



# R h o d e s 1 9

## Fleet 5 Newsletter

www.r19fleet5.org / www.rhodes19.org

August 2010

### GREETINGS FROM THE PREZ

Wow! What a (race) week, and in fact, what a month. When Race Week ended, I needed to limp back into work just to get a little rest. As usual, we were the largest class of the regatta, by far, and we should all be proud of that. I'm not surprised, though perhaps a little disappointed, by the characteristically squirrely RW conditions, especially after so many weeks of honking sea breeze through June and early July (which of course recommenced first thing Monday morning). But hey, who doesn't associate Race Week with fog? In my 14-15 Race Weeks, the one certainty has always been that conditions will be different that week from what we get the rest of the summer. It's just astonishing that it always seems to work out that way, but I digress.

Many thanks to **Jenifer & Steve Uhl** for opening their beautiful harbor-side home to us. The weather accommodated and it was a perfect night – tranquil, serene and welcoming – the much needed contrast to six hours of a 20-knot, butt-kicking westerly. Huge congratulations to our 2010 Race Week champs **Charlie Pendleton** and **Jim Raisides**. It all came down to the last race, but they held on to take home the coveted spitoon for the second straight year. And in case you hadn't heard, Charlie was additionally honored by being awarded the Leonard M. Fowle trophy, an EYC perpetual trophy (usually locked behind glass in the EYC trophy room) and one of the three big prizes of Race Week. Often called the give-back trophy, it was awarded to Charlie, not just for winning his class, but also for his hard work overhauling the MRA web site. Winning the Fowle is a tremendous achievement by one of our own. Well done.

Of course, no Race Week recap would be complete without a few of my other personalized and highly subjective observations. So in no particular order, how about that David Rose! **Mark Rubin** enlisted young **Collin Santangelo**, who if you'll excuse the vernacular, drove his butt off, earning them a 5th in the regatta. And that, despite pulling off in the first race one of the more spectacular death rolls I've seen in a long time. Or, how about **Rick Saunders**, who sailed day 2 by himself – and beat quite a few boats thank you very much. **Ben Richardson** might have won the whole enchilada had he not broken down the first day. What a great sailor! And what's up with those Etchells and IODs blasting down through our course on day 3 and robbing Team **Kazoski** of its bullet? Can't wait for the next time one of them asks Pete to play through at the CYC crane. Consider this – not one boat finished with only single digits this year – talk about a tough fleet. **Tarin Comer** had the best Race Week of any first-year skipper in my memory. She is a very good sailor – watch out for her. **Steve Uhl** needs to get his priorities straight – really, working during Race Week?! Welcome back **Hutch**. When did **Nat Taylor** get so big? Would you have wanted to be PRO in those conditions? How do the **Feltons** always go so fast? And a huge tip of the hat to **Bill & Renee Heffernan** for slogging in out by themselves in the big air on day 1. They couldn't have weighed more 275 pounds between them, but they went out and sailed it. How great is that?

So, now onto the big one – Nationals. Last I heard, we were on track to hit our goal of 40 boats. 40 boats! When was the last time you tried to get a good start with 40 boats on the line? Ladies and gentleman, start your engines, the main event is about to begin.

One other note before I sign off. It has come to my attention that a few folks continue to procrastinate bringing their boats into compliance after having been measured. Just a friendly reminder that we are all obligated to sail compliant boats 100% of the time, not just in Nationals. So get the lead out and put your lead in!! See you on the water.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Pre-Nationals Coaching Clinic – Saturday August 14<sup>th</sup>** Greg Wilkinson, EYC Coach and Coach of the 2010 Collegiate National Championship Sailing Team, will be on the water video taping the Rhodes 19 MRA racing on Saturday, August 14th. All R19 MRA participants are invited to the EYC bar at the conclusion of racing for a debrief and video review. Greg can help you refine your skills as we head into Nationals. The EYC accepts cash or you can cross charge to your club. If there is anything specific you want Greg to watch for and comment on, email him before-hand at [greg.wilkinson@easternyc.org](mailto:greg.wilkinson@easternyc.org).

**Junior Keel Boat Regatta – Sun August 15<sup>th</sup>** This year's CYC's Junior Keelboat regatta will be held on Sunday August 15<sup>th</sup> – circle the date. Turnabout is fair play, and this is the perfect opportunity to let the kids call the shots. Information can be found on the CYC web site, or you can contact regatta organizer **Maura Power** at [maurapower@verizon.net](mailto:maurapower@verizon.net).

**Annual Meeting - Tuesday August 17<sup>th</sup> at 5PM** The Rhodes 19 Class Association Annual Meeting will be held on the Tuesday of Nationals (after the practice race) at the Corinthian Yacht Club.

