

March 2001

Monthly Newsletter

Board of Directors

Commodore	Phil Spletter
Im. Past Commodore	Rob Wilson
Vice Commodore	Vic Manning
Secretary	Kelly Hawk
Treasurer	Becky Heston
Race Commander	Paul Brandner
Buildings & Grounds	Mike Parker
Harbor Commander	Greg Buck
Sail Training	Tim McKenna

AYC Staff

General Manager	Nancy Boulmay
Office Manager	Arthur Spradlin
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

info@austinyachtclub.org
www.austinyachtclub.org

AYC Business Hours

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

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

Club Holidays

New Year's Day	1 January
Easter Sunday	15 April
Independence Day	4 July
Thanksgiving Day	22 November
Shopping Day	23 November
Christmas Day	25 December

From the Commodore

We had a great opening day! The weather was fabulous with a large turnout including over 20 past commodores. After the ceremonies, 70 boats sailed the first race of the new season. Thanks to Bay Peterson, Amy Olmstead and all of the volunteers who worked so hard to put on a very enjoyable day. AYC's 2001 racing season is off to a great start!

When preparing for opening day, it occurred to me how diverse the sport of sailing really is. It is possible to sail at many different levels for an entire lifetime. While sailboat racing on Lake Travis remains the primary focus of our club, many of our members cruise here and all over the world. Juniors and adults race traveling circuits. Several members have built or restored boats.

AYC is the home of the UT sailing team which has produced five All-Americans and is currently nationally

ranked. Over the years, AYC has produced the only three-time Mallery Cup champion, an Olympic silver medallist and two PamAm gold medallists. Last year, teams from AYC won the Catalina 22 National Championship and placed second at the Ensign Nationals.

Another team won the J/24 Texas Circuit and qualified to sail in the J/24 Worlds. Three AYCers sailed in the Sunfish World Championship including the seventh place winner.

As we enter the 2001 sailing season (well ahead of many yacht clubs), stay tuned to the accomplishments of our sailors. I'm looking forward to a great year of sailing and sailboat racing at AYC and beyond.

See you on the water,

Phil



Opening Day

March 4, 2001



Past & Present Commodores stand together under the flagpole for a group photo. They include: Francis McIntyre (1960), Clift Price (1965 & 75), Tom Romberg (1970 & 1971), Larry Neimann (1974), Jack Breen (1977), Sanford Bauman (1978), Ed Halter (1979), Ray Lott (1982), Steve Vaughan (1985), Trenton Wann (1987), Claude Welles (1988), Gail Bernstein (1990 & 1991), Roy Smith (1993), David Henderson (1994), Dennis Awbrey (1995), Ray Shull (1996), Bruce Foster (1997), Lanelle Montgomery (1998), Voldi Maki (1999), Rob Wilson (2000), and Phil Spletter (2001).

Upcoming AYC Events

March 24	UT Alumni Regatta	May 5	Club Level US Sailing Events
March 24-25	AYC Junior Roadrunner	May 6	Summer Series 1
April 1	Spring Series 4	May 12	Club Level US Sailing Events- Backup
April 7	C-15 District Regatta	May 13	KHF Doublehanded Race / Luau
April 8	Spring Series 5	May 19	Summer Series 2
April 14-15	Easter Laser Regatta, O'Day Qualifiers	May 20	Sail Training Skillbuilding Event
April 21	Spring Regatta	May 26	Summer Series 3
April 28-29	SC-21 Intergalactics		Memorial Day Weekend

Lies, Rumors & Accidental Facts of B-Fleet

by Mark Bradford

Opening Day, Mar 4, 2001

It is mid-morning at the Bradford house and the following discussion is taking place. "We're going to sail as a family today," says Suzanne. Dylan (3 year old "Pram bait" son) who has spent the latter end of the previous week at home with a fever and ear infection is starting to develop acute cabin fever. So am I. Since I am stuck with this B- Fleet Captain thing, I am thinking I should be occasionally seen on the race course in my boat rounding the floating anchored things.

"Can we at least start a race,?" I beg.

"Yeah, but we may have to drop out" replies Suzanne.

Later in the day, during our prep signal, as we reach toward the pin end, I dive through the companion-way and begin to look for our Long Distance Course sheet. I find four of them. Two dated 97 and a couple dated Mar 99. Thinking that maybe D4 could possibly be current on the 99 list, I leave the typical confusion of our S2's cabin and take the helm from Suzanne, who is still trying to convince Dylan to stay in the cockpit, or at least on board. We come about and head for the typical confusion developing at the boat end of the line to make our start.

We head for D mark and Dylan who was previously fearless begins to scream, "The boat!, the boat!" This is his way of complaining about the angle of heel.

"We cannot do another weather leg." states Suzanne.

"Can yall jump off at the rigging dock?"

