

May 2020

# the Ditty Bag

Commodore's Report | New Members | Leukemia Cup Regatta | Series and Event Racing  
| Treasurer's Update | TSA Update | Cat Corner | Adaptive Sailing | Port Captains  
| LCYC Personnel

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## Commodore's Report

*by Elizabeth Bentzen, LCYC Commodore*

April was again a quiet month for Club-sponsored activities due to Covid-19. The Club grounds are still open to members and I have noticed that many members are visiting the Club to sail and work on their boats. I appreciate that you are practicing social distancing while here at the Club. Please remember that is still recommended to not gather in groups of more than 10 and is best if it is limited to your family unit. Although it is not mandated in Comal County as of now, many Texas cities are requiring and the CDC recommends the use of a face covering when in public. As Texas begins to consider how to reopen non-essential businesses, the Board is working on a plan to restart Club events responsibly. The Board decided that while we consult with others and receive news from the Governor on how best to accomplish resumption of social activities, the Club will not sponsor any events in May. As the situation evolves, we will revisit the topic at the May Board meeting to decide how and what events to reinstate in June. I know that many of us are struggling with this "new normal" and I want you to know that Board decisions are guided by concerns for the safety of our members, their families, and our employees.

Although we will not gather to celebrate Mother's Day for the Commodore's breakfast, I would like to wish all the mothers a safe and happy Mother's Day!



## Welcome New Members

- **Nicholas Angell** – San Antonio, TX
- **Harrison Mira** – New Braunfels, TX
- **Toby Hooper** – Wimberley, TX



## 7th Annual Charles L. Branch M.D. Leukemia Cup Regatta (LCR) May 30 & 31 – Canceled for 2020

*by Ray Luebner, 2020 LCYC LCR*

With the outbreak of Covid-19 in February/March, planning for the Leukemia Cup Regatta was always going to be difficult. Early on, it was decided that no promotional items would be ordered for this year's event. Subsequently, all April Club events were cancelled, including the Commodore's Breakfast – the traditional kick-off for the LCR. These decisions brought into stark focus the real possibility of an outright cancellation of the 2020 LCR. So thoughts turned to other possible options: sponsoring a limited fundraising effort this year was considered a possibility, however given all the business closures, job, and market losses, it was felt that this year would not be the right time or environment for an enthusiastic campaign. Pushing the LCR to the autumn was also considered but was ruled out due to the huge volunteer effort that goes into sponsoring the Wurstfest Regatta. The last option was to simply cancel and focus on next year.

At their April teleconference meeting, the LCYC Board of Governors voted unanimously to cancel all events for May, including the Leukemia Cup Regatta, due to the continuing Corona virus pandemic.

The Board wants to assure Club membership and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society that LCYC remains committed to the LCR. The regatta and fundraising for LLS will be back next year when the virus will surely be under control.

Do please consider donating to your local area Food Bank: they are in desperate need given the huge surge in unemployment. We need to do what we can to help those now in immediate need.



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*by Margaret McGill and Mindy Rogers, Co-Port Captains*

What have you been doing for the past few weeks? Looking at the lake, it's apparent that many club members are out sailing, and that's good to see. Margaret has been busy making cloth masks for family and friends, working jigsaw and crossword puzzles, and keeping up with the news. Mindy has been walking her dog and managing her estate. She does a great job of checking on neighbors on her daily rounds!

You have probably read the weekly email blasts from the club and the Commodore's column in this Ditty Bag, so you know that there won't be any social events at the club through the month of May. While I miss the activity and seeing people together, I appreciate the Board of Governors' concern for the wellbeing of our members and staff.

We hope you're safe, and we look forward to seeing you up close one of these days. Meantime, let's go sailing!



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## Financial Challenges During the Emergency? WORD Tax Change

*by Renee Kizziar, Treasurer*

Are you experiencing financial challenges during this COVID-19 emergency? Your membership is important to the Club. LCYC does not want a short-term financial challenge to affect your long-term enjoyment of sailing. If you need special consideration of your dues and fees commitment, please contact our Treasurer at [Treasurer@lcy.net](mailto:Treasurer@lcy.net) or 210-862-2952. She will coordinate with Club officers to determine if the Club can make arrangements which will allow you to continue your membership.

W.O.R.D of Comal County (Water Oriented Recreational District) has reduced the WORD tax rate to – 0 – during the second quarter of 2020. Accordingly, Lake Canyon Yacht Club's invoices for April 25, May 25, and June 25 will reflect this new rate. Previously the WORD tax rate on Slips was 4% and 3% on Dry Storage.



# Series & Event Racing

by Rick Mella, Rear Commodore of Sail



Lake Canyon Yacht Club 2020 Spring Series Regatta was cancelled due to Coronavirus stay at home recommendation.

At this point in time, most May 2020 sailing activities have been cancelled or postponed. Stay tune for possible June opening.



**Important notice:** Please be prepared for any ANNOUNCEMENT concerning future racing with the current challenges surrounding the CORONAVIRUS outbreak.

## RC Model Racing

I would like to start a RC Model group to promote and/or sponsor RC Model racing at LCYC. If you are interested, please let me know ([richardamella@hotmail.com](mailto:richardamella@hotmail.com)). I am still working on refurbishing this 1 meter RC model, "Seawind".



## Cat Corner

by Travis Mitchell, Canyon Lake Cats-Fleet 128



Every year catamaran sailors look forward to the month of March as it kicks off the start of warm weather, wind and the beginning of a new regatta season. Multi-hull sailors have taken their winter break, weathered the cold months are itching to get out and enjoy the speed and thrill of high speed performance sailing. As you all know the recent Covid-19 pandemic has been a life changer this year. With many sick and out of work people, stay at home lock down orders, cancelled school, and low supplies at HEB it's difficult to keep our personal spirits up and stay positive. Our favorite pass time of racing catamarans has also been affected this year with the cancellation of Ides of March regatta on Lake Somerville and Hill Country Regatta on Lake Buchanan in April.

