

Surge!!

Newsletter of the Friends of Williamsburg Rowing
a not-for-profit 501(c) corporation, organized for charitable purposes

Updated Fall 2005 Edition

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Welcome to Surge!!

Dear Friends,

What you have here is a slightly updated version of the fall 2005 edition of Surge!!, the Newsletter of the Friends of Williamsburg Rowing. Surge is published in two editions, Spring and Fall, every year. Its purpose is to provide news and updates from the Williamsburg Boat Club (WBC) and the William & Mary Rowing Club (WMRC).

Surge is also the primary mode of communication for the Friends of Williamsburg Rowing (FWR). As the alumni organization for WMRC we communicate alumni news and information along with current updates on Williamsburg Rowing.

FWR itself serves as a fundraising organization for WBC and WMRC. Membership in the Friends helps us to operate and provide funds for projects for both organizations as need be.

Contributions to FWR can also be made and designated for a specific use as seen on the membership form on the last page of this newsletter. As a 501(c)3 corporation we can accept tax-deductible donations that otherwise the WBC or WMRC may not be able to accept.

For more information on how to help FWR and become involved contact our President, William Cornock at wcornock@gmail.com.

For more information on how you can help FWR financially information about tax-deductions, contact our Treasurer at travismoore@aol.com.

Send Us Your E-mail Address

We are continually updating our database to keep all past, current and future "Friends" informed on the happenings of rowing in the Williamsburg area. If you would like to receive future issues of *SURGE!!* as well as other periodic updates by e-mail, please send an e-mail to billandchristie@comcast.net.

Fundraising

Jeweler and parent of a former rower, **William A. Cornock**, has designed rowing jewelry for the William & Mary rowing community. These pieces are beautiful, and specific to William & Mary (for example, the William & Mary cypher with oars). A portion of the profit from each sale is donated to the William & Mary Rowing Club. These pieces make great gifts (the holiday season is rapidly approaching!) for students and alumni. Check out their website at http://wacornock.com/shopsite_sc/store/html/page17.html

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Boathouse Approval

The biggest news for the Friends right now is our recent green-light from James City County Parks & Recreation to begin plans for building a boathouse at the Chickahominy Riverfront Park. The recent growth of the Williamsburg Boat Club has helped the county recognize that rowing is something this community wants.

Currently members of FWR, WBC, and WMRC are preparing a plan for the boathouse with the help of members of the Hampton Roads Rowing Club who recently completed a boathouse project of their own. Afterwards the joint plan will be taken to the county for final approval and implementation.

FWR will be serving as the main fundraiser for this project. Now more than ever do we need contributions to our Boathouse fund since the construction of the Boathouse will be the most significant advancement Williamsburg Rowing has ever made.

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William and Mary Rowing Club

Dear Friends and Alumni,

First, let me recap the spring season. It started off on the right foot, as we won the Waterfield Cup back from Virginia Tech and avenged last year's loss. We actually hosted that regatta on the unpredictable Chickahominy River, and we were lucky to have flat water. Unfortunately, bad weather became the theme of the 2005 spring season. Occoquan Sprints were cancelled because of high wind and water and we had thunderstorms both times we raced on the Schuylkill, but we still got good results. The women's varsity four won their race at the Colonial Athletic Association championships. True, there was only one other boat in the race, but a win is a win. Hats off to that crew! Our novice eights were second only to Drexel at that regatta. Those same novice eights both won their events at the Mid-Atlantic Collegiate Crew championships. That was the highlight of the season for me. We may have beaten faster crews at Dad Vails and SIRAs, but we are still at the stage where we get lost in the numbers at regattas of that size. Nothing feels quite as good as a gold medal.

