

It's All About Family

If you see the 1967 Alberg 30 (hull #272) *Rinn Duin*, sailing out of the Magothy Marina on the Magothy, give a wave to Mike and Pat Meinhold and their children Max and Rachel, members of the Alberg 30 One-Design Association.

How did you get into sailing?

Mike grew up sailing dinghies and Sunfish on Long Island, NY, his Dad's 18-foot wooden sailboat, and then a Catalina 22 on Bellport Bay. Pat enjoyed fishing and skiing on a Boston Whaler at the Jersey Shore. Mike learned wind-surfing at school on Long Island Sound and crewed on the Beneteau 42 *Streaker* and an early *Mirage* after moving to Annapolis. We restored an O'Day called *Javelin* and got Pat sailing, and sailed that boat with our kids, Rachel and Max. Then we found the Alberg and the Chesapeake Bay Alberg 30 One-Design Association in 2003.

What's the best part about being in a cruising club?

The family aspect—both the familiarity and looking out for each other.

Have you held an office within the club?

Pat was Secretary for a year. Rachel served as secretary for three years while in high school, and Mike has run the gauntlet from cruising commodore up through fleet captain, vice commodore, and commodore and is again serving as cruising commodore this year: a total of nine officer-years among us so far!

Do you have a favorite recent memory from a club rendezvous or raft-up?

Last year in Broad Creek at our Children's Cruise, with kids sailing around the anchorage on dinghies, diving off sterns, visiting boat-to-boat, and listening to the Nats game on a hand-crank radio.

■ The Meinholds returning from a cruise to the Corsica with Alberg 30s *Gilleleje* and *Tatus II* (taking the picture). It turned into a race down the Chester, with water cannons. Max is on the bow exchanging fire with Trish Lehman.



Anything else you would like to share with SpinSheet readers?

It's amazing that we are still using these beautiful boats the same way the first owners did in 1964, enjoying the fellowship of other sailors, the excitement of racing one-design, and the pleasures of family cruising. The Alberg 30 is a great sailboat, and we joined a family when we joined the association.

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