



TURNBACK!

**New Race/Party Format is a Huge Success
Photos and Recap Inside**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Turnback Canyon
Regatta Recap
and Photos

UT Sailing Team Report:
Congratulations to
Luke Cragin!

- PLUS -

Commodore's Report
Fleet Captain Reports
Committee Reports



Save the Date

Family Potluck Dinner &
Ice Cream Social
June 16

Summer Casino Party
June 23

Independence Cup
Regatta
June 30



Congratulations to Turnback Winner Ray Shull and Crew



Cover Photos by Bruce McDonald

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Commodore	Johannes Brinkmann
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Vice Commodore	Christopher Dwight
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Treasurer	Don Dwight
Race Commander	Barry Bowden
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Harbor Commander	Jon Nash
Sail Training Cdr.	Jenny Loehlin

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Bookkeeper	Jackie Wheelless
Head Caretaker	Tom Cunningham
Junior Coach	Kate Noble

AUSTIN YACHT CLUB

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Austin, Texas 78734-1428

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office@austinyachtclub.net

NEWSLETTER

Susie McDonald, Editor
Email submissions by 1st of month to:
ghowiellc@aol.com

AYC BUSINESS HOURS

Tuesday - Saturday 9:00A - 5:00P
Sunday 1:00P - 5:00P

Closed Mondays
Closed Club Holidays:

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS E-MAIL ADDRESSES

buildings_grounds@austinyachtclub.net
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commodore@austinyachtclub.net
secretary@austinyachtclub.net
treasurer@austinyachtclub.net
harbor_commander@austinyachtclub.net

AYC 2012 RACE CALENDAR

Wednesday Nights	Laser/Sunfish Races	6:00p first signal
Friday Nights	Beer Can Races	7:00p

June 9	Summer #4 (J/24)
June 16	Summer #5 End-of-Series (J/22)
June 30	Independence Cup Regatta

YOU MAY SIGN UP ONLINE FOR SERIES RACES THROUGH "REGATTA NETWORK."

AYC 2012 NON-RACING EVENTS

June 9	Summer #4 Post-Race Meal
June 16	Learn to Sail Full-Day Class for Beginner Sailors
June 16	End-of-Series Family Potluck & Ice Cream Social 5:00p
June 23	Summer Party - CASINO NIGHT 7:00p
June 28	AYC Board of Directors Meeting 7:30p
July 7	Centerboard Class
July 26	AYC Board of Directors Meeting 7:30p

Bonne chance, Marine. We will miss you!

Opti sailor Marine Graby sailed her way into the hearts of AYC members young and old. Marine and her family are moving back to Paris this month. Turnback was her last sail with AYC. Marine, we wish you the best of luck in all your future endeavors.

There are good ships and wood ships, and ships that sail the seas. But the best ships are friendships, and may they always be.



Photo by Bill Records

From The Commodore

by Johannes Brinkmann



Will We Ever Turn Back?

As I write this, the Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association (ICSA) Nationals are in full swing after a fantastic first week. The **UT Sailing team** has put forth a huge effort preparing for and supporting this event, as has the **AYC staff** and a large number of AYC volunteers headed up by **Vic Manning and Barry Bowden**.

In recognition of his unwavering leadership in preparing for the Nationals, UT Sailing Team's president, **Luke Cragin**, was awarded the high honor of induction into the ICSA College Sailing Hall of Fame. Please recognize Luke, the UT team members, our volunteers and the AYC staff when you see them.

After the tremendous success of this year's Turnback Regatta, I wonder if we'll ever want to go back to the traditional format. My usual tendency is to favor old traditions, but I absolutely did not miss tacking up through the narrow sections of the lake and contending with low water and ever increasing motor boat traffic there. I have a hunch that Regatta Chair **Wade Bingaman** has started a new AYC tradition with the beach party, crawfish boil, and music festival on the AYC point. By all accounts, Turnback 2012 was a regatta and party that will be talked about for years to come.

AYC's long range planning committee (**Doug Kern, Ray Shull and Kevin Reynolds**) recently completed a member survey and sent the results to the AYC board. Participation in the survey was excellent, and we received very useful feedback about the direction of our club. According to the respondents, the overall "state of our union" is good. The top priorities of our members center around racing, our grounds and our junior sailing program. We can do a better job on new member recruitment and integration. Not surprisingly with the low lake levels, access to the water is a primary concern.

Speaking of access, our new slider dock system was delivered and installed in time for Turnback and the Nationals, thanks to the efforts of **Jon Nash** and the harbor committee. The slider looks and works great. I'm sure I'm not the only one who has noticed how dilapidated some of our older docks appear in comparison. Your treasurer and board are working hard to put financing in place so that we can continue to make well planned long-term improvements to our infrastructure.

We had a great turnout by the Junior Roadrunners with their Opti fleet at Turnback. By press time our summer camps and "PBJ" learn to sail programs will be in full swing. Our membership committee has been approached by the UT Sailing Club, whose officers would like to discuss the possibility of AYC membership at our next board meeting. We've just hosted the largest College Regatta of the year. I

thrilled to see so many young people learning and competing at AYC! They will be the future of our sport and our club.

Race Commander Report

by Barry Bowden



As I type this I am recovering from five days on the water working on the 2012 ICSA College Nationals Championship. We just had the most awesome day I have ever seen at Lake Travis. We had 58 team races between 10AM and 6PM with winds from the south at 18-22 mph. The direction varied so little that mark movements were seldom needed. There will be more about this event next month.

The big news of the month was the Memorial Day weekend running of Turnback. The lake levels forced a new format to this annual event. Everyone who attended will agree that this was the most exciting Turnback Canyon event in many years. I was there for the great flood in 1982 and this was a lot more enjoyable.

