



Dragon Bytes

Race on the River News

Volume II Issue 5

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www.raceontheriver.com

Mark Your Calendars!

June 19, 2003 7:00pm	Team Captain's Meeting
	Glasgow Square
July 19-25	Practice Times
July 25	6:30pm Youth Races
	7:00pm Opening Ceremonies
	8:00pm The BBQ Kings
July 26th	<i>Race Day</i>

Interesting Bytes from History

The legend of Qu Yuan, the poet/philosopher and his political protest against a corrupt regime remains an important celebration in Chinese culture, and has become a world-wide sporting event.

In the fourth century B.C., China was under political and military strife. This era is also known as the Warring States period. Qu Yuan, disgruntled with the ruler and the state of affairs, protested against the regime by jumping into the Mei Lo River. According to legend, local fishermen, upon seeing their beloved poet's act of courage, raced out with their boats in an attempt to save him. To their dismay, they arrived too late. To prevent his body from being eaten by the fish, they beat the waters furiously with their paddles and threw rice dumplings wrapped in silk into the river to distract the fish.

The re-enactment of the villagers racing out to save Qu Yuan has become today's dragon boat race festival.

Teams to Participate in Opening Ceremonies

This year teams will participate in the Opening Ceremonies along with representatives from the three organizations benefiting from monies raised by the paddlers.

This ceremony will be preceded by a demonstration Youth Race involving more than sixty youth from across Pictou County. Youth aged 12 to 18 will participate in the county's first ever youth event.

The BBQ Kings will provide lively music after the ceremony.

Come and join in the fun.

Race on the River wins PCTA Award

Pictou County Tourism Association presented the *Race on the River* with the 2003 Rising Star Award at the PCTA Gala on May 29, 2003. The Rising Star Award is presented to a new tourism sector individual, business, attraction or event, which shows the greatest potential for tourism development in Pictou County.

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 are available on our website
www.raceontheriver.com



The 2003 Pledge Program

We have added exciting incentives to our pledge program this year. Prizes will be awarded to paddlers as follows, depending on the amount raised:

\$50. - \$99.	A <i>Race on the River</i> 2003 hat
\$100.-\$249.	A <i>Race on the River</i> travel clock and hat
\$250.- \$999.	A <i>Race on the River</i> bag and hat
\$1000. and up	A <i>Race on the River</i> jacket and hat



The top three pledge earners will receive one of the following prize packages:

- 13 ` Spirit Kayak with paddle, life jacket, and accessories, donated by Century Saw and Marine
- AudioVox cell phone package with time donated by Aliant
- Summer Patio package including two Adirondack chairs and table, (Summer Street Industries), \$100. worth of lobster (Robert Porier), and a deck planter and plant (West River Greenhouses)

Important

Pledge/Team Captains: Please remind all your paddlers that **receipts will be issued for pledges of \$15. or more only** where indicated, and only if the name and address of the donor are **complete and legible**.

Local teams are to turn in pledges on Thursday, July 24th, between 6:00 and 8:30 at the Bank of Montreal on Provost Street. Out of town teams (Truro, Antigonish, Halifax, and Cape Breton) are to turn pledges in on Race Day (time to be announced). Prizes will be awarded based on totals received at these times.

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

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& MacDonald
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S.Allen and Sons

New!

Team Prizes!

Three new prizes have been added this year.

Prizes will be awarded for

- Most Spirited Team
- Best Team Banner
- Best Dressed Drummer

So, get busy and get creative!

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

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