

# Telltale



August 2001

Monthly Newsletter

## Board of Directors

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## Austin Yacht Club

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Austin, Texas 78734-1428  
Office: (512) 266-1336  
Office FAX: (512) 266-9804  
Clubhouse: (512) 266-1897

## E-Mail & Web Site

info@austinyachtclub.org  
www.austinyachtclub.org

## AYC Business Hours

Tuesday - Friday  
8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Saturday & Sunday  
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Closed Mondays

Club Holidays

New Year's Day	1 January
Easter Sunday	15 April
Independence Day	4 July
Thanksgiving Day	22 November
Shopping Day	23 November
Christmas Day	25 December

## From the Commodore

Like quite a few AYCers, I went out of town for a regatta this month. After two days of driving to Chicago and two days back, it is again clear to me that we have a very special club on an incredible body of water. It always surprises people when they hear about the level of activity and competition as well as our facilities and the relatively low overhead of our volunteer-based organization.

At AYC, fleets are a group of people that have a common interest mostly based upon the boat they sail. Many belong to several fleets. The fleet is the most basic organizational element at the club. Fleets decide their own race courses and formats, fleet splits and any other decisions that directly affect their collective enjoyment of the club. They have their own social events ranging from after race snacks to holiday parties to cruises. By its nature, there is a special comradery within a fleet.

The fleets also have responsibilities to support the club. The most important one is to perform race committee duties for series races and to

provide a couple of people for the RC at AYC regattas.

Fleets also exchange RC responsibilities for special events such as circuit stops and fleet championships. In this way, the fleets have a symbiotic relationship with one another. It's how our club works. A fleet runs the races for the others one week and then sails many other weeks while the other fleets each take their turn at RC.

Obviously, when a fleet doesn't hold up its end of the bargain, the whole club suffers.

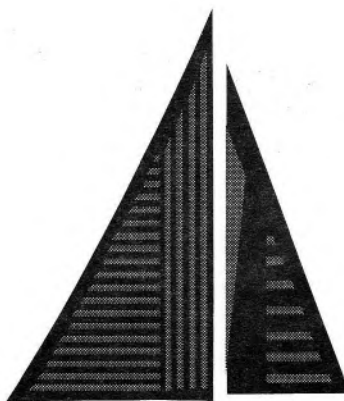
If you sail on a boat at AYC, as a skipper or as a crew, you are part of a fleet. Don't hesitate to get involved with your fleet. It's fun, and you'll learn more about sailing by doing it. If you have an idea for a fleet activity, make it happen. When a new person comes to the club, they should feel especially welcome by the fleet in which they sailed. The fleets can also help the club by showing new members how the fleets support the entire club. Strong fleets make for a better club.

See you on the water.....

*Phil*

# AYC Calendar

August 25	Indian Summer 2
August 29	Laser/Sunfish Series
August 31	Beer Can Series
Sept. 1	Night Race #2
	Labor Day Weekend
Sept. 5	Laser/Sunfish Series
Sept. 7	Beer Can Series
Sept. 8	Indian Summer 3
Sept. 12	Laser/Sunfish Series
Sept. 14	Beer Can Series
Sept. 15	Indian Summer 4
Sept. 16	AYC Team Champs (Jr. & Sr.)
Sept. 19	Laser/Sunfish Series
Sept. 21	Beer Can Series
Sept. 22	Indian Summer 5
Sept. 23	AYC Singlehanded Champs (Jr. & Sr.)
Sept. 26	Laser/Sunfish Series
Sept. 28	Beer Can Series
Sept. 29	KHF Singlehanded Race
	Lago Vista Invitational Cruising Race
Sept. 30	Championship Backup
Oct. 6	Governor's Cup
Oct. 7	Governor's Cup
Oct. 14	Winter Series 1
Oct. 21	Winter Series 2
Oct. 28	Winter Series 3



**The Indian Summer Series**  
**which is Aug. 18th and 25th**  
**and Sept. 8th, 15th and 22nd**  
**will have the first signal at 4:30pm,**  
**not 1:30pm**  
**as listed in the directory.**

## Road Warriors

by Phil Spletter

The roadwarriors are watching the temperature gages on their Surburbans but they are still rolling. AYC is sending two teams to the Area F Adams Cup eliminations. Barbara Hawn, Linda McDavitt, Martha St. Romain and Carolyn Wilsford are on one while Claudia Bartlett, Bonnie Lackey, Gretchen Hanover and Dianne Bartlett are on the other. Both the eliminations and finals will be at Rush Creek YC on Lake Ray Hubbard near Dallas.

