



Roadrunners Spring Into Action!



**Fiona Froelich Dominates
Green Fleet in Roadrunner Regatta**

Cover photo by Bill Records

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SAVE THE DATE

Apr 19-20	Easter Laser Regatta	May 10	Women's Sailing Clinic
Apr 24	Board of Directors Mtg	May 17-18	ASA 101 Basic Keelboat
Apr 26-27	UTST: SIESA Champs	May 18	Summer Series #1
Apr 27	Spring Series #4	May 22	Board of Directors Mtg
May 3	Scott Young Start Clinic	May 24-25	Turnback Canyon Regatta
May 4	Spring Series #5		

OPENING DAY REGATTA



Bob Stephens



C-fleet start

Photos by Bill Records
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Schwans on Wild Hare



Paul Carew, Annette and David Voelter



Weta



Bruce McDonald and crew

From The Commodore

by John Morran



I had a great time at the Roadrunner Regatta this year. I always do – but this was even better than before. Not because I had handed off the Regatta Chair position to the **Froelichs and Brocks** – who deserve a big thank you for doing a great job and making it look easy along the way. Not because there were races both days without extreme

conditions – a rarity for this event. The reason was that there was such a high level of enthusiasm and excitement with everyone at AYC – the staff, volunteers, members, parents and competitors – that we had over 20 AYC sailors racing this year. It was not long ago that we were actually running this regatta for everybody else who had kids sailing in Texas – with only a small number of local sailors involved. AYC has always put on a great event – but it was especially enjoyable to be able to share the joy and excitement with our home team of sailors. To **Coach Kate, Coach Kiel and the entire Roadrunner team** – Congratulations, Celebrate and Be Proud of what you accomplished. Hopefully this is just the beginning and we can continue to fine tune and improve on all of the hard work that has gone into the youth program for several years.



Some of our former Roadrunners are continuing to compete and make AYC proud. **Tracy and Erin Hawk** led the Texas A&M women's sailing team to a 2nd place at the SEISA district qualifier – earning the Aggies their first ever trip to the College National Championship Regatta in Annapolis at the end of May. **Tracy and Erin** were very active Roadrunners before going to college and continue to work at AYC as counselors at

summer camp. The **Hawk family** deserves a lot of credit for keeping the youth sailing program alive at AYC and continue to support its growth after the kids aged out – we thank you and are very happy to celebrate with you. Gig 'Em!

In case you missed it earlier this month – AYC is home to a new National Champion. Please join me in congratulating **John Bartlett** who recently was crowned the 2014 Moth US Masters Champion in Key Largo, FL!

We also had many members travel, compete and represent AYC at events in Lake Canyon, Houston, Pass Christian and Lake Somerville in the past month.

April and May will continue to be busy times at AYC:

Sundays	Spring Series Racing Continues
Fridays	Beer Can Races
Wednesdays	Laser and Sunfish Races start in May
April 19-20	Easter Laser Regatta
May 3	Scott Young Start Clinic
May 10	Womens Sailing Clinic
May 24-25	Turnback Canyon

More events and detailed calendar info is available on the new AYC website.

Changes in the Office:

We are really happy to report that **Jackie Wheeless** has been named our new General Manager at AYC. We all need to thank **Bob Woods** and while we were sad to see Bob "leave," it is our great pleasure to welcome him as one of our newest members. The Board is working with Jackie to determine the best way to replace the bookkeeping function. As part of the office changes, we are announcing new office hours:

Monday & Tuesday: Closed
Wednesday – Sunday: Open, 9am-5pm

Go sailing before it gets hot!

Vice Commodore Report

by Barry Bowden



Roadrunner Regatta once again asserts its status as Austin Yacht Club's most successful event of the year.

As the most senior (oldest) member of this year's Board of Directors in terms of age as well as years of membership at AYC, I have seen numerous changes to our Club. Almost six years ago the Long Range Planning Committee and the AYC Board noticed a trend

developing that would result in a large percentage of our Club membership qualifying for 30-year Old Salt status. The reduction in dues paid by this class of members would have had a devastating effect on the Club's finances and this class of membership was eliminated. The other most obvious problem would have been the simple attrition in the size of the Club membership.

The AYC Board, the Long Range Planning Committee and the AYC Fund saw an opportunity to improve our prospects and future as a Club by expanding our membership with the addition of a full time Sailing Director. **Kate Noble** was recruited and added to our team with part of her salary being provided by the AYC Fund. This wise move saw our Club begin to attract younger families who have children with an interest in becoming sailors. This change in the Austin Yacht Club has proven to be the most important change in many years with the Roadrunner Regatta this past weekend.

Not only did AYC have an opportunity to show other yacht club members throughout the Texas Sailing Association what a friendly and welcoming Club we have, our own Club provided 23 of the 89 sailors that took part in this event. This made it the largest TSA Junior Sailor event of the year so far.

The Roadrunner Board of Directors and regatta chairs **Stefan Froelich** and **Jeff Brock** did a superb job of planning, organizing, and executing the regatta. The number of newer members and parents involved set a record for this event. Race management was done by a dependable group of past Roadrunner parents, the **Rochards, Hawks, myself**, and a product of our junior sailing program, **Race Commander John Halter**.

It is great to see the continued involvement of members who recognize the importance of Junior Sailing to the long-term success of our club.

continued next page

Coach Kate and Coach Kiel Killeen did a great job with their sailors and are helping insure the future of sailing at the Austin Yacht Club, as well as any other club that they may join in the future.

So, if it has been a while since you have been out to the Club, you will notice that it has become a busy place, with the wonderful addition of happy kids enjoying our sport and becoming the future of sailing.

Racing and sailing may not be for everyone, but if it is for you and you get bitten by the sailing bug, it is a sport you can enjoy for a lifetime.

Welcome New Members



Walter Eckard



Michael Mancuso



Leon Lance



Christy Vickery



Bob Woods

Harbor Commander Report

by Wade Bingaman



A Mighty Wind

In case you didn't hear, we had very high winds that swept through the Club earlier this week. Several boats got "moved". Fortunately there was no serious damage done to boats or docks, but we were lucky. This should serve as a reminder to all of us about securing our boats.



The boats on hoists in wet-slips were most affected. If you store your boat on a hoist you should review how you tie your boat down. Also if you have extended the arms of the hoist to hold your boat further out of the water you

should make sure those arms are braced. The un-braced arm of one hoist broke under the load.

Boats on trailers should be secured to their trailers. If you park on the beach, you should also consider some kind of anchor to the ground. We have not been able to notify the owners of some flipped boats on the beach because there was no name or identification on the boat or trailer. It would be too easy to remind you that a boat/trailer on the Club grounds must by Club rule have its owner's name on it. Maybe those of you who have ignored this can now see a reason to come into compliance.



The docks held up without a problem. It was fortunate we recently added additional anchors and wenches. Without them, it would have been a different, costly story. With the latest upgrades completed, our dock system is much improved.

I need to publicly thank our dock contractor, **Lakeside Marine**, for promptly notifying us of the situation immediately after the storm. Also, the Club should thank **Vic Manning**, who, after I called him that evening, was out early the next morning to assess the damage and notify boat owners.



Sail Training Report

by Eric Rochard



The TSA Junior Roadrunner Regatta was the opportunity to see the result of our now "year-around" junior sailing program and I am very happy to see the level and the depth of our Junior team. Kudos to our coaches **Kate and Kiel** and a big thank you to **Jennifer Loehlin** who led this initiative last year.

Jeanne Socrates' presentation of her exciting circumnavigation experience was a huge success with a packed yacht club. Thanks to **Brad Davis**, that was a great event providing a taste of endless ocean adventures for us here in Central Texas.

Our first clinic, the Basic Keel Boat, March 15, was well attended and benefited from the Saturday weather. **Bill Records** and his team of volunteers did a great job dipping a bunch of new sailors. Another adult initiative, the AYC Sail Racing School from **Jorge Marín-de-Nicolás**, is going strong every Series morning providing crews throughout the different fleets. Do not hesitate to contact Jorge; he is always looking for volunteers to provide a ride on the morning of the Series Races.

We have rescheduled the "Start and Strategy" clinic of **Scott Young** to May 3; details on the clinic are posted on AYC web site. I strongly encourage the keelboat sailors to get out of their "comfort zone" and practice starts on the FJs. This is an outstanding opportunity to learn and apply!

The following weekend we will have the "Women's Clinic." This will be a great gift to start Mother's Day weekend.

We are making progress on the organization of the "Match Racing" clinic. It will be a two-day event with a clinic on Saturday and a championship on Sunday. **Doug Kern**, Silver medallist at the 1992 Barcelona Olympic Games, will be our coach. The registration for the event will be for teams of three, and we will facilitate crews/driver match-up. We are now consulting the different fleets to progress on the format.

Sail Training uses two Carolina skiffs, and one of the motors needs to be replaced. We are looking also to upgrade the Sail Training coach fleet with a 12 to 14 feet RIB.

