

## Fleet 5 Newsletter

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## November 2017

# R h o d e s 19

### GREETINGS FROM THE PREZ



Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls - another one is in the books. It really is amazing how much intrigue and drama we can cram into a 17-18-week sailing season. Every year it's always the same - nerves, joy, elation, fear, gut-wrenching disappointment, pride, jealousy, anger, resolve to do better - it's all there. And in the end, it's worth it, right? We take the good with the bad, the happy with the sad, the tears with the joy. Why? Because we're passionate. We're passionate about our sport and about competing with each other. We're addicted to the competition, the comradery, the ups, the downs and every emotion the sport dredges out of us. God help us, we love it. We love all of it. And as the song goes, "If there's a cure for this, I don't want it."

Don't even consider missing the Awards Banquet, which will be this Saturday night at the home of **Elise & Mike Nash**. For starters, it's a great party that will feature the fleet bar and your creative pot luck contributions. More importantly, it's your last chance this year to get together with Fleet 5 friends to rehash the past season and start looking forward to the next. And, of course as we always do, we'll celebrate this season's winners, including the awarding of our many perpetual trophies. This year's event will include a new twist as we'll be bestowing for the first time the *Fleet 5 Hacker Award*, donated by yours truly and **Elise Nash**. The award will celebrate that person who somehow manages to distinguish him or herself doing something funny, dumb or goofy or whatever. The difference here is that I don't pick the winner, you do. I'll come prepared to prime the pump with a few examples of us caught in the act of being ourselves, but you also need to be prepared to contribute one or two yourself - the funnier, the better. We'll vote the 2017 winner with the loudest cheers.

Also at that event, we will elect a new slate of officers to usher us through the 2018 season. That proposed slate (on the next page) is topped by our friend **Jim Taylor**, who has generously agreed to take the reins for the next couple of years. How lucky are we? Jim has been around long enough to know all of the ins and outs of the fleet, lending a bit of wisdom and perspective to the job. But he also brings a new energy along with some fresh thoughts on how best to keep our fleet vital and growing, a little of which he previews on Page 5. So please show your support for the team this Saturday night.

Finally, I'd like to thank you for allowing me the privilege of running Fleet 5 for the last couple of years. Though I never say never, this will probably do it for me. I've been honored to serve as your fleet captain for three 2-year terms - once in 2001-02, again in 2010-11 and finally this go-round in 2016-17. It's not that I wouldn't do it again, but more like I shouldn't do it again. The essence and life blood of any fleet is renewal, and we are so lucky to have so many talented and energetic folks. It's time for me to step out of the way and give them a chance. Of course, I won't be going anywhere. I plan to stay on to help Jim as MRA rep. I'll also do the scoring and will keep writing the RTTC for a bit longer. And of course, Christina and I will continue coming out every weekend to do our best to kick your asses.

See you at the Awards Banquet.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**2017 Awards Banquet - Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>**  
This year's awards festivities will again be generously hosted by **Elise & Mike Nash** at their home at 4 Longfellow Road. The event will be potluck, include the fleet bar and feature our season awards.

**Winter Party - Date & location TBD** but most likely at the home of **Christina & Kim Pandapas** on an early winter Saturday.

**Spring Clinic - TBA** Fleet 5 will host a clinic in April or May, date to be determined. If you have suggested themes, please forward them to [jtyd@shore.net](mailto:jtyd@shore.net).

**Spring Measurement Day - TBA** Fleet 5 expects to do at least one spring measurement day. Stay tuned. As always, for measurement issues, contact **Peter Sorlien** at [sorlien@gmail.com](mailto:sorlien@gmail.com).

**Spring Series - May 26<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>** Spring Series will kick off on the Saturday & Sunday of Memorial Day weekend.

**Twilights Commence - June 1<sup>st</sup>** The Twilight Series will start on May 31<sup>st</sup>, the first Thursday after Memorial Day.

**East Coasts - June 22-24** The 2018 East Coasts Championship will be held in Padanaram and hosted by the New Bedford Yacht Club.

\* \* \*

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Treasurer:  
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[joseph.c.fava@gmail.com](mailto:joseph.c.fava@gmail.com)

Secretary:  
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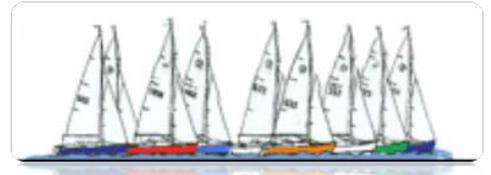
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**SHORT TACKS**

**Say It Ain't So** Long-time MRA Scorer **Jim Whipple** has decided to call it quits. Here are some of his thoughts in his own eloquent words.

