



Fleet 5



Long Island Sound—2012

Welcome, and thank you for your interest in **Fleet 5**. The **Catalina 36 International Association** is made up of a group of Catalina 36 owners, organized into fleets by geographic area. We are **Fleet 5 - Long Island Sound**. Our main interests are sailing events including weekend rendezvous', summer cruises, off-season meetings in members' homes, restaurants and yacht clubs, get-togethers at the Annapolis Sailboat Show, and general camaraderie with a common interest in our yachts. Many friendships, made through our fleet, bring us together for side trips such as chartering in the Caribbean and the Greek Isles, skiing and even more personal family events.

Our members' yachts are spread from Barnegat Bay to the Hudson River, across Long Island Sound and to Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Therefore we try to plan activities covering both eastern and western ends of our area and in between.

We hold 3 business/social meetings in the fall, winter and spring to plan the next year's on-the-water events and keep in touch with our great sailing friends.

On the water we started 2011 by rendezvousing in Greenport, Long Island on Memorial Day Weekend. On our annual two week summer cruise, we met in



Sailing in Block Island Sound

Stonington, CT and then sailed on to Bristol, RI including the oldest Fourth of July 4 parade in America and a great fireworks display over the harbor. We then sailed to Westport, MA and enjoyed the great wine tasting at Westport Rivers Winery. We spent a beautiful night in Onset near the Cape Cod Canal at the Point Independence Yacht Club before sailing through the canal and traversing Cape Cod Bay to Provincetown where we spent 3 glorious days. After sailing back across the bay in moderately heavy weather we sailed into Quissett Harbor for 2 nights and a day of sightseeing Woods Hole and Falmouth. We then sailed back down Buzzards Bay to Cuttyhunk Island for a night and then on to Block Island for our final weekend of the cruise. We all had a magnificent time sailing and partying together.

Unofficially some of us rendezvoused in Block Island in August and others got together in Mattituck, Long Island to go to the local wineries. Still others sailed to Sag Harbor in Long Island's Hamptons for a great weekend.

About 50 of us got together at the United States Coast Guard Academy Officers' Club for Fleet 5's Gala 20th Anniversary Party. With wonderful food, drinks, dancing, speeches and a constant slide show of our 20 great years as a fleet. We all (new members



Fleet 5 in Provincetown



Fleet 5's 20th Anniversary Brunch

and old) had a glorious evening. Many of us also gathered the next morning at the home of Cheryl & Elwin Schwartz on the Thames River's edge for a great brunch before heading off.

Some of us again traveled south and met at the Annapolis Boat Show to see the Catalinas and the latest goodies on the market and dined together at night.

In other years we have cruised to Narraganset Bay, Chatham (Cape Cod), Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket Island, New York City for Op Sail, West Point for the Fourth of July Concert and Fireworks and all places in between. Some of our members take extended cruises north to Maine or up the Hudson River to the Great Lakes and south to the Chesapeake Bay or the ICW to Florida and the Bahamas. We have sponsored the 1994 and 1998 Catalina 36 National Regattas.

This season our Cruise Committee is planning our 2012 Summer Cruise to Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard in July. We are also planning several weekend rendezvous' around the Long Island Sound area. And we will gather again at the Annapolis Sailboat Show in October. And a few of our boats are joining a June rally cruise to Bermuda with the famous solo circumnavigator, Tanya Aebi.

We especially like to share what we have done to customize our yachts with some handy maintenance tips. We often climb aboard each other's yachts and discuss our latest modifications and upgrades. One of the benefits of sailing together is safety in numbers as we are always willing to help each other out wherever, whenever (i.e. towing a disabled boat to the next port or even helping someone with a medical emergency).

We are also paying particular attention to sharing

our joy and good fortune with the physically disabled through the Sail Connecticut Access program. And we are developing a series of hands-on learning events about safety and sailing.

Fleet 5 is a very diverse group of people. We are young parents with small children as well as grandparents and retirees who are now free again! Some of us have sailed since childhood while some of us just started learning a few years ago and are looking for the comfort of a group to help us get our sailing feet wet. Some of us are avid racers while others prefer the coastal cruising lifestyle. Some of us are very handy while others are all

thumbs. But we blend well together and all enjoy sharing our love for our yachts and the sea.

Our \$30 annual membership dues is for membership in **Fleet 5**, participating in all our activities including our treasured Summer Cruise, sharing in the "Forum" on our Fleet 5 website and receiving all our newsletters. Membership in International Catalina One Design Associations (i.e. C36IA) is handled separately with those associations, which includes a subscription to *Catalina/Mainsheet*, the quarterly publication of all the Catalina Owners' National Associations. Through our association we have established a good relationship with Catalina 36 owners across the country and with the builder of our Catalina Yachts, Frank Butler, his V.P. and Chief Designer, Gerry Douglas, his V.P. of sales, Sharon Day and the rest of his staff.

For more information about **Fleet 5** please contact our Membership Chair, Keila Quintaes, at keiladq@optonline.net.

Happy Sailing!
We Hope to Have You Aboard!

By the way, we are not exclusively Catalina 36 owners. Some of us have other Catalina models and some of us own sailboats from other manufacturers. And some of our members own trawlers! All are welcomed!

For information, newsletters, calendars, pictures and more...

See the Fleet 5 Website!

<http://c36fleet5.org>