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GREETINGS FROM THE PREZ



It's just about show time. People are filing into the theater, the orchestra is tuning and I hear the fat lady warming up backstage. The spring series commences in just 28 days. **Charlie Pendleton** has dusted off an article on spring preparation that he wrote for us 5-6 years ago, and we're including it in this edition to help get you going.

A few important reminders as we ease into the season. First registration is open for everything - Fleet 5, the Class Association, MRA, East Coasts and even Nationals. For Fleet 5 and MRA, you have to register by May 5th to avoid a late fee. *So put down this rag and go do that before you forget.* Details are on page 2.

Second is the spring clinic, which will be held in the Fantail at the CYC on the 5th. We labor over what to do for a clinic – should we focus on strategy, tactics, boat set-up, crew work, rules or something else? After batting it around for a while, we found that the thing folks are most interested in is boat speed, which makes sense, right? Great boat speed makes anyone look like a genius. That little extra something allows you to get off the line, hold your lane, force the other guy to duck and so on. And good boat speed isn't an accident, nor is it the result of any one thing. It's the result of a combination of a lot of things, including how you manage your sails, set up your systems, prepare the bottom, drive through waves, go through the gears, spinnaker work, tacking technique and so on. It's everything.

So this year's clinic will feature a panel of four of your Fleet 5 brethren who have demonstrated pretty consistent boat speed over the years: **Charlie Pendleton, Jim Taylor, Jeff Shoreman** and BC sailing coach **Evan "the kid" Cooke**. I will moderate, ask the probing questions and generally see to it that no secret is left unrevealed. You don't want to miss this one.

Third is mast measurement day. If you've changed your mast or have bought a new one, you have to have it measured before sailing, and this gives you the opportunity to get that done with no muss or fuss. Measurer **Josh Wheeler** says he can measure your mast in about 15 minutes. The event will be Saturday May 7th in the EYC parking lot from 1-3pm. So if you need to do this, please let us know in advance by contacting **Jim Raisides** at jim@raisides.com.

Finally, the East Coasts will be held on Fathers' day weekend, which is only about six weeks away. This one will sneak up on you so start planning now. Rockport is a great venue and close enough to tow by water. I'm pretty sure there will be a few tow options this year, including old friend **Mike Lane**, and we'll let you know as they get organized. Sandy Bay always puts on a great show and from what I've heard, this one will be no different. So secure your hall pass and lock in your 3rd.

See you at the clinic.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Spring Clinic – Thursday May 5th at 7:00 PM Fleet 5 will host a clinic in the Fantail at CYC. The format will be a moderated panel of four of Fleet 5's faster sailors, who will share tips on going fast.

Mast Measurement Day- May 7th Class measurer **Josh Wheeler** will measure masts on May 7th from 1-3 pm at EYC.

Spring Series – May 28th–29th The Spring Series, just one month away, constitutes the first of the season's regattas included in the season championship, and hence kicks-off our "Road to the Cup."

Twilights Commence – May 26th The Twilight Series will start with a practice race on Thursday May 26th and commence for real on June 2nd. First gun is at 6:30PM.

MRA Series 1-Day 1 MRA racing will commence on Saturday June 4th.

Post-Race Cocktails – Saturday June 4th at 6PM The fleet will hold its first summer cocktail party on Saturday evening June 4th the home of **Elise & Mike Nash**. The event will commence after racing and feature the fleet bar.

East Coasts – June 17th–19th The 2016 East Coasts will be held in Rockport, hosted by Sandy Bay Yacht Club.

Marblehead Race Week – Thursday July 28th - Sunday July 31st. *The big enchilada.*

Race Week Party – Thursday July 28th Our Race Week party will be hosted again this year by **Jennifer & Steve Uhl**.

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May 2016 SHORT TACKS

www.r19fleet5.org / www.rhodes19.org / www.facebook.com/r19fleet5

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Register Now! Registrations are open. Register for Fleet 5 and the Class Association here [Fleet Registration](#) and for MRA here [MRA Registration](#). You also can register for East Coasts here at [EC Registration](#) (go to the calendar link).

Nationals In Chicago The R19 National Regatta will be held in Chicago August 17-19. Circle the dates and start making your plans. You'll find details and register [here](#).