Buildings and Grounds Report

by Doug Casey



For the Buildings and Grounds Committee, the first quarter of 2014 has been all about maintenance. Between clogged water lines and attacking woodpeckers we have had our hands full. Some of the accomplishments so far this quarter have been:

- Repair / Replace Waterline from Entry to Club / Office and Cabins.
- Add gravel at north ramp / committee boat slips and at Point launch and roadrunner area.
- Create new parking at lower shelf.
- During our workday before opening day the fence gate was repainted.
- The parking lot was re-stripped.
- The yard was cleaned and raked.
- Flowers were planted at front of club.

Thank you all who attended the workday. Additional projects to be completed are:

- Installation of a new electrical line from the clubhouse to the pool panel.
- Add a new cabinet at the kitchen.
- Additional parking areas, as the lake level changes.
- Install a new septic system for the Club.
- Purchase and install a new playground for the kids.
- Remodel the bathhouse bathrooms, granite tops, tile floors, new partitions, stucco walls.

The clubhouse is under attack from a belligerent woodpecker. He has been beating holes in the siding at the rear of the clubhouse. **Tom** has made temporary repairs but will follow up with a permanent solution going forward. We have issued a bounty for the woodpecker. (Just kidding, **Jackie**). We are also repairing water leaks at cabin 4 and repairing electric lines feeding the pump for the pool. We will be putting the finishing touches on the water line project as well.

Tom Groll has submitted plans to LCRA for the septic system and is awaiting permits. We anticipate having the system complete before Turnback Regatta.

SAVE THE DATE

4th Annual AYC Fleet Challenge Benefiting the AYC Fund

Saturday, August 23, 2014

Fleet Challenge will be run in conjunction with the AYC Summer Bash!

Start getting your teams together!

Stay tuned for more details!

Sailing Director Report

by Kate Noble



March kicked off our 2014 Sail Training season with a bang. It's been a whirlwind of a month but it's been great to see so many juniors and adults enjoying the lake as it begins to look a bit more like Spring at AYC! As always, if you'd like to volunteer for Sail Training in the upcoming months, or for questions about any of our programs, please email

me at kate@austinyachtclub.net.

Adult Training News

Our first adult clinic of the 2014 season, a Basic Keelboat Clinic, was held on Saturday, March 15. Many thanks to lead volunteer instructor **Bill Records** for organizing a successful event and to volunteer skipper **Bob Stephens** for taking students out on the water.

Next up on the adult training calendar is the **Scott Young** Start Clinic on Saturday, May 3. This advanced level training is designed for racers to fine-tune their starting skills – just in time for the Wednesday night Sunfish/Laser to start back up. Participants have the option to either sit in on Scott's chalk-talk for a discounted rate, or for the full clinic price, take in the chalk-talk and then head out for on-the-water instruction from Scott. The AYC Flying Junior fleet will be available or bring your own boat. Registration is open on the website!

Also in May, we are holding a Women's Sailing Clinic. Always a popular event, this full-day clinic is exclusively for female students and is taught by female instructors. I am looking for volunteers to help out with instruction and food. Please contact me at kate@austinyachtclub.net if you are interested! Registration for the Women's Sailing Clinic is also open on our website.

Junior Training News

The Spring Season of our Junior Sailing Program officially began on March 1. Enrollment is good with 43 individual juniors sailors occupying 45 spots. There are nine sailors in our Friday afternoon beginner Opti I class – many of last fall's Opti I students have graduated to our racing group. There are 12 in intermediate Opti II, and three in our advanced Opti III group – nine of whom have opted to participate in our new bi-weekly training option with practices on both Wednesday and Saturday afternoons. There are nine Lasers and 12 Flying Juniors practicing on Saturdays. The Spring Season will conclude on May 31 and the Summer Season will pick up on July 30.

Youth Racing News

March was a big month for our AYC youth racers. The second Texas Sailing Association Youth Circuit stop of 2014 was March 15-16 at Lake Canyon YC. Austin Yacht Club was well represented with 12 sailors in attendance. Our competitors did very well despite a very windy day two of racing – special congratulations to **James Brock** who finished first in Opti Green Fleet for the second TSA regatta in a row and to **Tony Slowik III** who placed 2nd in Opti White Fleet!



AYC at Lake Canyon Yacht Club

Two of our Roadrunner sailors, **Ethan Froelich** and **Tony Slowik III** traveled to Pass Christian, Mississippi for the USODA Gulf Coast Championships March 22-23. Congratulations to **Tony** who placed 3rd in White Fleet and 25th overall, and to **Ethan** who placed 18th in Blue Fleet and



Tony Slowik takes a 3rd place

39th overall out of 58 boats. Read more about their trip in their full report in this issue of the Telltale. Congratulations, guys! AYC is proud to be represented at events like these.

Take two of the Opening Day Regatta was March 23 and there was a strong showing from our Roadrunner sailors. Five Opti sailors braved the blustery conditions: **James Brock, Lucy Brock, Nicholas Carew, Fiona Froelich and Wendi Froelich**. Congrats to first place Opti, **Lucy!** We also had five 4.7 sailors compete on the Youth Dinghy course: **Will Abrams, Jules Bettler, Ben Froelich, Spencer LeGrande and Nikki Goodwin**. Congrats to first place **Spencer!** Many thanks to **Barry Bowden** for organizing the event and to our Dinghy Course PRO **Eric Rochard!**

And of course, the biggest racing news this month was our home TSA event, the Roadrunner Regatta! Of the four Roadrunner Regattas I've coached for AYC, 2014 saw the best participation. We had 23 total sailors – five in Opti Green Fleet, six in Opti RWB, six in FJs, and six in Lasers. The addition to our coaching staff was a real help this year as we were able to provide coaching on all three courses. I split my time between the Green Fleet and FJ/Laser course while **Coach Kiel Killeen** was with our RWB sailors for the weekend. Our sailors did a phenomenal job and I could not be more proud of the progress they have made in the last year. AYC took home several trophies – congratulations to **Meredith and Michael Morran** who took second in the FJ fleet, and to our Opti

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White Fleet winners, 4th place **Lucy Brock** and 3rd place **Tony Slowik**. For those who don't know, Opti Green Fleet is a special fleet designed to support beginning sailors until they are ready to move up to their age appropriate fleets. For this reason, trophies are typically not given to the top finishers and instead, each competitor is awarded a participation trophy. However, I would like to note that had trophies been distributed to our Green Fleeters, second place would go to **Wendi Froelich** and first to **Fiona Froelich!** It was a fantastic weekend of youth racing – many thanks to chair **Stefan Froelich**, the **PROs**, and the **massive team of volunteers** who made it all possible!

Our participation totals for the first three TSA events of the year have put us at number two after Lakewood Yacht Club and while it is still early in the season, I am confident we will remain a strong presence on the circuit for the rest of the year. The growth and success of our Junior Sailing Program and racing participation is truly a team effort. Many thanks to those who make it all possible – to **Coach Kiel Killeen** whose extensive racing knowledge and background has been a huge benefit to our sailors, to the **parents** for their dedication, enthusiasm and all they do to get our kids on the road, and to the **AYC membership** for their constant support, encouragement, and willingness to volunteer.

Next up on the TSA circuit is the Chocopalooza Regatta at Rush Creek Yacht Club May 3 and 4.

Summer Programs

Summertime will be here before you know it! We are offering six sessions of our Junior Sailing Camp this summer with week-long offerings in June and July for sailors ages 8-16. Space is limited and going extremely fast, so be sure to register soon! Session 3 (June 23-27) is now FULL. Our ever-popular PB&J Summer Sailing Series will run on Saturday and Sunday mornings in June, and Saturdays only in July and August. Check our website for more information and registration for both PB&J and the Junior Sailing Camp. Please help us spread the word about our summer programs – stop by the AYC Office to pick up some flyers to post around your community!

2014 Adult Training Calendar

May 3	Scott Young Start Clinic
May 10	Women's Sailing Clinic
June 14-15	Advanced Two-Day Match Race Clinic
June 22	Centerboard Clinic
July 12	Full Moon Cruising Clinic
September 6	Centerboard Clinic
October 4	John Bartlett Spinnaker/Trim Clinic
October 25	Women's Sailing Clinic
November 8	Basic Keelboat Clinic

ROADRUNNER SAILOR OF THE MONTH!



Fiona Froelich

Fiona Froelich has been sailing at AYC for several years, joining the intermediate Opti II racing group last year. She began traveling last Fall and has competed in the Green Fleet at every TSA event since the DCYC regatta in October 2013. One of Fiona's goals for Roadrunner Regatta was to improve her starts and did she ever! Fiona won almost every Green Fleet start, reading the wind and holding her position on the line extremely well. Fiona took first in Race 2 of Roadrunner (her first ever first place!) with three more bullets throughout the weekend. After 13 races, Fiona finished first overall by 16 points, a huge improvement over her 13th place finish at LCYC. Congratulations, Fiona!

