

September 2017



# Summer Doesn't Slow Us Down

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## SAVE THE DATE

Sep 23	Learn to Sail Clinic
Sep 23, Oct 7, 14	Late Summer Series
Sep 24	Single-Handed Regatta
Sep 24, Oct 1	FJ Summer Series Fundraiser
Sep 28	Board of Directors Mtg
Sep 30	Women's Clinic
Sep 30-Oct 1	J/24 TX State Champions Circuit Stop
Oct 8	AYC Fund Fleet Challenge
Oct 8	New Member Social
Oct 15	ASA101 Course
Oct 21-22	Roadrunner Regatta
Oct 28	Women's Regatta
Nov 18	Wild Turkey Regatta
Dec 9	Annual Banquet

AYC Roadrunners place 4th in Sears Cup  
 Youngest, lightest and only team skippered by a girl  
 Seamanship Award Winners



Photo Constanze Heitkoetter

# 2017 KEEL FLEET SINGLE HANDED REGATTA



**Rescheduled - Please note new date and time**

SEPTEMBER 24, 2017

11:00 AM - REGISTRATION  
12:00 PM - COMPETITOR'S BRIEFING  
1:30 PM - RACE START  
5:00 PM - AWARDS SOCIAL

- ★ Open to keelboats and multihulls (min 18') normally crewed by two or more sailors
- ★ One long distance race sailing single handed
- ★ No electronic steering devices
- ★ \$25 Entry Fee (\$5 KHF discount)

Register at [www.austinyachtclub.net](http://www.austinyachtclub.net)



## From The Commodore

by Wade Bingaman



Someone told me a few weeks ago, "Well summer's over, it's fall, and things will slow down at the Club." That is not going to happen. If anything, it seems like we are picking up the tempo.

If you didn't participate in the Centerboard Regatta, you should have. It was a great success, a real change of pace from our usual keel boat events. You don't own a centerboard boat? No problem, the FJ Summer

Series has been going on all this month. You can try out centerboard racing on one of the Club's FJs. The proceeds go to support the Roadrunners. You should consider trying it out. If you like it, maybe you can represent your fleet in the AYC Fund Fleet Challenge scheduled for Oct. 8th. The AYC Fund has a great project planned this year. I hope you will support the event.

Another small boat event is on the horizon, this time just for kids – the Roadrunner Regatta. It will be held Oct 21-22nd and regularly brings in over 100 young sailors. It's a great spectacle with multiple race courses out in front of the Club. I highly recommend bringing a lawn chair, binoculars, and beverages out to our point to enjoy the show.

Our Club series are still going strong. We're enjoying the slightly cooler weather to finish up the Late Summer Series. Next we have the Fall Series which begins on Oct 22nd. We'll squeeze in the series races that day just as the Roadrunner Regatta is winding down.

We have our second Women's Clinic scheduled for Sept. 30th. The one held earlier this year was very popular. So popular in fact, that we had to turn away women who wanted to attend. We hope to avoid that this time by having more boats and instructors available. The clinic will be followed on Oct. 28th by the Women's Regatta. I am extremely proud of the women in our Club who have made these events so popular. We should all want more women to participate in sailing and feel comfortable at our Club. In that vein, I am pleased to announce that AYC has agreed to host the 2018 Women's North American Sunfish Championship. The date is not set, but it will be sometime in the fall of 2018, when things are not so busy. (Ha Ha)

Also, if it's not looking too far ahead, mark on your calendar Saturday, Dec 9th. That's the date of our annual AYC Banquet. Last year's venue was so popular – the Oasis – that we're having it there again!

So, slowing down this fall. I don't think so.

See you at the Club.

## Vice Commodore Report

by Bill Records



### Regattas

The next regatta at AYC will be the rescheduled Single-Handed Regatta, hosted by the Keel Handicap Fleet, Sep. 24th. Every boat owner should know how to single hand, so this will be a good chance to show off your skills.

On October 21, 22 we will have the Roadrunner Regatta, by far the largest regatta that AYC hosts.

We are expecting around 100 boats from all over the state. For years this has been our most successful regatta. The planning and organization is top notch and the competition is fierce. Volunteers should contact regatta chairs **Mary Carew and Jeff Brock**. The old adage, "watching a sailboat race is like watching grass grow" is thrown out the window for this event. There will be spectator boats available for those who want to witness the excitement.

The Wild Turkey Regatta is scheduled on Nov. 18th, the week before Thanksgiving.

### Boy Scouts

In recent years, the Club has welcomed scouting organizations, namely the Sea Scout Ship 681. This has turned out to be very good move. Their service projects are ongoing and greatly improve our Club. On race day 1 of the Late Summer Series, the boat I was crewing on had motor problems and with the wind blowing out of the east, sailing out would be difficult. I looked around for someone to tow us out and noticed a scout troop finishing a weekend camp out. When I asked for assistance they all eagerly volunteered to help and within minutes the boat was towed to the T head with scouts fending all the way.

Be sure to read **Mike Beuerlein's** article about this year's event on page 15.

## Race Commander Report

by Ed Taylor



### Permanent Race Committee

The PRC Representatives for the Suffering 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. The first weekend's Late Summer Series had a good start with the PHRF B Keel fleet set for Race Committee followed by J/24, South Coast 21/

Catalina 22 and Ensign Fleets responsible for RC duties.

### Race Logistics

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

*continued next page*

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.*

#### SUFFERING SUMMER SERIES RESULTS

<b><u>PHRF A</u></b>	1st 2nd 3rd	Flyer Coyote Speed Racer	Ray Shull Brigitte Rochard John Bartlett
<b><u>PHRF B</u></b>	1st	1927	John Maddalozzo
<b><u>PHRF C</u></b>	1st 2nd 3rd	Los Monos One Big Holiday Blue Moon	Andre de la Reza Robert Bennett James Parsons
<b><u>J/22</u></b>	1st 2nd 3rd	Project Mayhem Caledonia Crash Course	John Halter Gordon Miller Rosanne Butera
<b><u>J/24</u></b>	1st 2nd 3rd	Vang Go 2380 Chupacabra	Stuart Juengst David Broadway John Parker
<b><u>Ensign</u></b>	1st 2nd 3rd	Dos Locos Styf Kop 739	Lewis Price George Dahmen David Morley
<b><u>Multihull 1</u></b>	1st 2nd 3rd	Tribology Swallow Abandoned Assets	Doug Casey J Kuc Bo Kersey
<b><u>Multihull 2</u></b>	1st 2nd	NACRA Cat 460 Neko	Spencer Conklin Tim Purcell Owen Crouse

## Building and Grounds Report

by Chris Thompson



### Projects – July/August 2017

**OAK WILT TREATMENT** – the trenching is completed and the budget for the removal of damaged trees is approved. Thanks to **Tom C., Tom Groll and Danny Lien** for managing this project. Tree removal will proceed this fall.

Pool pump repairs have been completed – the pump motor was replaced by **Tom C.** to expedite the process and prevent any downtime or water balance issues. Issues with the pool light flickering are under investigation, we suspect problems with the analog timer.

The office remodel is complete except for hanging pictures; **Tom** has touched up the paint, the new table, chairs and everything looks great. The office staff is very happy. Thanks **Diane Covert** for managing this project.

The budget was approved to finish the roof replacements on the remainder of AYC buildings. Contractor is ready to begin. This will complete the roofs on almost all AYC buildings except the office and clubhouse.

