

ORANGE OAR

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"Finding Balance"
Ashley Marsh, 2014

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Dear SARA Friends ...



I've lost count of the times I've tried and failed to write this President's Message; in growing frustration I've searched for something relevant, something insightful and – in my most optimistic moments – something helpful.

I've got nothing.

Hopefully this edition of the Orange Oar will be a welcome diversion, a reminder of better times past and harbinger of those to come. The brutal reality is the pandemic and the deaths and economic devastation it has wrought are a jarring smack in the head for those of us – myself included – who've become too insulated and too isolated and too comfortable; complacent even. A lot of what was "important" yesterday is clearly not today.

And yet I find myself returning to rowing – a lot. At spare moments I watch and re-watch past years' races, search for video of events and interviews and summaries, click on links to Instagram and Twitter posts as soon as they pop up in my feeds. Maybe that's because rowing is a much needed albeit momentary reprieve from the constant drumbeat of bad news.

This crystallized when I watched video of the last practice of the men's squad before the season abruptly ended (<https://twitter.com/CuseRowing/status/1250900490998734855>). The guys were hitting it hard, getting lots of run at a full-power 30, swinging down the lake on a gorgeous early spring afternoon. It brought back dusty memories from decades ago when the most important thing in the world was making the boat go faster.

When the men and women launched that day, they had no way to know it would be their last row of the season, and for some, their last ever at Syracuse. And we're all learning that life is uncertain at best, that nothing can be taken for granted. I'm not a believer in the "everything happens for a reason" mantra, but I strongly believe that there are things we can – and should – learn from tragedies.

For me, the life lesson is you'll never know which row is your last, so take every stroke like it is.

Be well – Joe.

Joe Paduda, SU 1980
SARA President

Serendipity Strikes

Bob Resnick (class year 1962) was a Syracuse 'townie.' He grew up near the Daily Orange print shop's then-location near Irving Avenue and E. Raynor Avenue. Bob played basketball in high school, but didn't have not much academic success — graduating last, he thinks, in his high school with a D- average.

About that academic thing: "It never occurred to me to study and be prepared for class. I was surprised to receive an acceptance letter from Syracuse." And he believes (and was told) that his application was accidentally put in the 'accept' pile, rather than the 'reject' pile by the Admissions Office, via a clerical error. Bob had enlistment papers for the United States Navy, it was only at his father's insistence that he apply to SU. So, serendipity played a role in Bob matriculating at SU.

Serendipity struck Bob, again, on the forehead this time, when, during freshman registration in the gym collecting those IBM cards, Mike Larsen and Tom Rouen came up to him and asked how tall Bob was and when he could not walk through the three-oared portal set at six feet high by Varsity oarsmen. They recruited him: "Have you ever tried rowing? (No)". The next day he met Frosh Coach Vic Michaelson, who introduced him to the sport of rowing known then as, 'crew.' Bob was a 'walk-on' who thought port was an expensive after dinner drink.

He not only learned how to row but fondly remembers the voluntary 4-week fall practices and, in 1959, his boat won the culminating Fall Regatta (intra-squad only, and 1-mile in length). Sitting on a shelf in his home is the S.A.R.A. mug for that win. He was in the 1st Frosh 4-seat, his entire freshman year. In the photo below, Tony Johnson was the stroke followed Linn Hyde, Jerry Vandewater, Gary Gardner, Bob, Dick Turner, Dick Thome, Ray Holmes with Bill Hider, coxswain.

Per Bob: Tony, Linn, Jerry and Dick Thome had rowed in high school — maybe others. Bob rowed JV his sophomore and junior years at SU.

Serendipity struck, well, again, when he needed a M-W-F 9AM class the Spring of his sophomore year as to not conflict with practice and found a place in General Psychology. The course became a "professional psychology" major, and ultimately, a life-long career.

Bob ruptured two lumbar discs during Spring Camp his senior year, and was forced to retire from rowing. He still has, actually his daughter has, his SARA blanket. Bob has mixed feelings about his medical departure from rowing. He made a mistake by never speaking to Coach Schoel about his injury and the Coach never sought him out.

1959 SU Frosh Crew, Bob is in the four seat.



Bob apparently learned how to study and received his BA in Psychology from SU in 1962. Then more serendipity occurred: He attended Temple University (Philadelphia) and was among the last to be allowed to complete a Masters in one year, in 1963. And then Bob learned how to really study, not just study. He obtained his PhD. in Psychology from the University of Tennessee, having withstood 20 rejections over two years.

