

Telltale

March 2008

Monthly Newsletter



Spring Series Starts March 16!

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2008 Frostbite Series Winners
New Membership & Storage Dues
Spring Series NOR

2008 Roadrunner Regatta: 'Biggest ever' with 105 Boats & 125 Sailors

Board of Directors

Commodore	Bob Goldsmith
Im. Past Commodore	Eric Nelson
Vice Commodore	David Lewis
Secretary	Randolph Bertin
Treasurer	Tom Romberg
Race Commander	Steve Eller
Buildings & Grounds	Jim Casto
Fleet Commander	Chris Dwight
Sail Training	John Grzinich
Commander	

AYC Staff

General Manager	Bob Woods
Bookkeeper	Pam Radebaugh
Head Caretaker	Tom Cunningham
Assistant Caretaker	Kim Erlich

Austin Yacht Club

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Office: (512) 266-1336
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Clubhouse: (512) 266-1897

E-Mail & Web Site

www.austinyachtclub.net
info@austinyachtclub.org

Newsletter

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

AYC Business Hours

Tuesday: noon—5:00 p.m.
Wednesday-Sunday: 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.

Closed Mondays

Closed Club Holidays:

New Year's Day	1 January
Easter Sunday	23 March
Independence Day	4 July
Thanksgiving Day	27 November
Shopping Day	28 November
Christmas Day	25 December

Board Member E-mail addresses:

fleet_commander@austinyachtclub.net
buildings_grounds@austinyachtclub.net
race_commander@austinyachtclub.net
vice_commodore@austinyachtclub.net
past_commodore@austinyachtclub.net
sail_training@austinyachtclub.net
commodore@austinyachtclub.net
secretary@austinyachtclub.net
treasurer@austinyachtclub.net

Cover photo: Laser start at 2008 Roadrunner Regatta (photo by Bill Records)

Austin Yacht Club 2008 Race Calendar

March 1 – 2	TSA Road Runner Regatta
March 16	Spring Series Race #1
March 22 – 23	Easter Laser Regatta (Fleet Event)
March 29-30	UT Sailing Team SEISA Dinghy Championship Regatta (UT Event)
March 30	Spring Series Race #2
April 2	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
April 5	Spring Long Distance Regatta
April 5-6	UT Sailing Team SEISA Women's Championships (UT Event)
April 9	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
April 12-13	SEISA ISSA District Qualifier (UT Event)
April 13	Spring Series Race #3
April 16	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
April 20	Spring Series Race #4
April 23	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
April 27	Spring Series Race #5
April 30	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
May 4	Spring Series Race #6 (EOS Buffet)
May 7	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
May 10—11	J24 Circuit Stop Regatta (Texas State Championships)
May 14	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
May 17	Southcoast 21 Intergalactic Championship Regatta (Fleet Event)
May 21	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
May 24 - 25	Turnback Canyon Regatta
May 28	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
May 31 – Jun 1	TSA / Area F Mallory Cup Qualifier
June 4	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
June 7 - 8	Centerboard Regatta
June 11	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
June 14	Summer Series Race #1
June 18	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
June 21	Summer Series Race #2
June 25	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
July 2	Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Series (5:00 p.m.)
July 5 – 6	Keel Fleet Event
July 12	Summer Series Race #3

Errata: Bill Records was mistakenly listed as the photographer of the cover photo on Page 1 of the February 2008 Telltale issue. The photograph was obtained from David Kenyon. Our sincere apologies.

Stacy Tucker was in a group photo taken at the J24 Christmas party on Page 10 of the February 2008 Telltale issue and she was mistakenly listed as "Stephanie X". Our sincere apologies.

Founder's Day Brunch April 13, 2008 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

LAST CHANCE TO UPDATE YOUR RE- CORDS FOR THE 2008 AYC MEMBER DIRECTORY AND HANDBOOK

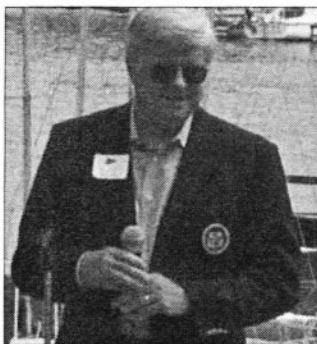
Work is proceeding, and the plan is to have a new directory and handbook completed this spring, likely to be ready in April. If you have bought or sold a boat, or changed your phone number, or moved, or now live under a different assumed identity, please update your records, either online or at the office BEFORE March 20th. A form is provided on Page 7, for your use.

AYC 2008 Non-Racing Events

March 20	New Member Candidate Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
March 27	AYC Board of Directors Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
March 27	J24 Social
March 29	24 Swap Meet (11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.)
April 6	"Learn To Sail" for Southwestern U. Students
April 6	Catalina 22 Race Seminar (1:30 p.m.)
April 13	Founder's Day Brunch (10:00 a.m.—noon) AYC Clubhouse
April 17	New Member Candidate Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
April 24	AYC Board of Directors Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
April 25	US Sailing Mount Gay Rum Speaker Series Featuring Gary Jobson
April 26	AYC Fund Fundraiser Event (7:30 p.m.—10:00 p.m.)
May 8	KHF Handicap Review Committee Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
May 15	New Member Candidate Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
May 31	PB&J
June 7	PB&J
June 9-13	Junior Summer Camp Week #1
June 14	PB&J
June 16-20	Junior Summer Camp Week #2
June 19	New Member Candidate Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
June 21	PB&J
June 23-27	Junior Summer Camp Week #3
June 28	Caribbean Party
June 28	PB&J Junior Windsurfer Series
June 30-July 2	Junior Summer Camp Week #4
July 7	Junior Summer Camp Week #5
December 6	2008 AYC Annual Banquet

From The Commodore

By Bob Goldsmith



How does a Yacht Club measure its success? For East Coast clubs the formula has been the same for many years: total net worth of all members divided by annual number of securities fraud indictments less yearly number of blackballs cast. Simple and effective but not right for AYC. West Coast

clubs have tended to favor a formula in which the annual increase in the total body weight of the members is divided by the average number of calories in a meal at the club restaurant times the square root of the daily average number of "save the [planet, whales, Gay Pride parade, etc]" bumper stickers on cars in the parking lot. Also simple and effective and also not right for AYC.

