatta activities and festivities begin on the evening of Friday, May 26. Those who haven't already registered online can sign-up that evening at AYC, and race packets and t-shirts will be available. The race packets will include the notice of race (race instructions), map of the Lago Vista park with areas for food, music and beverages, and areas for your overnight anchorage and camping.

Speaking of t-shirts, we have a very cool one for this year! You get one shirt with registration and there are extra shirts to purchase for your crew, family, and friends at the bargain price of \$15 each (to get your proper size, order in advance online).

Race day, Saturday, May 27, will kick-off early with complimentary breakfast tacos, coffee, and other items. Last-minute registrants can sign up and the remaining race packets and shirts will be distributed. Those who have camping gear can load it on a U-Haul provided by AYC which will shuttle gear back and

forth to Lago Vista. A skippers' briefing will be held by the Race Committee, with the regatta following.

And then it's off to Lago Vista! It should be a beautiful sail of approximately 20 miles. Participants in both the racing and cruising classes will wind their way up Lake Travis – around Hudson and Arkansas Bends, past Lakeway, then north and west passing Calcasieu Point, and finishing up at Bar K Park in Lago Vista. (Check out excellent maps of Lake Travis by googling "Lake Travis maps LCRA").

On Saturday we will anchor on the water's edge and kick back and enjoy the City of Lago Vista's "Lago Fest" ([www.lagofest.com](http://www.lagofest.com)) party in the park. Anchoring guidelines are in the Turnback section of the AYC website and we will have stakes planted on the beach for boats to moor to.

Sunday morning, AYC will also provide an additional bag of ice to replenish your coolers. There will be a designated place in the park for those who want to camp, as opposed to spending the night aboard their boats. AYC will provide a Uhaul which can transport your camping gear to Lago and back on Sunday.

Saturday afternoon and evening, "Lagofest" ([lagofest.com](http://lagofest.com)) will feature live bands, including the Eggmen (a Beatles cover band), Drew Womack, and Hector Ward & the Big Time. You will be able to purchase tacos, seafood, Greek food, wieners, and cheesecake from the on-site food vendors along with imported and domestic beer, water and soft drinks. It should be a great party!

Sunday, bright and early, there will be breakfast tacos on the beach. Then, the second leg of the regatta will run back down the lake to AYC. After returning to AYC, enjoy complimentary beer and beverages, and join us for a Sailing Club fundraiser and cookout, available to purchase. Concluding the weekend will be the Turnback 2017 Awards Ceremony.

Turnback has been a legendary part of AYC's history, and the story only gets better this year! The 2017 version of the Turnback Canyon Regatta promises to be an excellent event thanks to all our dedicated volunteers and our great AYC staff. Hope to see you there!



Turnback Canyon Regatta 2016



# Summer Series Highlights





# Friday Night Beer Can Races



The Keel Handicap Fleet invites all AYC members to participate in fun, informal races with a staggered start so all participants finish at the same time.

**Where:** in the main basin of Lake Travis starting and finishing from the “No Wake” Buoys at the entrance to the AYC harbor.

**When:** Starts Friday April 21 and continues every Friday night through September. In April and again in September the first boat will start at 6:30 PM so you can get in before dark. You do not have to come in then, we just thought some of you like to put your boat up while you can still see what you are doing.

In May through August the first boat will start at 7:00PM. Your exact start time is based on your PHRF handicap.

Check your start time by handicap rating on the AYC bulletin board.

Oh, and one more thing, If your boat is made to fly a spinnaker and you don't fly it you can start 30 Seconds earlier than your posted time.

The course: Round the AYC marks B, E, and Channel Mark 5 in any order you dare! **Sailing Tip:** Avoid sailing through water with less depth than your boat requires with its keel down!

**Protests:** Really? Settle these among yourselves over a cool drink and a burger after the race. The KHF will set aside a special picnic table for you and invite everyone over to offer advice.

**Winner,** Winner Chicken Dinner! The winner gets something to be determined by the KHF, usually a bottle of wine but occasionally something else and sometimes just a pat on the back if we forget to purchase prizes. And hey, before you start whining about that, remember the entrance fee was zip, zero, nada.

