

November 2016



Our Common Ground is On the Water



Photo Anne Morley

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SAVE THE DATE

Nov 17	AYC Annual Meeting
Nov 20	Fall Series #4 EOS
Nov 21	Handicap Committee Open Meeting
Nov 26	Wild Turkey Regatta
Dec 3	Annual Banquet
Dec 9	J24 Christmas Party
Dec 10	Catalina Fleet Holiday Party
Dec 11	Roadrunner Holiday Party
Dec 11	Book Club Social



Photo Bill Records

From The Commodore by Molly Lewis



I don't know about anyone else, but there are a lot of regatta weekends and series race days or Beer Can Fridays, or any other countless sailing opportunities, when I start the day off thinking "I just really don't have time to go sailing." I've got work to catch up on, or home chores to attend to, or AYC business that I really should be paying more attention to, or a Telltale article I keep putting off writing, or family obligations, or ... and the list goes

on — generally all pretty legitimate alternative demands for my time. And sometimes, those other demands necessarily win out. And although tending to the other important non-sailing aspects of my life is often the right call, and rewarding in its own way, I cannot remember a single time, ever, that I chose to go sailing instead that I didn't come away feeling like "today, sailing was the right call." There may have actually been a time or two when I didn't feel that way, but I honestly can't remember. What I do remember is the recurrent feeling of being in the middle of a race, sweating my butt off, or fighting the spinnaker pole, or hollering at each other about something that isn't happening fast enough, or covering an opponent, or watching for puffs, or even just hanging out as rail meat or drinking a post-race beer, and having the feeling that at least for that moment in time, right there on that boat on Lake Travis in Austin, Texas, everything was right in that little section of the world, and all the other things I had been worried about prior to going sailing and would have to pay attention to after I got done, would be all right too. I'm not sure what it is exactly about sailing, and sailboat racing in particular, that makes me feel that way, but I'm pretty sure I'm not alone. There is a feeling of "rightness" that comes with harnessing the wind, and executing exactly the right moves to go faster than the other boats, and figuring out how to work as a seamless team, and sometimes not getting any of those things guite right, but still being with friends, and feeling the sun or the cold or the water, and always the wind in your face. That's what I love about sailing, as hard as it sometimes is to put into words.

As you will read throughout this Telltale, and will hear about at the Annual Meeting on November 17th and at the Annual Banquet on December 3rd, there have been many great things going on around AYC — most recently another successful Governor's Cup Regatta, the Chaparral De Mar Regatta, getting to hear about Linda McDavitt's incredible race around the world, the Fall Women's Clinic, AYC's first and hugely successful high school regatta, and the conclusion of an incredibly impressive year for the Roadrunners on the TSA circuit. All of these are great examples of AYC members choosing to go sailing and enjoying the sport we love. At the same time, just like many things in life, these celebratory-worthy sailing events over the past month have been accompanied by challenges and sadness at AYC. Long-time member John Vance passed away in early November; John and Meiling Parker, this year's Governor's Cup Regatta Chairs, lost Meiling's father (who was scheduled to be part of the regatta entertainment) a week before the regatta; this past week, Danny and Norma Lien's son, Jacob, who grew up at AYC, passed away. All these events are unspeakably hard and sad, and our hearts break for our members dealing with these losses. And I know that many other members and staff are facing their own personal challenges and sadnesses, and as a country we are still reeling from a tumultuous election

season. I will not be so flippant as to say that just going sailing will make any of these things better. It won't actually change them. But most of us will agree that sailing does give us a chance to leave the bad behind for a bit and hit the re-set button in our souls. And sailing, at least for me, has created some incredible memories I can re-play in my mind during those times when I can't go sailing but feel like I need to. And, even more than all of that, I have seen and experienced first-hand the friendships that are formed among fellow sailors and AYC members, friendships that provide the network of care and support we all need from time-to-time to get through the rough spots. We are all very lucky to be part of this incredible Club — take advantage of it. Choose to go sailing.

Building and Grounds Report by Chris Thompson



Some of the projects you may have seen underway around the Club this month:

We had a great work party on Saturday 10/29.
 The sound insulation for the office floor/bath house ceiling was completed and all the full size tiles are installed. The remaining ceiling tiles will be cut to size and installed in a future work session.



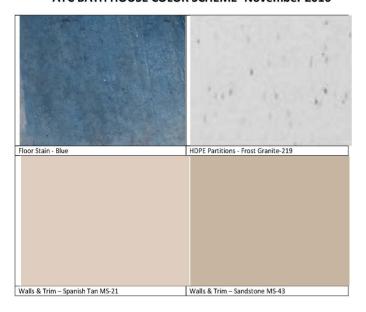
Kirt and Ed installing ceiling insulation

- The bathroom floor drainage project worked out as planned. There are still some floor slope issues along the east wall in the men's room and we will be looking at solutions for that problem.
- Estimates for the clubhouse siding repairs on the east wall have been solicited and will be in next year's budget to repair the woodpecker damage.
- LP gas line repairs are pending some trench work. A new pressure regulator is needed to supply the new on-demand water heaters.
 Replacing the LP gas line will require trenching (18" deep) along the edge of parking lot to the building. Tom Cunningham and I are coordinating this to insure it is done correctly and with minimal interruptions. Trench will be done to proper specs. Gas supplier will lay a new line once the trench is complete.
- Tree removal and field mow were completed in early October.
- The new LED pool light was installed in time for the Luau.

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The bathroom color scheme has been determined and we'll alternate
walls to give some depth. We will use the blue stain for floors for a water
effect. The new bathroom partitions will be a speckled effect in a Canyon
Granite color.

AYC BATH HOUSE COLOR SCHEME- November 2016



 Contractor's estimates for the remaining tasks for the bathroom remodel have been reviewed and selections have been made. They will begin work soon on the painting and shower conversion. We'll let you know if/ when the bath house will be out of service.

Thanks to those invaluable volunteers (and the hardworking **Tom Cunningham** as always!):

Kirt Carson
John Maddalozzo
Victor Gotay
Julie Chicoine
Ed Taylor
James Bland
Amy Louise Schwartz
Mark O'Brien
Gillian Corcoran
Erich Schwartz

Sail Training Report by Bill Records



Women's Clinic

The Fall Women's Clinic was a huge success. Future Sail Training Commander Carolyn Wilsford and Linda McDavitt ran one of the best sail training events ever. They recruited some of the best skippers and crew the Club has to offer, including Claudia Bartlett, Terry Schertz, Annie Lancaster, Stephanie Froelich, Candace Miller, Ann Kitzmiller,

Chris Bataile, Bonnie Lackey, Ann Riggs, Renee Ruias, Lynna Holland, Molly Lewis, and Sarah Baker.





