

**From:** David Applin [mailto:applind@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** 02/18/2011 9:13 PM  
**To:** John White  
**Cc:** James Slepica; Cyndy Dailey; TJCrew President  
**Subject:** Julia Shew Memorial Rowing Scholarship

I want to make the VASRA Board and membership aware of the recently instituted Julia Shew Memorial Rowing Scholarship sponsored by the Occoquan Boat Club. As you know, we (OBC) use VASRA facilities to conduct the Occoquan Masters Sprints that is the primary fund-raising vehicle for the scholarship fund. We donate money to VASRA each year to recognize your making the course available to us for this regatta. More importantly, we donate a large portion of the regatta profits to scholastic rowers who may not otherwise be able to afford to participate in rowing and rowing events. This year, we awarded scholarships ranging from \$250 to \$500 to a total of 16 rowers from area schools. Awards were made through the Crew Booster organizations on the basis of their coach's recommendations.

Please let me know how best to spread the word. Below is the announcement that accompanied this year's campaign.

Dave  
Dave Applin  
TJHSST VASRA Representative  
Vice President, Occoquan Boat Club

### Rowing Scholarship

#### Julia Shew Memorial Rowing Scholarship

In July 2009 OBC hosted its first Master's Sprint regatta on the alluring Occoquan Sprint course. The race was conceived by Bob Spousta, coach for George Mason University Boy's Rowing Club, with the intent that the proceeds would benefit high school rowers who need financial assistance to participate in their scholastic rowing program. That fall a committee was formed to develop the scholarship program. Following a successful 2010 sprint season, the scholarship program had enough money to begin awarding scholarships for the 2011 scholastic rowing season.

Julia Shew was among OBC's most active and outgoing members and she extended herself with snacks and encouragement to the high school rowers who practiced daily at the Sandy Run rowing facility. In her last season on the water, at the age of 65, Julia attained the club record and her personal goal of rowing over 3000 miles by her birthday. As a college student, Julia rowed at the University of California at Berkeley. After a long hiatus from rowing, she turned to sculling after her retirement, and could be found most mornings at Sandy Run launching and returning from her daily rows to Bull Run, 9 miles upstream, chattering away about the eagles and wildlife she encountered. That fall Julia passed away and because of her energy, generosity, and warmth, the scholarship fund was named in after Julia in memory of her enthusiasm for youth rowing.

The scholarship is primarily funded by the proceeds from the Occoquan Masters Sprints regatta; however other donors have contributed in Julia's memory or because they understand the lifelong value the rowing experience provides for youth. If you would like to make a donation, please mail contributions made payable to Occoquan Boat Club, PO Box 182, Occoquan, VA 22125. Please include Julia Shew Rowing Scholarship in the Memo Line.