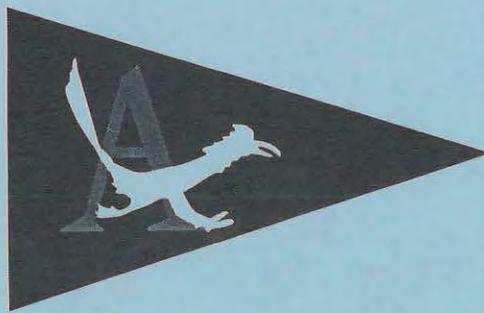


Telltale

**Austin Yacht Club
Spring 1999**





AUSTIN YACHT CLUB

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Austin, TX 78734

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AYC Board of Directors

Commodore	Voldi Maki
Past Commodore	Lanelle Montgomery
Vice Commodore	Rob Wilson
Secretary	Tim McKenna
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Race Commander	Mary Sikora
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International 505	Steve Eller
JY 15	John Bartlett
Laser	Ken Sherman
Sunfish	Vicki Stones
Thistle	Richard Hlista
Ensign	Cynthia Creamer
FJ's(UT)	Tom Carson
J-24	Phil Spletter
Keel Handicap	Claude Welles
A-Fleet	Ray Shull
B-Fleet	Mike Chambers
C-Fleet	Doug Laws
D-Fleet	Guy Stewart
South Coast 21	Dave Speed

From the Commodore Voldi Maki

The Spring cleanup went very well with many volunteers and excellent food. Several more work parties will be planned if you did not make the first one. Call Tom Groll.

Plans are underway to replace Dock 6 according to schedule and because it is in bad shape. The race committee dock should have been replaced years ago and it too will finally be replaced. A break water is being discussed to reduce the rate at which the docks are being deteriorated by wind waves and boat wakes.

The sail training program has an aggressive schedule this year with classes for all ages. There are junior programs as well as classes presented by the Parks and Wildlife Department.

Carey Skillman made Opening day a great success. The new HEB at Highway 71 and Bee Caves Road made a generous donation to our opening day event. I would also thank all of the others who Volunteered to help with this event:

Robbie Nelson, Cynthia Creamer, Debbie Adams, Scott Skillman, Dave Colpitts, Terry Kirkpatrick, Becky Waddell, Cynthia Anderson and Alexis Tapp.

Bonnie Chambers again sang the National Anthem with the Boy Scouts from Troop #201 raising the flag. Dr. Cliff Price gave a beautiful opening invocation.

The new directory will be out soon, with all of the event dates. The schedule is also published on the web at austinyachtclub.org.

Don't forget the following events:

Centerboard Regatta	April 10, 11
Spring Series #3	April 11
Spring Series #4	April 18
Spring Regatta	April 24
J-22 Circuit Regatta	May 1, 2
TSA Ladder Events	May 8
Summer Series #1	May 9

We will have one fewer employees at the club beginning March 18. Brad will be leaving to take on new challenges. He has been a valued employee since 1987 and will be missed greatly. We all wish him success.

Ramblings From The Vice Commodore

The 1999 regatta season is well underway with the Junior Roadrunner Regatta now in the past. Even mother nature appreciated the hard work of the regatta co-chairs Cathy and Dan Ellenbrook and Bill Wheat and the other volunteers. She granted them reasonably good weather on a weekend that had been predicted to be a total washout. My thanks to everyone who contributed to making this regatta the success that it was.

The next AYC event is the Spring Regatta to be held on April 24th. This regatta consists of a single long distance race to the vicinity of Lakeway and back. In order to try and increase participation by sailors from outside of AYC and to increase awareness of our club, I have scheduled an open house for the Friday evening before the race. At the open house we will provide beer, soft drinks and snacks and an introduction to sailboat racing that is designed to give enough information so a person new to the sport can participate in the Saturday race. If you know of sailors that you think might be interested, tell them about this program or, better yet, bring them out to the club.

The Turnback Canyon Regatta will again be held over Memorial Day weekend, May 29th and 30th. This year the party and overnight stop returns to the Bar-K. The regatta organizer, Kathy Comer, has arranged for a barbecue dinner and music in the best tradition of this event. Watch for more information on the regatta soon in your mail and on the AYC web site.

Speaking of the web site, those off you that have not yet visited it are missing a treat. Our new manger, Ken Larson, has done an excellent job of creating an interesting and informative site. Coming events, the yearly calendar, race results, notices, registration forms, photos and more can all be found at www.austinyachtclub.org.

Planning is now underway for the Governor's Cup Regatta. This year we have decided to hold it over the weekend of July 4th only, combining the keel and centerboard events into one. We are looking for ways of increasing participation and interest in this event so any and all suggestions will be appreciated. If you have some ideas of things that you would like to have considered or if you are interested in helping out, contact either the regatta chair, Michael Meloy (448-9093) or me.