Our participants ranged from the fantastic Optimist fleet that has been sailing with our coach **Kate Noble and Bill Records** assisting on race committee, to two of our founding fathers, **Hap Arnold and Tom Romberg**, racing on a J29 and winning a trophy. If there was ever a doubt about sailing and racing sailboats being a lifetime sport, this should put those doubts to rest forever.

If you have been missing from the action at the Austin Yacht Club for the past months of low water, don't hesitate to come out and rejoin the fun. The last two races of the Summer Series are June 9 and June 16. The Keel Handicap Fleet will be hosting the annual Independence Cup on Saturday June 30. Dog Days will begin on Saturday July 14 with a 5:30 PM start.



Austin Yacht Club

5906 Beacon Drive
Austin TX 78734

June 23, 2012

7:00 - 11:00 pm

Heavy hors d'oeuvres
Beer, wine, setups
Great prizes
In the COOL AYC clubhouse



Register online or in the club office
by June 15, 2012

\$18 per person by June 15
\$20 per person late or at the door
Need info? Call 266-1336

AYC SUMMER PARTY
JUNE 23, 2012

Casino Night

Register on AYC website or call the office at
512-266-1336

Sail Training Report

by Jenny Loehlin



Many thanks to **John Bartlett** for his very generous gift of Opti sails. His support of sail training is very much appreciated.

Thanks to **Bill Records** and **Kate Noble** for making the Opti races at Turnback possible. The juniors got in a lot more races than the rest of us, in challenging conditions. Check

Coach Kate's article for more details.

The Beginning Keelboat class and Introduction to Racing class in May were both successful. 15 new sailors went out on May 19 with **Linda Donovan, Jim Johnstone, Tom Groll, Jon Nash, and Bill Records** and they all came back happy – **Tom Groll's** crew kept him out about an hour past the scheduled end of the class. On May 20, eight sailors, mostly new members, did some practice racing with the help of **Linda McDavitt, John Halter, Mike Mashl, and Ted Owens**. **Vic Manning** also helped with the post-sailing classroom session. Please consider taking on some of these folks as crew – they're very eager to keep sailing.



Photo by Jim Johnstone

Leon Flournoy at the helm of Jim Johnstone's S2 during the beginning keelboat class.

We have more beginner classes coming up, now while the water's warm – a full-day class on June 16 (keelboats in the morning, centerboards in the afternoon) and an afternoon centerboard class on July 7. Instructors still needed for both.

Camp and PB&J will be well under way by the time this comes out, thanks to **Kate Noble** and **Doug Kern**. Kids and boats – it's a beautiful thing.

Speaking of kids and boats, I've donated a copy of Arthur Ransome's classic *Swallows and Amazons* to the club library, since it seemed to me we were a bit deficient in the children's category. Does anybody have favorite sailing stories to recommend?

Turnback Canyon Report

by Wade Bingaman

AYC 2012 TURNBACK

Turnback in My Rearview Mirror

Now that Turnback is over and I've caught up on my sleep, it's time for regatta retrospective. We promised you a great event, and we delivered. Those of you who didn't come should have believed us. But when I say, "we delivered", I do mean "we". It was very much a team effort.

I found out that registration for a regatta is very complicated. But John Grzinich did a wonderful job that started at least a month before the regatta and really didn't end until a day or two after. He put up with my constant question and changes. He and his group got over 50 boats registered and sold 125 T-shirts and 250 meal tickets. It was not a small job.

Also in the month before the regatta, **Bill Records** rounded up sponsors, promoted the event at businesses and other yacht clubs. **Roy Crouse** provided the snazzy regatta logo, and Bill used that on the advertisement posters and the event T-shirts.

Leading up to the event, **Kate Noble** worked hard to assemble the largest fleet of the regatta – the OPTIs. There were 12 of them, some from out of town. These kids are serious racers and were clearly the hit of the regatta. Kate is doing a great job with our junior program.

On regatta weekend, both Saturday and Sunday started with a fine brunch. **Terry McDermott** saw to it we had plenty of coffee, and **Ken Whiteside** got up very early both mornings to gather the tasty breakfast tacos which disappeared quickly. I really appreciated this help – especially Sunday morning when, after the party, there was no way I could have gotten up early enough. (More on the party later.)

The racing was awesome. True, we had some help in the form of wonderful wind, but **Barry Bowden** and his team set up great racing. The classes were perfect. The courses were not too long or too short, but, as Goldilocks would say, "just right". The race team saw everyone through the holiday boat traffic and got them back in time for the party. The trophies were awesome as well. Thanks to **Larry Ratliff's** prompt scoring, the awards were handed out on time, with the largest crowd present I had ever seen at an awards ceremony.

The crawfish boil and music fest event was fantastic. But it didn't happen without a lot of work. All day Friday **Tom Peel** worked to build the stage. **Philippe Bettler** and **Ken Whiteside** assisted. **Art and Andrea Bussey** decorated the site that set just the right tone for a beach party. The crawfish were great, but they wouldn't have been without plenty of beverages to wash down those spicy critters. That thanks goes to **Barb and Ted Owens**. While the huge crowd was partying, Barb and Ted were hauling ice and kegs, to keep us hydrated. Also, **Polly and Tom Peel** kept the hot dogs coming for the kids.

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The music festival was six hours of really great music. But **Remus Broussard, Mike Jakle, and Dane Ohe** worked much longer than that. They started early Saturday morning and worked through the evening to get keep the sound system working. **Joe Roddy** managed to have the power trailer to run the system. The bands all started and ended on time. The crowd seemed to enjoy all the different types of music. The kids did the limbo to the steel band. Couples polkaed on the party's sandy beach. There were a huge number of people still dancing when the last band stopped after 10pm. When AYC members are still partying hard that late, it's a sign that it was a great event.