Spring Clinic Fleet 5 will host its annual spring clinic at 7PM on Thursday evening May 5th in the Fantail at the CYC. This event will focus exclusively on boat speed – how to consistently squeeze max speed out of a Rhodes 19. The format will be a moderated panel of four of Fleet 5's most consistently successful sailors, including **Charlie Pendleton**, **Jim Taylor**, **Jeff Shoreman** and BC sailing coach **Evan (the Kid) Cooke**. Kim Pandapas will moderate. The CYC will provide a cash bar. This event is free and open to all, and will provide an opportunity to reconnect with fleet friends and get your motors started three weeks before Spring Series.

Mast Measurement Day Class measurer **Josh Wheeler** will measure masts on Saturday May 7th from 1-3pm in the EYC dry sail lot. If you have a new mast or have made modifications to your existing one, rules require you measure it, and Josh is making that easy for you. Mast measurement is quick and takes only about 15 minutes. If you plan to measure your mast, please contact **Jim Raisides** in advance at jim@raisides.com.

An East Coast Reminder From Rob Paterson, the Regatta Chair We want to let everyone know that registration is open for the 2016 East Coast Championships being hosted by Fleet 36 and to be held at Sandy Bay Yacht Club on June 17, 18, 19. Complete information may be found at either: www.regattaman.com (go to the calendar of events) or at www.sandybay.org. With permission from the Class we have a special condition to encourage Junior sailors to participate. Crews with members between 14 and 17 years old are being encouraged to compete. There is information on the site about charter/loaner boats and housing.

No Feedback on MRA PRO Guide Last month we asked for comment on the PRO Guide and got no response, suggesting people are generally happy with it. So based on that, there will be no changes this year. But we're always looking for feedback. If you have ideas about possible ways to improve

our MRA racing, please reach out to **Jim Taylor** jtyd@shore.net or **Kim Pandapas** at kpandapas@comcast.net.

MRA Scoring Byes As it has in recent seasons, MRA will grant one optional free pass for scoring purposes, which you can use in either Series 1 or Series 2. So the bye will be available to use for East Coasts but not for nationals – *plan accordingly*. Boats using their bye will be scored average points for that series. To use your bye, you must contact MRA Scorer **Jim Whipple** at 617-720-4262 or scorer@mheadrace.org by noon the previous day.

2016 Twilight Scoring According to the MRA racing calendar [located here](#), there will be 14 Thursday night Twilight races this summer, with series splits as follows: May 26 will be an unscored practice race, June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and July 7 will constitute Series 1, and July 17, 21, Aug 4, 11, 18, 25 and Sept 1 will constitute Series 2.

Co-skipper Opportunity Looking for a ride? **Rick Saunders** is looking for someone who wants either to co-skipper or crew this summer. Give him a call at 781-439-9767 or email sailsr19@comcast.net.

Need a Crew? Several folks have written in expressing interest in sailing R19s this season, at varying levels of commitment.

Amber Hewett: a.hewett90@gmail.com

Mark Lindsay: markl@bostonboatworks.com

Bill Rothwell: BRothwell@jsistorefixtures.com

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FLEET 5 TRIVIA

(Answers on Page 4)

1. **Rick Saunders** rejoined the fleet in 2010 racing a Stuart. What model did he race in his first go-round, what was the boat's name and sail number?
2. How many East Coasts has **Charlie Pendleton** won and in what years?
3. Can you name the Fleet 5 fleet captains since 1999 and what years they served?



FLEET PROFILE – MEET LARRY EHRHARDT

Compiled by Christina Pandapas

Fleet 5 welcomed **Larry Ehrhardt** last summer when he hit the starting line in 2435 previously owned by **Kent Hallawell** and **Jerry Blouin**. It didn't take long for all of us to realize we needed to take this guy seriously. He served notice by finished second for the day his first time out for MRA and was pretty much in the mix every time out. So, with a season under his belt, we wanted to see what Larry thinks about Rhodes sailing. Read on to learn how Larry got hooked and insights like how big orange objects tempt young crew.

What was the first boat you ever sailed?

