



From the desk of the AYC Vice Commodore  
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## 2018 Yearend Report

A highlight of any year at Austin Yacht Club is participation in the regattas on Lake Travis, and this year they were pretty much all over the place, from cold and windy, to light and drifty, to non-existing. But none of them could have happened without the dedicated volunteers of the AYC membership! Thank you.

Governor's Cup regatta was held on April 7-8 and was chaired by Chris Thompson with Keith Denebeim as PRO. Saturday we had a Northern blow through and twenty of the 46 keel boats registered ventured out in the cold and windy. The centerboard fleets opted out of freezing and some of us went to Lucy's on the Lake to watch the boats sail down Arkansas Bend. Race Committee shortened the course so to get our sailors home quicker so they could warm up with Texas Bar-b-q. Everyone joined in the dancing with a variety of bands including the Shoal Brothers. On Sunday, as the wind was shifting back to the south, 37 boats went racing, including the Texas Centerboard and Texas Sunfish circuit boats. A highlight for me was that Vic Manning's Sunfish, sailed by David McCary from Shreveport, LA, won the Sunfish fleet.

Turnback Canyon regatta was held on May 5-6, chaired by Steve Ward with PRO Ed Pierce. There were 45 boats registered. Saturday the wind was nice but a bit light and about 30 boats finished the race up the lake. Lago Fest was fun and there were plenty of food trucks to choose from. A special treat for those who stayed up long enough was a concert featuring Asleep at the Wheel playing their classic songs. Sunday the lake was like glass, so there was a towing-boat parade up until Thurman Bend. Race Committee thought there might be enough wind to race back to the club but they shortened at Arkansas Bend. Sixteen boats actually finished the shorten course. Congrats to Ray Shull for winning the Bill Levins trophy for the fastest corrected time up to Lago Vista.

On June 2-3, AYC hosted the Roadrunner/Opti Mid-American Championship which served as a qualifier for the 2018 USODA Team Trials and showcased AYC to the region and nation. Mary Carew and Jeff Brock chaired the regatta with PROs Jim Casto for Optimist Green fleet, Ray Schull for Optimist RWB fleet and James Bland Laser/C420 fleet. Many AYC members volunteered and enjoyed watching the next generation sail on Lake Travis.

Centerboard regatta, originally scheduled for October 27-28, had 26 boats registered before the rains fell. There would have been 7 fleets including Portsmouth (the Texas Centerboard Circuit), Finns, Aeros, Sunfish (the Texas Sunfish Circuit), Optis, FJ's and beach catamarans. But alas, due to the flooding conditions the lake was closed and the regatta was cancelled. Ironically, the new logo for the regatta features the sails of some boats behind waves that actually look like they could be flooded.

*This is an activity report of an individual board member and does not represent the official position of the Austin Yacht Club or its Board of Directors.*



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And the big regatta for me was the Women's Sunfish North American Championship held September 28-30. The 36 women competitors from Washington state, Rhode Island, Missouri, Delaware, Oklahoma, Florida, Mississippi and Texas. There were 20 loaner boats from AYC members, Lake Canyon YC and Shreveport YC. Eight competitors trailered their boats and eight competitors were locals from AYC. Seven AYC members opened their homes to host competitors and even more had offered. Ray Shull, our PRO, got off six races in light and fluky Lake Travis winds and our own Lucy Brock became the North American Champion. Many thanks to Carolyn Wilsford and Chris Batile for organizing the boats and housing respectively. And many, many thanks to Pat Manning and her expertise in running a terrific regatta. A great time was had by all!!

Happy Sailing,

Annie Lancaster

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