

IT'S HERE!!

The invite you've been waiting for!!

OLD MAN CHALLENGE #16

Friday February 22, 2019

WPI Rec Center!

In the spirit of all things old (like Bake, for example), I am going OLD SCHOOL this year. Trimmed down invite, a bit less trash talk, less opulent after-gathering. We're just going to focus on rowing as fast as we can, despite our ever-present personal challenges.

I'm not sure how old something has to be for it to be called "vintage", but surely, we must be close with this thing! I remember making the trophy with 20 slots thinking, who knows how many years we'll do it. Who knows indeed!

Time to paint on your spandex, and do some real work. Or you could just watch other people ~~suffer~~ work. Once again, the "vintage" WPI alumni and friends will duel with the undergrads for top 10k bragging rights, awesome prizes, and just plain, OLD, satisfaction.

This is going to be SO, MUCH, FUN!!!



No, someone else is not permitted to row in your stead --- all varsity rowers must complete a 10k and risk being humiliated by people much, much older than they are. But, it is quite true that the years tend to creep up on us "vintage" alumni. Suffice it to say, bring your best. Alumni have all sorts of options to complete a 10k - individual, relay team, or for the really smart ones - observation duty -- they come to watch and gossip :-). It's fabulous!



You're Never Too Old to Laugh

THE BACKSTORY (for you newcomers)

As many of you know, I began the OMC as a selfish motivation to keep up my own training back in 2004 vs. a small and not nearly as competitive group of undergrad rowers. I soon realized further incentives would be needed. Thus the original purpose was born, an annual "throw down the gauntlet" challenge, free license to (politely) heckle undergrads and slug alumni, along with some fund raising to help subsidize the Florida training trip, which is not really a "vacation" as some might presume.... I honestly cannot believe I have been doing this for 16 years! Damn I am old! Very few of you who were there at the beginning are still doing it - my hat is off to those who are.

The great thing about this event is the pressure on you young folk. **Can you even *imagine* losing to a person almost 3 times your age?** And if we old people get smoked, we have the ultimate excuse, we're OLD! HAHA!. AMF!

Put your money where your mouth is Friends. Come and row with us, or just come and visit. Check out the new Foise Innovation Studio on the site of our beloved Alumni Gym.- it always smells like pretzels baking inside! Very different from the smells of Alumni Gym! You can park free in the WPI garage accessed via the Higgins House lot off Salisbury St. **If you can possibly be on campus anytime between 3:30PM and 6:30PM on Friday, Feb 22, it would be really, really fantastic to see you.**

EVENT DETAILS:

- Friday, Feb 22, 2019 at the WPI Rec Center on the Mondo Court.
- We will have about 20 ergs set up. We will mix alumni and undergrads. We will run 2 or 3 flights, beginning at 4PM (I row at 4), ending by 6:30. The distance is 10k. I will bring the music. And I make all the rules! Ha! Varsity coxswains will record your name and score.
- If you are an alumnus and wish to get creative with a relay team or whatever, go for it. Just stake out an erg and set up your team strategy on arrival.
- I will donate to the team a yet to be determined dollar figure for each undergrad beating my raw score (I have historically pledged \$20 per person), to subsidize the Crew's spring training trip to Florida. You are welcome to do the same, or....
- I would *never* say that you have to make a donation, or that I have any expectations about that. But if you're able, please do. It is, after all, a fund raiser supporting a cause that I hope was highly impactful to your life. Along with your presence, ANY donation is greatly appreciated. **See below for details on how to contribute.**
- Remote participation is both optional and encouraged - please send me a score by Feb 22 and I will add you to the results sheet! This means you Old McGee!

Alumni and friends are welcome to connect after the event at a TBD nearby location for refreshments and recovery food. Sorry, I'm not providing dinner this year, but hope to see you there to catch up!!

FYI, and I repeat this every year, **ALL of the members of the Crew very much appreciate our generous and continued support.** I continue to get the sense they are both amused and intimidated by our massive Old Woman/Man power and our will to endure. Contributions of any amount are welcome. **HERE'S HOW:**

- **Option 1 (preferred):** Go to the link I will send out before Feb 22 and contribute to the GOAT NATION CAMPAIGN. This is similar to last year's Goat campaign, but better. 100% of your contribution goes to Women's or Men's Rowing as you specify, AND, GET THIS, the athletic program that has the highest level of alumni participation also will receive a bonus at the close of the campaign! Not surprising to me, Rowing crushed it last year, and we would love to see that again. Sorry I do not have this link right now, but it is in the works. I promise.
- **Option 2 (if you must):** Send a check to Larry or Jason payable to WPI Rowing.
Mailing address:
Larry Noble / Jason Steele
WPI Athletic Department
100 Institute Road
Worcester, MA 01609

**Yours truly in old age,
Pat Guida '83
AMF!**

pmg455@msn.com +++++ 774-261-0354