Finally, mark you calendars for the AYC night race on September 25th. Mary Sikora is in charge of this event so you know that it will be a great time.

Rob Wilson

Race Commander's Report – Mary Sikora

The start of AYC's 1999 racing season has been a real joy!! Wind, wind and more wind!! OK, well perhaps opening day was a little "chilly", but those who suffered through it received new, AQUA BLUE laminated Long Distance Course Cards (yes, KHF, please throw every other color away). We had an absolutely wonderful Saturday for the J/24 circuit stop (I borrowed a boat and had a great time and a "perfect" start in race #3 I was told by the Judges), and missed the rain during the Junior Roadrunner and the Easter Laser regattas. There was no equipment failures (except the radio on Chase #3) and no RC or chase boat problems.

Matter of fact, that is the PRC goal this year: no equipment failures and no boat problems. This year the PRC has adopted an "Adopt-A-Boat" program, so if you know of any problems, contact

Frank Woodul or Paul Brandner	RC boat
Steve Eller or Anthony Plattsmier	Chase #1
Larry Ratliff or Phil Spletter	Chase #2
John Burton or Rich Shoemaker	Chase #3

The PRC has been busy completing equipment replacement and improvements, as well as major overhauls to the RC boat and all the chase boats including tune-ups, decarbonizations, complete new wiring (yes, all the air horns on the boats themselves work now), and placement of the radios in the glove compartments of the chase boats. We have new RC bags, some new flags, and new batteries for the handhelds. We're planning to buy an orange tetrahedron for a Change of Course mark and replacing the connections on the air pumps for the tetrahedrons to prevent "sparks". I don't think sparks and gas work well together. We are scheduled to purchase a new engine for Chase #3 this year, but are hoping to purchase two new Honda 4-strokes, one for Chase #3 and one for Chase #2.

We've added Spring Regatta (John Burton, PRO) to the calendar in a new one-day, one-race format in the hopes of increasing participation. If ya love it or hate it, let us know. Governor's Cup is back to one weekend for all boats, centerboards, multihulls, keel. Larry Ratliff (PRO) is staying awake nights trying to come up with new and different courses for the event. We're also trying a Night Race on September 25th (full moon, of course), it could be terrifically interesting.

Turnback is back to Bar-K this year, with dinner back to barbeque. Phil Spletter is PRO and has promised PARTY, PARTY, PARTY!!!! It's also rumored "margaritas for race committee". Phil, can this be true?

Anyone with complaints, problems, suggestions, or ideas can send them my way. Shouldn't be hard to find me on the grounds, I feel I've been living out there, but the RC room has never been so organized (anal retentively organized).

See ya on the water, Mary

AYC RACING RESULTS

SPRING SERIES

Keel A:

1st	John Mandell	11 Meter
2nd	Scott Walsh	Lindenberg 28
3rd	Steve McKinley	F-31

Catalina 22:

1st	Larry Hill
2nd	Pete Harper
3rd	Jim Deeter

Keel B:

1st	Steve Brown	J 22
2nd	Mike Chambers	Olson 25
3rd	Claude Welles	Cal 9.2

Ensign:

1st	George Dahmen
2nd	Tom Groll
3rd	Tommy Kozlowski

Keel C:

1st	Barbara Hawn	SJ 7.7
2nd	Paul Frels	SJ 24
3rd	Bay Peterson	Catalina 27

J24:

1st	Eric Nelson/Bob Harden
2nd	Dave Walberg
3rd	Nelson Reynolds

Keel D:

1st	Imre Szekelyhidi	J 29
2nd	Patrick Henry	Capri 22
3rd	John Vance	Impulse 21

South Coast 21:

