

Seawind Rallies at Catalina

by Steve Ellsworth

Seawind held it's 2nd annual Rally at the Isthmus in Catalina August 23-26. This year's theme was "Sailing Flat With Friends" an obvious play on the sailing characteristics of catamarans. There were crews from 10 catamarans represented, with 7 boats making the trip. The Rally was hosted by Kurt Jerman of West Coast Multi-hulls, who is the USA Distributor for Seawind, which is built in Australia.



Being that the boats are built in Australia, the Rally began with a "Shrimp on the Barbie" cocktail party hosted by Joe Weathers and the crew from *Sea Ya*, a Seawind 1000. There was a lot of laughter and swapping stories and getting reacquainted from last year's Rally. The shrimp was great and there was a lot of Fosters consumed. For those who awoke early on Friday, there was a fishing derby where many hopefuls



The Seawind Faithful

set out to catch dinner. As it turned out it was a good thing that Kurt had planned ahead and brought Carne Asada for the bar-

beque on the beach. As dusk fell, the beach barbeque was highlighted by a sighting of the International Space Station as it passed over Catalina. Saturday morning several boats from the fleet took up the challenge and raced around



Cats on the Run

the west end of Catalina to Cat Harbor. The wind was moderate and on the nose for the first leg so there was a lot of tacking and verbal exchanges as paths crossed. But as the fleet rounded the west end of the island and the wind angles improved, the speeds increased and the race was on. In the end, *Sea Ya* who was sporting new hull extensions, was the first to cross the finish line.



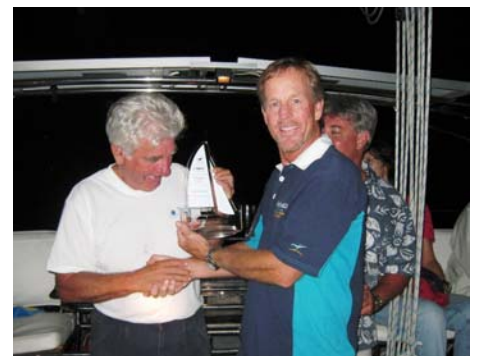
Cat Harbor Raft Up

After the race we all rafted-up in the anchorage in Cat Harbor, what a sight to see 6 catamarans all tied together, we looked like a



After Race Lounge

small island. The after race pot luck party was held on Tim and Ruth Henning's *Victory Cat*, a new Seawind 1160, and the inevitable after race banter became the topic of discussion. We all gathered on Larry and Nancy's *Island Time* for the awarding of the perpetual Rally/Race trophy to the crew of *Sea Ya*. As the evening



Joe Weathers and Kurt Jerman

wound down there were night caps on Steve and Pam Ellsworth's boat, *Barramundi* where Gary Oleze from *Sol Surfin'* and yours truly played guitars until the harbor curfew .

As dawn broke on Sunday the crews were a little slow rise. There were sore throats from singing and blurred vision from drinking but soon the raft broke up and all the boats headed home to various ports along the coast of California. Next year promises to be even better.