



# Telltale

May 2008

Monthly Newsletter

## Inside this issue...

Turnback Canyon NOR

Gary Jobson Event Reviewed

"U.S. Team Trials" by Alan Rochard

Also...

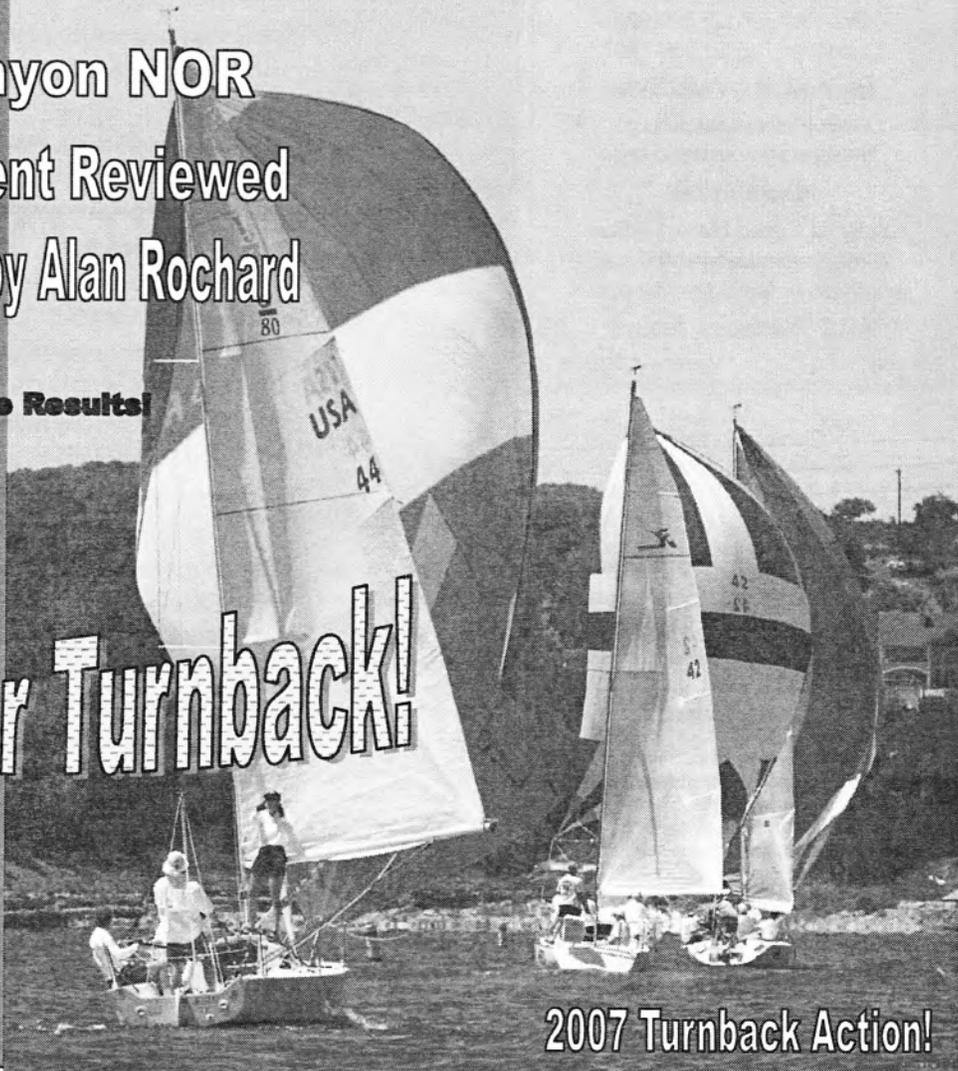
**2008 Spring Series Race Results!**

# Turnout for Turnback!

May 24-25, 2008

Turnback Canyon Regatta

An overnight long distance race  
and the year's best party!



2007 Turnback Action!



## SAVE THE DATE!

MAY 24 - 25, 2008



2-day race with overnight anchorage, dinner and party

Open to all sailboats

Cruising class navigational cruise

Awards, food and party Sunday at AYC

EARLY REGISTRATION CLOSURES  
MAY 14

**BE THERE!**

## From The Commodore

By Bob Goldsmith

*Ciao a tutti...sono Marzia Pe e arrivo direttamente da Milano....*

Well, actually, Marzia is not the Commodore but if you were there for the EOS/NOS (End of Series/ New Orleans Style) party on Sunday, you probably wish she was. Our charming visitor from Northern Italy is part of Rotary International's Group Study Exchange program and is here in Austin with a group of other young professionals from her beautiful country. She is staying at our house while the GSE team is in Austin this week, and it was a real privilege to have her join us at AYC for the party.



## AYC 2008 Non-Racing Events

May 8	KHF Handicap Review Committee Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
May 15	New Member Candidate Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
May 17	Adult Learn To Sail Clinic
May 22	AYC Board of Directors Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
May 31	PB&J
June 7	PB&J
June 9-13	Junior Summer Camp Week #1
June 12	KHF Handicap Review Committee Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
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 26	AYC Board of Directors Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
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
July 12	PB&J Junior Windsurfer Series
July 17	New Member Candidate Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
July 19	PB&J Junior Windsurfer Series
July 24	AYC Board of Directors Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
July 26	PB&J Junior Windsurfer Series
August 2	PB&J
August 9	PB&J
August 14	KHF Handicap Review Committee Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
August 16	PB&J
August 21	New Member Candidate Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
August 23	PB&J
August 28	AYC Board of Directors Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
September 25	AYC Board of Directors Meeting (7:30 p.m.)



Well... we have been a little bit busy lately. Let me see... There was Founder's Day on April 13<sup>th</sup> for which many thanks to Social Chairperson **Jeane Goldsmith** and her wonderful volunteers. Founding Father and Past Commodore **Clift Price** organized the Founding Fathers for another song and dance, with very talented pianist **Kay Briggs** accompanying, and a Q&A about AYC in its earlier days. On April 25<sup>th</sup> World Class sailor **Gary Jobson** made another of his great presentations at AYC. Jeane co-ordinated this event with US Sailing, and **Wade Bingaman** was Chairman for organizing the event at the club. It was fine, just really fine. Then there was the Spring Series with a special welcome to new member **Trey Ahmrein** who pulled out a first in the large non-spinnaker class with a tremendous effort in the last race. Then there was the EOS/NOS last weekend with salutations once again to Jeane for the terrific party/trophy presentation and a special thanks to non-member **Cheryl Walters** who has helped with the website for several years and finally put in an appearance handing out the trophies and helping with the food. We are hoping that AYC will attract a lot more members in Trey's and Cheryl's age group since ultimately that is the future of the club.

