

# Debbie Owen Wells

*Today we celebrate the naming of the new shell for the girls' lightweight eight in honor of Debbie Wells.*

If you spent any time around TC Crew the last few years, you know Debbie Wells. Even if the name isn't familiar, you'll certainly recognize the face. It's the face of TC Crew and Alexandria Crew Boosters.

Debbie joined Crew Boosters in 1999, when her older son Trevor joined the team. The next year she was on the Board, as manager of the Crew Closet. She was elected Vice President of Crew Boosters in 2003, and became President a year later, serving two years in that position.

Debbie's term as President was probably the most difficult in the history of Alexandria Crew Boosters. Her strong and decisive leadership enabled the organization to emerge stronger than ever, and her term ended with the celebration of a rejuvenated Boathouse, re-named the Dee Campbell Rowing Center.

Through it all, she showed her devotion to the organization, the sport, and the youth of Alexandria. Debbie's ability to get the right people to do all the jobs necessary to keep Crew Boosters going is ample evidence of her administrative and leadership skill.

Somehow she found time to take up rowing herself, becoming an avid sculler with Alexandria Community Rowing.

We're not the only organization to benefit from Debbie's dedication and hard work. She's also been a leader in the TC Ice Hockey Boosters since 2000, chairman of the Titan Expo in 2001 and 2002, Vice President for Development at the Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center, member of the Board of Deacons at the Old Presbyterian Meeting House, a kindergarten volunteer at John Adams Elementary, and a tutor with the Alexandria Tutoring Consortium. Not surprisingly, last year she was named to the Board of the Alexandria Volunteer Bureau.

A Kansas native, Debbie began her career as a legislative aide to Senator Bob Dole. She founded and managed a successful travel agency, organized and ran the VIP services operation for a larger agency, and now is Vice President Finance and Administration for Lewis-Burke Associates LLC in Washington.

Debbie's still active on the Board, working hard at fundraising activities to ensure the future of the program. Her influence on TC Crew and Alexandria Crew Boosters will be felt for many years. It's especially appropriate that the team's newest shell bears her name.

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