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**WELCOME**

The fleet is pleased to welcome **Lisa & Frank McNamara**. Lisa & Frank own the J24 Zot, which we've all seen racing on the Tinkers Line. They've just purchased 1939 from **Rick Smyers** (who as you know bought 892 from **Andrew Savage**) and plan to race it locally while continuing to campaign the J24 at away regattas. Expect to see him on the starting line in the coming weeks.

**SHORT TACKS**

*Got News? Let's here from you. Send your gossip, rumors and embarrassing tidbits to [kpandapas@comcast.net](mailto:kpandapas@comcast.net). We'll get the word out.*

**New Fleet 5 Web Site** **Rick Berliner** has been working for months to update the look and feel of the Fleet 5 web site. He's hoping to go live with it sometime in the first few days of August, so give it a look. Many thanks to Rick for his hard work.

**Fleet 5 Kids Do Us Proud in Junior Race Week** A gaggle of Fleet 5 kids took to the race course in Junior Race Week. By our count, almost 20 junior members of Fleet 5 raced, and several achieved astonishing and enviable results. All of the kids were impressive, but most impressive to us was young **Clark Uhl** who won the largest fleet of the regatta. With 68 boats on the line, Clark achieved eight single digit finishes in nine races. He threw out an 11. That's amazing. We should all strive for that kind of consistency. **Jamie Bloxham**, youngest son of Fleet 5 alums **Katie & Jeremy Bloxham** also had an outstanding regatta on that line, finishing 4<sup>th</sup>. **Cameron Holley** (who we assume is a Holley progeny) took 17<sup>th</sup>, and **David Zymba** finished 40<sup>th</sup>. The Opti green lines also had tremendous Fleet 5 representation. On the 'even' line with 29 boats, **Stew Hutchinson** didn't just win the line, he annihilated it, picking up seven bullets in nine races. **Heather Holly** took 4<sup>th</sup> and young **Brooke Pendleton** took 17<sup>th</sup> in her very first regatta. **Cricket Tompkins**, granddaughter of our own **Henry Peper** and daughter of our Nationals PRO **Tommy Tompkins** took 18<sup>th</sup>. On the 'odd' line with 32 starters, **Courtney Holley** took 2<sup>nd</sup> with four bullets in nine races and all single digit finishes. **Hunter Zonnenberg** took 14<sup>th</sup>, **Ben Hutchinson** took 23<sup>rd</sup> and **Mike Lane's** nephew **Aidan Lane** finished 32<sup>nd</sup>. Old friend **Jonathan Braese**, who with his dad **Steve Braese** kicked our butts for several years in Rhodes 19s, finished 12<sup>th</sup> in the Laser Radials. **Thornton Uhl** also did us proud as one of the youngest in the Laser Radial fleet, finishing 18<sup>th</sup> out of 29 boats. In the Laser 4.7, **Buck Tompkins** took 7<sup>th</sup>. And finally, young **Nicholas Pandapas**, sailing an Open Bic for the first time, sailed to a 5<sup>th</sup> place finish (out of seven boats) in that emerging class. Congratulations to the competitors and to their parents (for the massive amounts they do), and please accept our apologies if we inadvertently missed anyone.

**NOTICE BOARD**

Please mail postings to [kpandapas@comcast.net](mailto:kpandapas@comcast.net).

**Need Nationals 3<sup>rd</sup> Crew** **Rick Berliner** is looking for a 3<sup>rd</sup> for Nationals. Contact Rick at [rickberliner@yahoo.com](mailto:rickberliner@yahoo.com).

**Donate Your Used Sails** Courageous Sailing Center is always looking for used sails for its fleet of Rhodes 19s. If you'd like to donate your old sails and get a tax break for it, contact **Miguel Corti** at [miguel@courageoussailing.org](mailto:miguel@courageoussailing.org) ([www.courageoussailing.org](http://www.courageoussailing.org)).

**NATIONALS UPDATE by JP Zonnenberg**

With 38 boats registered (as of July 27<sup>th</sup>) and several more verbal commitments, we are already very close to our target of 40 boats. And with one more month to go, we should easily exceed our target of the best-attended Rhodes 19 regatta in recent memory.

The 2010 Nationals promises to be a very exciting event indeed. Just look at the following highlights:

- Doyle Sails, a Title Sponsor, has donated a Mainsail for the raffle
- A fantastic list of additional raffle items including: Red Sox Tickets, a Rudder, Atlantis Jackets, Clothing and Accessories, Boat Gear, Sunglasses, Boat Work, and much more.
- A fully catered, traditional New England Clam Bake at Jim & Vonda Raisides' home overlooking the picturesque waters of New England.
- Professional race photographer from Marblehead Studios will be on hand to capture all the excitement on and off the water.
- Trophies: In addition to the 1st – 5th place trophies there are day prizes and a number of keeper trophies including for the highest placing Masters, Rookie, Junior, and Female skippers.
- Marblehead: A traditional sailing community is a fantastic place to host the Nationals. So far the summer has been the nicest one in recent memory and the winds have been strong and steady.
- A tune up race on Tuesday the 17th.

