
STROKEWATCH



NEWSLETTER FOR THE BAY AREA ROWING CLUB OF HOUSTON

August 2000

Congratulations to our Founders!



By Pam Falk

On November 30th, 1988 the Bay Area Rowing Club was incorporated. Today the club has over 100 members, hosts an annual regatta, and owns top-notch equipment.

A party was held at the BARChouse on August 12th, to thank the founders for all their work and dedication. About 40 people attended to eat barbecue, wonderful salads, vegetables, and desserts, and share stories of past rowing adventures. Carl Smith brought photo albums and documents that outlined the club's original "growing pains". He also had a video of the original ground breaking ceremony and the original shovel! Tom Lotz brought a video of his college rowing days. Everyone had stories to share.

Thank you to the original 12 who made it all happen:

Merilla Cohn
Mike Brint
Don Erwin
Susan Erwin
David Gill
Ruth Hansen
Tom Lotz
Bruce Meltzer
Ben Newcomb
Sherman Pernia
Rudy Reem
Carl Smith



Important message to All BARC members: The lock combination on the boathouse will be changed on September 15. Only members in good standing will be given the new code. In other words: If you haven't paid you dues, please do so soon or you will be "locked out"



Bay Area Rowing Club of Houston
P.O. Box 580374
Houston, TX 77258-0374
Telephone: 281-326-5098
<http://www.ghg.net/derwin/barc/>

For membership information call Jeff **281-326-5098** or email jefftave@ghg.net

Club Officers:

President	Karl Zimmer
Vice President	Claire Sweatt
Treasurer	Tom Heig
Secretary	Pam Falk
Board members:	Jack Quigley
	Doug Bradt
	Jeff Tave
Membership Dir.	Jeff Tave
Boathouse Man.	Ed Hippe
Newsletter	Hannes Hofer
BARCware	Theresa Tompkins
Webmaster	Hannes Hofer

The October 14 BARC Night Out will be at the Texas Ice Stadium, 18150 Gulf Fwy (I 45), Friendswood. 6:30pm to 8:30pm. The cost will be \$6.50 per person, skate rental included. You must rsvp to Pam at 281-538-1742 or pfalk@msp02.med.utmb.edu.

The BARCalendar

Date	What?	Contact
Sept 23-24-26-27	Sculling Classes	Claire Sweatt, 713-729-2470
Oct. 7	Head of the Red, Shreveport, LA	www.centenary.edu/~cccrow/
Sat. Oct.14 6:30-8:30pm	BARC Night out, Texas Ice Stadium	Palm Falk, 281-538-1742
Oct. 22-23	Head of the Charles	www.hocr.org
Oct. 28	Pumpkinhead Regatta, Austin	http://austnrow.home.texas.net/
Nov. 11	Marathon, Natchitoches, LA	William Grant, (318) 357-5921
Dec. 3	BARC Holiday Party, Pam Falk's house	Palm Falk, 281-538-1742

CLUB NAME CHANGE

By Tom Lotz

We need to change the name of the club to be more descriptive of our activities. A suggestion is the Bay Area Rowing, Chatting, Hugging and General lolly-gagging Club. Why you ask?

Its called dock time! With our membership success, we have more and more rowers at the lake at peak times. This is great. We also have only one dock, and, as a courtesy to all, rowers should clear the dock as soon as possible. Generally the protocol is that outbound crews take precedence. If the club does not have such a policy, one should be adopted. Rowers can take less dock time by tying up and making adjustments on the water. And remember, we need to clear the slings as soon as possible after the shell has been washed.

True story: Two singles on one side of the dock, both outbound. A quad comes off the lake, to "hot-seat" with another crew. Meanwhile another member [happens to be me] is standing there impatiently holding his single, waiting to go on the dock. One of the outbound quad rowers [happens to be a board member] takes time to hug each member of the inbound crew, and chat about whatever. Meanwhile nothing is happening, the empty quad sits there, and the dock gets even more crowded. Lets be more aware of what is going on around us.

By the way, if you have lot of time to spare, watch how long it takes the "great eight" to get on the water!

So, please have some courtesy for your fellow members, and get your butt in gear.

The opinions expressed in the above article do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the BARC Board of Directors, and certainly not that of its newsletter editor.

WWW.BARCHOUSTON.ORG

is the new address (URL) for BARC's "window to the world", our web page. BARC has, of course, had a web page for years. Yours truly created the first one already back in 1994. Don Erwin picked it up about a year later and has done a great job as webmaster and host of until recently, when he moved to New Orleans. The BARC board has decided that, since the page had to be moved to another server, now was a good time to get a unique domain name instead of piggy backing off someone's private account. For now, you can still reach the page by going to the old address, but you will soon be able to access it only by pointing to the new one.