The next big event is the Turnback Canyon Regatta May 24 and 25. This is AYC's signature event and the one race above all others that we are known for in the national sailing community. Full information is elsewhere in this issue. Don't miss it.

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## Thoughts of Vice

By David Lewis

*"If you want to build a ship, don't drum to the women and men to gather wood, divide the work, and give orders. Instead, teach them to yearn for the vast and endless sea."*

—Antoine De Saint-Exupery in *The Wisdom of the Sands*

*"That is the heart of it. Now begin in the middle, and later learn the beginning. The end will take care of itself."*

—Harlan Ellison in *"Repent, Harlequin!" Said the Ticktock Man*



Gary Jobson on April 25, 2008 (Photo courtesy of Bob Woods)

If you missed **Gary Jobson's** visit to AYC as part of the Mount Gay Rum Speaker Series on April 25<sup>th</sup>, you missed a real treat. Gary is an incredibly entertaining speaker, even without the rum. He regaled a sold-out crowd at AYC with nearly two hours of absolutely stunning video covering everything from America's Cup racing to Opti racing to cruising in Antarctica, all interspersed and accented with anecdotes from a long and very colorful career.

As you may recall, Gary visited AYC last year on the Mount Gay Rum Speaker Series Circuit. Impressively, his talk and video was completely new this year. The only repeat was when our esteemed Commodore, **Bob Goldsmith**, asked him to re-tell a story that he told last year of a pair of races off of Long Island Sound. Gary obliged, and the story was just as good the second time. All in all it was an excellent evening.

['So, where's he going with this', you ask. 'What does this have to do with yearning for the vast and endless sea—or the end taking care of itself?']

One of the things that struck me, at some point during the evening of Gary Jobson's visit was that the chairs

that were set up in the clubhouse were not AYC chairs. Somebody had had to arrange to rent chairs and get them out to the Club and get them all set up. And somebody also had had to move all the regular tables and chairs out of the clubhouse to make room for the rented chairs. And somebody had had to go out and buy the mojito mix to make the very excellent Mount Gay mojitos that **Roy Crouse** was serving before and after the talk. And somebody, with planning skills capable of venturing well beyond the next 24 hours, had had to make arrangements for Gary Jobson to be there with us, telling his most excellent stories and mesmerizing us with video of racing scenes that most of us see only in our dreams.

The last race of the Spring Series was Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. [Wow! That was an abrupt transition! Where's he going now?] After the race, those who stuck around for the party were treated to a delightful serenade by a two-man New Orleans jazz ensemble while enjoying homemade muffelattas and adult beverages. But wait, there's more! While we were sitting around in the clubhouse listening to the music, before the muffelattas were ready, there were people bringing nachos around to the tables! Yes, you read that right, they were bringing food and setting it on the table right in front of you, without you even having to get up and go get it or even ask for it or anything! And there weren't even any tip jars! Is this a crazy world or what?

Every year, for Turnback Canyon Regatta, scores of heavy steel stakes are hauled from AYC to the Bar K Park at Lago Vista and driven, one by one, into the rocky ground to provide tie-ups for the race participants. After the racers leave on Sunday, somebody goes out and pulls up all the stakes and loads them up and hauls them back to AYC. (Still no tip jars!)

When I was in high school, I worked as a delivery boy for a neighborhood pharmacy in Beaumont, Texas. [Whoa! Yet another head-spinning transition. Now where's he going? Wait, maybe this is the 'beginning.'] Back then (not so long ago really, in geologic time), in small towns across America, you could call in a prescription to your neighborhood pharmacy and have it delivered right to your door, along with a Pangburn's chocolate sampler and the latest issue of the National Enquirer. I worked weekends and a couple of evenings during the week, allowing the regular delivery man to have some days and evenings off. The regular delivery man, "R.C.," was a grizzled old son of East Texas, with 20 some-odd years of service to Smith's Pharmacy under his cracked leather belt.

At one point during my several years at Smith's a new system was implemented for recording and tracking Medicare payments. It involved running Medicare cards

*(Continued on Next Page)*

## Thoughts of Vice... (Continued from Page 4)

through an imprint machine—like the old-fashioned credit card machines—and recording customer names and Medicare numbers on a three-part carbon form in the boxes provided—one letter or number to a box, print neatly within the lines. Mr. Hilburn, the pharmacist, hated filling out and imprinting these forms, so he wasted no time in showing me how to do it. One day, I asked R.C. if Mr. Hilburn had showed him how to fill out the Medicare forms. He replied, "Naaah. I learnt me a lon' time ago dat it doan' pay to learn nothin' new—it jus' mean more work."

R.C. was a good man. I enjoyed working with him, and his world view opened my eyes to a perspective that I had never known. But R.C. was not a volunteer. He was happy within the boundaries that he had set for himself and saw no need to venture beyond them. He never would have raised his hand when someone asked who could go set stakes up at Bar K so that the Turnback boats would have a place to tie up. He never would have offered up a hundred hours of his personal time designing an excavation plan that would free us from endless cycles of moving docks when the lake drops below 660. He never would have brought nachos to your table, unbidden.

I am amazed and humbled by the volunteers that make AYC what it is—that literally make AYC run. From Race Committee to scoring to social events to the Telltale and the web site and virtually every aspect of the infrastructure that we take for granted, volunteers are the heart and soul of AYC. Nothing about AYC would be what it is without the support of the many volunteers that contribute their time and talents.

One thing I do know. Every time I've volunteered for something at AYC (and my record in that regard pales in comparison to many) I've learned something. And yes, it usually has meant 'more work.' But the work has always seemed meager payment for what I've learned. I've gotten to know a lot of people that I didn't know before, and I've learned how to do things that I didn't know how to do before. And it's been fun. I highly recommend it.

So, if you aren't doing anything the Friday before Memorial Day weekend, **Bruce McDonald** could probably use someone to help pound stakes up at Bar K. Or, if swinging a sledge hammer is not one of your most renowned talents, other opportunities abound—talk to any member of the Board and we can steer you in a direction that will make the most of your special skills. But do something. Be part of the vision. Join in the yearning for the 'vast and endless sea'. Volunteer!

