

# AUSTIN YACHT CLUB TELLTALE

May/June 2015



## Turnback Canyon Regatta 2015 - the Legend Continues



*Cover photo by Bill Records*

### IN THIS ISSUE

Board of Directors Reports  
Fleet Captain Updates  
Sailing Director Report  
Message from the GM  
Welcome New Members

Volunteer Spotlight  
Chapparel del Mar Pictures  
J/70 Circuit Stop Pictures  
Turnback Canyon Regatta Pictures

### SAVE THE DATE

Friday Night Beer Can Races  
Wednesday Night Laser/Sunfish Races  
Wednesday Night Endless Summer Junior Series begins June 10  
ASA 101 Basic Keelboat Course June 13-14

Summer Series EOS Meal by the Ensign Fleet June 14  
Dog Days Series Races begin June 27  
TSA Roadrunner Regatta/ USODA Mid-America Championship June 20-21

## From The Commodore

by Barry Bowden



With the first half of my year as AYC Commodore almost finished, I would like to give you all a report of the things that have been done, as well as what might be expected during the remainder of the year.

At the time I am writing this, the lake has recovered almost 9 feet from its low last fall when our metal ramp was becoming barely usable. We have taken delivery of the new dock 5 to replace the last of our old pipe docks, and we have 4 of the new style centerboard docks in place on our Rylander Junior Pavilion dock. If the weather predictions are correct, we will soon have even more water to sail upon.

The metal stairs that will soon allow access to a bigger and fuller lake are almost ready to be installed. All of our cabins have been refurbished with new beds and blinds and lights that are brighter. There is a new wireless microphone and downstairs speakers so we can hear announcements and who has won the races that were completed.

For the first time in several years we have been able to host out of town boats at regattas at AYC, beginning with the J22 Circuit Regatta and the J70 Circuit Regatta. The out of town sailors were all favorably impressed with the Austin Yacht Club and our ability to host a quality sailing event as well as our friendly members and comfortable surroundings.

The Junior Sailing program now has a new RIB to replace one of the skiffs. This will allow our coaches a much more stable and reliable platform to coach from, as well as tow boats when there is a lack of wind, or a reason to get the boats off of the lake if winds are bit too strong. Our Junior Sailors are now representing the Austin Yacht Club with the largest group of sailors from the Texas Sailing Association and bringing home a sizable number of the trophies presented at out of town regattas.

The Turnback Canyon Regatta is ready to go. There will be a distinctly Austin flair to it this year with the presence of food trucks to provide the meals and the music and party atmosphere to go with it.

Our Roadrunner Regatta, which is usually the largest regatta of the year, was rescheduled this year to host the United States Optimist Dingy Association Mid America Regatta this June. This will bring in a number of sailors that are new to Lake Travis and should be a great event. This event will also be the Texas Junior Laser Championships and host FJ sailors as well.

Jackie Wheelless, our manager, has been great at recruiting some of our newer members to help with meals and snacks after the series races. This has been a great opportunity for the new members to meet other members, while providing a great service to the members. Our end of series meals have been provided by the Roadrunner Junior Sailors and the University of Texas Sailing Club members. Both of these groups did a great job and served up a great meal, while making a bit of money to support their activities.

Our Sailing Director Kate Noble has another great summer camp planned. There are still some vacancies so invite the neighbor kids, grandkids, your kids to participate and learn more about sailing. The Womens Camp was a great success, even with a lot of wind, and the Adult FJ Thursday night lessons are underway.

The Summer Beer Can Races have begun. The weather has been a limiting factor, but plenty of Friday's remain. Wednesday night Sunfish/Laser races have also started and will happen every Wednesday from 6PM to dark until the end of September.

As you can tell if you have made it all the way through this, there is a lot to do and a lot more to come for the rest of the summer at the Austin Yacht Club. Come on out and join in your favorite activity, or get involved in something new. This is a great time of year to introduce your friends and fellow workers to the joy of sailing if you haven't done this already.

## Vice Commodore Report



So, the Thursday before Turnback, I got an email from Jackie, telling me that people were worried about the Turnback food trucks being able to serve sailors quickly enough. People wanted to know how many trucks there would be and were apparently worried about standing in line too long. This is my actual, verbatim reply to her:

*This makes me laugh! We will have one truck per vendor. Tell folks they can drink a beer and listen to the music and chill out while they wait. Or switch over and get their dessert first. Have they ever been in line at one of our luaus? It won't be worse than that. Or even if it is, it won't be a big deal if they just relax and socialize while they are waiting. I'll be getting some rum and tequila and we can hand out shots to those in line if anyone is really stressed out about it. Steve suggested a mass wet t-shirt contest if they are having to stand in the rain. That will make it fun. I can't believe I'm the one saying this, but it's all going to be fine. And if it's not, we'll learn and do it better the next time. Tell 'em to quit fretting - there are a whole lot more important things to worry about.*

Little did I know. Turns out everyone was right, on every count.

The worriers-about-food were right. Our main entrée vendor ended up putting the "Turnback" into Turnback. They are a little new to the business and, despite reassuring me on several occasions that they could handle the dinner count I had given them (200+), they started off great, but very quickly got behind and the line got very slow. Folks were sure enough waiting in the rain - some serious wet t-shirts. At that point, I figured we might as well go ahead and do the shot thing too, and began handing out tequila shots to people waiting in line. Music was still playing. People were mostly chilled out. I thought we were okay. Until they ran out of food and ended up shutting down shop with 60-70 people still in line - and still very hungry. Someone suggested Rudy's and Charlie Pitkin stepped up and volunteered to call the order in and bring it back to the club.



Everyone got to eat eventually. So, I was right too. It turned out fine AND we definitely learned something about how to do it better next time!

And then there was that last line: "there are a whole lot more important things to worry about." I'm still not sure why I had to

say that because that also turned to be a little too true.

First there was the storm that blew in at the end of the second Saturday race, with gusts of up to 30-40 knots, catching 10-12 boats still on the course, knocking one boat into the U Float 'Em barriers causing some boat damage, and resulting in a MOB on another boat. Fortunately, all the kids were off the junior courses at that point, and no one - senior or junior - was injured. This is in large part thanks to our fabulous race committee members, a couple of whom have some tidbits worth sharing -

From Jim Casto: *We retrieved a sailor who fell off UT sail club J24. Fortunately she had a life jacket on and it was yellow easy to see. Then we went over to help a J70 who were not in good control. They were unable to tack away from UFlotem, and ended up crashing into the breakwater pretty hard. The boat was dragging along the breakwater, bow damage was getting worse. There was really nothing we could do until Bobby volunteered to jump on their boat . . . I maneuvered close, he jumped on. . . I prepped a tow line, Melanie threw it expertly, exactly to Bobby's hand, he tied it on, and then we towed the boat back to the rigging dock. Just another day on chase boat at AYC. I couldn't have done it without Bobby Crouch, he's the real hero.*

From Bobby Crouch: *Jim and I rescued the J-70 and towed them back to the club. . . I was impressed with he and his wife, handled a very difficult situation without blame but love and understanding. They really made an impression on me.*

Next, after all of that excitement there was the tornado warning that came right after we had solved the dinner problem by feeding everyone Rudy's. Tornado activity in the Wimberly area moving right towards Mansfield Dam. Tom Cunningham was all over it. The band quit playing, we all took shelter in the patio under the clubhouse. Stephanie Froelich shepherded the kids to the bathhouse, and John Bartlett shepherded another group (of bigger kids) to the keg room. After about 30 minutes of anxious watching and waiting by some of us and oblivious "socializing" by others, we got the word that all was clear. The band started back up.

The rain kept coming down, and we did a little dancing in the rain. Some more than others. Charlie Pitkin danced a little too hard and somehow cracked a couple ribs. Sorry, Charlie. But, really, this all could have been a whole lot worse and it turns out we were really very fortunate!