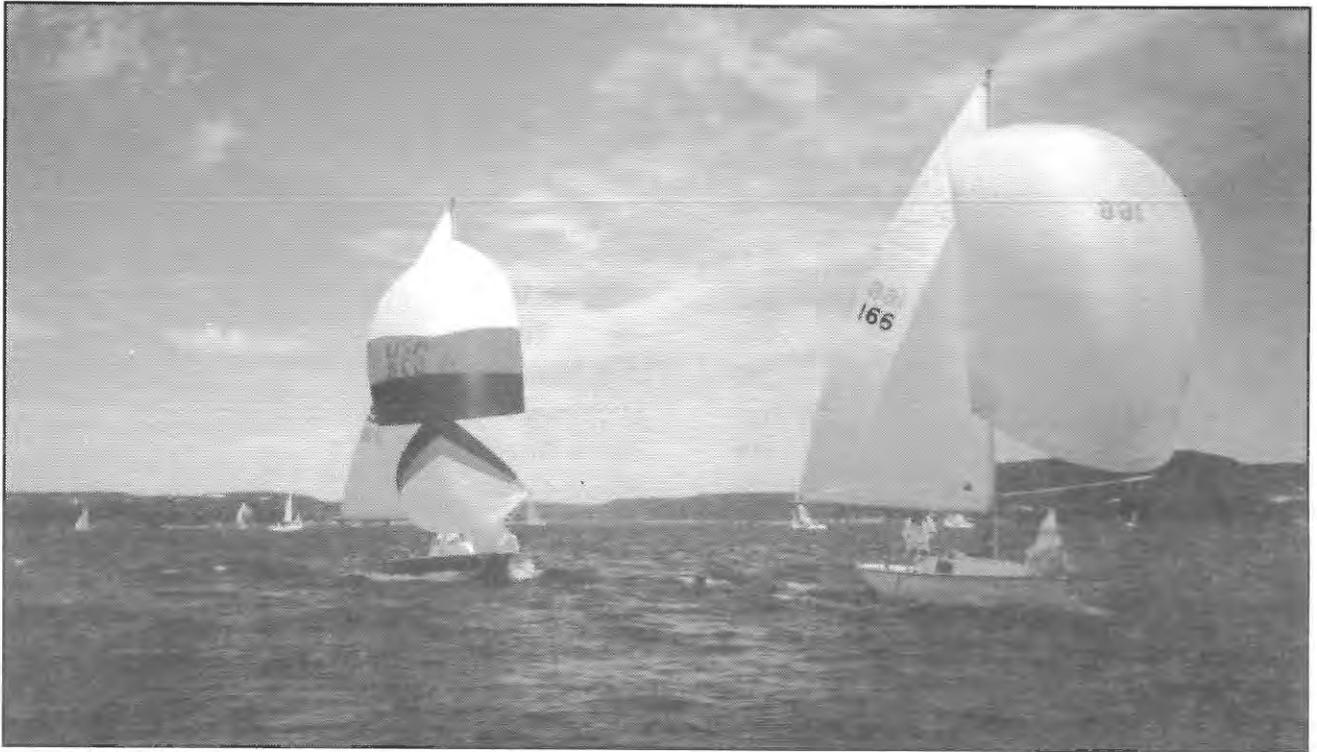
1st	Ray Shull
2nd	Bob Freeman
3rd	Pat Feagin

Center Board Handicap:

1st	Richard Hlista	Thistle
2nd	Claudia Foster	JY 15
3rd	Rob Halter	Thistle

Port start, not a good idea.....





Let's go surfin', dudes!!!



AYC RACING RESULTS

CENTERBOARD REGATTA

505'S:

1st Guy Addis

Thistle:

1st Jim Kincaid
2nd Richard Hlista

JY 15's:

1st Bob Johnston
2nd John Bartlett
3rd David Hoye

Sunfish:

1st Joanne Weberlein
2nd Kevin Reynolds
3rd Joe Sullivan
4th Dick Heinl
5th Deke DeKeyser
6th Steve Gay
7th Larry Hill

C 15's:

1st Kim Young

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TELLTALE DEADLINES

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June 1, 1999

September 1, 1999

December 1, 1999

Austin Yacht Club - Austin, Texas
Turnback Canyon Regatta (*Back to the Future Past*)
May 29th & 30th, 1999

The Turnback Canyon Regatta on Lake Travis is the oldest and largest of all the major regattas that AYC hosts annually. Hundreds of multihull, centerboard, and keel boats combine two days of competitive racing and long distance cruising with lots of good times at either end.

The course commences Saturday near Austin Yacht Club and continues to a finish near the Lago Vista Bar-K Park. Non Racers can relax and enjoy the pool at Bar-K while waiting on their favorite boats to arrive. At 7:30 PM the drawing for raffle item benefiting **AYC JUNIOR SAILING PROGRAM**, as well as a drawing for a car raffled by the Lions Club of Lago Vista. Beginning at 8 PM enjoy the music of "**Jane Rundquist & Too Blue**". This will be their 5th year to perform at Turnback. The rumor is the dance floor will be full.

On Sunday, the starting line is set near Bar-K and the course concludes near AYC. Trophies are presented Sunday afternoon at AYC following the race.

Oldest Turnback Canyon Regatta T-Shirt Contest

Before the trophy presentation, there will be a T-Shirt Contest for the OLDEST TURNBACK T-SHIRT in existence (even if it is a rag now). A US Sailing membership and T-Shirt will be presented to the proud owner.