Thank goodness we have Canyon Lake and LCYC still open for sailing! A few of the Canyon Lake Cats members have managed to get out sailing this Spring and enjoy some nice weekday weather. Sailing a catamaran for a couple hours on beautiful Canyon Lake will make a person forget about the troubles of the world!

LCYC members Travis and Litz Grahmann are out on their NACRA 550 most weekends. Travis Mitchell, Kyle Polzin and kids are frequent weekday warriors on the Hobie 16s with our without wind. You can find club member Jeff Hiller on his vibrant orange Hobie 18 most any weekend. With the LCYC youth Optimist practice on current hold Ryan Mitchell spends some time on the Hobie doing a little backyard trapeze practice. He's ready to get on the lake and show Dad how it's done!

Longneck Regatta planned for May 16th and 17th looks to be a no go this year but may very well be re-schedule for later in 2020 so between now and then look for the club's multi hull sailors to be out enjoying the lake whenever the sun is shining and the wind is up. Canyon Lake's multi-hull fleet is staying strong and will soon be back racing and to host a great regatta hopefully later this year!



With no club sponsored events in the month of April and May a small group of catamaran sailors and a start/finish line volunteer decided to put together a no frills, social distancing unofficial practice race on Canyon Lake April 25th.

After just a short weather delay waiting out the ominous clouds and thunder we finally got underway around 11:45 AM. Once the sky cleared up we could not have asked for better sailing weather. Sustained 16 MPH breeze and constant puffs kept us on our toes and out on

the trapeze most all day!

I wanted to thank Joe McDonough for volunteering his time and sailboat on the start/finish line. Not only did he help set up the course in the morning he did a great job with the starts and recording our finishes at the line. I really enjoyed the start line in the center of the windward/leeward course with the upwind finishes.





Thank you Jordan Merson for taking so many fantastic pics out on the water and also assisting with the marks when called upon. Tiffany Tomko was also on the water to toss us some water between races and it was nice to know Tiffany and Jordan were out there on RIB's in case someone needed assistance.

For an unofficial "non regatta" practice regatta we had a great turn out. Not everyone made it on time and not everyone chose to race but it was great to see everyone get out with their catamarans and have a good time. This

is what the day was all about!

Our final count was 14 boats: 3 Hobie 14, 5 Hobie 16, 2 Hobie 18; 1 ea. Hobie 17, Hobie 20, Stunt 91, Nacra 20. 11 boats were local, two from the Austin Cats fleet and one from Lake Buchanan Sailing Club. While we didn't have T-shirts, end of day dinner, or socializing we had a good amount of people and boats on the water having a great time.

Thank you to everyone that came out and participated and hope to see you all next time.



## Adaptive Sailing

*by Bill McVey*

Hi everyone, our first Adaptive Sail Outing for 2020 is scheduled to host wounded warriors and their family members from Operation Comfort. We will provide them a nice day away from their normal routines with a visit to our beautiful club and lake, including a complimentary lunch and an afternoon sail using our members' boats. Although at this point there is uncertainty as to whether or not we will be able to have it due to social distancing, I prefer to hold out hope and therefore am making this our "first call" for other optimistic volunteers!

Our schedule is:

- 11:00 – orientation to our club and sailboats
- 11:30 – lunch; LCYC provides sandwiches, chips, cookies, and drinks for both guests and our volunteers. Please join us.
- 12:00 – assign guests to boats
- 12:15 – go to boats, sail
- 2:45 – return to docks
- 3:00 – end of event

We would like to have 10-12 keelboats and skippers and also 10-12 additional experienced sailors so we can accommodate up to 25 guests. We also need two volunteers to set out the lunch and clean up afterwards.

May 23 is just five weeks away so please let me know if you would like to help with this outing. Please contact me at 210 601-9144 or bmcvey@gvyc.com Thanks very much!



## TSA Update

*by Chris Fogle, LCYC TSA Representative*

### 2020 Texas Sailing Association (TSA) Youth Racing Circuit Dates

16-17 May	Silly String Regatta / Texas State Girls Optimist Championship	Grapevine Sailing Club
6-7 Jun	Road Runner Regatta & Texas State Youth Laser Championship	Austin YC
20-21 Jun	Jr. Ol' Man of the Sea Regatta	Ft. Worth Boat Club
9-10 Jul	TX Youth Race Week Clinic	Houston YC
11-12 Jul	TX Youth Race Week	Lakewood YC
1-2 Aug	TCYC Youth Regatta	Texas Corinthian YC
<del>22-23 Aug</del>	<del>Cannonball Run Regatta</del>	<del>Palacios YC</del>
12-13 Sep	Rock the Rock Regatta	Corinthian Sailing Club, (White Rock Lake)
26-27 Sep	Rockin Rockport Regatta	Rockport YC
10-11 Oct	Pirates of the Corinthian Regatta and KO Sailing Texas State Optimist Champ	Dallas Corinthian YC
13-14 Nov	TSA End of Year Regatta: Chocopalooza Regatta	Dallas Corinthian YC



## LCYC Personnel

### Officers

Commodore – Elizabeth Bentzen  
Vice Commodore – Scott Wells  
Rear Commodore – Mike Samulin  
Secretary – Laurie McGill

Treasurer – Renee Kizziar  
Port Co-Captains – Margaret McGill, Mindy Rogers  
Rear Commodore for Sail – Rick Mella