"O.K., just bring my jacket home later. I don't need it now.

"No problem," I say, thinking maybe I can still do the time limit. Between D mark and I mark I slip into the harbor and they leap off at the rigging dock with a bag of food and clothing for Dylan. I round I mark, after solidly securing last position in the fleet, and begin to think about left verses right on my way back to D mark. My phone rings. I answer.

"I'm pretty sure that the car keys that I need are in the pocket of that jacket that I didn't. could you drop them off at the rigging dock on your way back to D?", my wife requests.

"Sure, what the heck." This influences my choice to use the left side of the lake as I beat back to the rigging dock. I toss the unneeded jacket, with the needed car keys zipped into the pocket to Suzanne, as I pass the rigging dock. The phone, knocked from the lifeline by the jacket, tumbles toward the cold surface of Lake Travis. Suzanne manages to bat the phone into the cockpit as I trim back up to round Kellers point on my way back to D. On the way to K mark I fondly remember days of yore when the race committee would sometimes pull the pin as I made my way to the finish line. I round K doing a 270 degree turn to starboard and am pleased to notice that not only is the line is still there but I can lay the pin end without tacking. I pop the top on my last beer and cross the finish line shrugging at RC because I don't know if I have made the time limit. I hear a beep and believe that I have recieved my hard earned DFL. I had a good time and that is why I came out anyway.

Congratulations to the Saunders & Steve Brown who took Opening Day Regatta 1st for B fleet with a J22. Bay Petersen in Tempress (Catalina 27) took 2nd. Each winner recieved a wooden knife suitable for sneaking through the metal detectors at airport security. May all your flights be on time and not cancelled guys. Well done. Thanks to Bay Petersen for organizing Opening Day and for his editorial in the February Telltale.

Please come out and race Keel Spinnaker with us so we can have more fleets with realistic handicap divisions.

AUSTIN YACHT CLUB

2001 SPRING REGATTA REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Club Affiliation _____

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

Boat Type and Length _____ Sail # _____ Boat Name _____

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

REGISTRATION:

	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Unit Cost</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
Boat Registration	_____	\$25.00	_____
US SAILING DISCOUNT	_____	<\$ 5.00>	_____
Membership No. _____			

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES: _____

Meals:

_____ \$ 5.00 _____

TOTAL FEES _____

AYC Charge 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 _____

E-mail registration to: ayc@austinyachtclub.org

Fax your registration to: 266-9804

For information, call: 266-1336

TSA Junior Circuit

By Tim Arnold

PORT ARTHUR YACHT CLUB MARDI GRAS REGATTA

FEBRUARY 24-25

Port Arthur Yacht Club hosted the first TSA Jr. Circuit Regatta for the season. The event was the second for this club since they began participating in the Circuit. This year attendance was up, and so were the breeze and the chop for the first day on Lake Sabine. Conditions were marginal, but the thunderstorms never developed. Four races were sailed Saturday, with some boats retiring after repeated capsizes and mud stains from the lake bottom for proof. The race committee wisely kept the Optis in the Harbor, where 15 boats sailed in planing conditions on short courses with smooth water.

The Regatta coincided with the Port Arthur Mardi Gras festivities. After racing everyone headed for the Party downtown, plenty of fun for kids of all ages. Sunday's weather was moderate and turned sunny and warm. Matt Arnold and Jacob Wheat won the first race in conditions more to their liking. The boys were in second in the next race when it was abandoned for exceeding the time limit. Matt and Jacob came home with a fifth place trophy in their first Regatta in the 420 fleet, and lots of beads.

Everyone we talked with is looking forward to our Road Runner Regatta March 24-25.

We expect a good turn out, and some tough competition in the growing 420 fleet, as well as the Lasers, and lots of new Opti sailors coming into the Circuit in the Green Fleet. AYC Juniors are encouraged to come out to practice and join in the fun.

Road Warriors

By Phil Spletter



This month, a group of AYCers including John Mandell, Scott Walsh, Cynthia Creamer and Dave Boerner went to the SORC in Miami to sail on Jeff Jones's dad's Aerodyne 38. They ended up fifth in class.

Fred Schroth got a new van. It should be able to get a whole fleet of Lasers and Laser sailors to regattas. I'm sure that he'll be burning up the roads in his new ride.

Voldi Maki is planning to take his F-28R to Rockport for a regatta there.

Finally, this month, I'm going to meet the Mannings and Jerry Parlee at the Sunfish International Masters regatta in Port Charlotte, Florida.

Out on the horizon, Jamie Thompson is planning to sail the BT Challenge next year. Now, that's a road trip!



SPRING REGATTA

April 21, 2001

You are cordially invited to participate in the 2001 Spring Regatta hosted by the Austin Yacht Club on beautiful Lake Travis in Austin, Texas.

