

# AUSTIN YACHT CLUB TELLTALE

March 2014

## **AYC Celebrates 2014 Opening Day**



**Thank you social committee!**  
(Regatta rescheduled for March 23)

*Cover photo by Bill Records*

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Championship of Champions

### SAVE THE DATE

Mar 15-16	McCarthy Cup	Apr 5-6	Roadrunner Regatta
Mar 15	Basic Keelboat Clinic	Apr 12-13	ASA 101 Class
Mar 16	Spring Series #1	Apr 13	Spring Series #3
March 22-23	J/22 Circuit Stop	Apr 19-20	Easter Laser Regatta
Mar 23	Opening Day Regatta	Apr 27	Spring Series #4
Mar 30	Spring Series #2		

# 2014

## ROADRUNNER REGATTA



**April 5 – 6, 2014**

Austin Yacht Club is proud to host the

**Texas Sailing Association Road Runner Regatta and**

**Texas Junior Laser Championship**

Registration at [www.txsail.org](http://www.txsail.org)

Questions can be sent to Stefan Froelich via [sfroelich@hasystems.com](mailto:sfroelich@hasystems.com)  
Sponsored by the AYC Fund

## From The Commodore

by John Morran



I really could not be any more proud of our AYC membership than I was this past weekend. You all packed the house for two very special events.

On February 28, we were all treated to a story of one of history's most amazing sailing accomplishments. On July 8, 2013 – after 259 days at sea – **Jeanne Socrates** completed her record setting solo, non-stop, unassisted circumnavigation of the globe aboard S/V Nereida. Thank you to **Brad and Susan Davis** for making it possible to have this event at AYC and to the **AYC Fund and Bartlett Sails** for their support and sponsorship. If you missed this event, you can learn more about Jeanne and her adventures at <http://www.svneraida.com>

On March 2, we celebrated the start of our 2014 sailing season with our traditional Opening Day Ceremony. Since the weather didn't cooperate, we packed the clubhouse again for the second time this weekend. A big thank you to all that attended and special recognition to **Sea Scout fleets 681 and 911**, our very talented **Singing Roadrunners** and most of all **Pat Manning and the entire Social Committee** for a wonderful time. The weather forced us to postpone the sailing portion of Opening Day until Sunday, March 23.

Thank you also to **Doug Casey, Tom Cunningham** and all the volunteers who came out for the Work Party on February 22 to help get the Club looking good. Please note that we now recycle at AYC and have new recycling bins located around the Club – help us by placing only recyclable items in these new bins.

We have many fun events in March and April, including:

- March 15 Basic Keelboat Clinic
- March 15-16 McCarthy Cup (UT Sailing Team) – 3on3 Team Racing Event in FJs Open to AYC Members – contact Captain@[texasailing.org](mailto:texasailing.org)
- March 16 Spring Series Race 1
- March 23 Opening Day Regatta
- March 30 Spring Series Race 2
- April 5-6 TSA Roadrunner Regatta at AYC

As always there are plenty of opportunities to volunteer at AYC. We have a big need for help at our upcoming Club regattas. If you can help please contact the following:

- Roadrunner Regatta, April 5-6 Regatta Chair **Stefan Froelich:** [daddyfroelich@gmail.com](mailto:daddyfroelich@gmail.com)
- Turnback Canyon, May 24-25 VC **Barry Bowden:** [b.bowdendds@gmail.com](mailto:b.bowdendds@gmail.com)

If you have not already noticed, AYC launched a new website a few weeks ago. Thank you to **John Grzinich** for spending the past several months working through all of the technical and design-related issues. This was a big first step forward and now that we have this new website format, we have the ability to more easily edit and improve the content and

functionality of the site.

We are off to a great start in 2014 and I look forward to the great racing and lasting friendships that we will share this year at AYC.

## Vice Commodore Report

by Barry Bowden



### Opening Day Regatta Report

Following a very successful Frostbite Series, AYC sailors were eager to resume racing activity after a two week break. Our newly redesigned and available website made preregistration online possible with the incentive of a free regatta T-shirt. We had a record 38 racers preregistered and ready to race. As the day approached the weather forecasts looked more and more unsuitable for racing. The decision to race or not race that day was made easier by watching the approaching cold front on Sail Flow. As the cold front approached Lake Travis, I saw weather stations reporting no wind and 68 degree temperatures, and a few miles to the north the wind was gusting above 20 miles an hour and the temperature had dropped 30 degrees in minutes. I don't remember an epic cold front like that in all the years I have been sailing.

A quick phone conversation with **Commodore John Morran** confirmed that racing that day simply wasn't going to happen. However, a party, now that is simply another thing. Of course the party would go on, and what a party it was.

The Social Committee, led by **Pat Manning and the Bartlett Sails Bloody Mary bar**, outdid themselves with a great Mardi Gras themed Opening Day Party. As the wind and rain howled outside, the clubhouse was filled with happy members renewing old acquaintances and making new ones. A quick trip outside to have the **Sea Scouts** post the colors and back inside to continue the party. What a way to begin the year. The absence of a race that day was hardly missed. The regatta has been rescheduled to March 23.

### New AYC Website

The former AYC website was a good one in its day, but technology has advanced, and the servers and programs that supported it were more suitable for a museum. Since last year, **John Grzinich** has been working to help build a new and modern website for the Austin Yacht Club. This effort has been realized and we have a new website which will be much easier to manage and is supported by equipment that has backup so we won't suddenly lose all of our information. There will be tweaks and changes made to it in weeks to come as necessary. When you see **John Grzinich** at the Club, thank him for all of his hard work on this project.

