

October 2017



Fleet Challenge Brings Out Our Best



Kim Scheberle sails for the Sunfish Fleet in the 2017 Annual Fleet Challenge

Photo Bill Records

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SAVE THE DATE

Oct 26	Board of Directors Meeting	Nov 18	Wild Turkey Regatta
Oct 28	UTST Parents & Family Regatta	Dec 9	Annual Banquet
Oct 29	Fall Series Race	Jan 1	Red Eye Regatta
Nov 4-5	Kathryn Hammond Memorial Coed Interconference		
Nov 5, 12	Fall Series Races		
Nov 11, 19	ASA 101		
Nov 16	AYC Annual Meeting		



Single-Handed Regatta photo *Bruce McDonald*

From The Commodore

by Wade Bingaman



The Annual Fleet Challenge and New Member Social was by any measure a huge success. Most of the credit has to go to **Claudia and John Bartlett** who put a lot of effort into the Fleet Challenge. It raised over \$30,000 which will be used to support the mission of our Club. The other half of the event was the New Member Social. Thanks to **Molly Lewis** who decided to combine the New Member Social with the Fleet

Challenge. The result was a great turnout and a lot of fun. It was great to see both new and old members, adults and kids, playing games and generally enjoying themselves.

Joe Roddy, our Harbor Commander, and **Tom Groll** are busy with the project of adding to our keel boat stairways. Thanks guys for your efforts. Currently we are having trouble keeping the inside boats in deep enough water. Soon we should have longer stairways which will allow us to move the docks farther from shore. The new additions to the stairways will continue with the same slope and stair height as the current stairs. Any of you who have been members awhile remember the irregular stone stairs we used in the past. Our current stairs are a great improvement. Please be patient with the inconvenience during this construction.

A note of caution to everyone - please remember, you may invite guests to join you at the Club, but you **MUST** accompany the guest. Lately we have had a few minor incidents of vandalism. We need to keep our Club a friendly, safe place. One way to help do that is to keep our visitors limited to only those who are invited and accompanied by a member.

Finally, please remember that the AYC Banquet is on Saturday, Dec 9th at the Oasis. This is always a fun party and a great time to honor members' contributions to the Club. Hope to see you then.

Vice Commodore Report

by Bill Records



The Centerboard Regatta turned out to be a great success. We again incorporated circuit stops into the regatta. We welcomed the Sunfish Circuit as well as the Centerboard Circuit. We made an effort to accommodate the out of towners and received much appreciation. Regatta Chair, **Kevin Reynolds**, and **his volunteers** did a terrific job. The Roadrunners provided tasty meals, we had decent winds, and great competition.

On September 24th, we had the Keel Fleet's Single-handed Regatta, one of my favorites. (That's me on the right.) Enough boats registered to allow four keel classes and a multihull class. The boat handling was surprisingly good with competitive starts. PRO **Fred Ford** and the race committee set a good course and managed the races very well.

The next issue of Telltale will feature the Roadrunner Regatta, Oct. 20-21.

The annual Wild Turkey Regatta will be held on November 18th. This is the last chance to race in 2017, before the holiday break. See you there!

Race Commander Report

by Ed Taylor



Permanent Race Committee

The PRC Representatives for the Late Summer Series are **Karen Bogisch** and **Kurt Carson**. The PRC Rep is responsible to effectively communicate to the Series PRO. Items discussed are sailing instructions, equipment review, scoring and planning for each Series racing.

Race Logistics

There are still awards for Dog Days and Suffering Summer Series are available for pickup at the Club.

As a reminder, any use of the Race Committee boats requires boats be put away with the following items completed:

- Tie boats up with dock lines provided and lock boat to dock
- Empty trash
- Empty boats from all anchors, anchor lines, marks and buoys
- Raise motors out of water and turn steering wheel in direction indicated
- Turn off all electrical instruments including radios and depth sounders
- Put gas containers back in storage bin

Please do your part to make sure RC boats are put away and ready for the next use.

continued next page



Single-Handed Regatta Photo Paul Bradley

LATE SUMMER SERIES RESULTS

<u>PHRF A</u>	1st 2nd 3rd	Speed Racer Flyer Amazing Grace	John Bartlett Ray Shull John Burke
<u>PHRF B</u>	1st 2nd 3rd	Aphaia Risin Moon 81	Dane Ohe Wade Bingaman Andrea Lesh
<u>PHRF C</u>	1st 2nd 3rd	Blue Note Entheos Pure Vida	John Durfor Jim Pearce Ryan Larson
<u>J/22</u>	1st 2nd 3rd	Project Mayhem Bubbles Bonfire	John Halter Renee Ruais Linda McDavitt
<u>J/24</u>	1st 2nd 3rd	Vang Go 2380 69	Stuart Juengst David Broadway Chris Renner
<u>Ensign</u>	1st 2nd 3rd	1770 Dos Locos Spirit	Randolph Bertin Lewis Price James Bland
<u>Multihull 1</u>	1st 2nd 3rd	Swallow 461 Tribology	J Kuc Jim Casto Doug Casey
<u>South Coast 21</u>	1st 2nd 3rd	WT Gone Coastal 149	Bob Musselman Tom Meyer Heath Phillips

Awards are available for pickup at the Club.



Who dat? J/80 Air Supply at the Single-handed Regatta

Sail Training Report

by Carolyn Wilsford



Women's Clinic

Well, what can I say, other than it was another fantastic clinic. Here are the compiled evaluation results: Chalk-talk, on the water instruction, handouts, debrief sections were all 4s and 5s. Overall ratings were 5s (excellent) except one 4 (Very Good).

Comments/General:

- Wonderful group of women passionate about sailing. Patient with new students.
- Fun, learned so much!!
- This is a great program - love the all women format.
- \$60 The price of the course is very reasonable.
- It was all GREAT!
- Really enjoyed the hands on experience with seasoned and extremely experienced captains connecting terminology with actual experience.
- Excellent on the water instruction.

Comments/Most Useful:

- On the water use of terminology and actually moving the sheets.
- Learned terms/actual practice on boat, instructor was calm, patient and knowledgeable.
- Practicing skills repeatedly as requested.
- On the water time with patient instructors, lots of time to practice skills.
- Excellent experience.
- Practical on the water time.

Comments/Recommendations:

- Need more clinics to progress.
- Maybe a 2 day clinic.
- I had a fantastic time! Keep up the women's clinics!!
- Please offer every weekend!
- Wanted handouts before the class to study!



Photo Cheryl Pervier

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Thank you to all the instructors: **Chris Bataille, Cheryl Pervier, Linda Donovan, Bonnie Lackey, Jennifer Schwan, Renee Ruais, Jennifer Loehlin, Gretchen Douglas, Kelly Hawk, and Pat Manning.** Another big thank you to our Commodore – **Wade Bingaman, Bill Records,** and anyone else I forgot :). You make my job so easy!!!! So what's next – planning, planning, and more planning for next year! I'm trying to figure out a schedule to help everyone be in a learning situation!

Instructors, that includes you too! Please send me some feedback with suggestions for next year!!! Guys this includes you too! It's been a fantastic year for Sail Training and we are open to hear your thoughts and suggestions.



Photos Cheryl Pervier



Group photo Bill Records

Sailing Director Report by Coleman Terrell



The fall season of sailing is progressing well. Hopefully soon it will actually feel like fall. The junior program is in full swing with a couple more kids joining in the last week or two. The Opti 2 sailors are improving on their racing skills and quite a few of them are planning to represent AYC in the Green Fleet at Roadrunner Regatta!

The Learn-to-Sail Clinic organized by **Bill Records** was incredible. **Bill** managed to find enough boats and instructors to accommodate all 32 of his students. Yes, I said 32!! This was one of the largest clinics AYC has hosted in my time at the Club and it went off without a hitch. Thank you to **Bill and his team** for a great job.

The Women's Clinic was another success thanks to **Carolyn Wilsford and her team of instructors!** The adult sail training program has seen a large increase in numbers and events this year and Carolyn has a lot to do with that.

The Roadrunner Regatta, held Oct 20 and 21 will be highlighted in the next issue of Telltale. This is always a great event and will be the end of year regatta for the TSA circuit this year.