DATE

Saturday April 21, 2001.

EVENT

A single day, one race, regatta open to monohull keel boats, centerboard boats, and multihull boats. On Saturday, April 21st, all 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, and will be used.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Pre-registration will be accepted until 4:00PM on Wednesday, April 18. The registration form may faxed, mailed, or e-mailed to the AYC office. See the AYC website at www.austinyachtclub.org for the e-mail registration form.

Saturday, April 21

- 9:00 a.m. On-site registration opens.
Complimentary breakfast served.
- 11:00 a.m. Registration closes.
- 11:30 a.m. Skippers' meeting (skippers must be registered before skippers' meeting).
- 12:30 p.m. Warning signal for race.
- After races:** Dinner and Awards

RULES AND EQUIPMENT

This regatta will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing for 2001-2004 (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 spinnakers.**

TROPHIES

Prizes will be awarded within each class as follows:

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

FACILITIES

There are limited campsites available on the AYC grounds. Showers and restrooms are available to all regatta participants and guests. Some cabins and screened shelters are available for rent. Please contact the AYC office at 266-1336 for cabin rentals. **Pets and fireworks are strictly prohibited on AYC grounds.**



RACE OFFICE TRAINING & CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

BASIC RACE MANAGEMENT SEMINAR

APRIL 22, 2001

Austin Yacht Club, 5906 Beacon Drive, Austin TX

The US SAILING Race Management Committee and the Austin Yacht Club are sponsoring this seminar. It is designed for people who have some race committee experience. However, newcomers are also welcome. It will be held at the Austin Yacht Club, will begin at 0800 and end at 1800.

The topics covered include: RC objectives, competition formats, sailing instructions, RC jobs, RC equipment, race day preparations, setting the course, starts, during the race, finishing, post-race RC responsibilities, and scoring.

The principal instructor for the seminar is Jim Tichenor. Jim is a US SAILING National Race Officer. He is also the Area Race Officer for Area F. Gail Bernstein, a senior Race Officer and Judge, and Vic Manning, a Certified Club Race Officer, will assist.

At the seminar you will need your own copy of *The Racing Rules of Sailing* ("RRS"), and you will be asked to purchase a copy of *Join the Race Committee Team* for \$10. People who register will be sent a set of race management Study Questions to be used in preparation for the seminar.

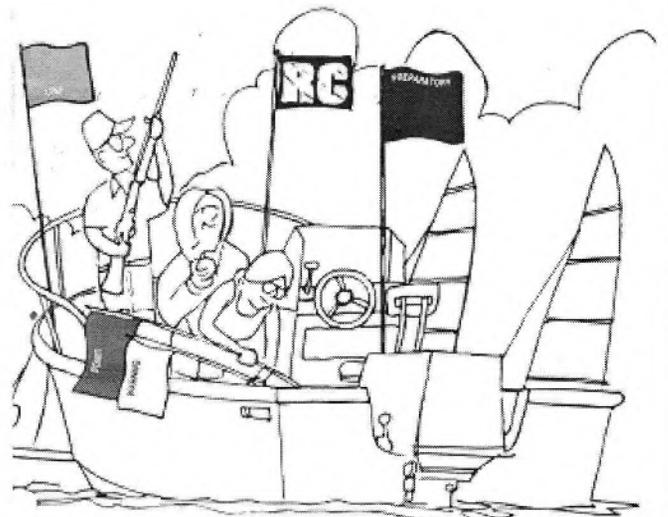
The Club Race Officer certification text, which is given at the conclusion of the seminar, is optional. However, in order to be certified in US SAILING's new race officer program, you are required to attend a complete basic seminar, and to pass the test. In order to be certified as a Club Race Officer you will also need to have your own copy of the current (1997) US SAILING *Race Management Handbook*, and meet the program's other criteria.

The workshop fee (\$20.00) includes: continental breakfast, morning and afternoon breaks, lunch, and all workshop materials. A registration form is enclosed. **Advance registration is required, and the number of participants is limited to 30. The deadline for advance registration is April 15, 2001.**

Sunday April 22, 2001

- 0800 Registration and continental breakfast
- 0830 Seminar begins
- 1230 Lunch (provided)
- 1645 Seminar continues
- 1700 Test
- 1800 Seminar concludes

For further information contact
Gail Bernstein at (512) 261-0883
or fax (512) 261-0893
or e-mail gcb@austin.rr.com



J 24

J/24 Fleet News

By Eric Nelson

The Austin J/24 Fleet was very busy in February, despite Opening Day not until March! Early in the month we had a strong turnout at Frostbite, with 12 different boats competing. As you can see below, the top four boats were separated only by 6 points. Congratulations to Roger Harden and his Running on Empty team, it is great to see one of the original AYC J/24 Fleet boats still tearing them up!

