



R h o d e s 1 9

Fleet 5 Newsletter

www.r19fleet5.org / www.rhodes19.org

June 2011

GREETINGS FROM THE PREZ

And they're off. Jumping into a quick lead is the **Pendleton / Raisides** team, who started the season in mid-season form. Those guys put on a clinic and showed the other 13 boats who ventured out how it's supposed to be done. Congratulations to them. And with that commences a brand new season. What amazes me is how quickly our schedule ramps into high gear. Thursday June 2nd kicks off the first Twilight. Two days later on June 4th starts MRA Series 1, and one short week later on June 11th is our first summer cocktail party. It's hard to believe, but East Coasts is just a little over three weeks away. Wow!

And speaking of East Coasts, *please plan to go*. Fleet 36 sent more than half of its fleet to support our Nationals last year, and I'd like to return the favor. Old friend **Mike Lane** is arranging a tow for those who want to go up by water, and generally working to make this as easy as it can be. So what do you say? You can register at the Fleet 36 web site (noted under Upcoming Events). I'm hoping for 15 Fleet 5 boats to show the flag, and I've told the organizers that. You don't want make a liar of make do you (I mean really - after all I've done for you!!).

On the subject of Twilights, take a look at the schedule update described elsewhere in this newsletter. We've tacked a seventh day onto the second series, which gives Twilighters one more night to duke it out for the Charlie Barr Trophy. It's also yet another opportunity to gain ground in Cup competition.

As to the cocktail party, thanks in advance to **Lydia & Rick Smyers** who are generously opening their home to us for the second straight year. Don't be alarmed if the For Sale sign is still out front. They're just moving across town. But how great is it that they are letting us trample through while the house is on the market? Maybe they're thinking of it as kind of an open house!! Thanks also to **Jim Raisides** who will provide the refreshments. I've probably been a bit remiss by always mentioning Jim only, as it's come to my attention that wife **Vonda Raisides** also 'carries the water' from time to time. So, giving credit where credit is due - many thanks to both.

Huge thanks to **Charlie Pendleton, Steve Uhl, Rene Heffernan** and **Chris Small** for sharing their go-fast secrets at what turned out to be a great clinic. The event was well attended, not just by Fleet 5 but by folks from other fleets as well.

So here we go. No more hype, no more planning, no more waiting - the game is on. Last year when I threw down the gauntlet, introduced the Road To The Cup and challenged someone to wrest it from the table to which it's been bolted for the past 12 years, **Jim Raisides** predicted that 2011 would finally be the year. Trust me when I say that I hope he's right. It's time to end the madness. But I have it on good authority that the current holders have no intention of laying down or going quietly. So whoever wins will have earned it. Who's it going to be?

UPCOMING EVENTS

Twilight Series Kick-Off - June 2nd The first night of Twilights will be Thursday evening June 2nd. First warning is at 6:30 PM.

MRA Series 1 - Saturday June 4th The first multiple Saturday series of the summer begins this Saturday June 4th on Tinkers Line.

Cocktail Party - Saturday June 11th at 6PM The fleet will hold its first summer cocktail party on Saturday June 5th, graciously hosted by **Lydia & Rick Smyers**, who live at 94 Jersey St. The event will start after racing and feature the fleet bar.

East Coast Championships - June 24-26 This year's East Coast Championship will be hosted by Fleet 36 out of Sandy Bay YC in Rockport. Information, NOR and registration forms are available on the Sandy Bay website at www.sandybay.org/rhodes/2011Districts.

Independence Day Cookout - Saturday July 2nd at 6PM **Jane & John Casler** will host our traditional 4th of July weekend cookout at their home on Washington St. across from Abbot Hall. The event will start after racing and feature the fleet bar.

Junior Keel Boat Regatta - Sunday July 17th This year's CYC's Junior Keelboat regatta will be held on Sunday July 17th - circle the date. Information can be found on the CYC web site, or you can contact regatta organizer **Maura Power** at maurapower@verizon.net.