## Sail Training Report By John Grzinich

### Adult Sail Training

**ASA Training:** ASA class inquiries and registrations continue to come in ahead of the plan. We've had a dozen paid registrations YTD which meets the full year plan. **Tim McKenna, Claude Welles** and **Ian Fink**, our ASA instructors, have been busy training and ASA certifying new sailors. These new ASA trained sailors have been a good source of new members.

**Adult Clinics:** The next adult clinic is "Keelboat Learn to Sail" scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup> has filled up, so I will have work on planning a 2<sup>nd</sup> clinic, most likely sometime in early fall. The response to this clinic offering is another indicator of an up tick in an interest in sailing we are seeing in the area as all the registrations are from non-AYC members. Some adults are taking the "Learn to Sail" who signed up their kids in our Summer Camp or PB&J, so we are getting whole families engaged in learning to sail.

### Junior Sail Training Programs

**Junior Summer Camp:** I have a tendency to over use the phrase "Stay Tuned", but in this case I really mean it in the literal sense. KXAN is planning to do a TV spot May 8<sup>th</sup> at AYC to highlight our junior summer sailing camp as part of their May summer camp information series. **Kelly Hawk** our camp director will be there along with some of our AYC juniors to demo boat set up and sailing. When I find the actual broadcast time I'll post in "News" of our AYC home page.

Registration for the Junior Summer Camp has been pretty strong, the first and last weeks is already full, and a few are 'wait listed'. The advanced camp is not drawing much interest, so I have announced that the 3 day camp prior to the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday is now open to beginners, and intermediates. As we do with all the camp sessions, this one will be structured to meet the needs and skills of the campers in attendance. We've got an outstanding instructor team in place for this year's summer camp. I am very pleased to announce **Kelly Hawk** has accepted the position of Camp Director. **Josh Belury** is going to be the Head Instructor. **Veronica Parker** and **Michelle Kasney** from the UT sailing team will be working as Instructors and Life-guards. **Will Hawk** will be an Assistant Instructor. In addition we will have number of young volunteer "Counselors in Training" scheduled to assist in the

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## Harbor News

By Christopher Dwight, Fleet Commander

### Slip Assignments

Just in time for the most recent billing cycle, several pending slip assignments were processed. Following is an activity summary for harbor changes in the past month.

- Five wet slips were released
- Two wet slip occupants agreed to move to alternate slips to accommodate more active sailors
- Four pending move requests were processed
- Four new slip requests were processed
- Two new board boat slips were assigned
- Three dry sail area slips were released
- One dry sail assignment was moved
- Three new dry sail slips were assigned

Our AYC harbor is near capacity with only inside wet slips or somewhat shallow wet slips currently available. We have only one remaining board boat slip available. In the dry sail area, we have one slip open towards the end, and four more dry sail slips at the back of the storage area. If you are thinking about requesting storage, I suggest you act quickly!

The updated wait list is available in the AYC office. In the coming weeks, I'll update the AYC web site to reflect the recent storage and wait list changes.

If you have concerns or comments, send an e-mail to [fleetcommander@austinyachtclub.net](mailto:fleetcommander@austinyachtclub.net).

### Harbor Rule Reminder of the Month

Harbor rule 16 defines AYC policies for slip assignments whenever there is a change in boat ownership, including changes involving multiple owners or partnerships.

*Slips Non-Transferable: Assigned storage spaces are not for sale or sub-lease by members. The Board may require a space to be vacated if, in its opinion, the sale of all or part of a boat amounts to, in substance, the sale of the space to a member who has not qualified for a space by normal progression through the applicable priority list, such as a case in which the original space holder has become an inactive partner in the use of the boat.*

*Any member(s) entering into joint boat ownership with an existing slip holder must notify the AYC Club Manager and Fleet Commander in writing within 30 days of the joint ownership commencement date.*

*Any member(s) entering into joint boat ownership with an existing slip holder shall be required to vacate the slip:*

*A. On sale of all of the original slip holder's interest in said jointly owned boat or any subsequent replacements thereto, or*

*B. If the original slip holder relinquishes his/her slip through resignation, board action, leave of absence, or voluntary action as described in the last paragraph of the Harbor Rule 13, unless the remaining owner-member(s) qualifies for a permanent slip by normal progression through the dock priority list.*

So what does all this mean? First and foremost, transfer of boat ownership requires a slip to be vacated. A slip assignment does not transfer to the new owner.

There are currently several AYC member boats that are for sale. Upon the sale of these boats, the current slip assignment must be released. This is different from policies at commercial marinas, which will often encourage new owners to take over an existing slip lease. If you have a boat that is currently for sale, please be sure to clearly communicate this important policy to any potential buyer: AYC slip assignments are non-transferable.

To secure a slip at AYC, a new owner must be an AYC senior (or senior probationary) member and proceed through the normal slip request process. For wet slips (where we have a pending wait list), this could take several months and will be a different slip assignment.

For fractional ownership situations, things are slightly more complex. The assigned slip holder is expected to continue to personally use the boat as defined in harbor rule 14, slip usage policy. If the assigned slip holder is substantially inactive in using the fractionally-owned boat, it would effectively grant the storage assignment to another member who has not qualified for a space by normal progression through the applicable priority list. In such a case, slip assignment may be revoked.

Note that any changes in ownership, including changes in fractional ownership, must be communicated to the fleet commander and club manager within thirty days.

Like all other AYC rules, harbor rule 16 is designed to help maintain a membership which will actively and enthusiastically support the programs of the Club, particularly racing activities.

Your cooperation with this policy not only ensures that AYC facilities are equally available to all members, but also gives fair treatment to those members on the wet-slip waiting list.

## Sail Training... Continued from Page 5

coaching, and learn how the camp operates as vehicle to build pool of future AYC summer camp instructors. The month of May will be a very busy month to get everything ready for the campers. Boats need to be made ready. Tee shirts ordered. **Bob Woods, Kelly Hawk**, and I are working through the State "Day Camp – Youth Camp" License process and inspection. Many thanks to **Pam Radebaugh** who has to handle all the complex invoices for the camp registrations and to **Pat Manning** who helped out with changes to the accounting process to better deal with camp invoices.

**Junior Clinics:** Now that **Steve Gay** has headed up to Maine, I am really happy to announce that **Christopher Dwight** has agreed to run Saturday afternoon practice sessions for the Juniors. The communications for this is through the "Roadrunner" email distribution. If you are interested please contact **Kelly Hawk** to get on the Junior Roadrunner email distribution list for the session announcements. A typical session goes for about 2 hours starting about 4PM.