In September, the J/24 fleet will sail for the Beasley Cup at HYC. The NOOD regatta will be in Houston as well. This year the NOOD will be the venue for the J/80 Nationals and the Catalina 22 Nationals. Good luck to all who are sailing under our burgee!



**ATTN:** Don't miss the September 29<sup>th</sup> Lago Vista Invitational Cruising Race hosted by the Lago Vista Boater and Homeowner Assn. Participants will cruise up to Lago Vista for the night and enjoy a 6pm BBQ dinner sponsored by the Lion's Club. The return cruise is Sunday morning. Come join us. For more details, contact Vic Manning at 266-7255.

## **4<sup>th</sup> (not necessarily) Annual "Redneck Sailor"**

### **Hardware Swap**

October 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, 2001 (During Governor's Cup)

"You know you're a redneck sailor if ..." you've saved all the boat parts you've ever used, borrowed, repaired or broken, and you can't park the car in the garage because of this!! Well, now's your chance to swap, sell, trade or buy new/used parts for your racing, cruising or whatever kind of boat you may have at the moment.

So bring all of that stuff in your garage, in your attic, or on your boat over to AYC. You can price your items ahead of time or just be ready to bargain. Anything goes: winches, cleats, spinnakers, sails, hardware, booms, spars, centerboards, rudders, wet suits, sail bags, forestays, compasses, radios, halyards, etc.

The swap meet will start on Friday evening October 5<sup>th</sup>, and Saturday evening October 6<sup>th</sup> on the patio beneath the AYC clubhouse during Governor's Cup Regatta from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. For more information call Jerry Rabun @ 834-1070

You know you're a redneck sailor if ...

Your most elegant attire is a regatta T-shirt and a hat!

You know you're a redneck sailor if ...

Your best set of china consists of Trophies.

You know you're a redneck sailor if ...

Your pillowcase is bright yellow and Has a drawstring.

You know you're a redneck sailor if ...

You have 5 boat trailers but only one Current license plate.

You know you're a redneck sailor if ...T

he bumps on your head are from a J/24 boom and not your wife's frying Pan.

You know you're a redneck sailor if ...

You have gelcoat burns on your knees.

## **Sunfish Fleet News**

by Paul Jensen

On the National Scene, Vic Manning says our local travelers Phil Spletter, Pat and Vic Manning, just returned for the Sunfish North Americans, held in Chicago from July 30 through Aug 4th. It sounded like they had fun, in spite of the light shifty winds, and trying to drive through waves, chop and current. Vic says that at least the weather was Texas hot for them while they were there. Next up is another World's qualifying Regional in Kansas on September 1st and then our travelling team is off to the Worlds in Antigua October 8th through the 12th.

Locally, some of our not so adventurous Sunfishers went to Galveston for an event July 28th and 29th. Kevin Reynolds, Vicki Stones, Bruce Foster and Pat Manning, joined 20 or so other sailors for a Jim Uroda special. Next up a trip to Canyon Lake on 6th and 7th for Wurstfest. So load up the boats and let's go Sunfishing.



# Texas Youth Race Week

by John Foster

As some of you may know many of AYC's most talented junior sailors have aged out of the program leading to a more compact group of racers. But thanks to some good recruiting and some great coaching, the AYC juniors are starting to reverse that trend. And this was the time to introduce the new AYC sailors into the TYA youth circuit-Houston Race Week.

At the first venue-Texas Corinthian Yacht Club on Galveston Bay AYC had 6 kids (for 3 this was their first regatta). In the 420s we had Matt Arnold and Lindsey Collins (Lindsey's from Rush Creek Yacht Club in Dallas), With Matt as crew and Lindsey as skipper the top boats were given a run for their money. We also had Lela McKenna and Jennifer Morris sailing Lela's 420, Jennifer was recruited into the junior program through the summer sailing camps and the AYC junior Wednesday night races, This was Jennifer's first regatta and seeing her on the trap and sailing like she did you would never guess that she had first step foot on a 420 in June. We also had Jake Wheat in a Laser Radial, Jake made everybody in the TCYC Clubhouse and John Bowden in the little Zodiac look twice when he got a 4th and a 6th on the second day in a competition of the best in Texas and other gulf states. We also had two newcomers to the Opti green fleet who were also recruited through the summer sailing camps. Hogan Aydam and Tyler Jones, Both AYC sailors were chompin' through the pack of 38 green fleeters, Both Hogan and Tyler were in the top half of the fleet and Tyler even won a trophy for 5th place. The Winds at TCYC were light. TCYC was also the stop for Coach John Bowden, John it was fun riding with you, thanks for your help.

