

TELLTALE

Austin Yacht Club

January/February 1996

1996 AYC Board of Directors



L to R: (kneeling) Michael Wellman/Harbor Commander, Dennis Awbrey/Past Commodore, Ray Shull/Commodore. L to R: (standing) Nelson Reynolds/Race Commander, Martha St. Romain/Sec'y, Becky Heston/Treasurer, Bruce Foster/Vice Commodore, Lanelle Montgomery/Sail Training Commander, Jim Rehage/Buildings and Grounds Commander

FROM THE COMMODORE ■■■ Ray Shull

For my first article for the Telltale in quite a while (I found the Vice Commodore doesn't really have to write too much unless you really have something you need to say) I want to start by giving recognition to some of the people that will volunteer a lot of their time this year. They do this so that all of us can enjoy the sailing and other activities at our AYC. First, the '96 Board is comprised of Dennis Awbrey, Bruce Foster, Martha St. Romain, Becky Heston, Nelson Reynolds, Jim Rehage, Michael Wellman, and Lanelle Montgomery and yours truly. These members will guide the activities of AYC through the next year. The recently issued Directory shows their various Board position, which in itself is a good reason to read it so that you will know who is in charge of what at the club. This will come in handy when you're trying to figure out how to volunteer your time on specific areas. Also this can be used to offer helpful suggestions and comments about activities that you feel were very well done.

Additionally, the following members serve as committee chairs on the special committees: Directory and Handbook — Vicki Palmer, Ty Johnson, and Chris Pratt, Historian — Pat Kimbrough, Insurance — John Bagley and Tom Boren, Media Relations — Jane Frederick, Perpetual Awards — Trenton Wann, Photography Coordinator — Ty Johnson, Series Trophies — Cyndi Anderson, Social chairperson — Ann Gairloff, Telltale staff — Vicki Palmer, Kim Young, and Ty Johnson, UT Team Liaison — Ravi Subramanian, and Video Coordinator — Gary Schmidt. Don't forget to thank these members when you see them for the time that they will be contributing to the club.

And then there are all the committee members serving on the standing committees. These members are too numerous to list here but are valuable members on some of the hardest working committees at the club. Don't forget to help out when you can, thank those that work year round on the club's activities, and remember to volunteer yourself next year for any committees that you're interested in.

This year we plan on a very active racing season with almost every weekend from the first of March to Thanksgiving having some type of sailboat racing scheduled. We think this level of scheduled racing is what makes AYC the great place it is. I encourage everyone to get out and race, crew, help on race committee, or just watch some of the top level racing that we conduct on Lake Travis. You won't find many other places that offer this much racing activity in such a user friendly place.

On the major improvement front we also plan on replacing dock 5 and rebuilding the south cove rigging dock this year. This will involve several major work parties for the membership so that we can complete them without too much inconvenience. Don't forget to help out on these projects so that we can continue to provide the high quality of facilities that we all use.

I hope to see all of you on the race course a lot and at the club at social functions. I am looking forward to a great year at AYC and accomplishing an aggressive agenda for the benefit and fun of all the members.

- 1** From the Commodore
- 4** Fourth Thursday Scuttlebutt
- 5** Sailing Training
- 9** One-Design 39" (Radio Control)
- 10** Fleet Captains Play Important Role
- 11** J-24 Fleet Kicks Off 1996 with "March Madness" Circuit Stop
- 12** J-24 Fleet News
- 13** J-22 Fleet Gears Up for Austin Circuit
- 14** Ensign Fleet Makes a Comeback
- 15** Catalina 22 Fleet Hot for Racing
- 16** D-Fleet is Back
- 17** Sunfish and Thistle Fleet News
- 19** Welcome Aboard

**1996
AYC Officers**

**Commodore
Ray Shull**

**Vice Commodore
Bruce Foster**

**Past Commodore
Dennis Awbrey**

**Secretary
Martha St. Romain**

**Treasurer
Becky Heston**

**Race Commander
Nelson Reynolds**

**Bldgs & Grnds
Jim Rehage**

**Fleet Commander
Michael Wellman**

**Sail Training
Lanelle Montgomery**

AYC Staff

**Manager
Johnny Wesson**

**Office
Administrator
Nancy Boulmay**

**Groundskeepers
Brad Schwab
Tom Cunningham**

AYC Office Phones

**266-1336, Ofc.
266-1897, Club
266-9804, Fax**

Telltale Staff

Managing Editor
Martha St. Romain

Editor
Vicki Palmer

Assistant Editor
Kim Young

Photographer
Ty Johnson

Editorial Staff
Ray Shull
Nelson Reynolds
L. Montgomery
Chris Bartlett
Tom Bauman
Dave Broadway
Cynthia Casto
Jim Deeter
Bob Farmer
Lou Kimball
Dennis Mills
Eric Nelson
Vicki Palmer

The Telltale is published bi-monthly.

Article deadline notices have been mailed to all AYC members.

The Telltale is produced on a Macintosh in Microsoft Word and PageMaker. Articles submitted on a floppy will definitely speed up the publication process.

Dear AYC Members:

You should have received a new Directory by now. If not, you need to contact the AYC office. We had some computer problems with the membership data and had hoped to be in a new system by the time we printed the information for the Directory. But, alas, that was not meant to be. So pretend it's spiffy perfect. By next year it will be better, we promise.

Speaking of membership data, has anyone told you lately you're terrific! We had an overwhelming response to the update information sheet which will be invaluable in setting up our new program. We hope you think the wait was worth it. And don't forget to keep the AYC office informed of all data changes. We can't keep up with you, if you don't keep up with us (or something like that).