The first boat I remember sailing was my parents' 210 out of Marblehead Harbor in 1972. They lived in Lexington, but would make the trip to participate in MRA and sometimes take a day sail. After we moved to the Connecticut, I started sailing Dyer Dhows as part of the Junior Sailing program at American YC in Rye, NY.

What got you started in Rhodes?

People in the fleet kept talking about the close racing and great social activities. **Tom Dailey** lent me his boat for a couple of days of MRW in 2014 and I was hooked.

Who has been crewing for you?

Last year, probably 50/50 between **Will Walters** and **Callie Naughton** who are both excellent teammates. Also, each of my three children (**Ruthie**, **Allen** and **Travis**) joined the boat for a day.

Where did the name "Rallie" come from?

Rallie was the name of my Sonar and is a blend of **Ruthie** and **Allen** (the aforementioned children). Travis was not yet on the scene when we came up the the name.

What is your favorite non-sailing activity?

My favorite non-sailing sport is squash. I play a couple of times a week at the Y.

What do you do for work?

Mobile application design and development. My company, which I started five years ago, is called Ballast Lane Applications.

What is your most memorable sailing moment?

There are many, but winning the deciding race in the Halloween Team Race finals in 2014 was special as there was a small crowd (including my wife Rebecca) on the porch of EYC there to

witness. It was also a really close race that could have gone either way.

What is the biggest bonehead thing you've done during a race?

In the Rhodes, it was the day I let **Seamus Hourihan** and **Peter Frisch** gybe inside of us in all three races at the windward mark and take the lead. Didn't quite get the lesson that day.

What is the biggest bonehead thing a crew of yours has done during a race?

Well it's not really a bonehead thing, but on Friday of the East Coasts last year, I needed Travis (9 at the time) to jump on the boat as a third. He had never really raced before and was very excited to be near a big orange balloon (otherwise know as the mark) and almost grabbed it as we passed by during the first rounding of the day.

What's the best tip you could give someone who is sailing a Rhodes for the first time?

I guess it would be to make sure you have the team in place so that, as skipper, you can focus all of your attention on keeping the boat moving through the water as fast as possible. It seems so easy to start going really slow if you miss a wave or fall out of the groove for even a moment.

What book are you reading?

The Big Short by Michael Lewis.

Name one thing about yourself that fellow Fleet 5 members might be surprised to know about you.

My wife and I lived in Costa Rica for a summer where we studied Spanish and travelled around the region.

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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.

Doyle Sails at (978) 740-5950 for new sails and repairs.

Chris Small – Full restorations and glass work-
csmall9021@yahoo.com, (978) 500-9021.

Neal Lewanda – Repairs, fiberglass/gel coat, rudders, keel work, etc. - neal@lewandamarine.com, 978-525-2700

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

Kenny Harvey – Rigging kenny@harveyrigging.com or (781) 631-6644

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

Cape Cod Shipbuilding makes Zephyr extrusions and a full range of mast and boom hardware and fittings. Call **Dick Landis** at (508) 295-2240.

"**Phil's Foils**" builds Rhodes 19 rudders under the "Phil's Foils" brand name. Go to www.fastcomposites.ca or contact Phil Locker at (613) 599-6951.

The Trailer Shop – Located on 87 High St. in Danvers for any trailer repairs. Call **Dan Sullivan** at (978) 750-6799

Sailor's Tailor www.sailortailors.com for boat covers, rudder bags and marine stitching.

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TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Rick was very competitive in his old O'Day #1703, which he called Yankee Ingenuity.
2. Five. Charlie won two crewing with **Jonathan Cressy** in 1993 and 1995, and three sailing 1217 with partner **Jim Raisides** in 2011, 2013 and 2015.
3. Fleet captains since 1999 include:
Kim Pandapas (1999, 2000, 2010, 2011 & 2016)
Jeremy Bloxham (2001, 2002)
Steve Uhl (2003, 2004)
Mike Lane (2005, 2006, 2014, 2015)
Tom Despres (2007, 2008, 2009)
Charlie Pendleton (2012, 2013)

NOTICE BOARD

Please mail postings and updates to kpandapas@comcast.net.