Levens Trophy

In 1984 a special perpetual trophy was commissioned by the Austin Yacht Club Board of Directors in memory of Bill Levens, Sr., who always supported and never missed Turnback Canyon Regatta. It is awarded to the Keel Boat skipper with the best corrected time in the race to Lago Vista Bar-K.

Cruising Fleet

Keel boats, which sign up to cruise instead of race, will not be displaying the thin color streamers as the racing boats do. They will follow Texas Right Of Way Rules instead of the Racing Rules, and are asked to keep clear of racing boats when practical to do so. Directions for Cruising Yachts are contained in the Turnback Canyon Notice of Regatta. Cruising skippers need not obtain the Sailing Instructions or attend the Skipper's Meeting. Please feel free to ask questions.

REGISTRATION FORM

1999 - Turnback Canyon Regatta (*Back to the Future Past*)

(Please print)

REGISTRATION

Name _____ Yacht Type _____
 Address _____ Sail Number _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Yacht Name _____
 Phone (H) _____ (W) _____ Club Affiliation _____
 Number of Crew _____ (including Skipper) Skipper's Name _____

Spinnaker Non-Spinnaker PHRF Rating _____ Portsmouth Rating _____

- Cruising Keel Boat \$15.00 \$ _____
- Racing Keel Boat \$35.00 \$ _____
- Centerboard/Multihull Boats \$30.00 \$ _____
- Late Registration (after 5 pm May 26th) \$10.00 \$ _____
- U S Sailing Discount (Racing Only) <\$ 5.00> <\$ _____>

Member Number: _____

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES: \$ _____

♦♦♦ FOR OFFICE USE ONLY ♦♦♦

CASH \$ _____
 Check No. _____
 Amt PAID \$ _____
 AYC Charge No. _____

DINNER

THE BEEF IS BACK! Quantity

Barbecue Dinner - Adult _____ \$7.00 \$ _____
 Barbecue Dinner - Child _____ \$3.50 \$ _____

TOTAL MEALS: \$ _____

Survey Information Please ✓ if you plan to purchase Millennium Tacos on Sunday

Yes _____
 No _____

SHIRTS

100% Cotton, short sleeve, professionally designed & screen printed by local artist. (Limited quantities)

Size	Quantity		
Medium	_____	\$12.00	\$ _____
Large	_____	\$12.00	\$ _____
X-Large	_____	\$12.00	\$ _____
XX-Large	_____	\$12.00	\$ _____

TOTAL SHIRTS: \$ _____

RAFFLE

Do something nice for Your CREW!

RAFFLE ITEMS

- GPS
- INFLATABLE LIFE VEST
- ICE CHEST
- MUCH MORE

Donated by **WEST MARINE** and other generous sponsors

To benefit AYC JUNIOR SAILING PROGRAM - Must be present to win

Raffle Tickets 5 for \$3.00 \$ _____
 10 for \$5.00 \$ _____

TOTAL RAFFLE TICKETS: \$ _____ \$ _____

TOTAL FEES

RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

In consideration for its sponsorship of the event, I hereby release Austin Yacht Club, its officers, agents and members ("the Club") from any and all claims for personal injuries or property damage in any manner related to this event or the operation of the Club. I hereby acknowledge that it is always the individual responsibility of each skipper to determine whether to start or continue racing. I agree to be bound by The Racing Rules of Sailing and by all other rules that govern this event.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

AUSTIN YACHT CLUB 5906 Beacon Drive Austin, Tx. 78734-1428 512 266-1336 512 266-9804 Fax
<http://austinyachtclub.org> Email: ken@austinyachtclub.org

AYC Junior Sailing News
by Lanelle Montgomery

The Annual Roadrunner Regatta was the kick-off for the 1999 TSA Junior Sailing Circuit. Sixty-four participants braved the cool temperatures and 12-18 knot breezes on Saturday to compete in the event.

Most impressive were the six Optimist Green Fleet (novice) racers who participated and hung in there for most of the races. Three of these new racers, Rachel Harper, Ben and Peter Rochard were from AYC and showed true courage and spunk. We are all very proud of them! Ben Rochard earned a third place trophy in the novice fleet.

We had a first trial with a new type boat, the Byte, which is an intermediate step for those who have aged out of Optimists but who cannot quite handle a Laser Radial when the winds are high. Danielle Ellenbrook showed everyone how the boat should be sailed and finished with four firsts!

Three AYC juniors raced in the Optimist Red fleet, a very large and competitive fleet. Earl Gerloff finished first in one race and received a sixth place trophy for the regatta. Also competing were Jacob Wheat and Matt Arnold in Red fleet and John Foster in Blue fleet.

The Laser full rig fleet consisted of eight boats. Stephen Gay and Alex Voellinger were the only AYC boats. Stephen received the third place trophy.