At AYC we measure success by the number of boats on the race course and the number of smiles in the clubhouse after the races, and let me tell you, Sis and Bro, 2008 is off to a terrific start! Would you believe 50-60 boats in the Frostbite? In the Frostbite for Heavens' sake? Would you believe 102 boats in the Roadrunner? Would you believe 1 million smiles in the Clubhouse as terrific food and post race camaraderie has made every weekend a party? If you don't believe this, it is because you weren't there.

Cast your hairy eyeballs toward the groovy active calendar on the website, and you will see what may be the most intense year of racing at AYC ever. Far out. And take special note that:

- The Spring Series, the first racing series of the year for non-masochists, starts March 16

- Founder's Day, when you will reconnect with AYC's legends and its greats, is April 13

- US SAILING'S Mount Gay Rum Speaker Series featuring Gary Jobson (it says I have to call it that on this piece of paper I signed) will be at AYC on April 25, and this window into the top level of our sport will permanently improve the way you feel about this wonderful sport of sailboat racing.

Absolutely, positively don't miss any of this.

See you out there.

Thoughts of Vice

By David Lewis

"Within two minutes, or even less, he had forgotten all his troubles. Not because his troubles were one whit less heavy and bitter to him than a man's are to a man, but because a new and powerful interest bore them down and drove them out of his mind for the time—just as men's misfortunes are forgotten in the excitement of new enterprises."—Mark Twain, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*

So, your washing machine just went out and dumped 30 gallons of water all over your hardwood floor, your teenage daughter failed the field sobriety test and blew 0.09 on the Breathalyzer® when APD stopped her going the wrong way on 7th Street last Saturday night, and your dog got hit by a car and required \$2500 worth of emergency surgery two days after the coyote ate your 9-year-olds' kitten. The IRS wants to take a closer look at your tax return from 2006, and your company just announced a merger that will "offer significant opportunities for leveraging core competencies while enjoying the economies of scale that follow from eliminating redundant administrative and managerial functionality."

Time to go sailing!! *"Within two minutes, or even less, he had forgotten all his troubles."*

Springtime is here, or at least just around the corner, and there are abundant opportunities on the near horizon to set your troubles aside for a few hours and go sailing. The **Spring Series** kicks off on Sunday, March 16 and continues through Sunday, May 4. **Spring Regatta** is back on April 5th as a one day regatta with a long-distance race format. **James Wilsford** is the regatta chair for Spring Regatta this year and he is putting together what should be an outstanding one-day event to usher in the Spring sailing season. Then, **Turnback Canyon Regatta**, May 24th and 25th, will be here before we know it. The lake is full all the way to Lago Vista and **Bruce and Susie McDonald** are planning a blow-out event for this AYC classic regatta, with two days of superb long-distance racing coupled with the best in food and après racing partying. Following close on the heels of Turnback is the **Centerboard Regatta** on June 7th and 8th—another excellent opportunity to set those troubles aside for a weekend and enjoy life in Central Texas and the benefits of being a part of one of Austin's best hidden treasures—AYC!

A number of theories suggest that Stonehenge was erected some 4000 years ago to mark the passing of the seasons. Twenty odd years ago (some were very odd years) I, quite unintentionally and almost unconsciously, fell into the habit of marking the seasons by sailboat

racers. I got into sailboat racing sailing Hobie Cats. The Ides of March Regatta was always the first regatta of the year and the official beginning of Springtime on my calendar, although my recollection is that you could always count on at least one day of cold wintry weather for this regatta. I sailed my first Turnback Canyon regatta in 1985, and it has marked the official beginning of summer on my calendar ever since then. For many years, Governor's Cup Regatta was held on the 4th of July, and this regatta became my Midsummer's mark until we began moving it around to avoid the lake congestion on the 4th of July weekend. Over the last couple of years, Leukemia Cup Regatta has become my harbinger of Fall, taking the place of the several years of early autumn Governor's Cups before that.

So, whether you use a big pile of rocks to mark your place in time, Microsoft Outlook, or a Hallmark Impressionists calendar, it's that time of the year again. It's Springtime in Central Texas. The wind is blowing, the weather is beautiful, and it's time to go sailing. You can find a lawyer for your daughter tomorrow.

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: _____

Race Commander Report

By Steve Eller

Thanks to everyone that participated in the Frostbite Series. We had 59 boats participate over the course of the 5 week series. A few observations regarding the Frostbite Series:

- Check in will be required prior to the first race of the day for all Series Races this year. Please make sure you sail by the RC boat and let us know which fleet you are sailing in.

- Keel Handicap racers need to ensure that they have a valid PHRF certificate on file with the Keel Fleet Handicap Committee.

- Please make sure your profile on the AYC website is up to date. In addition to helping **Randolph Bertin** publish a good handbook the Scoring Committee uses this information to figure out who to award scores to. Don't let someone else take credit for your good finish because the website is out of date!

The PRC will be publishing a new and improved Race Committee handbook in the coming weeks. Look for this slimmed down and more user-friendly version when you and your fleet have Race Committee duty (you have volunteered to help your fleet – right?). Please contact me if you have any questions, comments or concerns about the new RC Handbook.

