

June 2021



SPOTLIGHT: AYC Permanent Race Committee

2021 Roadrunner Regatta



Representing AYC, back row I-r: Coach Spencer, Max Ross, Alice Stocli, Zach Aronson, Coach George, Fiona Froelich, Nicholas Carew, Sofia Pando, Coach Emily; front row I-r: William Deboer, Jack Riley, Calvin Brock, Jackson Brock, Yuval Sela, Roni Sela, Ramzi Matous. Not pictured: Lucas Tenrreiro, William Michael Photo by Bill Records

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SAVE THE DATE

Independence Cup Regatta 07/03 07/04 4th of July Picnic & Family Day 07/22 AYC Board Meeting 07/23 MoonBurn Series Race

07/24 Single/Double Handed Regatta 07/31 End of Summer Series Dinner 08/07 Big Bros/Big Sis Take a Kid Sailing Day 09/05 AYC Fund Fleet Challenge Fundraiser 09/18-19 Centerboard Regatta/Caribbean Party 10/01-03 Multihull Distance Regatta 10/23-24 Governor's Cup Regatta/Octoberfest 10/30-31 Texas High School State Championship Annual Meeting 11/18 11/20 Wild Turkey Regatta 12/04 **Annual Banquet** 12/31 New Year's Eve Party



Old-Fashioned Family Games Including Tug-A-War, Sailbag Sack Race, Water Balloon Toss, Hula Hoop Contest, Pool "Games", Fishing Contest (bring your pole! We will supply bait) - And more!

Sunday, July 4, 2021
Games 2:00 pm
Bill Benker's BBQ 4:30 pm
Live Music 6:00 - 8:00 pm

BBQ and Live Music Sponsor:
Winkley's On the Bend & Sailboat Shop
Bill Benker and David Benker

\$5 for Members \$10 for Guests

RSVP via Evite (Sent Saturday, June 19)

Message from the Commodore by Diane Covert



As I mentioned in last month's column, there are more activities and more committee work going on at AYC for the benefit of all our members. Here is a very brief update on just a few of the things underway at AYC:

We are all happy that the clubhouse is now open to everyone and events can

now be scheduled indoors, including Board meetings in person. We are exploring the option of a hybrid Zoom and live meetings in the future. Some of the concerns are with the existing band width at the Club. Please be patient while a "techy" volunteer explores this option.

As you know it was great to have the Roadrunner Regatta back at AYC this year. What a great turnout. I met quite a few parents who traveled long distances with all their kids and equipment. Many thanked me for allowing this regatta to be held, which of course is reflective of all our membership. I would like to thank all members who volunteered their time, cooking, boats, clean up and generally anything that needed doing ... for this event.



2021 summer sailing campers Photo by Bill Records

Summer sailing camp is underway! Our Junior Sailing Camp participants and our PB&J kids are out there learning the sport of sailing and having a great time in the summer at the lake! Please be cautious driving through the Club and on the water.

Big news in youth sailing – a great opportunity has opened for **Spencer LeGrande** to go back to college in Miami. He has done an excellent job for AYC and we appreciate his enthusiasm, skill, and leadership. While we will be sad to see Spencer leave in July, we are thrilled that **Emily Verdoia** has accepted the Youth Sail Training Director position. Emily will be great in that role, and I know that the transition will be seamless and that the youth programs will continue to excel.



TEXILE

Spencer LeGrande

Emily Verdoia

Adult sail training will also have an active summer. Key events in June and July include Spinnaker Training and Beginner Sailing Classes. Many thanks to Sail Training Commander Ann Kitzmiller, our instructors, and our member volunteers pitching in to help. More details later in this edition.

The Buildings & Grounds Committee and the staff have been busy cleaning up the storm debris after the recent rains. Bids have been taken to renovate shelter one (the building closet to the gate). This includes windows, AC, etc., so that shelter one can be utilized for meeting, classes, and parties in the future. Thanks go to the B&G volunteers, the staff, and B&G Commander John Maddalozzo.

On the racing front, as I am writing this column, the Summer Evening Series is just getting underway. It will feature lots of fun and competition on Saturday evenings through the end of July. Also the Independence Cup Regatta will be held on Saturday July 3. Stay tuned for details.

Please make plans to join your fellow AYC members for an old-fashioned 4th of July Celebration, held on Sunday July 4, with family games and food. Activities will include games, barbecue, live music and just plain old red-white-and-blue good times! Spearheading the event are Social Committee Chair Cathie Martin along with Claudia Bartlett and Jeff & Marilyn Jackson – join me in thanking them for their leadership and hard work!

And speaking of your fellow AYC members, you will soon be able to pick up a printed version of the Membership Directory which is being put together by AYC Secretary Cheryl Pervier. Thanks, Cheryl, for bringing AYC members together via the updated contacts in the 2021 AYC Directory.

Last but not least, things are looking up at AYC and that includes Lake Travis! Between May 22 and June 10, the weather service in Austin measured over a foot of beneficial rain. Since mid-May, Lake Travis is up about 6 feet, from 659 to over 665 at this writing (June 10th). This good news has kept the Harbor Committee and Tom Cunningham pretty busy.

These are just a few of the things going on at AYC. There is lots more that I have skipped over for lack of space in this column. Please see the rest of the Telltale for updates from the AYC Board, the AYC Committees, the Fleets and others. Their volunteer work and activities are what makes AYC a great place! Happy Summer!

Vice Commodore Report by Anne Morley



The Roadrunner Regatta was a huge success! Approximately 100 youth single-handed boats participated in the Regatta. Many AYC members took part by volunteering to make it all run smoothly. The true spirit of AYC volunteerism shone through.

I would like to thank **Diane Covert** for stepping in as the Board member representative during the

Roadrunner Regatta, as I had to leave town for a Memorial Service.

Thank you to the **Regatta Chair Jeff Brock** for arranging such amazing volunteers to run the Regatta.

continued next page

Thank you to:

- Mary Carew and Gal Sela for running the Regatta details.
- Dee Chow and Jeff Sabuda, along with the great food crew, for feeding everyone.
- Ray Shull, Jim Casto and James Bland for being PROs for the three race lines, with the help of their great RC teams.
- Constance Heitkoetter for the awesome trophies.
- Renee Ruais for scoring.
- · Amy Brock and Ming-ru Chu for helping with registration.
- Spencer, Emily, Jackie and Tom for all that they do!