The Fleet Challenge was another great event, despite the lack of wind. The paddling races were a great idea and everyone seemed to have a great time! Thank you to **Claudia and John Bartlett** for chairing the event, **Ravi** for scoring, **Terry** for tracking donations, the whole AYC fund board, and everyone who contributed their time and money to the AYC Fund.

I would also like to thank the UT Sailing Team and the Junior Sailors that came out to the Club early and helped me get all the boats rigged and ready for the event.

I would like to thank the **Roadrunner Fleet** for replacing the carpet on the Rylander Pavilion Dock just in time before the regatta!

October New Members



**Michael Harrington
(Senior)**

Michael began sailing with London Business School sailing club, participating in numerous regattas as a crew member. Since that time, he has continued sailing on bareboat charters in the Aoli Islands, Miami, Lake Champlain, and the Grenadines. He is in the process of purchasing a Laser and is looking forward to his sailing and racing education on Lake Travis.



**Jeremy Sutton
(Student)**

Jeremy and his family have recently relocated to Austin from New York, where Jeremy began his sailing career. He attended two AYC sailing camps this summer and recently participated in the Centerboard Regatta, taking a second place in one of the races! He is excited to continue sailing at AYC as a Student member.



**Ed Pierce
(Senior)**

Ed has been sailing since he was 12 years old, beginning with Sunfish, and moving to 420s in college. During most of his adult life, he has primarily been a cruiser, having done many coastal charters on the Gulf Coast, the Caribbean, and Tahiti, and has served as a charter captain with Texas Sailing. Within the last couple of years, he has begun racing and has participated in more than 30 races as a driver or crew. He is planning to purchase a Pearson 26 to race at AYC.



**Alfred Aimand
(Student)**

Alfred comes to AYC with two years of sailing experience in the south of France. He does not yet have any racing experience but is excited to learn about that aspect of sailing and to continue to improve his sailing skills.



**Steve and Brandy Amstel
(Associate)**

Steve and his wife, Brandy, have been boating for most of their lives and have become "avid sail boaters." They owned a Ranger 29 for three years and enjoyed cruising around Lake Travis. They are new to racing but interested in learning and becoming active members of AYC.



**Norman (Cas) Meyer
(Associate)**

Cas has been participating in AYC races as a crew member for five years and is excited to become an AYC member and continue to grow as a sailor and racer. He has raced at AYC on a Pearson (with Jon Nash) and a Capri 25 (with John Maddalozzo) and has skippered his I-420 in the Texas centerboard circuit for three years.



**Jeremy Peters
(Senior)**

Jeremy has recently moved to Austin from Chicago, where he had ten years of racing experience on a Beneteau 36.7 in the Great Lakes. He has participated in 9 Chicago-Mackinacs, 5 Queen Cups, 8 NOODs, 3 Beneteau 36.7 NA, and 9 Verve Cups. In addition to Beneteaus, he has experience racing Sydney 38s, Farr 39.5s, Mumm 36s, J70s, J111s, J109s, J105s, Shields, Etchells, and Tarten 10s. He began sailing as a kid on Sunfish, 420s, and Lasers, and was a sailing instructor on J22s and J24s for three years. He is in the process of purchasing a Pearson 26 which he plans to race at AYC.



**Robert and Jan Mattix
(Senior)**

Robert and Jan recently relocated to Austin. They are members of two yacht clubs in Nashville, where they previously lived and still own a home. They also raced as crew at the Houston Yacht Club from 2013-2016. Since moving to Austin and learning about AYC, they decided to bring their Lightning to Austin and participate in races here. Jan began racing in college, starting with Thistles and 470s, moving on to Lightnings and J22 after college, traveling to local, district, national and international regattas. Robert began racing after college and has participated in numerous major regattas, including 5 Key West Race Weeks, 14 Chicago-Mackinacs, a Melges 24 Worlds, and a Newport-Bermuda race. Robert is a past Commodore of PPYC and together, Robert and Jan have provided race management for more than 15 national-level regattas. In the true spirit of AYC, they also were quick to point out that they have experience putting away tables and chairs, and serving breakfasts.

IN MEMORIAM



Steven Barnes Ehlers, 59, died October 4, 2017, at Seton Medical Center in Austin, TX, due to complications from cancer surgery. Steve was born on June 29, 1958, in Mason City, IA, son of Robert Earl Ehlers and Brenda Louise (Barnes) Ehlers. Steve married his high school sweetheart, Kay Ellen Hanes, on August 18, 1979, in Mason City. Immediately after their marriage, Steve and Kay moved to California to begin his first engineering job. The couple moved to St. Paul, MN, where Aimee Elizabeth, Lynn Michelle, and John Douglas were born. Kay passed away in 2006, after which Steve settled in Austin, TX. Steve developed a lifelong love for swimming, biking, and sailing during summers spent at the family cottage on nearby Clear Lake, IA. He also formed a lifelong hatred for winter and the way it curbed his outdoor activities. Steve was an active man who spent much of his time sailing with the Austin Yacht Club, where he was known for being a patient instructor, talented sailor, and welcoming face to new members. Steve was a loyal friend, beloved son, and incredible father, known for his willingness to do whatever he could for the people he loved. The family requests that memorials be directed to Boy Scouts of America, United for Learning, Seton Medical Center of Austin, Austin Yacht Club, or Bruce Springsteen.

Austin Yacht Club's Finest Hour?

The question mark is only there because it might be too soon to assign that designation, but if I were to make a list today, Monday October 9, 2017 would top my list. Certainly we have had some wonderful regattas. We have had great parties. We have sent teams to win sailing events. We have supported some charities and helped neighbors.

Monday night, Austin Yacht Club put on its fraternal organization hat, gathered together, and did its job. Hundreds of us gathered in the clubhouse. We packed the place as full as for any Regatta we have ever had and the entire gang did EXACTLY. The right thing.

We lost **Steve Ehlers**. He died and there wasn't and isn't a thing we can do to UN-do that. We didn't gather to complain as complaints wouldn't do any good. We did something truly special that grew as the night went on.



Photo Robbie Nelson

Funerals are for the living. On Monday night AYC took care of the living in a manner and with a level of love and respect I have never seen before. I think, and I could be less than 100% correct, the majority of us were there to make certain everybody else (especially Steve's kids) knew we had enjoyed a very special friendship with Steve. We wanted others to know it was OK to feel robbed, frustrated, ticked off, and generally upset. We wanted those who missed Steve to know they were absolutely not alone. Most important, we all got to see and hear how a huge number of people loved the guy. The fact is most of us know the man loved us back.

We made it clear to all those present, Steve lived a great life. It WAS too stinking short. Each of us knew that going into the clubhouse. Then the magic happened – a whole lot of people were realizing, "These fine folks who were friends of Steve's are friends of mine and they consider me to be a friend and just WOW! What a great group we have here."

This is why I feel it was our finest hour: I have never seen us work so hard as a group. We have built docks. We have moved all the boats before floods. We have had parties and regattas. Each of those tasks has been accomplished by smaller and generally less dedicated groups. I think the task we gathered to accomplish was to take care of Steve's family and by so doing take care of ourselves.

As the evening progressed it seemed people were bouncing around trying to take care of somebody and had a hard time doing so because that somebody was too busy offering care. All in all, this observer thinks it worked beyond any reasonable expectation.

As we left we knew our friend Steve lived more, loved more, and was loved by more than most people. The gathering acted as one giant family.

Which we are.

– Fred Schroth

7th Annual Fleet Challenge Fundraiser

A Message from Claudia and John Bartlett



The 7th Annual AYC Fund Fleet Challenge was held Sunday Oct. 8, 2017. The fundraising went fantastic with at last tally **over 34K!!!** This could not have been achieved without the generosity of so many of our great members.

UT Sailing Team and Roadrunners got the boats rigged. Big thanks to **Coleman Terrell** for having all the FJs in tip top order. All 18 FJs were on the water with some fleets having two teams. The winds were light but that didn't stop the competition. PRO **Bill Hawk** would make

the call to blow two whistles and raise the "S" Flag and turn the sailing into paddling, swimming. Basically whatever you needed to do to propel your boat forward.

Race 1 and 2 were determined by Fundraising Dollars and Number of Donations for each fleet.

