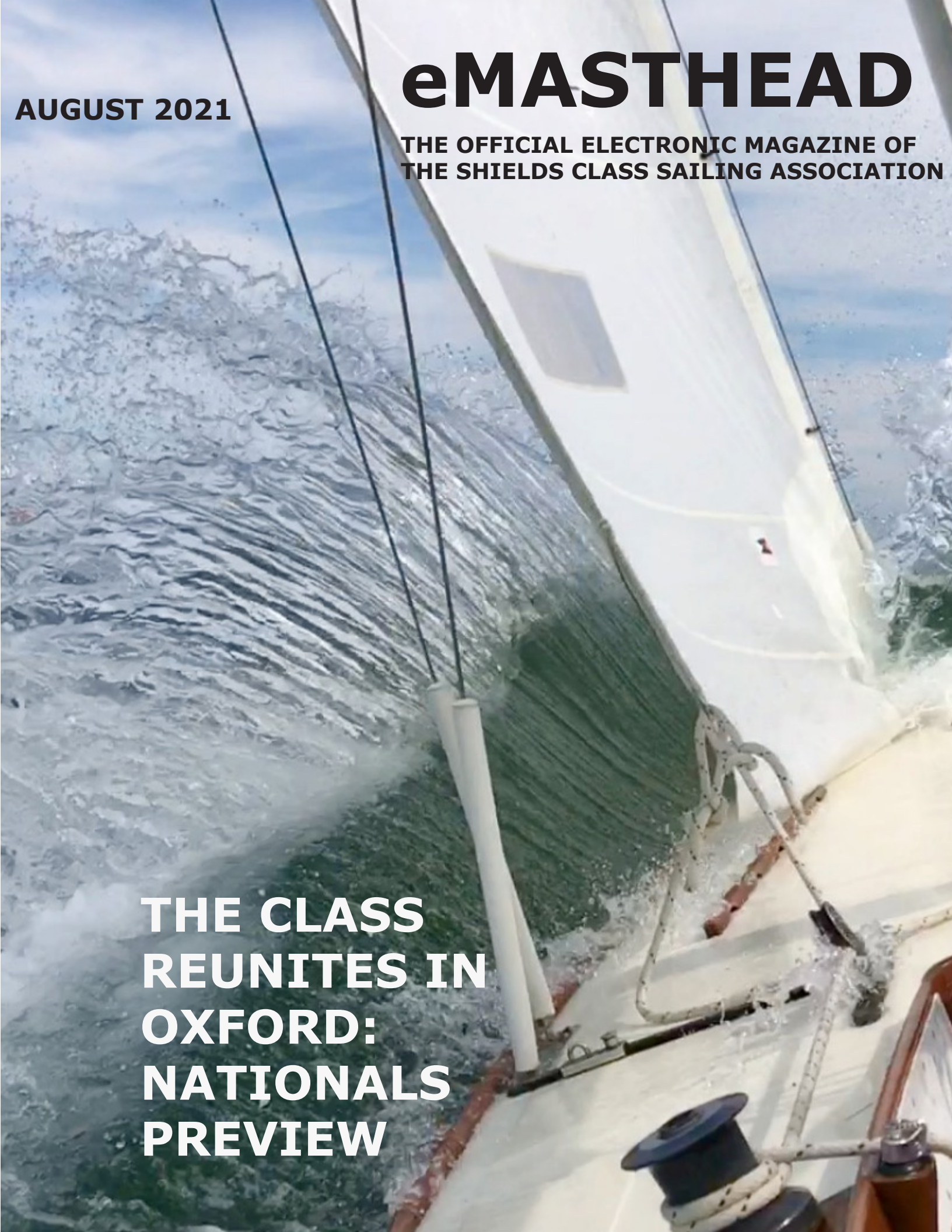


AUGUST 2021

eMASTHEAD

**THE OFFICIAL ELECTRONIC MAGAZINE OF
THE SHIELDS CLASS SAILING ASSOCIATION**

**THE CLASS
REUNITES IN
OXFORD:
NATIONALS
PREVIEW**





2021 Shields Class Officers

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Also see the class website www.shieldsclass.com

Cover Photo: #105 Pomme Plows Through Buzzards Bay Photo Credit: Jonathan Sperry

Above: #110 Liberty Getting Fresh Topsides for Nationals

Class Webmaster - Richard Robbins Masthead Editor - Eric Anderson

President's Thoughts...