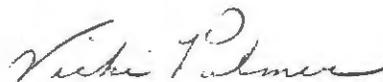
You should also have received a Telltale and Mini-Tale notice and explanation in the mail. Thanks to Kim Young, Ravi Subramanian, and UT crew who collated and stuffed over 400 envelopes (!!) you were sent twelve reminder cards to help you remember the deadlines. We wish we had time to call each of our faithful contributors, but reality says don't wait for our reminder calls. We'll do what we can with the time and resources we have.

The Mini-Tale will be nothing more than a one-or one-half page newsletter in with your billing statement during the months the Telltale staff is off basking in the Caribbean sunshine (ha! don't we wish!). Event chairs, committee charis, and fleet captains will probably be the biggest contributors to this publication, using it to announce special events and to note unusual accomplishments.

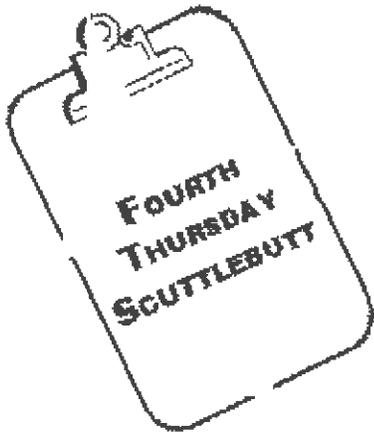
The next Mini-Tale deadline is **Sunday, March 17, 5 p.m.**

The next Telltale deadline is **Sunday, April 28, 5 p.m.**

Remember, these publications are YOUR publications. I only do the grunt work of making sure what you want to say gets put into a readable format that gets mailed to the membership. Hand-drawn art, lots and lots of photos (!!), interesting sailing adventures, and general AYC news are always welcome. Any cartoonists out there? Any good quality fleet logos you want me to use with your fleet's articles? We can use your help.



Cover Photo Courtesy of Ty Johnson



FROM THE RACE COMMANDER ...
Nelson Reynolds

Notes from the Starting Line..

The 1996 racing season is upon us. Seems like only last year...

The new schedule is done and approved and we didn't have to use the ol' shoehorn this time. Well, not much anyway. It does seem, though, that the membership does realize the wind blows early in the year and tapers off through the fall and winter months. Though, I guess we could have a series of 'Norther Regattas'. We could let the Weatherman schedule the date and time... well it was just a thought.

The 1996 edition of the Race Committee Seminar went off with nary a hitch. In addition to the efforts of the current PRC, the help of John Saunders, Martie Shirey, and our special guest speaker, Bob Gough was much appreciated. Martie and Mary Sikora kept the attendees fed for the two days of the

seminar. John was entertaining as usual speaking of the benefits and problems associated with our friend, "Mr. Propeller". Also, the weather gods smiled on us this year and allowed us to get a lot of on the water work in with the chase and committee boats.

And Bob Gough. What can I say? Bob did his usual great job with his "what would you do if..." program. And the mock protest was great. With Jim Shelton (Ensign Fleet Captain) as an arrogant J24 skipper and David Loose (PRC) as a more stoical J24 skipper, the hearing was entertaining as well as informative. It helped to give a brief view of the process of hearing a protest as well as showing how different people can interpret a given set of facts differently.

All in all, the seminar was a success with 30 some people attending from nearly every fleet. Some items of interest that came out of the seminar which came out that should be of interest to the general membership are:

1. Pre-race check-in is back... read the new Sailing Instructions for the procedure.
2. The sheriff is planning on targeting sailboats for lack of TX numbers this year.
3. Having a keg at the RC seminar is still popular.
4. I hope all the protests this year go as fast as the mock one.

Now, on to other things. I spoke to Larry Gensch and he informed me that the towing policy of the various public service organizations on the lake has changed this year. The Sheriff's department will no longer tow at all, but will call a commercial towing service for you. The Coast Guard Auxiliary also must now attempt to contact a commercial towing service and be unsuccessful before they can tow. And even then, it is only to the nearest marina. Just so y'all know.

On a final note, it has been suggested that I include a relevant protest in the Telltale this year. If you would find this interesting, please drop a note by or fax on to the office(266-9804). Anyway, in that vein, here's the last protest I had the pleasure to chair:

Ensign #440 protested Catalina 22 #752 alleging that the Catalina had struck his Ensign shortly after the start violating rule 37.3. Unfortunately, the Ensign failed to display a protest flag after the incident, so the protest was disallowed as per Rule 68.3. Remember, you have to have a flag to protest.

That's all for now. See you on the water.





JUNIOR SAILING

Junior Sailing Begins Early

by
Lanelle Montgomery

The cold weather will soon be at an end for another year and it's time to get those boats out and warmed up for the new season of sailing. We have a very exciting schedule planned beginning immediately. On February 10, 1996, from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon we'd like to have all junior sailors and at least one of their parents to come out for a work party to check out the condition of club boats and race equipment so we can get ready for a full sailing season. This will also be an opportunity to meet other junior sailors or renew old acquaintances and discuss upcoming events.

Then, on March 2 (with a rain date of March 9) Joanne Weberlein will be conducting a Spring Warm Up Sailing Seminar with especially pertinent topics including on-the-water drills on starting and mark rounding, and on-the-land discussions about rigging, proper clothing, endurance/strength and boat maintenance. Since the first stop on the Texas Youth Circuit will be held here at AYC on March 30 and 31, Joanne's clinic will be especially timely. This will also be a great way to support Joanne in her own Olympic campaign.

Since many of the junior sailors expressed an interest in expanding youth sailing be-

yond the summer months, we have come up with several ways to accommodate that request. First of all, we have lined up some of AYC's best talent to serve as youth coaches for the two Austin youth circuit stops and to conduct youth sailing seminars throughout the year. We owe a debt of gratitude to each of these people, many of whom have no children in the junior program - yet. To begin the year, Doug Kern and Bob Harden have agreed to coach AYC competitors during the March youth circuit regatta and Michael Haggerty will coach them during the Roadrunner Regatta. One-day sailing seminars for junior sailors will be conducted by Doug Kern on April 13, by Scott Young on May 11, and by John Bartlett on September 21. We will also have Wednesday evening racing/sailing events for juniors beginning May 22.