Race 3-5 were on the water and a couple of those were paddle races. A-Fleet pulled out the win thanks to **John Bartlett and John Burke**. 2nd place went to A-Fleet **Julius Heitkoetter and Johannes Brinkmann**. 3rd place went to Sunfish Fleet **Ed Hill and Kim Scheberle**. It is too bad there wasn't more wind because every one of the 18 boats had the best of the best of our Club sailors.

After the sailing, all the excitement went up to the clubhouse/pool area for group games. It was fantastic to see so many members ages 1-80s enjoying the fun. The "Dark and Stormy Bar" with bartender **John Foster** got the adults in game spirit! Tug-a-War was a hit. Roadrunners took out A-Fleet in about three seconds!!! There were three-legged races, water balloon tosses, sailbag sack races, egg relays and egg toss. Thanks to **Keith Denebeim** for allowing (not sure you were asked) your boat to be a target! Big thanks to **Lauren Crouch** for being "camp counselor" and organizing the games! After everyone had worked up an appetite from the games, everyone enjoyed Rudy's BBQ and ice cream.

John and I want to thank everyone who helped make the Fundraiser a huge success!

The AYC Fund Board – **Johannes Brinkmann** (drinks/snacks at the Pavilion), **Terry Schertz** (accounting of donations, donation letters), **Ravi Subramanian** (scoring the Challenge), **Lauren Crouch** (games) **Kelly Hawk** (RC), **Harry Polly**, **David Grogono**, **John Parker**. **John Horn** and **Brad Davis** (RC) **John Foster** (Dark & Stormy Bar), **Molly Lewis** (New Member Social), **Tom Cunningham** (club readiness). There were also so many who stepped in and helped out as well.

We had a great time pulling this event together! I have listed all the donors (next page) who contributed to the Fleet Challenge Fundraiser. All of these great Club members certainly have the vision of how important it is to keep the spirit of our sport thriving at our Club!



Photo Bill Records

7th Annual Fleet Challenge Fundraiser Donors

Listed Alphabetically

A FLEET— \$6750

Claudia & John Bartlett
Gail & David Bernstein
Karen Bogisch
Barry Bowden
Liza & Johannes Brinkmann
John Burke
Lauren Crouch
John Horn
Keel Handicap Fleet
Bonnie & Keith Lackey
Bob Leonard
Bruce McDonald
Millie, Debbie & Gray Rackley
Larry Ratliff
Ray Shull
JoAnn & Claude Welles

SUNFISH FLEET— \$4775

Claudia & John Bartlett
Chris Bataille
Ben Bataille
Brielle Bataille
Gail & David Bernstein
Tom Boren
Barry Bowden
Margo Bower
Liza & Johannes Brinkmann
Sarah Faust
Sarah & Ed Hill
Pam & Joe Horn
Annie & Charlie Lancaster
Jennifer Loehlin
Pat Manning
Louise Miller
Sherry & Kevin Reynolds
Kim Scheberle
Ravi Subramanian
Meera Subramanian
Kathy & Willis Thorstad

ROADRUNNERS — \$4587

Gail & David Bernstein
Liza & Johannes Brinkmann
Jeff Brock
Reese Butler
Andrew Butler
Nicholas Carew
Madeline & Brendan Crouch
John Foster
Katie Froelich

ROADRUNNERS continued

Fiona Froelich
Wendi Froelich
Ethan Froelich
Stefan Froelich
Julius Heitkoetter
Aiden Krempetz
Molly Lewis
Linda McDavitt
Gordon Miller
David Morley
Harry Polly
Carrie Pomerantz
Catherine Roy
Tom Roy
Renee Ruais
Terry Schertz
Gael Slowik
Lucas Tenreiro
Chris Thompson

MULTI HULL FLEET — \$2750

Gail & David Bernstein
Phillippe Bettler
Brigitte & Mike Beuerlein
Doug Casey
Jim Casto
Steve Frick
John Howard
John Kuc
Felipe Payet
Steve Piche
Russ Shermer
Scott Young

C FLEET — \$2300

Russ Avant
Gail & David Bernstein
Liza & Johannes Brinkmann
Doug Christensen
Andre de la Reza
Keith Denebeim
Keel Handicap Fleet
James Parsons
Edward Pierce
Harry Polly
Bill Records
Robert Stephens
Chris Thompson
Steve Ward
Mack Warner

ENSIGN FLEET — \$2150

Gail & David Bernstein
James Bland
Hazel Cahill
George Dahmen
Ensign Fleet
Margaret Faust
James Everett Faust
Fred Ford
Tom Groll
Kelly & Bill Hawk
Danny Lien
Anne & David Morley
Barbara Rodgers

AYC BOARD OF DIRECTORS — \$2000

Claudia & John Bartlett
Wade Bingaman
Annie Lancaster
Molly Lewis
David Morley
Ed Taylor
Jackie Wheelless
Carolyn Wilsford

LASER FLEET — \$1900

Claudia & John Bartlett
Gail & David Bernstein
Eric Faust
Natalie & David Grogono
Steve Keckler
Matt Romberg
Ravi Subramanian

J-22 FLEET — \$1700

Ken Berringer
Pierre Bossart
Roseanne Butera
Gretchen Douglas
John Halter
Molly Lewis
Bob Mathison
Linda McDavitt
Gordon Miller
John Saunders
Terry Schertz
Jan Thompson
Michael Tita
Charles Waldron

CATALINA 22 FLEET — \$1090

Gail & David Bernstein
Liza & Johannes Brinkmann
Peter Broberg
Brian Grothues
Anne-Marie & John Grzinich
Louise Miller
Cheryl & Steve Pervier

J-24 FLEET—\$775

Adolfo Bernal
Stu Juengst
Rachel Loziuk
Macie & Ron Morrison
John Parker
Matt Roberts

B FLEET — \$600

Bill Coletti
Keel Handicap Fleet
John Maddalozzo
John Thurston

SC 21 FLEET — \$200

Amy Gunkler
Bob Musselman

UT SAILING TEAM — \$100

Amy & John Morran

UT SAILING CLUB — \$100

Amy & John Morran

ADDITIONAL DONORS

(Fleet not designated)
Travis Loseke
Rhonda Moore
Joyce Prado
David Weeks

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2017 Fleet Challenge



Photos Bill Records



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2017 Fleet Challenge



Boaty McBoatface



2017 Fleet Challenge and New Member Social



Photos Bill Records



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2017 Fleet Challenge and New Member Social



Photos Bill Records



FLEET CHALLENGE RESULTS

POSITION	SAIL #	FLEET	TEAM	RACES					TOTAL	T/O	FINAL
				1 (\$)	2 (#)	3	4	5			
1	18	A-Fleet (2)	John Bartlett & John Burke	1	3	1	1	1	7	3	4
2	1	A-Fleet (1)	Julius Heitkoetter & Johannes Brinkmann	1	3	3	7	2	16	7	9
3	4	Sunfish (1)	Ed Hill & Kim Scheberle	3	2	2	6	5	18	6	12
4	9	Laser (2)	Gray & Millie Rackley	9	9	5	5	3	31	9	22
5	11	Multihull	Ethan & Katie Froelich	4	4	10	4	10	32	10	22
6	3	Roadrunner (2)	Jamie Brock & Nicholas Carew	2	1	4	8	9	24		24
7	5	Sunfish (2)	Fiona Froelich & Richie Amato	3	2	18	17	11	51		51
8	12	J-22	John Halter & Kynes Cabrera	8	6	7	9	6	36		36
9	7	AYC Board	Lucy Brock & Wendy Froelich	6	9	12	2	8	37		37
10	10	C-Fleet	Taylor Snyder & Coleman Terrell	7	4	14	12	15	52	15	37
11	6	Ensign	Hazel Sanchez & Anne Riggs	5	6	11	11	7	40		40
12	13	J-22	Linda McDavitt & Gretchen Douglas	8	6	9	10	12	45		45
13	2	Roadrunner (1)	Eli Ortiz & Keen Cabrera	2	1	16	16	14	49		49
14	14	B-Fleet	John Thurston & Bill Coletti	12	12	6	18	4	52		52
15	15	Catalina 22	Brian Grothues & Margarito Morales	10	8	15	3	18	54		54
16	8	Laser (1)	Steve & Isabella Keckler & Sonia Grogono	9	9	8	15	18	59		59
17	17	UT Sailing Team	Michael Hernandez, Gabby Wong, Emily Verdoia, Alec Chappetta, Katrina Bertlesmann & Fred Winguth	14	13	13	13	13	66		66
18	16	SouthCoast 21	Heath Phillips & Amy Gunkler	13	13	17	14	18	75		75
		UT Sailing Club		15	13						
		J-24		11	11						

Centerboard Regatta



Photos John Grzinich

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Centerboard Regatta

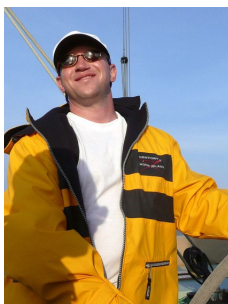


Photos John Grzinich



Optis photo Bill Records

Single-Handed Regatta



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 September 24 provided an opportunity to showcase our skippers' true skills sailing alone with no electronic steering devices. As a race participant you feel a true sense of accomplishment crossing the finish line with the perspective that all the sail trim, tacking strategy, and boat handling skills were all up to you. We had a great turnout

with 28 boats racing in the regatta. The weather conditions were near perfect with sunny skies and wind from the Southeast at 8-10 knots.

