



# R h o d e s 1 9

## Fleet 5 Newsletter

www.r19fleet5.org / www.rhodes19.org

October 2010

### GREETINGS FROM THE PREZ

Well there you have it. Yet another spectacular season is in the books. It seems like just yesterday we were gearing up for the spring clinic, and now here it is, time to think about boat covers, Halloween and football. And what a season it was. We sailed more than 50 races (including Nationals), which assuming about a 0.8 mile four leg course, is more than 160 miles, a lot of it in light air. We also gathered for nine social events (not including the usual post-race porch), and I hesitate to do the math on number of drinks consumed. Let's see, call it an average of 40 people times two drinks, times nine events – you get the idea. Check with **Jim Raisides** if you're interested in the stats. And on the subject of parties, huge thanks to **Sloan & Charlie Pendleton** for opening their home to us for our Labor Day get-together. Regrettably, the non-hurricane disrupted that weekend of sailing, which in turn impacted the party turnout. But those 20-25 of us who showed up had a great time. Unfortunately, the evening wasn't without incident. While cleaning up after the party, Charlie hurt his back lifting the keg. (We've since had a heart-to-heart with him about using a glass next time.) Next up is the MRA Awards Banquet on Friday October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the BYC. And not long after that will be our own Fleet 5 Awards Party on November 6<sup>th</sup>, which again will be graciously hosted by **Bruce Bolen** at his home on Risley Road. This is always a great event, and this year we're planning to spice it up with a few 'special' awards. Keep your eye out for the email invite, and please bring your spouses, crews and their spouses.

The season might be over, but your fleet leadership is already scheming away to figure out how to make the 2011 season top 2010 – a tall order indeed. But before we slip into that, allow me to express my appreciation to the folks who have made all this happen. VP **Charlie Pendleton** has done anything and everything asked of him, including writing a monthly tactics column that has been so widely applauded that **Tom Despres** keeps swiping them for the Mainsheet. Scorer **Rick Smyers** put in way more hours than past scorers so we could bring you our weekly Road To The Cup email blast. Webmaster **Rick Berliner** very quietly and unceremoniously undertook a complete overhaul of the Fleet web site, and works diligently to keep it current. Treasurer **Doug Trees** ran the annual registration and does the ongoing work of making sure we have enough money to pay for that fleet bar. And speaking of the bar, **Jim Raisides** keeps it stocked and trucks it from venue to venue every month, a Herculean task which involves no small amount of time and effort. Secretary **Steve Uhl** manages our fleet database which is the life blood of any fleet. He has made sure all of our new members and prospects stay informed and generally that fleet communications happen in timely way. He also by the way co-chaired Nationals with **Mike Lane**, who in my opinion ran the best Nationals ever. And finally, my best friend **Christina Pandapas** helps in more ways than I can count, from publicizing our events to buying trophies to correcting my grammar. She even drags me out of parties when I've had too much fun. (Oh and hey, did I mention that she's the best crew going?) These people are the ones who make it happen, and it is on their broad shoulders that it's been my privilege to stand this past season. I thank them, and I encourage you to do the same. By the way, every one of them plans to reenlist for another tour of duty, and we'll take care of that small formality at the awards party.

You can expect the next newsletter to hit your inbox on January 1<sup>st</sup>. So with that, thanks for a great season, I'll see you at the Awards on November 6<sup>th</sup>.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**MRA Awards Dinner – Friday October 22<sup>nd</sup>** The MRA Awards dinner will be held at BYC on Friday night October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Keep an eye out for the MRA email blast for details, and we will forward that along when we get it.

**Fleet 5 Awards Party – Saturday November 6<sup>th</sup>** Our season finale will be generously hosted again this year by **Bruce Bolen** at his home at 3 Risley Road on Marblehead Neck. As usual, the event will be potluck and feature the fleet bar, courtesy of **Jim Raisides**. In addition to our usual jocularly, this event will include the presentation of our racing and perpetual awards, as well as a short meeting to elect 2011 officers. Festivities will commence at 6PM.

