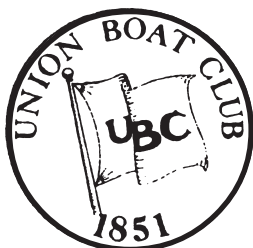


THE PUDDLE



Newsletter of the Union Boat Club of Boston

Winter 2008



President's Letter

2007 a Year of Continued Progress

Looking back on the past year, I am happy to say that 2007 was a year of continued progress in many areas. On the membership front, Doug Irwin and his team continue to do great work and successfully added 36 members to our ranks. Today, our membership is healthy with 260 resident members and 30 members under age 27. That said, our club has the unique tradition of reducing dues for 20, 35 and 50 year members. Our ability to continue this tradition is dependent upon our membership's efforts to continue proposing great candidates. So please, keep up the good work!

David Page, the club's Captain, has done a terrific job maintaining and improving the club's facilities. A significant amount of deferred maintenance at the boathouse has been achieved including shoring up of structural timbers, painting of the boathouses exterior,

and repairing of old windows. In addition, the city has finished a complete overhaul of the dock, pilings and landing. At 144 Chestnut Street, we completed a new archive room on the 4th floor to help preserve many of the club's various antiquities and special documents. Special thanks to Paul Allen's hard work and leadership with this effort. Additionally, Tris Dammin helped organize a defibrillator training

class which certified approximately 17 members.

The Clubs balance sheet continues to strengthen. Thanks to Charlie Clapp's diligent efforts, the club negotiated a buyout with Unison for the right to operate a cell tower inside the club's flagpole. Netting approximately \$200,000, the proceeds from this transaction was applied to the reduction of our existing mortgage.

2007 also saw the creation of a ground floor committee whose aim is to evaluate the best and highest use from the members perspective of the ground floor. I am very pleased to announce that Jim Hunnewell has agreed to rejoin the executive committee and will help lead this effort with Squash Chair, Bill Boardman. We will continue to keep you apprised of this committee's progress over the

continued on next page

Editors' In-Box:

If you have a personal interest story – or anything else you'd like for consideration in The Puddle, please email editors@unionboatclub.org

coming year.

As some of you know, Jamie McIntyre has done a terrific job of adding more social elements to our club. The Christmas cocktail party which over 120 people attended despite the first snow storm of the year, the thirsty paddle Ping Pong tournament, two fall shooting trips to Timber doodle, a weekend of golf at National Golf & Links of America, and a backgammon tournament were all innovative ideas that have greatly increased the social dimension of the club which was so strongly suggested in the 2005-2006 member's survey.

In December, you should all have received a letter encouraging each of you to give to our employee fund, and I would again encourage you to contribute. UBC would not be in as strong of a position were it not for the efforts of our loyal and capable staff including Colin Leitch, Jane Hester, Alek Zosuls, and Ken Pinola. Additionally, we continue to be very fortunate to have two of the finest coaches in their respective fields, Preston Quick and Tom Bohrer. So please, as we move on to 2008, please keep these valued employees in mind.

That said, on behalf of everyone at UBC, I wish you a healthy and prosperous 2008.

Sincerely, Bill Motley ■

Squash Update

The squash courts at the UBC have been busy this fall. The club handicap tournament has already begun and is already through two rounds of

play. The complete results for the handicap tournament are online at www.unionboatclub.org/squash.html. Our league teams are doing well, too. Highlights are: the 5.5 team is in 3rd place, the 4.5 is in 5th place, and our 50+ team is in 4th place, as we pass through the halfway point of the season. We have started a Saturday morning junior clinic here at the club and it is bringing in 8-12 kids each weekend. The clinic is taught by Chris Lang, who is also available for private lessons on the weekends. There are also another 8-12 kids who come in during the quiet weekday afternoon times and work with Preston. The UBC club champs will be starting in early February, so email, call or sign up at the club for this great tournament. We are adding two new divisions this year the 4.0 and the 60+. These are added to the 5.5, 4.5, 3.5, 2.5, and 50+ draws we regularly hold. The Tuesday night clinics continue to be well attended, and if you are new to the game, it is a great way to meet people and pick up a few tips. For lessons or questions about squash please contact Preston Quick at 617-720-2252 or

prestonquick@unionboatclub.org ■

Summers Cup

Union Boat Club hosted the Summers Cup Squash Tournament on the weekend of December 14th-16th. This was the second tournament of the 2007/08 Head Grand Prix season. We had 35 competitors in three Summers Cup draws and 65 juniors in two draws