Boats were divided into five classes and sailed the same long distance course. We had a diverse mix of boats including three trimarans in the Multihull class, a VX One, SB 20, 11 Metre, and five J80s in the A class; four J22s, a Capri 25, and Ross 830 in B class; a San Juan 24, Tartan 28 and four Pearson 26s in C class, and an Ericson 27, SC21, Columbia 26, Catalina 25 and Catalina 22 in D class. **J Kuc** took first place for the Multihulls. **John Burke** placed first in the A class sailing a J80 and also won the Overall award for the fastest corrected time. **John Saunders** took first in the B class on a J22. For the C class, **James Parsons** placed first in the San Juan 24. Sailing a South Coast 21, **Bob Musselman** placed first in D class.

A talented group of volunteers helped make this a successful regatta. I want to extend my sincere thanks to the race committee including **Fred Ford (PRO)**, **Karen Bogisch**, **Bruce McDonald**, **Barry Thornton**, **Vincent Vu**, **Sally Bradley**, **Paul Bradley**, and **Marcelo Pando**. After the regatta racers enjoyed an awards social including a chalupa and nacho bar with all the sides thanks to help from **Stephanie Trahan**. I greatly appreciate everyone racing in this unique and fun event!



Photos Vincent Vu



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Single-Handed Regatta



Photos Vincent Vu



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Single-Handed Regatta



Photos Bruce McDonald



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Single-Handed Regatta



Photos Bruce McDonald



Roadrunner Fleet Update

by Mary Carew



Another journey northwards took the junior sailors to Dallas Corinthian Yacht Club on September 30 – October 1. Winds were light but all AYC sailors performed fantastically. In a touching tribute to **Kelly Holmes-Moon** who passed away in 2016, the awards that were presented were made from the spinnaker he used in the J24 Worlds. I am proud to say that several AYC sailors brought them home to cherish. **Lucy Brock** and **Julius Heitkoetter** took first

place in c420s. It was great to see **Wendi Froelich** back in the Laser 4.7 and taking 5th place. In Laser Radial, **Andrew Butler** who has been consistently



Tony Slowik, (left) first in Red Fleet; Fiona Froelich (right) third in Red Fleet

improving all year, took 3rd while **Eli Ortiz** and **Taylor Snyder** took 12th and 13 respectively. **Keen Cabrera** was 3rd overall in the Opti Green Fleet. In Opti RWB, **Tony Slowik**, again took 1st overall and 1st in red. **James Brock** was 3rd overall and 2nd in blue fleet, while **Fiona Froelich** was 5th overall and 3rd in red fleet (and top girl!). **Nicholas Carew** met his goal of top 10, finishing 10th overall (5th in blue fleet), while **Aiden Krempitz** was 12th overall (6th in blue). **Katie Froelich** and **Kynes Cabrera** finished 4th and 5th respectively in White fleet (15th and 16th overall). Great job everyone.



Ethan Froelich (right) at the Atlantic Coast Championships

On the same weekend, **Ethan Froelich** sailed in the 2017 Atlantic Cast Championships. He and his skipper **Oliver Hurwitz** came 13th overall and received the Green award for the top team with less than 12 months in the i420.

This past weekend, **Claudia** and **John Bartlett** hosted a very fun Fleet Challenge. Junior sailor participation was very high with Roadrunners representing their own fleet as well as sailing with other fleets. The games afterwards were also a major hit! Thanks **Claudia, John** and the **AYC Fund** for all you do to support junior sailing.

Catalina 22 Update

by Steve Pervier



Recently a set of Catalina 22 Fleet activities happened on three successive days around the second weekend of October. Our Race Committee duty was on 10/7. Then it was the AYC Fleet Challenge and New Member Social on Sunday. And, on 10/9 AYC held a memorial gathering for **Steve Ehlers**, an active and well liked member of AYC who helped many to enjoy racing in a variety of circumstances. We are saddened to lose his presence at AYC, but we celebrate having shared with him in the pursuit of our mutually favorite sport. Attendees filled the clubhouse, and among these we were

continued next page

delighted to see C22 alumni **Eric and Robbie Nelson, and Martie Shirey**, plus current members of C22 and most other fleets. So many were touched by **Steve's** life. Though there were solemn moments, this uplifting gathering was true to his spirit, and his ever-present smile – which beamed brightly for all to see and remember, from a large screen on his decorated Catalina 30.

The third C22 Race Committee duty this year, shared with the South Coast 21 Fleet, appeared to be on not just a light air day, but possibly a day with no wind at all. We discussed putting up the postpone flag ashore and were about to do that until **Tom Meyer** (our PRO for the day) decided we should instead put up the AP on the main RC boat at the Rigging Dock. That was the right choice, since about 1:30 pm a northerly wind began to fill in. We quickly set up the course and started racing less than half an hour after the usual times. We were fortunate as the wind held, making for a nice afternoon of racing! Thanks to **Tom, plus Bob Musselman and Heath Phillips** of the SC21 Fleet, C22 members **James Denny, and Cheryl and Steve Pervier**. We also want to thank new AYC members **Lance Stairs, Pete and Kathy Swallow, and Kurt Zinsmeyer** for their service with our fleet. Last but not least was **Amy Gunkler**, who is not yet an AYC member but is very active already at our Club.

AYC's Annual Fleet Challenge faced another light air day, though it was momentarily forgotten due to the great fund raising effort led by **Claudia Bartlett**. We had quite a few donations in our Catalina 22 Fleet for a great contribution to the AYC Fund! At last it was time to race, and with wind less than Saturday's our organizers were prepared. You had to see this to believe it, but once the RC decided the wind was too light in any given race, they hoisted Code Flag S which meant that any means of propulsion was allowed! Some crews had taken paddles, and others used a variety of methods to make their boats go. This happened in two races out of three, but we did see one good race with wind, when our FJ team of **Brian Grothues and Margarito Morales** took a fairly close third in the fleet of 18 boats. Very impressive – this is consistent with your increasing success in C22 and Laser racing! Afterwards we cheered our team, and also new members of our fleet who attended the Social while wearing fashionable sailor hats, namely **James and Sarah Denny**. To you and all others newly with us, welcome to AYC!

Coming soon, in other local and seasonal racing ... Fall Series starts 10/29. There are Wurstfest regattas at Canyon Lake on the first two weekends of November for Centerboard and Keel boats. AYC's Wild Turkey one-day PHRF regatta happens 11/18. Also, save the dates of 12/9 for AYC's Annual Banquet and 12/16 for the Catalina Holiday Party. See you there!

Sunfish Fleet

by Paul Jensen



*As this note was nearing completion we learned **Steve Ehlers** died Oct. 4 from complications with surgery. A Memorial Service was held Oct. 9 at the Club. He was a great friend and sailor who will be missed by all.*

Wednesday evening racing continues to be good this year. A weak front on September 6 brought light NE winds, clear skies, and a little cooler temperatures. With nice weather we had excellent turnout – 13 Fish

and 8 Lasers. **James Bland and Paul Jensen** handled RC duties, and were able to get four races for both fleets.

September 13 had a little lower turnout – 11 Fish and 4 Lasers. **Chris Bataille and Ethan Froelich** handled RC.