Bob did his internship at the University of Tennessee Medical Units in Memphis, TN, and went on to great success professionally as a clinician and educator in Virginia. He was elected President of the American Psychological Association in 1995. Bob, Fran and two of their children reside in Richmond, VA. One daughter, her husband and son live in Greenwich Village, New York City.

Bob successfully pursued full court basketball as a lifetime sport (retiring at age 68), icing his back and knees after every game, and gold medaling at the Huntsman World Senior Games and also at the Virginia Senior Games.

NOTE: The Orange Oar Publisher recently caught up with Bob via teleconference. Serendipity played a role for this article, as Bob sent in some images of his memorabilia for consideration for archiving by the University or some type of public display. Jason Premo has agreed to house the pieces for the time being. Thanks Bob, for the memories! – OO Editor.



Open Mic:

“When I look back on it, I really enjoyed it. But it was the craziest thing I had ever done. I had an incredible experience. Sitting there, hour after hour, looking at the back of someone’s head! I never thought of quitting, and was despondent when the Spring Training Camp spine injury ended my career.”

– Bob Resnick, 1962

SU Junior Varsity lineup (trial only): Stroke Dick Thome, Linn Hyde, Doug Lehmann, Chuck Levy, Bob Resnick, Dick Allen, Dick Turner?, Ray Holmes, Coxswain: Charlie Roberts.





In racing shirts (L-R): Doug Lehmann, Linn Hyde, Dick Thome, Dick Allen, Bob Resnick, Chuck Levy, Bob Tobin, John ("Pete") Cunningham, Ray Holmes, Allen Weitsman; Coxswains: Charlie Roberts, Joe Gianuzzi, and Bill Hider.



Memories of the 50s & 60s

As to late-1950's - to - early 1960's memories, Bob Resnick remembers ...

... Very little interaction between the athletes and the coaches.

... Checking with Neil Pratt, trainer, on how to protect their hands.

... Just seeing a chalk board line-up on the wall by the locker room at the Boathouse.

... The coaches mostly talking with the coxswains before practices.

... No seat racing, just seat assignments on the chalk board.

... Occasionally boats were pulled alongside each other and seats were swapped

... Rowing in the "... noisy, belt driven, ugly tanks ... we could barely row 20-22 strokes per minute."

... Gary Gardner being the Captain in 1962.

... Earl Margeson was the rigger, and lived in the upstairs apartment at the Boathouse.

... At the Boathouse for camps, "... having 3 meals a day ... the dorms were unheated for spring breaks ... we slept in our 'woolies' (workout gear), and the dorm not being air-conditioned in the summer ... doing the 7 AM and 4 PM workouts."

... IRA camps were hot, and only the upperclassmen were allowed to sleep on the screened-in porch.

... Bob Tobin teaching the oarsmen how to play bridge, which he continues to play with his wife Fran (after he taught her how).

... After dinners at the Boathouse during spring camp, one boat each night had to provide entertainment. He particularly remembers his Frosh boat successfully roasting the V boat on one occurrence, and his own expertise at successfully parodying a nameless senior.

... Dynamite being used one Spring Camp to break up ice in the Seneca River.

... Visiting crews stayed in dorms at the State Fair Grounds on the west side of Onondaga Lake.

... Doing homework and term papers at night in the Boathouse during the spring camp. And there was a TV.

... Heid's hotdogs in Liverpool, best anywhere (on the right along Onondaga Lake). Bob says the Hofmann Brand (used at Heid's) can now be gotten in Richmond.

... On campus, winter training runs were about three miles, and followed this route: from the gym to a right on Comstock Avenue to the Oakwood Cemetery and through it coming out below the railroad tracks. Then turn right heading for the stairs and tunnel that ran under the tracks to Standard Street and two blocks later, left on Stadium Place, right of East Raynor Ave and around Archbold Stadium's right side and back to the gym. "After the run, we did 20 flights of the concrete seats in Archbold Stadium, sometimes shoveling snow off of them first."

... Being addicted to 'Half Moons' (a 3-inch diameter black and white cookie popular in Syracuse). It is the buttermilk in the recipe that makes them unique. They are referred to as 'Black and Whites' outside of Syracuse, but without buttermilk. His favorites were from the Lyncourt Bakery.

... Being a 'townie' and not socializing much with teammates who lived on campus.

... On one occasion Bob met "Tip" Goes.