### Upcoming Regattas

- Reschedule Opening Day Regatta Sunday March 23
- Texas Sailing Association Roadrunner Regatta for Junior Sailors April 5-6
- Easter Laser Regatta April 19-20

Turnback Canyon, Centerboard and Governors Cup – I am still looking for regatta chairpersons for these events. Please contact me if you are willing to help, or willing to suggest someone else.

## Secretary Report

by Jen Schwan



### FURS 101

As your Board secretary, I receive and route Facilities Usage Requests (FURs) for approval. FURs are brought before the Board at the monthly Board meetings for approval. Under certain circumstances, you may submit a FUR that requires a very quick approval and cannot wait for the next

Board meeting. We understand! However, the AYC Board attempts to conduct all of its business at the monthly meetings, which are open to membership, to promote transparency.

It's important from time to time to review when a FUR is needed and for what kinds of events you should consider submitting one. This is the guidance that the Board would like to provide, based on the Membership Handbook content found under the Membership>>Membership Information portion of the AYC website or in your Directory:

An AYC member may not have more than 12 guests at the Club at one time without Club Manager's approval (please submit a FUR!).

Approval of any special function will be considered as long as it does not inconvenience the Club membership.

Non-AYC events may not be held on AYC property on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. Large off-site business meetings at AYC are discouraged.

Approval for special functions of 13-29 guests, whether hosted by a single member or co-hosted by other members, is required and may be obtained by getting approval signatures from three Board members on a Facilities Usage Request form available in the AYC office (or through the AYC website (<http://www.austinyachtclub.net/ayc-request-for-event-facility-use/>)).

For special functions of 30 or more guests, full Board approval is required. Prior to Board approval the requesting member must fill out a Facilities Usage Request form, ask the AYC Manager to be put on the agenda for the next Board meeting, and present his/her request to the Board at that meeting.

When in doubt, submit a FUR! The office appreciates a heads up even if you're hosting a small group of folks at the club.

We are certainly not discouraging events or FURs at AYC. Please DO enjoy your Club! FURs simply help the Board and the AYC office best manage a very full calendar of events!

## Harbor Commander Report

by Wade Bingaman



It would be nice if we could have everything we wanted right now, but immediate gratification is not the way it works in dealing with our harbor facilities. However we are making steady progress. The projects to up-grade the docks are proceeding. Visible signs of these should start appearing later this month. Also I am hopeful that we can soon have an on-budget bid for a new walkway to the junior dock. Later this year we may be able to replace the flotation on some of our board boat docks. My intention is to accomplish all this and still stay within the budget.

We have completed our organization of the beach. Generally car parking is in the center, with temporary car/trailer parking near each ramp, and small boat parking on the south side near the junior dock. Signs should be installed soon which will help delineate each area. I want to thank everyone for your cooperation in this regard. I think this new arrangement will improve our enjoyment and ease of use of the area.

On another note, the upper point has been cleared of trailers and boats. By Club rule, this area is for TEMPORARY parking of boats and trailers. We hope everyone will comply with this rule. It never hurts to notify the office if you are leaving your boat somewhere other than your assigned space.

The Harbor Committee is continuing to try to identify all boats and trailers on Club grounds. Since significant revenue is generated by parking space fees and our budget is tight, we think this is an important project. Please help us in this regard by making sure your trailer, whether in dry sail or on the beach, has your name on it and that you are paying for a dry sail slip. Eventually we will have to remove all unidentified or unassigned boats and trailers. Our intention is to have everyone paying their fair share for use of the Club.

## Sail Training Report

by Eric Rochard



The 2014 Sail Training Committee represents AYC sail racing diversity: **Jorge Martín-de-Nicolás, Harry Polly, Linda McDavitt, Fred Ford, Bill Records, Phillippe Bettler, Jennifer Loehlin, Rick Trent, Mike Beuerlein, Stefan Froelich, Jeff Brock and Kate Noble, AYC Sail Training Director.**

AYC 2014 Sail Training program is already on the way! Optimist and Laser 4.7 are practicing every Wednesday evening under the supervision of coach **Kate and Kiel**. **Harry Polly** has starting the ASA certification of several student and instructors. The "AYC Racing School" of **Jorge** with the help of **UT Sailing Club** has been bringing a lot of animation on the mornings of Frostbite series.

The Junior program is a pillar of AYC Sail Training and its growth over last

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years has been tremendous. We have a good challenge now, to continue the support of our young competitors and introduce the largest number of kids to the sport of sailing. This balance will generate healthy and sustainable growth of AYC Membership.

High school sailing is an opportunity to reach out and provide an experience of sail racing to teenagers. We have two high schools interested, Vandegriff HS and Hill Country Christian HS. **Kate** is looking at setting up a framework to enable the revival of Central Texas high school sailing.

Our first clinic, the Basic Keel Boat, is March 15. We are rescheduling March 29 Scott Young's clinic due to many conflicts in the spring calendar.

The advanced clinic of June 13-14 will be about Keelboat Match Racing. The Saturday will be chalk talk and practice, and we plan a championship for Sunday. We are currently reaching out to the different fleets to fully define the agenda and the format.

