

ORILLIA ROWING CLUB

N E W S L E T T E R

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SPRING LAUNCH: THE DAY AFTER

Events on Saturday May 5

Clean-up After "Spring Launch 2001" Dinner and Silent Auction

We need volunteers to help clean up and move tables and equipment out of the Barnfield Point Recreation Centre on Saturday May 5 from 8:00 – 9:00 am. We have just one hour to move out our boats, oars, equipment, and tables from the silent auction. All hands on deck would be very much appreciated. Please come out and start accumulating your volunteer hours.

Annual General Meeting

Our Annual General Meeting will take place at 9:30 am on Saturday May 5 at the Boathouse. On the agenda are election of the new executive for the upcoming season and some changes to the club constitution. All members are encouraged to come out and take part in this important meeting.

Launch of New Boats and Oars

Following the Annual General Meeting on Saturday May 5 will be the launch of all our new boats and oars into Lake Couchiching. This will take place at approximately 10:30 am. Please come out and celebrate our new boats hitting the water for the first time!



Here we grow again! - Club registration was brisk at Barnfield Point Recreation Centre on March 27 and April 2. 102 new learn-to-row sign-ups were processed for the upcoming season, along with several new and returning memberships. Pictured above processing forms are club president Tony Kaija, along with members Jeff and Kristi Cole.

New Executive Positions Available

The current executive are proposing that the executive committee be expanded to include three new members, effective May 5, 2001. This is to meet the growing demands placed on the current executive created by an increase in memberships, acquisition of new equipment and financial growth.

The executive has already seen the recent appointments of Directors Kristi Cole and Laurie Herd to the committee. They join existing members Tony Kaija (President), Dave Barr (Treasurer), Barb Pidgen (Secretary) and Diane Carter (Director).

Nominations and election of three members to the newly created director positions will take place at the club's Annual General Meeting.

Among the priorities of the newly elected executive will be the establishment of a Volunteer Co-ordinator position. This extremely important job would be held by a person who would schedule and track the completion of volunteer hours for all members throughout the season.

Other duties and responsibilities to be divided among executive members pertain to fundraising, organizing social events, communications, publicity, programs/coaching, registration and memberships, safety and equipment maintenance.

Though volunteer positions by design, as an incentive to get involved, executive members pay only 2/3 of the annual rowing club membership fee.

No previous experience is required for you to join the executive. By doing so, you can become an important part of how this club is operated.

If you are interested in becoming a director, or have any questions, please contact Tony Kaija or Barb Pidgen by May 5.

Buy An Oar Program

We now have sponsors for 12 oars! The following local businesses or individuals have purchased a sweep oar (costing \$375) in return for their name on the oar:

- Dufferin Aggregates
- TLSS Rowing Club
- Brewery Bay Food Co.
- Bygone Days Fish and Chips
- McDonald's Orillia
- Tim Horton's – Memorial Avenue
- The Koza Family
- 2nd Century Source for Sports
- Dr. Gregory Price-Jones
- Dr. George and Christine McAllister (naming it "C & K" after their rowing daughters)
- Shadowbox Learning Services Inc.
- Raney Building Supplies Inc.

We still need sponsors for 6 more sweep oars. If you know of anyone who might be willing to purchase an oar, please let us know. Thanks!

We have sponsors for 1 pair of sculling oars.

- Linda and Rick Dalmazzi

These oars will be for Splendid, the touring double that Linda and Rick have purchased for the club!

We are extremely grateful to all our Donors! Please support our Donors!

Ready for Spring Launch 2001?

Are you ready for the Orillia Rowing Club's "Spring Launch 2001" fundraising dinner and silent auction on Friday May 4? This is our biggest fundraising venture ever and we need your help in making it a success! Our goal is to raise the remaining \$10,000 to pay for 3 new boats costing \$30,000. We have raised \$20,000 so far!

Fundraising Dinner: Tickets are \$50 per plate and besides the 70 tickets spoken for, we need to sell approximately 70 more tickets yet. Students are welcome to enjoy pizza in the boathouse during the dinner and then join the dinner guests immediately following the dinner (approximately 7:30 – 8:30 pm.) to hear our special guest speakers. There is no charge for the students to attend this after dinner portion of the evening.

