



Fleet 5 Newsletter

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January 2016

R h o d e s 19

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GREETINGS FROM THE PREZ

People tend to marvel at this juggernaut we call Fleet 5, which year after year, decade after decade, just keeps percolating along. How do we do it? What are the secrets of our profound and continuing success, particularly amid the steady declines across our sport? In my view, the answer is more nuanced than 'lots of parties,' though I confess, our biggest asset has always been the fleet bar. No. There is a bit more to it.

It starts, of course with the boat, which has been described as more fun than you should be allowed to have with your pants on. Sure, it's slow, tough to drive, a pig in waves, and a hair-puller in light air. But the old bucket has personality and is more fun per dollar than any boat on the planet.

The second is leadership – spectacular, dedicated, proactive and attentive leadership. I'm not just talking about the past couple of years, though it's worth pausing to acknowledge the great job done by **Mike Lane** and the entire 2014-2015 leadership team, including Secretary **Jeff Shoreman**, VP **Frank McNamara**, Treasurer **Joe Fava**, Social Chair **Elise Mazareas Nash**, scorer **Jim Raisides** and webmaster **Nat Taylor**. Those guys left it all on the field and we are in their debt. But my point is that they were the most recent in a long line of dedicated volunteers all cut from the same cloth. Folks like **Charlie Pendleton**, **Steve Uhl**, **Tom Despres**, **Doug Trees**, **Jeremy Bloxham**, **Kent Hallawell**, **John Casler**, just to name a few. We have a multi-decade legacy of passionate leadership that perpetually challenges the next man up. A quick look at the masthead to the left suggests that beat goes on.

The third is great racing, and as far as I'm concerned, on that score we're as healthy as it gets. Our fleet is hugely competitive, no one dominates and success is broadly distributed. Just take a look at last year's results on the last page of this newsletter, and how many different people won. We spread the wealth, though good conduct and racecourse etiquette have always been more highly regarded than winning at all costs. Importantly, we have managed to propagate a self-reinforcing culture of Corinthian spirit and fair play. No one keeps secrets, everyone is willing to answer questions and bad attitudes tend not to last long.

The fourth, and in my view most important, is community. We are an extended, multi-generational family bound together by some combination of our love for the boat, passion for racing and enjoyment of each other. Our oldest members are in their 80s and youngest in their teens. We sail together in every conceivable combination - parents with kid, husbands with wives, and siblings with each other. We compete on the racecourse, laugh about it on the porch, enjoy our victories and congratulate our winners. We care about each other, help each other, learn from each other, poke good-natured fun at each other (and ourselves), and yes, gather for lots of parties.

So it's not any one thing, it's everything. Like the song says, there's something happening here. Fleet 5 is a gem. We are all blessed to be part of it, and I am privileged for the opportunity to take another crack at leading it.

First gun is in six months.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Winter Party – Saturday February 6th Fleet 5's winter party will be held at 6:30 PM on Saturday February 6th at the home of **Christina & Kim Pandapas**. Keep your eye out for the evite. As usual, the party will be potluck dinner, and as they always do, **Elise & Mike Nash** will supply the bar.

Spring Clinic – Thursday May 5th at 7:00 PM Fleet 5 will host an off-the-water clinic on Thursday evening May 5th in the Fantail at the CYC. The format will be a moderated panel of four of Fleet 5's faster sailors, who will talk about boat tuning, go-fast tricks and the secrets of their success.

Mast Measurement Day- May 7th Class measurer **Josh Wheeler** is planning to measure masts *before* they have to go up. Circle May 7th from 1-4 pm.

Spring Series – May 28th–29th The Spring Series is just a little over five months away. This constitutes the first of the season's regattas that are included in the season championship, and hence kicks-off our "Road to the Cup."

Twilights Commence – June 2nd As it does every year, the Twilight Series is expected to start on the first Thursday after Memorial day. First gun is at 6:30PM.

Post-Race Cocktails–Saturday June 4th at 6PM The fleet will hold its first summer party on Saturday June 4th, location TBA. 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.



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2016 EAST COAST CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2016 East Coasts will be on June 17, 18 & 19 in Rockport, hosted by Sandy Bay Yacht Club. This is shaping up to be a well-attended event as the Class has relaxed its eligibility requirement for this regatta in a way that enables junior sailors age 14-17 to sail (see text of waiver approved by the class below).