For Sale #1645 Dry sailed dark blue hull with white bottom. Ribs were recently replaced and bottom was faired and painted two years ago. Includes two-year-old Triad trailer, a full cover that can be used with mast up or down, a set of practice sails including two spinnakers. An extra set of barely used cruising sails is available for an additional \$700. Also a barely-used outboard Tohatsu 4 stroke is available for \$500. Pictures sent upon request. \$7000 and seller will throw in an extra set of practice sails. Contact **Stefan Ianchulev** at sian66@yahoo.com or call 314-583-7432.

For Sale #1228 Excellent racing condition. Fixed keel reset; keel, hull and rudder faired by **Chris Small** in 2011. Mast and king plank renovated and mast tuned by **Harvey Rigging** in same year. Very competitive boat, East Coasts in 2011 she placed 8th. Galvanized Triad trailer also in top condition. Two mainsails, two jibs and a spinnaker in good condition, Rudder cover; full safety gear, anchor lines and more. Located in Marblehead asking \$10,500. Contact **Ramsay Hoguet** at rhoguet@gmail.com.

For Sale #1925 - The ribs were professionally replaced. The bottom was faired and barrier coated. I was using bottom paint on it, which is sanded and ready for re-coat. I have the paint, but didn't want to put it on in case someone had a different idea. At least 2 sets of Doyle sails, Lindsay rudder, spare rudder and other parts. New trailer with six lifts. Make an offer! <http://boston.craigslist.org/sob/boa/5428606039.html>

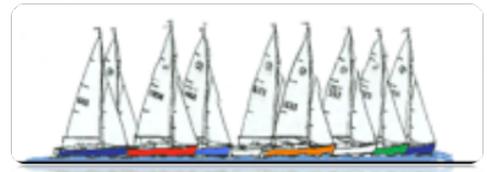
For Sale – Opti #8997 - Bottom and blades refurbished by **Chris Small** during winter 2015. Includes new North Racing sail (6 race days), practice sail, top & bottom covers, blades, blade bag, fairly new airbags and extra mainsheet system. \$1200 kpandapas@comcast.net.

Clear Out Those Old Sails – Reclaim all that space in your garage, attic or sail locker. Please consider a tax deductible donation of your old sails to either Sail Salem at www.sailsalem.org or Courageous at www.courageoussailing.org.

Nahant Fleet Needs Sails – A startup fleet of R19s in Nahant will buy used mains and jibs. Contact **Abbott Lowell** at 978-853-1316 or abbott.lowell@outlook.com.

More Sail Donation - Park City Sailing is a non-profit 501c3 community sailing program that sails on the Jordanelle Reservoir just outside of Park City UT. Last summer over 1200 people sailed, about half of whom were either adaptive or therapeutic participants. Their fleet now exceeds 40 boats including four Rhodes 19's which need sails. Please consider making a tax deductible donation of your old mains, jibs and spinnakers. One of their members has graciously offered to pay the freight to Utah. Contact **Ken Block** at ken.block@parkcitysailing.org

Missing a Trophy? We still have some of last year's trophies. If you placed in a series last season but don't have a trophy to show for it, email Christina Pandapas at cpandapas@comcast.net.



A GAME OF PREPARATION *by Charlie Pendleton*



One of the best moments in spring is taking the cover off of your Rhodes. Whether it's cutting into the shrink wrap or untying the knots that secure the tarp, you can't help but smile and start thinking about all the great racing ahead and the stories that will come with it. There is usually a list of things that you need to do to your Rhodes that have been in your head all winter. Once you peel back the cover, that list usually

grows. Most Rhodes in the Marblehead fleet were built in the late 60s and early 70s and they need ongoing attention and maintenance. A huge part of competitive sailing is preparation, the things that you do off the water.

Jim and I meet once each spring and go over the big picture items that need attention. Usually these are things that got in the way or slowed us down the prior season and require some level of re-working. This year we're re-running the traveler and replacing a halyard or two. Last year we built a new boom, and replaced the frac line. The prior year we re-varnished the floor boards with non-skid because we were slipping around too much.

With a Rhodes, the real challenge is knowing what to fix before it breaks. We regularly replace things that are working just fine. If you wait to replace equipment until it breaks, it usually costs you a race and maybe a day of racing. Here are some of the things that typically break – replace them before they do: Vang (line, blocks and shackles), boom gooseneck (check the pins/bolts), tiller extension universals, halyards, rudder pintles and gudgeons.

