

2019



**Annual
Report**
for the community

10 YEARS, AND WE'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN!

Dear Fellow Members and Supporters,

December 2019

As we approach the end of our 10th year of operation at 405 Ohio Street (it seems like only yesterday), we mark both some significant milestones and a meaningful future with great opportunities and promise.

First, we approach the completion and occupancy of our 16,000 square foot, \$3 million boathouse, training facility and community space. We are within \$200,000 of completing our fundraising efforts, thanks to the support of many members and several community advocates.

We are fortunate to boast that over 400 people utilize our rowing site throughout the year. Rowing members, non-rowing members and program participants comprised of high school, youth, adult masters and female cancer survivors; programs of youth and adult learn-to-row, and corporate event groups.

As we look forward to the future, with the help of our members, staff, board of directors, executive committee, and community advocates, we endeavor to continue work toward the implementation of our strategic plan. We are fortunate to have unlimited access to the Buffalo River to expand the reality of the great sport of rowing.

Sincerely & Respectfully,



Mark B. Kostrzewski, President/Chairman of the Board



THE BSRA COMMUNITY

WHO WE ARE:

Buffalo Scholastic Rowing Association is a community-based rowing organization along the Buffalo River. We are committed to the development of pride, teambuilding and leadership skills through rowing related education. Programs seek to celebrate the rich heritage of Western New York, the Buffalo River and the history of the sport of rowing while encouraging and promoting public access to this area's historic waterfront.

434
INSTAGRAM
FOLLOWERS

OUR COMMUNITY:

BSRA is located in the historic Old First Ward Community. The area of the Buffalo River that BSRA rows on, used to house dozens of small boathouses. The BSRA is a lynchpin in the effort to increase recreational use of the Buffalo River and strengthen efforts to rebuild the community. We hope the Old First Ward will be home to rowers for many years to come.

ABOUT US:

BSRA is 501(c) 3, membership-based, community educational and recreational facility located along the Buffalo River. Buffalo Scholastic Rowing Association promotes teamwork and leadership among other lifelong skills centered around the art of rowing. Access to the waterfront provides service learning opportunities to the public. Support from donations, grants, and fund raising provide additional revenue to sustain the Association.



BSRA JUNIORS

BSRA JUNIORS:

BSRA provides safe, fun and affordable year-round rowing opportunities to high school students in the greater Buffalo area. Our team is composed of over 20 students from ages 13-18.

Learning is our focus. Rowing is a multidimensional sport that teaches discipline, teamwork, fitness, work ethic and leadership. Our members build self-confidence and use rowing to help them on the path to the next phase of life. The skills and experience built through rowing open opportunities for college entrance, scholarships and careers.



WHAT OUR JUNIORS SAY:

“The club has an amazing and very rower friendly location both on the Buffalo River and in the City of Buffalo. I am extremely proud to be a member of the Buffalo Scholastic Rowing Association and am excited to see future development”.

ACCESSIBILITY MATTERS:

We provide full or partial scholarships for athletes who need financial assistance to participate. New comers do not need any previous rowing experience, and for a lot of our Junior rowers, their first experience in a boat is with the Youth Learn-to-Row or Juniors.

The BSRA offers a free 2 week trial to anyone who wants to see if rowing is the sport for them.

24
JUNIOR ROWERS
DURING FALL

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

The BSRA Juniors participate in many local regattas. The BSRA Juniors can be seen at regattas all over New York state and parts of Canada. Many crews find success at those regattas either by having improved race experiences throughout the season, or through winning medals. We intend to continue to expand our Junior program to new schools and underrepresented communities for years to come.

YOUTH LEARN-TO-ROW

WHAT WE DO:

BSRA's comprehensive 6 week Learn-to-Row (LTR) program is designed to teach the skills, fitness and teamwork of the lifelong sport of rowing. The sessions take place in a fun and supportive environment, with the goal of bringing the benefits of rowing to the youth of the community.

