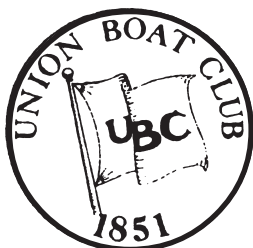


THE PUDDLE



Newsletter of the Union Boat Club of Boston

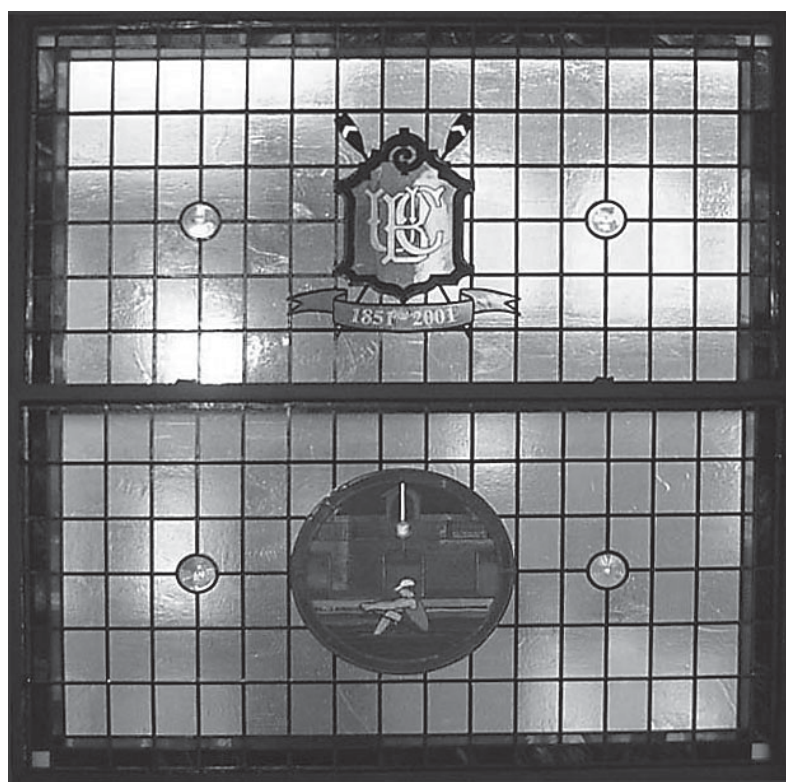
Summer 2004

The Rogues Table Ambience Inspires Changing Room Elegance

**...Good Wine, Friends,
Rich Food and Cigars...**

Kimo Griggs

The 150th anniversary of the founding of the Union Boat Club provided a perfect excuse for a number of events that will remain special in the memory of those who could attend. The 2001 annual dinner was memorable of course, as was the extraordinary dinner and dance held for members and their spouses or soul mates at the Boston Park Plaza. Some individuals were inspired to set personal goals for the year—doing well in league competition, winning the handicap squash tournament, losing the weight accumulated from 150 annual dinners (well, perhaps it only seemed that way), or setting a personal best in the Head of the Charles. One individual set a personal goal to commemorate the year for the club in a different way, so that all who use the Club can enjoy the spirit of the 150th whether they were part of those



festivities or not.

Charles C. Dumbaugh joined the club in 1992. He isn't loud, he thinks before he speaks, and he is probably past his most competitive days (sorry,

Charlie—so am I). He is, in short, a typical member in many respects. When Charlie attended the annual dinner celebrating the 150th anniversary of

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President's Letter

Each of us views a visit to UBC as a welcome addition to the daily routine. Whether it's for a squash game, a workout and sauna, a row on the Charles or simply to see friends and read a newspaper, UBC is an oasis from busy lives. Even so, UBC and its members are involved with a number of local non-profit organizations. I thought it would be fitting to recognize a few of them.

The Beacon Hill Civic Association (www.bhcivic.org) was founded in 1922 to help preserve and enhance the quality of life on Beacon Hill. As an advocacy group for residents, it has a committee structure which addresses a wide range of neighborhood issues. For example, the BHCA Zoning and Licensing Committee will hear the proposed plans to develop the parcel of land adjacent to 144 Chestnut Street. This is an open meeting that will be well attended by residents as well as representatives from UBC. If you wish to follow the progress of the project, a web site has been made available by the developer (www.beaverplace.info).

SquashBusters was created in 1995 to provide academic mentoring, community service and squash instruction and competition for middle school students (www.squashbusters.org). A number of UBC members and UBC Coach Mark Lewis have been involved in coaching and tutoring, as well as raising funds for the extraordinary

squash facility on the Northeastern University campus. As SquashBusters increases its capacity to help kids, it welcomes the support of its numerous UBC volunteers.

The Charles River Watershed Association (www.crwa.org) was formed in 1965 in response to concern about the water quality of the Charles River watershed. The CRWA has had an enormous impact on clean-up and protection efforts. UBC members have held a number of leadership and volunteer positions at CRWA over the years. UBC has been an active participant in the CRWA flagging program to indicate water quality to river users, and UBC members have participated in numerous CRWA clean-up days.

