



# Victoria Canoe & Kayak Club Newsletter

Victoria Canoe & Kayak Club  
355 Gorge Road West  
Victoria, B.C. V9A 1M9  
Phone: 361-4238 (Info only)  
Website: www.vckc.ca

April 2006



Willows Beach - January 2006

**General Meeting**  
**Tuesday, April 4, 2006**  
**Rob Zakarias talks about**  
**kayaking solo around**  
**Vancouver Island**

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The Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club is a member of:  
RCABA (bccanoe.com); CRCA (crca.ca) and CORA (canadianoutrigger.com)

General Meetings  
First Tuesday of each month  
(September - June)

May 2006  
Newsletter Deadline:  
April 16, 2006

***DON'T FORGET***  
***V.C.K.C. PADDLE***  
***FOR THE KIDS LIVES ON***

**THE PADDLE FOR THE KIDS to Port Angeles and Back is almost upon us with only two more practices to go.**

**It would be a nice touch if we could get a large support group on Saturday, April 1 to help send us from the clubhouse at 6:30am (7am at Ogden Point) and even more appreciated on our return after 11 hours of paddling (around 6pm).**

**Thanks,**

**Don Munroe & 50 Hardy Voyageurs**

## Canoe Program Report

### Flatwater Paddles

There will only be flatwater paddles scheduled in April - on April 17 (Easter Monday) and Saturday, April 29.

For the Easter Monday paddle, please contact Linda Thomson at 592-4170 ([3135thom@islandnet.com](mailto:3135thom@islandnet.com)) by Thursday, April 13.

For Saturday, April 29, please contact Joy Newham at 385-5876 ([pjnewham@telus.net](mailto:pjnewham@telus.net)) by Thursday, April 27.

### Advance Notice of Trip (May 5 & 6)

The 2006 annual 'Running of the Cows' - paddling the Cowichan River from Cowichan Lake to Cowichan Bay - is going to be a two-day event, instead of a one-day rush as in the past. We will paddle from the Lake to Stoltz on the Saturday and from Stoltz to Hecate Ramp in Cowichan Bay on the Sunday. Keeners can run the Canyon on both

days. An invitation has been extended to members of the Beaver Canoe Club in Vancouver to join VCKC on this trip

The group campsite at Stoltz Pool Provincial Park has been reserved for us for Friday and Saturday nights (**May 5th and 6th**). If you think you will be camping on those nights, please let Tom Staebell (655-7113) or Alan Thomson (592-4170) know, as the fee to reserve the site has to be paid by the end of March. For those who do not want to camp, space is also available in the nearby Warm Rapids Inn ([www.warmrapidsinn.com](http://www.warmrapidsinn.com)) at very reasonable rates. Call Don Barrie or Rose Sirois (250) 709-5543 to reserve a room there.

### Proposed Gulf Island Trip

So far ten people have expressed interest in joining such a trip even though no dates were fixed. The plan is now to leave on Thursday, June 27 returning on Sunday July 2. This will make for five nights of camping out. If anyone else is interested, please let Alan or Linda know at 592-4170 or [3135thom@islandnet.com](mailto:3135thom@islandnet.com). The trip will be limited to 12 people.



**Gorge Waterway  
Appreciation Day  
Cleanup  
Sunday, May 28, 2006**

Please come out at the end of May and help keep our waterway beautiful!

When: Sunday, May 28, 2006

Time: 9am to 1pm

Where: VCKC - 355 Gorge Road West

For more info call:

Voyageur Guy, Don Munroe (385-2268)

### *Membership News*

If you haven't already renewed your membership, you may not be receiving this newsletter. If you are receiving it (or are reading online) and you haven't renewed, forms are available from the VCKC clubhouse (back desk) or can be downloaded from our website at [www.vckc.ca](http://www.vckc.ca) (Members section).

Please complete both sides of the form. If there are any questions please contact Tony Copping, Membership Director, at [acopping@shaw.ca](mailto:acopping@shaw.ca).



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## ***Kayak Program Report***

We had another highly successful New Member's Paddle in March with 22 boats and great weather. Thank you Simon. Well done. Sooke Basin east end was a good choice.

By the time you read this we will have had our monthly meeting. The speaker was from the Gulf Islands National Reserve. She told us about the changes in our island parks. Also I mentioned that we are considering a discussion on planning local day paddles. We are wondering if people would prefer a clinic or have it during a regular monthly meeting. If you were unable to make the meeting let me know if you are interested. Next Month our speaker will be from Transport Canada. The speech will be about the Victoria Harbour - where to go, what to watch for etc.

