

New WRC Website Launched

We have freshened up our web presence! Check out the WRC site and see our new customizable layout. We are able to update pictures and content with ease with the new design.



Thanks so much to those that contributed to this time consuming effort! Our team work has paid off and we have a website that is informative, attractive and easy to navigate.

Racing

Wye Island Regatta- We had some members participate in the Wye Island Regatta on September 10th down on Maryland's Eastern Shore. A great time was had by all that rowed!

- Scull: Women's Racing Single 1x - Maggie. Brokaw
- Scull: Men's Quad 4x -Don Krause, John Paulson, David Gibian, Hans Mueller
- Shell: Women's Eight 8+ -Carolyn King & crew
- Shell: Women's Eight 8+ -Alyson Greenwood, Colleen Simpson, Sally Greenwood, Cami Seward, Erica Donoho, Karam McLaughlin, Tammy Zello, Marie Kusmierz, cox- Lauren Powell
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Located on the Wilmington Riverfront
Shipyards Shops

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Boathouse Changes

There has been a lot of activity in the field south of the boathouse as DELDOT starts the boring work for the new bridge crossing the Christina. Over the next couple of years this will cause some changes in the boathouse. By the spring of 2013 the bridge construction will begin with the road and bridge installed where our gravel rigging area is now. By that time we will have to turn the racks so we can access the river through the east doors.

The new layout will require a deck to be built over the detention ditch between the River Walk and the Pump House so we can turn the boats. Of course by then the dock, ramp and bridge will be relocated down river about 200 feet or so. The plan is to build the deck across the ditch this winter and turn the racks winter 2012 to spread out the volunteer labor. More details on this to come...

WRC on the MOVE

Some of you have been wondering who owns the BIG BLACK TRUCK that has been present this summer at the regattas and DSM to do the trailer pulling duties. The answer is WRC!



Toy
Wonders

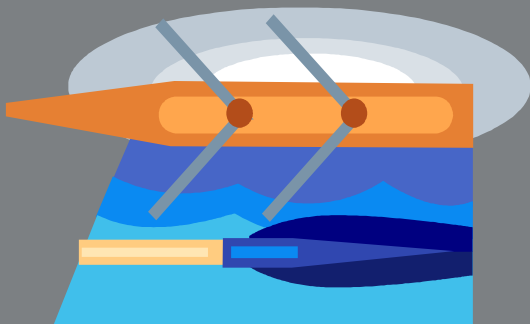
www.toywonders.com

Last winter the WRC Board started the task of figuring out how to get the shells to the regattas. We were faced with renting a truck every regatta for \$500 or buying our own truck to do shell hauling duty. After much number crunching we came up with the answer- buy a used truck.

We searched and compared many models and we settled on the Ford 350 Diesel with 4-wheel drive. We estimate that it will last 10 years and will accumulate a savings over time of about \$50,000.

Safety Reminders

- The boathouse has been found unlocked by our rowers and riverfront security on numerous occasions as of late, with no one in attendance, along with the engine house being unlocked while crews were out on the water. We must lock up both the boathouse and engine house when we are on the water. If you don't have a key, please contact the House Chair.
- Please remember to lock the doors after erg or weight lifting sessions. Coaches we would be greatly appreciative of your efforts in double checking the doors upon your rowers leaving the boathouse.
- Please remember that both glass doors need to be secured. Prior to locking any door, check to make sure the right hand door is secure by attempting to open it with the thumb turn locking knob in the open position.
- If the right hand door swings open, it must be secured with the upper and lower throw bolts (located inside the door frame), prior to engaging the thumb turn knob. If this is not checked, activating the thumb turn knob alone will not secure the doors, as they can be forcibly opened.
- Remember that your key will open the rescue box on the dock and unlock the emergency rescue launch. Please do not use this motor or launch for general use, especially if there are others on the river, as this may be required to save a life.
- If you take the rescue launch out for general use or a quick coaching session, remember that if something happens to you, we have no way of coming to your assistance in a timely manner. Please take the extra time required, and obtain one of the regular launches and engines.



C4 Regatta Postponed

The club has decided to postpone the Christina Corporate Cup Challenge (C4) regatta until spring 2012. This decision did not come lightly, there were numerous reasons for this decision, and the following are a few:

1. Organizations will have more time to get sponsorship and participation
2. With the days being longer in May and June (rather than Sept/Oct) allows for more opportunities for coaching and practice times
3. We are also hoping to have the regatta on a week night, allowing for co-workers to cheer on their teams
4. C4 Participants will be eligible to join WRC and can enjoy rowing the entire 2012 season

We plan to have an informational booth during the Head of the Christina Regatta on October 2nd and encourage Organizations and their employees to come down to the boat house to learn a little about the sport of rowing what to expect for the for the C4 regatta.