The next venue was off Galveston Bay in Clear Lake at Lakewood Yacht Club which was a welcome break from the chop, but not much else. Jennifer, Hogan, and Tyler reluctantly decided to sit LYC and HYC out and went to the freshwater of Austin. So that that left two 420s, Matt and Lindsey were holding strong in the races and so did Lela and I. I believe our successes is due to some great coaching from our summer coach Sean Nunes. Jake also kept his head above water in tough competition. Results were: Matt and Lela got in the 5th to 8th range out of 13 boats and Jake got in the mid to top of the fleet, even with missing a race for a broken traveler. Winds were light to moderate

It was back to the bay for the third and final venue-Houston Yacht Club. It's hard to describe what happened at HYC but here goes: Matt and Lindsey made a switch so Matt was skipper and that definitely seemed to do the trick, Matt place in 4th place that venue. Lela and I finished in mid fleet after some pep talks by Sean and getting snickers off the Bartlett Sails-Canvas pontoon boat that was there to cheer on AYC. This was another success story for Jake out of the conditions at HYC (bad) Jake stayed from mid to top of the fleet with some great finishes. Winds went from so light they sent us in to so heavy I got some new lessons on the trap.

So It looks like this might be the start of a turn around for the AYC juniors and you couldn't have picked a better place to do it. Houston Race Week is the peak of the Youth Circuit and a week I will never forget. On behalf of the AYC Juniors I'd like to thank our two coaches, John Bowden and Sean Nunes, thanks for the great advice and great support.

The AYC juniors have held miniature races for beginner sailors on Wednesday evenings throughout the summer. We are looking at Friday nights with the first gun at six after school starts. If you want to see what the fuss is all about and maybe get into it yourself come on out, Its just an informal race with coaching and is a great way to get into sailboat racing. The next junior stop is Palacios on August 25-26, hope to see you there!

## Race Week 2001

by Matt Arnold

Seven young AYC sailors traveled to Houston for Houston Race Week July 21 through the 28<sup>th</sup>. Junior sailors competed in three regattas during the week at Texas Corinthian Yacht Club, Lakewood Yacht Club, and Houston Yacht Club.

The Opti sailors, Tyler Jones and Hogan Aydem raced only the first venue but had very impressive finishes for their first regatta. They battled 3 foot swells and gusts up to 18 knots without losing their enthusiastic grins. These new juniors will definitely prove great racers in the future.

The 420 also fought hard and had a lot of fun. For the first regatta, held at TCYC, Lela McKenna and her crew Jennifer Morris finished mostly mid fleet. At the last two venues Lela sailed with John Foster. Matt Arnold and Lindsey Collins, despite some bad luck and minor accidents, held a steady 7<sup>th</sup> for most of the week, topping it off with a fifth at HYC.

Our lone laser radial sailor Jacob Wheat was coming in lower mid fleet until a light air day at the last venue brought him a third place finish.

Overall it was a fun learning experience for all of our junior racers, and we look forward to next year!



From left to right: John Foster (420), Jacob Wheat (Laser Radial), Lela McKenna (420), Lindsey Collins (RCYC, 420 with Matt), Sean Nunes (coach), Matt Arnold (420).

# J/24 Fleet News

by Eric Nelson

**Race Update:** The Summer Evening Series saw 11 different J/24s come out to compete. Dave Broadway's Superman posted consistent top finishes to win the 8 race series with 16 points. Greg Buck's Yikes! finished second with 19 points. As often happens in our fleet, the next 4 places were determined by just 2 points. Dave Gamble's Ohh Ahh! came out on top of this next bunch to finish third overall with 40 points. Phil Spletter's Double Trouble first place finish in race 6 broke a 41 point tie for fourth with Roger Harden's Running on Empty. Stephen Burke's Out of Control rounded out the top six with 42 points. Other boats competing in the series included Aeolian, Rag Tag, Evil/Wicked/ Mean & Natsy, Follow Me and Three Sheets to the Wind. With this series being the bulk of our Fleet Championship scoring (along with the Austin J/24 Circuit Stop and Night Race 2), Superman and Yikes! Are currently tied to be our 2001 Fleet Champion going into the last Fleet Championship event. With the September 1st Night Race the only event left to race, here is the current J/24 Fleet Championship scoring;