The Peanut Butter and Jelly Sailing Course will be conducted this summer by Matt Bartlett and Pete Harper. Two half-day classes will be conducted each day on June 1, 8, 15, 22, July 13 and 20. One of these classes will be for beginning sailors and the other for intermediate sailors. Isn't it exciting to think we have so many eight-year-old intermediate sailors! Contact Matt or Pete for further information.

Junior sailing camps, open to AYC members and non-members alike, will be held during the four weeks of June and youth coaching classes for AYC members will be conducted during July and the first half of August. A full time coach will

Adult Sail Training Program

by

Lanelle Montgomery

hired for the summer and will no doubt have many interesting activities planned. More information about these events will come later.

A questionnaire was mailed to the entire membership in December asking for the names of those who wish to be included on the mailing list to receive information about AYC youth sailing events. If you did not complete that questionnaire and would like to be included, please contact Tim McKenna, Youth Newsletter Editor, at 462-3054. The plan is to have a vehicle for communicating with one another on a more frequent basis than is possible through the Telltale. The newsletter will include not only club level events but those of general interest outside of the club. Anyone with such information to convey should also contact Tim.

I am looking forward to a very exciting year of youth sailing!



One of the suggestions made by several people on the end of the year sail training questionnaire was that it would be helpful if information about the various training clinics were available earlier so that they could make plans to attend. In an attempt to address that suggestion, the following is a thumbnail sketch of the planned sail training events for this year. More in-depth information about each clinic will be sent nearer to the time of the event.

The adult sail training program will begin the year with a CPR seminar conducted by Michael Wellman on February 24. We all spend a great deal of time on or around the water. Accidents have occurred in the past and will continue to occur in the future. No one knows who the next victim will be who will need to have CPR administered to them. It could be a member of your crew, maybe a member of your family. The need to have as many people as possible proficient in CPR can not be stressed too often. We would encourage as many people as

possible to attend this clinic. Because this is a "hand-on" course, the size of the class must be limited. If there is an overwhelming demand for the course, we will offer a second session later in the year. To make sure you get the training before the sailing season begins, call the office to make your reservations today.

In addition to the CPR course, a first aid course for sailors will be offered on August 17.

If you know someone who is interested in learning to sail, we have two seminars planned during June. There have been suggestions in the past that we should offer this course during the evening. In an attempt to be responsive to that suggestion, we will hold these sessions from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. First, Bruce Foster will teach the Men's Learn to Sail Clinic on June 3, 4, and 6. Then, Mary Lynn Painton will teach the Women's Learn to Sail Clinic on June 17, 18, and 20.

Jr. Sail Training Facility

by Lanelle Montgomery

For those who know how to sail but who feel not quite ready for racing, we will offer an Adult Intermediate Sailing Clinic which will be lead by Richard Hlista. That clinic will be held on June 15 and 16.

And last but not least, for those who are proficient sailors and racers who want to fine tune their skills or who want to work together with their crew to create a better team, we will offer an advanced racing clinic on September 7. This clinic will be lead by Scott Young and Doug Kern. Depending upon the response to this clinic, we may split the clinic into two days with Scott and Doug each taking one day.

With this preview, I hope you have time to arrange your schedule so that you can attend all of the clinics of interest to you. Questions about any of these clinics should be addressed to the individual in charge. If you have any other questions, please feel free to contact me.

Happy Sailing in 1996!



It has been a couple of years now since the Junior Sail Training Facility was dedicated, and anyone who has been down in the south cove during the summer knows what a roaring success it has been with the junior sailors. It has also turned out to be a popular spot to operate the latest craze, radio controlled boats and is enjoyed by other members in various other ways. While I understand there were originally some concerns about the building of this facility, it has turned out to be a very positive addition to our club. Claudia Foster should be applauded again for the countless hours she spent in raising the funds necessary over and above the generous Rylander family gift which launched the project. Thank you Claudia!

A beautiful bronze plaque memorializing those individuals who were the primary contributors to the construction of the facility was made and hung prominently on a wall of the building. It was recently discovered to be missing, much to the distress of everyone involved. The distress is felt not so much for the \$1,200.00 spent on the plaque, but for the realization that nothing is safe from those few people in the world who know no boundaries. If anyone has

any information about the missing plaque, please notify the AYC office.

Since the contributors to the Junior Sail Training Facility have never been publicly recognized other than by the now-missing plaque, we would like to formally send our thanks to the following individuals who made possible this truly valuable asset to our club:

Mike & Flo Adams
Rudy Albachten
Charlene Allan
Walter Allan
Hap Arnold
Dennis Awbrey
Dave & Cindy Balfour
Tom & Kathy Bauer
Wade & Cathy Bingaman
Evert Broersma
Sallie Buchner
Doug & Pat Caroom
Jim & Cynthia Casto
Eddie & Pat Calogero
Kelley Clark
Cynthia Creamer
Chris Christopherson
Doug DeCluitt
Cheryl D'errico
Dan & Cathy Ellenbrook
Jennifer Fadal
Mark Finley
Jon Fitch
Bruce Foster
Claudia Foster
Jim & Sandy Galemore
Tommy & Ann Gairloff
Steve & Judy Gay