*Dear MRA, After 13 years as Scorer I've concluded that it's time to bow out. I'm not superstitious, but I'm afraid I'm getting stale. I'm glad that, with the advent of Regattaman a few years ago, the job has become much less time-consuming and results have become more readily available, as RC people from three clubs have been entering data on the water.*

*I've been pleased to work with the varying "cast of characters" on the MRA board over the years, but I'll especially commend **Maura [Power]** for all her accomplishments as Sec-Treas during my first few years as Scorer, and I'll express my gratitude(!) to **Kim [Pandapas]** for nominating me for the job 13 years ago, and I'll give a shout out to **Susie [Schneider]** as the only colleague who has served on the board through all the years of my tenure.*

In our view, very few have contributed as much for as long and as consistently as Jim. He has been diligent, responsive and professional since the day he arrived, and he did it with grace, kindness and generosity. Jim is a true class act and we are all the richer for his having done so much on our behalf. A tip of the cap to Jim. Thanks from Fleet 5.

**Congratulations to Joe** **Joe Fava** was honored at a ceremony on Sunday October 15<sup>th</sup> as the recipient of the Corinthian's 'Spirit of Sailing Award.' That recognition is awarded annually to that Corinthian YC Member whose actions contribute to developing and fostering sailing at the club. Here was the official announcement. *"The recipient of this year's Spirit of Sailing Award is **Joe Fava**. Through Joe's tireless efforts, he has expanded participation and new offerings to the CYC membership that include Family Sail, Match Racing, the 2v2 Regatta, Umpire Seminar, Frostbiting and team racing."*

**Hacker Award Nominations** It has been brought to our attention the you, not we, should select the Hacker Award, and we agree. So, your Hacker Award Committee (Kim & Elise) will show up to the awards banquet with a few suggestions to get the ball rolling. And if you have any funny stories of someone who you think has done something truly hack-worthy, please be prepared to share. Once we get all of the nominations on the table, we'll go down the list and you will select the winner with the volume of your heckles/cheers.

**Sail Pre-Order** Doyle announced its 2018 pre-order. The discounts are 15% of ordered by Oct 31 10% off by

November 30 and 5% off on sails ordered by December 31<sup>st</sup>. Look for a 'Fall Discount Bracket' link near the order form hyperlink. If you don't see it, feel free to contact [onedesign@doylesails.com](mailto:onedesign@doylesails.com).

**WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK**

How do you think last season went? What did you like? What could we have done better? What changes would you like next season? Here are a few topics to get you started.

**Weekend Racing** – How did you like the North Line as compared to our old Tinkers Line? How were the starting lines? Were the courses too short? How about too long? Did you like all C courses or would you have preferred an occasional upwind finish? Did you agree with the cancellations on the stormy/foggy days or were you ready to sail? Was the RC work consistent from club to club?

**Twilight Racing** – Both series were truncated due to conditions. Does it still make sense to break Twilights into two short series, or so should we think about going with one long one?

**Fall Sailing** – Fall Series attendance is abysmal. What would induce you to keep sailing into September?

**Fleet Management** – What did you like this year? What did you hate? How did you like the Spring Clinic? Any suggested topics for next year? Were there enough parties? Did you like the locations? Would you like to host a party sometime? Did you enjoy mixing it up with J70s at the Fall party?

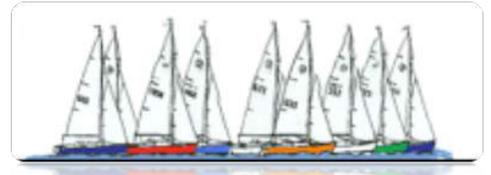
Please send your thoughts to Kim Pandapas at [kpandapas@comcast.net](mailto:kpandapas@comcast.net) or Jim Taylor at [jtyd@shore.net](mailto:jtyd@shore.net).

\* \* \*

**PROPOSED 2018 FLEET 5 SLATE**

A motion will be made to nominated the following slate of officers to lead Fleet in 2018. Members will discuss and vote at the conclusion of the awards ceremony on November 4<sup>th</sup>.