Last month myself, **Linda McDavitt**, and **Eric Rochard** held a brainstorming session with **Patrick Hitchens** the UT Team Coach, and **Mark Hulings** the UT Team Captain to discuss ideas for junior sail training. Everyone agreed the one of the best next steps to capitalize on all the kids going through the PB&J and summer camp programs would be an "Opti Green Fleet" training program. Finding a coach is the first challenge to implementation. As result of this discussion, **Scott Young** offered to help with some Junior Racing Clinics over the summer. Christopher and Scott are setting the first session on Saturday May 10<sup>th</sup>, and it will be announced through the AYC Roadrunner email.

In June I plan to hold a "learn to sail" day for the Sea Scouts. This is an attempt to help in rebuilding the Sea Scout program in our area, and establish a new relationship with AYC.

**PB&J Sessions:** Registrations for the PB&J sessions have been going like gangbusters this year. Both June sessions, and the early August session are full and wait listed. The July windsurfer sessions have had minimal response, so **Doug Kern** is working on a plan and staffing to convert the July sessions to the regular junior program and then work through the wait list to get kids placed. Hopefully, the July session can absorb most of the wait listed people and any additional registrations so we get all these kids out sailing this summer. The work has started to get the Opti's and Pico's ready for this summers' PB&J sessions with a boat clean up day last Saturday.

## The Commodore... Continued from Page 3

We are grateful for help which we have been receiving from distinguished well wishers. **Clift Price** arranged for a lunch meeting with **Boyd Taylor**, several times President of Westwood Country Club and Boyd shared much valuable information with us about club management and regulatory issues. We have already made some significant change based upon things we learned from our discussion with Boyd and thank him very much. Past Commodore and current Treasurer **Tom Romberg** arranged another lunch meeting with the Highland Lakes' top authority on legal issues, **Conrad Werkenthin**, and Conrad shared, and continues to share, his thoughts with us on certain matters of importance to the club. As well as being a very distinguished attorney, Conrad is a former AYC member and multiple Turnback chairman, and his counsel has been invaluable.

We are trying to use the executive sessions immediately before the Board meetings for education on AYC issues, and this month's executive session featured a presentation by **Tom Groll** and **Danny Lien** on the Long Range Planning Committee's design for a new harbor configuration which should largely eliminate the need to move the docks to the point during times of low water. **Ray Shull** has also been instrumental with the committee which designed the new configuration and as the engineers say, it is an "elegant solution." You will be hearing a lot more about this in the future as the Board, with strong guidance from Fleet Commander **Christopher Dwight**, considers whether the new plan is right for AYC.

Great racing, great social events, plans for the future... it is an exciting time to be a member of AYC.

See you out there.

**SATURDAY RACING  
STARTS ON JUNE 14  
WITH THE SUMMER SERIES!**

## C-22 Fleet News By Peter Broberg



The C-22's finished up an exciting and well run Spring Series with 7 boats on the course on May 4 in oscillating east to southeast breeze. Congratulations to **Wade Bingaman** aboard *Dry Heave* with **Ken Whiteside** and **Brett Wilson** for finishing with two strong bullets to take

the First Place trophy for the Series. **Dane Ohe** aboard *Kanalola* with new "Pit Phenom" **Chris Bataille** and a foredeck newbie defended his Second Place Spring Series standing by reaching up and over challenger *Paradox* on the second downwind leg of the first race. Dane battled from last place after the start to handily take a 2<sup>nd</sup> for the race and put his series position on ice. **Peter Broberg** on *Paradox* with **Gary Devin** and **Jim Eskew** continued to learn from his mistakes and remained true to his Spring Series mantra of "Let's snatch defeat from the jaws of victory!" Despite a genuine DFL in the second race, he managed to hang on for a Third Place trophy in the Series.

It was great to have **Johannes Brinkmann** back on the water again in "Strings Attached" after a long absence for family illness. The way he reads shifts we can watch him and always tell which tack we should have been on. **Walter Allen** on *Kati B*, **John Grzinich** on *Bebopalula*, and **Roy Crouse** on *Lone Star* rounded out the fleet for the final race day and all enjoyed the live music and food at the clubhouse afterward. The Trophy presentation gave us our first view of the excellent new 2008 models procured for the club by Wade. In case you missed it, they are a darkly stained flat pentagonal base with holes drilled to hold up to five 3-D wooden boats handsomely marked with the place earned for each of the 2008 series. You will want one of these on your desk so start planning now for the next Series which begins Saturday June 14.

Special thanks to **Dane Ohe** and **David Rehberg** for heading up our fleet's Race Committee duty on April 20 in the out-of-town absence of the Fleet Captain. They and their intrepid helpers apparently contended with some major wind shifts and still got the results to the scorer in such good order that the results were posted to the AYC website by bedtime that night. Well done!

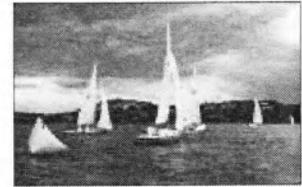
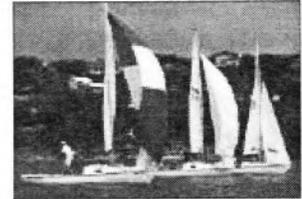
Additional kudos to Wade for heading up the behind the scenes volunteer force which supported the marvelous evening presentation by the eloquent and inspiring **Gary Jobson** on April 25. Wade was ably assisted in the room set-up (and tear-down the next day), attendee check-in, and Mount Gay Rum top-off by **Gary Devin**, **Chris Bataille**, and **Roy Crouse**. Lots of

work got done by a very few without much formal recognition! Those of us who basked in the presence of true Sailing Royalty that night appreciate their efforts.

Let's see some Catalina 22's out on Friday nights for Beer Can Races where we always get to be at the front of the whole pack for at least a few minutes!