After a brief introduction and chalk talk, everyone rigged the boats and went sailing. Each student was taught all aspects of sailing a keel boat. Next, Carol Frick and crew prepared a very tasty and nutritious lunch of Mediterranean sandwiches and fruit. After lunch, it was back on the water and this year they had an obstacle course of sorts. Each student was directed to perform various boat handling maneuvers and Susan Davis judged and gave a score for each task, resulting in a final score. Karen Kennedy of Schertz, TX won and received a very nice bag, donated by John Bartlett. Women's visors were presented as other awards. At the end of the day, a fabulous meal was prepared by Carol Frick, James Wilsford and crew. Servers included Doug Casey, Steve Frick, and Mark O'Brien. After dinner, the group was treated to Linda McDavitt sharing stories from her great adventure. Everyone went away happy and content and some inquired about membership.

Roadrunners at Governor's Cup

The Roadrunners again represented a significant part of Governor's Cup. There were seven Optis and two Lasers. Lucy Brock raced a J22, Yikes! Missing was Ethan Froelich, who was sailing down in Wurstfest Regatta on a Laser (he took 1st place!) Sailing Optis were James Brock, Fiona Froelich, Katie Froelich, Nicolas Carew, Kynes Cabrera, Keene Cabrera, and new member Kevin Duhovich. Maggie McElmurry and Wendi Froelich match raced their Lasers. In the Opti fleet, James Brock ran away with it, winning all but three races. Fiona got her typical good starts, won race six, and took second place. Katie Froelich surprised everyone (not me) and sailed consistently to take a solid third. Nicolas Carew started strong with a second in race one and battled to take fourth overall. Kynes Cabrera showed that practice pays off, winning race eight and taking fifth place. Kevin Duhovich and Keene Cabrera took sixth and seventh respectively. In the Laser class, Maggie McElmurry edged out Wendi Froelich in the friendliest competition all weekend! Check out the photos on page 11 in the Governor's Cup article.

Fall Women's Clinic









Photos Bill Records









Sailing Director Report by Coleman Terrell



October was an extremely busy month! Especially for our youth sailors. They traveled down to Lakewood Yacht Club in Kemah for the TSA year end regatta. Our kids sailed really well, as they usually do, and ended up placing extremely well in the year-long overall standings! For full results please check out the final standings and awards at www.txsail.org. I would like to recognize a few specific sailors for their achievements this year:

Fiona Froelich, Nicholas Carew, James Brock, and Lucy Brock completed all 14 travel regattas this year! AYC had 4/5 of the sailors that completed the whole schedule. All of our First Time Travel Sailors this year: Taylor Snyder, Maggie McElmurry, Kynes Cabrera, Aidan Krempetz, and Zander Krempetz. And in addition to Fiona, Nicholas, Lucy and James, we also had 10 other sailors complete at least 7 regattas to qualify for the year end standings! Eric and Anna Jayawant, Ben, Ethan, and Katie Froelich, Julius Heitkoetter, Lucas Tenrreiro, Andrew Butler, Eli Ortiz, and Aidan Krempetz.

I am very proud of all of you guys and girls for competing so well this year and representing our Club so well! I also want to thank all of the Roadrunner Fleet parents for continuing to support our traveling sailors as well as you do. Without y'all this would not be possible!

After TSA wrapped up, **Jeff Brock** and I, along with many amazing volunteers were able to put together a great High School regatta. It was attended by 17 teams from 10 different high schools from Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, and Austin. It was a great start to what I hope will be a very active high school sailing program. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped get this going! On the same weekend as the high school regatta, we also held our Fall Women's Clinic. It was a perfect day to sail, one of the few we've had this fall so far. Everything went really well, thanks to **Carolyn Wilsford** and her great

team of volunteer teachers and skippers! We had 15 students attend the clinic and from the feedback I received, they really enjoyed the experience and learned a whole lot!

Next up was Governor's Cup on the first weekend of November. I was out of town this weekend since I was sailing at Wurstfest, but Coach Gracie was here



to support our Optis that were out racing. The wind was fairly light and shifty but they still managed to get a good number of races off. Thanks **Bill Records** for putting our Opti line together and making sure our kids get to sail! Congratulations to **Jamie Brock** who took home 1st place and congratulations to **Keen Cabrera and Kevin Duhovich** for participating in their first regatta!

As I mentioned before, I was down at Wurstfest at LCYC racing in my sunfish. We had 13 AYC sailors there, sailing in Sunfish, Lasers, and Portsmouth fleets. Our wind was also light and shifty but the Sunfish fleet managed to get 7 races in while the Lasers got 3 long races on Saturday only. Our fleet was very competitive with 5 different race winners out of 7 races. Congratulations to Ravi for winning the sunfish fleet, and Annie and Ed for coming in 3rd and 4th respectively. This makes the 3rd year in a row that an AYC sailor has won the Sunfish fleet at Wurstfest! Congratulations to Fred for finishing 3rd in the Laser, and Ethan for finishing 1st in the Laser 4.7! It was a great weekend with a lot of good sailing and good fun and I can't wait for next year!

Our fall season practices are almost over, and then we will take a little break until after Christmas. In January we will start up right away with a Laser and Opti racing preseason because these kids never want to stop sailing!

TSA End of Year Regatta



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Governor's Cup Regatta by Vice Commodore Wade Bingaman



Once again AYC members put on a wonderful regatta. **John Parker**, the Regatta Chair, had the whole event well organized in advance. At the last minute, John was unable to attend, but his regatta volunteers stepped up and made sure it was a success.

The event kicked off Friday evening with a mango margarita happy hour. The drink mixologists were **Dave Broadway and Laura Miller**. Laura was also kind enough to take over most of John's regatta duties for

the weekend. Thanks Laura!

On Saturday the racing began. Fifty boats participated in ten different fleets. Race Committee was headed by **Bob Mathison and Larry Ratliff** along with volunteers — **Fred Ford, Chris Renner, and Matt Roberts**. They made sure all the adult fleets got plenty of races. **Bill Records** ran the junior fleets. Everyone was pleased with the T-shirts and awards that **Tommy Gairloff and Hillary Anderson** assembled.