Finding Balance

On the Seneca River and Onondaga Lake, Ashley Marsh (SU Class Year 2014) found rowing unique. What attracted her most was the team focus of getting the boat going fast, versus other sports' goals of some individuals striving to score points. Even though during Ashley's first attempts at rowing (late March / early April), the water temperatures were cold, Ashley found her passion and niche on the waters of Central NY.

A Baldwinsville, N.Y. native, Ashley tried every sport except soccer and basketball through middle school. She also tried track in eighth grade ("I hated running!"). Ashley's family always encouraged her to try new sports until she found her passion, her niche. Coach Pat Wilson, also the librarian at Durgee Jr. High School, encouraged Ashley to try rowing, because of Ashley's height. So in ninth grade Ashley went out for the novice crew. Ashley credits Coach Wilson with having the patience with Ashley's learning style while also starting from scratch. In Ashley's words: "I knew nothing, and not everything worked well at the start. As an example: it took about 20 people to put a shell in the water!"

Other successful coaching values and habits instilled by Coach Wilson including working with athletes where they were currently, and figuring out ways to help them progress to the next level. Ashley remembers: "Coach Wilson was also able to speak to the whole boat, while also helping the individual oars with their personal goals."

Ashley's novice year would set the tone for her transition the next year to Coach Chris Ludden (SU Class Year 1991) at Baldwinsville HS, who was also Ashley's geometry teacher. With Coach Ludden, each year Ashley built her skills up, to the point of being recruited by several D1 rowing programs. Coach Ludden facilitated Ashley talking with then-SUWROW's Head Coach Kris Milburn. Ashley had settled on pursuing a career in education, so studying at SU was an easy academic choice.

Balancing classroom work with two-a-day rowing practices was going to be a challenge at any university.



Coach Ashley launching a shell on familiar waters.

Of several rowing suitors, SU was the most willing to help with scheduling classes as well as being flexible with Ashley's student-teaching requirements. So Ashley embarked on her collegiate career just 20 minutes away from her home. "I knew the (Seneca) River, I knew the (Onondaga) Lake;" and: "Many times I saw the SU Women rowing, and I respected them so much!"

SUWROW's D1 rowing workload was an initial challenge for Ashley, but she adjusted. She found the balance required to be a successful student-athlete. "I lived on campus, but felt a world away from home!" Ashley's favorite memories include winning the Big East V4 as a sophomore, rowing a 40 stroke rate to beat the likes of Notre Dame, Louisville and UConn. Ashley also relishes helping build the tradition under Coach Moore of striving for an NCAA selection. Alas, her senior year, the excitement built during the season, but resulted in their non-selection and hard fought but humbled final bubble status.

Ashley has spent her nascent teaching career in Syracuse City Schools. She has her own classroom now, at Corcoran High School. Ashley is putting her degrees (B.S. in Inclusive Elementary Education and Special Education, and M.S. in Special Education) to great use, teaching biology to students of many abilities. Ashley's main teaching goal is to help prepare her students to lead an independent life. Communicating and connecting with the students at their point of need, patterned by Coach Wilson, is Ashley's method.

What is most rewarding to Ashley is witnessing the many “Ahah!” moments when students dig in more to learn and seemingly reach thresholds previously thought unattainable. Of significance, considering the Coronavirus pandemic, is the more-than-expected reaching out from students for their trusted teacher’s help. Ashley continues to provide her students with the consistency they need. This brings her comfort to know that their classroom time is working, that her students are learning, and that her students are becoming self-advocates for independent living.

Ashley coaches Boy’s Volleyball in the fall, as well Girl’s Rowing in the spring for the Syracuse All District Teams. And she also is the Program Director for the Syracuse Chargers, where she creates programs and assigns coaches for the summer and fall seasons. In addition to mimicking Coach Wilson’s style, Ashley realizes that not all high school athletes dream of D1 athletic careers. But she is helping them find a comfortable balance of time between academics and athletics; while giving them many tools for future success. Some of Ashley’s students stay in touch with her through their college years, as Ashley still does with Coach Ludden when she needs a little coaching advice.



Coach Ashley with Coach Chris Ludden at the Chargers Hall of Fame dinner in 2018.



Ashley’s legacy images: Left – Gillian Carlucci and Ashley; Above – Gina Biascochea, Amy Ludovici, Kristina Herb, Ashley, Laura Adams with the V4 Big East Champions Trophy; Lower – Ashley rowing with Amy Ludovici.



NOTE: The Orange Oar Publisher recently caught up with Ashley via teleconference thanks to Gillian Carlucci’s introduction via e-mail. – OO Editor.