Linda Golden
 Bob & Jeane Goldsmith
 Don & Sharon Gray
 Mike & Jean Haggerty
 Harborside Boat Brokerage
 Bryan & Dana Hale
 R. W. Harden
 Rachel & Andrea Harper
 Bill & Kelly Hawk
 Allan Hawkins
 Hal Hayden
 David Henderson
 George Henderson
 Jimmy & Malone Hill
 Richard & Ann Hlista
 David Jamail
 Scott Jones
 Mel Kunze
 Marina Assoc. of Lake Travis
 Troy Lawson
 Robert Leonard
 Bill Loving
 Rod & Wanda Malone
 John & Cathy Mandell
 David Marques
 Frank McBee
 Linda McDavitt
 Bruce McDonald
 Terry & Pattie Meyers
 John & Amy Morran
 Bob Musselman
 Claudia Musselman
 Eric & Robbie Nelson
 Russell Painton
 Della Pearson
 James Pinno
 Tom Pollack
 Tom & Karen Presswood
 PSA Design Group
 Louis & Alice Rogers
 Rylander Family / Estate
 Sail & Ski Center
 Rick & Beverley Sharp
 Ken Sherman
 Shirley Slaughter
 Jessie Smith
 Bill & Leslie Smith
 Ted Smith
 Roy & Nancy Smith
 Ted Sousares

Elizabeth & John Staylon
 Chuck & Jean Strehli
 Martha St. Romain
 Ravi Subramanian
 Victor Szebehely
 Ron & Bonnie Tobin
 Mark Turner
 Trenton Wann and
 Barbara Hawn
 Doug & Nancy Woodward
 Yacht Harbor Marina
 Scott & Kelly Young



*A heartfelt
 thank you
 to those
 whose own
 youthful enthusiasm
 makes AYU
 the best
 playground
 around
 and whose faith
 in AYU's youth
 to carry on
 a wonderful
 sailing tradition
 abounds in
 caring generosity.*





The One Design 39"

Fleet News

by Chris Bartlett

Over the past year a new sailboat has been underway. You might have heard or even seen this boat. If you guessed the R/C One-Design 39" (R/C stands for Radio Control), then you are correct! This fleet has been multiplying since it was first recognized.

This fleet is about one year old. John Bartlett and some of his friends and family thought of this boat two Christmases ago. Since then John, Matt, and Pat have sold about sixty-five boats here in Austin and in additional cities, San Antonio, Houston, and Corpus Christi. Each of these fleets have three boats and growing.

On January 1st we had our first fleet meeting in which we elected some officers. We decided on five positions and the person(s) that would run them. They are, Pat Bartlett (commodore), Joanne Weberlein (vice commodore), Vicki Stones (treasurer), Chris Bartlett & Stephen Gay, Jr. (secretaries)

Every Saturday at 2:00 p.m., people show up with their boats. On the average we have about nine to eighteen boats on the line. Not bad for R/C fleet.

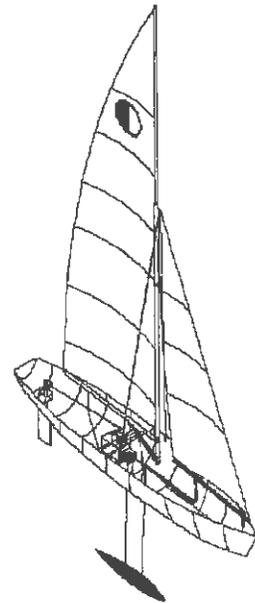
We have a wide range of people showing up, even powerboaters. For every racer we have one or two spectators. Even if you are a spectator you still get in the action. We have two demo boats ready to go, or someone may let you sail their own boat.

Every day we race, Vicki Stones brings beer and cokes. You can have as much beer (or coke) for only \$2.00. But if you think you drank more than \$2.00 worth, please don't be shy and pay as much as you think you drank. This money you pay goes toward purchasing One Design 39" fleet's beverages for the following week.

For those people who started to get in the One Design 39" fleet, but never had the time to build your boat. Right now Matt & Pat Bartlett will fix up your boat so all you have to do is put batteries in it and it's ready to sail. And also for you people that want to buy a boat fully assembled, you can call Matt and Pat Bartlett at Bartlett Boats*, 266-9443.

*(Bartlett Boats - Matt and Pat Bartlett working in cooperation with Bartlett Sails.)

P.S. One Design Sailors meet at the next board meeting on March 28 and bring your boats.



Fleet Captains Play An Important Role

by Eric Nelson

Many of you might not know that your fleet captain plays an important role beyond just asking you to volunteer for Race Committees or to pay dues to run your fleet. Last year the fleet captains began meeting informally about every other month to discuss various topics that were of general interest across all the recognized AYC fleets (Centerboard, Handicap and One Design). The discussions that came up in the past included such topics as changing the order of our series starts, are our series Sailing Instructions to complex, our regatta scheduling and their formats. It was not unusual to find Board members attending these sessions to "listen in". In fact, some of the changes made last year in these areas by the Board were initiated by or reviewed with the fleet captains during one or more of these sessions.

Building on last year's positive experiences, the 1996 fleet captains held a kick-off meeting on January 9th and elected Eric Nelson (this year's J/24 Fleet captain) as their meeting coordinator. 1996 Board

members Ray Schull, Nelson Reynolds and Mike Wellman also attended and participated in discussions that touched on a wide range of topics from safety (i.e. if and when to require use of PFDs, crew overboard drills, etc.) to rigging dock/ramp usage etiquette education to the "Beer Can" races (i.e. more dates?, informal vs. formal status as an AYC "event", etc.).

More and more, these meetings are being viewed by the Board as an excellent informal "sounding board" and source for new ideas, providing an additional way beyond attending Board meetings for the membership to influence the directions of the club. To allow the fleets some time to discuss (possibly after the next couple of series races) ideas they are interested in having their captain bring up, the next fleet captain's meeting is planned for late March. Subsequent meetings are expected to occur about every other month. So next time something comes to mind that you want to either change or be addressed in some manner, bring it up with your fleet captain so they have something to say at the next informal fleet captain's round table! One item already on the agenda is a review and discussion on a Web Page for crew wanted/crew available postings which is already in the works, I guess it really is almost the 21st century!