You might think that'd be enough. You'd be wrong. The rain kept coming down. The lake kept coming up. And up. And up. Six to eight feet between Saturday night and Sunday morning. A good thing, to be sure. But still something to worry about if, say, you actually wanted to get to boats for another day of racing.



Fortunately for all of us, Tom Cunningham knew just what to do and called the right folks to get it done. Vic Manning, Stephan Froelich, John



Bartlett, Bob Leonard, and others, with the help of Rand and his crew, were out there before most folks were even awake, moving the junior pavilion in to shore, and implementing the brilliant suggestion to use Dock 5 as a gangway to the wet slips.

People got to their boats. The junior races started on time. The main races started just 30 minutes late. It was a beautiful day.

Turnback 2015. It's one we'll all remember. And, despite some folks being pretty exhausted at the end of it, one that most of us don't want to forget!



## Harbor Report

by Wade Bingaman



Its old news to some of you, but possibly not to others - we have had a crane fall over on AYC grounds. Fortunately no one was injured in our accident, only some bruised egos. But something I learned when I became Harbor Master was that the club had no policy or regulation of cranes being used at AYC. If you go on YouTube and search "crane accidents" you get 133,000 results. I don't think our accident was on the list, but I didn't have time to review all of them. Clearly however, crane operation can be dangerous. Because of this I thought it would be only prudent for the club to have a few basic guidelines for use of a crane at the club.

Here is our crane policy:

- We need to know in advance as to when you intend to have a crane on the grounds. This means adequate time to make sure the use will comply with our policy. There are many events occurring at the club throughout the week. Many are not generally known about by our members. Having a crane operating on the grounds at a time that conflicts with other events is a dangerous situation we must avoid.
- We need to know the location on the grounds where you intend to use the crane. Once again we cannot permit use of a crane at a location that might endanger members, boats, or docks.
- We need you to identify the company that will operate the crane. You and the crane operator must sign a release of liability for the club and we need a copy of the operator insurance.

I don't think these requirements are unreasonable. We just want to make sure, as best we can, that the crane operation will be safe. A serious crane accident could endanger the financial future of the club. If you intend to use a crane at the club, please comply with our policy.

## Race Commander Report

by Ed Taylor



Summer racing started with the J/70 Southwestern Texas Circuit. Three Austin club members rounded out this hotly contested class with Bruce McDonald taking a 2nd. Tom and Matt Romberg rounding out the top three finishers. Travis Loseke sailing Perihelion was very consistent in three finishes and earned a well-deserved 5th place. Conditions were light to moderate breeze that allowed nine races in two days. Sundays racing was interrupted by oncoming lightning strikes that warranted all competitors to the docks before the beginning of the days racing.

The Permanent Race Committee along with active club volunteers managed to get off two races for the start of the Summer Series in somewhat brisk conditions. The Multihulls, PHRF B & C got there long distance courses with the remaining classes sailing Windward Leeward courses.

Thank you for all those attending the day's racing and Race Committee members who ran some great racing.

### Race Logistics

All updated Race Committee documents including Course Cards, Worksheets, RC Handbook, etc. will be located on the Web under Racing/Race Documents.

Awards for the Frostbite and Spring Series were handed out and any who did not receive theirs, please check the club office.

## Sail Training Report

by Eric Rochard



Lake Travis is a safe place to sail, there is no tide, no current, no breaking water and the fog is rarely an issue. However we must stay aware and respectful when sailing on Lake Travis. In spring particularly we need to pay attention to the sky as storms come and go,

always having the lifejacket on in those days is wise. Be mindful also of the wild life! Treating your boat regularly against insects and snakes is a good precaution.



### Summer Camp

Registration for AYC Summer Camp is open! We are currently behind on enrollment level compared to April 2014. Last year AYC benefited from a large article in the Austin Statesman, we are compensating this year with additional advertising as our initial campaign did not pan out.

We are also facing increased competition for our Summer Camp and we will need to pay attention to the quality of AYC offering. We can no longer see the summer camp as just a revenue stream for Sail Training.

### Junior Sail Training

The Texas RoadRunner season is in full swing! Tony Slovick was with the USODA team in Holland for the Magic Marine Easter regatta and finished 64 in the Gold Fleet! (out of 220 competitors). The week-end of the 18/19th was Opti training with Keel Killeen. 13 Sailors have been practicing all day long on Lake Travis.

### Adult Sail Training

We managed to start the Thursday Dinghy Clinics on May 7th. This will be a great opportunity to develop your sailing skills on FJ. The FJ are ideally suited for this type of advanced sailing, they are reactive and not too physical. They also promote the crew interactions. The first clinic is already full with 12 students.

The women's clinic was again a success on Mother's day week end! *Thanks to Linda McDavitt and James Wilsford who successfully organized this classic!*

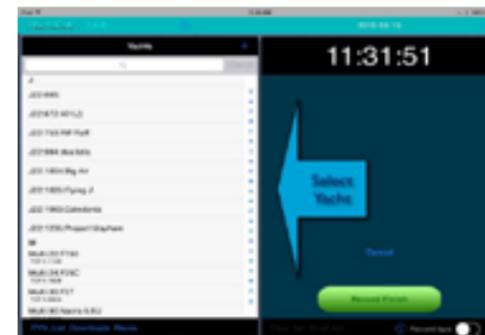
## Something New on Scoring

by Steve Vaughan

When the race is over the focus turns to how did we finish. For One Design classes this question is easily answered by simply looking at who is in front. But for PHRF racing the answer may come either shortly after getting back to shore or sometimes days later when the RC committee scorekeeper posts the results. The anxiousness to know who won has many handicap skippers running stop watches on their competitors to get an estimate of who won. For that anxious PHRF skipper, the rule of thumb calculation is for or every hour of time on the race course and 6 seconds/mile of handicap difference the faster boat owes the slower boat 32 seconds. For example in a 2 hour race and 18 seconds/mile of handicap difference the faster boat owes the slower boat 32 seconds times 2 hours times 18 divided by 6 or 32x2x3 / 192 seconds. Doable but more challenging particularly if more than one boat is of concern. This creates much more demand on the RC Scorekeeper posted results. The lag time in getting scorings posted was and is affected by many things including the scoring program used, the computer equipment available, the knowledge/skill level of the scorekeeper, the legibility and accuracy of the raw data collected by the Race Committee on station and more.

Since scoring programs for personal computers began appearing in the 1980's, the trend has been to expand the capability of the program to handle more things than scoring such as event registrations, T-shirt sales, meal tickets, account charges, and credit card payments. This has added greatly to the capability of running high profile events but also required more knowledgeable and experienced scorekeepers which not only reduced the pool of available scorekeepers but also fractured the pool of scorekeepers since not all scorekeepers knew the multiple programs in use at AYC. At AYC the search for the perfect single program to focus on has been done multiple times and has yet to find a single perfect program.

A different approach is being experimented with this year in an effort to consistently get race results posted more quickly. This experiment is to collect on the water electronically transferable finish data for transfer to the event management/scoring program. The hoped for advantages for this approach are to improve on the accuracy and legibility of the collected data and to reduce the burden on the scorekeeper by elimination of keyboard transcription of handwritten data. For this approach to work, it is necessary that the on-the-water data collection not require a skilled scorekeeper and be done by the same RC personnel that currently hand write the finish data. This requires new equipment on the RC boat(s) and an intuitive, easy to use program that can be picked up very quickly.



This different approach experiment has been underway since last November on most all AYC races as well as the J70 circuit stop and last week finally reached a point where we need to move it from the experimental stage to a full evaluation. During this evaluation phase RC's are going to be asked to continue to keep traditional hand written finish cards but in addition to capture the finish data electronically on a tablet computer (Apple iPad).

