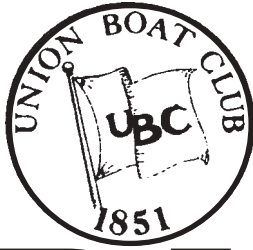


THE PUDDLE



Newsletter of the Union Boat Club of Boston

Spring 2002

The 150th Anniversary Dinner and Dance

Talented and Versatile Band, Excellent Food!

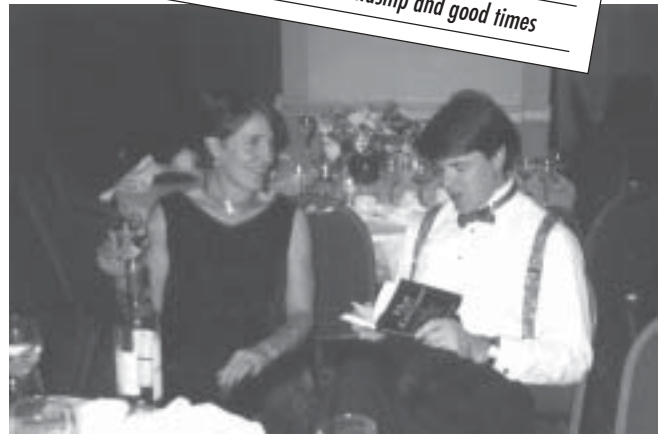
While last November now seems like ancient history, it is nonetheless worthwhile to note the wonderful celebration enjoyed by more than 350 UBC members and guests at the Park Plaza hotel last November 2nd. The evening was one of the most successful events that memory can recall as the Hotel was spiffed and polished, the tables beautifully set, the band talented and versatile and the food excellent. Most importantly, all of the forgoing punctuated the warm feeling of fellowship and camaraderie that was evident all evening long. The "Buzz" around the room was loud and sustained, a hallmark of a good time being had by all.

Among the highlights of the evening was the reading and presentation by state representative Paul Demakis of a proclamation from the Legislature to the club in honor of Union's 150th anniversary. It is the third such proclamation awarded to the club by that august body over the many years of the club's continuous existence.

All of us who attended the party will recall it with great pleasure for many years to come. We owe a heartfelt "thank you" to organizers Victoria Holliday and Spike Lingel for giving the rest of us such a good memory. Mark your Calendars for the 175th! ■



Mike Cataldo and Cathy Smith toasting good friendship and good times



*New member Charlie Willauer brushing up on "How to Act Like a Gentleman."
Wife Gale is hopeful of his progress*

President's Letter

Having recently returned from a week out at the Olympics, one cannot help but be struck by the effect of sports in bringing people together and creating a "good thing." The festive atmosphere, the true sportsmanship, the creation of champions, all was apparent. Sometimes it was an athlete that did not buckle under the pressure of expectations and other times it was an athlete that simply persisted in showing up at the starting line and crossing that finish line that turned into gold. But it was the unabashed enthusiasm and determination of all, coupled with the widespread support of the fans, that made it so memorable.

The value of athletics and athletic endeavor was the genesis of the good things that happen in and around Salt Lake. It is also the core of all the good things that happen around the Union Boat Club. Enjoying a sunrise row down the Charles, a personal best in the marathon, a steady surge up a squash ladder, all form the foundation of the friendships and good health that pervade the club. It brings us together at 150th Gala celebrations, Rowing dinners, pick up hockey games, summer barbecues and over a beer at The Sevens. There is no limit to the good that comes of it, and I would encourage and cajole all that can to come and enjoy the club's environs, as well as your fellow members.

Other "good things" are happening too—please take note of the CPR course that will refresh some who have the training and will allow others to take the course for the first time. Please consider taking some time out of a busy life to learn this skill in the hopes that you will never need to exercise it, but will be eternally

grateful if you are the one who benefits from another who has taken the time. Handicap and Club Championship tournaments are competing for court time with the final stages of league play. There are rumblings of a Henley Trip with perhaps two boats—we will know soon if the will and the water come to meet. We are in the midst of completing our own written history of 150 years—any time, remembrances or photos are appreciated as we close in on a printing by year-end. Please note also the article on a wonderful book on the Charles River being published by the Charles River Conservancy—an organization that is supporting the public private partnership that hopes to continue the Charles River's revival.

Come and make your own 'good thing' happen at the club—you will be the better for it and unwittingly give to all of the other members that you come to see and meet along the way.

Charlie Clapp,
President ■

Rowing News

Nick O'Connor

The annual Rowing Awards Dinner was graciously hosted by Gene and Lloyd Dahmen at their home on February 22, 2002. The evening was delightful, and a large group gathered to celebrate the following awards:

- The mileage trophies were won by John Macuga with 1547, and Victoria Holliday with 1481.
- The Club Champions were:
Open Category—Catherine Humblet and Sam Batchelor.
Masters—Victoria Holliday and Steve Glick.
Veterans—Greg Gallico.