The BSRA Youth Learn-to-Row program runs in the Summer months. We offer three 2-week long sessions, Monday through Friday from 9a to 2p for anyone ages 11-16. The day is broken up into a morning session of rowing, an hour for lunch, and a second afternoon rowing session. At the end of the 2-week session, the BSRA organizes a fun race in which family and friends are encouraged to come watch and witness the new skills that the campers have acquired.

65
YOUTH LTR
PARTICIPANTS

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

This is the second year that the BSRA has partnered with Buffalo Seminary with their Summer at SEM camp. We provide a rowing option for a portion of the day for the Summer at SEM participants.

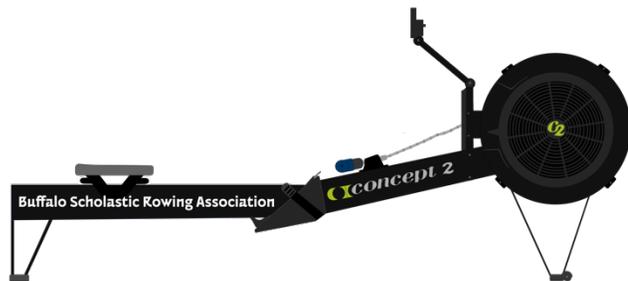
The Buffalo Scholastic Rowing Association partnered up with the Buffalo Public Schools this Summer. We provided 13 full scholarships for our Youth Learn-to-Row to kids who attend Buffalo Public Schools.



ADULT LEARN-TO-ROW & LEARN-TO-ERG

ADULT LEARN-TO-ERG:

Three sessions of Learn-to-Erg are offered during the Winter months. This is an introduction to proper rowing technique and usage of the ergometer. Rowers are able to join the program in order to simply gain fitness, or they may join if they have an interest in the sport. Participants who enjoy the indoor training element of rowing are encouraged to try the Adult Learn-to-Row program, which gets them out on the water.



19
NATIONAL
LTR DAY
PARTICIPANTS

ADULT LEARN-TO-ROW:

LTR - Rowing can be learned at any age! The Buffalo Scholastic Rowing Association runs 2 sessions of Adult Learn-to-Row in the Summer. Anyone who wants to continue on a more regular basis, could sign up for 2 extended sessions. Upon completing Adult Learn-to-Row, an individual may join the Buffalo River Rowing Club Masters.



MODIFIED SCULLING

WHAT WE DO:

The BSRA has implemented a sculling program to supplement the Youth Learn-to-Row. Modified Sculling is aimed to 7th and 8th graders, but is open to anyone ages 12-16. Unlike Youth Learn-to-Row, where the participants are sweeping, this program is focused around the skill of sculling. We find that sculling is a fun and productive way to introduce young athletes to the sport.



Athletes learn how to operate small sculling boats in a safe and fun environment. Athletes utilize Wave Cutters, which are a modified single that provides a more stable platform for beginner scullers. The scullers are also introduced to rowing together by being placed in larger sculling boats like doubles and quads.

11
MODIFIED
SCULLERS

BUFFALO RIVER ROWING CLUB MASTERS

WHO WE ARE:

2019 was a growing year for this team. We accepted 15 new rowing members from 2018 to 2019. The Masters season started off with excellent participation for winter erging, sometimes with 3 sessions per day because of the limitation of ergs.



VOLUNTEERISM MATTERS:

The BRRC Masters are the number one group at BSRA when it comes to volunteering at events. Some of these events include but are not limited to: Shamrock Row, BSRA Try-It Day, Spring Clean-up, Summer Clean-up, Fall Clean-up and Head of the Buffalo Regatta.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

The Masters first regatta was the Pittsford Regatta. Only the Men's Masters 4+ raced before a thunderstorm hit and placed 3rd out of 5 boats. At the West Side Rowing Club Invite, the Mixed Masters 8+ (A) came in 1st place and the (B) boat came in 3rd out of 4. The Men's Masters boats raced hard against each other, placing 1st and 2nd. At the Lift Bridge Regatta, the Men's Masters 8+ placed 1st with a margin of almost 40 seconds. At Head of the Genesee the Men's Masters 8+ placed 2nd out of 5 for the 5k race. The First Women's Masters 8+ placed 4th out of 10 boats. The novice Masters raced their first race and had a blast! The Masters regatta season ended with BSRA's Head of the Buffalo Regatta, where all BRRC Masters boats placed in their events.