The food all weekend was delicious. The Roadrunner Fleet, led by **Stephanie Froelich and Constanze Heitkoetter**, cooked up a great Saturday meal. The dance party afterward was definitely a hit. The party was helped along by the fun decorations put up by **Gordon and Candice Miller, John Saunders and Jan Thompson**.

A final word of thanks to some of the jobs that go unnoticed:

Keeping the beer flowing — Tom Cunningham Registration — Steve & Carol Frick, Carolyn Wilsford, and Stephanie Froelich. Scoring — Chris Thompson

Seeing all these people work together to hold this regatta reminded me of what a unique Club we have. Volunteering is at the core of what makes AYC successful.

Here are the fleet winners:

Opti — James Brock Laser — Maggie McElmurry Catalina 22 — John Grzinich Ensign — Tom Groll J-24 — Steve Ehlers J-22 — John Halter C Fleet — Chris Thompson VX One — Jeff Progelhoff MultiHull — Bo Kersey A Fleet — Kristina Wolfe



















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Governor's Cup: A PRO Perspective by Bob Mathison



In the week leading up to Governor's Cup, the winds were looking light, but steady, and out of the east. By Saturday morning, easterly winds had dropped in speed but looked pretty steady, so we set up an easterly windward course. As soon as we started the sequence, the wind began shifting out of the south, but we were able to start the Multihulls and C fleet.

With the long-distance boats started, we could then focus on the 'round-the-buoy races. We headed into

the center of the lake and started taking new readings. Time passed, the wind shifted to the west...and we sat! In about an hour, the wind shifted, finally settling out of the "mostly" east. We hurried to set up a new course — start line, leeward mark, two windward marks and an upwind finish line at around 95 degrees and then started the sequence. It was now about noon and the starts went smoothly for the A fleet and VX1 fleet.

But then came the J22/J24 fleets — the line was packed, the hard-core sailors were overly pumped...and we had our first general recall! All came back and the J fleet sailed off, followed by the Catalina 22s and Ensigns. The first course for everyone was a W5, that is up to windward, back to leeward, up, back and up to finish at an anchored chase boat above the windward mark. From the race committee boat, it's a beautiful sight when the boats turn to make their downwind runs with spinnakers flying.

In races two and three, we went with W3s, and by the end of the day we had three races under our belts. Can we get in a fourth race? At 15 minutes to the time limit, we decided to send A fleet and the VX1s on a fourth race, but by then the winds had shifted and race four turned out to be a reach. Oh well, you can't win them all.

Day two and the forecast was for very light winds out of the east again. RC headed out, set the easterly start line and started the long-distance racers, followed by a postpone to wait out the shifts. Slowly the wind tracked to the south, shifted back to the east then settled in from the south. RC went into action setting the start, leeward, windward marks and finish line. We decided on a W3 course and went into the rotation. Winds unexpectedly picked up a little and the A fleet boats were off, followed by the VX1s.

The J boats were up. Once again, the sailors were pumped and the crowded start line resulted in a general recall! The next start was close to the line, but the "all clear" sounds and we were on to start six — the Catalina 22s and Ensigns. All boats were off, and we started thinking about a race two.

A quick look at the radar changed our minds as two fronts were converging on Austin, one from the south and one from the west, both carrying heavy rain. A quick call to the clubhouse and the TV radar showed lightning 43 miles out but headed our way. A quick conference and it was decided we'd have no more races — send everyone back to the clubhouse.

But now, where were our long-distance racers, and could we shorten their

courses? The fastest trimaran was headed for mark 4. If we could finish there, we could get folks off the course before the storm blew through. Chase 2 headed off at full speed to reach mark 4 before the first trimaran or first C-fleet boat arrived. RC set up for a shortened finish and the first trimaran crossed...but the wind died, indicating the front had arrived. There was no wind for about 15 minutes; the 45-minute time limit to finish the remaining boats was about to expire. We got a slight breeze and the second trimaran finished. Then the first C-fleet boat finished, and their 45-minute time limit started. By this time, Chase 1 had picked up the windward marks and start line and headed in to the clubhouse with scores from the one-design races. Chase 2 was on station, finishing the remaining C-fleet boats; RC was watching the radar and checking the progress of the still-racing fleets. Several C-fleet boats finished and the time limit expired. It was time for all boats to head for the clubhouse. On the trip from mark 4, we spotted the four trimarans that didn't make the time limit but were headed back to the Club. All C-fleet boats not making the time limit were also back to the Club and the weather was still clear. We arrived at the Club, sounded the horn, docked and packed up. The harbor was full of activity – tying up boats, folding sails, tossing down a few adult beverages and putting boats on trailers, or waiting in line for trailers.

Most of the activity quickly shifted to the clubhouse for libations and snacks, prepared y the Roadrunner Fleet. (Thanks Roadrunners for both the snacks and a GREAT dinner on Saturday night!) There was lots of race talk and mingling with friends. All of a sudden, the sky turned dark, the wind picked up and it rained — big time! I looked out over the lake and took satisfaction in seeing there were no boats on the water. It was a good day racing and everyone was home safe.

As PRO, you always want your race management to be perfect for all competitors, but there are many factors in play and perfection is typically unattainable. So you plan, assemble your crew, discuss the conditions, put your plan into action, and hope for the best. Once the event is over, you don't have to wait long for the results and your competitors will let you know if you achieved your goals.

I had a wonderful time serving as PRO for this event. It was stressful and I'm exhausted, but I assembled a new team that worked well together — and we made many new friends. I hope this will encourage other Club members to actively volunteer to chair a regatta, be the PRO or serve on RC. You won't regret it. In fact, I think you'll wonder why you hadn't done it already.

My super race committee: Larry Ratliff, James Bland, Linda Donovan, Fred Ford, Bob Musselman, Chris Renner, Matt Roberts, Robert Stephens, Ken Taylor, Chris Thompson, Barry Thornton, Mary Volpe, Bruce Uphaus and Lynna Holland.

Here's a comment that made my day, coming from a very active Club member. "You were a magician! You pulled four races out of your hat and made it a great regatta!" Man can I live with that!

See you on the water.