Our volunteers groups have done a great job washing the clubhouse windows, cleaning the fridge, cleaning up the grounds and shoreline areas over a couple of different weekends. Thank you to the **Sea Scouts, and the Scout Troop, under the guidance of Chris Schuftger, and Charles Valentine, respectively.**



Sea scouts stacked the wood from oak wilt trimming, cleared north shoreline, and cleaned up planter beds (9/2/17)



Boy Scouts clearing debris from the south cove shoreline (9/10/17)

There will be some more opportunities for volunteers in the near future. I am reviewing the schedules and to do list to see when I can work this into our busy fall calendar.

## Sail Training Report

by Carolyn Wilsford



Hi AYC Sailors,

Well, this AYC facility just keeps on making it possible for **All** to enjoy. The Wind Gods have a great Fall Season planned with cooler weather:).

### Learn-to-Sail Clinic

Our very own future Commodore **Bill Records** has scheduled a "Learn to Sail" clinic on Saturday, September 23rd 1-5 p.m. Registration is filling fast.

#### Clinic highlights

- Land-based instruction: Basic sailing terms; How sails work
- On-the-water Instruction: Rigging; Steering; Crewing
- Cost: \$50 per person (AYC members) \$65.00 per person (non members) both Beginner and Intermediate skills will be practiced.
- Please bring sunscreen, a reusable water bottle, hat & sunglasses, close-toed water shoes/sandals or boat shoes and a sun protection shirt.
- Register online at [austinyachtclub.net](http://austinyachtclub.net)
- Contact AYC Sailing Director **Coleman Terrell** at (512) 266-1336 or AYC Sail Training Commander **Carolyn Wilsford**, both through the website [//www.austinyachtclub.net/wp-content/uploads/keel-clinic-flyer\\_Sep23rd.pdf](http://www.austinyachtclub.net/wp-content/uploads/keel-clinic-flyer_Sep23rd.pdf)
- Refreshments and follow up talk

#### Women's Clinic

**Renee Ruais** is chairing the Women's Clinic on Sept. 30. The class is filling up, so get registered fast!

<https://www.austinyachtclub.net/2017-womens-sailing-clinic-registration-page/>

Here's the info:

- AYC Members \$50, Non-members \$60.
- Awesome instructors
- New and old friends
- Breakfast Tacos
- Thundercloud Lunch
- Los Pinos dinner and a band (<http://www.kathymurrayandthekilowatts.com>)!
- All skill levels welcome
- All women instructors
- Boats provided
- Opportunity to see a competitive J-24 Circuit Texas State Championship Regatta on the same day.
- It's going to be awesome!!!!

#### Private Lessons

Yes, we also have private lessons given by **Bill Records** on his Pearson 26 and **Coleman Terrell** on his South Coast.

#### Other Training Opportunities

ASA Lead Instructor Harry Polly" can assist you with his schedule of sailing opportunities. Please email [CaptainHarry@AggieNetwork.com](mailto:CaptainHarry@AggieNetwork.com).

I hope to see more of you on the water.

## Sailing Director Report

by Coleman Terrell



September signaled the start of the fall season of the Junior Sailing Program here at AYC. We've got 45 sailors participating in various practices during the week and on weekends. Of these 45, 20 of them are new to the program! Our Opti fleet is coming on strong, with the hope that we will have a lot of new faces representing AYC in the Green fleet at Roadrunner Regatta.

This month, we will have two clinics, one Learn-to-Sail Clinic on September 23, and the Women's Clinic on September 30. Both of these classes are almost full and we have some great instructors lined up to teach them!

The Fleet Challenge is on October 8th this year, so save that date in your calendar. Meanwhile, the Roadrunner Fleet is hosting their FJ racing series on Sunday mornings as a lead up to this event. So come on out and practice your dinghy skills while supporting our awesome travelling sailors!

### FJ FUNDRAISER SERIES

**WHEN:** Sunday mornings, September 3, 10, 24 and October 1.  
Rig boats starting at 9 a.m. First start is at 10 a.m.  
No races will start after noon.

**WHERE:** Junior dock. The Juniors will valet rig and derig your boat.

**WHAT:** 4 or 5 short intercollegiate-style races each day, similar to the Wednesday night races.

**WHO:** AYC members, Juniors, non-AYC members, parents of prospective Juniors, anyone interested.

**COST:** \$25 registration fee per Sunday per boat. The money raised will go toward the RoadRunner Racing Team.

For additional information, please contact:

[jeffbrock@me.com](mailto:jeffbrock@me.com)

[mary@carewcontact.com](mailto:mary@carewcontact.com)



## September New Members



**Lyndon Looger (Senior Probationary)**

Lyndon sailed a 14 foot Capri as a kid, and has recently gotten back into sailing as an adult. Lyndon is new to sailboat racing but has been participating in the AYC Racing School and has raced in a couple of AYC series races with Dave Broadway. He has recently purchased a J/24 and is anxious to begin sailing with his family and racing at AYC, and plans to travel with his boat to the coast and other lakes.



**Marcelo Pando (Senior Probationary)**

Marcelo grew up sailing in Buenos Aires, where his family was a member of a sailing club. He started out on Optimists at age 10. He began racing as a teenage in the Limbo 21 class and on J/24s. He has also raced on an Olson 30 and Vanguard 15, and a Santana 35 for many years. When he first came to the U.S. (Bay area), he joined the Stanford Windsurfing Club and taught basic windsurfing. He has also raced the double handed Farallon Island and raced in a Rolex big boat race in San Francisco. Marcelo and his wife, Shannon, have three children who have already been participating in the junior sailing program at AYC. He is excited to get back into racing and to having a sailing and racing club that the whole family can enjoy.



**Stephanie Trahan (Associate Probationary)**

Stephanie has recently moved to Austin from Charleston, SC. She began sailing when helping with the Special Olympics three years ago. She has completed the ASA Level 1 Sailing course and has been racing in Charleston for the last year on a J120, including racing in the Charleston 2017 Race Week off-shore pursuit class. She owns a 15' West Wight Potter.

## Women's Sailing Clinic

Saturday, September 30, 2017

9 AM - 6 PM

**The Austin Yacht Club is excited to offer it's 3rd Women's Sailing Clinic of 2017.**

All skill levels welcome  
All women instructors  
Boats provided

Registration - online at [www.austinyachtclub.net](http://www.austinyachtclub.net)  
AYC Members \$50, Non-members \$60.

**Includes:**

- Awesome instructors
- New and old friends
- Continental Breakfast
- Lunch
- Cocktails and Appetizers



## THINGS THAT GO WRONG IN SAILBOAT RACING FROM A SKIPPER WHO HAS HAD PLENTY GO WRONG

by Jim Johnstone



I was working the RC boat last week and was glad to see so many new sailors out enjoying the wind and sunny skies. I noticed a few things that will help our new sailors become better and more competitive racers and it reminded me of some of my own lessons gained through experience, IE The hard way. So I will share some of my bad experiences with you in the hope that you do not have to experience these yourself and somehow earn a Blue Duck trophy nomination.



First thing to do is get your boat rigged correctly before you leave the dock. I have put the jib on backwards, upside down and twisted or left the jib sheets unfastened or mis-routed. When you race Spinnaker, there are even more combinations and permutations of mis-rigging that can snag you. I finally marked my jib corners "Head", "Clew" and "Tack" so crew and I could keep things straight. Then I used color coded spinnaker lines and asked the crew to memorize where they go.

Second is to leave early enough to hoist all the sails and do a few tacks on your way to the start area, just to make sure everything is OK. Look at your sails and make sure the wrinkles are mostly out of the luff. Sometimes a few speed wrinkles are OK. Look at the fast boats in your fleet and see how much halyard tension they are carrying by looking at the wrinkle count. Match them.