I would also like to thank those of you who donated the use of their personal motor-craft to help run the Roadrunner Regatta. Thank you John Bartlett, Gal Sela, Jim Casto, Ray Shull and Jeff Brock. We couldn't have run the three race courses without your help.

Thank you everyone for making the Roadrunner Regatta so successful!

Race Commander Report by André de la Reza



Hey AYC!

What happens when Lucy Brock and Elizabeth Quintanilla both celebrate birthdays on the last Beer Can Friday of May? Mother Nature tries to help blow out their candles with 65 kt gusts!! Whew, glad no one went out in that wind gusts! Speaking of, I want to review a couple of tidbits about our Beer Can Races.

There has been some confusion about who is eligible for what. All AYC members and guests are invited to come out and enjoy our slice of paradise in this super chill and relaxed race format. First and second place finishers even get awarded prizes. This is *any* boat that finishes first and second, regardless of number of hulls. The PRF fleet just needs to know about you to give you an assigned starting time. If your boat isn't in the SIs, please contact PRF fleet to find out how to be added.

Also, as this is a chill format, we encourage everyone to be courteous to our guest chefs. We request that those of you who want dinner, please come up as soon as you finish putting your boats away. We have requested that the chefs cook for one hour after the first burger is served. After that they will begin putting away food and cleaning up. They are volunteering to help feed us all, but didn't sign up to be there all night.

Summer Evening Series: Back & Better than Ever!

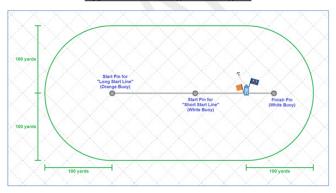
The Permanent Race Committee has been hearing that many racers would like some changes made to the series Sailing Instructions. We have been working hard over the past couple of months to get them formulated into the SIs in a way that helps promote safe and fun racing.

I'd like to review two substantive changes we're trying out for the Summer Series races:

The Never Ending Start Line Obstruction
 We have a narrow lake and a couple big fleets. This has resulted in
 a potentially long obstruction in the middle of the course that no one

enjoys (racers, Race Committee or PRC!). There are many ways to skin the catamaran, so we are trying out a double start line this series. As you can see by the below diagram, there will be a "Short" and a "Long" start line. The first two starts will use the "Long Start line" and the rest will be the short. After the start, the "Short Start Line" is an obstruction for all classes, except when a boat has been recalled and needs to sail to the pre-start side of the starting line as described in RRS 29.1. (Please be aware to stay away from the Long Line when those classes are in sequence.)

Appendix 2: "Starting Area" Diagram



2. Hey Lima! I'mma Checkin' In

Section 5, Check in by Competitors has been updated. Many of y'all have been miffed when your sequence has started and the line wasn't quite cleared out yet. In order to help give people more warning and time to do the right thing, PRC has come up with a modification to the Check-In Process. You still have to check in on the water when Code Flag L is flying (or during the first four minutes of their class sequence), but now Code Flag L will be dropped approximately two minutes before the start of first sequence. There will be an audible warning of one long sound. This should give enough visual and audible warning for competitors to "avoid the starting line and keep clear of all boats within this starting area whose warning signal has been made." While this did become more complex than a simple "Hey racers, please stay out of the way!" there was enough outcry on the issue that we wanted to try and capture improvements in the SIs.

I want to thank everyone who brought up these issues to PRC, especially those who also suggested possible solutions. Huge kudos to Jorge Martín-de-Nicolás, Mark Kamen, Ed Pierce, Jim Casto, Steve Pervier, Bruce McDonald and all the rest of the PRC for putting in long hours to get it set better than it was to meet the objectives. If you see one of the PRC members at the Club, give them a quick thanks and offer them a drink – they are walking the long walk trying to keep many competing needs of our Club racers balanced. We are going to evaluate how these changes fare over this series and see if they need any more modifications.

Harbor Report by Russ Shermer



Have you seen this trailer?

The trailer pictured below was pulled from the "boneyard" during the cleanup done in March. It was parked in the field with the other trailers waiting to be claimed by their rightful owners.

The trailer was removed from the field and the owner is requesting that it be returned to the

grassy area – no questions asked.

The trailer should have "AYC Gantala" written on the **right side** of the trailer. It is not identified on the left side.

The Harbor Committee is keeping an eye out for the trailer. If you have this trailer, please return it ASAP. If you know where it is, please contact me at harbor_commander@austinyactclub.net.



Secretary Report by Cheryl Pervier



Ahoy Members:

Just a reminder about submitting a FUR:

The deadline for June was Sunday, June 20. Looking forward to July, if you would like to have a Facilities Use Request (FUR) reviewed at the Board meeting on July 22, a FUR form should be submitted by 7:00 pm on Sunday, July 18.

If received after that, the FUR may not be considered until the next regular Board meeting.

Per the AYC Handbook section on House Rules, Guests, #13, (austinyachtclub.net/handbook/#house) a FUR is required if an AYC member has more than 12 guests at the Club at one time OR intends to use Club resources that are not generally available.

To submit a FUR, go to https://www.austinyachtclub.net, log in and go to Members menu, Reservations and Requests, and Request for Event Facility Use. All FURs must have a representative present at the Board meeting so that Board members may discuss any questions they may have pertaining to the FUR.

Please note that FURs for events prior to December 25 may now be submitted.

We ask that you review the AYC website calendar (<u>austinyachtclub.net/club-annual-calendar/</u>) to determine any potential conflicts. If you have any questions or need help with form submissions, please feel free to contact me (<u>secretary@austinyachtclub.net</u>) or General Manager Jackie (<u>gm@austinyachtclub.net</u>).

When submitting your FUR, please make sure you receive a confirmation that your FUR was accepted and, if not, re-submit the form before the submission deadline.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



Max Holtz & Tiffin Thompson Senior Probationary

Max and his wife, Tiffin Thompson, have a Vanguard 15 and are very interested in Dinghy racing. Max is looking forward to getting a Laser and improving his racing skills



Steven & Melody Morrissette Senior Probationary

Steven owns a Trimaran and has participated in several Beer Can Races. He is looking forward to learning more about racing his boat.

