



BOC MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Brattleboro Outing Club is to promote community participation in outdoor activities by developing, operating, and sponsoring affordable recreation programs, events, and facilities in Brattleboro and the surrounding towns.

www.brattleborooutingclub.org Spring/Summer 2018

SPRING/SUMMER NEWSLETTER

2018 Board of Directors Brattleboro Outing Club

<i>Chris Wocell</i>	<i>President</i>
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<i>Larry McIntosh</i>	<i>Paddling Program Chair</i>
<i>Todd Einig</i>	<i>Junior Jumping Liaison</i>
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<i>John Kohler</i>	<i>Board Member</i>
<i>Anne Latchis</i>	<i>Board Member</i>

President's Report

As I write this, two inches of snow lies on the ground... in mid-April. Spring? Yes! And soon summer, with all the wonderful outdoor activities sponsored by the Brattleboro Outing Club. Tennis, rowing and paddling program directors, along with many volunteers, are preparing the courts, docks and boats for this year's activities. Please take a moment to read the program reports nearby.

You may join your favorite BOC program now at brattleborooutingclub.org, and also help us get ready for the season by volunteering a few hours of your time. You will be helping BOC keep membership affordable.

The Outing Club enjoys a strong board of directors, and each of the club's programs has dedicated volunteers who serve year-round on committees that plan and guide activities. If you'd like to serve, please ask any one of us to learn more.

The Outing Club is on sound financial footing, with no debt. But with our annual income and expenses nearly balancing each other out annually, we need to provide for additional funds to cover repairs, maintaining facilities, and replacing equipment as it ages.

Capital Campaign

As BOC approaches its 100th year, in 2022, the board of directors is beginning to plan for a capital campaign to raise funds for these purposes for all programs and facilities. Our Tennis clubhouse, with its six clay courts on Cedar Street, needs attention, and we can improve our Rowing program with new boats. One of the most exciting opportunities is an offer from the Brattleboro Country Club—which makes its beautiful 18-hole golf course available to us—to donate a dedicated "Ski Hut" building to the cross country ski program, making the skiing experience much more comfortable for volunteers, members and guests. While the 500-square-foot building is free, we will need to get power to it and fit it up, sometime in the next 12 to 18 months. **The board is looking for someone who can help execute the fundraising effort, perhaps you?**

We hope to see you this spring and summer on the clay and on the water!

Chris Wocell - President



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Our 2017-2018 Winter season saw 65 students from area grade schools take advantage of our several free weekday ski training sessions, headed by our volunteer, Linda Bailey. And the high school Nordic Ski Team, headed by Amanda Dixon, fully utilized our beautifully groomed facilities courtesy of the Brattleboro Country Club, for training and racing, and will continue next year.

Ski Hut: Next season, we will enable an internet connection in the ski hut, which will help coordinate our volunteer schedule and event and trail conditions updates. Anyone with a lead on a used computer for the ski hut should please contact me.

Volunteer Needs: We need more volunteers for the kids' ski programs next season; noon to 3:00 p.m. weekdays, and to take part-day shifts at the ski hut on weekends. Please let us know if you are available.

Grooming Program: Our dedicated grooming squad did a great job maintaining skiable snow conditions throughout the season, even as late-season snowfall was light. In the winter, even if you're not seeing snow where you live, chances are we have skiable conditions at the BOC!

Corporate Memberships: Did you know...if you are an area employer interested in offering a preventive wellness program, BOC has two levels of corporate membership; for 10 employees, and for an unlimited number of employees. Your company insurance program may provide wellness incentives for you to offer cross country skiing to your workforce. Please speak to us!

Cross Country Ski Committee: We are pleased to welcome new committee members this season: Bill Jahn joining in March, and Kate Traeger, Joan Wesolowski, Victor Morrison, and Patty Dunn joining earlier in the season. We will have a great team going into next season.

Jay Jacobowitz - Cross Country Chair



BOC will host eleven (11) paddle trips this Spring, Summer & Fall. Two (2) are salt-water trips: Long Island Sound, CT & Plum Island Sound, MA, and two (2) are camping trips: Wilgus State Park & Green River Reservoir). No reservations are necessary (except the camping trips); just show up, with your own boats & gear.

The paddling program is FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, and is totally underwritten by donations, and the proceeds from our annual Consignment Sale & Swap of canoes, kayaks, rowboats, rowing shells, stand-up paddle boards, small sailboats & related gear.

This year, our 19th Annual Sale & Swap will be held on Saturday, May 12th, at the Outlet Center, on Canal St, near Exit 1 I-91. Swap...11:30 to 12; Sale...NOON to 2. Consignments accepted on Friday, May 11th, from Noon to 2 & 5-7; and Saturday 8-11:30; or by special arrangements. Owners set the prices, and BOC keeps 10%. Donations of usable boats and gear are greatly appreciated.

The Paddling Schedule is as follows:

Sunday, **April 29th** - CT River Setbacks, Hinsdale, NH Sunday, **May 13th** - Lowell Lake, Londonderry, VT Wednesday, **May 16th** - CT River, Putney to Brattleboro, VT Wednesday, **June 13th** - Pisgah Reservoir, Winchester, VT Saturday, **July 7th** - CT River, Sumner Falls to Wilgus SP, VT (optional camping Friday &/or Saturday) Sunday, **July 8th** - North Hartland Lake, Windsor, VT Saturday, **July 14th** - Harriman Reservoir, Wilmington, VT (Sunrise paddle & pot-luck picnic breakfast) Sunday, **July 15th** - Plum Island Sound, MA Wednesday, **September 5th** - Thimble Islands, Long Island Sound, Stony Creek, CT Friday-Monday, **Sept 7-10** - Green River Reservoir, Eden & Hyde Park, VT (paddle & camp trip) Sunday, **September 30th** - Somerset Reservoir, VT Complete details will be on the BOC website and in the printed copy.