Each time you win, add, 30 seconds to your start time for the rest of the races. Save your killer instincts for Sunday, we want everyone to win even if they have an inch or two of moss on their hull.

**Post-race social activities** are limited only by your imaginations just keep in mind this is a family oriented venue. The KHF will provide a tasty meal for the low, low price of only \$5.00 to make sure you are well nourished for whatever you decide to do after racing.



## Roadrunner Fleet Update

by Mary Carew



Houston Yacht Club was the location for the fourth TSA regatta of the year on April 22-23. Saturday started out with really light winds but it grew breezy during the day. Crazy winds and cooler temperatures greeted the kids on Sunday morning and kept the Green Fleet on shore for the day. Launching from the beach was extremely challenging but AYC sailors showed a lot of determination!

### Results

#### Laser Radial (10 Boats)

**Ben Froelich: 4th**

**Andrew Butler: 5th**

#### Opti Green (15 boats)

**Keen Cabrera: 7th**

#### Opti RWB (44 boats)

**Tony Slowik: 1st overall and 1st in Red Fleet**

**Lucas Tenreiro: 4th overall and 2nd in Blue Fleet**

**Fiona Froelich: 17th overall and 10th in Blue Fleet**

**James Brock: 24th overall and 14th in Blue Fleet**

**Nicholas Carew: 29th overall and 18th in Blue Fleet**

**Katie Froelich: 35th overall and 6th in White Fleet**

**Keynes Cabrera 38th overall and 9th in White Fleet**



Roadrunners at April 22-23 TSA Regatta, Houston Yacht Club

Here at AYC, the Endless Summer Series starts on Wednesday, May 17 and we are lucky to have **Bill Records** as PRO again this year. This is a really fun, low-key race series with on-the-water coaching followed by social time at the Club. All junior sailors are welcome; please reach out if you have any questions.

## Catalina 22 Update

by Steve Pervier



### Catalina 22 Fleet

After Spring Series and Governor's Cup ended with three breezy to windy racing weekends, an inter-series break was extended a week by a very windy Summer Series #1 day on 4/30. I canceled with my crew about 10:30 that morning, as northwest wind gusts built to over 30, making solid whitecaps on a dark blue lake. It was as if Spring Series wanted its final windy weekend back!

There were no C22s, Southcoasts, Ensigns, or J/22s racing. Hats off (those that didn't blow away) to the 10 finishers that day, even to the three other boats who didn't finish, and to the J/24 RC. A good weather day makes the RC look better, but a good RC makes even a challenging day look good!

Our meandering Summer Series schedule continues into the first two Sundays of June, skipping Mother's Day and Turnback weekends. By the way, at least a couple of C22s are practicing for those long spinnaker legs in Turnback. We have additional trained spinnaker crew available for any who need.

We have a new C22 membership in AYC: **James and Sarah Denny**! **James** has been carefully restoring a boat to top condition, and equipping her fully for cruising. Years ago a C22 at AYC had radar installed, and the cruising fleet once had one with wheel steering. But now we look forward to seeing a Catalina 22 with running water!

Race day #2 of Summer Series saw **Brian and Margarito** take two bullets, including an impressive pin-end port tack start. They gave the Ensigns a look at C22 speed. **Brett, Louise, and Owen** did well, getting a good spinnaker run in race 2 that day. **James and Sarah** sailed with me, which was delightful even if I didn't pick the tacks well. Best of all was when many of us shared tables for lunch before the race, and social time after.

It's time to sail, with a full lake, days warm but not too hot, and moderate wind on many days. Let's go sailing!

### Catalina 30 Fleet

Well, we aren't a fleet officially! But there are seven of these big, beautiful cruising Catalinas in AYC now, with the joining of new member **Kurt Gustafson**, and the acquisition of a C30 by former C22 sailors **David and Natalie Grogono**. Our boats range from sail numbers below 2000 to over 5000, with the newest boats being the Mark 2 redesign (T-shaped cockpit). Many of us have other boats for racing, though a boat this size is wonderful for Turnback, with such amenities as a full galley, enclosed head with shower, and bimini top on many of them. Feel free to contact me for more information, maintenance and parts resources, or maybe a Friday beer can or MoonBurn sail!

