

Telltale



December 2007

Monthly Newsletter

Board of Directors

Commodore	Eric Nelson
Im. Past Commodore	Paul Ballett
Vice Commodore	Bob Goldsmith
Secretary	Ian Fink
Treasurer	Tom Romberg
Race Commander	Ravi Subramanian
Buildings & Grounds	David Lewis
Harbor Master	Vic Manning
Sail Training Commander	Linda McDavitt

AYC Staff

General Manager	Bob Woods
Bookkeeper	Pam Radebaugh
Assistant Caretaker	Kim Erlich
Groundskeepers	Tom Cunningham Matt Elliott

Austin Yacht Club

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E-Mail & Web Site

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Newsletter

Yolanda Cortés Mares, Editor
E-mail submissions by 5th of
month to: ymares@earthlink.net

AYC Business Hours

Tuesday:	noon—5:00 p.m.
Wednesday-Sunday:	9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
Closed Mondays	
Closed Club Holidays:	
New Year's Day	1 January
Easter Sunday	16 April
Independence Day	4 July
Thanksgiving Day	23 November
Shopping Day	24 November
Christmas Day	25 December

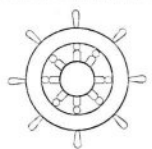
From The Commodore By Eric Nelson



It has been a year of big change for the yacht club in many aspects... Some of the changes could be viewed as moving back to how things used to be such as retooling our Junior Summer Program framework and how the AYC Staff is organized. But these changes are really far from the notion that we are regressing, rather we are tuning proven schemes using more effective means. For instance while the summer camps will be shortened relative to the past couple of years, we now have a much better infrastructure of training boats, classroom facilities and volunteers to create a variety of Junior and Senior training opportunities throughout the year. On the AYC Staff side we now have a better trained and experienced team that has a proven track record of handling our day to day operations consistently per our written House Rules (without regular direction from the Board). This is a tremendous help in reducing the detail oriented workload on our volunteer Board of Directors, hopefully allowing more members to feel comfortable in becoming a future board member. Other key changes are formalizing new ways of handling recurring long term issues such as abandoned boats, making the club's finances available to members in an understandable fashion, lack of a living strategic plan for the club and bridging

the annual cross training gap for incoming board members. On this last item, I see a lot of evidence that the incoming Board will be the best ever prepared to hit the ground running! Thank the current board for really leveraging the 'overlap' period added to our Bylaws this year. The will help the new board members not feel like they are on their own and have to invent in a vacuum (which we all know really means in many cases "re-invent") what they think they need to work on and how to do it. Hopefully this will reduce wasted time/effort early in their terms and provide for more continuity of action over the years; both important items to make the board positions less burdensome. A final area of change is in what I call making the 'member experience' better. A large component of this comes from the new AYC Staff via their strong member satisfaction focus and expanded office hours during high volume times. But it also includes making the clubhouse a pleasant place to be all year now with A/C, a remodeled Women's restroom and the new floor decorations. The third leg of this enhanced experience comes from more club activities. Examples of this are more racing options (e.g. beach cat starts and long distance racing added to AYC Series racing), additional well organized social offerings with better food (at reduced member workloads via catering) and high profile sailing speaker seminars. Bring 2008 on!

AYC Vice By Bob Goldsmith



Believe me, my young friend, there is nothing - absolutely nothing - half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats.

Kenneth Grahame
The Wind in the Willows

Keep this thought with you because it is, of course, essentially true and probably the best sailing advice you could expect to get from a water rat if you happen to be a mole. But, for those of our members who are not quadrupeds (a substantial majority one would like to think), let's take it a step higher:

Believe me, my AYC friend, there is nothing - absolutely nothing - half so much worth doing as skillfully racing about in sail boats.

Our goal next year is to get your boat out of the harbor and onto the race course. Where you will HAVE A LOT OF FUN.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

See you out there in 2008.

Bob Goldsmith,
Vice Commodore



RED EYE REGATTA JANUARY 1, 2008

SCHEDULE: •Red Eye Bloody Mary Breakfast 10:30 am

•Registration, Skippers Meeting and Race

ASAP following Breakfast

COST: \$20/boat (\$15 KHF KHF)

Cost includes Breakfast for skipper and crew

CLASSES: PHRF Spin & Non-Spin & Portsmouth Multi-Hull

More information on AYC website or contact Doug Laws
(texasail@aol.com)



2008 Racing Schedule

January 1

Red Eye Regatta

AYC Upcoming Non-Racing Events

December 8 AYC Annual Banquet

December 14 Catalina 22 Fleet Christmas Party

December 15 J-24 Fleet Annual Holiday Party (5:00 —11:00 p.m.)

December 15 AYC Boat Auction (10:00 a.m.)

December 15 AYC Children's Christmas Party (10:00 a.m.—noon)

January 5 Ensign Fleet Business Meeting/Social (7:00 p.m.)

Wild Turkey Race Results

Division: Spinnaker A

1. Morran, J. 2. Welles, C.. 3. Shull, R.

Division: Spinnaker B

1. Faust, E. 2. Lappin, T. 3. Cain, J.

Division: Spinnaker C

1. Bingaman, W. 2. Arnold, H. 3. Morris, C.

Division: Non-Spinnaker D

1. Brown, S. 2. Rehage, J. 3. Wolfe, G.

Division: Non-Spinnaker E

1. Galloway, D. 2. Bertin, R. 3. Dwyer, W.



Note: Please see the AYC Website for all official race results and great race photos.

