

MCGILL UNIVERSITY ROWING CLUB

THE WAVE

SUMMER EDITION 2011

BOAT CHRISTENING CEREMONY— SEPTEMBER 17TH, 2011

Dear Alumni –

Help us name some boats!

Get your name on a McGill Crew Boat and/or a McGill Crew Oar!!

On September 17 2011, McGill Crew will be christening the new equipment we have acquired in 2009-2010. I would like to extend a personal invitation to each and every one of you to attend!

We're having a boat christening ceremony on McGill campus. After practice at the Basin, to which you are invited, the boats will be transported to McGill's downtown campus for the ceremony. Who knows – you may be able to hop into a boat with our present day rowers for a trip down memory lane (to the 1000m and back). The entire team, and members of McGill Athletics, will be present.

Myself, the entire coaching staff and above all the athletes are very grateful to you for this new equipment. These boats were acquired as a result of your generosity, and this ceremony is the team's way to recognize your contributions.

McGill Athletics also made a financial contribution, and team fundraising efforts have gone towards offsetting costs as well. In fact, our need for these boats is so great McGill Athletics

has loaned the McGill Rowing Team some \$30,000 to offset the cost of this equipment as we continue to fundraise in 2011 and 2012.

We still need your help! **At this point, no names for these boats have been put forth.** Because your generous donations have contributed to the renewal of our fleet, we wish for YOUR input in naming these boats, and wish to include your names beside the seats...

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PERGATORY 2011



This year our annual winter fundraiser pERGatory was a huge success with double the amount of participants from last year. It was the biggest it's been in the past five years. We had great turnouts from Montreal Rowing Club and Dawson. S

tarting the morning off were the 2k tests. The fastest out of the ladies was Megan Lydon and of the Varsity Men Liam Kirwin. Our novice men also had an excellent showing in the Men's 2k with Philippe Toren winning the event and Rob Laniel finishing in 5th out of a total of 20 participants. We had a number of our novice and varsity women pulling 6k's with novice Luce Bourbeau winning the event. Our fastest Varsity Woman was Kalyna Franko.

On the mens side Alumni Christian Dabrowski pulled the fastest time with Alumni Brent Hopkins and Varsity

Amedee D'Aboville following closely behind.

We had a fantastic showing for the 4x500m relays with athletes from Dawson, the Montreal Rowing Club, Montreal Rowing Club's Masters, McGill and friends of the crew. The fastest women's team went to our very own varsity women, with the Montreal girls following in second. We had two men's relay teams with the Rat Pack coming back to claim the title for the second year in a row and for a change we had a large number of mixed relay teams with at least one team from every participating school.

The day ended on a very high note with everyone having enjoyed themselves and lots of comments on how wonderful it is to have an event like this. A big thank you to the University of Montreal Rowing Club for helping us

with equipment, and to McGill Athletics for providing us with prizes for the participants. Thanks to all the clubs who came out to support us and for helping make it an event that the whole rowing community in Montreal can be a part of.

We appreciate the support and look forward to seeing them all next year. Overall pERGatory 2011 was a great success that we are all quite proud of and we look forward to the challenge of planning an equally large event next year. Hope to see you all there!

-Nicole Bewski

VP Internal



QUEEN'S MCGILL BOATRACE

Once again this March, as the school year came to an end, two university rowing teams were hard at work training for the last regatta of the season. Beginning in 1996, McGill University and Queen's University have been competing in a friendly rowing regatta every year around the month of May. This young university rivalry has been modeled on the great Oxford-Cambridge and the Harvard-Yale boat races.

As part of the novice men on the McGill rowing team, being a part of the Queen's-McGill regatta for the first time was an amazing experience. This year, the races were hosted by Queen's rowing team at the Kingston Rowing Club. Traditionally, we would leave for the regatta the morning of the races. However, this year we made arrangements with Queens to make the regatta a two day event. Getting to Kingston the night before the regatta allowed us to get a good night

of sleep before the race. Furthermore, it allowed us to get on the water bright and early the next morning in order to have the best water conditions possible. The night of our arrival, the receiving team hosted a nice reception, where we had a chance to meet our opponents, and experience the traditional challenge ceremony. The ceremony consisted of one of the two opposing captains challenging the other followed by a courteous handshake. Following the reception, the Queen's rowers were kind enough to billet the McGill team, so we all headed our separate ways.

The next morning, despite the hazy forecast, the weather was splendid; there was very little wind and the sky was clear. Every crew was to row a 6 km endurance race followed by a 500 m sprint. The victor of the endurance race is awarded the trophy, while the winner of the sprint leaves with the other crew's

T-shirts specially made for this event. The first race that day was between the Varsity Men crews. However, before getting on the water, tradition states that both the crews must weigh in and write down their weight in the little black book that has been around since 1996. So one by one, each corresponding seat going from stroke seat to bow seat from the two boats would get on the scale. This year, the Queen's Varsity Men won the 6 km race as well as the 500 m sprint. Same went for the Varsity Women and Novice Women. The last race of the day was that of the Novice Men. In the 6 km race, we took the lead from the start and maintained a very good distance from the other boat, until we reached the last turn of the race. Due to a slight error in our angle of attack coming into the curve, our boat got caught in a current which brought us off course. The Queen's crew made up a lot

of ground here. However, we did not let them pass us and we won by two or three boat lengths. As for the sprint, our boat had a bit of a rough start. While waiting at the starting line, none of us had realized our boat was slowly drifting towards the starting buoy. Therefore, when the horns blew, every oar one after the other on starboard got caught in the buoy. Nevertheless, we manage to win the race by about half a boat length.

To conclude, the friendly Queen's-McGill regatta was a great success, the weather cooperated and everything went according to plan. Due to their many victories, this year Queen's University was awarded the Queen's-McGill trophy. I believe that this kind of competition is a great way to create links between great universities all around the country, and that we should keep this tradition going for as long as possible.

-Philippe Toren



BOAT CHRISTENING CEREMONY CONTINUED

We are eagerly anticipating your involvement in this process, particularly if you have contributed to the acquisition of this equipment.

I am especially looking to get in touch with the women alumni who organized the “Eight for 08 drive”

Here is a list of the new equipment being christened:

Two boats purchased in part with funds raised by the Women’s Eight for 08 drive:

-Vespoli Millennium 8+, acquired in 2009, rowed by Varsity Women and Lightweight Men, gold medal at Brock Invitational 2009

-Vespoli M2 8+, rowed by lightweight women, Brock and OUA bronze 2010

-Two brand new midweight V1 Vespoli 4+, rowed by our LW/HW Varsity Women and Men. One acquired in 2009 (LW women Bronze, CURC 2009), the other in 2010.

-A lightly used Fillippi 2x (McGill Crew’s first sculling boat!), purchased from Rowing Canada, LW Men’s OUA bronze 2010.

-A lightly used Hudson midweight 8+, purchased from Rowing Canada.

-2 sets of fat smoothie CII oars, used by Varsity Men and Women.

If you are interested in helping us name these boats, in organizing a naming drive with fellow alumni, or in

helping fundraise I would love to hear from you. Also, if you are interested in helping plan the christening ceremony please let us know.

A heartfelt Thank-You for your support of our team!

- Philip Hedrei
MURC Head Coach
philip.hedrei@mail.mcgill.ca