Before the mast is stepped, check the main, spinnaker and jib halyard sheaves to make sure they're oiled and spinning (I can hear some of you hoisting your sails from across the harbor!). Next, check your halyards and then make sure there are no frayed or snapped wires on the stays. A good trick with halyards is to remove 6 inches from the sail end. It will change the load points and get you fresh/strong line at the securing points. Inspect the spreaders and make sure they're secure and marked to help the jib trimmer – replace any electrical tape with fresh wraps. Clean and oil the stay turnbuckles. Don't forget to put the windex back on!

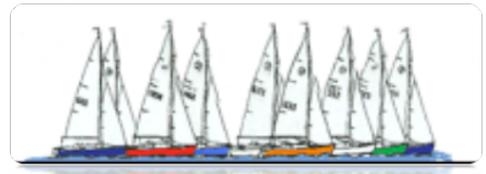
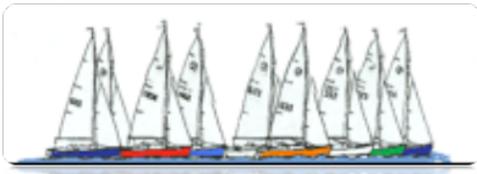
I'll go from bow to stern with a screw driver and a pair of pliers to make sure every screw, nut and bolt that loosened up last season is tight again. Then I'll oil blocks, cam cleats and spinnaker pole fittings to make sure they are running freely. Replace and tape ring dings if necessary. Finally, check your lines for wear and tear, (re)burn the ends to keep them from fraying and to prevent the sleeves from separating from the core.

Remember your other equipment. Replace your lifting straps every 3-4 years - even if they look fine. They are cheap to replace and I see way too many old lifting straps in use. Inspect your flotation, if it's an air bag make sure it's not leaking. Keep your trailer in good working order, flat tires make for an aggravating start to your day. Work done off the water leads to consistent results on the water. Spring is the perfect time to get your Rhodes running like a top.

ROAD TO THE CUP – WEEK 0

Place	Sail #	Name	Points
1st	722	Shoreman / Reynolds	0.00
1st	769	Rob Ferro	0.00
1st	892	Smyers / Sachs	0.00
1st	982	Team Pandapas	0.00
1st	1015	Tom Dailey	0.00
1st	1090	Dru Slattery	0.00
1st	1137	Team Adam	0.00
1st	1194	Peter Weise	0.00
1st	1210	Hourihan / Frisch	0.00
1st	1217	Pendleton / Raisides	0.00
1st	1228	Ramsay Hoguet	0.00
1st	1299	Team Felton	0.00
1st	1316	Team Fava / Nash	0.00
1st	1392	Bolen / Lakin	0.00
1st	1398	Sarah Sheldon	0.00
1st	1466	Team Martini	0.00
1st	1496	Team Bloxham	0.00
1st	1643	Stuart Boyd	0.00
1st	1645	Stefan Ianchulev	0.00
1st	1680	Chris Small	0.00
1st	1683	Matt Hooks	0.00
1st	1686	Rick Saunders	0.00
1st	1775	John Casler	0.00
1st	1782	Team Noble	0.00
1st	1790	Team Cormier / Dalton	0.00
1st	1819	Eric Thornton	0.00
1st	1926	Team Taylor	0.00
1st	1939	Team McNamara	0.00
1st	2435	Larry Ehrhardt	0.00
1st	2495	David Rubin	0.00
1st	2561	Eric Colsman	0.00
1st	2585	Steve Uhl	0.00
1st	2590	Rick Berliner	0.00
1st	2623	Mike Lane	0.00
1st	2648	Team Cooke / Kaznoski	0.00
1st	2692	Team Heffernan	0.00
1st	3172	Dave Nelson	0.00
1st	3183	Team Holley	0.00
1st	3299	JP Zonnenberg	0.00

Fleet 5's weekly Road To The Cup email blasts will commence following Spring Series and continue until the end of Fall Series. To request being added to Fleet 5's distribution list, please contact Jeff Shoreman at jshoreman@gmail.com.



