



ALUMNI SPRINT

Delaware Men's Crew Alumni Association Newsletter

Fall 2009

message from the president

Our association is now three years old, and I'm very proud of how it's grown! In that time, our roster has expanded from a beginning roster of about 25 to a current roster of over 100 members ranging from the class of '92 to the class of '09. I hope that each member is as excited about our association and the opportunity to re-connect with old teammates as I am.

Our increase in numbers and interest in the organization is reflected in the increase in attendees at our annual Winter Party, where 35 people attended. This is an increase from last year's number of 28. This year's Dad Vails also reflected the changes and increase of interest in our organization. We had a great turnout of alumni from the 90's and had an attendance of approximately 100 people, up from about 70 last year. We

hope that we continue to expand in the coming years.

I am also pleased to report that the University Alumni Office has now extended an invitation to us to join other alumni organizations in having our own webpage on UD Connection. We will work on getting this website up and running in the coming months, and are excited about this opportunity to both find lost members as well as be part of the UD Alumni community.

We also had our first turnover of directors. At our second annual Winter Party, we elected our newest Directors, Brad Nathanson, '02, Eric Juergens '08, and Shawn Duff '08. I believe I speak for everyone when I say that that we are thankful for all of the hard work that the directors whose terms just ended, Evan Price '04, Mike

Hoffman '06, and Matt Iacone '93, put into the organization over the past year.

I would like to extend a welcome to our newest alumni, the class of '09. We hope to see you at future events and that you decide to become active in our organization. In that vein, we will need to elect three new directors at our Winter Party in February, and hope that members from all years will consider taking part in leading our great association.

This year, we will continue hosting our annual events, the Winter Party in February, and the Dad Vails Tent in May. We hope to see you there!

Mary Vaughn, '03
President

Alumni Coaches

Many of our alumni are now coaches, with UD as well as on other college and high school teams around the country. We are excited to share the successes of three of our alumni who sent in information about their teams.

Phil Kleiman '08 was the UD Assistant Freshman Coach over the past year. He assisted with the Freshmen/Novice Heavyweight 8 and Lightweight 8s that both placed 2nd at the Dad Vail Regatta, as well as won the S.I.R.A. Championship in those events. Additionally, the Freshmen Lightweights he worked with placed 2nd at the Murphy Cup.

Pete Seymour '08, a UD Assistant Coach, guided the Varsity 2- to a 3rd place finish at the Murphy Cup, as well as the Lightweight 4 to a 3rd place finish at the S.I.R.A. Championship. He also worked with the Lightweight 4 at the Dad Vail Regatta which advanced to the semi-final racing.

As an assistant at Monsignor Bonner,

Tom Fox '08 worked with many crews. The

JV4 and Lightweight 4 both won the Philadelphia Catholic League Championship with the JV 8 taking 3rd, and at the Philadelphia City Championship the JV 8 took third again with the Lightweight 8 placing 5th. At the Stotesbury Cup Regatta the JV 8 placed 4th and the Lightweight 8 5th, and at the S.R.A.A. Championship the JV 8 placed 6th.

If you are a coach, or know of a former teammate who is now coaching, please send in updates on what they're doing!! Congrats go out to all of our alumni coaches, and we hope to hear from you!



Upcoming events

**Delaware Men's Crew
Alumni Association
Winter Party**
February, 2010
Philadelphia

**Delaware Men's Crew
Alumni Association
Dad Vail Tent**
May 8, 2010
Schuylkill River, Philadelphia

**Welcome Party for
Class of 2010**
May, 2010
Newark, Delaware

Dad Vails

The Dad Vail Regatta was held on May 9-10, 2009 at the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia. Once again, the DMCAA hosted a Delaware Alumni Tent during the Saturday racing. This year, approximately 100 alumni, coaches, friends, and families gathered to reconnect and cheer on the team as they went on to win several medals and both the men's and overall points trophies! We had a great turnout of '90's alumni, who shared stories and pictures from the early years of the team. We're very excited that so many alumni are excited about the association and our events, and we look forward to seeing more of you in the future!!



Alumni and friends gathered at the Delaware Men's Crew Alumni Tent to cheer on the Hens!



Welcome Party

Saturday May 16th marked a transition for the nine graduating seniors on the men's team to membership in the alumni association. The group met informally at Grotto's Pizza on Main Street for food and drinks as well as for introductory information about the association from a handful of direc-

tors and officers. This year the association rewarded the seniors each with "University of Delaware Men's Crew Association" mugs, which we hope to continue to do as part of the tradition of joining the alumni association. The DMCAA would like to welcome our newest members, Max Cavanaugh, Tim

Reilly, Mike Sciblo, Paul Mattson, Steve Norman, Ben Neilsen, Dave Walton, Scott Kader, and Chris Uthgenant. We hope that you will become involved members of our association!

Shawn Duff, '08

Winter Party/Annual Meeting

On February 28, 2009, the DMCAA hosted our second annual Winter Party at the Dark Horse Pub in Head House Square, Philadelphia. Approximately 35 alumni,

coaches, and significant others came to reconnect and reminisce about old times over drinks and appetizers at this historic pub. We also elected our three newest directors,

Brad Nathanson '02, Shawn Duff '08, and Eric Juergens '08. A great time was had by all, and we're looking forward to next year!!

UD Men's Crew Outlook 2008/2009

The University of Delaware (UD) Men's Crew had another very successful 2008/2009 season with its tying the University of Michigan for the overall men's point trophy and the University at Buffalo for the combined men's and women's point trophy at the Dad Vail Regatta. The Frosh team showed very strong prowess in the competition by winning silver medals in both the lightweight and heavyweight eights. Kudos to Coaches Joe & Phil Kleiman, and their guys, for that awesome performance! The Varsity Lightweight 8 finished first winning gold and the 2nd Varsity lights rowed in the

JV Heavyweight Event making the final and finishing fifth. The performance of the Varsity Lightweight squad continued the winning tradition under the terrific coaching of first year coach Joe Federici. The varsity heavyweight eight finished a disappointing fifth in the semi-final and did not qualify for the Grand or Petite Final. There will be a bunch of really hungry guys from this crew back next year. We also had the depth to row very competitive fours which did not advance to the finals. Pete Seymour did a fine job working to get the fours ready to compete. The Frosh finished 19th out of 50 in their time trial at the Vail, one place out of qualifying for the semi-finals. The lightweight varsity four advanced to the semis finishing in the top 10 of 25 entries to the event.

The dedication and leadership of the members of the team is remarkable. Our club program certainly ranks among the top club programs in the country and in comparison to varsity teams, we rank very competitively. You can compare our rankings for fun through the polls on row 2K and see how we stack up. My personal goal is to get us to the top of the rankings in both the Heavy and Lightweight Varsity men's polls. This will require an even greater amount of hard work on the part of our athletes but the coaching staff has determined that we are going to step up the pace this year to

climb up the poll ladder.

Our goal for 2010 will include winning all of the men's eight races at the Dad Vail Regatta. Coaches Joe Kleiman, Phil Kleiman, Pete Seymour and Joe Federici are all back as well as John Williams assisting part time on the water and helping with repairs and legal advice again this year.

I am always being asked why the Men's crew isn't a Varsity program at the University of Delaware. My answer to that question is that it isn't likely to happen due to gender equity opportunities in varsity sports at UD and funding issues. If someone wins the lottery or hits it really big in business and endows the program with about \$4 to \$5 million, it could possibly happen. I do not worry about status however and we run our program as if it is a Varsity program. We continue to set standards and goals that challenge the student athlete to be as good as they can be. There are no limits as to how fast we can go and defeating teams that don't face challenges of dues and "rent a rower" is sweet.

We will continue on the path of proven results through the way that we know how, hard work and dedication. Our squads have learned that success comes to those that work for it. We hope to see you at upcoming regattas this Fall, including Alumni Day, October 11th.

Yeah, Delaware! Go Hens!

Directors/Officers

Chris Gorzynski, '02
Jon Heimall, '02
Brad Nathanson, '02
Carolyn (Serey) Ehn, '04
Sean Galvin, '04
Jamie Danz '06
Nick DePompeo '07
Shawn Duff '08
Eric Juergens '08

President

Mary Vaughn, '03

Chief Financial Officer

Mike Wood, '04

Director and Officer Elections

We will be electing three new directors at our annual Winter Party again this year. Directors are the governing and voting body of our association, and are asked to

attend approximately 4 meetings per year, either by phone or in person. Terms are for 3 years. All years are welcome to nominate themselves or a former teammate for the

position of Director, President, or Chief Financial Officer. If you are interested in these positions, please contact Mary at UDMensCrewAlumni@gmail.com

Financial Brief

We have been issued an Employee Identification Number (EIN) by the IRS on August 1, 2009. The EIN identifies our organization for bank accounts, tax returns and other important documents. The associated name is Delaware Mens Crew Alumni Association. We are still in the process of applying for a tax-exempt status

for a non-profit organization, via form 501 (c) (3).

With this EIN, we were able to open a bank account with TD bank. This allows us to write and receive checks under the name of our association. Once we received tax-exempt status, checks written to our organization can be tax-deductible. Also,

the account requires a thousand dollar minimum, but is waived for the first year, (until Aug 2010). We are still holding 100 in our lock-box as petty cash for various expenses.

Our attempts to open an account with the University are still pending. Updates to come.

Mike Wood, '04

Alumni Notes

Do you have any news? Whether it's weddings, births, moves, new jobs, or just hanging out with other DMCAA members, we want to know about it! Send news and pictures to UDMensCrewAlumni@gmail.com!!

Ed and Kristin Kuipers, '97, writes, "It has been a pretty hectic summer so far. We are in the process of moving into our new house, but feel free to stop by any time! (Especially if you like carrying boxes)."

Alison (Bossert) Verbanas writes, "We attended the UD forum and Reunion weekend and had a great time - was hoping to see other crew alumni with no success. Here is a pic of my husband Mark, BS 1999, daughter Zoe, 3 (class of 2028!) and son Chase, 9 months (class of 2030!)."



Mike Keating, '96 wrote, "I just moved to Sandpoint, Idaho. I am likely the

only alum in Idaho. LOL. You all are missing out; I live in a ski resort and a summer resort on a lake. There is kayaking and sailing on the lake but doesn't seem to be any rowing on the lake ...yet! I'll be teaching middle school math and social studies out here as well."



Adam Smith, '03 writes, "I'm living in Macungie, PA. This past year, my wife, Kristi, gave birth to our twin boys, Brennan and Carter. They are almost a year old now, crawling all over the place and getting into all sorts of trouble. I have been teaching 3rd grade, but this year I moved up to 4th grade."

Congratulations go out to **Matt Wolinski '04** who married Michelle Standora on

October 10th in Middletown, DE to and **Jon Heimall '02** who married Lauren Gresh October 16th in Westmont, NJ. Many crew alumni were present for both sets of nuptials. Congrats again!

Mary Vaughn '03 writes, "I just moved out of Philly and down to the beaches of Lewes, Delaware. I love it here, though I miss seeing everyone. However, I still got to see **Carolyn '04** and **Christian Ehn '02** this summer when they came to vacation in Ocean City, MD. It was great to catch up in person rather than just through e-mail. I also see **Matt Wolinski '04** on occasion since he is a fellow Delaware native. If anyone is passing through or looking for a beach weekend, let me know, I love visitors!!!!"

Contact Us!

Google Groups
<http://groups.google.com/group/udcrew-alum>

Email: UDMensCrewAlumni@gmail.com

Website: www.delawarecrewalumni.com

Facebook: [Join our Group](#)