This initiative, driven by SBYC's **Richard Brown & Kevin Lane**, is expected to add several boats, while bringing into the fold our next generation. Tip of the cap to regatta organizers and class leadership for being out in front of this. Also, alert readers may recognize that June 19 is Fathers Day, and what better Fathers Day present could there be then to race a regatta in this incredible venue? So, *circle the dates!*

EAST COASTS ELIGIBILITY WAIVER APPROVED BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- *For Junior sailors (age 14-17) participation in all local and district Rhodes 19 sanctioned (except Nationals) events, the requirements of Article XII B 12.00 (01 and 02) are waived for calendar year 2016*
- *All fees, expenses and fleet membership requirements of the Juniors for the above events are at the discretion of the local fleets and local race committees, with one exception,*
- *All Juniors participating as helmsman or PIC for sanctioned races are to be members of the National Association at an Associate Member level (\$15 fee), as a minimum to be eligible for any sanctioned (including Nationals) regattas*

This waiver does not extend to Nationals races, which will be addressed under a separate waiver (if any) and/or change in Association Bylaws.

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FLEET 5 TRIVIA

(Answers on Page 5)

1. Which former Fleet 5 members for several years hosted the winter party, and what made their house unique?
2. Name at least five members of Fleet 5 who coached for Pleon.
3. Which Fleet 5 member is part of the science team for NASA's Juno expedition to Jupiter?
4. Can you name four fleet families who are regulars at Sugarloaf?

SHORT TACKS

Fleet 5 Dues Going Up Despite a modestly rejuvenated balance sheet, thanks to the good efforts of **Charlie Pendleton** and countless others who put on the 2015 Nationals, we still seem to spend each year more than we take in. Treasurer **Joe Fava** has done a bang-up job keeping us solvent, but hey, booze is expensive and the man ain't a magician. Fleet dues have been \$50/year since at least 1995, and you can hold dues flat only so many decades before you start feeling the pinch. To add some perspective, adjusted for an average annual inflation rate of 2.28%, \$50 dues in 1995 are equivalent to \$31.87 today. Seriously? Some of us drink more than that before the leaving the winter party. So we're going to stop the madness. We're raising dues by - hang on to your boots - *five bucks* to \$55. We know budget conscious fleet members will squawk about being forced to buy one less post-race beer this season, but that's a sacrifice we're all going to have to make. By the way, don't be shocked if we go up another \$5 in 2017.

CYC Takes The Halloween Team Race CYC took top honors in the 2015 Halloween Team Race, an event organized, chaired and run by Fleet 5's **Beanie Eissner** out of EYC. Representing Fleet 5 on the winning team were **Nat Taylor** and **Karen Lubeck**. The win earned CYC a spot at the Morgan Cup at NYYC in summer of 2016. Placing a close 2nd after a tight round robin was Team EYC with Fleet 5'ers **Matt Hooks**, **Larry Ehrhardt** and **Peter Frisch**. **Charlie Pendleton** & others contributed as onshore support.



MRA Update The Marblehead Racing Association held its Fall fleet rep meeting in early December to solicit feedback on last season and thoughts on next season. Feedback was positive and appropriately appreciative of regular weekend sailing and increasingly consistent RC work across clubs. Several fleets complemented the augmented radio communications, such as announcing starting sequences and broadcasting the 10-second countdowns. Fleets encouraged the RCs to avoid setting up in the highly traveled motorboat lanes just outside of Tinkers, and to locate starting areas further out when the wind isn't reaching all the way in. The one material change under consideration is to collapse the number of lines from two to one for less attended weekends, such as the weekend after Race Week. Most fleets, including Fleet 5, opposed, though the Etchells fleet was supportive. Stay tuned.

Fleet 5 is fortunate to have ample representation on MRA, including **Charlie Pendleton** and **Mike Lane** representing their clubs, with **Jim Taylor** and **Kim Pandapas** serving as Fleet 5 reps. If you have comments you'd like passed along to MRA, please send them to jtyd@shore.net and kpandapas@comcast.net.

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SHORT TACKS *continued*

Bringing Back the Spring Clinic Fleet 5 will hold a clinic on Thursday evening May 5th, at the CYC in the Fantail. The clinic will provide an opportunity to reconnect with fleet friends and get your motors started three weeks before Spring Series. We'll let you know the specifics as soon as they are finalized, but for now, circle the date.

Spring Registration Meeting Cancelled

Progress marches on. Like whale oil, cassettes and **Pete's** comb, our spring registration meeting seems to have outlived its usefulness. Attendance has declined gradually over the years, and dropped like a rock since **Jeff Shoreman** skillfully automated our registration process. So fleet leadership decided this year to throw in the towel. Instead of holding what had become just another excuse to roll out the fleet bar (for declining numbers), we decided instead to blow it off and pass along administrative updates by newsletter and email. If anything debate-worthy comes up, we'll reconsider, or allocate a few minutes at the May 5th clinic.

