

Islander 36 Newsletter

October 2003

Issue 4

Islander 36 ANNUAL MEETING

Saturday, November 8, 2003
San Francisco Yacht Club,
Belvedere, California



PLEASE JOIN US!

Current and Prospective Members Welcome

Make Your Reservations
for Dock Space and Lunch

Reserve online:
<http://www.islander36.org/events.html>

- or -

Contact: CRUISE CAPTAINS
Charles Hodgkins and Kathryn Munn Hodgkins
kathryn@sailingmischief.com or
charles@sailingmischief.com
or (510) 865-9045

11:30 am CHECK IN, libations
12:00 am LUNCH, MEETING follows

Racing and Service Awards
Election of 2004 Officers.

Post-meeting speaker: Dr. Allen Dekelboun
Photographic journey of Allen and wife Joan's scuba diving
adventures to exotic underwater places around the world.

More details on page 3

Season Race
Results

Read About the
Islander 36
Nationals held
October 4th, 5th

Coyote Point,
Half Moon Bay
& Marin YC
Cruise Write Ups,
Photos

In This Issue

Commodore's Report.....	2
Fall Meeting Agenda.....	3
Coyote Point Cruise.....	4
Half Moon Bay Cruise.....	5
Race Results.....	6
Nationals pictures.....	7
Maric YC Cruise.....	8
Membership Report.....	9
More from Texas.....	9
Cruise Attendees 2003.....	10
I-36 Nationals.....	11



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San Francisco Bay

www.islander36.org

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October 2003

Commodore's Corner

Don Henderson



As we approach the end of another year I would like to thank all of those racers and cruisers who participated in our 2003 activities -- and that includes our many non-resident internet participants contributing questions and answers for the enlightenment of all I-36ers! There are still a number of "4th Quarter" events awaiting us (check Newsletter and our website).

I would like to acknowledge the contributions of our hard working Officers and Chairs. Once again, our Racing Fleet had a very competitive year, with great participation, thanks to the joint efforts and enthusiasm of Mike and Daphne Dickson. The increased number of "racers" over the past several years has certainly has been a major contribution and has elevated the profile of our Islanders. A special event this year was the I-36 "Nationals" arranged through the San Francisco YC by Jim Robinson. Eighteen Islander 36's participated, with trophies to be awarded at the Annual Meeting.

Our Cruise Captains Charles Hodgkins and Kathryn Munn, with the invaluable assistance of volunteer cruise coordinators, orchestrated 6 successful and fun times (albeit with mother nature dictating somewhat more motoring that we might have liked), including a "foggy" coastal adventure to Half Moon Bay, with more to come near year's end. At the Fall meeting, one of our cruisers will be the recipient of a new Perpetual Trophy in the memory of Chuck Winton, the Association's 1980 Fleet Champion.

Paul Tara accepted a large chore this year as Measurer and was assisted by Robert Aston. Thank you, gentlemen! Ron Damsen also stepped ably into the Treasurer's position and has done a great job. Thank you too, Brian Jacobs, for your years serving as Secretary of the Association. Skipper is our faithful Membership Chair, doing a fine job there and contributing in so many other ways to the Association. Rick Van Mell has really put us on the cyberspace map and kept us current, an invaluable feat. Thanks to my spouse Barbara, for the Newsletter; she didn't want this one to go out so late, but hopefully everyone understands ailing kinfolk take priority, and all's well now.

If you haven't already done so, mark your calendar for our Fall meeting: November 8th at the San Francisco Yacht Club in Belvedere. Come by boat or car, but irrespective of your transportation mode, reserve your spot early.

Our guest "presenter" at the meeting is Allen Dekelboun. In a former life, Allen, who is an MD, was a "rag" sailor (racing a Newport 30 for many years) before becoming an underwater aficionado for over 20 years of below-the-surface photography prior to surfacing recently as a "stink potter". He will give us a photographic view of the exotic places he and his dive buddy (spouse Joan) have visited around the world. I have been fortunate to have heard his presentation, and it's one you won't want to miss. I look forward to seeing you on November 8th.

Don Henderson

Islander 36 Association Annual Meeting 2003



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8

San Francisco Yacht Club, Belvedere, California

11:30 am Attitude Adjustment, 12:00 Lunch 1:15 Meeting

Note: During the refreshment period (beginning 11:30 a.m.) Shirley Housley of the Embroidery Factory (Benicia), one of our long time members, will have on display a selection of nautical clothing. All items can be embroidered with the I-36 logo, your boat name, or whatever you wish!

