

Telltale



February 2007

Monthly Newsletter

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Newsletter

Yolanda Cortés Mares, Editor
E-mail submissions by 5th of
month to: ymares@earthlink.net

AYC Business Hours

Tuesday-Saturday: noon—5:00 p.m.
Sunday: 11:00 a.m. —12:30 p.m.

Closed Mondays
Closed Club Holidays:

New Year's Day	1 January
Easter Sunday	16 April
Independence Day	4 July
Thanksgiving Day	23 November
Shopping Day	24 November
Christmas Day	25 December

From The Commodore By Eric Nelson



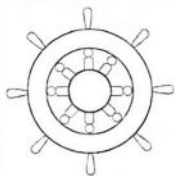
Much planning has been going on in the key areas of managing our finances as well as our social and sail training activities.

Treasurer **Tom Romberg** has set up a group to advise him (and by extension, the Board of Directors) on financial matters concerning the Club. This committee is a tangible example of Past Commodore **Paul Ballett's** recommendation, made last year, that advisory groups be set up to support Board positions that don't traditionally have a committee. The idea being that such groups could provide a multi-year perspective to help the Club have continuity in Board positions from year to year. The Treasurer's Advisory Committee (TAC), as Tom has named it, is made up of **Doug Laws, John Mandell, Pat Manning and Renee Ruais**. Tom and I have been meeting regularly with the TAC to develop specific recommendations relative to the 2007 Operating Budget. The preliminary 2007 budget summary targets presented at the January Board meeting was the first step. The next step is Tom and I closing with the TAC on their detailed recommendations. Then the Board can use them as we meet to form a formal budget proposal that can be voted on at the February Board Meeting.

Robbie Nelson, our 2007 Social Chair, has also been busy planning with her committee. If you had a chance to come out for any of the Frostbite races, you have already enjoyed some of the results! The soups provided after racing (whether we raced or not) have been great. Be sure to read her articles in this issue to find out who is on her planning committee, who to thank for the great Frostbite soups, what social activities are coming up soon, as well as what is behind how "Opening Day" is being molded into "Founder's Day".

Finally, I wanted to highlight what is happening on getting our training activities launched for 2007. Probably the aspect of this that most members are aware of is the Sailboat Racing Seminar Series being coordinated by the AYC Keel Fleet for all AYC members. An exciting finale to this program is the AYC stop of US Sailing's Mount Gay Rum Speaker Series, featuring Gary Jobson. Sail Training Commander **Linda McDavitt** and our Sailing Director, **Laura Barry**, are announcing in this issue details on both our 2007 Youth Sailing program (including an expanded Summer Camp) as well as the first installment of AYC's adult sail training program (this month's Adult Learn to Sail Clinic).

Vice Commodore News By Bob Goldsmith



What makes for a great regatta? For Mr. or Ms. Keel Fleeter, of course, it is all about exquisite cuisine, impeccable service, and reaching courses with use of auxiliary power optional.

For the skipper of a South Coast or Ensign, it is another chance to race PHRF before someone discovers that its "rating" was actually established using the performance numbers for Dock 3 when it was being moved from the Harbor to the Point. For the "normal" J-24 Fleet sailor, with his carefree love of loud explosions, orgies and human sacrifice, it is a lenient plea bargain that makes that regatta special.

How about you? We now have a Regatta Committee which exists for the sole and only purpose of bringing AYC the best possible regatta experiences. Please take a second to think about the following:

- What have you liked and disliked about recent AYC regattas?
- Have you been to regattas at other clubs that had features you would like to see in AYC regattas?
- What would make it easier for you to participate in AYC regattas?
- What would make it more fun for you to participate in AYC regattas?

The Regatta Committee would like to hear from you. Please email your thoughts on the above to me at jrobertgoldsmith@austin.rr.com, and I will be sure they are shared with the Regatta Committee at its next meeting.

Frostbite Series Race Results

PHRF Spinnaker A:

1. Eller, S., 2. Hens/Vaughn, 3. Shull, R.

PHRF Spinnaker B:

1. Lewis, D., 2. Liddy, Gary, 3. Johnstone, J.

PHRF Spinnaker C:

1. Wilsford, J., 2. Clark, D., 3. Morris, C.

PHRF Non-Spinnaker:

1. Brown, S., 2. Ehlers, S., 3. Gairloff, T.

Note: Please see the AYC Website for all official race results.



2007 Racing Schedule

February 3	Frostbite Series #4 (1:30 FWS)
February 10	Frostbite Series #5 (1:30 FWS) EOS Buffet & Trophy Presentation
February 25	Spring Series #1 (1:30 FWS)
March 3,4	TSA Roadrunner Regatta
March 11	Spring Series #2 (1:30 FWS)
March 18	Spring Series #3 (1:30 FWS)
March 25	Spring Series #4 (1:30 FWS)
April 1	Spring Series #5 (1:30 FWS)
April 7, 8	Easter Laser Regatta
April 15	Spring Series #6 (1:30 FWS) EOS Cajun Shrimp Boil Party & Trophy Presentation
April 21	Spring Long Distance Race (11:00 a.m.)
April 29	AYC Turnback Warm-up Series #1 (1:30 FWS)
May 5	South Coast 21 Intergalactics Regatta
May 6	AYC Turnback Warm-up Series #2 (1:30 FWS)
May 13	AYC Turnback Warm-up Series #3 (1:30 FWS) EOS Buffet & Trophy Presentation
May 19, 20	J24 Texas State Championships (Part of the USJCA District 14 J24 Circuit Series)
May 26, 27	Turnback Canyon Regatta
May 31– June 3	Laser Masters Regatta
June 9, 10	J80 Circuit Stop
June 30–July 1	AYC Centerboard Regatta
July 7	AYC Dog Days Series #1 (4:30 FWS)
July 14	AYC Dog Days Series #2 (4:30 FWS)
July 21	AYC Dog Days Series #3 (4:30 FWS)
July 28	AYC Dog Days Series #4 (4:30 FWS)

AYC Upcoming Non-Racing Events

February 3	After Series Social
February 11	Harbor Committee Meeting
February 13	PHRF Handicap Committee Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
February 15	New Member Candidate Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
February 15	AYC Strategic Plan Discussion (7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.)
February 17	Sailboat Racing Seminar Series (10:00 a.m.– 3:00 p.m.)
February 17	C22 Annual "Work On Our Boats Day" (noon– 4:00 p.m.)
February 22	AYC Board meeting (7:30 p.m.)
February 24	Adult Learn To Sail Clinic #1 (9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)
March 10	Adult Sail Training Start Clinic (9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.)
March 11	Meet The New Members Social (4:30 p.m.)
March 15	New Member Candidate Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
March 22	AYC Board meeting (7:30 p.m.)
March 24	Sailboat Racing Seminar Series (10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.)
April 6	Gary Jobson Seminar & Social (7:00 p.m.—10:00 p.m.)
April 19	New Member Candidate Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
April 26	AYC Board meeting (7:30 p.m.)
April 29	Founder's Day Brunch (10:00 a.m.—noon)
May 17	New Member Candidate Meeting (6:30 p.m.)

Sail Training News By Linda McDavitt

As we start the month of February, we begin our Adult Learn to Sail program.

Saturday February 24th from 9am to 5pm there will be a Learn To Sail Class.

Please check the Telltale and the website for information on how to sign up for this course. This is a great opportunity for you to introduce friends to sailing and to get your spouse feeling comfortable in a boat!

Saturday March 10th from 9am to 4pm will be a seminar on Starts. This is a great opportunity for you to get your crew together and after a chalk talk on the basics and considerations in setting up for a start, we will get on the water and run starts with input from the instructor on the water and at a debriefing afterward. Be watching the website for details on this class.

If you are interested in finding a crew for racing or just cruising and enjoying the lake or both, please email me (bandboat@yahoo.com) and let me know your needs and as we work with the adults in the Learn To Sail Program, I will try to match you up with someone that would both be an addition to your boat and would continue to learn about sailing under your tutelage.

Registration for PB&J, Junior Camp, Parent and Me classes are available on the website! Sign up soon to get into the camp that you would like to attend.

If anyone has any thoughts about skills they would like to learn on the water, please let me or any of our committee know. I am looking forward to your input!!!

Linda McDavitt

Racing Tips By Scott Young



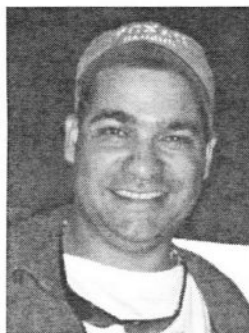
The Week Leading up to Race Day

In my prior articles, the focus has been on goal setting, planning, pre-race preparation and the start of the race...(not necessarily in that order). This month, I will discuss the mental and physical preparation in the week leading up to the big race. Here is a random stream of consciousness of the things that I am thinking about in the week before the big regatta.