## SC-21 Fleet News

By Tom Meyer



2008 Intergalactics: One Design championship racing  
(Photos above by Bruce McDonald)

What has to be AYC's premier racing event of the year is upon us! That's right! The Southcoast 21 Intergalactic Championship Regatta will be held on Saturday, May 17. This prestigious sailing event is open to all Southcoast 21 yachts, galaxy wide. The Notice of Regatta is posted on the AYC website, on the SC21 fleet page. As a reminder; all boats must be skippered by a bona fide Southcoast 21owner only. This does not restrict an owner from skippering someone else's SC21. This is a one day event with registration opening at 9:30am. The skipper's meeting will be held at 10:30am, and the first signal of the day is scheduled for 11:30am. Racing will continue back to back throughout the afternoon so be sure to pack a lunch. Awards and a pot luck diner will follow, so plan to bring a dish. The G&T's will be provided by **Claudia Bartlett**. A brand new batch of SC21 tee shirts will be available this year thanks to **Ray Shull**. The J24 fleet has volunteered to serve as our race committee. In return, the SC21 fleet is providing some RC personal for their circuit stop on May 10, and 11. They have requested four people for Saturday and four people for Sunday, so you may be hearing from me. Congratulations to **Carl Morris** 3<sup>rd</sup> place, **Bruce McDonald** 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and **Ray Shull** 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Spring Series races.

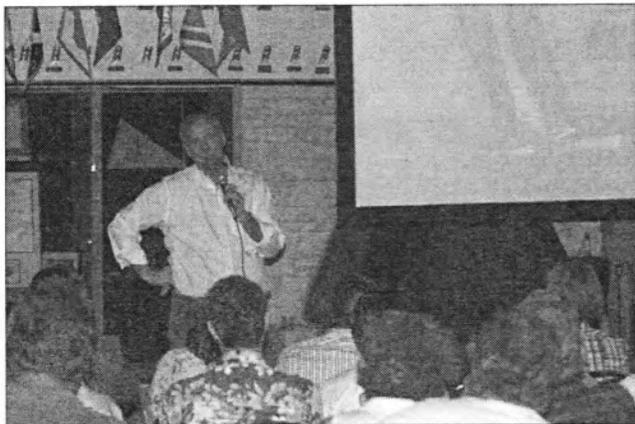
## Jobson Success By Wade Bingaman

(Photos courtesy of Bob Woods)



The sell out crowd that attended **Gary Jobson's** presentation can now look at each other and smile that knowing smile. It was good.

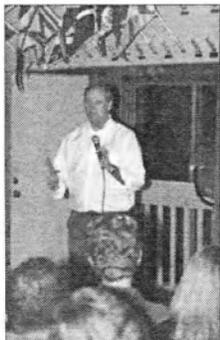
Gary led us through the entire gamut of sailing, past and present. Its amazing how much is going on in the world of sailing these days. The videos had some of the most spectacular crashes I have ever seen. He's experience and stories were truly incredible. The best one was about a New York regatta in which he beat a New Zealand team by taking a shortcut around an island. The next year the Kiwi's tried to return the favor by taking the same shortcut, only to find a low bridge had been build in the interim which blocked them!



**Gary Jobson** does more than any other person in the United States to promote sailing. AYC was fortunate to have the opportunity to meet this man and to catch some of his enthusiasm about our sport.

Of course a great event does not just happen. We owe thanks to the work done by **Chris Bataille** on registration, **Art Bussey** with food, **Roy Crouse** for bartending, **Gary Devin** for set-up, and **John Grzinich** for the audio/video.

There was only one way the event could have been better – MORE MOJITOS !!!



## Ensign Fleet News By Randolph Bertin



### Beer Can Begins

Several Ensign sailors made it out for the opening of the Beer Can Series: **Tom and Kelly Groll, Elliott Bray** (and **Doug Laws?**), and **Tom Romberg** and **Hap Arnold**. **Festina Lente** also made an appearance on the water, but just for an evening sail. It may not be official, but the racing is for real, and Tom and Hap aboard **Eagle** showed the rest of the AYC how to sail, picking up the first win of the year!

### Founders' Day Racing

Spring Series #3, April 13, had the honor of following the Founders' Day celebration. It was a blustery day, with shifting winds out of the North and Northeast and Northwest. The wind would kick up a fair bit, but then moderate for a while. But just when you thought it might settle in, it would freshen up considerably, and then again, fall back down after awhile. Even the lower end of the wind range was still considerably breezy, but in between the first and second race, it really began to howl. The Lake Travis Test Station showed a max gust on the afternoon of 32 mph. Suffice to say, we all had our hands full. Regardless of the challenging conditions, the Ensign fleet had nine boats start the first of the race, and even though they didn't complete the race, it was still great to have **Amie Rodnick** and **Larry Smith** out on **Travis Moons** and **Jim Casto** sailing solo on **One With the Wind** for a big start. Also of note, **Mitch Barnett**, sailing with **Jonathan 'Dudley' Apgar** and **Deanne** competed in their first race on the new-to-the-fleet **Ensign 1198**, and they were right there on the start line with the rest of us and seemed to have a tremendously good time rounding the buoys, and they even managed to avoid DFL! Congratulations to the new guys. **Tom and Kelly Groll** got the best of the fleet, rounding the first windward mark with a lead in both races, and making it stand the rest of the distance. **Tom Romberg** and **Hap and Charlie Arnold** on **Eagle** edged out **Festina Lente** in the day's opening race to pick up second. **Jonathan and Sarah Baker** had a spinnaker sheet break on the opening race and the ensuing difficulties shot them out to the back of the fleet. **Lewis Price** on **Dos Locos** was out as well, sailing in the middle of the fleet much of the afternoon. **Elliott Bray** and **Doug Laws** meanwhile already appeared much improved over their first sail from two weeks before. **Randolph Bertin** and crew

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managed to keep the pressure on **The Grolls** in the second race of the day, but weren't able to find a passing lane and finished with a second. The rest of the fleet actually stayed in very close competition throughout the race, but it was **The Bakers** who had managed to get things sorted out after their sheet failure in the opening race to pick up a third, while **Eagle** fouled **Dos Locos** at the start and their ensuing 720 put a dent in their plans to finish in the top half of the fleet.