Running on Empty (Roger Harden)	3	DNC(5)	1	RC(3)	1	13
Superman (Dave Broadway)	1	3	3	3	3	13
JailBreak (Dave Wahlberg)	2	1	8	1	5	17
RagTag (Leon Lance)	7	2	4	RC(4)	2	19
mr. happy (Bob Harden)	DNC(8)	DNC(5)	DNC(9)	2	4	28
3 Sheets/Wind (Leo Anderson)	5	DNC(5)	6	5	7	28
Yikes! (Greg Buck)	DNC(8)	DNC(5)	2	RC(6)	DNC(10)	31
Shadowfax (Scott Walsh)	DNC(8)	DNC(5)	DNC(9)	4	6	32
Out of Control (Stephen Burke)	6	4	7	6	9	32
Aeolian (Butch & Pam Wilson)	4	DNC(5)	DNC(9)	DNC(8)	DNC(10)	36
OOH AHH! (Dave Gamble)	DNC(8)	DNC(5)	DNC(9)	DNC(8)	8	38
Run A Muck (Ravi Subramanian)	DNC(8)	DNC(5)	DNC(9)	7	DNC(10)	39

Of course the Frostbite was just a prelude to one of the bigger J/24 Fleet events at AYC; the Lake Travis stop of the J/24 Texas Circuit. 32 boats converged at AYC (including 13 local boats) for this 2 day event. We had boats from Colorado to Corpus and sailors all the way from San Diego come in to compete. The Mardi Gras theme was well in evidence during registration with beads flying everywhere and a craps table set up where you "rolled the bones" (and I mean real bones) to determine what measurement item would be spot checked on your boat. We had great wind on Saturday, allowing the fleet to complete the scheduled 3 races by mid afternoon. After taking advantage of 2 kegs of Sam Adams provided that day by our sponsors, most everyone boarded the charter bus to head for a evening of more sponsored beer and discounted food at Carlos 'n' Charlies' downstairs party room. At one point we easily had over 80 people packing the place! Sunday was more of a struggle, wind wise, with what seems to be the traditional dying norther, going east southerly breeze



Tight mark roundings and overlapped runs typified the J/24 circuit Racing.

struggle, wind wise, with what seems to be the traditional dying norther, going east southerly breeze

Continued on next page



RACE MANAGEMENT SEMINAR REGISTRATION FORM

TO: Austin Yacht Club
5906 Beacon Drive
Austin, Texas 78734-1428
Attn: Gail Bernstein

Please register me for the Basic US SAILING Race Management Seminar on Sunday, April 22, at the Austin Yacht Club.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

(Mailing address is required for study questions and test results.)

Registration Fees:

- | | |
|---|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seminar Registration | \$20.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchase <i>Join the Race Committee Team Book</i> | \$10.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Already own <i>Join the Race Committee Team Book</i> | N/A |
| Total | _____ |

Payment:

- My check for \$_____ payable to the Austin Yacht Club is enclosed.
- I am an AYC member. Charge \$_____ to my account #: _____

Signature

- I am a US SAILING Club Race Officer.
- I am a US SAILING Senior Race Officer.
- I am a US Sailing Certified Judge.
- I have served on the Race Committee as PRO in the past.
- I plan to take the test.

Advance registration is required.

The completed registration and seminar fee must be received at the Austin Yacht Club by April 15, 2001.

Hi there, please pass the peanuts

by Barry Thornton—D-Fleet Captain

I would like to thank Bay Peterson for his astute observation of the problem of participation and attendance in Fleet racing at AYC. We do have a severe problem occurring here. In my 16 months of membership I have heard this discussed many times, but without a useable solution set ever being offered. I must ask, realistically, is collapsing D-Fleet back into A and B a viable solution? Bluntly put, by Bay's admission, A and B Fleets are shrinking; D Fleet is growing. Wouldn't it perhaps be better to clone D-Fleet's managed successes rather than to force A & B Fleets, ah, err, shall we say lack of control of their own destinies upon D-Fleet? It would seem that cloning would be a smarter thing to do. But in the end this is only an effort to treat the symptoms; it does not deal with the problem.

The club as a whole must deal with the real issue, which is the global problem of failing attendance. The profundity of this problem is more apparent in view of the fact that Austin has grown in population while the club's active participation has been getting smaller. What is wrong here?

Geriatric-ification (aging non-participating club population)? Well, certainly there is some of that. Cerebral calcification (narrowing of mental bandwidth or hardening of the attitudes)? Well yes, I have seen some of that too. Fat and happy, don't rock the boat (a bunch of us enjoy the benefits paid for by another bunch that only pay dues and don't show up)? Yeah, there certainly is that flavor (my family uses the facilities in the summer and no one else is here, what a deal!) Are we only a marina to many? (Definitely, though I understand that Harbor Committee is putting pressure on this issue, Hats off to Harbor).