(Continued on Page 16)

Race Commander News

By Ravi Subramanian



As I write this, we have one more week of the abbreviated Frostbite Series left (no racing the first two weeks due to weather). Fortunately, part of that weather included rain and the lake has come up. (See, I told you it would!). This is the second year that this series has been run as a regular club event after its establishment by the Keel Handicap Fleet

and an early start in the club calendar. Based on the great weather of the past two weekends, it's definitely not too early to be on the water. It is, however, early in the term of the incoming Race Commander and I'll admit to not yet being fully on top of things. Apologies for the case of the missing mark (is it called Frostbit Series if there is no E?) and, yes, I've been alerted to typos in the Long Distance Course Card. Maybe it should be called "Work Out the Bugs" Series.

Looking ahead, this Telltale should be coming out near the start of the Spring Series – Sun 25/Feb. The typos will be fixed in the Course Card and we'll return to the standard series format: separate KHF and One-Design Starts and RC duties assigned to a fleet. A race management seminar has not yet been scheduled, but look for one some time during that first series, probably in mid-March.

One comment on the touchy issue of check-in: Checking-in prior to the start lets the RC know how many boats to look for at the finish and lets those doing scoring know which fleet a boat raced in. On the downside, it also potentially brings boats into the starting area during another fleet's start and, if included as a requirement, can lead to frustration for being disqualified when you thought that RC heard your hail. For Frostbite, the SIs *requested* boats to check-in prior to the first signal or during their start. In short, please check-in, but don't sail through another start just to do so and you can't be disqualified if you don't get a chance. That's my plan for Spring Series, we'll see how it goes, and move on from there.

Finally, we don't know how we finished unless someone keeps scores. **Jim Rehage** has taken on the task of Scoring Coordinator and needs some help! You can still race, it just requires some time after we're off the water. Get in touch with Jim and help make club racing happen!

C-22 Fleet News By John Grzinich



On Tuesday, Jan. 30th, the C22 Fleet had an excellent meeting to kick off the sailing season (once we figured out to get the heat and fireplace going).

In Attendance: **Walter Allen, Wade Bingaman, Alex Ferrier, Roy Crouse, Peter Broberg, Johannes Brinkman, Dane Ohe, Bob Jones, Mark Haralson, Paul Jensen, Gary Devin, and John Grzinich.**

Agenda Items covered at the meeting:

1. Determine the fleet officers for this year; Fleet Captain, Assistant Fleet Captain (new position I am proposing so we have a back up when the fleet captain is away), Treasurer, Webmaster, Photographer, Social/Food Coordinator, and Crew Coordinator. Also need to identify the PRO candidates for our RC days. Here are C22 Fleet officers for 2007:

Fleet Captain:	John Grzinich
Assistant Fleet Captain:	Peter Broberg
Treasurer:	Wade Bingaman
Measurer:	Bob Jones
Webmaster:	John Grzinich
Photographer:	NONE — Requested
sailors and crew to bring camera's and send digital photo's to John Grzinich for use in the AYC Telltale, C22 NSA Mainbrace, and C22 Fleet Web page.	
Food Coordinator:	Peter Broberg
Crew Coordinator:	John Grzinich
PRO's for RC duty:	Bruce Foster could not make the meeting but emailed me to indicate he will be able to help run RC's for the fleet.
The race calendar looks the C22 fleet will have to do 3 RC's this year.	

2. What kind of C22 racing for the series, spinnaker, non-spinnaker, round the marks, long distance, etc.?

Spring Series: NON-Spinnaker. All remaining Series: Spinnaker. If we get at least 3 boats racing Non-Spinnaker during a spinnaker series, the fleet captain will award Non-Spinnaker trophy to sailor with best finishing record.

While there is a strong interest in having a few long distance races integrated into the series races, the idea was tabled this year due to low lake levels, and complexity of working with the RC to schedule them. Of course there is the Turnback Regatta, the ultimate long distance race, and there seemed to be enthusiasm by quite a few C22 owners to race this year. I included an

archive photo from the 2005 Turnback Regatta so you can see how the C22 is ideally suited to the low lake level situation in a photo that shows how close to the shore they can tie up.



3. Is the C22 Fleet interested in hosting a regional regatta this year for the Catalina 22 Region 8? (Note: Region 8 covers Texas, Oklahoma, and Louisiana.)

Not this year due to low lake levels. We do have to consider a bid for the C22 Nationals in 2008. We have about 5 months left to decide.

4. Discuss Ideas for fleet building, how we grow the fleet, and get more boats out racing?

The plan is to participate in the beginning sail training class, the mixer, cruising, and to use phone call buddies to encourage each other to get out for the races.

5. Does the C22 fleet have any interest in scheduling some Cruising events this year? It might be a good year for that since there may be a lot of good beaches to land on. Also, hosting a C22 cruise with C22's from anywhere, not just AYC, as a Fleet 69 NSA event might be a way of fleet building.

Since **John Grzinich**, and **Bob Jones** are in the All Catalina Fleet Cruising Club, they will negotiate for participation of the AYC C22 boats in some of the on-the-water cruising events they have and distribute information to the fleet rather than scheduling our own unique cruising event. We thought this will provide some opportunity to mix with other C22 sailors on Lake Travis.

6. When should we hold the annual "work on our boats" day?

This event was set for SAT FEB. 17th. **Wade Bingaman** and **Mark Haralson** will host the event. **Wade Bingaman** will bring his power washer. It will be held from NOON to 4PM at the AYC boat work area.

7. Discuss Ideas for training, practicing, and tune-up.

The C22 Fleet will participate in supporting the Feb. 24th Adult Sail Training Class, 4 boats volunteered: **John Grzinich, Roy Crouse, Peter Broberg, and Walter Allen.**

8. Who is thinking of attending any of the out of town regatta's this year?

(Continued on Next Page)

C-22 Fleet... *Continued From Page 4*

John Grzinich is planning to go to the Nationals in July which will be held on Lake Erie up on the Michigan, Ohio border. **Johannes Brinkman** is intending to travel to a regatta this year, but is still deciding which one. The most popular travel regattas for C22's are NOOD in late September to be held at the Houston Yacht Club this year, and the Wurstfest Regatta held at LCYC Canyon Lake in early November.

9. Last but not least, decide on the C22 fleet dues for the year. The dues are used to cover post racing libations and other expenses.

The dues for 2007 were set the same as last year since the amount worked OK. The amount is \$40 for boat captains and \$20 for regular crew members.

10. Finally, we had a lively discussion about the proposed "Mixer Series" in June. This is a 3 race series described by **Steve Vaughan** of the keel fleet. The objective is to increase racing participation. One concern raised was that the true goal is to increase keel fleet participation at the expense of OD fleets. This point was countered because this is an AYC goal, not a fleet goal, and the event could actually bring some sailors over to the OD boats. The fleet agreed that the increased participation goal is vitally important to AYC's future, but was not sure if this mixer series would achieve that objective. So, while the fleet agreed to support the event, there was no commitment on how many boats will sail. A second concern was raised that the complexity of the proposed event with 3 races and 3 formats might hinder participation. As of the writing of this article I see the event may be off, and we will continue to work with **Steve** on alternate ideas.

I reminded everyone to join the C22 National Sailing Association. It's only \$25 per year, and you get the "Mainsheet" magazine with good technical articles and news of C22 racing and cruising activity all over the US. Thanks to all participated. Looks like we're off to a good start for the season. I set the goal for a "Really Big" C22 turnout for the opening day of the spring series on Sunday Feb 25th. This has been a C22 tradition, to have the season's largest number of C22's on the line for 1st start of Spring Series.

John Grzinich – C22 Fleet Captain

Waiting Lists for Wet Slips, Dry Sail & Board Boat storage space assignments/moves are now posted online!

Keel Handicap Committee Report

By Jim Johnstone

Renew your PHRF Rating!

The Keel Handicap Committee requests that all sailors who intend to race PHRF in a series or regatta renew their PHRF certificate every two years. This helps us keep up with changes in owners, boat names and boat configurations. Over the years we have noticed some differences in boat configurations from the original PHRF rating certificate.

This can happen because as sails wear out they get replaced and sometimes sail dimensions change as we upgrade our boats. In other cases we change a fixed prop to a folding prop, or add or remove roller furling. Any of these changes could result in PHRF ratings changes.

The new PHRF handicap request form, also available on the AYC web page, asks for more information than the prior form so we can better track boat configuration changes.

If you do not know when your certificate was issued, go to the AYC home page then navigate to the Keel Fleet Home page and find the PHRF handicap listing. Open this file and find your boat. If the right hand column has a date older than Dec 31 2005 you are a candidate for renewal in 2007. The PHRF listings are also posted on the official notice board near the Race Committee's storage room.

You might notice some strange abbreviations in the PHRF listing. For example: IB stands for In Board, MH for mast Head, TR for Tall rig, SD for Shoal Draft, and ODR for One design Rig. Many one design boats sail with one suit of sails that conform to their class rules and a different suit of sails when racing PHRF.

