



BEAT THE HEAT! GO SAILING



Beer Can at its Best! June 12 racers: L-R: J22 Bonfire, Trimarans Humility & Far Reach, J80 JazzTacks
Photo by Marilyn Jackson

IN THIS ISSUE

Happy Birthday America 250 Party

Message from the Commodore

Board Reports

Fall Junior Sailing Registration Info

New Member Spotlight

In Remembrance Mark & Suzanne Bradford

Father's Day 2026 by Annie Lancaster

MoonBurn Series Race 1 Recap

Summer Series Races #1-4

Thank you, Beer Can Volunteers!

Beer Can Races

Sunfish & Laser Races

Fleet Captain List

Update: Return to Clipper by Michael Moran

Fleet Reports

Lake Travis Level

A festive poster for the Austin Yacht Club's 4th of July celebration. The background is dark blue with a large, vibrant firework display. In the center, a white sailboat with blue sails is on the water. Above the boat, there are colorful rockets and confetti. At the top center, there is a red, white, and blue Uncle Sam top hat. The text is arranged in a hierarchy: the club name in bold white, the event title in yellow script, and the schedule in white. The entire poster is framed by a red and white striped border with blue and purple stars.

AUSTIN YACHT CLUB

*4th of July
Celebration*

**3:00 Fun and Games for All
New Member Social**

5:00 Picnic Dinner and Music

8:00 Fireworks Around the Lake

MORE INFO NEXT PAGE

AUSTIN YACHT CLUB HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA 250

Saturday, July 4th 3:00-8:00pm

Join us for a party and picnic on the patio with games, variety show, and door prize drawings. Picnic menu includes pulled pork sliders, hot dogs, and the usual complements. Some vegan options too. Beer, wine and non-alcoholic beverages.

Adults & children over 5 years, \$12 at door via Charge Sheet.

Children 5 and younger FREE.

We are planning for a large event! Please RSVP (Red QR / link). Get an extra door prize ticket for each RSVP when you come to the party and check in on the charge sheet. Must be present with paid entry to win door prizes.



Planned activities include:

Kid Zone – 3-5pm, patio and lawn around bell.

With games, bubbles, temporary tattoos, chalk art, and popcorn machine.

Scavenger hunt – start around 3:30, 1 hour time limit.

Crews, families, or anyone can form a 3-to-5 member team to test your scavenger skills.

Dinner Time Variety Show

Sign Up (Blue QR / link below) or send a note to

Chris Thompson if you have questions about booking your act.

Door Prize Drawing during Dinner:

How to earn winning tickets:

Event pre-registration • Event entry purchase • Variety show entry • Talk to a new member • Scavenger hunt • Volunteer

Scavenger Hunt

Team Winner announced during Variety Show

Knots and Sailing Hardware • Statue of Liberty and Sailing Song • Sailing trivia and Rules •

New member introduction • Find my star • Where's Gilligan?

Dinner Menu

Serving 5:00-7:00pm (Clean-up 7:00-8:00pm)

Pulled Pork & BBQ sauces • Hot dogs (+ vegan dogs) • Chips, pretzels, snacks • Rolls, buns, lettuce wraps •

Potato Salad – non-mayo • Cole slaw – non mayo (vinaigrette) • Baked Beans • Mac & Cheese •

American Flag cupcakes • Ice cream + extras & Cookie • Fruit tray assortment

Beer, wine and non-alcoholic beverages

VOLUNTEER TO HELP



RSVP FOR FREE DRAWING TICKET



BOOK A VARIETY SHOW ACT



You can use the QR codes on the AYC website and flyers around the Club.

SINGLE HANDED REGATTA

COMING SOON - MARK YOUR CALENDAR - AUGUST 1 2026



OPEN TO ALL
BALLASTED KEEL BOATS.
FUN RACING FOLLOWED
BY A PICNIC LUNCH.



NOR AND REGISTRATION OUT SHORTLY

FUNDAMENTALS OF **SAILBOAT RACING**

SATURDAY
August 8, 2026
1:00 PM -4:00 PM

A CLASS FOR BEGINNING
AS WELL AS
INTERMEDIATE RACERS

TOPICS: RACE PREP, START,
TACTICS, SAIL TRIM ,
FOLLOWED BY Q & A WITH
SUCCESSFUL RACERS

QUESTIONS?
CONTACT BILL RECORDS,
PRESENTER 512-913-4989

RYAN SEDERHOLM
SAIL TRAINING COMMANDER
512-762-0725



\$30 MEMBERS
\$50 NON-MEMBERS

REGISTER ONLINE AT

<https://www.austinyachtclub.net>



Message from the Commodore

by Steve Pervier



The first Saturday of July is the 4th! Join us for a Happy Birthday America 250 Party at AYC, a really fun event. We'll celebrate the semi-quincentennial of the Declaration of Independence, since it was approved and announced July 4, 1776 – 250 years ago – also a “quarter-millennium”, as it's a quarter of 1,000 years. And for the future, let's also cheer on some young AYC sailors, who in just 50 years

should be celebrating America's Tercentenary, or Tricentennial!