Twelve competitors sailed in the Laser Radial fleet. John Bowden dominated with four first place finishes. Behind him were Patrick Reynolds in second and Lauren Foster in third. Also competing were Ryan Harden and Chris Reynolds.

Congratulations to all for your outstanding performances and for the good sportsmanship you all exhibited.

Regatta Chairs, Cathy and Dan Ellenbrook and Bill Wheat, did an outstanding job organizing the event. Everything went exceptionally smoothly and a great time was had by all. The dinner and dance were very well attended, ending just in time for a spectacular lightning show! Many

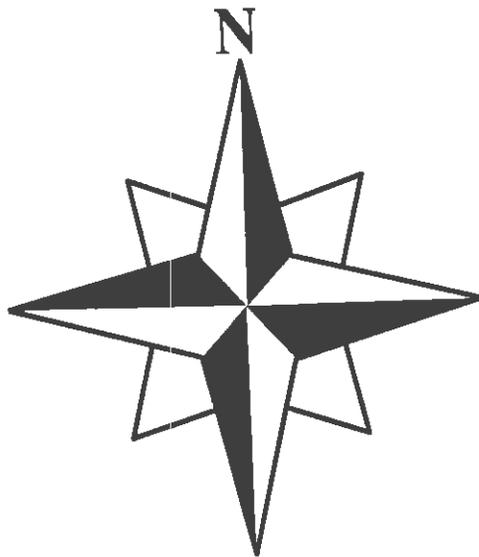
thanks to them and to **all** the volunteers who made this regatta a success. In particular, thanks to Karen Arnold for planning and preparing first class meals for the competitors and their families! Also a special thank you to Tom Romberg for serving as the Chief Race Officer and to Joanne Welles for her speedy and accurate scoring of the races.

Hot off the press are the results from San Jacinto Regatta at the Houston Yacht Club. Only four AYC competitors traveled to this event, and all four came home with trophies!

The winds were 10-20 and quite gusty on Saturday. Does this sound like John Bowden's winds or what? Eight races were run during the two-day regatta and John won seven of them! The winds died a little for the last race, giving the others a chance, but it was too late. He could afford to drop this one. Behind him with seconds and thirds was Patrick Reynolds, second overall. Then came Ryan Harden in a close fourth place.

Coming into Sunday's races, four boats were hotly contesting the first place spot in Optimist Red Fleet. Earl Gerloff was among them. When the dust settled, he finished a close fourth place.

Congratulations to all!





Back row left to right:
Chris Reynolds, John Bowden, Stephen Gay, Jacob Wheat
Middle row left to right:
Rachel Harper, John Foster, Lauren Foster, Ryan Harden,
Matt Arnold, Peter Rochard
Front row:
Danielle Ellenbrook and Patrick Reynolds



Left to right:
Patrick Reynolds, Earl Gerloff, John Bowden, and Ryan Harden

ado about something!!!

By: John and Elizabeth

Six boats strong in only 6 months. If we keep going like this look out fish, here we come!

Well, as our sailing season begins, so does the new interest in sailing as a recreational sport. You may ask, why is JB pushing JY's? I have sailed many boats in my years and have found that most boats are very crew dependent; which means some times yelling (*I thought it was "loud discussion"*) and getting a little too excited (*Not John!*) when the crew costs you a regatta.



Excuse me! The only thing this "crew" costs you is too many trips to Hudson's! The reality is, if the skipper knows what she or he is doing, just about anyone can crew and still be competitive. The first time John and I sailed the JY, we stayed right up there with Paul and Carrie Forester. I didn't know too much about sailing at the time, and we still came in second place. My six year old daughter sailed with John in 20 mph winds. She had an absolute blast. She was tacking the jib in no time – even hiking out! She can't stop talking about sailing now!

So there's my spill on the JY – it's a great introduction into sailing (from someone who's been there). It's simple, fun and has sharply increased my learning curve. And, because it's not intimidating, it makes sailing a lot more fun (loud skippers and all)!

Okay, now that we got the warm and fuzzy stuff out of the way, let's get down to business. Until we have our first fleet meeting, and vote on a fleet captain, I

guess I'll carry the ball. We have scheduled three Saturday race days: May 8th, May 22nd, and June 5th. May 15th and 16th is the Dinghy Fest at Rush Creek Yacht Club.

JY Day was a huge success. Carrie Forester came down from Dallas and demonstrated the rigidity of the JY with the help of Steve Wesson's hammer. *Meanwhile Paul, Carrie Forester's husband, took prospective JY'ers out for test drives.*

JY's future is looking pretty good! JoAnne Welles has selected the JY as THE boat to use at the adult sailing camp. We are planning match races and junior races.

