

March 2000

Monthly Newsletter

Board of Directors

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Commodore | Rob Wilson |
| Im. Past Commodore | Voldi Maki |
| Vice Commodore | Phil Spletter |
| Secretary | Gail Bernstein |
| Treasurer | Becky Heston |
| Race Commander | Bob Harden |
| Buildings & Grounds | Michael Stan |
| Fleet Commander | Doug Laws |
| Sail Training | Brigitte Rochard |

AYC Staff

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| General Manager | Nancy Boulmay |
| Office Manager | Jay Shaffer |
| Caretaker | Tom Cunningham |

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 & Web Site

www.austinyachtclub.org
info@austinyachtclub.org

AYC Business Hours

Tuesday - Friday
8:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Saturday & Sunday
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

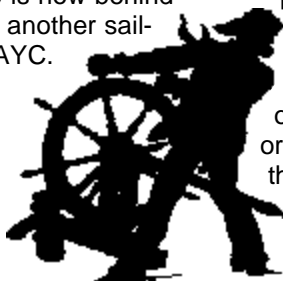
Closed Mondays

Closed Club Holidays

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| New Year's Day | 1 January |
| Easter Sunday | 23 April |
| Independence Day | 4 July |
| Thanksgiving Day | 23 November |
| Shopping Day | 24 November |
| Christmas Day | 25 December |

From the Commodore

Opening Day 2000 is now behind us and we are into another sailing season at the AYC. During the first series race of the year I was again reminded of an unsettling trend. Participation in all AYC events and particularly in the series races continues to fall off. While we have more than 450 members there were fewer than 50 boats on the water on this day. When you divide this number into the 8 fleets that were represented, it is evident that the quality of competition is not what it should be. The question I have for the membership is "What can be done to encourage you to



participate more?". Is there something about the schedule that could be improved? Would you more favor different types of races such as the Night Race or more informal races such as the Beer Can Races? Is there something that can be done to help you get training or crew? Any and all suggestions would be appreciated. Please feel free to call me at 346-6925 or E-mail your suggestions to rwwilson2@mmm.com. The next big event for the club is the presentation by ESPN sailing commentator Gary Jobson on April 1. Call the office to reserve a spot as they are filling up fast. The Spring Regatta follows on April 15. Please come out and support these events.



Please check
the next billing
statement for
a new gate
combination.

Thanks to Ann Ellzey for the great food on Opening Day. A lot of people were speculating that she had the event catered, but actually she made all of the food from scratch (a huge assortment of baked goods and quiches).

It is time to renew your US Sailing membership for 2000. Please fax (266-9804) or mail the following information to the AYC Office by 31 March 2000. Thanks for your support.



| | |
|------------------------|------|
| US Sailing Memberships | |
| Type..... | Dues |
| Family | \$50 |
| Individual | \$35 |
| Youth | \$10 |

✂

(cut line)

Name _____ AYC Account No: _____

US Sailing Membership: _____ Family _____ Individual _____ Youth _____

Racing Scheduled

March

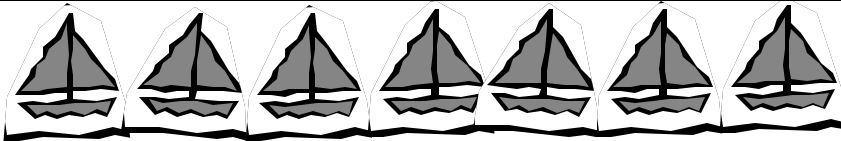
5th Spring Series #1
 12th Spring Series #2
 18th & 19th J/24 Circuit Regatta
 25th & 26th Roadrunner Regatta
 26th Spring Series #3

April

1st UT Alumni Regatta
 2nd Spring Series #4
 9th Spring Series #5
 15th Spring Regatta
 16th Club/US Sailing Ladder Events
 22nd & 23rd ... Easter Laser Regatta
 29 & 30th SC21 Regatta

May

6th & 7th Women's Sunfish NAs
 14th Summer Series #1
 20th KHF May Race Day
 21st Summer Series #2
 29th Women's Event



US Sailing Ladder Events

by Phil Spletter

AYC eliminations will be held April 16 for representatives to sail in Area F eliminations for men's, women's and match racing championships.

