8/7

Clemson to host rowing regatta

BY GREG OLIVER
THE JOURNAL

CLEMSON — Rowing requires strength, endurance and teamwork in order to be successful and individuals who wish to receive that experience will soon have an opportunity to do so.

Team Up for Clemson, an inaugural event bringing Clemson University and the Clemson area community together, will take place from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Oct. 27 at the university rowing facility on the campus at Lake Hartwell. In the event of rain, the event will take place Oct. 28 — and there is no Clemson home football game that weekend.

Clemson City Council member Crossie Cox, who also represents the city on the Joint City-University Advisory Board, said City Administrator Rick Cotton suggested the event during a meeting in February. The goal was to provide a collaborative event for the city and university and Clemson women's rowing coach Robbie Tenenbaum soon offered for committee members to examine the boats, as well as providing free rowing instructions.

"There were some 80 participants who went there in late March, exercising and training on the water," Cox said. "There were six of us in a boat with two members of the rowing team with us and a coxswain telling us how fast we should row. We decided this was something we really wanted to do."



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Team Up for Clemson, an inaugural event bringing Clemson University and the Clemson area community together, will take place from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Oct. 27 at the university's on-campus rowing facility at Lake Hartwell.

Cox said once the committee decided on the regatta, they sought to make it a major fundraiser for the six non-profit charitable organizations in Clemson — Clemson Community Care, Clemson Child Development Center, Littlejohn Community Center, The Arts Center, Clemson African-American Museum and the Clemson Free Clinic.

Invitations have been sent to the Clemson business community — including downtown shops, restaurants and bars — as well as Southern Wesleyan University, Tri-County Technical College and different colleges within Clemson University. The Clemson Rotary and Clemson-Calhoun Rotary clubs, along with the Sertoma and Lions clubs, local churches and city employees will also participate.

Each team will consist of six members, assigned to student-athletes, and the team will need to submit the name and contact information of the team captain. The team captain will be contacted to establish the practice time and date.

Cox said the winner of each individual class of competition will then compete for the President's Trophy, awarded to the overall winner.

The entry fee is $300 per team, or $50 per rower, and checks should be made payable to JCUAB and mailed to Sandra O'Kelley, 1250 Tiger Boulevard, Clemson, SC 29631. Cox said 75 percent of the proceeds raised will go to the non-profit organizations and the remaining 25 percent to the CU Rowing Team.

"Six charity organizations will put up a tent or booth with information about sponsoring and volunteering, such as service learning opportunities," Cox said. "They want organizations, as well as Clemson University faculty and staff, to learn about who they are and what they do."

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