The Right Choice



Now in his 10th season of rowing, Nicholas Kohl (class year 2022), transferred to SU after 2 years of university studies in Italy, to pursue his passion for rowing, as well as an undergraduate degree in environmental engineering. Like many oars, he had a serendipitous route to rowing. A few years of soccer left Nicholas without an athletic passion, so he decided to give rowing a try. Monate Rowing Club was Nicholas' first rowing club, and it was within a short drive of his home in Italy. So, why not? Per Nicholas: "I am happy rowing," and: "I continue to enjoy rowing."

Having been born in Switzerland, his family moved to Italy shortly thereafter. Nicholas started learning English at age 6, continuing to improve his English language skills via private lessons to prepare for university studies, and then ramped up his conversational English when Syracuse University Assistant Coach Jason Elefant expressed an interest in his rowing talents and educational dreams.

Jacopo Bertone (class year 2022), had been recruited by Jason previously, from the Gavirate Rowing Club where Nicholas and Jacopo had rowed together. Jacopo and Nicholas only lived about 30 minutes apart. So once Coach Jason had recruited Jacopo, Jason discovered another talent, with demonstrated rowing success. Academic interests, including the clear academic support, convinced Nicholas to reciprocate Jason's interests in Nicholas' rowing talent with his own academic interests in SU.

A few conversations with Coach Dave led to an in-person meeting. "It was a cool connection," Nicholas reflects, hearing of Coach Dave's stated desire to return the Men's Crew to the IRA podium, combined with the academic excellence of SU.

Apparently Coach Dave communicated his holistic approach to the team, how the upperclassmen support the Frosh, and how the entire team would work together to make the Grand Finals again. So now SU Men's Crew has two Italian rowers on board, with their eyes set on success at the IRAs and elsewhere on America's rowing waters.

Having Jacopo on the team already, ... "has helped me settle [in] easier here ...", and having a friend already on the crew increased his connections to the team while also helping Nicholas get to know the other oars quicker and to make more friends (including Nicolay Yngsdal (class year 2022)). Sometimes, yes, Nicholas and Jacopo do speak Italian unknowingly in front of the English speaking teammates. But yes, sometimes, also, they can drift back and forth, also unknowingly. They are not having secret conversations, Nicholas assures me.



Evening at Ten Eyck, 2019.

Nicholas compares the D1 rowing workload as similar to what he experienced in Italy. A large contrast, however, is the academic support at SU. For Nicholas, "It is easier to schedule classes, while not missing practices." And Jason Leslie (Academic Coordinator for Men's Crew, Women's Rowing, Women's Lacrosse) guiding athletes through the academic rigors will likely lead to more success for oars in the classroom.

Nicholas was fortunate to travel back home to Italy for two weeks for the winter break, to catch up with his family in person, especially his mother's cooking. Per Nicholas: "My Mom is a very good cook." He calls home about every two weeks, to share updates on how his days and weeks are going. And he also uses social media in between those calls. About his parent's on-going support, Nicholas states: "My parents are very happy for me here at SU."

What would Nicholas tell prospective international recruits about rowing for SU? "I made the right choice!" And he adds: "We have a great group [of rowers] here, we support each other. We are all friends."

What does the future hold for Nicholas? For now, he has at least a couple more years of rowing at SU. Nicholas may pursue graduate studies (and rowing) at Oxford Brookes, and then he would like to work on interdisciplinary design teams in environmental engineering as a designer. Nicholas is hoping for an EE internship in 2021, to help clarify his career goals. Water quality improvements, as well as air quality improvements, are likely targets for Nicholas' professional interests.



Nicholas' family.



In a 4- are Ben Dukes (2023), Nicholas, Cameron Grimm (2021) and Emory Sammons (2023).

NOTE: The Orange Oar Publisher recently caught up with Nicholas via teleconference at Coach Dave's recommendation. Nicholas had a very successful scholastic career in Italy, including rowing for Italy's U23 Team and Italy's National Team. – OO Editor.

Blazing Her Own Path to SU

Editor's Note: SARA Rowing Community: I would like to introduce to you a new Orange Oar Correspondent: Louise C. Rath.

Every aspect of rowing matters to Louise (a freshman coxswain on the Women's Rowing team): every piece, every drill, every score, every practice. Louise knows when to turn the competitive switch 'on' to encourage and inspire her teammates to Coach Luke's stated goal of winning the ACC Championships. And she balances that competitive spirit by turning 'off' the switch when she is not in the Crew Room or on the waters of Onondaga with her teammates.