Did we mention that the JY gang up North is a lot of fun also? They're great people who just want to have a good time. Just like us!!



Austin Yacht Club has needed a boat like this for a long time. We need to get more and more people interested in sailing (and off power boats), and the JY is the perfect boat for the job.

There is always one available if you want to go out and play! Just give us a call!

We want to congratulate all of the new JY owners. John and Barry Bowden; Dan, Cathy and Danielle Ellenbrook; Dave Balfour; Steve and Joyce Wesson; and Claudia Foster. (Special thanks to the Ellenbrooks for running a great Junior Regatta!)

A-Fleet News

The 1999 Frostbite Series saw the debut of a new A-Fleeter, Scott Walsh, in a familiar boat, the Lindenberg 28, and several new boats with familiar owners. Jeff Jones sold the previously mentioned Lindenberg 28 and brought a Viper 830 into the fleet. Jeff raced on the Viper at Key West after chartering it to another sailor to skipper. This sounds like someone paying you to learn how to sail on your new boat to me. Jeff's 830 made its debut on Lake Travis on a very windy Frostbite day (fortunately warm) and quickly showed he had acquired a boat with great speed potential on the reaches. The 11-Meter should have some close company in the future and hopefully some good head-to-head racing. Scott McKinley also made this event the debut of his new F 31. Only one word to describe this boat, fast. Scott Spurlin also showed off his new paint job on his Hobie, he fooled a few people with the "who's new boat is that?" look for a while.

A few A-Fleet boats raced this series without their chutes and played in the non-spinnaker fleet for the series. Imre Szekelyhidi and Gary Cobb tried life in the non-spin lane and lived to tell about it. Imre showed how to race a J-29 without a chute and quickly get around the course by winning more than one race by several minutes.

Additionally Bob Framer acquired the J 29 that had been advertised for a LONG time in the Lake Canyon area. I've heard that the boat had migrated from a marina on Lake Canyon all the way to a cornfield near Seguin before Bob made the move and snatched it up. It certainly looks good in the water to have another J 29 at the Club, now we need to see it on the race course. And lastly, a long-time club member, Jim Van Fleet, recently purchased a J 27. I hope to see both of these boats out for upcoming events.

We've also recently had some road warriors in the fleet. Dave Balfour hauled his J 80 all the way down to Key West for the Race Week, in case you haven't heard, and came away in the silver with third place in the fleet. Congrats to Dave and his crew of Larry Rattliff, John Mandell, and John Bartlett. Ask any of them how hard it blew for the last race of the Regatta. I've already heard several versions of the "It blew so hard that.....". Also, as mentioned above, Jeff Jones sailed on his Viper 830 in Key West. I'm still not sure if he was the owner, lessor, squatter, prospective buyer, or groupie at the time, but he ultimately came back with it. I also hear that we will have fairly good representation at Lake Fest from AYC and A-Fleet. More on that next issue.

I also hear rumors that we will have enough sport boats for a separate class for Turnback Canyon. That would be great to have a complete fleet of the screaming reachers for the longest reaching race of the year. I think it would also be great to have some keel boats up there to save some of the keg for the rest of us from the cats. Also, Bryan needs some company up there so he won't do anything foolish like tie rubber bands to his legs and jump off of a perfectly good platform seventy feet in the air. He must have been really bored up there last year, except on his way down, and up, and down, and up, and down.

The AYC series and regatta racing for 1999 has signs of being very competitive and fun. The new formats of the Spring Regatta, Governor's Cup, the return to the previous Turnback Canyon location, and the regular AYC Series and Friday Night series should see the return of a strong A-Fleet based on the current indications. I would also like to see the other owners that haven't been out in while make an effort to come out and play with the rest of us (this is a hint to some Hobie 33's and Olson 30s).

1999 appears to have the makings of a good year for participation of A-Fleet. This reverses a recent trend when the numbers where down to just a few racers. Let's keep up the support and interest. We'll find it's more fun to play if the playground is crowded. See you on the water.

Ray Skull



C FLEET NEWS
BY
DOUG LAWS

Another racing season off to a great start. Many thanks to all skippers who were racing on opening day. C Fleet had a larger number of boats on the line than we have had for several series, so keep it up. There was only one real laggard—and that was me. I was out of town—but I really do promise to do better this year. We start with D Fleet again this year, but may have a separate course. So, be sure and check the course board.

We have several changes to C fleet—first of all Tommy and Ann Gairloff have sold “Duces Wild”, but the good news is that it was sold to new club members. So welcome Phil Buck and Virginia Lingafelt—who bought the boat and are already on the lake racing. Tommy and Ann—you can still race Tanqueray, and we sure want you to continue to participate—when not sailing sun fish or J’s.