AYC has been busy in June 2026, as you may have realized from my weekly emails to members. These are being written as a single page listing our next events, with links to key information and to signups. I appreciate several of you telling me that you like these notes!

Summertime at AYC has been busy so far: The start of Summer Camps, Summer Series, PB&J, and Adult Dinghy Classes. Sail-4-Kids, Sea Scout Ship 911 camp-out, and a Training Clinic on 420s. (420 is now listed on our Fleet Captains list!) Wednesday Laser and Sunfish Evenings, MoonBurn #1 and 2. And most Fridays, except for inclement weather, we have Beer Can races and dinners. And... Chaparral Del Mar Regatta, more about that in the Ensign Fleet article in this issue.

We can run this many different programs and events thanks to leadership by the Board, good follow-through by Staff and our volunteers, and ongoing attention to the FUR system. I want to add that future FUR approvals continue to deserve checking on our Calendar for conflicts, but it may also be informative to look at past years' same-event FURs to understand more clearly.

Potential Volunteers: If you want to help with an event I mentioned or in general, please contact me. I may put some specific needs in my weekly email, or on our bulletin boards or online classifieds.

One need right away: We need helpers to make a fantastic July 4th party for AYC. See the poster and info in this Telltale, plus posters at the Club, or look on our Social Calendar. Our July 4th organizers, **Chris Thompson & Barbie Carlyon**, are planning entertainment for kids and adults, dinner, a multiple prize drawing, and entertainment. Fireworks should be around us after 8pm. Follow QR codes on the posters to RSVP (no charge, non-binding).

I look forward to seeing you at the Party, and many other times at AYC!

Vice Commodore Report

by John Maddalozzo



As the temperatures heat up, the regatta schedule cools down. The Chaparral Del Mar Regatta ran on June 27th in conjunction with Summer Series weekend 5. The next scheduled regatta is the Singlehanded on Saturday August 1st.

Notably absent this year is the Governor's Cup Regatta which was swapped out to accommodate the revived Turnback Canyon in May. Unfortunately fitting it back into the remaining calendar would probably require scheduling it in August and equipping all boats with air conditioning. But if an enthusiastic volunteer regatta chair came up with a plan, I'd be willing to listen.

Sail Training Commander Report

by Ryan Sederholm



Sail Training is holding a Workday on July 12. We will begin at 8am and continue until we are done or it gets too warm. We will be installing marine carpet and replacing the 420 cradles with new aluminum ones. This should reduce wear and tear on the AYC Dinghy Fleet. Fasteners proud of the deck and collapsing cradles have been marring and gouging the hulls of our 420s. The new carpet and larger, stronger cradles should help us better care for these boats. All

help is appreciated. Thanks to **Zoran Vukmerica** for building our new cradles and to **Zoran and Robert Bennett** for planning this project. Email the Sail Training Commander if you have any questions.

The summer camp program is humming along nicely. We were concluding our third week of camp as of the June Board meeting. Together with the SailStrong week, we have 156 youths participating. There is room in most sessions if you are still looking to tire your kiddos out this summer! The Board approved a discount last month for families attending more than one session of camp, so it's even a better deal to offload the kids for more than one week!

June has been our busiest month for the Adult Dinghy Sailing program. We ran two Beginning Sailing classes and one Next Steps sailing class. All classes were at capacity, all Beginning classes were on waitlists. Check out the photos at the end of this article!

Only one Beginning class this year still has space so if you or anyone you know is looking to join, time is running out!

This year, our calendar is a bit experimental. We have been trying to condense the classes into blocks of consecutive days. Back-to-back classes seem to make new concepts stick in a way that a more spread out calendar doesn't. This does make our calendar a bit confusing. In July and August, we host two Next Steps classes, two Beginning classes, and the first Intro Racing classes. Please check out the AYC calendar for dates and links to register or email the Sail Training Commander for more information.

The 420 racing clinics continued this month with steady attendance.

continued next page

Veteran racers are finding it a fun way to relive glory days past, but in July we will hit the threshold where our adult students have the chops to start participating. This is an important milestone. One of the goals of this program is to bridge the gap between our Adult Dinghy Program and the racing done at AYC – to lay a path for new sailors to become proficient racers.