Our special guest speakers are Jake Gaudaur Jr. and Buffy Alexander, both of whom have Orillia roots. Jake Jr. is son of Jake Sr. who was a world champion sculler at the turn of the last century. Jake Jr. himself was a very accomplished rower winning several awards including the 1938 North American Junior High School championship. Buffy Alexander is a member of the Canadian National Rowing Team and was stroke in the Bronze medal winning Canadian Women's Eight at the 2000 Sydney Olympics.

This is a rare opportunity to hear these prominent rowers address our dinner guests and help our club! Let's do everything we can to sell all the remaining dinner tickets!!

Silent Auction: This portion of the evening is open to the public starting at 8:30 pm. As part of your membership this year, we are asking that each rower contribute a silent auction item. This can be an item obtained through a business, something that you make, or a service that you provide (ex. Babysitting, raking leaves). Please arrange with Dave and Marg Barr (327-1479) to drop off your item by Friday April 20. We appreciate everyone's contribution greatly!

O.R.C. Clothing for Sale on May 4

We have some new club clothing with a new logo that will be for sale during the evening on Friday May 4. Hopefully, you saw the preview of items at our recent registrations. The items are as follows:

Yellow screened T-shirt ~ \$14

Navy embroidered hat ~ \$12

Navy embroidered sweatshirt ~ \$45

Navy embroidered fleece vest ~ \$50

O.R.C. Associate Memberships

Did you know that enthusiastic supporters can support our club without actually rowing? For \$40, associate members receive club newsletters, RCA magazines, and can take part in club social activities without actually rowing. If you know someone who would like to become an associate member, please let us know.

Save Those Grocery Sales Tapes!

If you grocery shop at either Zehrs Food Plus or A& P on Front Street, please save us your grocery tapes. At each store, we have a slot for the "Orillia Rowing Club" to collect grocery sales receipts. For every \$450, our club will be able to collect \$1. So, please take part; every little bit helps!

TOURING NEWS

There are 2 rowing tours coming up in May that any member who has taken the LTR can take part in. Hopefully, arrangements will be made to transport our newly acquired touring boat, the "Havel" to these tours. Individuals can enter these events and enjoy an outing on the water with rowers from other clubs.

Sunday May 6
Lake Scugog Icebreaker Tour
Port Perry

Approximately 15 km tour up the lake from Port Perry 7 km, lunch stop and return.

Cost - \$20 per seat

Sat. May 26 / Sun. May 27
Port Severn Tour
Christie's Mill Inn, Port Severn

Sat. May 26 - Meet at 10 am at the Inn. Row to Big Chute Marine Railway for a picnic lunch.

Return to the Inn for dinner and overnight stay. Total distance is about 25 km.

Sun. May 27 - Row a different route on Gloucester Pool. Return to Inn by 3 pm to load boats and leave for home.

Cost - Hotel cost about \$67 for dinner, B & B.

Boat fee - \$20 per person per day

We encourage our members to take part in these tours. For further information, please contact Ron or Barb Pidgen at 326-5276.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

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| Friday April 20 | All members to make arrangements for their Silent Auction item
Purchase of May 4 dinner tickets
All returning members to join O.R.C. |
| Friday May 4 | "Spring Launch 2001" Fundraising Dinner and Silent Auction |
| Saturday May 5 | 8:00 – 9:00 am ~ Cleanup and move club equipment from Recreation Centre
9:00 - 9:30 ~ Coffee break sponsored by club executive
9:30 – 10:30 am ~ Annual General Meeting for all members at the boathouse
10:30 am ~ Official Water Launch of all new boats and oars. All members and sponsors welcome! |
| Sunday May 6 | Lake Scugog Icebreaker Rowing Tour - all members welcome! |
| Tuesday May 22 | 6:00 – 7:30 am ~ First rowing day back on the water at Orillia Rowing Club! |
| Sat. May 26/Sun. May 27 | Port Severn Rowing Tour at Christie's Mill Inn – all members welcome! |
| Thurs. July 12 | Crew Forming Night for all LTR's – meet each other and form crews |
| Fri. July 27/Sat. July 28 | Orillia Rowing Club Tag Days at various locations in Orillia |