Bob & Suzanne Farmer have sold their Capri to new club members Patrick & Debby Henry, who are racing in D Fleet—but promised to sail spinnaker after gaining some race experience. Also good to see that Paul & Jill Frels have their boat repaired and are racing again. Always great to have Trenton and Barbara set the pace when they are not sailing their SC 21. Bay, Roy, Dennis and Mark—keep up the good work. I will just try to keep up.

If you missed the crew day sponsored by the Keel fleet in February, you missed a good chance to meet potential new sailors and crew. Their names should soon be on the AYC web site if you are looking for crew.

Finally, as advance notice, C fleet will have race duty May 16. We have traded with B fleet. In addition, we are responsible to provide two people each of two days for Turnback Canyon. Beer can races will start on Fridays in May—so more opportunities to sail and socialize.

Please send me your E-Mail address so I can make sure you get prompt notice on C Fleet and other sailing activities.

Best Wishes for good sailing and racing this year.

Doug Laws (Teksail@aol.com)
C Fleet Captain

Catalina 22 Fleet

So far it's been a rare year for Catalina 22's.

Congratulations go to Jim Deeter for pulling off a rare 1st place in the PHRF Frostbite Series. It took some great sailing to beat Sweet Agony (SJ 7.7), the South Coast and the other boats sailing in the unusually warm series.

Condolences go to Steve Starr for a rare sinking during a broach in the Frostbite Series. Hopefully he will be back on the water soon.

And generally Catalina 22's have been rare as the turnout for the spring series has been low. The summer series starts May 9. I hope we see a lot of the rare Catalina 22's on the line for some good competition and fun.

Larry Hill



Which way is the start line?

J/24 Fleet 21 – Phil Spletter

The AYC J/24 fleet is off to a strong start of the 1999 racing season! There were 11 boats on the line opening day with close, competitive racing. A few weeks later, the fleet hosted the annual AYC stop on the Texas Circuit. That event also had the largest turn-out in the last several years with local boats capturing four of the five trophies that were available. In all, ten local boats competed helping to raise the level of competition. One point separated first and second place as well as third and fourth place. Local boats finishing in the suds (trophies were six packs craft-brewed beer bottled in etched glass bottles) were *mr. happy* (Nelson/Harden) – first, *Tool Time* (Livingston) – second, *Superman* (Broadway) – fourth and *Jailbreak* (Wahlberg) – fifth. The first three local boats are continuing their strong performances from previous campaigns but the ascent of *Jailbreak* proves that girls AND new sails kick _____. Thanks to all of the local fleet members and sponsors who helped to make the regatta successful.

The strong showing and the level of activity is raising interest in the local fleet. Several boats that haven't been raced in a few years including *Pastime*, *Psycho*, *Runnin' on Empty*, and *Double Trouble* have had bottom and/or rig work done. *Rag Tag* and *3 Sheets to the Wind* along with *Ohh Ahh* are maintaining tenacious, constantly improving campaigns. The *Family Crisis Center* has also made an appearance and it is hoped that we see more of them. In addition, several potential boat owners and crew members have expressed interest in the fleet. Anyone who is interested in participating with the fleet is welcome to contact me.

In order to help maintain this high level of enthusiasm, the fleet plans to have an active social calendar that includes boat handling drills on the water followed by off the water discussions (lubricated with beer) as well as parties on and off the water. Of course there will be the traditional shrimp boil and perhaps some cruises. There is also some discussion several boats going to the coast for a several day cruise. Now that we are through with hosting our circuit stop, we will start to plan the next phase of our activities.

Also contributing to the resurgence of the fleet is the fact that communication has never been better. An e-mail list exists so that after activities are completed and while new ones are being planned, an electronic newsletter goes out to all of the fleet. Eric Nelson composes and sends messages out on about a weekly average that are entertaining reading. It should be noted that in addition to the usual sailing related topics of local, national and international interest, the use of the internet has prompted more esoteric discussions on topics including the nuances of work in progress inventory control in the fiberglass repair business.

Beyond the club level there have been four regattas thus far in a total of seven for the Texas Circuit. Four AYC boats have raced all of them. The current standings (excluding throw outs) are *mr. happy* – first, *Superman* – sixth, *Jailbreak* – seventh and *Evil, Wicked, Mean and Nasty* – eighth. Once again the point spread is very close so those last three regattas should be good. There is also a rumor that *Runnin' on Empty* is going to Ft. Worth.

See you on the water.....