Adventure to the Optimist USODA Gulf Coast Championships *by Ethan Froelich*



It all started on a sleepy Friday morning at 2:00 a.m. **Tony Slowik III (T3)** and I were off to a good start for the nine-hour drive to Pass Christian Yacht Club, Mississippi with our dads. I slept in the back seat while T3 snoozed in the trunk, but don't worry it's all really just one big space in the Hummer. We arrived midmorning and joined in on the afternoon race clinic. T3 ate chicken nuggets for dinner.

The wind on Saturday was slow to build, but made it to 15 before the end of the day. This was my first out-of-state regatta and the start lines are extremely competitive with 60 boats on the line. The main differences in this competition from others I have sailed were we raced a trapezoid course and there were strict judges on the water. It was a relief to build sand castles in super white sand just before sunset to unwind from all the intense protesting that went on. T3 and I almost took out a deserted Hobie Cat that was beached near where we were playing but off we had to go for dinner. T3 ate chicken nuggets, again.

A foggy Sunday caused a delay in start, but guess what? T3 had chicken nuggets for lunch to celebrate his third place White fleet ranking. I ate a whopping cheeseburger with Dr. Pepper to celebrate my Blue midfleet ranking. (Sorry mom, I drank two sodas, but don't worry I wasn't driving.)

Before heading home Monday, T3 ate, yep, you guessed it ... chicken nuggets again. We had a great time and hope to do this again next year with more of our teammates.

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Gulf Coast Championship/My First Over Early

by Tony Slowik III



I knew this was going to be a great regatta from the beginning. On the first day, Friday, we had a practice with about 30 boats. I placed in the top six in every practice race. They broke up the group and I got to practice with **Scott Norman**. He is a great coach!

On day one of the regatta the winds were light. I placed in the low 20s in the first two races. It was amazing to see 40-plus boats behind me

at the finish line! In the third race I had a great start right next to **Dylan Ascencios** (he won the regatta). I held my spot and actually finished in 10th place! This was the best race of my life! I finished out the day with a 19! I was totally bummed when I got back to the dock. My dad told me I was over early in the race I got a 10. I protested the race committee and lost. Apparently, I was over the line 23 seconds before the start and the flag was flying! I went to bed very upset with the race committee.

The next morning I woke up ready to fight my way back. With the 10, I would have been in 2nd place. Without the 10, I now sat in 4th in White fleet. The first thing I did was thank the race committee. My dad shoved me off and away I went. The first race I ended up in the 20s again. The second race I got a 39. Going into the last race of the day I was back in 2nd place. The flag was flying again. There was a strong current ripping across the start line. I lined up perfectly and at the gun sheeted in and was off! Then all of a sudden I heard them say "19636" on the committee boat! I was over early and the wind was light! It took me forever to get around the end and start again! I ended up 4th from last! I thought I had fallen to at least 4th or 5th. I was totally bummed. I got to shore and checked the results. There were nine other boats over early that did not go back so I moved up from 54th to 42nd! I won 3rd place by four points and missed 2nd by only three points. Moral of the story – always go back!

This was the best regatta of my life! I sailed the best I have ever sailed and I was OCS for the first time in my sailing career not once by twice! I learned several lessons but the biggest two lessons were EVERY RACE COUNTS and RESTART WHEN YOU ARE OVER EARLY! You never know what is going to happen.

Roadrunner Regatta Volunteer Thank You

by Stefan Froelich

The 2014 Roadrunner Regatta was hosted by Austin Yacht Club on April 5-6. This year we had 23 AYC sailors competing in Opti Green Fleet, Opti RWB Fleet, FJ, Laser Radial and Laser 4.7 classes, bringing the total to nearly 100 racers and setting a local Club record for the most AYC sailors. Other than Texas Youth Race Week in July, AYC's Roadrunner Regatta is the largest youth sailing event in the state of Texas.

I am amazed at how many volunteers are required to run the multiple start lines and feed all these guests. I am even more impressed at how willingly people agreed to help promote this event on behalf of the next generation of sailors. Please let the following people know how much you appreciate their hard work for AYC:

AYC Staff

Jackie Wheeless, Tom Cunningham, Kate Noble, Kiel Killeen

Regatta Co-Chair

Jeff Brock

Guest Speaker

Scott Young

Roadrunner Egg Hunt

Constanze Heitkoetter

T-shirts and Trophies

Tony Slowik

Scoring

John Morran

Registration

Bill Hawk (chair), Kelly Hawk, Meeta Singh, Mary Carew

Meals

Cheryl Butler (co-chair), Polly Peel (co-chair), Robert Butler, Tom Peel, Constanze Heitkoetter, Gael Slowik, Isabel Bettler

Race Committee

Kelly and Bill Hawk (PRO-Opti Green fleet), Paul and Mary Carew

Eric Rochard and John Halter (PRO-Opti RWB), Brigitte Rochard, Michael Tita, Tony Slowik, Nick Dawe, Michael Moran, Hector Lujan, Mike Singh, Mireille and Phillipe Maury

Barry Bowden (PRO-Laser, FJ), Phillipe Bettler, Dixon LeGrande, Meeta Kaur, Jen Schwan, Mike Mashl, Jenny Loehlin

Harbor & Grounds

Vic Manning and Doug Casey

Midnite Porta-potty Moves

Rumored to be Doug Casey

Photographs

Bill Records and Bruce McDonald

Support Boats

Robert Anderson, Jim Casto, Mike Singh, Markus Heitkoetter, Dixon LeGrande, John Bartlett



2014 ROADRUNNER REGATTA



Photos by Bill Records



Alex Tita



Ben Froelich and Josh Dawe



Opti White Trophies

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James Brock – Ethan Froelich



Lucy and Jeff Brock



FJ Trophy Winners



Tony Slowik



James Brock



Jules Bettler and Ben Froelich



Opti Trophy Winners

Photos by Bill Records
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Julius Heitkoetter



Coach Kate and Mahima Singh



Laser Junior Champs



Lucy and James Brock



Green Fleet



Nic Carew



Lasers

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Roadrunner Regatta Photos by Bruce McDonald





Roadrunner Regatta Photos by Bruce McDonald



J/24 Fleet Update

by John and Meiling Parker



J/24 Launching/Retrieving

Since our last article, we have received some rain and are still above 627' MSL. The J/24 fleet continues to utilize the north side metal ramp for launching and retrieving J/24s. It should be noted, however, that users of the rigging/board docks at the north side metal ramp should take caution to avoid overloading the anchoring system for the rigging dock. Please limit the number of boats that tie up to the rigging dock, especially if the winds are strong. Thanks to **Tom Cunningham** for providing the advice.

Please contact **David Broadway, Jorge Martín-de-Nicolás, or John Parker** if you would like any information on techniques for using the metal ramp with your J/24.

Local Racing

Spring Series

Series racing began on Sunday, March 16. Five J/24s checked in with the Race Committee and were ready to race but the Race Committee canceled the race on the water due to heavy, gusty wind. The second race day brought five of the eight registered boats to line. With the start of the windward/leeward racing again, it was evident that there was some excitement in the J/24 fleet. At this time, we have **Dave Broadway, Pat Hitchins/Mark Hulings, Stephen Burke, John Parker, and an entry known as Thunder Cookie** in the mix.

Maintenance

The J/24 fleet continues to work on their "to-do" lists for the boats.

Scott Brinkman and Scott Suitlas continue to work on Fergie with more bottom sanding, careful deck hardware placement, and general cleanup.

Natalie Penner has completed some hull repairs on Giggles after an incident during the Spring Rush Regatta at Rush Creek Yacht Club. Incident description from **Natalie**:

"After a perfect pin end start the boat to windward was over early and fell off to restart crashing into our aft starboard quarter. We were given a redress on that race and patched it up to race the next day."

Natalie is also upgrading her J/24 mast which should make Giggles even faster.

Joe Mancuso continues his work on hardware and general maintenance on Ammo Box including servicing his primary and secondary winches.

Dave Broadway finished some hull repairs and re-assembly in time to get Superman on the line for the Spring Series race #2.

John Parker is upgrading/adding new deck hardware.



Joe Mancuso servicing the secondary winches – photo by John Parker



BEFORE: Team Giggles races a blustery Spring Rush Regatta Day 2 with a short-term hull repair – photo courtesy of RCYC Race Committee



AFTER: Giggles after permanent repair and refinish complete – Photo courtesy of Waterline Works

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Upcoming Social

The Saturday, March 15 date for the Spring Social was postponed due to weather. The next scheduled date for the first social will be in May.

Out of Town Events

The Texas J/24 fleet will have its next circuit stop at the Fort Worth Boat Club at Eagle Mountain Lake during the weekend of April 26.



Teams Thunder Cookie, Chupacabra and Vang Go at Rush Creek Yacht Club Spring Rush Regatta 2014 – Photo courtesy RCYC Race Committee

Upcoming Out-of-Town J/24 Events

Venue	Event	Dates
Fort Worth Boat Club	Annual Leukemia Cup Regatta	April 26-27
Dallas Corinthian Yacht Club	Corinthian Heritage Cup Regatta	May 17-18
Corpus Christi Yacht Club	Surfin' Safari	June 14-15
Houston Yacht Club	HOOD and Beasley Cup	Sep 20-21
Lakewood Yacht Club	J/Fest	Nov 1-2
Lake Canyon Yacht Club	Circus	Nov 15-16

If you are interested in participating in one of these out-of-town regattas with the AYC J/24 fleet, please contact **John Parker** or **Jorge Martín-de-Nicolás**. For general information on the J/24 Texas Circuit, you may visit <http://www.j24texas.com> for additional details.