Marblehead Race Week - July 28-31 The big enchilada and centerpiece of our season.

Race Week Party - Thursday July 28th This year's traditional Race Week party will again be generously hosted by **Jennifer & Steve Uhl** at their home overlooking the harbor on Front Street near Fort Sewell. The party will be potluck and feature the fleet bar.

Picnic Race - August 21st The first (in a while) annual Picnic Race to Misery Island will be held on Sunday August 21st. For details, contact John Casler at johnscasler@gmail.com.

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SHORT TACKS

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

Car Accident Sidelines New Fleet 5 Member Last month, we were pleased to welcome **Tracy Anne Manning** to the family. Tracy, an experienced sailor who was new to Rhodes, was planning to crew for **David Rubin** this season. We're very saddened to report that Tracy was involved in a car accident caused by a drunk driver. We don't know her condition, but are told that her injuries will prevent her from sailing this season. We wish Tracy a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing her very soon.

The Eagle Has Landed It's been a long time coming, but **Joe Fava** and **Elise Mazareas** are finally 'in the house.' Joe & Elise hit the Spring Series starting line for the first time as boat partners.

Trivia Correction Alert reader **Dave Reynolds** wrote in to correct the answer to last month's Question 2 about fleet members who intentionally jumped overboard last season. He reports that wife **Lisa Reynolds** took some umbrage in the answer that Dave was the only one to jump in (which he did in elation after their Nationals bullet). Apparently she also jumped in several times herself, though as Dave suggests, rarely due to elation with his sailing performance.

East Coast Raffle Fleet 36 will be raffling off a ton of stuff at East Coasts this year, including a Doyle main, courtesy of Doyle Sailmakers. There will be only 55 tickets sold (\$20 each) for the main between now and the drawing on June 25th. Those tickets will go fast, so act now. You can order yours by calling **Frank Simmons** at 978-546-3285 or **Earl Meredith** at 978-524-0505.

WELCOME

Old friend **Richard Brown**, who long crewed as 3rd for **Mike Carpenter & BJ Mansfield** is planning a full-time return this summer. Much of Richard's summer weekends these past several years have been devoted to his daughter's softball team. But as his daughter is no longer on a summer traveling team, Richard is once again able to pursue his own passion – racing Rhodes. Welcome back Richard.

And speaking of **Mike & BJ**, we couldn't be more pleased to see that they have registered for MRA for the 2011 season. How do we know that? We'll never tell, but you can take it to the bank. Welcome back Mike & BJ.

Old friend **Ian Peebles** has finally finished repairs on his old O'Day and plans to rejoin us this summer. Ian has registered for MRA, and is expected to sail out of Parkers. For those who don't know him, Ian is a former Doyle sail maker who has sailed with several of our more spirited programs over the years. He's very competitive and is expected to be even more so now that he's campaigning his own boat. Welcome back Ian.

TWILIGHT SERIES SCHEDULING CHANGE

We're adding an extra night to the Twilight second series. Fleet members voted at the spring meeting for two 6-day series 6/2-7/7 and 7/14-8/25. Since then, the SIs have come out and added September 1st to the originally posted schedule. A representative group of Twilight regulars expressed the desire to add that date to the second series, so that is what we've done. Accordingly, the second series will now consist of seven nights instead of six, which allows a little wiggle room for bad weather or the possible scheduling of the 50th reunion event, which if held on a Thursday night would result in that night being un-scored.

BEST QUOTE HEARD ON THE RACE COURSE DURING SPRING SERIES

"I love opening day."

Jim Raisides, on Saturday May 28th while reaching back and forth waiting for the first race.

