



## SUMMER SAILING

**Junior/Adult Sail Training, Series Races,  
Beer Cans, College Nationals, Regattas & MORE**

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Conrad Werkenthin

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Committee Reports



#### Save the Dates

Turnback Canyon  
Regatta May 26-27

Family Potluck Dinner &  
Ice Cream Social  
June 16

Summer Casino Party  
June 23



Cover Photo by Bill Records

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Commodore	Johannes Brinkmann
Past Commodore	Jim Tillinghast
Vice Commodore	Christopher Dwight
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Buildings & Grounds Cdr.	John Saunders
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Sail Training Cdr.	Jenny Loehlin

## AYC STAFF

General Manager	Steve Hawks
Bookkeeper	Jackie Wheelless
Head Caretaker	Tom Cunningham
Junior Coach	Kate Noble

## AUSTIN YACHT CLUB

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Austin, Texas 78734-1428

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Office FAX: 512-266-9804  
Clubhouse: 512-266-1897

## E-MAIL AND WEBSITE

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[info@austinyachtclub.org](mailto:info@austinyachtclub.org)

## NEWSLETTER

Susie McDonald, Editor  
Email submissions by 1st of month to:  
[ghowiellc@aol.com](mailto:ghowiellc@aol.com)

## AYC BUSINESS HOURS

Tuesday - Saturday 9:00A - 5:00P  
Sunday 1:00P - 5:00P

Closed Mondays

Closed Club Holidays:

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

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### E-MAIL ADDRESSES

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## AYC 2012 RACE CALENDAR

Wednesday Nights	Laser/Sunfish Races	6:00p first signal
Friday Nights	Beer Can Races	7:00p

May 12	Summer Series #3 (Multi-Hull)
May 19	SC 21 Intergalactics
May 26-27	Turnback Canyon Regatta

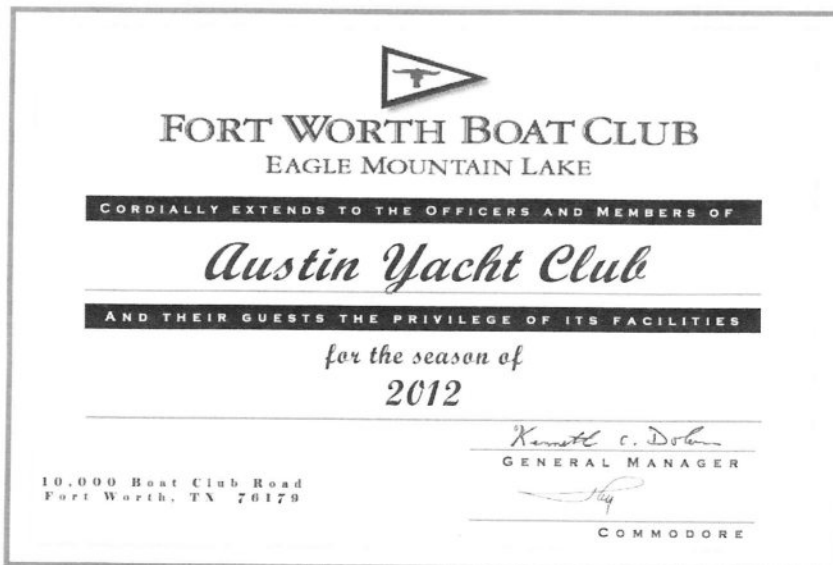
June 9	Summer #4 (J/24)
June 16	Summer #5 End-of-Series (J22)
June 30	Independence Cup Regatta

YOU MAY SIGN UP ONLINE FOR SERIES RACES THROUGH "REGATTA NETWORK."

## AYC 2012 NON-RACING EVENTS

May 19	Keelboat Adult Learn to Sail Class	1:00p
May 20	Introduction to Racing Class	1:00p
May 24	AYC Board of Directors Meeting	7:30p
May 26	Turnback Canyon Regatta Beach Party	

June 9	Summer #4 Post-Race Meal	
June 16	End-of-Series Family Potluck & Ice Cream Social	5:00p
June 23	Summer Party - CASINO NIGHT	7:00p
June 28	AYC Board of Directors Meeting	7:30p



An invitation to AYC members from the  
Fort Worth Boat Club, Eagle Mountain Lake

## From The Commodore

by Johannes Brinkmann



### Enough Water?

The number of activities at AYC is really quite remarkable. The Summer Series has begun, and the social committee helped us celebrate the completion of the Spring Series with a delicious gourmet meal. During two weekends in April, 10 new sailing instructors were certified at the US Sailing Level 1 class taught by AYC's

**Steve Gay**. Friday evening "Beer Can" racing and Wednesday night Sunfish/Laser racing are in full swing. Roadrunner practices take place twice a week, and on Sunday afternoons coach **Kate Noble** is at the Pavilion helping kids and parents take out training boats for a family sail. Our re-finished pool is open for the season. PB&J Learn to Sail and the summer camps are just around the corner, so sign up the kids, bring a friend or two, and come out and enjoy your club!

Our next major invitational event is Turnback Regatta, and Chair **Wade Bingaman** has planned a blockbuster. Racing will start and finish at AYC on both days. Whether you're racing or not, you'll want to come out for the crawfish feast and music festival. Six different bands will play genres ranging from Polka to Country, Blues, Marimba and Rock.

After Turnback, come out during the last week of May and first week of June to watch the spectacular racing of the College Nationals. If you want to get involved and have time to volunteer, tact **Vic Manning** and he'll let you know how you can help.

After many years of loyal service, our bookkeeper, **Pam Radebaugh**, has given notice that she will be leaving AYC. Please join me in wishing Pam well and expressing our gratitude for the many contributions she has made to our club. Drop by the office and welcome our new bookkeeper, **Jackie Wheelless**, who started with us on May 7. Jackie will be training with Pam during May, and she's very excited to join the AYC staff.