The successful implementation of this new approach depends on all of us when our turn for RC duty rolls around. When your turn at RC comes up and you are familiar with iPad operation please volunteer to electronically collect the finish data. The data collection process simply requires pressing the big green finish button which then automatically captures the finish time then picking from the predefined list of boats the one that just finished. When all finishes are captured the data is then emailed to the scorekeeper.

For those really anxious to check out this new app it is available on the Apple App store (\$5) and Android app locations and is called iYachtCalc. For this initial phase of operation at AYC the program will only be used to capture and transfer finish data, the program also has the ability to produce preliminary scored results and email to all competitors but this requires a bit more instruction, but an option for phase two of the implementation.

The AYC Keel Fleet has been instrumental in getting this new scoring approach past the prototype phase and has donated the initial ruggedized iPad to AYC to proceed with the initial phase of implementation. Many thanks to the Keel Fleet and specifically Chris Thompson, Ed Taylor, Jim Johnstone and John Grzinich for their essential help to get this approach on to the launch phase.



Trophies are being held in the AYC office for the following members:

- Renee Ruais
  - John Halter
  - Jim Johnstone
  - David Gamble
  - Pierre Bossart
  - Kevin Reynolds
  - Bob Mathison
  - John Maddalozzo
  - Chris Hammel
  - Mysterious member named "#629".
- PLEASE COME CLAIM YOUR TROPHY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!!

## Sailing Director Report

by Kate Noble



Our new RIB is here! I picked up Sail Training's new Zodiac Pro 500 from Triad Marine in Kemah earlier this month. Our new coach boat will increase the safety of our program and provide a more stable platform for coaching. Many thanks to the Board of Directors and the AYC Fund for helping to fund this upgrade. The boat will be outfitted with one of our existing Honda 30s. We are on target to get the



motor installed and the boat into operation by the start of the Junior Sailing Camp.

### ADULT SAILING PROGRAM

Our FJ Training Series launched on May 7! I am so excited about this new Adult Training opportunity and am thrilled that we are kicking off this program with a FULL class of 12 sailors! Ranging in skill level from brand new sailors to experienced keelboat sailors looking to develop their dinghy skills, we have a fantastic group led by AYC Assistant Coach Charlie Diebolt and his helper Probationary Member Keith Denibaum. Classes met Thursday evenings in May from 6:00-8:00 and the progressive series of four lessons culminated with an intro to FJ racing.

Our Spring Women's Clinic was another big success despite some challenging weather! The Women's Clinic is dependent on a huge team of talented volunteers and is a wonderful example of what makes AYC such a great place. Linda McDavitt is our Women's Clinic hero, leading activities day-of and helping to secure last minute volunteers and boats to accommodate the ladies on the waitlist. James Wilsford returned as our chef and as always his cooking was a big hit! Thank you to James, his kitchen team, and the servers! Probationary members Christy Vickery and Christine



O'Conner handled the shopping, prep and clean-up for lunch. And of course many thanks to our skippers Linda McDavitt, Roseann Butera, Ann Kitzmiller, Brigitte Rochard, Terry Shertz and Bonnie Lackey, Natalie Penner and our volunteer crew helpers Carolyn Wilsford, Claudia Bartlett, Chris Ehlers, Cindy Naylor, Ann Riggs and Jenny Loehlin. Also thank you to the male members who loaned their boats to our skippers! This clinic was a team effort and I am so appreciative of all the volunteers who made it a success for the 19 ladies who came out to sail with us!

Our Cruise Clinic has been rescheduled to later this summer. Stay tuned for more information on that and our Summer/Fall Sail Training schedule.

### SUMMER PROGRAMS

Summer is right around the corner and registration is open for both PB&J and the Junior Sailing Camp. Dates, fees, and registration links are available on the website or check out our full flyers in this edition of the Telltale. AYC members will need a coupon code to obtain discounted member pricing. Please contact the office for the code!

### YOUTH RACING NEWS

Our Roadrunner junior sailors continue to impress around the state and beyond! See articles by Roadrunner contributors in this edition of the Telltale for news on the latest TSA regatta, TSA standings, and Ethan Froelich and Tony Slowik's trip to USODA Team Trials.

Coach Charlie and I are so proud of the team and how far they've come! Go Roadrunners!

### ROADRUNNER SAILOR OF THE MONTH: LUCAS TENRREIRO

Lucas began sailing at AYC late last year in our Opti I program. Lucas started out crewing Picos but has quickly moved on to Optis after his first solo sail at a Free Sail Sunday. Lucas has grown into a confident skipper and never hesitates to go out on the windier days! Coach Charlie and I look forward to teaching Lucas how to race and getting him out on the course. Lucas

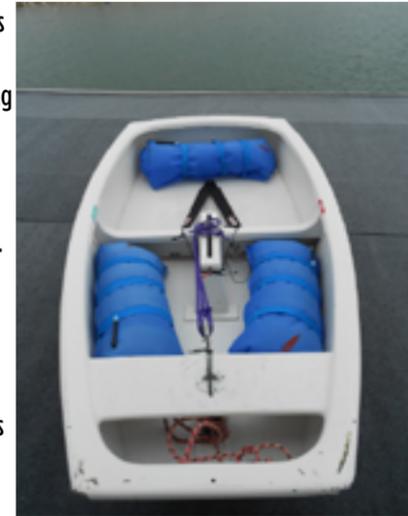


## My Life as an AYC Opti

by Opti 15

Sometimes in the early morning sitting out here in the bottom rack I look around at the bottoms of the boats above me. I see horrible marks on my friends were they been dragged over nails then rocks and pebbles. I look up at the sides where I hope to see pristine rails and I see chips and areas broken loose.

On some very quiet windless mornings I hear their scratchy broken voices crying for care. I think to myself, "I remember being treated like that and I can still feel every scratch on my bottom. I wonder what made the humans to whom I give so much fun want to drag me over nails? Why to they the throw me against my friends and the docks? Don't they love me?"



I remember when I was born in the McLaughlin factory. Those nice people lifted me out of the molds, polished me, and shined me and made me pretty. They made a soft bed and put me carefully into a container. When I first arrived in Texas and my box was opened, there I was, all perfect. I thought I was going to a new loving family but instead, my sisters and I are treated like Cinderella was treated by her sisters.

Sometimes I see boats that belong to individuals and their individuals seem to exude love and care. They pick up their well-loved boats and keep them on soft covers. The only thing individually owned boats ever touch is the water, the air, or those covers.

I am so jealous but why is there no similar care for me?

Am I so different? Do we all not bleed white powder when scratched? Do we all not fracture when big people climb try to ride in us? Do we all not break apart when slammed into other things?

I thought I was here to help teach people about sailing. Isn't my most valuable purpose to teach how to care for others like me? Isn't anyone learning borrowed boats must be cared for at a standard ABOVE how we care for our own toys?

Don't they know I can't heal? I'm not alive!!

I love to sail when there are other boats out. It's great to see my sisters out riding around and carrying their smiling humans. All those others are wonderful but I don't like to touch other boats. Other boats hurt. They scratch me. They make holes in my sides. I don't like to touch them.

I just want to be cared for. Is that really so much to ask?? Sailing is the very best thing in the universe and I am here make it possible. Isn't taking humans sailing enough for some love??

## Notes from your GM

by Jackie Wheelless

Gate code: all previous codes have been pulled from the gate program and THE GATE CODE CONTINUES TO CHANGE MONTHLY. Please make note of the new gate code which is printed on your monthly statements and on the website under the Member Menu OR come by the office and purchase a gate clicker for \$15.

### Did You Know?

The Security Gate will be left open for open regattas and for two hours prior to series races. For personal social events the gate will be left closed and will be the burden of the host member. For special events, contact the AYC manager about gate access.