## AYC Fund Update

by Johannes Brinkmann



For those of you who have not heard of the AYC Fund, the Fund is an independent charitable entity whose purpose is to promote the sustainability and quality of sailboat racing in Central Texas. The Fund has kicked off this year with a new slate of board members as follows:

**Chair: Johannes Brinkmann; Vice Chair: Dan**

**Hollenbeck; Treasurer: JoAnn Welles; Secretary: Bonnie Lackey; PR: Debbie Rackley; At Large: Renee Ruais**

The AYC Fund board, together with Past AYC Fund chair **Scott Young**, met in January, and since then the board has approved the following commitments for 2014:

\$2,000 Sponsorship of Jeanne Socrates Speaker Program on 02/28/14

\$500 Sail Training Instructor Education

\$6,500 Funding to support AYC playground improvements

\$5,000 Funding to support AYC Sailing Director Position (part of a \$22,500 three year commitment)

\$2,000 Addition to the UT Sailing Team boat replacement reserve (bringing the balance of that reserve to \$5,000)

The AYC Fund board feels strongly that the key to sustaining and growing high quality sailboat racing in our region is to "feed the funnel" with passionate young sailors. That is why the AYC Fund's financial support is currently heavily directed towards increasing youth participation at AYC. Doing so will not only cultivate new sailboat racers, it will energize sailors of all ages. We've begun to see this effect at AYC with rising family memberships, increased participation at regattas which include starts for Roadrunners, and increased participation and enthusiasm at events like AYC's Annual Banquet and Opening Day, where our new young sailors are being recognized.

The Fund board also feels it is important to support events that energize a broad audience that doesn't necessarily regularly make it out on the lake to race. Doing so increases the awareness and excitement about the sport, which increases the ability of our community to support high quality racing. So, when the opportunity arose for the Fund to financially sponsor **Jeanne Socrates** to come and speak at AYC, the Fund Board voted unanimously to do so. AYC's own **Brad Davis** had the vision and did the legwork to bring Jeanne to Austin, and the standing room only event was a smashing success!

This year, the AYC Fund board is also working on initiatives to update the Fund's mission statement, update the AYC Fund website, streamline the AYC Fund grant process and promote an informal FJ racing series.

The AYC Fund board would like to express our gratitude to **Scott Young** for his three + years of service. We are especially grateful that, although no longer on the Fund board, Scott has volunteered to chair this year's Fleet Challenge once again!

If you love sailing and sailboat racing, and you would like to contribute financially towards growing the quality and sustainability of our sport, please consider making a donation to the AYC Fund. You can donate online at: [www.austincommunityfoundation.org](http://www.austincommunityfoundation.org), click on donate and scroll down until you find the AYC Fund. Or, you can mail a check made out to the AYC Fund to: Austin Community Foundation, 4315 Guadalupe St., Suite 300, Austin, Tx 78751. Or, you can bring a check by the AYC office.

## Sailing Director Report

by Kate Noble



The 2014 Sail Training season is finally in full swing! We have a great year of programming to look forward to this, starting with a jam-packed March! To volunteer for Sail Training or for questions about any of our programs, please email me at [kate@austinyachtclub.net](mailto:kate@austinyachtclub.net).

### Adult Training News

We will be offering our first adult clinic of the 2014 season on Saturday, March 15. Our Basic Keelboat Clinic will be headed up by volunteer, **Bill Records**. This is a great opportunity for first-time sailors to get out on the water or for beginning to intermediate sailors to brush up on their skills. Registration is now open on the AYC website!

For those interested in formal certification, our American Sailing Association instructors, **Gary Payne and Harry Polly**, are offering ASA 101 training on the second weekend of each month. Contact the AYC Office or check the website for more information and course dates for 2014.

### Junior Training News

We had a great turnout for our Junior Sailing Program Info Session & Pizza Party on February 21! Thank you to all of the members, potential members, and friends who came out to join me and Coach Kiel for a presentation on

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our program offerings and some new developments for 2014.

Our 2014 training will once again be divided into three smaller seasons: Spring (March 1-May 23), Summer (August 1- September 24), and Fall (September 26-December 17) with our weekly schedule as follows:

	Wed	Fri	Sat
1:00			
1:30			
2:00			Opti II
2:30			Opti III
3:00			
3:30			
4:00	Opti II		
4:30	Opti III		
5:00		Opti I	FJ
5:30			Laser
6:00			

There is still space available for the Spring Season and we will welcome mid-season registrations! For more information on our 2014 Junior Sailing Program offerings and links to online registration, visit the AYC website and click on the Junior Training tab.

The Spring Season began on March 1 for our Opti II & III racers as well as our Laser and FJ sailors. Conditions were a bit breezy – big thank you to **Bill Records** and all of the parents who volunteered an extra hand.

### Junior Racing News

This past month, **Meredith and Michael Morran** represented AYC at the Club 420 Midwinter Championship February 15-17 in Jensen Beach, Florida. They did exceptionally well on the first day of racing when the breeze was up, securing 13th, 2nd, 10th, and 14th in the first four races. After three days of racing in varying conditions, the Morrans placed 33rd overall out of 94 boats. Congratulations!

As you all know, the Opening Day Regatta was postponed due to weather, but the Roadrunner sailors are looking forward to competing on the 23rd. Participation at these Club events is great preparation for the big regattas coming up this spring – thank you to the Board and membership for opening up these events for junior participation.

The next Texas Sailing Association Youth Circuit event will be the Spring Fling Regatta at Lake Canyon Yacht Club March 15-16, followed by AYC's TSA event, the Roadrunner Regatta April 5-6. If you are interested in volunteering and getting involved with the Roadrunner Regatta, be sure to contact Regatta Chair, **Stefan Froelich**, at [sfroelich@hasystems.com](mailto:sfroelich@hasystems.com).

### 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. Our ever-popular PB&J Summer Sailing Series will run on Saturday and Sunday mornings in June, and Saturdays

only in July and August. Space is filling up quickly! Check our website for more information and registration!

The Austin Yacht Club's Junior Sailing Camp was featured in the 2014 Austin 360 Summer Camp Guide in the Austin American-Statesman last month. We've had a great response from the publicity. You can check out the article in the AYC Office or check it out online – links are posted on the website and AYC Facebook page.