At our April board meeting, **Conrad Werkenthin** gave a very enlightening and concerning talk about the unreasonable risks that the LCRA's current water management practices are imposing on all of us who depend on the highland lakes and Lake Travis for our drinking water. Money talks, and the people who stand to lose the most from the LCRA's reckless practices (Us!) are not yet fully aware of how dire the situation could become. In order to favor a politically entrenched few, the LCRA is essentially playing Russian Roulette with the homes and livelihoods of millions of people in central Texas, and with our regional economy valued in the \$100s of billions. If we are in a 10-year drought cycle similar to the late 1940s and 50s, there is a real possibility that the city of Austin could run out of water due to the LCRA's current practices. Though the much touted 2012 water management plan is a slight improvement, it does not do nearly enough to reduce this risk. The

...t way for us to begin tackling this problem is to inform as many people as possible of the risk that the status quo subjects us to. Take a minute to read Conrad's information on the next two pages of this edition of the Telltale, and pass it on!

See you on the water (while we still have some!)

## Race Commander Report

by Barry Bowden



The increase in lake level has been followed by a great return to activity by all types of sailors at AYC. The Spring Series concluded with a total of 50 boats competing in all of the AYC fleets. This has been helped by the ability of dry sailed boats to return to action with the new low water ramp in place as well as the main ramp being usable.

The Easter Laser Regatta was held as usual with not as much wind and warmer temperatures than some times past. The fleet included 25 full rig Lasers, nine Radials, and eight 4.7 boats. AYC sailors dominated the group with **Doug Kern** winning the full rig, **Alan Rochard** taking a second in the Radials, and **Meredith Morran** winning the 4.7 fleet. Quite a showing by our junior sailors.

The University of Texas Sailing Team has their fleet of 18 new FJ boats and they have been putting them to good use. The SEISA district qualifiers for ICSA Nationals were held with UT qualifying in the Coed, and the Women's team winning the qualifying regatta for Nationals this past weekend. The team race qualifying regatta was held May 5 and 6. The Coed team is competing at Annapolis the weekend of May 12-13 for a position in the Coed Dinghy Finals at AYC in May.

The Summer Series began this past Saturday with another breezy day. The winds limited the number of boats that sailed. The South Coast 21 fleet consolidated their numbers on two J29s to save their boats for the May 19 Intergalactics.

The AYC weather station is back online. The old one had lasted for about eight years or so and finally quit working. Thanks to **John Mandell**, **Ian Fink**, and **Tom Cunningham** for working to replace it with the new one. Once again the Keel Handicap Fleet has stepped up and paid for the replacement cost of around \$800. Another fine use of Friday Night Beer Can Race hamburger proceeds.

Be sure to make plans to attend the upcoming Turnback Canyon Regatta/Beach Party. The racing will be on Saturday and Sunday with both races beginning and ending at the AYC harbor.



I want to thank the members of AYC for the opportunity to serve you over the last five years. You will remain in my heart forever and I wish you all Fair Winds and Following Seas!

*Pam Radebaugh*

## Best of Luck, Pam!



## The Voice of the Lakes As presented by Conrad Werkenthin to the AYC Board of Directors Meeting

### To: Everyone concerned with the welfare of our lakes and vital water supply

The Highland Lakes Political Action Committee was formed in 1993 in order to advise and petition Texas legislators over water policy affecting the Highland Lakes. We also periodically organize fund raisers and publish reports to keep our residents and businesses informed on the issues. Our members and those we serve all own homesteads and/or businesses around the Highland Lakes. We do not readily make complaints; ordinarily we are not an alarmist group. But, now we find ourselves in the midst of an extended drought that may well become the new drought of record. On the date of this letter, the lakes were only 43% full with uncertain relief in sight. In the face of this reality, we read the new Water Management Plan (WMP) of the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) with great alarm.

Our subsurface aquifers are under great stress, and our reservoir lakes' storage capacity is near the lowest since the drought of record, which lasted from 1946 to 1957. The year 2011 began with 1,300,000 acre-feet of stored water in the Highland Lakes – vital reserves for drinking and fire safety. The year 2012 began with only 760,000 acre-feet remaining. In spite of some relief-giving rain this winter, the LCRA's staff meteorologist, Bob Rose, and the state climatologist, John Nielsen-Gammon, have warned of a decade of drought. Faced with the facts and these forecasts, we believe that the remaining reserve in the lakes must be considered as **legacy** water, to be used only for human consumption, power generation and fire safety.

Under its proposed WMP, the LCRA may continue to sell water to the agricultural users – predominantly rice farmers – until the combined capacity of Lakes Travis and Buchanan declines to 600,000 acre-feet – the equivalent of 20 months of projected **firm** use with no additional water sales. After that is gone, we will be down to the mud. We must ask: what will the municipal utility districts do then? Where will they go for drinking water and water to put out fires and at what cost?

The proposed WMP is an improvement over the current plan. It reduces the flow to the agricultural users when the lakes are low, but it fails to rectify two serious problems:

The first of these is an insufficient fall-back allowance for stored water to meet residents' demand during times of drought. The new plan prohibits all diversions of lake water only when storage levels fall to 400,000 acre-feet. This number is the result of an estimate generated by the LCRA's models. It is said to be enough to satisfy the needs of a growing population for one year. We do not agree that a one-year cushion is an adequate safety margin for a population center as important as ours. Even if it were, the LCRA cannot assure uninterrupted supplies at untested levels this low. Many municipal intake ports could become silted up or even stranded by the irregular topography of a drying lake bottom.

The second serious problem with the new plan is one of discriminatory pricing. Even when the lake levels fall to less than three years of projected firm water supply (3 X 352,000) – or 1,056,000 acre-feet – much of this legacy water will still be diverted to the agricultural users. At this low level the rice farmers will still be paying a small fraction of the rates charged to the firm users. With pricing differentials this great, no reasonable person can believe that the farmers will have an adequate incentive to reduce their use of lake water and consider using alternate supplies available to them from their own more capacious subsurface reservoirs. Meanwhile, municipalities will require their customers to reduce water consumption by 20% this summer – amounting to about 57,000 acre-feet. In 2010 alone, some 439,000 acre-feet were released to the farmers, of which 351,000 acre-feet were actually used. Approximately 88,000 acre-feet of precious fresh water ended up in Matagorda Bay, more than 150% of the water that households are being asked to conserve.