Probationary Members: A HUGE thank you to brand new Senior Probationary members Dana and David Pendleton for taking charge of the Summer Series #1 post meal! They – along with the help of seasoned Associate Probationary member Charles Valentine – prepared a Chicken Spaghetti meal with all the trimmings and lots of chocolate desserts!!! This is the true spirit of new member volunteerism!!

PLEASE contact me ASAP if you can assist with any post-race meals.

There are numerous avenues for the newer AYC members to either begin or complete their probationary requirements. If you're a probationary member and need assistance with activities to earn credit towards your requirements, please don't hesitate to contact Sailing Director Kate Noble or myself so we can direct you to on the water or service activities!

Pool isOPEN: Yes, that is correct! The pool is officially open for 2015!

### Please Be Mindful

Parents shall supervise and be responsible for their children, especially those who are swimming in the pool or in the lake. The Club furnishes no lifeguard at any time.

Carolyn and John Howard have courageously taken on the task of scanning all of the old member files and storing them electronically! What a HUGE project! They've been holed up in the AYC office all day and have gotten through the letter C...something tells me we're going to be seeing a whole lot of them in the days to come. THANK YOU SO MUCH!

Bonnie Lackey has graciously offered to supply AYC with new number plates for the board boat docks. The plates will be 3" x 5" and should be mounted to the docks in the near future. Kudos to Bonnie!

Thank you all for always making my job at AYC a pleasure!

# 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 AYU, 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 wind surfing.



	Dates	Member	Non-Member
1	June 8-12	\$395	\$480
2	June 15-19	\$395	\$480
3	June 22-26	\$395	\$480
4	July 6-10	\$395	\$480
5	July 13-17	\$395	\$480
6	July 20-24	\$395	\$480

discounts available for multi-child and multi-session registrations!

Contact Us:

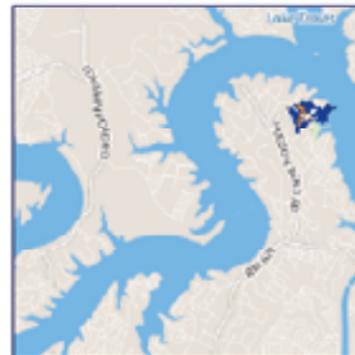
(512) 266-1336

5906 Beacon Drive

Austin, Texas 78734

kate@austinyachtclub.net

http://www.austinyachtclub.net



# 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 90 minute lessons.

	Day	Dates	Time
1	Saturday	May 30, June 6, 13, 27	9:30-11:00
2	Saturday	May 30, June 6, 13, 27	11:00-12:30
3	Sunday	May 31, June 7, 14, 28	9:30-11:00
4	Sunday	May 31, June 7, 14, 28	11:00-12:30
5	Saturday	July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1	9:30-11:00
6	Saturday	July 11, 18, 25, Aug. 1	11:00-12:30
7	Saturday	August 8, 15, 22, 29	9:30-11:00
8	Saturday	August 8, 15, 22, 29	11:00-12:30

ayc members: \$65.00

non-members: \$100.00

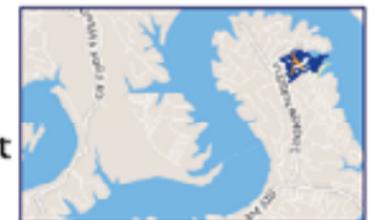


Contact Us:

(512) 266-1336

http://www.austinyachtclub.net

kate@austinyachtclub.net



## Volunteer Spotlight

This month we are shining the volunteer spotlight on Dana and David Pendleton, two of our newest members (joined April 2015). Since joining the club, they have embraced the volunteer spirit that is the heart and soul of AYC. They began by whipping up an amazing post-race meal to feed hungry sailors coming off the water after Summer Series #1. Even as they were serving and cleaning up from that meal, they were busily looking for more activities to support. Luckily for us, Turnback Canyon Regatta was coming up. They decided to rent a cabin and make a whole weekend of it. They were at the club, as promised, first thing on the Friday morning before Turnback. They helped Wade Bingaman and John Kuc assemble the stage for the bands, then looked around for more to do. They gamely jumped in and, with smiles on their faces, proceeded to power wash what was to become the dance floor. Believe me, this likely resulted in fewer dancing wipeouts than would have occurred otherwise! They helped assemble meal ticket packets and various other party prep activities. They took a break from all the work on Friday evening to sail in the Beer Can races, but were back at it again early on Saturday morning, preparing breakfast for all the sailors. Then they dashed out after breakfast so that they could join Bill Records as race committee members for the junior course. Of course, during the party on Saturday night, they were once again helping out with whatever needed doing. And came back on Sunday to do it all again - including both breakfast and race committee!

No matter what they are doing, it's fun to watch David and Dana work together. Not only do they always have smiles on their faces, but they are great at seeing what needs to be done and then just seamlessly working together as a team to get it done! AYC is truly lucky to have the Pendletons. Thank you David and Dana!



## Thank You!!

Thanks to everyone who made Turnback 2015 a great event!

- Logo, Poster, T-shirt Design – Preston Bezant
- Website – John Grznich
- Registration and Scoring – Chris Thompson (also implemented a new on-line registration system)
- Registration help - Steve & Mary Shepardson, Carolyn Wilsford, Cheryl Pervier
- Main PRO – Ed Taylor
  - Jerry Clifford, Annie Frey, Karen Bogisch, Steve Shepardson, Vic Manning, Steve Ehlers, Jim Casto, Bobby Crouch, Claude Welles, Bob Goldsmith
- Junior PRO – Bill Records
  - Jr Race Committee: David and Dana Pendleton, Larry Haig, Emily McElmurry, Charlie Pitkin
- Jr Course Chase Boat: Kate Noble (Coach)
- Spectator Boat – Brad Davis
- Trophies – Sun Hi Casey
- Photography - Bill Records (Junior Course), Steve Shepardson (Main Course), Cheryl Pervier
- Entertainment (including playing in his very own band) – Wade Bingaman
- Stage Building and SetUp – Wade Bingaman, John Kuc, David and Dana Pendleton
- Breakfast – David and Dana Pendleton, Jane Lanshe, Steve, Nicole & Elana Welch,
- Party Preparations (including power washing the dance floor) – David and Dana Pendleton
- Party Decorations – Diane Covert, with help from Jane Lanshe and Pat Manning
- Party Sign-in – Cheryl Pervier & Kelly Thorstad
- Bar Tender (and Rudy's Recommender) – David Lewis
- Dinner Rescuer – Charlie Pitkin
- Kids Party Events and Sunday Burgers: Constanze Heitkoetter and the Roadrunner Fleet
- All-Around Turnback Hero – AYC Groundskeeper-plus-a-Whole-Lot-More, Tom Cunningham
- Many hours of behind-the-scenes guidance and support – General Manager, Jackie Wheelless

**We could not have done it without you!**

Turnback 2015 Co-Chairs:

Molly Lewis & Steve Pervier

## Women's Sailing Clinic

by Carolyn Wilsford

The Women's Sailing Clinic, over Mother's Day week-end, was a great success with knot tying, chalk talk, sailing practice and fondue fun had by all. There were ladies who wanted to learn how to do things on the boat that their husbands don't let them do. As well as, ladies who thought the clinic would be a good idea because their husbands' are planning to spend retirement aboard a boat. We even had ladies who used to sail with dad and wanted to see if they still had it. Members, Fred Ford, Chuck Strehli, Chuck Wheeler, Dave Gamble, and John Saunders graciously loaned their boats for female crew, friends and newbie's to give sailing a try.

The morning was cloudy and windy with gusts of wind in the 20 to 25 mph range. (At one point, I saw 27 mph on the AYC weather station.) Never fear, we all went out and across the channel, over to Cypress Creek, so we could get a little practice in. Our lunch was a great spread prepared by new members Christy Vickrey and Christina O'Connor (Thank-You) and then back out for more practice. The wind seemed to lay down a little in the afternoon (15 - 18 mph) so some of us got a little more adventurous and wandered up past Windy Point and then on over to Hippy Hollow, the Oasis and then, all the way down to, and around, Stearns's Island.