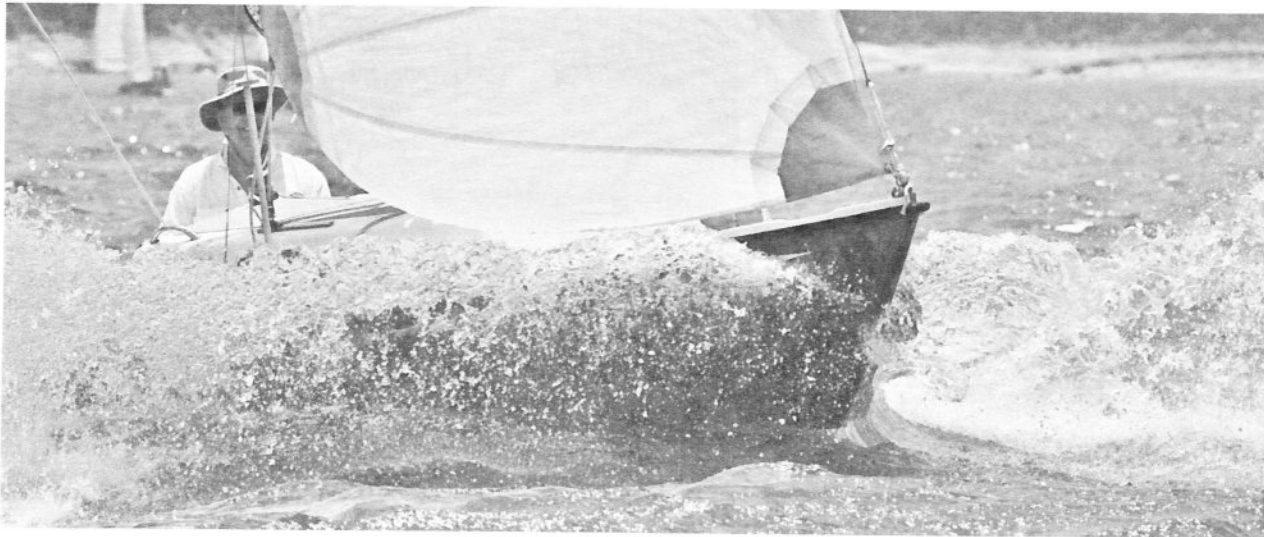
Finally thanks to all of you who came to the regatta. It was a very large turnout. It would not have been the same without all of you there.



Photos by Bruce McDonald

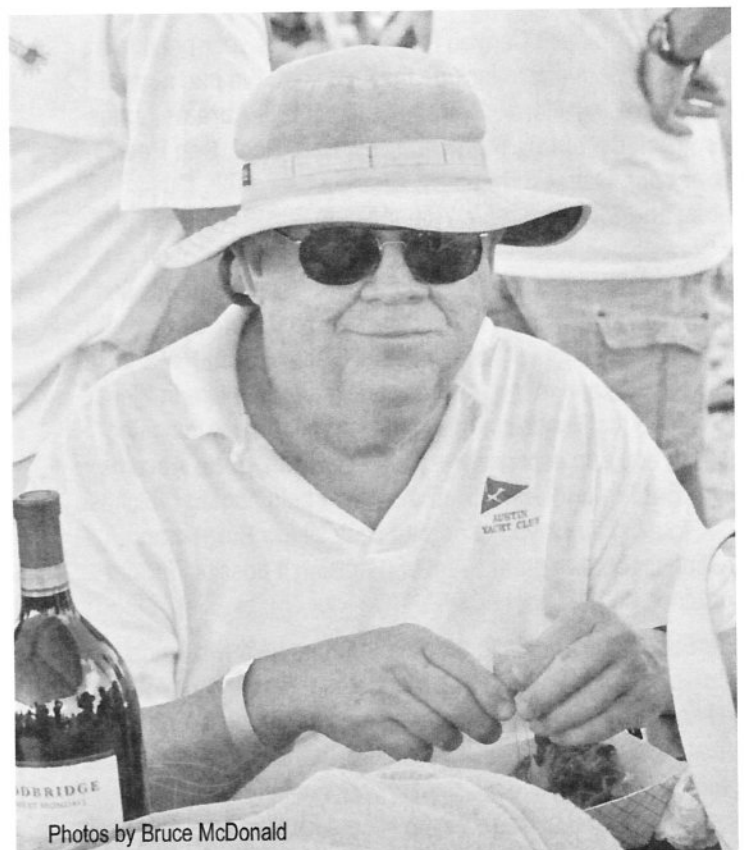
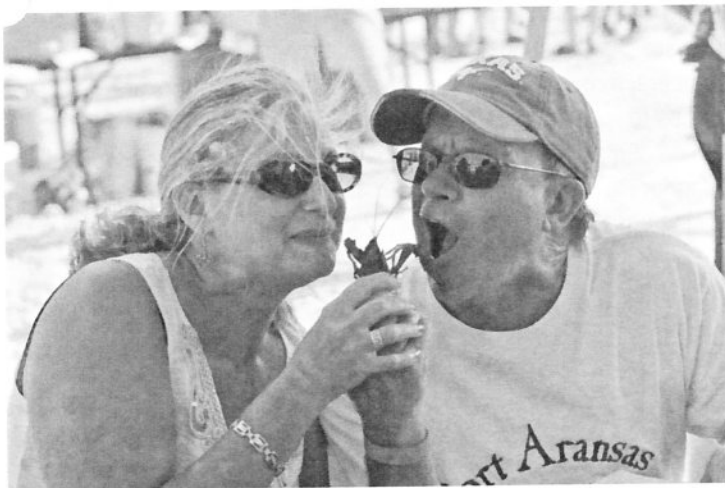
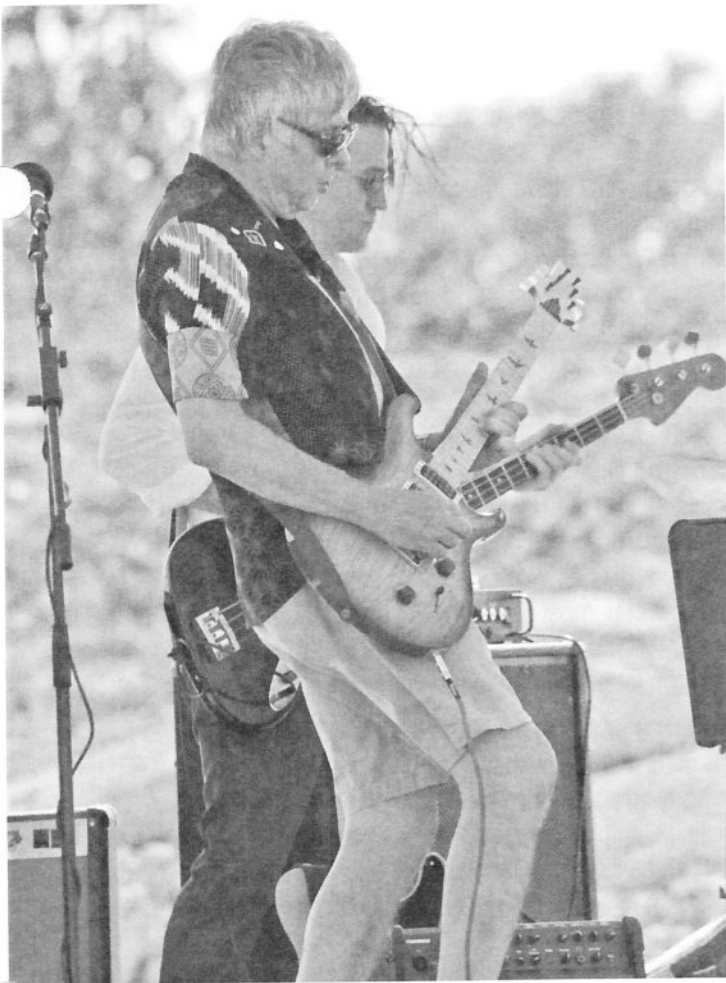