Spring Series starts Sunday, March 16, 2008. The Series will be the traditional AYC Series race format with the One Design fleets sailing the round-the-buoys and the Keel Fleets sailing the Long Distance courses (the way God intended...). Please plan on participating in this 6 weekend event.

Please also plan on joining us for the Spring Long Distance Regatta on Saturday, April 5, 2008. This one race regatta will start near the AYC harbor, race to a turning mark near Lakeway and then race back to AYC. **James Wilsford** is the regatta chairman and has a nice dinner planned for after the race.

See you on the water.

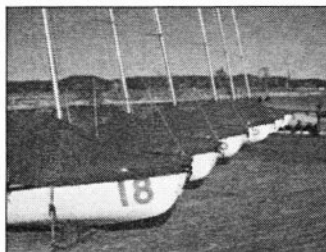


**Check-In Required
before the 1st race
of the day for ALL**

AYC Series Races this year!

Sail Training Report

By John Grzinich



The FJ Sail Training Fleet is ready for action!

During February there has been a lot of what I have to call "administrative" work going on to get our programs ready for the 2008 training season, not much actual sail training, but that is going start to change.

The big overall accomplishment was getting the "Sail Training" budget OK'ed by the TAC.

In the **Adult Training** area, we updated our AYC website information for our ASA Training Programs, and updated the ASA Brochure. Hopefully this has contributed to a nice start with ASA Training registrations this year. On March 9th a Racing and Boathandling Clinic is set up with the agenda in place, and the online registration underway. As I write the Telltale article, I see a nice size class already registered. It should be fun. Hopefully this will contribute to improved participation in the Spring Series. On April 6th a "Learn to Sail" class is set up for Southwestern U. students (12 registered so far). The goal here is to expand sailing awareness and skills in our immediate area. The remaining adult training schedule is being determined, but most likely, an "Adult Learn to Sail" class will be one of next classes scheduled with the goal of getting new sailors exposed to sailing prior to the start of the sailing season. I am targeting early May to set one up. There is information on the AYC website in the 'Adult Training' section that shows potential classes. If you have any suggestions on what sail training topics you would like see clinics on next, please email me anytime.

In the **Junior Program** area a lot of energy went into gearing up for the PB&J program and the Junior Summer Camp. We went active on PB&J registration mid-February and they have been pouring in. PB&J is already at about 45% capacity, so if you are thinking of sending your kids to a PB&J session, you better get on the AYC website, click on 'Junior Sail Training' and 'PB&J Information' to register, and do it soon. Many thanks to **Doug Kern** and **Tom Lang** for all the work they did in setting everything up for the PB&J registration process. The Junior Summer Camp focus has been mainly on getting the word out, and getting the registration process set up. We ran an ad in the Statesman's summer camp guide, and I've been getting links to our camp set up on a bunch of online summer camp websites. Our own AYC website is now updated and ready

(Continued on Page 7)

Fleet Commander Report

By Christopher Dwight

Re-Assignment of Wet Slips

A key guiding principle at AYC is ensuring club resources are being utilized to promote racing activities. This guiding principle can be difficult to implement as Fleet Commander. One challenge is to accommodate wet slip movement requests. Member reasons for requesting a wet slip change can vary, but often relate to a change in boat type, overall boat size, maneuvering room, or ease of slip entry and exit.

According to Harbor Rule 12, a boat can be moved by the club to another suitable space provided that the new space has a safe margin for movement within the slip. Though this rule provides the de-facto authority to move boats, I feel a dialog with potentially affected members prior to any move decisions is a more appropriate way to proceed. I believe that most members agree with our guiding principle of encouraging active participation, and will therefore be willing to accept a wet-slip move in order to accommodate more active members.

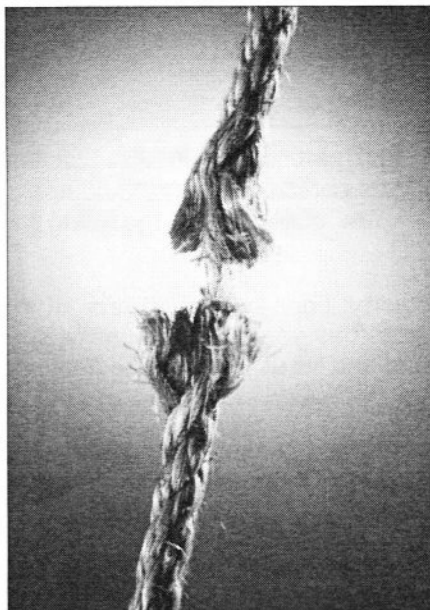
In upcoming weeks and months, I will propose to a few members that their boat be moved to a different wet slip in order to accommodate the requests of more active boats. These requests will be made via direct one-on-one contact initiated by me. I anticipate only a few re-assignments will be necessary to accommodate the current movement requests. If you happen to receive such a request, I would appreciate your understanding of both the challenge of managing a limited supply of wet slip resources, as well as your consideration of the potential benefit your decision could have on increased race participation.

If you have concerns or comments, send an e-mail to fleetcommander@austinyachtclub.net.

Harbor Rule Reminder of the Month - Rule 22

Harbor rule 22 describes remedies for unsafe storage conditions. Specifically, rule 22 reads, "*Conditions rendering a boat unsafe or a menace to others' property may be corrected by the Club if not corrected in due time after being brought to the owner's attention. Any expenses incurred will be charged to the account of the owner.*"

One of the most common unsafe storage condition among our wet slips is chafed dock lines. When boats chafe through their dock lines, it can result in damage to both the affected boat, the dock, and in some cases



surrounding boats. When you next use your boat, be sure to check for signs of chafe. During a recent stroll of our docks, I noticed several boats where dock lines exhibited highly visible chafe (greater than 50% worn through). Chafe can occur not only where lines

are secured to the boat, but also at any rub point (chocks, gunwale edges), and also where lines are secured to the dock.