Considering the above, we think it only prudent to propose that:

1. When the combined lake storage drops to 1,056,000 acre-feet – approximately three years of projected firm need – the water remaining should be declared as **legacy water**. Any of this water released for agricultural use should be priced at the same rate as that charged to the firm users.
2. When the combined lake storage drops to 880,000 acre-feet – a level equal to about 30 months of projected firm use – the LCRA should cease all shipments to agricultural users. To continue sending water to the farmers when less than 30 months' supply remains is reckless and does not provide a reasonable cushion for human consumption. Moreover, selling this vital resource during drought years at prices many times less than those paid by the cities and MUDs cannot be justified.
3. The minimum fall-back storage for critical needs should not be less than 700,000 acre-feet – enough to meet approximately two years' projected demand. At this level, the lakes would be 35% full, uncomfortably low.

We urge our fellow residents – and the MUDs who serve us – to join with us and support these proposals to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and to our representatives in the Texas Legislature. Our very livelihood depends on it.

# USEFUL FACTS IN USEFUL FORM – LAKE TRAVIS & BUCHANON

- Normal fill level – Travis = 681' above sea level
  - Normal fill level – Buchanan = 1020' above sea level
  - Capacity when full – Travis = 1,135,000 acre-feet
  - Capacity when full – Buchanan = 876,000 acre-feet
  - Combined capacities of both lakes when full = 2,011,000 acre-feet
  - One acre-foot is the amount needed to cover one acre with water to the depth of one foot. It is the equivalent of approximately 326,000 gallons.
- Drought of Record – 1947-1956. Lake Travis water level fell to 615' above sea level. Lake Buchanan fell to 984'. In January 2012, the lake levels fell to 626' and 984' respectively. In April 2012, the levels were roughly 639' and 997'.

## DEMAND STATISTICS (Acre-feet) FULL YEAR 2010

- Firm needs
  - City of Austin = 182,788
  - Austin power plants = 13,500
  - Other power plants = 25,866
  - Other municipalities and industries = 46,452
  - Other customers = 20,000
  - Total = 288,606**
- Environmental flow requirements = 33,440
- Interruptible customers (Agricultural) = 438,500 primarily rice farm demand
  - Total Demand = 760,546**
- LCRA projected firm demand need, decade 2010 - 2020 = 350,000 per year
- Average household use = 0.5 to 0.7 acre-feet per year.

## RICE FARM STATISTICS

- Rice growing counties within the LCRA's jurisdiction – Colorado, Matagorda and Wharton
- Tri-county rice acreage irrigated by the LCRA – 91,500
- Water use = about 5 acre-feet/year
- LCRA's wholesale water charge = about \$6/acre-foot. By contrast, municipalities pay about \$165/acre-foot. The average household pays a retail rate of about \$1,100/acre-foot for treated water.
- Federal subsidies paid to the tri-county rice farmers = more than \$45 million/year. (Source: Environmental Working Group, compiled from USDA data, 1995-2010).
- Average wholesale rice price = about \$0.27/pound
- Average federal rice subsidy = about \$0.06/pound
- Average federal tariff support for rice = \$0.03/pound
- Total produced per year = 751 million pounds
- Revenue from rice sales = approximately \$200 million/year. This is roughly the same revenue generated by the Highland Lakes community.
- Revenue from direct subsidies = approximately \$45 million/year
- Wholesale water cost = approximately \$2.75 million, or about 1% of total revenues

## Sail Training Report

by Jenny Loehlin



The Roadrunners continue to attract heavy air for their practices – now that the series races are on Saturdays, this will benefit the whole club.

There will be an Opti start for Turnback this year, so it can be a racing event for the whole family, as well as a great party. Come on out!

Thanks to **Bill Records** for his work in organizing this.

Adult sail training will be busy with back-to-back classes the weekend before Turnback. In June, we're planning a full-day learn to sail class with instruction on keelboats in the morning and centerboard boats in the afternoon. There's also a centerboard class coming up in July. Check the website for further information and registration.

Registration for camp and PB&J is in full swing, but there will likely still be spots available when this comes out, especially in the later sessions. Talk it up with your friends who have kids!

**Steve Gay's** US Sailing Level 1 Instructor course was a success, despite the high winds that seem to be some sort of requirement. Among the participants were Roadrunner Fleet Captain **Stefan Froelich**, UT Sailing Team President **Luke Cragin**, **Patrick Brinkmann**, and our Commodore, **Johannes Brinkmann**. I'm sure they all have stories to tell and will put their skills to good use. Thanks to Steve for teaching this course, among his many contributions to the club and the sport of sailing.



Photo by Bill Records



Photo by Bill Records

US Sailing Level 1 class on the water



Photo submitted by Johannes Brinkmann

On the weekends of April 21/22 and April 28/29, 10 instructor candidates successfully completed their US Sailing Level 1 Instructor certifications. The class was taught by AYC's **Steve Gay**.

Left to right: Steve Gay (Instructor, AYC), Luke Cragin (AYC), Randall Moore (Lake Canyon YC), Stephen Nelson (Chandler's Landing YC), Stacy Moore (Lake Canyon YC), Stefan Froelich (AYC), Ben Lipari (Grapevine YC), Johannes Brinkmann (AYC), Patrick Brinkmann (AYC), Ryan Murphy (Texas Corinthian YC), Ben Moreno (Corpus Christi YC)



AYC SUMMER PARTY  
JUNE 23, 2012

*Casino Night*



## Turnback Canyon Update

by Wade Bingaman

# AYC 2012 TURNBACK

Hopefully you've heard the buzz around the club about the "New" Turnback Canyon Regatta. Even though the club has held this regatta for many years, this year it will be very different ... and in a good way. Things are

falling into place nicely for quite an event.

There will be no 20-mile race either day. Instead, all racing will begin and end in the vicinity of AYC. So you will not have to sleep on your boat Saturday night unless you want to. But you might want to stick around after racing because there is an amazing evening planned. We're doing a major beach party and you're invited.

For starters there will be a serious crawfish boil brought to you by the Louisiana good ol' boys from the **Crawfish Connection**. We're talking crawfish, sausage, shrimp, potatoes, and corn on the cob. These guys do it right, and we get to enjoy it.

Of course there will be plenty of refreshments to wash down that Cajun food.

