



Opening Day This Is What It's All About

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Ceremony, Brunch and Regatta

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Save the Date

Spring Series
March 17, 24, April 14, 21

Membership Committee Meeting
March 21 7:00 p.m.

Basic Keel Boat Clinic
March 23 1:00 p.m.

Board of Directors Meeting
March 28 7:30 p.m.

Easter Laser Regatta
March 30-31

Roadrunner Regatta
April 6-7

AYC Founding Father Tom Romberg Takes a First in Opening Day Regatta



Cover photo by Bruce McDonald

COMIN' ATCHA!



Photo by Bill Records

Roadrunner Regatta April 6-7, 2013

Mark your calendar for the 2013 Roadrunner Regatta on April 6-7. Come out and watch our junior sailors compete in this rough and tumble on-the-water rivalry. Plenty of good seats available at the end of Dock 1. Bring your own lawn chair!

Race Calendar and Non-Racing Events have moved to back cover

From The Commodore

by Christopher Dwight



Welcome to March, where our average high temperature is in the mid-seventies and we have gained an extra hour of daylight with Daylight Saving Time. What a great time to get out to AYC and enjoy your friends, your club, and our lake!

February was another active month out at your club. In addition to the Frostbite Series and the Racing Rules seminar conducted by **Brad Davis**, we had a busy agenda at the February board meeting. Of particular note was the motion to accept new members - we approved the membership applications for seven new members this month! If you see some new faces out at our club, be sure to introduce yourself.

We kicked off March with our annual Opening Day ceremony held on Sunday, March 3. **Cathy Parker** and her social committee did a wonderful job decorating the clubhouse and preparing a delicious buffet. **John and Claudia Bartlett** once again donated Bloody Marys which were quite popular among the attendees. The weather cooperated beautifully, with a warm sunny morning and a good breeze in the afternoon for the Opening Day Regatta. It was wonderful to see so many of our long-time members and past board members come out to socialize and celebrate the onward progress of our sailing club.

I know many of you are curious about our plans for improving lake access. **Ray Shull** has taken the lead and done extensive work in evaluating our options. This information was presented to your past and current board back over the holiday months. For a myriad of reasons, we are in agreement that the most logical place to extend our lake access is on our current north ramp. Working with **John Saunders** (Buildings & Grounds) and **Jon Nash** (Harbor), Ray has prepared the necessary paperwork to secure work permits from the various regulatory authorities. Once we have our paperwork in place, we hope to begin modifications and extension work right away. We also expect to execute a contract for a replacement Dock 2 in the coming weeks as we already have the necessary LCRA permits in place. 2013 will be an exciting year of significant improvements to your club!

Vice Commodore Report

by John Morran



REGATTA SEASON HAS ARRIVED - LET'S GO SAILING!

Opening Day Regatta

Even though the racing never stops at AYC, the Opening Day Regatta marks the ceremonial start to our new sailing season - and we could not have asked for a better start to the 2013

season. Over 45 boats registered and were treated to some thrilling racing and exciting breeze on Lake Travis. Many thanks to **James Wilsford** (Regatta Chair), **Barry Bowden** (PRO), **Larry Ratliff** (Scoring), **Bartlett Sails** (Bloody Marys), **Christopher Dwight** (Master of Ceremonies) and **Cathy Parker's** hard working social committee for a wonderful event.

Easter Laser Regatta, March 30-31

It is time to start getting those legs in hiking shape. Don't miss out on one of the most competitive and entertaining Laser events in Texas.

Roadrunner Regatta, April 6-7

This youth event is part of the TSA Youth Circuit. It typically has over 100 participants from all over Texas and a few teams from Louisiana and Mississippi. Registration information will be up soon on the TSA website: www.txsail.org

AYC Roadrunners should contact **Kate Noble** about practice sessions and reserving club boats for this exciting event.

There will be plenty of volunteer opportunities, both on- and off the water. Please contact regatta co-chairs **Stefan Froelich** or **John Morran** for more information.

Turnback Canyon Regatta, Memorial Day weekend, May 25-26

It's not too early to start lining up your crew and making plans to enjoy some terrific racing and a great party. Look for more details in the next Telltale and on the AYC website soon.

HELP WANTED: I am currently recruiting volunteers to chair these events: Turnback Canyon Regatta and Governor's Cup Regatta. Please contact me if you are interested or want to suggest a good candidate.

REMINDER:

An updated AYC directory is in progress. Please verify your personal information is up-to-date with the AYC office so that your data may be captured correctly.

Membership Committee News

by Past Commodore Johannes Brinkmann



A big thank you to the following individuals who stepped up to serve on AYC's 2013 Membership Committee: **Deborah Mathison, Renee Ruais, Scott Bryan, Jim Tillinghast, Jorge Martin-de-Nicolas, Jorge Trevino and Vic Manning.** Please join me in welcoming the following new members who were admitted to AYC at our February board meeting:

Paul and Mary Carew and Son Nicholas

Paul has been sailing for 23 years and his wife Mary has sailed since 2001. They have crewed on a number of boats in series races and regattas at AYC. Nicholas is a Youth Member of AYC, and the Carews would like to upgrade to Senior Membership and make their participation at AYC a family affair. Paul first learned to sail in South Florida and took part in many races including the Columbus Day regattas in Miami. Paul also cruised the Florida Keys and was a member of Rush Creek Sailing Club from 1994 to 1996. The Carews currently own a Compac 16 and a Laser.

Sean and Eve Nunes and Family

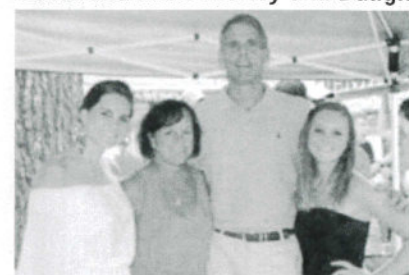


Sean is returning to AYC after a four-year leave. He is an active member of the Houston Yacht Club, has sailed since childhood on Sunfish, Lasers, 420, J22 etc. in local, regional national and world championships. He is now joining a J-70 partnership with the **Rombergs.**

Chris Feters

Chris would like to participate in sailing and racing activities and enjoy fellowship with other sailors. He has sailed at AYC with **Bill Benker.**

David and Anne Morley and Daughters Jennifer and Kristin



David and his wife Anne recently moved to Austin from Houston, where they were active Ensign racers at the Houston Yacht Club. Ann started sailing when she was six years old and began her racing career on

San Francisco Bay at age 10. She raced actively on the UT sailing team out of AYC, and has crewed in J22 circuit regattas and raced Ensigns for 20+ years. David started racing in Miami at age 10 and has raced J22s, a C&C38 and his Ensign the last 20 years. Both David and Anne crew regularly in the Harvest Moon Regatta on a Cambria 40, and David has sailed around Cape Horn!

Lucy Brock

Lucy is nine years old, and after talking with **Kate Noble,** she decided she would like to join AYC as a racing team beginner. Lucy loves to sail and has attended sailing camp at Pleon Yacht

Club in Marblehead, Massachusetts for the last two summers. She has sailed with her family in dinghies and keelboats since she was a baby. The Membership Committee recommends accepting Ms. Brock's application for Junior Student Membership effective March 1, 2013.

Kristin & Brian Williams and their Son Jude



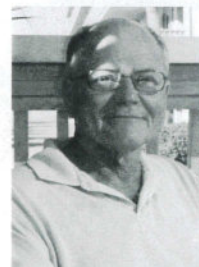
Kristin owns an Oday 222. She sailed with her father as a child and she, her husband Brian and their five year old son Jude are joining AYC to learn more about sailing, racing and having fun!

Devin Smith

Devin is a member of the Boy Scouts of America Sea Scouts ship 681.

Buildings & Grounds Report

by John Saunders



February was highlighted by the Building & Grounds Work Party the day before Opening Day. Approximately 35 willing souls came out with rakes and shovels, trimmers, and a caulking gun.