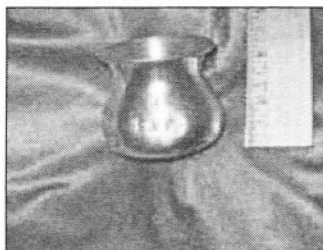
(Photo left courtesy of Bruce McDonald)

Editor's Note:

Please continue to send your articles and photos by the 5th of each month to ymares@earthlink.net. Thank you!

The RED EYE Regatta History

By Doug Laws



The Red Eye Regatta was conceived of by Pete Reinhart and fellow partiers at a 1975 News Years Eve party held at **Arak Bozyan's** home. There are unsubstantiated rumors liquor was involved, but the "rationale"

now remembered for racing on new Years Day is an alternative to watching football.

Regardless of the true rationale, the hard evidence is that on January 1st 1976 the first RED EYE Regatta was held, and was run by Pete from the comfort of his car positioned on the AYC point using his horn as the starting gun. That first race was a long distance race held in great weather conditions, scored under the MORC handicap rule and included about 20 boats. The complete participant list has not been found but the trophy evidence clearly shows **Dennis Awbrey** was the first winner. In addition to thinking it up and running the first race, he also donated the race trophy which included his artful attempt at engraving with a 10 penny nail. This trophy survives to this date and continues to be the smallest award ever made at the Austin Yacht Club (pictured above, yup that's a ruler and the cup is ~2" tall).

Within a few short years following the inaugural race the format was greatly enhanced by **Hap McCollum** through the addition of Bloody Mary's (courage extenders) and breakfast. For nearly 30 years Hap was the RED EYE guru, chief bar tender and chef for now traditional Bloody Mary Breakfast. Hap was also always on the starting line for the race regardless of his sobriety or alertness, evidence of this is given by **Trenton Wann** who relates that during one RED EYE race he looked back at skipper Hap on the helm and found him fast asleep while driving to weather.

The RED EYE regatta has been held every year since 1976 and has been sailed in weather ranging from beautiful spring like days to freezing rain to dense fog. However with very few exceptions the weather has not stopped the race. Sailing RED EYE gives skippers and crew the bragging rights that their racing season starts on January 1.

Don't miss out on your braggin rights this year and join other braggarts on January 1, 2008 at AYC for the RED EYE Regatta which this year introduces in Memory of Hap the "McCollum Cup" to be awarded to the overall PHRF Spinnaker fleet winner.

Race Commander News

By Ravi Subramanian



November was a quiet month, with no club racing scheduled at AYC. Yes, yes, criticisms noted and to be corrected in the 2008 calendar (tip – look for the draft elsewhere in this issue). The calendar didn't stop everyone from racing, though, and I know that a good handful of people stayed active on the water. For example, **Linda McDavitt** and **Renee Ruais** both took teams down to Houston Yacht Club for the **Rolex Women's Keelboat Championship** (and the J/22 Circuit the week before) and AYC had a strong showing in the **Wurstfest Regatta** at Canyon Lake – Sunfish, Lasers, and at least a couple of centerboard handicap boats. Both are great places to sail and if you haven't left town for a regatta in a few years you ought to consider giving it a shot. There's good competition and hospitality at these venues, not to mention Dallas, Fort Worth, and Oklahoma City (really, it's not that far!).

Back here in Austin, the Keel Handicap Fleet kept things going with the **Wild Turkey Regatta** on December 1st. More than fifty boats in five divisions (three spin, two non-spin) risked the somewhat ominous weather report to go for the gold (well, I suppose bourbon is more of an amber!). As long as you didn't absolutely need clear blue skies, it was a great day – warm weather, good breeze, and a mostly powerboat-free lake. Kudos to **Steve Vaughan**, **PRO Bill Hawk**, and all the other KHF volunteers who put it together.

Finally, this will be my last Telltale article as Race Commander and time to feel reflective. How'd things go? Most things went well, some not so well, but as one member encouraged me: "Flags went up, horns went off, there were scores." The mid-summer flooding certainly put a kink in things but thanks to a lot of help it all came back together. I appreciate all the volunteers who helped throughout the year and especially the PRC members who helped organize it: **Randolph Bertin**, **Mike Chambers**, **Dave Hammett**, **Barbara Prashner**, **James Wilsford**, **Frank Woodul**, **Ted Owens**, **Steve Eller**, **Doug Powell**, **John Bargh**, and **Jim Rehage**. I enjoyed working with all of you.

And with that, I give you **Steve Eller**, who was elected to serve as **Race Commander** for 2008. Relatedly, **Randolph Bertin** – another PRC member – was elected to serve as Secretary. Congratulations and thanks to both. See you all on the water in the coming year.

Membership Report

By Paul Ballett

A. Approval of Probationary Members:

Peter Mullarkey has applied as a Sr. member.

B. Members' Status Changes:

Winston Bumpas and Mark Tremayne have resigned as senior members. Rudy Brown has resigned as a Junior (Student) member. Paul Horton has met his probationary requirements and requests full membership. Ann Marie Hoover has moved beyond the age of Young Adult membership and now moves to Senior members.

C. Membership Totals - November:

2007 Membership Committee: Paul Ballett, Claudia Bartlett, and David Kenyon. Please see the table below for the November figures.

Respectfully,

Paul Ballett – Past-Commodore

Are you one of those hard to buy for people because you already have everything?



If so... let your children, grandchildren, and friends know that a donation to the **AYC Fund** in your honor would be a great Christmas gift!

Checks should be payable to "AYC FUND" and mailed to: AYC FUND, c/o Austin Yacht Club, 5906 Beacon Drive, Austin, TX 78734-1428.