September 20 was Sunfish championship night and we were blessed with good winds and turnout. **John Bartlett and Kevin Reynolds** together won four of the five races. **Fred Schroth and Eric Rochard** handled RC duties.

While most Wednesdays this year have provided good sailing, this was not the case on the last night of the season. What was supposed to be Laser Championship night was a total no-show, with light rain and no wind. The only success that night was with the Sunfish Potluck dinner.

The end of September is the close of the 2017 Wednesday night Sunfish-Laser racing season. This has been a great sailing year, saddened at the end by the loss of **Steve Ehlers**. For Sunfish, a total of 29 sailors competed at least once, and 15 was typical. The top four Sunfish sailors were: **John Bartlett, Kevin Reynolds, Andy Hempel, and Annie Lancaster**.

Keel Fleet Report

by Karen Bogisch



Some fun 2017 Keel Fleet numbers:

Members: 61
Red-eye Regatta participants: 48
Independence Cup participants: 34
Moonburn Series participants: 31
Single-handed Regatta participants: 28
Friday night Beer Can races: 5 months long

Volunteers we couldn't have done without – too numerous to count!

Thank you in particular to the Regatta chairs – **John Thurston** for the Red-Eye and Single-handed Regattas and **James Parsons** for the Independence Cup Regatta and Moonburn Series. And to **Ray Shull** for making certain we had Beer Can chefs all summer long!

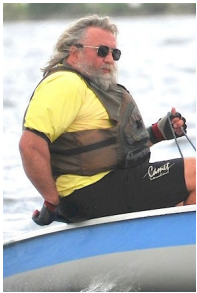
The Keel Fleet's two remaining events for 2017 are taking place on Saturday, November 18 – the Wild Turkey Regatta and the annual Keel Fleet meeting, which will include the election of new officers for 2018. Please join us!!

Single-handed Regatta

The Keel Fleet's Single-Handed Regatta took place on Saturday, September 23rd, and **John Thurston** did a fabulous job as Chair. 28 boats took part, an increase of 10 boats over last year, including three trimarans. It was a beautiful day on the lake, with winds around 10 miles an hour. The boats headed up the lake to Mark 4, then went to 6, followed by D, and then on to finish. Every skipper had a smile on his face when he came across the finish line. Those of us on race committee enjoyed watching a number of close duels up and down the lake. After the race, **John** set up a chalupa bar for the racers, and then trophies were awarded. **John Burke** on Amazing Grace won A fleet along with the overall trophy, **John Saunders** won B Fleet, **James Parsons** won C Fleet, **Bob Musselman** won D Fleet, and **J Kuc** won the Multi-hull Fleet. Thanks to all of the volunteers on race committee and on-shore and all the racers who came out to enjoy the race and thanks to **John Thurston** for encouraging us bring this race back last year!

Laser Fleet

by Fred Schroth



The season ended with a resounding thud. **Steve** was in the hospital. Championship night wasn't. There was the usual amount of air but none of it was moving. Those present looked at the lake and, in an effort to salvage the evening, each went home to accomplish things there.

The season championship was pretty well decided as **David Grogono's**. Only real competitors raced a trio of championship nights between them.

We have a job to do before the Orange Bowl Youth Regatta. **Taylor** is going. We need to spend lots of time sailing near her and coaching. You can't show her how to do something unless you are out on the water with a sailboat under your butt. Our fleet's long suit is experience. Go out and share some.

I am not aware who else is going to Miami but if there are others, they also need tuning partners.

It is very hard (impossible) to simulate a big fleet start but if we can have some days with ten of us or more we can certainly contribute to everybody's starting and boat handling skills. As the days on the water are long, endurance is huge and the best way to learn energy management is to go sail all day.

I plan to visit at least one and I hope more of the midwinter Florida regattas. It sure would be nice if I could load up the five-boat trailer and take it down so we could have lots of us go play. Maybe the five boats could be used in the four big events by as many as ten rotating visitors.

Finally: **Eric and Sarah** added a new guy to the Laser fleet on about the fifth of October. They won't be sleeping this winter much less playing a lot on sailboats. I won't do a sailor-by-sailor history back to **Hap Arnold and Vernon Wong** but suffice it to say, with the loss of **Steve**, our "crazy big guys who sail on windy days all winter" fleet is down to **Bill Mitchell, me, and the juniors**. That is unacceptable. Get yourself some warm comfortable sailing clothes and come out and play all winter. Putting it off doesn't work.

J/24 Fleet Update

by Stu Juengst



The J/24 fleet lost one of our best last week with the passing of **Steve Ehlers**. **Steve** was a great friend to everyone, and a great sailor. He introduced many of us to the joys of sailing, competitively and for fun. He will be missed!

AYC hosted the 6th stop of the year on the J/24 Texas Circuit, known as the Texas State Championship. (See photos starting next page) We had 14 boats from all over the state, and one from Oklahoma City, OK. Wind conditions were very light and shifty, challenging for both competitors and RC. **Vic Manning and the J/22 fleet** did a great job adjusting to the conditions, and we got the circuit minimum of 3 races in on Saturday. Saturday night featured a

fun party with a live band and the infamous Roto-shooter. If you haven't experienced the Roto-shooter, it's a J/24 boom outfitted with 5 shot glasses. The glasses are filled with the adult beverage of your choice, and 5 sailors line up to take a simultaneous shot. If you spill any, you have to do it again!



We never left the dock on Sunday, as what little wind we had on Saturday disappeared overnight.



Everyone got their boats packed up early, and awards were presented in time to travel home before dark. The winner of the Texas State Championship for the fourth year in a row was **Natalie Harden** and Team GIGGLES. That team from OK? **Jennifer Waldrop** took home the 5th place trophy from their very first Circuit Stop. Congrats **Natalie and Jennifer!**



The skipper's trophies (seen in the photo above being held by **Reed Cleckler**) were beautiful glass art by **Sun Hi Casey**.

J/24 Texas State Championship



Photos Bruce McDonald



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Photos Bruce McDonald

A Fleet Update

by Ray Shull



Since the last A Fleet update, the fleet has participated in the first three race days of the Late Summer Series, had several fleet members race in the Single-handed Regatta, and taken a very active role in the Annual AYC Fund Fleet Challenge event.

The Late Summer Series started on September 9 with seven J 80s, Coyote-Melges 24, Rush-Tripp 26, the VX One, and a J 70-# 175 competing. The 11 boats racing were by far the largest fleet and enjoyed

light winds but good sailing conditions. Lickety Spit, Air Supply, and Speed Racer finished in that order as the first three boats in the first race. The J 80s continued their dominance in the second race with Poncho and Lefty, Jack Rabbit, and then Air Supply in the top three spots. The finish results seem to indicate that the J 70 did not read the Sailing Instructions requiring a check-in before the race and were scored DNS. The next race day another boat found that it was also important to read the fine print about how to properly check in.

The second race day saw six J 80s, the J 70-# 175, and the VX One appear for the day's races. As hinted above, the race results record that Poncho and Lefty checked in on "Port", not the required "Starboard" tack, and were recorded as DNS by the ever-vigilant race committee (Ouch). Take note fellow A Fleeters that some race committees are very particular about compliance with the check-in procedures. For the racers that checked-in properly, the first three finishers in the first race were Flyer, Speed Racer, and the J 70. In the second race the top three were Amazing Grace, Air Supply, and Speed Racer.

In the third race day on October 7, five J 80s, Coyote-Melges 24, the VX One, and the Extreme 25 attended. The wind forecast for the day was light and variable, and the race committee wisely postponed for a while hoping that the wind would appear. Around 1:45, a light north wind came down the lake and the race committee was able to set up a good course for the racers. In the first race Speed Racer, Flyer, and Coyote sailed the fastest in the light conditions to finish in that order. In the second race, Speed Racer and Flyer were again 1 and 2, with Jack Rabbit in the third spot.

As of this writing, Speed Racer has a commanding lead in the series standing due to their consistent top finishes. The next five spots are separated by four points heading into the final race day. The top seven places are held by J 80s. Once again the racing has been close in all of the series races with the boats typically finishing within seconds of each other. Five different boats have won a race in this series, with only one boat winning more than one race (Speed Racer). This close competitive racing is exciting and great to experience.