Lunch:

Adults: Baked chicken, mushroom sauce, garlic mashed potatoes, vegetable, salad, dessert, coffee \$23 (\$26 w/wine)

Child's meal: chicken strips, fruit cup and ice cream sundae \$10.

Docking Fees: \$1/foot.

RESERVE: www.islander36.org/events.html or contact Charles/Kathryn Hodgkins: charles@sailingmischief.com or kathryn@sailingmischief.com (510) 865-9045.

AGENDA:

Welcome:	Commodore Don Henderson
Membership Status	Membership Captain Skipper Wall
Secretary's Report	Secretary Brian Jacobs
Treasurer's Report	Treasurer Ron Damsen
Web Site Status	Webmaster Rick Van Mell
Cruise Program	Cruise Captains Charles Hodgkins & Kathryn Munn Hodgkins - Presentation for the first time of the Annual Cruising Award (Charles Winton Trophy)
Measurer	Paul Tara
Newsletter	Barbara Henderson
Racing Program	Race Fleet Captains - Mike & Daphne Dickson Award of Buster Hammond Half Hull Trophy
Member Recognition	Commodore - Don Henderson presents John "Russ" Schneider Service Award; and the Chuck Winton Perpetual Half-Hull Trophy (for the first time)

Election of Officers for 2003

Nominees:	Commodore - Harry Farrell
	Vice Commodore - Mike Dickson
	Secretary - Charles Hodgkins
	Treasurer - Ron Damsen
	Measurer - Paul Tara

Appointees:	Race Captain - Joseph Krensavage
	Cruise Captains: Dennis and Judy Bush
	Assistant Cruise Captains: Julian and Debby Cohen
	Membership Captain - Skipper Wall
	Webmaster - Rick Van Mell
	Newsletter - Barbara Henderson

New/Old Business:	Commodore - Don Henderson
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Post Meeting Program:

Dr. Allen Dekelboum, a/k/a the "divedoc", will present a slide show of exotic around-the-world underwater venues that he and his diving buddy, wife Joan, have explored over the last 20 years. Allen started life as a "rag" racer on San Francisco Bay (Newport 30) and recently migrated to a 39' Bayliner "Black Coral"

Coyote Point Cruise-Out August 2-3 Sizzles

Cruise Coordinators: Glenn and Julianna Zimmerman

By: Cruise Co-Chair Kathryn Munn Hodgkins



with Smokey's daughter Amanda and too-cute-for-words granddaughter Sarah.

Land cruisers joining the fun were Gary Salvo and dog Cathy from Ophira. Brian and Fran Jacobs with dog Tilly also drove--the Jacobs' Blue Moon was snapped up quickly after a listing on the Internet, and the Jacobs are looking forward to their inner waterway adventure next year on a new vessel.

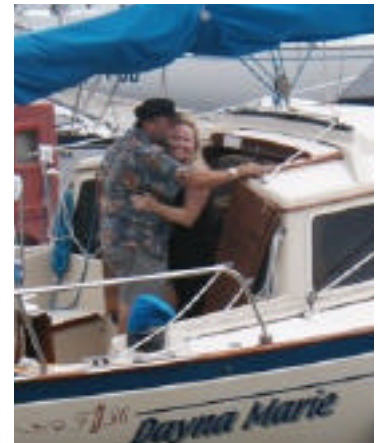
After rigging up sunshades, and donning hats and sunscreen, everyone got into cruise-out mode. Several people trooped off to the Nature Museum while others napped, showered, or read the new August Latitude 38s. Glenn and Julianna were exceptional hosts, setting up a welcome table at the end of the dock for drinks and snacks before the dinner hour and arranging for dining on the Coyote Point Yacht Club patio with stunning views of bay, marshes, bridges, and sunsets.

Grumpy, overcast skies threatened I-36 cruisers Saturday morning at the rendezvous point for the run to Coyote Point. By the end of an easy reach in 10-12 knots of breeze the hot sun melted clouds away for a clear, sunny afternoon at the docks. Eight boats made the trip and 31 people attended.

