



The Circumnavigation of the "Hippos Camp" Catalina Morgan 43 Sailed by: The Eustache Family

In November 1990 Dominique and Carole left Long Beach with their 2-1/2 year old daughter Chloe. Crossing the Pacific, their son Jules was born in Papeete in 1991 and left anchor 5 days later. After 3 years in French Polynesia, Hippos Camp hits a furious storm 3 days out of New Zealand in 1994, spending 36 hours in 90 knots+ winds, cross the eye of the storm throughout, dip the spreaders in the water a number of times and suffer no damage. The Hippos Camp is the only boat with 2 young kids on-board (6 and 2 1/2). 1995 and '96 found them cruising the reefs of Australia and moving north thru New Guinea, Indonesia and Singapore. The next two years were spent cruising Malaysia and Thailand, alternating with back-packing trips in So. East Asia and China. In 1999 they departed Thailand for Sri Lanka, Maldives, Chagos, Seychelles and Kenya.

Becoming "land-lubbers" in Charleston, SC, 2001-02, just long enough to replenish the cruising kitty. Now in South Africa, and after extensive debate about getting another boat, they decided that we simply could not sell HC: "She is part of the family; she is our soul. Bottom line: we are now undertaking a major refit in So. Africa" After 50,000 miles and 10 years, "She has proven to be a great boat for a long-distance voyage, a great performer in all conditions and a strong/safe boat in storms." The Eustaches plan to cross the Atlantic and continue west in 2005.



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