RC photos by James Bland next page













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Harvest Moon Regatta by Philippe Bettler



Here we are, back from Harvest Moon regatta, alive and kicking! Invited by **Bo Kersey** to race on Abandoned Assets with **Robbin Kersey**, **Kristin Spidler and Kurt Carson**, we leave Austin on Wed for Galveston, trailering the boat. Blue sky and hot day at 90F. We get the boat ready, mast up and loading up gear, sails — we have a brand new set — liquids, and the great food **Robbin** and **Kristin** carefully selected — my favorites were homemade brownies and apple sauce!

Here is a sample of a wind charts from Galveston to Port Aransas (Aransas Pass), bottom left, about 150 nautical:

http://www.sailflow.com/map#28.25,-95.915,8,305937

Here is the GPS replay, we were in gold fleet, "Abandoned Assets:"

http://harvestmoonregatta.com/race-information/live-tracking-529.html

The forecast is a light 5 knots getting to 15-20 knots during the night to lighten again early morning.

Thursday am, we finish prepping the boat, getting it in the water and extending the amas. Our start is at 15:15, we are the last fleet, but alas, like everybody else, the line is a few miles out from the marina. Some engine problems and the dying breeze put us about 15 minutes after our start time...

We are busy the first hours reeling in the other boats as **Bo, Kristin and Kurt** take turns. Soon enough we are windward of them looking for a stronger and earlier breeze. We can see the limit of the wind zone, located just below a nice cloud river (alignment of cumuluses). We increase our lead and look in vain for our competitors, to the front and to the back.

The moon, almost full, shines a bright light on the trampoline and the 5 crews onboard. We hoisted the spinnaker before the start and won't take it down until after we cross the line. We take turns driving and mine come at 7:30p. After enjoying the sun and warm temperatures, we each come down inside to get our gear. Temperatures will still be in the lower 80s with a sea just a bit cooler. Micro fleece pants, weatherproof bib and neoprene 1 mm socks for the bottom and long sleeve lycra, harness and life jacket up top. It is almost hot but still comfortable. The boat is already going very well between 10 and 15 knots. I latch the safety line on a running line with my 4 fellow crew members. Too much safety?

Wind slowly builds to 15-17 knots, the 31 footer is such a pleasure to steer. Lots of power, but light enough to give us nice slides in a sea filled will moon light. Colors are beautifully eery. Our blue spinnaker is lit up by our starboard (green) running light and as our port (red) light is dead we enjoy the scene unbothered. The water all around us shines silver.

Light on the spinnaker provides good clues on the trim and our apparent wind angle. Pinch and the shadow at the front of sail increases, we need to bear off. Too much pull on the tiller and the boat stops. We have a nice 15 knots of average ground speed over the 4 hours I drive with a top speed close to 20 knots according to the GPS, certainly nice candy. And looking aft, I realize that the life line, after all, might not be a bad idea. Getting thrown in the water at 15 knots wouldn't look good. It would take a good 5 minutes to get the spinnaker down and more than a mile of water would have already passed under the trampoline.

I come down inside around 11:30p to check on the chart. We have a perfect route going 235 degrees to the channel marker. I lay down, it's weird to



have wet feet yet warm...I'll take the helm back around 1a, the breeze is lighter and the boat's moves are smoother.

We are getting into the land mine: a slew of drilling platforms lay before us. Some lit, others lurking in the shadow of the night, fortunately, we have the moon. Somehow, in the corner of the eye I can sense a drilling tower. It is still faint enough that staring at it makes it disappear, to tame it you need to look at it from the side, sinister.

We are getting closer, do we leave it to windward or leeward? This one will be windward. Here is another one, this one is lit and much bigger. To make it safe, we are going to its leeward side, it is always easier to bear down into open water in case the wind picks up.

The next one has three towers joined at the top by a catwalk: going through it would have decapitated our mast... We will get close to many others before eventually coming to the channel entrance. But where is the damn marker? Red flash 2.5 seconds.

The horizon is covered by white and yellow lights: tens of boats are moored east of the channel, gas or oil tankers. Port Aransas provides a nice entry into the Corpus Christi bay, home of many refineries.

We slalom above and below all these ships to finally get to the marker, the atmosphere is tense, we decide to keep the spinnaker.

Jibe and re-jibe to stay within the channel, rocks are close, too close. We make it. The channel narrows to the finish line, by the time we see a tanker seemingly taking us as a target. The beast gets closer and eventually passes us: what a monster!

We cross the finish line by 3:30a about 12 hours after our start, are we first? As we get into the marina we discover 2 masts, grrr. They were here an hour before us. The crew is nevertheless left with great memories of warm temperatures, great speeds in the night and camaraderie.

It was a great human adventure filled with incredible sailing emotions. Thank you to **Bo and Robbin** for the invitation and to the crew for a great time onboard.

Bon vent a tous!

Keel Fleet Single Handed Regatta by John Thurston



We have seen how well our talented sailors race with a full crew at AYC events. The Keel Fleet Single Handed regatta held on October 16 provided an opportunity to showcase our skippers' true skills sailing alone with no electronic steering devices. It has been quite some time since the Keel Fleet Single Handed Regatta was held at AYC, and I was honored to chair the event this year. Nineteen (19) boats raced in the regatta and it was great to see some of our sailors

participate who we do not usually see in the series races. The weather conditions were near perfect with sunny skies and wind from the Southeast at 8-10 knots.

Boats were divided into three classes and sailed the same long distance course. We had a diverse mix of boats including a VX One, SB 20, and J80 in the A class; San Juan 7.7, Capri 25, and J22/24s in B class; and Ensign, Catalina 22, Ranger 23, Columbia 26, Pearson 26, Ericson 27 and Catalina 27 in C class. John Bartlett placed first in the A class sailing a J/80. John Saunders took first in the B class on a J/22. For the C class, Tom Groll placed first in an Ensign and also won the Overall award for the fastest corrected time. A Sportsmanship Award was presented to Keith Renard who sailed his Catalina 27 the slowest in the event. Keith is a long-time AYC member and we all know how hard you to have to work sailing a large boat by yourself to finish first or last.

A successful regatta cannot be held without dedicated volunteers. I want to extend my sincere thanks to the race committee including Jim Casto (PRO), Karen Bogisch, Alan Stanard, Andre DeLaReza, Patrick Caughy, Tom Fuller, Owen Crouse and Vincent Vu who also took great photos of the event. After the regatta racers enjoyed an awards social including baja tacos with shrimp, beef, pork, and chicken thanks to help from Bob Goldsmith. I greatly appreciate everyone racing in this unique and fun regatta!







