



Dear Business Owner,

The Great Gatsby Regatta is a 1920s-themed adult dinner/dance/auction designed to build community awareness of the Saline High School rowing program – a/k/a Saline Crew – and to raise the funds needed to purchase updated equipment and to maintain current equipment which will help us to be a competitive team.

The Great Gatsby Regatta is the crew team's primary fundraiser, and all of proceeds will go to help support this exciting club sport. Those of you who attended our previous galas found them to be a delightful event. The excellent food, drink, activities, and entertainment simply added to the fun. And most importantly, we have raised \$28,000 to support the Saline Crew program and partnered with EMU for our boat house. This year we are hosting the event at the Mac's Acadian Seafood Shack, Tuesday, August 18th

This year's Regatta promises to be no different. We are asking local businesses to help. You can help by:

- **Reserve a table for your business associates or friends/family.** • Tickets prices are \$60.00 each. This includes a delicious dinner served by Mac's Arcadian Seafood Shack, beer, wine, and an entire evening of entertainment.
- **Donate an item or service for our Silent Auction.** • Anything will do, but some of last year's most successful auction items included tickets to sports and entertainment events, professional services, stays at vacation resorts, artwork, gift baskets, and more.
- **Enjoy the evening!** • As at the last six summer Great Gatsby Regattas, we encourage all guests to dress in '20s-era garb for a roaring great time – calling all flappers!

Saline Crew is a club sport sponsored by Saline Area Schools Community Education, and is mainly self-funded. (The only exception to this is the insurance provided by Saline Area Schools.) Saline Crew began in 2004 with 13 student athletes, and now averages about 40-50 athletes per season (spring and fall rowing sessions). The program has included participation of athletes from other area schools including Ypsilanti, Dexter, and Northville. Due to the fund raising efforts each year at the Great Gatsby Dinner/Auction we now row out of our new boat house in Ypsilanti, sharing bays with Eastern Michigan University.

A community boathouse has finally opened at Lakeside Park on the south side of Ford Lake with collaboration between Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti Charter Township, Saline Crew, and Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation. Thanks to the proceeds from previous four Great Gatsby Regatta fundraisers this boathouse is a reality.

The community boathouse has three bays, entailing 5,500 gross square feet. A key part of the cooperative project is to encourage community usage of the boathouse. The project includes 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.

Lakeside Park is beautiful and is an excellent location for the boathouse. Saline, Ypsilanti, Milan, Lincoln, and other nearby school districts in addition to Eastern Michigan University will benefit from the enhanced rowing facilities on Ford Lake. Also, the Ann Arbor high school programs participate annually in the Regatta's that Saline Crew will now host, so they too will benefit from having another rowing location.

Tickets for the 2015 Great Gatsby Regatta can be purchased online at www.salinecrew.org. Donations and a portion of your ticket may be tax-deductible. If you have questions, please contact Stacy Wellings at: stacywellings@gmail.com **Tax ID: 38-6019575**

Please don't miss this unforgettable evening of fun! Your support of Saline Crew is not only needed – it's greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
The Great Gatsby Committee