**Frostbiting Starts in November** Haven't had enough yet? Well you're in luck. Though most of us have long held that winter sailing should begin with a cab to Logan, there are a hearty few among us who like to sail in the cold. Fortunately, there are options. The Cottage Park Yacht Club in Winthrop offers Rhodes sailing every weekend from November through December. Details are available at [www.mass-frostbite.org/index.php](http://www.mass-frostbite.org/index.php). In addition, Courageous Sailing also offers a frostbite series from November through March in Rhodes. That program tends to fill up early, so if you're interested, you should register soon. Info is available at [www.courageoussailing.org/members/racing](http://www.courageoussailing.org/members/racing).

**Fleet 5 Winter Party** – Fleet 5's winter party will be held on a cold winter Saturday evening sometime in February at the home of **Christina & Kim Pandapas**. 2011 is just around the corner.

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**SHORT TACKS**

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

**Time To Thank Your Crew** Great news! Nominations for the 2010 Outstanding Crew Award, one the fleet's perpetual trophies *have been extended through October 15th*. The trophy is awarded annually to that individual who has distinguished him or herself in a crewing capacity this season. Always a competitive process, the final decision is often based on the persuasiveness and articulateness of the nomination letter as subjectively determined by the fleet captain. Points are awarded for good spelling and grammar, and if the letter includes an embarrassing anecdote, even better. Send your nominations to Kim P. at [kpandapas@comcast.net](mailto:kpandapas@comcast.net). Don't be surprised if the winner's nomination letter is shared with the fleet at the awards party. So write that letter today.

**Tell MRA What's on Your Mind** The Marblehead Racing Association, the folks who bring us our summer sailing season, are interested in how they can make things even better. The reason we say "even better" is because Marblehead is one of the last venues nationally that offers one-design-fleet racing every weekend. We are tremendously lucky to have three clubs and three fully-staffed race committees to put on racing for us every single week. But regrettably, participation numbers are down, and have been trending down for a few years. MRA is working to do what it can to turn that around, and to that end, they want to hear from you. Should we do fewer days, more races per day, fewer races per day, are the races too long, are they too short, etc.? Also, how do you feel about fleets having to contribute RC volunteers over the course of the season? We use to do that, and it was helpful to the RCs who often find it difficult to staff their lines every week. So please think about it. The Rhodes Fleet is fortunate to have ample representation on MRA, including **Kim Pandapas**, **Charlie Pendleton** and **Mike Lane**. Please send along your comments and recommendations to any or all of those three.

**WELCOME**

Jumping the gun just a bit, let's extend a huge welcome to **Elise Mazareas** and **Joe Fava** who have been spotted kicking the tires on a few boats. No strangers to Fleet 5, both of these tremendous sailors have raced with us before, but on other peoples' boats and seldom together. Elise, who is a BC All American, was recruited originally to Fleet 5 in 2001 by **Kim Pandapas** to replace **Christina** for the season (only on the boat, of course) while she cared for newborn **Christopher**. Elise pinch hit at various times in subsequent seasons with Kim and others, and in the past couple of years has been racing with **Charlie Pendleton & Jim Raisides**. She's also been moonlighting lately on an IOD and a J105, which shattered for her any illusion that there is anything out there better than a Rhodes. Joe Fava, also a late 90s vintage college sailor, raced for several seasons with **Mike Carpenter & BJ Mansfield**, often helming that very successful program. Business took him across the pond for a few years, but now he's back and ready to go. Ladies and gentleman, these two are a lethal combination. They are both successful college sailors who know their way around a race course. They're smart, they're light (under 300 pounds of crew weight), they're fast and very experienced in our boat and with our fleet. The bar is about to go up. This is going to be fun.

Also jumping the gun, rumor has it that former sail maker **Ian Peebles**, a veteran of our fleet, was spotted in **Chris Small's** shop carefully reattaching the keel to his boat. Ian sailed with various people over the years, and was predecessor to **The Kid** on the very competitive **Kazoski** program. His project boat has taken a little longer than he probably would have liked, but now it looks like he may be on track to make the Spring Series. We hope so.

**NATIONALS SPONSORS**

A final thank you to our Nationals sponsors, whose generosity helped us to put on the best Nationals ever.