MEMBERSHIP TOTALS	Oct' EOM	ADD	SUB	Nov' EOM
Senior	346	2	2	346
*Honorary	7			7
*Life Member	21			21
Associate	20			20
YoungAdult	9		1	8
Junior Student Member	21		1	20
UTIST Member	20			20
Leave of Absence	2			2
Non-Resident	9			9
Ol' Salt 10 Year	11			11
*Ol' Salt 30 Year	19			19
Total Non-paying Members	49			49
Total Paying Members	436			434
Total Members	485			483

**New Year's Eve
Party At AYC
Has Been
Cancelled**

If a group of individuals would like to organize their own party, then they will need to contact the AYC office to complete a facility use request.

Proposed 2008 Race Calendar

By Ravi Subramanian

Proposed 2008 Race Calendar

A draft of the 2008 Race Calendar was presented at the November board meeting. A condensed version of this calendar is listed here; a less condensed version is available on the AYC website. Since that time we've continued to receive input – corrections on requested dates, issues with the number and format of events, etc. If you've already sent in a comment, we're listening. If you haven't and have an opinion, let the 2008 Race Commander know by e-mail at steve.eller@sbcglobal.net or corner him out at the club. The 2008 Calendar will be formally accepted by the new board at the January board meeting.

Sail Training Commander News

By Linda McDavitt

What a way to end the year!

Nothing but good thoughts and words about **Claudia Bartlett's Men's Camp!!!** Thanks to instructors **John Bartlett** and **Claude Welles** for organizing the Agenda with Claudia. Thanks to **Ray Shull, Jim Brown, Bruce McDonald, Mike Kilpatrick, Pat Feagin, Ian Fink, Tommy Meyers, Bay Peterson, Kevin Reynolds,** and **Charles Pope** as volunteer Instructors extraordinaire, and to **Susie McDonald** for taking care of everything up top and making life go smoothly. The class included all levels of sailors, good wind and lots of opportunity to learn in a SC21! And to top that off were goodies from **Bartlett's Sails** for the guys and a well deserved meal of Red Beans and rice. **Claudia's** Louisiana blood is showing through! Also special thanks to **Terry McDermott, Bob Woods** and **Tom Cunningham** for their help!!

Steve Gay is getting the HS team going. First meeting had 11 kids out!! If you are in High School and wanting to get out there and have fun and learn tons, come out on Sundays at 2:30 to 5.

It's the end of the year and last thing to say is a heartfelt thanks to my committee for their help all year long. **Doug Kern, Kelly Hawk, Johannes Brinkmann, Claudia Bartlett** and **Claude Welles**. Thanks for great leadership and making this a great year for Sail Training. Best wishes for a Happy Holiday season for all and to all a GOOD Night!

Date	Event
1/Jan	Red Eye Regatta (KHF)
19/Jan	Frostbite #1
26/Jan	Frostbite #2
2/Feb	Frostbite #3, UTST Event
9/Feb	Frostbite #4
16/Feb	Frostbite #5
1-2/Mar	Road Runner (TSA)
9/Mar	Spring #1
16/Mar	Spring #2
22-23/Mar	Easter Laser Regatta
29/Mar	UTST Alumni Regatta
30/Mar	Spring #3
6/Apr	Spring #4
12/Apr	Mallory/Baker Quals (High School)
13/Apr	Spring #5, Mallory/Baker Quals
19-20/Apr	J/22 Circuit, UTST Event
26-27/Apr	Spring Regatta - Keel
3-4/May	Spring Regatta - Centerboard
10/May	SC21 Intergalactics
11/May	Turnback Warmup (KHF)
17-18/May	J/24 Circuit
24-25/May	Turnback Canyon
7/Jun	Summer #1
14/Jun	Summer #2
21/Jun	Summer #3
28/Jun	Summer #4
5/Jul	KHF Event (July 4th weekend)
12/Jul	Summer #5
19/Jul	Summer #6
26/Jul	Summer #7
2/Aug	Summer #8
30-31/Aug	Labor Day weekend
7/Sep	Fall #1
13/Sep	Keel Fleet Night Race
14/Sep	Fall #2
21/Sep	Fall #3
28/Sep	Fall #4
4-5/Oct	UTST - Kathryn Hammond
11-12/Oct	Leukemia Cup
18-19/Oct	Sunfish SW Regional Champs
26/Oct	Winter #1
2/Nov	Winter #2
8/Nov	Senior Club Championship
9/Nov	Winter #3
16/Nov	Winter #4
22/Nov	Wild Turkey Regatta (KHF)
29-30/Nov	Thanksgiving weekend

Ensign Fleet News By Randolph Bertin



Wild Turkey: If you were on a sailboat on Lake Travis and did not thoroughly enjoy sailing in the 2007 edition of the Wild Turkey Regatta, then you just plain don't like sailing. It was a day tailor made for sailors, or really, just about anyone with a pulse. Talking to participants with of all levels of sailing experience, from the oldest of salts to brand new crew who had never even been on a sailboat before, you would invariably hear the exact same response after the race: Incredible! Really, just unbelievably wonderful out there on the water.

Sometimes it is hard to believe. Considering the race was held on December 1st, and the temperature was mild bordering on slightly warm, but with the thick low stratus clouds keeping the sun (and powerboats) at bay, and yet without the forecasted rain ever appearing (though at one point it did seem to be raining not far off to the north), it would be difficult to ask for better conditions. Oh, and something about the wind... we had some periods where the pressure backed off a bit, but for the most part, it was blowing nice and steady at the low teen end from the South East. And as a good portion of the boats were rounding the final leeward mark east of Starnes Island, the blow was definitely on, pushing toward the higher teens, which made for a spectacular finish to a fantastic day (thank you, Race Committee).