The Adult Dinghy Programs depend on passionate and patient volunteer support. Thanks to the following people for their time and enthusiasm for these programs at AYC: **Leslie Lilly, Eric Jansson, Michael Moran, Stephen Burke, Hannelore Sederholm, David Corrigan, Jonathan Ou, Guillermo Figueroa Mesa, Luis Maximo, Anne & David Morley, Maret Moran, Adam Powers, Harmony Capo, Sarah Olson, Bridget Malone, Jeromy Lee, Walter Eckhardt, Jonathan Baker, and Galen Ng.**

On June 28, **David Morley** and the Ensign Fleet hosted Discover Sailing – an excellent way to introduce folks to sailing. Since each session is hosted by a different fleet, the class is different every time. The July host is TBD, please watch the calendar for updates.



Above and below, Beginning Sailing student *Tanner Britton* shared two photos from the class



A long, productive day for Next Steps 1 students *Photo by Leslie Lilly*



FALL JUNIOR SAILING REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR AYC MEMBERS

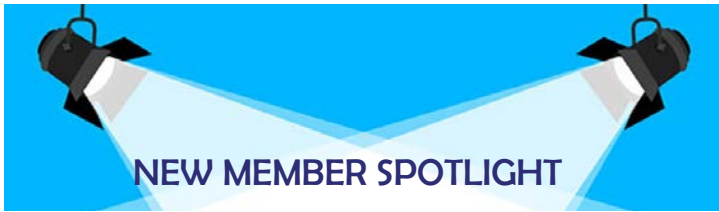
Registration for **Austin Yacht Club Fall Junior Sailing Programs** is now open to AYC Members. Member registration will remain open until July 10, at which point registration will be open to members and non-members.

If you are planning to enroll your Junior sailor, we encourage you to register early. Our Opti 1 programs are expected to fill quickly and will likely have a waitlist this fall.

Programs include High School A and B, High School Combined, Opti 1-4, and ILCA Racing Team. For more information, click on the link below.

We look forward to another great season on the water and can't wait to see everyone this fall! If you have any questions, please reach out to Zach Steuer, Youth Sailing Director, at zach@austinyachtclub.net.

<https://austinyachtclub.net/austin-yacht-club-junior-sailing-program/>



NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



**Jonathan Wilson,
Senior Probationary**

Jonathan joined AYC to try out new boats and investigate boat storage. He has completed Beginning Sailing and Catalina Discovery Day. His volunteer interests include Social Committee and events, Regatta Assistance and Race Committee.



**Benjamin Draper,
Associate Probationary**

Benjamin joined AYC to become part of our sailing community. He grew up sailing but doesn't have racing experience yet. He is interested in volunteering for Social Committee and Events, Website Committee and providing Tech assistance.

**Charles "Pitman" Baker,
Senior Probationary**

Charles has finally retired and wants to get back into sailing. He has raced Moths, Lasers, GP-14, Hobie 16 and Hunter 31, his last boat which he kept at Commander's Point. His special talent is "many years of boat repair, and he wishes to volunteer for Building & Grounds, Regatta Assistance and Race Committee. He owns a GP-14 named Shake and Bake.

Father's Day 2026 by Annie Lancaster

This Father's Day I am sailing in a Sunfish Regatta. When I was growing up, I started sailing after my father – **Hap Arnold**, AYC Founding Member – bought a Sunfish so he could keep track of his daughters while he was out sailing. I started back sailing 'seriously' when my daughters went off to college. Dad still had the Sunfish that I sailed to get started. I called her 'Sugar'. She was a good boat, especially with a few modifications that **Vic Manning** helped me make. Before long, Dad asked Vic if there was anything I needed to improve my sailing. Vic said 'a newer boat'. So they found me one, *Sugar Blue*; blue because of my Dad's blue eyes.

So I am sailing Sugar Blue on Father's Day to honor my Dad and to let him know I love him. I feel him there with me every time I sail, and that is one of the reasons I love sailing. Dad is always with me, saying "find the wind and keep the boat moving."



coming up

Wednesday Evening Sunfish/Laser Racing through September

Beer Can continues Every Friday until 09/11

[Post-Beer Can Socials: Sign up to cook!](#)

MoonBurn Series Races 07/24, 08/28

Summer Series 07/11, 18, 25 EOS

Singlehanded Regatta 08/01

AYC Fleet Fund Challenge 09/04-05

In Remembrance

Mark and Suzanne Bradford

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of two valued members of our Austin Yacht Club family. Many of you know Mark and Suzanne not only as fellow members, but as cherished friends who loved sailing, treasured time on the water, and were an important part of our yacht club family.

Both tragically passed away from serious illness. Although the family's grief is immense, they find comfort in knowing that Mark and Suzanne are together, just as they wished to be, and are now free from pain. Their enduring love for one another remains an inspiration, and their legacy lives on in the memories they created with family, friends and fellow sailors.