In addition to seven trees and shrubs already planted, we planted nine more trees and shrubs, dressed up the sites and others, and cleaned up around them. This included the entire area of the entrance drive and filling over 800 feet of drip irrigation trench. All of the new plantings as well as some of the older ones will now automatically get a drink. You will also find some automatic shut-off valves on hose bibs. These are simply clock work shut-off valves that will turn off after the time you set runs out. We are seriously trying to conserve water.



Photos by John Saunders

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Over 200 marigolds were planted near the anchor, while over 25 bags of leaves were raked from the front yard and patio area. The shrubs in that area received their annual pruning.

In shelter 4, now the social committee store room, shelves were constructed to get supplies off the floor.

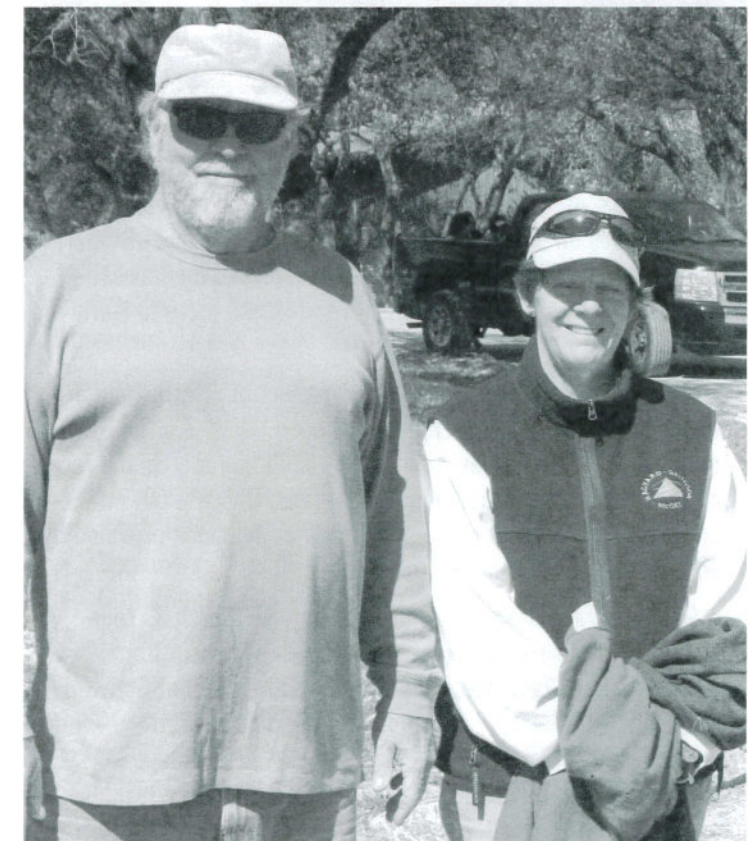
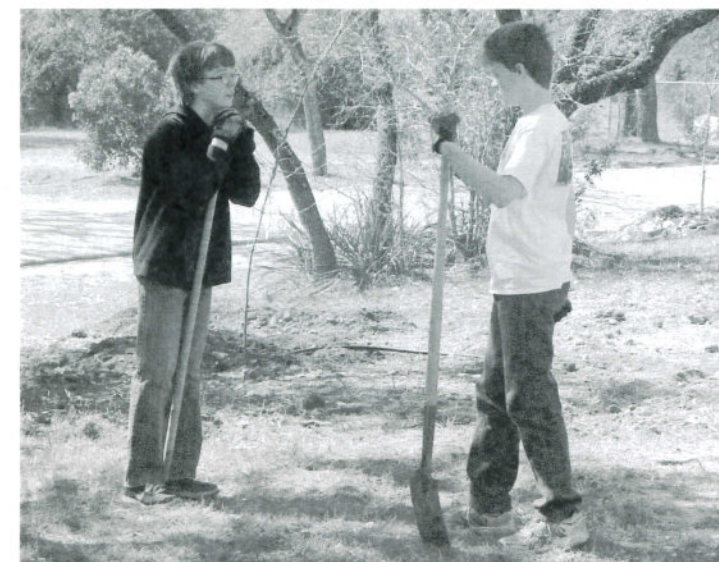


Coffee, juice, bagels and sausage were served for breakfast, as well as sandwiches and cookies for lunch. I hope no one left hungry.

The results of a day like this are visible; however, like sailing, the people met, ideas shared, and friends made are the true value. This was a wonderful group of AYC members getting together and enjoying the company of other members.

Other noteworthy accomplishments: A table with chairs was added to the south club deck. The UT Team storage building is being repaired and should be good for another decade or so. A storage building for the UT Club has also been added.

It's time to go sailing. See you out there!



REMINDERS: Sailboard rack by the south ramp - the rack and boards will be moved to a location by barn. Please claim if yours! If none are claimed, they will ALL go into the dumpster.

PLEASE: store your equipment in assigned spaces. Mark your trailers or we will: \$\$.

PLEASE: clean up stuff behind your assigned dry sail space. That too will be dumped if left in the mud.

If you need a space to store your boat, contact the office. Unassigned boats are being charged.

Race Commander Report

by Barry Bowden



February was a busy month for the Race Committee both on and off the water. The Frostbite Series was completed. Three of the five scheduled races were finished. 40 boats completed at least one of the races, with the biggest group coming from PHRF Spinnaker A fleet.

Brad Davis was the instructor for a course on the Racing Rules of Sailing, with discussion of the changes that



Photo by John Grzinich

have been made. The most recent four-year rule book is available, with rules that will apply from 2013-2016. The entire stock of books that the office had received was sold out at the event. New books are on order. We had 45 participants at this seminar, ranging from **Hap Arnold**, one of our founders, to the newest members of the club. There is always something more to learn about our sport of racing sailboats.

Tom Cunningham finished his winter project of refurbishing a used Monark chase boat to replace the aged Chase 3. This boat is now the pride of the fleet and performed admirably as the race committee boat for the Opening Day Regatta. Check it out on the Race Committee dock, it has a pretty new orange look provided by **Fred Schroth** of Schroth Fiberglass.

The Opening Day Regatta was held on Sunday, March 3. Your board of directors served as race committee with help from past commodore **David Lewis**. **Jenny Loehlin** and **Jen Schwan** assisted me on Chase 3, the RC boat. Running a race in the wind from a chase boat makes you appreciate our large orange RC boat even more. **Molly Lewis** and **David** were on the other available chase boat. **John Saunders** provided rescue and towing services and **John Morran** was the race committee for the Opti fleet which braved the windy day.

The Ensign fleet made up the only AYC one design fleet with six boats. Spinnaker A fleet provided a lot of excitement with two new J70s, three J80s, and a couple of J29s. At the finish there were four past commodores fighting it out for the win. **Tom Romberg** and **Steve Vaughn** had a close finish, with Romberg taking first, and **Ray Shull** and **Claude Welles** were close behind. Immediate past commodore **Johannes Brinkman** took the non Spinnaker fleet in his Catalina 22. Quite a showing for a bunch of old guys. (Not you Johannes, you don't quite qualify as of yet.) It is always fun to see our past commodores enjoying our sport.

Larry Ratliff, chief scorer and sea lawyer, and I have been working on the Notice of Race and the Sailing Instructions for the upcoming Series races. The Spring Series will kick off on March 17. Registration is available online on Regatta Network. You are already on there if you have raced in the past few months.

So, if any one of your friends or acquaintances should ask you ... Yes, there is water in Lake Travis, and we are still racing sailboats. If you can't launch your boat, look around the docks for something that looks fun and give the owner a call. I am sure you can talk them into joining the fun. They may just be needing some good crew.