While you are eating (and also before and after) there will be talented musicians entertaining you. **Jeane & Chuck** will do acoustic folk music to get us started. **The P-38** will pick up the tempo with some rock. **Lime Drop Steel** will serenade you during dinner with steel drum island music. Next, the **Austin Polka Band** will definitely be playing songs that go well with

## 2012 TURNBACK CANYON



beer. We haven't forgotten you country music fans either. **Made** **The Shade** will make us wish we brought our cowboy hats. Finally, the **Shoal Brothers** will finish things off with soul, blues, and 60s rock. Six different groups packed into six hours.

There also will be a limbo contest. You can understand if we haven't been able to figure out exactly when to fit it in. But you should definitely fit this regatta into your schedule. Online registration is open now. You get a discount for registering early, and it would definitely help in our planning. I can tell you it's going to be a great evening!

## AYC Fund News

by Scott Young



The **AYC Fund** is pleased to announce that through the generosity of **Dr. Homer "Hap" Arnold** several scholarships will be awarded to provide financial assistance for participants in the PB&J and Junior Sailing Camps this summer.

The **2nd Annual Fleet Challenge** will be held Saturday, **September 22**. This year's Fleet Challenge will be a full day event in which each fleet will enter an A & B division skipper and crew. The scoring of both A & B division teams will be combined to determine the top fleet at AYC. The event will be sailed in the new FJs that were purchased for the **North American Intercollegiate Sailing Nationals**, which will be held at AYC later this month. Look for more details about the Fleet Challenge in next month's "Telltale".

The **AYC Fund** raised over \$20,000 at last year's **Inaugural Fleet Challenge** and we look forward to another successful event in September to determine the top fleet at AYC.

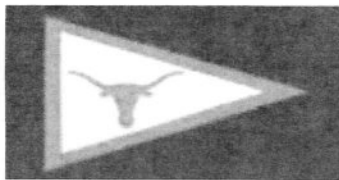
The **AYC Fund** was also instrumental in facilitating the purchase of the new FJs for the benefit of the UT Sailing Team, AYC and junior sailing here in Texas. Over \$60,000 was donated through the **AYC Fund** for the FJ fleet purchase.

Please consider contributing to the **AYC Fund** to help us continue our mission. The **AYC Fund** is a non-profit organization founded in 2006 that supports Texas sailors of all ages by providing grants for sailing education, competitive sailing and instructor development.

You can lend a hand by making a donation to support the future of Texas sailors. The **AYC Fund** is a 501(c)3 organization and qualified to accept tax-deductible contributions. Donations can be made online at <http://aycfund.org/donate/>, through the Austin Community Foundation, or by check sent to P.O. Box 5338, Austin, TX 78763 and made payable to "**AYC Fund**".

# 2012 ICSA Nationals Report

by Vic Manning



## 2012 ICSA NATIONALS

<b>Afterguard Regatta</b>	<b>5/29</b>
<b>Sperry Top Sider Women's Regatta</b>	<b>5/30-6/2</b>
<b>APS Team Race</b>	<b>6/3-5</b>
<b>Gill Dinghy</b>	<b>6/6-8</b>

At the end of May, the University of Texas Sailing Team and Austin Yacht Club will host the 2012 Inter-Collegiate Sailing Association National Championships. It will be a 10-day event from May 29 - June 8 and will include women, team racing and coed events.

We are excited and honored to host the National Championships, and we hope to make them an unforgettable experience for all who participate.



### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

AYC members are needed to assist with this event. Let's make AYC shine as one of the premier places to sail in the U.S.

Please sign up for the following:

#### Housing

If you have room to put up teams, please let us know as requests are coming in for team housing. Most teams are trying to control expenses and are looking for floor space to crash. Usually, teams are six to eight people and 18 teams will attend the three separate events along with 10 college officials, six judges and 14 umpires.

#### Ground Support (Need six to eight people)

Fri 5/25	Set up tents, chairs, bleachers and signs	4 - 6p
Mon 5/28	Final setup and cleanup after Turnback	10a - noon
Sat 6/2	Banquet setup and tear down	4 - 9p
Sat 6/9	Final cleanup and tear down	10a - noon
5/29 - 6/9	Any time	

#### General Support (Need four to six people)

Tue 5/29	Registration & Welcome	10a - 2p
Wed 5/30	Registration & Welcome	7:30 - 10a
Sat 6/2	Banquet assistance	4 - 9p
Sun 6/3	Registration & Welcome	7:30 - 10a
Wed 6/6	Registration & Welcome	7:30 - 10a

#### Regatta Support

Mon 5/28	Orientation - Team Assignments - All	1p - 3p
Tue 5/29	Afterguard Regatta (Need four people)	Noon - 4p
Wed 5/30	Women's Regatta (Need four people)	9a - 6p
Thu 5/31	Women's Regatta (Need four people)	8a - 6p
Fri Jun 1	Women's Regatta (Need four people)	8a - 6p
Sat Jun 2	Women's Regatta (Need four people)	8a - 6p
Sun Jun 3	Team Racing (Need six people)	9a - 6p
Mon Jun 4	Team Racing (Need six people)	9a - 6p
Tue Jun 5	Team Racing (Need six people)	9a - 6p
Wed Jun 6	Co-Ed Racing (Need four people)	9a - 6p
Thu Jun 7	Co-Ed Racing (Need four people)	9a - 6p
Fri Jun 8	Co-Ed Racing (Need four people)	9a - 6p

Any assistance is appreciated. Please sign up online, call the AYC office or contact **Vic Manning**, 512-826-2950.

## UT Sailing Team Report

by Kelly Troy



Masie Comen, Luke Cragin, Kelly Troy, Seth Cunningham, Sarah Douglas, Conor Puckett, Richard Bagans, and Marissa Morrison made up the two teams UT sent to the Frozen Hate 2x2 Team Race hosted by SMU at Corinthian Sailing Club on March 3.

It has been a busy spring for the University of Texas Sailing Team. We have driven approximately 1,200 miles practicing at AYC and traveled over 8,500 miles to 10 regattas and two clinics this semester. We have held three regattas at AYC this semester. We finished third at SEISA Coed Championship and qualified

*continued next page*



continued from page 8

to sail semi-finals in Annapolis; then we won SEISA Women's Championship and qualified to sail at Women's Nationals! We are very proud to have purchased a new fleet of FJs, readying AYC for the ICSA Nationals we are hosting at the end of the month.

