

Joseph LaFreniere (President)

Other sports/activities: Former president of Bay State Speed Skating Association and speed skating coach; former sailing instructor, competed in 16 consecutive Figawi sailboat races; kayak experience.

Presently United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla Staff Officer for Public Education-teaching boating safety classes, coordinate course offerings, instructors, materials, and classrooms at several venues.

Former licensed US Rowing Referee.

Previous rowing experience: Long Beach Rowing Association (California) -member. Univ. of Lowell- crew team member, team captain. Pawtucket Rowing Association member.

Present Rowing Affiliation: MRRA: club founder , have served in several offices- boat captain etc., presently trustee, Festival Regatta- original founder of race.

Textile River Regatta: original founder of event and director of past races

2016 MRRA work: Active on Safety and Equipment Committees, performed several boat repairs.

Previous years have coached at learn to scull.

Racing/Rowing Experience: 2016 Rowdown with Independence to Lowell 2016 Rowed "open water" mainland to Martha's Vineyard.

Previous events include: National Open Water Rowing Competitions, Jamestown and at Narragansett, RI TRR, Festival. NH Championships, Head of the Charles, Riverside Sprints, Head of Conn, Methuen Chase, Canadian Henley, Green Mountain Head.

Karen Scammell (President)

I have been the MRRA President for the past 4 years, and before that, was treasurer for 2 years and a trustee for 3 years. I rowed with ULowell in college in the 80's and have been sculling with the MRRA for the past 15 years .

I started as a recreational rower and now enjoy (fear?) competing. Professionally, I am a VP Sales for a high tech company and lead a team of direct and indirect sales groups globally. My goals for the MRRA are to make this club open and known to the community to offer rowing at all abilities and interest levels. I will work with UML and Lowell High to get access to sweep boats, help find good coaching for sweep and sculling and find ways to grow our membership, programs and regattas. As a club, we need to get the most usage out of our fleet and broaden our offerings to entice masters rowers of all ages. I will also spend time this coming year working on a plan to find our own boathouse space along the Merrimack River, which is part of a longer term plan to be independent of UMass Lowell but still work with UMass Lowell collaboratively to grow the sport of rowing in the greater Merrimack Valley.

Tom Barrington (Secretary)

Tom began rowing in the Summer of 2015 after he saw the "Learn to Row" banner outside the boathouse. He continued in the Men's Masters Sweep program this past summer. He lives in North Chelmsford. He is an Episcopal Priest currently serving as an interim at Bristol Trinity Episcopal Church in North Easton.

Chur Masors (Treasurer)

Rower since 2001. Primarily sculling, also some sweep rowing. Mostly recreational but some competition. Retired UMass Lowell Lab Tech. Previous offices: Secretary 1 year, Treasurer 4 years. Currently: Learn to Scull Program Director 6 years. Acting Chair Equipment Committee 1 year.

Tim Wheatley (VP)

Retired gentleman, living the dream. About 10 years with MRRA, where I have served on the Board for a couple years. Enthusiastic sculler. I typically race 7- 8 regattas each season (2-3sprints; 4-5 head).

Dottie Semonian (VP)

I joined the Merrimack River Rowing Association six years ago after completing the Learn to Scull program. I learned to Sweep with the Westford Community Crew the prior year. I had the time after my fourth child was heading off to college. I enjoy recreational sculling, but have competed with like minded members in an occasional regatta.

Professionally, I am a Family Nurse Practitioner, providing primary care in Chelmsford.

I have been the MRRA Secretary for the past four years. I Chaired the Festival Regatta this year. I continue to work with the social committee planning social events. I have become familiar with the MRRA board and the complexities of running a club our size. Which include our finances, hosting regattas, equipment purchases and growing our community rowing programs. I hope I have proven my dedication and ability while secretary. I am asking for the opportunity to continue to serve the club in a new role in 2017.

Dennis McCarthy (Boat Captain)

Dennis McCarthy is a fantastic representative not only of the boathouse, not only of all the best Lowell has to offer, but of an upstanding responsible, thoughtful and intelligent human being. Dennis has been boat captain this year and has been on the board for the past four years. Dennis knows the ins and outs of the Bellegarde Boathouse and the Merrimack river stretch from the falls to the Tyngsboro bridge like the back of his hand, or better yet, like the back of his oars. Beyond rowing, he's been a boat captain on a sail boat named Fiona for over a decade, so has experience in nautical leadership, making him a candidate not to be stopped over for Boat Captain position for the MRRA.

