AUSTIN YACHT CLUB
# TELLTALE
SEPTEMBER 2026

Congratulations to 2026 Overall Winners J80 Fleet!

## AYC FUND FLEET CHALLENGE

AYC Fund 420 racers battle it out. #10 representing the Ensign fleet with Wyatt and Sawyer Romberg vs #3 representing the Pearson 26 fleet with Yuval Sela and Lucas Schwartz. #3 won the races.
*Photo by Bill Records*

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# AYC Perpetual Awards

Every year, AYC recognizes members for notable accomplishments during the current year. Please review the list below and nominate deserving sailors for recognition. Learn about the awards and past recipients at austinyachtclub.net/perpetual-awards. Email nominations, subject "2026 AYC Perpetual Awards", to nominations@austinyachtclub.net, by October 30. Provide award name, recipient name, and explanation.

- Jimmy B. Card Memorial Trophy: To the Club senior sailor new to the sport. This trophy is to recognize the beginning sailor who enthusiastically, bravely, and with a real zest and enjoyment for life becomes a reasonably competitive sailor in their first or second year of sailing.
- Max White Memorial Trophy: To the Club senior member for outstanding service to the Club in the past year. This trophy should be awarded to the individual who has given freely and unselfishly of their time and/or talents over and above what might otherwise have been necessary or expected of them.
- Jessie McIlroy Smith Bowl: To the Club junior or senior sailor who has made an outstanding contribution or achievement in yachting beyond the Club level or normal Club activities. This award is intended to recognize a Club member for outstanding service to yachting or racing achievement beyond the Club level or to recognize an individual's accomplishments that are not within the normal scheduled activities of the Austin Yacht Club such as significant application of sailing skills in a rescue, ocean crossing, yacht construction, etc.
- Corinthian Woman Sailor Trophy: To a woman sailor exhibiting traditional Corinthian traits. This trophy is to be given annually to a woman who is an individual or family member who has exhibited good sportsmanship, enthusiasm, and participation, thereby making an overall contribution to the enhancement of the sport of competitive sailing.
- Liz Bauman Memorial Trophy: To the most improved female junior sailor. This trophy is to be given annually to a young woman who, though not necessarily the most accomplished, demonstrates those traits of cooperation, discipline, willingness to learn, and good sportsmanship that are the goals of the junior sailing program.
- Ron W. Harden Memorial Trophy: The most improved male junior sailor. This trophy is to be given annually to a young man who, though not necessarily the most accomplished, demonstrates those traits of cooperation, discipline, willingness to learn, and good sportsmanship that are the goals of the junior sailing program.
- Ol' Salt of the Austin Yacht Club: To the Club senior sailor who has exhibited enthusiasm, sportsmanship, and a competitive zeal over a period of time, and has a quality of life that can be admired by all.
- Bill Records Roadrunner Fleet Trophy: This award honors the Club member who has gone beyond expectations to serve and volunteer on behalf of the Roadrunner Fleet. This trophy is to be given to the Club member, who consistently, and over a long period of time, acts as a pivotal leader and contributor, furthering the advancement of the program development.
- Scott Young Award: The Scott Young Award is awarded to the sailor on the UT Sailing Team who has demonstrated an exceptional dedication to the team. The sailor who did their utmost to improve the Sailing Team in all aspects – both on the water and off. The recipient has adopted a leadership role, and has worked to better collegiate sailing as a whole.
- Vic Manning Memorial Trophy: To the Club member who has made a deep and lasting impact on the sport of sailboat racing at AYC through excellence in Race Management. This trophy is awarded to the Club member who consistently and over a long period has given their time and expertise in support of race management at AYC.
- Blue Duck Trophy: Most outstanding Blooper. Nominations will be accepted at the annual AYC Banquet and awarded by acclamation.

# 2026 Centerboard Regatta

## October 3rd and 4th

## Early Registration Through Sept 30th.

**Saturday Greek Dinner with Gyros and Chicken Kebab**

Regatta Info

AUSTIN YACHT CLUB

Preorder Tshirts

# 2026 Round-the-Bend and MultiFest Regatta

**October 31-November 1, 2026**

**We have lots of Lake! You could Sail the Best Long Distance legs in any 2026 AYC Regatta.**

Open to
Multis - Diam 24s, Trimarans, Catamarans
Monohulls - J80, Keel PHRF, Pearson 26

**Trimarans and Fast Cats race 10/31-11/1**
**Monohull Keelboats race Saturday 10/31 (Or 11/1 in case of 10/31 cancellation)**

**Taco Breakfasts at AYC**
**Saturday chili dinner**

**Regatta Info**

Save the Dates!

Sunday, November 8

**End of Fall Series Dinner**

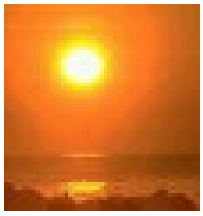
Thursday, November 12

**AYC All Members Meeting**

Annual Reports

Election of 2027 Board

Volunteer Recognitions



Saturday, December 5

**AYC ANNUAL BANQUET**

Join your AYC friends at the Top of the Oasis and Palm Court Rooms to Watch the Sunset, Feast on a delicious dinner, Recognize the Boards, and Learn about the Annual Perpetual Awards, and Dance!

## Message from the Commodore
by Steve Pervier

The calendar has changed into our Fall Series season, if not actually an Autumn weather pattern. So the Fall Series has started as more of a Late Summer, and some of our evening racers have wanted to continue those Wednesday and Friday events. During the 22 weeks of planned Beer Can Fridays, we had 17 workable race evenings and awarded 33 wines per the NOR, a couple of 3rd places, and more places for Fleet Challenge.

The Beer Can season peaked on Fleet Challenge weekend, with 16 boats racing, and 58 dinners served from our two grills, both connected to the main gas supply. The bulk of our dinners for most Beer Can evenings were cooked on a nice Weber grill donated by new member Stuart Lawrence. Thanks, Stuart!

Several Beer Can racers told us they wanted more, so we announced a two week Beer Can Extension. On 9/18 we saw 10 boats out sailing, six of them racing. That evening we served 27 dinners from our remaining supply of a few burgers, plenty of bratwurst, some veggie burgers, and beef hotdogs all at no charge.

Now if you want to sail the Beer Can course after this – it's still there! And in the spirit of the legendary first ever "beer can" race, maybe in Monterey Bay … "Whoever's leading at that time, drop a beer can for the other boat to round, then head back, and we'll see who gets there first!" It only takes two boats to have a race. Generally it's best if they have a similar speed potential, but we have a system, and have had boats racing on some Fridays with over 200 seconds per mile difference, or even more when we see the faster Multihulls!

Better weather conditions should soon favor Fall Series and the regattas coming up in October and November: Centerboard, Ensign Regionals, Round-the-Bend / Multifest, Texas Challenge, and Wild Turkey, all scheduled before Thanksgiving. Also before Thanksgiving is our Annual All-Members Meeting on Thursday, November 12. We will recognize volunteers and elect our 2027 Board at that meeting, the outgoing Board also giving their annual reports.

Then in early December, on Saturday the 5th, all members are invited to attend our AYC Annual Banquet. This will be at The Oasis, but in different rooms than previously used. We'll have sunset viewing, dinner, brief program with awards, followed by music and dancing. This will be really fun, easy to get to, and a great value. Plan to attend and enjoy this evening with your friends.

Elsewhere in this Telltale, please see details about our AYC Perpetual Awards. Then think about deserving members you would like to see recognized for their special achievements. Send nominations to: nominations@austinyachtclub.net.

And, it's not too late for Fall Series skills. For any who want to learn or improve on chase boat driving, Jim Casto will teach you, just contact him!

## HELP MAKE THE CENTERBOARD REGATTA A SUCCESS!

The AYC Centerboard Regatta is looking for volunteers for the 2026 event that will take place on Saturday, Oct 3rd - Sunday, Oct 4th.

It's a terrific opportunity for probationary members to accumulate service/RC hours! The following volunteers are needed, and your help is greatly appreciated!!!

