

The Wyandotte Boat Club

“THE BLADE”

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EDITOR: FRED MEKOLON

President's Letter-Thanks and Welcome

Gary Ellison, President WBC

The Wyandotte Boat Club Board of Directors will welcome two newly elected members for the next three years beginning in October, 2007. Congratulations to our new “A” member Andrea Schmidt and our new “B” member Mike Kalata. As with all clubs and organizations, changes are the only things that are constant. Leaving the Board will be Mark Milewski and Tom Dudus.

I would personally like to thank our departing members for the many hours each gave to the Wyandotte Boat Club. I will miss the time and talent that each brought to the service of the WBC. Thanks again, to the both of you, for all you have given to the youth of the downriver area.

Welcome to our new Board members. I know you will continue in the fine tradition of service to the WBC. Thanks for volunteering your time to the fine institution we are all dedicated and involved with---The Wyandotte Boat Club.

Annual Election

The Wyandotte Boat Club recently held it's annual elections to elect members to the board of directors. As a result of the election, the WBC has two new directors serving three year terms. The new board members are Andrea Schmidt, and Mike Kalata, in addition current board members Paul Orto and Fred Mekolon were re-elected to their board seats. Also at the election meeting, the directors elected the officers for the upcoming year. Beginning in October the WBC officers are:

President: Gary Ellison, Vice President: Paul Orto, Recording Secretary: Dennis Schmidt
Corresponding Secretary: Kristen Schmidt, Treasurer: Fred Mekolon, Asst. Treasurer: Don Ukraineec,
Membership Secretary: Dave Mizzi, Members at Large: Andrea Schmidt, Mike Kalata, Kate Graham,
Scott Sitek, and Tim Cardanha

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Sally Gacioch, Scholarship Chairperson

The 2007 recipients of Wyandotte Boat Club Scholarships were two collegiate rowers:

DANIELLE SCODELLARO, a 2006 graduate of Grosse Ile High School, currently attending the University of Wisconsin-Madison, was awarded the Ed Brutto Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship was donated by the Brutto family in honor of Ed Brutto. Danielle, an Economics and International Relations major, has earned a 3.9 grade point average along with rowing for the university. She hopes to go to law school and specialize in International Business Law.

ERIN JAKUBOWSKI, the 2007 recipient of the Ben Luppino, WBC Foundation Scholarship graduated from Woodhaven High School in 2005. The University of Michigan-Ann Arbor student has a 3.52 grade point average. She also rows for the university. The Literature, Science, and Arts major hopes to go to medical school after her undergraduate days with the ambition of becoming a Plastic Surgeon.

Club Rowing Results

By: Tim Cardanha, Rowing Committee Chair

The Wyandotte Boat Club has completed another successful summer club rowing season, with almost 60 rowers participating in Junior, Senior and Master categories. The summer season began mid-June and ran through August 12th at the Royal Canadian Henley in St Catharines, Ontario. The rowers trained on the water six mornings per week and also completed weightlifting and track practices in the afternoon.

The racing schedule focused on three regattas: the Grand Regatta in Grand Rapids, the St. Catharines Invitational Regatta, and the Canadian Henley Regatta. The Masters also attended the Ontario Masters regatta in Welland and the Midwest Masters regatta in Indianapolis.

Throughout the season the WBC crew raced some stiff competition while winning and placing in many races. Among many successful races, the most exciting results came at the Canadian Henley where the WBC won two gold medals. The first WBC champions won in the Women's Senior 52kg coxed four race. The athletes in the boat were Alyssa Coppa, Sarah Maxe, Chelsea Labadie, Nicole Schmidt, and Zach Nuttall was the cox. The second champion was Kate Graham who won in the Women's A Single race. Another great showing for the club was in the Men's Junior Pair race where Matt Schanck and Tim Cunninham placed 2nd out of 37 entries. Many thanks go out to our summer coaches for all of their hard work and dedication. The Junior Women were coached by Anne Ulicki and Amy Wansa, the Junior-B Women were coached by Nick Stawowy and Karen Enghfer, the Junior Men by Tim Cardanha, the Junior-B Men by Emily Topping and Laura Mantay, and the Master Men and Women were coached by Kate Graham and Karen Enghfer.

Grosse Ile Wins Schoolboy Gold!

By: Scott Sitek, GI Head Coach

On Sunday, June 3, Grosse Ile's Junior Men's 72 kg four with coxie won the gold medal at the Canadian Secondary Scholastic Rowing Association Championships (Canadian Schoolboy) in St. Catharines, Ontario. Coxie Kim Christen, Costa Ciungan, Michael Sitek, Connor Singelyn and Bryan Carey, defeated 2nd place St. Joe's (Buffalo, NY) and 3rd place Vancouver College (Vancouver, BC) to win Grosse Ile's first boys' medal since 1994, second gold medal in three years and sixth victory in the program's 18 year history. These five student-athletes and their teammates did an excellent job representing the team, school and community.