Yikes!	2	2	4	2	1	2	6	1	1	21
Superman	5	1	2	1	2	1	4	3	2	21
Running on Empty	3	7	7	7	7	3	2	2	6	44
Aeolian	6	7	7	3	3	9	9	4	4	51
Ohh Ahh!	11	7	7	5	4	5	3	6	3	51
mr. Happy	1	7	7	7	7	9	9	7	7	52
Double Trouble	12	3	1	7	7	8	1	7	7	53
Out of Control	12	6	5	4	5	7	5	5	5	54
Rag Tag	9	4	3	7	7	9	9	7	7	62
JailBreak	4	7	7	7	7	9	9	7	7	64
Three Sheets...	8	7	7	7	7	6	8	7	7	64
E/W/M/N	12	7	7	7	7	4	7	7	7	65
Follow Me	12	5	6	6	6	9	9	7	7	67
Ray Ban	7	7	7	7	7	9	9	7	7	67
Trojan Horse	10	7	7	7	7	9	9	7	7	70



Chefs Allyn Johnson and Roger Harden at your service during the Shrimp Boil

**Social Update:** In spite of the short notice, a good group of fleet members came out to help put the finishing touches on our feet social area under the trees near the north boat ramp. The ants and prickly ground vines are now history as we have a good spread of crushed granite around the tables and mulch is now around the base of the trees. The smoker also has a cemented rock foundation and the area even has permeant lighting at the base of the trees! The fleet has been holding regular post series race beer & snack get togethers their for awhile now, so don't forget to stop by after the races (whether you raced that day or not). Look for another table to show up in the area once the B&G Committee finishes adding the extra picnic tables they plan on for the AYC grounds in general. And if the annual Shrimp Boil (held on July 28th) is any indication, we will need them! We had over 70 people join in to enjoy 25 pounds of shrimp, a case of grilled corn on the cob, various salads and several deserts. And yes the gas powered margarita blender was back in action...you never know what will be happening there, jump on a J/24 and join us after the races!

**Road Warrior Update:** The mr. happy team of Bob Harden, Troy Lawson, Curtis Tarpley, Eric Nelson and Jay Sacco represented not only the AYC J/24 Fleet but also USJCA District 14 at the USJCA District 18 Championships held in Colorado on Lake Dillon the first week of August. The beautiful views and cool weather they enjoyed was worth racing on what has to be the flukiest lake (wind wise) in the world. 180 degree wind shifts and zero to 25+ knot winds in a matter of

minutes as storms rolled over 10,000+ foot peaks went well with the shorts one minute, full foul weather gear the next temperature changes that kept them on their toes! But Lake Travis taught them well and they brought home the 1st place Trophy, pulling it out on the last leg of the last race of the 6 race series. Yes, AYC is now home to both the USJCA District 14 and 18 Champions. They stayed around for the Dillon Open (their annual social regatta blowout) and while they did not win the J/24 class (it had 25 boats), they did win the overall out of state boat corrected time prize of \$500. And to make sure that they reinforced the traditional attitudes that Coloradoans (is that what they are called?) have about Texans, after taking their silver they danced the nights away with their women (and judging from the gleam in Troy's eye, maybe more, he wouldn't tell!). One last story, ask them what a "roofer" is sometime...





## Lake Dillon-Ensign Regionals!!!

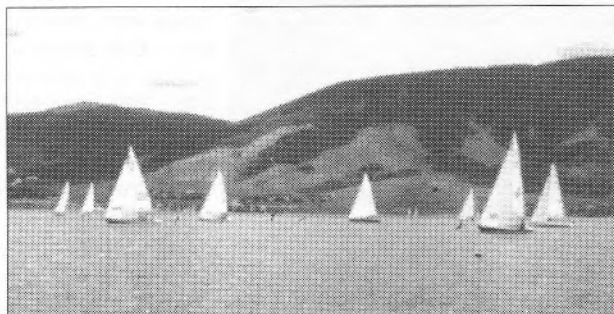
by Carolyn Wilsford

We're back!!!! Lake Dillon was breath taking, the thermo-cline was most enjoyable, and the sailing was very competitive. AYC took a 6th & 8th of 15 Ensigns. The best races consisted of a bullet taken by Franz Dahmen, and a 4th & 5th taken by Tom Groll's Medley of Vegetables. The winner, Frank Keesling, bought an Ensign for the regatta and sold it on the last day. He is currently ranked #47 in the world with J-24's. Congratulation Franz and Tom you are our heroes.