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Single Handed Regatta









More photos on the back cover



Wurstfest | Regatta by Annie Lancaster



The Austin Yacht Club was well represented at the Centerboard Wurstfest Regatta, November 5-6.

The winds were light, variable and wet but most of the time we were moving forward. Canyon Lake always puts on a great regatta regardless of the wind.

Jenny Loehlin sailed her Harpon, Fearless, in the Portsmith races and placed 2nd.

There was a big fleet of Aeros and Mike Mashl finished 10th.

The Laser fleet was huge with 25 boats, 20 boats in the Laser Radial fleet and 5 in the Laser 4.7 fleet. Fred Schroth came in 3rd in the Lasers. Ben Froelich came in tenth in the Radials with Andrew Butler in 14th, Eli Ortiz 16th and Will Abrams 20th. And in the Laser 4.7, Ethan Froelich took first place!

Last, but not least, AYC had 6 Sunfish sailers. Ravi Subramanian took first, Annie Lancaster took 3rd, Ed Hill 4th, Coleman Terrell 6th, Keith Denebeim 10th and Pat Manning took 14th. Thataway to represent.

This regatta was the last regatta in the 2016 Southwest Regional Sunfish Curcuit and **Ed Hill** is the 2016 Champion. Congratulations Ed!

Chaparral de Mar Regatta by Bill Hawk



On October 23rd, the Ensign Fleet hosted the 2016 Chaparral de Mar Regatta. This AYC premier racing event is for highly experienced skippers who get to race with the boat owner working as crew.

"Mid-seventies to upper nineties" sounds like a daily weather forecast, but in the case of the Chaparral de Mar it also described the ages of the nine skippers who competed. In what other event in what other sport

can participants of all ages compete as well?

Of note, **Karel Dahmen** (Frans and George's Dad) led the pack at a young 97 years. If you ever get a chance to talk to **Karel** about boats and adventures when the family is out for an AYC picnic, I suggest you do so.



You might ask about his secretly ferrying refugees out of Holland during WWII. He is a man who quietly smiles when it blows hard, having grown up racing on the North Sea.

The wind was a medium breeze before the race, so the Regatta Committee decided to allow the competitors to fly big genoas instead of #2 jibs. As we sailed out, though, the breeze freshened and brought whitecaps in the puffs and crews sitting on the rails.

The start-line was long and those who chose the wrong side played catch-up. Tom Romberg punched out at the start, immediately found an inside lift, and then held on to a close lead throughout the rest of the race. Three boats, skippered by Brad Davis, Bruce Faust (Eric Faust's Dad), and Karel Dahmen were all in second place at one time or another as they played the upwind shifts, but they could not catch Tom.



Other Chaparral skippers were **Elliott Bray, Jake Aggarwal, and Keith Renard**. There were also two Junior Division Skippers (barely eligible at ages 70-74). **John Grzinich** just beat out **Steve Gay** for the Jr. Trophy.

There have now been three Chaparrals at the Club, over three years and with three different names on the Trophy — **Arak Bozyan** 2014, **Brad Davis** 2015, and now **Tom Romberg** as the 2016 Chaparral de Mar champion. If you want to race next year you need to request an Ensign and its owner-crew early, as we already have entry requests lined up!

J/24 Fleet Update by David Broadway



The busy Fall racing schedule included the September events at J/24 NAs in Port Credit, Ontario, followed by the Houston YC Hood, and 4 back-to-back weekends with the Lakewood YC JFest, AYC Governors Cup, Lake Canyon YC Wurstfest, and the upcoming season finale Circus, also at LCYC.

AYC Road Warriors comprised 5 of the 15 HYC HOOD entries. Team Giggles **Natalie and Bob Harden** with local crew **Rachel Loziuk** won the event. Having won

the first five Circuit events, Giggles sewed up the 2016 J/24 Texas Circuit Regatta Championship!

At the LYC JFest stop, 6 of the 16 entries hailed from AYC. Not satisfied, Team Giggles won the 6th straight stop of the season. John/Meiling Parker's ChupaCabra team had a 5th place overall finish (their first top 5 finish), including a bullet finish in the mix. Both AYC boats raced on the big stage at the J/24 NAs in Canada.

continued next page

AYC Governors Cup had 4 J/24 entries including **Graham/Judy Marshall's** Claire Buoyant, from the Woodlands, with a bullet in the last race. The competition was close. Team Stray Dogs versatile core crew had **Steve Ehlers** on the helm, **Adolfo Bernal**, with **Jorge Martín-de-Nicolás**, all complemented with the return of **Joan Freeman** after a 4 year hiatus! **Joan and Greg Freeman**, while busy raising 2 future J/24 racers, have been taking turns getting back to the start line. In the last race, Stray Dogs was hung out to dry in the right corner, but Captain Bligh failed to cover as the Dogs roared out of the corner on the last tack to win the event!

At the LCYC Wurstfest Keel event, the Stray Dogs once again complemented their core crew with the brain trust of **Miranda Grummons** and **Emy Usheva** to win the event by two points over Superman. Congratulations to **Miranda Grummons** on recently passing the state bar exam and to **Emy Usheva**, who somehow found some time for racing despite a hectic class schedule in her first year at the Univ. of Texas Southwestern Medical School Dallas!!



All of the above racing activity has been a tune up for the Texas Circus, the 7th and final stop of the 2016 J/24 TX Circuit Regatta. This is an opportunity for Team Giggles to set a record of 7 regatta wins to run the season table!! Also in the hunt for 5th place overall are 4 AYC J/24s separated by only 4 points. Dave Broadway's Superman and Stu Juengst's Vang Go teams, currently tied for 6th place, Jorge Martín-de-Nicolás' Stray Dogs just two points back, and John/Meiling Parker's ChupaCabra another two points back!

There won't be much down time after the holidays as plans are already in the works for 2017 events, including several local entries at the J/24 Midwinters in February, the J/24 TX Circuit, the J/24 NAs at Houston YC in May, and the J/24 Worlds (Team Giggles qualified) at Port Credit, Ontario, Canada in September!