How about this - it stopped being fun for a lot of folks. Now there's a cause whose effect seems to hit a nerve. If the old 80-20 rule is true (it sure seems to be for almost all other aspects of human nature) then only 2 of every 10 members are going to be serious racers, the rest are here for some other form of fun which clearly involves racing and water but not competitive racing as an end. Could it be that the fun is disappearing?

My vote is for the problem being that it is not fun anymore for a lot of folks. Fun is relative to the individual. Fun changes with time and conditions. Your fun may not be my fun, although because we all volunteered to join this club we probably share some underlying common assumptions about what fun is. I think we need to put the fun back into all of this – or fade away.

So in closing, let me challenge all of you to this. Let us, as a club, turn our attention to the issue of increasing the fun factor. Let us try to understand the broader meaning of this fun and re-institute it in our club. To do this we must spend some more (but not too much) time talking about what it is we all want and what we want to share with each other. Join me, under our club's Board of Directors, to put our collective noses to the grindstone and work this out. We must agree on the goal, identify a strategy to achieve that goal, then cut through the BS with hard tactics to achieve the next generation of AYC's success as a fun place and superior racing club. Most of us manipulate our destinies in our vocations, so we know how. Now let's do it in this shared avocation for our common good. How do we do this? It's done by force-of-will and getting active – do you have the will to make this happen in your club?

Oh yeah, got any more peanuts?

C-22's Have A Record Turn Out on Opening Day

by Jon Fitch

Opening Day started off with a stampede of C22's . . . we had a record 13 boats on the starting line! Out racing were Pete Harper, Bob Jones, Jon Fitch, Roy Crouse, Wade Bingaman & Ken White-side, Steve & Meri Shepardson, George Robison, Larry Hill & Becky Waddell, Ted Owens, Jim Johns-



Pete Harper, Dave Rehberg and the crew of Hummingbird.

tone, Steve & Cheryl Pervier, Chris Thomas and Chris Thompson, and Omar Zia. As I watched the first start, I couldn't believe how aggressive everyone was . . . there were all kinds of shouts of "head up, head up" as boats were trying to take one another up over the line. It was a start that would have made the J/24's proud. In fact, the J/24 start was "civilized" by comparison! Not only was the racing good, but the weather gods of Lake Travis also cooperated . . . the temperature was around 60 degrees with winds that varied from a steady 8-10 with puffs up to 15 or so. The day just couldn't have been more perfect!



Nice graphics Roy . . . Looks even better on the water!

In the morning there was a lovely buffet breakfast in the clubhouse followed by the Opening Day and flag raising ceremonies. Present at the ceremo-

nies, though not sailing their C22's, were Mac McIntyre, Dane Ohe, Michael Stan, Paul Brandner, and Walter Allan. After the races, Joann Robison had frozen Margaritas with chips and hot dip waiting for us on the patio. Those Margaritas were really good - thank you Joann! And, a sincere thanks to Wade Bingaman for doing a lot of phone calling over the last two weeks to help get everyone out for Opening Day.

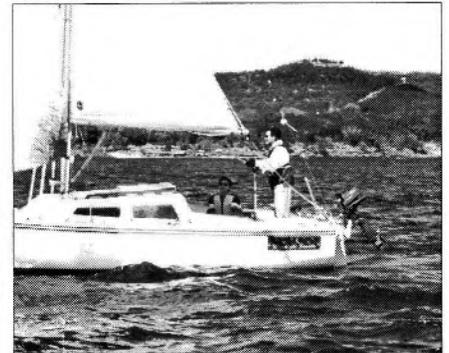
Opening Day of the Spring Series marked the first time AYC has used the new international/US Sailing starting system. Instead of using numeral pennants and an accompanying order of starts, the new system uses large flags with class logos to mark the starts, along with a slightly different set of audible horn signals. The class logos are a nice feature because you don't have to remember the order of starts.

Overall, the new starting system worked great! Speaking of starts, the Catalina 22's now have their very own start! Thank you PRC including Paul Brandner, Jim Johnstone, and Omar Zia.

On Sunday February 11th, Ted Owens helped the fleet with a Measuring Day. Wade Bingaman, Roy Crouse, Omar Zia, Dane Ohe, Jon Fitch, and Jim Johnstone came out. With Ted's help we got five boats partially or completely measured. At one point, we were measuring the girth on Wade Bingaman's main and it appeared to measure 1/2" too wide. It didn't take long before someone blurted out "I never knew an extra 1/2" could make a boat go so fast!" In case you missed Measuring Day but still want to get your boat measured, just give Ted a call. Ted - thanks for doing the measuring day!