Ensign sailors and boats were there to enjoy the superb conditions. **James Wilsford, Tom Holdridge and Dan Ellenbrook** were sailing **Esmeralda**, the **Romberg/Arnold** team had **Eagle** soaring, and **Frans and Karel Dahmen** were sporting a new faded blue look under the sails of **588**, all in the Spinnaker Division. On **Festina Lente**, **Randolph** was joined by **Barbara Prashner** as well as soon to be AYC and Ensign fleet member **Mitch Barnett** and his first mate **Deann**, sailing sans spinnaker. **Sarah Baker** was on the water, crewing for **Eric Faust** on a J-22, and **Bill Hawk** was watching all the fun from the RC boat (thank you, Race Committee, but get **Prickly Pair** back in the water and sail with us!)

So, how did we do? Aside from the fantastic sailing enjoyed by all, both **Eagle** and **Festina Lente** picked up second place bottles in their respective divisions, and the J-22 with **Sarah** aboard took first place in their handicap split. **Esmeralda** finished just one minute out of third place. **Frans and Karel** actually led most of their race, with a late tack to avoid a starboard boat setting them back, but mysteriously, they do not appear on the final race results, apparently being transformed

into **Ivans/Johnson** sailing #788 with an official DNS. Congratulations to everyone. It was a fine way to end the sailing year. Next up, the Red Eye Regatta on January 1.

Coming and Going: **Danny and Norma Lien** and **Dave Gamble** sold their Ensign. Fortunately, they are working on another one which they hope to have ready to sail by the spring! Through the sale/purchase of **Chaparral**, the Ensign fleet welcomes two new members, **Elliot Bray** and **Doug Laws**. Although nothing is definite yet, it also looks like we might enjoy seeing **Dos Locos** on the line again in 2008.

Annual Meeting: The Ensign fleet has scheduled their Annual fleet meeting and social for Saturday, January 5th, 7 pm at the AYC clubhouse. Election of officers and any other business will be handled, and there will be plenty of good food, drink, and company to go along. So come out and start the new year off right with the rest of the fleet.

SC-21 Fleet News By Susie Corcoran



Thank You from the 2007 SC 21 Fleet Captains

It has been our pleasure to serve as fleet co-captains during the past year. Thanks to all of you for your help and participation.

– Susie and Bruce

SC 21 Holiday Party Reminder: This year's holiday party will also celebrate Carl Morris' 85th birthday. Don't miss it! December 21, 7:00 p.m. at Bruce and Susie's house, 5220 Serrano Trail. Please send an email if you need a map.

New PHRF Rating: The Keel Handicap Fleet PHRF committee completed its review of the South Coast 21 PHRF rating. Effective January 1, 2008, the new PHRF rating for the SC 21 is 246.

Technical Tip: Internal Halyards for South Coast 21

The South Coast 21 originally came from the factory with external halyards. Most of the SC 21s have been converted to internal halyards. The main advantage besides less windage is less chance of fouled lines and a neater all around look. As with any SC 21 re-fit, there are as many ways to do it as there are South Coast owners. This month's technical tip is courtesy of Ray Shull. (For complete instructions, go to <http://austinyachtclub.net/fleets/SC21/>.)

Rolex International Women's Keelboat Championship 2007

By Linda McDavitt



Renee Ruais, Stacy Tucker and Barb Prashner (Photo Above).

Linda McDavitt, Carolyn Wilsford, Martha St. Romain and Chloe Leblanc-libotte (Photo Below)



Wow, what an adventure!! You know how there is something on your to do list that you have wanted to do for a long time and now is the time to check it off? Well, after reading about and watching the reports of this event for about 20 years, I FINALLY got to play!!!

The Rolex was held at the Houston Yacht Club and the competition was pretty awesome! There were sailors from the South African, Canadian and US Olympic teams competing, Rolex Yachtswomen of the Year, etc...etc.. Many of the teams had been to the event numerous times. I believe as first timers, we were in the minority. Several teams even had Boatmen taking care of their boats, coach boats on the course talking to them after each race, etc.... Little did we know what

we were getting ourselves into.

The weather was great, a little bit of everything from 5 to 8 all the way up to 22+ and gusting, fairly calm water to big chop, temps in the 60's to the 80's. You name it, we experienced it. There were 11 races over 4 days. Starts were eventful with several boats over on every race. We had some great starts and managed not to be over!! Every mark rounding was an exciting event with plenty of boats around for company. I don't believe that we were ever alone at a rounding. The finishes were pretty amazing (ask **Rick Smith** or **Claude and JoAnn Welles**) with multiple boats hitting the line altogether. Rumor has it that some finishes were so close that both ends of the line were having to try to sort them out.

Every evening was a great Mt. Gay Rum, wine and beer party with great food. We got to learn some line dancing and I even got to do the Bunge Jumping at the Space Center. And to top the parties off, they even had a Gala for my birthday!!! Lots of people, amazing food and **Sally Barkow** even got a Rolex watch for attending. I am still wondering why I didn't get the watch...it was my birthday after all.

The two teams from AYC were:

Renee Ruais, Stacy Tucker and Barb Prashner: 37th

Linda McDavitt, Carolyn Wilsford, Martha St. Romain and a young lady from Canada, Chloe Leblanc-libotte: 25th

Neither of us won or even made the top ten, but the adventure was well worth it and I know that I will be back there in 2009. I hope that we can get some women to start thinking about it now. It will be in Houston again and then it will move to some far away place, so get your act together and look to play in 2009!!!

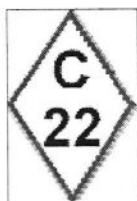
Any questions, please contact either myself at band-boat@yahoo.com or Renee Ruais at RMRuais@austin.rr.com.

See you on the race course!

