

March 2018



Mind Numbing Cold Y'all!



Photo by Candace Miller

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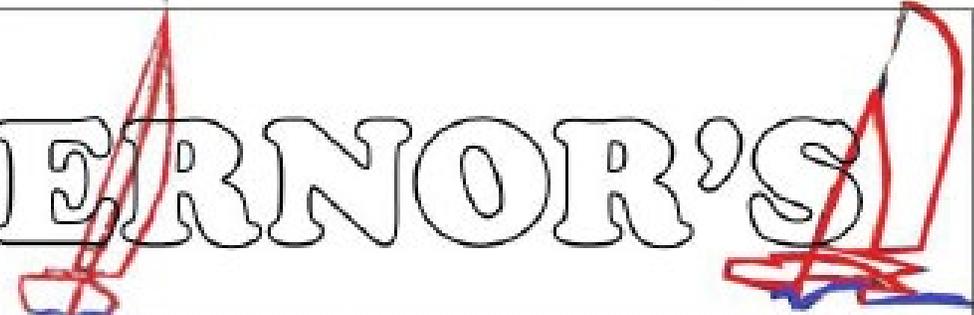
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SAVE THE DATE

Feb 25	Opening Day, Spring Series #1	Apr 7-8	Governor's Cup
Mar 3	Junior Sailing Clinic	Apr 12-14	Sea Scouts Sometimes Island Sail
Mar 4, 11, 18, 25	Spring Series 2, 3, 4, 5	Apr 14	ASA 101 Training, Day One
Mar 10, 11, 17	ASA 101 Training	Apr 13	Beer Can Races Start
Mar 10	John Bartlett Spin Clinic	Apr 14, 22, 29	Late Spring Series Races
Mar 17	Starts and Helming Clinic	Apr 26	Board of Directors Meeting
Mar 17	Volunteer Work Day (B&G)	Apr 27-28	Women's Clinic
Mar 25	Board of Directors Meeting		

GOVERNOR'S CUP REGATTA

AUSTIN YACHT CLUB



AUSTIN YACHT CLUB - April 7-8th 2018



2017 Governor's Cup Photo by Bill Records

From The Commodore

by Bill Records



The Austin Yacht Club has started 2018 with a flurry of activity, including racing, Sail Training, and Race Committee training. **Margo Bower and the Social Committee** hosted a fun "Chili Cook-off" after the Frostbite Series. The food was great and everyone had a good time.

On January 27th, **Steve Ward**, AYC Publicist and Turnback Regatta Chair, put together an evening of cocktails and a viewing of the film, "Vanishing

Sail" at the Bullock Museum. It is a superbly filmed documentary about boat builders and sailors on the tiny Island of Carriacou, West Indies. The locals build boats from local materials and race them in the ocean every year. After the screening, **Steve** linked up the director via Skype for a remarkable Q&A. Most of the audience was made up off AYC members. Bravo to **Steve** for organizing this terrific event! Be sure to read the Special Report by **Steve** later in this issue.



Dave Perry and Ken Taylor, Photo Bill Records

In February, I was fortunate to attend the U.S. Sailing Leadership Forum in St. Petersburg, Florida. I learned a great deal from the various speeches and workshops and had the opportunity to meet many commodores from yacht clubs across America. As expected, **Dave Perry's** sessions were

the most interesting. One of the morning sessions featured the commodore of the New York Yacht Club, announcing NYC's re-entry into the America's Cup competition. The amount of money they are investing is staggering!



Malin Burnham

One of the more interesting speakers was **Malin Burnham**, who at 17 years old, won the Star World Championship in 1945. His crew was **Lowell North!** At 92, he is still an active sailor! At the end of his talk, he bemoaned the fact that there are no more keel boats in the Olympics.

I left the Forum with an affirmation that we are on the correct course to sustain and grow our special Club.

On another note, situations sometimes occur that remind us of the importance of security at the Club. Recently, unauthorized individuals have been observed using the facilities. The best defense against this is awareness and vigilance of our members. If you see some people you don't recognize, politely introduce yourself and ask if they are members. If they are not, explain to them the Club policy and please don't give out the members' gate code. Always use the guest code.

Race Commander Report

by Jim Casto



Frostbite Series participation was very good – we had a total of 59 boats race over the 5 weekends, with average of 32 boats each weekend. Some fleets had very low participation, the water was too cold?, but some fleets had a lot of boats. PHRF C fleet had the highest participation with an average of 9.2 boats on the line, and a peak of 12. As a group, PRC learned a lot from Frostbite series – what went well, what didn't. A very difficult lesson I saw firsthand is

that even very experienced fleets – who can pull off flawless starts and great courses – can still present the Scoring team with an unnecessarily confusing record of starters and finishers that takes way too long to unravel. We will continue to ask PROs from each fleet to designate personnel who can take a little time before going out on the water to learn the iPad data entry, and to recommit to taking good notes at the back of the boat. This information will become the record of the race used to produce the score line.

Please check the race calendar or ask your fleet captain for your fleet's next upcoming RC duty date. They are also all posted on the AYC website.