Sail Training Report

by Jenny Loehlin



As I write, we're less than a week from the beginning of the spring session for junior sailors on March 8. We've already had our first Opti racing of the season, at the Opening Day Regatta, and in the Frostbite series **Sam Peel** and **Andrew Butler** crewed for **Bill Records** and **Ben Froelich** and **Ethan Froelich** crewed for **John Vance**. Go Roadrunners!



Photo by Bill Records

Ben and Ethan Froelich crew for John Vance

We have a busy year of adult classes coming up, starting with an Introductory Keelboat class on March 23. Be sure and let your friends who are interested in learning to sail know! There will be another class May 4 if that doesn't fit their schedule. **Scott Young's** starting clinic will be held on April 20 this year, and we'll be using FJs, so even if there aren't enough April showers to float your boat, plan on coming out and taking advantage of Scott's expertise. This is also a great opportunity for Laser and Sunfish sailors, and you all know how important good starts are.

This year we're planning to offer our popular Women's Camp twice, on May 11 and October 26. Check the AYC calendar for more classes - thanks to Kate Noble for getting them entered! And we still have a few more to come, including some windsurfing clinics.

Welcome to new member **Harry Polly**! Harry is an ASA instructor, and we look forward to being able to expand our ASA offerings.

The Roadrunner Regatta moves to the first weekend in April this

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year. Thanks to **John Morran** and **Stefan Froelich** for organizing it. Here's hoping we have the usual great turnout and a bit warmer weather and water than in our usual early March time slot. Come out to see some fiercely competitive racing!

Registration for summer day camp and PB&J is online. There will be five weeks of camp this year in June and July for sailors ages 8 to 16, all experience levels. Our PB&J sessions for beginning sailors ages 4 to 10 include four classes on Saturday or Sunday mornings during the summer. Get your parents to sign you up, or, if you're too old, sign up your kids if you have some and tell their friends' parents about it, too!

Sailing Director Report

by Kate Noble



The 2013 Sail Training season is finally here! Sail Training Commander, **Jennifer Loehlin**, and I have been hard at work over the offseason to develop a training schedule for sailors of all ages and skill levels. Here is an overview of what's to come this spring:

Adult Training

Our first adult clinic of the season will be a Basic Keel Boat Clinic on March 23, led by former Sail Training Commander, **Bill Records**. This half-day clinic will include classroom and on the water instruction and is designed for beginner and intermediate sailors. Registration is online - visit the AYC website today and sign on up.

On April 20, **Scott Young** will host a Start Clinic that you will not want to miss! This year, the clinic will be dinghy-oriented. AYC Optis, Lasers, Sunfish and FJs will be available to clinic participants.

AYC will host a US Sailing Level 1 Instructor certification course taught by **Steve Gay** on two consecutive weekends - April 27-28 and May 4-5. This fantastic course teaches candidates the ins and outs of small boat sailing instruction. If you enjoy teaching and/or would like to get more involved in Sail Training activities at AYC, I highly recommend this course. Registration is available online through ussailing.org.

On Saturday, May 11, we will hold a new spring version of our popular Women's Clinic. This Mother's Day weekend event provides sailing instruction for women by women. It will include classroom and on-the-water instruction, lunch and an amazing dinner to wrap up the day.

There are many more events planned for this year - check out the calendar on the AYC website for more details! Also be sure to like us on Facebook for Sail Training updates!

Junior Training

Roadrunner sailing is finally here! We had a Pizza Party and Info Session on February 21 to kick off the season. There were about 60 Roadrunners, family, friends, and potential new members in attendance. Thank you to everyone who came out and especially to Roadrunner Social Chair, **Cheryl Butler**, for providing the pizza and drinks! At the Info Session, we highlighted some exciting new changes to the program:

1. Junior Sailing Season will be broken down into 3 shorter seasons:
 - ♦ Spring: March 8 - May 25
 - ♦ Summer: July 20 - October 5
 - ♦ Fall: October 11 - November 16
2. This year, in addition to AYC membership dues, we are requiring an activity fee and optional equipment fee for participation in weekly practice sessions. Free Sail Sunday and other junior sailing social events will continue to be included in AYC membership. The fee structure for 2013:

Activity Fees (required for all participants)

 - ♦ Season: \$50.00 per season
 - ♦ Year: \$100.00 (sign up for all 3 seasons and receive \$50 off!)

Equipment Fee (required only for those participants who wish to use AYC boats during practice)

 - ♦ Season: \$25.00 per season
 - ♦ Year: \$50.00 (sign up for all 3 seasons and receive \$25 off!)
3. This year I will be using a rank system to standardize curriculum and track individual progress through the program. Each rank has several components, including Safety, Knots, Terminology and Concepts, Rigging, Sailing Skills, and Participation. Advanced ranks will also include Racing and Teaching requirements. All knowledge and skills will be taught during practice sessions. Sailors "pass" components of their ranks by completing classroom tests and/or physical demonstration.
4. In addition to any necessary membership paperwork, all junior sailors must have a completed Registration form, Medical Information and Release form, and a Participant and Parent Agreement on file. These forms, as well as the Parent and Participant Handbook, will be available on the AYC website soon. In the meantime, please contact me at kate@austinyachtclub.net or stop by the AYC office if you would like to sign up!

We will follow the same weekly practice schedule, starting on Friday, March 8:

- ♦ Beginners: Friday 4:00-6:30
- ♦ Opti Green Fleet: Saturday 1:30-4:00
- ♦ Laser/FJ: Saturday 4:00-6:30

Several of our junior sailors have gotten a head start on the season. This year we had a dinghy course for the Opening Day Regatta. Unfortunately, the conditions kept the FJ fleet off the water, but we did have four Opti competitors brave the wind. Congratulations to **Ben Froelich**, **Ethan Froelich**, **Marcus Tita**, and **Jules Bettler**! After five very competitive races, Marcus Tita finished in 2nd place with 7 points and Jules Bettler finished in 1st with 6 points. Thank you to our regatta chair **James Wilsford**, PRO **John Morran**, parent volunteers **Joyce Prado** and **Michael Tita**, and to **John Saunders**, **Jan Thompson** and **Scott Young** for their extra support efforts!

Meredith and **Michael Morran** were back on the road to Florida this past month, competing at the C420 Midwinters in Jensen Beach. The Morrans placed 36th in a fleet of 76. Congratulations!

Our first big regatta of the season is the Roadrunner Regatta, our stop on the Texas Sailing Association's Youth Circuit. This annual

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event is one of the largest youth sailing events in Texas, attracting nearly 100 sailors from across the region each year. Mark your calendars for April 6 and 7!

Summer Youth Programs

Registration for both PB&J and our Junior Sailing Camp is now open and online! Visit the AYC website for registration links and more information. Space is limited and filling up quickly so be sure to register early.

NOW HIRING!

The Austin Yacht Club is looking for sailing instructors for our 2013 Junior Sailing Camp June 10 - July 19! Must be age 16 or older. US Sailing Level 1 certification preferred. Please send letters of interest to Kate Noble at kate@austinyachtclub.net.

Austin Yacht Club 2013 Summer Youth Programs

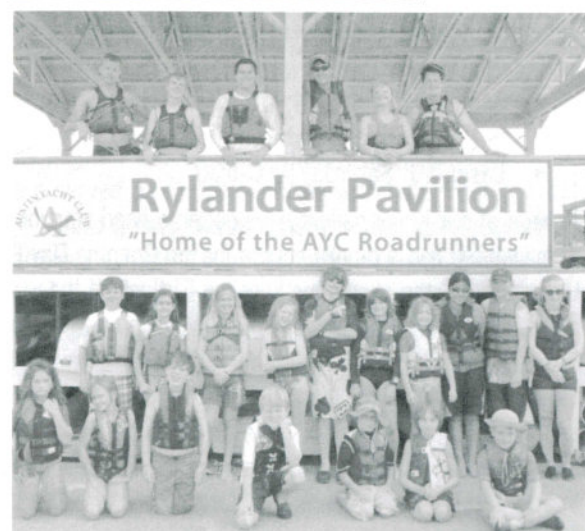


The Austin Yacht Club offers summer programming for sailors of all ages and experience!