I have had some people ask me if I am going to do any more workshops on building wheels for your kayak. If anybody is interested send me an email at fredinvictoria@yahoo.ca. If there is sufficient interest, I could do another. I would try to schedule it to accommodate the most people.

Don't forget to look at the trips and courses. The next month is quite active. A good time to learn more to paddle safely.

New Member's Paddle - Sunday, April 9

Intermediate Member's Paddle - Saturday, April 22

See Trips and Courses for details (Page 6)

Happy paddling!

Fred Trudell

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## ***The ABCs of Kayaking Gear***

This is a two-part series of talks that will cover sea-kayaking paddle clothing and gear.

The first session "***What to Wear and Gear to Take on Day Paddles***" will be held on Thursday, March 30 at 7pm at the clubhouse. It will cover types of paddles clothing as well as essential and non-essential gear from your kayak and paddles to a seat to sit on ... all for safety and comfort. Recommended components for your day-dripping 'ouch' kit, repair kit and emergency kit will also be discussed.

Part Two, "Touring Gear and Clothing ... How to Pack Your 'Yak'" will be held on Thursday, April 13 at 7pm at the clubhouse. This session will cover essential and non-essential gear for an overnight or multi-day paddle. Again with both safety and comfort in mind. Basic food tips and how to pack everything in your kayak will be discussed.

There is a \$5.00 clinic fee for each of these talks. Please bring your questions as well as your own ideas and experiences to share with us. Contact Glynis Newman for more information at 655-1272 or gnewmandvm@shaw.ca.

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## ***Recreational Canoeing Association of British Columbia AGM 2006***

***Saturday, April 22 - Hope, B.C.***

The 2006 AGM of the Recreational Canoeing Association of BC will be held in CAMP KAWKAWA, Hope, B.C. on the evening of Saturday, April 22, 2006.

The purpose of the meeting is to elect members to the Executive and to conduct the business of the Association.

In addition to the AGM, the weekend program includes:

- Voyageur Canoe trip on the Fraser River;
- Flatwater paddles on Lake Kawkawa, Ross Lake and elsewhere;
- Whitewater trips as desired on rivers in the area;
- ReCert for Lakewater instructors (Saturday pm);
- Entertainment - Reel Paddling - Rapid Magazine @ 7.00pm on Saturday;

- New Boats - Clippers and Esquif boats to try out

Non-members of RCABC are welcome to attend the weekend's events.

### ACCOMMODATION

Camp Kawkawa provides space for camping (playing field) or the use of cabins. The cabins are multi use - i.e. not for individuals/families, but one dormitory has private rooms. Cabins have beds and there is running water, power, and washrooms. Bring your own sleeping bag/pillow, etc. Cost is \$20 per night per person

Camping is \$10 per night.

### COOKING

The dining hall can be used for cooking and eating. No cooking in the cabins. The town of Hope is less than 5 minutes drive away, and there are plenty restaurants and take-outs.

More details at: <http://www.bccanoe.com/> and  
<http://www.kawkawa.com/>

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## ***Update - Boat Storage***

### **Thank You**

Thank you to Ken and Marilyn Tomlinson. Even though they have passed the torch to new storage coordinators, Ken and Marilyn have continued to volunteer their own time to complete a few projects that they had their hearts set on, such as rebuilding some boat racks in the outside storage area.

Their generosity and commitment to VCKC are much appreciated!

### **Storage Fees**

ERRATUM: In the last newsletter, the fees for outside boat storage were stated as \$40 per year. They are actually \$30 per year. Indoor boat storage is \$60 per year and lockers are \$20 per year. Sorry for any inconvenience that this error may have caused.

Almost all rental payments are now up to date. If you are one of the very few who have not yet paid, please submit your payments to VCKC immediately - we would really hate to have to evict your boat (but we will if we have to!). And speaking of which:

Does anyone know how to contact Tony Humphrey or Kelly Irvine? Their storage fees are overdue, their contact information in out of date and we have been unable to locate them. Please forward any information you may have to Alex or Lynn at:

[VCKCstorage@yahoo.ca](mailto:VCKCstorage@yahoo.ca)

or call 382-7781

### **Wait Lists**

*Indoor Boat storage* - we have now accommodated all those who had recently been waiting for indoor boat storage.

*Outdoor Boat Storage* - we will begin going through the outdoor wait list and we should be able to accommodate most if not all of those waiting for outside storage.