...ree trips to Galveston, three trips to New Orleans, one to Dallas, one to College Station, one to Boston! It's exhausting but we have been having a lot of fun. We are very excited to be the 2012 SEISA Women's Champions and sailing in the Nationals that everyone at AYC has been putting so much work into. You can find most of our finishes for the semester on the college sailing scores page at [scores.collegesailing.org/schools/UT/](http://scores.collegesailing.org/schools/UT/) or at our website, [texassailing.org](http://texassailing.org). You can also follow us on twitter or facebook.

May 5 finished our regular season with the district championship for SEISA Team Racing held at AYC. This was exciting racing – fast paced, three boats vs. three boats tactics battles. On May 12-13, we returned to fleet racing, traveling to Annapolis for ICSA Coed Semi-Finals. **Vic Manning** accompanied the team to benefit the planning for the ICSA National Championships that will be hosted by Austin Yacht Club and the University of Texas Sailing Team.

In preparation for the college sailing nationals, you may have noticed the brand new fleet of FJs sitting out near the pavilion. Thank you to everyone who donated and helped make it possible especially **Scott Young, John Morran, and John Bartlett**.

Everyone who bought merchandise and bid on sailors at the end-of-series dinner for the Frostbite Series, we raised over \$700! The old fleet was sold to an impressive new Sea Scout base being built Galveston that we had the opportunity to sail at this weekend in a joint practice with the A&M Galveston team. There was a lot of work getting ready for the shipment of boats and a big thanks to **Steve Gay, Vic Manning, and Steve Hawks** for all of your help unloading the 18 boats and moving them down to the docks.

The ICSA National Championships will be hosted at AYC May 29-June 8. Women's Champs are May 29-June 2, Team Racing Champs are June 3-5, and Coed Champs are June 6-8. We are excited and hope you will come out and volunteer for the event! This is an exciting event with schools from across the country and over 600 participants. We are still looking for volunteers to help make this event great. Please email me if you can help out in any way.

Thank you to everyone at the club for your continued support of our nationally competitive collegiate team. Our goal is to expand the love and knowledge of competitive sailing. Some team members come in with a vast knowledge base of experience, while other members join the team with little or no experience, but with determination and devotion, they become highly competitive sailors. If you are looking for crew, feel free to email me at [kellytroy@me.com](mailto:kellytroy@me.com) and I can forward your request to the team.



**SEISA TEAM RACING CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
Photos by Bruce McDonald



More SEISA photos on page 14

## Roadrunner Update

by Kate Noble

It has been busy down at the Rylander Pavilion! This month our junior sailors shared our facility with UT, who hosted several collegiate regional events this past month, and the US Sailing Level 1 instructor course. Thank you everyone, particularly **Vic Manning** and **Steve Gay**, who helped to coordinate and keep things running smoothly and safely. Participation in the Roadrunner program is on the rise with the addition of several new junior members and the continued success of Free Sail Sunday. The wind has certainly made things interesting! Luckily for our junior sailors, the cove has filled out nicely with the recent increase in water in the lake. We have taken advantage of the shelter and braved some windy conditions. A big thank you to **Bill Records** who led a very informative clinic on starts on April 14. Our on-the-water portion of the class was cancelled due to high winds but many of the junior sailors stayed to cheer on UT at the SEISA Coed Championships. I'm looking forward to another great month of junior sailing in May before we break for the summer camp season.

We have several exciting things on the calendar this month. While still in the works at the moment, we are hoping to have a Spring Roadrunner Cruise. On May 20 from 11:00 to 1:00, we will be having a Roadrunner Work Party. Our facilities will be used for the College Nationals at the end of the month and camp begins right



*The Roadrunner Saturday practice gang*

after that. We will be working on the 20th to get our docks ready for the high volume of people expected at nationals and our boats ready for the Junior Sailing Camps and PB&J.

The annual Turnback Canyon Regatta has been changed due to the low water levels. Luckily for the Roadrunners, this year's more localized course allows for an Opti start! We have extended the invitation to Opti sailors at surrounding clubs and are hoping for a big turnout for the regatta, which is scheduled for May 26 and 27. I encourage all our Opti sailors to take advantage of this opportunity to build some racing experience and join us for a fun Memorial Day weekend! The Roadrunners will also be holding a fundraiser at the regatta. On Sunday May 27, we will be grilling up burgers and hotdogs for all the Turnback sailors. Please come out and support our junior program!

Summer is coming quickly and I want to remind everyone that May is the last month of Roadrunner sailing before we break for summer

camp. However, Roadrunners are encouraged to participate in our Junior Sailing Camp. Our weeklong sessions are a great way to stay out on the water during the break. We have a fantastic staff and many fun activities in the works. There is still room in all four sessions of camp: June 11-15, June 18-22, June 25-29, and July 9-13. Please visit our website to register for both camp and PB&J.

Parents and volunteers continue to make this program a success. Thank you to everyone who lends an extra hand at practices. If you would like to get involved or want more information about the Roadrunners, please contact me at [jrcoach@austinyachtclub.net](mailto:jrcoach@austinyachtclub.net).



*Junior counselor Trey Clawson assisting with Opti practice*

### FAMILY EVENT!

## Potluck Dinner & Ice Cream Social

Come out after the races on **June 16** and enjoy great food cooked up by your fellow sailors, followed by **ICE CREAM** and the Summer Series trophy presentation. Bring the whole family!

(evite coming soon...)