Notice

The AYC Office will be closed on December 22 through December 25 and on New Year's Day. Happy Holidays!

C-22 Fleet News By John Grzinich



On a beautiful Sunday afternoon in November **Roy Crouse** and **Wade Bingaman** hosted an informal tune up and practice race session. 5 boats came out for what turned to be great time for working on boat speed and sail trim side by side with the best in our fleet. Plenty of side

by side sailing occurred with feedback between boats, and sharing of C22 boat handling techniques.

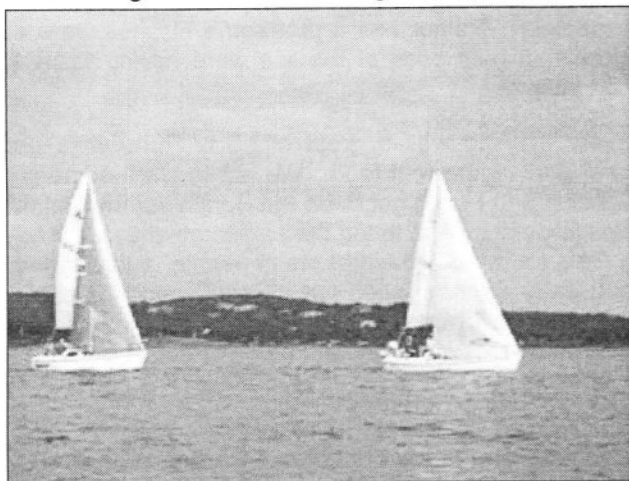


Photo Above: Upwind practice, Mark Haralson leads Peter Broberg.
Photo Below: Downwind practice, Wade Bingaman leads Roy Crouse and Mark Haralson.



On the 2nd weekend in November I was the only C22 sailor to make the trip down to the Wurstfest Regatta at Canyon Lake this year. Those who did not go, missed a terrific regatta. Friday the C22 sailors met up at the Wurstfest for beer, German food and German music. Some C22 sailors bought a few of those wild hats and glasses with flashing LEDs. Saturday evening at LCYC

was more beer; a German home cooked dinner prepared by the LCYC members, and some good rock and roll music. This was the Texas State Spinnaker championship for C22's. The wind was in the 15 to 20 knot range all weekend, at high end of being a challenge for C22 Spinnaker racing. Most of the races were sailed with 110% jib upwind. Eight boats raced 5 races, and **Gene Ferguson**, as he did at the Leukemia Cup, finished in first place. **Bebop-a-Lula** just squeaked out a 5th place tiebreaker over long time Canyon Lake rival **Bob Gross** by virtue of beating **Bob** in last race. Thanks to **Jennifer Loehlin** for crewing on foredeck, and **Gary Payne** for handling the sail trim and tactics on **Bebop-a-Lula**.

Boat	Sail No.	Name	Results	Total
Bulletproof	170	Gene Ferguson	3,1,1,1,3	9
Strings Attached	13622	Johannes Brinkman	1,3,3,2,1	10
Paradox	9920	Peter Broberg	2,2,2,3,2	11
Bebop-a-lula	15563	John Grzinich	4,4,4,4,4	20
No-name	12002	Brian York	5,5,5,5,5	25

The 2007 C22 sailing year was wrapped up December 1st with several boats sailing the Wild Turkey Regatta. **Wade Bingaman**, **Johannes Brinkman**, and **Peter Broberg** raced in the spinnaker C fleet. **Derek Miller** raced in non-spinnaker E fleet. It turned out to be an excellent sailing day after the morning showers and heavier wind subsided. Congrat's to **Wade Bingaman** for winning the spinnaker C fleet.

We have one more major C22 fleet event for 2007, PARTY! The annual C22 Fleet holiday party is scheduled for the evening of Friday Dec. 14th in the AYC clubhouse. Plenty of delicious food prepared by fleet members, followed by some blackjack, socializing, and guitar picking with a sing-along will round out a very enjoyable year for the C22 fleet.

John Grzinich

Did you know?

You don't need to worry about having to fix that broken batten, replace that expensive block, find that missing wench, or go through the trouble to trailer your boat from the dry sail area, before the next time you can race, Just show up at the clubhouse before any skipper's meeting and simply tell another AYC member that you would like to crew on a boat! There are plenty of folks needing crew. So, come out and race in 2008!

Reflections on Restoring a SC-21

By Bruce McDonald



Over the past year while **Susie** was fleet captain, I thought that it would be fun to make some upgrades to our boat and at the same time write technical articles

to share with others who were contemplating similar upgrades. Over the past year, I have (mostly) enjoyed the following projects: replacing bulkheads, installing a Barney post, making a boom-mounted spinnaker pole launching system, installing a mast track gate, making a new back stay adjuster, an internal main sail outhaul, internal halyards and total repainting of the deck, sides and bottom. During the year, I have learned some valuable lessons, albeit some the hard way and I would like to share those lessons with other South Coasters and club sailors who would be inclined to take on such projects.

Tap Into Experience. For any project you are about to undertake, there are at least a dozen club members who have done it before, have worked out the kinks, and can give you valuable advice. If you can't find anyone who has done it before, perhaps you should rethink the project. Any ridicule that you may have to endure about asking a dumb question is a small price to pay to avoid making all of those mistakes. Some projects are best left to the professionals. I let **Fred Schroth** paint the sides and I have not regretted it for a minute.

Working With Epoxy. Mix your epoxy in small easy to manage batches. I really thought that **Ian** was putting me on when he told me that mixing large batches of epoxy was a bad idea until I saw my plastic cup full of epoxy burst into flames a few minutes later. Forget about the hardware store brands of epoxy and go with West System Epoxy. Get the pumps, too and while you are at it get the (free) manual that West Marine puts out on how to use their epoxy and all of the wonderful additives. It will transform a messy, tedious job into a magical experience (almost).