Race Committee
Saturday, Oct 3rd – 8 needed from 8 am to 5 pm
Sunday, Oct 4th – 8 needed from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm

Registration / Food Prep & Service / Clean Up
Saturday, Oct 3rd – 4 needed for morning shift: 7:30 - 10:30 am
5 needed for afternoon shift: 4:30 - 9:30 pm

Sunday, Oct 4th – 4 needed for morning shift: 7:30 - 10:30 am
4 needed for afternoon shift: 2:00 - 6:00 pm

Please contact Can (John) Kalyoncuoglu to sign up. Again, many thanks from AYC for stepping up to make this event happen!

## PLEASE VERIFY YOUR BOAT INFO

Please help our Harbor and Race Commanders by updating your boat information in Clubspot. The information is used for slip assignments and race registration.

1. Log in to your AYC Clubspot account.
   https://austinyachtclub.theclubspot.com
2. Find your boat(s).
   https://austinyachtclub.theclubspot.com/account/boats
3. Select or add a boat.
4. Update boat details by clicking on the small pencil icon.
   - Class / Type. Be specific. Examples: Capri 25, Catalina 25, J24, Ensign, J80, Hobie 16, Diam 24, Sunfish, Beneteau First 17, Pearson 26, Corsair 28R, S2 9.7, etc.
   - Fleet examples: Catamaran, Diam 24, Ensign J-PRF, J80, PRF-A, PRF-B, Pearson 26, Trimaran
   - PHRF (Portsmouth) rating for your boat
     https://austinyachtclub.net/handicap-rating-information/
   - Builder is the Manufacturer, examples: J-Boat, Ensign, Pearson, Catalina, Corsair, etc.
   - Model. Enter the full model name. Examples: Pearson 26, J80, Catalina 22, Ensign, Sunfish, ILCA4, Hobie 16, F28R, Diam 24

## Vice Commodore Report
by John Maddalozzo

Not much new to report from last month. Even the weather and temperatures haven't changed. I'm hoping for improvement on that by the time the October Telltale comes out. I'm predicting we will have a 'real' cold front some time in October. A bold statement, I know. I'm less sure that the media frenzy over the super El Niño will prove correct and bring exceptional wet weather. Call me cynical. Or John, or Mr. Vice Commodore, or something less respectful. I probably won't hear you anyway. But onto business…

### Remaining 2026 Regatta Dates

- Centerboard Regatta October 3-4. **Can Kalyoncuoglu**, Chair. Can is looking for regatta volunteers. Contact me if you can help out and I'll pass it on to Can.
- Round-the-Bend / Multi-Fest Regatta October 31-November 1. **Bill Coon**, Chair. A separate chair and/or just PRO is TBD for the monohull portion.
- Wild Turkey Regatta November 21. **James Parsons**, Chair.

### Other Racing Notes

The UT Sailing Team hosted the Kathryn Hammond Fleet Racing Regatta September 19-20 for other teams within ICSA, using the E420 fleet.

Series racing resumed with the Fall Series, starting September 13.

Sunfish/Laser Wednesday races continue through September.

Ensign Region IV Championship Regatta is coming up October 22-24.

The SEISA High School Regatta will be October 31-November 1, racing E420s. This is the same weekend as the Round-The-Bend / MultiFest and regatta chairs are coordinating to accommodate both.

## Immediate Past Commodore Report
by Renee Ruais

### Pet Poll Results

In July and August, we conducted a poll of the membership to see how people felt about our proposed update to the pet policy. Should AYC allow pets or not.

We received 133 responses. Roughly 35% voted to keep the existing No Pets Policy. That means 65% were in favor of allowing pets, with some indicating they thought the proposed policy needed some work.

As we are nearing the end of the year and I have some other priorities to focus on, I am going to let this go for now. I hope to work with next year's Past Commodore on a revised proposal, taking into consideration the comments we received in the poll, including the ones opposing the proposal.

## Race Commander Report
by Alan Stanard

During our August break from series racing, the PRC's MarkSetBot group completed a number of maintenance activities on the Bots. We have fixed some deck leaks and replaced faulty parts resulting in four fully functional Bots on the water to kick off the Fall Series. Thank you to our Bot committee of **Bob Leonard**, **Kurt Carson**, **Jim Rehage**, and **Jorge Martín de Nicolás** for all the hard work. If you're interested in helping us use and maintain our fleet of MarkSetBots, consider joining the PRC for 2027!

PRC member **Jim Casto** has been offering Chase Boat Driver Training on an as-needed basis. If you'd like to learn more about chase boat operations and get some time in behind the wheel in preparation for Race Committee duties, let us know at ayc_racingcommander@austinyachtclub.net and we'll schedule a time. Thanks Jim!

The Fall Series is underway and will run through November 8. The series dates and R/C assignments are as follows:

- 9/13 - Ensign
- 9/20 - Multihull
- 9/27 - J/80
- 10/11 - PRF A/B
- 10/18 - Pearson 26
- 10/25 - J/PRF
- 11/8 - Multihull

The Fall Series Sailing Instructions are largely similar to our recent series racing this year. One change we made in Section 10.3 is to clarify that all of the marks around Windy Point, whether shallow water or swim areas, serve as a single continuing obstruction. In that area, it can sometimes be difficult to know from a distance whether a danger mark is indicating a swim area or shallow water area so we wanted to eliminate that confusion. We are allowing competitors to "unwind" this mistake by leaving between the same marks as they enter, but may reconsider allowing this unwind in future series.

AYC welcomes the Texas Challenge Cup on October 17-18. The Texas Challenge originated back in 1986, withTexas yacht and sailing clubs competing in one design dinghies or small keelboats. This year's event will take place with Melges 15s. Go AYC!

Melges 15 Fleet practice *Photo by Bob Leonard*

## Sail Training Commander Report
by Ryan Sederholm

The Sail Training Program is at a moment in the calendar when it is going in all directions at once.

The Junior Sailing programs are in full swing. Opti, MS/HS, and ILCA programs are meeting regularly.

Adult Dinghy Sailing is both wrapping up and pushing to its high point of the year. As of this writing (9/19) we are halfway through the last Introduction to Racing Class. These classes conclude in time for Centerboard Regatta and right now, we will have six boats on the starting line with students of our program, including three who will be racing for the first time.

In October, we will be holding our last Beginning Sailing Class of the year. Already, the email list for folks interested in classes next year is nearly enough to fill out the better part of 2027.

The volunteers who make this program work are amazing! Thank you all for your help: Benjamin Geffken, Steven Burke, David Corrigan, Robert Bennett, Michael Moran, Harmony Capo, Galen Ng, Eric Jansson, Mark Sumrall, and Ethan Weisblatt.

The Adult 420 Racing Clinics have wrapped for the year. Walter Eckhardt created this practice along with Jeromy Lee. Thanks to both of these folks for making this program a success. The last two practices of the year introduced Team Racing.

We are also starting to make plans for the off season. The Club's Dinghy Fleet and RIB Fleet require a great deal of annual maintenance. We got off to an early start with upkeep by bringing Max Ross in to assist our Youth Sailing Director, Zach in inventories, installation of parts and rigging, and prioritizing and scheduling boat repair.

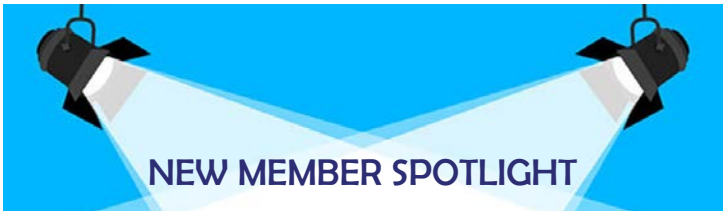
Where much of the Sail Training calendar has singular programs with long periods of dedicated work, this is a moment when programs are spinning up, running, wrapping all while planning and maintenance work are all being done at once. To everyone who helps make this all work, thank you!

Adult 420 Team Racing *Photo by Walter Echkardt*

Introduction to Racing & Roadrunner fleet C420 Practice in the background
*Photo by Anne Morley*

Introduction to Racing *Photo by Anne Morley*

Sunset, Adult 420 Team Racing *Photo by Walter Echkardt*



Don MacNeil
Senior Probationary

Don joined AYC to enjoy both racing and pleasure sailing. He started racing at Georgia Tech, continued bay racing and offshore racing later on his own boat and as crew. He recently raced in South Carolina on a J/100. Don is handy, owns plenty of tools and has an open schedule. Volunteer interests include Building & Grounds, Regatta Assistance, Race Committee and Adult Sail Training.