While The Esplanade Association (617-227-0365) is only a few years old, it has had a tremendous impact on the beautification and improvement of the Charles River Esplanade. UBC is participating in a study for the renovation of several boating docks that have deteriorated from many years of neglect. In addition, UBC has supported the Geese Peace project to control the burgeoning goose population. Recently, UBC members donated a bench on the Esplanade in memory of our beloved Club Secretary Margaret Connell.

For action, join UBC's outrigger canoe team at the Mayor's Cup to benefit AccesSportAmerica. AccesSport is dedicated to providing disabled children and adults with access to water sports such as canoeing, row-

ing and wind surfing. UBC Coach Tom Bohrer is actively involved with AccesSport, and a number of UBC rowers have come together in recent years to support a wonderful program and have some fun (www.accessportamerica.org).

These are just a few of the many local organizations that have UBC membership support and involvement. While UBC may be an oasis to each of us, membership also presents the opportunity to help many other worthwhile non-profit organizations in our neighborhood.

Gene Clapp,
President ■

Changing Room

Elegance *continued from front...*

the Club, he found himself at the venerable rogues table—he won't say if it was by choice. The table happened to be in a far corner of the Harvard Club, which happened to be next to a window, which happened to be made of stained glass. And so it was that—through the filter of good friends, wine, rich food and cigars—in Charlie's noggin an indelible association was formed between the 150th, the Boat Club, and stained glass.

Charlie had previously noticed that the windows in the shower and changing rooms overlooking Beaver Place had old paper in their bottom halves that looked as though it might have been donated by Max Turner after being used by his cat. It was there presumably to protect the delicate eyes of our neighbors, but it looked

bad. Charlie knew what he had to do, and with the blessing of President Charlie Clapp he spent the next few years quietly working with glass artist Daniel Maher in Somerville to produce a spectacular window commemorating our 150th. The upper half of the window displays the UBC escutcheon, based on the old wooden one that hung on our boathouses until it was restored and hung in the Herrick room a few years ago. A hand-hewn replica took its place on our boathouse. The lower half of the window includes an image of our boathouse as seen from the river, with an oarsman sliding by in a single scull.

The window was installed in the changing room window a few months ago, where it has achieved the miraculous—a 100% positive response from our members. In addition to conceiving the idea and patiently carrying through on it, Charlie footed the bill for the entire enterprise. Enjoy the window, and thank Charlie when you see him. ■

Margaret Connell Memorial Dedication

Charlie Clapp

You are cordially invited to the dedication of two memorials to our Secretary Emeritus, Margaret Connell, on August 5th, 2004 at 5:30 P.M. at the water's edge—just before the Chicken Dinner. These memorials come in the form of a waterfront bench provided by the Esplanade Association and a chair that will reside in our Clubhouse office. The Connell Family was kind enough to name the UBC as



the recipient of any memorial gifts in Margaret's name in recognition of the many fine years that she spent taking care of us and the importance the club came to be in her life. These individual contributions along with a gift from the club provided for these gifts in her name. To have a chair ensconced in the same office that she spent so much time, literally watching the comings and goings of our club, will remind us all over the years of what a fine woman she was. Likewise, we will be able to sit quietly next to the lagoon, in full view of our boathouse on her named bench (ashtray not included!). Please join us for this event—especially if you are planning on coming to this year's Chicken Dinner

On a separate note—the Esplanade Association, which is in charge of the bench program along the Charles River, has earmarked to the UBC a number of benches surrounding the boathouse. As they gear up their fund-raising campaign to better the Esplanade (our neighborhood), they wanted to be sure that if any members of

the UBC had an interest in dedicating a bench to a loved one or in honor of an anniversary, etc., that they would have the opportunity to do so using a bench nearby our club. This is not a perpetual reservation so if you have interest in this opportunity, please contact Linda Cox or Penny Cherubino directly at 617-227-0365. ■

Annual Dinner Features "A look back"

Charlie Clapp

This year's annual dinner was remarkable for its distinct similarity of dinners past. President Gene Clapp has long held that when something works, don't change it and regular attendees of this event would agree. Who's to argue with the format of a cocktail hour that brings together a group of friends long lost or regularly seen, a dining hall evoking the Spartan ambience of an English university the likes of Oxford and a convocation blessed with the stentorian voice of our own Colin Leitch? The stage was set, as always, for a meal of lobster bisque, perfectly cooked filet, good and ample wine and most importantly, great fellowship amongst our peers. It is about a tradition of which our predecessors of the past 153 years would be proud.

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Annual Dinner

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Speaking of our predecessors, the evening's post dinner "entertainment" was about a few of them. Fellow members Cap Kane and Steve Glick prepared a slide show and retrospective of our 150 year history that is about to come out in book form. While the duration of the talk was longer than the 10 minutes usually allotted to speakers, Kane and Glick calculated that a few extra moments of hearing about prior generations of ourselves would hopefully hold the attention of the assembled group. Judging from the reception of the audience after the talk, it was a safe calculation.