Even though last year went better than I expected, I don't see any reason why we shouldn't do as well or better this year. With Tech down, we have set our sights on George Mason. We have the numbers – this fall, we plan to race a women's varsity eight, a men's varsity eight and four, two men's novice eights, and two women's novice eights. There are also four key varsity rowers taking this semester off to study abroad, so we won't be hurting for depth in the spring. We also have some experience – nearly all the novice men from last year have returned to fill out the varsity squad, and six of our women's novice rowed in high school. Incidentally, that crew has my vote for most likely to succeed this year. Keep your eye on their results. Even better, come and watch them at one of our regattas this fall. The schedule and lots of other relevant information is posted on the team website:

www.wm.edu/so/wmrc.

I look forward to seeing you at all soon! Keep well until then.

Sincerely,

Robert Montague

P.S.

Woodward, Cornock, Skidmore, Medyn, Sprinkel, Baker, Hawkes, Prewitt, Tschetter, Miller, and Lyons

– you are missed.

Williamsburg Boat Club Update

The Williamsburg Boat Club continues to do well and build its membership. Eighteen people participated in two Learn to Row classes this summer. Sixteen of those students joined WBC.

The Virginia Gazette, the daily Williamsburg newspaper, wrote an article about the club and it appeared on the front page of the Sports section in June. We were inundated with calls from people wanting information about the classes and the club in general. Several parents called inquiring about youth rowing so a youth rowing program will continue to be a goal for the future.

We added several new members who either rowed in college or learned to row as adults in other clubs, as a result of the newspaper article. Some of last year's members didn't re-join this year because people moved and some just didn't have time to row. We currently have 35 members.

Several of William and Mary's club members stayed in Williamsburg for the first half of the summer and rowed with us. It was a lot of fun having them row with us. We also had a visiting rower from Amsterdam and she rowed with us until July.

WBC raced four boats in the Rockett's Landing Sprints Regatta on July 2nd in Richmond. Several of William and Mary's club members rowed with us. All four of the boats medalled - a gold, silver and two bronze. A mixed four raced at the Norfolk Botanical Gardens Regatta on August 20th - no medal but we had a good time. We will race a mixed four in the Head of the Occoquan on Nov. 6th.

WBC and the College's crew are planning a joint fundraiser on Oct. 1st at Ukrop's Grocery Store on Monticello Avenue. Because of its location in a mall with several other businesses, we are looking forward to a good turn-out. Participants in the ergathon will get pledges from friends and family. Williamsburg has a new radio station that will advertise for us during the week of the event and one of their on-air personalities will be there to take part in the fun.

At the beginning of the school year, WBC helped the William and Mary crew with the huge task of moving the old dock from Little Creek Reservoir to our new location on Gordon's Creek. WBC members mowed, cut tall weeds, and cleaned up the new site.

Several WBC members pitched in to put a down-payment on a used Drew Harrison mid-weight racing double/pair. Both the college and community clubs have members who are very interested in sculling. The new boat will have lots of use.

We will spend the winter months on the ergometers at W&M getting ready for next spring's racing schedule.

For information about Williamsburg Boat Club, contact **Mary Lewis** at mqlewis@cox.net or call 757-566-9615.

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Contribution Form

Friends of Williamsburg Rowing

I/we wish to support the Friends of Williamsburg Rowing with a tax-deductible contribution:

Levels:	Contribution Amount	Designation:
Benefactor	\$300 _____	_____% Undesignated
Patron	150 _____	_____% William and Mary Rowing Club
Sponsor	\$75 _____	_____% Williamsburg Boat Club
Member	\$30 _____	_____% Boathouse Fund

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Are you a resident of Williamsburg or James City County? Yes No

Would you like more information about the Williamsburg Boat Club? Yes No

Are you a W&M Graduate? Yes No Graduation year: _____

Former crew member? Yes No Years _____

Are you a parent/relative of crew member? Yes No Student _____ Graduation _____

The name/address or other information above is new or corrected: Yes No

You may acknowledge my contribution in future publications (dollar amounts are not published)

I/we wish to remain anonymous.

Please contact me regarding a major gift to William & Mary Crew.

Please send Friends newsletter and membership information to:

Return this form and check payable to "Friends of Williamsburg Rowing" to:

Friends of Williamsburg Rowing
PO Box 303
Williamsburg, VA 23187-0303