

Dragon Tales

Summer 1999

Volume 4 No. 3

A Quarterly Publication of DragonSports USA



From the Bow of the Boat

Richard Cole, President

Now that the Kaohsiung Sister City Dragon Boat Races are over, it is time to acknowledge the great job all of our volunteers have done. The first person to recognize is Joel Shilling. Thank you Joel for another great race. We would also like to thank the hundreds of race volunteers who worked so hard with Joel to ensure a smooth operation during race weekend. Without all of you, the PKSCA Dragon Boat Races would not be as successful.

Regular club practices have begun again with times at 9 a.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays; 6 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and 8 a.m. on Saturday mornings. Please contact Tina Lyons to volunteer as a caller/tiller for Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday practices at (360) 892-2677 days or (503) 280-1431 evenings. Because of the need for more callers and tillers, the board has increased the incentive. When you call or till 6 full regular practice hours, you will receive the next quarter's dues free. (See the article inside for more information on calling and tilling clinics.)

Many teams are using the boats for closed team practices as they prepare for upcoming races. Teams looking to race in the local area, be sure to make plans for the DragonSports, Vancouver Lake Regatta on September 18, 1999 (see the announcement in this issue for more information).

Also, look for more race information and other interesting stuff on our new website: www.dragonsports.org. It's still under construction, but we'd like to thank Gary Brown for his hard work setting it up. It looks great so far!

Stumptown Paddlers are Going to Hawaii!

Shirley Ewart

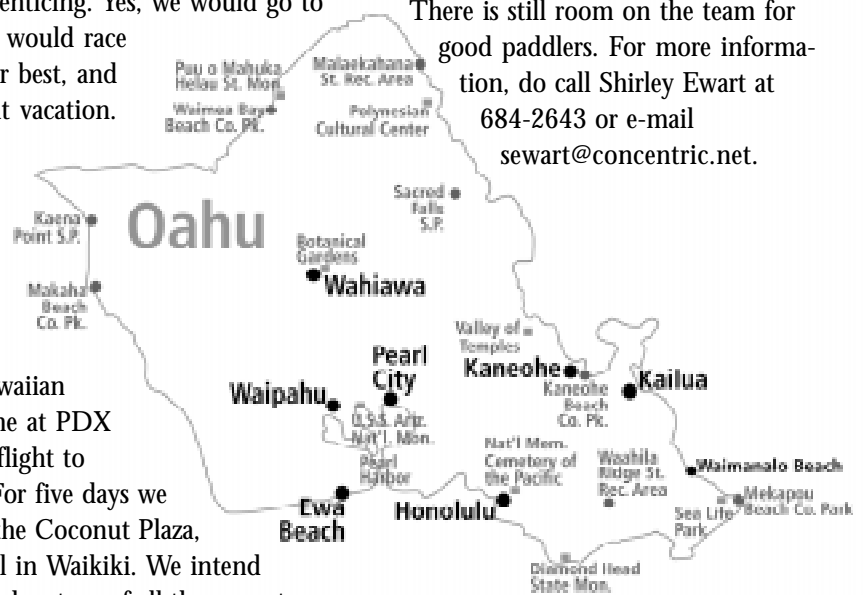
Stumptown Paddlers is a team that relishes good competition and really enjoys having fun together, whether in Seattle, Vancouver, B.C., or Victoria, B.C. Our first reaction on hearing about Dragon Boat racing in Honolulu was, let's go for it! Then we learned that the race is a one-day affair. Three boats at a time race and only the winner goes on to the next round. But, in January, when we were paddling against freezing rain and icy winds, balmy seas and blue skies sounded so enticing. Yes, we would go to Hawaii. We would race hard, try our best, and enjoy a great vacation.

So, on July 29, team members and their families will board a Hawaiian Airlines plane at PDX for a direct flight to Honolulu. For five days we will stay at the Coconut Plaza, a small hotel in Waikiki. We intend to take full advantage of all the opportunities Oahu offers. We'll enjoy swimming, snorkeling, and surfing. Some want to climb Diamond Head or hike in the rain forest. Some will visit Pearl Harbor and the Arizona Memorial. The Polynesian Cultural Center offers a chance to observe cultures from throughout the Pacific. The Bishop Museum and Iolani Palace, the only royal palace in the

United States, will appeal to history buffs. And, even with a steep sales tax, the shopping is great!

During the daytime, team members will undoubtedly pursue their own interests. At night, we may gather to watch the sunset while sipping cool drinks at one of the big hotels along the beach. It will be a wonderful experience, and, who knows, we won't necessarily be eliminated in the first race!

There is still room on the team for good paddlers. For more information, do call Shirley Ewart at 684-2643 or e-mail sewart@concentric.net.



What's Inside...

1999 PKSCA Dragon Boat Results
Website: www.dragonsports.org
Member Interview
Caller/Tiller Clinics Update
DragonSports USA Waiver

Promoting fitness and friend

DragonSports USA Open Practices

Tuesday 6:00 p.m.

Thursday 6:00 p.m.

Saturday 8:00 a.m.

Mon., Wed., and Fri. 9:00 a.m.

For information concerning fees, please call the information line (503) 639-2799. Checks for dues or new memberships should be mailed to **Bill Collet, Treasurer** at:

3809 N.E. 35th Avenue
Portland, OR 97212

Please visit our new website at:
www.dragonsports.org

Board Members/Officers

President

Richard Cole

Vice President

Gloria Jones

Treasurer

Bill Collet

Secretary

Maureen Brown

Roberta Cobb

Jim Evans

John Myers

Dan Winkler

Committees

Boat Scheduling & Rental • Richard Cole
Phone: (503) 289-0079
or Roberta Cobb • (503) 282-0472

Communications/Dragon Tales,
Membership Serv./Recruiting • Gloria Jones
Phone: (503) 639-2799

Equipment • John Myers
Phone: (503) 639-6059

Fall Regatta • Dan Winkler
Phone: (503) 639-8520

Gear Marketing • Jim Evans
Phone: (503) 297-3264

Membership Dues • Bill Collet
Phone: (503) 287-4201

Operations • Roberta Cobb
Phone: (503) 282-0472

Portland Races Kick Off Summer with a Bang

From Cleveland's green-haired Dragon Tails to the pink paddles of Pink Phoenix, this year's race on June 12th and 13th was nothing if not colorful. More than 78 teams gathered at Tom McCall Waterfront Park and proved why dragon boat racing is the second most popular sport in the world. This year's race featured a newly surveyed course with the help from the City of Portland and computerized race results that were posted before you even made it up the dock. Special thanks to the hard-working committees and volunteers that made this year's race run so smoothly.

The largest high-school division ever in the Portland races made watching the "kids" even more exciting than listening to them chant. Some fierce competition yielded first place to the Sunset High School Seniors followed by the WaterWalkers and Cleveland. Canada walked away with the first place trophy in Mixed Division I but was held to just one trophy as Portland teams swept Mixed Division II, Masters, Women's and Grand Masters (see results below).

To sign up for next year's race on June 10-11, 1999 or to volunteer contact Joel Shilling at (503) 306-1020.

Mixed Division I

- 1st Place: Team Global (3:00.78)
- 2nd Place: Wasabi (3:03.61)
- 3rd Place: Boat 4 Fun (3:05.67)
- 4th Place: Just DBI (3:15.94)

Mixed Division II

- 1st Place: CCBA (3:06.94)
- 2nd Place: Hampton Woods Karashi (3:10.35)
- 3rd Place: Dragon Fever (3:10.66)
- 4th Place: Intel ESG (3:15.12)

Mixed Division III

- 1st Place: Hampton Woods xtreme (3:12.14)
- 2nd Place: Power Dragons (3:17.07)
- 3rd Place: Team SAKE (3:20.18)
- 4th Place: Loan Dragons (3:27.68)

High School Division

- 1st Place: Sunset SR Sun Dragons (3:07.57)
- 2nd Place: Water Walkers (3:12.17)
- 3rd Place: Cleveland Dragon Tails (3:17.06)
- 4th Place: Centennial High School Vancouver, B.C. (3:20.21)

Women's Division

- 1st Place: Wasabi Women (3:20.49)
- 2nd Place: Snap Dragons (3:31.00)
- 3rd Place: SSPMS (3:34.99)
- 4th Place: PCI Dragon Rose (3:36.64)

Hospital Cup

- 1st Place: Odonata (3:12.81)
- 2nd Place: HW Karashi (3:15.80)
- 3rd Place: Willamette Falls (3:16.86)
- 4th Place: Tsunami USA (3:22.98)

Master's Division

- 1st Place: Wasabi Older (3:12.63)
- 2nd Place: DBI (3:16.98)
- 3rd Place: Tsunami (3:26.95)
- 4th Place: Serpenteam (3:27.24)

Gorman Cup

- 1st Place: Tamoxifen Taxi (4:02.84)
- 2nd Place: Chemo Cruisers (4:03.97)
- 3rd Place: Radiation Rockets (4:04.02)
- 4th Place: Team 4 (5:00.00)

Shu-Te Friendship Race

- 1st Place: Catholic Cruisers (3:30.6)
- 2nd Place: Cleveland Dragon Tails (3:55.3)
- 3rd Place: Shu-Te (4:02.5)

Grand Master's Exhibition

- 1st Place: Aqua Cool Dragons (3:26.24)
- 2nd Place: Golden Dragons (3:39.35)

www.dragonsports.org

DragonSports USA is going global! We now have a website (under construction) thanks to Gary Brown who is responsible for the creation and production of the site. If you have ideas for the site, click on webmaster at the bottom of the home page and send Gary your input.