If you have a One Design boat, you should complete your PHRF rating request form showing the configuration of your boat when racing PHRF handicap. PHRF ratings only take into consideration features of the boat. They do not regulate crew number or weight, number of sails on board, or other matters that many one design classes do regulate.

If you have questions about PHRF ratings send a note to JJohnstone@Austin.rr.com or come to one of the open handicap meetings held @ 7:30 PM at AYC the second Tuesday in February, May, August, and November.

Membership News By Paul Ballett



At the January Board Meeting of AYC, the Board approved all the following requests for New memberships and status changes.

Approval of Probationary Members

Joseph Rabinovitsj has submitted an application to be AYC RoadRunners Student member. He has been approved as a student members by the AYC RoadRunner student Board of Directors.

Aaron McCulley has applied as a Sr. Member. Aaron has a Nacra and an S2. He has competed in many long distance catamaran races and sailed with many members who were very supportive of his application.

Art Bussey has applied for Associate membership. Art has been active as crew, mainly on Catalina 22's for **Wade Bingaman** and **Roy Crouse**. Art felt it was time to be a Club member.

Jackson Salling has applied for young adult membership. Jackson has been an active crew at AYC and also felt it was time to join.

Members' Status Changes

Ken Ayers requests a status change to non-resident, having moved to near Port Lavaca. Although not meeting the rule to the letter, I believe his request meets the spirit and I support the request.

Donald Sannes requests change to 30 year Ol' Salt and meets all requirements.

David Kenyon met his requirements as a probationary Sr. member and requests full Sr. membership. He is now a member of the Membership Committee.

David Jessich met all his requirements as a probationary member and requests Sr. membership.

Peter Dossing opted to resign as he did not make his probationary requirements due to ill health. He has removed his boat. I'll bet we see Peter around as occasional crew.

Robert Pillmore has resigned as a Sr. member.

Byron Warren has moved and has resigned. He says he will miss the club and has many good memories.

Elissa Moeller and **Patrick Tamminga** have resigned as student Members.

Patricia Hanger has not responded to telephone calls or email attempts to contact her about the lack of meeting probationary requirements even after a 6 month extension. We recommend she is removed as a member and informed to remove any boats on the grounds.

Paul Schoenfield and **Don Putnam** have been granted a six month extension to meet the probationary requirements.

MEMBERSHIP TOTALS

2007 Membership Committee: **Paul Ballett**, **Claudia Bartlett**, and **David Kenyon**.

MEMBERSHIP TOTALS	October EOM	ADD	SUB	January EOM
Senior	344	1	7	338
*Honorary	7			7
*Life Member	21			21
Associate	15	1		16
Young Adult	9	1		10
Junior Student Member	22	1	2	21
UTIST Member	20			20
*Leave of Absence	0			0
Non-Resident	8	1		9
Ol' Salt 10 Year	10			10
Ol' Salt 30 Year	18	1		19
Total Non-Paying Members	46			47
Total Paying Members	428			424
Total Members	474			471

First Draft of the AYC Strategic Plan Available for Review

The first draft of the AYC Strategic Plan is now available for your review on the AYC website. Just go to "News" and click on "Draft of AYC Strategic Plan". After reviewing it, please come to the open discussion to be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 15 at the AYC Clubhouse to give your comments and suggestions. If you are unable to attend, but wish to make comments, please send them to lanelle@austin.rr.com or to one of the other members of the Strategic Planning Sub-committee.

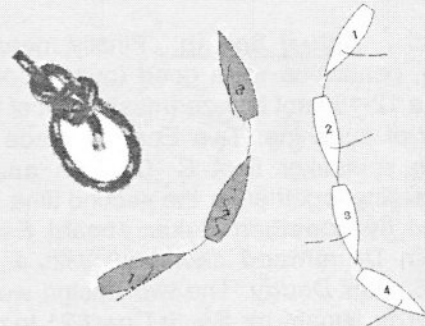
AYC Adult Learn to Sail Clinic

Saturday, 24 February 2007

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM



- ✓ Essential knots
- ✓ Parts of the boat
- ✓ Rigging a boat
- ✓ Use of main and jib
- ✓ Tacking and jibing
- ✓ Person Overboard



On the water exercises in Ensigns, Southcoasts, Catalina 22s and J22s.

Cost: \$40/AYC member (includes lunch & snacks)

\$50/non-member (includes lunch & snacks)

To RSVP

Call Austin Yacht Club at 512.266.1336

by Thursday, 22 February, 2007

For more information contact

Linda McDavitt at 512.731.6614 or bandboat@yahoo.com



Opening Day News By Robbie Nelson

Our traditional Opening Day Ceremonies will now be held on **April 29, 2007** (first day of the Turnback Warm-Up Series) but is now called **Founders Day**.

This change was made for several reasons:

AYC series racing now starts with the Frostbite Series, which this year was on January 13. For those few brave souls who made it out to the club (barely a dozen people) the weather was freezing and nasty. Also, this is just too soon after the election of the new Board of Directors and the setting up of committees to plan a huge event. It is also unlikely in the future that we will ever have Opening Day Ceremonies on the actual opening of our racing season as long as we start racing in January.

The next series starts on February 25, which is the Spring Series. February can also bring very nasty weather, so planning a large event on that date is risky. Since our club racing already "opened" back on January 13, it was decided to simply move the event to

a weekend with a better chance of nice weather than having it in January or February.

The next series after the Spring Series starts on April 29 and is the Turnback Warm-Up Series.

While the traditional Opening Day included a nice brunch, meeting of past commodores, a short ceremony and assorted speeches, this event has now been repackaged as "**Founders Day**", since the term "Opening Day" loses it's meaning if we do not have the event on the opening of racing season. Besides inviting past commodores, we will also encourage all Founding members and their families to attend this event. We will still have the nice brunch and refreshments, and there will probably be a speech or two.

Hopefully we will have some nice weather on April 29 (at least it won't be snowing and freezing). I encourage everyone to please come out to this event and celebrate as in years past.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Social Committee Chair Chick, **Robbie Nelson**.



Frost Bites: The first half of the frostbite series lived up to its name, with cold, wet, miserable and otherwise unsailable conditions resulting in the abandonment of the first two race days.

Actual Sailing: Finally, near the end of January, conditions were good (quite good in fact) for racing: a 12-18 knot breeze (mostly) out of the North and plenty of sunshine. Two Ensigns made it out to compete in spinnaker fleet C. **Carolyn and James Wilsford** (sailing together for the second time in a row!) were joined by **Jonathan Baker** aboard *Esmeralda*, while **Robin Drummond** came out with a full crew aboard 716, *Puff Daddy*. The two Ensign were joined by **Carl Morris** aboard his South Coast 21 to round out the fleet. Meanwhile, a couple of other Ensign sailors, **Jim Casto** and **Randolph Bertin**, volunteered to help out with Race Committee. Unfortunately, RC sent some of the fleets around "E" mark, unaware of the fact that the mark was no longer in place, so they had their hands full trying to sort out the mess. A temporary mark was put in place at least in time to salvage most of the races, and the Ensigns were not affected by the lapse. Early in the Race, the South Coast developed steering problems and had to abandon and get a tow back to the dock. Combined with a late start by 716 (who couldn't decide whether to start with C fleet or the non-spinnaker boats), it was an easy victory for the **Wilsfords**.

The Blind Leading the Blind: Another day with quite good sailing conditions, this time with a breeze coming out of the south, and not as strong, 5-12 knots. Both **Robin Drummond** and **James Wilsford** brought their boats out again, but relied on different crew to get around the course. **Randolph** helped out **Robin**, and **James** helped himself, sailing solo. They were joined by **Danny Lien** and **Carolyn Wilsford** on *Chapparral*, and **Carl Morris** appeared to have effected repairs to his steering as he was back out on the South Coast, *GinTonic*. Most of us (Ensigns at least) were lacking course cards, and the one **Robin** had picked up from the office the previous day was from 2006. Fortunately, we were all able to ascertain the course before the final horn in the start sequence sounded. And so we were off. The fleet spread out over the initial weather leg, with only *Chapparral* and *GinTonic* vying for the lead spot. **James Wilsford** and **Robin Drummond** fell back, but managed to hang about within shouting distance of the boat ahead over the first downwind leg. Going back upwind, **Danny** followed **Carl** out to the right. Not sure what they saw going WAY over there, but **James** and **Robin** sailed a more or less one leg beat up to the mark, with **James** having to make just

one short tack before rounding, now just behind **Danny** and **Carolyn**, and **Robin** getting a fortunate lift right up to the mark.