I am still impressed, and personally challenged, by the energy and passion I see in our 2018 Permanent Race Committee members. Our February planning meeting went 2 hours, with vigorous discussion of the pros and cons of a long list of various choices of how to administer Series races for the benefit of the fleets. Several members attended a US Sailing "One Day Race Management Seminar" on Sat 17th, which helped build our skills and our confidence to lead in our likely roles as PRO from time to time. **Bob Mathison** and **Kurt Carson** helped clean up the RC room, then **Kurt** replaced a WWII-era file cabinet with one that works. **Kurt** also vacuumed out the rodent nests, and **Jackie** now has the RC room on the rotation for extermination treatments. Thanks to **Bob Leonard**, we have 3 large cement anchors for use when we deploy the new buoys or have to replace old buoys that disappear.

Reminder: in order to help the scoring team have accurate data for sail number changes and/or other ownership changes, please update your data at this link <https://www.austinyachtclub.net/ayc-series-race-registration/>

As always, feel free to drop me a line or reach out in person. I am still trying to meet more members and sail on different boats.

See you on the race course!

Building & Grounds Update

by Diane Covert



So far this year we completed a two-day tree trimming task supervised by a certified arborist, trimming dead live oak branches and removing ball moss from the lower parking lot trees. In addition, the contractor trimmed back tree branches from the dry sail area where the sailboat shrouds were hitting the branches. Some branches were removed that prevented boat masts from the trailer parking area from easily getting to the ramp area. This was all completed before the February 1st deadline for cutting live oak trees.

The phone system for AYC and its integration to the gate has been evaluated. With the recommendations from new member **Chuck Boecking**, a backup battery system was purchased and installed by **Tom**. Conductivity of existing lines has been evaluated to determine if upgrades are needed, and improvements have been made to the intercom for clearer communication from the gate to the office.

In addition, evaluations on cost of service and service needs with the cable/internet/phone service provider Spectrum were completed. We discovered that we can save \$68 per month on phone service, plus getting us a much faster internet speed. A free hot spot will be added to the furthest cabin areas for better service.

We have had a very successful volunteer work day with 20+ people sprucing up the grounds for opening day. Volunteers painted the railing, cleaned up the grounds, trimmed hedges, and installed new Purell dispensers in the restrooms, etc. Volunteers landscaped the "anchor area" and planted new plants under the staircase. Our next volunteer work day is set for March 17th, St Patrick's Day morning. Let's get a few things done before we drink our green beer!

Please plan on participating on these dates: Saturday, March 17th, May 19th, June 16th, Sept 15th. These dates are subject to change; however we will try and stick to them. Many dates are scheduled a week before major events at the Club so we can "spruce it up".

If you would like to be on the B&G committee, or have questions about this, please contact me at: buildings_grounds@austinyachtclub.net. However, you don't have to be on the committee to join us on any Saturday workday.

Tree Trimming and Anchor Area Landscaping



Harbor Report by Dane Ohe



Lake Travis is currently about 3-1/2 feet above the level that would require a dock move. We are starting to put those pieces in place and when the decision is made we will make sure everyone is informed. We have several dock projects in the pipeline but weather and scheduling conflicts have caused us to delay those projects for about a month. I am working with the dock maintenance and construction company to get those projects rescheduled and the unfinished stairways to docks 2 and 4 completed.

A big Thank You to everyone who was able to move their boats out of the dry out area and open up space so other boats can be parked while drying out and awaiting work. **Jackie** did a great job identifying boats and communicating with owners to get the area cleaned up.

As a reminder, if you want to use the Work Area, you must sign up for it in

the office. Please honor your reserved time and either extend your time in the schedule or move your boat off the pad if you aren't actively working on it. If you can't get out during office business hours, please call **Jackie** to make any changes in the sign-up book.

There are several Dry Sail Area slips where old parts, tires, spars and other junk are starting to accumulate. Please take a few minutes to clean up your Dry Sail slip if you have just more than a boat in the slip.

Finally, a reminder that Zebra Mussels are a real threat. With racing season starting and several boats travelling over the spring and summer, please take all precautions before putting your boat back into Lake Travis. These include draining all bilges before leaving the infected areas, washing your boat and trailer with chlorinated water and drying the boat and trailer for at least week before launching in Lake Travis.

If you want to learn more about the Zebra Mussel threat, use this link <https://www.sailatx.com/4> to listen to **Monica McGarrity's** report. **Monica** is an aquatic invasive species biologist at Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. She and her team are doing important work to address infestations from animals and plants in our Texas waterways. Thank you to **Steve Ward** for the Zebra Mussel information link.

Welcome New Members!



Cosmos Courtois
(Student)

Cosmos, who is 11 years old, lives with his parents part time in Austin and part time in Denmark. They have their first boat in Faaborg and want to sail it in the Baltic Sea when they are there. He is new to sailing.



Daniel Dennissen
(Senior Probationary)

Daniel loves to sail and has two young children who he hopes will become sailors. He began sailing as a youth but really became hooked when he moved to Hawaii as a young adult. He owns a Hunter 27 which he keeps at Keller's.



Zofia Kaminski
(Young Adult Probationary)

Zofia is an engineer and works at National Instruments. She grew up sailing in the Northeast. She wants to become more proficient in being a skipper and in racing. She is new to Austin and hopes to make many new friends at the Club.