Buildings & Grounds Report by John Maddalozzo



The Club grounds got through recent heavy storms with little damage. Tom and the Harbor Committee had a lot of straightening out and cleaning to do though. We did have the clubhouse gutter on the South side come loose and break due to strong winds.

The May and June storms also hindered scheduling Building and Grounds projects. A gutter vendor is saying they are backlogged six

to eight weeks, and planned tree removal is scheduled for a couple weeks out.

Earlier this week, a problem with the bathhouse plumbing backing up was resolved. This is the second time since November. Thanks to **Jackie and Tom** for being on top of that in my absence. Please be mindful of what gets flushed.

Additional in-progress projects are bee removal from the cabins and brush removal from the North Cove area. Shelter 1 work is also awaiting contractor scheduling.

Thanks to **Tobin Beal** for leading a team to cut the brush growing up in front of the Clubhouse, providing a better harbor view. Tobin had help from **Andy Price**, **Jackson Price and Jayden Beal**.



Harbor view from the clubhouse patio after a B&G team cleared away brush *Photos by Tobin Beal*



IN MEMORIAM

Cathy Ellenbrook

It is with great sadness that we announce the loss of our long time member, Cathy Ellenbrook. Cathy was well known for her artistic ability, she was magnificent in helping create t-shirts for AYC regattas and other events.

Please keep Dan and the entire Ellenbrook family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time as they grieve their loss.

A celebration of Cathy's life is scheduled for June 27 at Austin Yacht Club.

Scenes from a Rainy Spring EOS



J 80 start Photos by Marilyn Jackson



Kurt Zinsmeyer and crew on Shaken Knot Stirred



Kirk & Janis Livingston on Warp Speed & Crew of The J.A.C.K.

Social Committee Report by Cathie Martin



Mangez Bien, Riez Souvent, Aimez Fort

Members enjoyed a fine French meal and an opportunity to practice their French at the Spring End of Series dinner on May 23. The Club's French members Philippe and Isabelle Bettler (and visiting assistant chief Marie-Pierre Thatcher), and Brigitte Benquet (with husband Mike Beuerlein) whipped up an amazing meal of Boeuf Bourquignon, Riz et carottes, Pommes

de Terre, Couscous, Salade composée, and desserts Far Breton, Palmiers, and Madeleines. We missed **Pierre-Louis Bossart and Eric and Brigitte Rochard** and their family who were out of town.

Philippe Bettler grew up in Bretagne, home of the crazy French sailors Frank Cammas, Francois Gabart, and Éric Tabarly – all world rounders – to name a few. He sails a Hobie Tiger and Laser. Isabelle is a co-founder and current Managing Director of Education Française Austin, a non-profit organization offering French classes and fun activities to children three to 17 years of age. EFA was founded ten years ago by local French families.

Brigitte Benquet and Mike Beuerlein race Wet Dream, a C2 F-18 and Far Reach, a Corsair F28R. Their company, United Finance Organization, is a finance consulting firm based in Austin.

Special thanks to volunteers Liz Stansfeld and William Stansfeld, Karen Bogisch, Linda McDavitt, Marilyn & Jeff Jackson, Pat Manning & Kayla, Kurt Carson, Chris Thompson and Jeff Sabuda.



I-r: Brigitte Benquet, Philippe Bettler, Isabelle Bettler and Marie-Pierre Thatcher Photos by Marilyn Jackson



Members line up for dinner, in the foreground are volunteers Linda McDavitt and Pat Manning



le menu



Mike Beuerlein and Philippe Bettler keeping the entree warm



Time for dessert



Philippe Bettler and Brigitte Benquet serve dinner to David & Annette Voelter as Isabelle Bettler looks on.



bons desserts français

Spotlight: AYC Permanent Race Committee

Permanent Race Committee or Perpetual Rule Changers?

by Race Commander André de la Reza



Committee Chair Andre de la Reza

Commodore Diane asked me to put together a little summary of all the PRC, and I will admit I was pretty hesitant. The committee is made up of such august members of the Club, with such a vault of knowledge, that have so many projects they work on – it was quite frankly a daunting task. When I was first asked to step in as Race Commander to take over the end of **John Parker's** spot, I thought it would be an easy downwind champagne sail. One meeting a month? Maintain the race calendar? Work with an amazing team? That shouldn't be hard at all!

Wow ... you know that saying "You don't know what you don't know?" Yep. Having raced at AYC for a few years, I knew that PRC had some of the best amongst their ranks, but I didn't know the start of what they did. I knew I would learn a lot, I just didn't know how much!

PRC Vision

I see the vision of PRC as "Supporting and Elevating Corinthian, Quality Racing at AYC." It accomplishes this in so many varied activities that we need a general framework to organize the work. The framework we are currently working in has five broad categories.

1. PRC Quartermaster maintains the RC equipment. Currently held by Bob "Emperor of Duct Tape" Leonard (4th year on PRC), supported by Jorge "Let me educate you in color" Martín de Nicolás, Claude "Quiet but wise" Wells, Bruce "Been there, done that" McDonald, and Kurt "I can fix it!" Carson. The Quartermaster team maintain the signal and chase boats, all the buoys, the boat bags, the RC room – essentially all the physical items that are needed to change boats sailing near each other into an organized competitive dance!







2. To train general AYC membership how to use these resources, we have a RC Training sub-committee that is headed by Anne "Multi-hat" Morley, supported by Hazel "Legally fast" Sanchez, Steve "Cool Cat-alina" Pervier, Bruce and Kurt. COVID has made their job hard, but they have plans in motion to start a monthly "RC Training Breakfast." Preliminary plan is to hold a short two-hour session that will cover a rotating topic one morning a month before a series race. Some such topics will be: Flags & Finishes – How to Run the Signal Boat; iPads are Fun – How to Use Scoring Software; That Course, of Course! – How to Select the Proper Courses; Safety & Communication – How to Keep Racers Informed and Helping with Safety. These are just a few of the topics the training will cover, with a goal of providing an opportunity for a member to get checked out on operating the RC boats.







3. The mysteries of scoring software, resolution to requests for redress, and iPad usage have their own Scoring Subcommittee that is led by Ed "Silver Fox" Pierce, supported by Jorge, Jim "Multihull Madness" Casto and Mark "New but not new" Kamen. This team stays late to enter scores, works with Race Committees to decipher wave-addled written records, and are the subject matter experts to issues of scoring rules in the NOR/SIs.