MRRA 2016 Annual Meeting

**Vesper Country Club
185 Pawtucket Blvd
Tyngsboro, MA 01879**

December 13, 2016

**6:30 Arrivals & Cocktails
7:00pm Meeting Start**

- ◇ Call to order
- ◇ Review/approval of the November meeting minutes
- ◇ 2016 Review
 - ◆ Membership
 - ◆ Programs
 - ◆ Regattas
 - ◆ Equipment
- ◇ Boat Usage Stats
- ◇ 2017 Base Membership Proposal
- ◇ Volunteer Recognition and Call for Committee Volunteers
- ◇ Elections
- ◇ New Business
- ◇ Adjournment and Annual Party

About the Trustee Positions

Trustees serve for three years. This year's ballot is for the Trustee position that will expire in 2019. The current trustees and their term expirations are:

Terry Freeman – through 2018

Joe LaFreniere – through 2017 (resigning to run for President)

David Morley – expires 2016

Joe LaFreniere is running for President, giving up his trustee position. His position has one year left. The high vote will get the three year position. Exception: If Jay Feenan is high vote he will get 1-year position and second high vote will get 3-year position.

Liz Albert (Trustee)

I have been a member of the MRRA for over 20 years. I support both the competitive and recreational aspects of our club. As a recreational rower myself, I also feel strongly about promoting the community portion of our non-profit organization.

I have already served the MRRA as Secretary (back when our membership communication included using postage stamps!), and as Trustee for 1 or 2 terms. In addition I was chairperson of the ByLaws committee that met for almost 2 years to refine and update our ByLaws, which were adopted in 2011.

We have such a beautiful resource in our section of the river. I would like to see more MRRA involvement in the conservation and clean up activities that occur along the Merrimack River. I also support the research into finding suitable location where we might establish a MRRA Boathouse.

Bob Sengstaken (Trustee)

Bob rowed in college at WPI, and founded the Monadnock Rowing Club in Harrisville, then joined MRRA first in '86 and then rowed for a few of years at Amoskeag RC, until returning to MRRA in the '90s and has been an active member since. He has been involved in club business and volunteered with the races every year. Bob has also been Boat Captain for over 10 years and was instrumental in the installation of all of the hanging racks and purchasing the boats. Bob has competed in many masters races nationally and internationally over the years and competed in the Head of the Charles Regatta almost every year since 1971. Bob realizes the importance of the diversity of needs of the different members from recreational to competitive scullers and the various sweep programs, and will strive to make sure that all of these interests are considered.

Betsey Shew (Trustee)

I am a healthcare attorney for a health system based in Tewksbury. I have been rowing off on for over 30 years and have been rowing at MRRA for the past two seasons. I welcome the opportunity to play a more active role in promoting the sport of rowing in our community.

Jay Feenan (Trustee)

Personal - Married 36 yrs, 3 kids (educated and out of house!), grandfather.

Work/Business - software engineer, real estate investor. Education - BS mechanical (WPI), MBA, advanced degrees in software.

Athletic Endeavors - rowing, skiing (DH & XC), long distance running (10 marathons, 16 ultra marathon relays).

Local Rowing Affiliations - rowed 40 years, MRRA 28 consecutive years (14 yr regatta director in Lowell of Festival and TRR, 13 yrs board member - Pres, VP, Boat captain, Trustee), Independence RC 3 yrs (2 president), Lowell Rowing Regatta Association - (3 years, founded to establish an organization to host non-MRRA rowing events - initially the USRowing Jr Regional 2013-2015, now all High School regattas)

Past Athletic Affiliations - MRRA, IRC, Boston Rowing Center, New York Athletic Club, Vesper, Potomac BC, Quinsigamond RC., WPI

Past Coaching Relationships - WPI (assistant and varsity mens), UML (assistant coach), MRRA (LTS coaching)

National Rowing - US Rowing Team (7 years all as a 30+ yr old, 5 year athlete representative), USOC (4 year athlete representative), USRowing - 4 years BOD, 8 years High Performance Committee Chairman (national/Olympic team selection, direct athlete funding system, first Olympic gold M8+ medal in 40 yrs and W8+ in 24 yrs). Boston2024 Rowing Venue consultant - both Lowell and Worcester.

International Rowing - FISA Athletes Commission (6 yrs, 2 Chairman helped in creating in IOC athlete quota system, World Cup Racing series, Olympic qualification system, new rules/regulations), 2000 Sydney Olympics Games member of jury.

Rowing Accomplishments - Dad Vails Medalist, IRA Medalist, Canadian Henley (4 time winner), US National Championships (16 medals, 7 gold medalist), US

BALLOT

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- TREASURER** ☐ MASORS, Chur
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- SECRETARY** ☐ BARRINGTON, Tom
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- BOAT CAPTAIN** ☐ MCCARTHY, Dennis
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- TRUSTEE** ☐ ALBERT, Liz
(Choose 0, 1 or 2 ☐ FEENAN, Jay
names) ☐ SENGSTAKEN, Bob
☐ SHEW, Betsey
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