If replacing dock lines, be sure to consider the line construction. More elastic lines made from nylon tend to chafe less than the more static Dacron and high-tech lines commonly used for rigging. More elastic lines also reduce wear and impact to both boat hardware and our dock system. Different nylon line braids absorb shock differently. Eight-strand nylon "brait" is the most elastic of nylon dock lines. This line was developed for the shipping industry, and is available from some specialty retailers such as Annapolis Performance Sailing (www.apsltd.com). Instructions for splicing brait are available on the web, and no specialized tools are required. The next most elastic line is three-strand. Better, marine-grade nylon three strand will be both more elastic and remain more supple over time. These are commonly available at local marine retailers such as West Marine. Double-braid nylon dock lines, though much more elastic than Dacron (polyester) double-braid, are actually the least elastic of nylon lines. These lines are often selected for their soft, supple feel and resistance to growing stiff as they age, but will create higher shock loads than comparable nylon three-strand and nylon brait lines.

While checking your dock lines, also be sure to look for line tails at the dock connection that are too long, allowing the tails to drape into the lake (see harbor rule 23). These tails will continuously "wick" water from the lake up to the dock and accelerate corrosion, ultimately requiring pre-mature dock repair or replacement. Due to wicking, corrosion tends to be concentrated where mooring lines are secured to the dock. One glance at our older pipe-constructed docks and you'll see the huge impact dock-line wicking can have!

From the Secretary's Desk

By Randolph Bertin

DUES/FEES INCREASE

At the February board meeting, the AYC Board of Directors approved a nominal increase in member dues and fees. This increase was recommended by the Treasurer's Advisory Committee, and the new rates were established in order to ensure that the revenues for the Yacht Club would meet our operating expenses (i.e. we wanted to have a balanced budget).

Below is a schedule of the new dues and fees, which in most cases represent an increase of \$1 per month, with the largest increase at \$2 per month, added to wet slip storage above 10' width.

MEMBERSHIP:

Senior \$58
Associate \$58
Young Adult \$41
Junior \$15
Ol' Salt \$29
Non-resident \$29

STORAGE:

Dry sail \$32
Board Docks \$35
Shallow \$56
10' wide \$73
10.5' wide \$81
12' wide \$100
13.5' wide \$105

These new rates will begin with the March billing cycle, so that they will show up in the Yacht Club Statements to be sent out at the end of that month and due in April.

PLEASE NOTE that this increase serves only to meet our current operating expenses, and that the board will be considering a possible additional increase in dues and/or fees to meet some of the longer term needs of the AYC and ensure our continued viability for the future

Sail Training...Continued from Page 5

for registrations which started for AYC members' mid-February and non-members March 3rd. Again, many thanks to **Tom Lang** for making that happen. The member registrations got off to a slow start, but as soon as the non-member registration opened, we got a lot of sign up activity and we are already at 25% capacity with quite few sign-ups in weeks 1 and 5. So, if you are thinking of sending your child to our junior sailing camp this summer, you should do it soon to get the week you want. Again, from the AYC home page, click Junior Sail Training, and then go to 'Junior Summer Camp Information' to register your child.



Perfectly trimmed FJ's pointing high at the start at AYC's 2008 Roadrunner Regatta (Photo by Bill Records)

The Junior Road Runner Regatta was a great success and 'Sail Training' was happy to provide some boats to enable many kids to sail in it. The entire FJ fleet including UT boats was in use by high school teams. Many thanks to **Steve Gay** for setting that up. Informal Sunday afternoon practice sessions are continuing for juniors and high school team sailors. This is still an informal program with communications being done via the word of mouth and the 'Roadrunner' mailing list. We've got some work to do to put a more formal junior training program in place, and this in one area I am going to try to focus on next. So, if you have got thoughts, suggestions, and ideas on this subject, please send me an email.

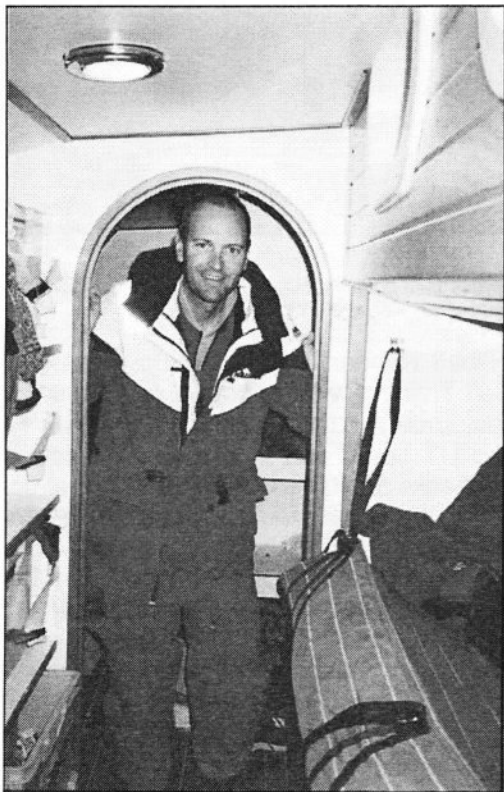
I met with reps from Sea Scouts regarding junior program involvement. They are trying to reactivate some local fleets (they call them "ships"). We discussed the possibility of holding a "Learn to Sail" event for the Sea Scouts, and I look it as possible source for new junior sailors.

C-22 Fleet News By Peter Broberg



As we look forward to a new year of series racing beginning March 16th, the precedent for intense close competition has already been set by two of our newer fleet members. On January 19 **David Shockley** (on *Bebop*) and **Mark Haralson** (on *Fat Cat*) finished only four seconds apart after nearly two hours on the course in Race #1 of Frostbite! Congratulations to both skippers for demonstrating the beauty of one-design competition even within the context of a Handicap event.