Trevor Montes
Senior Probationary

Trevor joined AYC to be part of a sailing community, and to enhance his knowledge and skills of sailing and racing. He has access to food and drinks for AYC events. Trevor's volunteer interests include Building & Grounds, Harbor Committee, Social Committee, Regatta Assistance, Social Media, Technology Assistance and Photography. He's looking for a boat that "fits his style."

Johnny Chau
Senior Probationary

Johnny joined AYC to learn how to sail and race. He is new to sailing but has participated in AYC Adult Sail Training. Johnny is a graphic designer and can help with any visuals the Club needs. He is interested in volunteering for the Website Committee.

Sterling Hays
Senior Probationary

Sterling joined AYC to sail and race. He has 45 years of sailing experience, but no racing experience. An archaeologost and tech specialist, Sterling is interested in volunteering for Building & Grounds, Social Committee, Office Assistance, Technology Assistance and Photography. He owns Catalina 30 Mark II Craklin Rose.

Tim Fox
Senior Probationary

Tim joined AYC to sail his Sunfish and crew on Ensigns. He says his sailing experience includes mostly Dinghys and his racing experience includes mostly lightning. Tim is an Engineer. His volunteer interests include Regatta Assistance, Race Committee and Technology Assistance.

Steven Waddell
Associate Probationary

Steven is an active sailor looking to become more involved in a sailing community. His sailing experience includes 13+ years as a U.S. Sailing Certified Level 1 Instructor, and his racing experience includes 13+ years of fleet, match, and team racing. This includes both inshore/buoy racing and offshore/distance racing. Prior to his current career, Steven worked as a professional chef with more than 18 years of experience in the restaurant industry. Volunteer interests include Social Committee, Adult Sail Training, and Youth Sail Training.

Rich Jordan
Associate Probationary

Rich joined AYC to learn to sail and race. His special interests include business operations, group instruction, HVAC and plumbing. He'd like to volunteer for Harbor Committee, Regatta Assistance, Race Committee and Website Committee.

Allyn Johnson
Senior Probationary

After 18+ years, Allyn is returning to racing and has purchased another J24 – #4439 Tapd'n. His goal is to rejoin the Club and become active in the AYC community. Allyn has been sailing since his teens, later in college, and has been active in the boating community for 25+ years. Racing experience includes J24 District, Texas Circuit for 12 years. Last bow number 12, GBCA, previous TORC. He is an organizer and team player, and is interested in volunteering for Building & Grounds, Harbor Committee, Social Committee, Regatta Assistance, Office Assistance, Adult Sail Training, and Youth Sail Training.

Kathryn Hammond College Regatta 09/19-20 *Photo by Bob Leonard*

# 2026 AYC FUND FLEET CHALLENGE

## J80 Fleet Wins the Fleet Challenge!

by AYC Fund Board Chair Karen Bogisch

The 2026 AYC Fund Fleet Challenge took place on September 5th and raised over $26,000 in donations and pledges for the AYC Fund. This year's Board consists of Chair Karen Bogisch, Vice-Chair David Grogono, Treasurer Chris Henkel, Secretary Teddy Rave, Jim Casto, Annie Lancaster, and Katie Whitley. The AYC Fund, through its 501(c)(3) charity, the Roadrunner Amateur Sailing Association, awards grants to support local sailors and sailboat racing. This year, grants have been given to help AYC purchase additional training boats for the Club, support SailStrong sailing camp week at AYC, and send several junior sailors to the C420 North Americans and Canadian C420 championships. The Fleet Challenge is the main fundraising activity that helps support these types of grants.

The on-line fundraising began in mid-August with the Pearson 26 fleet jumping in with the first donations and working to stay at the top of the leaderboard in the beginning days. As the fundraising continued, the Ensigns and J80s jumped in with numerous donations and began jockeying back and forth at the top of the leaderboard with the Pearson 26 fleet working to stay in third place behind them. With the Beer Can race approaching, the Ensign fleet made a strategic move to purchase over four minutes of Beer Can time, which led their well-sailed boat, Abaco, with the Morleys and Covingtons on board, to win the Beer Can race. Helped by that win, the Ensigns were in the lead going into the final day of the event, with a first in the Beer Can race and first in total donations. However, the combination of the J80 fleet purchasing the Grogono boat during the Calcutta, combined with some fortuitous throw-out purchases by David Grogono, led the J80 fleet to claim the Bernstein-Brinkman Trophy for the 2nd year in a row. The J80 fleet needs to thank David for those throw-out purchases, which allowed his boat to finish 2nd in the racing, giving 30% of the Calcutta funds to the J80 fleet!

The J80 fleet ended up first in total donations, first in total donors, fourth in the Beer Can racing, and third in the 420 racing, for a total of 9 points. The Ensign fleet was close behind with 10 points, followed by the Pearson 26 fleet in third with 11 points. The Pearson 26 fleet fought hard throughout the event with their sailing team of Yuval Sela and Lucas Schwartz taking first place in the 420 races.

| | Total Donations ($ [Rank]) | Donors (Count [Rank]) | Beer Can Race (Finish [Rank]) | 420 Race (Position [Rank]) | Total Score | Rank |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| J80 | $5,835 [1] | 24 [1] | 4 [4] | 3 [3] | 9 | 1 |
| Ensign | $4,460 [2] | 16 [2] | 1 [1] | 5 [5] | 10 | 2 |
| Pearson 26 | $2,925 [4] | 14 [3] | 3 [3] | 1 [1] | 11 | 3 |
| Roadrunner | $3,925 [3] | 14 [3] | 7 [7] | 6 [6] | 19 | 4 |
| PHR | $1,170 [8] | 7 [6] | 2 [2] | 7 [7] | 23 | 5 |
| Sunfish | $1,670 [6] | 10 [5] | 5 [5] | 8 [8] | 24 | 6 |
| Multi-Hull | $1,550 [7] | 7 [6] | 8 [8] | 4 [4] | 25 | 7 |
| Laser | $1,150 [9] | 6 [8] | 10 [9] | 2 [2] | 28 | 8 |
| J22/J24/J70 | $2,860 [5] | 6 [8] | 6 [6] | 9 [9] | 28 | 9 |

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# 2026 AYC FUND FLEET CHALLENGE

The events on September 5th were enjoyed by all!! In the morning, the Grogono family was busy decorating the clubhouse and making everything look festive! Annie Lancaster and her team of Monica Paredes, Jeane Goldsmith, Louise Miller, Nathan Romo, Christy Potts, Charlie Lancaster, and Sarah Faust put together a fabulous spread of snacks to start the event. Daniel Garces, Danny Bosley, and Don MacNeil set up the tents, chairs and coolers at the point for viewing the 420 racing. AYC Fund Chair Karen Bogisch opened the day by introducing her fellow AYC Fund Board members and welcoming everyone. Then Teddy Rave got the bidding started for the Calcutta. A bid that won the winning 420 team would give that fleet 50% of the Calcutta pot to add to their total donations, with 2nd place earning 30% and 3rd place earning 20%. The family teams of Wyatt and Sawyer Romberg and Claudia & John Barlett brought in the largest bids, with the Calcutta pot totaling $4,450 at the end of the bidding. Then it was on to the 420 racing to see how all of that bidding panned out!

PRO Jim Casto and his RC team of Jeff Potts, Joe Mohrfeld, Stuart Lawrence, Jonathan Ou & Brielle Beaver oversaw the races. With the wind being light, Jim allowed the 420 teams to use kinetics in three out of the five races. It was fun to see all the different tactics used to propel the boats around the racecourse. At one point, Stephen Burke put his son Liam in the water to push the boat on the upwind leg, but Liam lost contact and Stephen had to pick him back up on the downwind leg. That's one way to have less weight on your boat!! At another point, the team of Margaret Faust and Elsa Brock rocked so hard, they tipped their boat over! And the team of Jackson Brock and Austin Riggs resorted to simply pulling up their centerboard and paddling from their boat on both sides to win the final race by a wide margin!! Chris Henkel and Harry Rave, driven around by Lisa Rogers, provided entertaining on-the-water commentary with technical support from John McKallip, Casey Jones, and Eric Van Hensbergen. And Amy Riggs and Bill Records took photos of the racers moving slowly around the course. The folks who stayed in the cool of the clubhouse enjoyed a live feed on the TVs and a live feed of the commentary was also available on the point for the viewers' listening pleasure. The Pearson 26 team of Yuval Sela and Lucas Schwartz won the day by being consistent in the races whether sailing or using kinetics, followed by the ILCA boat crewed by David and Sonia Grogono, and the J80 boat crewed by Max and Quinn Ross.

