

March, 2004

## ***Fleet Party, March 27***

***Please RSVP by March 20***

The Fleet 5 winter party will be held Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at the Uhl residence in Marblehead (11 Doaks Lane, 781-631-4430, [uhls@macwayuhl.com](mailto:uhls@macwayuhl.com)). It'll be a great way to mark the end of ice and snow and the beginning of a new sailing season. Hope you can make it! Please put this on your calendar and RSVP to-day before you forget.

## ***Know Any Potential Fleet Members?***

I'd like to make an extra push this year to attract new members to the fleet, but I need your help. Do you know anyone who might be interested in joining the fleet, either as crew or by buying a boat? If so, please invite them to the next Fleet 5 party on March 27 or out for a sail this summer. Most of our fleet growth comes from fleet members telling other sailors about what a friendly and competitive fleet we have. So please pass the word to your sailing friends. Every new member is welcome. Thanks!

## **Greeting from the Prez**

### New MRA Line —Rhodes Starting on Midway Line

This summer will see a re-alignment of the MRA starting areas. In place of the Outside and Halfway lines will be a new line, called the Midway line, which will start Etchells, IODs and Rhodes 19s. The Midway line will be located roughly the same distance from the harbor as the Halfway line, but a bit more to the south. Corinthians and Townies will sail a reduced schedule on an inner line. This new Midway Line should be a nice change of pace, as we will be in a starting area with two healthy fleets. I hope that there will be minimal conflicts between the fleets, and those that do occur should be short-lived because the speed differences between boats. A nice by-product of this change is that we will no longer need to provide volunteers for race committee duty (I know you're disappointed). We are sure to encounter some kinks as the new system gets started, but the race committee and fleets are committed to adjusting where necessary. The starting sequence is likely to begin at 12:00, with the Rhodes start third. During Race Week, the usual three line format will continue. So in sum, there are lots of changes so be sure to read your SI's!



### Why registering for the MRA is a good idea

MRA registration isn't until May 8<sup>th</sup>, but for those of you on the fence, not sure whether you are going to sign up this year, I'd like to offer a few thoughts to help tip the scales:

1. MRA registration covers your registration costs for Marblehead Race Week too. So, even if you don't get out for much sailing beyond Race Week, signing up for MRA is a great deal and gives you the option to race whenever you feel like during the summer.
2. Did you know that Marblehead is one of the few places in the country where you can enjoy competitive Saturday racing the entire summer? it is an incredible deal when you compare the amount of racing MRA offers for the cost. And the more boats on the line, the better.
3. Have a boat but not sure you have the time? Let me know --- there are many people who have time and no boat. I can help you find crew, or boats, or whatever you need to get on the starting line. Also, there are numerous fleet members happy to give you advice on tuning up your boat!

**Fleet Officers****President**

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**Websites**

The **MRA website** ([www.mheadrace.org](http://www.mheadrace.org))

The **Marblehead Rhodes 19 Fleet website** ([www.r19fleet5.org](http://www.r19fleet5.org)) has the latest Fleet News.

The **Rhodes 19 National site** ([www.rhodes19.org](http://www.rhodes19.org)) for the latest class information, including boats for sale.

**CYC Sailing Expo—May 8th**

The CYC **Sailing Committee** will host the **First Annual CYC Sailing Expo**, to be held in the CYC Harbor Room on Saturday, May 8th between 1:00 and 5:00 PM. Circle the date. This will be one-stop shopping for everything having to do with sailing this season, including racing, cruising, team racing, MRA registration, PHRF certificates, regatta information and lots more. Come one, come all. The bar will be open for service. This promises to be a great event, particularly for any folks you know who want to learn more about the racing scene.

**East Coast Championship Coming to Marblehead in 2005**

Its still a long way off, but Marblehead is slated to host the 2005 East Coast Championships. This event has not been held in Marblehead in over 6 years. For those of you haven't traveled to this regatta in past years, it is a nice Friday, Saturday, Sunday regatta format. The dates for this regatta are June 24-26, 2005. Mike Lane has agreed to be regatta chair for this event and when the time comes he will enlist others in the fleet to help out.

**Racer's Resources**

**Greg Dolan** and **Joe Duplin** operate **Winthrop Marine**, which does custom boat work, including ribs, bottoms and keels, and specialize in preparing boats to sail fast. Call the shop at 617-539-0285 or 617-39-0286, or Joe at home at 617-846-8211.

Contact **Doyle Sails** at 781-639-1490 / 89 for fast Rhodes 19 sails and excellent service. Doyle Sails are on Front Street in Marblehead.

Etchells sailor **Pat Stadel** operates **Marblehead Rigging**, and specializes in fast turn-around on a broad range of rigging jobs. If you need rigging work, including fittings, sheets, halyards, shrouds, masts, booms, lifting bridles, etc., give her a call at either 781-631-2642 or 781-639-2642.

**Cape Cod Shipbuilding**, makers of the Zephyr extrusions most of us use, provides a full range of mast and boom hardware and fittings. Call **Dick Landis** at 508-295-2240.

Long time Rockport Rhodes sailor **Walter Luikey** operates **Sea Welding & Machine Corp.**, which does custom welding and fabrication in both aluminum and stainless steel (masts, booms, etc.). Call Wally at 978-858-0990.

**Neal Lewanda** of Topsfield, who once made Lindsay rudders while working for Mark Lindsay, makes his own high quality R19 racing rudders. He also does custom keels, bottom fairing, glasswork, rub rails and awlgrip. Contact Neal at 978-887-2736.

**Rob Darling** of **Transfusion Boatworks** in Ipswich does a full range of custom repair and maintenance. Contact Rob at 978-356-1764, or visit his site at [www.transfusionboats.com](http://www.transfusionboats.com)

Go to [www.sailortailor.com](http://www.sailortailor.com) for boat covers, rudder bags and any other marine stitching need.

## Class Rules Update

Please review the proposed rules changes that are posted on the "Technical Committee" section of the national web site [www.rhodes19.org](http://www.rhodes19.org). These rules, subject to membership comment, are planned to be voted on this spring in a special mailing that will be coming out shortly.

## 2003 Photo Gallery





More 2003 Nationals Photos

