



ALUMNI NEWSLETTER JULY 2019

If you haven't stopped by the Clubhouse lately you will be in for a pleasant surprise. Over the past 18 months a huge effort has taken place to upgrade our facilities, to make it more attractive to our rental customers and to have a facility all our members will be proud of.

The entire main hall has been renovated and freshened up, washrooms upgraded, *Wi-Fi* installed with access to all patrons. Trees pruned and trimmed back to improve the health and aesthetics of our unique & ancient trees. Perimeter fencing was completed to secure our asset, as well a functional and decorative patio fence was installed to improve the sightlines from the patio and add a special "island feel" to our facilities.

The Alumni is currently in the construction phase of rebuilding our parking lot, which should be completed within the next week or so. The former lot had deteriorated to a point where it was becoming a safety issue (tripping hazard) as well as taking away the overall positive appearance of our facility.

None of this infrastructure improvement comes free. The hard work of our many sub committee's orchestrating, hall rentals, souvenir / merchandise sales, bar sales, and Bingo all contribute to the operation and improvement of the island experience. All that said, it still does not get us to the finish line. Support from our partners at Henley Island Helpers, SCRC Recreational Rowing League, and major individual donors such as the Yeo Family & others, have all stepped up and are pushing us in a positive direction. Many of our members are also kicking in, and we all appreciate the recent financial contributions from Glenn, Sheila and Kate. Thanks so much every nickel helps. If you are interested in contributing a financial donation to our capital project fund just drop a cheque in the mail to SCRAA 295 Main Street, St. Catharine's, Ontario L2N 4V9.





The CSSRA High School Championships were held in early June. Good racing weather prevailed throughout the weekend. Our facility was donated to the regatta organizers to be used for their closing BBQ, as well as during the regatta for officials and volunteers to relax at and enjoy each others company. Jim McArther has reported that Souvenir sales were down slightly this year but expenses were kept to a minimum. This resulted in just over \$5500 in net proceeds to our organization. Jim and Sandra put their heart and soul into Regatta sales. Their whole team are on the job days in advance setting up and open for business throughout the regatta. "THANKS GUYS"

Beginning Tuesday July 9th, The Port Dalhousie Supper Club will be hosting their weekly food truck and entertainment extravaganza on top of the island beginning around 4:00 until dusk, This event has been held in Lakeside Park in the past, however due to the high water level and construction on the waterfront, a substitute location was required. Chris O'Connor the chief organizer will have on the island 6 – 8 food trucks, ice cream treats, craft beer and local wine, and live music All to provide a great experience for a cheap and casual summer evening out. We are hoping the new venue works out, and that it will introduce more citizens of the region to Henley Island and our Alumni Clubhouse. Come down and check it out every Tuesday evening during the summer months. Proceeds from the night go to supporting Community Care.

At our last meeting in June we had over 80 attend our spring Steak BBQ. A lot of hard labour goes into organizing each steak night from food ordering , kitchen preparation, and of course clean up. Thanks to all who pitched in to make it another great Steak Night. All for \$20.00 are you kidding me??

It was a pleasure for Don Baker to recognize Ross Yeo who represented the entire family and dedicate the new patio fence in honour of what rowing gave to the Yedo family and all the tremendous work they have contributed over the years back into rowing. The Yeos' live by our mission statement "*for the betterment of rowing.*" A plaque in their honour is located at the patio gate leading to the Doug Holloway staircase.





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Don and Jane Lockhart then presented a cheque for \$1000.00 to the CSSRA Travel Bursary fund. This money is distributed by the CSSRA to athletes coming from afar to compete in St. Catharines, and assist in reducing their travel expenses. The Alumni is very pleased to continue to support the bursary fund.

The Alumni with assistance from Henley Island Helpers, supported the Rowing Club at the annual Captain's Dinner by providing SCRC pins to all successful first time Henley winners from the club. Keep those wins coming, we want to deliver more pins.

Our in house golf commissioner Ted Kennedy is currently putting plans together for the Fall Classic Golf Tournament. The golfing will happen on Sunday September 22nd at Rolling Meadows with open bar and steak BBQ back at the island following golf. Cost yet TBD but last year was at \$90.00 per person, so it will be in that ballpark. Start to get your foursome together. More details to follow.

Alumni condolences go out to Carol & Mike Purcer. The passing of Al (George) Tanner on June 12, 2019. Al served his country in the armed forces and was a proud member of the Royal Canadian legion as well as the Rowing Alumni.

Our final page of our newsletter is always our Alumni sponsor's. This month I would like to introduce you to and thank Rich Tasane for supporting our newsletter team. Check out Rich for any of your financial needs in the future at Investors Group. Thanks for the support Rich.

The July meeting will be 7:00 on Friday July 12th, Come on down and check out the place. Henley is just around the corner, stay tuned.



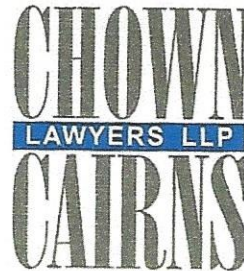
Check out our Alumni website for updates: www.stcraa.com

Thank you to St. Catharines Rowing Alumni 2019 Newsletter Sponsors



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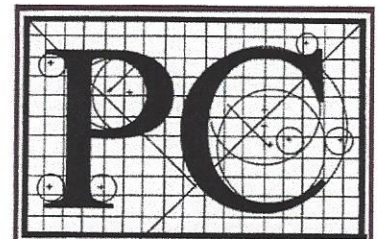
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