

33rd YACHT PARADE

THE ESTUARY

DECEMBER 5, 2009

Island staffers trundled on over to watch the 33rd annual yacht parade from a wharf at Jack London Square. This year, the theme was "Xmas Carols", so there were quite a few boats outfitted with speaker systems as well as the lights and inflatable Jack Frosts. One enterprising owner used the sail of his 15 foot Sunfish as a projection screen for a movie of a band playing.

The harbor pilot led the procession that looped in a mile-long oval along the estuary.







All kinds of boats showed up decorated to the nines, from sail to powered excursion boats.



Even a few people-powered rowers appeared in the parade.



The background was lit by coastal industries, including here the lights of the Port and an oceangoing container ship.







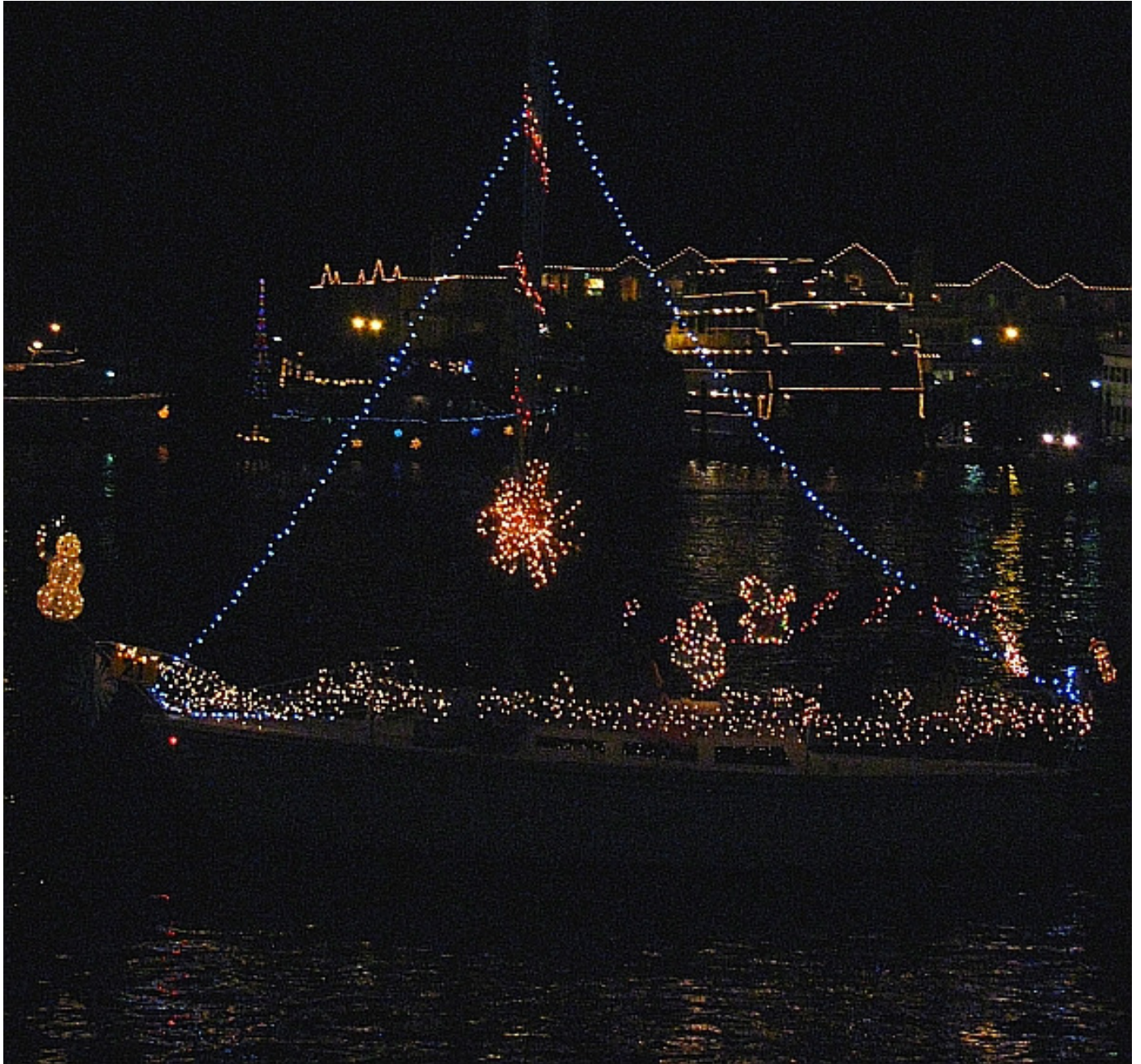
From the gaudy to the elegantly tasteful. . .





Even commercial boats were represented, as here the harbor tug made its appearance with blasts of its foghorns.





One crowd favorite was a 12 footer traveling entirely dark save for a forward running light and a rigging mounted design that changed from a star . . .



To Spongebob Squarepants.



Also popular were a pair of sea-kayaks. Each of whom made two full circles around the oval.





It was a jolly parade lasting a couple hours, and in the end a fine time was had by all despite the brisk wind and chill temps.