A joint Funeral Mass celebrating the lives of Mark and Suzanne will be held at 10:00am on Tuesday, July 7, at St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church. All members and friends are welcome to attend. As we remember Mark and Suzanne, may we honor them in the way they lived – embracing friendship, community and the joy of being together on the water.

*Fair winds and following seas, Mark and Suzanne.
You will be greatly missed but never forgotten.*



MoonBurn Series Race 1 Recap by James Parsons



When the full moon in May is late in the month, we have the chance to race earlier than usual at night. It's warmer, the later we go in May, so the night thermals give us some consistent post-sunset winds.

We kicked things off with a potluck dinner, and a good amount of Randall's fried chicken, thanks to the PRF meal sponsorship (if anyone wants to get some food to share for after a race, chat with

Matt Brown or myself).

After our Competitors Briefing, we headed out to the water. On RC we had chase boats with **Jeff & Marilyn Jackson**, **Jorge Martin de Nicolás**, and **Jim Casto**. On the Signal boat we had myself, **Christian Dohse**, **Josh Cross**, **JJ Jurica**, and **Deanna James** (who took some amazing photos).

The starts went off without a hitch, though there was a log floating close to the Signal boat that the Chase boat with **Jorge** and **Jim** picked up. The racers were off going into the sunset. We raced a 4-2 course: 4, D, Finish.

Despite being the last starting fleet, A Fleet's J80 Air Supply (skipped by **Alan Stanard** this year) was first to the weather mark. The rest of the boats rounded 4, and headed down wind with a good amount of wind behind them.

It was during the downwind run, where we shared the traditional 'MoonBurn Moon Facts': The full moon in May is called the *Flower Moon*, named for the abundance of wildflowers that bloom across the Northern Hemisphere during this time of year.

At D mark, Air Supply was still in front, followed by Rumline (**Aaron McCulley's** trimaran).

The wind started getting lighter about this time.

Air Supply got the horn, after racing for 90 minutes, as did Rumline.

Then **Stephen Burke's** J24, Out of Control, rounded and **Brett Wilson's** Pearson 26, Picante.

Then the wind really petered out, and the proverbial Frogger game on the water played out, with the remaining sailors trying to find any patch of wind that they could.

Out of Control finished at 22:17, getting a whistle for A Fleet, and Picante finished at 22:37, getting the horn for B Fleet.

It was around then that we started asking the last boats if they wanted to finish early. Everyone took us up on the offer, except for **Bill Benker's** Hunter 30 (BBQ), and **Trevor Miller's** Pearson 26 (Broken Arrow). They were on the last leg, and getting promising (if not strong) zephyrs coming down the lake. Broken Arrow was in front, then BBQ got a puff and pulled in front.

Alas, the time limit was looming, and with BBQ in the lead a decent amount, the remaining racers decided to both finish on the podium for B Fleet, and BBQ was scored in 2nd place, and Broken Arrow a very respectable 3rd place finish on her maiden voyage with Trevor as owner.

Results were:

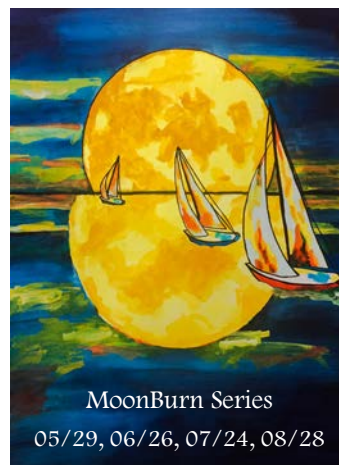
MH: 1st and last: Rumline

A Fleet: Air Supply, Out of Control, and Kami (**Matt Brown's** Capri 25).

B Fleet: 1st: Picante; 2nd: BBQ; 3rd: Broken Arrow; 4th: **Rich Ryon's** Pearson 26 Ariel2Too!; 5th: **Richard House's** Catalina 27 Better than Chocolate; 6th: **Dallas Dillard's** Catalina 25 (Besame Much) was last of the finishers (or, finished early). We also had a first timer, with **Jason Sabo's** Sashay (a West Wight Potter 15, with a PHRF of 498!) enjoyed the sunset and then turned home.

The forecast didn't do us right, as the winds weren't supposed to stay steady, nor did our usual post-sunset thermals do their usual thing. Maybe it's El Niño? Maybe it's Maybelline?

As of this writing, we've got a forecast of 15 knots for our June 26th race. The remaining races are July 24th, and Aug 28th for the EOS. There's still time to join us and have the first race be your throwout. We can also use some volunteers for the July and August races, and you'll get credit equal to your average finish. And if you want T-shirts, we are looking for a volunteer to lead that effort.



