

Marina, Ship's Store and Service

February 15, 2015

To All Members of the Sonar Class,

I hope you are all making it through this winter weather. If you feel like me, summer can't get here soon enough.

I am writing to you all to let you know of some exciting news about the Sonar. This week **Rondar Raceboats Ltd.** purchased all of the rights and tooling for the Sonar and will be taking over the reins for world-wide manufacturing of the boat. You will be receiving more information from Rondar in the coming weeks.

Where has the time gone? It is hard for me to believe that Shumway Marine has been involved with the Sonar for 23 years (almost half of my life). When we began building the Sonar in the early nineties things were a bit slow, but in the mid-nineties we were asked to supply 15 brand new boats for the 1996 yet to be named Paralympic games in Atlanta. That event helped get the Sonar back on track and we started to sell boats. The Paralympics event allowed us to expand and reinvest in our product, including a new builder in the UK and more boats on the starting line.

I truly believe that this a great boat and I am excited that there will be some new energy invested in the class. I have enjoyed my time with the Sonar class and I look forward to continuing to compete in the Sonar. I have already committed to competing in the 2015 Sonar World Championships in Falmouth, MA.

There were several people who had approached me about taking on the boat building and all that goes with it. I had hoped that we could work something out with Rondar and I am pleased that the Sonar is to continue in capable hands. Many thanks go to my entire staff here at the marina, all the staff at Ontario Yachts, Gene Hinkel, who sort of came with the class when we purchased it, and of course to all the Sonar sailors who have supported us for over twenty years.

It is important that you know my intent is to work with you and Rondar to make this a smooth transition. We will continue to stock and carry all of the Sonar parts for a couple years until Rondar is ready for us to step aside.

Thanks again and I hope to see you on the starting line.

Skin

PS. We will continue to distribute the Ideal 18 and have new boats arriving this winter.