4. RC Documents. Those NOR/SIs are constantly getting reviewed and revised. Each race has a PRC Rep team of two that does the heavy lifting, but then brings the draft race documents to the PRC as a whole to discuss and verify it is the best that we can make it. RC Documents also has a sub-committee that supports the PRC reps, as well as updating the other important documents (course card, race handbook, critical weather go/no go, etc). This group is led by Jim Casto, supported by David "Don't you love my accent" Weeks, Jorge, Mark, and Steve.







5. The last sub-committee is what we affectionately call "The Bilge," that is comprised of Andre "needs a better nickname" de la Reza, Ann "Training is my Jam" Kitzmiller, Ken "That ain't nothing" Berringer, Anne, Hazel, Jorge, Steve and Kurt. This group maintains the annual race calendar. This is a massive document that has all the days of the year, the proposed activities, sunset/sunrise, non-racing AYC events, local Austin events, etc. This is the tool that allows us to de-conflict FURs and make sure there are enough PRC resources available to support the events. It requires coordination with Sail Training, Fleet Captains and AYC Social. This team also covers all the oddball items that PRC gets, such as working on a Mark-Set-Bot Proposal, coordinating EOS events with Social, working on next years Race Calendar, etc.

The team is truly exceptional, composed of some volunteers that have given countless hours towards making this Club a wonderful place to sail. We span from past Race Commanders, Vice Commodores and Fleet Captains, to brand new members that have some experience elsewhere. Ideally we would have 15 committee members, but currently are operating with 13. We are always looking for new members – by rotating onto PRC you would have a chance to learn the nuts and bolts of race management, all of which leads to a better informed, capable member and racer.



AND WHILE WE'RE ON THE SUBJECT ...





SELLING AT A DISCOUNT! Both of these books have newer editions for 2021. AYC has several copies of the 2020 editions for sale at a discount.

The Racing Rules \$15 (reg. \$30) Understanding the Racing Rules \$20 (reg. \$35)

If you are interested, email **Jackie**. She will set aside a copy of one or both books and charge it to your member account. You can pick it up at your convenience.

Adult Beginner Sailing Class June 28, July 12, July 19, July 26 6:00 - 8:00pm



CONTINUING BY POPULAR DEMAND!

Another Adult Beginner Sail Training Class will be held on Monday nights, June 28, July 12, July 19, July 26 from 6:00-8:00pm.

Registration is \$50 for members and \$75 for non-members.

Registration is limited to 7 due to a wait list from the first session.

No helming experience necessary. This class will be geared toward basic sailing and boat handling skills.

Four sessions will include saileing on the Club Sunfish, Picos and Lasers, and will be taught by very experienced AYC sailors.

REGISTER HERE!

Due to the popularity of this clinic, we are looking into holding another one later in the year. If you are truly interested and don't get signed up for this session, please contact Ann Kitzmiller at <u>sail_training@austinyachtclub.net</u>, to be placed at the head of the class for the next session.



Roadrunner Regatta Recap by David Michael

On the weekend of June 05-06, the Austin Yacht Club hosted the annual Roadrunner Regatta which is part of the Texas Sailing Association Youth Circuit. The event was a great success; the Regatta was well attended, the wind showed up, there were plenty of races for all the fleets, and everyone had a good time.

After so many TSA regattas cancelled over the past year, due to either pandemic concerns or poor weather, it was great to finally have our friends from other clubs all racing together again! We have heard a lot of great things from a lot of folks about how well it was run by our many volunteers and how great it was to be back racing at AYC.

The Regatta was well attended; there were 28 Optimists competing in the Green Fleet, 33 Optimists competing in the RWB Fleet, four Full Rig Lasers, 21 Radial Lasers, and 14 Laser 4.7s. AYC Junior sailors, the Roadrunners, were well represented by eight Opti, one Full Rig Laser and seven Laser Radial sailors.

First, congratulations to Green Fleet competitors **William Deboer** and **Jack Riley** for participating in their first regatta! William and Jack are our newest competitive Opti sailors at AYC, and we are glad to have them sailing with the Roadrunners!

It was crowded at the Opti RWB line, but the AYC Roadrunner Opti

sailors held their own. In the Opti Red Fleet, Roni Sela took 4th and Ramzi Matous took 5th. In the Opti White Fleet, William Michael took 1st and Yuval Sela took 3rd, with Calvin Brock and Jackson Brock closing the White Fleet performance with 7th and 8th respectively. We are proud to say that Roni Sela was awarded the Sportsmanship Award.

The AYC Roadrunners were also well represented over on the Laser course. In the Full Rig Laser Fleet, **Zachary Aronson** took a strong 2nd. In the Laser Radial Fleet, **Lucas Tenrreiro** took third, **Nicholas Carew** took 7th and **Fiona Froelich** took 9th, with **Max Ross, Sofia Pando**, and **Alice Stocli** also providing stiff competition for the fleet throughout the weekend.

The Roadrunner fleet would like to send a heartfelt thank you to all the people who made the 2021 Roadrunner Regatta go so well. AYC didn't have enough working Club boats to host three separate courses, judges, and safety boats – so a huge thanks to the Bartlett's for donating the use of their RIB, and Jim Casto, Gal Sela, Ray Shull, and Jeff Brock for the use of their personal boats. Thanks to Ray, Jim, and James for the reliable solid RC we all are used to from them. Thanks to Mary Carew and Gal Sela for running the day, to Constanze Heitkotter for the awesome trophies, to Dee Chow for making sure everyone was well fed, to Renee Ruais for scoring, to Amy Brock for filling in all the gaps, to Jeff Brock for putting the event together, and to all the other volunteers who gave their time and care. Special thanks go to Spencer, Emily, Jackie and Tom for all they did to make this event a success.