Once the racing was finished, everyone adjourned to shore for fun and games led by Katie & Steve Whitley, Beth Bosley, Claire Anderson, and Russell Davis. The games were followed by a fabulous Bill Benker BBQ dinner, which was prepared and served by Bill Benker and a crew of AYC volunteers, including Linda Donovan, Tom Meyer, and Kaye Jaynes. During the games and dinner, Teddy Rave and Annie Lancaster battled it out to see whether Teddy's Dark N' Stormy or Annie's Painkiller was the favorite drink of the guests – the Painkillers won! Afterwards everyone enjoyed some ice cream sundaes for dessert while the final tally was announced to the crowd!

The AYC Fund Board thanks all the volunteers who helped make the event a success and more importantly all the members who made donations to support the AYC Fund and the grants it makes! We look forward to seeing everyone again next year!

Bernstein-Brinkmann Fleet Challenge Trophy

AYC Fund leaders Karen Bogisch and Teddy Rave
*Photos by Cheryl Pervier*

1st Place J80 Fleet, represented by Hazel Sanchez and Karen Bogisch

2nd Place Ensign Fleet, represented by Charlie & Annie Lancaster, and Norma & Danny Lien

3rd Place Pearson 26 Fleet, represented by Bill Records and Rich Ryon

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# 2026 AYC FUND FLEET CHALLENGE

## VOLUNTEERS

Linda Donovan and Tom Meyer provided expert assitance in the kitchen *Photo by Cheryl Pervier*

Games coordinators Beth Mosley, Katie Whitley, Claire Anderson *Photo by Cheryl Pervier*

420 Race Chase 1 photo boat, Amy Riggs with camera, Jeff Potts, Joe Mohrfeld, Rich Ryon *Photo by Cheryl Pervier*

420 Race on the water reporting, L-R Chris Henkel, Harry Rave, Lisa Rogers, Casey Jones *Photo by Amy Riggs*

Ice cream crew Jeff & Christy Potts *Photo by Cheryl Pervier*

Pitmaster Bill Benker *Photo by Marilyn Jackson*

Dark & Stormy crew Liz Frankel and Painkiller tender Annie Lancaster *Photo by Cheryl Pervier*

Steve Whitley helped with calling games *Photo by Cheryl Pervier*

420 Race Signal boat, Stuart Lawrence on bow, PRO Jim Casto inside, Brielle Beaver & Jonathan Ou in the back *Photo by Cheryl Pervier*

Kaye Jaynes and Charlie Lancaster served watermelon *Photo by Cheryl Pervier*

Eric Van Hensbergen managed live viewing of the race from the Clubhouse *Photo by Cheryl Pervier*

Saturday breakfast crew L-R: Monica Paredes, Nathan Romo, Louise Miller, Annie & Charlie Lancaster, Tim Fox, Jeane Goldsmith *Photo by Marilyn Jackson*

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# 2026 AYC FUND FLEET CHALLENGE

## FRIDAY NIGHT BEER CAN RACE

J22 Bonfire finish *Photos by Karen Bogisch unless noted*

Sunfish finish

Multihull Two Hot finish

Pearson 26 Cafe au Lait finish

1st Place Ensign Team

J80 Too Much J finish

11 Meter Once finish

J80 Theseus *Photo by Marilyn Jackson*

J24 Out of Control, J22 Bubbles, Pearson26 Ariel2Too! *Photo by Marilyn Jackson*

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# 2026 AYC FUND FLEET CHALLENGE

## SATURDAY AFTERNOON SNACKS

L-R: Amy Brock Gal Sela, Liz Frankel *Photos by Marilyn Jackson*

L-R: Misty Blythe, Vickie Stones, Daniel Garces Annie Lancaster

L-R: Daniel Garces, Liz Stansfeld, William DeBoer

Amy & Austin Riggs, John Bosley

Steve Whitley and Jeff Jackson

L-R: Matthew Romberg, John & Claudia Bartlett

L-R: Elsa Brock, Margaret Faust, Jackson Brock, Sonia Grogono, Harry Rave

Calcutta crowd

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# 2026 AYC FUND FLEET CHALLENGE

## SATURDAY GAMES

Egg & Spoon Relay *Photos by Marilyn Jackson*

Water Balloon Toss

Water Balloon Fight

Tug of War, kids

Tug of War, adults

Sail Bag Races

Pool time

Beth Bosley, water balloon game prep

Whitley and Davis families

L-R: Kaye Jaynes, Daniel Garces, Charlie Lancaster, Hazel Sanchez

L-R: Jim Casto, Amy Brock, Hazel Sanchez, Anne Riggs

Beth & Danny Bosley, Natalie & David Grogono

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# 2026 AYC FUND FLEET CHALLENGE

## 420 RACERS

L-R Bill Records with 1st place racers Lucas Schwartz and Yuval Sela representing Pearson 26 Fleet *Photos by Bill Records unless noted*

Elsa Brock and Margaret Faust representing Roadrunner Fleet

David Corrigan and William DeBoer representing PRF

Stephen and Liam Burke representing J22, J24, J70 *Photo by Amy Riggs*

John & Claudia Bartlett representing Sunfish Fleet

David & Sonia Grogono representing Laser Fleet

Sawyer and Wyatt Romberg representing Ensign Fleet

Max & Quinn Ross representing J80 Fleet

Jackson Brock and Austin Riggs representing Multihull Fleet

*continued next page*

# 2026 AYC FUND FLEET CHALLENGE

## 420 RACERS

1st Place finish for Lucas Schwartz and Yuval Sela representing Pearson 26 Fleet *Photos by Bill Records unless noted*

Watching the 420 races in the clubhouse, tech wizard Eric Van Hensbergen at the helm *Photo by Marilyn Jackson*

L-R: Quinn and Max Ross, Lucas Schwartz and Yuval Sela

L-R: Wyatt and Sawyer Romberg, David and Sonia Grogono, Lucas Schwartz and Yuval Sela

Wyatt and Sawyer Romberg

L-R: David and Sonia Grogono, Jackson Brock and Austin Riggs, John & Claudia Bartlett

L-R: Stephen and Liam Burke, David Corrigan and William DeBoer

Quinn and Max Ross

L-R: John & Claudia Bartlett, Lucas Schwartz and Yuval Sela

*continued next page*

# 2026 AYC FUND FLEET CHALLENGE

## 420 RACERS

David and Sonia Grogono *Photos by Amy Riggs*

Jackson Brock and Austin Riggs

Yelling "Starboard!" at the windward mark

Weight reduction tactics by Stephen and Liam Burke

John & Claudia Bartlett

Very localized gust hitting #8 Margaret Faust and Elsa Brock

Use of kinetics by Stephen and Liam Burke

Race start

*continued next page*

# 2026 AYC FUND FLEET CHALLENGE

## SATURDAY DINNER

L-R: David & Natalie Grogono, Liz Frankel and Teddy Rave
Photos by Marilyn Jackson unless noted

Danny & Norma Lien

L-R: Amy Brock, Karen Bogisch, Hazel Sanchez

L-R: Pat Manning, Vickie Stones, Bill Records, Linda McDavitt, Linda's guest, Rich Ryon

Jim Casto and new member Joe Mohrfeld (owner of Pinthouse Pizzas)

Pitmaster Bill Benker *Photo by Cheryl Pervier*

L-R: Jeremy Price, John Maddalozzo, Eric Van Hensbergen, Jeff & Marilyn Jackson

# MOONBURN RACE EOS

by James Parsons

The summer of 2026 has had some of the strangest night sailing weather I've experienced in 12 years of being in Austin, and definitely in the 10 years of MoonBurn (hard to believe 2016 was 10 years ago!).