The book will be ready for publication this summer and available to members early in '05. After the retrospective, the singing of the club song was done with perhaps a bit more pride and enthusiasm and another successful annual dinner came to a close. ■

NOTICE OF MISSING SHELL

A 1920's vintage, classic wooden boat has gone missing from our Boathouse—to the concern of its owner. It has a blue deck and was stored in the upper racks (de-rigged) for a number of years. If anyone knowing of its whereabouts or having information regarding "last sightings" could call Charlie Clapp at 617-357-9110, it would be greatly appreciated.

Recent accolades for UBC members

Nick O'Connor

The American Heart Association, at a special luncheon on May 7th, awarded the prestigious C. Miller Fisher Award to member Bob Ackerman. Bob founded the Neurovascular Lab at MGH where he made significant contributions to the diagnosis and treatment of strokes for which he was given this award.

Nick Tilney's book *Transplantation* relating the fascinating history of organ transplants came out this year. Not only has it sold briskly, but it recently received a very favorable review in the Science section of the New York Times. ■

Squash News

Mark Lewis

The UBC finished another squash season with all of its state league teams making the playoffs. The C team lost in the finals to a very strong University Club team. In the individual state championships Tyler Hindermann won the 35+ and the 40+ titles and Jonathan Kelly won the 4.0 division.

In the club championships Tyler Hindermann defeated Philip Constable in the A club championships. Nick Whitman defeated John Gates in the B's. Archie McIntyre defeated Scudder Sinclair in the C's. Tim Nash defeated Geoff Hargadon in the D's. Chris Fox defeated

Bob Loring in the 50+. Clay Yonce defeated Bill Boardman in the Handicap.

Bill Boardman received the Ray Rodriguez most improved player award.

This summer squash pro Mark Lewis will be available for lessons. Also the Tuesday evening clinics will continue through the summer.

The summer will end with the Summer Doldrums squash tournament to be held the weekend of September 3rd.

Thanks to all of the team captains for leading our teams. See you at the club, Mark. ■

Rowing News

Nick O'Connor

UBC Members Coach CRI Youth Rowing Program

This past fall and spring, Tom Bohrer coached the Community Rowing (CRI)





youth boys rowing program. UBC members Steve McKiernan and John Macuga assisted Tom. The CRI boys had their most successful season ever by qualifying 2 boats for the Youth National Championships in Cincinnati, Ohio. UBC members Nick Ryan and Pat Sullivan (summer rowing member) were part of the CRI team which finished 8th at the Nationals. UBC also assisted the CRI boys team by loaning the Empacher coxed four to finish out the last 3 weeks of the season.

Summer Rowing News:

The UBC summer Farm Team is under way. The Farm Team is a competitive sculling program for recent high school graduates and college rowers (14 total). The team is made up of both men and women and will compete this summer at the Independence Day Regatta (Philadelphia), Cromwell Cup (Boston) and US Nationals (Cincinnati).

UBC members Samantha Twardowski, Catherine

Infantino, Rich Montgomery and Aleks Zosuls will compete in the US National Trials for non-Olympic events, July 5-10 in Princeton, New Jersey.

Catherine Humblet competed in the US Olympic Trials in May in the double sculls event. Catherine and partner Katie Madigan finished 3rd.

Steve Tucker and Greg Ruckman are currently competing for a spot on the US Olympic Team in the lightweight double sculls.

UBC Sweep Program:

After winning the HOC club four event, the sweep program is on the rise again at UBC. Currently there is an eight getting on the water 2-3 times per week. There is a core group of 10-12 men and 3 coxswains that are making this happen and they are very fast.

In April 2004, UBC raced in the San Diego Crew Classic. We had a great time and finished 3rd in the Master's "C" event and 2nd in the Club event. Members that made the trip were, Lloyd Dahmen Sr., Sib

Reppert, Jeb Besser, Dan Debonis, Chris Ward, Steve McKiernan, Ollie Scholle and Coach Tom Bohrer. Future members Ken Boyle and Derek Constantino (coxswain) were part of the boat as well. The racing was fast and fun and the time spent together was wonderful making for a truly great UBC weekend. ■

Summer Members

The summer members rowing program started on June 7th. They are a fine and enthusiastic group. Please welcome:

- Colleen Banfield
- Jeffrey Bartsch
- Regan Bernhart
- Terry Byca
- Francis Cuddy
- Frederick Dewey
- Deborah Dryer
- William Dunn
- Katherine Ireland
- Christopher Johnson
- Andrew Krauss
- Cameron McColgan
- Fernando Mendoza
- Michael Miles
- Evan Paninch
- Russ Salisbury
- Emily Saul
- Patrick Sullivan
- Claudia Wagner
- Sarah Williams-Raison

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Important to Note:

Jane Hester, the Club secretary, will not be in the office on Fridays during the summer months; she will make every effort to check messages and e-mail on those days.

Important Dates:

- **Annual Chicken Dinner—**
August 5th, 5:30 pm
- **Summer Doldrums—**
Weekend of September 3rd
- **UBC–UBC Regatta—**
In Boston September 11th
- **Club Rowing Championships—**
A head race on September 16th
- **Head of the Charles—**
October 23rd and 24th