Third is to sail by the stern of the committee boat on starboard tack and check in 5 minutes before the first start, or, if you are too late for that, do it during your own start sequence for series races (see Sailing Instructions). I failed to do this once and then wondered why I did not get a whistle when I crossed the finish line. That was the RC's way of letting me know that I forgot to tell them I was racing, so I was not scored. It is important to tell the RC you are racing because they are always tracking where boats are on the course and you want to be on their list so they can notify next of kin if you fail to return.

Fourth is to take all the fenders off of your boat sides. Racing with the fenders on sends the message that you plan to hit something on the course.

This is not considered proper racing etiquette (RRS rule 14), and everyone else will laugh at you under their breath while feeling smug. I admit I have done it. (left my fenders attached that is) Assign a person on your crew to check for this as you come out of the harbor.

Preventing the easy stuff cuts down on mistakes, but things may still go wrong out on the course. Like, why won't my boat go where I tell it to? Maybe the sails are steering the boat more than the rudder. Going upwind, make sure your jib sheet comes to the leeward side of the boat. Remember the leeward side changes on every tack, try to keep in synch. If that isn't your problem, maybe you are heeled over too far and your rudder is out of the water. Let out the main and /or jib sheet a little, every change in apparent wind direction, whether it is you steering the boat or the wind shifting, requires a sail or boat heading adjustment. So maybe your jib is still sheeted in hard and your main is out because you are trying to reach after rounding a mark. Communicate with your crew what point of sail you are on and how to set the sail trim.

Another problem that will cause you to be scored DSQ is sailing though the finish line before you actually finish. (See Sailing instructions) If you do not hear a whistle at the finish, but you know you checked in, maybe you DSQ'd by sailing through the finish line. Most of our races at AYC are run with the finish line being "poison" except for the last leg.

Speaking of finishing, you have to cross the finish line from the right direction. If you cross it from the wrong side, go back around the end of the line and cross it correctly from the direction of the last mark before the finish. (RRS rules 31 and 44)

If you happen to hit the finish mark or, God forbid, the committee boat at the finish, and, assuming you are not now sinking because of the collision, you need to get clear of other boats, complete one penalty turn, then finish again from the correct side. Exception: If the committee boat is sinking, no turns, just radio for help.

Finally, always take your radio and tune it to the RC channel. You will get some valuable information. I once heard on the radio that the RC was sending a chase boat over to keep me off the rocks because it looked like I was out of control. I was, but I recovered in time to do a few more stupid things without damaging mine or anyone else's boat causing great amazement and hilarity on the RC boat. Use the radio to communicate that you are withdrawing if you have a problem. That saves the RC from sending out someone to look for you while you are on the veranda enjoying a libation. The Race Committee enjoys libations too and are usually in a hurry to wrap things up and get off the water.



## Save the Date AYC Fleet Challenge Sunday, Oct. 8, 2017

### 7th Annual AYC Fleet Challenge Regatta

Sunday, October 8th from 1PM - 6PM

**We put the FUN in FUNdraising!**

All proceeds go to the AYC Fund

The day will include; FUNdraising, FJ Fleet Racing, Family Activities & Dinner for all who come out for the FUN!

### A Brief History of the AYC Fund by Johannes Brinkmann



The AYC Fund was formed on November 22, 2005 as a tax exempt donor advised fund under the umbrella of the Austin Community Foundation (ACF). In accordance with the ACF fund agreement, the purpose of the AYC Fund is "to teach competitive sailing, develop amateur athletes for national and international sailing competitions, develop sailing judges, race officials, instructors and coaches, and foster national and international sailing competition in the Austin area."

Initially, the forming of the Fund was authorized by the board of the Austin Yacht Club with the signatures of then commodore and vice commodore **Paul Ballet and Danny Lien**. Over the years, the Fund has evolved into an independent entity, accountable to its own board of directors with eight members. Each year two new members are added and two members roll off the board.

While the Austin Community Foundation (ACF) provides excellent administrative support in the process of gathering donations, it is relatively difficult to make grants from an ACF fund to anything other than another tax exempt entity. This made it difficult for the Fund to make grants to individual recipients. To address this issue, the Roadrunner Amateur Sailing Association (RASA) was formed on February 4th, 2009. RASA is related to the AYC Fund in that its board has historically been made up of a subset of the AYC Fund board. With **Sarah Faust** shepherding the application process, RASA received its tax exempt status from

the IRS under code section 501(c)(3) on June 9th, 2009.

In practice, the AYC Fund makes grants exclusively to RASA. RASA makes grants to entities and individuals who further the mission of RASA, which is to "distribute funds to individuals and groups for the purposes of fostering national and international sailboat racing competition and to support and develop amateur sailors." As such, the AYC Fund and RASA work together, gathering donations and making grants to further the mutually compatible goals of both organizations.

Some of the initial founding members of the Fund board include **Linda McDavitt, Danny Lien, Gail Bernstein and Doug Kern**. In its early years, the Fund solicited donations at sailing events and raised funds with a silent auction. In 2011 the Fund's board created the AYC Fleet Challenge, which **Scott Young** Championed for seven years from 2011-2016. Under **Scott's** leadership the Fleet Challenge events averaged donations of over \$25,000 each during those years. In 2013, the Fleet Challenge was recognized as a significant AYC Fleet event with the establishment of The AYC Fund Bernstein – Brinkmann Fleet Challenge perpetual trophy.

Over the years the Fund has established a practice of spending roughly half of annual donations received on grants, and saving half, with the ultimate objective of the fund being capable of financing some of its grants with fund income in the future. Since inception the Fund has made grants in excess of \$114,000 to initiatives including:

- Replacement of the 18 boat UT-AYC FJ fleet
- Establishing the AYC Sailing Director Position
- Multiple sail training and train the trainer events
- Improving the Playground
- Acquisition of the Sail Training RIB
- Grants to local sailors for entry fees to National and International competitions

**Claudia and John Bartlett** have stepped up to lead the 2017 Fleet Challenge, which will take place on Sunday, October 8th. This year the Fund is driving an effort to construct a shade over the swimming pool, the purpose of which is to make that area a more attractive gathering place for families, children and sailors in general. We know that in order to "funnel" new participants into growing sail training programs, we must attract and retain new participants. The recent addition of the AYC playground has been a big help in this regard, and the pool shade will be a further improvement.

You can help by participating in the Fleet Challenge and donating to the AYC Fund at the following link:

[www.austincf.org](http://www.austincf.org). Click on "Donate" then scroll down to the "Austin Yacht Club Fund". Please be sure to indicate which AYC Fleet deserves credit for the donation.

The current board members of the AYC Fund are: **Kelly Hawk, Terry Schertz, Ravi Subramanian, Harry Polly, David Grogono, John Parker, Lauren Crouch and Johannes Brinkmann**



## AYC Fund Fleet Challenge

A Message from Claudia and John Bartlett



AYC Membership,

The 7th Annual AYC Fund Fleet Challenge is scheduled for Sunday October 8th at 1 PM at the Rylander Pavilion. First, we would like to give a big "THANK YOU" shout out to **Scott Young** for spearheading this event for the past 6 years! This year **John and I** were asked to chair the event and

we are both looking forward to a great day! In addition to the Fleet Challenge Regatta the day will also include family/group activities on shore (after the sailing) and will conclude with a BBQ dinner sponsored by the AYC Fund.

We will continue the traditional format this year using the FJs. Skippers and Crews should meet at the Pavilion no later than 12:45 PM. The races will be short, inter-collegiate style and we plan to be off the water by 4:00 PM. Each fleet is encouraged to have 2 teams. The minimum contribution amount from each fleet is \$200.00. It's our goal that all 18 FJs are on the starting line for each race. The winner of the Fleet Challenge is determined by the Regatta, however your score can be improved by the following:

- **Fleet donating the most money** (automatic 1st in the first race)
- **Fleet with the largest number of donations of \$50.00 or more** (also an automatic 1st in the first race)
- **Purchasing throw outs** (price determined by auction before the racing begins)

**The AYC Fund has successfully raised between \$25,000-\$30,000 each year** and this is the main fundraising opportunity. With the generous support of the AYC Fleets over the past six years the Fund has been able to enhance AYC's Sail Training offerings and infrastructure. The money raised through the Fleet Challenge has made a huge impact on AYC by supporting the health and longevity of the Club we love.

