

Dragon Bytes

Race on the River News

Volume II Issue 4

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www.raceontheriver.com

Mark Your Calendars!

May 15, 2003	Full payment due
June 19, 2003	Team Captain's Meeting
July 19-25	Practices on the East River
July 25	Opening Ceremonies, The BBQ Kings and the Youth Race event
July 26th	<i>Race Day</i>

Race on the River nominated for Tourism Awards

The *Race* has been nominated to receive the Pictou County Tourism Association Rising Star and Shining Star Awards. The Awards will be presented at the PCTA Annual General Meeting and Gala on May 29, 2003. For more information go to the PCTA website at www.tourismpictoucounty.com.

Get Ready to Cook with the BBQ Kings!

The BBQ Kings are Grillin' and Willin'. The band has a rootsy, rhythmic groove that "grills" original tunes and favorites from the worlds of zydeco, rock, country, ska and reggae.

The BBQ Kings include Stan Carew, John Michael Gray, "Deputy Doug" Barron, Mario Bradet, and Costas Halavrezos.

If it's been too long since a band moved you – made you bop and grin (or even bump and grind to a sultry Tex-Mex waltz) – then The BBQ Kings are what you've been missing.

Catch them after the Opening Ceremonies, July 25th, at Glasgow Square.

Interesting Bytes from History

This poem is from an ancient Chinese poet who describes how a Dragon Boat can lift your spirits.

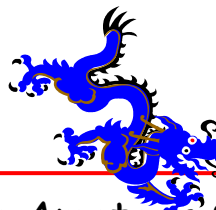
*Many a heavy sigh I heaved in my despair
Grieving that I was born in such an unlucky time,
I plucked soft lotus petals to wipe my welling tears
That fell down in rivers and wet my coat front.
I knelt on my out spread skirts and poured my plaint out,
And the righteousness within me was clearly manifest.
I yoked a team of jade dragons to a phoenix-figured car
And waited for the wind to come, to soar up on my journey.*

- Ch'u Tz'u

Paddlers looking for a Boat

If you are short team members please let us know and we will connect you with a paddler looking for a team.

Back issues of Volume II of Dragon Bytes is available on our website
www.raceontheriver.com



A word from The Nova Scotia Amateur Sport Fund

Paddlers raised approximately \$80,000 in pledges last summer for the *Race on the River 2002* Dragon Boat festival. With over 4,000 spectators in attendance, thirty-three teams participated in the festival to raise funds for the Race's benefactors including the Nova Scotia Amateur Sport Fund.

The Nova Scotia Amateur Sport Fund is a Sport Nova Scotia administered program, which provides financial assistance for dedicated athletes, coaches, officials and sport organizations, so they may continue their commitment to sport. The program is province-wide, helping participants to overcome the financial barriers to amateur sport.

The Sport Fund allocates up to \$50,000 twice per year (March and September) through accepting applications in 6 categories; athlete, coach, official, community sport organization, provincial sport organization, and post secondary award. Since the program began in 2000, over 275 grants totaling over \$305,000 have been allocated directly to amateur sport across the province.

Proceeds from the 2002 Race on the River Dragon Boat Festival along with the Aliant Halifax Dragon Boat Festival contributed to the Sport Fund's September 2002 and March 2003 allocations. These allocations provided over \$98,000 in amateur sport funding.

Fifty athletes received funding to attend competitions, training camps, and to access top level coaching. Athlete Lee Ann Dalling from New Glasgow was awarded \$2000 to attend the World Benchpress Championships in Luxembourg and Eric Gillis from Antigonish received funding to attend a U.S. track & field competition and the Distance Running Centre in Ontario. Funding was also awarded to 25 sport organizations to purchase equipment, start new programs and clubs, and host clinics. In March 2003 the East River Competitive Canoe/Kayak Club was awarded \$4500 to start a new canoe/kayak club in Pictou County.

Thanks to the following businesses for their support of *Race on the River 2003*.

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Our Charities

The proceeds of this year's pledge campaign will be split between three charities. Women Alike Breast Cancer Support Group will receive 40% of the pledges raised, Special Olympics of Pictou County, Antigonish County, and Colchester County will receive 30%, and the Nova Scotia Amateur Sport Fund will receive 30%.

For more information about *Race on the River* contact:

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