## **GAINESVILLE AREA ROWING: Building on 20 Years of Success**

**Our History.** In 1998, Gainesville Area Rowing ("GAR") emerged from the union of three high school crew teams. For nearly 20 years, GAR has successfully operated a top regional rowing program out of a modest boathouse on public property on Newnans Lake. We are currently training at a temporary site at Powers Park and are excited to have the opportunity to develop a nearby location into a beautiful new Rowing Center. We have already begun preparations of the new site and we are excited to complete this project as soon as possible.





**Mission.** GAR's mission is to promote rowing as a sport for middle school students, high school students and adults in the Gainesville and Alachua County area. GAR teaches physical fitness, nutrition, and psychological skills that lead rowers to heightened mental and physical self-awareness. GAR rowers have routinely medaled in the FSRA State Championships and qualified for the U.S. Rowing Nationals in nine out of the last 10 years. GAR offers scholarships to families demonstrating financial need and GAR rowers have earned athletic scholarships to attend top universities.

**The Next Step.** GAR purchased 2.5 acres on Newnans Lake and, as owners, will now have more control over our growth. This property has a natural breakwater that will protect our equipment and provide a spectacular view. The Rowing Center design includes a boathouse with room to store all boats securely inside, and an air conditioned field house with restrooms and a multi-use fitness area for rowing machines and weights. This larger, new facility will allow GAR to offer expanded youth summer camps and adult classes, and raise revenue by offering winter training to northern college teams. The site is currently under construction and foundation work is taking place. Soon our Field House will be built!



**Giving Opportunities.** Construction of the Rowing Center will cost \$1.2 M. Towards that goal, <u>GAR members and supporters have already donated and successfully raised over \$500,000</u>, but your support is needed to help GAR complete construction. Naming opportunities are available to name the Boathouse, Boat Bays, Field House, Docks, Jetty, Boardwalk, and more!

Please direct inquiries to: Jen Figueroa 352-219-0717 <u>development@gainesvillearearowing.com</u> website: <u>www.gainesvillearearowing.com</u>

Make checks payable to: **Gainesville Area Rowing, Inc.** P.O. Box 357882 Gainesville, FL 32635 GAR is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization