



Vol. 3-2

PGRC Pitch Meter

Summer 2012

150th Celebration June 2, 2012

After months of planning, weeks of activity and days of worrying about the weather, Saturday, June 2nd dawned clear, crisp and cool: the perfect day for the *150 years...Then and Now* Anniversary event! What a wonderful late afternoon/evening it was. The view was magnificent, the program informative and touching, the food delicious and the camaraderie, well, that's what made the time so very special.

The program, emceed by Dona File, featured a joint presentation by the Philadelphia Skating Club and Humane Society and the Philadelphia Girls' Rowing Club led by club historians Ann O'Keefe (of PSCHS) and LiLy Milroy (PGRC). Both gave short talks on the history of the house under the individual club. As part of her talk, Anne provided an interactive demonstration on safety as practiced by the skating club. The culmination of the program was a visit by Mayor Michael Nutter.

The Mayor, framed by a perfect view of the Philadelphia skyline, offered his greetings and support of the building. He quickly acknowledged the contributions of our members to the world of women's rowing and had a delightful exchange with Ruth

Robinhold. Mayor Nutter had completed his research and spoke knowingly about the organizations represented. Any PGRC program would be incomplete without hearing from Ruth herself, who shared her memories.



Following the program, three door prizes were awarded: a gift certificate to Rubini Jewelers, a ceramic dish depicting the house created by our own Sandy Pierantozzi, and a framed photo of Boathouse Row by Myron Goldberg, D.D.S. Augmenting the talks by the historians was a slide show detailing the origins of the building and how the clubs utilized the space. If you missed it, look for it on our website.

Former PGRC rowers!
Contact us via our website
Philadelphiagirlsrowingclub.org
or Facebook page

August 2, 2012 at PGRC
Braxton Scholarship
Celebration @ 7:00 PM
Members' Meeting @ 8:00 PM

Philadelphia Girls' Rowing
Club
#14 Boathouse Row
Kelly Drive
Philadelphia PA 19130

PGRC Pitch Meter



Banner by Louise DiGiacomo

The climax of the evening, however, was not a speech or the view or even the weather. The true highlight occurred over and over, as camaraderie was the theme. From sitting and racing in a boat to relaxing on the deck, the bonds formed here last a lifetime. Members from both clubs found the event to be welcoming and informative. The National Team and the Vichy 8 came together to celebrate their friendships, relive old races, and just take pleasure being with one another. Throughout the event, people caught up with old and new rowing buddies. Sometimes these relationships went back many decades, others just a few months; some had triumphs to share, others sadness, but the affection shared trumped it all.



Vichy 8 and National Team, 1966 and 1967: L-R Janice Saudargas, Ernestine Bayer, Jr., Carol Schuler Lachal, Faye, Bardman Donovan, Anita Becker Sacco (Jinx), Marjorie Pollack Ballheim, Liz Griffin Bergman (behind Ballheim), Nancy Farrell, Sophie Socha, Penny Gibson Henwood, Barbara DePena Hoe. Not pictured, Nancy Bocchino.

In putting together such an event, the efforts of many are needed. Thus, it is not surprising that we had overwhelming participation from PGRC members, from serving on the Committee to volunteering to assist that day. The welcoming committee included not only our members, but also students from The Agnes Irwin School. Volunteers are listed on page 5 (website version) of this publication.



The house looked wonderful thanks to the efforts of many, including decorations by Suzy Dorrance and grounds work led by Rosemarie D'Alba Cipriano and Davy Harwi. Their leadership inspired others to join in. Not only did the house have a unified theme on both levels, but the grounds and plantings reflected the care and love lavished upon them by the members. Our deck continues to look inviting as a lasting result of the preparations.

Through an alliance with the Philadelphia Skating Club, caterer Cheryl Wood served up many delights. The food was plentiful, augmented by trays from the Cosmic Caterer at Lloyd Hall and desserts by Ready, Willing and Able. Two of our members Michele Baymor and Katie Mullin are

PGRC Pitch Meter

responsible for these donations. In addition, wine and beer and water flowed. Andy Levin successfully solicited the Philadelphia Brewing Company, who donated several cases of beer. Barbara Rosasco generously donated many cases of water, individual bottles featuring our *150 Years...Then and Now* logo.



Members of the Committee and Volunteers: L-R Jean Yudin, Jacquie Himes, Jeanne Morris, Essie Abrahams-Goldberg, Andy Levin, Andrea Duszenczuk, Michele Baymor, Julianne Rametta, Joanne Timmons

The party continued well past the seven o'clock pre-determined end, but those who stayed were enjoying the beauty of the evening and the pleasure of being with friends.

On this page are pictures of those who made this event possible. Please check our Facebook page for more, including those of you and your



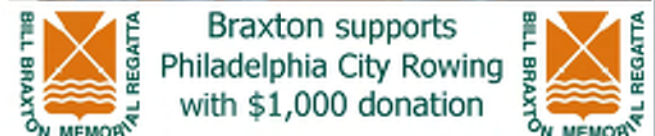
Sponsors with Ruth Robinhold: L-R Louise DiGiacomo (Signs of Art), Myron Goldberg D.D.S., unidentified friend, Ruth Robinhold, John Leonard (Leonard Insurance Group), Vivian Leonard, and Maureen Pitcher (Avenue Art and Framing)

friends. All photos were taken by Colette Oswald. These pictures show what Inga Safron tweeted: best view of PMA in the city!



Officers and Event Coordinators: L-R Wendy Epstein, Nancy Bocchino, Blake Adams, Sophie Socha, Dona File, Essie Abrahams-Goldberg, Pam Woodington, Lisa Fittipaldi, Andy Levin and Janet Christman

Braxton Award to Philadelphia City Rowing



L. to R: Lori Zimmaro (Braxton Regatta Chair), Terry Dougherty (PCR Exec. Dir.), Tony Schneider (PCR Board Chair) and Blake Adams (PGRC Captain)

PGRC Pitch Meter

Masters of the Year Theresa Savard and Ted Trocky

Theresa and her doubles partner and husband, Ted Trocky, were honored this year with the Masters of the Year Award from the Schuylkill Navy. Originally from York, Pennsylvania, Theresa discovered rowing while visiting her sister at Penn's Medical School. She literally knocked on the door at PGRC, where she learned to row, returning during summer vacations while attending Boston College.

She rowed with Rose Flynn in the 90s, then met Ted at Malta and started racing with him in 2008. Both Theresa and Ted had been rowers for decades, and both had left rowing earlier to raise families. Their return to competition has been marked with a series of first place finishes. The two recently bought a Filippi double from PGRC and re-named it TNT – a fine double meaning, since they are obviously dynamite in any race. In June, they were married at Malta, with crossed oars and PGRC President Sophie Socha officiating. This year they honeymooned and raced (with full British pomp and ceremony) at the English Henley.

Congratulations and good luck, TNT!



PGRC Captain Blake Adams



Blake Adams was honored in 2011 with the Gerald F. Gault Award from the Defenders Association, for excellence in the representation of children. "I chose to work with kids because you do the most good when you can make an impact on a

young person's life," says Blake. She is only the second recipient of this award, from an office that is nationally recognized for its excellence in training new defense attorneys.

Blake came to PGRC in 1997. At the time, she was recovering from breast cancer and looking for an athletic activity that she could enjoy with others. "Living in Philadelphia, you see crew all the time. I knew that I'd like to try it." She served as Membership Chair, then moved to Vice President before taking on her current position as Captain in 2007. "Fortunately, our members step up and do so much. I'm grateful for that. The rules of the club are enforced by members of the club. The rules that we have are all about safety, so that everyone has the chance to use the club's equipment. The rules have to make sense, otherwise there's no reason for them – and they're unenforceable. That's true in law, too."

"I'm proud that PGRC is one of the best citizens on the Row: we're always lending and driving boats, dockmastering and generally helping out."

PGRC Pitch Meter

Diana Post, Editor-in-Chief

Material contributed by:

Essie Abrahams-Goldberg

Andrea Levin

Images by Colette Oswald

PGRC Pitch Meter

Volunteers for the 150th Celebration You Made Everything Possible

Erin Abler
Essie Abrahams
Blake Adams
Michele Baymor
Cine Braxton
Elaine Brim
Carmhiel Brown
Karen Brown
Ann Butchart
Janet Christman
Rosemarie D'Alba
Cindy D'Ambrosio
Emily Davis
Louise DiGiacomo
Alice Donnelly
Suzy Dorrance
Andrea Duszenczuk
Ali Ellinger
Wendy Epstein
Dona File
Helen File
Marge Flynn
Leslie Gomez
Davy Harwi
Jacquie Himes
Andy Levin
Marshall Laurie
Marge McMonagle
Elizabeth McNamee
LiLy Milroy
Joanne Montowski
Jeanne Morris
Kathleen Mullin
Ann Northrup
Ann O'Keefe

Jane Patullo
Chris Patullo
Sandy Pierantozzi
Laura Pollilo
Diana Post
Julianne Rametta
Judi Repp
Barbara Rosasco
Theresa Savard
Caroline Scarlato
Linda Schade
Sophie Socha
Joanne Timmins
Crystel Urmenyhazi
Ginny Ward
Pam Woodington
Jean Yudin

Grounds crew coordinators:

Rosemarie D'Alba
Davy Harwi

Grounds crew volunteers:

Jane Patullo
Christine Smyth
Erin Abler
Kate Mullin
Lisa Fittipaldi
Lori Zimmaro
Jenna Osborne
Ann Northrup
Emily Davis
Alice Donnelly
Anita Cipollini
Lynnae Schwartz and Jane