

# Islander 36 Newsletter

February 2004

Issue 1

## Spring Meeting

March 13

11:30 a.m.

San Francisco YC,  
Belvedere, CA.

see page 3

## 2004 RACE & CRUISING SCHEDULES

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## The I-36 Clan in Minne-socold Our Minnesota Contingent ~ by Hal Newell

There's a growing rank of I-36's here in Minnesota - three more were brought into the area just last Spring! Not sure if it was Jim Herbert's or Tom Embertson's idea, but someone mentioned trying to get an I-36 rendezvous together. Here's a recap of our meeting November 14th with some of the I-36 captains up Minne-socold way.

Hal Newell offered to have it at his place (there's a sucker born every minute). Four owners got together for beers, burgers and brats. The better halves didn't attend this wing-ding but we're hoping to draw them in at later gatherings.

After dinner, a tour was offered of the 1977 Islander 36 "Mariah," located behind Hal's garage. The biggest hit on this boat seemed to be the custom cubby cut into the starboard cockpit/cabin bulkhead just above the galley sink (one could just hear the hum of the onlookers' Saws-Alls being warmed up).



Dale Mackereth, Jim Herbert, Tom Embertson,  
and Hal Newell

Anyway, it was a great group of folks that really seemed to gel well together. I think that we just scratched the surface for all the stuff we wanted to talk about and I'm betting we all make the next rendezvous at Hooper's Yachts in Afton, MN, where two I-36's are being refit (who's bright idea was this anyway--to next meet up in two gutted boats on the frozen Minnesota tundra?!) I'm sure it'll be a time to remember.

PS. I learned a thing or two in my search for a new bow rail and a modified (or new) stern pulpit with seats for Mariah: There are now two different "Railmakers" companies in CA (see original I-36 "Vendors" list - on website). The original company split in two some time ago. The two halves do not seem to associate with one another. Anyway, "Dave" at Railmakers Costa Mesa can still make the stern/bow pulpits ((949) 642-6506). "But wait, there's more":

*continued on page 9*

**3/6**

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Association of  
San Francisco Bay

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February 2004

# Commodore's Corner

Harry Farrell

Sometimes you know when you make a decision it will be life changing, like getting married, buying a house or having children. I never thought that buying an Islander 36 would be one of those "life changing" events, but it was.



Now, any new boat owner quickly finds out that owning a boat is something like marriage. It takes a lot of your time, costs a lot of money and it takes a lot of work to keep it afloat. Since my Islander 36 was not my first boat, I kind of knew what I had just committed myself to, so that wasn't the "life changing" part I am talking about.

Shortly after buying *Pacific High*, almost 12 years ago, I joined the Islander 36 Association, and my life began to change. Up until I purchased the boat my "friends" were mostly people I knew around the country from having a long relationship with one company. My life revolved around my work. About this time my company was sold and divided up, so a lot of my work friends became the "Christmas card" variety.

I began cruising with the Islanders on a monthly basis and looking forward to those events more and more. What a nice group of people. It seemed like to own an Islander 36 you had to pass a personality test before you could buy one. I can honestly say now my closest friends are my Islander 36 Association friends, and I feel like my life becomes more enriched with each new member I meet. If you're reading this, you're probably an Islander 36 owner, so Hello Friend, and congratulations for passing that personality test.

At this point I have been your Commodore for about eight weeks and I have already discovered the Islander 36 Association is a well-oiled machine. I was out of the country for almost four of those eight weeks and I came back to find an organized meeting (Re: Race rules and regulations meeting) had been planned with a place and an agenda. This might become my best strategy this year. Throw out a task and get out of town. Keep smiling, spring is right around the corner,

*Harry Farrell*

# Islander 36 SPRING MEETING

at San Francisco Yacht Club, Belvedere, California

Saturday, March 13, 2004



Lunch & Meeting: Cove House (SFYC):  
11:30 a.m.: Check in, Libations  
12:00 noon: Lunch  
1:00 p.m.: Meeting, Speaker

Make Your Reservations Online:

[www.islander36.org/events.html](http://www.islander36.org/events.html)

OR

contact Cruise Captains

Dennis & Judy Bush

dennis@henryplastic.com - (408) 559-3450

**Speaker:** **Kimball Livingston**, who covered sailing for the San Francisco Chronicle for 14 years, wrote the book "Sailing the Bay" and is presently the West Coast editor of Sail magazine.