Questions: email Lmacyak@gmail.com

Or call me at (802) 254-3666.

Larry McIntosh - Paddle Chair



It's April 3rd and I just checked our wonderful clay courts. There is still some snow on the south side of Courts 3-6, but it's melting fast (forget the reports about more snow this weekend - it ain't happening). By the end of the month the red clay tennis will return to Cedar St. I can't wait!

The tennis committee (Gwynn Yandow, Pam Bolduc, David Mischke, Roni Byrne, Ed Powers, Deb Panzica and myself) have been busy planning and we're looking to improve on last year, which was a great year.

Jacob Miller is back as our instructor/program director. He has also expanded his racquet stringing/repair service to include some lines of racquets and shoes. Let him know if your tennis gear needs help. Old friend Rick Sullivan has stepped up to be our facilities manager, and has already started getting things ship-shape.

VOLUNTEER WORKDAYS: April 21 & 22 and April 28 & 29. There's a lot of work to be done so please everyone come out on one or two of these days and help get the courts, grounds and clubhouse ready for the season! If you want to pitch in, but can't make any of those days contact Rick Sullivan or any of the committee members for ways to help out.

BOC TENNIS NEEDS HELP FROM ITS MEMBERS.

We have decided to keep our dues at a very reasonable \$200 (still!). We feel that it is an important part of our mission to provide a first-rate tennis program at a cost that allows for as many people as possible to be a part of our tennis community. But here's what everyone needs to know about how this works. We run really close to just breaking even every year. Some years a little on the positive side, other years a small negative number. And since we're not in this to make money that's been o.k. However, a realistic look at the needs of maintaining our facility over the next few years mandates that we start to accumulate some money to sink back into the club. We're asking everyone to help us out in whatever way they can. Here's what you can do:

1. Volunteer! The BOC has been a volunteer organization longer than any of us has been a member, and that's a big reason it's so great. We come together as a community and make it happen. Help out with the works days, volunteer for a committee, take on a special project, big or small. Talk to anyone on the tennis committee about

how we can use your talents.

2. Forego taking the volunteer credit on your dues payment. The payment form on the web site has a box indicating you wish to take the credit. If you've put in the time and it's important to your situation please feel free to take the credit - that's what it's for. But consider putting that money back into the club by not asking for the credit.

3. Donate. Consider putting the BOC on the list of nonprofits that you give to. Donations to the Brattleboro Outing Club Education Fund are fully deductible on your tax return

4. Register early. Registration is available online or by filling out a form available at the clubhouse; mail form with your check to our PO Box or deposit in the drop box at the clubhouse. Adult membership is a very reasonable \$200.

- To register online, go to brattleborooutingclub.org and pay using PayPal.

- To mail registration form and send check: PO Box 335, Brattleboro, VT 05302 (add note if name on the registration is different from check name).

We strongly encourage online registration. It saves administrative costs and activates your membership more quickly. If you have trouble with your online registration, please contact any of the tennis committee members for help. Once you've registered, read/download the Tennis Welcome Letter and instructions concerning court reservations on our website. You'll also find a calendar of events and information about our many summer programs.

Once again we've planned an extensive youth program and adult clinics, as well as private lessons available from our pros. Our popular doubles league will run again this year, and for those who prefer singles we are going to sponsor singles evenings where singles enthusiasts can come test their games against other players of similar ability.

The youth programs are a great learning experience and healthy environment for area kids. I'm excited about the upcoming season, our new initiatives, and seeing you all on the courts!

Joe Meyer—Tennis Chair





Rowers are eagerly awaiting the release of winter's icy grip so that we can all get back on the water and ...ROW!

After all, RowBOC has the best natural rowing water to be found anywhere! And last season was a real hoot, and we plan lots more fun coming up.

About the water: Our docks and boathouse sit at the confluence of the West and Connecticut Rivers, both clean, fresh and natural. The West River is usually pretty tame and gentle, ideal for new rowers building skills and for veterans to polish up and practice. The Connecticut is big-time, deep and wide with lots of scenic mileage and very little motorboat traffic.

And the wildlife: Early on a summer morning, when the water is glassy and the winds are calm with a slight mist rising off the surface and you are gliding quietly along, you may be accompanied by eagles, herons, foxes or bass. When a beaver slaps his tail, you might just jump out of your boat! As I said, its about the water.

But there's much more:

Members of RowBOC are a warm and lively group of avid sports. Everyone chips in, in their own way to steward the club's benefits and events, and to contribute to the friendly, helpful atmosphere. Some of these are:

- Potluck barbecues with sunset rows every month on the first Thursday.
- Ad hoc coaching on Saturday mornings.
- A "Learn to Row" clinic starting in mid June.
- A varied fleet of rowing boats from a gentle wherry to competitive racing shells.

So, if you haven't rowed in a long time (or never) check us out, give it a try!

David Gessner - RowBOC Chair



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BrattleboroOutingClub.org
for good sports
www.brattleborooutingclub.org

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