J/22 Fleet Update

by Bob Mathison

The J-22 Southwest District held its first Circuit Regatta for 2014 on March 22 and 23. The event was sponsored by Fleet 11 from the Austin Yacht Club but held at Lake Canyon Yacht Club due to continuing low water levels at Lake Travis.

Thirteen boats participated representing the Austin Yacht Club and the Lake Canyon Yacht Club. Day one included three races in light to little wind, while day two saw winds steady in the 15 to 20 knot range, gusting to over 25 knots.

The overall winner was **David Butler (AYC)**, followed by **John Halter (AYC)**, **Keith Zars (LCYC)**, **Fred Lindsey (LCYC)**, **Linda McDavitt (AYC)**, **Scott**

Dunn (LCYC), **Wayne Peacock (LCYC)**, **Ben Kyzar (LCYC)**, **Lynn Simpson (LCYC)**, **Ken Taylor (AYC)**, **Gary Zars (LCYC)**, and **Bruce Uphaus (AYC)**. Congratulations to all the skippers and their crews who participated.



Ted Smith, Brad Hlista, John Halter

Mark Foster (LCYC) served as PRO with lots of volunteers from LCYC, ensuring a successful and safe weekend on the racecourse. **Renee Ruais**, **Candace Miller**, **Linda McDavitt** and **Rosanne Butera** shopped, prepared and served a tasty lunch and dinner after the Saturday races. Volunteers from the Lake Canyon Yacht Club prepared breakfast on both Saturday and Sunday mornings. We sincerely appreciate all the folks at LCYC for graciously hosting our club as we suffer through these trying times of low water levels on Lake Travis.

Each race was started using a shotgun (shooting blanks, of course); the first-place boat for each race was awarded the shell as a trophy. First-place skippers for the five races included **Fred Lindsey** (two first-place wins!), **Keith Zars**, **David Butler**, and **John Halter**.

As I'm writing this, we're in the middle of the Spring Series; the first race day was abandoned due to high winds. The second race day, March 30, saw good winds. After two races, the leader board looks like this: **John Halter** (Project Mayhem) leads, followed in order by: **Pierre-Louis Bossart** (Flying J) in a tie-breaker with **Bob Mathison** on the 401(J), **Stefan Froelich** (driving **Gordon Miller's** boat, Caledonia), **Rosanne Butera** (Crash Course), **Bruce Uphaus** (Riff Raff), and **Steve Brown** (Jabberwocky). **Renee Ruais** (Goldilocks) was unusually absent – out of town on business. There are three race days remaining for this series – April 13, 27 and May 4, so come on out and raise your sails!

Ensign Fleet Update

by Fred Ford

The winds have been a big player for AYC sailors since the last Telltale. Opening Day Regatta sailing was delayed due to winds, the cold and rain. Fortunately the party did sail on thanks to the efforts of the Social Committee. Styf Kop (**Frans and George Dahmen**) and Brews' ER (**Tom Groll**) sailed the make-up regatta. A variable, moderately breezy and gusty day ended with a Styf Kop victory.

Strong breezes continued into Spring Series racing. With two races behind us we have a competitive series with Styf Kop (**George Dahmen**) in 1st, Dos Locos (**Lewis Price**) 2nd, Festina Lente (**Randolph Bertin**), Prime Time (**Elliott Bray**), Brews' ER (**Tom Groll**) and Abaco (**Anne Morley**) all tied for 3rd, and September (**Fred Ford**) in 4th. It is anyone's guess how this will shake out.

Word came to us that there was an Ensign on Lake Athens looking for a new home. **Tom Groll and Fred Ford** hooked up a trailer and returned with High Cotton (#500). She needs a little work and **Tom**, who has restored Ensigns, (yes **Kelly**, he has another boat) will do the work with the idea of pairing her with a new owner who will join AYC and our fleet.

Anne Riggs, the new foredeck crew on September, grew up sailing High Cotton with her father, a Navy Captain. There really is symmetry to things.

This past month we had an Ensign misadventure that averted tragedy. Every Tuesday, senior sailors meet to enjoy a sail and a little conversation. Enough boats are pressed into service to accommodate their numbers. Prime Time (**Doug Laws & Elliott Bray**) was one of the Tuesday boats.



The day had a strong breeze (17 gusting to 25 mph). The lake was a chilly 58 degrees. Prime Time got underway with six experienced sailors. Just off the T's and exiting the harbor, she is hit by a powerful gust that swamps her and pitches her sailors into the water. Two sailors swim for the dock while the rest remain with the boat. The strong winds blow Prime Time into the docks. Rescue was at hand. Lessons were learned.

Chaparrals de Mar Regatta ("Roadrunners of the Sea")

The Ensign Fleet is hosting a special regatta honoring senior racing skippers who are over 75. Participation is limited to the ten most senior racing skippers over 75 who register. Skippers must have raced at AYC and must be a current or retired member or a parent of a current member

who raced with the member.

Selected skippers will be provided with:

- A fully rigged and race ready Ensign
- A qualified Ensign crew
- Skippers may add additional crew
- The Ensign start will be the dedicated regatta start
- Regatta award winners will be recognized at the end of series party
- The race will consist of a non-spinnaker long distance course
- Registration closes April 27

Skippers may register by contacting:

Danny Lien	dannylien@gmail.com	512 266 3299
Fred Ford	ffordf@gmail.com	512 261 3270

The NOR and SI will be published and delivered to the participating Senior Skippers.

Note: Any donations or bribes to the Race Committee, Judges or Regatta Chair will be forwarded to the AYC fund.

Ensign sailors take note. A favorite sailing venue is back ... Friday night Beer Can. Bring family, bring friends, bring your crew and be ready to have a good time. The April Ensign Beer Can start time is 6:33:12p.

A little something to think about...

"Now I remembered a captain's honor and his only duty: to bring his crew back alive." – Carsten Jensen, We, the Drowned

C-22 Update

by Ted Owens

After entering into a boat partnership with **Steve Eller** on a J-80, **Johannes Brinkmann** had reluctantly decided to sell his C-22, Strings Attached. When his son, **Patrick**, recently returned from a year abroad, Johannes asked him to help with cleaning up the boat and taking the mast down. The plan was to take the boat to the Sailboat Shop where it would be sold. While scrubbing the boat and reminiscing about the good times they'd had with it, father and son made a deal to keep her as long as Patrick pays the dry slip fee. So, look for Patrick and his crew out on the water in Strings Attached!



C Fleet Update

by Chris Thompson

The Spring Series is off and running with one no race and the next with some pretty heavy air and very competitive sailing. The 'coffee boat' of **Mr. Records** ran off with race #2 from the horn leaving the rest of us to duke it out. Myself, Banshee, and Aquaholic were trading positions on almost every tack. The shortened downwind finish at D mark took us by surprise with **Rick Ammons** (Aquaholic) beating **Brandon Furey** (Banshee) and me by 4 and 13 seconds uncorrected, respectively. Time corrections scrambled Banshee to third and Aquaholic to fourth. Brandon's spinnaker excitement had our attention on the downwind and all was well after a few properly placed knife cuts.

Annie Frey had a good day to test her repaired sail at fifth with **Oliver Funk's** Flying Turtle and **Paul Carew** in the Compac16 hanging on to finish the day. Not sure who won the unofficial upwind leg back to the clubhouse but there was no shortage of wind and camaraderie. A big thanks to my able body crew **Brice and Mickey Bezant** and the amazing (you will be hearing a lot about this little girl!) **Wendy Froehlich**. Many C Fleet boats are carrying these youngsters as extra crew and I highly recommend them. Just don't mind being humbled by some of their prowess on the water!

Reminder - April 27 is C Fleet race committee so come out and give us a hand and have some fun. 10 to 12 volunteers will cover it so speak up early for the choice assignments. Friday Beer Can races are great training and practice opportunities or a chance to sail with someone new or different. Check the crew seat so that no one gets left behind. See you at the club!

Another One Bites the Dust ... Adventures Aboard the Banshee by Brandon Furey (skippering for Hector Lujan)

Fresh off our first place finish in C fleet of the Opening Day Regatta, I met my crew on the morning of the second Spring Series race to practice flying spinnaker before the race. On my way down from the clubhouse, I turned on the radio to get pumped up for another day of racing, only to hear "... another one bites the dust..." I hoped it wasn't an omen to describe our coming day aboard the Banshee.

Having met at 10:00 a.m., we proceeded to start our motor to pull out of windward slip and get on our way. As it turned out, the throttle cable was broken, so we pulled the engine cowling off to manually work the throttle. That didn't work, as the engine would die immediately on throttling, and so **Luis and Meg** set to work on the carburetor. Luis proved himself to be a capable mechanic and Meg was working with her sleeves rolled up and grease on her face, but in true Murphy's Law fashion, the part they were working on fell out of reach into the engine.

