

## "The Rhumb Line"

### Hobie Midsummer (International) Classic

by Warren  
Pierce

The "trail of Catamarans" began leading into Palacios on Friday, July 14th as competitors from all over the state began arriving in Rail Road Park. So commenced the annual Midsummer Classic hosted by the Palacios Regatta Team, Hobie Fleet 8 of Houston/Galveston, and Hobie Fleet 128 of San Antonio. A very welcome surprise was the sight of the Noriega family from Mexico City, Mexico arriving with two stacked "O'Neils" recently from the Worlds Championships.

As a totally windless Saturday morning dawned, Warren & Leita could be seen frantically searching the bay for "puffs" or anything else resembling wind! With the advent of Roberta, Gayle Koons, Julie Ricio and Glen Ashworth (Commodore of Fleet 8) and the "Westerly" as Race Committee, the dead calm prevailed. A postponement flag was raised and the frantic search for wind continued until 12:30 when the fleet was called off the beach. The sight of 30 catamarans with beautiful multicolored sails coming off the beach to race is seldom seen but unforgettable!

After three races (back to back) competitors, chase boat, and race committee fled to shore for blessed shade and a well earned rest. The evening BBQ provided by "Janies" was relished by all and everyone settled in for an evening of relaxation and comradeship, topped off by an occasional, "My crew did it!"

Sunday dawned as a perfect image of the day before - DEAD CALM! Persistence won out and the fleet was called off the beach a 11:40AM for the white flag of race #4. With a steady building wind, two races were conducted and the Regatta complete.

With a short pause for the Race Committee to tally up the results, And the winners were:

- Portsmouth:** - Carl Bohanon - Uni 5.5
- Hobie Miracle 20:** - Billy Richnow/Julie Nelson
- Hobie 18A:** - Joe Monosmith/Therese Huesinger
- Hobie 17A:** - David Koons
- Hobie 16C:** - Erna Lunt/Bruce Urband
- Hobie 16B:** - Chris Manning/Tom Manning
- Hobie 16A:** - Ken Rourke/Terry Teuwsaat

After many and very serious congratulations to the winners, everyone packed it up and headed for home with dreams of returning for another Hobie Weekend in Palacios for Sand Dunes Regatta on the 29th of July (Warren & Bert kept three of the boats to ensure the owners would return!).

### PYC Summer Social

Steve and Jan Wilburn with Rick Gangluff arrived in Palacios on a windless day for the PYC summer social. The Wilburn's got a call and had to return home. So Rick sailed on to represent the PYC, a few yards out of TONY'S he was becalmed. While in this state he decided to jump ship and scrub the water-line. Warren Pierce was operating a chase boat at the Midsummer Classic and notice the 24' Neptune "adrift" with no skipper and approached to investigate. When he saw it was Rick (1994 Ancient Mariner) enough was said and he left the single handed adventurer to his diversions. Rick said the wind finally did come up enough to sail to *Oyster Lake* for lunch. He finished the day with afternoon cruise back to Tony's.

## **PRT/Sea Masters Host a "Bay Sail"**

On Sunday July the 23rd, ten students from Obninsk, Russia, completed a two week trip down the Colorado River as part of the LCRA's "River Watch Network". After lunch that day the group arrived at Rail Road Park Beach for a sail on the bay and a beach party with Hot Dogs and "Smoers". PYC skippers joined the group and had about a hour long sail in gusty winds. The kids all seemed to love the speed and spray, even a few turnovers. Many thanks to Warren, Willie, Lee, Craig, Rick G., John, Charles, Julie, Roberta, Lane, Paul, Susan, Rick A. and others on the beach. The group ended their stay with a pool party at Serendipity and Volleyball/Basketball games at Christian Life Center that evening.

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## **Dunes Regatta**

MORE-Catamarans in July. On the 29th and 30th of the month the multihulls returned to Palacios for an event that was moved from Corpus Christi to the City By The Sea. (Good job Warren /PRT). 40 boats graced the shoreline and the parking lot was filled with trailers, vehicles, tents and campers. Saturday I took *Regalos de Dios* out to be a spectator boat and ended up being a "Mark Boat". This entails moving any mark at the whim of the Race Captain and with the gusty, shifty to light winds that day, I regretted not filling my gas tank. But Warren came up with creative ways to flip a race course while zipping around the flat bay in *DH2* while directing us on the radio. This relieved the Race Captain of trivial details like which way is south.