President	Jim Taylor
VP	Elise Nash
Secretary	Jeff Shoreman
Treasurer	Joe Fava
Social	Dave Reynolds
Scorer	Kim Pandapas
Webmaster	Nat Taylor
Measurer	Peter Sorlien



### MEET KEN CORMIER

by Christina Pandapas

Ken Cormier’s personal sailing history is long, varied, and rich with anecdotes. From Sandy Bay to Kiel, Germany, Ken has trimmed many a sail on a long list of one-design and blue water racers from 110s to Solings, in which he won the North Americans with **Dave Curtis** and **Robbie Doyle**. Just a couple of years ago, Ken jumped into a chartered R19 and, co-skippering with **Steve Dalton**, tied for first in one of the most competitive Rhodes regattas in recent history. With the fire lit and stoked, he promptly teamed up with Steve’s brother, **Bill Dalton**, to buy **Chris Hutchinson’s** 1790. A very unexpected triple by-pass put a crimp in his style last year, but he is fully recovered and ready to kick all our asses again.

*What was the first boat you ever sailed?*

A Turnabout at Sandy Point during the Eisenhower administration.

*How long have you been sailing Rhodes?*

Taught sailing in them in 1969 through 1971 but did not skipper one in a race until 2004 on Brass Rat. I loved 110s as a kid, and they planed!

*Why did you start sailing Rhodes?*

**Sandy Warrick** recruited me in a supermarket aisle in York, ME during Race Week 2003 when his son mutinied after Sandy had dunked him overboard (tea-bagged) at least once on the first day of Race Week.

*What is your favorite non-sailing activity?*

Probably home improvements. It is something my wife, Ellie, and I can collaborate on.

*What do you do for work?*

My final career is Financial Services with New York Life: Insurance, Retirement Planning, Business Owners’ needs. I do miss the hands-on manufacturing processes that began with sail making in the 60’s and 70’s and continued with industrial textiles until 2001.



*What is your most memorable sailing moment?*

That is very hard to answer. I had a great summer in 1970 that included winning the Olympic Soling North Americans in Houston in June with **Dave Curtis** and **Robbie Doyle**, then getting all firsts in Race Week in my 110 in July, and then going to Kiel Germany in August to sail in the Pre-Olympic Regatta at Kiel Week and finishing third out of 70 Solings. **Elvstrom** won. **John Dane** was second. And we were all ages 20 – 22 at the time. It was a breakout summer for this Sandy Pointer!

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

Navigators! On a Halifax race in ‘73 aboard **Westy Adams’** C&C 35 “Stampede,” our navigator, who will remain unnamed, had us enter an enclosed cove instead of the final

approach to the finish line. We had the chute up in an enclosed shallow rocky anchorage and had to drop sails, put up a genoa, beat upwind to the open sea, all because this “airline pilot” was navigating in True as opposed to Magnetic. That could have been a real disaster, but fortunately it was daylight and not dark.

*What is the biggest bonehead thing you’ve done during a race either as skipper or crew?*

So many... so little time. I tried to add up the scores between races on the last day of the IOD Worlds in Larchmont in 1985, but the finish line was kind of frantic. So, in the final race, we were leading the series after the morning’s race and I calculated that only one boat could beat us, so we covered him as he went south while we knew the breeze was trending west. We crossed the line to no horns or cheering as we lost the series by 1/4 point.

That, and insisting **Kim P.** make a short tack to a northerly puff at the finish of the next to last race of the 2010 Rhodes Nationals as the fleet clustered around us at the finish line in a big hole. We went from third to 13<sup>th</sup> as the breeze returned to where we were before. That cost us 10 boats in a series we lost by one point. Yes, I still feel bad for that one. Sorry Buddy!

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

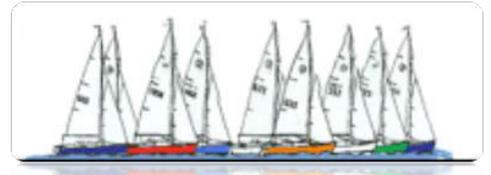
Get really comfortable going downwind, and take full advantage of the shore-side generosity of your fellow competitors. They all want you to be competitive. I still ask for rigging and tuning advice constantly.

*What book are you reading?*

I am afraid my reading is all studying and pretty tiring.

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

I co-facilitated a men’s bible study for several years at the church I attended in York, ME. It was actually a rich experience enjoyed by all.