Summer's Cup: UBC Member and 4.5 Champion, Chris Choi, UBC Squash Pro Preston Quick, and Andy Goldfarb

keeping the Boat Club busy from Friday evening through a snowing Sunday afternoon.

The junior competition (in conjunction with a University Club event) saw Belmont Hill's #2 lose in the finals to a young man from Allentown, PA in a close five games.

The 60+ draw had 4 entrants (all boat clubbers), compete in a round robin draw. Mike Keating was the eventual winner over Chip Elfner.

The 50+ draw had 6 entrants this year and our own Philip Laird was unable to repeat his victory this year. He lost to Court Chilton in four very close games, two of which were overtime.

The 4.5 event, the true Summers Cup draw, saw 23 entrants battle for the coveted title. In the top half we saw top seed Adrian Gill easily work his way to the semifinals where he would have played Andy Goldfarb, but due to the weather was unable to make it. In the bottom half Chris Choi had a tough five game quarter-final win over Dean Tai. Choi then outlasted second seed Jeannie Blasberg, who is currently the president of US Squash, in three long games.

The final, which was played only 45 minutes later, was a long tough five game match. Choi outlasted Goldfarb after being down two games to one to win his second Summers Cup. The consolation finals saw Christophe Dupupet grind out another long five game match over Derek Aguirre. The next Head Grand Prix event will be in January at the Concord Acton Club. ■

Fives Update and Notes

After a strong beginning to the year, Fives finished up the 2007 season on a high note. During the summer, Rick Umiker (former St. Marks Fives coach) accepted our invitation for a friendly round of matches at the UBC in mid-July. Rick played with several members and showed us his knowledge of British rules for serving and scoring. Thanks to Ian Watts (a member and former St. Marks player) for reaching out to Rick.

Following on the success of the Fives Club Championship in April, culminating in the presentation of the first Gardiner-Norwood Trophy to the Champion at the Annual Dinner, the decision was made to establish the first annual Turner-Devens Cup. The naming of the "TD" Cup recognizes the multi-generational commitment that the Turner and Devens men have made to UBC Fives not to mention their talent, knowledge and passion for the game.

The TD Cup semis and finals matches were held on

November 29th and 30th. In the top semifinal we saw two seeded players, #1 Bill Motley and #3 Chip Elfner play. Motley pulled out a 21-17 victory in a tight match for a spot in the finals. The bottom half saw #2 Nick Elfner prevail 21-15 over #5 Matt Iler in a bone-bruising match. In the final, Bill Motley defeated Nick Elfner by a score of 21-20. Spike Lingel called the match and the gallery voiced their support for the players by frequently erupting with cheers following extended back-breaking rallies.



Spike Lingel Presents TD Cup to Bill Motley

Special thanks to Preston Quick for his help with the TD Cup Draw, securing new Fives gloves from the U.K. for sale at the Pro Shop and maintaining the Fives page on the UBC website at www.unionboatclub.org. Fives players are actively using the web site for arranging friendly and challenge matches, posting game photos and researching the sport's rich history.

Bill Motley and the Nominating Committee endorsed the creation of a Fives Committee to address the interests of the growing list of members playing Fives. The Fives Committee will consist of the following members for 2008: Nick Elfner,

Chairman, Spike Lingel, Charlie Devens III, Rick Cleveland and John Hartley. Quarterly meetings will take place every three months beginning Jan. 8, 2008 in the Herrick room at 6:00 pm.

We are in the planning stages of a UBC/Groton Fives Tournament on their courts in February. Guest member Marvin Klein (Groton '04), Charlie Devens, Jr. and John Hartley are planning the event. The idea is to hold workshops in the morning for Groton students interested in Fives and then have an afternoon tournament. Plans are to bring 8-10 UBC Fives players.