First regatta for Green Fleet racer Jack Riley, with mom



Team sun protection Photos this page by Bill Records



Green Fleet RC I-r: Karen Bogisch, Jim Casto in red shirt



William and Liz Stansfeld



AYC McGuyvers I-r: Robert Cabrera, Stefan Froelich, Gal Sela



Roadrunner elders I-r: Gal Sela, Stefan Froelich, Paul Carew



William Michael, first in Opti White Fleet



Land Optis



Lasers



Lucas Tenrreiro, 3rd in Laser Radial Fleet



Roadrunner rooters



Laser Radial Fleet AYC Competitors Lucas Tenrreiro (3rd), Nicholas Carew (7th), Fiona Froelich (9th), Max Ross, Sofia Pando, Alice Stocli

Photos this page by Kate Hennig













Photos this page by Amy Brock

Big Brothers/Big Sisters Take a Kid Sailing Day by Mike Beuerlein



Big Brothers / Big Sisters of Central Texas Take a Kid Sailing Day It's back! Saturday, August 7, 2021

We are once again looking for a big turn-out with the resumption of this year's AustinCats' Big Brothers / Big Sisters Catamaran Sailing Day,

Saturday, August 7, 2021 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Last year, for the first time in living memory, the event had to be cancelled due to the pandemic, and this year the participation from the kids may be somewhat muted. We are hoping therefore to reward the volunteers, supporters and ground crew with plenty of rides in their stead. The lake is rising, the water is warm, the wind has been fantastic this year and we hope to have as many boats as possible to take the eager pairs of bigs and littles out for the highlight of their summer. You definitely don't need the latest and greatest high-tech racer to introduce these kids to the thrill of sailing nor to demonstrate that the sailing community supports the efforts of this organization. All you need is a multihull and the desire to make a kid happy.

I plan to visit Windy Point a little closer to the event to determine the best area for staging, loading and unloading of catamarans and trimarans. Please be sure to set aside and bring lots of life jackets (labeled with your name), sunscreen and water toys such as super soakers, water mats, canoes and/or kayaks, as well as your multihull! I'll circulate a flyer prior to the event to guarantee free admission to Bob Wentz Park at Windy Point (courtesy of Travis County Parks) for those who would like to rig their boats there. We traditionally take volunteers

and helpers out for a ride after the kids get done with their rides around $3:30-4:00\ PM$.

If you are an AYC member or trimaran owner, several of us will be setting up at AYC prior to the event. We plan to have enough room on boats to give rides over to Bob Wentz Park at Windy Point for the volunteers and helpers who will then fend off the trimarans from the landing area so that the tri's can approach with sails up and go into irons against a windward sandy shore or the cushioned end of the T-head dock near their boat ramp. There was more than nine feet of water at the end of the T-head dock (as of May 31st, 2021) and the wind should be light enough and out of the right direction. We'll put our strongest and most experienced shore crew out there to ensure safe loading and unloading of the trimarans.

We've also secured permission to host our traditional BB / BS after party for all sailors, helpers, and shore volunteers at AYC with a pool and shower facilities so there will be plenty to eat, drink and do afterwards. We plan on serving **Brigitte's** fantastic garden fresh green salad, charcoal-grilled Jamaican jerk chicken, black beans and white rice, with **Jim's Smokehouse** is catering the gumbo. To wash that down we'll be serving up Jamaican Red Stripe beer, Cuba Libres, and some frozen Bushwhackers. You are, of course, welcome to bring your own libations or food to add to the party.

We've extended the after-party invitation to numerous non-AYC members and the BB / BS supporters, ground crew and staff who help make this event possible. AYC has a long history of reaching out to the community and valuing civic minded individuals who may make future prospective AYC members. This is an opportunity to present AYC in a very positive and inviting light. We really hope you will join us!

Please let me know if I can add your name to our list of volunteers and I will make sure to have enough for everyone.

J70 Demo Day by Bruce McDonald



J70 Demo Day was a resounding success. All told, we had 20 people who had never set foot on a J70 go out on the boat for the first time for an hour long sail. We still have a number of people on the wait list that we hope to introduce to the boat in the near future. Bob Leonard, Duke Snyder and myself each with their SOs as crew

took out an additional two newbies who got to see the boat put through their paces. **Scott Spurlin** was on shore on **Chris Lewis'** boat to demonstrate the inner workings of the boat and prep them for their sail. There were lots of smiling faces as they returned to shore and I have heard rumors that we have at least one, perhaps two people who are actively looking into purchasing the world's most popular sport boat.

I remember my first ride on a J70. I returned to shore and stated, "I have to have this boat. Where do I sign?" Interested in the hot J70? Contact anyone in our fleet to arrange your own private demo.



Scott Spurlin with Bruce McDonald, Lisa Porta, John Lanagan, and Tiago Silva Photos by Cheryl Pervier



Duke and Kim Snyder with Pierre-Louis Bossart and Tracy

2021 Annapolis to Newport Race by André de la Reza



Any sailor can attest to the feeling of freedom when you watch land slip beyond the horizon. Similar to the sense of serenity when you hoist the sails and shut off the motor, but on a grander scale. It is this freedom, enveloped in the challenge of long distance racing, that had me jump when **Chris Lewis** mentioned he needed a foredeck for the vaunted 500+ nautical mile

Annapolis to Newport Race.

Chris Lewis and his wife Karen are veteran campaigners of long distance racing, with thousands of miles and trophies racked up off the Gulf Coast and Eastern sea board. I was happy to join their team on their beloved and seasoned Kenai, a 1990 J/44.

Safety is important in any sailing event, especially a long distance offshore one. Chris is on the board of governors of Storm Trysail Club and also devoted to the subject. All crew members had to have taken a recent Safety at Sea class, have a qualified offshore PFD (with leg harnesses), and an AIS MOB device. Safety Equipment was rounded out with Kenai's certified 12-person life raft, well stocked ditch bag with EPIRB, AED, and an expansive first aid kit that I was to utilize as the boat's medic. With my family well assured that all safety concerns were covered, they kissed me and sent me to race with firm orders to "stay on the boat, and come back with gifts."

I flew up to Annapolis and got to know the boat and crew first hand. We would be racing with 11 people, arranged as two five-person shifts and Karen would be acting as a floater. Each shift had two drivers, trimmer/mast, foredeck and a navigator – with rolls rotated as needed to keep sharp attention. A total of 85 boats registered for the race, with starts spread over two days. Kenai was in ORC3 with 17 others. Our start was a tactical light winds one, where we battled into clean air and stretched to the front trio. We found ourselves cross tacking with faster yachts Chessie Racing (a Trip 62) and Privateer (an Open 40 that was double handed). I imagined hearing both opposing crews cursing on the light breeze as they kept crossing within hailing distance. A brief squall appeared that gave enough a gust to send Chessie into a higher gear and racing off.