May 29 MoonBurn racers Photo by Deanna James

continued next page

MoonBurn Series Race 05/29



PRO James Parsons Photo by Marilyn Jackson



Race Committee Photo by Marilyn Jackson



Signal Boat and moon Photo by Marilyn Jackson



James Parsons and Christian Dohse on Signal Boat
Photo by Deanna James



Marilyn & Jeff Jackson on Chase 1 Photo by
Deanna James



Potluck dinner Photo by Marilyn Jackson



J24 Out of Control, Stephen Burke & crew; J80 Air Supply, Alan Stanard, Ed Taylor & crew coming to the start at sunset Photo by Deanna James



Corsair F28 Rumline, Aaron McCully and crew Chris Holt and Linda Asaf racing downwind Photo by Deanna James



J80 Air Supply, Alan Stanard, Ed Taylor & crew
Photo by Deanna James

Summer Series Race 1 05/30



J80s, L-R: Restless and Lickety Split Photos by Marilyn Jackson



Hunter 28.5 Far Away



Ensigns, L-R: The Other Ranger, Gravy, Deep Six



Ensigns, L-R: Moondance(r) and Joya



Ensign The Other Ranger



Before starts

Summer Series Race 2 06/06



J80 Amazing Grace



Diam 24 Van Cat



Ensign Race Committee on Chase 1



J80 JazzTacks



J80 Too Much J



J22 Bonfire



Thank you, Ensign Race Committee

continued next page

Summer Series Race 2 06/06



Pearson 26 Moreneta Photos by Marilyn Jackson



Catalina 22 Elysium



L-R: J22 Bonfire, J24 Out of Control



L-R: Catalina 25 Waturi, Pearson 26 Picante



L-R: Catalina 22 Elysium, Catalina 25 Waturi, J80 Too Much J



J80s L-R: Lickety Split, JazzTacks

Summer Series Race 3 06/13



Pearson 26 Ariel2Too! Photos by Marilyn Jackson



Pearson 26s L-R: Ariel2Too!, Broken Arrow, Moreneta



Melges 15 Vamos



L-R: J80s Restless and Too Much J, J22 Bonfire, J80 Lickety Split



L-R: J70 Wabi Sabi, J22 Bonfire, J80 Lickety Split, J80 Too Much J



J22 Bonfire

Summer Series Race 4 06/20



Corsair F-28R Far Reach Photos by Marilyn Jackson



South Coast 21 WT



Pearson 26 Picante



Just before the races



J22s L-R: Bubbles, Bonfire



Ensign Moondance(r)

Thank You, Beer Can Volunteers!



L-R: Yolanda Diaz-Nadela, Danny Lien, Richard House Photos by Cheryl Pervier



Steve Whitley at the grill



Clean-up crew, L-R: Delaney Williams, Meri & Steve Shepardson



Clean-up specialists Russell Davis and Katie Whitley



John Maddalozzo enjoys burgers by Chris Renner



Cooks and grillmaster, L-R: Jon Ou & Brielle Beaver, Roger Jennings



L-R: J22 Bonfire and Ensign Joya Photos by Marilyn Jackson



Trimarans: First Tri, Far Reach, Humility



Catalina 22 Kinga leading the pack



L-R: Isaac & Emily Cohen, Cass Meyer, Megan & Caston Meyer, Marilyn & Jeff Jackson



L-R: Cesar Lithgow, Jeff & Marilyn Jackson, Mary Rose Lithgow



11 Meter Once

Sunfish & Laser Races 06/17



Sunfish close in



Laser rounding



Sunfish start



Lasers battle it out



Thank you, Race Committee!

FLEET CAPTAIN	FLEET NAME	FLEET #	FLEET TYPE
Elizabeth Stansfeld	Catalina 22	60	One-Design
David Morley	Ensign	30	One-Design
Bill Records	Pearson 26	8	One-Design
Jim Bridgwater	J/22	11	One-Design
Rhonda Moore	J/24	21	One-Design
	J/70		One-Design
Ray Shull	J/80	6	One-Design
Mike Rohrer	Sunfish	070	One-Design
Lisa Rogers	Laser	22	One-Design
Thomas Young	Melges 15		One-Design
Jeromy Lee	420		One-Design
Philippe Bettler	Diam-24		One-Design
James Bland	Dinghy		PRF All Dinghy
Dominic Ioime	Catamaran		PRF All Cat
Philippe Bettler	Trimaran		PRF All Tri
Philippe & Dominic	Multihull		PRF All Multi
Eric Van Hensbergen	Keel		PRF All Keel
Eric Van Hensbergen	PRF A		PRF Division
Eric Van Hensbergen	PRF B		PRF Division
Jim Bridgwater	J/PRF		PRF J Type
James Parsons	PRF		PRF Organizer
Teddy Rave	Roadrunner		Youth Sailing
Matt Romberg	DF95		RC One-Design

Update: Return to Clipper

by Michael Moran



06/18/2026

All,
Apologies for being tardy in sharing this new with you.