Improved...

It has been two years since the last Nationals race, two years since the last Shields Annual Meeting, and two years since the last Shields Class Champion was crowned. In those two years, it would have been easy to take a hiatus, but the class has not stopped. We've used this time to improve.

The Shields Class Governing Board and the fleet captains meet every month on the second Tuesday at 8:00 pm eastern time. The leadership interprets and reviews our Constitution subject to Article IX, adopts and amends the By-Laws and specifications, determines the policy of the Association; and resolves all disputes involving the class and or the By-Laws or specifications.



The Technical Committee meets once per month to discuss the class rules. This group of dedicated Shields sailors has vetted all rules and ideas brought to them, scrutinizing each to ensure justice and balance for years to come. Some rules were proposed for change to better the class and others for clarification and to minimize ambiguity. Experiments were carried out to test whether a full batten main, loose-footed main, small spinnaker, carbon fiber pole and other adjustments should be adopted by the class. Although none were approved, ideas are being discussed and tested. The quest for ongoing improvements has continued.

Our Webmaster can never stop working. Websites are in constant need of updates and are one of the main ways we can communicate as a class. It is vital the most up to date information appears on our website. The class is lucky to have the talent of Rich Robbins on our side.

Our Communication Specialist takes care of our e-Masthead. Many hours go into collecting articles and creating a professional newsletter for our class. It also allows for expanded communication to our Shields Class members and potential new owners all while reducing our carbon footprint.

The Trophy Committee was stood up at the beginning of the year. The collective body of work of this team was impressive. Their communication led to finding two missing trophies that were presumed lost from the last Nationals (Newcomer and Take-a-Bow). The group also looked at the current rules and presented recommendations and rule adjustments that were approved by the Governing Board. These should help prevent the class from losing trophies in the future, ensure records are kept up to date, and promote better accountability. Please read the proposed rule changes in this issue to be voted on at our members meeting in Oxford, MD.

The Shields Class Foundation has been the class's biggest improvement with well over \$15,000 raised in the first 9 months. The Foundation has promoted several new under thirty teams in the Shields Class. One team from California is coming to our Nationals. Currently the Foundation is working with two highly energetic groups who are interested in establishing new Shields fleets. WOW! Come to Nationals to learn more.

Yes, we are not done yet.

Please attend our Shields Class Annual Meeting in Oxford to see what is coming next... or stay tuned to the next issue...

Ken Deyett
Your Shields Class President

LET THE SHIELDS CLASS FOUNDATION KICKSTART YOUR YOUTH CREW

The Shields Class Foundation is ready to help your youth program join one of our fleets.

Follow this link to the make your request for 2022

<https://shieldsclassfoundation.org/getracing/boatprogram.php>



Youth Entering Shields Boat Loaner Program



What is the Youth Entering Shields (“YES”) Boat Loaner Program?

The Shields Class Foundation owns or have made arrangements with owners of one or more competitive Shields boats and will make available these boats to promising young sailors for an entire sailing season. The Loaner Program provides young sailors, students, or those just beginning their working careers an opportunity to race a Shields and is designed to help young sailors who can't afford to buy and campaign a competitive Shields. The selected YES teams are provided with a competitive boat, good sails, and a mentor to help get the team started. Shields Class Foundation will provide money to cover general liability insurance. Regatta entry fees will be waived for selected YES teams. Teams will compete against some of the best racers in the United States.

First Two Youth Grants Awarded

The SCF is pleased to announce an award of \$2,500 to a young crew who is campaigning Shields #6 this season in Fleet 10. The crew of Nate Cunningham, Nadine Cunningham, Gregory McGinnis and Kimberly Rosell have been active sailors who grew up with dinghies in yacht clubs throughout the Northeast U.S. A partial list of OD classes the members of the is crew has raced include: Lasers, Vanguards, Optis, Pixels, Snipes, Lightnings, J88's, and J105's. Nate crewed on #237 Bit~O~Honey with Ken Deyett during this year's OGLC in Marion.



A young Shields crew from Monterey will be competing at this year's Nationals. The crew requested and received a travel grant from SCF in the amount of \$1,250. This dollar amount is being matched by another grant from the Monterey Peninsula Youth Sailing Foundation, providing the sailors with sufficient funds for airline and vehicle costs for the roundtrip journey to Maryland. The sailors who range in age from 17-23, are all products of the MPYC dinghy sailing program as students and instructors. The crew consists of Dante Fiala, Lily Robnett, Gabriel Gargiulo, Jacob Matiyevsky and Maya Hoffman. In addition to their dinghy experience, this crew has credible Shields resumes too. Dante and Lily competed at this year's OGLC in Marion and Lily and Maya went to Edgartown for the Shields Nationals in 2018.