Keel Fleet Update by Karen Bogisch



2016 Keel Fleet Wrap-Up

It's been a wonderful 2016 for the Keel Fleet. We hosted some annual events, brought back an event that hadn't happened in a few years, and started up what we hope will be a new tradition at AYC — night racing!

We started out with twenty-five boats participating in a chilly Red-Eye Regatta on January 1. Beer Can

races began at the end of April and continued through mid-September. There was lots of wonderful racing on Friday evenings, and everyone enjoyed the burgers and fixings after the races. Thanks to everyone who came out to race and help with burgers, most especially the A, B, and C fleet captains who helped round up chefs for each Friday evening. In June. we introduced a new event at AYC, the Moonburn races. These night races were the brainchild of C Fleet captain James Parsons, who did a wonderful job of putting together three races on the Friday evenings nearest the full moon in June, July and August. A total of twenty-five boats participated, and everyone enjoyed racing under a full moon up the lake and back to AYC. Ed Taylor's J-80 Air Supply was the overall winner of this inaugural series. The Keel Fleet hopes to expand this series in 2017. On July 2, the annual Independence Cup Regatta took place on a sunny day with twenty-five boats participating, and Ray Shull's J-80 Flyer winning the overall cup. In October, the Keel Fleet brought back the Single-handed Regatta to great acclaim. Thank you, John Thurston for suggesting that we bring this race back. Eighteen boats participated, including some AYC members we hadn't seen out racing recently, and Tom Groll in his Ensign took line honors. The last Keel Fleet event of the year, the Wild Turkey Regatta, will take place on Saturday, November 26. A Fleet is planning this event with fleet captain, Keith Lackey, chairing the regatta. Keith is planning a wonderful event, including tasty food from one of our local Austin food trailers. In conjunction with the Wild Turkey Regatta, we will hold the annual Keel Fleet meeting to elect the 2017 officers and fleet captains. Please come out and join us for racing, food, fellowship, and a fun meetina!



Ensign Fleet Update by Bill Hawk



October was not supposed to be like this. The Ensign Fleet had carefully scheduled its events to be evenly spread across the year, with plenty of time for everyone to prepare, participate, then recover and be ready for the next big event. Instead, we had stormy weather, a closed lake, and a series of conflicting schedules that pushed all of our Fleet activities into one, fun-filled, exciting and exhausting October.

The month began with the Fleet preparing for and racing in Ensign Regionals — AYC is part of the Ensign Region IV which extends from Florida to San Diego — our region championships rotate amongst the larger fleets every year, except that AYC had not hosted in over five years as we did not have water close enough to the shore for us to hold an enjoyable event. Having finally gotten our collective wish granted, we were excited to have boats and crews coming in from Florida, Colorado, and Houston to race with us in June. Because the LCRA decided to close Lake Travis the week we had scheduled our event, however, we wound up sailing October 5-8 to start the month with a bang.

Ten local boats were joined by a single brave traveler from Houston — Florida and Colorado having used up their vacation time and travel budgets

in June — and we raced in conditions ranging from a very enjoyable 5-8 knots to the first real front of the fall. **Tom Groll** won his second Regional Championship, followed in close order by **Jonathan Baker** in second, **George and Franz Dahmen** taking third, and with **Bill Hawk** rounding out the podium in fourth. Overall it was a very enjoyable event, we especially appreciated **Cynthia Creamer** returning from retirement in Florida to sail with her son **Eric Creamer**, and a good time was had by all.

But nothing tops off a week of racing like working Race Committee on the Sunday immediately following the big event. In typical Lake Travis style, the wind conditions ranged from 0-5 knots and came from every possible direction, sometimes all at once. The Ensign Race Committee managed to set some almost-square courses and lines, and got off the closing race of the Late Summer Series in reasonably good order despite the sunburns, sore legs, and general lack of energy.

But there is no rest for the weary! The Fleet had the next weekend off, but was represented by **Tom Groll** in the 2016 Single-Hand Regatta. Years of practice racing against faster boats in the Friday night Beer Can races seems to have paid off, because **Tom** not only won the C Division by more than three and one-half minutes, also corrected over all of the A and B Division boats by over a minute to become the 2016 Single-Hand Champion at the Austin Yacht Club.

The rest of the fleet was back on the water the next weekend hosting the 2016 Chaparral de Mar Regatta. See the story on page 18 for the details.

2016 Wild Turkey Regatta Saturday, November 26, 2016 PHRF Spinnaker, Non-Spinnaker and Multi-Hulls



Onsite Registration, Saturday 10:30-11:30
Pre-registration online at www.austinyachtclub.net

Keel Fleet Members: \$30 (includes one meal)

Non Keel Fleet members: \$35

Schedule:

Skippers meeting 12:00 1st Signal 1:30 Dinner By SoCo Eats Food Trailer - \$10

Keel Handicap Fleet annual meeting 5p.m. – 7p.m.

"Best Tasting Trophies 35 years Running" For More Information, see the AYC Website

Catalina 22 Update by Steve Pervier



We started Fall Series with the hope of seeing several fleet members racing. We did see Jon Fitch (and his C22) beforehand, but circumstances left us with four boats worth of sailors and just one C22 ready to race. Not to worry! We went sailing on just one boat with Louise Miller (newest Catalina 22 owner), James and Sarah (who should join AYC with their C22), Carmine lacono (frequent crew for Griz),

and our steady crew **Lizette**. How, you ask? We took the Catalina 30 for a beautiful afternoon of racing.

Later, we collected for conversation with the seven of us plus skippers John Grzinich and Brett Wilson. We also welcomed Johannes Brinkmann, who is most delighted his "Strings Attached" is coming back to AYC!

Following Fall #1, three C22s raced Governor's Cup and enjoyed some of the tightest racing all year, with spinnaker work on four runs and a reach, mixed with shift-reading and boat speed contests on nine beats. The fun began as we followed code flag L to several RC starting locations. Thank you, **Bob Mathison and RC folks**, for your efforts on a difficult weather weekend!



Race one could have been anyone's at the end, but **Brett** took a bad shift on the far right, as **Griz** on the left had to tack to dodge a starboard boat, leaving us a luff over the line to win by a few seconds! Races two and three saw great upwind speed by **John and Brett**, but sometimes we passed with our spinnaker. Thanks, **JK** for cheering us on with "Go Dacron"!