Callers and Tillers Needed

Roberta Cobb

Each month DragonSports USA schedules 24 callers and tillers to run the evening and Saturday open club practices. We are in dire need of volunteers. We are down to 11 people calling and tilling these evening and Saturday practices. If you have calling and tilling experience, won't you please help call or till once a month, or even once every other month. We offer an incentive plan... when you call or till 6 full regular practice hours, you will receive the next quarter's dues free. If you do not have any experience, please sign up for either the calling or tilling clinics to be held later this summer.

Please call Roberta Cobb at 282-0472 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., or e-mail her at WhRoberta@aol.com.

Friendship through paddle sports

Getting to Know Amy Solomonson

Cris Trimble

Amy spends her work day as the Office Manager for Portland Oregon Visitor's Association. The rest of her time is devoted to paddling.

She has been involved in dragon boating for seven years. Her interest began when her mom, who was on Meridian Park Hospital's team, recruited Amy and three of her cousins. Amy paddled with Meridian Park's team for two years, then joined Portland Dragon Xpress (PDX), and is currently a member of Pulp Friction.

Amy is one of the original members of DragonSports, number 14, and is happy to have served the club in many ways. She is currently the Editor of DragonTales and volunteers her time as a caller for the open club practices. Amy has been on the Portland-Kaohsiung Sister City Association Race Steering Committee for the past four years. She is President of Cascadia Canoe Club; a group that is devoted to paddling outriggers, voyager canoes, and dragon boats. When I asked her about any other interests she laughed, "Other than paddling?". She did admit that she is a "reading addict".

One of the high points of Amy's dragon boating career happened this year when she got to stand on stage at the Alcan Dragon Boat Race in Vancouver, B.C. She and her teammates had won Third Place in Recreational Division A and are looking forward to racing in the Competitive Division in 2000.

Author's note: Although I don't usually add my own comments to these interviews, this one must be an exception. This issue of DragonTales will be Amy's last as Editor. Over the years Amy and I have worked together both for DragonSports USA and on the Kaohsiung Steering Committee. I want to convey my personal "thanks" to Amy for all the support she has shown me. I expect we will continue working together, promoting the sport we both love long into the future.

Vancouver Lake Regatta

Saturday, September 18, 1999 at Vancouver Lake, Washington.

Fun, "picnic on the beach with your family" 500 meter race with sunshine promised!

Practices: Included in the fee will be two free practices during the week before the race. (One practice on Saturday or Sunday September 11 or 12 and one practice during

the week of September 13 to 17.) Practice times will be scheduled on a first registered and paid, first scheduled basis. A special event waiver must be signed by each team member before using the free practices.

Registration: \$250 per team. To receive a registration form please contact: Roberta Cobb at (503) 282-0472.

Rules: All teams will be mixed teams (minimum of 8 female paddlers), limit of 20 teams (additional teams, if any will be on a waiting list). A 50% refund of the registration fee up to August 31, no refund after Sept. 1, 1999.

Tiller and Caller Clinics Offered

A Tillers Clinic is scheduled for Saturday August 7, 1999. No tilling experience is required to attend, but a willingness to till for club practices is a must.

We will start with classroom training including a discussion of safety on the boat and dryland discussion of the various tasks required of the tiller. Then the students will paddle the boat around the marina, with each student taking a turn at the till.

A Callers Clinic is scheduled for Tuesday September 28, 1999. No calling or coaching experience is required to attend, but a willingness to call for club practices is a must.

Tuesday evening's session includes a discussion of safety on the boat and the responsibilities of being the caller. We will have a discussion of the various paddling exercises, provide some sample practices, and then hold an open forum for questions to our panel of experienced callers.

After completion of the tiller/caller training sessions, each student tiller/caller will be scheduled into the open club practices to work with an experienced tiller/caller, until

the student feels confident he or she can till/call without assistance.