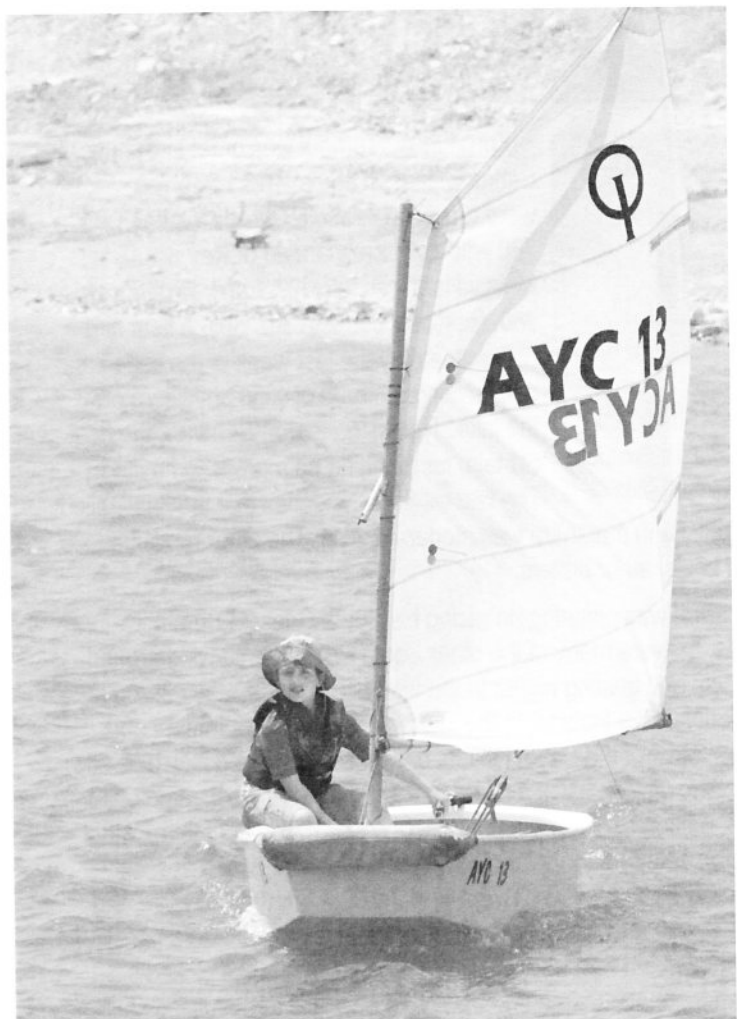
Mae Kubena/Ben Froelich, Matt Gibbons/Ethan Froelich battle it out



The Peel brothers getting serious



Gooing around after practice



Gus Gamble – jumps back on and off he goes!



Matt Gibbons and Ethan Froelich



Opti race practice



Matt and Ethan



## Keel Fleet Update

by JoAnn Welles



Keel Fleet's illustrious leader, Rob Stivers

**Spinnaker A.** Turnout was great in Spring Series with eight boats. Three trophies were given. Jackrabbit, **Claude Welles'** J80 was 1st, barely ahead of **Ray Shull**, in Mostly Harmless, his J29. **Larry Ratliff's** J80, Restless, came in 3rd. Spin A fleet had committee duty the last week of the series and couldn't find a breath of wind anywhere on the lake. Thanks go to **Jen Schwan**, the fleet captain, for rounding up a great committee.

The last week of the series that the fleet sailed was unique in that there was moderate wind. The other races had all been heavy air or drifters.

**Ray Shull** was planning on racing his South Coast in Summer Series, as were many of the other South Coasts. With wind around 20 knots and gusting higher in the first race, though, Ray offered to take out his J29 instead, in the interests of saving equipment and sailors. Most of the South Coasts decided to crew, and Ray plowed his way to victory. It wasn't hard to figure out when he was going to tack – getting all those people from one side of the boat to the other required some upfront planning and coordination! Otherwise, only J80s sailed – Jackrabbit, **Brent and Jen Schwan's** Wild Hare and **Greg Scully's** Silverwind. Greg unfortunately had an equipment breakdown and missed the finish. The race committee picked a course that gave Spin A and the single MultiHull three full laps around marks 4 and D. They ended up shortening as we reached mark 4 for the 3rd time so we didn't miss the time limit. Everyone seemed to be happy to miss the last downwind leg and beat to the finish.

Beer Cans have been sparsely attended in most cases, due to the high winds perhaps? Several Spin A fleet boats have finished 'in the wine' – 1st or 2nd. They include Jackrabbit, Mostly Harmless and **John and Claudia Bartlett's** J80, Speed Racer. Since 30 seconds is added to the start time for each 1st or 2nd – for the rest of the summer – you'll be seeing these boats starting later. **Brent and Jen Schwan** shared grilling duty with **Barry Bowden, Claude and me.**

**Spinnaker B.** Turnout for all of Spring Series was light, with only three boats. **John Maddalozzo** in his Capri 25, Ornerly, **Bill Boas** in his San Juan 7.7, Que Pasa, and **David Lewis** in his San Juan 7.7, Vitamin Sea, all won a race. Ornerly took the trophy with a 1st and a 2nd. Hopefully some of the potential B fleet racers will return to using their spinnaker in the Summer Series, but the first race, with its high winds, wasn't the likely opportunity for that to happen. **Bill Records** (winner of Non-Spin C – see below) has threatened to return to the Spinnaker division for Spring Series. In order for someone else to win, they'll have to participate more consistently than anyone did this series.

**Non-Spinnaker C.** 10 different boats turned out for the Spring Series, with most of the normal Spin B fleet sailing in Non-Spin. **Bill Records** in his Pearson 26, Café Au Lait, showed everyone how to get around the course and ended up with three 1st place finishes and the overall 1st place trophy. He seemed to always be at the right place at the right time as the wind shifted (wind shifting on Lake

Travis – how could that be?) on the upwind legs. **Jim Henrickson** in his 11 meter, Warrior, took 2nd overall and **Kevin Reynolds** in his San Juan 7.7, Dragon, took 3rd. These three sailors were the only ones that sailed all four races – consistency counts!

Please see **Jim Johnstone's** article, below, for his account of Non-Spin C's 1st race in the Summer Series. As usual, Jim's article is worth reading!

**Non-Spinnaker D.** The news of the last race of the Spring Series was that **Mark Bradford** joined in, allowing **Bill Benker** to have competition. Thanks, Mark! Bill won the overall trophy. For some reason, many skippers register for a Series for Non-Spin D, but few participate!

## Summer Series Starts Off with a Bang

by Jim Johnstone

April 22 saw races abandoned due to lack of wind so we were hoping for some good winds on April 28 for the start of the Summer Series and we got it. At the time of the Non-spin start we had sustained average wind of 19 knots out of the SSE with gusts in the 20s and it would build on that throughout the race. This put a premium on boat handling and knowing where the other boats were as two yachts found out when they collided before the start.