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

**Docking Fees: \$1/foot/night.**

**Children:** chicken strips, fruit cup and ice cream sundae \$10.

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## Record Breaking Fall Meeting November 8, 2003

[extracted from Rick Van Mell's Website Write Up]

The Cove House of San Francisco Yacht Club was filled to capacity as more than 70 members attended the Annual Fall Meeting November 8th, representing 38 boats. The room was filled with warmth and light and happy chatter despite the gloom outside.

Seven boats arrived Friday night and Saturday morning: Don & Barb Henderson (Kindred Spirits), Harry Farrell, Michelle Williams & Raael Cayer (Pacific High), Skipper & Nancy Wall (Snowflower), Gary & Pat Salvo (Ophira), Smokey & Laurie Stover (Solace), Ron & Karen Damsen (Woodbine), and Chris Mellor & Kelly Montana with daughter Claire (Spindrift).

New members attending: Frank Mayo & Susan Brooks (Amante), Steve Peters & Cindy Schultz (Intrepid), Les Raos (Pappillon), Jay, Jeannie & Jon Lund (Solitude), George Swift & Janet MacDuff (Sugartime), & Mellors.

Other attendees not already mentioned above were: Robert Aston & Mary Gleim, Mike Bennett, Dennis & Judy Bush, Fred & Barbara Cucksey, Julian & Debby Cohen, Mike and Daphne Dickson, Al and Nancy Farnum, Art & Betsy Fowler, Bruce & Donna Hallberg,

Bill Higdon, Charles & Kathryn Hodgkins, Bruce and Carol Hunter, Brian Jacobs, Joseph Krensavage, James Roten and Seth Migdail, Walt Levison, John Melton, Jim Robinson, Don Schumacher, Tim, Rhonda and Ian Shea, Barry and Sylvia Stompe, Peter and Louisa Szasz, Paul Tara, Jack & Sandy Thompson, Rick and Sandy Van Mell, Peter Wilhite, Chris Youngberg, and Lou & Diane Zevanov. *continued on page 11*



Robert Aston, Carol Hunter, Jim Robinson

# ISLANDER 36 RACE SCHEDULE FOR 2004

by Joseph Krensavage, Race Fleet Captain



<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Notes</u>
<b>PRE-SEASON:</b>		
Jan. 17-18	CYC Mid-Winters	Extra event, not season series.
Feb. 14-15	CYC Mid-Winters	“ “ “ “ “
<b>RESULTS OF CYC MID WINTERS Jan. 17-18:</b>		
1/17:	1st: Four -C's, 2nd: Amante, 3rd: Mustang, 4th: Tenacious, 5th: Nimbus	
1/18:	1st: Amante, 2nd: Four-C's. DNC: Mustang, Tenacious and Nimbus.	

## CLINICS

Jan. 10	Racer's Meeting	St. Francis YC . SEE PAGE 5
Mar. 27	Race Clinic	St. Francis YC-- chalk talk, tune ups, lunch, & practice Check website for details.

## REGULAR SEASON:

May 1	Vallejo Opener-Day 1	
May 2	Vallejo Opener-Day 2	
May 15	City Front	
June 5	Knox	TWO (2) Race Day

-- MID-SUMMER BREAK --

Aug. 14	Circle	
Aug. 28	South Bay	Post-race raft-up BYOB party Pier 40, SF
Sept 11	Knox	HDA Islands Tour
Sept. 25	City Front	TWO (2) Race Day

## POST- SEASON:

Oct. 9-10	I-36 Nationals	SFYC
Oct. 16	ODCA Champion of Champions	



There are a total of 10 races with two (2) throwouts. For more information about racing, E-Mail Race Chair: Joseph Krensavage: josephk@synopsys.com OR (408) 836-1510

It is important to maintain the strong showing since the I-36 fleet is one of the largest big-boat fleets racing on the Bay. Please do everything you can to arrange your 2004 schedule to make each race, or find an alternate helmsman to sail your boat for you.