Fasteners and Hardware. When removing hardware, sort them by category in labeled zip lock bags. Standardize your fasteners when you re-mount your hardware. You only need two sizes of bolts, 1/4" for jib tracks and winches, 10-24 for everything else. Even if you have to drill out some of the fittings, it will markedly sim-

plify your inventory of spare parts. Use lock nuts and fender washers. When re-bedding the fittings, use 5200 caulk for permanent fittings such as jib tracks and chain plates and marine grade silicone for those fittings which you may have to replace from time to time such as cam cleats. Get fasteners which are longer than you think you need. Once the nuts are tight, grasp the bolt two threads away from the bottom of the lock nut and make a gentle back and forth rocking motion until the bolt snaps off at the base of the nut. A swipe with a file completes the neat application. When dealing with fasteners in the cockpit area, put a piece of masking tape over the cockpit drain. I learned this one late in the game, and am still working on getting all those bolts and screws out of the drain.

Removing and Replacing the Rub Rail. WTF were you thinking! You never, ever remove the rub rail. That is what masking tape was made for. You will never get that 25 year old fossilized piece of rubber back on the boat the way it was. I decided that it was time for a new rub rail, but it seems that they are nowhere to be found. I finally got the old one back on by first soaking it in a bath tub with 140 degree water for an hour, then on a warm (75 degrees) day by keeping tension on the rub rail via a line attached to the rub rail run around the stern cleat and to a winch was able to stretch it out so that it was only two feet short of it's prior length. A hair dryer helped with softening the rub rail enough to get it over the fiber glass lip. After securing the rub rail to the transom, the gap was closed using a piece of 3/4" heater hose which although not as durable as the original rub rail, makes a passable substitute.

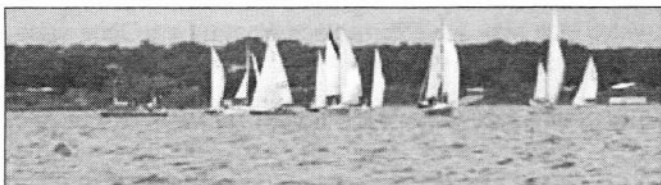
Paint. Polyurethane sticks to epoxy. Epoxy does not stick to polyurethane without a primer.

Tools. Use tools that are up to the task. Enough said.

Time and Motion Studies. When I started this project, I was told to multiply the estimated time by three to get a realistic time frame. I would say that six would be a better number. The bad news is that I still have another 2-5 years to complete my one-year project.

Restoring a South Coast 21 or any boat for that matter is similar to giving birth. Long after the event, the pain is forgotten and you have the final product to enjoy. An added bonus is that if you spend enough time in the work area, you will eventually meet most of the membership of the club. I never realized what a social hub exists there. The technical articles from the last year are on the South Coast web page at: <http://austinyachtclub.net/fleets/sc21/>. Many thanks to the members of the South Coast 21 fleet who have made this a memorable experience. Hopefully I will get a chance to write the rest of the articles over the next year.

Keel Fleet News By Remus Broussard



Heading for the starting line at Wild Turkey Regatta. (photo by Susie and Bruce McDonald)

Keel Fleet Annual Membership Meeting

More than 50 fleet members gathered at the Clubhouse on Friday evening November 9 for a great fajita dinner prepared by **Damon Galloway** and **Rob Stivers** and a year in review slide show. The dinner beer was enjoyed by all attending thanks **Damon and Rob** and the many other cooks and bartenders. Following dinner the annual business meeting was called to order and the very successful results of the year were reviewed and fleet officers for 2008 were elected. The top objective for the fleet again this year will be to significantly grow racing participation at all AYC and Fleet events.

This year the fleet board of directors is comprised of:

•Keel Fleet Captain: **Steve Vaughan** (returning for a second year)

•Treasurer: **Barry Bowden** (with many years of experience on the Fleet Board)

•Secretary: **Remus Broussard** (enthusiastic new (2007) AYC and Fleet member)

•A Fleet Captain: **Jim Tillinghast**

In addition to being a founding member of the PHRF fleet on Lake Travis, **Jim** is the man to thank for organizing the food for the Beer-Can Series. You can find **Jim** out on the water with his partners on the J/29 **Godzilla**. Contact **Jim** by email at jim.tillinghast@yahoo.com for all your A Fleet needs.

•B Fleet Captain: **John Maddalozzo**

John (a rising star in B Fleet) sails the Capri 25 **Waterbug**. He is taking over for **Doug Laws** who did a great job this past year. B-Fleet skippers and crew should expect an email shortly from **John** to coordinate race committee duties and prepare for a jam packed year of racing. Get those bottoms cleaned now, the Frostbite series is coming up quick. Contact **John** by email at maddalozzo@gmail.com.

•C Fleet Captain: **Damon Galloway**

Damon (the man to beat in Non Spinnaker) is on return engagement as Non-Spin Captain for 2008. **Damon** sails the Hunter 27 **Aquaholic** and is the Non-Spinnaker Fleet Champion and AYC's Regatta Champion for 2007. **Damon** has taken the Non-Spin Fleet participation rate from a respectable 7 boats to start off the year at the Red Eye Regatta to an amazing 23 boats for the Wild Turkey Regatta. His challenge to the Non-Spin Fleet for 2008 is for each member to participate in two more races than 2007. Contact **Damon** by email at dgallo@aol.com or phone 512-461-5046.