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TURNBACK Party Photos



Photos by Bruce McDonald



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Roadrunner Update

by Kate Noble

May was an exciting and busy month of Roadrunner sailing! Attendance continues to grow as we welcome several new junior members. The Basics/Beginners practice on Thursday evenings had especially big turnouts this month. We have been incorporating games like "Follow the Leader", long distance sails to Cyprus Cove, and Pico sails with adult volunteers and coaches into our practices. The result has been big improvements in tiller handling and sail trim while still keeping it fun.

Our Saturday Green Fleet has really excelled in the past month. In preparation for the Turnback Canyon Regatta, we have been piecing together the things we've been working on all season such as starts, boat balance, and upwind/downwind sailing. Every Saturday in May we ran several races, both windward-leewards and triangles. I am so thrilled with the progress of each and every one of our Green Fleet racers.

Keeping the Turnback Canyon Regatta local this year provided us with the opportunity to include the Opti fleet. We had a great weekend of racing with 11 Opti competitors: **Will Abrams, Jules Bettler, Nick Compton, Matt Gibbons, Sam Peel, Ben Peel, Michael Yost, Oscar Schaubert, Charles Larrouilh, Gus Gamble, and Marine Graby**. With the help of **Bill Records** and **Trey Clawson** on Race Committee, we were able to get off eight races on Saturday and four on Sunday. **Will Abrams** (in his first regatta!) took fourth place, third place went to **Charles Larrouilh**, second place to **Michael Yost**, and first place to **Sam Peel**. It was a fantastic weekend and a great experience for the Green Fleet. Thank you to the Roadrunner parents for your help with rigging launching, etc. and especially to **Alex Larrouilh, John Abrams, Phillippe Bettler, and Jim Abrams** for their help aboard the chase boat. Also a big thank you to regatta chair **Wade Bingaman** for putting together a great event and making it possible for our Roadrunners to participate.

On the Sunday of Turnback, the Roadrunners held two fundraisers to help us raise money for some much needed new equipment: our annual Turnback Regatta hot dog sale and a raffle for a gift certificate to Steiner Ranch Steakhouse. Thank you to the Social Committee for donating the hot dogs and to all the Roadrunner parents who helped to make this event a success: **Tom and Polly Peel, Laura and John Abrams, Sean Compton, and Fredrik Schaubert** who helped out with the hot dog sale and **Dave Gamble** for handling the raffle. Thanks to the generosity of all the members who bought hot dogs and raffle tickets or made donations to our program, we were able to raise over \$350.

In other exciting Roadrunner news, **Meredith Morran** competed in the Laser Gulf Coast Championships at the Texas Corinthian Yacht Club May 19 and 20, and the US Laser National Championships at the Houston Yacht Club May 30 through June 3. She finished 8th overall in 4.7 at Gulf Coasts (the 3rd girl) and 10th at Nationals (also 3rd place girl). It is great to see our junior sailors representing the Austin Yacht Club at these kinds of events. Congratulations, Meredith!