Then, it was back down wind for a long ride to the next mark. Though we were in a spinnaker fleet, none of the Ensigns was flying their kite, whether out of solidarity, or lack of sufficient crew. Heading towards the final mark rounding (buoy #7) before coming back upwind to the finish, things started to get interesting. **Danny** headed in towards the area of D mark, with **James** following not far behind. Did they not have the correct course, or was there some uncertainty about the location of the mark? **Robin** and **Randolph** actually had a map onboard, which allowed them to determine that buoy #7 is actually to the west of Starnes Island, so they decided not to follow the crowd: either they have the course wrong, in which case they would finish one point higher than the last place position they were sailing in, or they round the correct mark with everyone else sailing in the wrong direction, and come home heroes. Glancing back toward **Robin**, **James Wilsford** is forced to make a decision: Does **Danny** know something I don't know and I should follow him? Or do I need to head back over toward **Robin** and round the buoy over there? **James** turned *Esmeralda* back toward the west, and located the buoy. **Danny** turned back as well, but apparently was unable to locate the mark, and sailed further 'up' the lake. **James** meanwhile managed to round the mark just in front of **Robin**, and it was a two boat race up to the finish. Rather than following, **Robin** split tacks hoping for a break, but nothing doing. So **James**, sailing solo, made it to the finish line in front (though somewhat behind **Carl Morris** on his South Coast)! **Robin** followed a modest time later and **Danny** simply sailed back to the dock. In most cases, knowing the course is a good way to improve your odds of finishing well.

Heads Up: There is one final race in the Frostbite, with **James Wilsford** looking pretty strong out in front. Then, it is on to the opening of the regular season, with the first race of the Spring Series scheduled for Sunday, February 25. Don't just wait to read about it later, come out to join the fleet and have a good time sailing around the buoys. You must be present to enjoy it!

You are Cordially Invited to
AYC's Opening Day
now

"AYC's Founders Day"

Sunday, February 25, 2007

SC-21 Fleet News By Susie Corcoran



South Coast Fleet 10 Tips for a Successful Social

Tradition and camaraderie have given the South Coast social its great reputation and its staying power. Many of you have been asking for our secrets to success. Well, here they are, compliments of **Claudia Bartlett**, **Pat Manning** and myself, your new Fleet Captain.

#1 Plan ahead: We usually send out requests for GnT sign-ups as soon as we have the race committee assignments. Everyone on the fleet is encouraged to take a weekend and party host responsibilities are taken seriously – individuals who fail to deliver as promised must face the wrath of a tired, sweaty, very very thirsty fleet.

#2 We figure on 20 partiers: Not a bad idea to be prepared for a larger crowd just in case. Leftovers can always be taken back home and saved for the next event.

#3 Location. Location. Location.: We know right where to go. Same place every time.

#4 Bring adequate supplies: Here are the basics: a cooler of ice, plastic cups, paper towels. Plates, napkins, serving implements and other fineries are optional. Best to keep it simple.

#5 Supply and serve an appropriate amount of liquid refreshment: We want to be happy but not blasted. Rule of thumb: 1.5 big bottles of gin (1.75 liters) for 20 partiers. Doesn't have to be the most expensive but those who bring great gin (as well as those who bring swill) are remembered. Good to have a bottle of vodka for the non-gin folks. We usually provide 6 bottles of tonic, a couple of which are diet tonic. Limes and a knife.

#6 Lay out a good spread: Finger food is easiest to serve and doesn't have to be fancy. (If you show up on your assigned date with GnTs, you're already a hero.) Here are some ideas: The basics: chips and salsa. Add real hors d'oeuvres and/or cheeses, dips and dippers and/or seasonal fruit and veggies. For a real treat: sweets – cookies, brownies, etc.

#7 Welcome newcomers: Introductions are always in order. This could be a new fleet member or crew.

#8 Review the schedule: While there's a captive audience, it's a good idea to go over the GnT schedule for the next few weeks so that upcoming hosts and hostesses are aware of their commitments.

#9 Know when to close down/Take care of the "over-served": A couple of hours are usually more than enough. Packing up any leftover food and drink is a pretty good way to get the message across. We make sure all of the partiers are able to drive home safely. If not, we arrange a ride.

#10 Clean up: Anyone left at the end usually helps with the clean-up.

J-22 News By Renee Ruais

J 22

We are about to start on our second year of rebounding J/22 activity and I hope that we can build on last year's great participation! We finished up 2006 with nice wins in the Wild Turkey and Red-Eye regatta (ok...that was 2007 but close enough). Congratulations to **Jimmy Cain** for those wins. A VERY honorable mention goes to **John Bartlett** for actually crossing the line first in the Red Eye but withdrawing after it was noted that he sailed through a restricted area.

As for the 2007 season, the AYC Race Commander and the J/24 Fleet have graciously agreed to continue our current arrangement of starting with the J/24s. If you sailed in the latter part of 2006 and you trailer launch your boat, you know that the ramp was getting kind of short...I'm happy to say that in the past month or so we've gained over 3 feet of water in the lake and the ramp is now comfortably usable. I hope we have a rainy spring (Monday-Friday of course) and that we ultimately end up with enough water to keep us going all year. I think that the best thing we can do to help is make sure we all come out and show Mother Nature how much we are enjoying the lake! If you don't buy what I'm selling here, you better come out and get your 2007 racing in as soon as possible anyway, so let's have a great Opening Day and Spring series! This starts sooner than you think, so get ready now for the Feb. 25 opener!



Rolex International Women's Keelboat Championship (RIWKC)

November 12-17, 2007

The Houston Yacht Club, La Porte, Texas will be hosting this year's RIWKC, sailed on J-22's with three or four person crews. Open to sailors of all experience, it is a bring-your-own-boat but there are some available for charter. This is a great way to build confidence and sail among the best in the world. It is the first time this event will be held in Texas and a large turnout is expected. Trisha McElroy, vice chair of the event, is trying to promote interest among women sailors. This is the America's Cup for them. For more information, please see www.USSailing.org or email her at no720s@gmail.com.

Keel Fleet News By Steve Vaughan



Frostbite Chili Cooks
Larry and Ricki Ratliff
(Photo Left)

Frostbite:

The first Frostbite series race kicked off on January 27th after a couple of weeks of being "frozen out" of racing. The winds were solid at 15 to 18 knots, the sun was bright, the guns went off on time and the sailing was great, but a missing mark "E" and some out dated Long Distance Course Cards conspired to reduce the number of race starters from 26 to less than 10 finishers. The lesson to us all was to be sure and pick up the latest Course Card (dated January 13, 2007) from the AYC web site (Keel Fleet/ Local PHRF Info) or at the clubhouse.



A broken foot did not keep these sailors from racing!

The second race of Frostbite was sailed on February 3 with 23 boats on the line, cool temperatures and winds 8 to 12 knots. There were four mono hull classes all scored under PHRF scoring rule and one multi hull class. For this AYC series only, a number of AYC OD classes (J24, J22, Ensign, SC21, and Catalina 22) joined the PHRF classes and took first place honors in PHRF class B (J24 - **David Kenyon**), PHRF class C (SC21 - **Carl Morris**) and PHRF Non Spinnaker (J22 - **Steve Brown**). PHRF class A was won by **Steve Eller** in a Melges 24. Please log on to the AYC web site (<http://www.austinyachtclub.net/>) to get all the results. With the completion of these two Frostbite races, we now have more than 30 folks (skippers and RC) that have one or more raffle tickets for the private **Gary Jobson** dinner event on April 6. Remember the more you play the more chances you have to join the dinner. Don't miss the final race on February 10th.

Special thanks go to Keel Fleet Officer, **Hector Lujan**,

for his proactive and successful crew and skipper matching. After calling all known unemployed crew, Hector set up a crew/skipper meeting table in the clubhouse and put every unemployed crew to work. I hope we can keep Hector's crew/skipper matching service in business until all crew vacancies are filled with all unemployed crew. We need to help Hector out in this labor intensive effort by getting on the AYC web site and using the Marketplace ads to post your crew availability or skipper needs. Thanks Hector.

Seminar Series:

The Racing Seminar Series kicks off on February 17 (10AM) with race preparation training. Tips on preparing your boat and crew will be given in a town meeting format by **John Bartlett**, **Fred Schroth**, **Claude Welles**, **Ray Shull**, **Jim Tillinghast** and **Steve Vaughan**. Even if you already know everything about boat and crew prep come out anyway to contribute your wisdom, collect more raffle tickets for the **Gary Jobson** dinner and enjoy lunch with racing friends.