All summer the night winds were up to something unusual. Still nights, not usually too common, were around here and there. A good number of those still nights piped up to 17 to 23 knots by 10pm, right around when I'd be trying to dock. It was a good exercise in being ready for anything, and being willing to change your canvas plans when the forecast didn't pan out as expected.

Before going into the recaps of the racing, I feel like I need to call out the excellent work of the RC and PROs we've had this season, given our weather. Chris Thompson had to hold the RC boat stationaryish because of wind related anchoring issues in Race 2. Alan Stanard also had a fairly windy night in Race 3 and used a MarkSetBot for the start/finish line for a series first. John Maddalozzo with Race 4 had the tough call of having to abandon racing while shrouds were whistling from the wind and no Beer Can racers were going out, which marked the first time a MoonBurn race was cancelled thanks to weather. Yours truly was PRO for Race 1, when the wind decided to do the opposite of the forecast, and drop down to a patchy 0-2 knots, and we had three boats finish and the rest elected to finish in place.

There were some excellent RC crew on board as well. Jeff & Marilyn Jackson, Terri Kiszer, and Deanna James all volunteered twice and Mark O'Brien volunteered three times! And these folks volunteered once: Josh Cross, JJ Jurica, Christian Dohse, Jim Casto, Jorge Martín de Nicolás, Barbie, Bucko, Alex and Megan, Stephen Sexton, Bill Hawk, Ed Taylor, John Ward, Jeane Goldsmith, Chuck Pinnell, Steve Burger, Steve & Katie Whitley.

Race 1 has a recap in a prior Telltale, so I'll recap it very briefly. Air Supply continued their domination of MoonBurn in Race 1, however an incident where the captain and crew weren't on the boat during a day race was to take it out of commission until Race 4. They finished 33 minutes ahead of the next boat, which was Out of Control from B Fleet (Stephen Burke's J24). Another 20 minutes later, and the last of the finishers across the line was Brett Wilson's P26, Picante. The rest were finished in place, and BBQ getting enough wind to pull ahead of Broken Arrow when time was about to expire, would come into play later.

Race 2 was a windy affair, and seven hearty sailors were out for it. We raced to Mile Marker 5, and finished at Mile Marker 6, and called it a night. Moonlight Sonata (Brian Grothues' Catalina 22) port tacked B Fleet, and rode a nice start all the way to the win, 81 seconds ahead of Moondance(r) (James Parsons' Ensign) who had to give them time anyway. Those two would finish 1st and 2nd overall on the night. 3rd was Max Holtz's J29, Imagine. Broken Arrow would beat Picante this time, overall 4th/5th and 1st/2nd in the P26 fleet. Speaking of the P26s, all the P26 skippers taking part in MoonBurn agreed to have Brett Wilson compete with them. B Fleet had eight without Picante, and the P26s had five with Picante (and then were eligible for their own fleet/trophies, or else we could have had 13 boats in B Fleet).

Race 3 was also windy, but we got to do 4, D, Finish (off Beacon Point). Moonlight Sonata again had a great start, and led from start to finish. Moondance(r) was 2nd again, after dancing right behind Moonlight Sonata, just upwind on the downwind leg. 3rd was Picante, only 8 corrected seconds behind Moondance(r), followed by Broken Arrow nine minutes later.

Race 4 had an interesting setup. Both Air Supply and Moonlight Sonata came in with two wins, thanks to Air Supply having an RC volunteering race for Race 3. With a throwout assumed (if racing the 4th race happened), they'd both be on two points, and whoever won the race (or finished ahead of the other), would win the series. Meanwhile, they both missed a non-RC race, and had 18 points for that race, so without a throwout, they were both at 20 points.

As you may have guessed from the 2nd paragraph, Race 4 was not destined to happen. A storm blew through during dinner, and then the winds picked up even more after the storm. When we walked down to the boats, the shrouds were whistling and winds were around 35-40 knots. Some took the chance to wash their bottoms (yours truly), others had a refreshing beverage, while the RC were checking all kinds of forecasts to see if a race looked feasible.

In the end, the standings after three races were the final results. Moondance(r) with 6 points (2 on the water 2nd places, and one 2nd place thanks to RC in race 1, equal to the boat's average finish) finished first overall. It was an unexpected turn of events, and the first time I was able to get my name on the trophy as a winner. It's kind of fitting that it took some very interesting weather scenarios (and some outside of MoonBurn scenarios to play out) for it to happen. 2nd place overall was the 1st place boat in the P26 fleet, Picante, with 11 points. And 3rd place overall was the 2nd P26 boat, Broken Arrow, with 13 points (the same amount of points as places behind Picante in that first race).

The rest of the results looked like: Ariel2Too! with 3rd in the P26 fleet. 2nd in B Fleet (behind Moondance(r)) was Moonlight Sonata with 20 points (18 race 1 for the DNC, and then 2 firsts), 3rd in Fleet was BBQ (Bill Benker and Tommy Meyer), 4th was Coyoacan (James Denny's Catalina 22). 1st in A Fleet was Air Supply (with 20 points: Race 1 in 1st, Race 3 in 1st for RC credit equal to their average finish, and 18 for a DNC in Race 2), 2nd place was Imagine, and 3rd place was Kami (Matt Brown's Capri 25).

Thanks go out to Renee Ruais, for trophies. We got some amazing looking water bottles (with a loop for a carabiner), of the MoonBurn artwork done by Andrea Rampone from 2016.

I'll close the article out with sharing some great feedback this year, that folks would like to use more of the lake while it's up, and do some of the courses from the early years of MoonBurn. So, I'm considering mixing up the races (with a schedule announced ahead of time), with a race to Mile Marker 11 (with a likely downwind start), and a race we never got to do to the Gnarly Gar thanks to weather, which is now Captain Pete's Boathouse (TBD if they have enough slips for sailboats) for optional dinner/drinks after racing and optional staying overnight (would arrange for us to have a motorboat to ferry crew across those who would rather head home to their own beds).

*continued next page*

# MOONBURN RACE EOS

## DINNER AND TROPHIES

L-R: Steve & Katie Whitley, Richard & Yolanda House *Photos by Marilyn Jackson*

L-R Westin McEntire, John Maddalozzo, Brett Wilson, Daniel Hochman

L-R: Stuart Lawrence, Margarito Morales & Brian Grothues, Nathan Leake

Stephen Burke and Katie

Richard House and Jeff Jackson

L-R: Rich Ryon, Jeff Potts, Jeff & Marilyn Jackson

L-R: Chris Walker, Carl Myers, Bill Records

L-R: Christian Dohse, Monica Paredes, James Parsons, Mark O'Brien

MoonBurners

*continued next page*

# MOONBURN RACE EOS

## DINNER AND TROPHIES

Overall 1st Place MoonBurn Series, Christian Dohse and Skipper James Parsons on Ensign Moondance(r) *Photos by Marilyn Jackson*

1st Place B Fleet, Skipper James Parsons on Ensign Moondance(r)

2nd Place B Fleet, Skipper Brian Grothues & Margarito Morales on Catalina 22 Moonlight Sonata

3rd Place B Fleet, Tom Meyer and Skipper Bill Benker on Hunter 30 BBQ

4th Place B Fleet, Skipper James & Sarah Denny on Catalina 22 Coyoacan

2nd Place A Fleet, Skipper Max Holtz & Tiffin Thompson on J29 Imagine

1st Place Pearson 26, Jennifer Plourde, Skipper Brett Wilson, Candace Lawson, Kaye Jaynes, Misty Blythe on Picante

2nd Place Pearson 26, Skipper Trevor Miller, Deanna James, Scott Lalli, Trevor Montes on Broken Arrow

3rd Place Pearson 26, Skipper Rich Ryon on Ariel2Too!