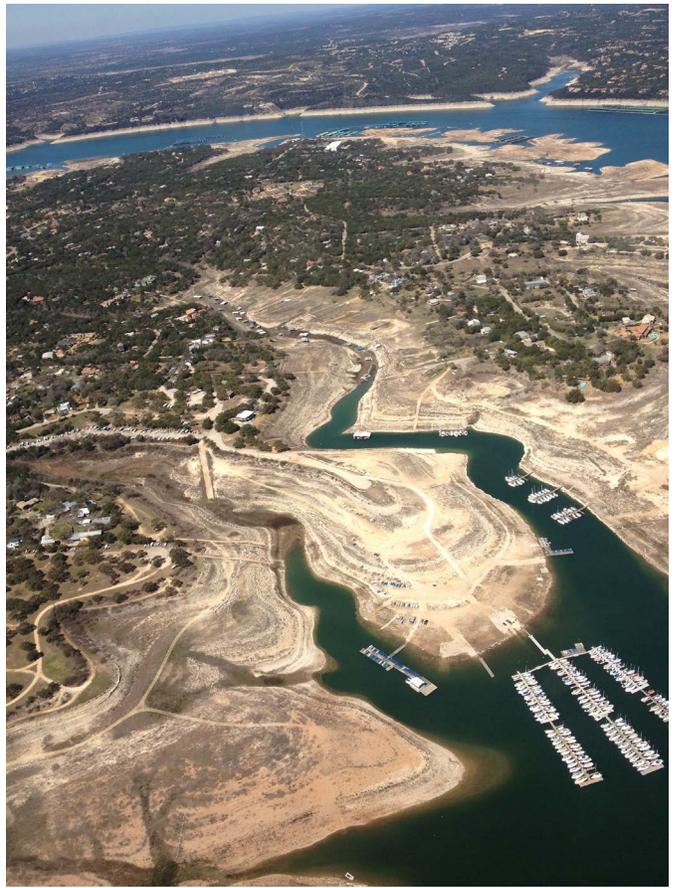
We were now under some serious time pressure. We tried a toboggan start to get out of our slip, but with fifteen knot winds blowing directly into our slip, this method didn't work. Noticing an empty leeward slip across the marina from us, **Luis and Peter** tied some lines together and tried to throw them over to us. By now it was 1:00 p.m., with less than

thirty minutes to the first gun, and other boats were already heading out. After repeatedly watching Luis and Peter failing to throw the line over to our boat, I jumped in and went for a refreshing swim to the line they had thrown out and tied up to our boat. Luis and Peter then towed our boat across the way to the empty slip with some help from others on the dock. We then raised our main and finally sailed out.

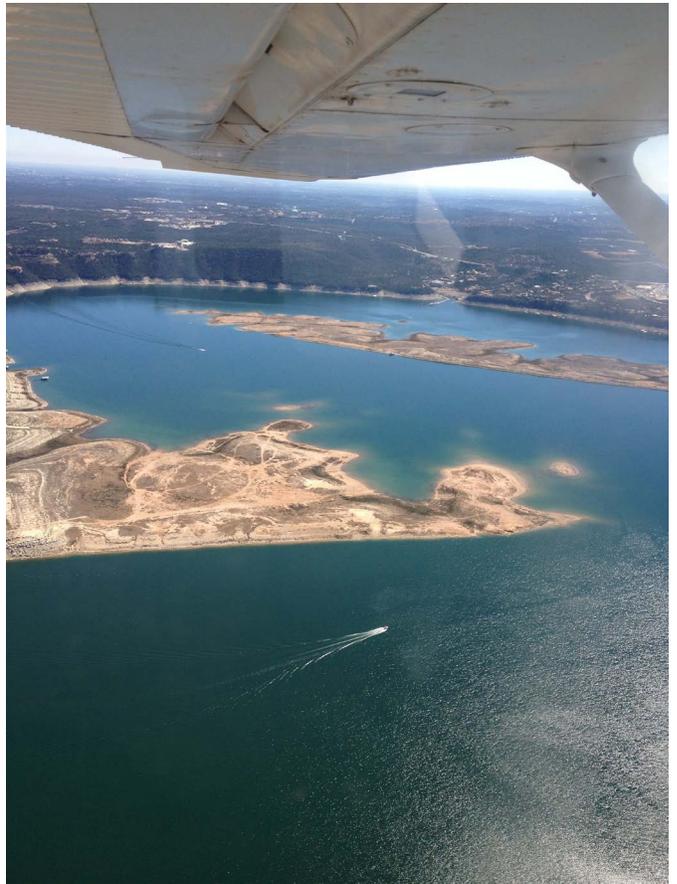
We had a fantastic start, in second behind **Bill Records**. My crew learned quickly how to work together when trimming, but nonetheless, the wind made grinding hard work with our racing jib up. We prepared to fly our spinnaker on rounding the windward mark, but having the rather routine problem of not deploying and setting fast enough, I found myself in ten feet of water off Windy Point. A quick jibe took us back to deeper water, but with crew unprepared to jibe the spinnaker pole, a twisted spinnaker forced us to pull down our spinnaker and sail under the jib to the leeward mark. The race proceeded rather uneventfully until we reached the windward mark again, where having learned the distance of our next downwind leg, I felt optimistic that a spinnaker run would allow us to make up some lost time.

I handed the tiller to **Luis**, and went on deck with junior sailor **Julius** to prepare the spinnaker. To avoid having to quickly set the spinnaker and then jibe, as we would normally have to do rounding the windward mark, we sailed downwind to clear the shoals before deploying our spinnaker. We raised our spinnaker with the jib still shielding the large sail from the strong wind. I ran back to the cockpit to help with setting the pole and trimming the sheet when the wind suddenly massively shifted, with a puff slipping between the jib and the spinnaker. It filled our spinnaker before we were ready to fly and put us on a beam reach headed straight towards some cliffs. This resulted in a knockdown, with the heeling angle so high that our mast was barely off the water, and water rushed into the cabin over the side of the deck. I remember seeing junior sailor **Nicholas** hanging on sideways with a huge grin on his face, while **Luis** was yelling for a knife. I really wanted to recover from the broach and did not want to cut away our spinnaker sheet, but without the sheets being wrapped or cleated, we had no way of pulling in the spinnaker to set it. **Peter** started lowering the halyard to let the sail down, but being full of air, it proceeded to fly up into the sky like a kite. At last the starboard sheet was cut away and the spinnaker was stalled, flapping loosely in the wind. We recovered from our broach as I quickly pulled in our sail before our spinnaker could transform itself into a colorful burst of confetti. We sailed under the jib to the last mark, only to be finished early in third place out of seven.

After docking the boat in the slip, we assessed the damage. We had several inches of water in the cabin, and everything had been thrown about and was soaked through. Everyone was in good spirits however, and what an adventure we had! My crew, **Luis, Peter, Meg, Kayleigh, and junior sailors Julius, Maggie, and Nicholas**, had performed well considering what had happened, and I'm sure our misadventures provided some quality entertainment for our competitors.



Chris Hargett took a Cessna ride on March 11 and shot these photos of AYC in its current low-water state.



The Wind Beneath My Wings

by Jim Johnstone



Early Tuesday morning April 8 I got a wake-up call from **Vic Manning**. He wanted to let me know that there was a big wind the night before and my boat had been tipped over. Shocker usually sits on top of its hydro hoist, high and dry but the wind had tried to fly it the night before.

I got dressed in a hurry and drove over to the Club and out to the docks. The first thing I noticed was all the porta-potties were tipped over and the trash can lids were blown off with trash strewn all around. I stopped long enough to pick up the trash and replace the lids, but I drew the line at righting the porta potties.



On dock 3 things were akimbo. Shocker was tilted at a 45 degree angle resting on its starboard bunk and the starboard hydro hoist lateral, restrained by the port dock line from going completely over. Its mast had just missed the mast of the boat in the adjacent dock. The Hydro hoist bunk supports had moved a little in its slotted holes but everything else seemed to be OK, No holes in my boat. The adjacent boats looked to be free of damage except for the J/24 on the other side of the dock and three spaces up which had broken its hydro hoist and was suspended in a nose down attitude as if it was praying for someone to come and help it.

One thing about AYC, if you have a boat problem you are going to get advice on how to fix it. Sure enough as soon as I walked up to my boat three people appeared out of nowhere and asked how I was going to get it back on an even keel. Before I could answer, suggestions were being offered and then the Lakeside Marine Services man (aka the Dock Doctor) walked up and asked if I had a plan and if I needed help.

"Well" I allowed, "We are discussing that, and maybe we will figure one out, what do you think?" He mentioned something about come alongs and then walked off to survey the rest of the dock. As he walked off, the assembled audience, eager for some decision, began lobbying to engage the Dock Doctor assuring me his price would be reasonable and he had the men and equipment to do the job.