## A Fleet Update

by Ray Shull



Since last month's update, A Fleet has been involved in providing burgers to the hungry hordes of Friday evening races, racing in the first Summer Series Race, racing in the first MoonBurn Series Race, and providing Race Committee for the second Summer Series Race.

### Friday Cooking Duty

A Fleet was assigned the cooking duty for May for the Friday evening racing. The first Friday of May was also the first MoonBurn race of the year. The crew of Lickety Split, (or was it their alter ego Rogue Warrior), volunteered for the cooking that evening. They did a great job of feeding the masses before those same masses departed for the night's racing. The chefs for the remaining Fridays in May will be **Matt Romberg, Claudia and John Bartlett, and Johannes Brinkmann**. If you attend and partake of one of their delicious meals, please remember to thank them for their efforts.

### MoonBurn Race

The MoonBurn race on May 5 brought out several A Fleet boats. Amazing Grace, Farfrumwerken, Wild Hare, and Flyer represented the J 80 group, along with the 11 Meter - Warrior, the J 29 - Just Not Right, and the SB 20. A Fleet was the largest class to race with these seven boats. **Claude Welles** and the Jackrabbit crew came by us and asked if they could race, but since they were in a fast powerboat, we told them they couldn't. The race started in a light northeasterly breeze near LCRA mark 5, with a course planned to next round LCRA mark 7, then LCRA mark 4, and then repeat this sequence if the winds allowed. The wind had other plans that evening, and fortunately the race committee shortened the course to finish us at mark 7. On that "weather" leg, we started in upwind mode, set the spinnaker about halfway there, and after numerous jibes, periods of very calm winds, and a catching a few wisps of wind managed to eek past mark 7 where the race committee thankfully finished us. We then slowly sailed back to the Club in the cool night breeze and enjoyed the nearly full moon and great sailing/driftng.

### Summer Series #1

This light air race was a far cry from the previous weekend's first Summer Series race. That day the winds were howling out of the north after the frontal passage the previous night. Only a few boats ventured out to try out the blustery winds. Lickety Split and Flyer were the only A Fleet boats to stay out and race in these conditions. We both sailed non-spinnaker in the first race. I later found out that for Lickety Split it was due to them shredding their spinnaker before the race on a practice set and run in the high winds. On Flyer, it just seemed to be an easy decision with the winds steadily in the low 20s and gusts reported to be over 30 mph. In the second race the winds dropped a bit to where we felt comfortable setting our chute and we were rewarded by a great high-speed downwind run. The only time we weren't on a plane on that leg was when we were jibing.

### Summer Series #2

The following weekend A Fleet was race committee for the second Summer Series race. Special thanks to **Claude Welles, Chris Hargett, David DeSalvo**

and his crew **Vincent, Bruce McDonald, Bruce McFarland, Chris and Justin Wolfe, Kurt Carson, and Larry Ralliff** for serving on RC that day. The races went off on-time and in some great sailing conditions. We gave the fleets some fairly long courses due to the warm weather, clear skies, and steady (for Lake Travis) winds that we had. We didn't hear any complaints from the sailors.

### Fair Winds, Chris and Justin

Lastly, you may have noticed that Spadefoot hasn't been around AYC since the end of April. **Chris and Justin** said that they are having some repair work done on her before they haul her to Newport for the Bermuda One-Two race in June. **Justin** will be sailing the single-handed leg to Bermuda that starts June 2. **Chris** will join him there for the double-handed leg back to Newport that starts on June 15. You can follow them during the race at the Bermuda One-Two web site at <http://www.bermuda1-2.org/>.