For now, the new page doesn't look much different from the old one, and chances are that the "look and feel" won't change much, since Don's design looks good and is easy to navigate. There will, however, be some "under the hood" changes, since we can now take advantage of some of the enhanced features that the new server has. For now, the biggest change is the addition of a password protected "member's only" directory where members can view a (hopefully) always updated telephone and e-mail list and the current boat schedule (contact Hannes for ID and password). The keepers of these lists will be able to



upload them on their own via an "Upload Facility" so documents don't have to go through the webmaster in order to publish them. Another advantage of the change is that we now can have our own e-mail addresses such as membership@barchouston.org, president@barchouston.org, etc.

The BARC web page belongs to you, the members. If you have suggestions for changes and content, please contact me.

Hannes Hofer
Webmaster@barchouston.org

New Dock

By Karl Zimmer

Construction on the new dock should begin anytime. The contractor is actually late by about a week. Once construction begins, work should be completed in a matter of days. The new dock will be located about 60 feet north of the existing dock. It will be identical in length and width to the existing dock and will be assembled into one rigid section. The deck will be constructed from composite material and bordered by bumpers similar to the existing dock. The ramp will be 8 feet wide, 14 feet long and hinged on the end of the dock and bulkhead. A short walkway will be added to level the ramp approach with the grass slope elevation.

DUES DUES DUES



Each year club members support the Bay Area Rowing Club with their dues. They are due at the start of each quarter, January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1. As a reminder invoices are sent out. But whether you receive an invoice or not, your dues are still due. Right now I am preparing the invoices for the fourth quarter and only 64% of the members have paid for the third quarter. The real question is who are still members? How many people are too busy to row and can't decide if they should pay their dues or not? Who has moved out of town? If you receive an invoice use it as an opportunity to let the club know your intentions by responding with dues or information on status. Your non profit club volunteers would greatly appreciate it. Thanks, Tom Heig.

Summer Sculling Classes in Full Swing

BARC's Sculling Classes began in April and have been filling up quickly.

A modified plan was set for this summer to, hopefully, accommodate all of the people who want to learn to scull. We have been offering two classes:

The "Try It You'll Like It" Class is a two hour class that provides an introduction to the sport of rowing. Individuals who have never rowed or are not sure if they want the full 8 hour class are encouraged to attend a TIYLI. This class was held the first Saturday of April, May and June and 23 individuals attended. A big "Thank you!" goes to Pam Falk for coordinating these TIYLI Classes!

The complete 8-hour Sculling Class is being held on the last weekend of the months April through September on Sat morn, Sun morn, Tues eve and Wed eve. Graduates of this class receive a BARC T-shirt, one month membership in the club, and are invited to continue membership at the end of that one month. The 8-hour Sculling Class is already booked through September...many of the TIYLI participants "liked it!" and have signed up for a Sculling Class.

Thanks to everyone who has been helping with the classes...Jeff Tave, Ed Hippe, Hannes Hofer, Pam Falk, Fred Schultz, Karl Zimmer, Kathy Dixon, Heather Mathis, Tom Topalu, Nadia Hijazi, please forgive me if I've forgotten someone. If you haven't been able to assist with the classes yet, please plan to do so later this summer. I'll be calling and -mailing you!

Claire Sweatt
Sculling Class Coordinator

Sculling Class Participants:

Luis Colum
Meagan Davies
Sue Doeling
Tom Doeling
Debbie English
Henry Epstein
Daniel Epstein
Adam Epstein
Jimmy Gallier
Carlos Garcia
Van Goodgame
Patricia Hazel
Pam Hentschel
Douglas Hoover
Linda Marshall

Hal McKinney
Adrienne Mosley
Sam Mugford
Irving Ortiz
Emily Racic
Jonathan Roumel
Susan Scaff
Kyle Simpson
Mara Umpierre
Beth Wylie
Brenda Yawn
Kim Zayder

Advanced Sculling Clinic

By Hannes Hofer

31 rowers from BARC and Greater Houston Rowing Club signed up for the "Advanced Rowing Clinic" which was conducted on August 5 and 6. For the occasion we had hired Carie Graves, UT's women's coach, who is also a two-time Olympic medal winner.