The Fund has set up several easy ways to make your pledges and donations:

- **Charge your donation to your AYC account.**  
Pledge forms are located in the AYC office or email me back at [aycfundboard@gmail.com](mailto:aycfundboard@gmail.com) with your information (Member Name, AYC Member Number, Fleet Name, Donation Amount) and we will take care of it for you!

- **Credit Card-Donate to the AYC Fund via the Austin Community Foundation** [CLICK HERE](#)

Fill out the information (Donation, Name, Credit Card)

Select the option to make the donation in Honor or Memory of Someone, make sure you type the Fleet you are making a donation for in the text area.

Don't forget Corporate Matching

**\*\*Please do not make the donation anonymous as this is hard to link pledges to payments\*\***

I will be sending out periodic updates over the next few weeks to keep everyone apprised on how the pledges are adding up. If you have any questions please reach out to me or your Fleet Captain.

What a great day it will be!!! First, some competitive FUNdraising, Sailing, Family/Group activities and dinner for all! Thank you in advance for all your support in making the 7th annual Fleet Challenge a huge success!

Sincerely,

Claudia and John Bartlett



## Roadrunner Fleet Update

by Mary Carew



As highlighted in the last Telltale, many juniors had an amazing summer sailing in various regattas around the country and even further afield. We are incredibly proud of them all! To finish off the summer in style, **Ethan Froelich** and **Oliver Hurwitz** did one final regatta, C420 US Nationals right before school commenced. They earned a bullet in race five placing them 10th overall in the three day regatta. That concluded their inaugural C420 efforts for the Triple

Crown comprised of North Americans, Buzzards Bay, and US Nationals for an overall of 15th out of 319 teams.



Nicholas Carew and James Brock waiting for wind Photo courtesy Mary Carew



Ethan Froelich: 1st Laser Radial  
Photo courtesy Stephanie Froelich

Closer to home, AYC sailors travelled to Fort Worth Boat Club this past weekend to sail in a combined USODA/TSA event. The weekend brought really light winds which curtailed the number of races but not the fun! **Lucy Brock** and **Julius Heitkoetter** came 2nd on the C420 fleet which **Ethan Froelich** took 1st in Laser Radial. **Tony Slowik** took 1st overall in the Opti Red/White/Blue fleet and **Keen Carbrera** won several races and ended up coming 1st in Green fleet.

There are a couple of opportunities left to practice for the Fleet challenge! Come

out on September 24 and October 1 to brush up on your FJ skills. The junior sailors will rig and derig your boat and the money raised will be used to support the Roadrunners.

## 2017 Sears Cup

by Lucy Brock



In July we - **Lucy Brock**, **Julius Heitkoetter** and **Taylor Snyder** - sailed in, and won the qualifier to represent Area F at the 2017 US Sailing Triple-Handed Junior National Championship: the Sears Cup. We would be sailing in Flying Scots at the championship on Tom's River, New Jersey against some of the top junior sailors in the nation. The only experience we had on the Flying Scot was at the Bob Gough TSA Regatta of Champions; we knew the boat was tricky to sail fast,

and that it would take a lot of work to reach a competitive level.

**Tom Groll** lent us his Flying Scot to practice on ahead of time, and we are very grateful to him for his generosity. We spent many days on Lake Travis trying to figure out this boat. We'd also like to thank the Corinthian Sailing Club for inviting us to come practice and race with their Flying Scot fleet. We drove down to Dallas a couple Sundays and spent the whole day learning the ropes with many of their experienced sailors (including some previous national champions)!

The Sears Cup was an amazing experience! So many good sailors from all over the country were there, it was intimidating! We were the youngest and lightest team there, and also the only team skippered by a girl. But everyone at Toms River Yacht Club was extremely nice and helpful, and the venue was beautiful. The regatta was four days long, but the first day was a clinic followed by just one actual race. Over the next three days, there were nine more races in winds of anywhere from 2 to 16 knots.

Conditions were tricky; the sea breeze didn't pick up until around 11 am, so some of the morning races were sailed in very light wind. There was a fairly long tow out to the course, and you had to be careful not to run aground in certain places! The weather was great throughout the regatta; we thought it was funny that everyone complained about the heat although it was only 80 degrees!

At the end of the regatta we were all exhausted. But we had learned so much! Our results had steadily improved throughout the four days; we were able to place fourth overall. Our team was also awarded the Seamanship Award, for taking the best care of the boats, which were lent out by local club members.

We want to give a huge thank you to the AYC fund for supporting us on our trip. We are super grateful to belong a Club that provides such great support for their juniors!





## Catalina 22 Update

by Steve Pervier



It's been a hot summer with little C22 activity. Then a pair of devastating hurricanes impacted so many, including sailors we know here and elsewhere. Your fleet captain has been busy with a trip to the eclipse and three longer trips! So now, what's up for the C22 Fleet in the fall season?

Late Summer Series – Come and race on 9/23 or 10/14, and get to know some of our new and active fleet members. Race Committee – Our next C22+SC21 RC date is on 10/7. Anyone in AYC who hasn't tried this is welcome to join us! Special Events – Single-handed championship 9/24. Fleet challenge 10/1 (try Free Sail Sundays to practice). Soon After... Fall Series starts 10/22. Wild Turkey one-day PHRF regatta 11/25. AYC Banquet 12/9.

Long Series and Regattas: The last Beer Can races this summer are on Fridays thru 9/15. The last Laser/Sunfish races on Wednesdays are on 9/27. Our last two-day regatta of 2017, the Centerboard Regatta, is 9/16-17. Get ready for Wurstfest regattas on 11/3-5 (centerboard) and 11/10-12 (keel)!

There's another activity well suited to Catalina 22s, and already in the interests of at least four of our boats – Cruising! The C22 is a boat you can both race and cruise, here on Lake Travis and away, at other lakes and on the coast. Locally, check out [CatFleet69.org](http://CatFleet69.org) for monthly events. Let's get together to plan a cruise and discuss future racing!

## Sunfish and Laser Wednesday Night Racing

by Paul Jensen, Sunfish and Steve Ehlers, Laser



Wednesday evening racing continues to be good this year. For August 2, the weather was predicted to be iffy, with light easterly wind and a fair chance of rain. **Dave Maguire and Dallas Grant** on RC handled the conditions well, and were able to get in five races for Lasers and six for Fish. **Claude Welles** racked up three bullets in Lasers as did **John Bartlett** in Fish. Later in the evening, **Annie Lancaster** got a win too.



For August 9, light winds were forecast and delivered. While the AYC wind gauge read zero all evening, they didn't go away entirely, and RC (**Barry Bowden, Pierre-Louis Bossart, and Ryan Galloway**) were able to get in four races for both fleets. For Lasers, **Gray Rackley** topped the fleet, and **Annie Lancaster** cleaned up on the Sunfish side. It turned out to be a

pretty good evening.

