

Surge!!

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

Spring 2007 Edition

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Welcome to Surge!!

Welcome to the Winter 2007 edition of *Surge!!*, the bi-yearly newsletter of the The Friends of Williamsburg Rowing (FWR), a qualified 501(c)(3) organization. The FWR was formed as a booster organization for the William and Mary Rowing Club (WMRC), but since its inception, the mission of the FWR has grown to include furthering the sport of rowing in the Williamsburg/James City County area by supporting both WMRC and the Williamsburg Boat Club (WBC), which was established in 2003. This issue of *Surge!!* contains fall season summaries and the spring season schedules of both WMRC and WBC.

FWR Annual General Meeting

Since the last issue of *Surge!!*, FWR held its annual meeting in Williamsburg on December 16th. The meeting was attended by FWR officers, directors, and members, as well as representatives of both WMRC and WBC. At the meeting Will Cornock '05 was reelected President, Beth Magill '06 was elected Vice President, Vicki Dyer '04 was reelected as Secretary, and Travis Moore '06 was elected as Treasurer. Sean Blaney '06, Stephen Woodward '05, Erin Dunlop '06, Beth Magill '06 were elected to the FWR Board of Directors. FWR would like to thank Christie Davis Ashton for all over her service as a FWR officer. Christie will thankfully continue in her position as the Director of Alumni Relations. FWR would also like to thank Adam Ayers'00, Stan Lewis, and Peter Michaud '93 for their service as Directors of FWR.

Will Cornock '05
President, Friends of Williamsburg Rowing

Treasurer's Report

The year 2006 turned out to be one of the best in FWR's recent history in terms of the level of donations and support we received. We brought in just over \$22,000 and doubled the amount that was saved in the boathouse fund.

We successfully paid off our line of credit and made contributions of almost \$10,000 to WBC, which helped them make the purchase of their two new Wintechs, and \$3,000 to WMRC, including a set of four Concept2 Oars and Trailing supplies to make transporting the team's equipment easier and safer.

Thanks to a donation from Stan Lewis, FWR now has a 7-passenger conversion van that WMRC will be able to use to travel to spring races and practices. Hopefully this will prove useful to the team and save them money on van rentals in the future. The spring 2007 season will be a trial run at providing this service to see if we will continue to do so.

In an effort to reinforce our mission we have changed our

Treasurer's Report (cont.)

membership requirements and our boathouse savings policy. This is because the most important fundraising goal we have is our Boathouse Fund since a boathouse would be the cornerstone of the rowing community and solidify the sport in Williamsburg for years to come. Therefore we have changed our policy of allotting 10% of general donations to the Boathouse fund by increasing that percentage to 25%. As you may notice on the contribution form at the end of this newsletter, membership has gone up from \$30 a year to \$50 a year. Your membership fees can still be designated to any fund of your choosing.

Travis Moore, '06
Treasurer, Friends of Williamsburg Rowing

FWR Web Site

<http://www.williamsburgrowing.org/>

FWR with the help of Michael Duarte, VP of Fundraising for WMRC has begun the construction of a website. While still under construction you can already make use of the website by downloading past issues of *Surge!!* or taking a look at some of the pictures that were taken of the equipment storage shed, new in 2006. In 2007 we plan to post financial reports, alumni notes and hopefully create a method of interacting with our members more than just through *Surge!!* or our annual meeting.

Officers and Directors

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Williamsburg Boat Club

Williamsburg Boat Club had a great winter. The highlight was the purchase and delivery of two new boats—a four and a double. Both are from Wintech and we have been told by the representative that the club's blue and white colors look exceptionally stunning on the boat.

We taught 20 new students (including five local highschoolers) how to erg this winter. Several of our members took the level I coaching course when it was offered this fall so we are all ready with new boats, coaches, and rowers to get back on the water as soon as the temperatures go up a little.