As a way of getting to know our newer members better, we will try to profile individuals over the course of the year. To start things off we'll introduce **David Shockley** in more detail.



David Shockley below decks in the middle of the North Atlantic. Must be a pop-top model judging by the headroom! (Photo left)

David bought *Bebop* from **John Grzinich** a couple of years ago and has been out on the water and at post-race socials on a regular basis. He is a 45-year-old native of Houston who studied biology at UT-Austin in the early 1980s. He works with a medical device company involved in making life-support equipment used during cardiovascular surgery. David and **Melissa**, his wife of 13 years, have enjoyed multiple "island-

hopping" sailing charter vacations in the Caribbean. In 2002, David was the token "Yank" in a crew of 17 aboard a British Gas-sponsored 72-foot ocean racer for the transatlantic race from Southampton, England to Boston. He ran the "snake pit" which apparently is the snarl of control lines all brought together at the base of the mast. After weathering 30 foot seas and 40-50 knot breezes at the edge of a hurricane, David's boat finished in first place. After 16 days of racing, the margin of victory over the second place boat was 8 minutes! Obviously, whether in the Frostbite or in the Transat, David is accustomed to close competition.

The beauty of our fleet is that our great spirit of cooperation and our wide range of experience levels allow everybody to find some other boat close to their level to match up against. Whether battling for 1st, for 5th, or for NOT DFL there is always a challenge to be had.

Let's PACK the start line on March 16th with every Catalina 22 that floats to start off our 2008 racing with a Bang!

Buildings & Grounds By Jim Casto



In addition to previously announced members **James Bene** & **John Vance**, I now also have the talents of **Greg Grover**, **Gary Devin** & **Bobby Crouch** assisting me on the Buildings & Grounds Committee. By the time you read this in the Telltale, our March 8th

Work Day will have been completed.

This is the first month I really feel like I'm in the "hot seat" being on the Board. The January Board meeting seems so long ago, its like a blur. But I'll remember the February Board meeting for a long time - we voted to approve a break-even operating budget, and to achieve this, an increase in dues & fees was required. I'm comfortable with that vote, and I know the membership will understand the need for this, and possibly future increases. In the last few years, your cable bill went up, your electric & water bill went up, and your taxes. So did the bills and taxes at AYC and yet membership dues & fees had not been increased for some time.

Also at the February Board meeting, we approved an amount for remodeling the men's clubhouse restroom. This puts in place a budget in which we can move forward with getting quotes and selecting a contractor. My goal is to have this complete before summer.

SC-21 Fleet News

By Tom Meyer

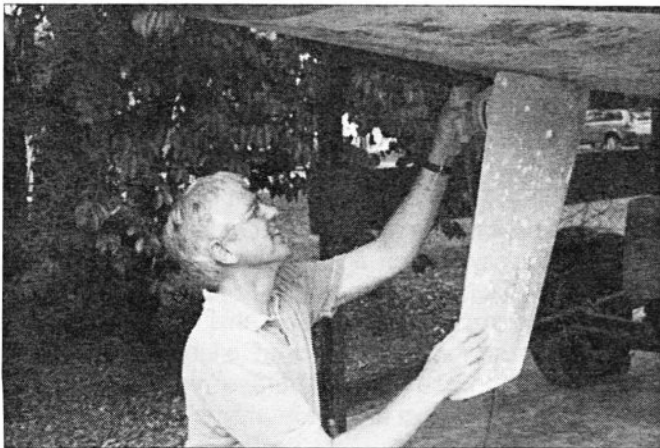


The fleet made a great showing in the recently completed Frostbite Series, with **Carl Morris** and **Andy Hempel** taking away the

first two places in the large non-spinnaker fleet and a number of other SC 21 sailors participating on other boats. Let's continue the momentum that the fleet showed in last fall's Leukemia Cup with a big turnout in the Spring Series. Plus - this series is the only series before the Intergalactics on May 17, so everyone will need to tune up, practice, and shake the cob webs out before then. The SC21 fleet has race committee duty for Spring Series #5, on April 27.



Two SC sailors hard at work getting their boats ready for the Spring Series ... Fleet Captain Tom Meyer (Photo Above) and Ben Stones (Photo Below). (Photos courtesy of Bruce McDonald)



2008 Frostbite Series Winners

Keel Handicap A (7 Boats)

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1 st Place | Ray Shull on J/29 <i>Mostly Harmless</i> |
| 2 nd Place | Henson/Vaughan on Hobie 33 <i>Red</i> |
| 3 rd Place | Jim Tillinghast on J/29 <i>Godzilla</i> |

Keel Handicap B (22 Boats)

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1 st Place | Dave Broadway on J/24 <i>Superman</i> |
| 2 nd Place | Bill Mitchell on J/22 <i>Impetuous</i> |
| 3 rd Place | David Gamble on J/24 |
| 4 th Place | Linda McDavitt on J/22 <i>Bonfire</i> |
| 5 th Place | Renee Ruais on J/22 <i>Dea Latis</i> |
| 6 th Place | Jimmy Cain on J/22 <i>Toy Monster</i> |
| 7 th Place | Jim Henrickson on Holder 20 <i>Warrior</i> |

Keel Handicap Non-Spinnaker (25 Boats! WOW)

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1 st Place | Carl Morris on Southcoast 21 |
| 2 nd Place | Andy Hempel on Southcoast 21 |
| 3 rd Place | Stephen Brown on J/22 <i>Jabber Wocky</i> |
| 4 th Place | Remus Broussard on San Juan 28 <i>Blue Duck</i> |
| 5 th Place | Rob Stivers on Hunter 28.5 <i>Slow Play</i> |
| 6 th Place | Steve Gay on Pearson Triton <i>De Nouveau</i> |
| 7 th Place | Trey Amrhein on Catalina 27 <i>Hakuna Matata</i> |
| 8 th Place | Steve Ehlers on Catalina 30 <i>Endorfin</i> |

Multihulls (5 Boats)

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 st Place | Paul Horton on F31R <i>Tribology</i> |
| 2 nd Place | Dave Grogono on Nacra 5.2 |

J-24 Fleet News By David Kenyon



Spring has sprung! The wind and weather are perfect for sailing on Lake Travis! Let's see you get out there and mix it up! Although our racing series has been somewhat quiet, our J24 group has been active.