Pre-order your R-19 Nationals Shirt and don't forget to buy raffle tickets.

It is not too late to register. Download the form at <http://www.r19nationals.com/2010/> and click on the link in the top right corner. And while you are at it, check out the wealth of information on the website, including the 'Local Knowledge' section. Contact JP Zonnenberg at [jpzonnenberg@prtm.com](mailto:jpzonnenberg@prtm.com) or 617-901-2066 for additional details.

**RACER'S RESOURCE BOARD**

**Dave Whittier** of **Stuart Marine** in Rockland Maine is the exclusive builder of Rhodes 19s. Call Dave at 207-594-5515 for pricing on new boats, used boats, repairs and parts.

**Cape Cod Shipbuilding**, makers of the Zepher extrusions most of us use, provides a full range of mast and boom hardware and fittings. Call **Dick Landis** at 508-295-2240.

"**Phil's Foils**" We've built a couple of dozen Rhodes 19 rudders over the past few years under our "Phil's Foils" brand name and feel we build a very high quality product. **Phil Locker** [www.fastcomposites.ca](http://www.fastcomposites.ca) (613) 599-6951

**Benjamin Parker** operates Aequoris Yachts and does all varieties of glass work and boat repair. Contact Ben at [benjamin.parker@aequorisyachts.com](mailto:benjamin.parker@aequorisyachts.com) or at 58 Gregory Street, Marblehead (207) 319-3583.

**Kenny Harvey** – Rigging  
[kenny@harveyrigging.com](mailto:kenny@harveyrigging.com), (781) 883-4496

**Chris Small** – Full restorations and glass work- [csmall9021@yahoo.com](mailto:csmall9021@yahoo.com), 978.500.9021

**Neal Lewanda** – repairs, fiberglass/gel coat, rudders, keel work, etc. -  
[neallewanda@msn.com](mailto:neallewanda@msn.com), (508) 264-7973

**Waterline Systems, Inc** provides a complete range of services. Call at (401) 682-1661.

**Doyle Sails** at 978-740-5950 for fast Rhodes 19 sails

[www.sailortailors.com](http://www.sailortailors.com) for boat covers, rudder bags and any other marine stitching need.

**Butch Roth** in Gloucester providing boat repairs and tuning. Also trailers. Contact Butch at 978-283-4451 [applewood@gis.net](mailto:applewood@gis.net)

**FLEET 5 TRIVIA**

*(Answers on Page 4)*

1. Who was the last Fleet 5 team to win the Rhodes 19 Nationals, what was their sail number, in what year did they win and where was the regatta held?
2. Which active Fleet 5 team won multiple national championships in the Town Class?
3. Name the last two winners of the Junior Keelboat Regatta in the Rhodes 19 class.
4. Who said during 2010 Race Week about her skipper, "My husband sucks?"

**RULES & TACTICS – ROUNDING THE WEATHER MARK**

*By Charlie Pendleton*

With Race Week in the rearview mirror and, by my count, 15 weather mark roundings, it's a good opportunity to discuss getting around the windward mark. It is a seemingly simple maneuver, but there is a lot to consider! Lay lines, tactics, current, getting around the mark and setting the chute. A good windward mark rounding starts WAY before you get there.

**Lay lines:** Jim and I try to stay off the lay lines as long as possible. Getting on the lay line early usually means sitting in someone else's bad air and dealing with a lot of traffic. We will typically find a lane on port or starboard tack, 10 to 20 boat lengths below the lay lines, that allows us to sail in clear air. Our goal is to get close enough to the windward mark to call an accurate lay line (trying to guess the lay line from too far away usually results in extra tacks or wasted boat lengths due to over-standing). Also, be careful - tacking onto the starboard lay line inside the three boat-length circle puts you at risk of fouling other boats under rule 18.3a. A good rule of thumb – don't choose a port tack lay line that will leave you tacking onto the starboard lay line inside three boat lengths of the windward mark.

**Tactics - think ahead:** As you approach the last 50 yards to the mark, start talking with your crew about your mark rounding tactics. Will you bear off or jibe? A lot will be based on the wind conditions at the mark. If you're sailing in a big right shift, you will want to consider jibing around the mark as it will allow you to sail at a better angle that points closer to the leeward mark. If the breeze is in a left phase, simply bearing off and setting the chute may be the way to go. Traffic is also a consideration – sometimes jibing around the mark will put you into the fleet's wind shadow. Know what you want to do before you get to the mark and talk it through. As you round the windward mark glance upwind to see what side of the course will have better pressure - as you sail down wind, try to position yourself to work that side of the course.

