

## Joseph LaFreniere [ Boat Captain ]

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.

## John Murphy [ Boat Captain ]

John is an alumni rower from the University of Lowell. He joined the MRRA back in 2011 during which time he raced with the "Good Guys" four in the Head of the Charles. He began sculling in 2012 and raced in Wenger Quad in the Textile Regatta this past season.

Since joining the MRRA, John has been an active volunteer working the docks and parking lot for regattas. He also helped as the program manager for the Boathouse move and is looking forward to taking a more active role in the club, learning more about boathouse operations, and providing new ideas and leadership.

John has an undergraduate degree in Business Administration/Finance and is a licensed attorney (inactive). He currently works as an Information Technology executive in the financial services industry.

When not on the water, John is a husband, father of four (all in college), and enjoys riding his Harley.

## Karen Scammell [ President ]

I have been the MRRA President for the past 5 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 16 years .

I started as a recreational rower and now enjoy 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 continue to work with UML and Lowell High to get access to sweep boats for Masters Sweep programs, 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 continue to work this coming year 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.

## 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.  
Previous activities: Learn to Scull Program Director 6 years...  
Acting Chair Equipment Committee 1 year...

Currently: Social committee. MRRA Treasurer seeking 2nd term

# MRRA 2017 Annual Meeting

**American Legion Post 313,  
90 Groton Rd (Router 40),  
North Chelmsford, MA**

**December 12, 2017**

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

- ◇ Call to order
- ◇ Review/approval of the November meeting minutes
- ◇ 2017 Review
  - ◆ Membership
  - ◆ Programs
  - ◆ Regattas
  - ◆ Equipment
- ◇ Boat Usage Stats
- ◇ 2018 Base Membership Proposal
- ◇ Volunteer Recognition and Call for Committee Volunteers
- ◇ Elections
- ◇ New Business
- ◇ Adjournment and Annual Party

## Liz Albert [ VP ]

I have been a member of the MRRRA 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 MRRRA 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 MRRRA 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 MRRRA Boathouse.

## Andy Hutchinson [ VP ]

I joined the club last year after completing the Learn to Scull class and continued through the end of the season. This year I assisted Linas as a co-director of the Learn to Scull class and enjoyed introducing the rowing to a new crop of rowers. I competed in both the Festival and Textile River Regattas, the latter in and MRRRA Men's Quad.

When not rowing I work for a living as a Marketeer for Teradyne a Boston based company that manufactures electronic test equipment. I had a great time rowing and getting to know the members of the club over the past year and look forward to being able to continue to give back as I continue to learn and mature in the sport.

## Betsey Shew [ Secretary ]

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

## About the Trustee Positions

Trustees serve for three years. This year's ballot is for the Trustee position that will expire in 2020.

The current trustees and their term expirations are:

**Bob Sengstaken** — through 2019

**Terry Freeman** — through 2018

**Jay Feenan** — through 2017

## Jody DeCarolis [ Trustee ]

My initiation into the sport of rowing started some 9 years ago by blindly signing up for the first ever Masters Sweep Program being offered by the MRRRA. I participated in and watched the program grow for 5 years under Carl "the cat herder" Popolo's guidance. Carl passed the sweep oar a few years ago and I am proud to work with Terry Freeman as a program director for Masters as well as Learn to Sweep.

Current participation also includes the social and equipment committee. I welcome the opportunity to serve as a Trustee and strongly support the MRRRA's purpose "to encourage and further the amateur sport of rowing" and "promote the welfare and increase the usefulness of the Club".

## BALLOT

PRESIDENT

- ☐ SCAMMELL, Karen  
☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ \_\_\_\_\_

VICE PRESIDENT

- ☐ ALBERT, Liz  
☐ HUTCHINSON, Andrew  
☐ \_\_\_\_\_

TREASURER

- ☐ MASORS, Chur  
☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ \_\_\_\_\_

SECRETARY

- ☐ SHEW, Betsey  
☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ \_\_\_\_\_

BOAT CAPTAIN

- ☐ LAFRENIERE, Joe  
☐ MURPHY, John  
☐ \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE

- ☐ DECAROLIS, Jody  
☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ YES

☐ NO