SCUTTLEBUTT

Got News? Let's hear from you. Send your gossip, rumors and embarrassing tidbits to kpandapas@comcast.net.

The Kid Rocks Congrats to old friend **Even "the Kid" Cooke** placed 2nd in the J70 midwinters in St. Petersburg. Looks like a breezy regatta.



Lasers Show Up In Force The Lasers kicked off their spring series on Sunday April 17 with 14 boats. Fourteen wet-and-dry suited sailors, including a few Fleet 5 members, braved the 47-degree water to sail, and the RC of **Susie Schneider** and **Al McKinnon** got off five races in two hours. Unsurprisingly, **JB Braun** won the day, though our own **Charlie Pendleton** finished 5th and **Steve Uhl** finished 8th. Rookie **Kim Pandapas** managed to beat one boat finishing 13th. Day 2 saw an even better turnout with 18 boats. **Steve Uhl** took 2nd that day with consistent single digit finishes that included a bullet. He now holds 2nd for the series, which will continue every Sunday through May 22 from 1-3. Get out your dry suit and get a jump on the season. For details, contact **Tom Daily** at tmd15@cornell.edu.

10 Fleet 5ers Sail Jackson Cup April 23-24 saw what many consider to be the unofficial start to the sailing season with the Boston Yacht Club's annual Jackson Cup Team Race. Eight teams from as far away as Newport Harbor, CA and London, England fought it out over two days of team racing in Marblehead Harbor. While the New York Yacht Club topped the fleet, the Boston team including **Tomas Hornos** and **Ron Homa** finished 2nd and earned harbor bragging rights. The Corinthian team that included **Evan Cooke**, **Elise Nash**, **Karen Lubeck** and **Joe Fava** took 3rd. The Eastern finished 6th with a team that included **Matt Hooks**, **Beanie Eissner**, **Larry Ehrhardt** and **Peter Frisch**.

New Partnership We hear that **Stefan Ianchulev** has decided to sell his boat and partner-up with **Peter Weise**. Sounds like a good trade to us. Details on Stefan's boat are listed in this month's Notices.

Excuses, Excuses You might recall that 2015 Cup champion **Peter Frisch** had volunteered to be on the panel for our May 5th clinic, but was later forced to beg off due to conflicts. Turns out the conflict was traveling to London with his partner

Seamus Hourihan and the EYC team to sail in the Cumberland Cup, one of the oldest trophies in the Royal Thames Yacht Club (RTYC) collection. If you're interested, the NOR can be found [here](#).

Fast Crew Hookup If you were at the winter party, you might recall meeting **Abbott Lowell**. Abbott is a laser sailor interested in Rhodes, and also happens to be helping get a Nahant R19 fleet off the ground. Abbott sent in an email expressing interest in crewing, which we forwarded to a few people we thought could help. You could measure a nanosecond by the amount of time it took **Steve Uhl** to snap him up. Welcome to Fleet 5 Abbott.

On The Road with John Casler It's tough keeping track of old friend **John Casler's** offseason travels. God only knows where he took this. If you recognize it, let us know.



Happy Birthday Fleet 5 And speaking of **John Casler**, he determined back in 2011 that Fleet 5's was in its 50th season. So unless we're mistaken (and knowing my math skills, we could be), this 2016 season marks the fleet's 55th year. Imagine that!

Speaking of Birthdays We hear **Jim Taylor** recently celebrated an important milestone. We have it on good authority that the ever youthful recent national champ is now receiving social security and Medicaid. How can that be? We also hear that **Anne Taylor** has officially retired suggesting that Jim won't be single-handing Thursday nights any more.

Surf's Up Can anyone guess the identity of the Fleet 5 member in this picture?



Where's MoHotta? We got a lot of mail this month, and interestingly all of it asking the same question: "Where did you take MoHotta?" Boy, talk about no secrets. I guess Evans Road gets a lot of traffic. (Maybe we should start closing the shades.) Anyway, just needed a little air in the tires, I swear....

The next Fleet 5 Newsletter will be published on October 1st. Newsletters are distributed by email. To request being added to Fleet 5's distribution list, please contact Jeff Shoreman at jshoreman@gmail.com.