Our junior program is so successful due largely to the amount of dedication and support we receive from members of the club. In addition to those who helped out over the weekend for Turnback Canyon Regatta, I want to thank **Fred Schroth, Dave Gamble, and Bill Records** for their last minute repairs on one of the Optis the day before the regatta. Also our Roadrunner fleet board for the hard work in keeping the junior program on track: Fleet captain **Stefan Froelich**, secretary **Polly Peel**, treasurer **Anna Yost**, co safety chairs **Marcy and Jeff Berbrick**, and equipment chair **Philippe Bettler**. I also want to thank the small but hardworking group that came out for our Roadrunner work party: **the Peel family, Will and Laura Abrams, Marcy and Jeff Berbrick, and Stefan and Ethan Froelich**. With their help, our Pavilion was painted in time for College Nationals, new safety equipment was installed, and the boats are ship shape. Finally, a big thanks to **Bill Records**, who continues to be a strong presence in our youth program. Bill has volunteered his time behind the scenes as well as on the water, most notably filling in and leading a Green Fleet clinic earlier this month while I was out of town. Thank you to everyone who continues to keep our junior sailing program at AYU strong!

Our summer programs begin this month! PB&J will have four sessions in June, with two on Saturday lead by **Doug Kern** and **John Morran** and two on Sunday lead by **Bill Records**. The Junior Sailing Camp's first session begins on June 11. We have a fantastic staff and a full camp for sessions one and two. However, there is still room in session three (June 25-29) and session four (July 9-13) so sign on up!

Our weekly Roadrunner practices will resume after the Junior Sailing Camp finishes on July 14. However, there will be several Free Sail Sundays, hosted by the Roadrunner fleet board members, throughout the summer for our Roadrunners and AYU families to take advantage of. Summer Free Sail Sundays will be held on June 17, June 24, July 1 and July 8. Come on down to the Rylander Pavilion from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm for some fun on the sail training boats!



Photo by Bill Records

Roadrunner trophy winners, Turnback Canyon Regatta, left to right: Coach **Kate**, **Sam Peel**, **Michael Yost**, **Charles Larrouilh** and **Will Abrams**

OPTIs Sail Turnback

Photos by Bill Records



1st place trophy winner Sam Peel



Opti start at Turnback



2nd place trophy winner Michael Yost



4th place trophy winner Will Abrams, Marine Graby follows



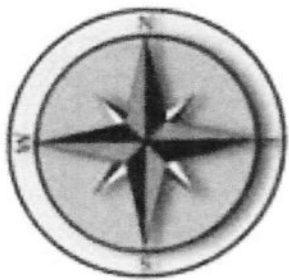
Marine Graby - last sail for AYC



Opti competitors



Sam Peel and Michael Yost battle it out



The AYC Keel Fleet invites sailors to participate in the

Independence Cup

Sailboat Race and Party at Austin Yacht Club

Saturday June 30, 2012



Declare your independence from the routine tasks of daily living and join the fifth annual Keel Fleet Independence Cup race/party. The race venue will be the main basin of Lake Travis around permanently located marks and channel markers. This event features the opportunity to have your name engraved on the **Independence Cup**. The honor will be awarded jointly to the best corrected time mono hull yacht racing in a PHRF Spinnaker class yacht and the best corrected time mono hull yacht racing in a PHRF Non- Spinnaker class. Following the race, dinner will be served. The Independence Cup and all class awards will be presented following dinner.

Classes: PHRF Spinnaker, PHRF Non Spinnaker. Portsmouth Handicap Multihull.

Schedule: Saturday June 30, 2012

Registration : 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at AYC Clubhouse

- **Skippers Meeting:** Shortly after close of registration
- **First Signal :** 1:30 p.m. (Race is planned to last about 3 hours)
- **Dinner :** Following race approximately, 6 PM
- **Awards :** Following Dinner

Entry Fees: \$25 for AYC Keel Fleet Members, \$30 for non members. Includes two dinner tickets. Additional tickets available for \$7.00 each.

Additional Information: Contact Event Chairman Bruce McDonald (brucemcdonald@att.net) or JoAnn Welles (joann-welles@sbcglobal.net.) SI's and the NOR will be available on the austinyachtclub.net website.

Keel Fleet Update

by JoAnn Welles

May was a busy month around the club – two series races, Turnback Canyon, and of course Beer Cans and Wednesday Laser/Sunfish races. Lots of opportunities for sailing this summer even if the lake is still way too low.

June is even busier, with the Collegiate Nationals, two more series races, Beer Cans, PB&J, summer camp and Laser/Sunfish races. Coming up also is Casino Night on June 23, an AYC social event. And on June 30, Keel Fleet is holding Independence Cup. This event is open to keel fleet boats and multi-hulls. Come on out!

Collegiate Nationals is a very prestigious and very time-consuming event which involved many keel fleet members. PRO was **Vic Manning**. Chief Judge was **Gail Bernstein**. Doing race committee were **Barry Bowden, David Bernstein, Ray Shull, and Claude Welles**. This event requires a huge time commitment, with the women's semifinals and finals taking four days, the team's finals three days and the dinghy championship another two days. Vic and Barry have worked hundreds of hours, preparing for and executing this event.

A fleet News. The number of boats sailing in series races looks good, with eight different competitors. However, only two boats had more than one race out of the three in the series. The problem in the first race was way too much wind, causing many to decide they'd had enough fun without the need to finish, or even to leave the dock. May was a time for many in A fleet without school aged children to go to exotic places (Kauai, the Virgin Islands, and Belize that I know of).