ROAD TO THE CUP – TOP 10 *As of 5/31/11*

The 2011 Cup got off to a spirited start with 14 boats showing up for the two day event. **Charlie Pendleton & Jim Raisides** dominated, sailing almost flawlessly, collecting three bullets over five races. There was no second place though for the record, **Team Pandapas** took 2nd and **Steve Uhl** 3rd, duplicating last year's Spring Series top three results. Other notable performances included a great showing by **Frank McNamara**, and flashes of big speed by **Joe Fava** sailing his boat for the first time. Cup standings as of May 31st are as follows:

1st	1217	Pendleton / Raisides	5
2nd	982	Team Pandapas	11
3rd	2585	Steve Uhl	16
4th	2692	Team Heffernan	18
5th	2648	Cooke / Kaznoski	19
6th	1939	Frank McNamara	20
7th	1210	Thompson / Frisch	23
8th	123	Jerry Blouin	24
9th	2495	Dave Rubin	34
10th	1392	Bruce Bolen	36

FLEET 5 TRIVIA

(Answers on Page 3)

1. Who won the 2010 Spring Series?
2. When was the last time Fleet 36 hosted East Coasts in Rockport, and who won?
3. Which active member of Fleet 5 spends the majority of professional time in the oil & gas business?

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 (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 or at 58 Gregory Street, Marblehead (207) 319-3583.

Kenny Harvey – Rigging kenny@harveyrigging.com, (781) 883-4496

Chris Small – Full restorations and glass work- csmall9021@yahoo.com, 978.500.9021

Neal Lewanda – repairs, fiberglass/gel coat, rudders, keel work, etc. - 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 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

NOTICE BOARD

Please mail postings to kpandapas@comcast.net.

Sails Wanted New Fleet 5 members **Joe Fava** and **Elise Mazareas** are looking for used to sails for the coming season. Contact Elise at elise.mazareas@gmail.com.

Sails Wanted Non racer looking for used sails. Contact **Jim Livermore** at 603-742-5230 or jdlgold@earthlink.net.

Crew Wanted **David Rubin** recently lost his crew for the coming season and is looking for someone to sign on full-time. Contact David at dlr0412@aol.com.

Crew Available Rosemary Duda just purchased a R19 and is looking for an opportunity to crew. Contact Rosemary at 617-667-2169 or rduda@bidmc.harvard.edu.

Brown is looking for a full-time ride this summer. Contact Richard at rbrown820@comcast.net.

Crew Available Former U.S. Sailing Instructor **Jay Watt** is new to Fleet 5 and interested in crewing this year. *(Editor's note - sounds like a find!)* Contact Jay at jay.watt@gmail.com.

Crew Available Former Viper sailor **Duncan McIntyre** and wife **Kathleen** are want to sail this season. Both are experienced skippers and crew. Contact Duncan at aduncanmcintyre@gmail.com and Kathleen at kathleenmcintyre@gmail.com.

Crew Available 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.

Donate Your Old Rudder If you have an old rudder taking up space in your basement or garage, please consider donating it. Contact Kent Hallawell at KentandB@aol.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.

2011 SOCIAL EVENTS

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	
Early Summer Post-Race Cocktail Party	June 11th	Home of J
4th of July Cookout	July 2nd	Home of J
Race Week Party	July 28th	Home of J
Labor Day Party	September 3rd	Home of J
Awards Party	November TBA	TBA

TRIVIA ANSWERS

- Jim Raisides & Charlie Pendleton** came out of the blocks on fire in 2010. They took bullets in four of the six races, and won the regatta with a total of only eight points. **Team Pandapas** took 2nd with 11 points and **Steve Uhl** took 3rd with 13.
- The East Coasts were last sailed in Rockport eight long years ago in June 2003. **Kim & Christina Pandapas** squeaked out a win in the five race regatta with 10.5 points, just 1.25 points in front of 2nd place finisher **Scott Hale** and 2.5 points over **Steve Uhl** in 3rd.
- Steve Uhl** has long provided strategic consulting to oil & gas companies all over the world. His travels have taken him to places with names we can't even pronounce, let alone spell.