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!

### ROADRUNNER SAILOR OF THE MONTH!

*Starting this month, the AYC coaches will recognize one Roadrunner sailor each month for outstanding sailing accomplishments and/or displays of sportsmanship.*



#### Mayima Singh

Mahima is a 4th grader at Chaparral Star Academy. Mahima joined the Junior Sailing Program last spring, and after a year of practice in the Opti I class, has moved up to Opti II. Like many new sailors, Mahima has been fearful of sailing on windy days and accidental capsizing. However on the first

day of Opti II practice, Mahi faced those fears head on and challenged herself to sail on a breezy day. Although she did capsize, Mahi displayed a remarkable level of courage, bravery, and determination and was able to right her boat all by herself and make it back to shore! Congratulations to Mahima, our March Roadrunner Sailor of the Month!

### AYC YOUTH EVENTS SPRING 2014

**March 14-16 Canyon Lake YC Regatta**  
Laser, OPTI and 420 racing for the second TSA Regatta just an hour south of Austin. At least four families have already mentioned they will camp that weekend, although there are also hotel options. Register now at [www.txsail.org](http://www.txsail.org)

**March 22-23 Gulf Coast Championship**  
At Pass Christian Yacht Club in Mississippi. You can read the Notice of Race from [www.usoda.org](http://www.usoda.org) for complete details.

**April 5-6 Roadrunner Regatta at AYC!**  
Everyone sign up! No road trip details to manage! This is a great time to try racing out and see what it is all about if you have never done so before.

**April 19-20 US Sailing Area F Chubb Jr. Championship Qualifier for the Smythe Trophy**

Will be held during the Easter Laser Regatta at Austin Yacht Club. This will be a big Laser event! Detailed information is available at <http://championships.ussailing.org/Youth/ChubbJrChampionships.htm>

If you are an Optimist sailor, consider becoming a member of OSODA. TSA events do not require this, but some TSA events double into other districts/levels where they require it. <http://www.usoda.org>

If you are a Laser sailor, consider becoming a member of ILCA-NA. TSA events do not require this, but some TSA events double into other districts/levels where they require it. <http://www.laser.org>

There are 14 TSA regattas in 2014. If you sail a minimum of seven, you earn your Texas ranking. Any events sailed in excess of seven allow you to drop your worst scores. (Example: if you race 10 times, you can drop your worst three regatta results.)

# 2014 Opening Day



"It is a new year, a new beginning, and we are all here. Let us give thanks for how lucky we are to be here and pray that we may be given the days and health to enjoy our sport, our Club, our friends, our families, throughout this year. And while we remember our members who have reached their safe harbors this past year, we remember also those who are still in the battle with the elements of life and ask for peace and comfort for them ... Today we are mindful of our lake levels and hopeful that they will rise soon, for the life giving water supply they provide and the fun it allows for our sport of sailing and sailboat racing. We sound the call yet again for good sportsmanship as we play; the call to accept our errors, graciously pay the penalty, and demonstrate the best behavior, as we remember that we are all modeling behavior, for ourselves, for our crews, and for our fellow competitors."

*Tom Romberg*

Photos this page by Bill Records



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Photos this page by Bill Records

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Photo by Cheryl Pervier



Photo by Cheryl Pervier



Photo by Bill Records



Photo by Bill Records

### What Do You Do With a Road Runner Sailor?

What do you do with a Road Runner sailor?	Early in the morning.
Way hay and up she rises	Early in the morning.
Drop him off at the Opti practice	Any time of day.
What do you with a lazy sailor?	Make him rig the Optis.
What do you do with a hyper sailor?	Dump her in the lake.
What do you do with the awesome sailor?	Bring him to John Halter.
What do you do with a capsized Opti?	Hope you have a bailer.
What do you do with a green-thumb sailor?	Show her Bruce's garden.
What do you with a hungry sailor?	Feed him on his boat.
What do you do with a mis-rigged boat?	Have Coach Kiel inspect it.
What do you do with the fastest sailor?	Send her on the circuit.
What do you do with a smiling sailor?	Sail past Mr. Bill Records.
What do you do with a history-lovin' sailor?	Talk to Admiral Vance.
What do you do with a broken Opti?	Talk to Mr. Fred Schroth.
What do you do with a dirty boat?	Call up Lucy and Ethan.
That's what we do with a Road Runner sailor	Early in the morning.

Thanks to:

Music Teachers: Constanze Heitkoetter and Mary Carew

Roadrunner Singers:

- Julius Heitkoetter – Keyboard
- Vivian Heitkoetter – Indian Flute
- Noah Zahm – Tuba
- Jus Singh – Drums
- Mahima Singh – Singer
- Maggie McElmurry – Singer
- Will Abrams – Singer
- James Brock – Singer
- Ethan Froelich – Cello
- Fiona Froelich – Shaker
- Wendi Froelich – Shaker
- Katie Froelich – Tambourine
- Ben Froelich – Singer
- Nicholas Carew – Singer
- Tony Slowik – Singer

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Photos this page by Cheryl Pevier

# HULL CLEANING AND BAKING

*Hire the Froelich and Brock Roadrunners for all your boat cleaning and baking needs!*

## Is Your Boat Dirty? Are You Too Busy To Clean It?

The Froelich and Brock Roadrunners are working to earn money to race in the upcoming Texas Sailing Association Circuit. We clean boat hulls, and scrub and polish decks.



## Hungry?

We also make homemade Scottish shortbread, homemade bread from fresh ground wheat, pumpkin pies, apple pies, strawberry pies, peach pies and apricot pies. Please contact us to place your order. Delivery to AYC every weekend.