During the second race the winds abated completely and one guest on my boat mistook a school of minnows for a wind zephyr. But the winds returned and the 3rd race was rather lively, one boat that "went over" took so long to "up-right" that they appeared to be drifting over the horizon. During this time Warren was busy towing 3/4 of a boat that had dis-masted. Everyone survived and returned to the beach for dinner, which arrived at the Head quarters tent and was consumed in record time.

Sunday, the North winds were provided by T.S. - Dean which was trying to make land fall

near Galveston. The north wind makes for a very flat bay and best speed. I wished I had a camera for that first windward mark rounding as ten or more arrived, "hiked all-the-way-out" and spun around the mark. The awards ceremony had it's traditional "water-hosing" of the fleet winner and then everyone packed up for the trip home. Congratulations to Ron Little (PYC - member) who has been crewing for Roth (Corpus Christi) they took second in their class. Ron said, "that is the trick in "cat" racing, you win just enough for a trophy but not high enough to get wet. That's it for multihull racing 95', See everyone next year!"

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## **"Dolphin Series"**

This is the official PYC name for the "small boat fleet", consisting of dinghies/board boats/centerboards/open daysailors .... etc. The final race days for this season will begin August 20th, Sunday at 2:00pm (Skippers meeting on beach 1:00pm). The next event will be September 2nd-3rd Labor Day Regatta (see PRT flyer) and lastly on October 22nd (weather permitting) another Sunday afternoon race. If you have a small boat and would like to learn more about sailing come join us for a trip around the buoys.

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## **PYC Fall Series**

August 19th, Saturday at 1:00pm - the 1st start of the final "big boat" race series for 1995 (soon to be known as the "**Mariners**" fleet). All racers: Be at the PYC club house 10:00am for the SKIPPER's meeting. All boats are racing this year in one PHRF class. Handicaps were modified at the start of 1995 and have provided for closer completion (*slower boats were speeded up and faster boats were slowed down*). We are missing many of the 1994 racers....? Where did you go? Those of us who have stayed are having a good time. For those of you racing with us, the results for each race day will be calculated when racers return to the PYC grounds. In the past, I have been rushing in, docking, grabbing the finish sheets and calculating the results. During this time, most everyone else went to the ramp to put up their boats. This leaves me sitting around (about an hour) with results in hand waiting for you guys to return. I would like for everyone to sail back to the Yacht Club docks, **socialize, get**

results and tell war stories - then we can all pack up and go home, at the same time. Or if you are traveling farther than the rest of us - lets plan on staying "over-night" in Serendipity. We can cook on the grill, go swimming or on evening sails. Also the next morning you can sail or pack up and maybe hang around for the small boat races after lunch. The PYC "weekend" occurs the **third saturday & sunday, of each Month** (Jan-Dec). Put it on your calendars because somebody will be at the club house doing something with boats (and/or food?).

### M26 NEWS!

Rock-n-Roll still the scourge of the Fl Keys. Roy Garrett reports he has won; his second "Annual Single Handed" regatta, his second "Island Bank Regatta", and a "Memorial Regatta". I am glad he's racing there and not in Palacios. But we do miss you, come cruising with us sometime. Roy still has a standing invitation to the MacGregor fleet to come tie up to his dock in Key Largo sometime.

### PYC 1996

*Yes it will be on us soon. With the current year winding down, it is time to start thinking about goals, achievements, end-of-year parties and Club Officers. We need more help from our 50 some odd members, as for the past three years only about 5 brave souls have been leading the rest of us around by their whims. If you like where the PYC has gone, Great! If you have complaints, Tough! (you can't complain if you're not WORKING) The club needs new ideas, new plans, more help. We had hoped this year to build a deck for the club and we got several donations but no great surge of workers. This will have to wait till next year now. Think about it and volunteer your time to make the club bigger and better for our rest and relaxation. We need both Cruising & Social directors, also Race Captain, Secretary/Treasurer (in Palacios), Captains for the Dolphin and Mariner fleets, Captain of the Point (grounds keeper) and so on. If you have some ideas on improving the PYC, call Commodore Roberta*

Ripke at 512-972-3960 or Rear-Comm. Lane Hollister at 409-245-1669.