# FALL SERIES #1 09/13

J80s battling it around the windward mark *Photos by Anne Morley*

J80s downwind

Kerpe Diam and Van Cat

Diam 24s upwind

J80 Restless

J80 Kicks

J80 Too Much J

J22 Silicon Ship

Pearson 26 Cafe au Lait

Capri 25 Ornery

*continued next page*

RACING CANCELLED

# FALL SERIES #1 09/20

J80s Flyer and Sweet T *Photos by Marilyn Jackson*

Catalina 25 Tres Amigos

Catalina 22 Elysium

Pearson 26 Picante

Capre 25 Ornery

Multihull RC, L-R: Rick Allen, Bo Kersey, Dom Iome, JT Cody, Amy & Austin Riggs, Philippe Bettler, Alex Larrouilh and crew *Photo submitted by Philippe Bettler*

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## From the Archives
by John Howard

A BRIEF HISTORY OF HUDSON BEND
By Daniel Kallick, Realtor
(Strategically edited by Telltale Editor)

In 1835 Joseph Harrell pitched his tent at about the present location of the north end of the Colorado River Bridge. He was visited by Mirabeau B. Lamar in 1837 or 1838 who decided that this was a good location for the Capitol of the Republic of Texas. By August 1839, lots were being sold and the new Capitol of the Republic of Texas was established and was soon renamed Austin in honor of Stephen F. Austin, the Father of Texas.

With the establishment of the Capitol at Austin, settlers began moving up the Colorado River and the bends in the river were named for the early settlers. The Hudson family came to Texas by ox wagon from Missouri in 1837. They settled on a bend in the Colorado River. The community became known as Hudson's Bend and is still known as that today. The Hudson's of Hudson Bend are an interesting family. Wiley Hudson was probably the first settler to move into the Hudson Bend area. The census for Travis County for 1860 listed Wiley Hudson, age 35, born in Arkansas and his wife Catherine, age 34, born in Tennessee. Hudson Bend sent its men to fight for the cause of the Confederacy. Wiley Hudson and possibly others fought in this conflict of brother against brother. Wiley Hudson did not come back from the war, he made it only as far as Austin, where he died.

*HISTORICAL MARKER (found on Hudson Bend Road)*
*In 1854 Wiley Hudson (b. 1825) and his family settled on the Bend of the Colorado River that was named for him. The census of 1860 showed four families living in the vicinity of Hudson Bend, including Wiley Hudson with his wife Catherine, and eight children, as well as a household headed by his father, James. Three river fords enabled the pioneers to cross the Colorado River to grind their corn at Anderson Mill and to socialize with families living in nearby settlements such as Round Mountain and Nameless. Maps of the 1890's show a church and school at Hudson Bend.*

Hudson Bend was not without its Indian troubles. As told by John C. Hudson, son of Joseph Alexander Hudson and grandson of Wiley Hudson, first white settler of Hudson Bend, Grandpa Harris went out one morning to look for some calves. He trailed them down into Horseshoe Bend and across the Colorado River at about opposite where St. Luke's by the Lake now stands. He started up this draw when he came upon some ten or twelve Indians. He immediately dismounted and headed for the brush as the Indians were reluctant to follow a person into the brush. The Indians were shooting at him with arrows and one of them hit the stock of his gun and knocked a chunk out of it. He then decided that he would have to shoot some of the Indians. One of the Indians had mounted Grandpa Harris' horse and was trying to ride off with him but apparently the horse didn't like the smell of the rider, so was trying to buck him off. About that time, someone appeared on the bluff above and began to call out for Grandpa Harris. Apparently, the Indians thought that reinforcements had arrived and ran off taking Grandpa Harris' horse and saddle with them. Since that time this draw has been known as Defeat Hollow.

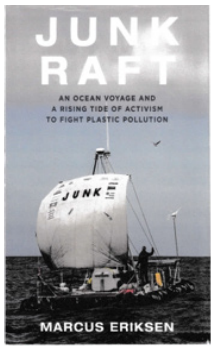
So those of you now living in Hudson Bend should be proud of your heritage and should remember with respect and awe those pioneers who opened up the land and held it by their personal courage and made it a place to live and rear their families.

## Plastic Bottle Boats
by Linda McDavitt

Over my sailing career, which has been longer than many of you have been alive, I have been able to enjoy some amazing sailing events – I've done the 2015-16 Clipper Race Around the World as a Round the Worlder with the task of rigger; done the 2015 Sydney Hobart Rolex Race; done the 2017 Fastnet Race. Add in some offshore adventures including Jamaica to Caymans to Cozumel; sailing around Scotland and to the Island of Hirta in the St. Kilda archipelago; sailing from the Falkan Islands to South Georgia and then to Cape Town on Tenacious the tall ship with Jubilee Trust; Falmouth UK to A Coruna Spain through the Bay of Biscay (we had no run in with the whales due to a small device we towed behind the boat); Havana to Bermuda; Panama City to the Galapagos; St. Maarten to Gran Canaris, etc...

So, lots of fun adventures along with Lake Travis Sailing on Dolphin Sr., Fireballs, Lasers, Sunfish, South Coast 21s and circuit sailing on J24s and J22s up until 2015 when offshore took over. I'm still out on the J22, but after reading "Rowing the Atlantic" and "Stop Drifting and Start Rowing" both by Roz Savage, I have a dream. I have become fascinated with Plastic Bottle Boats and protecting the environment. Yes, I did see great samples of trash as I crossed especially the Pacific when I did the Clipper race. It bothered me, but it didn't take my heart the way the books did. And, no I'm not contemplating taking up rowing!

After reading about Roz meeting up with the Junk Sailboat (sailing on top of 15,000 plastic bottles) and crossing the Pacific from California to Hawaii, I became fascinated with Plastic Bottle Boats.




Let's help the environment and put plastic bottles to good use! *My dream is to build a boat out of bottles and sail it across Lake Travis.* You say, "Dream on, McDavitt." I say if JUNK can pick up 15,000 plastic bottles along the California coastline, and make them into the bottom of a boat, and enclose them in a net, then I can do it with the help of AYC friends! Besides my happy sail across Lake Travis, the excess bottles can also be used by others who would like to join in the adventure and by Junior Sailing programs that have to sit out a no wind/bad weather class. I'm enclosing some other pictures for your thoughts. (Who knows, next summer there may be a PB fleet on Lake Travis!)

*Make my dream come true!* Please save your plastic bottles of any sort and size. The top has to fit securely and the bottles can't be crinkled. Contact me and I will come and get them, or look for the special trash bin under the bulletin board between the RC room and the Coke machine.

THANK YOU!!!!!

# BEER CAN HIGHLIGHTS 9/11, 9/18

1st place 9/11, Alan & Gina Stanard on J80 Air Supply *People photos by Cheryl Pervier*

9/11 Beer Can cooks, L-R: Ken Berringer, Brett Clark, Stuart Alexander, Brett Wilson

Mike Rohrer was recognized by Steve Pervier for racing his Sunfish well on 9/18

1st place 9/18, L-R: Skipper Brett Wilson, Kaye & Mike Jaynes, Stuart Alexander on Pearson26 Picante

2nd Place 9/18, Can Kalyoncuoglu and Skipper John Maddalozzo on Capri 25 Ornery

Beer Can Chef Marilyn Jackson 9/18

Pearson 27 O'Shenanigans 9/18 *Boat photos by Marilyn Jackson*

Pearson 26 Picante, Capri 25 Ornery

Beneteau 36.7 Wanda (Wilfords + crew + Border Collie)

Capri 25 Ornery

Capri 25 Kami

## Pearson 26 Fleet Report
by Bill Records

The Pearson 26 Fleet got serious for this year's Fleet Challenge benefitting the AYC fund. Along with the complicated donation process are two sailing events, the Friday night Beer Can races and the Saturday Dinghy Races.

We put together a five-person team to compete in the Beer Can, however two of the crew backed out and that left Mike Bayer, Carl Myers, and yours truly to race the boat (with spinnaker). The winds were moderate with sizable puffs, making us a bit apprehensive to spinnaker flying. We close-reached to E and 5 and after rounding 5, the wind veered eastward. We were on a beam reach, approaching hull speed so the chute stayed in the bag. We rounded B well ahead of faster Js, but Once (11 meter) sailed by us like we were anchored! Romberg's J80 sailed by our lee but could not fetch the U-flotem docks. We pinched by the docks and finished with the J80 a boatlength back. Anne Morley's Ensign started with a huge time allowance, easily winning. Once took second, and Cafe au Lait third.

On Saturday, the team of Yuval Sela and Lucas Schwartz represented the Pearson fleet in the 420 races. In spite of superb competition, they won the first race and took first place in the 420s! Congratulations, Yuval and Lucas – we would love for you to represent us next year!