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**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- [csml9021@yahoo.com](mailto:csml9021@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

**Sailor Tailor** [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 member to win Manchester's coveted Batchelder trophy, and in what year did he or she win it?
2. Who were the 10 winners of the outstanding crew award during the 2000s?
3. Seven teams have combined to win the Nick Nichols Trophy (aka The Cup) over the 20 years since it was donated. Who are they, and when did they win it?
4. Bonus Question: Which long-standing member of Fleet 5 recently asked the question (with regard to the relative merits of a boat), "Does stiffness matter?"

**NOTICE BOARD**

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

**Race Ready Stuart For Sale** Very well maintained 1986 Stuart #3038 is race ready and optimized, including Duplin keel, Lindsay rudder, reinforced ribs, new boom, elevated mast step and more. Boat has an extensive race record, including 1st place at Marblehead Race Week. Package includes a trailer, spin pole, lifting bridle, cover and two full suits of sails including 2010 spinnaker, 2008 main, 2008 jib. Asking \$13,000. Contact Mike at [lanmik@gmail.com](mailto:lanmik@gmail.com).

**Join An Established Program In 2011** David Rubin, who usually sails with his brother **Mark Rubin**, is looking for someone to share responsibility with him for his racing program next year (Mark lives in DC which is getting tougher for him). This would involve sailing and sharing in expenses. The boat is in great shape has a permanent mooring near the Barnacle. Contact David at 781-863-1419 / w 508-875-9595, or email [dlr0412@aol.com](mailto:dlr0412@aol.com).

**Looking To Join Program In 2011** Old friend Mitch Mitchell, who raced in Fleet 5 for several years back in the mid-2000 time frame, is potentially interested in getting back into the fleet. Mitch is an experienced sailor and would be an excellent crew or potential boat partner. Contact Mitch at [mitch@relayhealth.com](mailto:mitch@relayhealth.com).

**Save on Your 2011 Doyle Sail Order** The good folks at Doyle Sails offer meaningful discounts on their 2011 prices if you purchase through the Fleet Sail Order. Why? Because they much prefer to make sails during the winter when things are a little slower, and they're willing to give up a little margin to do it. We haven't received the winter order discount form yet, but we'll send out an email blast when we do. In the meantime, go to [www.doylesails.com/onedesign/rhodes19/index.html](http://www.doylesails.com/onedesign/rhodes19/index.html) to see the 2011 price sheet, as well as a sexy action photo picture of everyone's favorite couple, **Charlie Pendleton & Jim Raisides** on the foredeck.

**Jubilee Wants To Charter Your Boat** The Jubilee Yacht Club in Beverly is working to put together a frostbite program this winter in Rhodes 19s. The problem is that they don't have any. If you'd like to charter your boat to Jubilee for the winter, contact Roger Kuebel at [roger.kuebel@aspentech.com](mailto:roger.kuebel@aspentech.com).

**Winter Boat Storage** Al Dennis has recently begun storing boats on an open lot in Marblehead. There is no work allowed on the boats and owners would have to maintain insurance. A flat winter storage rate of \$500.00 is set for boats up to 28 feet. Call Al Dennis at 781-718-2841.

**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)).

**Donate or Sell Your Used Sails** Greg Marie, a sail designer at Doyle, is working to find sails for the Nahant Sailing Program. If you'd like to donate your old sails, or possibly sell them for a small consideration, contact Greg at (978) 740-5950 ext 205.

## RULES & TACTICS – DEFENSE VS. OFFENSE: A GAME OF INCHES (FALL.... FOOTBALL!?) *By Charlie Pendleton*

This year's National Championship was determined by a point. ONE POINT! When sailing in regattas like Race Week, the East Coasts or the Nationals, points are precious. Nothing is more frustrating than getting 'nipped at the finish' – losing a boat that you were ahead of. But, nothing is more fun than gaining a boat at the finish and pick-pocketing a point. In the Rhodes fleet, we generally finish down wind, but upwind finishes are not unheard of – in both situations the tactics are similar.

When you're on the final leg of a race and approaching the finish, chances are there are other boats finishing around you. Do you have a chance to catch the boat that is front of you? Is the boat behind you too close for comfort? Depending on your answer you will need to decide whether or not to attack and try to gain a boat or defend and hold your position.