PB&J Summer Sailing Ages: 4-10

PB&J Summer Sailing is the perfect introduction to sailing for beginners. PB&J meets weekly for 1.5 hours of sailing basics and fun! Register for Saturdays in June, Sundays in June, Saturdays in July or Saturdays in August!

2013 Fees:
AYC Member: \$65/session
Non-Member: \$100/session



Junior Sailing Day Camp Ages: 8-16

Our Junior Sailing Campers learn and practice skills aboard our fleet of Optimists, Picos, Lasers, Sunfish, and Flying Juniors. Campers participate in a wide variety of activities including destination sails, introductory racing, windsurfing, and on-the-water sailing games.

2013 Dates:	2013 Fees:
Week One: June 10-14	AYC Members: \$395/week
Week Two: June 17-21	Non-members: \$480/week
Week Three: June 24-28	
Week Four: July 8-12	
Week Five: July 15-19	

For more information and registration visit:

<http://www.austinyachtclub.net/training/summer>

Or call AYC Sailing Director, Kate Noble at (512) 266-1336

2013 SUPER BOWL PARTY February 3, 2013

Photos by Deborah Mathison



The 2013 Super Bowl party was another smashing success. Thanks go to: the **Keel Fleet** for sponsoring the event, **Ray Shull** for his outstanding projection system, **Bill Records** for his world-famous fajitas, and the **social committee** for pulling it together. If you missed the party, come join us next year!

J/24 Fleet Update

by John and Meiling Parker



J/24 Launching

Since the February Telltale, no additional J/24s have been launched or retrieved. The water continues to fluctuate near the level for launching/retrieving a J/24 on the lower aircraft ramp. Let **John Parker** and/or **Jorge Martin-de-Nicolas** know if you are interested in launching or retrieving your J/24.

Local Racing

Five J/24s participated in the Frostbite Series Races, including **Pat Hitchins** and **Mark Hulings** on Mothership Connection, UTSC's Betty with **Greg Freeman** and **Roman Shor**, **Vicente Saborio**, **Dave Broadway**, and **John Parker**. Of the five races, only three were scored and two races were abandoned due to low winds. The J/24 fleet had RC duty on the fourth Frostbite date and representing our fleet were: **Dave Broadway**, **John Parker**, **Jaime Beaulieu**, **Jorge Martin-de-Nicolas**, **Pat Caughey**, and **Stu Juengst**. Many thanks to **Vic Manning** for assisting with course selection and helping get off all the starts! You are always there for the club, Vic! The last race of the Frostbite Series provided some very exciting racing as **Hitchins/Hulings** on Mothership Connection schooled the entire fleet and rounded the windward mark in second place overall, ahead of many other boats with lower PHRF ratings such as the J/29s and J/80s. We are anticipating that several boats will continue participating in the Opening Day Regatta, as well as the upcoming Spring Series. Our thanks go out to **Stephen Burke**, **Joe Mancuso**, **Tom Shelton**, and **Tommy Pullen** for allowing eager members to utilize their platforms while many of the fleet boats remain out of the water.

Maintenance

Several members of the J/24 fleet continue to perform

maintenance on the boats and trailers. They are donating time, funds, and materials to both maintaining and improving the current wet-slipped boats. But boats and trailers are not the only items in need of maintenance, so **Jorge Martin-de-Nicolas** has been busy replacing the engine on his Yukon XL to get ready for the upcoming road warrior season!

UTSC J/24

As you know, the UT Sailing Club has joined AYC. They are a very enthusiastic group and we

are happy they base their operations from AYC. One of the boats in the UTSC fleet is the J/24 named Betty. Betty is currently in need of a jib and some turning blocks. If you have some spare J/24 parts and/or sails and would like to help, please contact **Roman Shor**.

Fleet Social Events

The combined J/24 - J/22 Fleet had its first social following the Frostbite End of Series Race. The event included a guest visit by **Eric and Robbie Nelson**, a "garage sale" by the Nelsons, a planning session for the yearly activities, as well as some new "traditional" social activities to kick off the fun. If you were unable to make the initial Fleet Social, we encourage you to come out to the next social to celebrate the Spring Series opening on March 17. We'll be having a St. Patrick's day themed party for everyone's amusement.

Out of Town Trip - March

In addition to the upcoming Spring Series, we are planning a caravan of "circuit" boats to have fun at Lake Canyon Yacht Club (LCYC). Likely boats from AYC are: Superman, Ooh Ahh, Free Spirit, Thunder Cookie. Hopefully, ayeBoat will be finished and will be able to join the fun! If interested in crewing when we go to LCYC, please contact **John Parker**. Those of you who haven't yet sailed out of LCYC should consider going. It is a beautiful lake and it is only one hour away.



J/24s prep for a race at Lake Canyon Yacht Club Photo by John Parker

Catalina 22 Fleet Update

by John Grzinich

Once again, I don't have any actual sailing to report on from the C22 Fleet, but we did have one very interesting day on Frostbite race committee, one of those 'no win' type RC days on Lake Travis. First of all, many thanks to the C22 fleet for a great response to the call for volunteers - a dozen signed up, we went out with nine on the water. Compared to the previous week when there no wind, we had a tiny amount of wind, and since there was a good turnout, we were determined to get a race off. The first attempt failed and we abandoned racing when the wind died shortly after the start.



Barbara Owens and Cindy Higgins, chief scorers on the RC boat

After waiting about 20 minutes there seemed to be barely enough breeze to start the races. We did get all three starts off.

After an hour or more, some of the fast boats did eventually make it around buoy 4 (windward mark), and some of the slower boats made it to buoy 5. For awhile, it seemed like some breeze was going to fill in, but that fooled us into holding off on shortening, even though we got the chase boats ready to do that. Then we moved the chase boats to D and E to shorten at those marks, but it became clear nobody was going to make it within the time limit. The positive spin is the social committee was happy we kept everyone on the water so people did not get back before **Jim Rehage's** New Orleans dinner was ready!



Jim Rehage stirs up a New Orleans feast for the End of Series banquet

Our Catalina 22 Fleet, which is officially "Fleet 69" in the C22 National Association was all fired up about hosting the 2014 C22 Nationals at AYC, and we had positive support around mid-west



Steve Pavier and Brett Wilson sync up watches with RC in preparation for shortening the courses.

to do it. Just as we started into the bid process, the LCRA made the announcement about letting out water during 2013 for the farmers. That put the brakes on our effort, and even though the LCRA backed off that proposal, we felt, especially with the continuing drought, the lake level risk was too great to commit to a nationals class regatta, even as far away as June 2014. We are disappointed, but it looks like the 2014 C22 Nationals will be at the Lakewood YC down in the Kemah, Seabrook area. For 2013, the C22 Nationals will be at Ft. Walton Beach YC, Florida. Several of us are planning to go.

Fair Winds!



Elizabeth Quintinella, RC boat driver



Jon Fitch and Dave Zbasnik handle chase boat 1

Ensign Fleet Update

by Tom Groll

Even though there hasn't been much in the way of racing lately, there's been a lot happening in the Ensign Fleet. First, I'd like to congratulate **Lewis Price** for stepping up to serve his second consecutive year as Fleet Captain. Way to go, Lewis!!! This announcement came at the annual Ensign Fleet party, which coincidentally was held at **Lewis and Joanie Price's** beautiful home. We had a great turnout and as usual, the food and drinks were delicious and plentiful. We also discussed our annual dues, and according to our faithful secretary, **Norma Lien**, we have collected more dues this year than any year previous. Way to go, gang! I'm sure this means there will be great gatherings throughout the year to celebrate our camaraderie.

