



# St. Catharines Rowing Alumni Association

295 MAIN STREET  
ST. CATHARINES, ONTARIO  
L2N 4V9

NOVEMBER 2017.

[WWW.STCRAA.COM](http://WWW.STCRAA.COM)

"FOR THE  
BETTERMENT  
OF ROWING"

The Internet has arrived at the top of Henley Island. Thanks to the hard work of Alumni member Jeff Smith, a new web site has been launched on the World Wide Web. It is a project in progress; however it will now allow the Alumni to communicate more effectively in the public domain to showcase our clubhouse as an attractive venue for a reception, party, or fund raiser. It will allow us to advertise our own events such as the upcoming Turkey Raffle, archive past newsletters, and possibly in the future advertise our logo'd shirts and sweats available for order and sale to the public at large. It will have a lot of potential to efficiently aid in the ability of the Alumni to increase rental traffic, activity at the club and in the end increase revenue. Check it out and give us your feedback. There may be something you would like to see added to the site. It is a new process and we will be looking to continuously improve the site. Thanks again Jeff.

There is still 3 weeks to go before our Annual Turkey Raffle on Friday November 17<sup>th</sup>, and the interest is very high in the number of members who want to participate in the draw. Raffle tickets are pouring in from all over the country. This may require Dave Timlock to deliver turkeys to the prairies, and the west coast prior to Christmas. Making it down to the island on Raffle night is always the fun part. Snacks will be on the tables from the time the doors open and pizza and wings will begin to arrive shortly after to enjoy throughout the night. Last year we were a little late with the food delivery and want to improve on that aspect this year. As always Tom promises the cheapest drink prices in town.

Head Coach Pete Sommerwill from Brock U has a big day planned for Saturday October 28<sup>th</sup>. The Ontario University Championships will be held on the course followed by an Open House and sausage BBQ at the Alumni Clubhouse. During this reception our own esteemed lifetime member Mr. Clint Page will be honoured by Brock for his lifetime of service and support to rowing and in this case to the Brock Rowing Programme. We remember and miss Clint as Chief Marshall of the Float, however his long years of training his staff keeps the crews at all regattas moving smoothly and on time. Drop

down to the Clubhouse Saturday afternoon after the races and say hi to Clint. Well done Pete for recognizing an icon of the island.

An extremely mild and dry autumn has the Oaks and Maples of Henley Island in full foliage as of the end of October. We are just now beginning to see a hint of colour in the leaves. With this in mind we have pushed back our fall clean up date to Saturday November 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM to tackle the leaf clean up and tuck everything into bed for the winter. We will need you out there on that date with your leaf rake or blower to move the massive amount of leaf and branch remains from the grounds. Last winter we contracted an arbourist to remove many dead and encroaching limbs from our property, which helped shape the trees nicely and keep them healthy. Some of the Oaks on our property are over 300 years old, with many years ahead of them. This weekend CHRC will be on the island cleaning up additional limbs and fallen trees along our bank, with a plan to improve the site lines to the regatta course. This will mean that Dan O'Hearn and Abacus need to be looking up into the tree canopy this weekend when out on their daily walk, wouldn't want a limb falling on your head.



### *NOMINATIONS PLEASE*

With the end of 2017 drawing close your executive board will be finalizing year end reports from each committee, and presenting them at the AGM on Friday January 13<sup>th</sup> in 2018. This will also be the evening that we introduce the standing Executive to serve throughout 2018. I am not very good at strong arming members to serve on the board, however this is a formal plea to consider and step up to lead your Alumni through the next year. The Executive has run with 2 open seats for the past term, and I have sat in the president's chair for 4 years, so it is only fitting and time to step aside and bring new energy to the leadership. If we could get the board back to a full slate, we would be able to share the responsibilities and distribute the work load much more efficiently. This is your formal draft order to enlist as a leader in your club, to move it past the 60<sup>th</sup> year and heading toward the 75<sup>th</sup>



anniversary. Please self nominate, talk it over with your friends and join as a pact. What ever works for you. Send your nomination to our email address [scraa01@gmail.com](mailto:scraa01@gmail.com) You are needed on the Board!!!

It pays to attend the Friday night meetings. Just asked Past President Matt Wilson. Matt was at our Steak BBQ night in October and had the good fortune of having his name drawn for the attendance draw. The attendance pot had been growing over the past months and Matt walked away with a pot over \$200.00. Way to go Matt! Our Steak night brought out a fine contingent from the SCRC, lead by the Fisher clan; sorry Brian, we didn't have any "OV" on tap that night. The Steak BBQ's are always a big hit and our October night introduced us to 2 new members. So welcome to Andrew Carr and Michael Fisher, who are both very active in the SCRC. It is great to see interest coming from the next generation into our club.

Need to get caught up on your membership dues? Simply drop a cheque into the mail made out to SCRAA, and note dues on the cheque. Address: SCRAA, 295 Main St., St. Catharines, Ont., L2N 4V9

The October meeting brought on a completely unexpected surprise with the announcement of the Alumni of the Year Award. Thank you to Bill Stevens for your kind words, they were very much appreciated. I owe the executive one, for pulling off this little manoeuvre without me getting one whiff of what was going on. Thanks to Xavier Recansens for his part in this sting operation. This was a total surprise and honour to accept.

That is it for now, so see you at the Turkey Raffle night on Friday November 17<sup>th</sup>. A reminder, on Saturday's Brock Reception at the clubhouse. Oh, and that little nudge to put your hand up for an executive position for 2018.

Ciao

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Brian', written in a cursive style.

Brian

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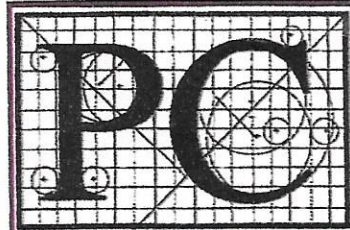
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