**Current:** In an earlier article, I mentioned that you need to understand current strength/direction before the start. Current at the windward mark can wreak havoc if you don't expect it. As you approach the windward mark on what you think is the starboard lay line, try lining it up with a point on land or a lobster pot behind it. If the land or lobster pot moves to the left of the mark, you're not making it. If other boats are ahead of you, watch their approach and see if they are having difficulty making it. Don't get stuck trying to pinch around the mark – Rhodes don't do that very well and you'll get into trouble.

**Rounding the windward mark and preparing to set the chute:** Jim and I try to give the crew enough time to set the spinnaker pole before we get to the windward mark. Assuming an offset mark that is set correctly, we use the time getting to the offset mark to get the spinnaker ready to hoist, put on enough vang to keep the leech from spilling wind during the downwind leg and ease the outhaul a little. If there is no offset mark, or the offset mark is far enough to leeward, be prepared to set the chute at the windward mark.

A few good tips on mark rounding and setting the chute: 1) When you round the windward mark and offset mark, keep the boat flat - steer with your weight not the rudder. Trying to turn a heeling Rhodes downwind requires enough rudder to slow you WAY down. 2) Don't hoist the chute as you're bearing off. Your apparent wind will be too low and the chute can tangle around the forestay. Bear off, then set. 3) When hoisting the chute, make sure the main sail is not all the way out. You will pin the spinnaker to the shrouds. Keep that barn door open during the set!

*Editor's note: We (982) hoist before bearing off, not after. It keeps the chute from getting caught between the main and spreaders, and also results in the chute being up and pulling as your transom goes by the mark.*

**ROAD TO THE CUP – WEEK 9**

*Top-10 as of 7/25/10*

Week 9 racing consisted entirely of Race Week, which included eight races over four days. There was no Twilight race on Thursday evening. Congratulations to Charlie and Jim for a second straight Race Week win.

The impact of Race Week on cup competition is profound, as Fleet scoring aggregates each boat's Race Week totals. Not only does the week include a large number of races, but NOOD scores DNCs and DNFs as the number of registered + 1, as opposed to MRA's approach of the number of starters +1. With 30+ boats registered, that's a lot of points for folks who missed or didn't finish races. Steve Uhl, for example, was knocked out of the top 10 by virtue of his Race Week business trip (gotta make a living!). Of course, it cuts both ways. Jim Taylor's impressive Race Week performance catapulted up into the top 10 after launching his boat only a couple of weeks ago.

As of the end of week 9, the top-10 rankings are as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup>	982	Team Pandapas	83.25
2 <sup>nd</sup>	1217	Pendleton / Raisides	107.17
3 <sup>rd</sup>	3225	Nick Cann	171.00
4 <sup>th</sup>	2648	Pete Kaznoski	190.67
5 <sup>th</sup>	2692	Team Heffernan	204.75
6 <sup>th</sup>	722	Shoreman / Reynolds	219.00
7 <sup>th</sup>	1926	Jim Taylor	220.00
8 <sup>th</sup>	1680	Small / Trees	228.00
9 <sup>th</sup>	1299	Team Felton	233.00
10 <sup>th</sup>	3038	Mike Lane	238.75

Week 10 racing will include one Twilight race on Thursday evening and two races on Saturday (MRA Series 2- Day 4).

**TRIVIA ANSWERS**

- Charlie Pendleton, Jim Raisides and Vonda Raisides** sailed 1217 to victory in the 2008 National Championship regatta, which was hosted by the New Bedford Yacht Club in Padanaram.
- Bill & Renee Heffernan**
- Nicholas Pandapas**, sailing with his dad as crew, won in both 2008 and 2009.
- We're not telling. But it doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure it out.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

*Continued from Page 1*

**Nationals – Wednesday August 18 – Friday August 20**

Measurement, launching and registration start Sunday morning and go through Tuesday morning. There will be a practice race Tuesday afternoon and the real racing begins Wednesday morning. For a detailed schedule, SIs and other information, go to <http://www.r19nationals.com/2010/>.

**Labor Day Regatta – Saturday September 4<sup>th</sup> – Sunday September 5<sup>th</sup>**

The Labor day Regatta (MRA Series IV) will be held the Saturday and Sunday of Labor Day weekend. This will be the last 2-day regatta of our season.

**Labor Day Party – Saturday September 4<sup>th</sup> at 6PM**

Our annual Labor Day party will be hosted by **Sloan & Charlie Pendleton** at 94 Nanepashemet Street, and start around 6PM after racing. The party will be potluck and the fleet bar will be in attendance.

**Fall Series** – The Fall Series this year will be held on three consecutive Saturdays, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

**MRA Awards Dinner – Friday October 22<sup>nd</sup>** It's never too early to circle the date for the MRA Awards dinner, which this year will be held at BYC. Details forthcoming.

**Fleet 5 Awards Party** Details forth coming.

**NATIONALS SPONSORS**



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