Above Right: Marion Youth Shields Crew at ACC Regatta
Bottom Left: Monterey Sailors Lily Robnett & Dante Fiala

BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION by Eric Anderson

The Shields Class Foundation has been sailing the lifted tack so far in 2021, with generous giving from class members past and present. Currently our treasury totals more than \$15,000. Both of our 2021 events, the Oceans-Great Lakes Challenge in Marion and the Edgartown Regatta on the Vineyard, generated new donations in excess of \$4,000. On behalf of the Foundation, I offer a sincere "Thank You" to each of you who has given already this year and "Thank You in Advance" to those considering a donation by year's end. A list of donors can be found by following this link.

<https://shieldsclassfoundation.org/donors/index.php>



BURGEE DONORS GALLERY

\$500 SCF Donors

Laura Bryan (Upper)
Jon Dean (Middle)
Mike Balay (Lower)



Fleet 21 Anxiously Awaits Shields Sailors Competing in the 2021 Shields National Championship Regatta

Tred Avon Yacht Club and Shields Fleet 21, in the sleepy little town of Oxford, Maryland, have been quite busy over the last couple of years. What is normally an annual championship regatta, unfortunately, had to skip a year for the first time in the 55-year history of the Class, due to the Covid international pandemic, which created a planning challenge of historic proportions. But we Shields sailors are a hardy lot; we have taken it in stride, with the help and empathy of the National Class, and we can't wait for the upcoming Championship Regatta.

Those of you who competed in the 2008 and/or 2013 Nationals, know pretty much what to expect. But for those who have not visited the lovely town of Oxford, at the confluence of the Tred Avon and Choptank Rivers, just a few miles off the beautiful Chesapeake Bay, we believe, have a treat in store. Things look pretty much the same, but our yacht club basin has had quite a transformation, being almost fully enclosed with a new floating dock, and our fixed center dock has been replaced. After your Shields is launched, you will be taken to your slip by an inflatable escort. If weather dictates on race days, you will be assisted in and out of the basin.

We know you are anxious to get back on the Championship race course, and we have worked hard to make your experience a rewarding one. We have housing for all those who have requested, and you will find a wonderful bunch of Club members and Eastern Shore country folk waiting to welcome you.

You will be receiving more communications regarding your housing and other details, but in the mean time, if you have any questions, or need assistance of any kind, please do not hesitate to contact us (pkbailey255@gmail.com).

Your Shields Nationals Planning Committee
Pete Bailey, Chairman



Ballot for the Annual Meeting of Members

Shields Class Sailing Association PROXY

I, _____ owner of Shields registered yacht number _____ and representing _____ (percentage) ownership share do hereby grant all proxy voting rights to _____, as my representative at the member's meeting of the Shields Class Sailing Association in Oxford, MD on September 22, 2021, to vote on the officer slate as proposed by the Nominating Committee and recommend changes to the Class Rules as outlined below.

<p>President: Kenneth Deyett, Marion, MA Treasurer: Jay Dayton, Oxford, MD Secretary: Steve Mettler, Edgartown, MA Measurer: Dan Goodwin, Marion, MA Vice President: Ron Oard, Newport, RI Vice President: Tom McManus, Greenwich, CT Vice President: Doug Millar, Larchmont, NY Vice President: Ted Slee, Newport, RI Vice President: John Gronberg, Holland, MI Vice President: Lee Reichart, Mystic, CT</p>	<p>___ FOR ___ AGAINST</p>
<p>Changes the <i>Class Rules</i> to handle the perpetual awards by appointing an Award Coordinator member of the National Championship Committee and listing the procedures and responsibilities for handling the awards as detailed at https://www.shieldsclass.com/bluebook/section6x.php</p>	<p>___ FOR ___ AGAINST</p>
<p>Furthermore, I grant or deny (as indicated) to my representative rights to vote according to his/her discretion on others matters that may come before the meeting.</p>	<p>___ GRANT ___ DENY</p>

Signed _____ Date _____

Deliver this completed Proxy to any member attending the member's meeting in Oxford, MD on September 22, 2021 or send to-
 Kenneth Deyett, Shields Class President: unlimitedvisions.nh@gmail.com

TOOL TIME WITH TED - Part 2 (Trailers)

Now that the end of the season is slowly arriving, which for many of us that means a much anticipated trip to Nationals. Let's all be honest, its been a long almost two years since any of us took our treasured racing machines on a trip longer than from winter storage to the waterfront and back. In the previous edition of this series I covered the possible upgrades that we chose to do to even make these shorter trips less stressful for us owners and our vehicles. With Oxford on the horizon, the thought of driving through the NYC area, let alone possibly breaking down is less than my ideal concept of fun.