I mulled this over with Sherlock Holmes like logic, Option A was to do it myself with friends, standing by, Blue Duck nominations in hand, and risk damaging my boat, my neighbors boat, or myself. Option B was to engage the Dock Doctor and his crew and let them take that risk. (Note: the Dock Doctor is not eligible for the Blue Duck Award). I quickly engaged the services of the Dock Doctor.

Thirty minutes later my boat was being gently persuaded back home on its perch with three come alongs and without drama. Close inspection revealed a one inch long spot on the bottom where the Baltoplate had been rubbed off. Everything inside was still in its original place, no battery acid on the floor, nothing askew.

I rearranged dock lines to get a better restraint on the boat now that I knew it could fly if it wanted to, thankful that I don't have a winged keel.

Ides of March Regatta

by Scott Young

Texas Cat sailors recently met up at Lake Somerville just outside of Brehnam for the annual Ides of March Regatta. 25 cats of varying sizes and configurations turned out for a great weekend of sailing. Lake Somerville is a great regatta site with its location approximately halfway between Austin and Houston.

The F-18 Fleet was the largest class with a record turnout of 11 teams. Austin Yacht Club was well represented with all of our active F-18 teams competing.

Saturday was clear and cool with a nice 10-15 knot, shifty and puffy northerly blowing. There were big puffs and big lulls and it put a real premium on staying in the breeze and staying in phase with the 40 degree shifts.

John Morran and I had a strong day with a 1-4-1-1 closely followed by **John Tomko** with a 2-1-2-2. **Steve Piche** also sailed well and tallied results good enough for 3rd overall after the first day of sailing. The key on Saturday was to try and get in phase with the wind shifts off of the starting line. If you were trapped and unable to tack, it was easy to get too far to the left side of the course.

continued next page

Our strategy was to stay higher on the line and avoid the congestion at the usually favored leeward end. This allowed us to tack when we felt the shift and pressure were best. It also set us up well for the right oscillation shift that would usually come in about 2/3rds the way up the beat.

In fact, in the last race of the day on Saturday, we decided to start on port tack at the committee boat end of the line having ducked all of the starboard tack boats as they fought for the heavily favored leeward end. By starting on port tack, it saved us a tack (which is especially punitive on a catamaran) and enabled us to get out to the right side of the course to take advantage of the breeze and shift that would routinely come through. We sailed out to the right side of the course, got the header and tacked and laid the weather mark. I think it was the first time that I had ever executed a 1-tack beat!

Sunday, the wind started clocking around to the east and then to the south, as we got ready on shore. By the time we were ready to hit the water, the wind had filled in quite strongly in the 15-20 knot range from an ESE direction. The wind had a nice oscillating pattern with few holes and some decent puffs.

We had a good start and rounded the weather mark in the top pack but the fleet was very congested with the more stable wind on Sunday. Our downhaul broke at some point after the first leeward mark rounding and the lack of downhaul resulted in us pointing very high but not having very good speed. We were really hurt downwind because the lack of downhaul wouldn't allow the battens to clear when we jibed and our main was inverted up high on port tack for much of the downwind legs.

Through it all, we managed a 2nd, barely holding off a well-sailed race by **Shannon Galloway and Ian Billings**. **Tomko** sailed a great race and had a relatively easy win with great downwind speed.

With **Tomko's** first to our second place finish, we were still in pretty good shape after throwing out our 4th place from Saturday's racing but we had a lot of work to do to fix our downhaul between races. We had to sail back to shore and find shallow water so we could get underneath the trampoline to make our repairs. We left the shore as the starting sequence for the 6th race had already begun. We got out to the line, and tacked just as the one minute signal sounded and set up on the line. We started just above **Tomko** and almost rolled him at the start. He managed to squirt out a bit to leeward but as we continued to sail upwind, we eventually managed to roll over the top of him.

We got to the top mark just behind **Chris Green and Vincent Gagne** and barely ahead of **Tomko**. As we all bore way around the weather mark, a pack of port tack boats had to bear away aggressively to avoid us and two of the boats (**Galloway and Piche**) both pitched-poled trying to bear away at high speeds to avoid our starboard tack pack. It was total carnage but one of the most fun and exciting races I have sailed in.

We held our place as we sailed down the run and timed our jibe perfectly on the port tack lay-line. As we converged with the **Green and Gagne**, we were set to around right on their heels with **Tomko** just behind us. As **John** went in to douse the chute, the halyard wrapped around the rotator

arm and wouldn't release and as we rounded the mark with chute still up, we did a very slow motion capsize (almost taking **Tomko** out in the process). I still have not perfected the art of jumping clear of the mainsail and was convinced I could save the boat from capsizing by hiking out like on a Laser. As a result, I fell through the main and ripped a huge hole in the sail. This is not my first time to do this! When I dropped the sail off to **Bartlett** to repair it, we joked that we need a tear-away window that we can simply re-attach with velcro after one of my crash landings!

We had to retire from the race but **Green and Tomko** went on to have an amazing race with **Green and Gagne** earning a well deserved 1st place. **Tomko** finished a close 2nd giving him the regatta by one point over us.

All of the competitors felt like this was one of the best F-18 events we have ever had in Texas and the momentum of our fleet is clearly on a roll.

Here are the final results:

- 1) Tomko/ Jonathan----8 pts
- 2) Young / Morran-----9 pts
- 3) Green / Gagne -----18 pts
- 4) Piche / Ball -----18 pts
- 5) Galloway / Billings ---21 pts
- 6) Roher / Chris -----24 pts
- 7) Bettler / Brock-----32 pts
- 8) Maudlin / Casey-----36 pts
- 9) Beuerline / Miguel----37 pts
- 10) Rehage / Rick-----51 pts
- 11) Casey / Josh-----56 pts

SCOTT YOUNG START CLINIC



Saturday, May 3rd 1:00-5:00 pm

AUSTIN YACHT CLUB
5906 Beacon Drive, Austin TX 78734

Adult and junior sailors are invited to work on starts with world-class sailor and instructor, Scott Young. Borrow a double-handed AYC Flying Junior, bring your own dinghy, or take it all in from a front row seat on the dock. Please bring sunscreen, a reusable water bottle, hat, sunglasses and a waterproof watch. All proceeds benefit AYC sailing programs.

COST: \$65.00 (non-member)
\$50.00 (AYC member)
\$15.00 (chalk-talk only)

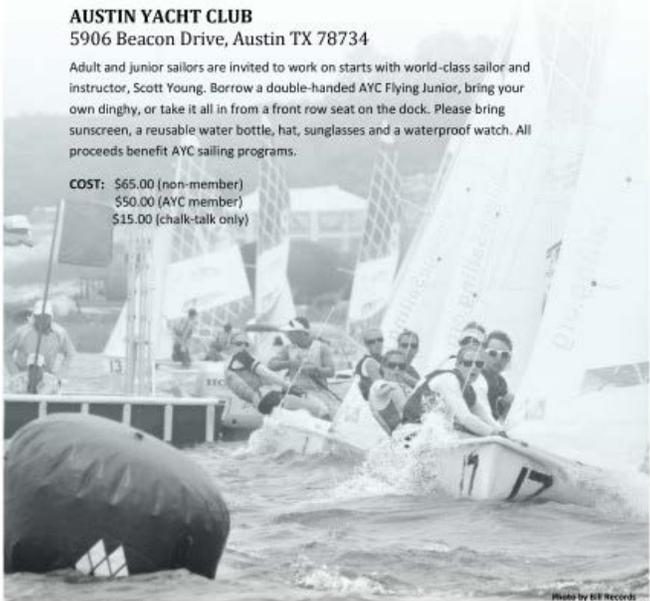


Photo by BIF Records

For more information and registration, visit austinyachtclub.net
OR
contact Sailing Director Kate Noble at kate@austinyachtclub.net or
(512) 266-1336

Ray & Sandra's Excellent Adventures

by Ray Shull

Chapter Two, 04/08/2014

Hi Everyone,

Well, it seems that this winter is FINALLY over, or at least we hope so. Since our return to Clear Lake after venturing into the Gulf at the first of this year, we've been spending most of our time on the boat, trying to stay warm, and improving a few issues with the boat that we identified on the 600 mile trip into the Gulf and back. We've also completed the change of the name of our faithful and wonderful sailing home to "Irregardless." We performed the appropriate renaming ceremony a few weeks ago with the requisite amount of rum, reverie, and offerings to the sea. We think she likes her new name and we gave her a bath and complete detailing to celebrate her new identification.

We're now planning to leave Clear Lake tomorrow (Wednesday) or so and sail east and south toward Florida once again. However, this time we're planning to make the journey via several shorter trips along the coast, and a few days traveling in the Intracoastal Waterway (ICWW). Our planned route is sailing in the Gulf from Galveston to Sabine Pass, then the Calcasieu River, then into Vermillion Bay. From there we'll head to the ICWW and stay in it until we pass New Orleans. Then once again in the Gulf to Gulfport, Biloxi, Mobile, Pensacola, and then to Panama City. We'll stay there several days to visit **Sandra's** family and then sail to the Tampa/St. Petersburg area. We'll make short hops down the Florida West Coast until we arrive somewhere in the Keys, probably Marathon. We'll stay there for a while until we jump across the Gulf Stream and start exploring the Bahamas.