First, if you missed our season opening social at **Third Base Sports Bar**, you missed an enjoyable event! **Third Base** is a great place to hold your social events, offering a great venue, good food and lots of big screens for game watching. We had a nice turnout and a terrific time. We had crews and skippers representing 5 boats plus friends of the fleet. The J24 group sponsored free beer, well drinks and appetizers, in addition to great camaraderie and light revelry. We had two forms of entertainment – our own joking and ribbing along with a video of the J24 Worlds from Newport, RI. . Make sure you don't miss our next social event, planned for Thursday March 27. (Location to be announced later this month.)

Next up – **The Beasley Cup!** The Texas Circuit begins March the weekend of March 14 –16 in Shoreacres at the Houston Yacht Club. There are 4 AYC boats planning to compete in the season opener – **Mr. Happy, Ooh Ahh, Superman, and ayeBoat**. We hope others will be there too, like Roger's **New Rules** and perhaps a few more from our growing fleet. Don't forget the Austin stop for the Texas Circuit, the J24 Texas State Championships are scheduled for May 10 & 11th here at the AYC. Better get some practice in! This year should be better than ever!

Speaking of growing fleet - in order to promote our great One Design racing and AYC participation we have a couple of new events to put on your calendar.

First, we'll be holding a **Swap Meet** Saturday March 29 at the club, from 11am – 1pm. This is a chance to clean out your sail loft, empty your hardware box, make room in your garage and generally move J24 and other sailing stuff down the "food chain". This is a great way for everyone to trade equipment and knowledge about setting up your boat and what you found has worked and doesn't work for your J24. Contact **David Kenyon** for more details. A flier with all the details of where, what, etc. will be coming to your email box soon.

Second, we'll be offering a chance to the entire club to watch J World's sailing / racing videos. There are (4) videos that each focus on different aspects of boat prep, tuning, crew responsibilities, on the water sailing and tactics. The first showing is a 30 minute video on the subject of *Upwind Sailing*. Dates for the other three videos – Downwind Sailing, Starting Tactics, and

Championship Sailing will be forthcoming. Look for a reminder in your email box and keep an eye on the AYC calendar. For more information about the video series contact **David Kenyon** or **Jorge Martin-de-Nicolas**. See you on the water!

Ensign Fleet News By Randolph Bertin



Race Committee

Ensign fleet will be taking on Race Committee duties for the opening of the Spring Series on Sunday, March 16. RC was originally assigned to the J-22s, but it turns out that they will be competing in their Midwinter Championship up in Dallas, so we have swapped dates with them. Plan to be out at the AYC at Noon in order to get organized and conduct a good race for the club (wind permitting).

Frostbite Finish

The Frostbite series ended with a whimper and a bang. The fourth scheduled race saw quite a few boats ready to compete. It was sunny and warm enough, but unfortunately the wind did not oblige and after drifting about for awhile, attempts to race were abandoned for the day. And the final race day in mid February was rather foul--wet and windy--and only a quarter of the usual number of boats were hardy enough to brave the elements (no Ensigns among them). So there was no change in the Ensign standings, and **Bill Hawk** remained the highest scoring Ensign in the PHRF B (spinnaker) fleet for the series, with a finish of 8th place out of 22 boats, with mostly J-22s and J-24s ahead. Great sailing Bill (and sundry crew, which mostly included his daughters!)

Fleet Growth

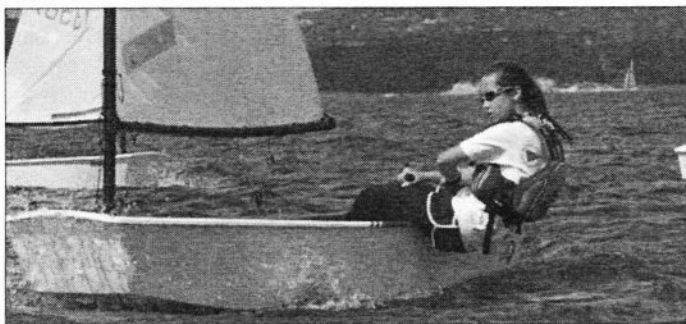
The Ensign fleet added another member this past month, with **Mitch Barnett** joining the AYC in February. He has been crewing on a variety of Ensigns over the past several months as a guest, and now he is searching far and near to find an Ensign of his own. Good luck in rounding up a boat, and welcome to the fleet, Mitch!

Spring Racing

Our first opportunity in 2008 to compete head to head will be Sunday, March 30, for Spring Series #2. Let's see if we can build on the solid Frostbite turnout and have some impressive numbers this spring. Whether you come out for one race or all of them, the important thing is to come out. Wherever you finish in the standings, it's always an opportunity to enjoy sailing.

2008 Roadrunner Regatta

By Brigitte & Eric Rochard



Kayla Gibson takes 1st Place in Subgroup Red (13-15)- Opti Class
(Photo by Bill Records)

AYC Roadrunner: 105 boats, 125 sailors!

This year again the Roadrunner Regatta was a success. We had sailors from Dallas, Houston, Corpus Christi and for the first time from Florida and New-Orleans!

On Saturday, competitors sailed in light air (10 to 15 knots). It was a good warm up for Sunday as the wind reached up to 25 knots in the gusts.