Sail Training Report

by Carolyn Wilsford



Advertising has started and our goal is to cut expenses a bit. So far, we are NOT using "The American Statesman," saving us \$650 so far. Our online fb page and google ads are up and running. Please keep an eye out for "Hill Country News", "Austin Kids Guide" and "Outdoor Austin". A big thank you to our online guys **Steve Ward and John Grzinich** who keep close tabs on our facebook and google pages.

Upcoming Clinics

Please register online for:

Feb 24	Racing Rules of Sailing with Brad Davis (FREE)	Learn from the Pro!
Mar 3	Juniors Sailing Clinic with Scott Young, John Morran and Matt Romberg	For members and non-members. This is going to be great!
Mar 5	W. Austin Summer Camp Fair Austin Baptist Church 7016 Ribelin Ranch Road Austin, TX 78750	www.westaustinchamber.org/summercampfair/
Mar 10	Spinnaker Clinic with John Bartlett	Find out John's tricks for everything to do with the spinnaker!
Mar 17	Starts and Helming with Natalie Penner Hardin	Natalie will take you through her thinking before, during and after the start. Great info for skippers and crews!
Apr 27-29	Women's Clinic	More to come on this, but our chair is Nancy Clark , new AYC member and former Grapevine Commodore!

It's going to be another fabulous year of learning! Remember, always check the website for registration even if there isn't a charge. Head counts for lunches, waivers of every kind and other information is posted and must be read and accepted on the website.

See you on the water!

PLEASE NOTE:

The AYC Gate Openers (aka Clickers) will be reprogrammed in March!

More information will follow via member-wide emails.

Please watch for updates in March.

From the AYC General Manager

by Jackie Wheelless



We've been experiencing "visitors" who are not accompanied by their host AYC members. Please remember that according to the AYC Member Handbook, "Guests of the Club must be accompanied by their host AYC member. Members may arrange through the Club Manager to provide Club privileges for nonresident guests, not to exceed a period of 10 days. No other exceptions will be allowed — including prospective boat buyers, business associates, etc." The Travis County Sheriffs have been notified and are currently doing a Close Patrol (driving through the property at different times of the day and night). The Sheriffs are authorized to escort non-members off of AYC grounds. Please remember that this is YOUR Club and uninvited guests cause trouble and expense. Please DO NOT give out the gate code to friends unless you will be on the grounds accompanying them as your guest.

More News from the Office

- The 2018 Fleet Captains and AYC Committees listings are ALMOST complete and will be uploaded to the website by March. Here are some navigation tips:
 1. To find the Committees list you must be logged in on the AYC website. Under the MEMBER MENU, click on COMMITTEES.
 2. To find the list of Fleet Captains, click on the RACING Tab, click on FLEETS AT AYC, scroll to just above CONTACT A FLEET CAPTAIN EMAIL FORM, and click on LIST OF 2018 FLEET CAPTAINS.
- The cabins are continuing to fill up for event weekends. Please be sure to review the Cabin Rental Rules in the AYC Membership Handbook. No pets are allowed anywhere on AYC grounds, including in the cabins or the RV Sites.
- Please be sure to check your PROMOTIONS folder in your email for member-wide emails being sent out. On numerous occasions when members have contacted me because they weren't aware of something, they've checked their PROMOTIONS folder and found the emails.
- Thank you to all of you who responded to my inquiries about the DRY OUT AREA and the WORK SPACE AREA. Tis the season for everyone to work on their boats and there are minimal spots for numerous members. The Hoist and Work Space require reservations, please contact the office if you need to reserve a spot. The work area slab is only for boats that are actively being worked on.
- Please come by the office to get an AYC decal (no charge!!) if you don't already have one. All members are encouraged to have a decal on their vehicles.
- Volunteers are still needed for upcoming events!! Whether you've been a member for 30+ years or you've just joined, please jump in with both feet and go outside of your comfort zone! You'll be surprised at what a rewarding feeling it is to own a piece of the AYC action! You can email me (gm@austinyachtclub.net) if you want to assist and don't know how to get involved. Rest assured I'll get you in touch with someone who needs and wants you on their team!!

Sailing Director Report

by Coleman Terrell



The spring sailing season of the Junior Program kicks off on March 3rd, with a clinic by **Scott Young, John Morran, and Matt Romberg!** This is a great opportunity for Junior sailors to ask questions of these great AYC sailors. The clinic is free for all sailors enrolled in the spring season, and a \$25 charge for everyone else. The registration for the spring season and the clinic are on the AYC website.

By the time you're reading this, we will have replaced our fleet of Picos on the junior sailing dock! This means that we will be selling our old Picos. Please check the AYC website in the next few weeks for information if you are interested. Also, if you know of anyone such as a Boy Scout or Girl Scout troop that might be interested in these boats, please send them my way.

Registration for Summer Camps and PB&J Sailing are up as well on the AYC home page. All members are eligible for member pricing so please call the office to receive your coupon code. The schedules for the camps and PB&J are on the website as well. More information on pages 8-9 of this issue of the Telltale.

AYC's High School sailing program is continuing to grow and looks to be our largest class again this year. Thanks to **Paige Fowler and Julius Heitkoetter** for their recruiting efforts at Lake Travis High School! Visit <https://www.austinyachtclub.net/high-school-sailing-registration/> for more information and to register for the High School Sailing Program.

