

1020 *Isis*, Robert P. Rowe
1021 *Pussy Cat*, William P. Lennon
1048 *Flying High*, Robert S. Jones
1069 William H. Forster
1071 *Frolic*, Frank Reed
1098 *Makin Knots*, Alfred R. Wilcox
1154 *Aries*, William A. Budding, Jr.
1158 *Baloo*, Alix Stanley

1227 *Sabrina*, Dr. Wm. Jones
1299 *Air-Borne*, Fred S. Burnham
1307 *Slainte*, Brian Gallagher
1411 *Cliffhanger*, H. Clifford Parris
1434 *Slicker*, Emory D. Ayers
1490 *Chimera*, William T. Hegenberger
1623 *Sans Souci*, James Derby, MD

Fleet 34 — Stonington, Conn.

1978 Champion — Wes Maxwell/John Holstein, *Gotcha!* - 1002

Second — Stearns Martin, *Numero Uno* - 496

Third — Bob Jones, *Flying High* - 1048

Fleet 34 enjoyed its most active racing season in 1978. Fleet membership grew to 37 boats, and 19 skippers qualified for the fleet championship series. And again, the championship was not decided until the final race of the season.

Four skippers were in contention for fleet honors on the final day of racing, with Stearns Martin-496 holding a slim lead over *Gotcha!*-1002, *Flying High*-1048, and *Mystique*-830 (Paul Smyth). Veteran Bob Jones did all he could to win his fourth championship, as he won both races that day. However, Wes Maxwell took seconds in both races to move into first place for the season. Throw-out races played an important part in the final standings, as only the best seven of twelve races were considered for the championship.

Gotcha!'s victory capped a season in which she also won the opener—the Memorial Day Race.

This year's Ayers Trophy race winner was Stearns Martin *Numero Uno*, who got off to an early flying start on the fleet. The Early Series (June) winner was *Gotcha!*, Maxwell/Holstein, and the Late Series (July-August) winner was *Flying High*, Bob Jones.

On the annual Around Fisher's Island race, George Bates, *Bonanza*-386 won for the second year in a row in a long race marked by dramatic changes in boat positions due to varying winds, currents and tactics thrown at the fleet by Fishers Island Sound.

Despite the fact that the final fleet race occurred on September 23, a number of Ensigns could be seen cruising many days later into the fall, an indication that the Ensign continues as a boat to be enjoyed under a variety of circumstances.

Paul Smyth