Privateer stayed with us for the upwind beat, sharing our first sunset from off of our aft quarter.

Photo by André de la Reza



A robust start for Kenai (second from left) on Friday morning *Photo by Will Kenworth*

Kenai earned "First out of the Bay" in her class by crossing the tunnel at Norfolk through constant vigilance and an epic 15 headsail changes. The next morning at 5:30am, we found ourselves in open water and made the left to head north on the rumline towards Newport. We dodged the 6nm warning zone of a US Navy Warship that was conducting live fire exercises, were escorted by a pod of dolphins and continued to keep the closest competition (Zuul, an Aerodyne38) just behind us over the horizon. The sunsets at sea are amazing, but



André geared up for a night of spinnaker trimming *Photo by Karen Lewis*

paled to the glistening blanket of night stars and the milky way that covered us at night. The night stars were even mirrored by the occasional spark of bioluminescence in our, or a frisky dolphin's, wakes. The watch rotation was four hours on, four off. Our shift (joyfully called the Brits after Chris, Karen and the other sailor from across the pond, Charles) had the 0200-0600, 1000-1400, 1800-2200 shift. We got to enjoy racing through sunrises. sets and even the rise of a truly shockingly beautiful tangerine moon.

Since the first left out of the bay, it was 55 hours of downwind VMG running on 6 to 16 knots of breeze. There was a constant emphasis on speed, angle, heel analysis and searching for winds and current. The seas were kind, and we passed three Hawksbill sea turtles, a sunfish, and countless mylar balloons – sad reminders of errant hands on shores have long reaching effects. One night we had a mysterious bump to the hull, followed by a strike on the rudder – the whole crew was tensely quiet as we checked the bilge or for a sudden decrease in speed. The unknown obstacle (a turtle?) receded in our wake, leaving only the spike in our heart rates to show for the encounter.

The final night of the race was chock full of mystery. Many of our closest competitors had their AIS signals drop off the chart plotter – due to malfunction or sneakiness is unknown – that left us without the ability to cover and we were left to sail our best race. The morning light showed Zuul had managed to take advantage of our blindness, find

some wind overnight and close the distance to a few miles behind us. The last chapter of the race was a drag race past the storied Block Island and into Newport where Kenai finished first across the line in class, under the watchful eye of Castle Hill Lighthouse. Alas the finish was too close, and Zuul corrected over us by six minutes. It was an epic battle and we were happy for it, though I think we were both surprised when J-Curve (a J122) finished 26 minutes after us and clinched the whole race by over 1hr. Whether ORC or PHRF, handicap racing always has its final surprises.

When it was said and done, it was 517 miles of great racing with an amazing crew, on a solid ship. I am happy to have been a part of it, and **Chris, Karen and Kenai** represented AYC wonderfully! I am glad to have them adding to the ranks of accomplished sailors who call AYC home.



Chris and Karen accepting "First out of Bay – ORC 3" Photo by Will Kenworth

Hey there Sunfishers and Laserers!



Did you know that the Sunfish and Laser Wednesday evening races are back? And you are invited to come play!

Races start around 6pm but you can join us late if you can't make it on time. Each race is about 15-20 minutes with a three-minute starting sequence. We're usually able to get between five and eight races in, depending on the wind.

The water is warming up and we've had some

good sailing conditions so far. It's only going to get better this month, so come on out. The more boats the merrier – get those boats out of dry-sail and into the water!

There's no better way to escape the stress of the day and enjoy the beauty of Lake Travis and AYC. See you out there!

- Annie Lancaster



Photos by Marilyn Jackson







Summer Evening Series Race 1 =



Skippers Meeting, Race Commander Andre dé la Reza at the mic



Skippers meeting, Co-PRC rep Mark Kamen



Wendy Ji-Cathriner and crew on Hobie 16 Toaster



Owen Crouse and crew on Nacra 5.7 Old Skull



John Grzinich on Catalina 22 Ruby, with two new C22 skippers as crew – Lawrence Case and Sally Carraway *Photos this page by Cheryl Pervier*

Ensign Fleet Report by Dave Gamble



Since the last Telltale there have been precious few opportunities for racing, so for this article I want to focus on what's coming ahead and to include some pictures from my files.

The next opportunity to race will probably occur before you read this. I hope that we will have had a great turnout for June 12, the first of the Summer The subsequent dates are June 19, 26 and July 10,

17 and 31 with first warning at 5:30pm.

But wait there's more. The July 3-4 weekend gap in the Summer Evening Series will feature the Independence Cup Regatta on Saturday, July 3. Registration is open online. The next gap in the series race schedule is July 24 with the PHRF Single/Double Handed Regatta. Maybe we can get **Tom Groll** to give the fleet some tips on how he sails single handed so successfully! Stay tuned for registration information.

As a fleet we should be aware that two boats that I know of so far are going to Ensign Nationals on August 15-19 at Marquette Yacht Club in Marquette, Michigan on Lake Superior. Tune in to the web and watch as Stijf Kop with George, Franz, Ann and Tom Groll, join Prickly Pair's Bill Hawk, Will Hawk, Erin Hawk and Brad Shaw (Kelly Hawk on shore support) all vying for national honors.

We have Region 4 Regionals at Houston Yacht Club on September 18 and 19, as well as Chaparral de Mar in the Fall. These, plus Friday night Beer Can races and more Summer Series races leave us with ample opportunities to be on the water. Hope to see you all there.



Turnback downwind start – September chasing Stijf Kop



Post-race Ensign sailors - what we do best.



AYC sunrise Photo by Jeff Sabuda

Catalina 22 Fleet Report by Steve Pervier



We have five new skippers with Catalina 22s! From the newest: Lawrence Case, who rejoined AYC with a C22; Liz Stansfeld, who bought Cody's wing keel boat to sail with young William; Sally Caraway, who is also a Sunfish sailor and sails with family; Ron Clarkson, who will add racing gear to his boat after moving her from Cypress Creek; and Nathan Leake who is making his C22 look like new! I've sailed at least a little with each of these new C22

owners, except Lawrence so far, and would like to sail with each of them again as they learn.