Many AYC sailors have attended regattas so far this year, including the first TSA regatta at Lakewood Yacht Club, C420 Midwinters, and RS Feva Midwinters in Florida. Great job to all of these sailors who continue to represent AYC so well and make us proud!

I would also like to thank **Steve Gay** for hosting a US Sailing Level 1 class for us again this year. Many of our Junior sailors who are have been counselors in training the past few years are now certified instructors and will be counselors at summer camp this year. **Steve** does an outstanding job at teaching this class and I highly recommend it to anyone who is interested in teaching sailing.

2018 is off to a great start and I am excited to begin the sailing season!

Social Committee News

by Margo Bower and Pat Manning



The Chili Cook-off/Frostbite End of Series banquet was very well attended and a huge success.

February 10th was an overcast day with the threat of rain hanging in the air, the wind was howling and the temperature was more than

a bit chilly! The course was shortened for the comfort of the sailors but when they dragged their cold, tired bodies up to the clubhouse, they were greeted by the delightful aromas of the chili just waiting to be devoured.



Chili Cook-off photos by Candace Miller

We had 10 contestants and all entries were extremely delicious. Our three anonymous judges had a tough time deciding who made the best pot of chili. The decision was finally made and the judges' choice went to **Cass Meyer**, people's choice went to **Elizabeth Quintanilla** and the best name, *Man Made Wind*, went to **John Howard**.



Sailing, beer, wine and chili – a perfect end for the first series of 2018! Thank you all for coming out and socializing among friends and fellow sailors. Looking forward to many more events throughout the year!

AUSTIN YACHT CLUB

JUNIOR SAILING CAMP




The Austin Yacht Club's Junior Sailing Camp, located on beautiful Lake Travis, is a unique summer sailing experience for kids ages 8-16. Throughout your camper's week at AYC, they will learn and practice fundamental skills aboard our fleet of Optimists, Picos, Lasers, Sunfish, and Flying Juniors. With a camper to counselor ratio of 4 to 1, you can rest assured that your child will enjoy the exciting sport of sailing in a safe environment. Our camp runs Monday-Friday from 9:00-5:00 with an optional early drop-off and late pick-up hour available free of charge. Through a combination of classroom discussion, land activities, on the water drills, and games our campers gain the skills necessary to become life-long sailors! Special activities include racing, destination sailing, and windsurfing.



CONTACT

(512) 266-1336

coleman@austinyachtclub.net

5906 Beacon Drive, Austin, TX

Register online:

AUSTINYACHTCLUB.NET

discounts available for multi-child and multi-session

	DATES	MEMBER	NON-MEMBER
1	June 11-15	\$425	\$525
2	June 18-22	\$425	\$525
3	June 25-29	\$425	\$525
4	July 9-13	\$425	\$525
5	July 16-20	\$425	\$525
6	July 23-27	\$425	\$525
7	July 30-August 3	\$425	\$525

AUSTIN YACHT CLUB

PBJ Summer Sailing Series

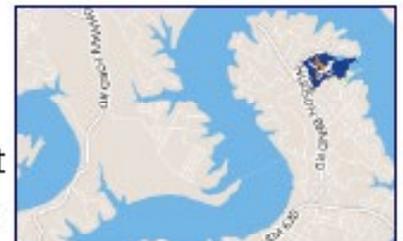
Learn to sail this summer! The Austin Yacht Club's PB&J Summer Sailing Series is the perfect introduction to sailing for kids ages 4-10. Designed for first-time sailors, the goal of our PB&J program is to get young children comfortable on the water and spark a life-long interest in boating and sailing! Our US Sailing certified instructors keep things simple and fun, teaching the basics through games and hands-on learning. Each session of PB&J includes four weekly 60 minute lessons.

Session	Dates	Time
1 Saturday	June 9, 16, 23, 30	9:30-11:00
2 Saturday	June 9, 16, 23, 30	11:00-12:30
3 Saturday	July 14, 21, 28, Aug. 4	9:30-11:00
4 Saturday	July 14, 21, 28, Aug. 4	11:00-12:30

AYC members: \$70.00
Non-members: \$110.00



Contact Us:
 (512) 266-1336
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Frostbite Series



Photos by Candace Miller



Frostbite Series J22 RC

continued next page

Frostbite Series



Photos by Cheryl Pervier





Frostbite Series J22 fleet winners Bob Mathison, Linda McDavitt, Pierre Bossart
Photo by Candace Miller



Frostbite Series C fleet 1st place winners Café Au Lait
Photo submitted by Bill Records

Laser Fleet Update

by Fred Schroth



The Fleet lost its captain and we haven't yet had a meeting to plan, so I am filling our Telltale spot with what I think might matter.

First off: This Telltale will reach you before Easter. This is our 35th Easter Laser Regatta. As we were brutally taught last year, you simply cannot put ANYTHING off until sometime.

Sometime has a way of shutting off access. You need to sail the Easter Regatta THIS YEAR. You need to come out to the Club and make certain your boat works THIS WEEKEND. You need to have your boat all ready so you can take it for a ride no later than the weekend of the 24-25 of March because you may need some time to procure the necessary replacement parts.

