

Texas 200  
2021

“We may have all come on different ships,  
but we’re all in the same boat now.”  
-Martin Luther King, Jr.

The North Wind

Texas 200 Year Two for the Rambo’s sailing our Cam-Pac Sun Cat *Sandpiper*

June 12, 2021, Indianola to Port Mansfield

Bob and I leave home Saturday around 11:00 and drive to Corpus Christi with our two parrots in tow to drop off at our daughter’s apartment for the week. After launching in Port Mansfield, we sail in circles in front of the Chamber of Commerce to ensure the Texas 200 group docked there know we have arrived. We sail to the slip we reserved at Harbor Bait and Tackle and meet with Kathy and Will Robertson. Then we enjoy a nice dinner with the Robertson’s at K.J’s Laguna Bar and Grill. We crash the “Condo Party” of the Texas 200 Board and visit with Matt, Chuck L, Chuck P, and Bobby C. Later, we walk back to Harbor Bait and Tackle and meet up with Jeremy and Courtney Bennett for a happy reunion with the Renegade Northbounders. Around midnight we head to David’s Fish Camp right across the street from Harbor B & T to our accommodations for the weekend.

June 13, 2021, Port Mansfield

Bob heads out early to the Captains’ meeting at 7:00. Bob thinks there are many newbies, about 45%. While Bob drives back to Indianola with the truck and trailer, I head to Harbor B & T and spend the day messing around on the boat and hanging out with Cay, Jeremy, Will & Steve until around 3:00, when I grab nachos to go from K.J’s and enjoy a nap in our room. Bob finally returns later than expected as the bus coming back from Magnolia Beach detours HWY 77. We spend the evening at Harbor B & T with Will, Jeremy, Courtney, Mike, David, Glen, Chris, and Cay, monitoring the excitement in the harbor. Rick Osgood’s Rooster loses her motor. The Sea Scouts’ boat takes on water at one of the boat ramps. After all the excitement, we head to K.J’s for dinner only to find they have run out of food. No dinner for us. I remind myself to call K.J’s next year to give them a head’s up. The Texas 200 is coming to town, and we are hungry.

June 14, 2021

Port Mansfield to Camp 1 Land Cut

We motor/sail out of Port Mansfield at 10:00 in the morning. It is hot! I’m thankful for our bimini. Bob sets up the auto tiller and fishes until the wind picks up and we can sail. Through the land

cut, we sail, and it is beautiful. Adam C. helps us anchor, at Camp 1. Now's it time to drink beer and eat hot dogs provided by the Texas 200 Sailing Club, visit with everyone, and check out the boats. I keep an eye out for Will and excitedly see him sail up following John Hippie. Will has made it to his first Texas 200 camp, and what a journey it's been! I

June 15, 2021  
Camp 1 to the Sand Dunes

We plan our sail for the day with the Bennetts and Jim Palmer in the morning. The plan is to meet at the Sand Dunes. There is no wind, so we motor sail most of the day in the channel. We make it to the dunes to find the Tomset's and Gordo in his catamaran, the Russels, Bob Carson and Mac, some of the Houston Hobie group, and a few others. Cay sails in late in the day. The dunes are magnificent fun to climb to enjoy the view of the bay. I need to come back here every year!

June 16, 2021  
Dunes to PIYC

We enjoy the dunes and hate to leave in the morning. Again it's a day without wind, and we motor sail to Marker 37 to stock up on gas, beer, and ice. The Houston Group of Hobie guys is here eating lunch. We grab lunch and then motor to PIYC, where we meet a PIYC member, Tom. He helps us connect with Polly, the Commodore, who opens up the yacht club to us. Pehr and Liam, the Williams family in a Mikesboat, Bobby C, and Pat Hollabaugh in his Mayfly 14 all dock for the night. We prefer to stay in our boat, some set up tents, and others enjoyed the A/C and showers in the PIYC. In the morning, Pehr and Liam load up with gas, sail off to join the sailors tacking slowly up the bay to help them fuel up to reach Bird Island Basin, where they can take out. We watch Pat sail out and then under the bridge at CC on his way to finishing the Texas 200 successfully under sail power alone.

Jun 17, 2021  
PIYC to Marker 37 and Home

Bob and I decide it is time to end our Texas 200 adventure for the year. The winds are not in our favor, and motoring to Indianola didn't sound like a great idea. Our friend Mike brings our trailer to Marker 37 to take *Sandpiper* out. We visited with Pete Rindisbacher and his daughter and got a good look at his "Pirate Ship." Their boat is a half-sized replica of 1680's Royal Yacht *Witch* and is a converted aluminum lifeboat with seven sails with natural wood and faux painting. We have enjoyed watching her sail.

After we got home, we drove down to Maggie Beach and ran into Bobby Chilek with Joe Seymour and Steve Romeis. We unofficially decided Joe and Steve had (Won) the Texas 200

as they were the first boat to make it to Maggie Beach. We celebrate with a few beers at the Indianola Social Club and dinner at the Indianola Marina.

June 18, 2021  
Indianola Social Club, Indianola

While we sail, Kathy Roberson is house sitting and taking care of Puddles, our 14-year-old Boston terrier. Will Roberson joins us outside Corpus Christi at Bird Island Basin after his sail ends. In the afternoon, Bob and Will take off to Rockport to pick up Bobby Cockerham, where he has taken out and brought him to Magnolia Beach to pick up the trailer. Bobby Chilek, Joe Seymour, Steve Romeis, Charlie Jones, and the Robersons join us for fajitas and bowline tying contest. It was an enjoyable night for all!

June 19, 2021  
Magnolia Beach & ISC

On the official last day of the Texas 200, 2021, we head to Magnolia Beach to eat BBQ catered by the Magnolia Beach Fire Department. The brisket and sides are delicious, and the MBFD volunteers set up tables and serve us in style. No one is surprised when Ellen Falterman rows up to Maggy Beach. She has accomplished a fantastic feat by rowing a Grumman rowing canoe from Port Mansfield. Not long after, I see a sail on the horizon and in sails Pat Hollabaugh in his Mayfly 14. Pat is the only one who sails the entire Texas 200 with no motor assist. He has quite a tale of his journey and tells us a little while drinking a well-deserved beer Bob hands him. I recall the last time I see him sailing out from PIYC, and now he's here.

After the BBQ, a group of us came back to our house to swim and celebrate our misadventures this week. Some of us have more experiences and embrace the suck than others. I know some boat deals and swaps happen during the evening. Will has promised his boat to Mackenzie Palmer, who's admired it as she sailed with her grandfather, Jim. Paul and Bobby make a deal on some slightly used amas. Steve Althaus amaze us with his tale of designing, building, and then sailing *Turtle*. We hear more about Ellen Falterman's undertakings to experience ocean rowing. So many stories of sailors helping each other every inch of the way fighting the Northwind this year. We packed the house and filled every bed tonight, and Pat found the couch wasn't too bad.

Our Texas 200, 2021 is over, and everyone must head home today. We are sad but look forward to more adventures with our Texas 200 sailing family.