We are currently developing a plan to pilot a learn to row course in the two local highschools. If accepted a pilot program will be offered in the Fitness for life course. The kids will be taught to erg in five lessons and then taken out to the River for an on-the-water experience. If this goes well, the club has plans to write a grant seeking funding to place 10 ergs in each of the local highschools as well as provide some rowing videos. We will then train the physical ed. teachers at the highschools in the proper use of the indoor rowers so that they can incorporate them in the fitness programs. The next phase, several years down the road, will be to buy boats for the youth rowing program.

Membership is currently around 50 individuals. On Saturday, June 9th, we intend to participate in our 4th National Learn to Row Day sponsored by US Rowing and Concept 2. This event has generated lots of interest in rowing in the past and we expect to grow further as a result of this program and the winter erging program.

The club is sad to announce that Mary Lewis is moving to Chapel Hill, NC. Mary has been an amazing motivating force in the club and has insured that many new members have had a positive experience learning to erg and joining the rest of the group on the water. She has helped put the club on a strong footing and we look forward to welcoming new members and working on new initiatives to introduce people in Williamsburg to rowing.

For information about Williamsburg Boat Club, contact Emily Williams at eawilliams2@yahoo.com or call 757-259-2005.

<http://www.williamsburgboatclub.org/>

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 vldyer@gmail.com.

William & Mary Rowing Club

The fall season was an eventful and successful season. The team welcomed new head coach Lisa Milne, former coach of Ohio University, and new assistant coach Dave Wilson, a freshman at The College. New and old rowers alike went on to represent William and Mary well in all their fall races.

The varsity team started off the season strong by attending the Occoquan Chase where the Women's Varsity 4+ took first in their race. The Men's and Women's varsity 4+ then traveled to Boston to row in the Head of the Charles. The women took 9th out of 27 and the men took 10th out of 28th. The qualifying time for next year is 5% of the best time, our boats placed at 5.2% and 5.4% respectively and are hoping to be asked back next year. The novice team's first race, head of the Schuylkill, was rained out but they rowed well at the Head of the Occoquan in early November where 4 out of 7 of the boats, varsity included, medaled.

Another new addition to the rowing program is a new Vespoli 4+ shell. The varsity women will begin rowing the new boat when the team returns to the water in the Spring. Much thanks goes to Linda Knight and Greg Henderson of William and Mary's Rec Sports department for their support in acquiring the new boat.

With such successful results in the fall, the team is working hard in the winter season to gear up to a competitive spring season. The most recent 2k erg test showed every rower meeting or exceeding their 2k goal and four rowers setting personal records.

In mid January most of the team began the winter season by traveling to Tampa, Florida for a week of intensive rowing. After a week of two a day practices and a lot of individual instruction, the entire team made much improvement. Special thanks to the Voges family, Kent and Leslie, and Sean Koebley's family, Hugh Cotton and Mari Heida for treating the team to dinner.

As the team returned to the erg room, traditional erging was combined with weight training and a new stretching program to prepare for the upcoming season. On February 17th the team traveled to the Hampton Roads Erg Pull. Sean Koebley took 1st place in the Open Men's Event and Jaime Latcham placed an impressive 4th in the Open Women's Event. To kick off the spring season, the team will spend Spring Break in Augusta, Georgia for another week of intense practice. The first regatta will come shortly after that on March 24 when William and Mary will host the annual Virginia Tech duel. Through April and May the team will go on to race in the Occoquan Sprints (April 1), SIRAs or CAAs (April 21-22), Mid Atlantic Collegiate Crew Championships (May 6) and finish the season strong at Dad Vails (May 11-12).

<http://www.wm.edu/so/wmrc/>

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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	\$500 _____	_____% FWR General Fund
Patron	\$300 _____	_____% William and Mary Rowing Club
Sponsor	\$150 _____	_____% Williamsburg Boat Club
Member	\$50 _____	_____% Boathouse Fund
		_____% FWR Endowment

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

I/we wish to remain anonymous.

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

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

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