SCHOLASTIC PROGRAMS

CANISIUS HIGH SCHOOL:

BSRA's scholastic program hailing from Canisius HS had another year of strong rowing.

56
SPRING SEASON
ATHLETES

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

The Canisius High School Junior Men's Lightweight 4+ wins

Gold at:

- New York State Championships
- SRAA's
- CSRRA's
- US Youth Rowing Championships



BUFFALO SEMINARY:

This year the Buffalo Seminary team had a change of the guard with their coaches. The program continues to pursue excellence on and off the water. A large novice group from the Spring of 2018 have continued to row and improve their skills, and add depth to the team with every passing season.



19
FALL SEASON
ATHLETES

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

Buffalo Seminary refurbished their Pocock 4+, the Lipke. Looks like a brand new boat!



WECANROW - BUFFALO

WHO WE ARE:

WeCanRow – Buffalo is a wellness and rehabilitation program designed for breast cancer, and all female cancer survivors. The program promotes a healthier lifestyle by building physical strength, endurance and empowering women who are in different phases of survivorship through participation in sweep rowing.

19
WECANROW
ATHLETES

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

WeCanRow ladies participated in both of BSRA's regattas!



ADULT SCULLING

WHO WE ARE:

Sculling opportunities at BSRA have been gradually growing. Private boat owners have the ability to store their boat and row out of the BSRA site and we now offer a coached program for adults in the Summer.

Private boat owners who allow BSRA programs to use their boat will have their storage fee waived. We currently have many generous private boat owners who do in fact allow BSRA programs to use their boats.

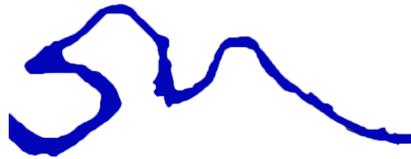
The majority of the Summer competitive scullers are new to sculling, and looking for a program to learn how to row in small sculling boats. The Summer competitive group races at local regattas.



BSRA REGATTAS

HEAD OF THE BUFFALO REGATTA:

We lucked out by having perfect Fall weather for the 2019 Head of the Buffalo Regatta! We ran sweep events for Junior, Collegiate and Masters athletes. This year we opened an open Single and open Double event for experienced scullers to try their hand at our challenging course.



PARTICIPANTS:

We had participants travel from Buffalo, Rochester, Chautauqua, Pittsburgh and Canada.

63
ENTRIES AT
HOBR

SHAMROCK ROW:

The 2019 Shamrock Row saw an increase in the number of participants and an overall improvement of the race experience. Standard racing was held for the Juniors, Collegiate and Masters athletes, but we added a coaches 500m dash for the athlete's entertainment.



PARTICIPANTS:

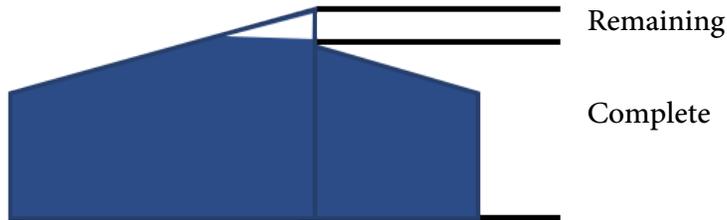
We had participants travel from Buffalo, Rochester, Erie, and Canada.

183
ENTRIES AT
SHAMROCK ROW

HOME SWEET HOME

PATRICK J. PALADINO MEMORIAL BOATHOUSE:

BSRA has been running a full scale operation since 2009, and have yet to be able to utilize a permanent boathouse. The Patrick J. Paladino Memorial Boathouse is nearly finished, and we are looking forward to moving BSRA into our permanent home along the Buffalo River. We are within the last \$200k needed to complete the over \$3 Million boathouse.



IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME:

Upon moving into the permanent structure, we plan to grow our programs across the board. The increase of space and indoor resources will make the rowing experience at BSRA unparalleled to anything else in the region.

140
MEMBERSHIPS
IN 2019

CONSTRUCTION THEN:

The Patrick J. Paladino Memorial Boathouse as of 2017



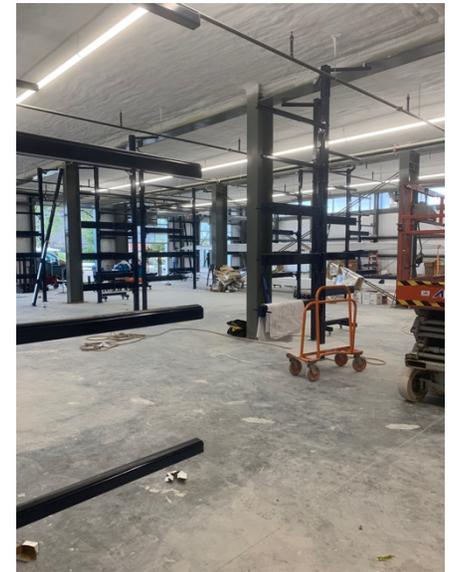
The Patrick J. Paladino Memorial Boathouse as of 2018



HOME SWEET HOME

CONSTRUCTION NOW:

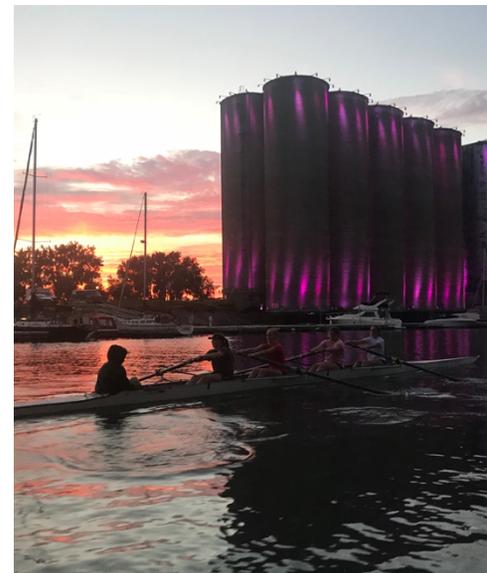
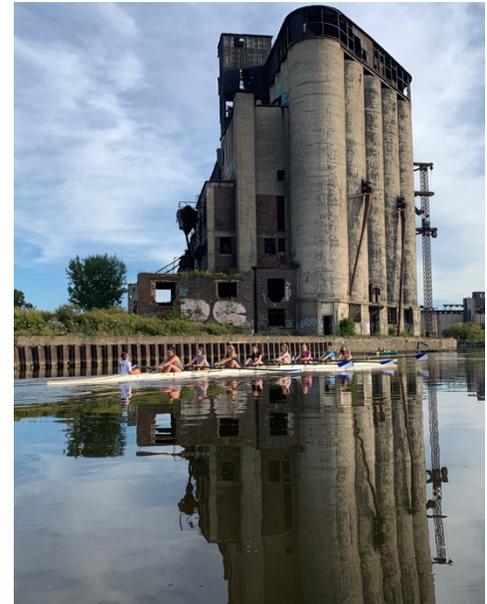
The Patrick J. Paladino Memorial Boathouse as of 2019



OUR WATERFRONT

WHERE WE ROW:

We utilize all the twists and turns of the Buffalo River for the majority of our rowing practices and races. Our location easily allows us to row adjacent to Canalside and on calm days, we can row all the way to the outer Harbor.