**Please support us and contact us for a quote or order at  
[ethan@hasystems.com](mailto:ethan@hasystems.com)**

## J/24 Fleet Update

by John and Meiling Parker



### J/24 Launching/Retrieving

Though the lake level is slowly decreasing once again, we are still above 627' MSL and for those eager to sail or work on their boats, launching and retrieving on the north side metal ramp continues to be the best means for the J/24 fleet to accomplish these tasks at AYC.

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

#### *Frostbite Series*

The Frostbite Series had six teams in competition. **Patrick Hitchins** with team Mothership Connection, **Stu Juengst** with Vang Go, **John Parker** with team Chupacabra, **Dr. Gamble** with Ooh Aah, and the UT Sailing Club's Betty with **Tim Woodard** and **Roman Shor** at the helm were actively racing. A late entry, Out of Control, helmed by **Stephen Burke** took a 2nd place finish in the last race. At the end of the series, we found Mothership Connection and Vang Go tied in the points standing for first place.

#### *Spring Series*

Series racing will begin again on Sunday, March 16. Many of us are looking forward to beginning the windward/leeward racing again and hopefully some steadily warming weather. If you have not been sailing with the J/24 fleet for a while, we encourage you to come out for Spring Series. We are expecting a full fleet to have a lot of boats on the course.

### Maintenance

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

**Scott Brinkman** and **Scott Suiflas** – finished painting a barrier coat on Fergie.

**UTSC** – finished Phase I of cleaning, sanding, and painting Betty's bottom. The results are noticeable on the race course.

**Natalie Penner** – repairing and improving Giggles in preparation for the Spring Series and J/24 Circuit.

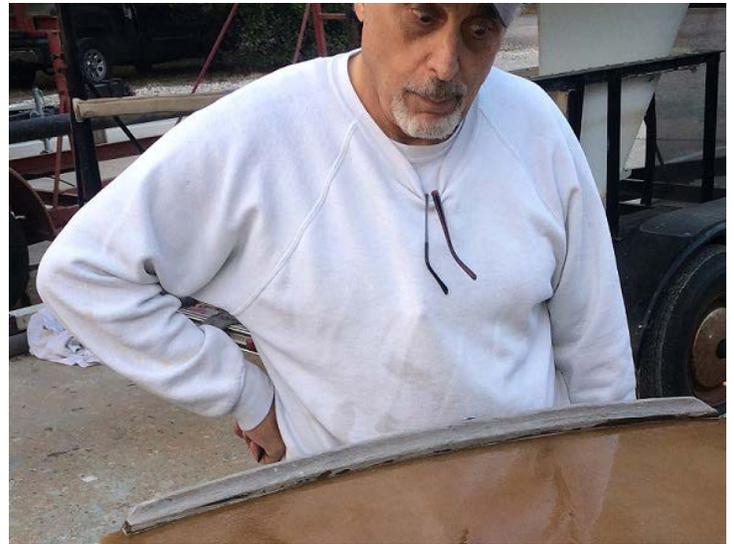
**John Parker** and **Jorge Martín-de-Nicolás** – continue working on 3-Sheets.

**Joe Mancuso** – moving deck hardware, bottom paint, and additional maintenance on Ammo Box.

**Dave Broadway** – making repairs to hull and deck on Superman.



*Jorge Martín-de-Nicolás – Preparing to check for keel alignment on a J/24 retrieval – photo by John Parker*



*Joe Mancuso admires the new mirror finish on his hatch – photo by Jorge Martín-de-Nicolás*



*Scott Suiflas painting barrier coat on Fergie – photo by John Parker*

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## Upcoming Social

The next social event has been scheduled for Saturday, March 15. It is being held one day before the Spring Series opener to provide an opportunity for crew and skippers to get together, meet, and perhaps have some casual sailing before the series races.

## Out of Town Events

The Texas J/24 fleet will have its opening circuit stop at Rush Creek Yacht Club near Dallas during the weekend of March 22. This will be followed by many of the traditional stops.



Team Ooh Ahh in action – Dallas Corinthian Yacht Club 2013 – photo courtesy DCYC website

## Upcoming Out-of-Town J/24 Events

Venue	Event	Dates
Rush Creek Yacht Club	Spring Rush Regatta	March 22-23
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

Racing in the Frostbite series were **John Halter** (Project Mayhem), **Renee Ruais** (Goldilocks), **Pierre Bousart** (Flying J), **Gordon Miller** (Caledonia), **Bruce Uphaus** (Riff Raff), **Roseanne Butera** (Crash Course), **Steve Brown** (Jabberwocky) and **Bob Mathison** (401(J)). **John Halter** placed first and **Renee** rode in on his wake.

## J/22 Day



J/22 Day photos by Candace Miller

On Sunday, February 23, the J/22 fleet held a kickoff event at AYC to meet fleet newcomers and transfer the fleet captain's tiller from **Renee Ruais** over to **Bob Mathison**. Thank you **Renee** for your endless enthusiasm and fine coordination over the years!

**Renee's** name is slipping into this paragraph too, because she made the AWESOME French toast with warm maple syrup and whipped cream! What all was there on that counter??? Scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, fresh fruit, coffee cake, muffins, Bloody Marys, coffee, juice ... and **Meiling Parker's** expertly decorated vanilla cake. Yum!

After breakfast, about 25 attended **John's** tip-packed talk and Q&A about: pointing, tuning the rig for specific sails, developing a routine for setting up the boat and pre-start rituals (i.e., first tweekers, then spinnaker sheets and finally jib sheets). He shared ways for improving starts and the importance of citing a line to shore. **Linda and Renee** spilled a lot of race secrets they may regret sharing, too.

