

## Jay Feenan (VP)

This was the second year test of our complete program and budgeting system. It was in some ways a stagnation year for growth as we build new relationships with our fellow boathouse residents and new boathouse director. During 2013, I personally signed a 3 year agreement with USRowing to run the US NE Jr Championships. This spring's goal was to procure a necessary asset for running large regattas - a \$30k race course. This could never have been accomplished without expanding boathouse relationships into the community. In this second year, I will be working with the boathouse entities to formalize the organization of boathouse regattas as Lowell have been anointed as a premier racing location in the NE. We have been asked to host the inaugural USRowing NE Masters Championship Regatta next summer. Sadly all this fun must come to an end this will be my last year running for a club management position. As I make the transition to retirement, I'm trying to formalize and backfill areas that I've headed up over the years. My my last year of "active membership" will coincide with the USRowing contract.

As for my background... Personal - Married 32 yrs, 3 kids (educated and out of house!), grandfather. Work - software engineer, real estate investor. Education - BS mechanical (WPI), advanced degrees in software and business. Athletic Endeavors - rowing, skiing (DH & XC), long distance running (8 marathons, 11 ultra marathon relays). Local Rowing Affiliations - rowed 36 years, MRRA 25 consecutive years (9 yr regatta director of Festival and TRR, 11 yrs board member - Pres, VP, Boat captain, Trustee), Independence RC 3 yrs (2 president). Past Athletic Affiliations - MRRA, IRC, Boston Rowing Center, New York Athletic Club, Vesper, Potomac BC, Quinsigamond RC. Past Coaching Relationships - WPI (assistant and varsity men), UML (assistant coach), MRRA (LTS coaching) National Rowing - US Rowing Team (7 years all over 30 yrs 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). 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 Competitive Accomplishments - medalist Dad Vails, IRA, Canadian Henley (4 time winner), US National Championships (16 medals, 7 gold), US National Team Trials (6 time winner), Head of the Charles (4 medals, one gold).

## Bronwyn Chapman (Treasurer)

Three years ago, I joined the learn to scull program at the beginning of the summer and found my new passion. Once I completed the program and passed my test, I joined the MRRA, something I had wanted to do since watching my brother as a sculler growing up in California. I am thrilled to have learned, joined and now have a wonderful venue to be able to row on a regular basis at the crack of dawn when the rest of the world is still sleeping.

I live in Tyngsboro with my husband, 15 and 17 year old daughters and two sweet dogs. I work almost full time at a small high tech company in Acton where I have a variety of responsibilities including accounting, facilities and benefits administration. In almost all of my jobs, I have had accounting responsibilities and currently use QuickBooks on a day to day basis. I would like to fill the role of Treasurer for the MRRA as I know that it is an area I can make a contribution to the club by keeping everything rolling in a timely and accurate manner. With the age of my daughters and life responsibilities I don't always have a ton of extra time on my hands to be at the boat house but I think the Treasurer roll would be a terrific way for me to contribute to the club.

## Karen Scammell (Pres)

I have been a member since 2001 and mostly scull at the crack of dawn; although am always interested to sweep if folks will put up with me! I have been the MRRA President for the last 2 years, a Trustee for 2 years and Treasurer for 2 years. I was co-director for the Festival 2013 and have been Chair for the Starting line for the TRR for at least 6 years (lost count).

Professionally I am the VP Sales for a plastics company in Worcester MA and have top line sales and budget responsibility. I am also involved with contracts with customers.

I am very interested to work with the MRRA to continue to grow our membership and increase participation in rowing in the greater Lowell Community. I was on the small team responsible for getting Sweep going as well as starting the Junior Sweep Camp. I want to work to get a greater number of Learn to Sweep folks involved this year, increase Junior Sweep Camp numbers and see if we can start a middle school program as well. I am deeply committed to being a good tenant and partner in the boathouse and will continue to work with the Boathouse User group to ensure harmony in the boathouse.

I am also very keen to continue to get good quality coaching for all our programs and to raise the level of awareness of the MRRA in the rowing community.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

# MRRA 2013 Annual Meeting

**The Fletcher Club  
11 Brookside Road  
Westford MA**

**December 10, 2013**

**6:15 Arrivals & Cocktails  
6:15—6:45 Toys For Tots  
7:00pm Meeting Start**

- Call to order
- Review/approval of the November meeting minutes
- 2013 Review
  - Financial
  - Programs
  - Committees
  - Regattas
- 2014 Base Membership Proposal
- Elections
- New Business
- Adjournment and Annual Party

## Robert Lynch (Trustee)

I have been a member of MRRA for more than 15 years. For the most part, I am a recreational sculler, who occasionally jumps into a team boat for a regatta. As a trustee I will support policies that enhance sculling and sweep activity at both the recreational and competitive levels. Our Learn to Row programs have been very well run and I believe that anything we can do to improve and expand them further are key to increasing our membership. Last, but not least, as Chair of the Safety Committee, I will do my best to insure that your on-water activities are as peril-free as they can be.