### More Spring

On Sunday, April 20, Spring Series #4 started in very light air for the Ensign fleet, as we crept across the starting line. About halfway up the first windward leg, the wind began to fill at least a little, and continuing from a fairly easterly direction so that most of us were laying the upwind mark on port tack right from the start line. In the early going, **Tom and Kelly Groll** on **Brews 'er** were battling it out with the heavy hitting line-up on **Prickly Pair** of **Bill Hawk, Danny Lien** and **Jonathan Baker. Tom Romberg** and **Charlie Arnold** were hanging in to round out the top half of the fleet. Though at times it seems as if **The Grolls** were going to sail away leaving no doubt about the outcome, **Eagle** and **Prickly Pair** weren't giving up. And it was on the final windward leg, as the wind had finally begun to clock to the south-east, that things got very interesting. **Brews 'er** was coming in on starboard to finish with **Eagle** less than two boat lengths out. **Prickly Pair** was approaching on port tack, clearly unable to cross. They held course, and held a little longer with Tom vociferously asserting his right away with a call of "STARBOARD!" that could be heard even by those of us in the back half of the fleet, well out of contention. Tom luffed up (To avoid the port boat? To shoot the line?) as **Bill Hawk** (eyes closed and relying on his crew to call the shots) tacked to starboard, just crossing the finish line head to wind, a nose ahead for the win. No fouls were called. **Eagle** came in just after for a third place finish. It was pretty dramatic, even from well over half way down the leg (the distance back from which **Doug Laws** and crew, **Mitch Barnett** and his father **Randy**, and **Festina Lente** were slogging upwind). There was another exciting port/starboard crossing on the day as **Doug Laws** came from well back on the final leg, heading toward the finish line on starboard having gained a considerable to close the gap with **Mitch Barnett**. The latter held on though and just managed to clear on port tack to seal the deal shortly before crossing the finish.

In the second race (with a nice breeze and a now even course), **Team Groll** was over early and called back to re-start. Fortunately, they were able to swing in under **Doug Laws**, jibe away to port and head over to the

right side when what do you know but a very nice lift on port came in putting them right back in the race! They managed to make the initial mark rounding in second behind **Bill Hawk (Danny and Jonathan)**. **Eagle** managed to overtake **Festina Lente** on the first downwind leg by gaining an inside overlap but **Randolph Bertin**, sailing with **Beka Lien** in addition to his regular crew, got it back going upwind. Even stellar crews can slip up, and during a quick spinnaker strike, the spinnaker halyard on **Prickly Pair** was pulled a little too far, as in all the way through the block at the top of the mast and back down to the deck. The absence of a spinnaker cost them on the long down wind leg as **Randolph, Iggy, Beka** and **Pete** were able to overtake them before rounding the leeward mark, and then simply sailing with good speed upwind to build on their lead and take second to **Tom and Kelly** who, though not having to sweat the finish, at least had to work all the way.

Again, there was some enjoyable competition up and down the line as **Doug** and **Mitch** sailed as a little fleet within the fleet, becoming a little more comfortable and experienced in handling the Ensign.

### Post Race Social

All the fleets gathered under the clubhouse for a post race social to introduce new club members to the various fleets (and maybe even get some of the existing fleet members to talk with each other!). The Ensigns provided a mess of venison chili courtesy of **The Grolls**, plus a number of other appealing side dishes, along with pleasant conversation about the day's events and sundry sailing and non-sailing topics.

### Spring Finale

Very strong North winds followed by afternoon thunderstorms doomed the races scheduled for April 27. With one weekend remaining, **Tom and Kelly Groll (Brews 'er)** had a pretty firm grip on the top spot in the series, and **Randolph (Festina Lente)** was pretty much alone in second, and little opportunity to make significant gains in two races. There were three boats tied for third place: **Prickly Pair, J. Seagull**, and **Dos Locos**, any one of whom would have had a fair shot at picking up some hardware on the final day. It was a strange afternoon on the water, starting with an east breeze out of Cypress Creek, with the dramatic shifts that often accompany wind from that direction, especially up in the mouth of the inlet, where the windward mark had been positioned. That made for some dramatic changes over the course of the first race, with the exception of **Brews 'er** remaining true to form and leading start to finish. **Festina Lente** had serious difficulties with their downwind spinnaker handling. Thankfully, they were joined by **Sarah Baker** as crew, and she was able to help sort

(Continued on Next Page)

things out and prevent the situation going from bad to worse. At the first leeward mark rounding, **Festina Lente** passed the mark and just kept sailing away as they tried to get the spinnaker down (which had hour-glassed around the forestay) and/or the genoa up. After a hundred yards or so (and what seemed like forever), they finally got things squared away and headed back up wind, finding themselves at the back end of the fleet. But, the left side, which had paid off so well for **Brews'er** on the first leg, was still a going proposition, and they managed to sail all the way back into second place by the time they reached the windward mark. **Doug Laws** and **Elliott Bray** were joined by **Bill Hawk** on **#810**, and they were making serious advances on second place in the final downwind leg, as **Randolph** and company had already pulled down their spinnaker after yet another hourglass problem. A huge shift to the south, though, ended up catching the spinnaker of **#810** and wrapping it around the forestay, while **Festina Lente** sailed off on a nice reach under Genoa. New-comer **Mitch Barnett** (joined by **Danny Lien**) had also been looking good for awhile downwind (without a spinnaker, as the topping lift had snapped on their initial hoist). Unfortunately, the wind deserted them on the left side heading downwind, leaving them wallowing while the wind filled in for their competitors on the other side. **Dos Locos** was also racing, but no sign of **Lewis Price** on board as there appeared to be a mystery skipper and crew working their way around the fickle winds of the course.

With the aforementioned shift toward the south-southeast holding steady, the race committee re-set the course for the second race. **Tom Groll** again started strong on starboard at the left side of the fleet. But **Randolph** was on his hip and **Mitch** was quickly gaining inside that. **Tom** crossed and cleared one boat, but not the second as they came out of their tack with too little speed. With a cry of, "I've fouled! Please don't hit me!" **Mitch** was warned off and tacked away to avoid a collision and **Tom** took his penalty turns. By the time **Brews'er** was done spinning, returning to starboard was looking more attractive, and so he managed to work his way right back into the race. Plenty of tight tactical maneuvering at the windward mark, but **Mitch** was caught low and underneath a couple of boats and lost steam as he tried unsuccessfully to pinch above the mark, hitting it (for the second time that day!). Live and learn. That left **Randolph** able to round in first, but their lead was short lived as they sailed well to the outside trying to sort out spinnaker difficulties (a constant refrain on the day). Meanwhile, **Elliott** and **Doug** were battling it out with **Tom** down the middle of the course for control downwind, and they maintained their neck and neck

race to the finish, with the former winning the final race of the series by a neck. Congratulations to **Doug** and **Elliott** for picking up their first victory in the Ensign fleet! Meanwhile, further back... **Mitch** had taken the committee boat side of the downwind leg and reached the leeward mark slightly ahead of **Randolph**, just enough ahead for a motor boat to come barreling through the gap between the boats in as reckless a display as many of us have had the opportunity to witness. **Mitch**, ahead and to leeward, tacked to cross. **Randolph** went a little further out, toward the committee boat layline before tacking. Just before the finish, **Sarah** called for a tack back to port which made the difference as they crossed the line seconds ahead for third.