Everybody enjoyed Rudy's BBQ on Saturday evening as well as the nice burgers organized by **Kelly and Bill Hawk** on Sunday.



Will Hawk in the Laser Radial Class
(Photo by Bill Records)

Thanks to all our volunteers this event has run smoothly. This is the most attended regatta in the TSA circuit certainly because we have a nice and friendly Sailing Club.

I want to thank all the volunteers. Each of you made a big difference in the organization of this important event

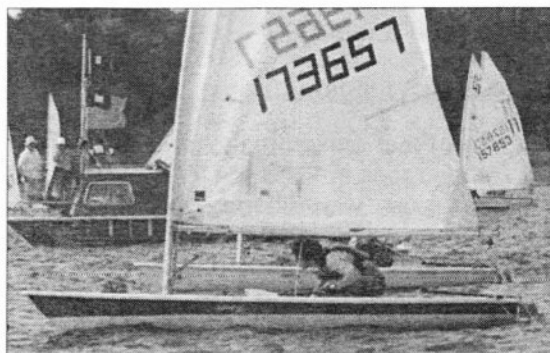
for the juniors. Thanks **Claude, Barry and Rob** for the PRO, thanks **Joanne** for taking care of the registration, thanks **Bill** for supervising everything, thanks **Ira** or scoring so fast, thanks **Terry** for your nice coffee, thanks **Bob** for helping so many parents, thanks **Steve** for working so well with the High school teams.

I hope to see you again next year for another wonderful Roadrunner Regatta.

Brigitte and Eric



Alan Rochard Finishes 6th Place out of 38 in the Opti Class (Photo by Bill Records)

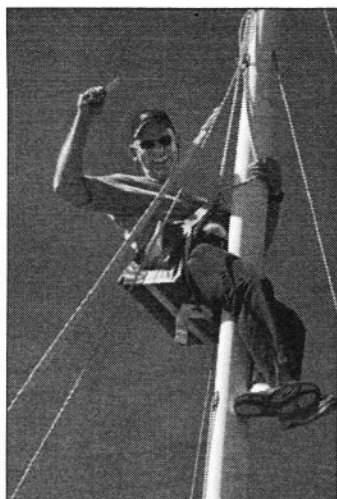


Thomas Young at the start of the Laser Radial Class
(Photo by Bill Records)

Coleman Terrell (right) catching up to Nathan Dwight (left) in the Laser Radial Class (Photo by Bill Records)



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No project too tall for Keel Fleet Captain Steve Vaughan (Photo left by Susie and Bruce McDonald)

2008 Series Racing Continues

Clean those bottoms and tune those rigs, the Spring Series is less than one week away. LCRA seems determined to keep the lake full and the weather is being unusually cooperative. Boats are moving into and out of the work area at a quick

pace and it looks like most folks are gearing up for a competitive season of racing.

We are up to 62 paid members and the participation rate for races is holding steady at around 40 boats. Let's get as many boats to the starting line as we can. If your boat is not quite ready yet, then there is always the opportunity to crew for one that is.

Come join the fun and take advantage of the favorable weather and the good company.

Skipper Based Handicapping Update

At last years' Keel Fleet annual meeting it was agreed that for AYC Series races in 2008 the Keel Fleet would informally "score" races with skipper based handicap adjustments for evaluation. Skipper based informal scoring results will be added to the Keel Fleet web pages on the AYC site shortly for the Frostbite series. The evaluation scoring method used, simply subtracts 3 seconds per mile (cumulatively) from the PHRF handicap for all races after a skipper/boat combination wins a race. All PHRF fleets were scored with this method. This handicap adjustment factor is small but it is accumulative, if for instance across a single series of 5 races the accumulative effect could be 15 seconds/mile for a skipper that won all 5 races. The accumulative effect for a full year could be much larger and could become a measure of accomplishment for a skipper. For the Frostbite Series, these handicap changes resulted in changes of several boats finishing positions in several races and only one skipper across all fleets won more than one race with these corrections applied. However, overall the standings for this event did not change with the handicap adjustments applied. The fleet plan is to continue evaluation scoring through mid

year when a fleet membership meeting is planned and we will again discuss if any of the PHRF sub fleets wish to implement a skipper based scoring method as the official scoring method. If this skipper base handicap scoring method were to be adopted, it is anticipated that it would only be applied to AYC series races (i.e. not Regattas, Beer Cans or other open events). Please feel free to offer comments or suggestions to Steve Vaughan (vaughansm@gmail.com) regarding this experimental scoring method.

Crew & Skipper Sign-up

We are just about back in action with a Skipper and Crew sign-up program to facilitate fully-crewed boats. Skippers, please be thinking about what you would like to see in a prospective crew member and what you are prepared to offer. If you already know your specific needs, please forward the information to **Stacy Tucker** who will be coordinating this at stacy.lee.tucker@gmail.com or the fleet secretary at remus@lobos.net.

We are fortunate to have new members coming into the Club and Fleet that span the continuum from brand-spanking-new to seasoned sailors and racers. The intention is to provide assistance to the experienced based on what is available, and to provide a process that allows the less experienced folks to sample a representative cross-section of the Club and Fleet.



Rick Smith (back in town) readies the Flying Tiger (Photo above)

Upcoming Events

Building & Grounds Work Day (March 8th 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM): Volunteers are still needed for the first workday of 2008. There will be tasks for all skill sets and everyone can contribute.

Racing and Boat Handling Clinic (March 9th 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM): The first sail training opportunity of the year will be a great opportunity to brush off the cobwebs and/or get those new recruits up-to-speed. The

(Continued on Next Page)

Keel Fleet... *Continued from Page 12*

idea is to get members out for some education and tune-up just prior to the start of the Spring Series. The focus will be new racers to mid-fleet finishers, with a goal of improving confidence and thus participation. The topics and tone will be generic racing, not boat specific. At \$25 for skipper and up to two crew, this is a great deal.

