

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone that helped make the 2004 Lake Merritt Sprints a successful regatta. We would like to thank all the volunteers who worked so hard over the past few months and days to make this event a reality. To the Official Referees, without whom we never could carry out such an event, a very special thanks. Kudos on their ability to keep the regatta on time!

Special thanks to Oakland Swift Water Rescue whose presence ensured everyone's safety during this event. Behind the scenes, we had the invaluable support and assistance of the Oakland Parks and Recreation Department, making sure the sprinklers didn't come on at the wrong time, keeping the Lakeside area clean, and providing a launch and driver to help cover the racing on the lake. Thanks also to Oakland Strokes who generously lent us launches and engines.

Special thanks for Margaret Fago whose designed our t-shirts this year. Many of you were able to stop by her booth and view her wonderful watercolor work depicting scenes of rowing around Lake Merritt.

Thank you to our vendor, JL. Their participation at the regatta was a welcome and needed addition.

The most important thank you goes to all the participants. We had a record number of entries this year from 24 clubs and organizations. There were nearly 500 participants in 64 finals. Thank you all for your patience and cooperation; it was quite a hectic day!

T-shirts are still available for purchase (sizes and styles are limited). Email sprints@rowlakemerritt.org with your requests.

Again thanks again to everyone who made this event a pleasure to run. I hope to see you all next year at Sprints 2005.

Candace Swimmer, Regatta Director and The Regatta Committee