Those cruising in were: Cruise Coordinators Glenn and Julianna Zimmerman on Dayna Marie, Bill and Jim Higdon on Blockbuster, Skipper and Nancy Wall on Snowflower, Harry Farrell and Carol Williams on Pacific High, Dennis, Judy, and Matt Bush on Natural High, Charles and Kathryn Hodgkins on Mischief, and Hank and Patty Williams, her friend Angelica, and junior sailors Lorelei, Charlie, and Andrea on Night Train. Joining the cruise after taking second place in Saturday's Inter-Club race series were Lou and Diane Zevanov with son Steve and friend Dennis on Diana. Smokey Stover and Larry Reinstra brought the latest addition to the Stover fleet: Freeport Chanson d'Amour. Laurie Stover drove in after work



Angelic Sleeping Sarah



Zimmermans celebrate successful cruise with a hug

At dinnertime the gas grills sizzled with all sorts of delights including shrimp, sausages, chicken, tri-tip, steaks and veggies. Combined with plentiful and yummy salads and desserts, the dinner feast was on.

Natural High crewman Matt gave his seal of approval to the Coyote Point Yacht Club's pool table, big screen TV, and video games. Sleepy from sun and fun, cruisers drifted off for peaceful sleep under a sliver of a moon.

A 3+ knot flood tide predicted for the afternoon got I-36 crews up for a 10:00 departure. Glenn and Julianna had ready excellent strong coffee, juices, bagels, donuts, and Judy's sumptuous fruit salad from the evening before. Morning skies were again overcast, but gave way to sunny skies. Just another wonderful weekend with great people, lovely sailboats, and fond memories. Many thanks to the Coyote Yacht Club and cruise coordinators Glenn and Julianna.



Hank Williams, Glenn Zimmerman, Pati Williams, Smokey Stover, guest, Laurie Stover, Skipper and Nancy Wall, Carol Williams and Harry Farrell (in shade)

Half Moon Bay Cruise - Labor Day Weekend

by Kathryn Munn Hodgkins



Saturday, August 30, 2003. Bundled against a chill fog, seven intrepid Islander 36's set sail for Half Moon Bay. Departing from the south tower of the Golden Gate Bridge at 9:00 a.m., the cruisers were *Noncents* (Jack and Sandy Thompson), *Mischief* (Charles and Kathryn Hodgkins), *Evanescence* (Smokey Stover and Larry Reinstra), *Woodbine* (Ron and Karen Damsen), *Dreamcatcher*

(Vern Verling, Cheryl Lawson, and boat dog Jack), and *Dayna Marie* (Glenn Zimmerman, Joe Weathers, and David Scardigly) and *Mustang* (Joseph Krensavage and James Roten).



Party Time

Riding out with the tail end of the ebb tide, the trip across the potato patch was almost painless. Boat captains picked anywhere from 2-4 miles out for the easy run down the coast, which proved a sweet close reach in steady winds of 8-10 knots and seas of 4-6 feet. The coastline was visible, albeit a little blurry from the fog, all the way to Half Moon Bay. Just past Point Montera the wind died and engines fired up with crews on sharp lookout for crab pots.

At Half Moon Bay *Mischief* staked out a spot with an easy row to the beach and in short order a raft-up of six alternating Freeports and Gurney-designed Islanders formed. The result prompted one visitor to ask in what year the "big ones" were built. *Dreamcatcher* swung on a hook close by, visiting frequently by sea kayak. Boats and rafts spun around 180 degrees over the cycle of the tide, so our raft used a stern anchor to avoid a nasty bow anchor wrap.

After hooks were down and foul weather gear stowed, drinks and snacks started up at 4:00 on *Noncents* and *Woodbine* followed by a potluck on the roomy *Noncents*. The eats were plentiful and yummy. Joseph Krensavage's friend Jeanne drove in for the evening and brought pizza. Who knew you could heat up 3 large pizza boxes at once in one Islander 36 oven? The party-hardy crowd on *Dayna Marie* set out just after anchoring for the HMB nightlife and returned to an early lights out raft later that evening.

Mustang left Sunday morning for an early return. The coastal fog hung around all day with glimpses of sun in the late afternoon. The day featured dinghy rides around the bay to visit friends, trips to shore for walks around the harbor, and visits from neighboring boats. Dale and Deena Snearly from 36 *DD*, an Islander 36 from San Leandro, stopped by and promised they will join this year.

Three sea lions swam up in formation to check out Ron Damsen as he sat in his dinghy, diving under the raft at the last minute. Pelicans and sea lions made a show of fishing for their supper and one sea lion looked like he was trying to snag a bird on the fly to add a little variety to his diet.