Prince of Wales Bowl (US Sailing Match Racing Championship)

| | | | |
|----------|---------------|-------------------|------------|
| Area F | 19 - 23 Sept. | Balboa Yacht Club | Santana 20 |
| National | | | |

Mallory Trophy (US Sailing Men's Championship)

| | | | |
|----------|---------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Area F | 8 - 9 July | Corinthian Sailing Club | Flying Scott |
| National | 12 - 17 Sept. | Detroit Yacht Club | Flying Scott |

Adams Trophy (US Sailing Women's Championship).

| | | | |
|----------|---------------|----------------------|----------|
| Area F | 29 - 30 July | Houston Yacht Club | Etchells |
| National | 13 - 17 Sept. | San Diego Yacht Club | Etchells |

Qualification for the O'Day Trophy (US Sailing Men's Singlehanded Championship) will be at a regatta within Area F.

Please contact Phil Spletter for further information.

Fleet Commander

by Doug Laws

Great news — the AYC board has approved purchase of a new dock #6 and R/C dock. Delivery is expected in June. Then the fun starts. Meanwhile, a reminder to check your dock lines and make sure you have ample bumpers for your boat if you are on docks #4, #5 or #6. Wave and wind action on the point can be severe this spring.

The Fleet Committee has reviewed boat usage for the last half 1999. There were over 25 members who had no recorded AYC or keel fleet racing or usage during the six months checked. We will continue to monitor race and boat usage this year and after July 1st, will request those members with no sail or race activity to present their case to the board in order to retain their wet slip.

Sears, Bemis, Smythe: US Sailing Junior Ladder Events

Sears Cup:
Crew of three in Ynling

Bemis Trophy:
Double-handed in C420

Smythe Trophy:
Single-handed Laser

Open to boys and girls who are 13 years old and older, but not 19 years old in the year which they compete. All competitors must be amateurs and must be members of US Sailing. Please see the Notice of Race for these championships regarding other regulations and details. One team per yacht club may enter each TSA/Area F event. Additional entries may be submitted and accepted by the TSA/Area F event coordinator based on the availability of boats.

AYC level Junior Ladder Events will take place 16 April. Participants must register by 9 April 2000. Please contact Tim Arnold at 261-7724 or via e-mail at tarnold@texas.net with any questions or to register for one of the AYC Junior events.

| <u>Event</u> | <u>Dates</u> | <u>Host</u> |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| AYC | April 16 | AYC |
| TSA/ Area F | July 8-9 | FWBC |
| Finals | Aug 12-18 | NYYC |

Turnback Regatta

by Phil Spletter

It has been decided that the Turnback Regatta will return to AYC for Saturday night rather than spending the night at Lago Vista. The Lago Vista Property Owner's Association supported hosting the regatta as long as there was a community activity that was spearheaded by an organization within Lago Vista. Some members of the Lago Vista Lion's Club had indicated support, but there was apparently not a consensus of agreement so the Lions decided not to support the regatta. Other organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce were rumored to be interested, but support never materialized. As a result, the regatta will sail up the lake on Saturday, round a buoy, and return to finish near the club. AYC will host a significant social event that night. A similar, although shorter, race course will be sailed on Sunday.

Welcome Aboard

By Voldi Maki

New Senior Members:

- Ken and Cynthia Jolly have been sailing for many years. They have participated in Turnback Canyon Regatta almost every year. They now own a Pearson Electra.
- Allan and Judith Paterson have experience racing catamarans in California. They have two children, Lesley and Roy, both of whom are active sailors. They plan to purchase a SC-21 to race at AYC.

New Associate Members:

- Sam and Lynn Baird live in Houston but also have a vacation house on Lake Travis. He has raced Lasers since 1979. He plans to eventually retire to the Austin area.

New Junior Student Members

- Carly Reick is a member of the Westwood High School Racing Team with experience on C-15's, 470's, JY-15's and Southcoast 21's.
- Kyle Sanders is also a member of the Westwood High School Racing Team. He has experience on J-22's, Sunfish, racing on 420's, and Southcoast 21's. He has done regional racing on the 420, placing 2nd in the '99 Sugar Bowl Regatta.

Resignations:

- Kenneth Carr, Brad Smith, and Mike Wilfley.