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## Ensign Fleet Update

by Bill Hawk



The sailors then moved (yes, drove) down to the docks for tactile demonstrations of rig and sail adjustments, where John explained how one adjustment might necessitate adjustments elsewhere on the boat.

The day wrapped up with a comprehensive on-the-water libation evaluation.

Every member of the J/22 fleet is focusing on adding to our lively crew in 2014; so, if you know of someone who wants to learn to race this spectacular boat, send him or her our way. We're easy to find on race day, 'cause we're the first ones back to the docks!

The Ensign Fleet continued its strong representation in One-Design Racing at the Austin Yacht Club during the Frostbite Series, with a turnout of nine boats for the first race and six boats for each of the two final races. The outcome was decided on the final race when **Danny Lien** on Gravy Boat (with some help from **Jonathan Baker**) took honors to win over **Tom Groll and Bill Hawk** on Caroline. **Lewis Price** on Dos Equis finished third in the race for a fourth overall, while **Franz Dahmen and brother George** drove their newly refurbished Styf Kop (or Stijfkop) to a third place overall. The fleet was rounded out by **Randolph Bertin, Elliott Bray and Doug Laws, Fred Ford, the Hawks**, and a much-celebrated appearance by the seldom-seen **Dr. David Gamble**.

The Fleet still awaits the appearance of its newest member, **Margaret Rose**, who is apparently not yet ready to face the whitecaps and shifty winds of the LT Winter ... but while we are waiting, we are planning an active year of full-moon sailing/feasting and getting our boats ready for the new season.

The Ensign remains the best full-keel one-design boat on Lake Travis, and for those members of other fleets who secretly wish they could join us – there is a raffle underway for a brand new Ensign (\$40k value!). Proceeds benefit the Ensign Class Association Youth Sponsorship program, and a maximum of 650 tickets will be sold for only \$100 each. Contact any fleet member about buying one, or about being introduced to this comfortable and family-friendly but very competitive boat.

### REMINDER

At the January 30, 2014 Board of Directors meeting, the Board authorized a 5% dues increase and a 5% harbor fees increase effective the February 2014 billing cycle. If your dues are paid by recurring electronic check, you will need to update your payment with the new 2014 amount.

## C Fleet Update

by Chris Thompson

Ahoy C Fleet from your new captain, **Chris Thompson!** I am looking forward to a fun and exciting 2014 and hope to continue to keep C Fleet as one of the anchors of our Club. Changes to the fleet splits and spin vs. non-spin scoring have been adopted that are intended to make for more competitive racing. I'm working on some ideas for some coordinated work days to team up in helping get boats ready to compete for series racing and regattas. Feel free to bounce your ideas my way along these lines.

The KHF board has approved the rules and budget for an end-of-year door-prize/raffle drawing that will be based on 2014 KHF event and regatta participation. There are flyers posted around the Club and more information will be forthcoming on our fleet page on the new AYC website. Those who sailed in the Red-Eye Regatta have already been entered. The upcoming Opening Day Regatta on March 23 is the next chance to score an entry.

The Frostbite Series had a slow start for C Fleet with the first race being thrown out due to course and starting order confusion. Race #2 was a no-wind flotilla. Once we finally got to sailing the competition was good with around eight boats on the line for each race. **Bill Records'** group of able bodied youngsters sailed Café au Lait non-spin to take all the bullets and beat **Hector Lujan's** equally competitive upstarts aboard the spinnaker rigged Banshee. **John Durfor's** blue Buccaneer was in the hunt until a course error pushed him down in the finish order in Race #2 and relinquished him to third. My own pick up crew navigated Three Hour Crewz to fourth place overall.

The Pearson 26 'fleet' bringing up the rear also included **Robin Drummond** skippering Talisman with **Vic Manning, Rick Ammons, the Peel family, and new member Mike Singh. Trey AmRhein and the Hakuna Matata crew** also made an appearance and finished well in Race #2.

Our last race ended with a bit of excitement and a trip to the ER. As we were readying to strike the main, a sudden wind shift/gust caught the unsheeted sail and the boom clocked yours truly full on square in the forehead. A two inch gash and six stitches later I was no worse for wear, not even a headache. Crew **Bob Stephens** and nurse **Annie Frey** managed to get us to the dock and me to the ER and I thank them profusely. Kudos to **Vic and Dane** for putting the boat in slip for me. Just another example of what a great Club we have!

Our first RC duty is April 27 so please let me know if you are interested in assisting. One request that I would like to pass on from assisting with RC and scoring is to let the Race Committee know if you are withdrawing early from a race. It will help speed up processing the results. A radio call to RC, flag down a chase boat or a sail by the signal boat or any reasonable means to let them know you are withdrawing is a tremendous help when it comes time to collate the scores.

## KHF Introduces Frequent Sailor Program

by Jim Johnstone



Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor lack of water in the lake stays these cruisers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds.

The Keel Handicap Fleet has decided to up the ante for 2014 in order to encourage more participation in AYC regattas. Not that we need any encouragement, but C fleet Captain **Chris Thompson** came up with a novel idea to reward people who show up and race.

All you have to do is enter into one of the AYC regattas as a PHRF racer, and you earn a chance to win a raffle prize at the end-of-year KHF annual meeting. How simple can that be? You do not have to join the KHF, just show up and race PHRF.

If you already sailed in the Red Eye Regatta as a PHRF racer, you were earning a chance to win something in the raffle. **Old Chris** is being pretty cagey about what you might win, but he says it will be something good. We are not talking about an old pair of sailing gloves he found in his bilge when giving the boat a spring cleaning, he still needs those. Maybe it will be a "get out of Blue Duck Nomination free" card. Think about it.