*These races are sponsored and conducted by individual yacht clubs under the general rules of the YRA. The Islander 36 Association simply has scheduled a start for Islanders in their races and assumes no liability for race events. It is the responsibility of each individual owner to decide if his or her boat and crew are suitable for a given event, and whether to participate, start or continue to race in any event.*

**Photos from Nationals by Rick Van Mell: Top: 4-C's, Bottom: Love It**

. . . . RACING, continued



## *Notes from Mustang's Deck*

**Joseph Krensavage, Race Fleet Captain:** josephk@synopsys.com - (408) 836-1510

The 2004 season is shaping up to be a great one with something for everyone and it's a wonderful chance to encourage more boats to join in the fun of racing.

Additions this year included a January 10th discussion group at St. Francis, two mid-winter race weekends with the Corinthian Yacht Club (CYC) series, and there will be a pre-season full-day Race Clinic at St. Francis YC on March 27th.

For the Season Championship, we've laid out dates and venues that will make a fine season, including the traditionally fun Vallejo Race opener, a nice mid-summer break, and a fun late season climax.

You will notice that we have included two 2-race days: June 5th and September 25th. That will be a total of 10 races, but we will allow two throwouts so that someone who has to miss one of the 2-race days, or the Vallejo weekend, could still be in good shape for the Season Championship. We had a wonderful time with the Nationals Regatta last October, and it should be even better for 2004.

### **January 10th Race Meeting (see web site write up)**

We had 27 racers attending, representing 15 boats. Commodore Harry Farrell opened the meeting with the comment that I-36, a fleet of 30-year old boats, was getting attention as one of the fastest growing and largest fleets on the Bay. We reviewed the race schedule, racing eligibility and proposed rule changes. THANKS TO PETER SZASZ for hosting the meeting at the St. Francis, with a great social lunch in the Grill Room afterward.

### **Upcoming Race Clinic March 27th St. Francis YC**

**Please check the web site for details.** This clinic replaces the one that has sometimes been scheduled before spring meetings at SFYC. However, racers whose boats have not yet been measured can bring their boats to the Spring Meeting at SFYC in Belvedere on March 13th as well as the Race Clinic on March 27 at the St. Francis YC.

**REVISION TO RACING BY-LAWS:** Proposed revisions will be voted on by the membership at the I-36 Spring Meeting on March 13th. The revisions update allowable sail materials, sail construction, and procurement, and various provisions to handle deviations from the rules. See copy of proposed revisions on our web site. If you are a "Regular Member" (resident within 250 miles of Alcatraz, with dues @\$50/year), you may vote by proxy online. [Contact B. Henderson 415 457-0771 if you need hard copy]  
See: <http://www.islander36.org/BylawChanges1-04.html>.

## Does Your Boat Measure Up. . . to race?

by Paul Tara

If your boat hasn't been measured to race with the I-36 Fleet, you'll need to get it measured and obtain the requisite Measurement Certificate before the first race on May 1st.

Filling out the entry form for the season is effectively an agreement to sail by the class rules. Boats previously measured don't have to be measured again unless a measurement has been changed on the boat.

We will measure boats at the March 13th Spring Meeting (San Francisco YC) as well as at the Race Clinic at St. Francis YC March 27th.

Check requirements and procedure at:  
<http://www.islander36.org/compliance.jpg>

Contact:

**Measurer Paul Tara**  
call (831) 336-3622  
or email [mamckinn@ucsc.edu](mailto:mamckinn@ucsc.edu)

or

**Asst. Measurer  
Robert Aston**

who splits his time between SF and Marin and is sometimes available during the week:  
[astonr@ix.netcom.com](mailto:astonr@ix.netcom.com)

# 2004 Cruisin' with I-36



Judy and Dennis Bush

**CRUISE CAPTAINS**  
 Dennis & Judy Bush  
 dennis@henryplastic.com  
 (408) 559-3450



Debby & Julian Cohen

**ASSISTANT CRUISE CAPTAINS**  
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## Islander 36 Cruise Schedule For 2004