LAKE ERIE

OUTER HARBOR

CANALSIDE

DOWNTOWN BUFFALO

LARKYNVILLE

BUFFALO RIVER

BUFFALO HARBOR STATE PARK

TIFFT NATURE PRESERVE

SOLAR CITY

COBBLESTONE DISTRICT

LEGEND:
 - Existing Multi-purpose Trails
 - Blueway Trail
 - Kayak Launch Sites

PARKS

1. Erie Basin Marina
2. Times Beach Nature Preserve
3. Wisconsin Pointe
4. River Fest Park
5. Father Conway Park
6. Mutual Riverfront Park
7. Buffalo Harbor State Park
8. Tiff Nature Preserve
9. Union Ship Canal Commons
10. Future South Buffalo Golf Course
11. Red Jacket Riverfront Park
12. Thomas F. Higgins Streetfront Bridge and Park
13. JFK Park

LANDMARKS/ATTRICTIONS

1. Buffalo Lighthouse
2. Niagara Square
3. Sahlen Field
4. Erie Community College
5. Buffalo News
6. Harbor Center

BUFFALO SCHOLASTIC ROWING ASSOCIATION

BSRA

wonder

LAUNCH'19

WHAT WE DO:

The BSRA hosted its very first major fundraising event on the 405 Ohio Street sight in September. Friends of BSRA enjoyed a night of food, drink, live music, boat tours and raffles. All the funds that were raised from ticket sales and night-of sales went towards completing the Patrick J. Paladino Memorial Boathouse.



Boathouse Fundraiser
September 21st, 2019
Launch'19
405 Ohio Street, Buffalo NY, 14204

| | | |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------|
| <i>single</i> | <i>four w/ coxswain</i> | <i>varsity</i> |
| Before 8/15/19 \$75 After 8/15/19 \$100 | \$500 | \$1,500 |

www.rowbuffalo.com



BSRA PROGRAM SUMMARY

| | FALL | WINTER | SPRING | SUMMER |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| BSRA JUNIORS | 24 | 12 | 28 | 47 |
| MODIFIED SCULLING | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 |
| ADULT LEARN TO ERG | 0 | 8 | 0 | 0 |
| ADULT LEARN TO ROW | 0 | 0 | 0 | 29 |
| ADULT SCULLING | 4 | 4 | 4 | 10 |
| YOUTH LEARN TO ROW | 0 | 0 | 0 | 65 |
| BRRC MASTERS | 72 | 72 | 72 | 72 |
| BUFFALO SEMINARY | 19 | 9 | 21 | 0 |
| CANISIUS HS | 45 | 40 | 56 | 0 |
| WECANROW | 19 | 19 | 19 | 19 |
| | | | | |
| TOTAL | 183 | 164 | 200 | 253 |

HIGHLIGHTS:

You can start rowing at any age! Not only do we have a Youth Learn-to-Row Summer Camp, but we also have introductory programs for adults! The BSRA wants to make rowing accessible to anyone who is interested!



BUILDING THE BSRA FLEET

EIGHTS

| BOAT MAKE | QUANTITY |
|--------------|-----------|
| VESPOLI | 15 |
| HUDSON | 5 |
| POCOCK | 3 |
| WINTech | 1 |
| TOTAL | 24 |

FOURS

| BOAT MAKE | QUANTITY |
|--------------|-----------|
| HUDSON | 7 |
| VESPOLI | 7 |
| POCOCK | 1 |
| WINTech | 1 |
| TOTAL | 16 |

DOUBLES

| BOAT MAKE | QUANTITY |
|--------------|----------|
| HUDSON | 2 |
| KASCHPER | 2 |
| VESPOLI | 1 |
| SWIFT | 1 |
| AYLINGS | 1 |
| TOTAL | 7 |