Go To East Coasts

RULES & TACTICS – SPRING SEMINAR WRAP-UP by *Charlie Pendleton*

The 2011 Rhodes 19 Spring clinic was a full-house event (again) this year. Featuring some of Fleet 5's top sailors, the panel of **Kim Pandapas, Steve Uhl, Renee Heffernan** and **Chris Small** was moderated by yours truly. The theme of the night was "go fast tips" and the Q&A format was focused on tips and tricks to get the most out of our Rhodes. Some of the sound-bite highlights:

Season Prep:

- Make sure your bottom is fair. Wet sand, but use a block! Sanding by hand will make the surface uneven.
- When reviewing your equipment, if you're worried about it, replace it. The most common parts that can break on a Rhodes are vang and goosenecks.
- Taking out the floor boards is a good practice. It lets you inspect the ribs properly and clean out the hull. When putting the floor boards back make sure they are firmly reattached – it makes the boat stiffer.
- Make sure your rig is straight up and down in the boat. Use the main halyard as a simple way to measure side to side by holding it to the deck next to the chain plate on each side.
- Wait to tune the rig until you are in the water. The keel will pull the hull down a little and the rig tension will change.
- Get out a measuring tape and measure everything. Make sure equipment is as even and square as possible.

Boat Systems:

- Get a weed stick! An old fishing rod with the line guides removed and a 2-3 ft section of rope on the end makes a good keel sweeper. Weed can slow you down in a big way.
- "Hard" spinnaker pole downhauls (as opposed to shock chord) ensure that energy is not lost. Instead, the hard downhaul transfers the pulling force into the hull.
- 2 to 1 jib sheets make for an easier job trimming the jib. Run your jib sheets through the grommet on the jib and dead end them back at the jib block.
- Mid-boom travelers give you more control over the traveler height and adjustment, but can lead to the boom bending – depowering your mainsail slightly. Transom sheeting moves the pull force the end of your boom and prevents boom bend, but traveler adjustments can be trickier.
- Jumpers - The consensus was that they were not necessary in Marblehead conditions. But in places like Chicago, New Orleans and other venues with different wave conditions, they can help. Jumpers allow you to keep the upper part of the rig stiff, power up the top of your mainsail and use your backstay to rake the mast back (without depowering the main too much).
- There is no "one size fits all" on a Rhodes. Different people use different systems because they work well with their style of sailing. Whether it's the traveler, jumpers or vang, find what's right for you.

Sails:

- Your sails are your engine, treat them with care. After racing, wash off the salt – put them away rolled. For long-term storage, your spinnaker should be folded and rolled flat (not bunched up in the bag).
- Managing sail inventory is an exercise in monitoring use and rotating old sails out. Most felt a new jib every year was a good way to go, alternating spinnaker and mainsail purchases to every other year. Depending on how many regattas you use them, you may get more seasons out of a single set of sails.

Racing:

- Know what the weather forecast is. Check NOAA and Sailflow to make sure you know what to expect on race day – bring the appropriate gear and a third person if necessary.
- Get out early, get your numbers: Wind direction, port tack, starboard tack. Track these all day. Build an understanding of what's happening with the wind.
- Constantly compare your speed to the boats around you. Make adjustments if you are off the pace. Constantly run through the list of things that could affect your speed for the given conditions. Main trim (leach), jib trim, jib halyard tension, boom/traveler height, outhaul, vang, weed on the foils, weight/position in the boat. Make adjustments and gauge speed changes.
- The skipper should only focus on the telltales and driving – break your concentration even for a few seconds and you will slow down. Rhodes sailing is about avoiding going slow.
- Use your "gears" – like riding a bike, once you get moving shift up a gear. Once you're going faster, shift up another gear. Keep your jib a little eased out of a tack, once you get going, trim it in. Then think about taking the jib fine tune in a little, etc.