The Single-handed Regatta was held on September 24 with five J 80s, the VX One, the SB 20, and Warrior-11 Metre representing A Fleet. All of these boats entered as spinnaker boats. Sailing any of these boats single-handed with a spinnaker is challenging, fun, and really makes you appreciate your crew members' efforts during conventional racing. The racing was close in A Fleet with the top five boats rounding the weather mark within a minute of each other. The next task was to head downwind, set the pole, raise the spinnaker, furl or drop the jib, and then trim the spinnaker for the downwind course. After completing these maneuvers, four of the J 80s were essentially dead even and heading for the next mark. The jibing at this mark was fairly

uneventful, with these boats now heading to the dreaded leeward mark, where it appeared that a close quarters, single-handed spinnaker take-down was going to occur. The four boats were observed to include doing the following: hitting the mark, dragging a spinnaker in the water (shrimping), rounding the mark with no jib set (two boats), rounding the mark with the spinnaker still up, and rounding the mark but not heading up to the next course for several boat lengths. When the spray settled, Amazing Grace came out with the least amount of mishaps with Flyer close behind. These two boats sailed closely to the finish with the lead changing three times before Amazing Grace crossed 21 seconds ahead. Following Flyer in second were Speed Racer, Poncho and Lefty, and Air Supply. Amazing Grace won A Fleet and was also the Overall Keel Boat Winner. A Fleet boats captured the first five places in the Overall Keelboat Standings. Well done A Fleet skippers.

On October 8, the Annual AYC Fund Fleet Challenge was held. This event is the annual fund raiser for the AYC Fund which supports various sailing endeavors at AYC and provides funding to AYC members who compete at higher level events. This Fleet Challenge was created by A Fleefer **Scott Young** several years ago to raise money for this great cause. This year A Fleeters **Claudia and John Bartlett** agreed to take over organizing this event, and they managed the activities from start to finish. The event was a huge success this year, raising over \$32,000 for the fund. A Fleet led all fleets in dollars raised, and was third in the number of individual donations. Additionally, the A Fleet team of **John Bartlett and John Burke** dominated in the sailing portion of the event, winning the three races on the water. These wins, coupled with the A Fleet win in fundraising, gave us an easy overall win. Congratulations A Fleet and thanks again to **Claudia and John** for organizing this event.

Ensign Fleet Updates

by Lewis Price, Hazel Sanchez and George Dahmen



Ensign Fleet News by Lewis Price and Hazel Sanchez

Late September into early October was a busy time for the Ensign fleet. We had members competing in our Regional championships in Houston as well as the AYC Fleet Challenge back here at home.

We also welcomed our newest member, **James Everett Faust, son of Sarah and Eric Faust.**

Congratulations **Sarah and Eric (and sister Margaret Rose)** on the birth of your new baby boy!!

The Region IV Championships were held in conjunction with the 2017 Houston Open One Design (HOOD) Regatta at the Houston Yacht Club (HYC) on September 22-24. Ensign Fleet 30 from AYC had two boats entered, #588, "stijf kop" (but apparently for this regatta renamed "Madonna Express"), skippered by **George Dahmen**, and #578, "Brews'r", skippered by **Tom Groll**. Both AYC entrants highly distinguished themselves and our fleet with **George** taking first overall and Tom third out of the seven boats competing. In fact, **George** and his crew of brother **Frans**, **Anne Kitzmiller** and **Katherine Noack** had five bullets and one second in the 6 races contested!! **Tom**, with his crew that included **Anne Riggs** and **Hazel Sanchez** also sailed admirably well.

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Back here at home, the AYC Fleet Challenge / Annual Club Fundraiser was held on October 8th. First of all, I would like to thank everyone who made a generous donation on behalf of our fleet, but a special shout out needs to go to **Hazel Sanchez and Anne Riggs** who stepped forward and represented all of us in the races competed in FJs. The following is an excellent account of those races written by Hazel Sanchez.

Fleet Challenge Update by Hazel Sanchez

Well it was another fine day at Austin Yacht Club – we're so lucky!

The 7th Annual Fleet Challenge was competitive even though there was not much, if any, wind. There were 18 FJs on the race course. A great showing by all of the fleets and a successful fundraising event. First and second went to A fleet, and Sunfish fleet won third.

Anne Riggs and Hazel Sanchez raced for the Ensign fleet. The race committee got three races off. All were one upwind leg, with a downwind finish. The first was skippered by **Hazel**. The BIG wind (about 1 – 3 knots) died to nothing on the approach to the windward mark. The RC (PRO'd by the Ensign fleet's **Bill Hawk**) raised the S flag which meant that sailors could do whatever it took to finish the race, including paddling, sculling, ooching, rolling and even pushing or pulling your boat while in the water. **Anne and Hazel** opted for paddling and sculling, and came in 11th. **Hazel and Anne** were somewhat handicapped in the first race since their tiller kept falling off. It made travelling in a straight line kind of difficult. For some reason the boat kept

wanting to go in a circle. In any event, it is reported that a young gentleman, **Julius Heitkoetter**, came to their rescue and was able to get the tiller secure.

There was some wind for the 2nd race, allowing the race to actually be sailed. The wind was about 1 – 3 knots for the whole race, maybe gusting to 4. **Hazel** skippered again and came in 11th.

After a short postponement and course change – and absolutely no wind, the S flag was raised again signaling that all was fair play, but this time for the entire race. **Anne** was at the tiller, and sculling and paddling was again the chosen means of propulsion. The Ensign fleet's FJ finished 7th in the third race, and the skipper and crew both got a good workout.

It seemed that the paddles were indeed a hot commodity for this regatta. During the last race, there was a friendly "altercation" on the course, when two boats were racing (using that term loosely) toward a paddle that went overboard. **Anne and Hazel** sped past so quickly that they didn't get to see who retrieved the valuable piece of sailing equipment.

Ahh, Lake Travis, AYC and the Ensign fleet. You just have to love it!

Fantastic work to all who helped put on another successful Fleet Challenge – **Claudia and John Bartlett** as Regatta Chairs, the RC, and everyone who took part. As I said, another great day at the Lake.

*Ensign Fleet Update
continues next page*

Ensign Region IV Championships Results

Position	Bow/Sail	Boat	Rating	Skipper	Yacht Club	RACES						Total	Position
						1	2	3	4	5	6		
1	588	Madonna Express	252	George Dahmen	Austin Yacht Club	1	1	1	2	1	1	7	1
2	1029	the other woman	0	John Cutler	Houston Yacht Club	3	2	4	3	3	2	17	2
3	578	Brews'r	252	Tom Groll	Austin Yacht Club	2	3	3	5	2	4	19	3
4	519	Dynamite	0	Lythia Metzmeier	Houston Yacht Club	4	5	2	4	4	5	24	4
5	1724	Little Oil	0	Dean Snider	Houston Yacht Club	5	4	7	1	6	6	29	5
6	509	Carolina Girl	0	Jane Heron	Houston Yacht Club	6	6	5	6	5	3	31	6
7	1539	Black Opal	0	Calvin Holt	Houston Yacht Club	7	7	6	7	7	7	41	7

2017 Annual Banquet
December 9
6pm at the Oasis Starlight Terrace



Thirty Years of Fun by George Dahmen

Every dog has his day, and our day finally came... we won the Ensign Regional Championship Regatta. We are Champions and it only took 30 years. It has been a great ride. **My brother, Frans**, and I bought hull #588 after sailing in a regatta as crew for Hippy Harold. We were smitten with Championship fever. Our sailing history over the last thirty years comprised mostly of third and second places. Once we tied for first but lost the tiebreaker. We were content to race in the "always a bridesmaid" style... but the Championship was still out there whispering. The sailing, the camaraderie and the parties kept us in the chase

This year the Houston Yacht Club hosted the Regional Championship. HYC dodged the hurricane and it was game on. Our trailer had become home to a family of ducks and was not fit to carry Styfkop (#588) to Houston. With a borrowed HYC Ensign (Thank you **Madonna Breen**, generous owner) we set out to capture the Championship. Madonna had recently had some work done on her boat... it was ready and we gladly accepted her offer. In Houston we tuned the rigging using the Benz formula with a nice rake to the mast. We registered the boat as Madonna Express.