After a serendipitous meeting with a professional sailing couple this past March in Sint Maarten, I decided to change my perspective on returning to the Clipper Race. During the course of discussion over

several drinks at my (current) favorite pub, Hupple the Pub, I came to understand how very valuable the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) certifications I hold are in terms of commercial sailing opportunities. My friends pointed out that I should achieve the RYA Yachtmaster Ocean certification (currently in process for me) to open up more opportunities. For me to achieve that certification I need to undertake a qualifying ocean passage on which I take several celestial navigation sight reductions, submit my plots to the RYA, and successfully sit an oral exam.

Well, I happen to have paid for an ocean passage...

I have received sign-off from my orthopedic surgeon that I was fit to sail as defined by Clipper. I therefore opted to inform Clipper of the same and my intent to rejoin the race for Leg 8, the final passage from Washington, DC to Portsmouth, UK. Since that day I have been busy making travel arrangements in support of getting myself to DC and back from the UK, along with shore accommodations along the way.

So... for anyone interested in again taking up tracking of the race, you can do so at <https://clipperroundtheworld.geovile.com/2025/tracker/>. The fleet is currently approaching the passage between Cuba and Haiti on their way to completing Leg 7 in Washington, DC with scheduled arrival in the window of 14-16 JUN. (Editor's note: The fleet left Washington, DC on June 24 and is now on the way to Oban, Scotland, UK.)

I am happy to address any questions.

Michael

Pearson 26 Fleet Report

by Bill Records



The turnout for the 2026 Summer Series has been low due to graduations, vacations, and even a destination wedding of **Carl & Kalli Myers**. Since my boat, Cafe au Lait, was on the hard for repairs, I decided to crew with whichever skipper would have me.

For race one, I sailed with **Leandro Rey Moral** on Moreneta. The boat needed work on spinnaker gear, so we did not fly the spin.

Dave Weeks on Incognito took an early lead and without the spinnaker, we could not catch him. At mark 7 Broken Arrow (**Trevor Miller**) overtook us. We stayed close and beat him on a port/starboard at the finish. Ariel2Too! took fourth. **Carl Myers** (Slip Kid) decided not to race in race two and just go sailing. At the last minute **Carl, Kalli** and I couldn't resist, and started the race. However, we just put on the 90 jib. Even with a good start, we could not keep up. **Dave Weeks** won again with **Leandro** taking second. Race three saw five Pearsons competing and I sailed with **Morgan Andreiev** on his boat, On A Plane for his first race. We nailed



Morgan's first race Photos by Bill Records

the start and had a lead on Dave Weeks at mark 4 and mark 7. However, on the last leg to the finish the condition and placement of the genoa winches prevented us from sheeting the sail in enough to properly close haul. We watched hopelessly as Dave gained on every tack and beat us by seconds (overlapped)! Moreneta, with **Misty Blythe** on the helm, outfoxed Broken Arrow to take third, Broken Arrow fourth, Ariel2Too! fifth.

On the fourth week, the Pearson 26 Fleet had RC duty. And what a day we had. The Bots did not cooperate, causing a 30 minute delay. We were short one chase boat and anchoring the finish boat in 150 feet of water took some time. After one of the J 80s finished, someone on board yelled "water moccasin".



We looked where he pointed and sure enough a large snake, looking similar to a water moccasin was swimming towards us. I took a picture of it and we fended it off with a paddle. **Carl Myers** sent the photo to a snake ID website and was told it was an Eastern Hognose, a mildly venomous snake that rarely bites humans.

New AYC member, **Jonathan Wilson**, just bought P26OD #163 Talisman and plans to join us on the race course. Talisman was owned by **Vic Manning** and I'm sure his spirit will be there.

Next up will be the Singlehanded Race, hosted by the P26 Fleet. Let's have a good P26 turnout – no excuses!



L-R: Leandro Rey Moral, Bill Records, Steve Burger, Misty Blythe



L-R: Daniel Garces, Bill Records, Jonathan Wilson

Ensign Fleet Report

by Molly Isbell



Since Lewis Price already wrote an Ensign article in May that included Tom & me getting married (which, as far as I'm personally concerned, is the most exciting Ensign Fleet news of 2026), this one will be focused on the sailing activities our fleet has been involved with through June, and the events we're all looking forward to in the coming months. As always, the fleet has been out enjoying sailing and racing and sharing our love for this sport with others.