J/24 Fleet Kicks-Off 1996 with "March Madness" Circuit Stop at AYC

by Eric Nelson

As most of you know by now, the J/24 Texas Circuit schedule has been reworked for the 1995-96 racing season, resulting in the Austin venue being moved to March from October. We have used this timing change to rename our circuit stop "March Madness", which is turning out to be more appropriate than originally intended; the fleet is madly planning for the March 23rd premier, just 3 weeks after Opening Day! With the help of participants from other AYC fleets, we expect to beat our 15+ local boat turnout we had last October. If you are interested in participating (racing, race management, off the water, whatever!) feel free to contact Eric Nelson, our 1996 Fleet Captain.

While the profits from running the circuit regatta help pay for our 'after series' and 'theme' social events every year, there is a substantial "up front" financial commitment required to get the regatta off the ground. You guessed it!, this is a pitch to pay your fleet dues ASAP...we don't have the luxury this year of having until October to collect the funds required, so please send your checks to David Loose (our 1996 Fleet Treasurer).

Like the last couple of years, the dues are \$20 for boat owners, \$10 for individual crew members or the special \$50 deal for a "BO" plus his/her crew.

Let's make sure one thing is clear; no dues, no after race beer! To give everyone a chance to immediately get a return on their investment, all current (read 1996 dues paying...) members are invited to an after series race social on March 10th. Robbie Nelson, our 1996 Social Chair, has decided on a 'Luck of the Irish' theme for this event so expect something green (and it won't be the beer!) to consume. Mark your calendar now and look for more details in the mail soon.

Once we get past March Madness, we can start looking toward outlining the rest of the year's activities. So it is never too soon to think about what kind of social events you want to have as well as nailing down some race oriented items such as a format to selecting our Fleet Champion team, on the water practice sessions (?), signing up series race committees, planning a measurement party, etc.

One final item, let's recognize and thank Leon Lance and Robbie Nelson for representing our fleet on Opening Day Race Committee...Thanks guys for allowing the rest of us to race this go around, it will be one of our turns next!



J-24 Fleet News

by Dave Broadway

The already sizable J-24 Fleet 21 at AYC continues to grow with the addition of two new J-24 owners. Leo and Susie Anderson worked on their boat during the Fall and have been racing the Frostbite Series in preparation for the upcoming racing season. Likewise, Frank DeJennes is rounding up crew to get his boat ready to race. Welcome to Fleet 21!! Look for them on the water soon.

The J-24 Texas Circuit Regatta has been revamped this year with one stop deleted (Chandler's landing) and two more added — Shreveport and Oklahoma City. The AYC Circuit stop is being moved to the Spring, hence AYC hosted last October and will sail through AYC again March 23-24 this year as part of the transition. So for those of you from other fleets who borrowed a J-24 to join the fun last October (15 AYC entries), you have the opportunity for more fun soon (20 AYC entries anticipated). If you would like to borrow a boat or to crew, contact Michael Wellman or Eric Nelson, the new Fleet Captain.

Speaking of the Texas Circuit, three Austin boats are currently in the top 10 standings: 4th Mr. Happy, Eric Nelson/Bobby Harden, 6th Superman, Dave

Broadway, and 9th Shadowfax, Michael Wellman. The remaining stops on the 1995-96 Circuit are AYC, Shreveport, Fort Worth Boat Club, Rush Creek YC, and Oklahoma City.

The Prince of Wales competition will be sailed in J-24's this year. The Area F competition will be hosted at AYC.

In addition to the racing activities, many fleet social events like the annual margarita cruise are planned. Look for more info and announcements in this column and in the fleet newsletter.



For Sail

J-24 US 4041
Former World, North American and Texas
Circuit champion boat.
aka "Pee Wee", now know as Ice-9.

Call Scott Young for
price and details.
Office: 477-6131
Home: 328-8813

J-22 Fleet Gears Up for Austin Circuit April 27-28

by Vicki Palmer

Will the real fleet captain please stand up? Well, we thought we were off to a good start for 1996 anyway. Kelley Clark was enthusiastic about being fleet captain. The fleet was even more excited about having such an enthusiastic fleet captain. And what happens? Kelley decides that advancing his flying career with a move to Florida was a bit more important. Can't blame him I guess. But it means the fleet is stuck with me by default, not only for fleet captain duties but for reading yet another byline of you-know-who. What can I say besides, "Bear with it. It could be worse. It could be YOU having to listen to my nagging about getting an article to me by the deadline." Ah, I thought so. It's not so bad after all, is it?

So what are YOU doing April 27-28, the weekend of the Austin J-22 circuit regatta? April 14 (race committee series assignment #1)? August 17 (race committee series assignment #2)? November 17 (race committee assignment #3)? Yes, it appears we're being "punished" with three RC duties this year due to a major faux pas of not knowing the alphabet well enough to determine what N over X should or should not look like. We're also required to supply at least one fleet member

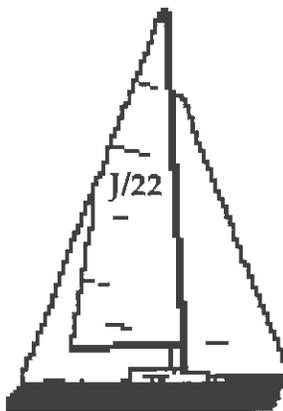
for the major regattas this year. Kelley started a pretty good volunteer list, and I'd like to add to it. Call and let me know what assignments you prefer. I had a professor once who liked giving the tough assignments to his students who did not raise their hands. Is that the smoke of "incentive" I see burning in all your quick minds?