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Coordinator</u>
Sat, March 13	Spring Meeting, San Francisco YC	Details, reservation info on page 3
Sat/Sun, April 24-25	Encinal Yacht Club -"Svendsen discount night"	Charles & Kathryn Hodgkins
Sun, May 16	South Beach, Bay to Breakers	Gary & Pat Salvo
Thurs-Sat, May 20-29	Special Event - Delta Cruise (see sep. article)	Skipper Wall
Sat-Mon, May 29-31	Petaluma Basin - Memorial Weekend	Harry Farrell
Sat-Sun, June 12-13	Angel Island Civil War Days	*
Sat-Mon, July 3-5	Sequoia Yacht Club, Redwood City	Rick & Sandy Van Mell
Sat., Aug 7	Angel Island Victorian House Tour	*
Sat-Sun, Aug. 14-15	Oyster Pt. YC	Bill Higdon
Sat-Mon, Sept 4-6	Labor Day Wkend - Half Moon Bay	*
Sun, Sept. 19	Angel Island. Jazz Dinner	Extra Event
Sat-Sun, Oct 16-17	San Pablo Yacht Club	Kelley Montana
Sat., Nov. 6	Fall Meeting - San Francisco YC	Dennis & Judy Bush
Sat. Nov. 13	Angel Island. Victorian Christmas	Extra Event

### \*CRUISERS:

If you are interested in sponsoring one of these cruises, contact Dennis Bush @ # 510-703-5779.

Cruise coordinators get to do the fun stuff: plan the trip details, including meals--onboard or at a restaurant--and act as hosts for the event. No experience necessary--all you need is a sense of fun.



Cruising Fun last year at Benicia

# DELTA CRUISE May 20 -29 - Do Part or Do It All!

## Cruise Coordinators Skipper & Nancy Wall

This is a great chance to visit the Delta and enjoy the company of fellow cruisers. You can do the whole cruise or join up for part of the cruise to the Fitz-Gerald's or to 3-River Reach and then home. Or enjoy the whole Memorial Day weekend rendezvous with the fleet in Petaluma if you want.

Thursday, May 20th: rendezvous at Red Rock @ 1200 to ride the max flood tide to Benicia, arriving 1400-1500. We need your input 2 weeks in advance to get you in Benicia. Sorry. Harbor Master rules. No space for layover Friday night though.

Friday, May 21st: Leave Benicia for Mike & Carolyn Fitz-Gerald's docks/moornings on Piper Slough, adjacent to Frank's Tract, arriving mid-afternoon.

Sat 22th May: @ the Fitz-Geralds (pending)

Sun 23rd May leave for 3-River Reach, anchor out.

Mon 24th hang out @ 3-River Reach

Tues 25th-Wed 26th at Stockton Sailing Club

Wed 26th Hang out @ SSC

Thurs 27th back down river...anchor out???

Fri: 28th to Vallejo Yacht Club.

Sat, May 29th Head for home or meet up with I-36 fleet for PETALUMA cruise, coordinated by Harry Farrell.

Sun, May 30th - Petaluma

Mon, May 31st, Memorial Day...Home to SF Bay

For additional detail or questions, contact event Coordinator Skipper Wall @ [nvsnowflower@cs.com](mailto:nvsnowflower@cs.com) or call (775) 882-4798

## NEED TO UPDATE YOUR MEMBER INFO ?

Having your current email and snail mail address and phone numbers ensures that you will receive your quarterly Newsletter, and I-36 emails of general interest to members, including access to all those wonderful maintenance questions that get asked - and answered.

So when your current information changes, don't forget to log onto:

**[www.islander36.org/i-36app12.html](http://www.islander36.org/i-36app12.html)**

(or go to the home page and click on **Member Info Update**).

## From Washington State to the West Indies, I-36 Membership Could Hit 200 This Year

by Membership Captain Skipper Wall

As of January 26, 2004, our Islander 36 Association has 197 members.



We could reach the milestone number of 200 before we purge the list in May or early June and sincerely hope that you will continue your membership in the best boat association. Take a look at our web site and I think you will agree this Association has a lot to offer you. Renew NOW!

Smooth Sailing, Skipper Wall

## A Message From Treasurer Ron Damsen

We're getting a good response on Member-ship renewals. If you get your dues in early, we can save on sending all those reminders!