The Frostbite series finished with a bang . . . several C22's came out to race in D-Fleet, under the modified handicap starting system, including Bob Jones, Tom Gardner, Jon Fitch, and Paul Brandner. Several C22 skippers used the series as an opportunity to sail on other boats. Ted Owens was out on Steve Starr's S2 and John Grzinich got a ride on Que Paso.

Hope you're always able to tack on the headers and find the lifts!



John Fitch and Jenny Loehlin on Moonlight Sonata



UT Sailing Program

by Tom Carson

Fourth Annual UT Alumni Regatta

UT will host its Fourth Annual Alumni Regatta on March 24th. All alumni of the UT Sailing Team are invited to come and participate in a day of collegiate style racing, catch up with friends and teammates, and meet the current team. This year's event will be run alongside the Road Runner TSA junior regatta, so a strong display of our alumni support will surely help recruiting. Lunch and beverages will be provided, so come out and enjoy a day on the point, and support the team.

The UT Sailing Team is currently raising money to purchase a new set of regatta sails for our fleet of eight FJ's. Our current sails have four years of sailing, two to three times per week on them, and are in need of nearly constant repair. We will continue to use these sails to practice, however with the SEISA qualifiers for both co-ed and team racing being held in Austin, as well as the inaugural Catherine Hammond Memorial inter-sectional next fall, the team desperately needs these sails.

We are ordering the sails the last week of February to have them by the Alumni Regatta. (This will be the first time they come out of the bag) We are asking for the support of the AYC members, as the sails cost nearly \$550 per set. (This by the way is the lowest price we could find, having shopped all major sailmakers). Check can be made to the University Of Texas, (write Sailing Team in the Memo Line) and are tax deductible. (The receipt will be sent to the address on the check, if you wish to have it sent elsewhere, please specify) They can be sent to:

The UT Sailing Team
908 W. 26th St
Austin TX 78705

Checks can also left with Nancy in the office. The team greatly appreciates your support, and understands, that without it, we could not be nearly as successful as we are today.



Ensign Fleet News

by Carolyn Wilsford

Well, I forgot to call the rain gods and tell them that we needed it to be sunny for the boat pull and race committee seminar last March 3. We did manage to get one boat and run the halyard, topping lift and installed the wind vane and spreader boots.

A big welcome to Ken Jolly with his Pearson Electra who will be starting with us on the line. The Pearson Electra has the same hull, a larger cabin, and a mast head rig instead of a fractional rig. By the way, the PHRF rating is the same as the Ensign.

Our next social gathering, a BBQ, is set for April 1st at cabin #6 right after the fourth spring series race. We will be having a wedding shower for Tom Groll and his lovely fiancé Kelly Dowdle. Go Kelly, you got him!

See you on the line Ensigns.

Lies, Rumors & Accidental Facts of B-Fleet

by Mark Bradford

Opening Day, Mar 4, 2001

It is mid-morning at the Bradford house and the following discussion is taking place. "We're going to sail as a family today," says Suzanne. Dylan (3 year old "Pram bait" son) who has spent the latter end of the previous week at home with a fever and ear infection is starting to develop acute cabin fever. So am I. Since I am stuck with this B- Fleet Captain thing, I am thinking I should be occasionally seen on the race course in my boat rounding the floating anchored things.

"Can we at least start a race,?" I beg.

"Yeah, but we may have to drop out" replies Suzanne.

Later in the day, during our prep signal, as we reach toward the pin end, I dive through the companion-way and begin to look for our Long Distance Course sheet. I find four of them. Two dated 97 and a couple dated Mar 99. Thinking that maybe D4 could possibly be current on the 99 list, I leave the typical confusion of our S2's cabin and take the helm from Suzanne, who is still trying to convince Dylan to stay in the cockpit, or at least on board. We come about and head for the typical confusion developing at the boat end of the line to make our start.

We head for D mark and Dylan who was previously fearless begins to scream, "The boat!, the boat!" This is his way of complaining about the angle of heel.

"We cannot do another weather leg." states Suzanne.

"Can yall jump off at the rigging dock?"

"O.K., just bring my jacket home later. I don't need it now.

"No problem," I say, thinking maybe I can still do the time limit. Between D mark and I mark I slip into the harbor and they leap off at the rigging dock with a bag of food and clothing for Dylan. I round I mark, after solidly securing last position in the fleet, and begin to think about left verses right on my way back to D mark. My phone rings. I answer.

"I'm pretty sure that the car keys that I need are in the pocket of that jacket that I didn't. could you drop them off at the rigging dock on your way back to D?", my wife requests.