Claudia Foster and I have volunteered (for lack of a better term describing a do-it-or-let-it-die situation) to chair this year's Austin circuit scheduled for the weekend of April 27-28. There will be food; there will be trophies; there will be boats, and there will be a lotta J-22 folks glad to be racing on Lake Travis. What's your area of expertise you'd like to share that weekend? Launching boats? Helping with food or registration? In case you can't race that weekend are you interested in loaning/chartering your boat to someone you know will take good care of it? If you can't race would you like to help the South Coast fleet/PRO Bruce Foster with race committee? Don't be bashful. There's something for everyone. Call and let us know how you'd like to help.

Oh where oh where has Bill Mitchell gone? Is he an official Master's Degree holder yet or will we notice his absence for a

while longer? We've seen and heard from Steve and Lesa Brown who graciously did their umpteenth stint as fleet officers last year and who are always out there competing. John Saunders and Jan Thompson don't need any introductions. Anyone who doesn't know who they are and what they've done for this fleet and club ... well, you better get out and join the real world. John and Caroline Mack are two of the nicest folks in the fleet we can never see often enough. And then there's Max (who is so teasing). Well, when you put Max Rockoff with Gloria you have two more of the fleet's spark plugs who entertain us with wildlife tales of events both on and off the water. The Hortons I don't know well enough to tease I'm sorry to say. Perhaps that'll change this year. I hope so. Then there's the Woody Pecker (hope I got the name right 'cause it's wrong in the Directory) crew of Scott Myers, Eric Nelson, and John Bartlett. Need I say more? What fleet wouldn't benefit with that trio of comedy, bloopers, and rock star tales of victory. And don't forget the three wisewomen ... yes, three female owners of this great boat. Debra Phillips who sometimes abandons us for the bigger J-boat but who is always there for the J-22 fleet events when we need her. Claudia Foster who has more git-up-and-go than anyone I know and who can get there faster too. And last but not least of the three wisewomen there's the owner of *Flashdance* who promises to share some of her Sunfish sailing time on a J-22 this year. Dave and Judy Gage

J-22 Fleet (cont'd)



are never far away but have other lives besides sailing a J-22. Imagine that. Dave Hilfer is a name we've heard before but who doesn't join us as often as we'd like. And if what I hear is true about Bonner Cordelle being the new owner of #665, well, our fleet is in fat city with the who's who of sailing at AYC. All we need is for #527 to come out and play (Doug and Nancy Woodward, is that still you?) and it'll be "look out 24's!" If I've left any fleet member out, I apologize. You'll get double the coverage in the next issue.

Anyone have any ideas about where our fleet is going in 1997? I know, I know. We haven't even started '96 yet. But we need to think about this. The folks who have carried this fleet thus far are tired and deserve a break. If we can't easily put together nine members on a race committee weekend, we need to think about whether we should be a fleet unto ourselves. The alternative is to race with the keel handicap folks, probably B fleet, and that means we don't have our own start. But it also means we don't have to scrounge for race committee

help, and we won't have to host an Austin circuit. Personally, I don't want to see the fleet die. The J-22 is a great boat; the folks sailing J-22's are some of the nicest as well as competitive sailors you'll ever want to meet. But in a fleet with so few active members we sometimes can't even get the required number on the starting line during a series race, let alone enough volunteers to do a decent race committee for a series race. And that's not good.

I'll be out of town until mid-March but would like to schedule a fleet meeting for sometime soon after that. We need to talk. We have some serious issues to resolve. And we need to get down and boogie and forget all the serious stuff too. I'll be in touch.

In the meantime ... may you never get caught with your pants down during a broach.



Ensign Fleet Makes a Comeback

by Lou Kimball

We are making a comeback! Isn't it great to see those beautiful old boats out there in better numbers again? I know the Catalina 22's appreciate it. They got to start with us last year after the South Coasts got their own start (must be nice ...). I guess the S.C.'s just finally got sick of the Ensign sailors barging in at the starting line and making those W-I-D-E left turns at the marks. It's hard to stop an Ensign once you get it going. Or ... maybe it was those Ensign sailors who barged in at the picnic tables? Do you C-22 people have a picnic table? Do you have gin and tonic? Beer?

The Ensign fleet enjoyed a good year in '95. We were joined by a new boat from Houston. Jim Shelton and wife Lynn in #440 "Rising Storm," and considering the race results, we would just as soon they go right back down there! We also had more regular participation by the locals and posted an average of 7-8 boats on the line for series racing. This year we will add at least one more boat as John Lawler (also formerly of HYC) skipper his boat #717 "Co-Motion" into the fray. I say at least one more because rumor has it that Larry Ratliff has finally come to his

Catalina 22 Fleet Hot for Racing with New Bottom Jobs and Other Go-Fast Techniques

Ensign (cont'd)

by Jim Deeter

senses and will be joining us for a little one design fun in his new Ensign. (I just know you know better than to get mixed up with that J-boat crowd Larry. They're way too noisy!) You're a natural Ensign sailor. We'll even help you fix up your boat!

Our fleet standings this year:

1. Jim Shelton, Rising Storm
2. George Dahmen, Stressless
3. Tommy Kozlowski, Dos Locus

In addition, George brought glory to himself and the fleet by going to Colorado and taking 2nd in the Regionals in a borrowed boat! This year's Regionals are in Houston over Memorial Day weekend and we plan to send a strong contingent to get that trophy back where it belongs (in Austin). Fleet Captain this year is Jim Shelton — address all your complaints to him — and fleet Secretary/Treasurer is Lou Kimball — address all your money to me.

So long and fair sailing!



Have you been watching? If so, you could not help but notice the Catalina 22's around the work area. Currently, we have more than 9 boats out for various speed improvements ranging from bottom jobs to complete paint restorations and internal halyard installations as fleet members gear up for the coming race season. Also, welcome to a new Catalina 22 sailor, Dane Ohe, who recently purchased his new boat and is working on getting it ready for the Spring series.