*Lockers* - We have a number of people waiting for lockers. Unfortunately, all the lockers are presently occupied. If you find that you are using your locker infrequently, please consider giving it up for more regular paddlers.

As always, we are still accepting names for the storage wait list!

### **Renovations**

In collaboration with Kathleen Gunn (House & Grounds Coordinator), we are developing a plan to provide more indoor and outdoor boat storage and lockers as well as more change-room space. Watch for more news on this topic in upcoming newsletters and at general meetings. When a plan is finalized, we will need some volunteers to help with the changes. We hope to have everything done before the good weather increases activity at the club.



### **Wanted**

Two or three expedition paddlers for possible circumnavigation of S. Moresby or Prince Rupert to Hardy or ????? sometime between June 26 and August 12.

Contact Karen Hoffman at  
474-3708

***Trip Report***  
***New Member's Paddle***  
***March 4, 2006***

As a first time organizer, it was a really positive experience and I'd do it again!

I thought that I was prepared but realized as twenty-two kayaks left Coopers Cove (Sooke Basin) and the leaders were way in front and the stragglers way behind, that I had inadequately prepared the group. So I hurriedly paddled to the front and asked them to not pass the newly designated lead boat, Duncan Pennington! He knew the route better than I did since he was the one who had given me the proposed route.

The water was glassy smooth and after a very light sprinkle of rain for 5 minutes that felt like spray from my paddle, we had sun for the rest of the day.

We crossed Sooke Basin south circumnavigating the islands in the middle

and on to Anderson Cove for lunch, yes, you guessed it "in the sun."

After lunch we followed the eastern shore of the Basin including Roche Cove and Huchinson Cove all the way back to the launch site.

Lots of enormous purple starfish and a school of millions of jelly fish.

At the very end played a two team game of get the water bottle (Duncan's at his suggestion) and throw it forward. Only it was hard to tell who was on which team.

Maybe Shirts and Skins would have helped?

Finally drinks at the Stonepipe Landing Restaurant! For me a pint of Pipers Ale.

Everyone seemed to have a very pleasant day.

Thanks so much for your support and encouragement Duncan, Lani, Sue, Glynis and Doug (sweep) and the weather Gods.

Simon Williams



# Trips & Courses (Kayaking)

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## *New Members Paddle - Sooke River -*

Date: Sunday, April 9, 2006 - Sooke river

Meet at Whiffin Spit (Whiffin Spit Rd/Sooke Harbourhouse sign, 2 km through Sooke) in time to be on the water at 10 am .

We'll paddle over to the historic marker and follow the east shore until turning north to enter Sooke River under the highway bridge. If river flow is deep enough (or if you have cheap paddles) we'll paddle 1.3 nm up river to the limit of kayak navigation and return to the flats for lunch. This is a 9 mile paddle so we should try to get off on time.

Please be conversant with the NMP requirements if you plan to join this trip. If you do, please enroll by contacting Duncan Pennington at 477-5261 or [dpennington@shaw.ca](mailto:dpennington@shaw.ca) before April 8.

Hope to see you there!

**Guidelines - New Members' Paddles (NMPs)** allow new members to meet other members; to paddle in a safe environment and to introduce new members to Victoria area paddling locations. They are tailored to beginner paddlers although experienced paddlers are welcome to attend.

All those who plan to attend NMPs need to wear immersion gear (i.e. drysuit or wetsuit OR insulating clothing such as fleece. ALSO remember to bring a change of clothes in a drybag. The trip leader has the right to deny your participation in the paddle if he/she thinks you are not adequately prepared for the possibility of immersion. If you are unsure about the suitability of your equipment or clothing, please contact the trip leader for advice prior to the paddle date. It is also expected that you will bring adequate food and water for the duration of the paddle.

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## *Intermediate Paddle*

Date: Saturday, April 22, 2006

Early morning ferry to Galiano about 7:30am.

Drive northwest on Galiano.

Paddle the vicinity of Dionisio Provincial Marine Park on the edge of Polier Pass. See (<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/dionisio.html>) for more details.

Currents are generally light for Polier Pass. We will be near shore unless playful. The NW shore of Galiano is exposed to a long fetch of Georgia Strait and can experience longer wavelength swell waves.

Some will stay on Galiano for dinner. Others might return home on the 5 o'clock ferry.

At this time, it looks like the Madrona Lodge on Galizano will make their property available to us for parking and launching.

I will charge a small parking and launch fee (say \$5 per kayak) and make a thank-you gift to the Lodge. They offered their help at no charge.

Stay tuned for final details to be confirmed based on transportation, boat launch and weather concerns.