DSUSA provides an incentive card, and for every 6 open club practices called or tilled, this card is redeemed for the next quarter's dues. This is DSUSA's way of thanking people who give up their paddling time so that others may practice.

If you are interested in attending the Tillers or Callers Clinic, e-mail Roberta Cobb at WhRoberta@aol.com, or call Roberta Cobb at 282-0472 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. There will also be a sign up sheet at the locker.

Note from the Editor

Amy Solomonson

Just wanted to drop in a note to say thank you for the past year-and-a-half in which I've enjoyed writing articles for and editing this publication. This will be my last issue and I'm looking forward to watching and contributing to the continued growth and progress of DragonTales and DragonSports USA through other efforts. The level of commitment and volunteerism that dragon boaters exhibit to strengthen and improve the sport in Portland is just outstanding. It's been a pleasure working with the many people who helped this newsletter from the germs of article ideas to the final piece in your mailbox. (You have no idea how much teamwork it takes to pull this off!) Thanks to Gloria Jones for her continuous support; Joel Shilling for writing articles and serving as executive editor; Richard Cole, Cris Trimble, Roberta Cobb, David Rand and Michelle Hall for writing fantastic articles and finally to Stephanie Travis for her undying patience and superb design skills, without her there truly is no Tale.

Looking for a Few Good Paddlers!

We are looking for 10 to 15 men and women to complete our team. We are a recreational team whose focus is on racing. We already have a great core group. If you are willing to commit to a couple hours of practice a week and learn new things, you are invited to join us. Our goal is to race at Victoria, B.C. this year. Call Cris Trimble at (503) 240-8245 or e-mail cristrimble@freightliner.com for more information.

Childcare Exchange

Are you having difficulty finding childcare during your team's practice times?

Donna Leslie would like to hear from you. She is willing to organize a Dragon Boat Childcare Exchange so you can practice and have "free" childcare too! Call her at (503) 288-4702 or e-mail djleslie@aol.com.

Executive Editor
 Joel Shilling
 Editor
 Amy Solomonson
 Contributing Writers
 Roberta Cobb
 Richard Cole
 Shirley Ewart
 Amy Solomonson
 Cris Trimble
 Typography & Design
 Stephanie Travis
 Circulation Manager
 Gloria Jones

Address Correction Requested

DragonTales
 P.O. Box 23502
 Tigard, Oregon 97281-3502



Advertising in DragonTales

Readers who are interested in placing an advertisement in DragonTales are welcome to do so as follows:

Rates:

\$10 for active members

\$20 for corporations or nonmembers

Ad Format:

2³/₈" x 2³/₈"

Advertisers should furnish either electronic files, camera-ready art, or a proof copy. Advertising copy acceptance is subject to space availability and approval by DragonSports Inc. For more information please contact Stephanie Travis at (503) 659-7321.

Do you have any ideas or topics you'd like to see covered in DragonTales? Comments and article inspirations are always welcome.

EMPACT

Preworkout Sports Drink

Think peak performance

SPORT

Post workout supplement

Think optimal recovery

Choice of world class athletes

Experience the Mannatech Difference

(503) 570-0916

What's Happening...

July 31, 1999

AT&T Hawaii Dragon Boat Festival,
 Honolulu, Hawaii, U.S.A.

July 31-August 1, 1999

Long Beach Dragon Boat Tournament,
 Long Beach, California, U.S.A.
 Contact: (626) 288-2888 or (909) 468-0406

August 7, 1999

Tillers Clinic
 Contact: Roberta Cobb at (503) 282-0472
 (between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. for more info.)

August 14-15, 1999

Victoria Dragon Boat Races,
 Victoria, B.C., Canada
 Contact: Dave LeBlanc at (250) 658-5244 or
 bandit@bc1.com

August 25-29, 1999

IDBF World Championships,
 Nottingham, England, U.K.

August 28-29, 1999

Hungry Dragons,
 Port of Oakland, Oakland, California, U.S.A.
 Contact: Shirley Gee, (510) 452-4272 or
 sgee@worldnet.att.net

September 18, 1999

DragonSports USA Regatta,
 Vancouver Lake, Washington U.S.A.
 Contact: Roberta Cobb at (503) 282-0472

September 28, 1999

Callers Clinic
 Contact: Roberta Cobb at (503) 282-0472
 (between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. for more info.)
 Sign up sheet at the locker.

October 2-3, 1999

Northern California Dragon Boat
 Championships,
 Foster City, California, U.S.A.
 Contact: James Chen at (415) 396-5377 or
 chenjam@wellsfargo.com