On September 12th, the Pearson 26 Fleet hosted a Discover Sailing event. We ended up with 16 students. After a short chalk talk, we took them sailing. The five skippers who took them out were Rich Ryon, Carl Myers, Morgan Andreiev, Mike Bayer, and Bill Records. We had a follow up talk and offered opportunities for them to continue their learning. At least two crewed the next day in the series race. Discover Sailing events are a big source of crew and new members.

Our fleet keeps growing, with three new members:

- Joe Mohrfeld and wife Krystal Angelo bought Pearson 26W #40, "Miss Perle". Joe is co-founder of Pinthouse Pizza and a brewmaster.
- Johnny Chau bought Pearson 26 #1016 "Dutch". Johnny is a graphic designer.
- Russ & Spencer Bruno bought Pearson 26OD #115, "Grumpy". Their son, Parker, is an Opti sailor. They came from The American Yacht Club, Rye, NY.

Joe Mohrfeld

Johnny Chau

Russ Bono

## Catalina 22 Fleet Report
by Elizabeth Stansfeld

Stand in the clubhouse and look out over the water. Our boats look so serene, bobbing gently on their mooring, basking in the sun. But don't be fooled. Underneath that calm placid exterior is a devious side that we tend to forget. Because boats can and do bite – when we least expect them to do so.

Our sympathies go out to Eric Van Hensbergen who found this out the hard way and is currently recovering from his injuries. Eric was kindly helping to retrieve an escaped halyard from the top of a mast of another member's boat when the vessel suddenly and unexpectedly gave a pronounced shudder, shaking Eric off the mast. He took a very nasty fall and ended up in the lake. We wish him a continued recovery and look forward to seeing him back sailing soon.

Boats bite, and when they do the results can be serious. We've all experienced the occasional shin scrape, cut or bruise, but an accidental jibe or unanticipated wind shift can knock us out or propel us over the gunnels. Take precautions and never let your guard down, however relaxed you feel.

Congratulations to Vickie Stones who came in third in the Single-Handed Regatta in August sailing her Catalina 22, Kingar. Vickie is a very experienced sailor who also frequently races her Sunfish. She inherited her Catalina 22 from her late father and has been restoring the boat over the past year, with a new bottom job and a furling headsail.

With the summer Beer Can races finishing, it's time to concentrate on the Fall Series, which runs through November 8. To date only two Catalina 22s have registered. It is not too late to join in! There is a large fleet of Cat 22s sitting in their moorings or on trailers, so please consider coming out and competing. If you are short of crew, there are usually eager sailors hanging around before each race hoping to get on a boat. Alternatively, go to the website for names of people who need a boat to crew on.

Finally, we look forward to seeing Steve & Meri Shepardson, Chili Verde, back on the water. Their boat was damaged due to a racing collision, and they are currently stuck on land waiting for a new mast. We also await the return of Bill & Millie Kozminski, Sea Snail, after the boat's extensive stay and overhaul in the dry dock area through the summer heat.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

1st Place Challenger Division winners flanked by regatta officials – third from left, Skipper Bruce McDonald, then Claudia & John Bartlett at the Flying Scot North American Championships. *Photo submitted by Bob Leonard*

## Ensign Fleet Report
by David Morley

Summer just won't leave us but that has not kept the Ensign Fleet from enjoying their boats and AYC activities. The fleet was an enthusiastic participant in the AYC Fleet Challenge this month. In addition to incredibly generous donations, our fleet won the Beer Can Race portion of the competition. Longhorns **Anne & David Morley** and Aggies **Chris & Chris Covington** set aside their football rivalry and teamed up on Abaco (Ensign 739) to show the fastest way around the Beer Can course! Congratulations and thanks for representing the fleet in such impressive fashion!

Gig 'Em (Chris & Chris Covington) and Hook 'Em (Anne & David Morley): Aggies and Longhorns team up on Abaco (Ensign 739) to win the AYC Fleet Challenge Beer Can Race!

**Wyatt** and **Sawyer Romberg** stepped up to race 420s for the fleet and did an amazing job as well. Thank you Wyatt and Sawyer! And thank you Ensign sailors for making such a huge contribution to the AYC Fund.

Wyatt and Sawyer Romberg

**Anne Morley** spearheaded another fantastic community outreach event – AdventureSail. This is a program owned by the National Women's Sailing Association. AdventureSail has been a cornerstone of Women's Sailing Foundation/NWSA for over two decades and aims to nurture the next generation of female sailors by recognizing the importance of early sailing opportunities and overcoming barriers preventing young women and girls from accessing the water. The program's mission is to help make sailing more accessible to young women ages 9-14, giving them the chance to discover the joy of sailing.

Please see Anne's article and photos of the event. Thank you **Anne, David Morley, Chuck Wielchowsky, John Bell**, and **Monica Paredes** for making this event happen at AYC!

In series racing news, the fleet took on Race Committee duties for the first race day of the series. Five Ensigns showed up for the second race day of the series and had a great start and a half leg of sailing before the wind vanished and we all drifted back to the docks. Hoping for better sailing conditions next week!

The fleet is getting their boats and crews lined up and ready for the Ensign Regional Championship Regatta that will be held at AYC on Thursday, October 22nd through Saturday October 24th. In addition to our fleet, we expect some out-of-town boats and crew to join us for this event. **Terry Schertz** has graciously agreed to serve as our PRO and will no doubt put together a great RC team. Please let her know if you would like to help out. In addition to the racing, there are fun social events planned and it promises to be a super fun event for sailors and volunteers alike – come join us!

## AdventureSail
by Anne Morley

Ensign Fleet 30 hosted a community outreach event called "AdventureSail" on September 12th. AdventureSail is owned by The National Women's Sailing Association. They host, promote and reimburse for costs. SailStrong Board member (and Ensign Fleet 30 member) **Anne Morley** and SailStrong Founder and Executive Director **Terri Kiszer** helped coordinate the event with the Ensign Fleet and The National Women's Sailing Association.

Six girls on two Ensigns with two crews took part in the event. Thank you to skippers **David Morley** and **Chuck Wielchowsky** with crew **John Bell** and **Monica Paredes** for hosting the girls.

Everyone involved had a GREAT time! None of the girls had ever sailed before and by the end of the sail they were steering the boat and pulling in the sails! The water war at the end of the sail was extremely popular too.

A few of them are interested in taking part in the Youth Sail Training program at Austin Yacht Club in the future. What a great way to introduce young women to sailing!

Thank you to the Ensign Fleet and SailStrong!

*continued next page*

## Roadrunner Fleet Report

by Sarah Faust, Thalia Brandaw and Harry Rave

### TEXAS YOUTH RACE WEEK

by Sarah Faust

The Austin Yacht Club Roadrunner Fleet was well represented at Texas Youth Race Week in July 2026 with 15 sailors ages 8 to 18 racing on Galveston Bay. Texas Youth Race Week is a four-day regatta, and this year two days of racing were held at Lakewood Yacht Club and two days at Houston Yacht Club. Winds were steady sea breeze the first two days but thunderstorms rolled in on days three and four causing fleets to get chased off the water by lightning, unrig in storms, and wait through postponements. One of the off-the-water highlights was a water rescue demonstration by a U.S. Coast Guard helicopter and a chance to meet the crew and see inside the helicopter. Both yacht clubs did an excellent job on race committee and hosting over 100 youth sailors for meals and parties.

Roni Sela and William Michael dominated the C420 fleet with four bullets and two seconds. This was Roni's last regatta as a youth sailor and she made the most of it! AYC was also represented in the C420 fleet by: Elsa Brock and Thalia Brandaw, Calvin Brock and Lucas Schwartz, Wyatt Romberg and Sonia Grogono, and Jackson Brock and **Lilly Wible. Zachary Romberg** raced in the ILCA 6 fleet.

In the Optimist fleet, sailors are divided by age in the Red/White/Blue Championship fleet (32 boats), and novices of any age can compete in the Green Fleet (28 boats). Margaret Faust raced in the Blue fleet and based on her finish qualified for the USODA Team Trials. In the Green Fleet AYC had Romina Tello, Alejandro Tello, James Everett Faust, and Zizi Wade-Sullivan. This was Zizi's first ever travel regatta and she was very brave to start her race career on Galveston Bay!