Looking ahead, thirty members are now expected to sign up for the 2008 Club Championship, bi-weekly clinics are envisioned for beginning players and preparations are being made to take a smaller group to the U.K. We recently joined the Rugby Fives Association, which sponsors dozens of tournaments across the U.K. and boasts hundreds of individual and club memberships. RFA General Secretary (Ian Fuller) is aware of the UBC and our desire to host visiting U.K. players and will highlight this in his newsletter. ■



Nick Elfner Warms Up for TD Cup Finals



UBC Rowers at Boathouse for Head of the Charles

Front row L-R: Carlo Petruzzello, Nikki Tweed; Back row L-R: Brad Smith, Charlie Clapp, Peter Schnorr, Chris Ward, John Carroll, Charlie Ruck, Chris Flynn.

the top 5 of the Club 4 race, we had a strong 12th place finish in the master's 8, and great participation in the smaller boats. Claudia Wagner won the Women's masters single, Tom Bohrer finished 2nd in the Senior Master's single, Lloyd Dahmen and Dan Dill finished second in the 60+ double, and we had numerous other strong small boat performances. As has become tradition, foul weather cancelled the Club Championships in

singles and we had a small team boat regatta instead- which involved every double and quad in the boathouse on a 20 degree day. Truly, the level of rowing and the interest level at the club on the rowing side has never been higher, and that is a credit to the fine coaching and hard work that Tom Boher delivered once again this year.

The four oar rule is now in effect, and winter training is in full swing at BU and at UBC with the December maximum meters challenge. The winter rowing calendar is also filling out.

The Winter rowing dinner will be held January 18th at Oliver Scholle's house. Directions will follow.

The Gov Keyes 500 meter erg Challenge is scheduled to begin at 5:30 on January 23rd, and will run until 7:30 pm. We

Rowing Notes

It has been another successful year for the UBC rowing program. The most important development, the rebuilding of our dock, is almost complete only 15 months after Peter Schnorr fell through its rotting planks. This has been accomplished without any disruption in our rowing program and is a testament to Gene Clapp's efforts on the project- not only in managing the DCR, but also raising the money to make the dock happen. In the spring, please come down and enjoy the new, wider and drier UBC dock, now featuring the ability to launch from both sides.

We have also continued to update our fleet of club boats. We have three new singles in

the house, and UBC will be replacing its oldest heavyweight double in the next few months. On the river, it was another exciting fall racing season, starting with a double gold performance at Master's nationals in Tennessee in the Womens' A and AA double events, and a gold in the father-son race. We had another dominant performance at the UBC-UBC regatta, and in the Mixed 8 event at the Housatonic, where the crew actually caught and lapped over 50% of the preceding women's novice event.

All of this led up another great showing for UBC at the HOOCR. For the seventh year in a row, UBC placed a crew in



Union Boat Club Second Annual Holiday Party

will feature men's and women's, rower and non-rower, and open and handicapped winners. The award ceremony will be at 7:45 pm., and pretzels, popcorn and beer will be available for those who have finished their piece. We had 30 participants last year, and are hoping to double that again this year- which we can do with your help- so please attend if you can. Sign-up sheets will be up soon, and if you can come at the last minute, please do so.

Thanks again for another good year of rowing at UBC,

Jeb Besser
Rowing Committee ■

New Members Since Oct., 2007

- Meghan Backhouse
- Arthur A. Arnold IV
- Charles H. Laurans
- Christopher C. Storm
- David F. Boucher
- Frederic G. Eustis
- Graham M. McPhail
- Quentin L. Reeve
- Michael D. Wertheimer
- John J. West Jr.

*Upcoming Events
Will Be Included
in the
Spring Issue of
The Puddle*

Contributors To This Issue:

Jeff Bernier
Jeb Besser
Charlie Clapp
Bill Coughlin
Nick Elfner

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Doug Irwin
Jamie McIntyre
Bill Motley
Preston Quick

THE PUDDLE



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