Laurie Stover drove in to join *Evanescence* and Julianne Zimmerman and David's fiancée Barbie drove in to join *Dayna Marie* just in time for the beach party hosted by the Half Moon Bay Yacht Club. A happy crowd of 250 sailors enjoyed a BBQ chicken dinner, a live band, and plenty of beer. The evening was capped off with fireworks. Ron and Karen opted for a salmon feast aboard, and Karen's freshly baked cookies greeted sailors

arriving back at the raft from the party.

Monday morning dawned a real pea souper with visibility a quarter mile at

best. *Dayna Marie* left first around 6:20 am and the raft split up with everyone out of the harbor by 9:00 am. The ride back was under power in winds of 0-4 knots and seas of 8-10 feet. Some opted to raise a main to steady out the roll of the swells. The GPS track coming down provided a reliable reverse course. The fleet checked in by radio along the way and *Evanescence* posted information about their radar picture to those boats without. It was quite a rush to see the Golden Gate ghost out of the fog just where the GPS said it would be. Everyone was back inside the Bay by 1:30 pm. It was a fine adventure with gentle seas, steady winds (some of the time), excellent company, and wondrous vessels.



Joseph Krensavage with Jeanne



Laurie and Smokey Stover

Photos by Ron Damsen

Racing Season Wrap Up

Mike and Daphne Dickson, Race Fleet Captains



The Islander 36 racing season has wrapped up and we just completed our Nationals on San Francisco Bay October 5th. Thanks to everyone who participated and made this year such a great success.

The overall season winner was not decided until the last race of the year, the Island Tour on September 5th. Competing for first place honors were Tom Cat and Pilot. It was a bright warm sunny day with good wind and a long course around three islands in San Francisco Bay. The fleet started

at the Knox starting line and sailed upwind to the first mark and then out around Alcatraz and the east side of Angel Island on a long reach to Red Rock near the San Rafael Bridge. After rounding Red Rock the fleet worked its way back toward Angel Island and sailed up Raccoon Straights to the first windward mark and then finished back at the starting line on a downwind run. It was a close race to the finish but in the end Pilot was victorious and regained the season championship after having given it up to Zoop for two seasons.

Islander 36 Association 2003 Race Results

	BOAT	Valejo 5/3	Valejo 5/3	City Frt 5/17	Olymp#1 5/31	Olymp#2 5/31	So Bay 6/14	Olympic 8/9	So. Bay 8/23	Knox 9/6	Final Tallies	Minus 1 throw-out	Place
		Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points	Points			
1	Pilot	DNF15	1	2	2	2	3	3	3	1	32	17	1
2	Tom Cat	3	2	3	3	3	4	1	2	2	23	19	2
3	Midnight Sun	DNC16	DNC16	1	1	1	1	2	1	3	42	26	4
4	Windwalker	7	3	4	4	4	2	5	4	DNC14	47	33	3
5	Blue Streak	1	7	5	7	6	5	DNC10	5	4	50	40	5
6	Tenacious	4	6	6	6	8	6	4	6	6	51	43	6
7	Mischief	5	4	7	11	7	7	7	7	5	61	50	7
8	Pacific High	2	5	10	9	10	9	6	9	8	68	58	8
9	Razor	9	9	DNC15	5	5	10	DNC10	11	9	83	68	9
10	Mustang	10	10	8	12	11	12	8	8	7	86	74	12
11	Nimbus	8	11	9	8	9	8	DNC10	DNC15	11	89	74	10
12	Lean Times	6	8	DNF 14	10	12	11	DNC10	DNC15	DNC14	100	85	11
13	Woden	DNC16	DNC16	11	13	DNC14	13	DNC10	12	DNC14	119	103	14
14	Pegasus	13	12	DNC15	14	DNC14	DNC16	DNC10	13	12	120	103	15
15	Love it	12	13	12	DNF16	DNC14	14	DNC10	DNC15	DNC14	124	104	13
16	Freedom Won	11	14	DNC15	DNC17	DNC14	DNC16	DNC10	DNC15	DNC14	126	107	16
17	Zenith	DNC16	DNC16	DNC15	DNC17	DNC14	DNC16	DNC10	DNC15	10	133	109	17
	Zoop	did not compete this year											

Both Divisions have 1 drop (Boats race 8 races and count the best of 7 scores).