AYC youth have been participating in Texas Youth Race Week since the early 1990s (when it was even longer – six days of racing at three yacht clubs). It is wonderful to still have such strong representation from AYC in this premier Texas youth sailing event.

Optimist Green Fleet racing in to get away from a storm

*continued next page*

Optimist sailors, L-R: Margaret Faust, James Everett Faust, Zizi Wade-Sullivan, Alejandro Tello, Romina Tello

C420 and ILCA 6 racers

## US JUNIOR WOMEN'S DOUBLEHANDED REGATTA

by Thalia Brandaw

Elsa Brock and I had an exciting June, as we attended the 2026 US Junior Women's Doublehanded Regatta, thanks to the AYC Fund's support. This regatta, held in Redwood City, CA, is hosted by US Sailing, who provided coaching for both the two-day clinic and the two-day regatta. It was an especially exciting year, as Molly Vandemoer and the entire team of coaches and race committee, were all women. We had an incredible list of qualified coaches: Ali Blumenthal from US Coast Guard Academy; Caroline Young from MIT Sailing; Renee Corpuz-Lahne from CalMaritime; Ciara Rodriguez-Horan, ICSA All-American; Kelly Cole, a 49erFX Athlete; and Beka Schiff, ICSA Sportsman of the Year.

The clinic and regatta were lucky to have amazing conditions all four days, with a continuous seabreeze turning on around 1:00 every afternoon. Our first day of racing was very light air, with a quite heavy flood current, which pushed us down the course. Thankfully, as the day went on, the current went slack and we got a few good races in. The second day was wonderfully breezy, with a consistent 18 knots blowing out of the southeast. It was a great event to learn about the influence of current, as we don't have much of that here on Lake Travis! Regardless of this challenge, we were proud of our racing both days, finishing in the top 10. This was an extraordinary experience, and I am very grateful for the AYC Fund's generous support, US Sailing, and Molly Vandemoer for hosting this regatta.

Elsa Brock and Thalia Brandaw

## AYC ROADRUNNER C420s GO TO CANADA

by Harry Rave

The Roadrunner Fleet had so much fun in Canada! The team enjoyed everything from trips to Niagara Falls to high-level racing against some of the best competition on the continent. The AYC Roadrunners had an incredible time.

Seven sailors and three coaches were proud to represent the Roadrunner Fleet in C420s. The sailors included Thalia Brandaw, Calvin Brock, Elsa Brock, Jackson Brock, William Michael, Harry Rave, Lucas Schwartz, and Lilly Wible. The entire Roadrunner team would like to thank the AYC Fund for supporting this event.

In total, the Roadrunner Fleet spent 11 days in Canada based out of Port Credit Yacht Club in Mississauga, with eight total days of racing across three regattas: the Steerers Invitational, the Canadian National Championship, and the C420 North American Championship. At the Steerers Invitational, AYC boats finished second and third out of 80 boats. And in one race at the Canadian National Championship, AYC boats finished 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th!

Most of the racing featured light to medium winds, but we experienced some memorable conditions along the way. On some days, wildfire smoke made its way into the area, and one day brought a tornado warning that had everyone hiding in the storage closet at the yacht club!

Some of the top competitors from across the continent attended these events, making for some challenging racing on the water. The largest regatta was the C420 North American Championship, with 174 boats registered. While the competition was tough, the Roadrunners sailed fast and had a great time.

During the first two days of the North American Championship, all of AYC's boats successfully qualified for either the Gold or Silver Fleet. During championship racing on days three and four, the two AYC boats in the Gold Fleet both moved into the top 30.

From racing against some of the best sailors on the continent to exploring Canada together, the Roadrunner team made incredible memories throughout the trip. All of the sailors and coaches are grateful for the opportunity to compete at such a high level!

Thank you, AYC Fund, for supporting the Roadrunner Fleet!

## 2026 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| | |
|---|---|
| Commodore | Steve Pervier |
| Immed Past Commodore | Renee Ruais |
| Vice Commodore | John Maddalozzo |
| Secretary | David Weeks |
| Treasurer | Becky Heston |
| Race Commander | Alan Stanard |
| B & G Commander | Robbin Kersey |
| Harbor Commander | Rick Nelson |
| Sail Training Commander | Ryan Sederholm |

## AYC STAFF

| | |
|---|---|
| General Manager | Donnie Myftari |
| Admin Manager | Jackie Wheeless |
| Head Caretaker | Tom Cunningham |
| Youth Sailing Director | Zach Steuer |

## AUSTIN YACHT CLUB

5906 Beacon Drive
Austin TX 78734-1428
Office phone 512-266-1336

## WEBSITE AND EMAIL

www.austinyachtclub.net
office@austinyachtclub.net

## NEWSLETTER

Susie McDonald, Editor
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

vice_commodore@austinyachtclub.net

past_commodore@austinyachtclub.net

buildings_grounds@austinyachtclub.net

harbor_commander@austinyachtclub.net

race_commander@austinyachtclub.net

sail_training@austinyachtclub.net

secretary@austinyachtclub.net

treasurer@austinyachtclub.net

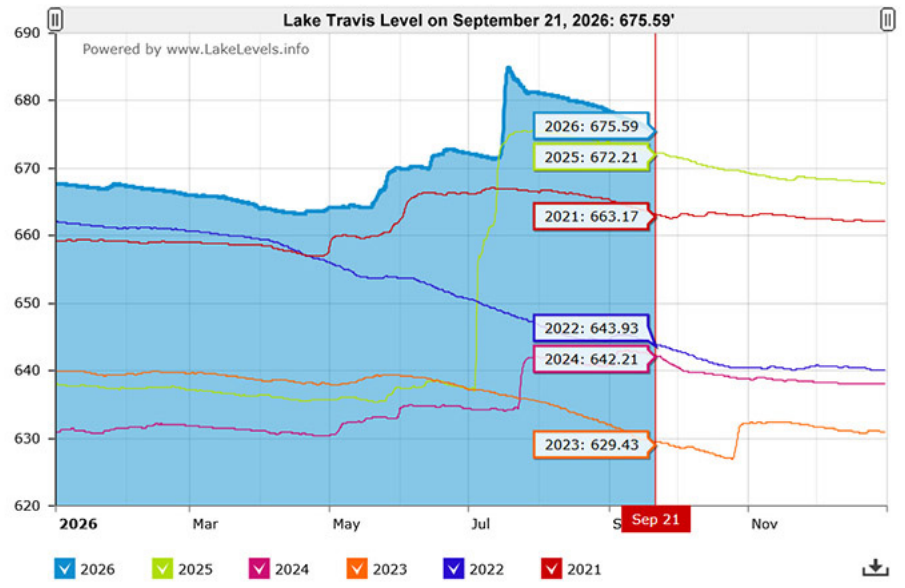
## October-December 2026 Race Calendar

| | |
|---|---|
| Fall Series Races | 10/11, 18, 25, 11/08 |
| Centerboard Regatta | 10/3-4 |
| Texas Challenge Cup | 10/17-18 |
| Ensign Region IV Championship | 10/22-24 |
| Round-the-Bend Regatta and MultiFest | 10/31-11/1 |
| Texas Fall State MS/HS Championship Regatta | 10/31-11/1 |
| Wild Turkey Regatta | 11/21 |

## October-December 2026 Non-Racing Events

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| AYC Board of Directors Meeting | 10/22 | 7:30-9:00pm |
| Fall Series EOS Dinner & Trophies | 11/08 | 4:00-6:00pm |
| AYC All Members & Board Meeting | 11/12 | 7:00-10:00pm |
| AYC Annual Banquet | 12/05 | 5:00-10:00pm |
| All Catalina Fleet 69 Holiday Party | 12/13 | 5:00-11:00pm |
| Adult Sail Training | | |
| Beginning Sailing 7 | 10/10,11, 17, 18 | 9:00am-noon |
| ASA 101 Public Classes | 10/17-18, 11/14-15 | 8:30am-5:30pm |
| Discover Sailing J80 | 10/24 | 9:00am-1:00pm |

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




Lake Travis Water Level
**September 21, 2026: 675.59'**