We reconvened in the clubhouse at 5:00 pm to find hors d'oeuvres and libations waiting for us, followed by an incredible Chef James Wilsford dinner: Cheese Fondue with assorted vegetables and bread, gourmet

salads and Chocolate, chocolate, chocolate.

Many thanks to Bonnie Lackey, Terry Schertz, Carolyn Wilsford, Ann Kitzmiller, Claudia Bartlett, Brigitte Rochard, Ann Riggs, Carol Frick, Jenny Loehin, Chris Ehlers, Cindy Naylor, Rosanne Butera and Linda McDavitt. A big thank you to Bill Records for helping find boats and taking pictures and to Russ Shermer for being an award winning chase boat driver for Bill.



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Photos by Jackie Wheelless



the Slowik Family (joined Nov 2014)



Ken Berringer



Owen Crouse



Ty Cunningham



Colin Gillies and son



Charles Packard



Adrian and Lucas Romo-Loomis (and parents)



Erich and Amy Louise Schwarz



Evan Walters

# TURNBACK CANYON REGATTA



Photos By: Steve Shepardson

Photos By: Steve Shepardson

# TURNBACK CANYON REGATTA



Photos By: Bill Records

Photos By: Cheryl Pevier

# TURNBACK CANYON REGATTA

## CONGRATULATIONS TROPHY WINNERS!

### Junior FJ

1<sup>st</sup>: Ethan Froelich (Julius Heitkoetter)  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tony Slowik (Reilly Lin)  
 3<sup>rd</sup>: Spencer LeGrande (Jackson LeGrande)

### Junior Opti

1<sup>st</sup>: Jamie Brock  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: Lucy Brock  
 3<sup>rd</sup>: Maggie McElmurry

### Centerboard & Beach Cat

1<sup>st</sup>: Janet Hardy (Hobie 16)  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: Mike Lindstrom (Flying Scot)

### Catalina 22

1<sup>st</sup>: Ted Owens  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: Brett Wilson

### PHRF A (96-117)

1<sup>st</sup>: Steve Vaughan (J/80)  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: Kurt Carson (J/29)  
 3<sup>rd</sup>: Christina Wolfe (Schumacher 28)

### PHRF B (J/22 & J/24)

1<sup>st</sup>: John Halter (J/22)  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: Renee Ruais (J/22)  
 3<sup>rd</sup>: John Parker (J/24)

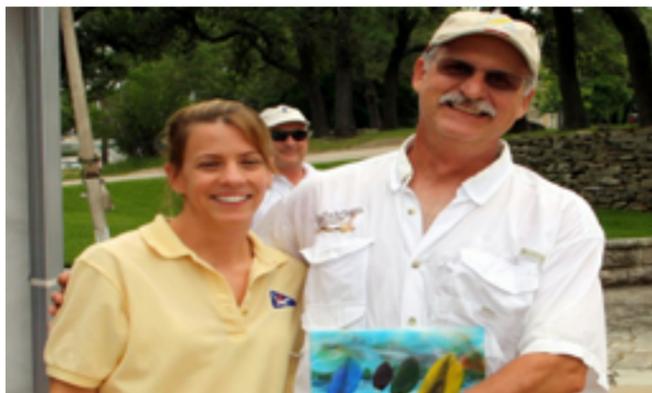
### PHRF C (195-252)

1<sup>st</sup>: Linda McDavitt (Ensign)  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: John Durfor (Pearson 26)  
 3<sup>rd</sup>: Fred Ford (Ensign)  
 4<sup>th</sup>: Cindy Naylor (Ranger 23)

### Large Multihull

1<sup>st</sup>: John Howard (F25c)  
 2<sup>nd</sup>: Rodney Stevens (Stiletto 27)

**Bill Levens Sr Trophy: Linda McDavitt**



Photos By: Cheryl Pervier

Photos By: Cheryl Pervier

## Chaparral del Mar

\*A Chaparral del Mar is a skipper with AYC roots and an age of 75 years or greater.

Once again the Chaparral del Mar Regatta was held in higher winds than forecast, and boat handling was a handful. With the big wind, we had two long slogs to the windward mark, and there was a boat or two with light crew taking on water and bailing. There was a misunderstanding of the posted course on some of the boats which added to the issues; overall it could be termed as an 'exciting' day. But, like most 'exciting' sailboat racing, the good outweighed the bad. With a beer or two and clubhouse gam, bruises become minor, high winds became a "fresh breeze", close calls on the course are now remembered as exciting on-the-water crossings. Still with a good race now complete, most skippers paused to secretly thank their main trimmers for easing the sheets, so that the boats could be steered by their tillers pushing those small Ensign rudders underneath.

The weather forecast indicated that we would be at the top of genoa range. There was discussion to limit sailors to No. 2 headsails. A couple of boats did go out with the small jibs and another changed down before the start, That turned out to be a good call, especially for boats with less than heavy crew. Just before RC set the marks, a thunderhead built up to the southeast and sucked the air out of the south breeze. It then blew from the northwest, and then it blew more, at times to a recorded 31 knots.

Sailing is one of the few sports where we often compete with beginners and champions on the same course. It is also a sport where feel for the helm lasts on in life. Our elder skippers can steer with the best of us. More than once, I've been on a boat with Karel Dahmen steering and though in his nineties, we won races.

This year, Brad Davis is the Champion, sailing #578. He nailed the start, and punched out early. He never had to look too far back over his shoulder. Congratulations to Brad!

All skippers were worthy. Other competitors listed in no particular order: Karel Dahmen, Calin Popescu, Doug Laws, Keith Renard, Cliff Price, and young birds (70-74) Eliott Bray (winner of the Jr. Class), Fred Ford and John Saunders. Eddie Calagero missed as a tree pierced his house roof the night before in the hail storm. We'd like to see you Eddie, and we know that there are more of you at AYC who qualify. Ask to steer an Ensign in a race or a Beercan. Practice up for next year!

Suggested Regatta Changes for 2016:

1. Make the decision to go to smaller jibs at a lower wind range.
2. Put a Regatta Organizer on the Committee boat to assist in race format.
3. Discuss at the Skipper's Meeting the current Long Distance Race Card of the year and its format.
4. Move the event to the Summer Series for possibly lighter winds.

5. Continue to allow younger skippers (70 to 74 years old) to practice sail with the old birds should boats be available.

6. (Your additional comments sent to Danny Lien or Fred Ford)

## Ensign Spring Wrap-up

Once again the George and Frans Dahmen team dominated and won the Spring Series. After years of rebuilding their boat, all that pent up energy has been paying off on the course. Some say it may be the two additional crew of Anne and Katharine who make their boat so fast. Another currently fast boat to watch out for is Tom and Kelly Groll's renewed "brews'er". If Tom would quit working so much and get on the line more often... what can I say? Randolph Bertin – Festina Lente is also showing speed and top results. And the new stealth boat on the line, Elliot Bray's #695 Sundance, showed good speed the few times it's been out on the water. David and Ann Morley's #739 Abaco is often seen at the top of the pack. David reminded me that it's not so much about going fast but not making those one or two mistakes at the mark transitions that become important.

## Summer Series

The summer series opened up with a great turnout for the Ensign fleet, with 9 boats on the starting line. Conditions on the water were superb. The big excitement for the day came right at the start of the first race. New AYC club member Chuck Waldron had switched from Fred Ford's boat to sailing with Lewis Price back at the dock as Lewis was short handed. Well, in all the excitement of the start, Chuck developed breathing problems and dizziness. With no signs of relief, Lewis made the call to retire and requested assistance from a chase boat to get his crew ashore. The club meanwhile had arranged for Mr Waldron to have quick ride to the hospital. He was taken to Seton North for a battery of tests and was released later that evening. You can't be too careful in such matters and everyone did everything necessary to get the sailor immediate assistance. Fortunately all turned out well.