Louise C. Rath of Williamsville, New York, learned the coxing ropes from SU's Allison Todd (SU 2012) on the waters near Buffalo, New York. A summer rowing camp before her high school years convinced her that the "ball and hand / eye coordination sports" were better suited for others. An aunt and a cousin had rowed, so she was easily persuaded to give rowing a try at Nardin Academy in Buffalo.

Leadership comes naturally to Louise. She has honed both her communication and her leadership skills before even stepping on the quad at SU. Coach Allison emphasized the fundamentals of becoming a successful cox: organizational skills to ensure practice management and efficiency, as well as to have a purpose in mind for every piece, every drill, and every practice. These lessons have given Louise a great foundation for coxing Women's Rowing at SU.

Of fellow frosh Hannah Murphy, also a coxswain from western New York, Louise says "Hannah and I have helped each other to develop as coxswains over the years, and she has eased the transition to SU for me," having coxed in similar circles for four years previous to their arrival at SU. They both know that a coxswain's first duty is to their respective crews, not competition with each other. They both keep their eyes in the boat, just like the oars are instructed to do! And Louise credits Hannah for "coxswain support," when she needs it.

Of her family's support for activities, Louise adheres to her Mom's (Amy, Tulane University, 1991) and Dad's (Edward Rath III, SU 1989) family mantras: 'Raising a family takes commitment;' and 'Success takes everyone's support.' And, career steps and other interests can wait, as Louise notes: "My family always dropped everything to attend my regattas."

Louise has much experience with rowing success, as evidenced by her 2018 crews sweeping the New York State Scholastic Rowing Championships. This foundation reflects another of Coach Luke's stated goals to strengthen and make all of the women's boats highly competitive at the ACCs, not emphasizing one boat over another.

Regarding her path to SU, Louise notes: "My dad planted seeds only, regarding my attendance at Syracuse. I always thought that I would make an independent choice regarding college, and that I would blaze my own path." So the more she investigated Newhouse and SU Rowing, the more Louise became convinced that SU was the best combined opportunity for her to just do that: for her to blaze her own path. To Syracuse.

Story telling, and telling stories effectively, is what Newhouse is all about. Per Louise, "When stories are told right ... they become special." SARA is anticipating great work on the water from Louise, and for her to build on her scholastic rowing successes. And competitive rowing has so many little known stories, that effective story telling can help bring to life. And the SARA Rowing Community is also looking forward to experiencing effectively told, 'special' rowing stories from Louise.

Louise, welcome to the Orange Oar team!

– Orange Oar Editor.

A Little Bit of Rowing History

Editor's Note: The OO editor recently heard from Jim Segaloff, class year 1965, via e-mail.

From Jim: I am not sure why, after so many years, I am motivated to respond to the request for news about alumni. Maybe it's my age. Maybe I want to pass this on before I forget it. Or maybe it's the time I have recently had to reflect on my rowing experiences while recovering from a hip replacement.

1961 As a freshman, I walked into the gym while registering for courses and I was stopped by Freshman Crew Coach Gene Perry. Apparently I was the "perfect" coxswain specimen; 5'-3" and 110 lbs.

1964 Jack Frailey, the coach of the MIT crew, and Norman Sonju coach of the Wisconsin crew as well as other coaches, selected approximately 30 oarsmen and coxswains from various college varsity crews to train in Laconia, New Hampshire and to compete in the 1964 Olympic Trials. I was part of the group. Unfortunately the Vesper Boat Club and their coach had a similar concept. Their composite crew was older, more experienced and highly qualified. They won the trials and captured a gold medal in Tokyo. Following the trials for the eight, I traveled to Boston and trained in a pair under the tutelage of Harvard Coach Harry Parker. We lost badly in the trials; the winners Ed Ferry and Conn Findlay won the gold medal in Tokyo.

1965 Captain and coxswain of the Syracuse Varsity Crew.

1965 Selected to cox the United States Maccabiah Team and competed in the Maccabiah Games in Israel.

1967 I Married Barbara, my wife of 53 years.

1968 I graduated from the University of Connecticut School of Law and have been practicing law in New Haven, Conn. (Susman, Duffy & Segaloff, P.C. (managing partner)) since.

1971 I organized the New Haven Rowing Club with the able assistance of Tony Johnson, then-coach of the Yale University Men's Heavyweight Crew. Also, I coxed the New

Haven Rowing Club crews for approximately twenty-five years competing throughout the world in Masters competition.