## MG Jagers (VP)

I accept the nomination as Vice President of the MRRA and if elected will continue to promote the sport of rowing and maintain the steady growth of the club.

I became interested in rowing when I was in college but never considered joining because of work commitments and academic responsibilities. After perusing local rowing clubs, I enrolled at Essex Rowing for a six week introduction to SWEEP during the summer of 2009. I enjoyed the sport and the valued the health benefits in addition to the camaraderie. My schedule did not allow me to join the club which was extremely fortuitous; I found the MRRA. Since the summer of 2010, I have been a member of this boat club and realize that I have made a life-long decision. I acknowledge that I have much work to do in order to hone my skill and improve my stroke, but I am willing to do so while working to help newcomers appreciate what a wonderful club resides in the Bellegarde Boat-house on the banks of the Merrimac River.

## Bob Sengstaken (Boat Captain)

Bob started rowing on the WPI crew team class of '75, and has continued competing every year in the Head of the Charles. As an MRRA member over the last 25 years, He was first member of MRRA in '86 and then rowed at Amoskeag RC for 6 years and has been back at MRRA since then.

Bob was boat-captain for 5 or so years, during that time he negotiated the purchases of the Amoskeag 4X, Swift 2X, 1x's, Vespoli 2x and 1x, and Fluid 1x. Almost all of the pully systems and the hanging racks were also installed. Bob is a resident of Hollis NH and on weekends enjoys rowing on Squam Lake.

Bob's now 1 year older and much slower.

## Dottie Semonian (Secretary)

I have been the MRRA Secretary this year. I have been working hard to record meetings and get members through the annual process of renewing memberships. I would like the opportunity to continue in the position of MRRA Secretary.

I joined the MRRA 3 years ago after successful completion of the Learn to Scull Program. I began sweep rowing the year before with the Westford Recreation Department. I am a mostly early AM sculler, who likes to race once in a while.

I enjoyed chairing the Social Committee this season. I believe the highlight was seeing many members make the Paul Wenger boat naming ceremony exceptional.

I work full time as a Nurse Practitioner in an Internal Medicine Practice in Chelmsford. I am the mother of four adult children. The empty nest has allowed me time to volunteer in expanding roles with the Festival and Textile River Regattas and Learn to Row Programs.

## Joe LaFreniere (Trustee)

Joe LaFreniere is a long standing member of the MRRA. He works as a lawyer and has four children with his wife Ginny. His rowing experience/history began with the ULowell Crew Team where he served as team captain... many years ago. He rowed with LBRA (Long Beach Rowing Association) while attending law school in Los Angeles; he has served as boat captain and has held several MRRA offices. Joe is the person who created and organized the first Textile River Regatta as well as being an original organizer of the Festival Regatta and remains an active supporter of these longstanding events. Joe is one of the two original founders of the MRRA still active in the club today (Ginny LaFreniere being the other). Joe worked with the club to create first learn program at the boathouse.

Other sporting activities include previously coaching speed skaters and teaching sailing. Joe is presently the Staff Officer for Public Education with the USCG Auxiliary, Flotilla 31 where he teaches safe boating classes. Joe has worked on the MRRA Safety Committee where he added and ran the flip clinics. He remains an active rower and competed in two races this season.

## About the Trustee Positions

Trustees serve for three years. This year's ballot is for the Trustee position that will expire in 2016. The current trustees and their term expirations are:

Denis McCarthy — 2015  
Jason Holden — 2014  
Mark Romanowsky—2013

## BALLOT

### PRESIDENT

☐ SCAMMELL, Karen

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### VICE PRESIDENT

☐ FEENAN, Jay

☐ JAGGERS, MG

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### TREASURER

☐ CHAPMAN, Bronwyn

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### SECRETARY

☐ SEMONIAN, Dottie

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### BOAT CAPTAIN

☐ SENGSTAKEN, Bob

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### TRUSTEE

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☐ LYNCH, Robert

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