Fall Regatta

Before we know it the leaves will be falling and the air will be chilly. What a great time to host a regatta! On Sunday November 4th, the WBC will once again host its annual BASF Heritage River Fall Classic head race. This race wraps up the fall rowing season for many high schools, clubs, and colleges in the mid-west. As with other events, the WBC is looking for help in making this regatta a huge success. Chuck Wycoff who is regatta chair is searching for anyone who would like to give-up a little time for this event. If you are interested in helping please contact Chuck at the club for meeting dates 284-5560.

College Notes

Grosse Ile alumnus Scott Schmidt ('02) has been accepted to the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. Scott, who rowed for Grosse Ile, the Wyandotte Boat Club and the University of Washington, returned home last winter to coach at his alma mater before leaving for Philadelphia in May where he will study pediatric medicine and work as a graduate assistant coach for the Penn Heavyweight Men's Rowing Team. Concurrent with his studies, he has been accepted and welcomed into the Vesper Boat Club Elite Rowers Program for the 2007-2008 season. The goal of this program is to develop oarsmen to earn a spot on the US National Team for the Beijing Olympics.

Kellie LaPointe, G.I. ('07) will begin the next phase of her rowing career at Michigan State University this fall. LaPointe, who has rowed for Grosse Ile and the WBC, was a member of Grosse Ile's Stotesbury and Schoolboy winning crews in 2005.

Stephanie Bramlett, Mt Carmel alumnus, is a sophomore at Eastern Michigan University. After rowing at Our Lady of Mount Carmel High School, Stephanie went on to EMU to major in Sports Medicine and Athletic training and became a member of their 2006-2007 Novice crew. Her work ethic and dedication helped her earn a partial scholarship for the 2008 Eagles spring season as a Varsity crew member.

Long Walk

Congratulations to WBC Board Member/Grosse Ile coach Kristen Schmidt and Grosse Ile coach Carissa Bragg for completing the Susan G. Komen For the Cure breast cancer walk in August. They raised funds to participate in the walk that covered 60 miles in three days throughout suburban and downtown Cleveland. Schmidt and Bragg, with much support from the rowing community, completed all 60 miles of the walk.

WBC Web Site

When you are out on the Internet, browse by the WBC's website. It is a great site with lots of good information about the club, activities, and the various rowing programs and regattas. So bookmark www.wyandotteboatclub.com. It is updated frequently, so stop by on a regular basis.

Tigers Fundraiser

Throughout the summer a group of WBC members have been working concessions at Tigers games to raise funds for the club. So far this year the group has worked five games, and there is one more game planned for the rest of the season. For most of the games, the concessions earnings have averaged around \$600 (with tips). It's not easy spending almost 8 hours running a stand, but the WBC team has shown a lot of energy and enthusiasm. A number of WBC supporters have stopped by so far – if you're attending the September 24th Tigers game, check with any of the WBC workers to find out the location of the WBC stand.

The Tigers team includes Gary and Jan Ellison, Jim and MaryBeth Jakubowski, Val and Ron Nicholson, Donna and Robert Doss, Kate Graham, Eric Krengel, Alicia Hardy, Jeff Gilliland, Craig Wezner, Fred Mekolon, Dave Fiske, Don Ukraineec, Sue McConnell, Anne Ulicki, and Tim Cardanha.

A Golf Outing Thank You

By Dave Mizzi, Golf Outing Chair

Once again the Wyandotte Boat Club Foundation Golf Outing was a great success. All of the golfers were treated to a great day of golf and a fantastic steak dinner, while raising over \$2,000 for rowing.

I would like to thank the WBC volunteers who help make this event an annual success.

Our chief cook for the day- Paul Orto; The people who purchased, set up, replenished, and cleaned up after the food was gone in the Lounge-Dave Tear, Sue Tear and Judy Johnson; Selling tickets at the club-Meg Gee and Danielle Scoderallo. Don Ukraineec handled the printing of the signs and placing them on the course, and skins tabulation Mark and Kevin Hebda.

Once again many thanks to all those who played, purchased raffle tickets, donated prizes, sponsored hole signs, and volunteered on golf day, your efforts and contributions were all well appreciated.

Recycling

This summer the WBC crew has started a program to recycle the plastic drink bottles that athletes dispose of during rigorous workouts. It is the club's small effort to keep reusable plastic out of the landfills. Thanks to Gary Ellison for supplying the special container for plastic bottles that is located outside the river-side entrance, and thanks to the several members that have taken turns emptying the container and delivering the bottles to the Wyandotte Recycling Center. So far this summer, at least six barrels of bottles (around 1000 bottles) have been recycled!

Lounge Notes

The WBC lounge is a great place to enjoy your favorite beverage while enjoying the pleasant atmosphere of a private club with a view of the Detroit River. The lounge recently added a pool table and electronic dart board to compliment the shuffleboard game for member enjoyment. The lounge is open at 4pm Tuesday through Friday, and opens at 6pm on Saturdays.

WBC Calendar

Sept 25 th	Membership Meeting
Oct 10 th	Board of Directors Meeting
Oct 23 rd	Membership Meeting
Nov 3 rd	Michigan vs MSU football party
Nov 4 th	Fall Regatta
Nov 10 th	Dock removal
Dec 15 th	Christmas Kielbasa Making Party