

Dear Saline Rowing Parents and Friends,

We are excited with the growth of our club! Formed by Bridgette Sparks and David Fiske, our club began in 2004 with thirteen student athletes and today averages 50-60 athletes each Spring and Fall season. In collaboration with Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti Charter Township and Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation, our Club contributed to the construction of a new community boathouse at Lakeside Park on the south side of Ford Lake. This is where our team maintains its fleet of boats and practices.

With the new facility in place, we were able to host our first home regatta at Ford Lake in the Spring of 2015. This site offers improved universal pedestrian and vehicular access, parking, a picnic shelter, a fishing dock, picnic area overlooks, an outdoor classroom, adaptive rowing, and scenic pathways along the river with interpretive signage.

Saline Rowing is a club sport sponsored by Saline Area Schools Community Education. Because it is a self-funded organization, fundraising is an important effort for us.

Our primary fundraising event is **The Great Gatsby Regatta.** This 1920's-themed adult dinner/dance with auction is designed to build community awareness for the Saline High School Rowing program. This year's event is **Tuesday. August 16. 2016** 

This event promises to be a memorable one. It begins with a pre-dinner gathering where you can mingle with friends and take your keepsake photo with an antique car. Enjoy dinner and drinks at Mac's Acadian Seafood Shack and bid on a variety of auction items. You can even bid on naming one of our teams' boats.

You can help make this year's fundraising event a big success by:

- Purchasing tickets online at www.salinerowing.org
- Reserving a table for your friends/family. Tickets are \$60. A Varsity 8 premium table is \$505. This includes a complimentary photo with an antique car, appetizers, a champagne toast, 3 beer or wine tickets per guest, dinner, dessert, Black Jack and an entire evening of entertainment.
- · Donating an auction item
- Soliciting sponsorships
- Enjoy the evening! As at the previous seven Great Gatsby Regattas, we encourage all guests to dress in '20s-era garb for a roaring great time calling all flappers!

Tickets for the 2016 Great Gatsby Regatta can be purchased online at **www.salinerowing.org**. Donations and a portion of your ticket may be tax-deductible. If you have questions, please email Stacy Wellings at <a href="mailto:stacywellings@gmail.com">stacywellings@gmail.com</a> or Mary Hays at <a href="mailto:mhays48176@msn.com">mhays48176@msn.com</a>.

We look forward to seeing you on August 16<sup>th</sup>!!