DNF - Did not finish

DNC - Did not compete

“Nationals” Completes I-36 Racing Season

On October 4-5 eighteen islanders met at the San Francisco Yacht Club for the first Nationals held in years, and thanks go to James Robinson for helping put on a great event. See Jim’s article on page 11 of this Newsletter. Photos on this page courtesy of Rick Van Mell.

Mark Wyatt, Axolotyl, came in from San Diego and sailed with Don Schumacher on Blue Streak. Everyone was delighted Mark had come, and we hope many more will plan to come in future years.

The final standings for all the boats has yet to be completed, we will be announcing all the results and handing out the awards for the season and Nationals at our fall meeting, so come out and congratulate our winners on November 8th.

Daphne and I would like to thank everyone who has helped us over the past three years as we chaired our racing fleet. As we finish up our final year as fleet captains and look back, we have learned more than we ever thought possible and have made friends with so many of the fleet.

We hope to see everyone back on the starting line next year, but remember if you’re ahead of Nimbus, please slow down.

Daphne & Mike



Daphne and Mike Dickson



Paul and Mary Tara with Zoop’s Crew



Barry & Sylvia Stompe with Tom Cat’s Crew



Zenith



Mischief, Windwalker, Tom Cat

Lazy Daze & Relaxation at Marin Yacht Club Cruise September 20-21

by Cruise Coordinator Skipper Wall



Jim Higdon, Don Henderson, Bruce and Carol Hunter and Peter Wilhite

Bruce and Carol Hunter on "Escape" and Nancy and I on "Snowflower" left our slips Friday, the 19th (the advance contingent) in very flat Bay waters. There was no wind so we motored all the way in sunny, warm weather. Snowflower arrived at 1230 and Escape about 30 minutes later. Since it was high tide there was no problem getting into the Marin Yacht Club harbor. The harbormaster shortly came down and gave us two slips side by side.



Nancy Wall with Dennis, Judy Bush

Carol & Bruce lazed and read away the afternoon, Nancy & I did teak work, then relaxed. This attitude lasted until 1700 when we took up residence on Escape for cocktails, wine and popcorn. At 1845 we adjourned to the lovely Marin Yacht Clubhouse for drinks, watching the Oracle/Alinghi race held that afternoon. Then we went downstairs to the dining room for excellent salmon and pork loin dinners. Back to the boats for a very peaceful night's sleep.

Saturday morning dawned very bright and the harbor was mirror flat. No breeze at all. "Blockbuster" was the first to arrive about 1130. The rest of the boats were there by 1300 except "Solace" who contacted us to advise that they had to turn back because their transmission went out. They sailed home to Alameda. Boats finally in the harbor: Natural High, Freedom Won, Blockbuster, Diana, Mai pen Rai, & Kindred Spirits, 8 in all.



Looks like Bruce Hunter is taking Carol for a ride

We were unable to use the clubhouse patio & BBQ, but the Swim & Tennis Facility were open for us at 1700. The upstairs had a big screen TV where we once more watched the Oracle/Alinghi race. We cooked on a BBQ and set up the potluck on the ping pong table. Matt Bush wasn't thrilled that we covered the table for food!! but did go swimming. Tennis was also available as was the hot tub! The facilities were much better than we expected. The harbormaster Wyn, was most helpful and accommodating.

continued on page 9

More . . . from our Texas Contingent

With reference to Ken Wilson's letter in our July Newsletter, we heard from Texan I-36ers, Nancy and John Mangan.

"You mentioned our boat, "Turning Point", in your recent newsletter and we noted that Ken Wilson is moving his boat to Port Aransas. I couldn't find contact info for Ken. We would love to meet him and share everything we have experienced at the Texas Coast - including info on good repair people, hazards of some poorly marked channels in the area, and some marina info.

"If you have contact info for him, would you please forward our name and numbers/email address to him? Perhaps we can take him out on the Turning Point next time he is in the area. We have found membership in the Association to be incredibly helpful and are hoping to get out to the Bay area to meet some of the California members in person some day.

"Another member of the Association, Henry Neil, has his Islander 36 in Port Aransas. We lovingly refer to Henry as the Admiral of the Texas Fleet! We would be happy to introduce Henry to Ken. While we haven't met the owners of "Island Time" we will certainly look for them and encourage them to join. We can only hope that the "Gulf Stream" survived the recent hurricane that hit Port Lavacca. We sail up to that area and will keep an eye out for her. Happy sailing!"