August 16 brought more wind and a great turnout. There were 15 Fish racing on championship night. **John Bartlett** continued his clinic on sailing fast, with bullets in all four races. But there was plenty of action in the rest of the fleet with some interesting mark roundings. Like many evenings this summer, we were joined by **James Bland** in his Finn. He was practicing with the Fish for the Finn Master Championship in Michigan in late August. Laser sailors **Steve**

**Keckler and Edwin Marty** did a super job on RC.

August 23 was Laser championship night and there were nine boats competing. **Brian Grothues** took top honors with **Gray Rackley** close behind. A weak front came in right before race time bringing light northerly wind. **Joe Horn** along with **Willis and Kathy Thorstead** handled RC and dealt with the shifting wind direction. Later the Fish fleet enjoyed their Potluck dinner.

August 30 was another great sailing night, but the intervening week was filled with Harvey. Austin dodged most of it, but it was a disaster for much of Texas. Winds were light out of the north, a remnant of Harvey-induced circulation. **Annie Lancaster and Claude Welles** handled RC very well, getting four races in for both Sunfish and Laser fleets. With five nights of sailing, and great Wednesday weather, August was about as good as it gets.





## J/24 Fleet Update

by Stu Juengst



The J/24 fleet grew again this past month! New AYC member **Lyndon Looger** is also a new J/24 owner, having recently purchased #4411. Welcome to the fleet **Lyndon and family**! We also have **Chris Renner** back on the water with a freshly refurbished #69. Welcome back **Chris**!

Our August circuit stop in Corpus Christi on the Hurricane Harvey weekend was obviously canceled.

CCYC is going to try to reschedule it, but the fall calendar is tight.

AYC is hosting the next J/24 circuit stop on September 29-October 1. More on that next month!

In the Suffering Summer Series, Team Vang Go finished on top, with 11 pts. **David Broadway's** Superman came from behind with four bullets in the last four races to take second with 15 pts. **John Parker's** Chupa Cabra had 16 pts for third place.

Oops! The infamous Superman trailer has been parking 30' below the surface of Pool Canyon ever since the tow-strap jumped off **David Broadway's** hitch ball. You'll remember that this trailer already has one Blue Duck Award to its name (after it detached itself from the tow vehicle on Hwy 71)!

## A Fleet Update

by Ray Shull



A Fleet began August and the Suffering Summer Series by providing Race Committee for the opening race day on the 5th. We had a fairly light turnout without A Fleet racing, but we managed to provide some good races for the boats that came out. We set somewhat short courses for the light winds, and managed to have all of the boats finish before sunset. With the start at 6:30, to allow for cooler temperatures, the sailing conditions were fine and the sunset view as we

docked was great.

We started our racing in this series the next Saturday with seven J 80s, a J 29-Jus Knot Rite, the Tripp 26-Rush, and the appearance of the Melges 24-Coyote. Coyote hadn't been out racing for some time, it was great to see this light-weight speedster on the course. The first race was won by Flyer with Speed Racer and Rush right behind. Amazing Grace and Air Supply followed this group with the top five boats finishing within 120 seconds of each other. In the second race, Coyote reveled in the dying breeze and stretched out their lead on the last leg to win. Flyer, J 80 #119, and Speed Racer followed, finishing within 17 seconds of each other, and Amazing Grace and Jus Knot Rite were right behind. After the race, Jus Knot Rite turned into the J 80 Fleet's best friend by offering to tow most of us back to the dock as the light wind vanished completely. I believe that **Kurt** had a flock of six J 80s in a line behind his boat for the much appreciated ride back. Maybe he should rename his boat Aqua Uber?

On our second race day we had five J 80s appear, along with the VX One, the Melges 24-Coyote, and the Extreme 25 (which made it their AYC Series racing debut). Coyote again showed its light air speed with a second in race one and a first in race two. Amazing Grace had great boat speed this day with a first in race one and a second in race two. J 80s Lickety Split, Flyer, Speed Racer, and Farvrumwerken finished third through sixth in the two races. The racing was close once again, with the first four racers finishing within 120 seconds in the first race. In the second race four J 80s finished within a minute of each other in second through fifth.

In the final race day of this series, five J 80s raced, plus the Melges 24-Coyote, and the J 29 Jus Knot Rite. Flyer used a good start, coupled with a questionable tactic by Speed Racer just after the windward mark of dropping their mainsail as part of their spinnaker set (ask **John** about this technique), to lead the fleet around the course. The J 80 group at the finish were first, second, fourth, and fifth. Jus Knot Rite intervened with a third in this race, with the second through seventh place boats finishing less than 60 seconds apart. In the second race, Coyote again separated from the fleet in the light winds to win the final race. Places two through six were taken by the J 80s, with less than 50 seconds separating the first J 80 from the last one.

In the overall standings, Flyer came out on top, narrowly beating Coyote by two points. Speed Racer, Amazing Grace, and Lickety Split followed in that order with Speed Racer only one point ahead of Amazing Grace. A total of 12 A Fleet boats competed in the series, once again making A Fleet the fleet with the most racers in this series.

Time for the Late Summer Series. The race start time returns to the more conventional time of 1:30 pm as we head into the cooler fall weather. Additionally the Single-handed Regatta is re-scheduled for September 24. Some great sailing is coming up in the next several weeks with the anticipated significant drop in motor boat traffic that usually occurs after Labor Day, and the not-so-hot temperatures after the heat of August. is behind us. See you on the water.

## Ensign Fleet Update

by Fred Ford



It's been a hot August and like most fleets the Ensign participation in Series Racing ebbed under the hot sun. Call it the Too Hot to Sail Series, Dog Days Series, Suffering Summer and by any other name... it is hot. What did happen in the Ensign fleet was a migration of sailors northward to compete in Championship events. **Tom Groll** (winner of the Regional Championship) towed his Ensign (#578...Brews'r) to Les Cheneaux Yacht Club in Cedarville, Michigan to compete in the Ensign Class Association Championship (August 13-17). **Tom** was fortunate to have **Frans Dahmen, Jonathan Baker and Boyd Bluestein** crewing for him. **George Dahmen and Anne Kitzmiller** crewed for the Ensign Class Commodore **John Cutler** (# 1029...The Other Woman). Brews'r finished 9th overall and garnered the Faget Award given to the Ensign that wins the very last race of the Championship. Not to be outdone, **George and Anne** crewed The Other Woman to a 5th place finish overall. Congratulations to our Ensign National Championship sailors.

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Tom Groll, Anne Kitzmiller, George Dahmen and Jonathan Baker on the dock at Nationals



Tom Groll, Jonathan Baker, Frans Dahmen and Boyd Bluestein in 578 at Nationals. In yellow slickers, Anne Kitzmiller and George Dahmen crewing on The Other Woman



James Bland at the Finn Grand Master Championship sailing Audacious

**James Bland** like many sailors owns and races more than one boat. His Ensign, Spirit, stayed home while **James** towed his Finn (#88 Audacious) to La Salle, MI, for the 2017 Finn North American Master Championship hosted by the North Cape Yacht Club. It was **James'** first time to race his Finn on a championship level and he acquitted himself well by finishing in the middle of the pack. Congratulations, **James**.

Meanwhile back at the Austin Yacht Club, the hot August sailing continued with the Suffering Summer Series. The heat took its toll and the Ensigns put just three boats on the line. **Lewis Price** in Dos Locos #929 placed 1st, **George Dahmen** sailed Styf Kop #588 into 2nd place and **Anne Morley** skippered Abaco #739 to finish 3rd.

Weather and circumstances brought only three Ensigns to the line for the first race of the Late Summer Series. **James Bland** sailing (Spirit #2021) has a firm grip on 1st place, **Lewis Price** in (Dos Locos #929) nudging in close for 2nd place and **T. George** chasing in (Deep Six #1609) is sailing 3rd.