A Conversation with an Ol' Salt

By Tim McKenna

Recently I sat down for a talk with one of our club's oldest members, Pat Kimbrough. Being a relative newcomer to this club, I was interested in some of the history of Austin Yacht Club. In this issue and subsequent issues, I will relay some of what Pat had to say. I hope it will be as interesting to you as it was to me to hear about our club's and one of its first members past.

Tim: What was your first sailing experience?

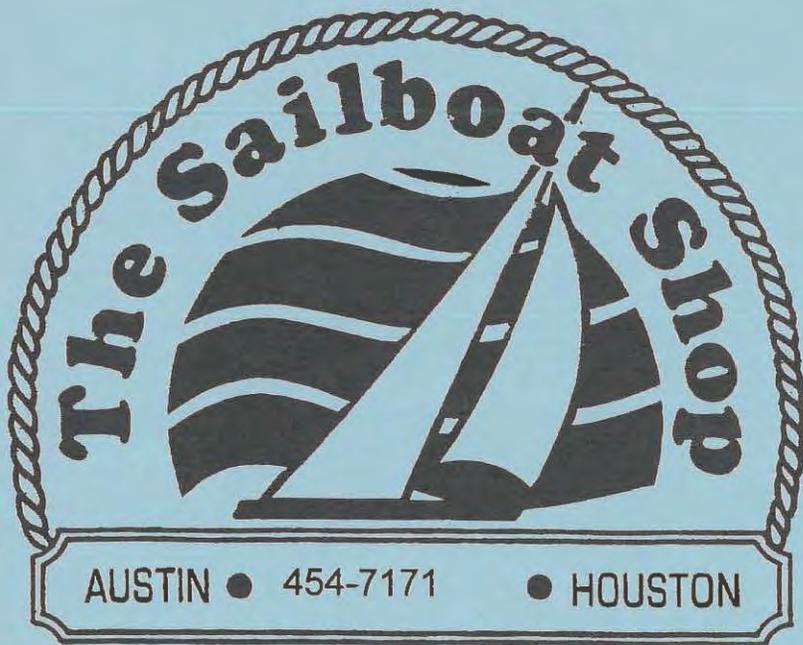
Pat: In 1934 when I lived in Port Lavaca, my father was a charter boat skipper and during the off season he was a taxidermist. He had a thirty-foot inboard that he used to take people out on fishing trips. He was also a wildlife conservationist, who had a permit to take people out to study the wildlife on Matagorda Island. My father had a good friend in Port Lavaca that had a steel centerboard schooner and they took me sailing on Lavaca Bay, which is fairly shallow, when I was six years old. Seeing that huge wheel, I just fell in love with sailing. At that time I thought that this is what I want to do.

Later, when I was in Junior High, my family moved to Austin in 1935, and when I was about 16, I worked at Bennett Boat Docks on Lake Austin. This was during the early years of WWII, and I ran a water taxi across the lake to the Lake Austin Inn (a very popular place) for the soldiers from Camp Swift and Bergstrom Air Base. We also rented some small sailboats that were similar to a Snipe. A friend of mine and I would sail these small boats in our off time. In 1945 I went into the Navy and I pretty much forgot about sailing. In 1949 I got out of the Navy, I bought a sailing magazine and decided to build my own boat, a National One Design. I bought a set of plans, but found out later that I could not build it out of plywood because to build the boat required making compound curves, which I could not do using plywood. In the meantime, there was an article in the Austin paper in October of '52 about a group of people sailing on Lake Travis with homemade boats. Bill Carter, a UT professor, was trying to get people interested in racing sailboats. I went over to his place on Neches Street in Austin where he had designed and was building a boat called a T24.

To promote his boat, he had built a set of frames so all you had to do was assemble them to build a boat. The T stood for Travis and the 24 stood for length in feet. The boat, a double ender keel boat, was designed especially for Lake Travis. Bill first built a T-28, but he thought 28 feet was too long for amateur builders. I told him of my plans to build the National One Design and he said he thought that even though it was a beautiful boat, if I wanted to sail on Travis, I needed to go the keel route. I ended buying a set of frames from him to build my own T-24. Meanwhile, Bill had taken his boat, a 28' Heuristic, (a Greek word meaning, "to discover") out of the water and placed it in a converted church on Neches and 12th street, and he started a boat shop. This was about the time fiberglass was beginning to be used to cover wooden boats and Bill wanted to clad the wooden Heuristic with it. I volunteered to help and when we finished, he invited me into his shop to help me build my T-24.

As you can see, it didn't take much to get Pat started, just one question. This is just a small part of our conversation. In the next issue, Pat discusses the beginning of the Austin Sailing Club and the Bluebonnet Cruise (today's Turnback Canyon Regatta). I would like to give Pat my sincere thanks for taking his time to spend with me discussing his past, and again I hope it is as interesting to you the reader as it is to me.





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