Madonna Express was fast. There were six races in all and the Madonna Express proved true to her name. She was really fast!! We won five of six Championship races... one race by 20 boat lengths. Our wins were not all "horizon" wins. **John Cutler and Tom Groll** (former Champion) made us work very hard for our downwind victories. After thirty years of chasing the Championship... we caught it... it was ours. I cannot stop smiling. A heartfelt thank you to our fellow competitors and a special thank you to our crew. My brother and partner, **Frans**, was trimmer (he always supported the dream and pretty much rebuilt #588), **Ann Kitzmiller** was foredeck and called downwind tactics... she ordered some timely moves that gave us our downwind finishes. **Kathryn Noack** trimmed the main and finessed the power in light to moderate breezes. Together, we brought the Regional Championship Cup home to AYC. Something to note about our AYC Ensign Fleet, in the past few years the Regional Championship has been won by two other AYC Ensign sailors: **Jonathan Baker and Tom Groll**... makes you smile.

Thirty years and I would do it all again.



C Fleet Update

by James Parsons



Late Summer Series Recap Races 2 & 3

Race 2 saw some strange winds out of the East. So we started out racing for E Mark, notorious for the shifty winds of Cypress Creek. **John Durfor's** Blue Note was up in the front group again, and we weren't far away on Blue Moon. **Keith's** Slip Kid was also right in the mix at the first mark. He would later retire from the race, rumored to be because the last 7 races of the 2013 America's Cup were replaying.

Jeff Avant and Chris Thompson

made up the rest of the fleet, also not far away at the first mark.

The finish saw Blue Note get line honors over Blue Moon by 4 seconds, but losing on corrected time by 49 seconds. A big thank you to the crew that worked together really well. New member **Jeremy** was trimming, **Elizabeth Q** was foredeck, and promising newbie **Taylor** did pit and beer quenching.



Race 3 saw lots of returning faces, and a boat that had multiple problems through the day (taking up the mantle from **Keith** in race 1).

The start saw **Ryan Larson's** Pura Vida (with **Bill** onboard) get pinched out of the start by a leeward Blue Moon. When Pura Vida did their 360, Blue Moon busted one out to ensure they wouldn't pass the pin, and stay closer to the RC boat (this was the first of a total of 4 spins by Blue Moon).

There was a boat over early, which may have been **Hector**. The winds shifted on us on the way up, so boats had to decide what strategy they wanted to take to get upwind to D.

Jim Pearce's Entheos was sneaking by with lots of boat speed behind the bigger B Fleet boats. **John Durfor's** Blue Note was also up with him, and these were the lead two boats for the entire day.

Blue Moon and Pura Vida battled it out for 3rd. Blue Moon missed out on seeing Pura Vida and tried to take but it was too late, so Pura Vida had to avoid. Blue Moon was off to do some 720s near Volente.

On the way downwind, Blue Moon had some issues getting the spinnaker up, oh, and also apparently hit the mark. I had switched to foredeck so did not see it happen. **Mack** did, and kindly let us know. I had a good talk with my crew after the race about letting me know if that happens, and about sportsmanship. Which resulted in our 4th 360 of the day (and the 3rd non beneficial one).

Hector, Mack, and Jeff were the next boats around.

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Heading towards 4, Blue Note and Entheos were still in a battle, with Blue Note just in front. **Bill** was 3rd, with Blue Moon gaining after a spinnaker run in 4th.



Entheos picked off Blue Note on that last leg, winning by 35 seconds. Congrats on the win **Jim**! While Blue Note was the first loser today, they did clinch the series. There's nothing anyone can do to catch them in Race 4. Congrats on the series win **John**!

Pura Vida crossed 59 seconds ahead of Blue Moon. We both forgot that with Pura Vida not using a spinnaker that the PHRFs were actually 219 to 216, so Blue Moon would have had to beat Pura Vida to have any chance. With Blue

Moon unable to make the last race, Pura Vida is the favorite for 2nd place in the series.

Hector, Mack, and Jeff were the next boats. It was good to see **Jim, Hector, and Mack** out. Not to mention **John Durfur**, haven't seen you in a few series. I might be lucky you weren't at the Single-Handed Regatta.

C&D Fleet Single-Handed Regatta Recap

Something none of us did at the Skippers meeting was pay attention to the PHRF split for C & D Fleets.

To help you feel like you were at the race, that's how I'm going to write the recap.

Both C & D Fleets started at the same time. It was also start 4 instead of our usual start 2, so there was some extra time. It wasn't the same Bat time as usual. It was hot and muggy, and yours truly may have used every minute of that extra time to rest in the cool bat cave...err, the clubhouse. I may be exhausted in a fun way from a few galas the night before. So, disaster while alone seemed like a greater possibility, and I needed all the rest I could get. But, it was mostly because it was hot, and I suspected once I was out on the water, there was no such thing as taking it easy. Not when I locked my #2 sail (and keys) in the bat mobile. I was stuck with my #1. In winds on the verge of needing a #2.

I want to thank **Jill Shermer** for helping me get my main hoisted, which in no way is a 1-person job. Also for helping me get out of my windward slip. Disaster possibility #1 and 2 of ~37 while single handed was averted. Thanks for lending me your Robin, **Russ**.

So, 5 minutes before the start, the rest of C and D Fleet were moving



towards the line. I was about to put my #1 up (still trying to conserve energy), when I needed to get out of a J22's way. 2 minutes to go, I was free of any other boats in the area, and hoisted the jib. Would I make the start on time? Was that energy saving all really just procrastination?

Maybe 5 seconds before the start, I was behind the RC boat and registered. And the rest of the fleet was mired in what looked like a bunch of interlocking fiberglass. I

heard no boats touched, no one was fouled, and there was a massive wind shift. Boat with No Name (aka S/V Ninnyhammer) captained/crewed/brewed by **Jeff Avant** was on port tack at the pin, and was off to the races. Blue Moon about 2 seconds later crossed the line. **Keith's Slip Kid** was third across, after having to avoid t-boning the starboard Blue Moon.

Both Blue Moon and Three Hour Crewz (**Chris Thompson**) went on starboard tacks up the lake and everyone else went starboard. I wasn't in the mood to work too hard just yet.

Then we got a knock and both tacked. That switched me into gear, and getting the jib around better than with crew the day before was very satisfying. Adjusted the main and the backstay....#%&! Backstay adjuster broke. Got the pin back in, after what seemed like a long time, and went gentle on it.

At the first mark (4), the top 5 were S/V Ninnyhammer, **Bob Musselman's** SouthCoast 21, Blue Moon, Slip Kid, and **Bill Records** Café au Lait making a rare summer appearance. The next 6 were **John Grinzch's** Catalina 22, **Andre de la Reza's** Los Monos, the boat nicknamed THC, **Russell Johnson's** Carpe Manana (a Tartan 28), **Edwin Marty's** El Gallo (a Catalina 25) and **Bob Stephen's** Picante (P26).

Downwind to 6, the wind died. Those that had #1s out were relieved (not sure of any that didn't have one up). Those that had spinnakers were doing well (only **Bob**), and the rest of us were probably too hot and scared of going overboard to play with a spinnaker (at least that's where I was at with that thought process). Most boats stayed closer to the Eastern shore, and the wind seemed to die there first. Blue Moon was closer to the middle. Until I tried to close the cooler, and promptly headed straight for shore. Oh wait, that lined me a wing on wing run. #CoolerStrategy? (a cooler that wouldn't close was not in my estimated 37 things that could go wrong single-handing).

At 6 Blue Moon had inside overlap on S/V Ninnyhammer. **Keith** was inside **Bill**, and **Bob** was not far behind them. A dog fight developed between Blue Moon and Ninnyhammer, except on that course, Ninnyhammer had the advantage. So **Blue Moon** peeled off to go more windward and to not get dirty air. Meanwhile, **Bob** made major gains with his spinnaker, and passed us all at some point going towards D. **Bill and Keith** were still close by as well, with **Bill** having the advantage.

After D, Ninnyhammer went inside Starnes, as most do. Blue Moon decided

continued next page

to take a chance that the wind would keep oscillating so that route would be advantageous, and knowing that Ninnyhammer would correct over (IF in the same fleet. Cough, cough). Well, the next 2 C Fleet boats followed suit. If Ninnyhammer wasn't in C Fleet, then they were covering letting 1st placed



Blue Moon cover them. Not that they could have gone faster to the east of the island, as all 3 of us passed Ninnyhammer with that gamble.