US Sailing's Mount Gay Rum Speaker Series featuring Gary Jobson April 6:

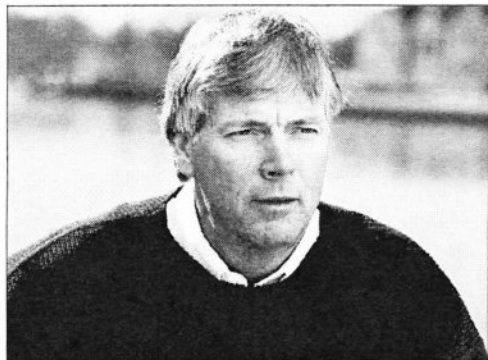
Claude Welles is arranging for a grand event on April 6 with AYC receiving the benefit of **Gary Jobson's** insights into the sailing/racing scene. This event will be open to the public and we expect to fill the clubhouse. Thanks to Claude for driving the Racing Seminar Series which includes this very special event with **Gary Jobson**. Registration for the Jobson event will open on March 1st. Please check the AYC web site for details.

In case you are not aware **Gary Jobson**, 53, is a world class sailor, television commentator and author based in Annapolis, Maryland. Gary covered the 2003 America's Cup in Auckland, New Zealand for ESPN and Sailing World. In 2004 he covered the Yachting Olympics for NBC in Athens and this year is covering the America's Cup action in Valencia, Spain.

Gary has won many championships in one design classes, the America's Cup with **Ted Turner** in 1977, the infamous Fastnet Race and many of the world's ocean races. In college he was an All American sailor three times and was twice named College Sailor of the Year (1972, 1973).

In October 2003 Gary was inducted into the America's Cup Hall of Fame by the Herreshoff Marine Museum. In 1999 Jobson won the Nathanael G. Herreshoff Trophy, US Sailing's most prestigious award. This trophy is awarded annually to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the sport of sailing in the United States.

(Continued on Next Page)



Gary Jobson
(Photo Left)

Gary has been ESPN's sailing commentator since 1985 and produces over 30 shows per year. In 1988

Jobson won an Emmy for his coverage of yachting at the Olympic Games in South Korea. Gary has authored 13 sailing books and is Editor at Large of Sailing World and Cruising World magazines. His newest book is titled Fighting Finish: 2001-2002 Volvo Ocean Race.

Gary is the National Regatta Chairman of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's sailing program and was instrumental in bringing the Leukemia Cup to Austin Yacht Club in 2006.

Fleet Business:

The Keel Fleet officers **Jim Tillinghast, Michael Wellman, Doug Laws, Damon Galloway, Hector Lujan and Steve Vaughan** have been busy managing the affairs of the fleet and setting up some great fleet activities for the year. Watch this space and the AYC web site for upcoming activities at Turnback in May, a fleet party in June, a Keel Fleet championship (Spinnaker and Non-Spinnaker) at the Leukemia Cup in the Fall and renewed focus on our Beer Can events throughout the summer.

If you have not yet renewed your fleet membership for 2007 (a paltry \$15) please call or email **Hector Lujan** or **Steve Vaughan** and let us know your desire to renew. We will sign you up and put the charge on your AYC bill. We occasionally receive inquiries concerning fleet membership requirements and possible attendance restrictions at Keel Fleet sponsored events. Please know that the only requirement for membership in the Keel Fleet is to be an AYC member with a desire to support the activities being driven by the Keel Fleet (Red Eye, Beer Can, Racing Seminars, Jobson Event Keel Fleet Championship etc...) No boat ownership, no pledge of allegiance, or secret handshake is required. Our fleet objective is to promote sailing and racing for all at AYC. Also know that events sponsored by Keel Fleet are nearly all open events, meaning open to all AYC members and the general sailing public. The key exception to this rule will be the Keel Fleet Champion-

ship, it just seems appropriate if you expect to wear this title you should really be a Keel Fleet member. The paltry cost of membership buys you into support of a wide range of events, event discounts, assured email from Keel Fleet on event activity, an entry ticket into the championship event and the warm inner glow of belonging to a great fleet.

Also, if you have not renewed your PHRF certificate (and most of you have not) please pick up a form at the AYC office or download the form from the AYC website (Keel Fleet, Local PHRF Info) and drop it off at the office or mail/email to **Jim Johnstone**. These renewals are important to ensure our boats are correctly/fairly rated. Renewal will be required for registration for upcoming racing events this year.

AYC Membership Directory

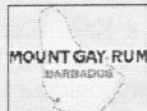
Information Update

It's that time of the year again to publish another membership directory! Please update your personal information online at austinyachtclub.net or fill out this form and mail or fax it to the AYC office at 5906 Beacon Drive, Austin, Texas 78734-1428, Office FAX: (512) 266-9804.

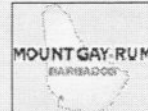
Member Name: _____
 Occupation: _____
 Work Tel. No.: _____
 E-mail: _____
 Spouse/ Partner Name: _____
 Occupation: _____
 Work Tel. No.: _____
 E-mail: _____
 Children: _____

 Address: _____

 Home Tel. No.: _____
 AYC Member Number: _____
 Boat #1 Type: _____ Sail #: _____ Fleet: _____
 Boat #1 Name: _____
 Boat #2 Type: _____ Sail #: _____ Fleet: _____
 Boat #2 Name: _____
 Boat #3 Type: _____ Sail #: _____ Fleet: _____
 Boat #3 Name: _____



Encouraging Participation and
Promoting Excellence in Sailing



"US Sailing's Mount Gay Rum Speaker Series"

featuring

GARY JOBSON

Austin Yacht Club

April 6, 2007

The Austin Yacht Club, "AYC" is proud to have been selected to host one of only 16 venues for the prestigious 2007 "US Sailing's Mount Gay Rum Speaker Series" featuring Gary Jobson on April 6, 2007. This very successful sailing education speaker series began in 2005 with 10 venues and is continuing to expand each year to reach more and more sailors.

Gary Jobson is a world class sailor who has won a host of prestigious titles including the America's Cup as tactician aboard the 1977 America's Cup defender Courageous. Gary is even better known as the voice of the America's Cup as he has been the ESPN sailing commentator since 1985 and received an Emmy Award for his coverage of the 1992 Olympic Games. Gary has authored numerous books on sailing and racing and is an Editor at large for Sailing World and Cruising World magazines. In 2003 Gary Jobson was inducted into the prestigious Herreshoff Museum America's Cup Hall of Fame. Gary is the National Regatta Chairman of the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's sailing program and was instrumental in bringing the Leukemia Cup Regatta to AYC in 2006.

Gary Jobson will be speaking at the Austin Yacht Club clubhouse located at 5906 Beacon Drive, Austin Texas at 7PM on April 6, 2007. Gary will give a multimedia presentation on his perspectives on sailing from local club racing to the America's Cup. Following Gary's presentation will be a Complimentary Mount Gay Rum sponsored social hour.

Cost for admission to Gary's presentation will be \$5.00 for AYC members and \$15.00 to non members. Reservations will be limited to space available and will be accepted after March 1, 2007. For reservations please email Steve Vaughan at vaughansm@gmail.com after March 1, 2007.

Upcoming Social Events By Robbie Nelson

Greetings! This year at AYC promises lots of fun social activities for young and old (but still young at heart), so please be sure to mark your calendars for these upcoming events:



March 11, 2007

After the Spring Series race # 2 - Meet the New Members/Celebrate Daylight Savings!

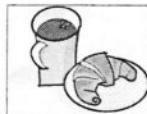
The club is inviting all new members who have joined since 2005 to come out to meet and greet your fellow club members. We will have some complimentary snacks and beverages for everyone's enjoyment. No need to rush home after the races, it will be daylight one hour longer that day!



April 15, 2007

End of Spring Series Buffet – Cajun Shrimp Boil and Party!

You don't want to miss this fantastic buffet featuring fresh hot boiled shrimp, corn on the cob, new potatoes, plus much more. Stick around for the trophy presentation and some Cajun dancing!



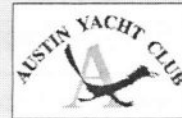
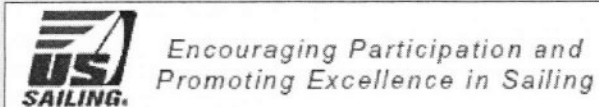
April 29, 2007

Founders Day Brunch and Series Kick-Off!

Our traditional "Opening Day" morning brunch featuring a hearty breakfast casserole, croissants with strawberry butter, and other delectable treats. Enjoy a glass of festive punch or a cup of coffee and come meet the past commodores and founding members of our club. A brief ceremony will be held and then it's a race to the racecourse for the beginning of the Turnback Warm Up series!

This year, for Valentine's Day, take your sweetheart on a sailboat ride.....

Happy Valentine's Day!



The Austin Yacht Club Keel Fleet presents

Sailboat Racing Seminar Series

WHO: All AYC Keel Fleet members, and their crew, AYC members and their crew, and potential AYC members and their potential crew (that should pretty much cover everyone that sees this notice) are invited to join a series of sailboat racing seminars led by top AYC racing sailors and special guest speaker Gary Jobson.