In this corner weighing in at 11,000 lbs., on port tack, wearing the 140% head sail, we have the mighty Hunter. In the opposite corner weighing in at 2,350 pounds, on starboard tack and beginning to wonder why he is in the middle of another fleet's start sequence, the daring Catalina 22. With the wind at 20 knots it is easy to visualize a closing speed of these two boats of 20 feet per second if both reaching, or about half that if beating. That means they are losing a boat length of distance every 1 to 2 seconds.

At the last instant both skippers see that something that is not going to make their day, but will make for interesting stories later, is about to happen and, not even stopping to think about how many beers this is worth at the bar down the road, apply RRS rule number 14 and bear away from each other. I have to admire their Corinthian spirit here, but alas it is too late and the sound of rending metal and crunching fiberglass fills the air, possibly laced with a few "WTF's". So they did the right thing and still have stories to tell. Damage was significant but both yachts were able to return safely to AYC with crew like 007's Martini's: well shaken.

Meanwhile, back at the start, we had set our 135 and a reefed main, and oblivious to the carnage at the other end of the line, we were able to start first near the RC boat and it took the 11 Meter a long time to catch us. The S2 is just great in big air. Very stable, high freeboard, no spray. Zipping right along. We rounded the weather mark and watched the 11 meter scoot away in high gear while we worked to stay away from traffic and shallow water while alternately reaching and going DDW with the pole.

We did some well controlled jibes and one not so much resulting in the cheek of the traveler block getting peeled back like an EZ open top on a can of bean dip, when we forgot to cleat both ends of the traveler sheet.

*continued next page*

As we neared U flote em, the Pearson 31 with a crew of two and flying every bit of rag they had on board caught us and begin to pass to weather. We headed up and rode their quarter wave for a while and their stern wave for a while after that until they finally got past us. I could hear them beg for water to tack else they run aground, and jibed to starboard.

We chased them to the leeward mark and began to gain on them as we tacked back up the lake. All their sail was great downwind but a little exhausting to work with upwind. We had split tacks and as I looked across the lake to see how they were doing I noticed them turning in a circle near a J boat. I guessed they fouled someone. Then I saw the jib continue to flutter and eventually roll up on the furler. Turns out the wheel steering had become ineffectual and the hunt was on for the emergency tiller.

Lucky for them they had one, and soon they were back in the race but now out of range of catching us before the finish. I have to say I admire their spirit. I would have been on a mad dash to the ice box to get the last Heineken before one of the crew found it, knowing we would have to retire because I do not carry a spare tiller just in case (any more). That is the kind of skipper wisdom it takes 30 years to perfect.

## SC21 Update

by Carl Wiseman



Bruce McDonald with second series trophy of the year

### Bruce McDonald Wins Spring Series – South Coast Peloton Finally Wakes Up!

Bruce chocked up his second series victory for the year. Finally, the South Coast peloton is taking notice and alarm is spreading at the extent of his recent domination in the sport.

The French press are investigating possible steroid use and are demanding that Bruce's boat, Rogue Warrior, undergo a complete

set of humiliating drug tests to prove that the boat is not improperly juiced. Meanwhile, the summer series kicked off and the largest contingent of South Coasts in years showed up in an effort to pull the yellow shirt winner back into the pack. Eight boats were ready to take a shot at Bruce in Series Race 1, however, the winds were just too high to have an economical race – one where all the boats would not blow up from wind damage. It was decided at the first race that there would be a SC21 bonding event on **Ray Shull's** J29 and they raced in the spinnaker keel fleet class. With all those South Coast sailors in Ray's kitchen, it could have really gotten ugly (literally and figuratively), there were some wildly varying opinions on how to do just about everything, but the crew settled down, won the race, and showed the rest of the fleet the capabilities of the SC sailors.

Series Race 2 also had a large turnout with seven boats all ready to move the yellow jersey from Bruce. One of the stage winners, famous Belgium South Coast racer **Pat Feagin**, won the second race and was quoted as saying "VEE VILL PULL Bruce back into ZEE Pack." The game is on!

## "Honey, better call AA we have a brewmeister joining the South Coast Fleet"

**Derek Smigelski** has recently purchased a boat and will be racing in the SC fleet. He teaches beer making classes and will be the perfect fit into the group. His skills will be most appreciated by the whole fleet. Hopefully, with his membership addition, there will be enough independent swing voters to replace Coors Light in the clubhouse with a more robust, less pretentious brew.

## May 19 Intergalactics

**Ray Shull** has posted the rules of racing, has picked up the trophies, and is helping to line up a PRO for the race. Also, he has started aging the key components of his famous chili. More on the specifics in upcoming email.

Happy Sailing!

## J/24 Fleet Update

by David Broadway

With several dry-sailed boats added to the mix, the fleet enjoyed five boats participating in the Spring Series. It came down to the last race date only to be denied by the wind gods. It was lucky for the Superman team as they edged team Ammo Box/red boat, **Mancuso/Harden** to win the series by just one point!

On the opening race date of the current Summer Series, the fleet enjoyed burgers and beer after racing. This series to date has been hotly contested with multiple lead changes each race.

The J/24 Texas Circuit Regatta stop #2 at the Ft. Worth Boat Club included extremely windy conditions. **Dr. Gamble** and his Ohh Ahh team earned a well deserved 6th place overall finish to lead the Austin road warrior charge with **Jorge Martin-de-Nicolas'** team ayeBoat close behind in 7th place! **John/Meiling Parker's** developing Free Spirit team survived the conditions and moved up another finish position from their HYC Elissa Regatta finish.

At the May 5-6 J/24 Texas Circuit Regatta stop #3, team Ohh Ahh was not to be denied. While the Doc was off to Bogata, he put the team in the able hands of **Steve Ehlers** to helm the charge. With some musical chairs on board, **Brian Metz** moved to trimmer, **Rosanne Butera** handled foredeck, **Jaime Beaulieu** and **Reed Clecker** handled the middle. In two of the five races, team Ohh Ahh utilized the left corner for big rewards to finish 4th overall, currently their best finish of the season!