Spring Series RC Duty

March

5th Race 1 Ensign
12th Race 2 Centerboard Handicap
26^h Race 3 Keel Fleet A

April

2nd Race 4 Keel Fleet B
9th Race 5 Keel Fleet C

Sunfish Fleet News

by Frank Woodul

Our first meeting on February 13 got us off to an early start and we got a lot done. We had about two dozen attend and started the planning for our first big event. Our club and Sunfish Fleet 70 are hosting the Women's Sunfish North Americans. Vic and Pat Manning are coordinating the event and need everyone's help. Please call 266-7255 or email ManningVP@aol.com, if you haven't already volunteered to do something. This event is scheduled for May 5, 6, and 7. There will probably be 40 to 50 women, most from out of town and we have promised them lodging and boats, if they need them. Please let Vicki Palmer (266-0692, v.palmer@mail.utexas.edu) know if you can provide lodging for any of our guests. If you are willing to lend your boat, please let Joanne Weberlein know (266-7668, jlweb@swbell.net).

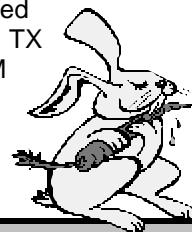
We also decided that during April, it would be fun to get together Wednesday evenings at 6 pm and Saturday at 1 pm to do some sailing clinics, rigging seminars, tactical discussions, and if the weather is good, do some sailing.

Remember that our Wednesday night races start May 3rd. I will get a Race Committee Schedule out by the next newsletter. Hope to see lots of Sunfish out in April.

17th Easter Laser Regatta

April 22-23, 2000

The Austin Yacht Club, Laser Fleet #22, Schroth Fiberglass, and the Easter Bunny himself are the proud sponsors of this event. Entry: \$20 to Fred Schroth, 15605 Checotah Drive, Austin, TX 78734 or at the regatta site before 9 AM Saturday, April 22, 2000. Information: Schroth Fiberglass at 512-266-7467 or KeelDude@aol.com or see web site: <http://www.laser.org/EASTER.html>.



J-24 Fleet News

by Eric Nelson

The J/24 Fleet got their Lake Travis one design racing season started a little earlier than in past years when we hosted the relocated Waco J/24 Circuit Stop the last weekend of February. 12 local J/24s helped make up the 26 boat fleet that raced, planed, wiped-out, you name it! in Saturday's 20+ kts of northwest breeze. Ray Shull, our PRO, even took the fleet on a little cruise as we raced the first race between B and C marks. As the wind built later in the day, it clocked just enough to allow the other 2 races on Saturday to be raced in the less confined area between E mark and U-Flote-Um. Unfortunately Sunday's winds did not build enough to hold any races in a timely fashion so all remaining races were abandoned. When it was all said and done, AYC's J/24 Fleet had 3 boats in the top 5 with Greg Buck, driving his boat Yikes!, one point out of 1st and the top AYC boat. Patrick Reynolds, showing off his AYC Youth Program developed skills, was 5th on his father's boat, Evil, Wicked, Mean & Nasty. It looks like it was a good call Patrick on putting your father on the bow and as far a way from you as possible! Complete results can be found by pointing your favorite web browser to <http://home.austin.rr.com/j24district14/2000Waco.htm>. Since many of the out of town J/24s are planning on returning to AYC the 3rd weekend of March for AYC's usual J/24 Circuit Stop, March Madness, they left their boats on the AYC point. I think it looks beautiful!, don't you? One more important item on this regatta....the fleet wishes to thank all the AYC members who helped out on RC as well as our PRO and the Judges (Vic Manning, Dane Ohe and Bruce Foster). And a special thanks goes to Tom Cunningham for being quick to assist the RC when their only on board anchor parted from its rode 1:40 before the start of Race 2! Without his help, the fleet would have had a very long postpone on the water in some pretty rough conditions.

With Opening Day just a week after the circuit stop it might be expected that the J/24 Fleet would have had a small turnout for the first AYC Series race in 2000. Well we had 10 boats out for Opening Day! I guess the fleet got pretty fired up over Anne Ellzey's great Opening Day Brunch (or was it the champagne punch?) because the fleet was determined to get its moneys worth from the RC, forcing 2 general recalls and finally getting a race off under an individual recall signal. Except for a couple of lead boats that stretched out, the racing was tight around the whole course; one example was Leo Anderson's 3 Sheets to the Wind overlapped with Phil Spletter's Double Trouble coming into the finish. Double Trouble nipped 3 Sheets to the Wind for 3rd by shooting the line with precision timing! The second J/24 start of the day got off more quickly (but still under an individual recall flag) and it had its own close mark rounding situations. Unfortunately one of the bad habits I thought we had gotten away from resurfaced in the sec-

ond race, yes I am talking about room at the mark protests and boats forcing situations where one boat can not avoid another and contact is made! Let's work on avoiding these situations by giving room and maybe discussing it off the water to help all involved learn from one another.....enough on that subject! Looking ahead, I expect we will have even a few more boats for the second Spring Series race day as it will be the last opportunity to practice before March Madness, come out and join the fun!