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### SEASON RESULTS

Our 2017 season ended with a grand total of 557 points. Congratulations to **Team Frisch / Hourihan**, who finished with a paltry 167 of those, earning them bragging rights for the 2017 season championship. Finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> was **Team Lane / Heffernan**, who put up 180.5 points and was the most disappointed of all when the wash outs of the last two Fall Series days. Taking 3<sup>rd</sup> more than 50 points off the pace was **Team Pandapas**, who rolled 211 points. Honorable mentions go to **Team Heffernan / Harsono** in 4<sup>th</sup> with 250 points and Dave Nelson in 5<sup>th</sup> just with 264 points. The complete list is below. Congratulations too all.

### 2017 Cup Finals

Name	Boat #	Points	Finish
Frisch / Hourihan	1210	167.00	1st
Mike Lane	2623	180.50	2nd
Team Pandapas	982	211.00	3rd
Team Heffernan	2692	250.00	4th
Dave Nelson	3172	264.00	5th
Steve Uhl	2585	269.00	6th
Kazoski / Cooke	2648	278.33	7th
Matt Hooks	1683	291.00	8th
Larry Ehrhardt	2435	294.00	9th
Team Taylor	1926	310.00	10th
Fava / Mazareas	1316	332.00	11th
Conway & Alex Felton	1299	336.00	12th
Ben Richardson	1343	378.00	13th
Shoreman / Reynolds	722	388.00	14th
Dru Slattery	1090	394.00	15th
Debbie Noble	1782	398.60	16th
Ken Cormier / Bill Dalton	1790	401.00	17th
Eric Thornton / Bill Rothwell	1819	410.00	18th
Sara Sheldon / Ann Sousa	1398	433.00	19th
Team Martini	1466	436.00	20th
David Rubin	2495	448.00	21st
Eckert Colman	2561	461.00	22nd
Jim Ouelette	1217	515.00	23rd
Steve Sovis / Stefan Ianchulev	1832	528.00	24th
Frank McNamara	1939	528.00	25th
Team Berliner	2590	544.00	26th
John Casler	1775	550.00	27th
Tim McCaffrey	1925	556.00	28th
Sara Driscoll	1341	557.00	29th
Peter Weise / Stefan Ianchulev	1194	557.50	30th

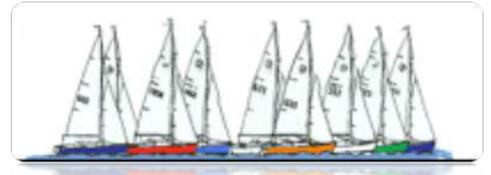


### TRIVIA QUESTIONS

1. Who won the 2016 season championship (aka the Cup)? What is the Cup really called?
2. Who won the 2016 Outstanding Crew Award, who is the award named after and why?
3. One of our perpetual trophies is a paddle which is a relatively new replacement for the previous award, which was lost. What is the award called and what was the item that was lost? Who won it last year?

Answers on page 6





### A FEW THOUGHTS FROM THE INCOMING PREZ

*By Jim Taylor*



I dearly miss **Fred Brehob**, who I am certain is now encouraging people to do things the right way (his way) in the Great Beyond. His love for the Rhodes 19 knew no bounds, and he served as our Class Historian and delightfully irascible Class Conscience

for as long as there has been a local fleet. Long after Fred's health issues forced him to give up racing, (be assured that he was a force in his day!), he would accost me in Crosby's Market with pointed questions about our Class Rules, the fiberglass keel, recent race results, etc. He was certainly old school, but he always had the best interests of the Class in mind, and he could (and did!) bring five decades of R-19 experience and perspective to bear in making his points.

In one such incident a few years ago, Fred pulled me aside demanding to know how there could be a new Fleet 5 president when we hadn't had an election. I pointed out that we did not have any crowd control issues with the field of candidates seeking the job, and that we were lucky to have someone willing to take it on. He grudgingly accepted that approach to new leadership then, so I trust that he would be OK with it now, as I have agreed to succeed Kim as Fleet 5 President for 2018 (pending approval by membership, of course!).

Some might ask why it has taken me so long to take on the job, since I have been a fleet member for decades. The short answer is that I have run out of excuses. A more nuanced answer has at least two threads: First, that I have been involved in a lot of measurement and Class Rules issues over time, and I sensed that some people were tired of listening to me; and second, I have not wanted to take on the job until I had the time to do it justice. My priorities going forward are simply to be a good Fleet 5 steward and to keep doing all the things that have made it so successful for so long.

