



## Palacios Yacht Club Newsletter

Located At Serendipity Marina

Palacios, Texas

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# "The Rhumb Line"

## Tx Cat Championship 95

X-97's remote unit covered the event with 32 "cats", (tornado's, nacra's, prindel's, hobie's) who attend the 4th annual Texas Catamaran Championship in Palacios the last weekend of April. This is a major event for the Texas Multihull Association and it is the first multihull event in Palacios each year. Saturday was windy, no it was WINDY. John Browning of MID-GULF SAILING was a guest on one chase boat, to get pictures of the event for an article in an up coming issue. The chase boats were kept busy standing by the numerous "over-turns" and "pitch-poles". With the choppy/windy conditions fatigue becomes a factor to those in the water. Rob Fellingham became "Rescue Rob" when he had to jump into the bay and physically haul skippers back onboard their "cats", several times. Great job Rob! There was also a collision between a Hobie and a Tornado, both of which sustained enough damage to put them back on the beach, after limping in on a submerged hull. And one guy hit the RC-boat (sorry Eddie), I mean the GUY hit the RC, as his "start run" brought him too close to the stern he raise and arm to fend off and received a "fracture". Also in attendance was an Olympic Qualifier, this Tornado team was in Palacios to practice for the 96' Olympics. They also became the winner in fleet and overall. Dinner that evening was cooked by friends of the PRT who served fried red fish, donated by David Dunseth (Redfish Unlimited). "More Hot! & Spicy!" Sunday's races were alot calmer with only one overturn.

Join us for more "Cat" races July on weekends of the 15th & 29th.

## PYC Races - May

**PHRF Fleet:** The second set of races were held 5-20-95 with a pretty stiff wind. The RC had some delays but finally made it off the beach, after switching boats and performing some first-aid at the ramp. The wind was real shifty and the course faced east instead of our usual southern orientation. Charlie Young was back battling with the M26's and then on the 2nd race SURPRISE! Bob Fellingham led us to the finish. I guess he found the grove and drove that Beneteau 210 across the finish line with about a 20 second lead. His win did not come without cost though, it seems Bob got a little "horse" form having to yell "Starboard/Right-of-way" all during the races.

Lets all be careful out there and try to make your intent known to the other guy. The standings after four races are:

1. Jack Hollister (6.5),
2. Jose Aliseda (9.75),
3. Bob Fellingham (11.75),
4. Charlie Young(12),
5. Rick Gangluff (35),
6. Ed Wilkinson (38)

**Portsmouth Fleet:** The first small boats races commenced 5-21-95 at 4:00 ?? (RC was late again!) The winds were also up and I have fun "surfing" the waves on some down wind runs while waiting for the course to be set. Bob Fellingham was beeped just before coming out of harbor, but once he was set up he ran some good races - thanks Bob! We had about 8 people on the beach, but only six raced. New comer John Bright took a second and a first to tie with Pam Smithey, leaving Lane a dismal 3rd. I'll be using a new sail next races, hopefully that will put me back in the pack. During both races we had a "spectator fleet" it is great to have ya'll out there with us. If you are shy about mixing it up in the start or just want to try out racing - COME ON! Wait till all the others start then follow along behind us. It is a great way to learn more about your boat and how to sail efficiently from A to B.

## A.M.B.R. 1995

The annual PYC Memorial weekend cruise, also known as the **AROUND MATAGORDA BAY RENDEZVOUS** was a great success. Overall participation was about 18 vessels, with a total of 45 meal tickets in Port O'Connor. Friday evening dinner of Chicken-fried steak and baked potatoes was served at 7:00pm. Everyone enjoyed their meal and got ready for the voyage. Saturday morning brought rain and delayed our start till about 11:00 am. While waiting for safe conditions I saw a large bolt of lightning strike over by Collegeport. When it cleared there was a bright speck mid-way between the clouds and the ground, and I thought poor bird. The winds were strong all three days of the AMBR and we sailed on a close reach or close hauled on every leg. We arrived Saturday at Nautical Landings in about 4.5 hours. Port Lavaca hosted our dinner of BBQ and plenty of it. Later ice runs were made and some members of the Port Lavaca YC played tunes on their guitars till dark. Sunday morning things got a little scrambled as part of the fleet an early start and were able to sail down the Matagorda Channel, while the rest of us leaving later had to tack the whole way to Port O'Connor. Upon arriving St. Christopher's Harbor, Cotton was there with his reservations book and directed us to our slip. Freda from the Spot Rest. informed me that there was a severe shortage of tables and chairs so they would shuttle us to the restaurant for Fried-flounder/boiled-shrimp/green beans/potatoes/hush pupps and tea (lots of tea). The fried flounder kept coming and I know some of you were on their third and fourth helping. That evening after everyone returned to dock, we joined the locals for the "boat-ramp" show, which runs till lights out (9:00pm at the Fishing Center). You should not be surprised at what you will see at a ramp while people are launching and retrieving boats. Monday at about 4:00am we were hit by a heavy storm from the west and were not able to leave Port O'Connor till about noon. But with plenty of wind it was a quick sail back to Palacios. (6 knots reefed) Our friends from Port Lavaca left for their home port and Lee & Katie Martin headed south for Padre. Thus ends the second annual cruise to a party (not a race, yeah right). See you next year.

## Upcoming events:

**NOTICE OF RACE:** PHRF races June 17th a 1:00pm 1st Start! See you there.

**Portsmouth (Dolphins) races** June 18th, meet on beach at 1:00pm with 1st Start at 2:00pm. (3 races ??) - check in with Charles Smithey.

**Sailing classes** with PRT & SeaMasters, swim test on May 31st & Classes June 1-4. Next Class scheduled for August.

**NOTICE OF RACE:** 4th Annual Independence Regatta. July 1-2, for center board/dagger board type boats, \$30 fee. Contact Warren Pierce to register 800-457-2403. Also if you'd like to go to the Galveston Bay Cat races 6/10 call Warren.

**Regalos de Dios** finishing final preparations to attend the Gulfport MS to Pensacola FL race the end of June. Will bring back pic's and stories.

**July 15th - PYC Summer Social** with fun Day Cruise and Picnic at the club house. More later. Also in July; 2 major Hobie Cat races 15th & 29th weekends. These are big ones, come join the fun.

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## THE PYC DECK FUND UPDATE

As of the end of the AMBR our Commodore Ripke has received donations of \$165 toward the deck project. Now remember that about a third of that figure comes from two large donations by outside parties. Members have been slow to respond and were getting awful close to July's club social. Please respond with a yeah or a neah so we can get on with the deck construction. This will really enhance the time spent around the club house by giving us a dry/ant free place to relax. Call Roberta at 512-972-3960.