Carie Graves

The format for the clinic was 2 days of 2 x 2 hours of on-the water coaching with video taping, followed by at video viewing and critique session at Pam Falk's House. For the most part, the format worked well, though a few people complained that they didn't get enough attention while on the water. This was also the complaint at last year's clinic that

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Clinic, continued from page 4

Maurine Simpson taught, and it is something that is not easy to remedy, given the high number of attendees and limited time. Suggestions for improvements are welcome.

Thanks to the people who helped out with the Clinic: Mark Zeller, who drove the launch during all sessions, Jeff and Karl, who helped video taping, and last but not least, Pam Falk who opened her home for the video sessions and hosted Carie and her son for two nights.

I am hoping that we in the future can have similar, but less expensive clinics for beginner and intermediate rowers also. The relatively high cost of this clinic was due to the compensation that Carie demanded for spending the whole weekend away from her Austin home. We have people in BARC who are perfectly capable of coaching as well. We just need to give them an incentive to do so.

The View from Camden

by Tom Lotz

As reported in the last issue of Strokewatch, I had the opportunity to serve as an official at both the Intercollegiate Rowing Association [IRA] Championships and the US Olympic Team Trails. These regattas were held on successive weekends on the Cooper River at Camden, New Jersey. It is indeed a pleasure to attend, let alone officiate when the competitors are of such high caliber.

Wisconsin, as so often happens, won the Ten Eyck Trophy as the overall point winner at the IRA. California won the Varsity 8 in a time of 5:39.58, winning by open water over Brown, the top crew from the east. Cal also won the freshman 8 event, while Brown was victorious in the 2nd Varsity 8 race. The womens lightweight 8 was won by Princeton and Yale took the men's lightweight 8 title. Penn won the alumni race easily. The alumni boats had several seats occupied by former Olympic or national team rowers.

The collegiate crews are so well matched, with all competitors well over six feet tall. The crews have marvelous reach on their strokes, with body angles the same throughout the boat. It was rare to see a boat with a "check" on the recovery. The athletes row heats, repechage, semi's and finals over a three-day period. The conditioning is superb.

BARCwear

By Theresa Tompkins

As I've been asked how one should go about acquiring BARCwear more than once, I'd thought I'd drop a line to fill everyone in. We currently have in stock shirts with the "Best Little Oarhouse in Texas" on the back, BARC logo on the front and very well-made white canvas caps with the BARC logo on the front and an adjustable leather strap in the back. The long-sleeved (\$14) shirts come in medium, large, and extra-large. The tanks (\$10) and tee's (\$12) come in small as well. The caps are \$20.

I seem to "lose" phone messages on my answering machine, but if you don't have e-mail, you are welcome to leave a message at 281.482.1519, if you don't hear back from me, try again. I check my e-mail fairly regularly, usually once a day in the evenings (tftompkins@juno.com). Just let me know what style (tank, T, or long-sleeve) and what size (sm, med, lg, X-lg) you would like and I can bring the items to the boathouse in the evenings after work. I go there just about every Wednesday evening and Saturday morning anyway, so those are the most convenient times for me to meet people there, but I could make other arrangements.

Theresa

For sale: Recreational single scull with drop-in riggers and wooden oars, all in good condition. Was purchased new and used very little. Only \$750.00. Please call Iver Diaz, 281-326-5009, after 6 pm or weekends.

Bay Area Rowing Club of Houston
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Olympic Connections

By Hannes Hofer

The 2000 Olympics starts in Sydney Australia on September 15. Although no present or former BARC members participate in the games, there are certain BARC connections:

Tom Lotz will go to Sydney as part of the Houston 2012 delegation to check out the facilities for "future reference".

Torrey Folk, a former Rice Rower (and pupil of yours truly) will be representing the US in the women's 8+.

Chris Duffy, brother of former BARC member Kathrine Duffy is a spare on the US team.

Canada's Women's eight features Allison Korn who rowed at BARC during a visit last year and Heather McDerrmit who was a track athlete at Rice.

USRA MASTERS NATIONALS

By Tom Lotz

By all accounts, a very successful Masters National was held in August at Lake Merritt in California. A quick review of the results posted on row2k.com shows first place winners by Pat McDonough from Fort Worth in the "A" men's single, and another gold by the Dallas men's pair without. Numerous other crews from Austin, Dallas and Fort Worth competed in this national championship. BARC was not represented.

The 2001 Masters championships will be held in Indianapolis August 22-25.

Win a Million Dollars!

Just Kidding! but since I now have your attention, consider dropping me a line about what you think of the newsletter. How do you use it? Do you need it at all? What changes would you like to see? Do you want to help writing it? Let me know what you think. E-mail me at hofer@barchouston.org