Doug Alderson

## **Guidelines - Intermediate Paddles**

These paddles will be tailored to intermediate/advanced

members. It is recommended that participants have at least CRCA Level 1 skills or more preferably, Level 2 skills. The purpose of these paddles is to provide a peer-supported safe environment for more experienced paddlers to practice their skills. These paddles may be focused around a theme e.g. rescues, towing, navigation, or they may simply be paddles in more challenging waters. They are not meant for novice paddlers.

There will be no leaders and no instructors....only organizers/facilitators. Participants will be responsible for their own gear, preparation, knowledge/skills and risk assessment. Misrepresenting your level of skill or preparedness can put the entire group at risk. If you are unsure about either, please contact the Kayak Program Director (Fred Trudell at 480-0880) for advice prior to the paddle.

Participants are required to paddle in buddy groups. This means the onus for your immediate safety falls on you and your buddy(ies). Group safety decisions will be the responsibility of the group as a whole, and will be settled by consensus. The organizer simply chooses the time and location for the paddle, and may suggest exercises for the participants to consider.

Recommended safety gear includes a VHF radio, bivouac and first-aid kits, and a quick-release tow system. Participants should leave a float plan with someone reliable.

Only VCKC members may participate in these paddles.

# More Trips & Courses (Kayaking)

## *Upcoming Courses*

### **Paddling Canada (CRCA) Level 1 Course**

Saturday & Sunday, April 1 & 2  
TBA - May  
June 3 & 4  
September 16 & 17

### **Paddling Canada (CRCA) Flatwater Course**

Saturday, April 22  
Saturday, May 6  
June - TBA  
September - TBA

Contact Gary Allen at [gd.allen@shaw.ca](mailto:gd.allen@shaw.ca) for more information and to register.

### **Navigation Clinic: Tides and Currents**

Thursday, April 27 at 7:00pm at the Clubhouse

### **Wet Exit Clinic - Saturday, April 22**

Contact Brian Mallory at 744-2693

### **Notes on Courses:**

Courses are to be scheduled and will run if there is sufficient interest. Dates may be changed to suit the needs of the instructors or club members. Courses will have a class size of 4 paddlers and may run with fewer participants based on the decision of the individual instructor.

Instructors have CRCA (Canadian Recreational Canoeing Association) certification and **volunteer** their time. If you sign up for a course, please pay your fee in advance and show up to the class rain or shine. Participants will be required to sign a CRCA liability waiver. All participants must be club members.



# Trips & Courses (Canoeing)

## *Flatwater Paddles*

There will only be flatwater paddles scheduled in April - on April 17 (Easter Monday) and Saturday, April 29.

For the Easter Monday paddle, please contact Linda Thomson at 592-4170 ([3135thom@islandnet.com](mailto:3135thom@islandnet.com)) by Thursday, April 13.

For Saturday, April 29, please contact Joy Newham at 385-5876 ([pjnewham@telus.net](mailto:pjnewham@telus.net)) by Thursday, April 27.

### **Guidelines - Flatwater Paddles**

Trips are usually 4 - 6 hours plus travel time so bring a lunch/hot drinks. Newcomers/beginners are welcome. It is preferred that paddles have taken a Lake Water 1 course. Meet up at the clubhouse at 9am unless otherwise informed.

## *Other Trips*

### **Pooch Paddle - May 11, 2006**

Club members with dogs can take advantage of the last week that dogs are allowed on the beaches at Beaver and Elk Lakes. Meet between 5 & 6pm at Beaver Lake Beach and bring a picnic supper.

### **Portland Island Camping Trip - May 13-14, 2006**

This is for everyone; voyageurs will be taken if needed for those without a canoe or with more people than their boats can handle. Contact Alan or Linda Thomson 592-4170

### **Gulf Island Trip - End of June**

See plans to date on Page 2

# More Trips & Courses (Canoeing)

## Courses

### Lakewater Basic Level - April 6-7, 2006

This course is the basic canoeing skills course. It is intended for new paddlers and for those who want to take more advanced courses. Level 1 is tandem paddling; Level 2 is solo. The course will take the full weekend and will include rescue sessions.

Cost: \$50.00

### Lakewater Advanced Level - April 29-30, 2006

This course is intended for paddlers intending to go on to take Moving Water courses and for those wishing to add to their basic set of strokes. Level 3 is Advanced Tandem Paddling; Level 4 is Advanced Solo.

