

GRAMPA'S

BROWNS CORNER

BLAB

6-17-21

***Raising the mast on
POSEIDON; the new***

***BIPOD MAST
HOIST DERRICK***

Good morning, Campers.

Today I want to tell you all, but particularly Tyler, because it is his boat after all, about the SUCCESS of the new Bipod Mast Hoist Derrick.

Two weeks ago, Tyler and Lila came for the weekend for the express purpose of doing a dry run rigging exercise on Poseidon, Tyler's Hobie Cat 16 catamaran sailboat.

As you can see, she sits fully rigged in ther front yard here at Browns corner. But only since yesterday.



When Tyler was here two weeks ago, he and I tried repeatedly to raise the mast following the simple instructions in the workbook we were following. They told us to connect the mast step fitting and the side stays and then have one guy walk the mast up while the other guy pulled on the robe. This sounded eqasy enough but the mast weighs upwards of 100 pounds I think and as you try to walk it up. the closer you get to the mast step fitting, the more load you are bearing.

So when you get about 3/4 of the way there, you are trying to hold up about 200 pounds of load. We tried a couple of work arounds involving hastily (and poorly) conceived support props, guy struts, side guide ropes, and such. Nothing worked. I felt that possibly if Uncle Tim were here he and I ***might*** have been able to raise the mast. But that would not solve the problem because Tyler and I need to be able to raise the mast by ourselves when we want to go sailing.

The goal of our recent exercise was to raise the mast, hoist the sails, and check out every detail of the rig. Three reasons:

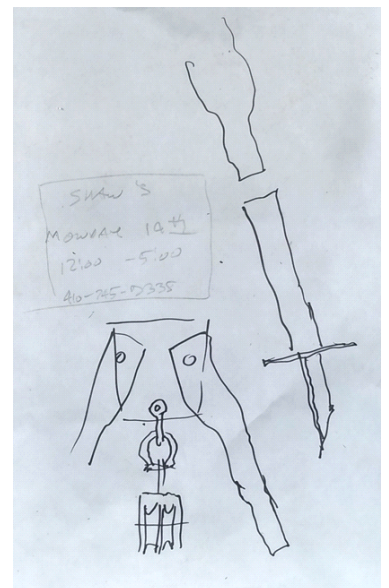
- Make sure that we actually have every last item of the rigging needed to sail.
- Verify that each item of rigging gear is appropriate and serviceable.
- Familiarize ourselves with every detail before taking the boat to the water. We don't want any accidents, errors, or embarrassment at the ramp, on the water, or at the beach.

By noon time on Saturday we were hot, sweaty, tired, and frustrated. So we did what anyone would do; we went to the beach for the afternoon.

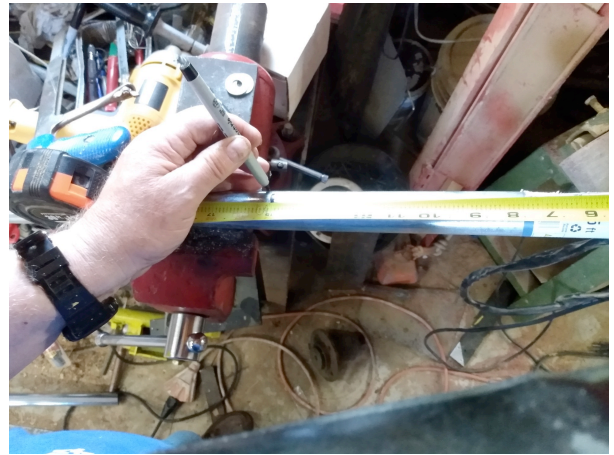
Sunday morning we tried again, but unsuccessfully. Although he said nothing about it I am sure Tyler was feeling sad and disappointed.

A night or two later, as often happens, the situation became clear in my head in the middle of the night. We needed **a bipod derrick mast hoist**.

I got up and made a drawing of my idea so as to be sure to remember it clearly the next day. I had to go over to Dover, Delaware to get the chain link fence top rail pipes from Home Depot which I planned to use for the two legs of the bipod. In the midnight drawing the top plate with shackle hangers and hoist block (pulleys) is shown and above it a detail of the foot assemblies. sharpened to poke into the ground, and with a foot plate for pressing them in.



1. Mark the pipe (15 ")



2. Cut with hacksaw



3. Flatten and drill



4. Split with hacksaw



5. Drill pilot hole and spread with chisel



6. Assemble head plate



7. Cut 15" foot pipe; add 1" pipe flange



8. Secure 5" bevel cut ground pipe with TEK screw



9. PRESTO -
Your
**Bipod
Derrick Kit**
: Simply
insert 10'
swaged
end chain
link fence
pipe
between
pivot legs
and
ground
pipes.





**1-3/8" chain link
fence rail pipe
with swaged end**

**spring
bale
pin**

**2x1/2" dbl
block**

1" pipe flange

5" ground pipe

Steel plate 1/8"

**Head pipe
assy**

**2 screw pin
shackles**

**2x1/2 hoist
block**

**spring bale
pins**



OK. Sorry to bore you all.

Probably there are two categories of people who may care about this:

- Tyler
- other people struggling with Hobie Cat masts

If you want to see the exciting video of the first test mast hoisting check out:

Love, Grampa