In case you have not had a chance to keep up with some recent Board activity I thought I would mention a couple of big decisions that were made recently that may effect our fleet indirectly. The first one is that we will probably have to deal with more "flat bellies" passing us on the race course (as if having to race against Patrick Reynolds, John Bowden, Lauren Foster and Ryan Harden isn't enough)! The reason is that the Board approved spending some real money on a new go-fast Optimist Dingy fleet. With that kind of training equipment in the hands of our high powered Sail Training Committee (with names like Foster, Lackey, Kern Rochard and Bartlett), I for one am getting mentally prepared to watch the kids coming out of that program pass me by on the race course someday soon! The program is gaining real momentum, try to be a part of it. The second item is more calming; a new replacement dock! Yes, the Board also approved a big chunk of change to replace Dock 6 with one of those fancy Yacht Harbor Marina type docks with concrete gang planks, etc. I guess after taking care of jump starting the new youth program, they had to throw something in for us more experienced (a nice way to say old!) members. As you can see, a lot is going on with the board these days, you should try to come out to the board meetings to check it out (7 PM every 4th Thursday of the month).

Finally I wanted to plug the upcoming March Madness circuit stop scheduled for March 18-19. Any J/24 Fleet members that may want to participate in their boats or as crew and are looking to connect with others with an eye on finalizing their plans, feel free to e-mail or call me (ennelson@us.ibm.com or 331-7983). I will be glad to help where I can. We expect possibly even a few more boats (including maybe some old timers coming out of self imposed retirement...you know who you are!), so help us make this the largest J/24 Circuit turnout in years. Even if you are not able to race, feel free to come out Friday (3/17) early evening to the AYC Clubhouse during registration for free beer and appetizers. If you are reading this as a non J/24 Fleet member and you were thinking of participating in our local circuit stop with your crew, feel free to also contact me as I might be able to help you find a boat...we have had several PHRF and other One Design Fleet based teams compete with us in the past!

Spring Regatta

by Kevin Reynolds

You are cordially invited to participate in the 2000 Spring Regatta hosted by the Austin Yacht.

Date: Saturday, April 15, 1998.

Event: A single day, one race, regatta open to monohull keel boats, centerboard boats, and multihull boats. Boats will race to the vicinity of Lakeway and back.

Classes: For one-design fleets a minimum of five boats will constitute a class. Keel handicap classes will be divided into spinnaker and non-spinnaker classes and will use the PHRF of Lake Travis handicap rating system.

PHRF Handicap Certificate: Measurement is not required, but each boat racing in any PHRF handicap class must have a PHRF Handicap Certificate on file with AYC or must complete one at registration. A boat without a PHRF Handicap Certificate on file will not be scored.

Scoring: The Low Point Scoring System described in Appendix A of the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), except as modified by the sailing instructions, will be used.

Schedule of Events:

Friday, April 14

7:00 - 8:00 PM AYC Open House

Saturday, April 15

9:00 - 10:00 AM

10:30 AM

11:30 AM

After races

On-site Registration

Complimentary Breakfast

On-site Registration

Skippers' Meeting

Warning Signal for Race

Dinner and Awards

Rules and Equipment: This regatta will be governed by the current Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS), the prescriptions of the United States Sailing Association (US Sailing), the rules of each class concerned (except as any of these are altered by the regatta sailing instructions), and by the regatta sailing instructions. Sailing instructions will be available during registration. Registration will not be accepted for boats without numbers on their mainsails and spinners.

Trophies: Prizes will be awarded within each class:

| | | | |
|----------------|---|-----------------|---|
| 3 - 4 entries | 1 | 11 - 14 entries | 4 |
| 5 - 6 entries | 2 | 15+ entries | 5 |
| 7 - 10 entries | 3 | | |

A prize will also be awarded to the first boat in each class, based on corrected time, to reach Lakeway.