If you would like to volunteer or would like additional information, please contact Vicky Cochran victoria_cochran@us.ibm.com.

Membership

Please WELCOME new members Will Purman, Mike Morris, Bob Appleton and Mike Teichman to our club.



Equipment Corner

It helps to be stoic if you are the WRC Equipment Chair, but even with that disposition it is difficult not to get annoyed at times. Here are some of the things that come to mind:

Cannibalizing boats for seats, foot-stretchers, or parts: It is extremely inconsiderate towards other WRC rowers and the Equipment Chair to leave boats with missing parts and it is an absolute NONO to remove parts from private boats or to tinker with them. You should know by now that any equipment without a WRC number on it is private equipment and is strictly off limits. If your pre-launch check reveals an equipment problem, return the boat to the rack and leave a note on the Equipment Status Board. Cannibalizing other boats is not the solution.

Housekeeping is everybody's responsibility: Do you ever wonder what happens to these half-empty bottles of water, items of clothing and other homeless stuff that accumulates in various places in the boathouse and even outside? Somebody who gets sufficiently fed up after looking at this for weeks finally cleans it up. A modicum of consideration would go a long way to keep the place neat and share the housekeeping burden. Please empty your half empty-water bottles and dispose of them in a waste can. Lend a hand and clean up a mess, even if you did not cause it. While doing this, once in a while take a full garbage bag out of the can, tie it and place it near the back door by the washing machine. New bags are in the closet of the Men's locker room.

Promptly return tools and equipment parts to the place from which you removed them: This is particularly true for stuff that is removed from the "tool room". Leave a note for the Equipment Chair, if for some reason you cannot return it promptly. This does not apply to "consumables" like nuts, washers, "cookies", etc. which you typically find in the small labeled drawers in the cabinet on the countertop in the "tool room". The metal parts you find there are all S/S. Do only use S/S parts in boats. Spare parts like shoes, seats, fins, etc. and hand and power tools are not self-service items. I am keeping track of these items and try to have a small supply at hand for emergency repairs.

Report boat damage promptly: Report any boat damage promptly, legibly, dated and signed on the Equipment Status Board. Also add a "Do Not Row" tag on the boat, if it is unsafe to be rowed. Report it if it is broken, damaged, not working properly, or missing something. Do not attempt repairs unless you know what you are doing.

Be realistic about river conditions and your ability to safely go out on the river: We have suffered repeated and significant boat damage in the last two months. The causes were rough dockings, hitting floating and submerged obstacles, abutments, stepping on the "No Step" area of the seat deck. Don't be oblivious to the mishaps of other rowers, learn from the experience of others and exercise extreme caution under difficult river conditions. For example, do not power through bridges or other tight spots, approach the dock at a crawl, particularly in an 8+ and in an incoming tide, and avoid bumping the riggers as you move along the dock and during stepping in and out of the boat. While on the water, frequently check your position, direction and the conditions ahead of you. The use of a mirror is highly recommended to anybody who is bowing.

Amazing Dock Recovery

As you may remember, August of this year was the wettest on record. The very abundant rainfall early in the month caused the Rodney Point Dock C to be washed away, over the Noxintown Pond spillway and down the Appoquinamink River to points unknown.

Amazingly enough, Hurricane Irene caused the river to flood and to wash the "floating" dock back to near the dam. WRC mounted a rescue force of hearty men and spry women to disassemble the floating dock haul it up the poison ivy and brier infested road embankment and haul it back to Rodney Point.



Diamond State Masters Regatta

The 21st DSMR will be remembered as one of the most successful Regattas since 1991 and the first with a 2-day racing schedule. Despite the excessive heat, all the events went off without a hitch. In fact Sunday we were able to compress the races into an early afternoon finish, enabling everyone to head home early and avoid potential storms. Our dedicated volunteers, which include WRC members, family, and friends of DSMR, performed magnificently. All the DSMR committee preparations assured the smooth running of the Regatta as well. Next year's dates are July 21st and 22nd, 2012. Thanks again for everyone's support.



Upcoming Events

- September 22 - **Row for a Cure** (Wilmington, DE)
- September 25 - **Kings Head** (Bridgeport, PA)
- September 30 - **WRC Boathouse Cookout**
- October 2 - **Head of the Christina** (Wilmington, DE)
- October 8 - **Navy Day Regatta** (Philadelphia)
- October 22-23 - **Head of the Charles** (Boston MA)
- October 29-30 - **Head of the Schuylkill** (Philadelphia)
- November 19 - **WRC Fall Membership Meeting & Work Day**

*Please see the website for the complete WRC 2011 Calendar.

