

Message from the President

Practices for Novice and Varsity rowers are in full swing as the squads prepare for their first competition in Chattanooga on Oct. 10. The Middle School Development Program will begin practice on Monday, Sept. 14 so things will get even more hectic around the boathouse! By now you and your rowers are settling into a routine: sleep, school, rowing practice, eat, homework, repeat. You've probably gone through a couple packages of socks and are starting to wonder where they all go.

I'd like to take this opportunity to remind you of a few things. If you have not sent us your RSVP for the Parent Social on Sunday, Sept. 13, please do so right away by emailing Arlene Meyer at meyerfamilybe@yahoo.com. This is an excellent opportunity to meet other parents, spend some quality time with the coaches, and ask burning questions about rowing. This is also another opportunity to sign up for your volunteer position for the fall season. You'll be receiving a reminder from our volunteer coordinator Bev Podwojski with additional information. Please remember that AJRA is a parent-run organization and requires involvement from everyone to make it successful. If you are unable to volunteer your time, we will accept payment of \$250 and consider the requirement met. We have plenty of volunteer opportunities, and Bev will be able to talk to you about specific positions at the Parent Social. Two key positions we need to fill are a webmaster to maintain our website and an assistant treasurer. If you have some experience with HTML, PHP and JavaScript or are detailed oriented and organized, please let me know right away.

I look forward to seeing you at the Parent Social!

Steve Bender

crew news



Coach John Earns PhD Thesis Award at Ga. Tech

AJRA Head Coach John Pearson was recently recognized by the Georgia Tech Math Department as winner of the 2008-2009 Best PhD Thesis Award. His thesis was published in July in the Journal of Noncommutative Geometry. Congratulations, Coach John!

NEED INFO?

Go to
www.ajracrew.com
for news, updates,
and calendar.



We hope this publication will be informative and helpful. If coaches, rowers, or parents have announcements, please forward to dcecil@mindspring.com

EXCITING NEWS!

For the first time in several years, AJRA will be sending two boats to Boston on Oct. 17-18 to compete in the Head of the Charles – the world’s largest regatta. AJRA was granted entry for a Women’s 4+ boat and a Men’s 8+ based on the results of an entry lottery. Flight and hotel reservations need to be made soon so coaches will be making lineup selections in the next two weeks based on erg scores, seat racing, attendance, and other factors. Crews who make the trip will be rowing an approximately 5,000 meter course lined with cheering spectators from start to finish and packed with hundreds of other crews!

REGATTA SCHEDULE

Oct. 10

Chattanooga Head Race

Chattanooga, TN. Varsity and Novice.

Oct. 17-18

Head of the Charles

Boston, MA. Select Varsity Only.

Oct. 30-31

Secret City Head Race

Oak Ridge (Melton Lake), TN. Varsity Only.

Nov. 6-7

Head of the Hooch

Chattanooga, TN. Varsity and Select Novice Only.

Nov. 14

Henley on the Hooch

Roswell River Landing. Scrimmage with St. Andrew. Varsity, Novice, and Development.

Nov. 27

AJRA Alumni Row

Roswell River Landing. 1:00 PM. All AJRA alumni are welcome.

THINGS TO KNOW

Parent Social

Sun., Sept. 13, 6 pm at Roswell River Landing. Come meet other parents in the AJRA family, talk with the coaches, and enjoy good food and drink!

Row for the Cure

Again this year, AJRA rowers will participate in Row for the Cure along with other high school, collegiate, and adult rowers from throughout metro Atlanta. The event will take place at Azalea Park on Sat., Sept. 19. Coaches will provide each team with assigned times to participate as well as detailed information about donations.

Uniforms

Uniforms ordered at registration are expected to be delivered in mid-Sept., and splash jackets will arrive at the end of the month. These items will be distributed at practice when they arrive.

Spirit Wear

AJRA t-shirts, sweatshirts, car magnets, hats and other spirit items will be on sale at the Parent Social on Sept. 13 as well as at each regatta. Questions: Contact Cindy Waye at caw16@comcast.net.

Parent Workday Sept. 26

There will be a parent workday at the boathouse on Sat., Sept. 26 from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Email Ron Mountford at mtfordr@bellsouth.net if you can attend. This is an easy way for parents to fulfill their volunteer commitment to AJRA. Duties include oar painting, general clean-up of the boathouse and grounds, and light repairs of tents and equipment.

Carpool Info Coming Soon

The Carpool section of the AJRA website will be updated soon to help parents who are interested in carpooling to/from practice. This information could not be provided until the registration list for all teams was finalized. The password needed to access the information is 'ajracrew' (all lowercase, no quotations).

AJRA on Twitter, Facebook

AJRA now has a Twitter account as well as a new Facebook page for rowers, coaches, parents, prospects and alumni. The new Facebook page is called AJRA Crew.

Our Twitter account (AJRAcrew) is maintained by rower Garrett Ellington. It will primarily be used at regattas, like a radio broadcast, to share continuous news about each event. To sign up, go to Twitter.com. Please call Maureen Goldman if you have any questions at 404-310-2006.

Parking Lot Reminders

When dropping off/picking up your carpool, please pull to the far end of the boathouse parking lot. The lot parallel to the boathouse is reserved for coaches and off limits to all other drivers. Also remember that the parking lot is one way. Please obey the posted signs!

Reminder for all Developmental Squad rowers and carpool drivers: Practice for D squad begins and ends at Azalea Park not at the boathouse!

MEET THE COACHES

The spotlight this month is on Developmental Squad Coaches **Richard Rhodes** and **Wendy Sbarra**.

Coach Richard is a graduate of Boston College and currently teaches high school. He rowed four years in high school with the Cascadilla Boat Club in Ithica, NY as well as four years on the Boston College Varsity team. Richard's coaching experience includes middle school students, high school rowers, and experienced adult rowers. This is his second year coaching for AJRA.

Coach Wendy is a professional photographer and a graduate of the University at Albany. She began rowing in college and currently rows for Atlanta Rowing Club. Wendy has competed in regattas such as Head of the Charles and earned gold and bronze medals at Masters Nationals this year. She is US Rowing certified level II and has coaching experience with Atlanta Rowing Club and Emory University with both sweep and sculling.