



Patients, Survivors, Family and Friends -

Thank you for registering for the 25th Rhode Island Leukemia Cup Regatta!

As a fellow racer and fundraiser, on behalf of The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS), I want to thank you for signing up to raise more than a sail in the fight against cancer. I have been an active fundraiser, as crew or skipper, for each and every Leukemia Cup Regatta, and this race has a deep meaning for me.

One of the first regatta races was dedicated to a local sailor diagnosed with leukemia, Ron Carr sailed on his J30 Brou Ha Ha. That year after the race under the tent, one of Brou Ha Ha's crew stood up to say a few words and proceeded to pass his regatta hat around for additional donations. Every single sailor in that tent was touched by his story and reached deep in their pockets to make a donation. The hat was filled multiple times and I was hooked! I thought, how cool is it to be able to give back, fundraise to help others, all while participating in a sport that you're passionate about? I got to witness firsthand the impact that each and every sailor can have when everyone pitches in to support an amazing cause.

Unfortunately the following year, Ron lost his fight. With his wife at the helm, his crew raced again in his honor, and with that, the Rhode Island Leukemia Cup was destined to become the premier charity sailing event on the bay! To continue Ron's legacy and in honor of The Leukemia Cup's 25th Anniversary, I challenge you to join us in our goal to have 100% of the boats actively fundraise!

While your registration fee and event tickets are a start to our sailing community's impact, where we can truly make a difference is through fundraising individually. Sharing your personal or team's "why you sail" moment will inspire others to support the LLS mission, as well as your team's goal to bring an end to cancer as we know it.

Let's bring back that HAT spirit that got us started and "pass it around" to your crew, friends, business acquaintances and family and encourage them to make an impact. On my boat, it's mandatory to fundraise and every year we raise more than the last. Personally, as a skipper, I start with my crew who are more than happy to support our efforts as they appreciate the opportunity provided to be a part of the crew. All you have to do is ask and before you know it, you are raising thousands of dollars... very cool!

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) is doing incredible things to advance research and treatments, as well as support patients and families in need. I am excited to continue to show the sailing community's support by growing our impact in 2019 and beyond!

Looking forward to racing with you on the water and on land to raise funds for a cure!

Bill Plunkett and the Crew of Mainsheet