One thing that is obviously critical to the continued strength of Fleet 5 is all of the people who have contributed to it. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to founding fathers like Fred Brehob, and to stalwarts since such as **Steve Uhl**, **Tom Depres**, **Mike Lane**, **Doug Trees** and **'Team Pandapas'** (among many others) who have given so much for so long. For 2018, we are fortunate to have **Elise Nash** agree to be Vice President, and to pass the Social Chair/Fleet Bar torch (free at last!) to **Dave Reynolds**, who will now take on that most critical of Fleet 5 jobs. We are doubly lucky to have the rest of the 2017 team agree to stay on for 2018, with **Joe Fava** continuing as

Treasurer, **Jeff Shoreman** as Secretary, **Kim Pandapas** as Scorer, **Nat Taylor** as Webmaster and **Peter Sorlien** as Measurer.

I have been racing in Fleet 5 (albeit somewhat irregularly) since the 80's, and I can say with no hesitation that the level of the competition has never been higher. Our talent pool is deeper than it has ever been, Fleet 5 dominates regional regattas, and any team that finishes in the top third in any of our 'home' races can go home feeling pretty good about themselves. However, it is imperative that we keep in mind that we are competing against our friends, and that we go racing for fun. We have a strong tradition of choosing not to waste precious time re-litigating race course incidents in the protest room, but there have been enough clear and unacknowledged fouls recently (mostly at weather marks) that suggest that some teams are taking advantage of this 'protest free' approach. This attitude is poisonous, it can't be allowed to become a trend, and it has to stop. Period. (More on this in later newsletters).

Of course, the success of Fleet 5 ultimately depends on all the sailors who show up at the starting line all summer long, and I do mean **ALL** the sailors! In any racing fleet, some teams routinely finish on or near the podium, some get there now and then, and some seldom get more than an occasional sniff of glory. Make no mistake that this latter group is far and away the most essential to fleet health, as it provides the critical mass that keeps the racing viable as well as the new blood that keeps it vital. It's fine for the top boats to exchange ideas on the nuances of upper shroud tension, but much more important that they connect with those that may be struggling with how to make these cranky little boats go consistently fast. It is incumbent on all of us to engage with everyone in our membership, especially if they are from the 'other club', or the other end of the fleet standings. Our fleet parties (and our fleet bar!) attest to the fact that we enjoy each other's company, and accept that we are all in this together. It takes a village.

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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](mailto:csmall9021@yahoo.com) (978) 500-9021.

**Seacoast Specialty Marine** Call **Greg Dolan** at 978-255-2769, click on [seacoastsspecialtymarine.com](http://seacoastsspecialtymarine.com), or visit on Facebook [@seacoastsspecialtymarine](https://www.facebook.com/seacoastsspecialtymarine).

**Neal Lewanda** – Repairs, fiberglass/gel coat, rudders, keel work, etc. - [neal@lewandamarine.com](mailto:neal@lewandamarine.com), 978-525-2700

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

**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](http://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](http://www.sailortailors.com) for boat covers, rudder bags and marine stitching.

Seacoast Specialty Marine – Restorations, rigging and all variety of go fast work. Located in 5000 sq ft facility at 14 Graf Road, Newburyport. Email [info@seacoastsspecialtymarine.com](mailto:info@seacoastsspecialtymarine.com), or call 978-255-2769

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### NOTICE BOARD

**Another Winter Storage Option** – Seacoast Specialty Marine in Newburyport is offering indoor winter storage. If you would like to reserve a spot, email [info@seacoastsspecialtymarine.com](mailto:info@seacoastsspecialtymarine.com) or call 978-255-2769.”

**For Sale** The price has dropped again on 892, a boat that has won Race Week, East Coasts and Nationals. **Rick Smyers** is now asking \$9k. You can reach him at [ricksmymers@gmail.com](mailto:ricksmymers@gmail.com).

**For Sale** New, never used set (main + jib) of Doyle race sails for \$1250 (almost 50% off). 2015 TackTick Micro Compass with mount for \$275 (original \$499). Contact Peter at [weisep@mit.edu](mailto:weisep@mit.edu)

**Donate Your Sails** The Nahant Sailing Program (NSP) has 6 Rhodes 19s that are used to teach kids and a twilight program for adults. The majority of funding comes from an annual fund raiser by The Friends of Nahant Sailing. The Rhodes sails need replacement, so if you have or are purchasing new sails, please consider donating your old ones to “The Friends of Nahant Sailing.” Not only will it help the program grow, but the donation is tax deductible. Please contact **Bob Cusack** at (781) 581-1159 or [rjcusack@verizon.net](mailto:rjcusack@verizon.net) if you are interested.