1984 Forever focused and dreaming of some day being an Olympian, I took a three month leave of absence from my law firm and traveled to Ithaca to train in a pair with. The coaches were Tony Johnson and Fin Meislahn, the Cornell coach at the time. Although it was a fabulous experience and our pair was competitive, once again an unhappy ending resulted as we did not prevail in the trials.

1985 I was again selected to cox the United States Maccabiah Team and competed in the Maccabiah Games, and then also again in 1989. I would make the point, at this juncture, that coxswains, like wine, improve with age!

The initial conversation with Coach Perry in 1961, and the opportunity to be part of the Syracuse rowing experience, have shaped and enhanced my life for the past 60 years. The joy and excitement of competition, the people and friends I have made and the places I have been, are all the result of that chance meeting with Coach Perry followed by my four years on Onondaga.

Keeping in mind that I am 5'-3" and Barbara is 4'-11", we have two 'coxswain-like' children. Our son Steven was the varsity coxswain and commodore (captain) of the Cornell crew and coxed the United States Men's Eight for four years through the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta (a teammate of Don Smith of SU). Our daughter Beth coxed at the Gunnery School and subsequently moved on to other sports.

I am back jogging intermittently and hoping I will be able to return to competition. I am inclined and proud to mention, that my now 75-year-old wife Barbara continues to compete and is still running 9-minute miles!

For all, of this ...

... I am very grateful. – Jim Segaloff.

John Gilbert, 1985

Editor's Note: In January 2020, SARA President Joe Paduda announced new SARA Board Members, including John Gilbert, class year 1985. Apparently John likes to fish. Welcome to the Board John!

Jumping In ... To Strengthen SARA Branding

"I joined the SU Men's Crew team as a Sophomore after being recruited out of the registration line by Jeff Meiselman. He was thinking "coxswain," but I was oblivious and immediately jumped into a shell. Despite being an undersized novice, Coach Sanford gave me the opportunity to fight for a spot on the team and the experience was extraordinary."

"My three years on the team fundamentally altered the trajectory of my life. I have so many great memories of rowing out on Onondaga, training in the Crew Room and spending time with my teammates. That first IRA Camp at the Boathouse was tough to beat!

"Rowing has been a constant and an overarching influence in my personal and professional life. Shortly after graduation in 1985, I met my wife at the Potomac Boat Club in Washington, D.C. (Suzanne rowed for UVA.) I am in routine contact with several of my SU teammates, and we enjoy getting together for a variety of events.

"After seven years in consulting, I joined DHL and pursued my career in logistics and supply chain management. My family spent 20 years in Columbus, Ohio where I rowed for Greater Columbus Rowing Association, and then we moved to company headquarters in Bonn, Germany. I just retired from corporate life after 25 years with the company, and we now live on the Eastern Shore of Virginia.

"I am so pleased to see the progress that SARA is making under Joe Paduda's leadership. When Joe asked me to get involved, I jumped at the chance. There is a lot for me to learn, and I am totally committed to strengthening SARA, as well as facilitating the programs' success by supporting the coaches and athletes through complementary efforts.

"I attended my first SARA meeting on January 25th, 2020, and I was thoroughly impressed by the team captains and the coaches. This is an extraordinary group of young men and women that embody the very best aspects of the 'student-athlete.'

"Every one of us has the opportunity to ensure that the next generation has the same opportunity to succeed in the classroom and on the water."

– John Gilbert, class year 1985.



Pam Carey Schrock, 1983

Editor's Note: In January 2020, SARA President Joe Paduda announced new SARA Board Members, including Pam Carey Schrock, class year 1983. Pam and Peter Hilgartner are taking over as co-leaders of the 2020 Evening at Ten Eyck.

Jumping in ... Evening at Ten Eyck Co-Leader

OO What do you cherish most of your rowing experiences at SU?

Rowing at SU opened a lifestyle / a sport I never knew existed. SU's Woman's Coach & Olympian, Jan Palchikoff, recruited me as I was standing in line to register for my sophomore year classes. I was never the best rower, but my commitment to the team and sport were my best. There are two rowing mates that have become forever friends and recently have reconnected with more than half of our team. We share a bond of perseverance as overcomers, keeping our eyes on the goal, no matter the weather, the coaches moods or the equipment malfunctions. After leaving college, I rowed for another 15 years in South Florida.

OO How will your experiences in the corporate world give you ideas to strengthen your contributions to the Event at Ten Eyck?