The big story of the series was that with all three of the third place boats failing to show for the final day, **Doug** and **Elliot** put together a strong performance on the water with a third and a first to climb from seventh all the way to third place, tied with **Dos Locos** for points, but winning on a tiebreaker by virtue of their first place finish in the last race. No small irony that **Bill Hawk**, who could have won third by completing even one of the races on the final day, was an integral part of helping **Ensign #810** take the prize. On the whole, it was a very good series, with plenty of great sailing days and loads of fun on the water, and we had five different boats claim a first place in eight races.

#### Long Break

The next Series does not begin until June 14, switching to Saturdays. In the meantime, you can get your sailing fix with some beer can races, Turnback Canyon regatta, or just cruising the lake.

## Interested in placing an advertisement in the Telltale?

It's easy! For only a few dollars per month you can advertise your business, print a special message, announce a special event, or just call attention to yourself! Just send your proposed printed message and any graphics to Randolph Bertin, AYC Secretary, for pricing and approval. AYC Board approval is required. There are many ways you can sponsor the sport of sailing!

**2008 Friday Night Beer Can Series**

The 2008 Beer Can Series is off to a welcome start, and May begins our roll-forward to the 7:00 PM start times. You will find your specific start time relative to PHRF rating posted on the RC/Event bulletin board right next to the official clock for the event.

The tradition of the Beer Can Series goes back a number of years, when AYC member **John Mandell** got a few boats together after work on Friday nights for short races around a fixed course. To avoid the need for a start boat, recording finishes, and scoring keel handicap boats, the format was simple – boats start (on the honor system) at a preset time that computes a boat's handicap around a fixed distance course. In other words, faster boats start later, slower boats go first! In theory, all boats would end up finishing at the same time, but we all know about theory in handicap racing! First boat back to the finish is the winner!

Today, the Beer Can Series has become an AYC tradition. It's a fun time for family, a great time to introduce friends to sailing and racing and an opportunity to train crew! These races are always a blast, and we often see 25 or more boats participating!

The marks we use for the AYC Beer Can are the orange AYC marks B, E and K. To add to the excitement and minimize boredom, skippers can take the marks in any order and round them from any direction!

The first 2 boats to finish win a bottle of wine, and they also take on a 30 second time adjustment for the remainder of the series to "compress" the handicaps and give everyone a chance to win! All that has to happen is to show up and compete!



We will continue the popular kid's price for burgers again this year! Burgers and all the fixin's will be \$4.00 for adults and \$2.50 for kids 12 and under, so bring out the family, bring lots of friends and have lots of fun!

*Nostalgia photo #3 (left): Bruce Willman and Ken Whiteside (circa 1983 photo by Bill Records)*

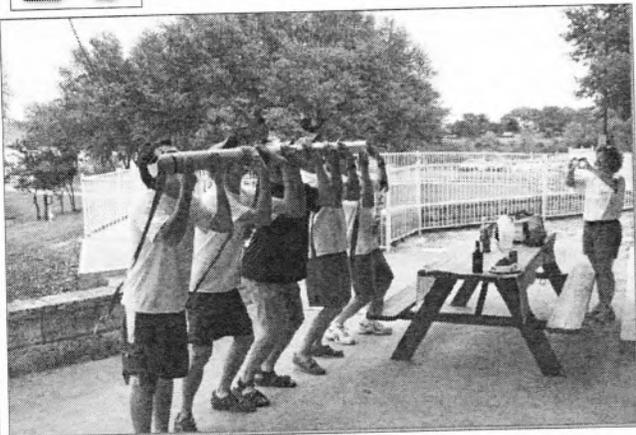
*Nostalgia photo #4 (above): Bill Records, Roy Kraus, Ken Whiteside, and Steven Hansen out for a 40 knot ride after a Spring Series race was canceled. (circa 1986 photo by Joe Roddy)*

*Please see last month's Telltale issue for Photos #1 & #2.*

## J 24 Fleet News By David Kenyon

# J<sup>®</sup> 24

Here are a couple of pictures from the J24 section of the Meet the Fleet Party. These pictures are of the infamous 'El Roto - Shooter'. There is nothing else that really needs to be said...



## AYC Spring Series Race Results

### One Design—J24:

1. Reynolds, N. 2. Harden, R. 3. Broadway, D.

### One Design—J22:

1. McDavitt, L. 2. Taylor, K. 3. Cain, J.

### One Design—Southcoast 21:

1. Shull, R. 2. McDonald, B. 3. Morris, C.

### One Design—Ensign:

1. Groll, T. 2. Bertin, R. 3. Bray / Laws

### One Design—Catalina 22:

1. Bingaman, W. 2. Ohe, D. 3. Broberg, P.

### PHRF A:

1. Eller / Bayerdorfer 2. Leonard, B. 3. Henson, J.

### PHRF B:

1. Chambers, M. 2. Henrickson 3. Lewis, D.

### PHRF Non-Spinnaker:

1. Amrhein, T. 2. Goldsmith 3. Galloway, D.

### Multihull (Portsmouth):

1. Kuc, J. 2. Casto, J. 3. Grogono, D.

### Centerboard (Portsmouth):

1. Dekeyser, D. 2. Reynolds, K. 3. Loehlin, J.

**Note:** These results are being provided for informational purposes only. For actual results, please see the AYC website at [www.austinyachtclub.net](http://www.austinyachtclub.net) or contact the AYC Office.

### KHF NOTICE

Capri 25 PHRF  
Handicap Rating  
under review.  
Meeting set for  
June 12th.

Turn the page for Turnback NOR...

## U.S. Team Trials 2008

By Alan Rochard

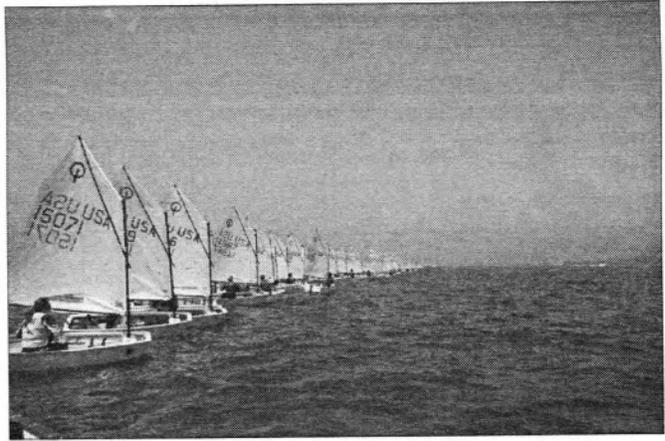


"Team Texas"

The US sailing team trials were in Annapolis, Maryland this year. About 300 sailors qualified for this event this year and 200 registered at the regatta. It is the most important regatta because it is deciding the selections to the World, the North American and the European.