It's great that they are competing in this event and we all wish them the best of luck in this adventure. On a sad note, they also said that they are moving themselves and Spadefoot back to the Pacific Northwest after this race. We hate to see great sailors such as **Chris and Justin** leave AYC, but we wish the best in their future adventures. We expect that they will continue to be successful in their sailing endeavors and hope to see them back here in the future, at least for a visit.

## J/24 Fleet Update

by Stu Juengst



The second J/24 circuit stop of the year was Fort Worth Boat Club's Annual Regatta. Five boats from AYC made the trip: Stray Dog, Superman, Vang Go, GIGGLES, and Sforzando. As is typical of Eagle Mountain Lake this time of year, it was cold and windy. Prevailing winds were in the low 20s, gusting into the low 30s. The highest windspeed measured at the FWBC clubhouse was 37 kts! After four breezy races on Saturday, GIGGLES was in second, two points behind Miss Conduct. Sunday was a much nicer day with sunshine and much lighter air. **Natalie Harden and crew** had a good day, coming back to win the regatta by one point! Team Stray Dog also had a good day, snagging a 4th and a 2nd in the last race! **Jorge and crew** finished 4th overall for the regatta, with Superman 5th and Vang Go 6th.

The J/24 fleet had R/C duty for Summer Series #1, so #2 was our first chance to compete. We had 5 boats come out to play, but Superman had to retire before the start with a broken chainplate. Team Vang Go took two bullets, edging out **Rachel Loziuk's crew** on Jolly Bevo.





## BLUE DUCK CANDIDATE? YOU BE THE JUDGE.

Is this an attempt to retrieve a halyard without going up the mast? (as suggested by **Stu Juengst** and **Deborah Mathison**).

The defense:

"I think that was an intentional and controlled maneuver. Boat owners were excited to NOT have to go up the mast. They came around asking if anyone had a bosun's chair. **Terry Schertz** said, no but you don't need one, let me show you how it's done. I wasn't there as they were doing it, but I'm pretty sure it was all on purpose." (**Molly Lewis**, Women's Clinic participant)

"We were trying to get the spin halyard – it had gone to the top. We got the boat pulled over, but the halyard was CLEATED on the deck! And, of course, we can't get to the deck. So, had to find a line to tie to it. And, we should have pushed the boat out more instead of only pulling the mast over because it was bumping the dock and the J/24 next to it. But, it all worked out." (**Terry Schertz**, Women's Clinic participant)





## MoonBurn Update

by James Parsons



### MoonBurn 2017 Race 1 Recap

MoonBurn continues to surprise me in a good way, at how many people are getting into racing at night.

For race #1, we had our most boats yet with 19. All 19 boats finished, and the fun was palpable. Palpable, perhaps because the winds were so light, that sound could travel quite far.

Despite the light winds, we still got a fun race in. It was only 1 mark (2 miles up the lake, from mile marker 5 to 7), but it was still at least an hour of floating... I mean racing.

C Fleet was well represented, with **Keith Denebeim** and the **Slip Kid** crew taking home first place overall. Last year, it was all A Fleet for the overall honors. There was a train of A Fleet boats next:

2nd was **Ray Shull**, 2 minutes and 16 seconds later (on corrected time). 3rd was **Johannes' Farvrumwerken**, only 7 seconds ahead of **Kurt's Jus Knot Rite**. **Dave DeSalvo's** SB20 14 seconds later.

Then we had **Charles Valentine** aboard his Weta (with lights and VHF) in 6th.

Chupa Cabra was first in B Fleet, with 7th overall. 8th was **Amazing Grace**, and 9th was **Pat Caughey** and his merry band of revelers.

Aboard the RC boat, we guesstimated that **Pat's** boat had as many crew as the rest of C Fleet.

Honorable mention goes to **Brian Grothues**. His Catalina 22 was the only boat in D Fleet, and went over early. Reports are he mistook his boat for a Laser.

It is not often (one might say once in a blue moon) that I wished for more heat during the day. However, the lack of heat led to the winds not picking up after sunset as usual in the summer.

