



Crosscurrents

President's Message

I'm humbled by the opportunity to serve as President of WRPC. I've got big shoes to fill. Our club has a long history and has accomplished a lot over the years. We've got a wonderful boathouse facility that is an asset to Riverfront Park. We've completed our dock that makes access to the water easier for many of our members. Too often the old dock was high and dry at low water as the bay continues to fill in with sediment from the stream that flows past the boathouse.

Our next challenge is to replace many of our well-used club boats. Over the years we've gotten a lot of service from many of these but the time has come for their retirement. The board is looking for new boats. The challenge is finding boats that will be durable, useful to the majority of our membership, and a good deal. We've been looking and we will continue to search.

Another challenge is finding an interim way to store more club members' boats until we can eventually build another clubhouse. We have some ideas that we're pursuing and we'll need creative thinking to help the club meet the needs of more members. If you have ideas, please share them with a board member.

I'm looking forward to a new year of being out on the water, participating in club events, and furthering our club's growth. As we enter a new year, please remember to complete and mail in the dues/enrollment form. We'll be changing the padlock combination in late February or early March and only those members who have renewed their membership will be notified of the new combination. There's been some confusion about membership renewal in the past; if you joined in 2006, you still have to renew in January 2007 in order to keep your membership active. Renewals are due at the beginning of each new year, not on the anniversary of your joining date.

I wish you a great new year of paddling/rowing!

Mike Bills

President



NEW YEARS DAY PADDLE

WRPC will be holding its annual New Years Day Paddle this year at 10 a.m. Just show up at the boathouse!

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our annual membership meeting was held November 15, 2006, at Eastmont Junior High. Approximately 18 members were present. Steve Smith reported on everything we've accomplished this year—a lot! The past year's events were recapped and suggestions were made for the upcoming 2007 events. Larry Tobiska, treasurer, reported our current balance is approximately \$4500. At our lowest point this year, our treasury balance was as low as \$500. We currently have 121 total memberships—72 individual and 49 family. Steve Smith and Loraine Jaecks' board terms have expired. Kyle Flick was elected to the board and Loraine Jaecks will serve another term. Shaun Koos reported that boat clubs are using cargo containers to store club boats. Signage is being developed to possibly place on the boathouse giving contact information and acknowledging state funding.

In the board meeting which immediately followed the annual membership meeting, new officers were elected. Mike Bills is the new club president. (Steve Smith will continue to attend meetings and intends to remain very much involved.) The new senior vice president is Tom Feil who will also be vice-president for activities. The new secretary will be Kyle Flick. Larry Tobiska will continue as treasurer, Mike Kaputa will continue as project manager, and Loraine Jaecks will continue as newsletter editor. Mike Kaputa presented for consideration a conceptual plan of a new club boathouse being constructed on the bottom floor of a restaurant, to be built in the area of the existing Linden Park parking lot.

BOAT STORAGE

Bob and Linda Parlette have graciously given us permission to use their property located by Walla Walla Point (close to the swimming beach) as a storage site for some of our larger or older club boats. WRPC members, led by Bob Derry, have constructed a covered storage area on the property and the property is fenced on three sides. However, at this time the property is not secure, i.e., no locked entrance. If any WRPC members are interested in perhaps storing their personal boats on this site, please contact Tom Feil at 884-3765. Depending on how many members are interested, further



measures may be taken to secure the area and there may be a small storage fee. Any members who choose to store their private boats at this site would need to count on their own insurance to cover any theft or damage. There would be no coverage through WRPC insurance.

BOATHOUSE SECURITY

There have been several instances this year where the boathouse doors were found open. Please be sure the doors are securely locked when you leave!!! Additionally, padlock combinations are not to be shared with nonmembers!!!

SOUND ROWERS

WRPC member Ron Snyder is hoping to find people interested in attending some of the Sound Rowers races with him next year. Below is a tentative schedule of their races copied from their web site, soundrowers.org. Level 1 is an easier race, Level 2 is intermediate, Level 3 is rough waters, possibly restricted participation. If any of you are interested in attending any of these events, please contact Ron Snyder at 884-5432 or 670-1809.