Other fleet happenings include the meeting on January 13 when Fleet 69 sailors met to discuss the racing program for the 1996 year in the clubhouse at AYC. With more than 30 sailors attending, the meeting was opened by Fleet Captain Jim Deeter. Topics discussed were C22 National membership, local fleet membership, and the upcoming Region 8 Regatta. Also, the major C22 event calendar was provided to all attendees. After short discussions, guest speaker John Bartlett with Bartlett/Banks

Sails held an open discussion forum on sails and trim. This was a highlight of the meeting with much participation among members and everyone leaving with a better understanding of the complexities involved in trimming sails. Also, John discussed starts and tactics applicable to larger fleet starts. Sail construction and various considerations in choosing the correct cloth for the different sails was also discussed.

After John's talk we broke for lunch. Attendees brought various courses and desserts with the hamburgers provided by the fleet captain. While lunch was cooking Pete Harper, Fleet Measurer, discussed C22 class rules regarding boat measurement. The discussions cleared up several misunderstandings concerning the rules. Pete rounded out the discussion on tactics and starts based on his experiences.

Regional regatta planning activities continue with several milestones completed along the road to this event. Region 8 covers a 5-state area with more than 280 registered C22 sailors. Martie Shirey has set the dinner

menu and Debbie Adams completed the shirt selection and regatta logo. The flyers are ready for mailing.

For you non-C22 sailors, if you are considering a new (or different) boat, you won't go wrong with the folks in the C22 fleet as both friends ashore and competition on the water. Add to that the possibilities of trailering your C22 to regattas all over Texas without having to spend a fortune on the boat and you have an unbeatable combination for fun.

Until next time ...



We're Back!!

D-Fleet News

by Dennis Mills

Yes, folks. Those wayward gypsies of the keel fleet, non-spinnaker, have once more been designated as a separate fleet. This was pretty much a unanimous decision after almost a year of being combined with Keel C. The non-spinnaker fleet, known this year as "D" is made up of a core group who regularly sail without spinnakers and a much larger group from other fleets who decide for one reason or another not to fly a chute for a particular series.

We think this is a great opportunity for anyone who wants or needs to race without a chute. It keeps folks racing during times when they can't get more crew or just want to experience the high-level tactics, exhilarating speeds and overall Zen of non-spinnaker racing. We'll do our best to maintain the fleet as a viable alternative for people when and if they need it.

Like most fleets, D fleet members usually belong to other fleets as well so the roster fluctuates quite a bit. For some, it doubles their race committee responsibilities for the year, and we appreciate their time. We're fortunate that people who race non-spinnaker, even occasionally, realize that if they want the fleet to exist they need to contribute their time for RC duty. I'll also extend a special thanks to Vicki Palmer and Vic Manning for helping us out on our first RC foray of the year.

Congratulations go to Stephen Starr, Bob Pillmore, and Larry Morrow for their 1-2-3 finish in the on-again off-again Frostbite Series concluded last month. Hopefully the Spring series will give us more consistent weather and everyone can stay in the groove.

Nelson Reynolds tells me that he was the last official fleet captain of a D Fleet, so I've tentatively listed him as my successor for next year. I'm sure he won't mind.





by Cynthia Casto

Here we go ... another tack, another jibe, another year, another fleet captain.

There's been a rumor circulating that several Sunfish sailors have been seen wandering aimlessly through the streets of AYC with a look of despair and depression on their faces. It's a well known fact that the lack of Wednesday night (therapy) sailing will cause these feelings to occur during the winter months. I myself have missed those Wednesday night sails, causing my husband and son to look at me strangely as I try to occupy my time with some meaningless task (organizing the utensil drawer) or some meaningless TV show (Beverly Hills 90210). Now that's something to worry about.

It's time to get a life again ...

If you are finding yourself with any of these compulsive symptoms, mark your calendars for March 8. We will be meeting to discuss all of the bad habits we picked up on Wednesday nights in the off-season. The most desperate habit will be rewarded. Fear not, my friends,

Sunfish Wednesday night sailing is soon to come.

After meeting with some past fleet captains (to try to figure out what I got myself into), the first Sunfish newsletter and survey went out at the beginning of February. Members of the fleet and several non-members alike received this letter. I wanted everyone with a Sunfish at the club to know what was going on in the fleet this year. So far, we have a tuning and race tactics seminar scheduled for April 20 and the first skipper's meeting of the season on April 24. If enough interest is out there we will set up some novice/mentor sessions to help break in the new folks.

So dust off the cobwebs, start doing those sit-ups and pray for good wind this year. And starting in May you'll know where to find us on Wednesday nights!!!

P.S. The first official Wednesday night race is May 1.



Thistle Fleet News

by Tom Bauman

On February 9th, Thistle Fleet 91 met at the home of Steve and Beth Blair to discuss plans for the upcoming year. After a magnificent potluck dinner, those who could remain awake convened the business meeting. Of primary importance was the renewal of our national charter. Two goals were set: to prepare for AYC fleet status by 1997, and to add five boats to the fleet during the upcoming year. We all recognize that fleet status at the club entails responsibilities, and we intend to shoulder those during 1996 to show our commitment. Members of the fleet have already volunteered for race committee duty when the centerboard fleet's turn comes up in series racing, and we have provided a volunteer to assist with the Centerboard Regatta on April 13-14. Also, to work toward our second goal, we have identified Thistles for sale in the Austin area, and will be ready to give rides to those brave enough to take them.

The second major topic of the meeting was the Delta District Championship, which will be held here at AYC on June 22-23. Tom Bauman was named regatta chairman, in spite of his claim that he had no idea what he was doing. Watch out if you see Tom, he may ask you for help! The fleet also decided to partici-

C-Fleet Boasts Great Turnout for Frostbite Series

by Bob Farmer

pate in all club series racing beginning with the Mid-Spring Series, up until Fall Regatta.