QUADS

| BOAT MAKE | QUANTITY |
|--------------|----------|
| KASCHPER | 2 |
| DIRIGO | 1 |
| TOTAL | 3 |

DOUBLE/PAIR

| BOAT MAKE | QUANTITY |
|--------------|----------|
| SWIFT | 8 |
| TOTAL | 8 |

SINGLES

| BOAT MAKE | QUANTITY |
|--------------|-----------|
| HUDSON | 3 |
| KASCHPER | 2 |
| VESPOLI | 1 |
| SWIFT | 1 |
| ALDEN | 3 |
| WAVECUTTER | 8 |
| TOTAL | 18 |

| EQUIPMENT | QUANTITY |
|---------------|----------|
| DOCK SECTIONS | 12 |
| MOTORBOATS | 11 |
| TRAILERS | 3 |

HIGHLIGHTS:

We were able to purchase a small cargo trailer with the generous donations of the BSRA board members, BRRC Masters, coaches, Junior parents, and other members.



Thanks to the donation from James Wadsworth, BSRA purchased a Pocock 8+ from Fairport that will be utilized by the Junior program!



***INCLUDES PRIVATE AND ASSOCIATE MEMBER BOATS AND EQUIPMENT**

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

2018 AUDITED FINANCIALS

| Changes in Net Assets without Donor Restrictions | 2018 |
|--|---------|
| Operating revenues: | |
| Member Dues | 103,267 |
| Service fees | 48,133 |
| Contributions | 4,770 |
| Other income | 11,796 |
| Net assets released from restrictions | 360,164 |
| Total revenues and support | 528,130 |
| Expenses | |
| Program services: | |
| Coaching and crew | 46,364 |
| Depreciation | 14,484 |
| Occupancy | 2,195 |
| Insurance | 12,181 |
| Repairs and maintenance | 16,503 |
| Fuel | 3,863 |
| Regatta expenses | 23,568 |
| Utilities | 3,089 |
| Total program services and expenses | 122,247 |

HIGHLIGHTS:

BSRA saved some money by refurbishing oars in place of purchasing new ones.



CONTINUED

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Supporting services: | |
| Management and general: | |
| Staffing | 60,545 |
| Occupancy | 8,850 |
| Interest | 7,670 |
| Advertising | 3,012 |
| Professional fees | 4,275 |
| Office expense | 13,557 |
| Meals and entertainment | 1,445 |
| Taxes and licenses | 215 |
| Total management and general | 99,569 |
| Fundraising expense | 22,500 |
| Total supporting services expenses | 122,069 |
| Total expenses | 244,316 |
| Change in net assets without donor restrictions | 283,814 |
| Changes in Net Assets with Donor Restrictions | |
| Contributions | 135,992 |
| Interest | 10,073 |
| Net assets released from donor restrictions | (360,164) |
| Change in net assets with donor restrictions | (214,099) |
| Total change in net assets | 69,715 |
| Net Assets, beginning of the year | 2,170,045 |
| Net Assets, end of the year | 2,239,760 |

**\$218,000
FUNDRAISED
IN 2019**

BUFFALO SCHOLASTIC ROWING ASSOCIATION 2019

BOARD OFFICERS:

Mark Kostrzewski – President
Robert Fries – Treasurer
Thomas P. Flaherty – Vice President of Buildings and Grounds
Robert Becht – Vice President of Rowing
Kimberly Lonas – Secretary

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Kristin L. Arcuri
Christina Dines
Thomas N. Boyer
Christi Roorda Ciacco
William Breeser
Carol Flaherty
Jeanne Kratt
John Hofmann
Eileen P. Flaherty

BOARD MEMBER EMERITUS:

John E. “Jack” Hailand
Craig Thrasher

SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS:

Joe Licata – Bishop Timon
Paul Rodgers – BRRC Masters
Nick Zona – Team BSRA Juniors
Kacie Mills – Buffalo Seminary
Thomas P. Flaherty – Canisius High School
Lisa DeMarco – WeCanRow

STAFF:

Hilary Epes-Oballim – Executive Director
Mairead Manke – Director of Marketing and Outreach
Thomas N. Boyer – Boathouse Manager
Sarah Gelman Carney – Project Consultant





BSRA



**BUFFALO SCHOLASTIC
ROWING ASSOCIATION**