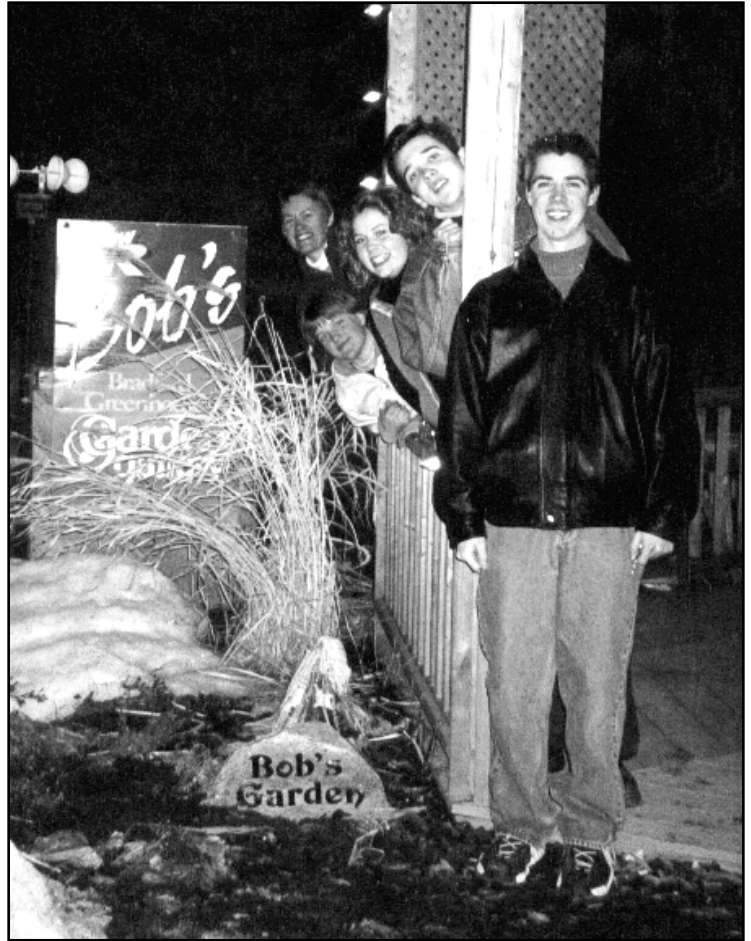
Thanks for Donated Items!

Many thanks to Kristi & Jeff Cole for donating an answering machine for the boathouse and organizer/agenda books for use by the boathouse manager. These items will be put to good use this season. Thanks again!

We are still in need of a good telephone and a TV/VCR (for watching safety video). If anyone has any of these items that they would be willing to donate to the club, please let us know.



“Racking” up the volunteer hours: Bruce Donaldson and Doug Herd display the oar racks that they made for the club. The racks have already been put to good use and were used to show off the club’s newly acquired oars at the recent press conference at the Orillia Opera House.



What about Bob?: ORC members (left to right) Barb Pidgen, ????, Laura Kelly, Matt Strang, Brian Boydell and Laurie Herd (taking photo) were featured on the New VR 6:00pm news recently, promoting the club’s upcoming Dinner and Silent Auction during the daily Bob’s Garden segment.

Volunteer Hours Suggestions

As you all know by now we are asking every member to contribute a minimum of 20 hours of volunteer work towards our club this season. With our February 24 mall display and our recent registration nights, we have had several members help out and already start to accumulate their volunteer hours! There will be lots of further opportunities to volunteer, such as:

- helping move boats in and out of the Recreation Centre on May 4 & 5 (call Tracy Kelly at 327-0387)
- help with Silent Auction on May 4 (various duties available – call Tony at 325-4039)
- helping boathouse manager with LTR classes
- helping boathouse manager with recreational rowing sessions
- tagging at a designated location on July 27 & July 28

Please, if you can help on May 4 or 5th, please call the numbers given above to get on board! We appreciate everyone’s help to make our “Spring Launch 2001” a success!



New Logo Unveiled

The club recently adopted a new logo to be featured on all clothing and (eventually) all correspondence such as letterheads and business cards.

The logo was designed by Greg McMillan and Gail Borutski at ScreenPlay (a division of 2nd Century Source for Sports).

The logo features each of the club’s official colours: blue (middle oval), yellow (oars, lettering and oval outlines) and green (outer oval).