

VASRA Briefs of Treasurer Candidates

Dorothy Lazor:

1. Currently “retired”.
Previous work experience:
 - a. Substitute teacher for the Diocese of Arlington.
 - b. Adult and Continuing Education teacher, Hawaii.
 - c. Army Officer - Operations Officer, Logistics
 - Platoon Commander, Recruit Training
 - Troop Commander, Transport
 - d. University Admissions Officer, Faculty of Arts, University of Queensland.
2. Current crew positions:
 - a. Treasurer, Prince William Crew Association, 2 years.
 - b. OLOC Representative for Hylton High School Crew, 7 years.
 - c. VASRA Representative for Hylton High School Crew, 2 years.
 - d. US Rowing Assistant Referee.
3. Previous crew positions:
 - a. President Hylton High School Crew, 1 year.
 - b. Fundraiser Hylton High School Crew, 5years.

“I wish to ensure that the organization works within the governance of the By-Laws. Further that it accountable to the members both in financial matters and in the decision making process. I have spent a considerable number of years associated with a high school rowing club, most of that time involved with fundraising, so I appreciate the financial constraints teams.”

Dana LaFever:

- Retired Fairfax County Schools Library/Media Specialist.
- Currently a part time Accounts Payable Manager for the Northern Virginia Division of Facchina Construction.
- Has been Treasurer of several PTA’s and a homeowners association.
- Has been President and held numerous committee/coordinator positions within various groups.
- Was President of the Sandy Run Scullers for 5 years.
- Now is Program Director of Sandy Run Scullers.
- Is Coach of the Adult and Juniors programs and assists with the maintenance of the fleet. (All Sandy Run Scullers).

“The VASRA Treasurer position is of interest because I would like to learn more about the organization. My children are in college, they did not row with the high school programs in this area, and since I work with these high schoolers during the Summer and sometimes Fall, I would like to know more about what they are doing in the Spring programs at Sandy Run. I'm interested in working with QuickBooks for non-profits, and the best way to learn a new program is to be actively using it on a regular basis. I live in the Sandy Run Park neighborhood and feel if I have a working knowledge of the organization that impacts us the most, I might be a better liaison between the rowing groups and the neighborhood”

Chris Nelson:

- Currently working with Monticello Capital doing general financial advisory and financial consulting.
- Ran several small technology companies.
- Worked 5 years as a NASDAQ-listed Public Company CFO where he implemented internal controls and compliance under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.
- Has a degree in Chemical Engineering and an MBA from The Wharton School.
- Is currently serving his second year as Treasurer of the Westfield High School Crew Team.

“I have had the good fortune of having two daughters (one at TJHS and one at Westfield HS) who were able to participate in competitive rowing at VASRA regattas. Through the sponsorship of these regattas, VASRA, through its many volunteers, perform an important service to the community and I feel an obligation to step forward if so chosen and ensure this opportunity is available to students in the future.

If given the opportunity to serve I plan to formally implement internal controls and establish processes and procedures to ensure such controls are followed long after my term as Treasurer. I will work with the other Directors and Officers of VASRA to ensure good corporate governance practices are followed. Finally, I will implement a practice of Financial transparency within VASRA whereby financial and other periodic statements are made public (on the web site) promptly following the end of each period. I believe it is only through practices beyond reproach and openness with respect to the operating details of the organization can VASRA restore credibility with the member teams.”

Mark Peterson:

- Retired after 27 years in the Air Force.
- Was a division chief at HQAF Public Affairs managing the entire band program.
- Now is a contractor working as a Public Affairs Specialist at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA).
- Involved in crew since 2003.
- Was Treasurer (1 year) and President (2 years) of TJ crew boosters.
- Active crew referee in the DC area.
- Helped organize crew at South County Secondary School in Fairfax County.
- Has been Treasurer of many community organizations over the years: Silver Brook Elementary PTA, Hayfield Secondary School Band, Crosspointe Cruisers Swim Team, Boy Scout Pack 994, Northwestern University Band Alumni Association.

“Although I never learned to row, my association with the high school rowers, their parents, and the referees I work with over the last six years have made a major impact on me and become a very important part of my life outside of family and job. I believe that VASRA provides an extremely important service to the local scholastic rowing community. Without the organization and planning VASRA provides, it is doubtful that area rowers would have the competitive opportunities needed to improve their skills and compete at the national level. I heard that VASRA was looking for a treasurer, and I already had an interest in becoming involved with VASRA and lots of experience doing the job for other organizations, so I volunteered.”