I'm really looking forward to MoonBurn race #2 on June 9. I'll be in Europe from now (I'm finishing this up outside the gate) until May 30. If anyone can help on RC please get in touch. [moonburnayc@gmail.com](mailto:moonburnayc@gmail.com)



## Sunfish and Laser Wednesday Night Racing

by Paul Jensen



May 3 was the first night for the 2017 season. Unfortunately, a strong frontal system came through at the same time. The Race Committee (**Steve Ehlers**, **Jenny Loehlin**, **Kathy Thorstead**) was able to set a course, but solid whitecap conditions kept most sailors off the lake. Only three Sunfish folks (**Bonner Cordelle**, **Keith Denebeim** and **Ed Hill**) enjoyed spirited sails.

While sailing conditions were not ideal, the turnout for the Sunfish post-race socializing was good. With a little cooperation from the winds, we're off to a great season.



## C Fleet Update

by James Parsons



Summer Series Race 1 was a dominant showing by **Bill Records** and **Cafe at Lait**, as they warm up for Turnback. I don't know much else about the race, as moving and travel hasn't seen me be very active in the Summer Series.

Summer Series Race 2, I haven't a clue. As I'm on a plane, I can't see the results. I do know more boats were out than the first race, and the Pirate Unicorn

made a once in a blue moon appearance, and started late but had a ton of fun not giving up and discovering her newbie crew were able to take on way more than we thought at the start. Our goal was to have fun and not be last, which we achieved, and we nearly beat a B fleet boat across the line.

We also had MoonBurn Race #1, which you can read more about in a much better written article. But C Fleet has been a major catalyst for helping get the series going. So I was thrilled to see that **Keith Denebeim** took home the overall first place. I'm also thrilled to be racing in it when I get back.

Turnback Canyon Regatta is looming on the horizon, and I'm sure y'all will have a blast. One tip for ya: bring a small floating vessel if you can, or you'll be waiting to use the Club's. Oh, and bring something that shoots water. I get back in the country the following Tuesday and will launch straight into organizing and practicing for MoonBurn #2 on June 9.

If you can help out with RC for MoonBurn, please get in touch. Your volunteer race is credited as equal to your worst finish (if you have a throw out DNC, it doesn't count as the worst :-)

## Ensign Fleet Update

by Bill Hawk



The Ensign Fleet has been enjoying a beautiful Spring of sailing, despite the windy conditions and chilly waters of Lake Travis.

### Spring Series

The Spring Series saw a total of 12 boats participating, with an average of about eight boats per weekend.

The series lead was swapped between the top four or five boats, depending on the wind conditions and who showed up to race on any given weekend.

The winner was never much in doubt, however — **George and Franz Dahmen** on 588 Styf Kop consistently won at least one race every weekend while it counted, and handily beat **Tom Groll** on 578. **James and Karen Bland** on 2021 Spirit crept into third place with both consistent attendance and good boat-handling in the breezier conditions towards the end of the series — **David Gamble** on 1167 One with the Wind was a point back in fourth place, followed by **Lewis Price** on 929 Dos Locos, **Bill and Kelly Hawk** on 1414 Prickly Pair, and **Annie and Charlie Lancaster** on 773 Eagle.

## Governor's Cup

The Governor's Cup saw four Ensigns compete — the competition was close but the finish was covered in last month's Telltale so there is little need to cover it here except to congratulate **Tom Groll** for winning and **George Dahmen** for a very close second place.

## Beer Can Dignitary

And the Ensign Fleet was honored (OK, we would have been had anyone known about it) to host our **Fleet National Commodore John Cutler** for a Friday night Beercan race. **John** was in town for a seminar, and since he has agreed to allow **George Dahmen and Anne Kitzmiller** to crew for him in Nationals this fall, **George** invited him for a sail to experience first-hand what he was getting himself into. **John** did not change his mind as a result, so **George and Anne** will be heading up to Michigan in mid-August to race with him. The Nationals are always a great way to spend a vacation, we hope some other Fleet 30 sailors will make it up to the event.