Also, those who choose to travel have picked three regattas to attend this year: Palacios, on May 4-5, Dinghyfest at Rush Creek YC (date not yet announced), and Wurstfest at Canyon Lake (date not yet announced).

We hope to put 5-8 boats on the line consistently this year during series racing. We would love to give anyone who wants to crew a ride, and will find a boat for you if you want to skipper. Also, Richard Hlista will be teaching the Intermediate Racing Seminar in June, and Fleet members have volunteered to lend Thistles for the seminar if the number of participants makes it possible.

Hope to see you on the water!



We had a great turnout for the Keel Fleet Frostbite Series with 12 boats participating in C Fleet. Congratulations to Tommy Gairloff for first place with the Harmony 22 "Deuces Wild." Second place went to R. M. Johnson on the South Coast 21 "Absolution." Third place winner was Barbara Hawn on the San Juan 7.7 "Sweet Agony," and fourth place went to Jim Shelton on the Ensign "Rising Storm." It was good to see some boats that we haven't seen racing with the C Fleet for a while.

The racing was definitely close. The race committee recorded a tie between Sweet Agony and Absolution for second place in the final race. Thanks to Ann Gairloff, Vic Manning, Dane Ohe, Bruce Foster, and Jan Thompson for helping Sue and me do race committee for race two. This was my first experience as PRO, and we had an east wind (what a way to start!).

The C Fleet wants to extend an invitation to all spinnaker rigged keel boats (with PHRF rating above 190) to join us for racing and after-race socializing. Any skipper or crew that would like to participate in a spinnaker series or even a single race but is lacking sufficient crew and/or experience, please give us a call. We will be happy to line someone up to go out with you for practice or racing.

We look forward to a super year.



Ta-da!! Keel Handicap Beer Can Races are May 3 through August 23. Not Keel Handicap Friday Evening Series, you know. There is a difference so I've been told. Please note the change on your calendars. How could I have been so stupid? And don't answer that.

Welcome Aboard, New Members



Larry Morrow



***Polly Adema &
Joe Erwin***



Ken Whiteside

AYC RACE RESULTS

Wild Turkey Regatta

A-Fleet

1. Russell Painton, J-29
2. Ted Smith, Olson 30
3. Jaime Edwards, Olson 30
4. Claude Welles, Cal 9.2

B-Fleet

1. John Bartlett, J-22
2. Linda McDavitt, J-24
3. Phil Spletter, J-24
4. Kurt Carson, J-24
5. Bobby Harden, J-24
6. John Vance, Impulse 21
7. Bonner Cordelle, J-22
8. Barbara Hawn, SJ 7.7

C-Fleet

1. Bill Hawk, Ensign
2. Jim Shelton, Ensign
3. Bob Freeman, SC-21

D-Fleet

1. Leon Lance, J-24
2. Larry Morrow, J-30
3. Clay Leben, Catalina 27

Frostbite Series

A-Fleet

1. Steve Vaughan, Soverel 33
2. Jaime Edwards, Olson 30

B-Fleet

1. Evert Broersma, J-24
2. Troy Lawson, J-22
3. John Burton, Olson 25
4. Max Rockoff, J-22
5. John Saunders, J-22
6. Eric Nelson, J-24
7. Kirk Livingston, J-24

C-Fleet

1. Tommy Gairloff, Harmony 21
2. Danny Lien, SC-21
3. Barbara hawn, SJ 7.7
4. Jim Shelton, Ensign

D-Fleet

1. Steve Starr, Catalina 22
2. Bob Pillmore, Ranger 22
3. Larry Morrow, J-30
4. Polly Mayfield, Cal 9.2
5. Pete Harper, Catalina 22

Melges 24 Nationals

Ft. Lauderdale, FL

December 1995

1. Mark Reynolds
2. J.B. Braun
3. Dave Chapin
4. Steve Benjamin
5. Steve Grillon
6. Young/Morse/Kern/Plunkett
7. Morgan Reeser
8. Peter Wright
9. Brian Porter
10. Seadon Wijsen
11. Joe Londrigan
12. Chris Larson
13. Steve Suddath
14. Alex Camet
15. Bruce Ayers
16. Charlie Ogletree
17. Ken Batzer
18. Keith Musto
19. Mike Toppa
20. Tad Springer
21. Donald Jesberg
22. George Szabo
23. Geoff Moore
24. Kimo Worthington
25. Bear Hovey
26. Robby Wilkens
27. Greg Dorland
28. Michael Considine
29. Terry Hutchinson
30. Steve Sisson
31. Jay Cross

AYC Calendar

March 10,17,31 (1:30 p.m.) -- Spring Series Races
March 31 -- Spring End of Series Buffet
March 23-24 -- J-24 Circuit Regatta
March 30 -- TSA Junior Regatta, Steve Gay/Chair
April 6-7 -- Easter Laser Regatta, Fred Schroth/Chair
April 13 -- Jr. Sailing Seminar, Doug Kern
April 13-14 -- Centerboard Regatta, Ravi Subramanian/Chair
April 14, 21, 28 (1:30 p.m.) -- Mid-Spring Series
April 20 -- AYC US SAILING Ladder Eliminations
April 27-28 -- J-22 Circuit Regatta, Co-Chairs/Vicki Palmer & Claudia Foster
May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 -- Keel Handicap Friday Evening Beer Can Races
May 4-5 -- South Coast 21 Intergalactics
May 5, 12 (1:30 p.m.) -- Mid Spring Series
May 12 -- Mid-Spring End of Series Buffet
May 11 -- Jr. Sailing Seminar, Scott Young
May 11 -- Keel Handicap Singlehanded Race
May 18-19 -- Catalina 22 Regionals

Austin Yacht Club
5906 Beacon Dr.
Austin, TX 78734



Whoopee, racing season
at AYC begins again!!!

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTIN, TEXAS
PERMIT #3179