## AUGUST EVENTS

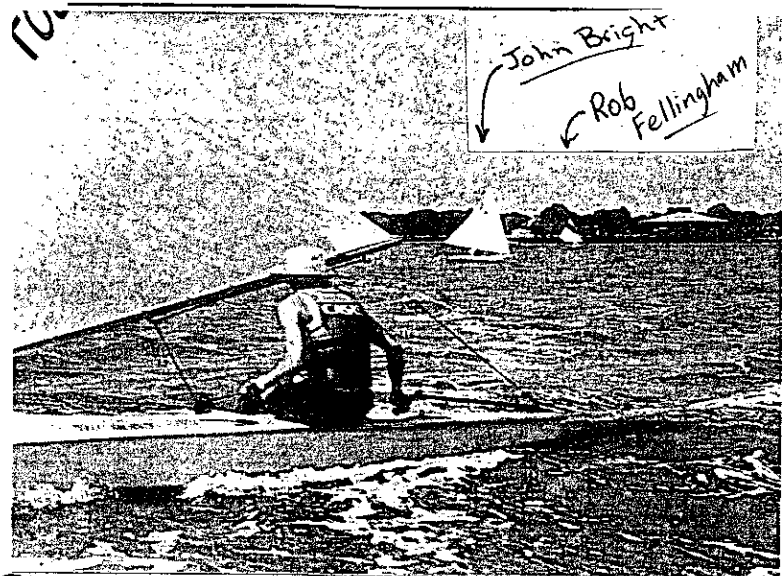
19th "Mariner" Races: Saturday 1:00pm start, skippers meeting 10:00am.

20th "Dolphin" Races: Sunday 2:00pm start, skippers meeting at 1:00pm.

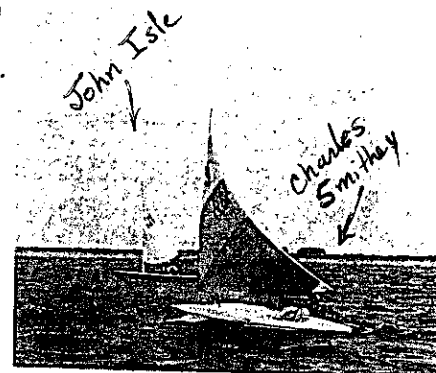
AND FOR SEPTEMBER;  
2nd-3rd Palacios Labor Day Regatta.

9th-10th Tx Youth Circuit Regatta.

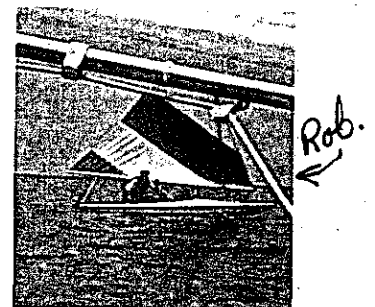
16th "Mariner" Races.

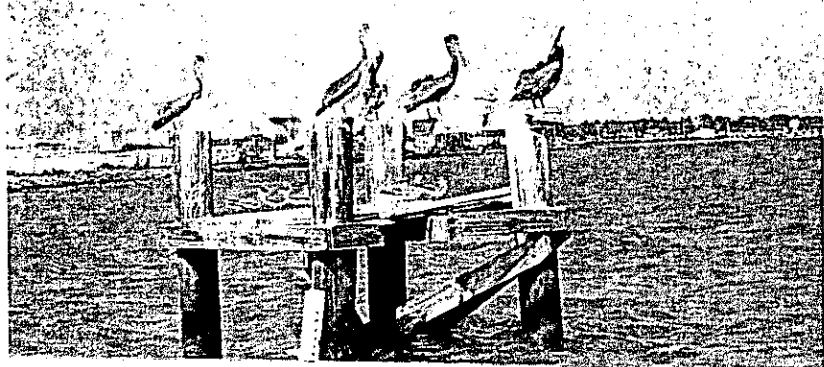


Pam Smithey - keeping an eye on her closest competitors.

