



# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 1 | DEC. 2020



## GREETINGS HRC MEMBERS!

Thank you for taking the time to check out this debut quarterly newsletter for HRC. In our last officers meeting we agreed that a quarterly newsletter would be a great tool for keeping everyone aware of club activities, news, and achievements. I hope that you find this communication useful, and please feel free to let us know anything that we can do to make it better going forward.

It goes without saying that 2020 was an unusual year. The pandemic brought challenges to all of us, and certainly impacted the plans that we had for rowing. Regattas were cancelled and restrictions to the park and to multiseat rowing meant that there was little semblance of a traditional rowing season. That said there were many positive developments worth celebrating for HRC. We welcomed four new members, added a single to our fleet, added a new boat rack, and replaced our oar rack. Several club members spent much time on our beautiful reservoir in singles, and despite the setbacks, 2020 still saw the most total rowing yet by HRC members. In addition, we were able to get a permit application for a dock submitted to the TVA, and we also began working with the park on plans for a future boathouse. Imagine what 2021 will bring!

At the close of this tumultuous year, I would like to take a moment to express my gratitude to each of you for your involvement and support of this club. We really have an exceptional group, and it continues to be a true pleasure working with you. Please reach out to me if you have any questions, or if you have any suggestions for ways to improve this club. I wish each of you a warm and peaceful holiday season.

Sincerely,

*Joel Vincent*  
Holston Rowing Club President

## NEWS SPOTLIGHT

We were featured in the Johnson City Press in July! Check out the article here:

[https://www.johnsoncitypress.com/living/outdoors/holston-rowing-club-promotes-lifelong-sport/article\\_0c2e1c8a-bec4-11ea-806a-33a39964eb6f.html](https://www.johnsoncitypress.com/living/outdoors/holston-rowing-club-promotes-lifelong-sport/article_0c2e1c8a-bec4-11ea-806a-33a39964eb6f.html)

# NEW MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

## SANDY LARKINS:

- Sandy joined the team in March and quickly became involved in the board – she is now the Membership Chair. She developed an innovative way to safely transport a single scull and oars from the enclosure to the water using a kayak cart – super helpful! Sandy enjoyed rowing many summer weekday and weekend mornings. She began rowing in DC after sitting through her older daughter’s crew practices.

## VALERIE BLAKELY:

- Valerie joined the team in May after graduating from Middlebury college. She has impressed us with her ability to balance while standing in a single! She rowed for the first time in singles at Craftsbury the summer before starting college, then she joined Middlebury’s team, was captain of the Women’s Crew, and rowed in 4s and 8s. A highlight from her college rowing career was racing in a 4 at the 2018 Head of the Charles.

## WHAT’S NEW

- A new quarterly newsletter aims to keep everyone up to date with the club
- 2 new pairs of brand new oars have arrived!
- Wiring for a single has been purchased, and will be installed in the spring
- Fancy new turtle shells arrived for those who ordered – snazzy (and safe)!

## DIANNE YOUNGS

- Dianne joined the team in June, adding rowing to her running and yoga routines. After joining she quickly became involved at a higher level leading our dock building effort which is well on its way!

## DAN ROSS:

- Dan joined the team in August. He is busy busy, but we hope to get him out more this upcoming spring. He helped build the rowing club at Carnegie Melon and later rowed in Boston.

# WINTER READINESS

We are winding down for the winter, so a few boats have been covered and we have removed boat/oar cleaner. If you’d like to take a boat out between now and spring, be sure to:

- Bring your own oar cleaner (1/3c bleach in a gallon of water) and boat cleaner (we’ve been using Rain-Ex, but even a mix of soap and water will do)
- Be sure to strap down boats well when you leave
- Check water temp before going out and ensure water + air temp > 100F
- Make sure someone knows you are going out to row

# CLUB GOALS

## GOAL: HRC ROWING DOCK

**TARGET:** Completion in Spring of 2021

**DETAILS:** Dianne Youngs graciously offered to lead our effort to build a low profile rowing close to our rack. The permit application was submitted with the approval of the Park Manager, and is currently undergoing TVA's review process. We don't expect any major barriers to approval from the TVA.

## GOAL: LEARN TO ROW

**TARGET:** Complete inaugural learn to row in 2021

**DETAILS:** We would like to have the dock completed before offering a learn to row class. We hope this will be complete by early summer.

## GOAL: BOAT HOUSE

**TARGET:** Plans finalized and fundraising begun in 2021

**STATUS:** In early 2021, Joel met with the WSPSP Park Manager and the regional facilities director to look at potential sites. The park is very open to building a boat house on several sites, but more discussion is needed to weigh the pros and cons before confirming a site and proceeding with plans.

## GOAL: 2021 RACING

**TARGET:** Racing in Spring Sprints and Fall Head Races

**STATUS:** We would love to put together some boats for races (assuming they are able to occur). Please contact Joel if you are interested in racing, and let's see what we can do!

# ROWING EVENTS

- Holston Rowing Club Annual Meeting - April 2021
- [Dogwood Masters Classic](#) - May 29, 2021
- [Indoor Rowing Competitions](#)
- [Head of the Charles Regatta](#) - October 23-24, 2021
- 2020 Rowing Olympics in Tokyo - July 23-30, 2021

## HOLIDAY CHALLENGE

The Holiday Challenge is a virtual indoor rowing challenge that Concept 2 hosts every year. The standard challenge is to row 100K or 200K meters between Thanksgiving and Christmas. If you hit 100K, Concept 2 will donate 2 cents per 1K to one of a selection of charities. If you have access to an erg, join us! If you don't think you can complete the standard 100K, then come up with your own goal. This will be a fantastic way to build fitness heading into the winter, create some fun accountability, and to spread holiday cheer by earning money towards a great cause! More info: <https://log.concept2.com/challenges/holiday>