**Ron Damsen, Treasurer**  
**Mail to: 52 Foothill Road,**  
**San Anselmo, CA. 94960**

## Yeaaay, Door Prize Donors! by Sandy Van Mell

It was so much fun calling out door prize numbers once again at the I-36 Fall Meeting November 8th. Winners are always so delighted. Our commercial members support us all year with their services - they're the toy stores for our boats. Some members have donated items from their businesses, and we encourage more members to participate. Our heartiest thanks go out to all who came through with door prizes. Do patronize the wonderful donors listed below and say "Hi!" and "Thank You" from the Islander 36 Association.

The Fall 2003 Donors and gifts were:

North Sails	Chris Shining	20% New Sails Discount and 20% Services Discount
Pineapple Sails	Sally Richards	Shirt & Musto Toilet Kit
Svendsen's Boat Works	Alex Jordan	2 Harken Briefcases, 1 Harken Cooler, 4 Hats & 1 Duffel
Embroidery Factory	Shirley Housley	2 Custom I-36 T-Shirts
Hood Sails	Robin Sodaro	3 Kevlar Duffel Bags
KKMI	Paul Kaplan	Free Haul Wine Bottle!
West Marine – S. San. Fran.	Brian Theobald	Large Duffel Bag
West Marine – Oakland	Steve Estarziau	Foul Weather Jacket
West Marine - Sausalito	Larry Martinez	Small Items Bag, 2 pr. Gloves & 1 Men's Shirt
West Marine - San Jose	Dave Mackey	Large Duffel Bag
West Marine - Sacramento	Jeff Davis	Large Duffel Bag
Woodbine Bakery	Ron & Karen Damsen	2 Amazing Baskets of Gourmet Baked Goodies!

Please give Sandy Van Mell a call or email if you have a **new donor** to add to the list--collect the manager's business card the next time you visit so you can give Sandy the **manager's name and phone number**. We will make sure that they get a Thank You letter from our organization and an I-36 burgee, if they want one to display. Sandy Van Mell: 650-962-1515 vanmells@ix.netcom.com

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### **A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO SVENDSEN'S BOATWORKS**

Sean Svendsen donated specially made T-Shirts for the I-36 Nationals Regatta last Oct. 4-5th. Svendsen's hustled to put together artwork, order the T-shirts and get them silkscreened in time, dropped off the completed shirts the day prior to the regatta. They were handed out (6 per boat) at the skippers' meeting. Racers wore them proudly on the race course--and the party that followed, and will for years to come.

Special thanks also to Svendsen's for hosting an I-36 Fleet Night during the Encinal cruise!





## **F-36 Wild Flower Beached by Hurricane, Relunched by Friends**

A friend of Ron and Karen Damsen passed this story along, commenting, "You've got a good seaworthy boat!"

Hurricane Marty at purportedly 80-90 knot winds, caused "the most destruction ever to the cruising fleet in Mexico. . . . Regrettably she leaves a tremendous trail of destruction, particularly in some parts of La Paz and in Puerto Escondido." (**Lectronic Latitude 38**, 9/23/03).

"Yeah!!! A cheer rose from the crowd gathered to see the re-floating of Freeport 36 "Wild Flower" from the mangroves in the "Waiting Room" (an anchorage up in the Sea of Cortez). About 9 p.m., the pretty boat came sliding off her bed of branches and leaves, down to the water again. It was a happy moment, one anticipated for days by all of the cruising community here in Puerto Escondido."

[This account is from Robin, a friend of Lynne Stevens who owns "Wild Flower," which was blown ashore when Hurricane Marty blew up into the Sea of Cortez. Lynne was in Michigan visiting her mother, so Robin and Marty of "The Cat's Meow" and other boaters at Puerto Escondido got her boat back into the water.]

### **Minnesota Contingent**, continued from page 1

"But wait, there's more": I found another gentleman who seems equally, or more qualified who will do the work for a fair amount less (Stainless Steel Specialties). I'm still working this all out but will give you the details on what I come up with, work I have done, the cost and how to get a hold of whomever (for the benefit of other I-36'ers looking for similar work to be done).

