

WMRFC Alumni Newsletter

Issue 2: October 25, 2012

Homecoming Game

Want to win the Prestigious Kennedy Cup? Want some sweet Tribe Rugby Swag? Want to help the club buy new goal posts? This is the last chance to sign up for the annual Alumni Homecoming Game!

Buy the Alumni package for the Annual Homecoming Game on Saturday October 27th, 1 pm can get you all this and more.

Cary will coach an alumni side against the current A-side team. Afterwards, at 6:30 PM there will be a social and BBQ at the captain's house. At the social and as part of the package, Alumni will get Tribe Rugby Beer steins and an assortment of Tribe Rugby gear.

What is more, part of the cost of the package will help the club buy new goal posts.

For all this, your ticket to admission is a \$50 donation via the William and Mary rec center which can be reached through the secure link below.

Please note that the game has changed to 1pm and is located at the Intramural Field. This field is located next to William and Mary Hall Parking lot, where all the tailgating takes place.

It is the team's hope that this will be a tradition that continues for many years to come. Let's start strong this year. If you have any questions email Ben Arancibia at bcarancibia@gmail.com.

<http://bit.ly/SwqJwu>

In the comments section, put Men's club rugby.



Rugby Beginnings, Rugby Friendships

One hot August afternoon I talked with Cary Kennedy to get the story of Tribe Rugby's beginning. I got that story, and a much more interesting one about rugby friendships.

Contrary to what you might think, Cary was not born playing rugby. In fact at William and Mary Cary first walked onto the football squad, aiming to play wide receiver or tail back. After a few years of squandering his talent, he found his way to the rugby team. His Sig Ep fraternity brother Dave Chappel ('72 or '73, second row and number 8) convinced him to join the club in Spring of 1971, in the second semester of his senior year.

That Spring Cary met club founder Courtney Hoops (B-school '73, Fullback). Hoops had played at UVA and missed his rugby at William and Mary. So he started the team. At that time rugby was less regulated and the squad was made up of equal thirds grad students, undergrads and townies.

Cary left Williamsburg near the mid seventies to go serve in the Navy. While stationed in Norfolk he realized he missed his rugby buddies. So In the early 80s he moved back to Williamsburg and started playing with the club again. The President of the club at the time was Lee Trainer ('81, Wing). After one semester back, Cary showed up to practice one day to find out that he was now the coach, a position he held for nearly 30 years.

When I asked Cary what he'd learned in those thirty years, he said that it doesn't matter what you can do as an individual—whether it's showing a new player how to tackle, or explaining a play to a captain—you have to have good relationship with your rugby buddies. Without that relationship the whole thing falls apart.

And it's those same friendships that recently saw Cary celebrating a birthday with Jim Booker (Law School late 70s, 8 man), and saw Cary playing old boys rugby in Aspen with Lex McCovin (VIMS mid 70s, fly half). In Cary's words your rugby buddies "stay with you."

Dan Souleles ('08, Fullback)