It's easy to defend when you're sailing upwind - loose cover. Stay between your competition and the finish line. Cover from above when you're sailing into a lift - you should position yourself directly upwind of your nearest competitor. Cover from in front when sailing into a header - you should position yourself on the same tack leading your competitor to the header. This style of 'loose covering' lets you stay in control and discourages tacking duels which will only let the other competitors catch up to you both. It's rarely necessary to 'slam dunk' or 'tightly cover' a competitor (deliberately tacking on and sailing in your competitor's wind) unless they are sailing faster than you and it's the only way to hold your position late in the race.

Downwind, it's harder to defend a slim lead but the principals are the same. Stay between your competition and the finish line. If a competitor attacks (tries to take your wind), head up and keep your air clear if you're on the favored jibe. Otherwise jibe away and clear your air but don't lose touch with your competitor. While defending, don't let your competitor push you to sail beyond the lay lines to the finish – a big mistake. Also, be careful; attacking downwind is not always a good idea. It usually involves sailing extra distance. If there are other boats nearby, you will likely take yourself and the boat you're attacking, out of the race.

As you approach the finish, upwind or downwind, know which end of the line is the favored. This is usually the end that is closer to the wind when finishing downwind. When finishing upwind, this is usually the end that is further downwind. Sometimes one end of the finish can be significant boat lengths less distance to sail to, saving you boat lengths and getting you to finish faster. Determining which end is favored is sometimes easier said than done and you will need to get pretty close to tell. You can wait until the last minute to decide as long as you don't overstand either end.

When finishing in a pack, shoot the line! This means turning toward the finish line at the exact right moment to allow your bow to cross the finish line perpendicularly at max speed. Turn too soon and you will lose speed as you stretch for the finish. Turn too late and you will give up distance that you could have gained. Like football, sailing is sometimes a game of inches and the winner is determined by a single point or two.

## ROAD TO THE CUP – FINAL

### *Top-10 for 2010*

**Steve Uhl** won the final race and day of our season. For the Fall Series, **Mike Lane** came out on top with 10.5 points, followed ever so closely by **Nick Cann** with 10.75 points. Steve Uhl took third with 14.75. Congratulations to all. Sadly, that ends our season and finalizes the 2010 Cup standings as follows:

1st	982	Team Pandapas	132.50
2nd	1217	Pendleton / Raisides	192.92
3rd	3225	Nick Cann	238.75
4th	2648	Pete Kaznoski (& "The Kid")	245.17
5th	2692	Team Heffernan	255.00
6th	3038	Mike Lane	323.25
7th	722	Shoreman / Reynolds	335.00
8th	1680	Small / Trees	338.00
9th	1926	Jim Taylor	354.75
10th	1299	Team Felton	377.00

## TRIVIA ANSWERS

- Justin Scott won the Batchelder in 1997. The Manchester Fleet disbanded following the 1997 season, after which, regrettably, no subsequent Batchelder was held, leaving Justin the trophy's seeming steward-in-perpetuity. Legend has it that the Manchester guys asked repeatedly for their trophy, so they could return it to its rightful place in the Manchester Yacht Club, but to no avail. Eventually, they resorted to sending in a SWAT team to rescue it from Justin's downtown office, where allegedly the trophy was bolted to the wall.
- 2000 – Kate Dinsmore, 2001 – Renee Mitchell, 2002 – Kim Pasley, 2003 – Marcel Nyffenegger, 2004 – Miller Shropshire, 2005 – Tom King, 2006 – Renee Heffernan, 2007 – Jessica Berliner, 2008 – BJ Carpenter, and 2009 – Andrew Coffin.
- In chronological order, Charlie Loutrel won in 1990, Kent Hallawell sailing with Dan Duggan in 1991, Mike Carpenter in 1992, Randy Richmond in 1993, Fred Brehob in 1994, Kent Hallawell with Peter Beckett from 1995 through 1999, and Kim & Christina have won it every year since.
- So astonishing is the answer to this question that we can't in good conscience reveal the perpetrator in writing. The answer, however, could be revealed at the Fleet Awards Party on November 6<sup>th</sup>.