Moving along, I want to extend a warm welcome to our newest fleet members, **Dave and Anne Morley**. Dave and Anne are long time Ensign sailors from the Houston Area. They actually joined Fleet 30 soon after moving to Jonestown from Houston, but just recently became AYC members. Dave says he expects to have his boat ready for launching soon, so once again we need to pray for rain so launching will be possible. We really look forward to seeing the Morleys on the lake and on the race course.

Frostbite was a success for the fleet with the team of **Elliot Bray** and **Doug Laws** taking 1st place in the first race sans spinnaker, and **Fred Ford** with hobbling **Tom** at the helm and **Frans and Larry R.** as crew took 6th in the spin fleet. The wind was up and down and a little shifty, and I'm told by others in the non-spin fleet that Doug and Elliot sailed with the shifts and in the puffs. Also on the course, **Dr. Dave Gamble** and his J-24 crew on the red Ensign. Frostbite 2 was cancelled by the Ensign Fleet as Race Committee and **Bill Hawk** as PRO commented that he had more compliments on his race management than any previous event as PRO.

The Opening Day Regatta showed once again what a strong fleet we have. The Ensigns were the only class to make a fleet with seven boats registering, six boats crossing the starting line, and five boats finishing. Unlike the Frostbite Series, Opening Day offered some challenging winds with gusts in the 20s and shifts in the 90s. It was a gorgeous day for a sail. I had the pleasure of having **Kelly** on board with me after a long hiatus from the racing scene, and also had **Dave Morley and Gretchen** (didn't catch her last name) from the Sea Scouts. In spite of the trying conditions, I think Gretchen had fun and will hopefully return with more of the Sea Scouts to come out and crew with the Ensign Fleet. It was a great opportunity to introduce the boat to potential future sailors, and I think it would be a good idea for the fleet to encourage groups such as the Sea Scouts to join us for racing and learning. Hopefully the nice turnout for the Ensigns is a sign of things to come.

And speaking of youth and the future of sailing, A 'Youth Championship Award' was presented at the 2012 Ensign Nationals to the top finishing 'Youth' boat by the National Regatta host, Marquette, MI Fleet 35. This was in addition to the trophies

currently awarded per the Class Association Rules. This year there is an amendment to be presented at the annual class meeting which would make this award an official trophy to be awarded by the Association. The objective of these efforts is to aid in encouraging younger sailors to participate in Ensign sailing and to provide a high level venue in which to compete. Perhaps Fleet 30 could promote this endeavor and one day have a "youth boat (or two)" that could be made available to aspiring sailors.

At the regional level, we once again are victim of the vagaries of Lake Travis. With the lake level so low, it appears that we will again need to pass on our turn to host the Region 4 Championship Regatta. My understanding is that Fleet 60 from Dillon, Colorado will step up and host the event this year. It's probably not too early to start daydreaming about the beautiful, cool, crisp Dillon air when it's likely to be 100+ degrees here in Central Tejas. We really should make a concerted effort to have a strong showing there since they have been kind enough to cover for us while we wait, and wait, and wait for rain.

Well, that's about all for now, except to say thanks to **Elliot, Doug, Bill, Lewis, Randolph, Hap, Danny, Fred, and Jonathan** for getting out there and racing throughout the past year. **Frans**, get your boat finished and back in the water where she belongs.

With the turnout at Frostbite and Opening day, the lake seems to be half full rather than half empty ... See you on the water!

Keel Fleet Update

by Jim Johnstone and Gang

Jim Johnstone reporting in ... Wind and weather cooperated enough to allow three of the planned five races to be sailed in the Frostbite Series. We had 39 boats competing in five classes.

Spinnaker A had a mix of J80s, J70s, J29s a Melges 24 and saw the return of the 11 Metre. **Steve Eller** in the Melges held off the Js in three races to take first, with **Steve Vaughn** in a J/80 second, and **Brent Schwan** gaining third after applying the tie breaker rules over Lake Pyrates in his J/29. Rumor has it Lake Pyrates is a badly spelled pseudonym for Arrrrh **Shull**.

Spinnaker B Saw 15 hulls in the water during their three races, Mostly J/22s and J/24s, a couple of Ensigns, a SC 21 and a Hunter 28.5. **John Halter and Renee Ruais** had an epic battle in their J/22s for top honors, with John taking the overall win scoring a bullet to Renee's second in the last race. It was a similar story in 3rd and 4th with **Pierre Bossert** in his J/22 nipping **Dave Broadway** in a J/24 by a point that was gained by virtue of finishing 3rd in the first race over Dave's 5th place effort. **John Parker** was one point behind for 5th in his J/24.

Non-Spin D started four boats with **Wade Bingamon** leading the pack in his Catalina 30 winning all three races.

Non Spin E had five hulls in the water but **Doug Laws** showed everyone the fast way around the course in his Ensign with three

wins, followed by **Bill Records** in his Pearson One Design 26.

Multi Hulls showed three boats to the line over a span of only two races. **John Howard** showed that persistence pays off by turning two second place finishes into the low point score for the series, presenting him with the win over **Doug Casey and Steve Frick**, both of whom won races but were DNCs for the other race. John's motto: "You must always be present to win." Doug and Steve could not be reached for comment.

Non-Spin Update by Bill Casnovsky

Hello, sailors, February has passed offering many days of good sailing weather. The hot topic of the month was the decision to roll back our E Fleet. This topic came up due to our low participation in the Frostbite. Looking forward to the Spring Series, I sent out a message to you all soliciting your opinion. The responses came back evenly split - between "Roll it back" & "Let it be." I also received some interesting comments about making the series races shorter (fewer weeks). And one member suggested replacing all the separate fleet starts with one massive start to create some excitement! Thanks to all of you who sent me feedback. I have decided to ask our Race Commander to re-structure Non-Spin into a C & D split. Keep in mind that this policy pertains only to series races. We have all kinds of flexibility in Regattas.

Opening Day Regatta for Non-Spin was exciting and well attended. Our heavy keel boats loved the strong southerly winds and gusts. I did see some boats spin out of control and others knocked down. My vessel, Banshee, was in the hunt for 2/3 of the race. However, during a planned jibe, a huge gust hit the main sail and snapped off all the hanks/slides. The action

From the Desk of the GM

by Steve Hawks

March is here and with it comes strong winds and March Madness. Both of which indicate exciting times are upon us. The month kicked off with a fantastic Opening Day at the club. The social committee lived up to their reputation and served a wonderful brunch to kick off the festivities.

The Opening Day Ceremony was well attended by both old and new members in addition to the invited honored guests, definitely a sign of member involvement and support of AYC. The Sea Scout Color Guard flag ceremony added a nice touch to the day as did the singing of the National Anthem by the Specter family.

The Opening Day Regatta was well attended and the winds cooperated with steady 14-20 mph southerly winds. It was a great treat to watch the juniors in the Optis race in these conditions, their confidence and seamanship was clearly evident and a sign that our junior program is on the right course.

looked like an invisible zipper undoing itself, top to bottom. Only the head and tack of the sail remained attached to the mast. After an afternoon of great spirited sailing, I hated making my "I need to withdraw" call to the Race Committee.

Mark your calendars for March 23. A **Basic Keel Boat Clinic** will be offered. This is an opportunity to brush up on the basics in class and on the water. I will send out a formal announcement.

March 17 is the beginning of the Spring Series (all Sunday events). Come on out. There is plenty of water to have fun. Call me if you wish to crew or need crew. I will spread the word to our fleet.

A Fleet Update by Eric Rochard

View from ... the parking lot.

Very good turnout at the Frostbite Series, 10 A Fleeters sailed at least one race! The wind challenged the RC with two no-racing Saturdays.

Steve Eller's Melges24 Coldshot won the series, followed by **Steve Vaughan's** J80 and **Brett Schwan's** J80 in third position.

Three J70s joined the A Fleet, a great success for this new asymmetrical sportboat. Several more are expected to land on Lake Travis and no doubt the starting line will see more than 10 boats for the next series!