Nancy & John Mangan, *Turning Point*
San Antonio, TX

Islander 36 Membership as of 1 October 2003

Total: 189 members

Member Groups:

Corporate: 6.

Crew: 1. Honorary: 1.

Non-resident: 90.

Resident: 80.

Sustaining: 8.

Membership by State:

AK 1; AL 2; BC (Canada) 3; CA 116; CT 4;
FL 2; HI 1; IL 2; KS 1; LA 1; MA 5; MD 3; MI
8; MN 3; ND 1; NH 1; NJ 1; NV 2; OH 2; OR
3; PA 1; RI 2; SC 1; TX 3; VI (Virgin Is); VA
1; VT 2; WA 9; WI 1.

If anyone would like a breakdown by

1. Boat Name,

2. Sail Number,

3. Zip Code

Let me know & I'll mail you a copy

Skipper Wall, Membership

MARIN YACHT CLUB CRUISE

September 20-21 *cont'd*

Don Schumacher (Blue Streak) drove in for dinner. The fellowship and friendship was delightful as usual at our I36 cruises.

Sunday morning dawned just like Saturday, bright and sunny with no wind. The harbor was again mirror flat. Everybody had departed for their home ports by 1215 except Snowflower & Freedom Won decided to stay one more night. Harry Farrell & Carol Williams came by and gave us the news that Oracle had "won it all"--six months too late one might say!!

Sunday night dinner was at the MYC. They had a good buffet.

Monday morning's weather was like the first two days. Freedom Won left for Benicia but ran into some hard stuff on the way out of the harbor, so Snowflower pulled her off on our way out. Then Snowflower motored back to Pier 39 and Freedom Won turned NE for Benicia.

It was a very nice weekend and good time. Nancy & Skipper Wall

photo by: Bill Higdon

I-36 Cruise Attendance for 2003

	CRUISERS	BOAT	Encin'l 4/26	Petluma 5/24-25	Bencia 7/4-6	Coyote 8/2	Half Mn 8/30-9/2	MarinYC 9/20-21	Total
1	Aston	Pegasus		drove					1
2	Bennetts	Getaway		X	X				2
3	Brown, Noble	Mai Pen Rai			X			X	2
4	Bushes	Natural High	X	X	X	X		X	5
5	Cohens	Four C's	X	X	X				3
6	Damsens	Woodbine	X		X		X		3
7	Farnums	Silver Shadow		X	X				2
8	Farrell	Pacific High	X	X	X	X		drove	5
9	Fowlers	Zenith	X						1
10	Gallegos	Mi Amor	X						1
11	Henderson	Kindred Spirits	X	X	X			X	4
12	Higdons	Blockbuster	drove	X		X			3
13	Hodgkins	Mischief	X	X	drove	X	X		5
14	Hunters	Escape			drove			X	2
15	Jacobs	Blue Moon		X	X	X			3
16	Krensavage	Mustang					X		1
17	McClellans	4 R Sanity	X						1
18	Meltons	Freedom Won	X					X	2
19	Salvos	Ophira	X	X	drove	drove			4
20	Schumacher	Don						drove	1
21	Sheas	Lean Times			X				1
22	Shwarts	JoyFull		X	X				2
23	Stovers	Solace	X	X	X	X	X	attempt	5.5
24	Thomsons	Noncents		X	X		X		3
25	Trewmans	Moriah		X					1
26	VanMells	Vanish'g Anima	X	X	X				3
27	Verling						X		1
28	Walls	Snowflower		X	X	X		X	4
29	Williams	Night Train	X		drove	X			3
30	Zevanovs	Diana	X	X		X		X	4
31	Zimmermans	Dayna Marie II		X		X	X		3
	BOATS		14	17	15	10	7	8	71
	Attendees		32	41	42	31	17	20	183

Cruises Remaining in 2003

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>
Nov. 8 (Saturday)	FALL MEETING, SFYC, Belvedere	Charles/Kathryn Hodgkins
Dec. 6-7 (Sat/Sun)	Lighted Boat Parade, Oakland YC	Charles/Kathryn Hodgkins
Jan. 1, 2004 (Thurs)	Around Alameda Cruise	Charles/Kathryn Hodgkins
As we get closer to these dates, check the www.islander36.org website (Upcoming Events), or Contact Charles or Kathryn Munn Hodgkins: charles@sailingmischief.com or kathryn@sailingmischief.com		

Islander 36 Nationals October 4-5

by Jim Robinson, Pilot

It has been discussed over the past couple of years that it would be nice to have a race among the Islander 36 boats where everyone would be invited - cruisers, racers, and those in between. We wanted a race that would not count for the season totals regarding the local fleet and would include folks from locations near and far. Just as we had hoped, I heard from Islander owners afar--in Florida, Ohio, Washington, Oregon and Southern California, who planned to attend as volunteer crews aboard local boats, but in the end business demands, family concerns, and the flu reduced out of town participants to a Southern California representative.