Turnback Canyon saw seven A fleet boats, with the J29s cleaning up in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places. **Ray Shull** was 1st, **Matt Romberg** 2nd and **Rob Stivers** 3rd. The fleet was well represented in Race Committee, with **Rick Smith, Barry Bowden, Jen Schwan, John Bartlett and Steve Vaughan** (!) participating.

B Fleet News. B fleet is still suffering from lack of turnout in the series races, with only four boats racing in the series so far. **Chris Hargett** in Shocker has two bullets. It's time for the rest of you spinnaker boats to come out and challenge Chris!

Non-Spin Fleet News. Non-Spinnaker has had five boats in C fleet and two in D fleet for series races. Not a single boat in either fleet raced both races. **Jim Henrickson** in Warrior and **Damon Galloway** in Overkeel took the two 1sts in C fleet while **Mark Bradford** took 1st in D fleet.

In Turnback Canyon, seven boats sailed in C fleet and eight in D fleet. In C fleet, **Linda Donovan** in Far Away took 1st, with **Damon Galloway** in Overkeel in 2nd, and **Trey Am Rhein's** Hakuna Matata taking 3rd. In D fleet there were two non-member skippers among the racers. **Chris Thompson** in Three Hour Crewz took 1st with a 2nd and a 1st. **Robert Anderson** in Flying Cloud took 2nd, and **Tommy Cairloff** in Tanqueray took a 3rd.

Crew Training

by Jim Johnstone

I lost another crew member. **Vector Perez** just bought his Pearson 26 one design from **Walt Dwyer**. That is the second crew in two years who got their own boat. I must be doing something right but now I need to find more crew members.

Last Month I participated in the adult learn to sail program, volunteering to take some new sailors out in my boat so they could have the experience of sailing after hearing about the fundamentals on shore. The wind was in the 15 knots plus range and they loved getting their hands on the tiller and making the boat go. They got excited when the boat heeled and were proud when they learned how to control that.

A lot of you in the non-spin fleet have told me you have a hard time finding crew. Participating in the learn to sail program is a good way to find crew. When I learned how to sail on White Rock Lake in Dallas 40 years ago, there was no adult learn to sail option available to me.

I had often driven down to White Rock to watch the sailboats skimming over the water and was enchanted by the possibility of doing that myself. One hot, summer day my brother and I went to the local tool rental store which happened to have a sailboat for rental. I forget the name of the boat but it was basically like a big scow with a single lateen rigged sail, sort of a cross between a Butterfly and a Sunfish.

Knowing nothing about sailing, we took a long time to figure out how to step the mast, attach the rudder, launch the boat and hoist the sail. We jumped in and eagerly fiddled with the sail and tiller trying to get the boat moving. We had a major problem though, no wind!

My brother and I had a combined weight with gear and refreshments of close to 400 pounds (most of that his). There was not enough wind to fill the sail and we did not have a clue how to get the boat moving. We drifted around the lake aimlessly for a while until our supply of beer was gone, then sort of paddled, sculled and drifted back to the shore where we put the boat back on the trailer and packed everything up to go home.

Undaunted, I went out and purchased my first sailboat, a Dolphin Sr. It cost \$350 including the trailer. I liked the Dolphin for two reasons: It had its own ice chest built into the hull and it was easy to sail by sitting in the cockpit foot well on a cushion with your legs up over the deck in front and your arms on the little hiking rails, steering with the tiller directly behind your head. Your wife or girlfriend (but not both) could sit in front of you and lean back on your chest. Very romantic!

Through trial and error I learned how to sail that boat. One day my wife and I were out on White Rock Lake and the winds were up. We were sailing downwind when we accidentally jibed and the boat flipped over, dumping us into the water. We were both wearing life jackets and ended up on opposite sides of the boat. I called out to see if she was alright.

"Yes, but help me! You know I can't swim!" she cried.

"You'll be OK dear, just put your feet down. I'm standing on the bottom and the water is only up to my chest."

We walked across the bottom to the shore dragging the boat behind us and pulled it out of the water for the day. My wife wanted post-traumatic stress therapy. I knew it was time for a bigger boat.

SC21 Update

by Carl Wiseman

Ray Shull is Victorious in the 2012 Intergalactics!

On a day planned for the first private rocket launch from SpaceX the South Coast event of the year, the Intergalactic marathon races, were held on May 19. There was a lot of excitement and anticipation, all for a trophy that strongly resembled in stature the monolith in 2001 Space Odyssey. **Ray Shull** was the repeat winner and has kept a tight grip on the trophy for the last twelve months, which may explain his recent appetite for monkey meat (No, it is not a sexual reference! Go watch the movie). Overheard were several spouses expressing relief that the trophy would not reside at their homes for the next twelve months – it weighs close to one hundred pounds.

The fleet would like to acknowledge and thank the following volunteers for race committee: **John Mandell, Pat Caughey, Doug Casey, and Renee Ruais**. John created a very detailed ordering of the boats as they crossed the marks in each race. It was great information for the more competitive boats, but slightly heartbreaking for those of us at the lower rungs – but it definitely helped create a lasting story for each race. Special thanks goes to Renee for the excellent videotaping of the action around the leeward mark. The South Coast sailors, notorious for their serious attention deficit challenges, were glued to the screen throughout the evening watching and re-watching the action.

We were able to sign up 12 boats for this year's race, which kept the event revenue neutral (no small task as the mortgage on the trophy is quite high). As stated above, **Ray Shull** won the Gold Cup. **Pat Feagin**, Ray's paduan Sith, was second place, and third place went to the best hope for the force – **Bruce McDonald**. For the coveted Silver cup, new owner **Hugh Robertson** took the honors. **Carl Wiseman and Jim Gray** took second place. It should be noted that Cloud 9 kept to the Intergalactic theme and took second place with a half inch of Martian green slime covering the bottom of the boat – dispelling the popular urban sailing myth that you can't win races with a "dirty bottom". Of course, **Scott Bryan**, the only other Silver Cup participant lost his crew and had to fly solo – and still almost took second place.

