

UVRF's new Board preps for 2025 season, decides to hire a part-time Exec Director

Erika Dade, a UVRF member, coach, and Board member—she served three terms as president several years ago—was elected Board president again at the January 6th meeting, and her Board is off and running.

Erika announced via the ListServe that the Board has decided to hire a half-time Executive Director “to assist us in managing club admin and programming.”

UVRF's adult and junior membership, the number of coaches, and the number of club programs have all been on the increase since the start of the pandemic, and Erika says last year's growth was “significant.”

In addition to the new Executive Director, Erika said the club “will also need an increased commitment of volunteer hours,” and she asked that all members step up to donate time and skills.

“Your contributions are the key to this organization's success,” she said in a recent ListServe notice that went to all members. The notice included a list of requirements for Executive Director job applicants.

Board members for 2025 were elected at the December 10th Annual Meeting, and this year's officers were named on January 6th. Erika is President; John “Tunni” Tunncliffe is VP; Elizabeth Glenshaw remains the Treasurer for the third year; and Kathy Harvard is Secretary.

Returning Board members are Doug Calvey, Tom Griggs, Dylan Mroszczyk-McDonald, Dan Ruml, Peter Swanson, and Roelof Versteeg. New to the Board are Kristin Burdick, Guy Collins, Jeff Damren, Debra Fine, Kristen Munroe, and Andre Sole.

Erika offered thanks to Board members who served last year. “We said a grateful goodbye,” she said, to Marcie Craig Jacobs, Susan Brighton, Martha Beattie, and Debbie Hannam.



Erika Dade

Spring Junior sign-ups will be in February

Registration for the 12-week, 5-days-a-week Spring Junior racing program (8th to 12th graders) will open in February. Email carin.reynolds@gmail.com if you want to be notified. All 2024 participants will be notified automatically.

The 6-week, 3-days-a-week Middle School rowing program for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders, is being reorganized, and days of the week and times have not yet been set. The program introduces kids to rowing in a fun learning environment and does not include racing. Email Carin (see above) if you want to be contacted about the Middle School program.



How will YOU volunteer?

NOW'S THE TIME to start thinking about how you'll volunteer in 2025. Some tasks are always there for the taking, including afternoon dock

monitoring or joining a committee: Programming, Safety, Finance, Scholarships, Membership, Kendal Facility, CReW, Junior Programming, Equipment, and more. Each committee has an array of ways you can help—just ask. We'll list Committee Chairs after they're named by the Board so you can contact them and ask what kind of help they need.

Congratulations to 2024 Award Winners



Martha Beattie & Barley on the Connecticut River



Marcie Jacobs



Peggy Sadler



Donna Calvey

Last month's Annual Meeting was full of highlights from a great year: a terrific photo show by Dmitriy Kim, reports on growth in programs and membership, the Board elections, and—perhaps best of all—announcements of award-winners.

The **Starzinger Award** for all-around contributions went to long-time Program Committee Chair and volunteer coach Martha Beattie; Treasurer Elizabeth Glenshaw won for **Keeping Us Afloat**; CReW coaches Carin Reynolds, Susan Brighton, Erika Dade, and Dawn Carey won **Volunteerism Awards**; members of CReW who rowed at the Head of the Charles got the **Dry Side Up Award**; the **Novice Award** went to Sarah Troxel; Kathy Harvard won for **Community Engagement**; coach Linda Muri won **Oars on Fire**; Tom Puleo won the **Friends of UVRF Award**; Donna Calvey, who made sure sweep programs had coxswains, won the **Unsung Hero Award**; and Outgoing President Marcie Jacobs won for being **Captain of the Ship**.

The first-ever **T Swayze Award** was presented to Peggy Sadler by past president Liz Marshall. Peggy, Liz said, learned to row when she was an adult (in her 60s), raced her single at age 84 in the 2024 Head of the Charles, and is already training for next year's HOCR, when she'll be 85.

“The Swayze Award,” Liz said, “is to be given to a member of the UVRF community who serves as an inspiration to all for demonstrating tenacity as a competitor and for encouraging others to keep trying to get better themselves.” Later, Liz said, “Peggy was a perfect choice!”



CReW's eight won for rowing in the Survivor Row at HOCR.