Reminder: the A Fleet will have RC duty on March 24.

Good sailing!

It is a good time to be a member of AYC as many fun, challenging and festive activities await us on the near horizon. So take part, be involved and together we will continue and strengthen the proud tradition that is the Austin Yacht Club.

Welcome New Members!

Lucy Brock - Student

Devin Smith - Student

David Morley - Senior Probationary

Paul Carew - Senior Probationary

Kristin Williams - Senior Probationary

Sean Nunes - Senior Re-Instatement

Chris Feters, Associate Probationary

continued next page

BASIC KEEL BOAT SAILING CLINIC

The Austin Yacht Club is offering a Basic Keel Boat clinic for beginning and intermediate Sailors.

The Clinic includes:

Land Based instruction including:

Basic sailing terms

Rigging a sailboat

& Basic knot tying.

On the water Instruction.

Refreshments & Follow up talk

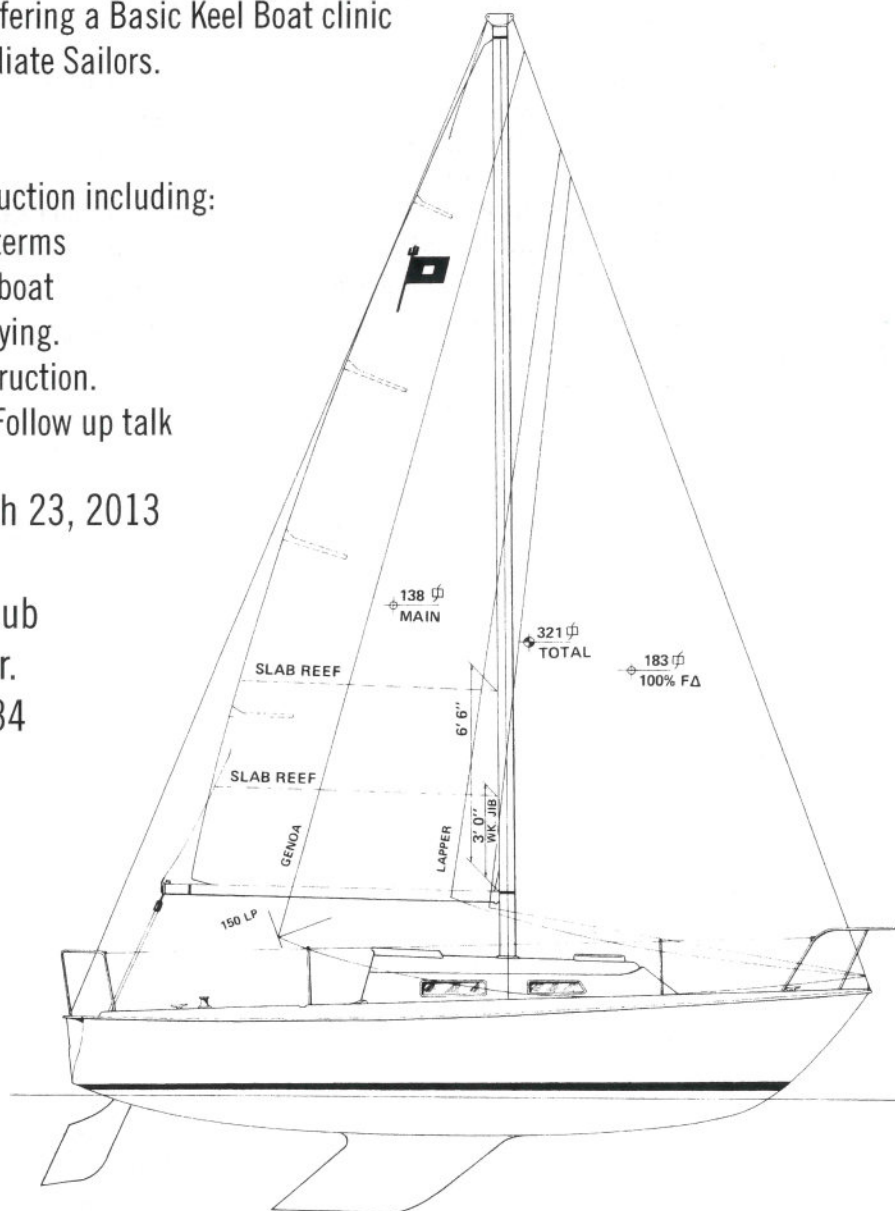
When: Saturday, March 23, 2013
1p.m.-5 p.m.

Where: Austin Yacht Club
5906 Beacon Dr.
Austin, TX 78734

Cost:

\$65.00 per person
(non members)

\$50 per person
(AYC members)



Please bring sunscreen, a reusable water bottle, hat & sunglasses.
Close toed water shoes/sandals or boat shoes and a sun protection shirt (rash guard or similar) are strongly recommended.

Register on line at austinyachtclub.net

For more information please check our website: austinyachtclub.net
Or contact **Sailing Director Kate Noble** 512-266-1336

AYC SCUTTLEBUTT

by Bill Records

The word "scuttlebutt" has been part of our everyday vernacular for as long as I can remember. To me it means small talk or gossip and I always assumed it had a nautical origin. This was confirmed when I actually read **Moby Dick** for the first time. (In high school, I opted for the Cliff Notes!) On board the "Pequod", the crew would gather for a water break at the scuttlebutt, a large cask of water near mid-ship. This was the nineteenth century water cooler! Often the captain's water ration was brought to his cabin, so the crew could talk candidly. So, the purpose of this column is to talk about anything related to sailing or AYC. If you have a topic or comment, send it in and we will print it.

Need a New Boat?

Lately we have a lot of new members who don't own boats yet, but are looking. The good news is that it is a buyer's market. Some of the marinas have boats that have been seized due to lack of dock payment and are very motivated to sell. Dodd Street Docks has a few "fixer uppers" wanting new owners right now.

Tuesday Afternoon Sail

Some of you might be wondering about the group of members gathering every Tuesday for an afternoon sail. About 10 years ago **John Mandell** felt that just sailing on weekends wasn't enough so he invited anyone interested to come out on Tuesday afternoons



Tuesday afternoon sailors - above: Keith Renard; right: The Tuesday afternoon gang enjoys a beautiful day

and go sailing. The group is made up of retired people and those of us who would like to be retired. Anyone interested should contact **Doug Laws**. There are only two rules: BYOB and relax and enjoy.



Opening Day Ruminations

This year's Opening Day was a great event. The social committee put on a terrific brunch and it was good to see the former commodores assembled. Every one of these past commodores gave their all to make our club so successful. And what a National Anthem! It sounded like Beverly Sills, but did not look like her!



Kate Specter and daughter, Sophie, sang a spectacular National Anthem

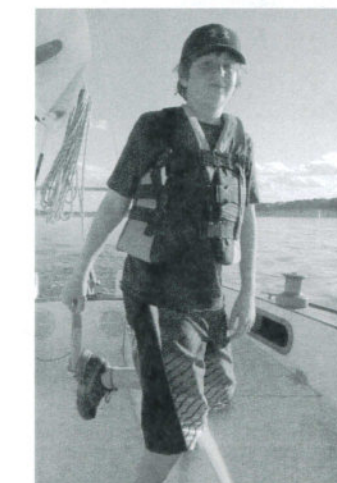
After the ceremony, those choosing to race were greeted by 18-30 mph winds

on the lake. The racing was as good as it gets, with broaches and knockdowns to boot. Upon finishing, we passed by the Opti fleet planing to the leeward mark with water spray flying! What a fantastic day on the lake! Those of you not participating are missing out. You don't need new sails or new bottom to have fun. If you don't have crew, contact **Jorge** or me. There are a lot of junior sailors willing and able

Sail Training Update - Get Involved!