Brett led to the L mark in the first two races, until we suddenly luffed high across his stern to get an inside overlap. This led his talented foredeck (and H16 sailor) **Evan Walters** to warn, "he's going to do it again" — but the tactic worked. Then we fouled up a high starboard reach to jibe takedown in race three, so **Brett** won that one! Sunday's race four was run in tricky wind (says the third place skipper) with **Griz** coming from behind on the last beat to win.

Our final standings were **John** (2-1-3-1), **Steve** (1-2-2-3), and **Brett** (3-3-1-2). The expected visting C22s didn't appear, though we had arranged this as a spinnaker race or championship for C22 Region 8. So congratulations to **John**



Grzinich, C22 Region 8 Spinnaker Champion! All of us had fun — Griz racing with Carmine and Clay, Cheryl and Steve with Lizette, and Brett with Louise and Evan. Thanks to John Parker and each of the Governor's Cup volunteers for organizing and running a great regatta, especially with the Roadrunner Fleet's delicious meals!

AYC Series Racing for 2016 concludes with Fall Series #4 on 11/20. Then let's look forward to Wild Turkey race on 11/26 and the Red Eye Regatta on 1/1/2017. See you on the water!



WHO WILL IT BE?

C Fleet Update by Chris Thompson



Governor's Cup

The representation from C-Fleet brought out some of the regular series racers in addition to some new boats and skippers. Jim Pearce has taken over Pearson 26 Entheos (formerly Dave Grizzle) and they represented well, with some coaching from Bob Stephens (P26 Picante), to finish first across the line on Saturday and 4th boat to finish on Sunday for 4th overall. Robert Bennett sailed his Pearson 27

One Big Holiday and had starting line honors on Saturday (or so I heard) but struggled to keep up with an under-sized roller furled jib. **Victor and Laura Gotay** and crew sailed his newly launched Pearson 26 Caribbean Star to back to back 2nd places (corrected) both days and 2nd overall. Great job skippers and crews!



Saturday pre-start crew photo-bomb from Pirate Unicorn Photo James Parsons

Lake Travis rewarded those who showed up with an overcast, misty morning and light shifty winds. A short postpone and our start was soon underway. Of course a nice near 180 degree wind shift during the sequence put us into a downwind start kerfuffle. I mistimed the closing rate and ended up jammed up at the committee boat with nowhere to go but over early or bumper boats. After managing a very deft pirouette around the committee boat, missing literally by inches, I re-sailed the start. The light wind had again shifted and no one had pulled away yet. Three Hour Crewz managed to pick up some momentum and make it first to E Mark. With the wind favoring to the SE a tight reach to Mark 4 had everyone trying to remember their mark rounding rules and rights as the pack was still pretty tight. The almost pure downwind to B mark spread the fleet across the lake but did not hold any real advantage for the spinnaker boats. The upwind reach from B to 4 had myself, Entheos, Caribbean Star, and James Parson's Pirate Unicorn within hailing distance on a lay line that sailed us from U-Flotem to 4. John Durfor's Blue Note sailed off to the right and lost his spinnaker induced lead. The course ran a little over two hours and 5 of the 6 boats finished within 2 minutes of each other. Yours truly managed to pull out the win for Saturday based on



Three Hour Crewz and Caribbean Star stalking the Pirate Unicorn

Photo James Parsons

corrected time. Entheos corrected down into third followed by Pirate Unicorn, Blue Note and One Big Holiday.

Sunday proved a bit more challenging for the Race Committee and skippers with even lighter southerly winds than Saturday. **John's** Blue Note spinnaker was the ticket in the fading wind conditions and they managed to take the bullet, leaving the rest of the fleet struggling in nearly zero wind, within sight of the shortened course's finish line. Mercifully, the wind picked up ever so slightly and enabled the remaining 4 boats who were still "racing" to meander across the finish line. We brought up the rear just 3 minutes under the time limit. Our higher handicap and non-spin correction allowed us to correct over two boats into third for Sunday with Caribbean Star holding on for 2nd finish and place.

It was an amazingly fun and very competitive regatta; Victor and I tied at 4 points and by nature of the Saturday finish I won my first Governor's Cup! John Durfor scratched his way to third overall with the JPs tied behind him. The regatta logo embroidered blankets are awesome and crew prize bandanas were a great addition to the awards festivities. The J24 Fleet organizers did themselves proud once again with plenty of delicious food and libations. Thanks to all for a magnificent weekend.



C Fleet Postscript by Bill Records



New Members

We have two new members of C fleet, Jim Pearce, Pearson 260D,#258 and Andre de la Reza, Pearson 26, #1484. Jim has already raced his in Governor's Cup, taking line honors in race one. Andre just brought his back from Corpus Christi and is doing a bottom job in the work area. The strange and bizarre adventure in bringing his boat home will be chronicled in the next Telltale.



Stay tuned ... Andre and crew crossing Corpus Christi Bay



Yours truly, braving the Single Handed Regatta

Single Handed Regatta

Thanks to John Thurston of the Keel Fleet. The Single Handed Regatta has returned. On October 16th, eight intrepid C fleet skippers sailed out to the starting line sans crew. Amazingly the skippers were just as aggressive on the starting line as always. Mack Warner (Ranger23TM) nailed the start and was first around the weather mark 5. Yours truly caught and passed him on the close reach/beat to marker 4. The rest of the fleet arrived at 4 fairly bunched up. John Grznich (Cat22) was in the hunt early, but hardware failures set him back. Keith Denebeim (P260D) had uncharacteristic problems upwind and had to play catch up. On the run to D mark, Tom Groll (Ensign) passed me like I was standing still with his kite up and sailed to line honors, 1st in C fleet, and 1st overall. Cafe au lait took 2nd. Jeff Avant (Col26) stayed close and not making any mistakes, took 3rd. Mack Warner, Keith Denebeim, John Grznich, James Parsons (P26), and Chris Thompson (Ericson 27) finished 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th respectively. I think that all skippers had fun in all or some parts of the race. There were many port/starboard "courtesies" given and I think that we all appreciate our crews much more.

John Vance

On November 4th, we lost **John Vance**, a fine sailor and true gentleman. John was one of the first to campaign a Pearson 26 at AYC and was the reason I bought mine. He was a wizard on the weather legs and always seemed to be on the favored side of the course and on the lifted tack. Before the keel fleet divided up into sub fleets, he won a series overall without flying a chute! Somehow he could carry a 150 genoa up to twenty knots of wind! One time, I asked him about that and he said he had to use the 150 because his small jib was slow! As a PHD engineer, he had a keen sense of how the physical world worked and could talk for hours about how sails and keels worked. It is fitting that three days after his passing, we brought back to AYC the seventeenth Pearson 26. I'm sure he is happy about that. John had a quiet dignity that is so rare in the world today and I am so blessed to have had him as a friend. I will miss him very much.

