

Team Saquish Rowing Education Society, Inc

Newsletter 1-3

20 June 2009

Board of directors: President Mike Jenness, VP Tim Snow, Treasurer Cathy Jenness, Secretary Tony Ruocco, Members Dennis Reddy, Lauren Chartier and Peter Oberto.

There will hopefully be a regular schedule of newsletters as time goes by. If you have any topics you would like added, feel free to contact the board of directors.

Since the last newsletter, Hilary Moll resigned as a member of the board of directors. She is still a member of the club and we hope to see her pulling an oar soon. Peter Oberto has answered the call and is the newest board member – congratulations to Pete!

We have been doing some major work on the boats. The Interceptor has been completed and the Jenness is currently in dry dock. Thanks to all the folks who have been helping, especially as we have been substantially delayed by bad weather.

The lot by the boat ramp is a pay lot (\$5.00/day) since 1 April. There are permits for two gig trailers and the Tucker. If we need a third gig, the person towing will have to pay the park fee (keep a receipt for possible reimbursement). To be better prepared for any given row, we ask people to meet at Cordage Park about 15 minutes BEFORE the announced launch time. This gives us the opportunity to judge how many boats we will need. It would then be possible to ride-share to the launch ramp. And, as long as you are at Cordage, you should consider helping to get the boats prepped for rowing, and then set up for storage after the rowing that day. It is important that people respond to emails about opportunities for rowing, even the Sunday Morning row. That way we have the proper number of gigs and minimize the need for folks to wait for a turn rowing.

Upcoming Events

Since the last newsletter, we have rowed in Essex, Apponogansett, and in New Bedford!

June 27th the Saquish Beach Association sponsors a Run/Walk. We are supporting their efforts in exchange for having a table at their event. If anyone is interested in the Race/Walk let me know. If someone is interested in manning a table there, let me know that as well.

The next rowing opportunity is over the 4th of July Weekend. If there is enough interest, it may be possible to row a gig over to Saquish Beach, spend the weekend and return by gig on the 5th. If not interested in rowing over, there is still the annual 4th of July Picnic at Saquish Beach. That is an all day event, and it is possible to drive a 4-wheel vehicle to Mike's cottage. Bring something to eat and bring something to share. We may row along the beach-line on the 4th. The 5th has the annual Saquish Beach Association Craft Fair. There is also our lobster raffle. We are also considering participating in the Blessing of the Fleet in Plymouth on the 5th. This may entail a rowing event as well as manning a table on the State Pier to advocate what the team does. It is important people email me to let me know what they are interested in so that all coordination can be done.

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The Blackburn Challenge is the 18th of July. People interested should expect contact from Mike or Lauren concerning practicing for this event.

Fund Raising

We are getting ramped up for the East Coast Open Water Rowing Championship – it is our home event! We will be asking for folks to help with fund raising events. If anyone has any experience in fund raising, let us know as many of us are new to this part of the game.

Safety

The discussion on criteria for safety/liability indicated a need for general safety guidelines. The board will begin developing general safety guidelines, though there will be provisions based on rower experience, coxswain experience, as well as weather conditions. There is an idea to formally recognize and identify coxs'. The intent is for coxswains to have a firmer understanding of their roll in boat safety beyond simply steering the boat. There is also intent to develop a roster of qualified coxswains, and that only qualified coxswains will cox boats. Under the roster of coxswains will be a subset of those who desire to cox in a social venue and those who desire to cox in competitive venues. Once established, it is envisioned that coxswains will have a significant role in determining whether rowing takes place or not on any given day.

What else...

Lauren continues to head up the logo for the club. She will be working on getting a digitized format that can then be used for mass producing the t-shirts, sweatshirts, etc.

If anyone has experience with requesting grants please contact the board – we are looking for grants to help support the organization in any way we can.

Please respond to emails – we have almost cancelled several events simply because people did not get back to us. We have also had people sit on the shore as others just showed up for a seat in a boat.

The next Board meeting will be in July. Board meetings are open – organization members can express ideas, concerns, suggestions, but only board members can vote on decisions.

On behalf of the Board of Directors

Anthony S. Ruocco, Secretary