Second issue: Replacement parts are somewhat difficult to procure. The Texas dealers are mostly OUT OF stock of EVERYTHING having to do with Lasers or Sunfish. Leave plenty of time to mail order from somewhere like Colie sails, Annapolis Performance Sailing, or West Coast Sailing.

Third Issue: We are going to have a meeting to address our issues like who is fleet captain, who is scoring, who is organizing RC all summer, and who is helping with the Easter Laser Regatta. My plan is to have Jackie send an email to the entire Club. I will also email anybody whose email address I have. (Please send an email to Keeldude@sbcglobal.net to refresh my contact information) Steve Keckler has a pretty decent list and he will be contacting you as well. (We will be

dragging you to the meeting unless the meeting happens before this article gets to you, in which case you already were dragged.)

Fourth Issue: We are helping with the Sunfish Women's North Americans In September. Our boats need to be off the docks. We need to be generally useful for things like RC and kitchen staff. Some of us may need to help with housing.

Fifth Issue: Traveling? The Nationals are in Houston. The other sailors from other clubs on the Texas Circuit are complaining because we are not attending anybody else's events. I went to the Jody Smith Freeze Your Tookus Off event at White Rock and Gray Rackley and I were the only full rigs at Wurstfest. (Our Junior folks were there in force in the Radials so we weren't totally shut out) We got to enjoy being told the Austin Fleet is lame. Lets solve that!!!

Sixth Issue: You are sailing the Easter Laser Regatta THIS YEAR!!! The head bunny is 65. He still loves big breeze but... Just how stinking long can you put it off?? Answer? Until you register on the morning of the 31st. There is absolutely zero reason we should have fewer than 20 locals. We may see 20 from the Dallas Laser Fleet. They are a super fun bunch. Come out and share the weekend with them!!!

J/24 Update

by Stu Juengst



Team Van Go went the whole Frostbite Series undefeated, and threw out a bullet. Thanks to my core crew **Pat Caughey and Rhonda Moore**, and everyone who sailed with us!

The J/24 Texas Circuit starts on March 24th in Corpus Christi. We didn't get to sail there in 2017 due to Hurricane Harvey, so we're all looking forward to getting back down there.

A note to all Hydro-Hoist owners (not just J/24): Check your swing-arm mounting bolts on a regular basis. The motion of the waves from boat wake can cause them to work loose. I had a couple disappear from my hoist last summer, and other people have had similar issues.

B Fleet Update

by Andrea Lesh



Hello Spring and hello warmer weather!

While the chilly weather proved daunting to some of us B-fleeters, it was no match for **Dane Ohe** (Aphaia, 31 Pearson), our winner of the Frost Bite Series. Congrats **Dane!**

The B-Fleet is gearing-up for the Opening Day and Spring Series Races. A big welcome to **Kurt Gustafson** (Catalina 30), **Pete Swallow** (San Juan 7.7), **Bill**

Boas (San Juan 7.7), and the other newer members to the fleet!

The B-Fleet enjoyed the great instruction provided at the Learn to Race, Race Committee Training Seminar, and **John Bartlett's** Sail Trim classes. Thank you to all the organizers! We are looking forward to the **John Bartlett's** Spinnaker Clinic on March 10th, the Start Clinic on March 17th, and the Women's Clinic on April 28th.

The B-Fleet's next Race Committee days are March 4th (Spring Series #2) and April 29th (Late Spring Series #3). We look forward to seeing everyone on the water!

Catalina 22 Update

by Steve Pervier



AYC's calendar committee was lucky with an early Opening Day which looked quite typical for late February (see my previous Telltale article). Averages suggest a gentle warming into the 70s as the Spring Series continues, though any day could be more "lion" or "lamb". At the same time, our lake water recovers gradually from its low of about 54 degrees. This is a cool sailing season!

March race dates include what is already our second Race Committee duty

of the year. Our SC21+C22 fleet members will welcome a few new AYC members to serve with us. Often we're delighted when some of these great new members return to serve on another Race Committee. Besides training new RC members, we are also encouraging these sailors to race with us.

Our fleet ranges from quite experienced to very new at racing, so we welcome any new C22 racer. They may come from inside AYC, as happened recently, or from outside. Our focus should continue to be on making our newer members successful, and improving everyone's performance. We also want to promote the special combination of a small but capable, trailerable yet sturdy, well known boat that can cruise as well as race.

Some web links of interest for C22 sailors: C22 National Association, a wealth of information (Catalina22.org). All-Catalina Fleet 69, our Lake Travis cruising fleet (CatFleet69.org). Mainsheet Magazine, covers many Catalina classes (Mainsheet.net). New C22 Sport boats from Catalina Yachts (CatalinaYachts.com/sport-series/22-sport). C22 Review (whichsailboat.com/2015/08/22/catalina-22-review).

Let's go sailing!

