

DragonBoat Race Day Labor Day Weekend

Written by Joy Craig

Tuesday, 26 July 2016 08:16 - Last Updated Wednesday, 27 July 2016 09:20



I first discovered Dragon Boat Racing when I was a US Marine stationed in Okinawa, Japan. Dragon Boating, or “*Hari*” as the Japanese call it, is a sport that originated in China over 2,000 years ago and has since spread throughout Asia and the world. It is now the fastest growing watersport in the world, and is a competitive and therapeutic passion for thousands.

I was lucky to have paddled with (and coached) the US Navy Dragon Boat Team on Okinawa for four victorious years, competing in large towns and small villages around the island. When my orders sent me to the Marine Corps Air Station at Beaufort, I thought my paddling days were over. You can't imagine my excitement when I learned that Beaufort had a dragon boat team of their own! Before long, I was an active member of DragonBoat Beaufort, and rekindled my love of racing. DragonBoat Beaufort is very different from my team in Japan. DragonBoat Beaufort is a “Pay it forward” team, committed to helping those in the Beaufort County who have or are recovering from cancer. Any kind of cancer. Even with proper insurance, a diagnosis of cancer can be devastating, and many in this group of people know what it is like on a first hand basis.

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Founded in 2012, DragonBoat Beaufort has a twofold mission to provide local cancer

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<http://www.mscb.com/forums/threads/rapid-rap-the-coach-of-dragonbear-beach-on-1-pace-day/>