Mast Measurement Day Early consideration for the 2016 'What a Guy' award has to lean toward class measurer **Josh Wheeler**, who is planning to measure masts *before* they have to go up. Circle May 7th from 1-4 pm. 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. This will likely happen in the EYC dry sail lot - stay tuned.

Relive America's Cup The CYC Sailing Committee is hosting an America's Cup presentation by **Tucker Thompson** on Thursday evening, May 19. Tucker is the official public host of AC 35 and will help us re-live Oracle's comeback and update us on what lies ahead in Bermuda. More to follow. Contact **Joe Fava**.

Like Us on Facebook Fleet 5's Facebook page is at www.facebook.com/r19fleet5. Like it and you'll stay on top of everything Fleet 5.

Got Gripes? Got suggestions? Don't be shy. Unload at kpandapas@comcast.net. The buck stops here.

SCUTTLEBUTT

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



Wedding Bells Eligible bachelors across the fleet (and a few non-bachelors too, I suspect) are distraught and in mourning today as Fleet crush **Elise Mazareas** has finally tied the knot. Congratulations to **Elise & Mike Nash**, who were married on New Year's Eve at the Peabody Essex Museum. Several fleet members managed to score the coveted invite, and all had a great time. Rumor has it that one or two folks had too good a time, but no one is talking. As you'd expect, what happened at Elise's wedding stays at Elise's wedding. Word is that the happy couple is off to Virgin Gorda for a little R&R.

Which Way Will They Go? Inquisitive fleet members keep asking when **Jeremy & Katie Bloxham** will finally finish that damn boat and hit the starting line. Well the official word is Race Week, but it's more complicated than that. You see, the **Bloxhams** aren't just reconstructing **Jack Day's** old R19, they're also constructing a brand new Dehler racer and along with it, the racing equivalent of a quarterback controversy. Which way will they go? Here is a look at both objects of their affection. You make the call.



Where is That Gunboat? Speaking of bucket-list boats, concern is pouring in over the fate of **Seamus Hourihan's** new Gunboat since that company's Nov. 18th bankruptcy filing. 'No problem' is the last we heard as Seamus has title and expects delivery.

They Call This Frostbiting? If you head down to BYC on any Sunday, you'll likely see Fleet 5ers **Joe Fava**, **Elise Mazareas Nash** and **Grant Adam** for CYC, and **Matt Hooks** and **Beanie Eisner** for EYC. **Elise** made it out one day and went for a swim after a hefty yank on a not-so-securely-attached bowline resulted in her back flip off the dock (*sorry we missed that*). Also, kudos to **Beanie** (pictured), who took 2nd on 11/29. Lucky for **Matt Hooks** he won on 12/13. Otherwise, we could see a shake-up on The Mighty Rhodes.



Surf's Up Santa Fleet alum **Chris Hutchinson** was spotted on Christmas day in his whaler towing his kids around the harbor on wake boards. 'Tis the season.

Mail Bag Several fleet members emailed in reactions to the Road To The Cup – Holiday Edition. Comments were generally favorable, such as "too funny" from **Evan Cooke**, "a new holiday classic" from **Brother Jim Raisides** and "a wonderful Christmas gift to all of us" from **BJ Mansfield**. One in particular, however, stands out as our favorite. This from old friend **Shannon Lane**, "There's something *very* wrong with you."

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FLEET PROFILE – MEET DAVID RUBIN *by Christina Pandapas*



David Rubin has a long Rhodes 19 history, having sailed the boat for more than 30 years. It started as quality time for the Rubin men. David, his brother Mark and Dad Mort campaigned *David Rose* (2495) up and down the North Shore consistently and even though the crew compliment changes, David is still out there nearly every Saturday. When not pushing a Rhodes around a racecourse, David can be found pushing hard for his clients in the courtroom.

He's also been known to spend time in another court environment and even sweep his lovely bride around a ballroom. A man of many talents, for sure.

What was the first boat you ever sailed? The first boat I ever sailed was an O'Day Osprey that my dad, Mort, rented one summer from a friend. The Osprey had a basic rig with a jib and main but that got me into sailing and racing later on. I was about 7 or 8 at the time.

How long have you been sailing Rhodes 19s? I have sailed a Rhodes since 1978 or 1979.