In late April, **Steve Gay** will be offering U.S. Sailing's Level 1 small boat instructor course. I have taken the course and it was very rewarding. Even more experienced sailors will get a lot out of it. Contact Steve for more info. We need more members to get certified to move our Sail Training program to the next level. There's nothing more fun than teaching a kid to sail!

Note to centerboarders: If the low level of Lake Travis has kept you from sailing, why not join some of us on Lake Austin? There are four free ramps next to the Hula Hut and plenty of trailer parking. Power boats don't show up until afternoon so Saturday and Sunday mornings are perfect. Contact me for more info.



It doesn't look like winter! Above: New Pearson 26 owner Annie Frey (right) and crew Preston Bezant and Melanie Mickelson. Annie bought her boat from Dodd Street Docks. Left: Roadrunner Andrew Butler crewed with me for Frostbite.

2013 OPENING DAY CELEBRATION AND REGATTA

... to be able to match wits with the wind, to enjoy the water, to enjoy the outdoors, to enjoy each other, to share our skills, to grow our knowledge, to teach sportsmanship, and to build the memories of our stories. From Tom Romberg's invocation at the Opening Day Ceremony



Photo by Bill Records



Photo by Bill Records



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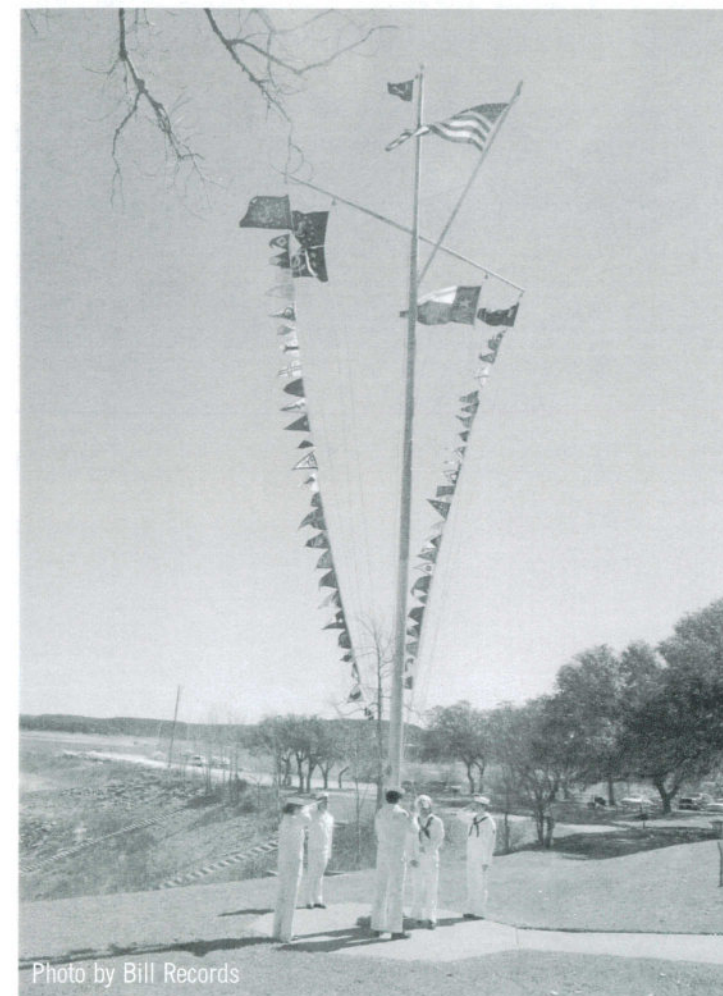


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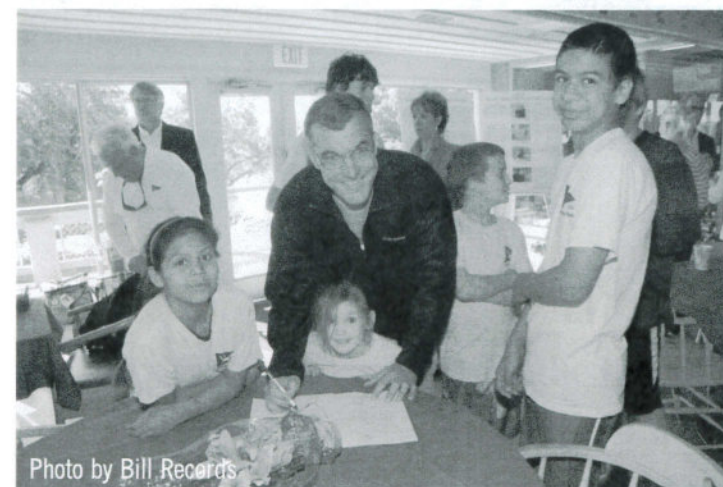


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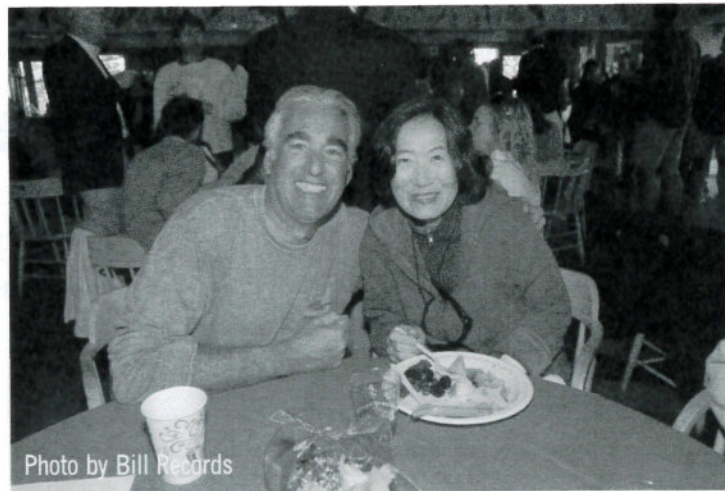


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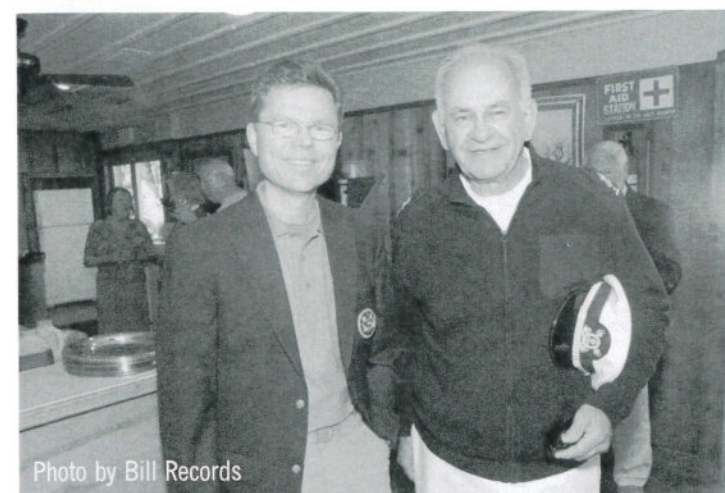


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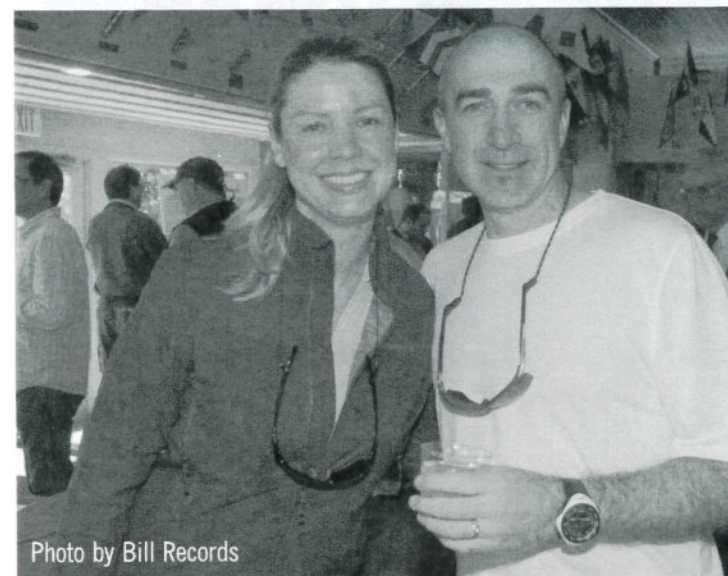