**Jorge Martin-de-Nicolas** and **John/Meiling Parker** had solid finishes at DCYC. **David Broadway's** Superman slipped from leading the regatta by one point after the Saturday racing to finish 2nd overall. It was the first time this crew combination of **Pat Caughey** foredeck, **Lynna Holland** mast, **Laura Miller** pit, and **Stu Juengst** trimmer had sailed together!

The Summer Series continues while the highly anticipated Turnback Canyon Regatta provides an opportunity to tune up for the J/24 TX Circuit Regatta #4 in Corpus Christi on June 9-10.



## Ensign Fleet Update

by Fred Ford

Spring Series has slipped by us and we are on the edge of hot ... as in Too Hot to Sail season. Our spring was wet and the cloudy skies gave us blustery winds that often were a little confused as to what direction to blow. Temperatures were mostly mild and sailing was good.

The Ensigns had five boats on the line for spring. No. 578 (**Tom Groll**), Prime Time (**Elliott Bray**), Eagle (**Hap Arnold**), Festina Lente (**Randolph Bertin**) and Dos Locos (**Lewis Price**) were scored for the series. A quick look at the score sheet will tell you just how competitive the racing was. At any given time, every boat was somewhere in the top. As the series wound to an end No. 578, Prime Time and Eagle sailed for the top spot.

In the second series race, Prime Time, after executing a beautiful start, met with a wandering cruiser on port tack. Shouts of "STARBOARD" were to no avail and only a last minute wiggle by Prime Time prevented a meeting of hulls. The boom tore Prime Time's main and she had to drop out for the day.

Toward the end of the series at a mark rounding, a mix of port and starboard Ensigns approaching the mark appeared to be experimenting with occupying the same space ... some shouting, a ducking, tacking, some spray and three Ensigns, three abreast, only inches apart and in perfect formation approached the mark. The odd part, no one could remember exactly how ... just that it happened.

The last race of the series was cancelled due to lack of wind. Somehow it seemed fitting, given the fickleness of spring weather. The award ceremony was moved to the next weekend, which happened to be the opener for the Summer Series.

**Tom Groll** sailed No. 578 to first place, **Elliot Bray** on Prime Time took second, **Hap Arnold** brought Eagle in for third and **Randolph Bertin** in Festina Lente and **Lewis Price** sailing Dos Locos tied for fourth.

I noted at the awards ceremony that only three Ensigns raced the first race of the Summer Series. From what I hear, the number should increase to five or six Ensigns for the 2nd race of the series.

Rumor around the harbor is that the **Dahmen** boat is nearing completion and may be entering competition this year. **Fred Ford's** September is almost ready to go back in and should be racing part of the Summer Series.

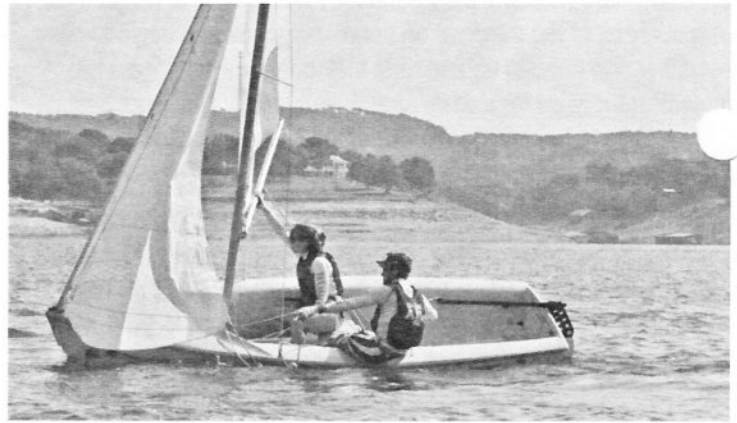
The lake is falling and expected to keep dropping. So anyone thinking about getting in or out of the lake should be aware that time and lake levels wait for no one.

And finally for your sail bag an often-heard remark, but worth repeating lest we forget.

*"There is nothing - absolutely nothing - half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats."*

– Water Rat, Kenneth Grahame, *The Wind in the Willows*

## More SEISA Team Racing Photos



Photos by Bruce McDonald





## From the Desk of the GM

by Steve Hawks

May is here and along with it comes the humid heat and hopefully some rain. The schedule for May activity has been set and it is going to be a May racing/sailing season like we haven't seen in some time.

Starting the month off was the SEISA Team competition, quickly followed by the Boater Safety Course conducted by Texas Parks and Wildlife. Other courses in May include Beginner Keel Boat, a Boy Scout training weekend and an intermediate sail training course.

Back to racing, the South Coast Nationals and annual meeting will be held at AYC on May 19. This is followed by Turnback Regatta on Memorial Day Weekend.

Turnback ends and the North American ICSA Nationals immediately follows and continues through the first week of June. And there is more!

Don't forget about the Summer Series, Friday night Beer Can and the Wednesday night Sunfish and Laser races. All in all it is shaping up to be a great May and if you need a break from racing, the pool is now open.

### Welcome New Members

Santiago Pita, Senior Probationary  
Chase Kincannon, Senior Probationary  
Oren Connell, Associate Probationary  
Anna Kozminski, Young Adult Probationary  
Daniel Clawson, Student  
Nicole Prado, Student

## Social Committee Update

by Susie McDonald

Please welcome new social committee member, **Cathy Parker**. We're very happy to have her on the team.

A HUGE thank you to John Saunders for moving the beer cooler to the other side of the clubhouse. This gives us a lot more counter space and we're making the most of it. By the way, we have reversed the order of the food line – it starts at the former beer cooler side of the buffet bar.

Lots of stuff coming up in June. We have the last two series races on June 9 and 16. The end-of-series awards event will be AYC's annual Pot Luck Dinner and Ice Cream Social. **Tommy Gairloff** and his team will be there to serve the traditional amazing spread of frozen desserts. This is a **family event** and we hope to see a big crowd. Watch your email for an evite RSVP opportunity.

Saturday, June 23 is the AYC Summer Party. This year it will be indoors with overflow capacity on the balcony and lower level. It will be a **Casino Party** with catered heavy hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine and setups. Great fun and great prizes – don't miss this one! Mailed invitations will be coming soon. Cost is \$18 per person.

Finally, just a reminder that new members and RC eat free at the series race meals.

See you in the kitchen!



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