



Club News

St. Louis Rowing Club

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Thank You, Chuck by Tim Franck

I want to thank Chuck Schagrin for all of his hard work, dedication, and leadership during his four years as President of the St. Louis Rowing Club. Chuck is truly a class act who has a genuine interest in the growth of rowing in St. Louis. He is a true believer in the positive impact that our sport can have on our lives – especially the lives of our juniors – and the lessons that can be learned from rowing. As President, Chuck’s countless hours of work and his personal generosity have directly contributed to a lot of growth and success at SLRC (both tangible and intangible) during the last four years, including:

- Boathouse paid off ahead of schedule.
 - Revitalization of juniors program.
 - Formation of Rec. rowing program.
 - Purchases of equipment: new eight, 2 new fours, new 2x, 10 new ergs, 3 new Maas Aeros, 2 Peinert 1x’s, 16 new oars.
- Thank you, Chuck, for a job well done!



Chuck Schagrin in the 2007 Chicago Sprints.

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From Your New President by Mark Jordan

My first month as president of SLRC has shown me the strengths of our club - its volunteers.

The month started with the Boosters spring organizational meeting on February 4. At the Kruse’s house, there were over 10 parents reporting on what they have done to facilitate the Juniors travel to the spring regattas. One topic that should be of interest to all rowers is the Boosters plan to upgrade regatta food options.

As I write this note, I have just returned from the Indoor Rowing Championships at Washington University. John Mason organized this event and a number of masters were there to help John. The Indoor Sprints gives us all a reason to be faithful to some form of winter erg regime.

Last Thursday, I saw Barb Seely starting her marketing program for the Ergathon. Her team for this event includes, Lisa Jones, Tom Sinks and Bill Kruse. The Ergathon is an important event as it is one of our major fund raisers for new boats and other capital expenditures.

While Trivia Night does not occur in February, Liz Deighton is already very active organizing this event. Trivia Night, scheduled for March 7, is a wonderful social event that will also contribute to our ability to buy new equipment.

In total, between 20 and 30 volunteers are making meaningful contributions to the club this month. This is what makes SLRC a healthy and vibrant organization.

St Louis Rowing Club, PO Box 411094, St. Louis, Missouri 63141
Phone: 314-434-8299, E-mail: stlouisrowing_@yahoo.com

SLRC Finances...Where The Money Comes From And Where It Goes by Scott Allison

We thought that you might like to know more about the financial side of your club. So we'll give you a brief overview of how things work.

The easiest way to visualize the club's financial structure is to think of three separate bank accounts....the Operating account, the Capital account and the Boosters account. The funds in these three accounts come from different sources and are used for different purposes. Occasionally money flows from one account to another but that is the exception rather than the rule. We'll describe each account in turn.

The Operating account is used to pay for the day-to-day operation of the club....coaches' salaries and payroll overhead, liability and property insurance, repairs and maintenance on our equipment, fuel for the truck and the outboard motors; that sort of thing. In 2008, the club expended about \$145k dollars for operations. The money to cover these expenses comes primarily for dues paid by our adult and junior members. A very significant, but smaller source of revenue is the fees charged for our Learn to Row programs. In 2008, we took in about \$125k from these and other smaller

sources which means operating expenses exceeded revenues by about \$20k. How we bridged this deficit will be explained in a moment.

The Capital account is used to pay for the "big ticket" items that the club needs to support its growth and to provide top notch rowing equipment for its members. It was originally set up when the focus was on paying for construction of the boathouse. Now that the boathouse is paid for, money for the acquisition of other capital items....new boats, outboard motors and launches, ergs, oars, etc....comes from the Capital account. For instance, in 2008, we purchased two singles and a pair/double with money from this account. The money which flows into this account does not come from membership dues because that money is needed fully for operations. Rather it comes from fundraisers of one sort or another. Revenue from these events amounted to about \$22k last year. The biggest event, the "ergathon" which you've been hearing a lot about lately, raised about half of the total. Other events like Trivia Night, the Golf Outing/25th anniversary celebration and the wine sale added significantly to the total. While direct donations to the club have tapered

off since the boathouse was completed, any donations which are received by the club are also deposited in the Capital account. Our "wish list" for new equipment always exceeds our resources. Fundraising is crucial if we are to have top-of-the-line equipment.