The Dahmenation continued apace as Styf Kop led from start to finish. At one point, they did have to eat a pretty substantial header to cover the fleet, but that meant only that their large lead became merely a modest one. No one really mounted a threat that afternoon. There was a real battle on for second place, though. In the first race, the Morley's aboard Abaco spent some time near the front of the fleet. And Randolph Bertin (sailing incognito as #1770, with a crew of Steve Sanderson and Matt Richardson), Tom Groll (sailing with Kelly Groll and Bill and Kelly Hawk), and Jonathan Baker (sailing with solo crew member Eric Creamer) traded places several times, eventually rounding the final leeward mark in a tight group. It was particularly skillful sailing for Jonathan Baker to that point as they had opted to forgo the use of a spinnaker given the windy conditions and lack of extra hands. Although Randolph began the final windward leg just ahead of the other two, it was Jonathan that crossed the finish line in second, followed by Tom Groll. There were other tight contests throughout the fleet as well with Fred Ford, Carl Wiseman, and The Prime Timers now sailing Sundance.

J Seagull headed back to the dock before the second race, either having

proven their point or needing to take care of some other business. As mentioned, the Dahmens sailed circles around the rest of us – or at least they could have – and won going away. This time in the race for second, Tom Groll led around the final windward mark. However, he got tangled up with a Catalina 22 rounding at the same time allowing Randolph to pull even, to leeward. It was close racing along the final windward leg. Seeing a strategic wind shift coming in upwind near the committee boat, Tom tacked away to get the advantage while Randolph ignorantly sailed on. Unfortunately, that advantage not only failed to arrive, but the reverse happened instead. Rather than getting lifted to the finish, Brews'er closed the race sailing two headers allowing Randolph to take second. Sometimes it's better to be lucky than good.

The next installment of the summer series started out with a stormy and wet morning (more of that later), but, by about 12 noon the clouds parted to a beautiful day – clear skies, but a tad calm... The first race was very light (sometimes zero) with an extremely shifty "wind". But, it was an exciting race and everyone had a chance to win it, almost to the finish. At the start, what little breeze to be had was from the west. When the fleet reached the first windward mark, it had actually become a leeward mark. Then dead calm. Eventually, something resembling a light air filled in from the south. The original course was a short W2, but that was ultimately shortened to a finish at the first leeward mark, which was really no longer a leeward but rather a reaching mark. As the wind filled in from the south, the entire fleet was extremely close. Maybe 20 boat lengths separated first – the Dahmens (who else?!), and last place – The Morleys aboard Abaco, with Anne at the helm. 588 stayed to the north side of the course. Tom Groll had wisely elected to stay south of the fleet to be the first to catch the breeze as it filled in, but somehow it came in from a slight southwesterly direction, so it skipped by him for a short period, and Bill Hawk, Lewis Price, and the Morley were the first to catch it. With a lucky burst, Abaco went from last place to first place in about 1/3 of a leg. Brews'er eventually caught the breeze as well. The Dahmens as well as Carl Wiseman on Deep 6 were the last to catch the new breeze. Then the sprint to the finish was on. George had launched a spinnaker while the rest of fleet was reaching under Genoa. Abaco crossed first with Bill second (?), George third (?), Lewis fourth (?), and Tom fifth (?) and 1609 sixth (?). (check the official standings). Did I mention that it was an exciting race? There were perhaps about 8 boat lengths between first and fifth!

The second W2 race was likewise exciting, but this time under a reasonably steady southerly breeze. Again the boats were very closely spaced. Tom Groll and Lewis Price had a near miss as they approached the windward mark, with Tom (port) accidentally failing to give right-of-way to Lewis (starboard). The only damage was Tom having to take a 720. While this might normally set one's chances to win at pretty close to nil, Tom quickly got himself right back into the race. The Dahmens somehow caught their main sheet on the race committee boat and broke the bolt that held their sheet block on the boom and they retired from the second race. Another very close finish, with Tom taking first by about 5 seconds over Bill Hawk, and Anne Morley coming in third about 3 seconds

after that. At least that is how I was told it all went down, for the scores for race 2 show Ensign fleet as DNC.

## Turnback

We had two Ensigns racing in the Turnback regatta this year. Styf Kop (588) was skippered by Linda McDavitt with crew George Dahmen and James and Carolyn Wilsford and September (972) skippered by Fred Ford with crew Anne Riggs and Jason Goldberg. Styf Kop came in first on all three races and Linda McDavitt was awarded the Bill Levens, Sr. trophy in addition to a 1st in Class. September sailed to a 2nd, 5th and 3rd and trophied for a 3rd in Class. It was an Ensign kind of day.

Styf Kop crossed the line just before a big storm hit and September was one tack away from the finish when the storm arrived in full fury. In true Corinthian style, Styf Kop remained at the dock to help September and other boats into their slips. Finally, all ran for cover. It was an exciting finish. A different kind of exciting, but exciting nonetheless.

## More Summer Series

The third installment of the Summer Series came on the final day of the month. Although conditions looked promising close to our five minute sequence, the North/Northeast breeze (at the end of May!?) faltered and left the fleet starting under near calm conditions. We were sailing a W2, or at least trying to. It took most of us several minutes or longer to get across the start line, but the Dahmens again took the early lead with the west side of the course paying off in the early going. Jonathan Baker sailed with Tom Groll on Brews'er and they managed to overhaul Styf Kop. However, on what turned out to be the final leg in a shortened course, they ended up on the west side when a light easterly filtered into the finish allowing the Dahmens to secure yet another victory. It seemed like the entire AYC fleet was bunching up at the second windward mark rounding, with 578 getting buried by a mass of sails and lack of wind. But, unknown to several of us, this turned out to be the end of the race with Tom already having secured second while Doug Laws helmed Sundance into a solid third place finish. It was difficult to keep track of who was where, but Carl Wiseman was charging hard into the finish with a full spinnaker when he ran into a sudden headwind to cut short his bid for glory. Eventually we all drifted back to the dock.

## May was kind of wet

Remember the mention(s) of stormy and wet weather? We'll we had quite a bit of that over the month of May. And by quite a bit I mean more than any other May in recorded history! While the lake isn't yet full, Travis did manage to add over 30 feet during the month. It's been a long time coming. And it is fair to say we are all glad it has arrived.

## Chef d'Ensign

The Ensign fleet will be providing cooking services for all beer can races in the month of June, so come out and race (the lake is up) and have a meal afterwards. The fleet will also be providing the End of Series meal for the Summer Series in addition to serving as race committee the week before.

# 2nd Chaparral del Mar



Photos By: Cheryl Pervier

Photos By: Cheryl Pervier

## J/70 Circuit Stop at AYC

by Bruce McDonald

April 25-26 saw the first circuit stop for the J70 Southwestern fleet. Eight boats competed including three AYC teams. Challenging wind conditions coming mostly from the west led to short courses and frequent mark changes. The expert team of commodore Barry Bowden, race commander Ed Taylor and A fleet members got the races six races on Saturday. Saturday night, the racers were treated to a spaghetti dinner prepared by vice commodore Molly Lewis and her social committee members. By Sunday morning, the winds had shifted to the prevailing southeasterly direction, but a large thunder storm and heavy rain forced competitors off the water. When the storm broke, Barry, in short order, got the marks set and we got in 3 more closely contested races.

The final results were Chris Lewis (LYC) first, Bruce McDonald (AYC) second, Tom Romberg (AYC) third and Jason Bradley (FWBC) fourth. Our newest member of the J70 fleet, Travis Loseke with a little help from Justin Wolfe. The out of town competitors couldn't find enough good things to say about our office staff, the cabins, race management and the food. They definitely will be getting the word out that AYC rocks. The fleet to a member expressed a desire to have a circuit stop on Lake Travis next year.



