

MRRA Ballot:

Liz Albert:

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 a suitable location where we might establish a MRRA Boathouse.

Karen Scammell:

I have been a member of the MRRA since 2001 and have been sculling competitively since about 2008 in a single. For board positions, first I was a trustee for three years and then treasurer for 2 years and recently president for the past 4 years. I am VP of Sales and Customer Service for a company in Nashua NH and have significant experience creating and managing budgets, forecasts and interdisciplinary teams - all aimed at long term sustainable business and satisfied customers.

This is the philosophy that I bring to the MRRA - to create a community of rowers who row for fun, exercise and/or competition, depending on the individual goals and abilities. As a graduate of UMass Lowell (actually University of Lowell), I am still in touch with the professors in Plastics Engineering as well as the Development Office, Athletics and Rec Sports. I would like to continue to grow the club to increase the sculling membership and also grow masters sweep so we have many boats going out on any given day and evening with a variety of people in them with good solid coaching available. I would also like to strengthen the focus on our 2 regattas to ensure they are successful financially and socially.

For the coming year I would like to steer a committee to seriously embark on finding land and then forming a building committee and fund for our own boathouse. I believe that there is plenty of room on the river for both another boathouse and expanded rowing for all ages.

Thank you for your consideration

Vice President:

Bob Sengstaken

Bob rowed in college at WPI, and founded the Mondnock 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 BoatCaptain 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.

Jay Feenan:

Personal - Married 35 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 (9 marathons, 15 ultra marathon relays).

Local Rowing Affiliations – rowed 39 years, MRRA 27 consecutive years (14 yr regatta director in Lowell of Festival and TRR, USRowing Jr Nationals, 12 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., 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 National Team Trials (6 time winner), Head of the Charles (6 medals, one gold), WPI Lifetime Achievement Award

Treasurer:

Bronwyn Chapman:

I started rowing in the Learn to Scull program five years ago and became a member that same year. I live in Tyngsboro with my husband Michael, daughter Teagan and my two dogs. My daughter Aideen is a freshman in college out of state. My work background has been in accounting, HR and facilities management for most of my career. I do not have a degree in accounting but know my way around writing a check pretty well. I work fulltime for a small high tech company in Acton. Life is the same busy for me as it is for everyone, so over the past two years I have not always turned things around as quick as people would like, but things do get done.

I would have preferred someone else to take over the position of Treasurer this year, someone that had a little more time on their hands. If anyone reading this or at the meeting would like to be a write in candidate, I would not be the slightest be offended if they would make themselves known. If that is not the case, I will continue with the duties of Treasurer for one last year.

Secretary:
Dottie Semonian

i have been a member of the MRRA for five years. I joined the club after completing the Learn To Scull program. I learned to Sweep the year before that with Westford Community Crew. I have been MRRA Secretary for the past three years. I hope I have been helpful getting you OK2Row and continue to work on getting meeting minutes posted promptly . I would like to encourage a Massachusetts resident to shadow me this year, with the intent to run for the Secretary position in 2017.

In addition to secretary I also volunteer with the MRRA social committee and Co- Chaired the Festival Regatta this year.

I was responsible for the venue and most importantly, your lunches for the TRR and Masters NHR.

I enjoy recreational sculling, with an occasional race, with like minded members. I feel fortunate to have developed strong relationships with members on and off the water.

I work full time as a Nurse Practitioner in a busy Primary Care office. I have a supportive husband Ralph and four grown adult children.

I will continue to work hard and promote community rowing with the MRRA if you re-elect me to the secretary position.

Thank you

Boat Captain:

Dennis McCarthy

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. As the current chairman of the Equipment Committee and having been on the board for the past three 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 sailboat named Fiona for over a decade, so has experience in nautical leadership, making him a candidate not to be skipped over for Boat Captain position for the MRRA.

Trustee: 3 year Term:

Tim Wheatley

To all,

I have been a member of MRRA for about 8 years. I am an avid sculler who participates (with limited success) in the numerous regattas in the area, and I have a vested interest in the prosperity and growth of the club.
I accept the nomination.

P.S. OK, maybe "success" was a bit strong. But I like getting the T-shirts !!!!

Terry Freeman:

I appreciate the nomination of Trustee and if elected; look forward to serving the club in this new role.

Currently, I serve as:

- MRRA Vice President - 2015
- Program Director of the Learn to Row/LTSWEEP program – 2 years
- Co-co-Chair the Masters program – 1 year
- Chair of the TRR Medals – 3 years

MRRA contributions over the last several years:

- TRR Publicity – 2 years
- Member of the Social committee – 3 years
- Organized social opportunities for the MSWEEP peeps – 3 years
- Boating safety course with the MEP (Massachusetts Environmental Police) to obtain boating safety certificate; as I frequently operate the safety launches for the LTSWEEP and Masters programs – 2 years

My 'unofficial' role is to create a positive and memorable rowing experience for all current and prospective members. I will encourage and support members who are willing to try different roles within the organization in the coming years.