Ray's traditional chili was the dinner mainstay (BTW – where did that meat come from?) with everyone else contributing various dishes. The most valuable sailor dish award, however, went to **Tom Meyer** for providing the needed drinks before dinner. With the group aimlessly wandering around the premises, Tom's Gin and Tonic après race drinks were able to help us focus on the immediate tasks ahead – namely, drink and then eat.

Summer Series continues – now with a freshly christened Intergalactic champion, the new (or should I say the old new) target will be **Ray Shull**. All the members at the club are now asking the question – who will be the one to dethrone him?

Happy sailing!

J/24 Fleet Update

by David Broadway

Turnback Canyon was a big hit with the J/24 Fleet as nine boats were on the start line, the largest one-design turnout for this well-executed event! Included in the mix was Betty, the **UT Sailing Club** entry, and



Photo by Bruce McDonald

Pat Hitchins ably double-handling Mothership Connection. There were some musical chairs within the fleet as **Pat Caughey** put together El Pato Azul (formerly ayeBoat) while **Doc Gamble** loaned Ohh Ahh to his crew and helmed Superman. **Jorge Martin-de-Nicolas** put together a team on **Tommy Pullen's** Three Sheets to the Wind.

In the end, **Ryan Harden's** red boat team prevailed with two bullets, **Pat Caughey's** El Pato Azul had two 2nds, and **Doc Gamble** had two 3rd place finishes. **John and Meiling Parker** continue to move up the leader board with a 6th place in the 9 boat fleet!

The AYC J/24 TX Circuit Road Warriors (**John/Meiling Parker, Doc Gamble, Jorge Martin-de-Nicolas, and David Broadway**) head to the Corpus Christi YC for the 4th Circuit stop of the season on June 9-10. Riding the recent 4th place finish at the Dallas Corinthian YC stop, **Doc Gamble's** Ohh Ahh team leads the AYC Road Warriors in 4th place overall.

Following the CCYC stop, the J/24 fleet will be back en masse for the End of Summer Series on June 16.

On the heels of the **Parkers' Free Spirit** addition to the J/24 Fleet, several other prospects are considering jumping on the band wagon. Stay tuned for details.

Ensign Fleet Update

by Jonathan Butler

Summer is upon us! Temperatures have been creeping up and the rain has been sparse, but fortunately there is decent water in the lake this year and many of you are taking advantage. The 2012 Summer Series is under way and as many as five boats have competed.

There are still a couple of race days to go at the time I am writing this – 6/9 and 6/16. Gravy Boat skippered by **Danny Lien** has a four point advantage on **Tom Groll #578**, followed by **Lewis Price** in Dos Locos. Prime Time (**Elliott Bray**), Eagle (**Hap Arnold**) and Festina Lenta (**Randolph Bertin**) have all made some of the races.

Fred Ford on September, was the only Ensign to compete in the redesigned Turnback Canyon regatta, which by all accounts was a great weekend. There have also been a few Ensigns out for Beer Can enjoying the evening breezes.

Following the Summer Series there is a slight break in the racing action until the start of the Dog Days Series on July 14, with Ensigns on Race Committee duty this first day. Please contact **Lewis Price** if you can help out with RC. The Dog Days series will be held on five consecutive Saturdays concluding on Aug. 11. For those willing to brave the heat it will be a good opportunity to get as many Ensigns on the starting line as possible.

Time to Defend the Auld Mug! 2013 Ensign Nationals is coming up quick on August 12-16 in Marquette, Michigan. I am planning to take J. Seagull to Marquette to compete again this year, hopefully with the same crew. I am working on getting the boat in the water soon and getting some sailing in! It would be great if another one or two AYC Ensigns could make it to Nationals. There is still time to register at <http://www.2012ensignnationals.com>. It will be lots of fun, and quite a bit cooler than Austin that time of year.

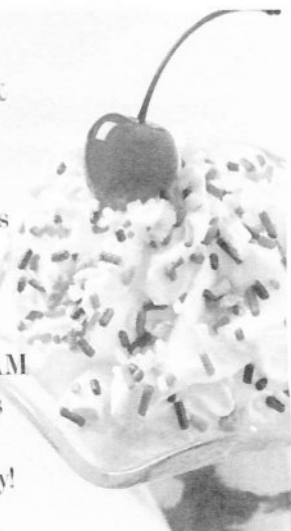
Socially speaking, we have a fleet social sail planned for July 7 (as near the full moon as we could get it). Depending on the weather we can sail, swim and potluck. Look for an email with more details. The AYC family ice cream social and potluck dinner is June 16 at 5:00pm (and awards for Summer Series) and the Casino Night is June 23 at 7pm.

See you on the water soon!

FAMILY EVENT!

Potluck Dinner & Ice Cream Social

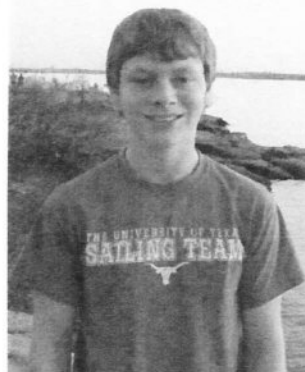
Come out after the races on June 16 and enjoy great food cooked up by your fellow sailors, followed by ICE CREAM and the Summer Series trophy presentation. Bring the whole family!