Friday before Summer Evening Series, we set up the C22 sign (thanks Wade!) at an under-clubhouse table and talked with Liz and William as Beer Can boats prepared to start. We discussed the new series documents and some racing rules, then how they applied as the boats started. Steve and Meri arrived for the evening, and it was like the good old days to have them there! Our sign got some attention, so we talked with a former C22 owner (now in a faster class) and a prospective owner or two. Then we met Lawrence who had also seen the sign. Another visitor was SC21 fleet captain Tom Meyer who suggested he could bring the Intergalactics trophy. Yes, he won it the last time. I'd enjoy seeing that collect some South Coast sailors!

The next day we met with C22 sailors before and after the competitor briefing and twisted John Grzinich's arm! He was good to sail (after planning not to on such a hot, light wind day), taking new skippers Sally and Lawrence along as crew. Good show, John! Steve Shepardson sailed with Cheryl (also an experienced skipper) as I rested for the next sailing day. John caught Steve on the downwind, but the green boat made a clever mark rounding to keep the purple boat from passing. Thanks to John and Steve, five C22 skippers enjoyed this race day on two boats.

Recalling the last day of Spring Series – Steve and Cheryl's C22, Affinity, started well and led B-Fleet to the W mark, then sailed away with spinnaker til David's red P26 caught us. But he had to pass to leeward since we used a nearby J/29 to make the windward side more difficult. We repaid the favor by blocking David's wind! We were a little slowed by having to rerun a jib sheet after rounding L and still corrected within 20 seconds of Café au Lait, taking 2nd this day and for the series. Our new-old sails (Trump '92, Pete Reinhart) are a lot faster than what we used before!

So how fast is your C22? With nothing fancy beyond a (required) clean bottom and a genoa, you can get faster by comparing with other C22s. Talk with fleet members and learn how they sail. Get another skipper to sail on your boat and find out how to make her go better. Or just on your own, watch boats around you. When do they make gains, upwind or downwind? Do they point higher or foot faster? Did wind shifts and zones make a difference? Answer some of these questions and you'll do better!

There are many opportunities now for experienced skippers and crews to help our newer racers as you take them along for crew on your boat, or sail as guest skipper on theirs. Then be crew for a newer racer as they start to skipper their own boat. Let me know and I'll try to match you up! Meanwhile it's Summer Evening '21. Though many of us have at least one day away, several C22s should be racing over the course of this series. Another venue is Friday Beer Can races. Maybe get permission and leave the boat in overnight for the series races next day, or stay aboard overnight? Let's go racing!



John Grzinich with new Catalina 22 owner Lawrence Case Photos by Cheryl Pervier



Steve Shepardson at the helm of Catalina 22 Chile Verde



Skipper John Grzinich on Ruby with new Catalina 22 owners Lawrence Case and Sally Carraway



Catalina sailors I-r: Steve Shepardson, John Grzinich, Sally Carraway, Robert Anderson, Steve & Cheryl Pervier, Meri Shepardson

Dinghy Fleet Report by James Bland



Dinghy Fleet / Snipe Fleet #505

It has been a great spring with good winds and moderate weather for the most part.

Bombshell [Snipe #19888] traveled to Dallas [Snipe Fleet #1] for the Southwestern Regional Championship and placed 8th/12 overall with a third and fourth place finishes and one epic distant comeback for 10, included in that score. Bombshell showed good speed potential when

pointed in the right direction and as always the Corinthian Sailing Club rolled out the red carpet for the traveling circuit sailors. Believe it or not, the wind shifts on White Rock Lake are worse than Lake Travis, so picking a side of the course had its rewards and hazards.





2021 Southwestern Competitors

Pay Heed to Thunder and Lightning

Thunderstorms and lightning are always things we should pay attention to. Below are some pictures of a lightning strike on a Danish OK Dinghy. The boat was totaled but the skipper escaped without injury. The lightning struck the tip of the mast and exited near the mast step. Pressure from the expanding heated air in the boat blew the deck apart from the hull, and the electricity ripped out of the side of the boat.





The Pelican Project is Back On

The Pelican Project was on standby waiting for the weather to clear, materials and tools, but is now progressing once again. Putting the stern and bow transom knees together out of red oak.



James Bland's Art Studio / sail loft / boat shop

Are You Interested in Sailing a Small Boat?

New members are actively looking to sail small boats. I would like to encourage new and potential members to read the Dinghy Handicap Fleet pages on the website, and defer buying a boat until after you have joined AYC and participated in some of the racing as crew, and talked with me, please. When you do buy your small boat, remember to look at active classes, international class that have builder and sailmaker support. Think about the type of sailing you want to do, who you want to sail with (solo, family, mixed couples, parent/child, etc.) and of course your budget. A used boat is a good way to go, but if you are coming back to a class and can afford it, consider buying a new boat you might sail for five years or more, or buy a good used boat and sell that down the road and upgrade. Competitive used Snipes are plentiful for \$4000-6000. A new suite of sails is probably around \$1500. Flying Scotts are ubiquitous and a good family boat. Thistles are more of a race boat, but also a good choice as are Lightnings. On the smaller end I'm recommending the OK Dinghy and Finn, in addition to the Laser and Sunfish Fleets.

There are more than a few AYC sailors who agree that starting sailing in small boats will keep you active longer and teach you skills to be a better sailor on any kind of boat. My sailing experience as a young adult earned me the spot as the driver/maneuvering deck officer for four years on USS Birmingham, taking a 7000 ton LA Class Attack submarine in and out of port all over the globe.

District 2 Regatta Schedule

All three of these will count toward our District 2 Best Fleet and Best Skipper awards for the year as well as the 2021 Minneford Award. The Minneford scores sailors in regattas across the country and then recognizes a top skipper, top crew, as well as many more categories.

Norm Tanner Memorial Regatta
Bow Mar CO July 10-11, 2021
Mike Slouka mslouka@omnibend.com

Missouri Valley Championship Lake Manawa IA September 11-12, 2021 leahysailing@gmail.com

Rocky Mountain Championships

(3-day event & qualifier for World Snipe Championship in Japan 2022) Union Reservoir – Longmont CO September 17-19, 2021 Amanda Kremer mandage.k@gmail.com

Roadrunner Fleet Report by David Michael



In addition to my earlier article about the AYC Roadrunner Regatta, here's some information about the Endless Summer Series that is happening now:

The annual Endless Summer Series is underway and providing Opti sailors another summer of weekly Wednesday night races. Seasoned competitors Roni Sela, Yuval Sela, Jackson Brock, Calvin Brock, William Michael – and our

friend from LCYC, **Ryan Mitchell** – are all back. The participation of new competitors **William Deboer**, **Jack Riley and Hugo Morelandour** are adding to the action. If you are an Opti sailor who is up for some fun and friendly racing, please join us any Wednesday night this summer. First start is at 5:00pm.