We dodged the worse of the weather at AYC and I expect more Ensigns on the line for the remainder of the Late Summer Series. **Danny Lien** (Gravey Boat), **Randolph Berlin** (Festina Lente) and **Fred Ford** (September) have their Ensigns out for maintenance and repairs. **Tom Groll** is freshening Brews'r up after her long trip north for the Nationals. **George and Frans Dahmen** have (Styf Kop) out for a rest/drying. We expect to see all of the fleet back in the water by the end of the month. Ensigns are a classic design and have come out to dry. I have noticed that some members have decided to use Dry Out spaces for trailer parking. No one is that special and the Harbor Committee will be moving illegally parked trailers.

The Ensigns are looking forward to their annual fleet sail complete with water weapons. Looks like this year's event will be a destination sail with an exciting and mostly wet return to the harbor.

Looking toward the end of September and the Single-Handed Regatta that has been rescheduled for the 24th. I believe we will have two Ensigns in the race and maybe an Ensign skipper sailing a Finn. Ensign boats and their women sailors will be participating in the Women's Clinic on September 30.

A final note...many members of the Ensign Fleet are volunteering their time and money through community organizations and churches to help the hurricane victims. We have learned that the need for assistance remains strong...if you are able...please help.

*"No man stands so tall as when he stoops to help a child"*

## Keel Fleet Raft Up/C Fleet Update/Suffering Summer

by James Parsons



### Keel Fleet Raft Up

After the Late Summer Series Race #1, five boats went out for a raft-up.

The winds were strange all day, coming out of the NE, which was the one direction that Arkansas Bend isn't really good for. So, we went just across the lake to an area some of us affectionately call "Zipline Cove" (if in NZ, that'd be Flying Fox Cove), in Cypress Creek. I must

have anchored here at least six times, so it was the perfect Plan B. Speaking of Plan Bs, Hurricane Harvey may have delayed our fun, but we still got it in.

We had 16 people take part. The boats were **Bill Coletti's** San Juan 7.7, **Jim Pearce's** Entheos, **Heath Phillips's** South Coast 21 (after tubing bday celebrations earlier in the day), **John Tomlin and Ben Block's** Catalina 22 (**John** is one of my regular-ish crew, and **Ben** got 3rd for D Fleet in MoonBurn 2016), and myself borrowing **John Bartlett's** powerboat turned beverage supply vessel.

With 3 of the boats having four total crew, we had a tie for the secret trophy of "Most Crew". I am open to ways to settle who should get the trophy. Rock Paper Scissors, staring competition, beer chugging, etc. (**Bill, Heath, and**

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**James** are the skippers in the running).

After an evening sail, **Jim and Bill** anchored just south of the zip line. **Jim** was first, as **Becky and him** were going to be spending the night.

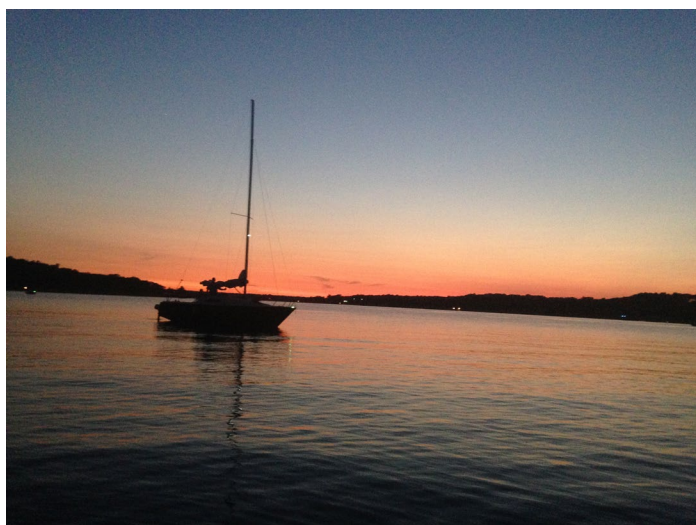
The others joined in, and we got to swim, catch up with old friends, and make new friends. It was a great evening, and awesome having two boats that don't normally race, join in on the fun.



We have some plans in the works to make events like this become more commonplace next year, as they are a lot of fun, and can get non racing boats involved as well.

A big thank you to **John Bartlett** for letting me borrow his boat. It came in very handy, as we were able to go in and out of the raft-up and give a tow or two in the notoriously shifty winds of Cypress Creek ("gybe tack gybe!" as I like to say when unsure if the wind is in front or behind). Also to **Ray Shull** for letting us borrow his coolers for the event, and to the **Keel Handicap Fleet Board** for being so supportive of the event. Last, but not least, to **Russ Shermer** for putting the idea forward and letting me run with it.

By the way, there is a yet to be announced day of beer, walking/running, and sailing in December that will get some new folks out sailing. Feel free to ask me about it, or to discuss some crazy event/party ideas that might just become a thing.



## C Fleet Recap – Late Summer Series Race 1

Cooler temperatures thanks to some distant hurricanes led to a bigger turnout for C Fleet. Seven boats came out, including five that didn't race in the Suffering Summer Series.



Ryan Larson Photo *Bill Records*

We also had a new racer, **Ryan Larson** on Pura Vida, a Pearson 26 One Design. **Bill Records** was onboard reportedly with some rum to help keep nerves calm.

The start was packed, and had one boat go over early (Slip Kid), with Pura Vida just under them but on the correct side of the line. Blue Moon started on a port tack.

Winds got shifty heading towards E, and the winds were generally strange, coming out of the NE.

Pura Vida tacked early and needed a favorable shift. The shift didn't come, and Blue Note with the **Durfors** was cruising along on starboard and called rights.

Out of the first mark, it was Blue note, Pura Vida, Blue Moon, Three Hour Crewz, then some combination of Boat With No Name (**Jeff Avant**), Enthoes (**Jim Pearce**) and Slip Kid (**Keith Denebeim**).



At some point around this mark, Slip Kid lost someone overboard for the 2nd of 4 follies of the day for them.

Up next was a somewhat downwind leg to B. The boats in the back gambled and used their spinnakers. Mostly to humorous applause from the leading boats thanks to various shapes such as an hourglass (3rd incident for Slip Kid. They were just not having a good day).

After B, Blue Note was extending their lead, then a close bunch of Pura Vida, Blue Moon, and Three Hour Crewz.

Most of the boats chose the rhumb line to 5, other than Slip Kid and Blue Moon who went on more of a beat for boat speed. There was some jostling to establish inside position. These two were gaining on the fleet, until they weren't... About 15 boat lengths from the mark.

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## Big Brothers/Big Sisters 2017 Sailing Day

by Mike Beuerlein



I'd like to thank AYC and Travis County Parks for providing such tremendous support for the most recent Big Brothers/Big Sisters 2017 Sailing Day. Conditions were absolutely perfect – light breeze early, building to 10-12 mph by the afternoon with temperatures in the low 90s – so the BB/BS and their matches turned out in mass. We recorded over 250 rides given in 4 hours between the 12-14 boats available. A lot of those rides were given by the only trimaran able to

navigate the tricky sails-only docking onto the windward end of the T-head dock at Bob Wentz Park at Windy Point, J.K. & Theresa on Swallow. Even JK had to circle around 4 or 5 times as the wind came up before managing a seaman-like mooring, despite the experienced ground crew assistance of **Eric Rochard** and **Rick Nelson**. Rides given in the later afternoon grew increasingly sporty as the wind picked up, with some riders even getting to experience an occasional capsizes. **Linda Asaf**, international fashion designer and long-time catamaran sailor, and I went over when I handed her the tiller and went out on the wire to fly the spinnaker without warning her of how skittish a C2 is. **Philippe Bettler** pushed the envelope on his Hobie Tiger a little too far and dunked a couple of Big Sisters and their matches but, for the most part, a quick swim was welcome.