"Sure, what the heck." This influences my choice to use the left side of the lake as I beat back to the rigging dock. I toss the unneeded jacket, with the needed car keys zipped into the pocket to Suzanne, as I pass the rigging dock. The phone, knocked from the lifeline by the jacket, tumbles toward the cold surface of Lake Travis. Suzanne manages to bat the phone into the cockpit as I trim back up to round Kellers point on my way back to D. On the way to K mark I fondly remember days of yore when the race committee would sometimes pull the pin as I made my way to the finish line. I round K doing a 270 degree turn to starboard and am pleased to notice that not only is the line is still there but I can lay the pin end without tacking. I pop the top on my last beer and cross the finish line shrugging at RC because I don't know if I have made the time limit. I hear a beep and believe that I have recieved my hard earned DFL. I had a good time and that is why I came out anyway.

Congratulations to the Saunders & Steve Brown who took Opening Day Regatta 1st for B fleet with a J22. Bay Petersen in Temptress (Catalina 27) took 2nd. Each winner recieved a wooden knife suitable for sneaking through the metal detectors at airport security. May all your flights be on time and not cancelled guys. Well done. Thanks to Bay Petersen for organizing Opening Day and for his editorial in the February Telltale.

Please come out and race Keel Spinnaker with us so we can have more fleets with realistic handicap divisions.

The Austin J/24 Fleet was very busy in February, despite Opening Day not until March! Early in the month we had a strong turnout at Frostbite, with 12 different boats competing. As you can see below, the top four boats were separated only by 6 points. Congratulations to Roger Harden and his Running on Empty team, it is great to see one of the original AYC J/24 Fleet boats still tearing them up!

Running on Empty (Roger Harden)	3	DNC(5)	1	RC(3)	1	13
Superman (Dave Broadway)	1	3	3	3	3	13
JailBreak (Dave Wahlberg)	2	1	8	1	5	17
RagTag (Leon Lance)	7	2	4	RC(4)	2	19
mr. happy (Bob Harden)	DNC(8)	DNC(5)	DNC(9)	2	4	28
3 Sheets/Wind (Leo Anderson)	5	DNC(5)	6	5	7	28
Yikes! (Greg Buck)	DNC(8)	DNC(5)	2	RC(6)	DNC(10)	31
Shadowfax (Scott Walsh)	DNC(8)	DNC(5)	DNC(9)	4	6	32
Out of Control (Stephen Burke)	6	4	7	6	9	32
Aeolian (Butch & Pam Wilson)	4	DNC(5)	DNC(9)	DNC(8)	DNC(10)	36
OOH AHH! (Dave Gamble)	DNC(8)	DNC(5)	DNC(9)	DNC(8)	8	38
Run A Muck (Ravi Subramanian)	DNC(8)	DNC(5)	DNC(9)	7	DNC(10)	39

Of course the Frostbite was just a prelude to one of the bigger J/24 Fleet events at AYC; the Lake Travis stop of the J/24 Texas Circuit. 32 boats converged at AYC (including 13 local boats) for this 2 day event. We had boats from Colorado to Corpus and sailors all the way from San Diego come in to compete. The Mardi Gras theme was well in evidence during registration with beads flying everywhere and a craps table set up where you "rolled the bones" (and I mean real bones) to determine what measurement item would be spot checked on your boat. We had great wind on Saturday, allowing the fleet to complete the scheduled 3 races by mid afternoon. After taking advantage of 2 kegs of Sam Adams provided that day by our sponsors, most everyone boarded the charter bus to head for a evening of more sponsored beer and discounted food at Carlos 'n' Charlies' downstairs party room. At one point we easily had over 80 people packing the place! Sunday was more of a struggle, wind wise, with what seems to be the traditional dying norther, going east southerly breeze



Tight mark roundings and overlapped runs typified the J/24 circuit Racing.

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Continued on next page

J/24 Fleet News ... Continued from previous page

we have had the second day the last 3 years. Several boats were caught taking their boat apart at the rigging dock when RC put up the Yellow flag around 12:15pm (which may have been the last time Total Recall would hoist the yellow shape given the new starting rules...). A very light air "Lake Travis Special" had almost every boat in the lead at some point during the race. But after the last out of town boat was craned onto its trailer and the scores were tallied, Scott Young (coming out of a 5 year retirement from J/24s) showed he still remembered a few things about J/24s and won the regatta. 6 AYC skippered boats ended up in the top 10, not bad! Final scores are posted at <http://home.austin.rr.com/j24district14/2001MardiGrasMadness.htm>. A big THANKS goes out to all of you that helped make this widely successful regatta happen!



"Not all the action was on the water..."

Now on to AYC series races and some fleet socials (let's spend some of that hard earned money)! With Spring time at our door step, Leon is looking for ideas for some on and off the water social events, drop him a line at llance@crystal.cirrus.com with your ideas....

Regards, Eric
Austin J/24 Fleet Reporter
Voice: 512-838-0100
Fax: 512-838-3509
E-mail: ennelson@us.ibm.com

Calling All Young Sailors !!