## Sail 4 Kids

June will be a busy month for the Ensign Fleet. The first big weekend is the Sail 4 Kids hosted by **Doug Laws**, scheduled for Saturday, June 3. This event, held every year at the Austin Yacht Club, pairs underprivileged children from the Baptist Children's Home with boats and skippers for a sail-around and cookout. So far we have 25 children signed up, elementary school through high school, and there are some more who would like to come.

Volunteers are being actively recruited to bring a boat, with a skipper and at least one crew member to assist. Some children want to actually help sail the boat, some just want to ride — some are very shy and others are quite open. Please confirm your participation soonest with Fred Ford at [ffordf@gmail.com](mailto:ffordf@gmail.com).

## Chaparral de Mar

Finally, the annual Chaparral de Mar will be held during the final weekend of the Summer Series, on June 11. This event pairs mature skippers, who would like to helm a sailboat during a race but don't have steady crew, with Ensign owners who crew on their own boats while the guest skipper drives. The age limits are 75 years or better for a full Senior, eligible for the championship trophy, while youngsters of only 70 years qualify for the Junior Fleet. The NOR and sign-up information should be posted on the AYC website by the time this is published, if you are interested contact **Danny Lien** or find an Ensign sailor who does not have a skipper onboard yet.



Summer Series Race 2  
Photo by Bruce McDonald



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## NEWSLETTER

Susie McDonald, Editor  
[ghowiellc@aol.com](mailto:ghowiellc@aol.com)

## AYC BUSINESS HOURS

Wednesday - Sunday 9:00A - 5:00P  
CLOSED MONDAY AND TUESDAY

### Closed Club Holidays:

New Year's Day	January 1
Easter Sunday	April 5
Independence Day	July 4
Thanksgiving Day	November 26
Shopping Day	November 27
Christmas Day	December 25

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## AYC 2017 RACE CALENDAR

May 12-14	J22 Southwest Circuit Regatta
May 12, 19, 26	Beer Can Races 6:30p start
May 17, 24, 31	Sunfish/Laser Races 6:00p start
May 21	Summer Series Race #3 1:30p start RC: Ensign
May 27-28	Turnback Canyon Regatta
May 27-28	Spring High School Regatta
Jun 2, 16, 23, 30	Beer Can Races 6:30 start
Jun 4	Summer Series Race #4 1:30p start RC: B Fleet
Jun 7, 14, 21, 28	Sunfish/Laser Races 6:00p start
Jun 9	MoonBurn Night Race #2 6:00p start
Jun 11	Summer Series End of Series 1:30p start RC: C Fleet
Jun 11	Chapparal de Mar 12:15p start
Jun 24	Dog Days Series Race #1 5:00p start RC: C22/SC21

## AYC 2017 NON-RACING EVENTS

May 13-14	ASA 101 Course 8:00a - 5:00p
May 14, 21	Smallboat Intro to Sailing Series 11:00a - 1:00p
May 14, 21	Free Sail Sunday 1:00 - 4:00p
May 20	Learn to Sail Small Boats 8:00a - 5:00p
May 20	Powerboat Safety Course Vic Manning 10:00a
May 21	Girl Scout Learn to Sail Optis 1:00 - 5:00p
May 25	AYC Board Meeting 7:30 - 9:00p
Jun 3	Sail 4 Kids 12:00 - 5:00p
Jun 3, 10, 17, 24	PB&J Summer Series 1 & 2 9:30a - 12:30p
Jun 10-11	ASA 101 Course 8:00a - 5:00p
Jun 10-11	Women's Clinic 10:00a - 5:00p
Jun 12-16	Junior Sailing Camp 1 9:00a - 5:00p
Jun 19-23	Junior Sailing Camp 2 9:00a - 5:00p
Jun 22	AYC Board Meeting 7:30 - 9:00p
Jun 26-30	Junior Sailing Camp 3 9:00a - 5:00p



April Work Party  
Photo by Bill Records



Austin Yacht Club  
5906 Beacon Road  
Austin, TX 78734-1428



**TurnBack**  
**Canyon Regatta**  
**AYC 2017**



**May 27 - 28**  
**Memorial Day Weekend**