[Ed. Note: Great to hear from you Hal. Keep us up to date, OK? - We always love to hear from our out of town Members]

### **And the Word From Ohio Is:**

November 11, 2003 - RE: I-36 Update  
Rick & Sandy (Van Mell):

Sounds like you had a great time [Fall Meeting Nov. 8]. Sorry I couldn't be there. I had planned to come out and race in the "Nationals" but a job change precluded me from doing that. Hope to be there next year.

Sailing on Lake Erie was not great this year. Water levels are down and there were a number of weekends when it was either raining or the wind was less than desirable. I hope next year lends itself to better weather. ~ Jeff Crosby, Bellevue, OH, "Taboo"

"Folks took pictures, though it was completely dark when Wild Flower decided to give up her stately position in the vegetation. I (Robin) was the person directing the spotlight onto the boat while Martin revved the engine of *The Cat's Meow* and gently pulled Wild Flower free. Larry of *Champagne* and Dario of *Ballena* were working the line attached to the mast, Bill of *Summer Wind* was onboard directing traffic, at least three dinghies in the water were shining flashlights on the lines.

"A rounding cheer filled the night air when the vessel floated on water for the first time since the morning of the hurricane on Monday! Larry the diver checked the hull, and declared her solid. The only "damage" is mostly cosmetic - the hull on the starboard side is slightly scratched in a few places, the dirt from the mangroves is stuck in some places, it looks like there is a garden growing on your deck from all the leaves left from the bushes....and, there may be a mangrove mouse on the boat....hmmmm.

"But other than that, Wild Flower is fine!!!! Bill was able to STEER her to the mooring where she is at least temporarily placed. The rudder is good, the hull is good, there is no water and no holes and YOU ARE SOOOO LUCKY!!! Almost every mooring in the Waiting Room had problems. Marty was a very very very nasty storm, and he has wreaked havoc all the way from Los Barillos at least to Bahia de Los Angeles, and perhaps also in the San Felipe area. This was a major damage storm.

But you do not need to worry. Maybe someone with a cat will let it loose on the boat and take care of the mouse, too. Four of us boat gals cleaned up the tossed and tumbled stuff inside Wild Flower earlier today, and we secured everything we could think of before the jolt of re-floating. No one went inside afterward, as it was way too dark, but perhaps we will in the next few days, just to be sure all is OK. Some of the expensive items were taken off the boat and stored on Summer Wind and will be replaced, since all is OK now.

That is the report from Puerto Escondido. Hasta pasta for now (it is almost midnight here right now.)"

~ Robin & Marty

[congratulations Lynne - on your valiant boat - AND some great friends in Puerto Escondido.]

# MINUTES of the Fall Meeting, Islander 36 Association November 8, 2003

Commodore Henderson began the meeting by welcoming new members, then asked for reports from the Chairs.

Membership Captain Skipper Wall noted we have 192 members and hope to reach 200 next year.

Brian Jacobs rose to give his last Secretary's Report but, since the minutes had been published in the Newsletter, Don used the time to thank Brian for his four years as Secretary, warmly applauded by everyone.

Treasurer Ron Damsen had left copies of his report on tables, adding that we had record income in 2003, plus record expenses, but were in fine shape for 2004.

Measurer Paul Tara reported that 15 boats were measured for racing; next year all boats that want to race have to be measured before hitting the starting line if they haven't already been measured. Paul said he is ready, willing and able to measure everyone in time for next season.

Rick Van Mell, Webmaster, noted that we now have on our website a whopping 145 pages and 2,730 pictures. Rick received an ovation from the crowd for our stellar website.

Barb Henderson thanked all officers, chairs and members for their input to the Newsletter, and requested members continue their contributions of newsworthy items.

Cruise Captains Charles & Kathryn Hodgkins distributed wine glasses (engraved with the I-36 logo) to 2003 cruisers, gave a bottle of wine to Cruise Coordinators, then gave a new trophy, the Charles Winton Annual Cruising Award, to Jim "Smockey" & Laurie Stover (Solace) who attended all of this year's cruises. New Cruise Captain Dennis Bush distributed a draft of proposed



Don Henderson toasts I-36 as he completes year as Commodore

Race Captains Mike & Daphne Dickson gave engraved glass beer mugs to racers. They presented Jim Robinson (Pilot) with the Buster Hammond Half Hull Trophy for 1st Place in the I-36 Racing Season--as well as the new Winton Half Hull Trophy for winning the I-36 Nationals Regatta held at SFYC in October. More engraved glasses and flags went to Season winners (published in Oct. Newsletter) and special awards were given to Nationals winners (2nd: Windwalker; 3rd: Tenacious; 4th: Mischief; 5th: Zenith.)