WHAT: The seminar topics will be presented and discussed in a town meeting format:

Boat Preparation (getting your boat to sail to its numbers)

Discussion led by Fred Schroth, John Bartlett, and Claude Welles

Crew recruitment/management (find, train and retain your most important asset)

Discussion led by Ray Shull, Jim Tillinghast and Steve Vaughan

Boat speed (get the most from what you've got)

Discussion led by John Bartlett and Scott Young

Tactics/Strategy (gotta go the right way to get there fast)

Discussion led by Scott Young and John Bartlett

Open Sailing Topics presented by the voice of the America's Cup, Gary Jobson

WHERE: AYC Clubhouse, 5906 Beacon Drive

WHEN:	February 17:	10AM	Boat Prep (including on board demo)
		12Noon	Lunch (probably burgers unless a creative cook steps up)
		1 PM	Crew recruitment/management
	March 24:	10AM	Boat Speed
		12Noon	Lunch
		1 PM	Tactics/Strategy
	April 6:	5PM	Invited Guest Social Event with Gary Jobson
		7PM	"US Sailing's Mount Gay Rum Speaker Series" featuring <u>Gary Jobson</u> Open to all; limited to clubhouse capacity
			<i>Reservations will be required and will open March 1</i>
		8:30PM	Complimentary Mount Gay Rum cocktail hour

COSTS:

No charge or reservations required for February 17 or March 24 Seminars

Lunch, \$3-\$5 depending on menu provided

Admission to April 6 event will be \$5 for AYC members \$15 non members; **Reservations are Required** and limited to space available

For further information, please contact: Steve Vaughan at vaughansm@gmail.com or Claude Welles at cawelles7104@sbcglobal.net.

Fleet Commander News By Leon Lance

From Your Harbor Committee...

The "ENFORCERS": I am using **Dock Captains** and **Storage Area Captains** to monitor storage. Dock Captains will help to get the word out should we be moving/fixing docks and generally keep an eye out. To date, the volunteer enforcers are:

Mark Salih-	Board Boat Docks
Duane Dobson -	Work Area and Dryout pads
Danny Lien-	Drysail and Trailer Parking
Danny Lien-	Dock 1
Steve Shepardson-	Dock 2
Duane Dobson -	Dock 3
(Volunteer needed)	Dock 4
Ray Shull-	Dock 5
Brad Kocen-	Dock 6
(Volunteer needed)	Point Storage
Rick Nelson-	Storage Rules

Work Area: If you haven't noticed yet, thanks to **Duane Dobson**, the **Work Area** is cleared except for boats with reserved pad spaces. There are six slots, soon to restriped and numbered. (The reservation book works like Hoist Reservations but for a three-week period.) *About 99% of those members contacted about their boats being improperly stored in the Work Area immediately moved them. Thanks!* There is sometimes enough space to 'double up', and if you would like to do some quick work, one alternative is to get agreement from one of the members with a reserved space to place your boat also in their spot. Expect an improper storage notice if you have no reservation, are otherwise blocking boats, or leave a trailer/boat on the gravel in front of the pad. Reserve your spots now for the expected spring rush on boat work.

Money Talks? Improper Storage: The rules state that **improper storage** fees for improper storage are 3X to 5X storage rate, after notice from a Board member. Please note that my ENFORCERS (listed above) are delegated to give such notice if I am copied on the correspondence. I will also consider ancillary boat equipment and trailers as 'boats improperly stored'. A much bigger problem for my committee is that some currently improperly stored boats do not have sufficient identification to give notice. In those cases, a tag on the boat/trailer and notice on the office bulletin board will constitute notice, and billing charges will be for that month and will accrue until resolved. Except for unidentified boats (trailers/equipment), the Board does not intend to charge for improper storage through February in order to give general notice and time to comply.

There are a number of **improper storage issues in drysail**. Drysail storage shall be generally within designated perimeters. Boats may extend over the grass to

the rear of a slot (not trailer wheels), but equipment such as batteries, masts, dock boxes, dinghies, kayaks, etc. shall not be permanently stored on the ground outside the slip, in front or behind, for obvious reasons.

Some examples of potential current improper storage:

- "Back 40"-identified double laser trailer with boats, an unidentified Hobie 16, and another unidentified empty double laser trailer;
- Two keelboats on point in lieu of their as signed drysail storage spaces;
- Storage outside perimeters-slips # 5, 7, 30, 81;
- Storage of additional boats/trailers adjacent to slips-slips # 23, 36, 56, 86, 111, 113, 167, 169; and,
- Storage of extra equipment outside perimeters-slips # 15, 29, 72.

Boat/Trailer I.D. Stickers: **Laura and the Jr. Students** are placing **sticker I.D. tags** on AYC boats. I will soon provide the same for all boats and trailers on the grounds, probably through the Dock Captains. We will plan this at our next Harbor Committee meeting February 11th. Again, stickers are to be placed on the starboard side of a mast just above sailcovers, etc. or on the starboard stern of a boardboat near the deck. Trailer stickers will be provided for trailers in drysail and for trailers in trailer parking if they are paired with a water-slipped keel or board boat.

Storage Agreement Nixed: The roll out of a planned **Storage Agreement** which in part would allow AYC to take a lien against an IPSO'd or past member in order to remove left boats on the grounds or in slips has been nixed. Since we are all members of our Club, such an agreement requires unanimous Board approval and a subsequent Bylaws change by the full Membership---which does make sense. However, this outcome does not help the fact that we currently have left-over boats to be removed, a recurring issue.

Harbor Rules-Storage Space Rule 2: **BOAT USE LOG** - The following has been proposed for AYC Board Consideration due to the fact that there has not been much of a wait list for wet slips currently and in the recent past:

Attention Wet Slip Holders: The BOAT USE LOG has been removed from the clubhouse. Boat use data, as described in Harbor Rules Storage Space number 2, will not be collected until further notice. Such notice will, if given, consist of notification in the Telltale in the Fleet

(Continued On Next Page)

Fleet Commander... Continued from Page 14

Commanders column and a 60-day grace period before reimplementation will be given. **BACKGROUND:** The BOAT USE LOG and race participation data has been collected to use in the event revocation of a members storage space became necessary. The necessity would most likely be triggered by a waiting list for wet sail slips by active racers. Since there is no waiting list and wet slips are available it was determined that no use would be made of data collected and that further collection of data was a useless burden to impose on wet slip holders. Thank you for your cooperation in the past.

Storage Billing at end/beginning of month?: Last month we incorrectly stated: "Dues are billed at AYC for the following month. Boat storage is billed at the end of the previous month. This costs AYC and all of us some money by the fact that most vacating slip holders notify the Office or Fleet Commander that they moved their boat out at the end of the month, (usually by a note in their mailbox seen later) and there is often no lead time to reassign new slip request until the next billing cycle. This spring we will formally request Board approval to bill for the prior and future month in the same bill."

Monthly billing practice is a Club finance issue and slip dues are currently billed in advance. However for purposes of Storage Billing, the Harbor Committee still intends to submit a future Harbor Rule Change requiring advance notice prior to relinquishing a storage space. Many storage requests are submitted and granted throughout each month, but for billing purposes the Office and Fleet Commander obviously execute these actions on a date certain each month. We would like to stop requests for retroactive reductions in billings in cases when the office is notified after the fact that a boat was removed from a slip. Advance notice will allow more efficient refilling of slips with less chance of loss of monthly revenue.

Too many boats on Point?: Temporary Storage on the Point - The Harbor Committee has been notified by some members that the current practice of using the Point for assigned Temporary Storage may result in crowding problems when series racing starts. One suggested solution is to charge for all storage including dryout spaces above the work area and let financial incentive reduce demand on dry out areas which could then also be used for temporary storage. Another suggestion is to have all trailers be stored in assigned dry-sail slips during the races like most clubs do. (Boats currently stored on the point without Temporary Storage assignments and with drysail slips do need to move to their assigned space.) Pros and cons can be made to all of the above arguments. If you wish to be involved in this issue please note that the Point Storage Captain

position is currently vacant.

Ramp Issues-guest comment: Ramp Launching Etiquette - Guest comment by Jim Rehage:

Trailer Sailing Tips - AYC has promised a full slate of racing activities for 2007, but there's one thing the Club can't promise - a lake full of water. Because the launching/retrieving of boats will be limited to the North Ramp for some time, we trailer sailors need to help make this process as painless as possible. An unwritten rule is to pull in at the end of the queue at the rigging dock after the race and wait your turn. If you're new to Lake Travis, you may find the keelboat float-on trailering technique a little bit peculiar. Perhaps you've also noticed that not all keelboat sailors are equally skilled in this technique. However, with a proper trailer set up and some practice, a SC21, J/22, or J/24 can safely be retrieved in only five minutes or so. Retrieving these heavy keelboats is tricky business, however; so don't rush if you're unsure of your trailer or technique! Instead, be considerate - dock at the end of the rigging dock and let the others go ahead. While waiting, watch and learn and don't hesitate to ask questions later of those that make it look easy. Next month, I hope to share some simple Dos and Don'ts of keelboat launching and retrieving that will hopefully make those jobs easier.

