



Dragon Bytes

Race on the River News
Volume IV Issue 1
28 February 2005

www.raceontheriver.com

A note from the Editor:

The fourth annual *Race on the River* will be held on Friday, August 5th and Saturday, August 6th.

We start the year with a new Board of Directors for the New Glasgow Dragon Boat Society, the organization that is responsible for bringing the *Race on the River* to Pictou County each summer.

While there are some fresh new faces on the Board this year, many of the familiar faces are back for this year's *Race*.

In November the Society said thank you and goodbye to retiring Board members, Paul McCracken, Gary Mingo, and Rich Cameron. These three men have been involved with the *Race* since its first year and their contribution on the Board will be missed.

The *Race* began as an idea in Roger Swarbrick's imagination in 2001 and was turned into a reality by a small group of hardworking Pictou County citizens, many of who had never attended a dragon boat race! Since its birth in 2003 the *Race* has raised over a quarter of a million dollars for its benefactors, it has seen over 1000 participants paddle hard and strong on the East River each summer, and has basked in the hard work of its over 150 volunteers.

The *Race on the River* belongs to all of those who have contributed in the past four years. As the new President of the New Glasgow Dragon Boat Society, and the new Chair of *Race on the River*, I realize that it is a very special charge that has been placed in my care. I look forward to celebrating it with you all!

I want to end by recognizing the hard work, leadership, and dedication of Roger Swarbrick. Roger's belief in the *Race*, its Board, and its volunteers has been unwavering and his commitment to *Race on the River* has been second to none. Thank you, Roger. The Board will continue to benefit from his involvement as Past President.

~ Susan

Happy New year!

We all get to crow with pride this year as we enter into the Chinese Year of the Rooster!

Sobeys is leading the excitement into this New Year with continuing its commitment as Presenting Sponsor of *Race on the River 2005*. Thank you, Sobeys



Something else to Crow about!

Last summer at *Race on the River 2004* you and your teammates raised over \$105,000 in pledges in support of our four benefactors

- Women Alike Breast Cancer Survivors' Society
- Special Olympics
- PC Prostate Cancer Support Assn
- NS Amateur Sport Fund

These funds have gone to support athletic programs for Special Olympians, Breast Cancer survivors, Prostate Cancer survivors, and amateur athletes, coaches, and officials. They have also supported awareness, community programs, and research initiatives in both breast cancer and prostate cancer.

Race on the River 2005 **Executive**

Chair	Susan Hartley
Vice Chair	Joel Sellers
Past Chair	Roger Swarbrick
Secretary	Sandra Anderson
Treasurer	Crystal Smith



**Team Captain's
TO DO LIST**

- Registration for Race on the River 2005 has started. If you have not received registration information by early March please let me know. Teams will be registered on a first paid-first in basis so don't forget to get your full registration fee in with your registration information as soon as possible!
- Choose a Pledge Captain for your team. Your team's pledge captain can organize the fundraising efforts of your teammates and ensure that your team contributes in a big way to the overall success of the Festival's fund raising goals.
- Let us know if you need a letter supporting your fundraising efforts. If you are having raffles or 50-50 draws you will need a lottery license and can apply for one with a supporting letter from our organization.
- Post this Dragon Bytes where your teammates can see it!

Highlighting our Benefactors

The next four issues of Dragon Bytes will highlight one of our four benefactors. In this issue the Nova Scotia Amateur Sport Fund is our focus.

The Nova Scotia Amateur Sport Fund raises money through fundraising events and donations. The second largest benefactor to the fund is the Race on the River Dragon Boat Festival, contributing \$21,140 in August 2004.

The following is a list of 2004 Highland region recipients and their endeavors:

Athletes Jaret MacIntosh
 Colin Edwards
 Eric Gillis
 Lee Ann Dalling
 Cory Avery

Coach Andrew Parsons

Official Kelly Thompson
 David Cook

Community Sport Organizations
 Pictou County Fencing Club
 Antigonish Aquanauts Swim Club
 Highland Region Junior and Disabled
 Sailing Association
 Antigonish Storim Boys Volleyball Program
 Albion Amateur Boxing Club

~ Jamie Ferguson, Sport Nova Scotia



The Rooster is the "I can do better" inspirer of the Chinese Zodiac. This August Dragon Boaters in the *Race on the River* will inspire us all with their doing better. Whether raising pledges or having fun in the boat – Let's do it!

Please note:

We have a new address: *Race on the River*
PO Box 641
New Glasgow, Nova Scotia
B2H 5E7

For more information about *Race on the River* contact:
Susan Hartley (sc.hartley@ns.sympatico.ca)
or go to our website: www.raceontheriver.com