C Fleet Update

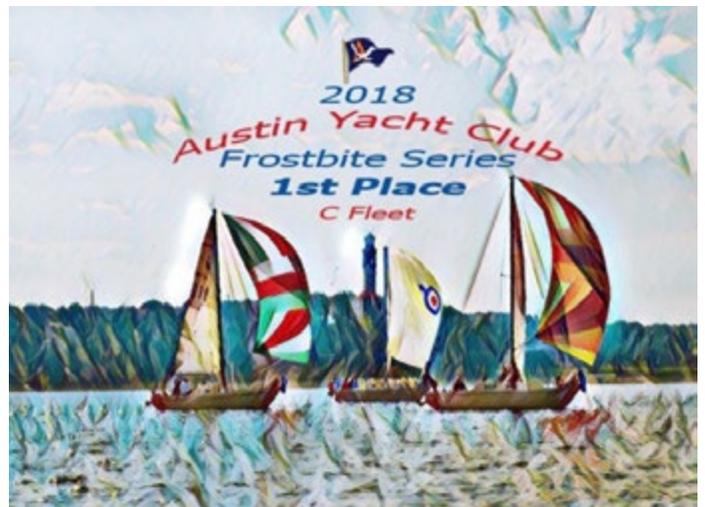
by Andre de la Reza



What a month! Frostbite series finished out earning its name. The last few races of the series were cold numbing races, many dropping into the 40s, but C-fleet was not to be scared away! Fielding at least eight boats each race, with a high of 12 boats on the line for the second race.

As was mentioned last month, Frostbite started with Café au Lait and Slip Kid match racing for the front, and that trend continued through, with each **Bill** and

Keith taking a race off each at the end to let the rest of us have some fun. **Bill** finished the series with 3 bullets to break the tie between him and **Keith**, who got second. Entheos closed out the podium to get third. **Keith** must have had his crystal ball on tip top shape, because that is the exact order of the beautiful awards for the series.



continued next page

The rest of the fleet had a blast in the back, with many competitive crosses and each race showed the fleet sailing more competitively, with a higher Corinthian spirit, and overall better. You have to look no further than the start of the last race of the Series to see a great example. The view from the RC boat must have been epic. With seconds to the horn, Café au Lait led a tight pack of **Chris's** Three Hour Crewz, **David Weeks** Unnamed Boat and **James Parson's** Blue Moon. Being in front, Café closed the door and started pointing as high as he could, forcing Threehour up (Rule 11!). Poor **Weeks** was sandwiched hard between **Chris** and **James**, and got off with a light rubbing on 3 Hour. **James** tacked away from the chaos, you have to ask one of the three when he fell off. **Chris** was happy for no serious damage or injury and didn't protest (quite Corinthian), **David** performed a 720 anyways for the tap (Even more Corinthian!) and **Bill** wasn't even allowed to look back at the chaos that he created as his crew kept chanting "Don't look, just DRIVE!"

And then on the finish, Broken Arrow and Los Monos where neck and neck down wind, around the mark and on the reach towards the finish line. Los Monos should have pulled a **Bill** and pointed up to keep the Arrow out, but instead bee-lined for the finish. There **Ed** called for Mark-Room (Rule 18.2) and I slapped myself for forgetting the rules and gave room and the second place finish.

Happily everyone had a great time on the races and were overjoyed to come inside from the cold and eat the amazing chilis from the Chili Cook-off!

Hope everyone gets out to enjoy the Opening Day of the season and race well! **Steve Ward** and I will be missing it, due to a chance to race from St. Petersburg to Havana! We'll have more tales to tell next month.

Till then, Fair Winds and Cold Drinks!

Sail 4 Kids will take place on Saturday, May 19. **Doug Laws** will coordinate the event with the Baptist Children's Home and Kiwanis and **Fred Ford** will organize the volunteer AYC skippers and boats. Chaparral de Mar Regatta will be embedded in the Spring Series EOS on May 20. The Regatta honors AYC and guest skippers over the age of 70 in an LD race with a perpetual trophy awarded at the post race meal. Our oldest competitor last year was **Cliff Price** at 93. **Fred Ford** will chair Chaparral. Watch for details on the AYC website.

Styf Kop will fly the Meatball for their excellence in winning the 2017 Ensign Regional Championship. **George Dahmen** (skipper) plans to pass the Meatball on opening day...the recipient is a closely guarded secret.

The Fleet said farewell to **Randolph Bertin**. **Randolph** is moving to Virginia. Festina Lente #1068 will remain with the Fleet. The **Hawk** family bought her from **Randolph** and she is to be sailed by **Will Hawk** who has taken a position in Austin and leaving Reno behind. **Randolph** will be missed. He was always ready to volunteer, served as a Fleet officer and Regional Commander. We wish him God speed and fair winds.

Frostbite brought 9 Ensigns to the line. **George Dahmen** sailed Styf Kop to 1st place, **Lewis Price** in Dos Locos 2nd, **Tom Groll** 3rd in Brews'R, **Fred Ford** in September and **James Bland** in Spirit tied for 4th, **Dave Gamble** took One with the Wind to 6th, **Bill Hawk**, Prickly Pair in 7th, **Carl Wiseman** in Deep Six 8th, and **Anne Morley** in Abaco 9th.

"The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails." - William Arthur Ward

Ensign Fleet Update by Fred Ford



The Ensign Fleet had their Annual Pot Luck Business Dinner in January. In spite of lots of laughter and way too much food we actually got some business and planning done. **Anne Morley** was elected Fleet Captain and **Anne Riggs** is the new Secretary/Treasurer. **Lewis Price** is the new Region IV Commander.