Los Monos (with probably the strongest person in the fleet by some order of magnitude), took advantage of the wind oscillating back, went inside the island, and picked up some time on the leaders.



Now it was a race for the finish. Would the wind oscillate again? Should the strategy to try to tack a little early for the finish line? It did, and both **Bob** (7th overall, 1st in D) and **Blue Moon** (10th overall, 1st in C) were headed straight for

the committee boat, fairly close together. Next were **Bill Records** (13, 2nd C) and **Keith Denebeim** (15, 3rd C). **Jeff's S/V Ninnyhammer** crossed next and got 11th overall (2nd D fleet). We weren't racing against him after all, but it was pretty close for corrected time. He'd have had 2nd in C Fleet by 1 only a minute.

The next set of boats were **Los Monos** (20, 4th C), **John Grinzch** (21, 3rd D), **Three Hour Crewz** (22, 4th D), **Carpe Manana** (23, 5th C), **El Gallo** (24, 5th D), and **Picante** was 25th (6th in C).



John Thurston, thanks for putting on a great regatta and for resurrecting the race from the grave. It's been great working with you on the KHF Board, and I'll miss being able to bounce ideas around with you (he's stepping down from being B Fleet Captain next year).

I am thrilled/humbled to have had the chance to do something I've never done, beating **Bill and Keith** in the same race. I was more focused than when I have crew, so that's something I'll have to take aboard for future races. There were a ton of little adjustments done throughout the day. In the end, I was very happy to have raced, and as suspected once I was on the water it was all about giving as much energy as I had. Oh yeah, and road side assistance came after the race and unlocked my car for me.

If you would like to see some more pictures, there were some great shots taken from the RC boat by **Paul Bradley**, one of our newer members. They are available at <http://tinyurl.com/SHR-RC>.



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2017 Fastnet Race

by Linda McDavitt



After doing the qualifying races and training, it was time to prepare for the Fastnet.

1st, eliminate all extra weight on the boat.... extra foul weather gear of which there were approximately 20 sets, take off the extra spinnaker pole (when explained how they used to gybe with the two poles I was more than happy to do a dip pole gybe and make sure the other pole was not on the boat...besides it was REALLY heavy),

all excess equipment that we would not be using, excess lines, reposition the anchor and if we could think of it something would disappear. All our personal gear that would not be used was put up in cars.

Here we are eliminating the Velcro patches that no longer stayed velcro'd over the staysail hanks.



Andy and Craig (maintenance rigger) tuning rig.



Next is our version of cleaning the bottom with an old line and a dinghy with a sponge vs. the Volvo boats with a diver scrubbing the bottom every morning.



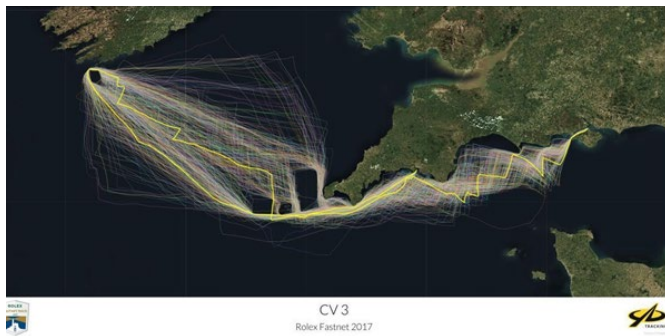
Below, **Andy** checking the course and the tide schedule and the weather. Weather reports were not so good as they changed every hour. After the Channel race he predicted that we would finish the Fastnet in 4 days, 2 hours plus or minus 30 minutes if the weather was close to normal for early August. However....they were not so good so we played out in the ocean a little bit longer! Andy proved himself to be a master of planning with weather and tide. Great privilege to sail with him.



Boat officially ready to go with Rolex sticker on bow, Sail numbers on the side and Rolex Flag on the backstay.



Below is the race course and the yellow line is our course.



Had to check in at start line with storm sail up.



And then there are always last minute fixes prior to race start.



Some of the action by the starting line.



My favorite Volvo boat on its way to pass it. Great theme!



Love it when we are on starboard.



continued next page

This boat ended up grounded. Story is they had to wait 6 hours for rescue boat due to it was diverted for a bigger emergency.



Passing the Needles.



OK, I just like nature.



Fastnet Rock!! Winds were pretty light here and shifty.



Always checking trim!



No, he is not texting, he is checking the course and the weather. We are close enough to land to do that and one doesn't have to run up and down to nav station or shout out.



Yep, RTW 11-12 sails. Great Competitive edge!



continued next page

And there is the boat SPARTAN with **Gretchen** and Clipper friend **Javier** on it. They were fortunate **Javier** noticed they were going the wrong way as he came up to go on watch in the night. The navigator checked and they had to turn around and retrace steps. Probably why we had the pleasure of seeing them behind for a bit.



Gretchen and me and yes, I have a Coke!



What else did I learn? Never to think that a big spinnaker would gybe like a J22 chute. You know, just ease a little and let it float around? HaHa! When you release the line from the winch, let go!!!!

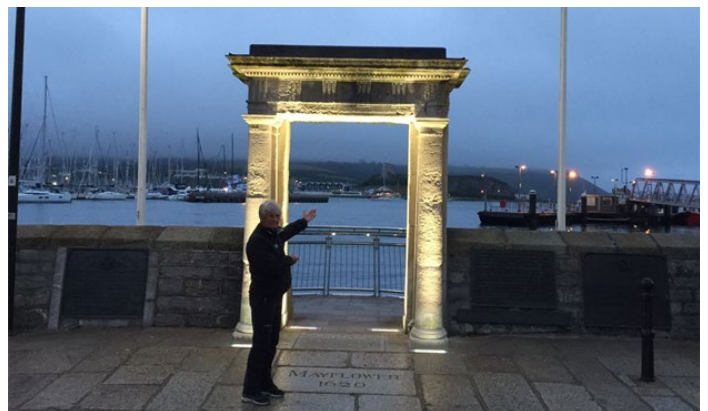
Awesome skipper **Andy** and 1st mate **Judy** with me at the helm.



Our final team. **Tony, Richard, Andy, Anders, Denise, Maggie, Judy, Helen and me.** **Kathy** was with her mother in intensive care and **Nick** home with bruised ribs from the channel race.



Turns out the Mayflower loaded up and sailed from here in July 1620 to America. The Pilgrims are on the way.



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NEWSLETTER

Susie McDonald, Editor
ghowiellc@gmail.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

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AYC 2017 RACE CALENDAR

Oct 28	UTST Parents & Family Regatta 9:00a - 3:00p
Oct 29	Fall Series 1:30p start RC: A Fleet
Nov 4-5	Kathryn Hammond Memorial Coed Interconference
Nov 5	Fall Series 1:30p start RC: Multihull Fleet
Nov 12	Fall Series 1:30p start RC: C Fleet End of Series
Nov 18	Wild Turkey Regatta 8:00a - 5:00p

AYC 2017 NON-RACING EVENTS

Oct 26	Board of Directors Meeting 7:30p
Oct 29	Free Sail Sunday 1:00 - 4:00p
Nov 5, 12, 19, 26	Free Sail Sunday 1:00 - 4:00p
Nov 11, 19	ASA 101 9:00a - 5:00p
Nov 16	AYC Annual Meeting 7:30p
Dec 1	Catamaran Christmas Party 5:00p
Dec 2	Roadrunner Holiday Party 1:00p - 5:00p
Dec 3, 10, 17	Free Sail Sunday 1:00 - 4:00p
Dec 9	Annual Banquet at the Oasis 6:00p - 11:00p
Dec 15	J24, J22, Multihull Holiday Party 5:00p
Dec 16	Catalina Fleet Holiday Party 6:00 - 11:00p

A FRIENDLY REMINDER: Members who handwrite checks to pay their accounts, please include your AYC account # on the memo line of your check. This only applies to members who hand-write checks (members using online bill-pay already have this set up).





Fiona Froelich competes in Centerboard Regatta Photo John Grzinich

Austin Yacht Club
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November 18, 2017 Followed by the Keel Handicap Fleet Annual Meeting

WILD TURKEY REGATTA