Social Committee Report By Robbie Nelson

The 2007 AYC Social Committee had its first meeting at the end of January. The enthusiastic group included **Sharon Agee, Laura Barry, Missy Gallant, Amy Olmstead, Norma Lien, Paulette Payne, Barb Prashner, Leslie Stranahan, Carolyn Wilsford**, and yours truly.

Our committee is planning many fun events for everyone at the club. Please see the listing of Upcoming AYC Social Events in this Telltale for just a sampling of what we've got planned this spring. We are bringing back some old events like "Meet the New Members" socials and trying some new things like a club-wide pot luck party in the summer.

I hope everyone has been enjoying the complimentary hot soup after each Frostbite series race. Many thanks go to our club volunteers and soup cooks: **Frank Woodul** (gumbo), **Norma Lien** (tortilla soup), **James Wilsford** (broccoli cheese soup), **Larry Ratliff** (chili), and **Barb Prashner** (tomato bisque). It was great to have a nice hot bowl of soup on the chilly afternoons, and it also saved me from having to go home & cook dinner! If you enjoyed this as much as I, then please let the AYC Board of Directors know so that hopefully we can continue this social activity next year.

Racing Tips... *(Continued from Page 3)*

Monday....A quick check of Accuweather.com to get an idea of what weather conditions to expect. I have found their extended forecasts to be very accurate and the 3-day, hour-to-hour forecast to be spot on. Armed with the forecast, do I have the proper wetsuit / foul weather gear if the weather is cold? Does my crew have the appropriate gear? Do we want to consider using our older sails if the forecast is for big breeze?

Check the running rigging. Are there any control lines that need to be replaced? Is there any newer technology for greater strength, less diameter, less weight? Anything that could require a special order needs to be handled early in the week so you are waiting at the last minute for gear to arrive.

How is my crew status? Is everyone still on board? How is our crew weight and are we going to weigh in? It is always better to have this variable managed early in the week. Waiting until the last minute is not only stressful on your psychology, it is stressful on your body to try and lose 10 pounds the day before or the morning of your big race. It is quite amazing to see how much weight five people can lose while jogging in dry suits in Corpus Christi in the summer heat. I wouldn't recommend this technique though. You will feel the effects of dehydration whether you realize it or not. For me, my decision making and depth perception is impacted when I am dehydrated. Both are pretty important to have the full capacity of when you are sailboat racing.

Tuesday...How is my fitness? I like to do any strength training early in the week to give myself a chance to fully recover by the weekend. What condition is the centerboard and rudder in? Are there any nicks or scratches that need filling and sanding. You might as well get these out of the way early in the week. The fewer distractions that you have on Friday and Saturday morning the more brain power you can allocate to the task at hand.

Wednesday...Check Accuweather again. Has the forecast changed? It wouldn't be a bad idea to get out on the water and do some boat handling and endurance training. In a boat like a Laser, I can tell a big difference in my endurance and recovery if I have sailed the boat a couple of times the week before the regatta. Those hiking muscles have to start firing and you need to start developing muscle memory for your hiking muscles.

If you are racing a boat that requires crew, have you checked in with everyone to confirm that everyone is still good to go? Have you reviewed the Notice of Race to confirm what time registration and measurement

open? When does the weigh-in begin? What time does registration and weigh-in end on Saturday morning? You may need to know this if you are going to be down to the wire on making weight. Make sure that all of your crew know the schedule and what is expected of them.

Thursday....A good time to start tapering the physical exercise. Now is great time to start stretching or practicing some yoga. Get the muscles nice and loose.

Have my parts arrived? Get the new line or replacement parts installed.

If your boat is in the water, what is your plan for getting the bottom cleaned? Should you put a de-humidifier in the boat to wring some water weight out of the boat? What other little things can you do to psychologically prepare yourself for a peak performance?

Friday....What is the final weather forecast looking like? Try to get out and go for an easy sail with all of the new rigging installed and get comfortable with any changes that you have made. Sometimes, little things like a control line color changing or perhaps the diameter or feel of the line being a little different....seemingly small things..... that can throw you off a little bit until you get used to it. These little changes can cause you to think about it for a split second longer and perhaps inadvertently keeps your "head in the boat" which can negatively affect your performance. Ideally, getting all of these changes made well before the regatta is preferable.

Race Day....Is your boat in the water, bottom clean, rig tuned to the sail makers tuning guide with the mast centered in the boat? Have you registered, made the weigh-in? Ideally this all should have been completed the night before. All you need to worry about the morning of race day are the weather conditions and getting out to the race course an hour before the start. Waiting on straggling crew members or having to make a last second run to the grocery store for food and drinks puts pressure on the team and can create a lot of unneeded anxiety when everyone's nerves are already a little on edge.

Buddy Melges used to say that he could figure out who his main competition would be simply by watching how a team launched their boat and sail out to the starting line. I think there is a lot of truth in that. Teams that look frantic and disorganized are generally not going to do well so don't put yourself in that frame of mind. Teams that look organized, relaxed and confident, subconsciously get in the other team's heads. Body language plays a big part in this.

(Continued on Next Page)

Racing Tips... *(Continued from Page 16)*

When I leave the dock, I like to be in race mode the moment the boat is cast off from the dock. I like to have the sails trimmed properly the entire time and the minute I trim in to go upwind, I want to know if I am on a lifted or headed tack. I like to spend the first 30 minutes sailing upwind and getting in phase with the shifts. If I think I am headed, I will tack on the shift. If I am lifted, I will stay on that tack until a header comes. I am trying to develop imagery of what we will be doing throughout the day.

I don't worry too much about lining up with other boats to test my speed. My attitude is that the boat speed testing should have been done long before now and trying to make last minute changes will unlikely be successful and will only distract me from my top priority of understanding the wind shifts

During that first 30 minutes, I want to figure out what the optimum or highest angle are on both tacks. These will be my target numbers to look for on the first beat. I will also want to get in the rhythm for shifting gears and getting comfortable with my progression of sail trimming. Usually on most boats I sail, I will use the backstay as my throttle. It is the control I adjust the most for keeping the boat on its feet. If I adjust the backstay, I will always ease or trim the mainsheet immediately afterwards. Once the boat is on its feet properly, I will fine tune the traveler to keep the boat moving. When the puff eases, I will make sure the traveler is up slightly, then ease the backstay and immediately ease the mainsheet to keep the leech of the main sail open and flowing.

Each boat is different, but learn what the optimum progression is for your boat and practice it until it is second nature. When my boat is tuned and trimmed well, it seems like the adjustments to keep the boat on its feet are minimal. Boats that require a ton of changes in mainsheet, backstay and traveler for each puff are probably in need of a bit more fine tuning. Your goal should always be to keep your boat on a consistent heel angle at all times. A boat that is heeling up, flattening out and heeling back up is going to lose to a boat that is sailed flat.

Once you get your upwind angles down, and you feel like you have your trimming sorted out, always.....and I mean always.....set your chute and head downwind to the starting line. It is almost inevitable that at sometime, a spinnaker sheet is going to be led through the wrong block; wrapped around a jib sheet; a spinnaker is going to have a wrap in it or worse, maybe hooked up sideways (yes...I have seen teams hoist their chute on first set of the day....upside down).

As you sailing downwind, keep track of where the puffs are coming from and figure out what your optimum downwind angles are.....just like you did upwind. Being in phase with the shifts downwind is equally important to being in phase upwind.

Your success on the race course is often determined several days before the start of the first race. Once the gun has gone off and you have made your first tack, you can often guess within a few places here or there how your race is going to go. That is not to say that someone won't mount an incredible rally from the depths of B-fleet....or that some won't fade to oblivion after a sterling start.

Most of the time, the boats that are getting the top finishes have a game plan that has been in formation for perhaps many months. The top teams that consistently do well have meticulously sorted out their sail selection; have ensured their boat is minimum weight with a fair and smooth hull; the tuning is in concert with the sail maker's recommendations; and the crew has been selected with care to match up the people with the best skills and compatibility. All of these elements have to come together to ensure a winning performance and it takes a lot of work to get there.

After all of the major work has been done and you are ready to race, find a routine that puts you in the best frame of mind to be successful. Find that comfort zone and understand what it takes to get you there. The big race should be your opportunity to celebrate and soak in the joy of competing and should be your reward for all of the hard work and sacrifices that you have made to get there.

Editors note.....since I have not done a very good job on staying on task with my topics each month, if you have a subject that you want to have me focus on, feel free to email me at scott@scottyprop.com.

Scott Young is the winner of the 2006 U.S. Men's National Championship and the 2006 Mallory Cup. This is his fifth time winning this title, three as skipper and two as crew. Other National Championship titles held include the 1975 U.S. Junior Doublehanded Championship (Bemis Trophy) and the 1976 U.S. Junior Singlehanded Championship (Smythe Trophy) in 1976.