Racing Clinic Info <http://austinyachtclub.net/training/racing-clinic>

Racing Clinic Registration <http://austinyachtclub.net/training/racing-clinic?cmd=reg>



Restoration of a Capri 25 by Matthew Barrett

Keel Fleet Business

Please remember that our contribution to the Telltale is open to suggestion. If there is anything you would like to see addressed, or if you have your own fleet related contribution, please forward it to the fleet secretary via email at remus@lobos.net.



Righting a Laser

More 2008 Roadrunner Regatta

Photos... *(Courtesy of Bill Records)*



Brad Shaw (Center, Sail# 18767) pulls a 1st Place bullet during Race 1 of the Laser 4.7 Class



Ben Herman & Dominic San Miguel outpointing Will Alber & Tim Bucher in the FJ 420 Class



Bailing and Opti



NOTICE OF RACE

2008 SPRING SERIES REGATTA

RULES - The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The 2005 - 2008 Racing Rules of Sailing.

ADVERTISING - Advertising will be restricted to Category C.

ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

Austin Yacht Club ("AYC") members and guests are cordially invited to participate in AYC's 2008 Spring Series ("Series"). AYC is both the Host and the Organizing Authority of the Series. The regatta is open to all monohull keelboats, centerboard boats, and multihull boats (including 'beach cats') whose helmsperson or at least one (1) crew member is a current AYC member in good standing.

No registration is required to participate in the Series however all eligible boats that wish to participate in the Series must check-in with the Race Committee by sailing astern of the Race Committee boat on starboard tack and hailing their sail number and class prior to the first Warning Signal of the day for their class.

FEES - There are no entry fees for the Series.

SCHEDULE

Races shall be held on the following dates:

Sunday, March 16, 2008

Sunday, March 30, 2008

Sunday, April 13, 2008

Sunday, April 20, 2008

Sunday, April 27, 2008

Sunday, May 4, 2008

No more than two (2) races will be held per day. Selected classes will run no more than one (1) race per day as announced at the Competitor's Briefing. Any races not sailed on their schedule day will not be re-scheduled.

The Competitors' Briefing shall be held on Sunday, March 16, 2008, at 12:00 in the AYC Clubhouse.

The scheduled time of the warning signal for the first race each day is 13:30.

****Social Activities**** - The Social Committee will be provide refreshments in the AYC Clubhouse after the first and last races of the Series.

MEASUREMENTS - No measurement of boats is required. Any boats competing in a PHRF handicap fleet must have a valid handicap rating certificate on file with the Keel Fleet PHRF Handicap Committee prior to participating in the Series.

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS - The sailing instructions are available on the AYC website and will be available in the AYC Clubhouse (in the bins next to the beverage cooler in the East corner of the AYC Clubhouse) prior to the start of the Competitor's Briefing.

VENUE - AYC is a private yacht club located on Lake Travis, Texas, at 5906 Beacon Drive, Austin, TX 78734-1428. Directions and other information relating to AYC are available on its website located at www.austinyachtclub.net. Please note that neither pets nor fireworks are allowed on club property.

THE COURSES - Racing will take place on courses defined by LCRA channel markers, AYC permanent buoys, and/or temporary inflatable tetrahedrons at the discretion of the race committee. AYC Long Distance course cards are available on the AYC website and will be available in the AYC Clubhouse (in the bins next to the beverage cooler in the East corner of the AYC Clubhouse) prior to the start of the Competitor's Briefing.

SCORING

All boats will be assigned to a Class for scoring purposes with respect to the recognized racing fleets at AYC. In addition there will be a separate multihull Class for trimarans, large catamarans and beach cats. Such class assignments will be posted on the official notice board prior to the first race of the series.

The Keel Handicap fleets will be scored using the "Time on Distance" variant of the PHRF handicap rating system utilizing the PHRF of Lake Travis handicap values. The Multihull fleet will be scored using the Portsmouth handicap rating system utilizing US Sailing's 2006 Portsmouth Yardstick.

One (1) race is required to be completed to constitute a series.

A boat will not be scored in a race during which her class has the Race Committee assignment. This modifies rule A4.1.

Eligible boats cannot participate in more than one (1) Class during the Series. Eligible boats will be scored as opposed to scoring helmspersons or crews.

RADIO COMMUNICATION - A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats. This restriction also applies to mobile telephones.

PRIZES - Trophies will be awarded to helmspersons in accordance to the overall size of their respective Class as follows:

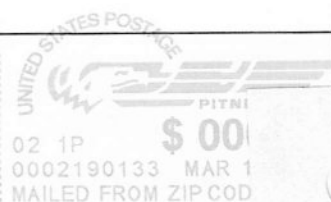
- Up to 2 participants	No trophy
- 3 participants	1 trophy
- 4-6 participants	2 trophies
- 7-9 participants	3 trophies
- 10+ participants	1 additional trophy for each additional 3 participants

DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY - Competitors participate in the Series entirely at their own risk. See rule 4, Decision to Race. The organizing authority, its officers, committee persons, members, or any associates thereof will not accept any liability for and are in no way liable for any material damage or personal injury or death sustained in conjunction with or prior to, during, or after the Series.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - For additional information contact AYC at 512-266-1336 or email bob@austinyachtclub.net. Additional information may also be posted on the AYC website under the Events page at www.austinyachtclub.net.

Austin Yacht Club

5906 Beacon Road
Austin, TX 78734-1428



Christopher & Susan Dwight
507 Duck Lake Dr
Lakeway, TX 78734



Happy Easter!

The AYC Office will be closed on Easter Sunday.

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