The following subsidiary awards,

after unanimous vote of the awards committee, were distributed as follows:

1. **The Aleks Zosuls Cup** for the wierdest rowing costumes on the Charles, having been won by Aleks for the past four years, and with no sign of any serious competitors in sight has been retired to the Herrick Room.
2. Similarly the **Terminator Award** for the most consistent destroyer of boats, won again by Conan Gallico, has been retired with the vain hope of not encouraging him any further.
3. The **Most Improved Rower of the Year Award** was a tie between Joan Campbell and Dana Stearns, both of whom improved their times in the Head of the Charles this year by substantial margins.
4. The **Most Creative Interview of the Decade Award** goes to Tim Timmerman, who, after winning the Club Fours at the Head, was reported in the local rags to have said how wonderful it was to be back on the water after twenty years and to win with only two days in the boat.
5. The **Biannual Hubris Medal** goes to Sib Reppert, who, having assiduously trained for four months by wining and dining in South Africa and the south Atlantic, went to the Masters Worlds in Montreal, jumped in a double with Cap Kane, stroked at 44 down the course challenging for the lead and title of World Champion, only to completely run out of gas and die with 200m to go.
6. The **Wishful Thinking Trophy** was a three way tie between Peter Scnorr who, at the end of the season, said "next year I'm going to beat Steve Glick," and Peter Hanson who having proved that he can lift more weight than the UBC 8 combined thinks it will make him row faster if he can still fit in his boat, and Jim Keating who

called up Dieter Empacher and asked them if they could design a special racing shell for a friend of his who is 5ft 9in and weighs 260lbs

7. Finally the ***Eternal Gratitude Award*** goes to Gene and Lloyd for being wonderful hosts and to Tom Bohrer for coaching UBC to one of the most satisfying seasons in recent memory.

Other results of note are:

On Feb 9th, Derek Silveira won the Connecticut River Valley Erg sprints. and the next day, Jim Hughes won the Southern Erg sprints in Florida. At the CRASH-B sprints , in the open men, Nate Kirk had a time of 6:00.9, in the Masters, Tom Bohrer (read it and weep) had a time of 5:57.6. In the Veterans Sib Reppert had a time of 6:53.1, and in the over 60, Jim Sowles came in at 7:38.5. In the Gov Keyes the best time was turned in by Derek Silveira at 6:13.5. The hour of power was won by Jonathan Moss with 15,952 and Laura Donohue with 12,231 m. Last Fall the iron man Jim Hughes pulled 17,225m for an hour, but it doesn't count since the hour must be done in March. On the river Coach Bohrer is preparing two boats, a quad and a four to go to the Royal Henley Regatta, so this promises to be another stellar year for UBC rowing. ■

Important Dates:

- **MSRA State Championships**—
Tuesday, April 9, 2002, courts closed to play after 4:00 PM.
- **UBC Squash Finals Night**—
Thursday, May 2, 2002, 6:00 PM.
- **CPR Course**—
Saturday, May 4, 2002, 9:00 AM.-1:00 PM.
- **New Members Cocktail Party**—
Thursday, June 13, 2002, 5:30 PM.
- **Esplanade Chicken Dinner**—
Thursday, August 8, 2002



Metropolitan Park Commission Public Reservation Plan for Charles River Basin, 1894, Courtesy MDC Archives

Inventing the Charles River

by Karl Haglund

To all appearances, the Charles River is tranquil and unchanging. Long viewed as one of Greater Boston's most attractive and carefully preserved natural features, the Charles has in fact undergone substantial alteration. *Inventing the Charles River*, by Karl Haglund, charts the river's changing course, both geographic and cultural, from colonial times to the present.

It makes the story of a great public resource available to all through its rich text and extensive use of full-color illustrations. The book also bears the mark of an experienced urban planner and enthusiastic practitioner of narrative history. The book is the work of the Charles River Conservancy that is helping to bridge the gap between the public and private sectors. We realize that the Puddle is generally not an organ for solicitations of our membership. Nonetheless, given our long-standing interest in the resource that defines, in part, our club, we have committed to subsidize this book.

If you are interested in helping with a donation please send a check directly to the Charles River Conservancy and mail to 104 Eldredge Street, Newton MA 02458. Donations are tax deductible. Please

identify yourself as a member of the UBC.

The Charles River Conservancy is a nonprofit advocacy group dedicated to the renovation, maintenance and enrichment of the Charles River Basin and its surroundings. The Conservancy is facilitating The MIT Press's publication of *Inventing the Charles River*, which is anticipated in the summer of 2002. Please see www.charlesriverconservancy.org for more information and opportunities to co-sponsor this publication. ■



New Boston and Charles River Basin as proposed by Charles Davenport, 1875. Boston Athenaeum

THE PUDDLE



Newsletter of the Union Boat Club

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Squash News

Mark Lewis

There's too much squash and not enough time. Yes, this is a common complaint by all UBC squash players now that the handicap tournament and the club championship draws are well under way. Get those matches played.

The Mass state championship finals were held on April 9th at the Club. In the age 35 and over "A" category, it was an all UBC final, with Tyler Hinderman prevailing over Philip Constable.

Finals night at the UBC will take place Thursday May 2nd beginning at 6:00 p.m. As always, the squash will be intense and the blue bins will be filled with beverages.

On a more upbeat note, there has been a lot of squash played at the UBC this season already. Back

in December the UBC hosted the annual Summers Cup 'B' and '50+' tournament. There were a total of 44 competitors.

In the 'B' draw the UBC's Gordon Cromwell took top honors with a hard fought victory over the University Club's Ric Calvillo coming back from a 2 game deficit. In the 'B' consolation draw, the UBC's Greg Fox defeated recent Williams College graduate, Richard Scott.

In the '50+' draw, Concord-Acton's Dan Hogan again took home the silver defeating the UBC's Jonathan Smith. Chip Elfner defeated John O'Brien to win the '50+' consolation draw. ■

FYI

The date of the CPR course slated for March 2 has been changed to Saturday, May 4, 9:00 a.m.–1:00 pm. Those of you who took the course 2 years ago can be re-certified at this time and if you haven't taken the course before, you can become certified.

Inspired by the limericks which appeared in the Sunday Saint Patricks Day supplement of the Globe I came up with one for your consideration:

*There once was a Charles River rower
coached by the famous Tom Bohrer.*

*One morning got lost
in the wind, rain, and frost—
days later he turned up in Dover.*

Submitted by Sydney Sowles ■