Smokey Stover presented a new award, which he had proposed, for those who both raced AND cruised. Recipients were Charles & Kathryn Hodgkins (Mischief) who competed in all of the races and also served as Cruise Captains for the last two seasons. The second award went to Harry Farrell (Pacific High) who participated in most of the races and cruises.

The Commodore presented the Schneider Silver Cup for service to Mike & Daphne Dickson for three great years as Race Chairs, establishing the spring Race Clinics, and more than tripling the size of the I-36 race fleet. He also presented Sandy Van Mell with a special service cup for a wonderful job done over the last 6 years obtaining donations from boat vendors for fall door prizes, which members appreciate so much.

The 2004 slate of officers & chairs was nominated and seconded, to a chorus of "ayes". Newly elected Commodore Harry Farrell commended outgoing Commodore Don Henderson for his year of service, commenting how Don "made it look easy," and presented him with the traditional Commodore's shirt. Then Harry expressed his pleasure with the slate of new officers and chairs for 2004. (see listed on page 2).



Smokey Stover congratulated by Charles Hodgkins on award of Cruising Trophy



Art Fowler and Bruce Hallberg

Shirley Housley of the Embroidery Factory was on hand with an array of shirts, jackets and sweaters that her company will embroider with the Islander 36 logo and boat name. see p. 12.



Dennis Bush, Frank Mayo and Susan Brooks

After a lively session of getting checked in (thanks Kathryn Hodgkins & Pat Salvo), and a catch up session, everyone was finally settled into their seats for a luscious chicken lunch.

Commodore Don Henderson began the meeting, which included a record

breaking number of awards (see Minutes, page 7), followed by speaker Allen Dekelboun and his wife Joan who showed slides of their underwater journeys over the last 20 years all over the world.

Then Sandy Van Mell orchestrated the fabulous annual Door Prize extravaganza, to the delight of members. See a complete list of

prizes and donors on page 8.

The few boats that remained at dock Saturday night had a wet night of it, their owners dashing back and forth with hors d'oeuvres and bottles of wine, but mostly huddled together warm and cozy in dry cabins of such boats as Ophira, enjoying the companionship of the I-36 clan.



Ian Shea tries out the cooler won by Mom Rhonda, observed by Claire Mellor

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## Sandy Van Mell Rounds Up Those Great Door Prizes Again!

Sandy Van Mell has been getting the Fall Meeting Door Prizes for the last six years - since 1998. This year she was awarded a special service cup for her efforts. Members have certainly enjoyed the fruits of her labor!

Sandy started this wonderful work when Rick was Commodore and she has taken it under her wing all the way. There have been between 12 and 16 contributing vendors with 1 to 4 prizes each, perhaps 150 prizes in total over six years (counting 2003.) It's like old home week when she calls them up each year! Her friendly and personable conversations usually do the trick!

Then she organizes volunteers like Harry Farrell and Skipper Wall to pick up donations from vendors located in their areas or on their route of travel. Each vendor gets a thank-you letter, sometimes required for their files. The letter is either mailed in advance or provided



Sandy and Rick Van Mell

when gifts are picked up. Of course, Rick gets to help too.

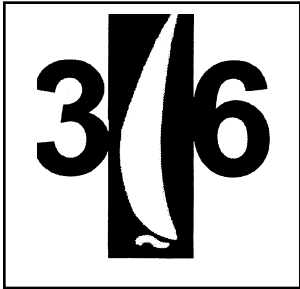
It often takes several calls to reach a manager, or to get a decision, so there's plenty of follow up work along the way. It's all typed into a spreadsheet, complete with the information about who won what prize, and saved as the starting point for the next year.

It looks like we had another good year of Door Prizes thanks to Sandy Van Mell and our great Donors.

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