Finally, there's the Boosters account. The adult members of the Club may not realize that, in addition to paying their off-springs' club membership dues, the Juniors' parents pay an additional fee for their own membership in the Boosters organization. The primary purpose of the revenue from Booster dues is the purchase of new equipment mainly used by the Juniors. For example, the new Pocock 8 and 4+ were purchased by the Boosters. We mentioned previously that direct operating expenses exceeded revenue into the Operating account last year. This gap was bridged by a transfer of funds from the Boosters account to the Operating account. The funds were used to underwrite coaching expenses which are expended on behalf of the Juniors.

So there you have it. Three accounts, each with a specific purpose and each absolutely critical to the operation and growth of the SLRC.

Third Annual SLRC Trivia Night by Liz Deighton

Third Annual SLRC Trivia Night

On Saturday, March 7, 2009, the St. Louis Rowing Club is hosting our Third Annual Trivia Night at Crestwood Community Center. For the club, the benefits are multiple: (1) a fun social event to enjoy together, (2) publicity for rowing, and (3) money towards new equipment. Our first Trivia Night brought in over \$3500, and last year we earned \$4200. This year, we'd like to top \$4500; help us do it!

How can you help?

1. **Sponsor a round:** Similar to last year, we are offering sponsorships for each of the 10 rounds, at \$100 per sponsorship. Your company/organization name will be listed as sponsor on the answer sheet for that round, you will be announced as sponsor at the beginning of the round, and your company's advertisement will be included in the event programs distributed on each table. If you'd like to sponsor a round, please email Liz at elizdeighton@sbcglobal.net.
2. **Make a donation:** As we did last year, we'll be providing free soft drinks, beer, and "very light" snacks to the attendees. Also, we'd also like to have several prizes available for a Silent Auction. If anyone would like to donate towards this effort, either with a cash donation, goods or services, or bottles/cans/kegs of beer, please email Liz at elizdeighton@sbcglobal.net.
3. **Volunteer:** If you'd rather help out than play, we have plenty of volunteer opportunities that night – runners, ticket sales, check-in table, as well as the more glamorous jobs of set-up and clean-up, to name a few. Please email Liz at elizdeighton@sbcglobal.net if you'd like to volunteer for any/all jobs.
4. **PLAY: And bring your friends!** Not only can you give your friends some exposure to this rowing insanity that consumes your life, but this event brings in money from sources other than club members, for very little effort. For the last two years, at least 70% of attendees were non-SLRC members! (Adding up paid admissions and other sales, we've netted at least \$25/attendee each year!) The best part for your friends? No spandex, and no sweat!

The registration form is included with this newsletter. You can also download the form from our website at http://stlouisrowingclub.com/downloads/2009_registration_flyer.pdf.

Our capacity is 30 tables (240 players); let's sell out this year!

Schnuck's E-Scrip Card by Kathy Carlson

By using Schnuck's eScrip Community card every time you shop for groceries you help earn "free" money to support your favorite sport--rowing! If you are not already signed up...here's how it works...

Pick up a card at your favorite Schnuck's or at the boathouse

Register your Schnuck's e-Scrip Community card for use in the program (it's easy to activate your card by calling the 800 number on the card)

Schnuck's will make contributions to your chosen group (St. Louis Rowing Club), based on the amount of purchases made by you—just by using the card you have registered

Your purchases create automatic contributions!

Contributions are made as follows:

1% on monthly purchases between \$0-\$300

Plus 2% on monthly purchases between \$301-\$600

Plus 3% on monthly purchases between \$601-\$999

No contribution on purchases over \$1,000 in a month

Here's how it works: If your monthly purchases totaled \$650.00, your contribution earned would be \$10.50

$\$1.00 - \$300.00 \times 1\% = \$3.00$

$\$301.00 - \$600.00 \times 2\% = \$6.00$

$\$601.00 - \$650.00 \times 3\% = \$1.50$

Exclusions

Excludes purchases of lottery tickets, gift cards and taxes.

Merchant reserves the right to exclude additional purchase transactions in the future.

Cards Accepted

Present your registered Schnucks eScrip Community Card (available at stores) when making your purchase. Use of your registered community card is required at checkout to automatically track your purchase and contributions to your organization.