Fax your registration to: 266-9804

For information, call: 266-1336

✂(cut line).....

AYC 2000 Spring Regatta Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Club Affiliation: _____

Phone: (h) _____ (w): _____ (fax): _____

Boat Type & Length: _____ Sail #: _____ Boat Name: _____

Spinnaker: ____ Non-Spinnaker: ____ PHRF Rating: _____ # of Crew (including skipper): _____

| <u>Registration:</u> | <u>Quantity</u> | <u>Unit Cost</u> | <u>Total Cost</u> |
|--|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Boat Registration | _____ | \$25.00 | _____ |
| US Sailing Discount (Member No: _____) | _____ | <\$5.00> | _____ |
| Registration Fees | _____ | | _____ |

Regatta Meals:

| | | | |
|---------------------|-------|---------|-------|
| Hamburger Dinner | _____ | \$ 4.00 | _____ |
| Chicken Wrap Dinner | _____ | \$ 4.00 | _____ |
| Meal Fees | _____ | | _____ |

Total Fees: _____

AYC Account Number: _____

RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT: In consideration for its sponsorship of the event, I hereby release Austin Yacht Club, its officers, agents and members (the "Club") from any and all claims for personal injuries or property damage in any manner related to this event or the operation of the Club. I hereby acknowledge that it is always the individual responsibility of each skipper to determine whether to start or continue racing. I agree to be bound by The Racing Rules of Sailing and by all other rules that govern this event.

Date _____ Signature _____

Catalina 22 Fleet News

by Jon Fitch

On Sunday, February 6, the fleet held a boat tuning day. The morning started out next to the fireplace (it was a cool morning and the fire felt good) with Pete Harper leading us through a white board session. Pete brought some really neat photos of various sails with different sail trim for different air conditions. Nearly all of the photos were from the perspective of laying on the foredeck looking up at the jib.

From this perspective you could really see the fullness of each sail and the draft location with different types of sail trim. After the whiteboard session we went down to the docks where

Pete demonstrated how to tune the rig for optimal performance. While some of us were doing rig tuning, Ted Owens held a boat measuring session. Thanks also to Dave Rehberg for offering boat tuning tips (and crewing tips later in the day). After a hearty lunch we ventured out for some on the water tuning and match racing. After jockeying back and forth for position and changing a lot of things on each

boat, I think everyone who came is a believer in the value of match racing. No many of the America's Cup contenders are two boat campaigns!



Bill Wheat and Lynn Lilly on the leeward rail trying to give the sails some shape.

The AYC Keel Handicap Fleet Frostbite Series is over. We had a total of five boats including Gary Payne, Wade Bingham, Bill Wheat (with Crew Lynn Lilly), Jon Fitch (with Omar Zia helming), and David Grogono (with crew Jen and Martin). Bill and Lynn had a couple of really good races, but Wade found definitely knew how to play the shifts. The Grogono's had several moments of glory and would have had many more if only they had had a whisker pole for downwind. What was supposed to be a five

race series turned into only a three race series. The last race on February 12th was called off for lack of wind, and the race on January 29th was called off for cold weather and rain. But, according to Pete, the weather cleared up rapidly and anyone who didn't come out on the 29th missed a beautiful day of sailing. Photos from the Frostbite series have been posted to our web site (Thank You Jim Johnstone!) at <http://members.aol.com/CatFleet69/>.



Omar Zia helms "Moonlight Sonata".



New members David, Martin, and Jen Grogono on their C22.

Get psyched for Opening Day and Spring Series... It's going to be a great year!

PHRF Handicap Committee News

by John Mandell

The PHRF Handicap committee operates on a quarterly calendar. Requests for rating reviews that are received by the 25th of the first month are initially reviewed, and then an open meeting is scheduled to receive input and comments from other owners. The committee then meets at a later date in a closed meeting and changes are announced at the end of the quarter. If there are no pending requests, an open review committee is not scheduled.

A review can be initiated by (a) the Handicap Committee, (b) an owner (AYC member) requesting a review of their own boat/class, or (c) an owner requesting a review of any other boat/class. Requests for review by owners must be made in writing and submitted to the PHRF committee either by email to John Mandell (jmandell@pointech.com), or to him at the AYC office or PO Box 202497, Austin, TX 78720.

The deadline for submitting a re-

quest for review for the 2nd quarter will be March 25, 2000.