When Team Maverick upgraded our brakes a few years back, we switched from drum to a much needed disc package as our drums and hitch were worn out due to lack of proper maintenance. So here are a few things we always check before we tow, even short distances. First we check our brake fluid reservoir and top it off if necessary. Next on the list is to grease the wheel bearings and the hitch (which houses the actuator to engage the brakes). We then inspect the lock bolts on the jack stands, the hitch safety chain and emergency brake cable. If there are any issues deal with these immediately. One of the obvious but probably overlooked items would be the tires. Its always best to properly inflate these with an unloaded trailer to the proper specs of your tire and don't forget to check the spare! Most modern trucks rarely have the right equipment to change a trailer tire so its good to bring a proper sized lug wrench, jack, a can of fix a flat and a hammer if the nuts are good and stuck. We always pack a spare ratchet strap to hold the boat down, tie a red flag on the butt end of the mast, a flashlight and some cash to tip the AAA or tow person if you need it.



Hopefully this was a good guide of things to look at before loading up your trailer once again. If you have any ideas for the next eMasthead, please send them my way and I'll see if I can incorporate them in the next issue.

Photo Gallery CCW Starting at Upper Left: Brake Fluid Reservoir, Wheel Bearings, Hitch w/Brake Actuator, Jack Stand, Spare Tire Properly Inflated



Fleet News

Fleet 3 - Chicago Yacht Club Submitted by Michael Schwartz

Fleet three/Chicago Yacht Club has been utilizing 'markbots' for the entire season and except for one of the 'bots' taking a walk (not on a race day) we have been very pleased with the results. For those of you unfamiliar with robotic marks, as a racer, they have been exactly the same as anchored marks. **Right: #67 and City Skyline**



The view from the Race Committee and Club management is very encouraging. The 'bots' allow RC to change mark position remotely at any time, altering compass position or distance sailed. Best of all however, a single RC boat at the starting line is all that is needed to run multiple races.

The savings of fuel, equipment and personnel as well as labor (anchor hauling) is immense. This has been a godsend with Covid still a consideration and personnel in short supply.

Our biggest concern was movement, but we've seen no problems through mild to heavy conditions. One of our 'bots' is equipped with an add-on- an anemometer & wind direction device. Other options such as a starting horn are also available. Most impressively, these have been in use in Europe and has allowed them to run races in areas that were too deep for anchored marks.

Fleet 9 - Ida Lewis Yacht Club Submitted by Ted Slee



Shields Nationals Newport, Rhode Island

Shields Fleet 9 – Newport and the Ida Lewis Yacht Club are excited to host the 2022 Shields Class National Regatta September 7-11th, 2022 in Newport, Rhode Island. Racing will be hosted on the waters around our host city along Narragansett Bay and Rhode Island Sound, which have been the home to Fleet 9 since the 1960's. We are excited to host the National Regatta and the sailors from around the country. With our local fleet hitting numbers close to 25 on the starting line we hope we might see as

many as 10-15 out of town teams, which would provides a potential of 30+ Shields racing for the Championship Trophy in 2022. We'll be hosting a few get togethers at the club and possibly around town as well. For those who've visited Ida Lewis YC and have seen the sunsets, you know that you are in for a treat! Plus, if you are looking for off the water entertainment you'll have plenty of options in and around Newport. Keep your eye out for future details about early registration promo's, housing, etc. to help get you and your team excited!

Above Left: Event Logo for Shields Nationals 2022

continued from previous page

There will also be an opportunity for a “warmup” regatta the weekend prior for any racers looking to get some additional practice in. ILYC’s RC will be running the Shields circle at the Classic Yacht Regatta Labor Day Weekend hosted by Sail Newport. This 3 day event will give extra time to learn more about our local waters, currents and wind.