Bill Hawk was recognized with an award that commended him for his efforts in establishing our "Ensign Net". It is basically an online forum for

our fleet...keeps everyone in the know and allows for quick exchange of ideas and information. **Fred Ford** recognized for being selected for the Max White award.

James Bland introduced a new tradition for the Fleet...the "Meat Ball Pennant". **James**, a former Naval officer, borrowed it from Navy tradition. Only ships that have earned an excellent performance rating fly the Meatball pennant. Well, for the Ensigns the Meatball pennant will be awarded to the boat for excellent performance in an AYC series...winning the series is not the only criteria. The current "owner" of the Meatball will chose the next boat to receive the Meatball. A little competition with some humor mixed in.



Roadrunner Fleet Update

by Mary Carew



The first TSA regatta of the season was a tough one, with difficult weather conditions. Saturday brought light winds and a strong current while Sunday brought really strong winds and really cold temperatures! All of our sailors (and parent coaches!) deserve a lot of credit for persevering through the conditions!

AYC started off with a bang with first place bullets for **Lucy Brock and Julius Heitkoetter** in the c420

and for **James Brock** in Opti RWB. **James** ended up 4th overall and 2nd in blue fleet while **Lucy and Julius** ended up 2nd in the c420. **Andrew Butler** finished 3rd in Laser Radial, scoring a couple of wins along the way. Kudos goes to **Taylor Snyder** (sailing a c420) who came in 5th. The perseverance awards go to **Kynes and Keen Cabrera**, as well as **Nicholas Carew** for sailing despite some adversities on Sunday (including a coach boat malfunction that prevented them from sailing two of the races) and still sailing the last race on Sunday!

RS Feva Midwinters was held at Clearwater Community Sailing Center where sailors from Florida, New York and Austin Yacht Club competed. **Wendi Froelich**, sailing with **Ava Hurwitz**, trailed her sisters **Fiona and Katie Froelich** after Day 1, but tricky light winds and big current on Sunday switched the lead, with the top two finishes going to AYC sailors. They will next compete in the RS Feva Worlds at the same venue in the first week of April where they will compete against Europeans, Asians and other Europeans.

The Texas C420 Fleet is growing and AYC sailors are leading the charge in take the group nationally. A team of 10 juniors from around the state travelled to C420 Mid-Winters in sunny Jensen Beach Florida. Competing against 150 of the nation's best juniors, **Lucy Brock and Julius Heitkoetter** led the Texas group, going in to the last day in 13th overall. **Taylor Snyder** also had a great regatta, made even more special as she got to celebrate her 16th birthday with friends in Florida. The group is looking forward to taking the Texas fight back to the East Coast this summer!



James Brock (following his 1st place finish in the first race) Photo credit Mary Carew



Feva Midwinters Photo courtesy of Stephanie Froelich



Wendi Froelich and Ava Hurwitz Photo courtesy of Stephanie Froelich



Fiona and Katie Froelich Photo courtesy of Stephanie Froelich

SPECIAL REPORT

by Steve Ward



CELEBRATING WOODEN BOATS

Alexis Andrews likes the wooden boats made by Alwyn Enoe so much he bought one. Then he spent five years making a documentary film about the boat builder and his sons who make West Indian wooden boats the old fashioned way, by hand using lumber felled in the hills atop the island of Carriacou in the Caribbean.

Connections Across 300 Years:

Vanishing Sail Film Wows Audience at Bullock Museum

On a Saturday in January, guests filled the Spirit Theater at the Bullock Museum in Austin, Texas to see Alexis Andrews' film and hear from the director himself. After the film, Andrews joined the crowd by video call from his home in Antigua to answer questions about the film.

Andrews moved to the tiny Caribbean island of Antigua in the 1980s. That is how he discovered these gorgeous boats and the people who make them. People like Alwyn Enoe and his sons who build boats the old fashioned way, by hand with locally sourced lumber.

The screening of *Vanishing Sail* was organized by sailATX, an Austin-based sailing charter company run by Steve Ward.

Ward got the idea to bring together people for the film after seeing the trailer many times. "I was so engaged by the trailer I kept trying to find it on the Internet to watch online. I had to buy the DVD which put me in touch with Alexis."

"I thought it would be great to share this lovely film on the big screen and get a group of people together to learn about the history and people involved in keeping the art of wooden boat building alive," Ward said.



Franck Cordes and Steve Ward, Photo Bill Records

To learn more about Andrews and his film and to find future screenings, visit vanishingsail.com.