OK, we are talking real useful prizes and all you have to do is show up, right? Well there is one little catch, You have to be scored in the race to earn a raffle ticket. That means, there has to actually be a race, and you have to enter it and cross the starting line to get scored. Also, show up for the KHF annual meeting – "must be present to win" and all that. Besides, we have free pizza, so everyone is a winner.

Oh, one more thing, If you come in last, you get an extra ticket for that race. I know, I know, this is going to challenge some of you to devise new tactics to win the extra ticket, because you will stop at nothing to win, even if you have to lose to do it.

Please no phone calls asking me for my top losing secrets!



# CHAMPIONSHIP OF CHAMPIONS

## Dave Ullman Selected as Special Guest Competitor at 2014 Championship of Champions

Imagine a regatta where every competitor is a current one-design class champion. US Sailing's Championship of Champions is recognized as one of the more unique adult racing events in the country. All helmsmen have qualified for this event by winning a one-design class National, North American, or World Championship in the over the past year. These skippers and their teams will race for the Jack Brown Trophy while representing their class. The competition will be challenging with many decorated sailors competing on the same course. The 2014 edition of this US Sailing classic is hosted by the Edgewater Yacht Club in Cleveland, Ohio on October 9-12.

Each year a guest helm is invited. Past guest helms have included Paul Cayard and Betsy Alison, and other sailing luminaries. This year's guest competitor will be three-time 470 World Champion ('77, '78, '80) and 2007 Melges 24 World Champion Dave Ullman. He was also US Sailing's 1996 Rolex Yachtsman of the Year. Ullman returns to the championship he won in 1980 (sailed in the 470). He also returns to Thistle sailing, which is one of several class national championships he has collected over the years.

"It's a strong event again, and when I got the invite, how could I say no," said Ullman. "This championship has a warm spot in my heart. You get to race against, and meet with, sailors you don't usually sail with. It's just fun to sail against all sorts of one-design champions. It's all about coming into this event from another class and sailing your best. It can be really interesting to see how it turns out and who comes out on top."

Inaugurated in 1976, US Sailing selects 19 one-design class champions that have been nominated by their class associations to compete at the Championship of Champions. As one of US Sailing's most popular events, the championship is held in a different class each year, and boats are supplied by the host club. Classes range from conventional to cutting edge and have included the Y-Flyer, Snipe, Hobie Cat, J-24, Sunfish, Etchell, Lightning to name just a few. Helmsmen and their crew will be tested in Thistles to see if they can hold their own. The event has crowned champions ranging in age from 13 to over 70. Many competitors are amateur sailors and some are professionals. The Championship of Champions features singlehanded sailors and others who sail with up to five or six crew.

What makes this event unique is that all are top competitors and anyone can win.

Here are additional requirements:

- The qualifying period is from August 1, 2013 – July 31, 2014.
- Champions and their classes must be current members of US Sailing and American citizens or permanent residents.
- Applications are accepted from January through July. Sailors who normally sail in the U.S. and are members of a club, class or association affiliated with US Sailing are eligible.

Applications are evaluated on three main criteria:

- 40% Sailor Criteria – how many major events have they done in the past three years; number of races in national championship, number of attendants at national championship
- 20% Class Criteria – size, diversity, depth and activity of class nationally
- 40% Other – Sailor Athlete status, class membership in US Sailing, previous experience, demonstrated Corinthian spirit, etc.

The team of selectors researches each applicant's ability and background by examining regatta results, drawing on personal knowledge and researching the relative difficulty of the class championships. The Championship of Champions committee tries to get as many divergent classes as possible. Classes that have never proposed a champion to compete are encouraged to do so. In 2013, over 60% of the competitors had never sailed in the event before. Invitations will be issued in early August, 2014. Apply now at <http://championships.ussailing.org/Adult/CofC.htm>.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Jake Fish, US Sailing, 401.683.0800 x614

## Socially Speaking

by Pat Manning

Despite the wind, rain and dropping temperatures, AYC's Opening Day Brunch on March 2 was a huge success. The theme this year was Mardi Gras and featured floral arrangements in traditional Mardi Gras colors of gold, green and purple, and included glittered and feathered masks, beads and coins. Even the cups and napkins were Mardi Gras colored. The food was delicious and plentiful and the cake was decorated with a Mardi Gras theme.

From the evite that was sent out and monitored by **Susie McDonald** to the last sweep of the broom as we cleaned up, it took the time and talents of over a dozen volunteers. The flowers that were an integral part of the decorations were purchased at a discount with the help of **Carolyn Wilsford**. The decorating, food service and clean-up could not have gone so well without the help of all of the following Social Committee members and other volunteers: **Annie Frey, Cathy Parker, Colleen Taylor, Joan Houck, Kathy Johnstone, Katie Johnston, Margo Bower, Marilyn Hammond, Norma Lien, Jen Brown and Anna Kozminski**. Last but certainly not least, a very special thank you to **John and Claudia Bartlett** for sponsoring and hosting the always-fantastic Bloody Mary bar. I got a lot of personal compliments and Thank You's but, like our Commodore, **John Morran**, said, "There is no 'I' in team" and we all performed like a well-trained TEAM. Thank you to everyone involved.

The five weeks of Frostbite Series meals concluded on February 15 with a Cajun inspired meal that included Coubillion and Bread Pudding with Hard Sauce. Our Guest Chef for this meal was **Jim Rehage** and I want to thank him, his wife, Constance and his son, Jake for preparing these culinary delights that were enjoyed by about 60 AYC members and guests. This was about twice the number of those who shared in each of the previous four Frostbite series meals. I also want to thank all of the Social Committee members who have prepared and served food, as well as cleaning up after all of the Frostbite Series meals.

