

ST. CATHARINES ROWING CLUB

VICE PRESIDENT, SPECIAL PROJECTS – ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2015

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY JANUARY 19, 2016

As Vice-President, Special Projects it is my privilege to work with the dedicated members of the Board and member-volunteers who generously provide their time and wise counsel. In particular, I wish to thank Jennifer Stephenson – Tag Day Chair, Nancy Plaice, Christening Chair and Karen Rickers Pasta Night Chair and Mark Welsh for his assistance with the January, 2016 application to the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

GRANT APPLICATIONS:

SERVICE CANADA – SUMMER EMPLOYMENT GRANT:

Unfortunately, we were not successful for 2015 but have applied again for 2016.

ONTARIO TRILLIUM FOUNDATION: Trillium reinvented itself in 2015 and has established a very structured grant application process. We applied in August for a grant in the new “GROW” stream but were not successful. We submitted a second application on January 6, 2016 under the Capital Program and have asked for just under \$110,000 to purchase four doubles, 2 quads and 20 pairs of sculls. We expect to hear about this grant sometime in early March.

ROWING CANADA AVIRON – I ROW GRANT: Success! We received a grant of \$2500.00 from Rowing Canada to fund enhancements to the Youth Rowing School (YRS) program.

ONTARIO – SUMMER EXPERIENCE PROGRAM: We received \$2730.00 from the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Immigration and International Trade, Summer Experience Program (SEP) to fund the salary of the Assistant to the Head Instructor, YRS. We plan to apply for this grant again for 2016.

AWARDS:

Six long serving members of the Club were honoured by the Province and presented with Volunteer Service Awards at a ceremony at Club Italia in June.

Marion Markarian	25 Years
Larry Masse	30 years
John Mirynech	30 Years
Clint Page	60 Years
Greg Pinder	30 Years
Alex Wilson	60Years

Brian Fisher has been awarded a **Volunteer Service Award by Rowing Canada Aviron** for his leadership in chairing the 2015 National Rowing Championships.

EVENTS:

CAPTAIN’S DINNER:

Over 275 members and guests attended the 69th Annual Captain’s Dinner and Awards Presentation and silent Auction on Saturday April 11, 2012 at the Holiday Inn and Suites. The Dinner, ably MC’d by President Michelle Kerr honoured the Club’s coaches, athletes and volunteers. The awards were presented by past winners, some of whom returned to the club and the Dinner after long absences.

A video, put together by Carl MacCulloch highlighting the presenters’ and winners’ achievements ran during the presentations. The Silent Auction was managed by Dave Wright and the lightweight women’s program, funds raised went to the program.

TAG DAY:

Tag Day, chaired by Jennifer Stephenson was held on a sunny warm Saturday May 9, raised \$ **12,807**. Thanks to our enthusiastic high school athletes and coaches and to the community businesses who gave permission for our athletes to sell tags at their locations.

Thank you too to the members of the Board and other volunteers who donated their time driving to the locations from Grimsby to Niagara Falls to collect from the taggers.

We are hoping for an even better result, again with Jennifer's leadership in 2016 - save the date – **Saturday May 7, 2016**.

CHRISTENING:

The annual Christening, chaired by Nancy Plaice and MC'd by Brian Thorne, was held on Sunday, June 14 at Henley Island.

The names of the winners of Student Athlete Bursary for 2012 were announced and two boats were christened – a double named for and christened by former Olympian, Barb Armbrust and a coxed four named for Tim Dumont, past VP, rowing, and volunteer and coach extraordinaire.

Thank you, to Nancy and her crew of volunteers for arranging this lovely event.

PASTA DINNER:

The 4th Annual St. Catharines Pasta Dinner, chaired by Karen Rickers, was held on the Tuesday and Wednesday of Henley Week, August 4 and 5. Over 400 athletes, coaches and friends attended – this despite bad weather and race delays on the first night. A total of \$1,600 was raised for the Club – and many times that amount in goodwill!! Thank you Karen.

CHRISTMAS PARTY:

Always fun, the Christmas Party was held on Monday December 21 – the guests enjoyed Mike's pizza and wings at Scorecard's and once again and generously filled the Community Care barrels.

Respectfully Submitted,

Louise Hastings
Vice President, Special Projects
January 19, 2016