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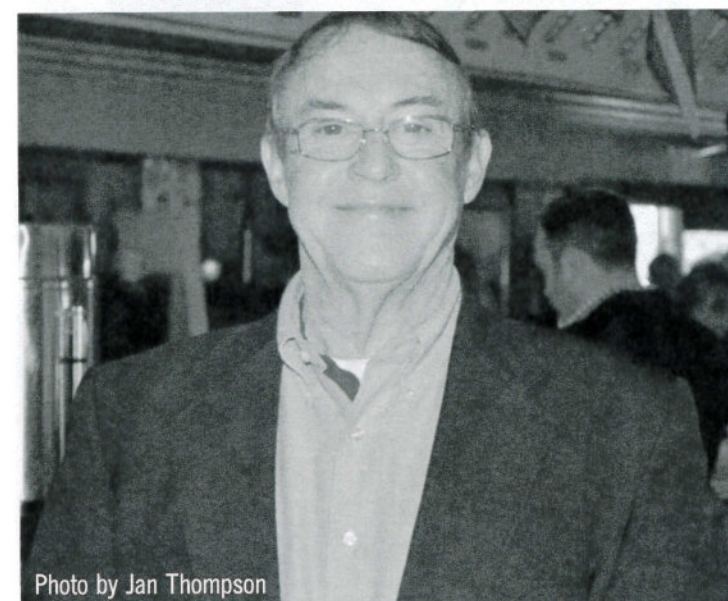


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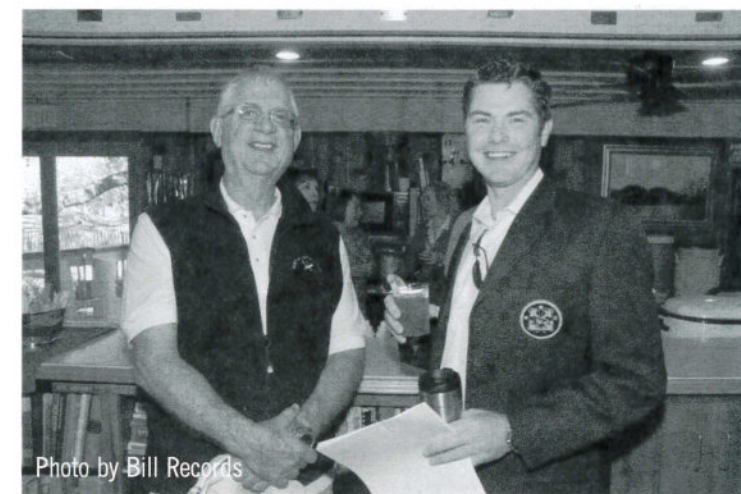


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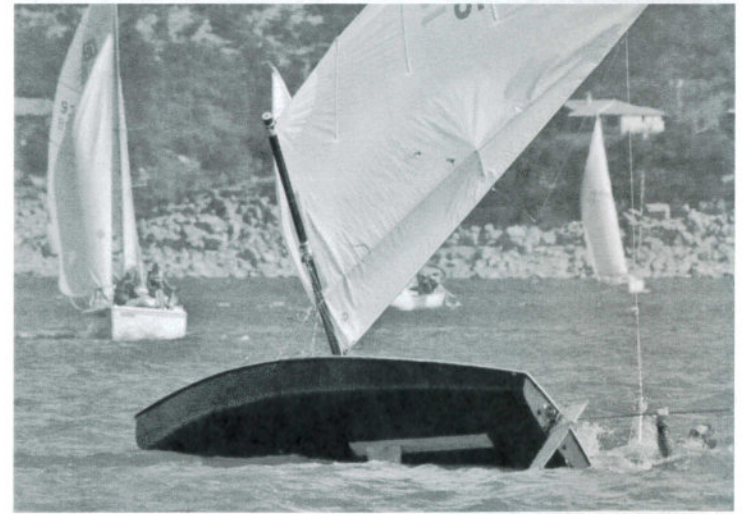
And then there was sailing ...

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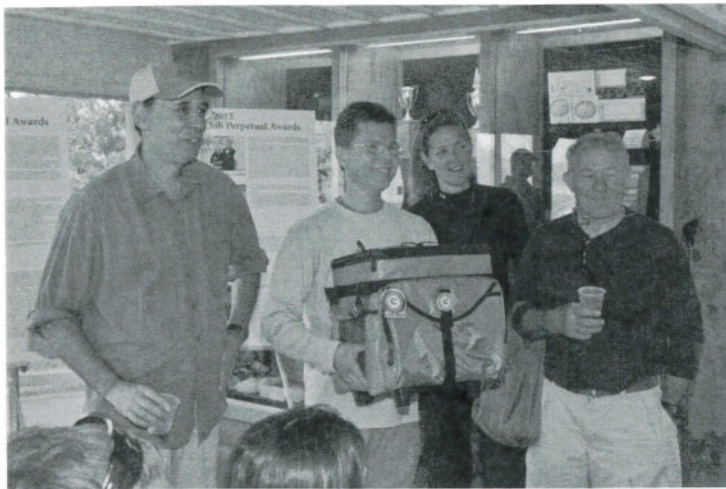
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All regatta and awards photos by Bruce McDonald







Johannes Brinkmann, First Place Non-Spin



Tom Romberg, First Place PHRF A Spin



Opti Sailors Ethan Froelich, Ben Froelich, Marcus Tita (2nd place) and Jules Bettler (1st place)



Tom Groll, First Place, Ensign



Doug Casey, First Place, Multihull



John Halter, PHRF B Spin

AYC 2013 RACE CALENDAR

March 17	Spring Series Race #1 Skipper's Meeting at Noon, RC: J22 1:30 start
March 24	Spring Series Race #2 RC: PHRF A Spin 1:30 start
March 30-31	Easter Laser Regatta
April 6-7	TSA Roadrunner Regatta
April 14	Spring Series Race #3 RC: PHRF B 1:30 start
April 21	Spring Series Race #4 End of Series RC: PHRF Non Spin 1:30 start
April 28	Summer Series Race #1 Skipper's Meeting at Noon, RC: J/24 1:30 start
May 5	Summer Series Race #2 RC: J22 1:30 start
May 19	Summer Series Race #3 RC: Multihull 1:30 start
May 25-26	Turnback Canyon Regatta

AYC 2013 NON-RACING EVENTS

March 15	Friday Night Movie 8:30p Clubhouse
March 21	Membership Committee Meeting 7:00p AYC Office
March 22	Friday Night Movie 8:30p Clubhouse
March 23	Basic Keel Boat Clinic 1:00-5:00p Clubhouse/Lake
March 28	AYC Board of Directors Meeting 7:30p Clubhouse
March 29	Friday Night Movie 8:30p Clubhouse
April 20	Scott Young Start Clinic 1:00-5:00p Lake
April 21	Spring Series End of Series Banquet 5:00p Clubhouse
April 25	AYC Board of Directors Meeting 7:30p Clubhouse
April 27-28	US Sailing Small Boat Level 1 Instructor Course Clubhouse/Lake (2 weekends)
May 4	Basic Keel Boat Clinic 1:00-5:00p Clubhouse/Lake
May 11	Spring Women's Clinic 9:00a-8:00p Clubhouse/Lake
May 18	SC21 Intergalactics
May 23	AYC Board of Directors Meeting 7:30p Clubhouse

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NEWSLETTER

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

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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

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