Afterwards, we got to enjoy our traditional BB/BS after-party and some welcome adult refreshments in the air-conditioned comfort of the AYC clubhouse complete with a pool and newly-renovated shower facilities, thanks to the efforts of **Jim Casto** and the grilling prowess of **Eric Rochard** and **Phil Bautista**. After a long day of cat sailing with not much to eat or drink besides hastily devoured pizza and bottled water, there were some very hungry and thirsty sailors who made short work of **Brigitte's** fantastic garden fresh green salad, charcoal-grilled Jamaican jerk chicken, black beans, white rice and semi-authentic Matagorda Beach seafood gumbo (the only thing missing was the half cup of windblown sand in each bowl). To wash that down we served up Jamaican Red Stripe beer, Cuba Libres, and some frozen Bushwhackers.

For the second year in a row, we extended the after-party invitation to non-AYC members and the BB/BS ground crew and staff who help make this possible. AYC has a long history of reaching out to the community and valuing civic minded individuals who may make future prospective AYC members and it was really great getting to show off our facility and the camaraderie that make the yacht club community so much fun. Special thanks go out to the following individuals who helped make it all possible:

**Mike & Laurinda Rohrer (F-18)**

**Philippe Bettler [AYC] (F-18)**

**Jim & Constance Rehage [AYC] (F-18)**

**Aaron McCulley (F-18)**

**JK & Theresa Kuc [AYC] (Sprint 750)**

**Jim Casto [AYC] (Nacra 5.5)**

**Mark Biscotto (Nacra 6.0)**

Slip Kid pulled off a slick maneuver to declare no room for Blue Moon about 3 boat lengths out. But, then in rounding the mark the lazy sheet got stuck and they ended up doing an unintentional 360. You were waiting for the 4th folly, of the boat that beat all other boats for the MoonBurn Series 1st place.

Blue Note by the way, was still putting distance between them and everyone else, and finished 6 minutes before everyone.

**Ryan Larson's** first race ended in a podium finish. They got 2nd in line honors, but narrowly missed out on 2nd by 9 seconds to Three Hour Crewz. An excellent outing for a first race. Welcome to the fleet to the **Larsons**!

Entheos had gotten ahead of Blue Moon, but Blue Moon got 4th by 26 corrected seconds.

**Jeff Avant's** Boat With No Name. . . . **Jeff**, I'm going to come up with a colorful name of my own to refer to your boat if you don't do something about that. . . BWNN = Boat With Nauseating Ninnyhammers? Perhaps shortening that to S/V Ninnyhammer? You are welcome.

S/V Ninnyhammer finished two minutes ahead of Slip Kid, and three corrected minutes to avoid the DFL moniker. They were 6th and 7th respectively.

**Keith**, I'm going to quote someone from the other band with a naming convention of "The \_\_\_\_", as I feel like Slip Kid was embodying this. **Jim Morrison** said "Expose yourself to your deepest fear. After that, you are free". Any of the four things that happened might be another boat's deepest fear. You guys confronted all of them, head on. Or head first. Or over early. I think you get the point. :-p Slip Kid is now more free than the rest of us after confronting those fears, 360 degrees around. Fitting, as **Pete Townshend** once said "I'm only interested in rites of passage stories". Slip Kid definitely lived up to that.

Thank goodness for throwout races.

### Suffering Summer Series Recap for C Fleet

The Suffering Summer Series is in the books. Numbers were lower than a normal series for C Fleet, which gave some hope to boats that normally aren't perennial winners.

Going into the final race, both **Andre's** Los Monos and **Jeff's** 'Boat with no name' were tied with four points, and **James'** Blue Moon had five points after a commanding win the race before (and skipped the first race, which is a once in a blue moon event).

In the last race, **Keith** joined **Andre's** crew to share some knowledge and rig up a backstay with some spare line.

**James** (me) got some crew together, and crawled out of bed while sick, with the 1st place trophy being the carrot at the end of the stick.

Los Monos won by a few minutes (Blue Moon conceded after choosing the wrong side of the course to use the spinnaker on), taking the series victory. It was **Andre de la Reza's** first series victory, so we are all pretty happy for him.

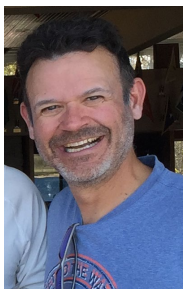
**James'** Blue Moon took home 2nd. **Jeff** was 3rd. Also, **Robert and Tiffany Bennett** made an appearance with One Big Holiday in the last race as well, to get 4th overall.

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Ronnie Vinikoff (Hobie 16)  
 Spencer Conklin (Nacra 5.7)  
 Owen Crouse (Hobie Getaway)  
 Tim Purcell (Nacra 5.7)  
 Bobby Crouch  
 Chuck Wimbrow  
 Brigitte & Eric Rochard [AYC]  
 Rick & Terrie Nelson [AYC]  
 Terri & Chris Reuwsaat  
 Barbara Morgan  
 Carlos Longueras  
 Josh Banks  
 Phil Bautista  
 Urusla Goldhammes  
 Vinyet Baques  
 Brigitte Benquet [AYC]  
 Mike Beuerlein [AYC] (F-18)



## AYC Members Answer the Call by Steve Ward



### Katy, TX

The home stands flooded with three feet of water. It's been this way for five days. Finally the man and his son give up waiting. They've held out hoping the waters will recede but that's not in the cards yet for this suburb west of Houston. In turn, each man grabs a bimini post and with a heave-ho we pull them aboard the Boston Whaler. The son cradles a guitar in his arms, the last of his possessions he couldn't leave behind.

And we're off, driving through suburban Katy, TX streets in a boat, through gates and navigating turns normally reserved for wheeled rather than floating vehicles.



### "All Available Boats"

The previous day while staring at my laptop I said, "I have to find a boat and a crew."

This thought came after watching news of hurricane Harvey's destruction on websites, TV, radio and FaceBook groups. I get conflicting reports at first. Officials calling for citizens with boats. Then messages saying the government don't want citizen help. I listen to Houston AM radio KTRH trying to decide. Then a TV station.

I make a decision: I'd rather arrive unneeded than to stay at home and be wrong. So we go.

### Crew and Boat

I soon found my crew and boat in the generosity of AYC members.

I found that **Stefan Froelich** was also looking to help and a plan began to take shape.

I get in touch with **RT Krempetz** who graciously agrees to loan his 17' Boston Whaler and Nissan Xterra. By 8pm we've met at **RT's** home, swapped cars and are headed out toward Houston. **Stefan** drives while his son **Ben** and I plan logistics.

**Ben** is eager to practice emergency response he's been studying. We are loaded down with bottled water, waders, spare fuel tank, orange PFDs, ropes, bright yellow oilskins, snacks, ice and more.

My longtime family friends **Tom and Bernadette Kingsley** agree to put us up in spare bedrooms in Katy on the west side of Houston. Their home is near the flooding but luckily has escaped it.

### Where Is Help Needed?



Meanwhile the electronic communications are buzzing: the FaceBook group I've set up is beginning to grow. Zello channels (think CB radio on a smart phone app) bark with talk of flooded roads, dam breaches, toxic floodwaters and people needing evacuation. The main Harvey Facebook group I watch is a blitz of activity.

We decide on a strategy: wake up at 5:00 the next morning and immediately check the "Harvey 911" Facebook group for the greatest need. "Admins" from all over the world (**Rebecca** who I message with many times over the next few days is logged in from New Zealand) help connect people needing rescue with rescue boaters.

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## Street Boating

One problem with urban boat rescue becomes immediately apparent: how the heck do you get the boat into the water? Regular streets are not boat ramps. There is not enough slope to float the boat without flooding the truck. Our first two tries won't do it. We can't get the boat deep enough on flooded but flat neighborhood streets.