That's our current plan; of course it may be changed at any time. We anticipate it may take us 10-12 days to voyage to Panama City, and then a similar number of days to sail to the Keys once we leave there. But if we get distracted on the way and decide to wait out unfavorable weather or enjoy a stop along the way, we may take a little longer. No schedule, just a plan for where we're heading.

Since our previous Gulf voyage, we've added a better position tracking device on the boat. It's called an InReach and allows anyone to access where we are, where we've been, and what our direction and boat speed is/was at any time. Plus we can send and receive text messages so that if we deviate from our plan, we can let everyone know what we're doing. The web site to access this tracking information is:

<https://share.delorme.com/RayShull>

On this site you can graphically see where we've been after you select the desired charting time period. Under the User's List tab you can also find where we are at the current time. This tab also allows a short text message. The information is relayed periodically via satellite and is available anywhere in the world.

Additionally, we'll have the Spot locator (that we previously carried) on most of the time.

Here is the web site where you can track us using this device:

<http://share.findmespot.com/shared/faces/viewspots.jsp?glld=00TlbtMduGtDDqkgtMk7tc9xWSSzVtZo>

This site doesn't provide as much location information as the InReach tracker, but we'll keep both of them on when we're traveling just to have a backup.

Additionally, we'll be in cell phone service most evenings when we're following the coast and all the time when we're in the ICWW. Please call or text me (512-565-8800) or Sandra (512-468-6965), at just about any time and we'll get back with you as soon as we can. Additionally, this email address is one that I'll check fairly frequently when we're traveling. Please feel free to contact us at any time and leave a note. We love hearing from everyone during our voyages and will try to return any messages as soon as we can.

Lastly we have set up a blog at SailBlog.com. The web site for our blog is: <http://www.sailblogs.com/member/noagenda/>

We've titled this blog "No Agenda", to reflect our approach to our adventure. We haven't posted anything on this site yet. It's very much under construction. We plan to add periodic updates to this blog about where we've been, what we've seen, and who we've met. Just give us a little time to start posting items on this site as we make our way to wherever it is we're heading.

Thanks again to everyone who showed us the tremendous amount of concern and care for us in our previous journey. We hope you will enjoy following us in the second chapter of our journey and will send us a message now and then to say hello.

SAVE THE DATE

AYC SUMMER BASH

Saturday, August 23, 2014

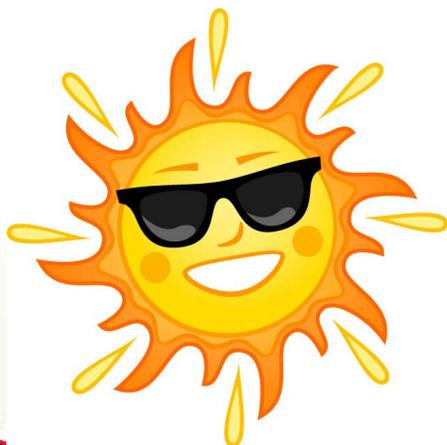
Stay tuned for more details!

2014 Turnback Canyon Regatta

May 24-25

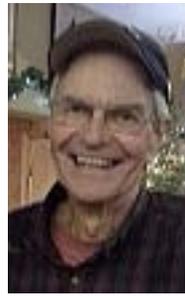
RACE**CRUISE**
BANDS**FOOD****FUN**

Welcome
Junior Racers!



New AYC Website

by John Grzinich



By now many of you have noticed we have a new website for AYC. If not, take a look at it at austinyachtclub.net. I thought it would be good to share information about the new website to help everyone use it and take advantage of its features.

First; a little history and rationale as to why AYC needed to invest in a new website. The AYC website we've been using since mid-2000 was coded by AYC member **Tom Lang**, and hosted on his own servers, all for free, so, a very big "Thank You" to Tom who continued to support the old website even after moving to California. With Tom moving away, his host server aging, the advent of mobile devices, the availability of easy to maintain web software, plus today's security threats, it became evident it was time to move on. So in July last year, we contracted with Shaytoon Inc. for a new website design. Thanks to **John Morran** for the connection. They did the Rush Creek Yacht Club website. The basic framework for the new website is based on Tom's design. With my experience supporting the old website since 2008, I had the background to develop a set of requirements for the new website. I worked closely with Shaytoon's designer **Dari Esfahani** during the implementation and kept the AYC Board up to date. Since Dari designed and maintains Rush Creek's website, he is very familiar with the needs of a yacht club website. Design, testing, uploading content, proceeded through the last half of 2013, and we went live mid-February. The new website is based on Wordpress, which has the tools to easily post content without needing to know some web coding language. This has enabled our staff and board members to do many of updates to the website and keep the content timely.

Moving on to the new AYC website, let's take it little tour. I'll highlight some things you need to know about. The new home page layout was designed to be less cluttered, easy to navigate, and the theme (artwork) easier to view on mobile devices even though it was not designed as a mobile application. The orange menu bar across the top has the links to all the significant content areas on the website. "News" takes you to blog postings from our Commodore, Sailing Director, and others, plus a link to all our 'Telltale' newsletters. "Racing" takes you to information about our races and regattas. "Sail Training" takes you to junior, adult, and summer camp sail training information. "Calendar" will display a monthly view of all our events. Once the calendar is displayed, you can click on an event in a day box to see the event's details. "Marketplace" takes you to a new "Classified Ad" page, and to the "Ship's Store" where you can purchase AYC logo'd merchandise. The "Membership" link's purpose is to provide information to prospective members interested in joining AYC. It includes the online membership application form. "Contact Us" takes you to a page that has the latest office hours, phone numbers, and a form to send emails to the Club's staff, and select Board members. Use the little drop

continued next page

down arrow to bring up a menu to select who you want to send an email to. One thing new you will notice is a security feature on the email form. At the bottom is a 'captcha' box displaying some funny looking letters or numbers that must be entered correctly in order for the mail to be sent. The blue menu bar at lower section of the home page takes you to the static content information areas, with information such as our Club history.

The right column is where the dynamic information is found. "Upcoming Events" pulls up and displays a summary of the next 5 events on the AYC Calendar. "Click on an event" brings up a detailed description of that event. "Recent News" will display the 5 latest blog postings, which can be clicked on to bring up the complete posting content. Can't find it? We have a 'Search' function at bottom of the right column. All the information I've discussed so far can be accessed without logging in.

At the top of the right column is the "Member Login" button. There's a bunch of function and content we only want our members to access. This includes online forms (FURs, Slip Requests), Board meeting documents, and the gate code. Also in the secure area is our new member directory. This is a big difference from the old website where we maintained very detailed profiles of our members. The new directory only has your email address. Optionally there is a bio field you can fill in to put whatever information, phone, boat, etc. you would like to share with other members.

The most important point I wanted to discuss in this article is the log in process. The member directory was initialized with all the primary members from our QuickBooks Data Base (name and email). Due to the secure design of the new password system, we could not use your old passwords from the old website. So, everyone will have to create a new password. To do that; click the "Forget Password?" button. Everyone's "User Name" will be their AYC member number. You enter that, or your email address, but it must be the email address you have for your AYC billing. After entering your ID or email, click the blue "Forgot Password" button. Next you will be sent email message, which has a long URL link in it which you click on and it will bring up a Wordpress menu where you enter your new email address, and of course you have to enter it twice. Once you get through this process, you should be able to go back to the AYC website, and do the "Member Login" with your ID and new password. If you run into any difficulty with this, please send me an email, and I'll help you get it set up.

One of the things you can do after you log in is update your member directory information, including your email address, put stuff in your bio, and change your password. You can search for other members, and send them an email. All of our members' detailed personal information, like your mailing address, will now only be maintained on the AYC office's QuickBooks accounting system. If you have to change any of that information, if you move for example, use the "Member Information Change Form". Fill in the new information, and it will be sent to the AYC office staff to update QuickBooks. Once logged in you can submit FURs and Slip Requests using the online forms.

The weather station wind data was one of more popular items on our old website, which is not currently on the new website. We are in the process of replacing the PC that connects to the Davis weather instrumentation,

the old one failed. After that, the software that sent data to the AYC website needs to be redesigned to work with the new website host, and software. This is on my 'to do' list; we will get it up eventually.

Online sign-up for our Sail Training events is in place. You can sign up for the upcoming Scott Young Start Clinic now, for example. Under "Racing" on the home page, the drop down menu has a link to the "Fleets" page. I am in the process of building a home page for each fleet, and setting up special log in ID for each fleet captain so they can post information on their respective fleet page. C22 is up. **Jim Johnstone** has been updating the Keel Handicap Fleet page, and **Kevin Reynolds** has started loading content on the Sunfish page. I'll be setting up the rest of the fleet home pages, prioritized by the interest of the fleet captains.