Photos By: Bill Records



## Catalina 22 Fleet Update

by Steve Pervier

Hello, Fleet 69! With the beginning of meteorological summer, the wettest May on record at an end, our Catalina 22 Fleet is enjoying a suddenly larger Lake Travis! The lake level had increased slowly until the weekend of a memorable Turnback Canyon Regatta, in which C22s were the only one-design class on the main course.

The big rain began as Turnback Saturday's second race ended; it continued pouring through the party, punctuated by brief tornado warnings, and then we heard the news -- one, two, ... five floodgates were open at Starcke Dam, releasing a wave of water into Lake Travis. The lake rose about seven feet overnight! With more of the same on Memorial Day, our lake has risen about 34 feet between Summer Series races on May 17 and May 31, just two weeks apart.

Catalina 22 sailors are becoming more active both off and on the water, from our fleet Work Day in April through the Summer Series races. Ted and Wade faced off, especially at the first weather mark, on series date #1. The light air of series date #3 saw Brett and Cindy edge Steve and Cheryl after an hour-long race, and the arrival of our newest fleet member, Brian Grothues, with his new boat "Arrggh!"

Counting from all recent events, a total of eleven Catalina 22 skippers and eight boats have been seen recently. The skippers in this set: Ted Owens, Wade Bingaman, Brett Wilson, Steve Shepardson, Paul Jensen, George Robison, Preston Bezant, Dane Ohe, John Grzinich, Brian Grothues, and Steve Pervier

See me at AYC or send email to [Steve.C22.AYC@Gmail.com](mailto:Steve.C22.AYC@Gmail.com) if you want to be on our next race committee (July 25), have boat fixup needs, want to crew or need crew, or can offer coaching or other help - or, if you just want to talk Catalina 22s and all things sailing. See you on the water!

## Keel Fleet Update

by Chris Thompson

Spring is quickly progressing towards summer and peak sailing season. The scattered Summer Series is under way with the welcome interruption of the annual Turnback Canyon Regatta over Memorial Day Weekend (wow what a crazy 3 days!). This event is scored as part of the Fleet Championship and also earns tickets for the Frequent Sailor Awards. Get you some crew and come race or just join the great party.

Mother Nature has contributed to a slow start for the Beer Can season with a couple of rain outs. Our volunteer cooks to date (Mack Warner, Cindy Naylor, Marcia Mill and Robert, Linda Donovan, Kurt Carson, Brent & Jen Schwan, Bob & Jeane Goldsmith, Karen Bogisch, Bo & Robin Kersey, Mike Beuerlein and Bridgette, – apologies if I missed anyone!) have served up some great grill work. Thanks to Jackie for assisting with the beans! The Ensign Fleet will be hosting the Firdya Night Beer Can Dinners for June so come out and see what twists they have in store. Come out and join the fun. Start times are adjusted by handicap from 7 pm. and are posted around the club.

Independence Cup Regatta (Saturday, July 4th) is just around the corner. Bill Records has already been hard at work with preparations. Pre-registration will be up on the web soon. With the "new" lake it should be a good chance to use it!

The On the Water Scoring project has proceeded under the watch of our treasurer, Steve Vaughn. His article elsewhere in this issue describes that in greater detail. As a companion to this, we will be creating an online registration page to gather the basic information that is preset into the scoring iPad. If you have already raced this year, then you are good to go. If you plan to race later in the year, then you should register so we have the correct information to process your scores.

See you at the club!



## C Fleet Update

by Bill Records



For C-fleeters, the RedEye, Frostbite, and Spring Series have always had the largest turnout. The weather is cooler and there is ample wind to drive our heavy displacement boats. The Summer Series is usually less well attended, due to the heat and lighter winds. Also, most of us need a break to fix boats, replace broken hardware, and rest crew and skippers. Only two boats participated in race 1 of the Summer Series, John Durfor's Pearson 26 and Mack Warner's Ranger 23. They were pretty evenly matched on the weather legs, but John opened up a lead downwind, finishing first. I expect a good turnout for Turnback and the next series. New member and experienced racer, Keith Denebeim, just bought Pearson 26 OD, #252 and after a bottom job and some re-rigging will be racing with us soon. I asked Keith what he will name his boat and he gave me a hint; he loves the band "The Who". Hmmmm, maybe he will have Roger Daltrey crewing!

Each year, when the summer heat and doldrums set in, I do a lot of reading and usually the subject matter involves sailing. One book that I have found to be a must read is "Temple To The Wind" by Christofer Pastore. It tells the story of the 1903 America's Cup and of the yacht "Reliance". The following is the preface:

In 1903, Reliance, the largest America's Cup racer ever built, represented the most sophisticated piece of naval and aeronautical engineering in the world. This was the same year the Wright brothers skidded across the Kitty Hawk dunes for less than three hundred yards. Propelled by the same principals of lift that applies to an airplane wing, Reliance, at 143 feet, 8 inches long and carrying 16,160 square feet of sail -- an area roughly the size of a large suburban supermarket -- was the most powerful lift driven craft ever produced. The title came with one caveat: Reliance was so immense that some thought her too dangerous to sail.

With her topsail yard towering 189 feet, 6 inches above the water and sails stretching 202 feet from bowsprit to boom end, Reliance sailed fully powered, heeling to her rails, in only seven knots of wind -- barely enough to fly a kite. To handle the immense loads produced by her sails, the largest lines were made of four inch diameter manila rope as thick as a grown man's forearm. Reliance was suited with specially woven multi-ply cotton sails weighing roughly four tons and held together by several miles of stitching. Even the largest sails of the giant six-masted coal carriers were only a quarter the area of Reliance's mainsail, the largest ever spread on any vessel. In addition to their weight, the force exerted on Reliance's sails in a stiff breeze equaled that of over 1,200 straining horses. To counteract this load, Reliance's keel was filled with over a hundred tons of cast lead, extending 19 feet below the waterline. To sail her required sixty-four professional crewmen.

## J/24 Fleet Update

by David Broadway



The fleet activity continues to expand both locally and on the J/24 TX Circuit Regatta. At the March 21-22 Circuit stop hosted by the Galveston Bay Cruising Assoc. (GBCA), there were 7 AYC-based J/24s of 12 total entries, including Chris "Unabomber" Hammel (Sforzando), Brandon Fury (JB1, UTSC), Stu Juengst (Vang Go), John/Meiling Parker (Chupacabra), Doc Gamble (Borracho), Natalie Penner/Bob Harden (Giggles), and David Broadway (Superman).

Saturday was a rainy affair with the 4th scheduled race of the day abandoned as the rain intensified. At the end of racing on Saturday, Giggles held 2nd place with Chupacabra in 5th. With nice weather on Sunday, two more races completed the regatta. Giggles held onto 2nd place while Superman moved into a tie with Chupacabra for 4th place with Superman taking the tie-breaker. This placed 3 AYC entries in the top 5 in what was a very competitive regatta!

April 18-19 was the 2nd J/24 TX Circuit Regatta of the season with the FWBC (low water) hosting the Cowtown Stampede Cup at DCYC. Again, 7 AYC-based J/24s made the road trip. While Doc Gamble was the guest skipper at GBCA on Borracho (formerly Ooh Ahh), Amanda Casey took over the helm for her first Circuit stop on her new ride, about to be renamed Momentous.

This event was also the J/24 SW Championship with the winner qualifying for the 2016 J/24 World Championship in Japan. The trophy has engravings with sailing luminaries such as John Kolius (Cheap Sunglasses), Scott Young (Thunderstar), and Bob Harden/Eric Nelson (mr. happy).