Camp, PB&J, and Parent and Me registration for AYC members started Feb 1st!

(for non-members registration will start on March 1)

Check out the website for information and to register:
www.aycroadrunners.net



JUNIOR ROADRUNNER MARCH 3-4

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! The TSA Roadrunner regatta is back, Austin's stop for the TSA Youth circuit will be March 3-4. There are openings for volunteers to assist with registration, kitchen and race committee. Lake Travis is one of the best-attended venue, we will also host the 2007 Texas Junior Laser Championship (Full-rig, Laser Radial and 4.7). New classes invited for this year's edition are Windsurf and FJ.

We expect at least 60 young sailors and their parents from the entire state. The level of competition will be very high in the Optimist classes as no less than 7 Texan sailors qualified in the US team last year. The 2006 US team trials, the most important regatta of the year, was won by Taylor Lutz from Lakewood Yacht Club.

We need to make sure that this AYC stop is up to its reputation! Saturday evening Dinner will be Rudy's BBQ. Please join the organizing team for an outstanding week-end! Contact AYC office or email Brigitte Rochard at brigitte-rochard@yahoo.com.

Sailing Director News By Laura Barry

End of Series Trophy Schedule:

Frostbite:	Flashlights
Spring:	Rigging knife
Turnback Warm-up:	Winch Maintenance Kit
Dog Days:	Multitool
Fall:	Wrench Set

Anyone that competes in 70% or more of the series races will receive a tool bag!

Spring End of Series Party:

Cajun Shrimp Boil: shrimp, corn, taters, beans & rice, \$10

More to follow in next Telltale!

Interested in helping to promote the sport of sailing by sponsoring a new Telltale ad?

Please contact the AYC office for all the details.

Interested in renewing your Telltale ad?

No need to worry!

Member accounts will be automatically charged the cost for renewal (the cost has increased to \$120 per year).

J-24 Fleet News By Tom Lappin

**J
24**

The Frost Bite series just concluded, with only 2 J24s participating. Newcomer **Gary Liddy** with **DFL** got a 2nd place overall. **David Kenyon** also came out for the last day of racing taking a 1st place in that race.

Upcoming Events: The Spring Series will begin on Feb. 25th. I strongly want to encourage everyone to come out and participate, especially given our low turnout for the "Frostbit". There is more than enough water in the lake to get your boat in and out of the water, so please take advantage of it while we can. David and I are currently trying to figure out when during the series we can have a social to get things going. I will let you all know about it as soon as we have a date pinned down.

On a broader level...: There are several really big events coming up in the J/24 Class. Starting Monday Feb. 19th, District 10 will be hosting the Pan-American Trials at the Davis Island Yacht Club. 2 boats from AYC will be there to represent our club. **Charlie Singstad** is taking **Code Blue** and his team down there. Additionally, **Bob Harden**, **Roger Harden**, **Troy Lawson** and myself will be heading down there to try out for the games. If you are not familiar with the PanAm Games, it is very similar to the Olympics, but is only for countries in North and South America. It is held every 4 years in the year preceeding the summer Olympics. The winner of the trials will have the honor of representing the US at the finals in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. AYC has been very well represented in this in the past, with **Troy Lawson**, **John Bartlett** and **Paul Forester** getting a gold medal back in the 90's. Hopefully one of the teams will come through for the club and we can have another gold medal for the trophy case. Results will be posted at <http://2007panams.j24d10.org>.

After the PanAm trials Davis Island Yacht Club will also be hosting the J/24 Midwinter Championships. Traditionally this draws a high number of participants from around the country and sometimes even beyond. This is always a great event to attend if you ever have a chance. Charlie and company will be sticking around for that one too. You can keep up with them at <http://midwinters.j24d10.org>.

We will be heading out right after PanAm trials and hauling the boat back as fast as we can right on through Austin to Puerto Vallarta for the J/24 World Championships. This is a qualifier event; only about 65 teams from around the world qualify to attend it. AYC is fortunate in that we have 2 boats attending. In addition to **mr.happy**, **Roger Harden** will be taking his boat. This is one that I'm really looking forward to. Traditionally, the Mexican J Class puts on a great event, and I have no doubt that this one will set the bar. Results and pictures will be posted at <http://www.j24mex.com/worlds2007.asp>.

Junior RoadRunners

2007 TSA Youth Circuit Regatta Calendar

www.aycroadrunners.net

Regatta	Venue	Date	Contact
Mardi Gras	PAYC	2/17-18	Paul Vera vseaturtle@aol.com / 409-963-3525
Roadrunner	AYC	3/3-4/1	Laura Barry (Including the "Texas. Jr. Laser Champs") sailingdirector@austinyachtclub.org / 512-266-1376
Canyon Lake	LCYC	3/17-18	Peter Young pdyoung@satx.rr.com / 210-490-2605
White Rock Lake	CSC	3/31-4/1	Sandy Denison Sanford@SDenison.net / 214-826-3998
San Jacinto	LYC	4/21*	Chris Dorflinger batexp@swbell.net / 713-724-6049 *clinic on 4/22
Lake Grapevine	GSC	5/19-20	Brian Keitzer bkeitzer@verizon.net
Changes in L'Attitude	CCYC	6/23-24	John Flood john@floodandflood.com / 361-654-8877
Texas Race Week	TCYC	7/12-13	Marjorie Crawford mcrawford24@houston.rr.com / 713-622-1925, A Junior Olympics event
Texas Race Week	LYC	7/14-15	Chris Dorflinger batexp@swbell.net / 713-724-6049 A Junior Olympics event
Texas Race Week	HYC	7/17-18	Sandra Baldrige srbaldrige@aol.com A Junior Olympics event
Cannonball Run	Palacios	8/18-19	Russell York russandml@laward.net / 361-893-5405
Ol' Man of the Sea	FWBC	9/8-9	John O'Riordan kto@oriordan.net
Endless Summer	SSC	9/29-30	Sipke Schuurmans sipke.schuurmans@sbcglobal.net
Black Cat Regatta	RCYC	10/13*	Mary Anne Hopper Maryanne_hopper@hotmail.com * clinic on 10/14 ** TSA meeting on 10/14

1 All TSA classes are eligible but Laser Radial, Laser Full Rig and Laser 4.7 classes have been designated the "2007 Texas Junior Laser Championship"

Summer Camp News

Camp, PB&J, and Parent & Me Registration started for AYC Members.

Go to:
www.aycroadrunners.net

Spots are already filling up fast!

Summer Camp Registration starts 3/1
Non-members!

First practice Wednesday Feb 7th at 4:30pm

From Laura Barry:

- 1) You are not required to attend all practices-- I suggest that you attend 2 a week at least.
- 2) Boats are to be rigged before practice except for the beginner section. If you are having problems or need help come get me in the office.
- 3) Adults driving are EXPECTED to help with rigging and unrigging. Rigging happens before practice. Unrigging happens 30 minutes before the end of class.

Fall Practice Schedule for Juniors

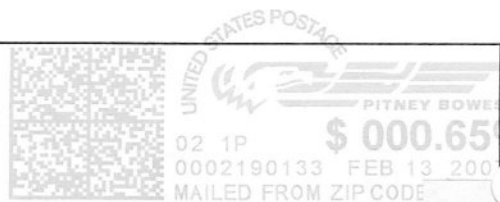
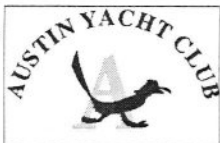
Wednesday	4:30 to 6:00 PM
Thursday	4:30 to 6:00 PM
Friday	4:30 to 6:00 PM
Social	6:00 to 6:30 PM
Saturday	4:00 to 6:00 PM
Sunday	2:00 to 6:00 PM
Workout	6:00 to 6:30 PM

If there are no Juniors by 5pm and no one has called me to let me know they'll be late then I will leave at 5pm. So please call 512-740-0470 if you think you might be late.

Feel free to invite friends out for a free trial!

Austin Yacht Club

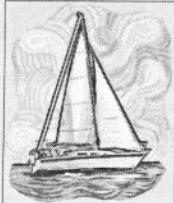
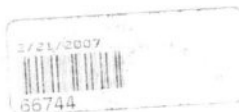
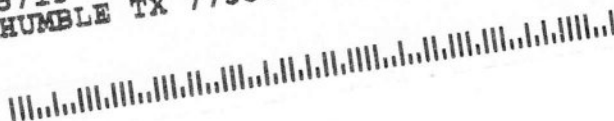
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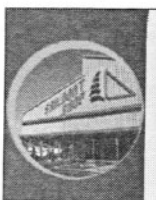
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Thank you, AYC Members, for your support!

Sailboat Shop owners and AYC members, Jacque and Claude Hargrave, appreciate your patronage.

Please let us know how we can help you with your sailing needs, in addition to:

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- AYC discount on parts & boats (present AYC membership card)
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