If you get a chance, ask the girls the qualifications for skinny dipping with them.

Don't forget August 25 is our RC. Bill Hawk will be the person in charge. Please phone Bill and let him know that you will help support the Ensign Fleet.

See you on the line Ensigns!!!



Photos: Upper left: Tom and Kelly Groll and Carolyn Wilsford. Upper right: Carolyn Wilsford (seated), Franz Dahmen(2nd from left) Kelly Groll, George Dahmen, and Tom Groll. Bottom left: Kelly Groll gives the thumbs up! Above: Ensigns on Lake Dillon.

# A Salute to the Great Cooks of C22 Fleet 69

by Jon Fitch

Our fleet has discovered that the recipe for a good time and great sailing is good food. And, this Summer Evening Series we have had plenty of good food! We have had a cookout after every single race. Our Executive Head Chefs have been Joann Robison, Kathy Johnstone, and Mary Ann Joe. We have dined on lasagna, burgers, brisket, hot dogs, sausage, and fajitas. And, if that wasn't enough, our fleet has a whole bunch of Assistant Executive Chefs who brought side dishes of Spanish rice, baked beans, deviled eggs, three bean salad, brownies, cake, home made pizza, salad, pasta salad, and banana cake, figs, and stuffed jalapeno peppers, just to name a few.



Ken Ayers with Jon Fitch putting the final coat of VC-17 on Moonlight Sonata.

The racing this series has been especially exciting because we have had an average of better than 9 boats on the line each evening. With four evenings and eight races completed, Dane Ohe has come out of nowhere to take an impressive number of bullets! I checked with Dane's crew, David Rehberg, and David swore he had done very little in calling tactics or shifts and that the race results were mainly due to Dane's work at the helm. Way to go Dane!

In a tie for second place we have Dumbo (Paul Jensen and George Robison) and Trivial Pursuit (Larry Hill and Becky Waddell). Hey, in a previous article I told you to watch out for Dumbo! In close pursuit we have Dry Heave with skipper Wade Bingaman and the Waltz'n Kati-B with skipper Walter Allan. Roy Crouse and the Lone Star boat are making solid middle of the pack finishes. And, John Grzinich on

the Bebop boat has had two impressive finishes this series, a 2<sup>nd</sup> and a 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Way to go John! I was talking to Ted Owens after the races one evening and Ted made the comment that he had never seen the fleet so competitive and so tightly grouped.

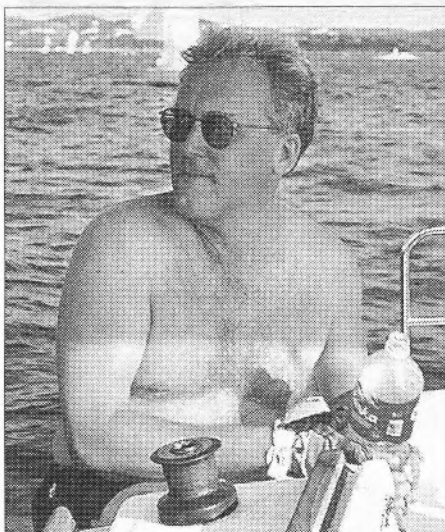
We have had a total of 15 boats participating thus far including Dane Ohe with crew

David Rehberg on Kanaloa, Paul Jensen and George Robison with crew Jim Linville on Dumbo, Larry Hill and Becky Waddell on Trivial Pursuit, Wade Bingaman and son Conor and the Dry Heave swim team with Michael Bussey and Ken Whiteside, Walter Allan on the Waltz'n Kati-B with crew Allen and Debbie Hawkins, Roy Crouse on the Lone Star boat with crew Art Bussey, Jeff Raun and Jon Fitch, John Grzinich on Bebop with crew Sage Kitamorn and John Wood, Jim Johnstone on Pandamonium with son Tyler, Neil Jones with crew James Pennington, Ted and Barb Owens with daughter Alison on Mojo, Bob Jones and Jim Hayden on Siddhartha, Chris Thomas and Chris Thompson on "Electrafried", Paul Brandner, Steve and Meri Shepardson on the Chili Verde boat, and Tom and Krista Gardiner on Southbound. Ken Ayers and Jenny Loehlin also came out and crewed for various skippers.