Two new handicap committee members were appointed. **Bob Gallant** and **John Bargh** will be joining the returning members **Ray Shull**, **Bob Meyers**, **John Maddalozzo** and **Tom Lappin**. The fleet splits in 2008 will remain the same as in 2007 with A Fleet being all spinnaker boats rated 138 and lower, B Fleet all spinnaker boats rated 139 and higher and C Fleet all non spinnaker boats.

Last on the agenda was a proposal by **Ray Shull** to modify the assignment of PHRF handicaps in C Fleet (Non Spinnaker) to be skipper based. The proposed change would have the handicap and hence the scoring of a skipper adjusted on a race by race basis. This adjustment would lower the handicap of winning skipper by 6 seconds/mile and second place boats by 3 seconds/mile for each race a skipper finished in such position. Similarly the adjustment would raise the handicap by on a race by race handicap by 6 seconds/mile for skippers finishing last and 3 seconds/mile for skippers finishing next to last. A lively discussion revealed a large majority of people being interested in the concept but a very divided interest on implementing in any existing fleet (A, B or C) fleet or even in a newly formed fleet. Subsequent to the meeting the Fleet Board of Directors agreed to begin a parallel scoring effort to give everyone more insight on what results would look like if skipper base handicapping were to be implemented. A review with the membership in mid year 2008 is planned to see if support for implementing this scoring method grows. Let your fleet captain know your interests in this scoring method.

Wild Turkey Regatta Recap

Fifty boats turned out for the 28th Annual Wild Turkey Regatta. Thanks in no small part to a wonderful turnout, there was serious racing, great conversation, tasty food, and a wild poker tournament. Be sure to check out the race results on the AYC website so you'll know who you have to beat for next year's event.

(Continued on Next Page)

Keel Fleet... (Continued from Page 10)



Steve Vaughn, Walter Allen and Ted Smith ready to work the crew hard on the Hobie 33. (photo by Susie and Bruce McDonald)

Bill Hawk and his race committee did an exemplary job. The races started on time in spite of a slightly unexpected overload on the registration folks, and the courses were well chosen and timed such that everyone made it back to the party in time.

Jim Johnstone, JoAnn Welles, and Bob Meyers worked very hard behind the scene to make sure a tough scoring job got done quickly and well.

Even though the regatta is a long standing event, the poker tournament organized by **Dave Hilfer** was new this year. **Dave** did an excellent job of keeping the pace steady and the game interesting, and also gave the finalists a run for their money right till the end. There was tough competition but **Greg Smith** emerged as the 1st Wild Turkey Poker Champion.

Dana Broussard organized a small feast for the occasion and together with Lee Vaughan, Lanelle Montgomery, Karen Smith and others managed to get everyone happily fed. There were numerous requests for recipes, and those participants for whom we have contact info will be receiving their copy shortly. Also, look for a link on the Keel-Fleet page in the near future that will take you to the same tasty recipes.

Finally, we offer our sincere thanks to **Ray Lott** and **Barry Bowden** for creating this long standing event. Look to next year's race announcement for the whole story of how it all came about.



Scott Young and John Morran make it two in a row with junior sailors in Spinnaker A. (photo by Susie and Bruce McDonald)

Upcoming Events

The annual Red Eye Regatta is less than four weeks away. Don't miss your chance at having your name on the McCollum Cup which will be awarded to the overall PHRF Spinnaker fleet winner. And, be sure to check out the flyer in this issue of the Telltale.



Santa Barry Thornton on his trusty water sleigh Pygon II. (photo by Susie and Bruce McDonald)

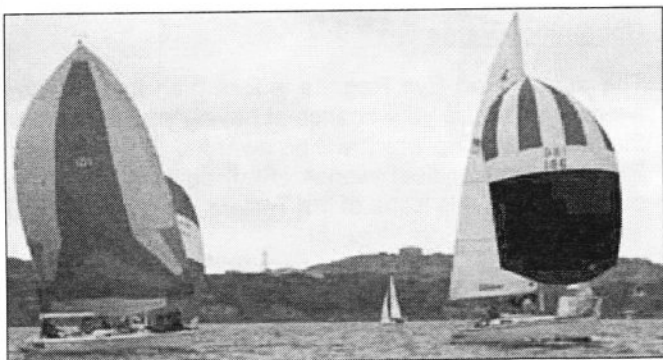
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Keel Fleet... (Continued from Page 11)

Keel Fleet Business

The Fleet wishes to extend a warm welcome to our 25 new members for 2008. All of us have signed up at either the annual Wild Turkey Regatta. This means that folks are participating right from the start, a wonderful way to end the year and begin the

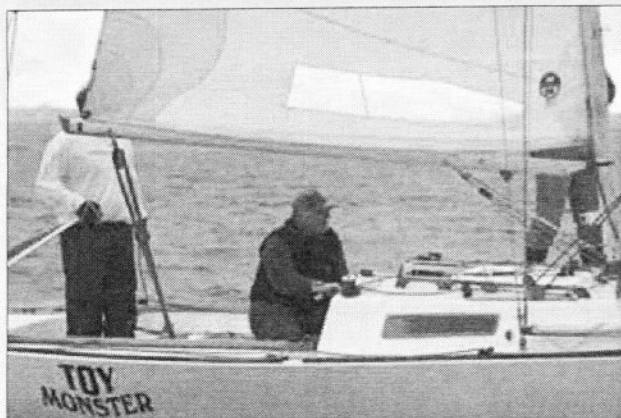
We still have a few members who have not renewed their membership. You can email me at remus@lobos.net to have dues account. Or better yet, meet us at the regatta and sign up there.