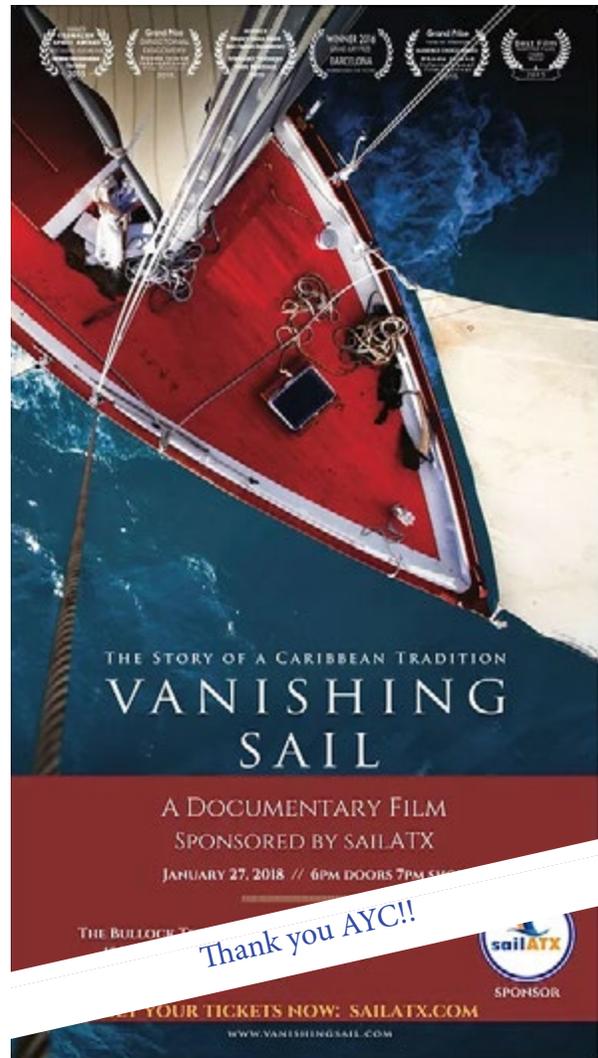
LA BELLE

The evening's events also included a talk with museum curator Franck Cordes. "Did you find any skeletons?" asked a ten year old girl seated in the front row. The question, directed to Cordes, is about the 300 year old French ship *La Belle*. The 54-foot ship with roughly fifty passengers crossed the Atlantic and wound up wrecked off the coast of Texas at Matagorda Bay. The ship now resides at the museum where Cordes oversees the over one million artifacts from the ship. He's managing a major addition to the current exhibit to be completed in 2018.

Cordes answered many questions about the ship and its unlucky passengers. The vessel was first discovered in the 1990s and eventually raised through an elaborate process to protect the fragile timbers and artifacts which had been lying in the mud for 300 hundred years.

The sell out crowd was mostly from the Central Texas area, but people came from as far as Oklahoma City and Corpus Christi. Naturally sailing enthusiasts came out for the show, including a group from the Austin Yacht Club and Austin Sailing Society.

The event was such a success, Ward is looking for the next idea to pitch. "Maybe we'll do another show same time next year – or even before."



AYC MARKETPLACE

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Women's Sunfish Championship

Wednesday, February 7, 6:30 p.m.

AYC Clubhouse

Contact Fred Schroth Keeldude@sbcglobal.net

Social Committee

End of series post race meals and special events

Contact Margo Bower at hairslair@gmail.com

Buildings & Grounds Committee

Join the committee or volunteer

Contact Diane Covert at buildings_grounds@austinyachtclub.net

Women's Clinic

Contact Carolyn Wilsford at sail_training@austinyachtclub.net

Email GM Jackie Wheelless at gm@austinyachtclub.net if you want to volunteer and don't know who to contact.



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NEWSLETTER

Susie McDonald, Editor
ghowiellc@gmail.com

AYC BUSINESS HOURS

Wednesday - Sunday 9:00A - 5:00P
CLOSED MONDAY AND TUESDAY

Closed Club Holidays:

New Year's Day	January 1
Easter Sunday	April 5
Independence Day	July 4
Thanksgiving Day	November 26
Shopping Day	November 27
Christmas Day	December 25

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

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AYC 2018 RACE CALENDAR

Mar 04	Spring Series #2 1:30p start RC: B Fleet
Mar 11	Spring Series #3 1:30p start RC: C Fleet
Mar 18	Spring Series #4 1:30p start RC: C22/SC21 Fleets
Mar 25	Spring Series #5 End of Series 1:30p start RC: MH
Apr 7-8	Governor's Cup
Apr 13, 20, 27	Beer Can Races 6:00p start
Apr 15	Late Spring Series #1 1:30p start RC: Ensign Fleet
Apr 22	Late Spring Series #2 1:30p start RC: A Fleet
Apr 29	Late Spring Series #3 1:30p start RC: B Fleet
May 20	Late Spring Series #4 EOS 1:30p start RC: J22

AYC 2018 NON-RACING EVENTS

Mar 3	Junior Sailing Clinic 9:00a - 3:00p
Mar 4, 11, 18	Free Sail Sunday 1:00p - 4:00p
Mar 10 11, 17	ASA 101 9:00a - 5:00p
Mar 10	John Bartlett's Sprinnaker Clinic 9:00a - 1:00p
Mar 17	Start Clinic 10:00a - 3:00p
Mar 17	Volunteer Work Day (B&G)
Mar 22	Board of Directors Meeting
Apr 13-14	Sea Scouts 2018 Sometimes Island Sail
Apr 14	ASA 101, Day 1 9:00a - 5:00p
Apr 15, 22, 29	Free Sail Sunday 1:00p - 4:00p
Apr 26	Board of Directors Meeting
Apr 28	Women's Clinic 9:00a - 7:00p



Texas C420 sailors at Midwinters Photo courtesy Jeff Brock



Photo taken by Andre de la Reza

**Los Monos beating up to the windward mark
behind Parson's Blue Moon**

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