I graduated with a BS in Marketing. I found my niche as a Meetings and Event planner, which I have been doing for the last 30 years and for the last 19 years have been with Transamerica as their Corporate Meetings and Events planner. My rowing experience taught me tenacity to overcome obstacles, physical and mental, which certainly helps me when I am planning an event and the country goes in lock down because of a pandemic.

OO What do you see as your role, as the new SARA Event at Ten Eyck co-leader?

Well, I am still trying to figure that out. I am hoping to find a way to bridge the old ways with the new, creating an event worthy of the alum's time and money at the Ten Eyck.

OO How do you see yourself working with SARA to continue to make the Event at Ten Eyck a significant event for alums, current student-athletes, and the larger Syracuse Rowing Community?

Rowing at Syracuse holds a special place in all of our hearts / our lives, a pride that only other SU alums can only understand. I would like to bring more energy and connection between the alums, current student-athletes, and the larger Syracuse Rowing Community. I knew some of my rowing buddies parents better than I knew my own Aunt and Uncle.

OO How have you enjoyed previous Evenings at Ten Eyck?

I have been to three of them. I brought my husband to the first one, showed him around SU and the Ten Eyck Boathouse, but one visit was enough for him. The last two I attended a reunion with my rowing buddies.

OO What changes, if any, are in store?

Well, changing the Ten Eyck is like trying to change the course of a large ship. I would like to see the Evening at Ten Eyck as a celebration of SU Rowing by giving back financially, professionally and personally.

OO I see the Evening at Ten Eyck as ...

... A reunion with rowing buddies / memories; and a way to give back to the current student-athletes.

Pete Hilgartner, 1984

Editor's Note: In January 2020, SARA President Joe Paduda announced that Peter Hilgartner and Pam Carey Schrock would be taking over as co-leaders of the Evening at Ten Eyck. The following are Peter's own words regarding his rowing journey.

"I was recruited from Tabor Academy by Drew Harrison and joined some great rowers from Ridley College, Mike Wodchis and Tim Bristow, as well as Jeff Meiselman from Philadelphia, Pa. We had a really fast Freshman boat that year and were favored to be one of the top boats at the IRA. We didn't win, but the lessons I learned in the boat that year under Drew's coaching and with those guys, have served me well in life. My Dad died in October of my Freshman year and the friendships I made on the team, the daily grind of practice and the goal of winning the IRA gave me a strong anchor point, without which, I'm sure I would have been a bit of a lost soul for a while."

"Drew did a great job transitioning the Frosh from high school rowers to true collegiate rowers, ready for whatever Coach Sanford decided to throw at us. The next few years went by in a blur of morning circuits, schoolwork, afternoon water or erg / tank time and a lot of weight lifting! Suddenly we were in our senior year with three seniors in the 1V, myself, Meiselman and Wodchis. Tim Bristow had taken the year off from school to train with the Canadian National Team. Despite not having him with us, we had a great boat that year, losing the IRA to Navy by a bow ball. That loss was a heart breaker, but we rowed a perfect race and there was no doubt in any of our minds that every man had left it all on the water that day.

"A few years ago, one of the guys posted a picture of that 1984 1V boat on Facebook and Meiselman chimed in "We ought to get the band back together!" I thought, "Why not?" and so I started e-mailing and calling all the guys in the boat. As is typical, we had all dispersed into our lives after graduation and I had only been in touch with a couple guys over the years.

"Through the e-mail and call network, within a week I had everyone's contact info. Within a month, every man had committed to getting together again. Not only that, but we all decided that we were going to race as a boat, one more time.

"The weekend arrived and we all showed up with our wives. Jim Haas, our bow man was unable to leave Kiev, Ukraine at the last minute. Tim McDermott came all the way from Shen Yang, China. We grabbed John Gilbert from our era and threw him in bow seat. We went out and rowed around a bit, with Coach Sanford riding in the coach's launch, for the first time together in about 25 years. On video, we looked a lot better than we really were, getting our butts kicked in the alumni races, but it was a blast! Just being with each other again rekindled a lot of great stories, memories and shared experiences from when we all were proud to wear Orange during the time we all transitioned from late boyhood to manhood, all under the watchful eye and guidance of Coach Bill Sanford. It wasn't until that weekend that we all realized just how much we missed being teammates and boatmates. The only other place I have personally experienced the type of camaraderie that one experiences in a crew as a result of shared hardships, challenges, wins and losses, was in the U.S. Marine Corps after college.

