

Fleet 34 — Stonington, Connecticut

Fishers Island Sound

Organized 1965

OFFICERS

COMMODORE - Stearns Martin
VICE COMMODORE - Nancy Gibson
TREASURER - George Bates
SECRETARY - Allen B. Smith
P.O. Box 349, Mystic, Conn. 06355

ROSTER

156 NERIO — Allen B. Smith
177 QUEST — Robert W. Maitt, Jr.
194 JULIE ANN — John W. Maisch
286 CYRANO — Joseph H. Hunt
340 WIKI-WIKI — John V. Leonard
377 YANKEE D — William H. Roehl
385 BONANZA — George P. Bates
496 NUMERO UNO — Stearns Martin
563 JAWS — Dr. Arthur P. Hotchkiss
587 ONRUST — Robert B. Ziegler
660 MOONAKIS — Mrs. J. Merrill Gibson
689 AMAIN — Sidney E. Speed
713 AFRICAN QUEEN — Dr. Trent Repko
823 ROMANCE — Gerald R. Daly
830 MYSTIQUE — Norbert E. Smyth
838 DULCINEA — Robert E. Cohn
944 QUICK ONE — Blunt White - Dennis Cox
964 WINDANCE — Dr. Harry Brown
1002 THE PEDDLER — John C. O'Brien - C. William Stamm
1021 PUSSY CAT — George Gregory
1048 FLYING HIGH — Robert S. Jones
1098 MAKIN KNOTS — Alfred R. Wilcox
1154 ARIES — William A. Budding, Jr.
1227 SABRINA — Dr. William N. Jones
1299 AIR-BORNE — Fred S. Burnham
1334 CHANTE — Dr. Charles Frederick Dyer
1411 CLIFFHANGER — H. Clifford Parris
1434 SLICKER — Emory D. Ayers
1490 CHIMERA — William T. Hegenberger

race competition for the season championship. Sailing in nine races, he took four firsts, a second, three fourths and a sixth in racing that saw between 18 and 24 Ensigns on the starting line for most races. He won both halves of the split-season series to lock the victory. Bob has an uncanny ability to work his way up through the fleet, has excellent boat speed both on and off the wind and makes few tactical mistakes, despite the strong, tricky tidal currents in the Sound.

The season opener for the Memorial Day Race trophy was taken by Bill Jones (Bob's brother) in SABRINA. Al Smith sailed his NERIO to victory in the five-race June series to take the Alice Ayers Perpetual Trophy. Al admits to being over 65, but won't say how much. He looks and acts 20 years younger than that.

Sid Speed sailed AMAIN through an 18-mile fog-bound race around Fishers Island to win the season wind-up in late September, receiving for his troubles the Doc Bones Jones perpetual trophy. The race was run by the 1974 winner, Al Wilcox, who, with his family, threw a terrific post-race party at the Ram Island Yacht Club.

A group of six boats from Fleet 34 competed in the Region II Championships at Bristol, R.I., with Bob Jones placing second and George Bates taking fifth. Shortly thereafter, four skippers from the fleet, George Bates, Nancy Gibson, John Hayes and Bob Jones, went to the Nationals on Lake Michigan—with all but Bates trailing their boats. John Hayes sailed his PRECIOUS-713 into a second, nipping out Merle Hallett for the spot with whom he was tied on points. Defending National Champion Bob Jones had more than his share of bad luck, including breaking his mast when in the lead on the final beat of the heavy-weather fourth race.

At the Fleet 34 annual post-season Awards Night, hosted by outgoing Commodore George Bates and his wife/crew (crew/wife?) Nancy, Al Smith showed outstanding color slides he had arranged to be taken of Ensign racing that made it obvious why the boats are so great.

The fleet looks forward to hosting the 1976 Region II Championships and to another great season of racing. Enrollment may be down somewhat due to the fact that several boats from nearby Fleet 57 in New London, Conn. that had raced with us may do more racing in their home fleet, which is seeing a resurgence of interest.

Jerry Daly