Cost: \$50.00

These courses have been developed by the Recreational Canoeing Association of B.C. They are open to paddlers of all ages but children should be over 10 years of age unless particularly comfortable in water or accompanied by an older sibling. All students must be club members.

To register for the above courses, contact Tom Staebell (655-7113) or email him at:

[thestaebellfamily@shaw.ca](mailto:thestaebellfamily@shaw.ca)

### Ocean/Coastal Paddling

If interested in taking an Ocean/Coastal Paddling Course, please contact Alan Thomson.

## Dragonboaters Paddles Up!

The St'keya dragonboat team is planning to attend the Club Crew World Championships in Toronto from August 7 to 14 ([www.2006ccwc.com/](http://www.2006ccwc.com/))

While not confirmed, this may also include racing in the Canadian Trials for the 2007 Worlds at Welland.

At CCWC we will be competing in the Grand Dragon Division which is for those over 50 on January 1, 2006. This division will not be an official category until next year. Thus there will be a number of openings for Canadian teams.

Not everyone on our team can go so we are looking for a few strong candidates who have reached the magic age for Grand Dragons.

We expect to have a Grand Time!

If you are interested please contact Barb McEvoy at [bandpmcevoy@shaw.ca](mailto:bandpmcevoy@shaw.ca).

## Lost!

Fraser Tweedy reports that he's lost a video marked with a Kodak label '92-93 World Championships!' It may have been left in the room where the second phone is near the washroom on March 4.

If you've come across this video, would you please let Fraser know at: [aft354@shaw.ca](mailto:aft354@shaw.ca)

And although she hasn't lost anything, Maris Ratel is looking for plants. As she puts it:

In a fit of madness I offered to do some gardening at the Club and now's the time to make good on my offer.

Can you help out with plants? We need low-maintenance, flowering perennials for both shade and sun, possibly ornamental grasses, lavenders, pyrethrums, aquilegia, etc. I've already got Mrs. Johnson's Blue geranium and a blue campanula.

Later on, a few bedding plants would be useful, if spares are available.

If you can help, please email me at:

[marisratel@shaw.ca](mailto:marisratel@shaw.ca)



## VCKC Executive

<p><b>President</b> Judi Murakami ..... 360-2776</p> <p><b>Vice President</b> Mile Petrovic ..... 893-1904</p> <p><b>Treasurer</b> Paul Post ..... 412-4323</p> <p><b>Secretary</b> Lorna Petrovic ..... 733-2013</p> <p><b>Past President</b> Paul de la Bastide ..... 598-9611</p> <p><b>Program Directors:</b></p> <p><b>Canoe Program</b> Linda Thomson ..... 592-4170</p> <p><b>Dragon Boat Program</b> James McBean ..... 813-3456</p> <p><b>Outrigger Program</b> Keith Larusson ..... 598-7193</p> <p><b>Sea Kayak Program</b> Fred Trudell ..... 480-0880</p>	<p><b>Voyageur Program</b> Don Munroe ..... 385-2268</p> <p><b>Marathon Canoe Program</b> Ron Williams ..... 380-7496</p> <p><b>Education, Standards &amp; Safety</b> Doug Linton ..... 727-0216</p> <p><b>Membership</b> Tony Copping ..... 479-1308</p> <p><b>Clubhouse &amp; Grounds</b> Kathleen Gunn ..... 384-6436</p> <p><b>Social Coordinator</b> Irena Jazwinski ..... 388-9757</p> <p><b>Boat Storage</b> Alex Mann &amp; Lynn Sanderson .. 382-7781</p> <p><b>Newsletter</b> Harold Gillis ..... 598-9488</p> <p><b>Directors-at-Large</b> Mavis Pillar ..... 384-4390 John Close ..... 384-8077 Joy Newham ..... 385-5876 Fraser Tweedy ..... 380-6952</p>
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## VCKC Clubhouse Bookings and Club Activities April 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
						1 Paddle to Port Angeles
2	3	4 7:30pm General Meeting Judi 360-2776	5	6 Dragonboat Mtg (after last practice)	7	8
9 Kayak - New Member's Paddle Duncan Pennington 477-5261	10	11 7:30pm VCKC Executive Mtg Judi 360-2776	12	13 Talk - Touring Gear and Clothing 7pm Glynis 655-1272	14	15
16	17	18	19 7:00pm Kayak Program Mtg	20	21	22 Kayak - Int.Paddle Doug Alderson Wet Exit Clinic Brian Mallory 744-2693
23	24	25 7:30pm Outrigger Program Meeting	26	27 Navigation Clinic- Tides & Currents 7pm	28	29