"For me, these men had been my family with a shared purpose for four of the best years of my life! Reconnecting with them made me want to get involved with SARA and specifically the Evening at Ten Eyck so I could help encourage other rowers from the various eras of the Syracuse Rowing Family to reconnect with their teammates and come back together for a taste of that camaraderie that is so rare in the 'real world.'

"We have all gone out and done our thing in the world, but our time as Syracuse rowers forged us into the men we have become. Yet when we get together, we just pick right where we left off with the same taunts, insults and jokes that were part of the glue that made us a crew.

Facing page top: Coach Bill with Pete, in 2019. >
Facing page bottom: 1V reunion, with Coach Bill. >

“As is true in most organizations when you volunteer to help, especially if Joe Paduda is in charge, I have been tasked, along with Pam Schrock, as Co-Chair for the organizing committee for this year’s Evening at Ten Eyck. We have big shoes to fill since Ken Hutton had done a stellar job for the past 5 years. Our goals include building upon the past EAT success and encourage more alumni to attend and reconnect with their old teammates.

“As my wife said as we were driving back home after the first EAT I attended with my crew, “I haven’t seen you this happy in a long time!” I am hoping others to have that same experience and to get involved to keep this program, that did so much for each of us, going. I really didn’t have any idea just how much SARA does behind the scenes to help the coaches and the athletes on the water. Had I known then, what I know now, I would have been more involved sooner.

“Every one who has ever rowed at Syracuse has similar stories about the hours of steady state, the weather, the rough water and the people they shared those experiences with. Syracuse Rowing provided the crucible that prepared us to become who we are today. I truly feel we owe a debt to Syracuse Rowing to be involved as best we all can so the program can continue its proud legacy into the future.

“I look forward to seeing you at this year’s Evening at Ten Eyck, currently scheduled for September 20-22, 2020!”

– Evening at Ten Eyck Co-Leader Pete Hilgartner.



Backsplash News

P.J. Kaputa, 1998

P.J. Kaputa won the bronze medal in this year's U.S. Indoor National Championships / C.R.A.S.H-B Sprints in Boston, Mass., clocking a 2k time of 6:47.4 in the Men's Lightweight Masters Category. He was cheered on and coached by his inspiring and motivating daughter Gabby (13) and sister Julie.

P.J. has been training with his son Nolan (16) and daughter Sarah (14) both of whom row for their local club team and P.J. also rowed in the Syracuse Alumni 8 that raced at the Head of the Charles this past fall in Boston and also raced his single at the Head of the Schuylkill.



Mark Vyzas, 2010; Chip Chase, 19983



The photo above is of RDML Grafton “Chip” Chase and LT Mark Vyzas at Naval Support Activity Naples in Naples, Italy in 2019. RDML Chase was serving as the Director, Readiness and Logistics, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa and LT Vyzas was in Naples for training.

James Haas, 1985

After living in Ukraine for 28 years, Jim Haas has returned with his wife, Larissa, to the city of Barre in his home state of Vermont. Jim & Larissa are partnering with the Barre Historical Society to manage Rise Up Bakery, a historic wood-fired artisan bakery in the city center.

Bruce (1966) & Patty Wilson

After 30 years, my wife, Patty, and I retired last year from officiating at rowing events. I rowed at SU from 1963 to 1966 and did not get back into rowing until 1982 when we moved to Atlanta.

The first person I ran into was Carl Parloto (SU class of 1964), who was my roommate for one semester. He got my wife and I into Masters Rowing in which we competed for more than 20 years. We gradually got into coaching and we helped to establish the Atlanta Junior Rowing Association.

Barbara, our oldest daughter, rowed at SU from 1989 to 1992 and won the Junior National double sculls title after her senior year. Barbara and I have won many parent / child double sculls events.

After moving to Oak Ridge, Tenn. in 1993, Patty and I got more into regatta management, running several masters and national championships, including the 2007 NCAA Championships in Oak Ridge. In our career we officiated the IRA and NCAA numerous times as well as at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.

I was fortunate to row for SU in two alumni events at the IRA with Joey Peters as our coxswain. For the past five years, my wife and I have officiated at all the Clemson Women’s home events and watched the SU Women’s Rowing recent great progress.

We have been given Emeritus Referee status which means we can’t perform in licensed positions but can function in advisory capacity so we hope to see SU sometime in the future after the Coronavirus pandemic dies down.

As an aside: Our best go out to the entire SU Men’s Crew and Women’s Rowing teams and hope SU and / or the NCAA have some way to make up for all the work and dedication the athletes have put into preparing for the 2020 race season.

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