For a list of participating stores....see:

http://www.escrip.com/merchants/identity/schnucks/community_stl_details.jsp

2009 SLRC Ergathon by Barb Seely

The Ergathon is SLRC's biggest fundraiser of the year. Everybody participates, we raise a lot of money, and we buy equipment with the money that benefits everyone.

What is it? It's like a walk-a-thon except on ergs. Each Club member, both adult and Junior, are asked to solicit financial pledges from family, friends, coworkers, etc. in exchange for which the member rows 10,000 meters on an erg on Saturday, February 28th at the Boathouse. Adults row at 8 a.m., Novice Juniors row at 9 a.m., and Varsity Juniors row at 10 a.m. It's a party atmosphere with balloons, food and music. Prizes will be awarded to the Novice Junior and Varsity Junior who raises the most money. Adult rowers will receive raffle tickets for every \$25 they raise and

will be eligible to win fabulous prizes.

Pledge sheets will be distributed to adults by e-mail and to Juniors at practice. Members record their pledges and bring the sheet with them to the Ergathon. The money is due two weeks later.

This year we are hoping to raise enough money to buy most or all of the equipment on our wish list. The list includes a gently used Eight, a new launch, two new launch motors, and two sets of oars. If we do really well, a Quad and two Fours are next on the list.

Everyone is asked to participate. If you don't want to solicit pledges, pledge to yourself. If you want to row at home or at the gym, fine. If you don't want to row, pledge some money to

someone who is going to row. All donations are tax-deductible.

The bottom line is - if you use it, you should help pay for it.

See you at the Ergathon!



If Coach Tim Franck can participate in the Ergathon, so can you!



St. Louis Rowing Club

PO Box 411094
St. Louis, Missouri 63141

Phone: 314-434-8299

E-mail: stlouisrowing_@yahoo.com

Important Dates

Ergathon

2/28/09

Junior Open House

2/28/09

Trivia Night

3/7/09

Open EC/Parent Meeting

3/21/09

Spring Cleaning

3/28/09

St. Louis Sprints

4/4/09

We Can Row Begins

4/15/09

We're on the web
Stlouisrowingclub.com

Executive Committee

President

Mark Jordan

Vice President

Tom Lieb

Treasurer

Scott Allison

Recording Secretary

Kathy Carlson

PR/Communications Secretary

Marty Strohmeyer

Captain

Rein Zeidler

Lieutenant

Jay Lyons

Coaching Staff

Head Coach

Varsity Woman/Masters

Tim Franck

Varsity Men

Jeff Hoffman

Novice men/Recreational

Andrew Black

Rudy Ryback

Sculling

Steve Giddings

Novice Women

Meghan Butler

Recreational

Rudy Ryback

Michael Pera

Spring Cleaning

The St. Louis Rowing Club will have its annual Spring Cleaning day on March 28th. This is a big day that needs help from all adult members of the club and juniors. We will start as early as 6:30am and finish late in the afternoon so any time folks can help would be great.

Things that need to be done:

- Remove all boats and other mobil items from Boathouse
- Sweep and wash floors
- Wash boats
- Fix or note repairs needed to all boats
- Sort though old items for recycling or disposal
- Find and note location of all tools and inventory parts
- Replace all items in their correct location
- Clean the erg and bathrooms as usual
- Clean the erg fly wheels, seats and tracks, check batteries and oil the chains

As you can see we need a lot of help and there are tasks for all levels of ability and cleaning experience!

Open Meeting

AN OPEN MEETING FIRST:

At our first open meeting for 2009 on March 21st, those attending will have a unique opportunity. Two US Rowing officials who have helped us out for many years will attend, answer questions and give a short review of the ins and outs of officiating at regattas. Terry Friel-Portell and her Mom have kindly agreed to do this for the club. This will be a great opportunity for us to learn what the officials expect of those running the Regatta as well as those participating in the regattas. Adult rowers and parents of juniors are strongly encouraged to attend this open meeting. A big turn out will look good to our presenters who are connected to the greater rowing community in the nation. This could also be an opportunity to encourage some of our members to pursue the training to be a rowing official. The meeting will take place in the boathouse at 9:30 just after the adults practice so they can attend and during the juniors practice, so parents can attend. Don't miss this exciting meeting.