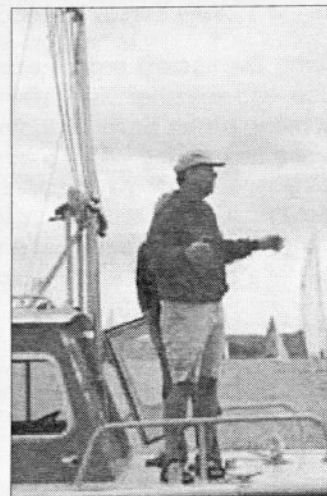
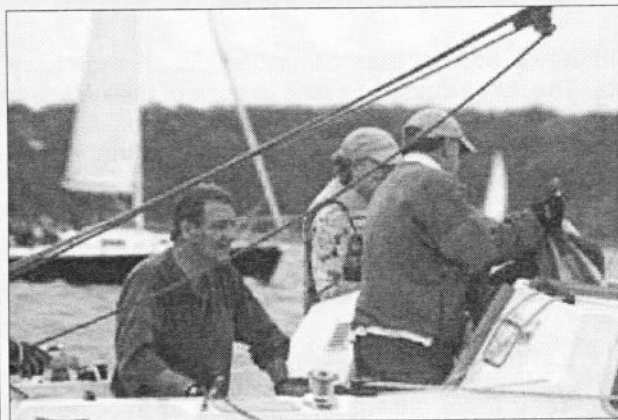
*Wasabi, Avalanche, and Wild Hare keep the competition interesting.
(photo by Susie and Bruce McDonald)*

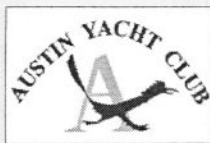
We have had a marvelous year with a sustained increase in interest and participation. Thank you to all of the AYC membership and to all of our friends for your support in 2007. We wish you all the best in the coming year.

Your friendly neighborhood Keel-Fleet



Wild Turkey Photos (Courtesy of Bruce McDonald)





Children's Christmas Party

Saturday, December 15th

10 to 12

Sweets and punch

Chocolate Fountain

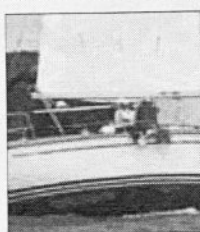
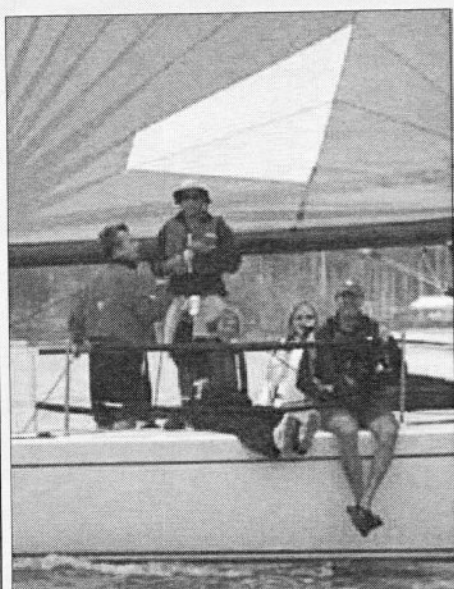
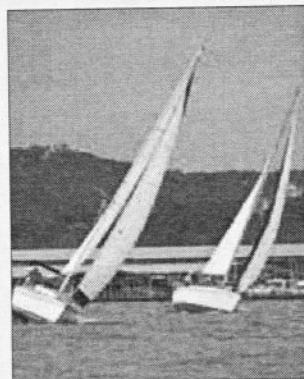
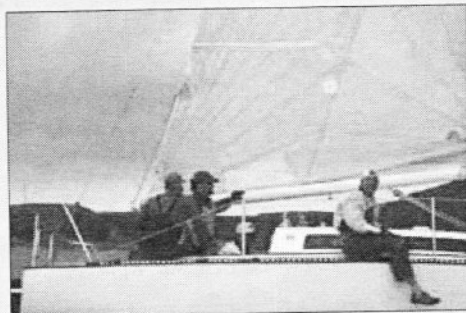
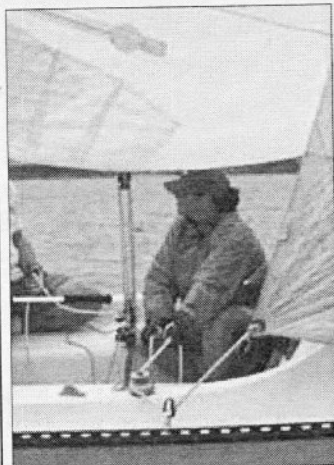
John Maverick the Magician performs at

10:30

Santa sails in at 11:30

Come celebrate the season!

More Wild Turkey Photos... *(Courtesy of Bruce McDonald)*





The Austin Yacht Club Keel Fleet

Invites all Keel and Multi-hull Yachts to the 32nd annual

RED EYE Regatta

January 1, 2008



The McCollum Cup

Awarded to the overall PHRF Spinnaker Fleet winner, defending holder Jimmy Cain.

- Schedule:** Red Eye Bloody Mary Breakfast 10:30AM
Registration, Skippers Meeting and Race as soon as possible
following breakfast
Awards, beer and food following the race at AYC
- Cost:** A little bit of Sanity and \$20/boat (\$15 AYC KHF)
Cost includes Breakfast for skipper and crew
- Classes:** PHRF Spin, PHRF Non-Spin and Portsmouth Multi-hull

More Information available on AYC website: (<http://austinyachtclub.net>) or from
event coordinator Doug Laws (texsail@aol.com)

Austin Yacht Club

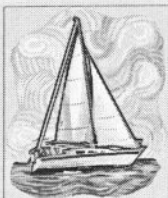
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