While the wind on Saturday only allowed for one shortened race, it was close. Superman and Giggles were 3rd and 4th respectively around the weather mark. However, as the wind went forward, kites came down, and it was Chupacabra with a powered up, loose forestay creeping over their AYC compadres for a 3rd!



1ST PLACE: GIGGLES  
J/24 SOUTHWEST CHAMPIONSHIP, 2015

On Sunday, the conditions were favorable for 3 races. On the last weather leg of the first race, Superman trailing 2 boats, found leverage on the right to take the bullet. However, for the final two races, it was all Giggles as they earned 2 bullets to simultaneously win the Cowtown Cup and the SW Championship with a trip to Japan for the 2016 J/24 World Championship! With Giggles racing the upcoming US Nationals (May) in Berkeley CA and the J/24 North American's (Sept) in Portland ME, they will have an opportunity to prepare for the biggest J/24 stage!

May 2-3 was the 3rd Circuit stop, also at DCYC, this time for the Heritage Cup. Once again, 7 AYC-based J/24s were among the 17 fleet entries, the largest one-design fleet in this multi-fleet event. Two AYC entries finished in the top five, Giggles (4th) and Jolly Bevo 1 (5th)! With Brandon Fury at the helm, Greg Freeman providing the tactics, and a newbie on foredeck, they earned two 2nd place finishes on Saturday, and won the tiebreaker for 5th place overall!

Another J/24 from AYC, Vicente Saborio's Thunder Cookie will be entered May 22-24 at Berkeley CA for the US Nationals. Jorge Martin de Nicolas, Adolfo Bernal, and Greg Freeman will be joining Vicente Saborio for the Berkeley Blows t-shirt affair in view of the Golden Gate Bridge.

On the home front, the AYC Summer Series started May 3. With the Road Warriors returning, the fleet will have RC duty on May 17 and return to the fray on May 31 before heading to the CCYC Surfin' Safari Circuit on June 6-7.

As a side note and cited about the time of the AYC Frostbite Series...

**PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT!!!** Unabomber spotted on Lake Travis! (AP) Austin, TX. Residents of Travis County in Central Texas are being warned by the FBI about a recent sighting on Lake Travis of a mysterious hooded individual bearing an uncanny resemblance to the Unabomber, one of the FBI's most notorious criminals.

"--We thought we had the Unabomber case wrapped up." said FBI special agent Adolfo Bernal, "--And then we get this sighting!!! This is proof of how elusive the Unabomber is. He has evaded the FBI for decades!"

See additional file photos of the Unabomber... He must be associated with the J/24 fleet!



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Commodore	Barry Bowden
Past Commodore	John Morran
Vice Commodore	Molly Lewis
Secretary	Chris Ehlers
Treasurer	John Howard
Race Commander	Ed Taylor
Buildings & Grounds Cdr.	Doug Casey
Harbor Commander	Wade Bingaman
Sail Training Commander	Eric Rochard

## AYC STAFF

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

## AUSTIN YACHT CLUB

5906 Beacon Drive  
Austin, Texas 78734-1428  
Office: 512-266-1336  
Office FAX: 512-266-9804  
Clubhouse: 512-266-1897

## E-MAIL AND WEBSITE

[www.austinyachtclub.net](http://www.austinyachtclub.net)  
[office@austinyachtclub.net](mailto:office@austinyachtclub.net)

## 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

[buildings\\_grounds@austinyachtclub.net](mailto:buildings_grounds@austinyachtclub.net)  
[race\\_commander@austinyachtclub.net](mailto:race_commander@austinyachtclub.net)  
[vice\\_commodore@austinyachtclub.net](mailto:vice_commodore@austinyachtclub.net)  
[membership@austinyachtclub.net](mailto:membership@austinyachtclub.net)  
[sail\\_training@austinyachtclub.net](mailto:sail_training@austinyachtclub.net)  
[commodore@austinyachtclub.net](mailto:commodore@austinyachtclub.net)  
[secretary@austinyachtclub.net](mailto:secretary@austinyachtclub.net)  
[treasurer@austinyachtclub.net](mailto:treasurer@austinyachtclub.net)  
[harbor\\_commander@austinyachtclub.net](mailto:harbor_commander@austinyachtclub.net)

## AYC 2015 RACE CALENDAR

TSA Roadrunner Regatta/USODA Mid-America Championship Jun 20-21  
Independence Cup Regatta Jul 4

### Dog Days of Summer Series Races (First Signal 4p)

June 27	RC: SC21	July 25	RC: C22
July 11	RC: J22	Aug 1 (EOS)	RC: Multihull
July 18	RC: PHRF C		

Friday Night Beer Can Races	First Signal 7p	June 19, 26, July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
Wed Night Endless Summer Jr Races	First Signal 5:30p	June 17, 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
Wed Night Laser/Sunfish Races	First Signal 6p	June 17, 24, July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

## AYC 2015 NON-RACING EVENTS

June 18	AYC Membership Meeting	7:00p
June 25	AYC Board Meeting	7:30p
July 10	Bon Voyage Party	6:00p
July 16	AYC Membership Meeting	7:00p
July 23	AYC Board Meeting	7:30p

## AYC VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Beer Can - contact Hector Lujan at [hlujan45@gmail.com](mailto:hlujan45@gmail.com)

Sunfish/Laser Race Committee - contact Kevin Reynolds at [kevreyne@prodigy.net](mailto:kevreyne@prodigy.net)

Series Post Meals - organization, preparation, serving and clean up - contact [gm@austinyachtclub.net](mailto:gm@austinyachtclub.net)

Dog Days Series Races - contact fleet captains (see RC assignments above)

Roadrunner Regatta - Jeff Brock at [brock@alum.mit.edu](mailto:brock@alum.mit.edu) or Stefan Froelich at [sfroelich@HASystems.com](mailto:sfroelich@HASystems.com)

- Registration
- Grounds Control
- Race Committee Food
- Friday afternoon (June 19th) from 1 till 7 pm
- Saturday (June 20th) from 7 am till 7 pm
- Sunday (June 21st) from 7:30 am till 3 pm.

Saturday and Sunday schedules will vary depending on what you volunteer for (Example if you do registration: Saturday from 7 – 9 am; If you help with breakfast either day: 7 to 9 am; if you help with dinner: 3 – 7 pm; if you do grounds control: Friday from 3 pm to 7:00 pm and on Saturday from 7:30 am to 10:00 am).

Also needed are folks who can help on race committee. We have drivers and race officers, we just need folks to help us with scoring and pulling flags on the water. This is also a great way to learn about serving on race committee and being up close to the racing.

## HULL CLEANING

**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.



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



## 1.6 MILES OF MAGNIFICENT OCEANFRONT

### LIGHTHOUSE POINTE ESTATE

1.6 miles of high-elevation oceanfront. Historic lighthouse, panoramic view of Atlantic Ocean and 2 picturesque harbors in Nova Scotia, Canada. For sale by owner. US\$4,000,000 or best offer.

More photos and details at [www.greenseacoast.com](http://www.greenseacoast.com)  
Email [lighthousepointe@icloud.com](mailto:lighthousepointe@icloud.com) for maps and prospectus

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



## 2016 AYC Officers Nominations



Dear AYC Member,

Each year the Nominating Committee is responsible for collecting nominations and proposing the slate of candidates for the following year's AYC Officers. The slate will be presented to the membership for a vote at AYC's annual membership meeting in November.

Please consider whether you or someone you know would be a good candidate to serve as an AYC Officer. Nominations should be sent to Johannes Brinkmann ([jbrinkmann@amts.com](mailto:jbrinkmann@amts.com)), Christopher Dwight ([cjdwright@yahoo.com](mailto:cjdwright@yahoo.com)), or John Morran ([jfmorran@yahoo.com](mailto:jfmorran@yahoo.com)). Please contact any of the three of us if you have questions about the nominations process.

The Nominating Committee

***Johannes, Christopher, John***