UT Sailing Team Report

by Kelly Troy

On Friday, June 8, 2012 **Luke Cragin** was awarded the James Rousmaniere Award for Student Leadership and will be inducted in to the Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association Hall of Fame. This award



Luke Cragin

honors an undergraduate for his or her extraordinary achievement in leadership, and whose efforts have made a significant contribution to the development, progress, and success of his or her club, team, conference, or the ICSA.

Last spring, in the middle of his freshman year, Cragin was elected to the position of president of the University of Texas Sailing Team and was handed the great task of hosting the 2012 ICSA Nationals. For the

last year and a half, he has worked tirelessly towards the success of the event, coordinating with individuals involved in every step of the process, and working countless hours in order to make the event a success. "It was a group effort," Cragin says. He wishes he could share this award with his team and the team's many supporters, but he says it is a great honor to be acknowledged.

Scott Young, a UT Sailing Team alum and Olympian, worked along side Cragin on behalf of the AYC Fund to coordinate the purchase of the 18 new FJs, and has nothing but praise for him. "Luke is doggedly persistent. From negotiating the sale of the old fleet of boats, to fundraising for the new one, nothing seems to intimidate him." Everyone who comes into contact with Cragin sees what a remarkable leader he is. **Barry Bowden**, race commander for AYC, commented, "It is amazing what these students can accomplish as a club team with no coach and a limited budget." President of ICSA, **Mitch Brindley**, continues the applause for Cragin, crediting him with "composure exceeding his years," and complimenting the 2012 Nationals "as one of the best organized events" that he has had the pleasure of being a part of. **Vic Manning**, the chair of the Nationals Advising Committee, has worked with Cragin almost every step of the way; "Luke is a delight to work with, enjoyable to be around, and always reliable. It is great to have a young man like him around the club."

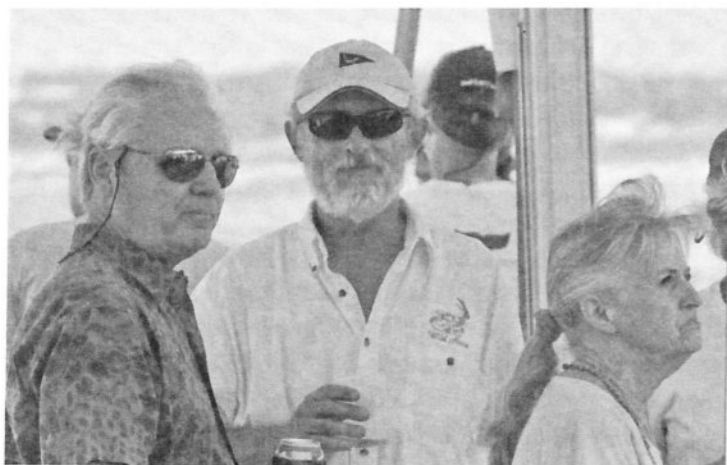
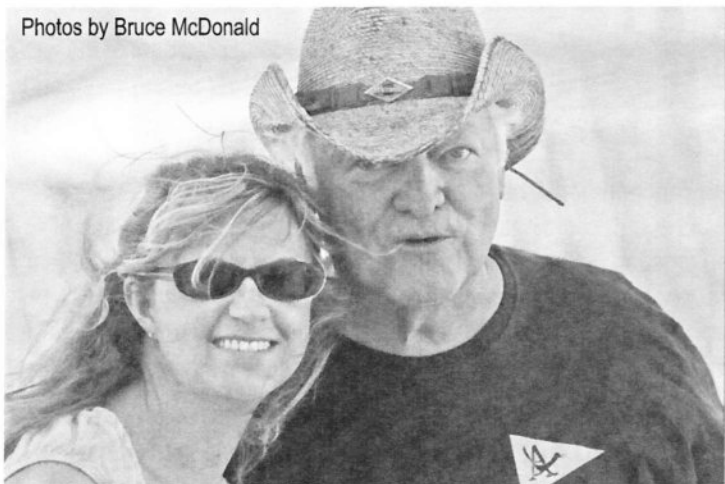
I personally have worked closely with Luke over the last five months as the public relations officer for the sailing team, and I know he will continue to contribute greatly to our sport. Having recently concluded his sophomore year, there are still many great things on the horizon for him, and those who know him anxiously await his future success.

More TURNBACK Party Photos

continued from page 7



Photos by Bruce McDonald



Social Committee Update

by Susie McDonald

After a break in the action, the social committee is ready to roll – and June is a big party month.

Potluck Dinner and Ice Cream Social

June 16 is the end-of-series awards banquet for the Summer Series, the annual Potluck Dinner and Ice Cream Social. This is a family event and we're hoping to see a good crowd. Once again, **Tommy Gairloff and Linda Firestone** and crew will be serving frozen delights with all the trimmings. Dinner will be provided by your fellow sailors (and their families) and we're expecting the usual great spread of homemade dishes. Bring the whole family! 5:00pm in the clubhouse.

Casino Night

June 23 is the summer party and this year we are hosting a Casino Night. We've got a great lineup of prizes for lucky winners and Central Market is providing the heavy hors d'oeuvres. Beer, wine and setups will be available. Tickets are \$18 per person in advance, \$20 at the door. You can register on the AYC web site or by calling the office at 512-266-1336. Don't miss it! 7:00pm in the clubhouse.

The Independence Cup Regatta takes place on June 30. You can view information and register on the AYC web site.

Dog Days starts on July 14. Remember, series race #1 is the fleet do-it-yourself social for after the races. The social committee will be serving post-race meals on July 21, 28, August 4 and 11.

The Late Summer Series starts on September 9.

See you in the kitchen!



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We're watching!



AYC Sunset photographed by Renee Ruais



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