

ST. CATHARINES ROWING CLUB

VICE PRESIDENT, SPECIAL PROJECTS – ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2016

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY JANUARY 17, 2017

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 and Tracey Newman – Tag Day Chairs, Nancy Plaice, Christening Chair, and Lorna Hay-Gaudet, Pasta Night Chair for their work on those very successful events.

I also want to extend my very sincere thanks to Mark Welsh for his assistance and knowledgeable input with our successful application to the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

GRANT APPLICATIONS:

SERVICE CANADA – SUMMER EMPLOYMENT GRANT:

After a disappointment in 2015, we were successful in being awarded this grant in 2016. The grant contributed to the salary of Ryan Malcowski who worked as Mark's assistant during the summer. I wish to acknowledge the assistance of Josh from the office of Chris Bittle MP for his assistance in tracking the information re this grant. We have submitted our application for a 2017 grant.

ONTARIO TRILLIUM FOUNDATION: We were successful and extremely fortunate to be awarded a Capital Grant of \$110,000 by the Ontario Trillium Foundation for the purchase of four new doubles and two new quads. These beautiful new boats were delivered to the boathouse on December 21 by Hudson Boatworks. This brings our total of capital grants from Trillium to \$200,000 since our first grant in 2007. The boats will be christened at the Annual Boat Christening on Sunday June 25, 2017.

ONTARIO – SUMMER EXPERIENCE PROGRAM: For the second consecutive year we were successful in being awarded a grant of \$2730.00 by the Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Summer Experience Program (SEP) to fund the salary of the Assistant to the Head Instructor, Youth Rowing School. We plan to apply for this grant again for 2017.

AWARDS:

Rowing Canada Aviron

President's Award:

Tim Rigby and Bill Schenck

Long Service Awards

Tim Rigby 55 Years

Fred Marlow 55 years

Brian Fisher 30 years

Peter Scott 20 years

ROWONTARIO

Dave Wright	Coach of the Year
Carl MacCulloch	Male Umpire of the Year
Lauren Kelly	Claude Saunders Award

Recognition of Excellence	Carly Zanatta
RO Ontario Bursary	Sklyer Goudswaard

RowOntario Award of Merit Certificates - in Recognition of Volunteer Service:

Rick Hughes
Hillary Kerr
Nancy Love
Aley Meade
Jean Pawluk
Charlie Riches
Jaime Snelgrove

NIAGARA SPORT COMMISSION AWARDS

Two member of the St. Catharines Rowing Club received athlete Awards at the NSC's Awards Breakfast held in June. Congratulations to:

Dan deGroot	Male Athlete:
Janet Lancaster	Female Masters Athlete:

EVENTS:

CAPTAIN'S DINNER:

Some 175 members and guests attended the 69th Annual Captain's Dinner and Awards Presentation and silent Auction on Saturday April 2, 2016 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 very successful Silent Auction was managed by Michele Fisher and the Junior Development Athletes. Funds raised - \$12,000 - went to the program.

TAG DAY:

Tag Day, chaired by Jennifer Stephenson with able assistance from Tracey Newman was held on sunny warm Saturday May 7, raised **\$ 12,216.00**. Thanks go to our enthusiastic high school athletes who sold the tags and to the coaches who organized the teams and ensured boxes were distributed 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 in 2017 - save the date – Saturday **May 13, 2017**.

CHRISTENING:

The annual Christening, chaired by Nancy Love and MC'd by Michelle Kerr, was held on Sunday, June 26 at Henley Island.

Four beautiful new boats were christened:

- Single named for former Olympian, Gail Cort
- Coxed four donated by the Romak family in memory of Greg Romak and named for him,
- Eight, named for past -president Stephanie Brooks
- Eight, cost shared with Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School named on the bow "Our Finest Hour" and on the stern for Carol Purcer, retiring principal of SWC.
- Coxed four, cost shared with Governor Simcoe Secondary School named for Al Shynal - retired staff member and SCRC volunteer extraordinaire.

The names of the winners of **Student Athlete Bursaries** for 2016 were announced at the christening. The bursaries are awarded annually to SCRC athletes who are entering their first year at a Canadian post-secondary institution and will be participating in that institution's rowing program. The bursary funds are an anonymous gift from a very generous friend of SCRC. The 2016 bursaries were awarded to **Madison Plaice, Alicia Piazza and Owen Volkner** .

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

PASTA DINNER:

The 5th Annual St. Catharines Pasta Dinner, chaired by Lorna Hay-Gaudet, was held on the Tuesday and Wednesday of Henley Week, August 2 and 3. Several hundred athletes, coaches and friends attended and enjoyed Rosalie's great pasta and salads. A total of \$1,380 was raised for the Club – and many times that amount in goodwill!! Thank you to Lorna for planning and organizing this fun event and to the many volunteers who served and did tidy-up duty.

CHRISTMAS PARTY:

Always fun, the Christmas Party was held on Wednesday 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 17, 2017