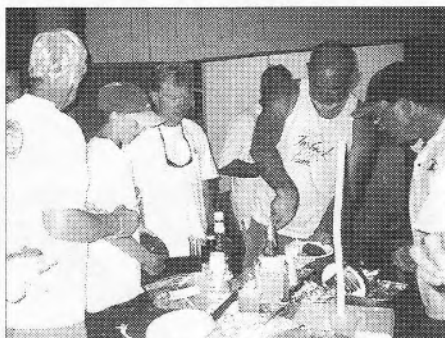
As for your fleet captain, I've been doing a long overdue bottom job on Moonlight Sonata. Thanks to a lot of help from Mary Ann and the spray painting skill of Ken Ayers, I am pleased to report that the bot-

tom job is done. The boat still needs some top side work but I can see light at the end of the tunnel now. Speaking of bottom jobs, I hear Bob Jones has his boat, Siddhartha, in for a long overdue bottom job at Commander's Point. Look out - in a couple of weeks Siddhartha is going to be a whole lot more competitive!

Thanks again to our Executive Chefs and everyone who came out to race. I don't know about you, but Catalina 22 racing just doesn't get any better than this! See you sailing. Jon



Lone Star crew Jeff Raun contemplating an evil deed . . . showering cold water on the crew of Dry Heave.



It's a tough job eating all this food but someone's got to do it! From left to right, Walter Allan, Conor Bingaman, Wade Bingaman, Allen Hawkins, and Art Bussey.



"We're not worthy!", Wade Bingaman and Roy Crouse pay homage to the Executive Chefs of the fleet.





## NIGHT RACE

### September 1st, 2001

For information, call 266-1336

You are cordially invited to participate in the 2001 Night Race hosted by the Austin Yacht Club on beautiful Lake Travis in Austin, Texas on Saturday, September 1st, 2001.

#### EVENT

A one-race regatta open to monohulls, keelboats, cruising multihull boats, and trimarans. All boats will sail a course defined at the Skippers' meeting. The start/finish line will be two yellow tetrahedrons at the mouth of the cove and the rounding mark will be a temporary mark designated by an AYC chase boat in the vicinity between Arkansas and Thurman depending on the wind. One race will constitute the regatta.

#### FORMAT

The format will be a reverse handicap start — those boats with a PHRF handicap of 300 starting first and the fastest boats starting last. The official starting times for all PHRF numbers will be posted during the Skippers' meeting. The PHRF of Lake Travis Handicap Rating System will be used with Time-on-Distance. Any boat without a rating can receive one at the event registration.

#### SCORING and TROPHIES

First boat across the finish line will be declared the winner; subsequent places being awarded to subsequent boats. Trophies will be awarded to the first 3 boats in each fleet.

#### RULES AND EQUIPMENT

This regatta will be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the United States Sailing Association (US SAILING), the rules of each class concerned (except as any of these are al-

tered by the regatta sailing instructions), by the regatta sailing instructions, and by the Coast Guard and State Safety Regulations. Sailing instructions will be available during registration. All boats will be required to have properly working lights. **Registration will not be accepted for boats without identical numbers on their mainsails and spinnakers. It is recommended that all skippers familiarize themselves with water depths between AYC and Lakeway.**

#### FACILITIES

There are limited campsites available on the AYC grounds. Showers and restrooms are available to all regatta participants and guests. Some cabins and screened shelters are available for rent. Please contact the AYC office at 266-1336 for cabin rentals. **Pets and fireworks are strictly prohibited on AYC grounds.**

#### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

##### Saturday, September 1st.

5:00 to 6:00 p.m.	Registration.
	\$25.00/boat, less
	\$5.00 US Sailing Discount
	Complimentary beverages
6:15 p.m.	Skippers' meeting
7:00 p.m.	Starting interval begins
After the race:	Complimentary meal and beverage

#### TROPHY PRESENTATION

Vic & Pat Manning  
5805 Lakeside Trail  
Austin, Texas 78734  
#1662



Austin Yacht Club  
5906 Beacon Drive  
Austin, Texas 78734-1428

**Many Thanks to AYC Regatta Sponsors!**

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