What got you started in Rhodes? My father was an ensign on the USS Corry, a destroyer in the North Atlantic during WWII. The ship's primary mission was to hunt down German U Boats and sink them. My dad handled the radar and prisoner interrogation. The Corry also had the dubious distinction of being the first American destroyer to sink during the D Day Invasion in 1944, after hitting a mine. Fortunately, my dad survived.

After the war, he was hooked on the sea and began renting sailboats. Later, when my brother, Mark, sister, Debby and I came into the picture, we picked-up the same enthusiasm for sailboats. We got a mooring at Sandy Bay, Rockport in the late 60's and got a Mariner, which is the cousin of the Rhodes. In the meantime, I began learning to race in the junior sailing program on Turnabouts, Flying Terns, Fire Flies, and occasionally, a Hobie Cat. Later, my dad, Mark, and I began to race the Mariner at Sandy Bay.

Eventually, the Mariner sailors traded in their boats for Rhodes 19s. As we got more proficient with the boat, we began racing some of the other local fleets in Annisquam and Manchester. Conway and Alex Felton and George Sharff with his pipe, were the top guns from Manchester at that time and we enjoyed competing against them. We were fairly successful at Sandy Bay but we decided to bring the boat down to Marblehead in the mid to late 70's for Race Week. We placed in the upper half of the fleet. That was the

catalyst for us to get a permanent mooring in Marblehead in 1988.

I don't know if our dad was as competitive about racing as Mark and I but we had a lot great moments sailing together when three people in the boat was much more common than it is now.

Where did the name "David Rose" come from? The name comes from my grand parents on my dad's side, who were David and Rosie.

What is your favorite non-sailing activity? I play a lot of competitive tennis - singles and doubles. My wife, Jennifer, and I also do a fair amount of ballroom dancing.

What do you do for work? I am a trial lawyer, handling contentious divorces, automobile accidents, criminal and business disputes. The concentration and intensity that goes into sailboat racing is not all that different from the dynamic of trying cases in the courtroom.

What is your most memorable sailing moment? The most memorable sailing moment that I shared with Mark and our dad was winning a race during Race Week in 1992. It was nice to see the spinnakers behind us for a change!

What is the biggest bonehead thing a crew of yours has ever done during a race? Mark reversed the spinnaker when he rigged it so the foot went up first. We did not do too well on that leg.

What is the biggest bonehead thing you've done during a race? I was ahead in a race and instead of crossing the finish line with the finishing pin on the port side and the committee boat to starboard, I crossed the line with the committee boat to my port side because there was another pin (the leeward mark) on the other side of the boat. I got confused on what side to cross the finish!

What's the best tip you could give someone who is sailing a Rhodes for the first time? I would tell someone new to the boat to start sailing in the Marblehead fleet for both the high level of competition and camaraderie that we enjoy.

What book are you reading? I am reading *Shogun* by James Clavell. I am also listening to a terrific series of tapes on the Civil War by Gary Gallagher.

Name one thing about yourself that fellow Fleet 5 members might be surprised to know about you. I am a very good cook.

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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. Deirdre & Larry Robbins generously opened their home to our winter party through the better part of a decade. Their home was unique in that it included a large indoor pool, into which at least one jocular, inattentive, potentially over-imbibed fleet member stumbled for an unexpected winter swim.
2. Heather Cressy, Charlie Pendleton, Elise Mazareas Nash, Cindy Smith and Beanie Eissner. There are probably several more.
3. Jeremy Bloxham. We always knew he was a rocket scientist, right? Jeremy's role involves investigation of Jupiter's main magnetic field, from initial mission simulation through to analysis and interpretation of mission data.
4. McNamara, Bloxham, Zonnenberg and Pandapas.

NOTICE BOARD

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

Missing a Trophy? If you won or placed in a series last season but don't have a trophy to show for it, chances are **Christina Pandapas** is holding it for you. Email her at cpandapas@comcast.net.

For Sale #135 Excellent condition optimized for racing. Built 1960. Fixed keel. Totally refurbished by leading national boat restorer. Customized control panel. Wetted surface is VC Performance Epoxy with Teflon® by INTERLUX. All wood finished with fifteen (15) coats of Epifanes high gloss varnish. Hull, rudder, and keel faired to racing form. Galvanized trailer with new large tires. \$16,900. Located in New Orleans. Contact: edward.karp@gmail.com, 504-975-1302 – 1/15/2015