What started off as an unnamed independent regatta with titles ranging from the Galactic Championships to the Pacific Coast Championships ended up being called the Islander 36 Nationals. Boats racing were limited to Islander 36's, using working sails with jibs no larger than 135's and no spinnakers. Paul Tara, I-36 Measurer, was on hand Friday night with assistants to measure boats.

The boats started arriving on Friday October 3 at San Francisco Yacht Club. By evening the entire guest dock was filled with beautiful Islanders. A skippers' meeting was held Saturday morning to go over the sailing instructions and by 1100 that afternoon the line was crowded with Islanders--a sight that hasn't been seen in the Bay area for over a decade. Through Mike and Daphne Dickson's efforts, the I-36 Fleet has been building the past few years and put 17 boats on the line this season. This regatta was a reward for their efforts.

The courses were short, the wind around 15 knots and the sky was overcast to clearing. Two races were held on Saturday with TOM CAT outsailing all of us. Sadly TOM CAT and 2 other Islanders became a bit confused about the race instructions and went through a restricted finish line. TOM CAT was protested as was BLUE STREAK by one of the racers but the protest was disallowed because of a problem with not flying a red flag (the disallowment is still to be resolved). Because the Islander fleet is not a litigious one by nature, no one else filed. I think, many of us who saw the infractions believed the one protest would take care of the problem.

Barry and Sylvia upon learning the protest was not allowed pulled TOM CAT from the first race. I don't think SPINDRIFT was even aware of their infraction, as they didn't stay over at the club between races on Saturday night. I'm sure in the end it will all work out. Everyone will do the correct and fair thing.

On Sunday the fleet decided to sail one race as originally planned. By 1100, there we were once again, with lighter winds and clearer skies prevailing, but once again on a line that was filled with beautiful Islanders.

The course set up for us was much shorter than we normally race on the Bay, so the boats were very close to each other in every race. Sunday was no different.

TOM CAT once again ended up leading us all around the course and finishing first. PILOT came in a distant second with WINDWALKER and rest of the fleet crawling up my transom.

I want to thank everyone for coming and everyone who wanted to come but couldn't. Thanks MIDNIGHT SUN for not being able to make the regatta (just kidding). Peter Szasz led the fleet all year long and would have taken the season prize except for missing Vallejo.

And I especially want to single out TOM CAT'S Barry and Sylvia Stompe. In the end TOM CAT got all of us with great tactics, beautiful crew work and fantastic boat speed but because of their fine sportsmanship they relinquished the first place trophy to PILOT. The crew of PILOT had a great weekend, but she was clearly outsailed by TOM CAT.

The reason we've stayed with our Islander 36 for so many years was because of the great people that own these boats and the fair racing we have found, for the most part, in the Bay Area.

See you next year for the 2004 Islander 36 Nationals.

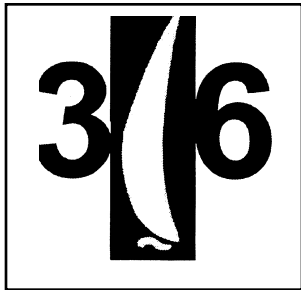
Jim Robinson, PILOT

Participating boats were:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1) Pacific High (Farrell) | 11) Mustang (Krensavage) |
| 2) Island Girl (Burkhart) | 12) Zoop (Tara) |
| 3) Tenacious (Youngberg) | 13) Windwalker
(Gilliom/Shoehare) |
| 4) Tom Cat (Stompe) | 14) Spindrift (Mellor) |
| 5) Blue Streak (Schumacher) | 15) Razor (Engelman) |
| 6) Mischief (Hodgkins) | 16) Love It (Huff) |
| 7) Pegasus (Aston) | 17) Pilot (Robinson) |
| 8) Nimbus (Dicksons) | 18) Zenith (Fowler) |
| 9) Four C's (Cohen) | |
| 10) Freedom Won (Melton) | |

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