Last year I finished 82, so my goal was to do better. I arrived on Tuesday evening and after a short practice Wednesday I completed the measurement in the Afternoon. The first day of regatta has not been great, 67 36 and 57! I was 103 overall. It was a huge disappointment for a full year of intense practice. I decided to forget about the goal and just enjoy the remaining of the races. The fourth race was good; I started at the committee boat and sailed hard to the right corner. Instead of forcing my luck I crossed into the leading pack and rounded in the 20 the weather mark for a finish of 19<sup>th</sup>. With the dying wind on the Chesapeake Bay that was all for the day. I was now 82 overall, still some hope to make it! But an OCS or BFD would sink my ranking, so no risk at the start! Saturday was a great day: 9 and 16! I was now 51<sup>st</sup> before the last day of regatta! Close to the top 50 but with 2 bad races. Sunday morning a good NW breeze allowed me to recover from a bad start and fish 18, definitely looking better!

But on race 8 on the last leg the wind from the NW died to come back from ESE. Hughh. I am on the left and get 46<sup>th</sup>, probably out of the top 50. Fortunately there is a last race with 10-12 knots of puffy wind (like on Lake Travis), I am in 20-30 at the last gate but I get it right upwind to finish 14<sup>th</sup>. Big smile, finally I am 39<sup>th</sup> in the US International team. I will go to one of the Continental Championships!



Alan Rochard, a junior sailor and the son of AYC members Eric and Brigitte Rochard, finished 39th at US team trials and qualified in the US international sailing team (top 50 out of the 200 competitors).

(Photos courtesy of Eric Rochard.)



## NOTICE OF RACE



### 2008 TURNBACK CANYON REGATTA

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

**2. ADVERTISING** - Advertising will be restricted to Category C.

**3. ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY**

3.1. Austin Yacht Club ("AYC") members and guests are cordially invited to participate in AYC's 2008 Turnback Canyon Regatta. AYC is both the Host and the Organizing Authority of the regatta. The regatta is open to all monohull keelboats, centerboard boats, and multihull boats (including 'beach cats').

3.2. Registration can be done online prior to 5/14/08 at 5:00 PM. Late registration can be done from 5/14/08 at 5:00 PM until 5/23/08 at 12:00 PM online with a \$20.00 additional fee. On-site registration can be done Friday, May 23, 2008 from 5:00 until 7:00 PM and Saturday morning from 08:00 until 09:00. All competitors who have registered online must check in Saturday morning to pick up regatta package and sign liability waiver.

**4. REGISTRATION FEES** - Required fees are as follows:

Cruising Class \$40.00

Keel Handicap \$45.00

Large Multihull \$45.00

Beach cats and centerboard \$40.00

Late Registration Fee (after 5/16/08 at 17:00) \$20.00

US Sailing discount <\$5.00>

**5. SCHEDULE**

5.1. Registration: as defined in Section 3.2 above.

5.2. All classes will have one (1) race on 5/24/08 and one (1) race on 5/25/08.

5.3. Competitors' Briefing:

Cruising Class No need for briefing. Follow instructions in regatta booklet.

Racing Classes 09:30 on 5/24/08

5.4. Cruising Class Schedule:

5/24/08 Commence Sailing at 10:00 AM

5/25/08 Commence Sailing at 9:30 AM

5.5. Racing Classes Schedule:

5/24/08 First Warning Signal at 10:00

5/25/08 First Warning Signal at 10:00

5.6 **\*\*Social Activities\*\*** - complimentary breakfast will be served from 8:00 AM until 9:30 AM Saturday morning. At the conclusion of racing on Saturday beer, tea and lemonade will be served; the first keg opened 30 minutes after the first finisher and a new keg opened every 30 minutes thereafter. Dinner will be served at 5:30 PM. Music by a DJ will be available for dancing and entertainment. At the end of the return race on Sunday, a hamburger lunch will be available as well as beer, tea and lemonade.

**6. 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 Regatta.

**7. SAILING INSTRUCTIONS** - The sailing instructions are available on the AYC website and will be published in the regatta booklet available to all competitors at check in. One set will be provided to each registered boat.

**8. 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](http://www.austinyachtclub.net). Please note that neither pets nor fireworks are allowed on Cub property.

**9. 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. See Sailing Instructions.

**10. SCORING**

10.1. All boats will be assigned to a Class for scoring purposes. Such class assignments will be posted on the Official Notice Board prior to the first race of the series.

10.2. All keel boats will be scored using the "Time on Distance" variant of the PHRF handicap rating system utilizing the PHRF of Lake Travis handicap values. All other boats will be scored using the Portsmouth handicap rating system utilizing US Sailing's 2008 Portsmouth Yardstick.

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

**11. RADIO COMMUNICATION** - A boat shall neither make radio transmissions while racing nor receive radio communications not available to all boats.

**12. PRIZES** - Three boats will constitute a class. Trophies will be awarded to helmspersons in accordance to the overall size of their respective Class as follows:

- 3 participants 1 trophy

- 4-6 participants 2 trophies

- 7-9 participants 3 trophies

- 10+ participants 1 additional trophy for each additional 3 participants

The Levins Trophy will be awarded to the boat with best corrected time for the race from AYC to Turnback Canyon.

**13. 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.

**14. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** - For additional information contact AYC at 512-266-1336 or email [bob@austinyachtclub.net](mailto:bob@austinyachtclub.net) or [brucemcdonald@att.net](mailto:brucemcdonald@att.net). Additional information may also be posted on the AYC website under the Events page at [www.austinyachtclub.net](http://www.austinyachtclub.net).

**Austin Yacht Club**  
5906 Beacon Road  
Austin, TX 78734-1428



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

**Austin Yacht Club 2008 Centerboard Regatta**  
**June 7-8**



**Open to all Centerboard and Multihull Craft**  
**See AYC Website for More Information**

**Turnback Turnback Turnback Turnback Turnback**