For Sale #985 – Perfect boat to get you in the water this season and in great condition. Rigged for racing complete with Doyle racing main/jib/spinnaker, carbon rudder and all rigging. This boat is ready to race and was an active member of Fleet 46 Hingham/Hull. Recent work: 2 new aft ribs, new custom barney post, paint job on hull only. \$6,500 including trailer. Call Patrick 781-738-9746 or Marc 617-312-7659. – 4/27/2015

For Sale #1228 – Ready to win in 2015! 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, placed 8th at 2011 East Coasts. Triad trailer also in top condition. Two full sets of sails in top condition, Boat and rudder covers. Located in Marblehead asking \$11,750. rhoguet@gmail.com or 617-283-6811 – 1/15/2015

For Sale #1587 – "Professionally restored" with new ribs, rudder, 10 year old trailer. It hasn't raced in two years, but did well in Narragansett Bay. Sails are 4 years old and there is no spinnaker. Rhode Island, Curt Spaulding (401-439-9950), \$9,500

For Sale #2568 – Extensive renovations by Karl's Boat Shop, Waterline Systems and Marblehead Composites - over \$30,000 invested in this boat by past two owners. This is a past National Champion and just finished 4th in 2015 Nationals after being stored inside for over a decade. Trailer (no title), new set of Doyle Sails (used less than 20 races), old set of Cressy sails for day sailing, two booms, hull awlgripped white, VC offshore bottom, foam ribs, custom ring frames - this boat is STIFF and super-fast - especially in a breeze. Asking \$10,500. Eric Cressy 617-791-1272 or ecressy2003@yahoo.com – 9/16/2015

For Sale #2609 – 1977 O'Day with trailer. Hull is in great shape, ribs are solid and glassed over. New fiberglass rudder, 2 sets of floorboards, tapered mast. Sails are in good shape for day sailing - still crispy. Includes Evinrude long shaft 4HP motor. Boat has never been raced. \$5300. Located in Dartmouth, MA. Please call 617-803-9761 and leave a message.

For Sale #3050 – Rigged for racing. Faired bottom and keel. New boom with an internal reinforcing sleeve. New rigging with an active backstay. Newer Doyle main, jib and spinnaker. Includes a trailer (set-up well for prepping bottom). 781-771-2294 – 5/20/15



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CONGRATULATIONS TO 2016 WINNERS

Spring Series

Jim Raisides & Charlie Pendleton

Twilight Series 1

Steve Uhl

Twilight Series 2

John Casler

Twilight Series Overall / Charlie Bar Trophy

Steve Uhl

MRA Series 1

Seamus Hourihan & Peter Frisch

MRA Series 2

Jim Raisides & Charlie Pendleton

MRA Series 3

Kim & Christina Pandapas

MRA Series 4 - Labor Day Regatta

Jim Raisides & Charlie Pendleton

MRA Overall

Seamus Hourihan & Peter Frisch

2015 East Coast Championships

Jim Raisides & Charlie Pendleton

Race Week & Spittoon

Jamie Holly & Family

Fall Series

Larry Ehrhardt

2015 Nationals

Dave Nelson & Frank Hart

2015 Season Championship

Nick Nichols Trophy (aka The Cup)

Seamus Hourihan & Peter Frisch

Hallawell Family Trophy

Unawarded

Richie Santos Outstanding Crew Award

David Martini

Rookie of the Year Award

Larry Ehrhardt

Most Improved Skipper Award

Matt Hooks

President's Trophy

Jeff Shoreman

OVER THE TRANSOM

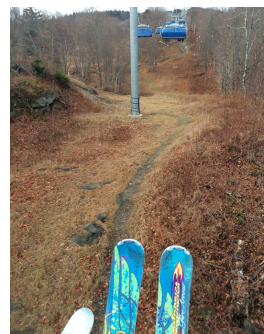
Please mail pictures to kpandapas@comcast.net.

Below are this month's two best submissions of Fleet 5 members doing what they do, determined as you'd expect, by a large team of independent and highly objective judges.

The Prez... Would you buy a used fleet from this man?



Taking Some Turns! *Seriously?* We always know **Jim Raisides** likes to push the envelope, but this is a little over-the-top, right? Hope those aren't his new boards.



2016 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Winter Party	February 6th	Home of Christina & Kim Pandapas
Spring Clinic	May 5th	Fantail, Corinthian Yacht Club (cash bar)
Mast Measurement Day	May 7th	Probably EYC Drysailing - TBD
Early Summer Post-Race Party	June 4th	TBD
Race Week Party	July 28th	Home of Jennifer & Steve Uhl
Labor Day Party	September 3rd	Home of Vonda & Jim Raisides
Awards Party	November 5th	Home of Elise & Mike Nash

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