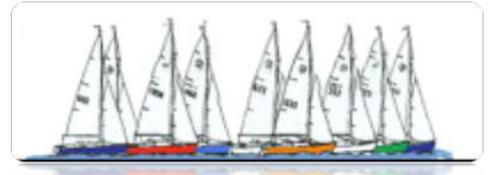
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### TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. The 2016 Cup winners were **Charlie Pendleton & Jim Raisides**, shown below, inexplicably not racing in the 2017 Nationals. The Cup is officially the **Nick Nichols Trophy**.



2. Elise Nash won the 2016 Outstanding Crew Award. The full name of the award is the **Richie Santos Outstanding Crew Award**. It's named in memory of **John Burke's** crew, **Richie Santos**, late brother of sportscaster **Gil Santos**.
3. The paddle is the **Most Improved Trophy**. It replaced the previous trophy which was a fog horn. **Larry Ehrhardt** won it in 2016.



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SCUTTLEBUTT

*It's Not Cold Everywhere* Your soon-to-be-ex-Fleet Captain had the opportunity to take a swing through the St. Francis Yacht Club in San Francisco last week, and was pleasantly reminded that not everyone rolls up the sidewalks after Labor day. Here is a shot of a few folks rigging.



Looks like summer, right? And also like our Marblehead summers, believe it or not, SF Bay also has to deal with the occasional postponements waiting for the wind to fill in. Go figure. This looks more like Marblehead than it does a place known for 15-25 every day. Could have been my fault I suppose, spreading our "Marblehead" light air thing like a virus, infecting those poor folks.



One thing we really liked and thought worth sharing was this very civilized approach to launching dinghies off dollies. Check it out. You roll your dolly down the ramp where it stops on the little lip at the bottom. Then you just slide your boat off, tie it to the float and put your dolly away. Awesome, right? I am, of course, forever grateful to the EYC for the ongoing use of their ramp, but this sure looks easier than humping a laser up that ramp after racing. I have to think that one of the fine clubs on our harbor could find a way to engineer something like this.



MAIL

PRO **Judy Adam** sent this in response to the RTTC picture of **Peter Frisch & Seamus Hourihan** in front of the EYC flag pole flying N over A for the last day of Fall Series. *"Oh, Frisch/Hourihan showed up (defensive move, there!); the cover never came off of Harms Way! We ended up with three Etchells which very quickly became two, at which point we cancelled due to lack of interest. The weather looked OK until about 1:30 when the wind and sea came up pretty aggressively. It was a good day to sleep in if there was nothing riding on the race."*

**Ken Cormier** weighed in on the idea of Fleet 5 owning a lender boat. *"I favor the idea, as well as matchmaking for inactive boats with owners who can't meet the schedule without the time and energy of a new team mate? I would donate some time to the boat prep as I am sure some others would."*

In response requests for Hacker nominations, we got this (in true hacker style) from **Alex Felton**. *"Don't think this fits into your description of this award but I could nominate myself for falling overboard downwind with the spinnaker up. I managed to get back on board and we finished without losing a boat."*

These rest of these were sent, not to Fleet 5, but to an MRA email chain commenting on **Jim Whipple's** retirement. First from BYC RC Chair **Karen Tanenbaum**. *"You've been a true steadying force as Scorer, Scheduler, and all-around voice of reason. You will be missed at the meetings."*

The next is from long-time MRA board member **Jack Cochrane**, *"Jim you have been an anchor in the scoring and scheduling department for MRA for so very long. No one needed to be concerned about scoring issues knowing that you were on top of them continuously. You will be very difficult if not impossible to replace. Enjoy your well-earned retirement."*

Finally, this from old friend **Susie Schneider**, who as usual, gets the last word. *"Oh my goodness - if you heard a crash it was my jaw hitting the floor! Jim - it just wouldn't be MRA without you, and your careful attention to detail for all these years. It is an amazing legacy that you are leaving behind; the documentation of fleets, scores, and our history, while keeping current MRA statistics alive and viable. I can't imagine replacing you! MRA meetings will never really be the same! Thanks for all your contributions in so many facets of racing in our harbor!"*

Ditto all of that, times 10.

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*The next Fleet 5 Newsletter will be published on January 1<sup>st</sup>, or whenever the new Fleet Captain damn well feels like it. Newsletters are distributed by email. To request being added to Fleet 5's distribution list, please contact Jeff Shoreman at [jshoreman@gmail.com](mailto:jshoreman@gmail.com).*