The members of your AYC Social Committee for 2014 are: **Annie Frey, Cathy Parker, Colleen Taylor, Joan Houck, Kathy Johnstone, Katie Johnston, Margo Bower, Marilyn Hammond, Molly Lewis, Norma Lien, Shawna Martin, Susie McDonald, Jen Brown, and Chaired by Pat Manning**.

We are all looking forward to lots more yummy meals in 2014. Thank You to all the AYC members and their guests who support us by partaking of the meals we prepare.

## AYC Scuttlebutt

by Bill Records

### Opening Day Part One

The recent weather patterns have been kind to AYC. We have had stormy, wintry weather during the week, punctuated by near balmy conditions come race time. Our luck ran out for the Opening Day Regatta, with cold, rainy weather, resulting in cancellation of the race. However, this did not keep anyone from having a great time. A former vice commodore once told me that a successful regatta consists of good camaraderie, good food and drinks, a great party, and maybe some racing. Opening Day has

always been an AYC family reunion, where long time and former members show up to get to know new members. It is always good to see the former commodores and hear stories from the early days of the Club.



Former Commodores at the 2014 Opening Day Ceremony – photo by Bill Records

Back then the club's budget was a fraction of what it is now and the Club office was where the storeroom behind the trophy case is now! This year's party started out with **John and Claudia Bartlett's** spicy Bloody Marys. Our super **Social Committee** put on a fabulous buffet and mimosa bar. AYC's resident **Sea Scout Ship** presented the colors in the rain and the **Roadrunner choir and band** entertained. The only one who missed getting to race was Opti sailor, **Tony Slowik**, who said "It's not that cold, let's race!"

### Newly Acquired Boats

The **Sea Scouts** got a Columbia 8.7, previously owned by **Conrad Werkithin** and will be moving it to the Club soon. They might be racing it in the Spring Series, so watch out C fleet.

**John Durfor**, owner and skipper of **Buccaneer 250**, "Loose Canon" has purchased a Pearson 26 and is frantically getting it ready for the Spring Series. John has been winning trophies with his **Buccaneer** and should be formidable in his Pearson.

Unfortunately the keel fleet will be losing one of its more active competitors. **Charley and Florence Mayne** are moving to the Seattle area and taking their beautiful CS 31, "Sprite" with them. They will be moving to one of the best cruising areas in the world. Good luck to the Maynes and keep in touch.

### AYC Hero

All of us have accidents while sailing and some of them cause injuries. If one occurs, it's very fortunate if you have a medically trained person on board. That was the case on board **Chris Thompson's** boat. After finishing the last race of the Frostbite Series, Chris was hit in the head by the boom during an accidental jibe (does that sound familiar?). That's when crew member and RN, **Annie Frey**, went to work. She quickly evaluated Chris's condition, applied ice and pressure. Upon reaching the dock, she retrieved her first aid kit from her boat, applied a bandage, and rushed Chris to the hospital where he received six stitches. Thanks to Annie, Chris is doing fine!



Annie Frey – photo by Deb Mathison

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Sailing Director	Kate Noble
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## AUSTIN YACHT CLUB

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## NEWSLETTER

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

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[harbor\\_commander@austinyachtclub.net](mailto:harbor_commander@austinyachtclub.net)

## AYC 2014 RACE CALENDAR

Mar 15-16	UTST McCarthy Cup
Mar 16	Spring Series Race #1 RC: PHRF A 1:30 first signal
Mar 22-23	J/22 Circuit Stop
Mar 23	Opening Day Regatta
Mar 30	Spring Series Race #2 1:30 first signal
Apr 5-6	TSA Roadrunner Regatta
Apr 13	Spring Series Race #3 1:30 first signal
Apr 19-20	Easter Laser Regatta
Apr 26-27	SIESA Racing Champs
Apr 27	Spring Series Race #4 1:30 first signal

## AYC 2014 NON-RACING EVENTS

Mar 15/22/29	UTSC Saturday Sail
Mar 15	Basic Keelboat Clinic
Mar 27	AYC Board of Directors Meeting 7:30p Clubhouse
Apr 5/12/19/26	UT Sailing Club Saturday Sail 11:00a - 5:00p
Apr 12	ASA 101 Basic Keelboat Class Day 1
Apr 13	ASA 101 Basic Keelboat Class Day 2
Apr 24	AYC Board of Directors Meeting 7:30p Clubhouse

Ray Movie Nights Every Friday in the Clubhouse 7:30p

## JUNIOR SAILORS!

Registration for the Texas Sailing Association's Roadrunner Regatta on April 5-6 is now available! Second only to Texas Youth Race Week, this is the largest junior sailing event in Texas!

For qualified new racers, please consider taking advantage of this opportunity to experience a regatta for the first time as our own Austin Yacht Club is the site of the venue. There will be separate race courses for Green (beginner racing Optimists), Red/White/Blue (advanced Optimists), Laser (4.7 and Radial), and the double handed FJ fleet.

Registration is available at [www.tx sail.org](http://www.tx sail.org)

Questions about boat chartering should be directed to Coach Kate at [kate@austinyachtclub.net](mailto:kate@austinyachtclub.net)

Questions about the regatta or to volunteer to help run the event, please contact Stefan Froelich at [sfroelich@HASystems.com](mailto:sfroelich@HASystems.com)

# Building & Grounds Work Party 02/22/2014

Photos by Bruce McDonald



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