On June 5th, Ensign fleet members participated in the Annual Sail For Kids event organized by Lewis Price, with support from Fred Ford. Other fleet volunteers included Tom Groll and Chuck Wiechowsky on Joya, and David & Anne Morley on Abaco. Winds were light and the sailors had to duck a couple small rain showers but that didn't stop the fun – the kids and sponsors from Table of Grace got to enjoy a fun Friday afternoon on Lake Travis sailing around, waging squirt-gun battles, learning a little bit, but mostly just having a great time, followed by swimming and burgers. As always, the smiles and laughter of the kids, some of whom had never even been on a boat before, made it a rewarding day. We hope the kids took away some good memories – all the volunteers certainly did.

The fleet has also been enjoying the Summer Series racing through the month of June, with 5 to 7 boats competing on Race Days #1, #3, and #4 of the series, and at least 10 fleet members and crew serving as Race Committee on Race Day #2. On June 27th, we used the Summer Series Race Day #5 to host one of our favorite regattas of the year – Chaparral del Mar! Seven skippers came out to race. Due to an unfortunate shore-side accident, only six made it to the start line (and there's zero bias here but I'm predicting that the skipper that had to sit it out would have had an awesome race and very well could have won – he's already planning to show them all next year). It was a windy day, which is perfect for the Ensign and made it an easy decision to sail jib and main only, a choice that was appreciated by all. Tom Romberg and crew had a great start at the pin, took advantage of the first header, and led the fleet around every mark. Congrats to the Romberg team for their first-place finish! Behind the Rombergs, the other competitors battled it out, with positions changing multiple times throughout the race.



L-R: 1st place finisher Tom Romberg; 2nd place finisher Doc Gamble; 3rd place finisher Linda McDavitt with crew Chris & Chris Covington Photos by Anne Morley

In the end, Dave (Doc) Gamble and team took second, and Linda McDavitt and team finished third. Huge thank you to George Dahmen, regatta chair, and his team of Ann Kitzmiller and David & Anne Morley. Also, thanks to Ray Shull and the J80 fleet for serving as race committee. It was a well-organized and fun event, and we're all looking forward to next year.



The other Chaparral Del Mar winners, L-R: Danny Lien & crew; Bob Matheson & crew; Chuck Wielchowsky & crew; Brad Davis & crew Photos by Anne Morley

On June 28th, volunteers from the Ensign fleet supported Discover Sailing with 18 students. Doc Gamble led a chalk talk, which was followed by on-the-water demonstrations and practice of everything they had learned in the classroom – and then some! It was another gusty day, so a few participants opted to stay ashore and focus on boat parts, knot tying, learning what all the lines are called, etc. Regardless of whether they actually sailed or not, everyone had a great time and several students expressed interest in crewing in a race in the near future. From those of us who weren't able to be there, thank you to the ones who served as ambassadors for the sport of sailing, AYC and the Ensign fleet: Tom Groll, Doc Gamble, David & Anne Morley, George Dahmen, Ann Kitzmiller, Graham Gilmour, Chuck Wielchowsky and crew member JohnBell. Please check out Chuck Wielchowsky's poem following this article for his first hand impression.

Looking ahead, once the Summer Series comes to a close, we are very excited to be sending two boats this year to the Ensign National Championship Regatta in Tom's River, New Jersey in August. Tom Groll will be skippering Joya with crew members Molly Isbell, Kurt Carson & Audrey Ravelo. George Dahmen will skipper Stijf Kop, with crew members Ann Kitzmiller, Graham Gilmour and Boyd Bluestein (from HYC). Of course we are hoping for a strong showing for both boats, but no matter how everyone finishes, we know we'll have a great time and will represent AYC and the fleet well!

Even further ahead, the Ensign Fleet is excited to be hosting the Region IV Championship Regatta in October. Tom Groll will serve as Regatta Chair. It's looking likely that the lake will stay full(ish) until then and we will hopefully be back into cooler(ish) weather, so we are anticipating great participation from the AYC fleet and hopefully also a few out-of-town boats. Be on the lookout for more info (and volunteer opportunities) as the date gets closer.