Finally in front of McMean Junior High we find a parking lot that slopes down into the street steeply enough to launch the boat. No one else is around at this early hour.

**Stefan** parks the truck and after carefully checking the depth we start slowly making our way down the street. In a boat.



With Google maps on my iPhone and the Zello radio app, we get assignments from citizen "dispatchers" to check on specific addresses listed as "need rescue." We are told to watch for white shirts or towels hanging from doors to signify rescues needed.

While we are on our search, **Stephanie Froelich** jumps in and starts messaging helpful map, text and emergency info.

The first few addresses we come to no one is home. **Ben and I** walk in chest high water and knock on front doors just to be sure. We yell and blow regatta signal horns just to be sure.

No one.

After a couple more false alarms we head to a point on the map that is over a dry bridge – meaning we have to get out of the boat and walk.

**Ben and Stefan** stay with the boat while I walk across the bridge. On the far side of the bridge I'm back in chest deep water. I'm messaging back and forth with the FaceBook admin and I'm zeroing in on the house. As I turn the corner so do two other boats.

Thankfully two boats are here – it looks like ten or more people need a ride.

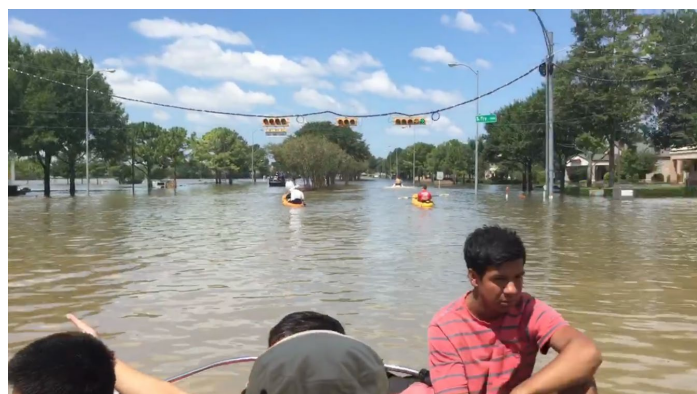
After a few more false leads we decide to regroup. Maybe there is another place we could be more helpful. So we head back toward the truck and trailer with thoughts of heading to a different area of the city. When we arrive back at the junior high school where the truck is parked it's a hive of activity. Many more people have arrived now. Trucks, boats and emergency services crews are milling about.

We talk with a fire rescue crew and agree to take one of their crew with us for door-to-door checks. We head back into the neighborhood.

This time around we begin to see more people that need rescue. Over the next few hours we take around a dozen people from their flooded homes back to the safety and shelter of the school parking area where they can get rides with friends or to city shelters.

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It's staggering how much destruction there is in Houston right now. I'm glad we did our little part to help but there is much more to do. It was a pleasure serving with **Stefan and Ben**, generous and smart guys. And thanks to **Stephanie Froelich** for having our back from home base. Thanks to **RT and his family** for helping so much and to the **Kingsleys** in Katy for their hospitality.





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

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

### Closed Club Holidays:

|                  |             |
|------------------|-------------|
| New Year's Day   | January 1   |
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| Christmas Day    | December 25 |

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## AYC 2017 RACE CALENDAR

|                |                                                         |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Sep 23         | Late Summer Series Race #2 1:30p start RC: J/24         |
| Sep 24         | Single-handed Regatta 9:00a - 5:00p                     |
| Sep 24         | 4th Annual FJ Summer Series Fundraiser - Race 3         |
| Sep 27         | Sunfish/Laser Racing 6:00p                              |
| Sep 30 - Oct 1 | J/24 Texas State Championship Circuit Stop              |
| Oct 1          | 4th Annual FJ Summer Series Fundraiser - Race 4         |
| Oct 7          | Late Summer Series Race #3 1:30p start RC: Cat 22/SC 21 |
| Oct 8          | AYC Fund Fleet Challenge and New Member Social          |
| Oct 14         | Late Summer Series #4 EOS 1:30p start RC: Ensign        |
| Oct 21 - 22    | Roadrunner Regatta                                      |
| Oct 28         | Women's Regatta                                         |
| Nov 18         | Wild Turkey Regatta                                     |

## AYC 2017 NON-RACING EVENTS

|                  |                                                      |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Sep 22-24        | BSA Troop 159 - Sailing, Boating, Camping Weekend    |
| Sep 23           | Learn to Sail - Beginner, Intermediate 1:00p - 5:00p |
| Sep 24, Oct 1, 8 | Free Sail Sunday 1:00p - 4:00p                       |
| Sep 28           | September Board Meeting 7:30p - 9:00p                |
| Sep 28-29        | Community Montessori Field Trip                      |
| Sep 28           | AYC Board of Directors Meeting 7:30p                 |
| Sep 30           | Women's Clinic 9:00a - 6:00p                         |
| Oct 1            | Girl Scout Intro to Sailing 1:00p - 5:00p            |
| Oct 15           | ASA101 Course 9:00a - 5:30p                          |
| Dec 9            | Annual Banquet                                       |



## 2017 Perpetual Award Nominations



Recognize those that have made a difference this year at AYC!

Drop your nominations into any of the ballot boxes in the AYC Clubhouse or office or by mail, or by emailing the awards committee at [nominations@austinyachtclub.net](mailto:nominations@austinyachtclub.net). Deadline is October 15.

**Jimmy B. Card Memorial Trophy:** This Award honors the Club senior member new to the sport and recognizes the beginning sailor who enthusiastically, bravely and with a real zest and enjoyment for life, becomes a reasonably competitive sailor in their first or second year of sailing.

Nominee & Why: \_\_\_\_\_

**Max White Memorial Trophy:** This Award honors the Club senior sailor for outstanding service to the club in the past year. The recipient is an individual who has given freely and unselfishly their time and talents over and above what might otherwise have been necessary or expected of them.

Nominee & Why: \_\_\_\_\_

**Jessie McIlroy Smith Bowl:** This Award honors the Club junior or senior sailor who has made an outstanding contribution or achievement in yachting or racing beyond the club level or normal club activities such as significant application of sailing skills in a rescue, ocean crossing, yacht construction, etc.

Nominee & Why: \_\_\_\_\_

**Corinthian Woman Sailor Trophy:** This Award honors the woman sailor who exhibits the Corinthian traits of exhibiting good sportsmanship, enthusiasm, & participation, thereby making an overall contribution to the enhancement of the sport of competitive sailing.

Nominee & Why: \_\_\_\_\_

**Liz Bauman Memorial Trophy:** This Award honors the young woman who, though not necessarily the most accomplished, demonstrates Corinthian traits of cooperation, discipline, willingness to learn, and good sportsmanship that are the goals of the junior sailing program.

Nominee & Why: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ron W. Harden Memorial Trophy:** This Award honors the young man who, though not necessarily the most accomplished, demonstrates Corinthian traits of cooperation, discipline, willingness to learn, and good sportsmanship that are the goals of the junior sailing program.

Nominee & Why: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ol' Salt of the Austin Yacht Club:** This Award honors the club senior sailor who has exhibited enthusiasm, sportsmanship, and a competitive zeal over a period of time, and has a quality of life that can be admired by all.

Nominee & Why: \_\_\_\_\_

**Bill Records RoadRunner Fleet Trophy:** This award honors the club member who has gone beyond expectations to serve and volunteer on behalf of the RoadRunner Fleet. The recipient is an individual who consistently, and over a long period of time, acts as a pivotal leader and contributor, furthering the advancement of the program development.

Nominee & Why: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CONTACT EMAIL OR PHONE \_\_\_\_\_



Austin Yacht Club  
5906 Beacon Road  
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