In addition to the new AYC website, I have set up an AYC account on Mailchimp, a website that supports sending nicely formatted bulk emails. Our new website is set up to keep the master email distribution list updated automatically any time a member updates their email address, or a new member is added to the member directory. A form is being added whereby additional family members can be added to the member directory and email distribution. This will enable family members to get our blast emails if they wish, and be located in the online member directory.

Hope you find the new website keeps you up to date on all the activity at AYC. If you see any problems, or have an idea for an added capability, please email me. Any emails to the webmaster come to me. One additional point, the home page photo is actually a banner area, and it will be changing from time to time, sometimes to highlight a major upcoming event. If you have a great AYC action photo that you think would look good on our home page, send it to me and I'll consider using it.

Message from the GM

by Jackie Wheelless

Even though my first day in my new position as GM of AYC occurred on April Fools Day, it's no joke: Bob Woods passed the baton to me and drove off into the sunset to fly his drone!

In my first week at the helm I've been busy fielding questions such as:

1. "Where's Bob?"

Answer: Probably in Dallas with Debbie . . . maybe in Austin with his favorite outreach ministry . . . possibly someplace in between! I can't really say! What I do know is that we should be spotting him out on the waters of Lake Travis very soon! Bob has joined AYC as a Senior Probationary member and will be volunteering somewhere on the grounds in the very near future.

2. "Where can I dispose of my old/bad gasoline?"

Answer: At the Household Hazardous Waste Facility located at:

2514 Business Center Drive, Austin.

(512) 974-4343

Drop off times: Tue – Wed: 10a.m. – 6p.m. Saturday: 7a.m. – Noon

continued next page

The Household Hazardous Waste Facility cannot accept materials generated by businesses; therefore, please do not leave hazardous waste on AYC grounds. For more information, please visit: <http://austintexas.gov/hhw>

3. "Why is there garbage in the recycling dumpster?"

Answer: The current recycling program is relatively new to AYC members so they may not be used to looking at the new trash cans (in and around the clubhouse and down at the Point) and the new dumpster (located next to the long standing garbage dumpster in the work area). Please take note that the new recycling trash cans and the recycle dumpster have been clearly marked with the universal recycle symbol:



4. "Why can't I login to the AYC website?"

Answer: Please have patience as we continue to transition from our old to our new website. Many thanks to the **Board of Directors and John Grzinich** for all of their hard work! If you cannot log in you probably need to contact **John Grzinich** at captgrz@sbcglobal.net and get your new password! Please note, passwords from the old website are not valid anymore.

5. "Why wasn't anyone in the office on Monday or Tuesday?"

Answer: As of April 1 the AYC office has new hours! The office is now open WEDNESDAY – SUNDAY from 9a.m. – 5p.m. The office is CLOSED on Mondays and Tuesdays.

6. "What are the entry fees for Easter Laser Regatta?"

Answer: \$40 to **Fred Schroth**, T-shirts are \$5 for the first one and \$10 for any additional. Please visit Fred Schroth's website at <http://schrothfiberglass.com/Easter.htm> for everything Easter Laser!! Or you can contact Fred directly at Schroth Fiberglass office 512-266-7467 or KEELDUDE@sbcglobal.net

I'd like to thank the **Board of Directors and Bob Woods** for entrusting me with the operations of AYC and a special thanks to **Tom Cunningham and Kate Noble** for being such a fantastic team to work with! Thank you to the **membership** for your words of encouragement and for making me feel so welcome in this new role!

AYC Scuttlebutt

by Bill Records

Opening Day Part Deux

We finally had our opening day race after having the ceremony and party two weeks ago. 17 die-hard skippers showed up and sailed in blustery, late winter conditions. **Carrie Jones (VX1)** blew away the competition in A fleet.



Carrie Jones

The race started out pretty competitive up wind, but once they turned the corner, the VX1 had wings! The **Dane/Remus Olson 25** took B fleet. C fleet proved to be the most competitive with lead changes on every leg.



C-Fleet

Bob Stephens (Pearson 26) took line honors, but UT Sailing Club's **Brandon Furey** (Columbia 26) corrected to 1st. **John Durfor** (Buccaneer 250) took 3rd but was only 59 seconds out of 1st. **George Dahmen** won the battle of the Ensigns over **Tom Groll**. **John Luzius** won the centerboard fleet in a Weta.

continued next page



John Durfor



Roadrunner Regatta Chairs



Brandon Furey



AYC Roadrunners



Wetas

2014 Roadrunner Regatta

The 2014 Roadrunner Regatta lived up to its reputation as the most successful regatta at AYC. Regatta chairs **Stefan and Stephanie Froelich** ran a superb event from start to finish. Lots of volunteers worked tirelessly on every aspect: registration, meals, launching, hauling, and trophies. **John Halter** and the race committee performed the difficult task of managing three separate starting lines simultaneously in some very difficult wind conditions and rain! The competition was fierce in all of the

classes and with 96 skippers competing, this was the largest TSA junior event this year! AYC had 23 kids racing; the most ever!!! Almost a quarter of the boats were AYC! You have to give credit to our **Sailing Director Kate Noble and Assistant Coach Kiel Killeen**. They have set up a program where the kids have multiple opportunities to practice and improve their skills and have brought the program to a new level. Also, key to our success is the support from the parents. They are the driving force of the program, bringing the kids to practice, providing them with the proper equipment, and taking them to out of town regattas, where they compete with the best.

Racer/Cruisers

In the seventies and eighties most of the keel boat racing was done in so called racer/cruisers. These are boats of moderate to heavy displacement that have cruising accommodations such as galleys, heads, and sleeping berths. Above decks they are rigged for racing. Most manufacturers built them: Cal, Catalina, Ranger, Pearson, C&C, Erickson, San Juan, S2, and others. You could take the family on an overnight cruise on Saturday and race on Sunday. These boats have been popping up for sale lately and for bargain prices. Boat shoppers wanting to do more than race should consider a racer/cruiser. After all, racing is still racing whether you sail a dinghy or a 30-footer.

By the way, Sail Training is offering a cruising class in July and it will include a cruise up the lake!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Commodore	John Morran
Past Commodore	Christopher Dwight
Vice Commodore	Barry Bowden
Secretary	Jen Schwan
Treasurer	Molly Lewis
Race Commander	John Halter
Buildings & Grounds Cdr.	Doug Casey
Harbor Commander	Wade Bingaman
Sail Training Commander	Eric Rochard

AYC STAFF

General Manager	Jackie Wheeless
Head Caretaker	Tom Cunningham
Sailing Director	Kate Noble

AUSTIN YACHT CLUB

5906 Beacon Drive
Austin, Texas 78734-1428

Office: 512-266-1336
Office FAX: 512-266-9804
Clubhouse: 512-266-1897

E-MAIL AND WEBSITE

www.austinyachtclub.net
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
race_commander@austinyachtclub.net
vice_commodore@austinyachtclub.net
membership@austinyachtclub.net
sail_training@austinyachtclub.net
commodore@austinyachtclub.net
secretary@austinyachtclub.net
treasurer@austinyachtclub.net
harbor_commander@austinyachtclub.net

AYC 2014 RACE CALENDAR

Apr 18, 25	Beer Can Race 6:30p
Apr 19-20	Easter Laser Regatta
Apr 26-27	UTST: SIESA Racing Champs
Apr 27	Spring Series Race #4 1:30 first signal RC: SC21
May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Beer Can Race
May 4	Spring Series #5 1:30 first signal RC: C-22
May 7, 14, 21, 28	Laser/Sunfish Races
May 18	Summer Series Race #1 1:30 first signal RC: Multihull
May 24-25	Turnback Canyon Regatta

AYC 2014 NON-RACING EVENTS

Apr 24	AYC Board of Directors Meeting 7:30p Clubhouse
May 3	Scott Young Start Clinic 1:00-5:00p
May 10	Women's Sailing Clinic 9:00a-7:00p
May 17-18	ASA 101 Basic Keelboat Class Day 8:30a-5:30p
May 22	AYC Board of Directors Meeting 7:30p Clubhouse

Austin Yacht Club
5906 Beacon Drive
Austin, Texas 78734



Women's Sailing Clinic
saturday, may 10
9:00 am-7:00 pm

Join us Mother's Day Weekend for day of sailing, learning, new friends, and fun! This clinic is taught exclusively for women by female instructors. All levels of sailing experience (including first-timers!) are welcome! Lunch and dinner are included with registration. Please bring sunscreen, a reusable water bottle, hat & sunglasses. Close-toed boat shoes and a sun protection shirt are encouraged. Clinic cost is \$60.00 for Austin Yacht Club members and \$85.00 for non-members. Registration is available online at <http://www.austinyachtclub.net>.

For questions or more information, please contact
Sailing Director Kate Noble
at kate@austinyachtclub.net or (512) 266-1336

OPENING DAY REGATTA

Photos by Bill Records



Kate and Kiel



Spencer LeGrande



UT Sailing Club



Will Abrams



Coach Kiel



Lucy Brock

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



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