Lake Travis HS Sailing Team Report by Lucy Brock



This spring the Lake Travis High School Sailing Team won the southeast district qualifiers to represent SEISA at the Interscholastic Sailing Association (ISSA) Baker National Team Race championship and the Mallory National Fleet Racing championship. Both championships would be sailed in double-handed dinghies, provided by the host venue.

The ISSA Baker National Team Race championship was sailed in Biscayne Bay at Ransom Everglades school with 12 schools competing in a matched fleet of Z-420s. The Lake Travis team consisted of James Brock, Lucy Brock, William Cranney-Fee, Maeve Dever, Julius Heitkoetter, Vivian Heitkoetter, Kate Hennig and Ellie Yates. The first morning started out sunny and breezy with consistent winds and gusts to 18 knots. Races were short and fast-paced with the 12 competing teams sailing a round robin of 66 races over the first day. With a few re-sails, the Lake Travis team remained on the water until almost 8pm. The second day, conditions were significantly lighter and competitors were divided into three fleets, each of which sailed another round robin. Lake Travis ended the regatta 7th, as the highest placing public high school team.

Two weeks later, it was time for the ISSA Mallory National Championship on Lake Erie, sailed out of the Foundry. 20 schools competed in matched 420s in A and B divisions. Lucy Brock and Julius Heitkoetter sailed in the A division and James Brock, Vivian Heitkoetter and William Cranney-Fee in the B division. Saturday started with light and variable SW breezes averaging about five knots. Winds were up and down throughout the day and finally settled in around 3pm with a consistent 12-15 knots. Racing continued until 6:00pm, completing a total of eight races for each division. Sunday was warm again, but unfortunately winds were shifty and light, never reaching a steady breeze over three knots. Sailors headed out several times when racing seemed possible but ultimately racing was abandoned for the day, with Lake Travis ending the regatta in 15th out of 20 boats.

The team was very proud to represent Austin in these competitive events on the national stage. For a team that did not exist four years ago, this was an amazing learning experience and we are excited to keep working and growing this program to qualify again next year. The sailors of the Lake Travis High School Sailing Team send their thanks to **Spencer and Emily** for coaching the high school program, and **Jeff Brock** for coaching at the regattas. We are especially grateful to AYC and the AYC Fund for their support!



2021 ISSA Baker Team Race National Championship at Ransom Everglades HS, Miami FL, Lake Travis Sailing Team I-r: Vivian Heitkoetter, Kate Hennig, Maeve Dever, Lucy Brock, William Cranney-Fee, James Brock, Julius Heitkoetter, Coach Jeff Brock *Photo by Denise Cranney*



2021 ISSA Mallory Fleet Race National Championship, Cleveland OH *Photo by Constanze Heitkoetter*



2021 ISSA Mallory Competitors I-r: Vivian Heitkoetter, William Cranney-Fee, Julius Heitkoetter, James Brock and Lucy Brock *Photo by Constanze Heitkoetter*

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AYC BUSINESS HOURS

Wednesday - Sunday 9:00A - 5:00P CLOSED MONDAY AND TUESDAY

Closed Club Holidays:

New Year's Day	January 1
Easter Sunday	April 12
Independence Day	July 4
Thanksgiving Day	November 26
Shopping Day	November 27
Christmas Day	December 25

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AYC 2021 Race Calendar

Summer Evening Series Races Endless Summer Opti Series Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Night Racing Beer Can Races Independence Cup Regatta MoonBurn Series Race	Jun 26, Jul 10, 17, 31 (EOS) Jun 30, Jul 7, 14 21, 28 Jun 30, Jul 7, 14, 28 Jul 2, 9, 16, 30 Jul 3 Jul 23
Single/Double Handed Regatta	Jul 24
AYC Fleet Challenge Centerboard Regatta	Sep 5 Sep 18
Multihull Distance Regatta	Oct 1-3
Governor's Cup Regatta	Oct 23-24
Texas High School State Championship	Oct 30-31

AYC 2021 Non-Racing Events

Nov 20

Memorial Service for Cathy Ellenbrook	Jun 27	11:00am - 1:00pm
Adult Beginner Sailing Class (Sundays)	Jun 27, Jul 11	10:00am - 2:00pm
Spinnaker Training Class	Jun 27	1:00 - 5:00pm
AYC Members Free Sail	Jun 27, Jul 11, 18, 25	1:00 - 5:00pm
AYC Member Free Sail	Jun 27, Jul 11, 18, 25	1:00 - 5:00pm
Adult Beginner Sailing Class (Mondays)	Jun 28, Jul 12, 19, 26	6:00 - 8:00pm
DF 95 Tuesday Sailing	Jun 29, Jul 6, 13, 20, 27	5:30 - 7:30pm
4th of July Picnic & Family Day	Jul 4	2:00 - 8:00pm
AYC Board Meeting	Jul 22	7:30 - 9:00pm
End of Summer Evening Series Dinner	Jul 31	6:00 - 8:00pm
Big Brothers / Big Sisters Event	Aug 07	
Talk Like a Pirate Day	Sep 19	
Governor's Cup Octoberfest	Oct 23	
Annual Meeting	Nov 18	
Annual Banquet	Dec 4	

July Junior Programs

Wild Turkey Regatta

Summer Camp Session 4	Jul 5 - 9	8:00am - 6:00pm
High School Summer Practice	Jul 6, 13, 20, 27	2:00 - 5:00pm
Opti III Summer Practice	Jul 7, 14, 21, 28	2:00 - 5:00pm
Summer Camp Session 5	Jul 12 - 16	8:00am - 6:00pm
Summer Camp Session 6	Jul 19 - 23	8:00am - 6:00pm
Summer Camp Session 7	Jul 26 - 30	8:00am - 6:00pm
PB&J Summer Sailing Series Session 3	Jul 31	9:30 - 11:00 am
PB&J Summer Sailing Series Session 4	Jul 31	11:00am - 12:30pm