2016 Wild Turkey Regatta Saturday, November 26, 2016 PHRF Spinnaker, Non-Spinnaker and Multi-Hulls



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Keel Handicap Fleet annual meeting 5p.m. – 7p.m.

"Best Tasting Trophies 35 years Running" For More Information, see the AYC Website

Please join us for the

Austin Yacht Club

The Dasis Starlight Terrace
6550 Comanche Trail

Annual Banquet

\$50 per person

RSVP by November 25, 2016

Register here or call 512-266-1336

In Memoriam



John Milton Vance went to be with the Lord on November 4, 2016 at the age of 79. Born in Houston, Texas on October 5, 1937 to the late Helen Heisig Vance and Andrew Milton Vance. John married Louise Jane Briers Vance and they were happily married for over 33 years.

John was a very loving husband, father, and friend. He enjoyed riding motorcycles, playing tennis, and dancing. John was an avid sailor for many years and enjoyed racing sail boats at AYC. He was kind, honest, and a loyal friend. He was a devout Christian and a member of Emmaus Catholic Parish in Lakeway, TX. John had a harmonious and quiet disposition. He loved sharing ideas and addressing complex problems. John was an excellent engineer and teacher. Those who got to know John grew to love and admire him for his principles and deeds. He was a blessing to others and will be greatly missed.

John is predeceased by his parents, Helen Ruth Heisig Vance and Andrew Milton Vance, and grandson, Brian Locher. John is survived by his wife Louise Jane Vance; children, Linda Stites, Valerie Locher and husband Scott Locher, John Vance Jr. and wife Samantha Vance, and David Vance and wife Jessica Vance; grandchildren, Justin Smith and Lindsay Stites, Lauren Locher, Evan and Preston Vance, and Elijah and Joshua Vance; greatgrandchildren, Raven and Gavin Smith; numerous nieces and nephews; great nieces and great nephews; and a host of friends and colleagues.

John was a Mechanical Engineer receiving his Bachelor of Science, Master of Science, and Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Vance developed rotordynamics laboratories at the University of Florida and Texas A&M University, where he conducted experimental testing and analytical research on rotordynamics for 39 years. He specialized in Rotordynamics of Turbomachinery, Vibration Dampening Seals and Bearings, Vibration Measurement and Analysis, Industrial Compressors, Turbochargers, Energy Storage Flywheels, and Wind Turbines. While teaching, he held twelve summer appointments at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft, USARTL (Helicopter Propulsion Lab, Ft. Eustis), Southwest Research Institute, Shell Development Co., and the UT Center for Electromechanics. He was an inventor on several patents relating to rotating machinery, and vibration reduction. He was an ASME Fellow, and a registered professional engineer in the State of Texas. He also held positions at Armco Steel, Texaco Research, and Traycor, Inc., and consulted on government and industry projects. During his time at Texas A&M, he wrote the book Rotordynamics of Turbomachinery and co-authored the book Machinery Vibration and Rotordynamics. He also published more than 90 technical articles and reports. John received many awards and honors including Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award, ME-TAMU, Halliburton Professor of Mechanical Engineering, Turbomachinery Symposium Advisory Committee for TAMU, and Admiral in the Texas Navy, commissioned by Governor Mark White. Since his retirement from Texas A&M, he continued consulting and teaching short courses.

In Memoriam



Jacob Raymond Lien of Austin, Texas, passed away November 6, 2016 at the age of 33 years, 6 months, and 13 days.

Jacob was born to Norma Marqués Lien and Daniel R. Lien on April 27, 1983, in Austin and was named for his grandfathers. He

attended Lake Travis ISD from kindergarten through senior year, graduating in 2001.

Jacob was active in the Lake Travis Youth Association and Lake Travis Cavaliers Varsity soccer. He also competitively sailed at the Austin Yacht Club and competed in the Texas Youth Circuit.

After graduation from High School, Jacob worked for Papa Joe's Pizza Restaurant for 4 years as Assistant Manager,

Flores Restaurant in Lakeway for 8+ years as Floor Manager/ Assistant Manager/waiter, and started his own DJ business. Jacob attended SAC and ACC and received several certificates in computer programing including C++, web design, and CCNA with a stellar academic record. He worked for Yodle, and the U.S. Money Reserve, before joining Telus. Jacob currently served as the Team Leader for Hardware for the Telus/Google Wave4 Team.

Jacob was beloved by friends and family and spent his free time surrounded by loved ones. He loved watching and attending Spurs basketball games, UT and Cowboy football games. He loved computers and electronics and keeping up with the latest in technology. In his spare time he would fix, update and repair computers and other electronics. Jacob was a natural salesman with a smiling attitude that was contagious to those around him. He made friends easily and enjoyed many strong friendships while also making time for family and loved ones.

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Nov 26

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AYC 2016 RACE CALENDAR

Fall Series #4 EOS 1:30p start Multihull RC Wild Turkey Regatta

AYC 2016 NON-RACING EVENTS

Nov 17	AYC Annual Meeting 7:00 - 10:00	p
Nov 20, 27	Free Sail Sunday 1:00 - 4:00p	
Nov 21	Handicap Committee Open Meeting	7:30 - 9:00p

AUSTIN YACHT CLUB

AYC STAFF

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5906 Beacon Drive Austin, Texas 78734-1428

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E-MAIL AND WEBSITE

www.austinyachtclub.net office@austinyachtclub.net

NEWSLETTER

Susie McDonald, Editor 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 E-MAIL ADDRESSES

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Dec 3	Annual Banquet at the Oasis 6:00 - 11:00p
Dec 4, 11, 18	Free Sail Sunday 1:00 - 4:00p
Dec 9	J24 Christmas Party
Dec 10	Catalina Fleet Holiday Party
Dec 11	Roadrunner Holiday Party 2:00 - 4:00p
Dec 11	Book Club Social 5:30 - 10:00p
Dec 18 -22	Sea Scout Winter Camp



More Single Handed Regatta









WHO WILL IT BE?