Please don’t hesitate to contact either Ted Slee or John Horton if you have any questions. We’re looking forward to having a fun regatta with every fleet represented! **Right: Sunset in Newport**



<https://shieldsfleet9.com/racing-documents/2022-shields-national-championship-regatta/>

Fleet 10 - Beverly Yacht Club Submitted by Luiza Smith



After last year’s challenging circumstances, Fleet 10 was incredibly excited to get out on the water. Numerous boats splashed earlier than usual to get ready for June’s Ocean Great Lakes Challenge. BYC and the Shields Fleet hosted 6 teams (as close as home and as far as California) for a great weekend full of racing and Marion hospitality - a special thank you to all teams who joined us for this great event! We’ve just started our third series for the summer and are looking forward to Fall racing Sundays starting mid-September. This season we’ve been focused on expanding our crew lists and getting different types of teams out on the water on Shields including future Shields

sailors (kids ranging from 5-12), an all-women’s crew on Aileen (#223), as well as a post-collegiate team sponsored by the Shields Class Foundation on Anduril (#6). Looking forward to seeing everyone in Oxford next month! **Left: Cindy Lou Who and Friends Enjoy a Fun Sail on The Grinch**

Fleet 21 - Tred Avon Yacht Club Submitted by Ed Cassidy

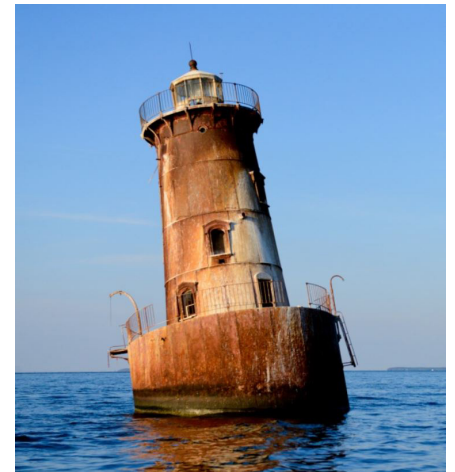
With enthusiasm building for the 2021 Shields Nationals, Fleet 21 is excited to welcome new skippers and/or owners to its ranks aboard two of the “original” boats that launched Shields racing at the Tred Avon Yacht Club nearly 20 years ago.

Faced with demanding post-COVID business commitments, Drew Kellogg, the very successful skipper of Dragonfly (#35), recently passed the tiller to longtime sidekick Andrew Devlin who will helm the boat for the remainder of the season including Nationals. This handoff continues a tradition on Dragonfly that began roughly a decade ago when Kellogg took over for his then-skipper, P/C Schuyler Benson, after many years as Benson’s main trimmer and tactician. **Right: Close quarters at the windward mark, L-R: Jim Alpi’s Seagull #180, Jay Dayton’s Black Pearl #73, Ed Cassidy’s Intrepid #98 and Drew Kellogg’s Dragonfly #35 sailed by Andrew Devlin**



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After too many seasons on the hard, the fleet also welcomed back to active racing Merlin (#149) the beautiful, "Stars & Stripes blue" beauty first sailed in Fleet 21 by the late, legendary Dr. Jim Thompson. Merlin has been purchased by prospective TAYC members Rick and Carol Vicens, who will sail her for the rest of 2021 with P/C R.J. Cooper at the helm. **Right: Oxford CG Buoy**



In a rare departure from our typical mid-summer doldrums on the Chesapeake, this year's entire Shields Summer Series was sailed in nearly ideal conditions! Several of our regular skippers were sidelined by health issues – either their own or that of their boat (see photo of Fleet Captain Harry Seemans' Liberty) – but five Shields competed in a spirited contest that came down to the tenth and final race of the series. Following up their victory in the Spring Series, Ed Cassidy's team aboard Intrepid (#98) narrowly edged Jay Dayton's Black Pearl (#73) by a single point. Two hard-won bullets by Dragonfly on the final race day earned her team 3rd place for the series, ahead of Jim Alpi's Seagull (#180) and the new crew aboard Merlin.

Next up for Fleet 21 are the historic Oxford Regatta followed by the Chesapeake Heritage Regatta later in August. By then we expect a more crowded starting line with the eagerly anticipated return of Liberty (#110) and John Shannahan's Old Paint (#71). And we're all looking forward to navigating a really crowded starting line in September when several dozen of you join us here in Oxford for some spectacular Fall sailing!