Peanut Butter and Jelly Camp

The Peanut Butter & Jelly Series is the AYC introductory sailing program for children between ages four and seven. The series is currently planned for the last week in May and four weeks in June this year, and is open to members and non-members. Additional sessions may be added depending on the level of interest.

Olympic silver medallist Doug Kern has again bravely volunteered to lead the camp. If your child is interested, or if you know someone from outside the club whose child might be, please contact Bill or Kelly Hawk at 266-4661 or whawk@austin.rr.com.

Additionally, this year we are looking for young sailors between the ages of eight and twelve to assist the younger children in learning the basics of sailing. The first two weekends of the PB&J will also serve as refresher courses for the summer day camps in June. As a bonus, young sailors who assist with classes will have the opportunity to receive individual instruction from Doug Kern after class each day.



SPRING REGATTA

April 21, 2001

You are cordially invited to participate in the 2001 Spring Regatta hosted by the Austin Yacht Club on beautiful Lake Travis in Austin, Texas.

DATE

Saturday April 21, 2001.

EVENT

A single day, one race, regatta open to monohull keel boats, centerboard boats, and multihull boats. On Saturday, April 21st, all 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, and will be used.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Pre-registration will be accepted until 4:00PM on Wednesday, April 18. The registration form may faxed, mailed, or e-mailed to the AYC office. See the AYC website at www.austinyachtclub.org for the e-mail registration form.

Saturday, April 21

- 9:00 a.m. On-site registration opens.
Complimentary breakfast served.
- 11:00 a.m. Registration closes.
- 11:30 a.m. Skippers' meeting (skippers must be registered before skippers' meeting).
- 12:30 p.m. Warning signal for race.
- After races:** Dinner and Awards

RULES AND EQUIPMENT

This regatta will be governed by the Racing Rules of Sailing for 2001-2004 (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 spinnakers.**

TROPHIES

Prizes will be awarded within each class as follows:

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

FACILITIES

There are limited campsites available on the AYC grounds. Showers and restrooms are available to all regatta participants and guests. Some cabins and screened shelters are available for rent. Please contact the AYC office at 266-1336 for cabin rentals. **Pets and fireworks are strictly prohibited on AYC grounds.**

TSA Junior Circuit

By Tim Arnold

PORT ARTHUR YACHT CLUB MARDI GRAS REGATTA

FEBRUARY 24-25

Port Arthur Yacht Club hosted the first TSA Jr. Circuit Regatta for the season. The event was the second for this club since they began participating in the Circuit. This year attendance was up, and so were the breeze and the chop for the first day on Lake Sabine. Conditions were marginal, but the thunderstorms never developed. Four races were sailed Saturday, with some boats retiring after repeated capsizes and mud stains from the lake bottom for proof. The race committee wisely kept the Optis in the Harbor, where 15 boats sailed in planing conditions on short courses with smooth water.

The Regatta coincided with the Port Arthur Mardi Gras festivities. After racing everyone headed for the Party downtown, plenty of fun for kids of all ages. Sunday's weather was moderate and turned sunny and warm. Matt Arnold and Jacob Wheat won the first race in conditions more to their liking. The boys were in second in the next race when it was abandoned for exceeding the time limit. Matt and Jacob came home with a fifth place trophy in their first Regatta in the 420 fleet, and lots of beads.

Everyone we talked with is looking forward to our Road Runner Regatta March 24-25.

We expect a good turn out, and some tough competition in the growing 420 fleet, as well as the Lasers, and lots of new Opti sailors coming into the Circuit in the Green Fleet. AYC Juniors are encouraged to come out to practice and join in the fun.

Road Warriors

By Phil Spletter



This month, a group of AYCers including John Mandell, Scott Walsh, Cynthia Creamer and Dave Boerner went to the SORC in Miami to sail on Jeff Jones's dad's Aerodyne 38. They ended up fifth in class.

Fred Schroth got a new van. It should be able to get a whole fleet of Lasers and Laser sailors to regattas. I'm sure that he'll be burning up the roads in his new ride.

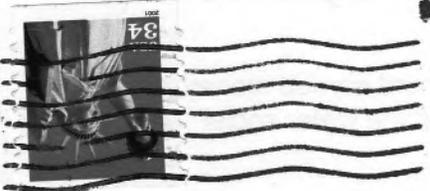
Voldi Maki is planning to take his F-28R to Rockport for a regatta there.

Finally, this month, I'm going to meet the Mannings and Jerry Parlee at the Sunfish International Masters regatta in Port Charlotte, Florida.

Out on the horizon, Jamie Thompson is planning to sail the BT Challenge next year. Now, that's a road trip!

78734+1428

Vic & Pat Manning
5805 Lakeside Trail
Austin, Texas 78734
#1662



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

Many Thanks to AYC Regatta Sponsors!



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