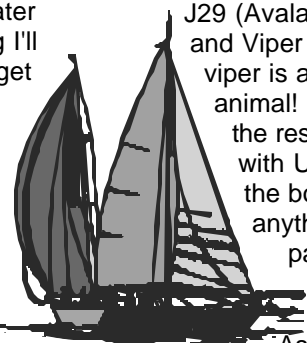
This is the first in a series of articles regarding the PHRF Handicap Committee at AYC. If you have questions about the committee or the process involved in setting or reviewing ratings, please feel free to personally contact any of the Committee: Trenton Wann (Chairman), Bryan Bayendorffer, Barry Bowden, John Mandell, Tim McKenna, and Claude Welles.

A Fleet News

by Scott Spurlin

I attended the February board meeting. The B&G committee greatly appreciated the turnout of anyone who attended the club cleanup day. So for those A-fleeters that helped out with this pat yourself on the back-it really looks great, especially in the trailer storage area. The club also voted to get 10 new Optimists. It looks as if the Jr. Program is going to get a big boost this year. I've been telling some of my interested friends to get their kids out for camp this summer. If you run across friends with kids that may have an interest in water sports mention the program to them. I'm betting I'll still need crew in ten or so years – may as well get them started now!

At our KHF Fleet Captains meeting we discussed making the Wild Turkey Regatta a two day event for charity. This was voted on and unanimously approved. This request was then presented to the board and once again approved. Now that yours truly has opened his big mouth I've got a Regatta to put together. I have been talking with Jim Hesser of Lake Texoma. Jim started the Lakefest Regatta ten or so years ago and it is really a model Regatta. The concept is that we put on a first class Regatta with community support. The charity fundraising comes from: corporate sponsorships, spectator fees, silent auctions, etc. The sailors are not tagged with additional fees just the normal regatta entry fee's etc. Last year at Texoma the Hobie 33 class was the featured class and ten Hobies raced the evening prior to the regatta with 3 corporate crew. Each corporation donated \$10,000 plus to the charity for this event. I'll be getting more details from Jim on



organization, what worked, what didn't. If your interested in helping out with this drop me a line. The idea is to start with a quality event and grow it over the years. If Lakefest can come out of nowhere and be regarded as one of the best events I bet we can do the same on Travis.

Opening Day, 5 March, had great winds and close racing! In attendance were: F31, F28, 11 Metre (Wasabi), J29 (Avalanche), Lindemurgh, Hobie 33 (SoLong), and Viper 830 (Animal). Jeff did you know that a viper is a snake and a snake is a reptile not an animal! Hope to see a few more of you out for the rest of the series! Remember we can work with UT and now Westwood High school to get the boats crewed out. Let me know if there is anything we can do to help with more participation. After all, the more the merrier and we all get to be better sailors.

As I was putting the finishing touches on my bottom job the other night I noticed a big slick new boat making its way through the AYC gate. Went and checked it out and discovered we have a prospective A-Fleeter-with a J105 (hull #1). I'm on it! We will get him racing with us. He moved the boat up here from Corpus Christ where he raced it occasionally.

I didn't make the deadline for this months newsletter. If anyone has any news let me know and I will get it in for next month.

Jobson Presentation at AYC

Sailing 2000 is going to be an exciting year beginning with the America's Cup races in New Zealand, continuing with the Olympic Games in Sydney and a variety of other fascinating events ranging from speed sailing to adventure cruising.

Over the past 20 plus years Gary Jobson has given over 1,200 presentations throughout the world. Immediately following America's Cup 2000, he will start presenting a completely revised program. AYC will be one of the first on a long list of eager audiences.

America's con 2000

- The inside story of the America's Cup
- Sailing in New Zealand
- What is next for the Americas Cup in 2003?

Expedition Cruising

- Cape Horn
- Antarctica
- Maine

Ultimate Sailing

- 1999 Fastnet Race
- Speed Sailing
- Preview the Volvo Ocean Race
- Preview Sydney 2000 Olympics



Date: Saturday, 1 April

Venue: AYC Clubhouse

Times: 3:00 - 4:00 PM Jr. Sailing Program
6:00 PM Dinner

Cost: \$20 AYC Members \$30 Non-members

7:00 PM Multi-media Evening Presentation

Reservations: 266-1336 (AYC only till 1 March)

Austin Yacht Club
5906 Beacon Drive
Austin, Texas 78734 -1428