Discover Sailing the Ensign Way Despite the Breeze and Heat of Day

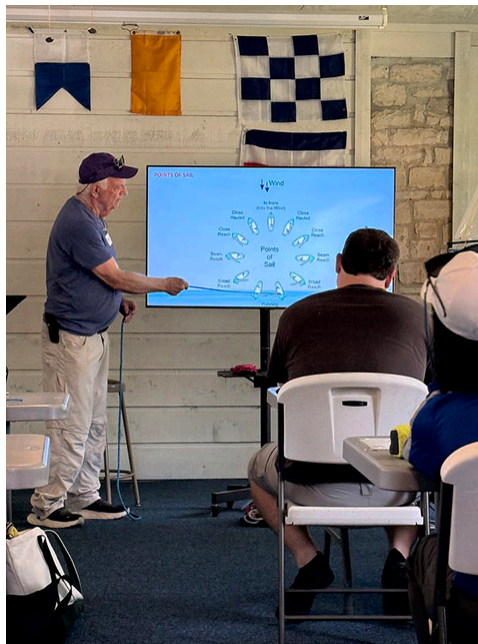
By Chuck Wielchowsky

Seventeen Discoverers came out
to see what sailing is all about
but there was a lot of breeze
and choppy seas
with gusts enough
to make it tough
For new-to-sailing folks
to coax
the boat to do
what they want it to.

But some went out under main alone
while others decided to stay at home
at the dock
where they learned a lot
about stays and shrouds and halyards and sheets
and blocks and winches and all kinds of cleats
and outhauls and vang's and sailboat knots
and port and starboard. Oh my, there's lots
of terms that one learns
while you are afloat

just sailing in a boat
or at the dock
where you are not
just sailing a boat.

But when you are just sailing a boat
and are afloat
there is no other joy that approaches that feeling
that beautiful all consuming feeling
of just sailing a boat!



Doc Gamble leads the classroom session during Discover Sailing *Photo by Anne Morley*

2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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NEWSLETTER

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ghowiellc@gmail.com

AYC BUSINESS HOURS

Wednesday - Sunday 9:00AM - 5:00PM

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Clubhouse Hours 9:00A - 10:00PM

2026 CLOSED CLUB HOLIDAYS

New Years Day	January 1
Easter Sunday	April 5
Independence Day	July 4
Thanksgiving Day	November 26
Shopping Day	November 27
Christmas Day	December 25

BOARD OF DIRECTORS EMAIL ADDRESSES

commodore@austinyachtclub.net
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July-August 2026 Race Calendar

Beer Can Races	Every Friday in July/August
Sunfish/Laser Wednesday Races	Every Wednesday in July/August
MoonBurn Series	07/24, 08/28
Summer Series	07/11, 18, 25(EOS)
Singlehanded Regatta	08/01
AYC Fleet Fund Challenge	09/04-05

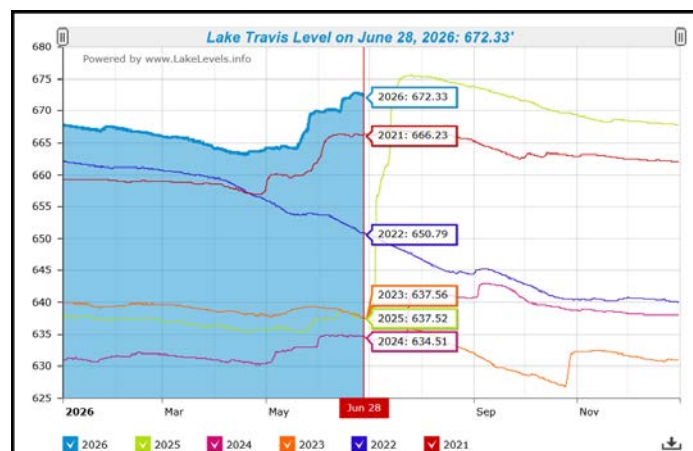
July-August 2026 Non-Racing Events

Summer Camp: SailStrong	07/13-17	8:30am-5:30pm
AYC Board of Directors Meeting	07/23, 08/27	7:30-9:00pm
4th of July and New Member Social	07/04	3:00-10:00pm
Harbor 420 Cradle Replacement Workday	07/12	8:00am-4:00pm
End of Summer Series Dinner	07/25	After the races
Big Bros/Big Sis Take a Kid Sailing After Party	08/01	5:00-11:00pm

Adult Sail Training

Next Steps 2	07/06, 07, 13, 14	6:00-8:30pm
Next Steps 3	08/22, 23, 29, 30	9:00am-noon
Adult 420 Practice Clinic	07/02, 16, 30	6:00-8:00pm
Beginning Sailing 5	07/18, 19, 25, 26	9:00am-noon
Beginning Sailing 6	08/08, 09, 15, 16	9:00am-noon
Discover Sailing	07/12	9:00am-1:00pm
Intro to Racing 1	07/27, 28 08/01, 02	6:00-8:30pm 9:00am-noon
Fundamentals of Sailboat Racing	08/08	1:00-4:00pm

Here is a link to Junior Events: <https://austinyachtclub.net/junior-program-calendar/>



Lake Travis Water Level

June 28, 2026: 672.33'