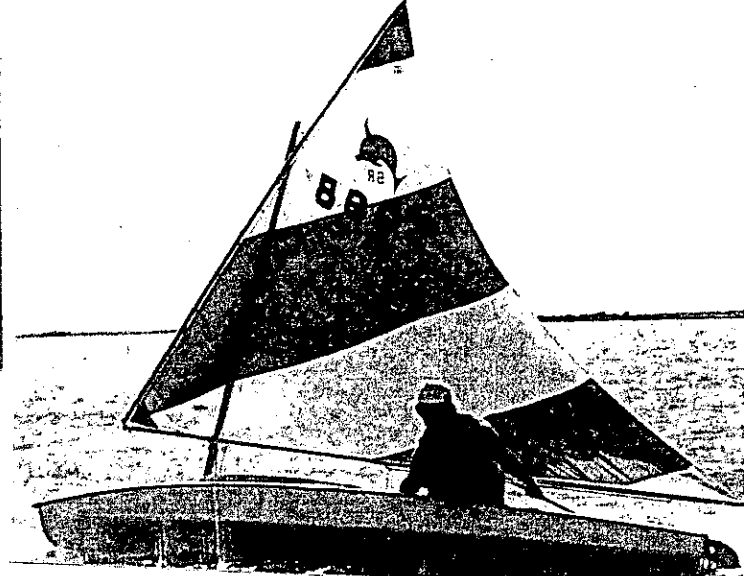


Hans' Boat before the Independence Regatta

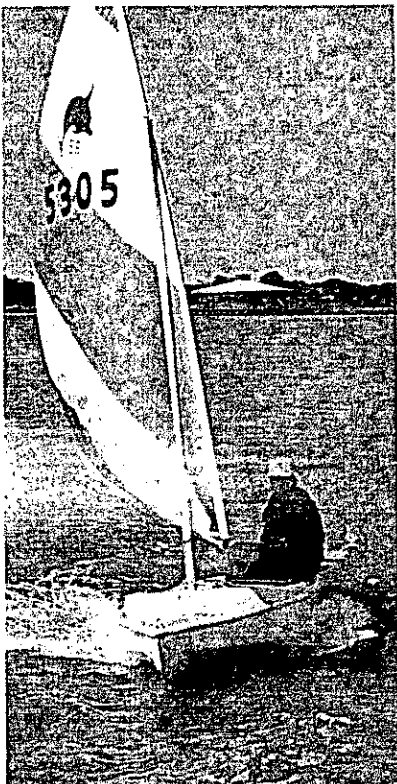




"Spectator's"



LANE - hiking out

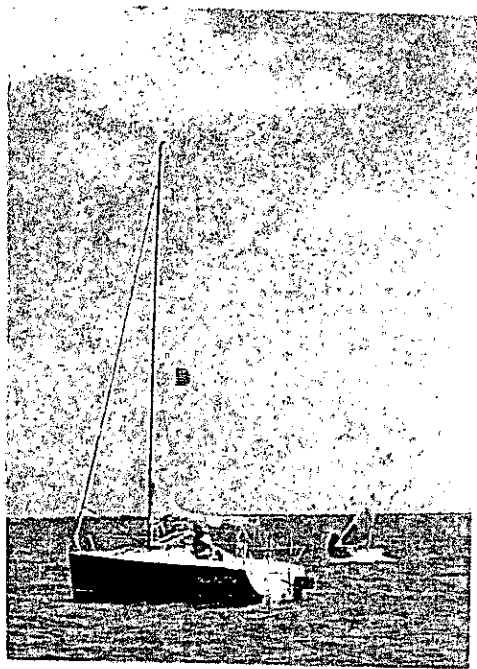


LANE - looking for a finish line.

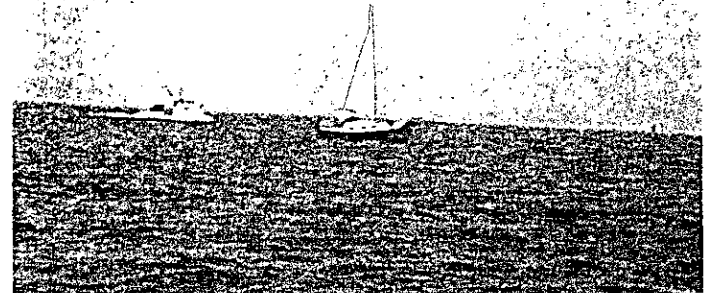


↳ banging buoy to far astern of RC →

Bob F. as RC →



Charles Smithay



Eddie Sacco somewhere off Port O'Connor in A.M.B.R.

A.M.B.R veterans - Returning home.

