



Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club Newsletter

September 2014

*Victoria Canoe & Kayak Club 355 Gorge Road West Victoria, B.C. V9A 1M9
Phone: 250-590-8193 (Info only) Website: www.vckc.ca*

Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club BBQ Tuesday September 2nd, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.



Derek and Darelle at the finish line!

The September BBQ and General Meeting will feature a presentation by VCKC members Derek Jenkins and Darelle Butler.

Derek and Darelle competed in the Cali 100, a 100 mile race from Redding to Chico, California on May 25th, 2014. Come to the Club BBQ and after some good eats and socializing hear about their race experience and view pictures of this beautiful section of the Sacramento River.

Bring something to share in the potluck - surnames A-L bring salads or appetizers and L-Z bring deserts. Also bring something to BBQ for yourself and beverage is BYO. See you on the 2nd!

(For other notices please see the Raggle Taggle Section on Page 7.)

EXECUTIVE NEWS

Volunteering Opportunities, Fall Clean-up and Executive Activity

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Executive Positions

The Web Master position is now vacant and is open for a volunteer. If you are interested, contact the president, Jean Chandler at 250-727-6923 or president@vckc.ca for more information.

Additionally, there are several Executive Positions becoming available for new volunteers as of January 2015. If you are interested in getting more involved or in volunteering for the club in an executive position, please feel free to contact the executive in the position you are interested in. These positions may include but are not limited to: Newsletter Editor (contact Graham at newsletter@vckc.ca), Vice President (contact Jennifer at vpresident@vckc.ca), Canoe Program Director (contact Dan at canoe@vckc.ca), Treasurer (contact Anne at treasurer@vckc.ca), Education, Standards & Safety (contact Doug at safety@vckc.ca), Director at Large (contact Shelley at director2@vckc.ca), Voyageur Program Director (contact Joe at voyageur@vckc.ca), Outrigger Program Director (contact Ryan at outrigger@vckc.ca), and possibly the Boat Locker and Storage Director (contact Maylene at storage@vckc.ca).

Dan Walker is discussing the replacement Canoe Program Director position with several active canoeists. Ryan Ovens has talked with Sean Hamilton who is willing to assume the Outrigger Program Director volunteer responsibility. Maylene McMillan, our Boat, Locker and Storage Director may have to step down due family issues. A volunteer who could assume responsibility for chairing the storage planning committee would likely mean that Maylene could likely continue with the normal duties of this position.

Fall Cleanup

The Club will hold its annual Fall Clean-up in November. Members help to clean and organize inside the Clubhouse or clean the property - gardening, cleaning, eave troughs cleaning, picking up trash - whatever is your forte.

Remember, the Club relies on volunteers like you! More details in the October and November Newsletters.

ASSOCIATE GROUP MEMBERSHIP

VCKC now has seven Associate Group Members who have been extremely busy this summer and have made a lot of use of club volunteers who have paddling expertise in Canoe, Voyageur, and Dragon Boat. Any one wishing to help our Associate Group Members by volunteering some paddling time, please contact the program directors involved.

Any one wishing to become involved in organizing the use of club volunteers by associate group members, please contact president@vckc.ca.

EXECUTIVE ACTIVITY

The executive continues to devote an hour at each executive meeting to develop the first 10-year plan. It will be updatable annually and will assist in capital spending as well as guiding decisions that may make changes to the club activities. Other executive business continues with 1) the history and storage committee delving into their work, 2) the storage committee working on the design and approvals for a revamped storage space and 3) management of issues as they arise.

The VCKC website has programming that will no longer be supported on the web after 2018. Once a realistic estimate for replacing our website is determined, the executive will consider the expense. We are hoping it will be ready before the executive develops the annual budget. A replacement website will be user friendly. It has been suggested that members will be able to maintain and update the content without the assistance of the web master. Our web master role would then become one of site maintenance rather than one of entering all the updates, as is the current situation.

The Harbour Master advised paddlers that the 5-knot speed limit would be enforced on all paddle boats. A group of representatives from paddling groups impacted by this decision is meeting to determine a safe way to train for racing in the area between Selkirk Trestle (walking bridge)

EXECUTIVE NEWS (cont'd)

Announcements and Notices, Overflow Parking, and Clubhouse Protocols

and Tillicum Bridge where the speed limit is not in effect. Doug Linton, Anne Ardiel and Darrelle Butler have been representing VCKC. Jean Chandler will join this group. Program directors are being kept informed of the progress of this group.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

Tuesday, September 2nd

Barbecue and General Meeting

The September meeting will be our annual fall barbeque. Bring something for the barbeque for yourself and something to share with others. Normally people arrive between 5:30 and 6:00. Early birds light the briquettes and set up the tables. There will likely be only a very short meeting with program directors advising members of the fun we had this summer and upcoming courses, paddles and events. Also, we will have a short presentation by the Marathon Program on a VCKC award-winning event held in May.

Notice: VCKC Overflow Parking

- The Imperial Hallmark Cleaners (2922 Tillicum Rd) continue to allow us to park on the drycleaners' lot. Peter, the owner of the business rents the building and the parking lot from Fairways across the road. Fairways staff also uses this lot for overflow parking. Peter would like to improve the business at this location.
- To ensure an on-going overflow parking area for VCKC, please park by:
 - first filling up the space behind the building,
 - then by the trees on the west side of the lot. Preferably, all VCKC vehicles will be parked south of the front side of the building.
 - Overflow VCKC vehicles may continue along the west side by the trees.
 - Under no circumstance, use any parking spaces in front of the building

when there may be customers stopping by.

Notice: Storage and Locker Fees

Locker and boat storage fee payments are due January 1st for 2015. Since this is an annual fee, those members who do not renew their membership and pay their storage fees by January 1st, 2015 may lose their storage space.

Notice: Clubhouse Security and Responsibilities

Notice: Security

Members are reminded to close all windows and curtains before leaving the clubhouse.

Clubhouse Protocols:

- To help with our clubhouse maintenance, please clean up after your group before leaving the clubhouse.
- Clubhouse hours are 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Our tenant provides security for the clubhouse, and all members are asked to respect the clubhouse hours so that the tenancy has consistent quiet times.
- Over the years, the public and club members have knocked then walked in without waiting for the door to be answered. Our tenant asked that all members be reminded not to enter her suite unless the knock has been answered.
- There is no smoking anywhere on clubhouse property including the clubhouse, compound, back yard, and access to these areas.

CANOE PROGRAM

Fall Courses, Program Paddles, Fall Meetings and MEC Paddlefest

OK, summer's over, you can swap the swimsuit for the drysuit. Speaking of summer, the Canoe Program participated in the MEC Paddlefest (see Rick Bryan's report below) and a basic tandem canoe course was held on three successive Wednesday evenings in June.

Fall Canoe Courses - In September, the Canoe Program will begin running its fall slate of Canoe Courses. Keep an eye on the website and your email for the course schedule.

Canoe Program Paddles - Weekend flatwater and river paddles will be begin soon. To get things started, River Clean-Up Day will be held in mid-September. Here again, keep an eye on the website and emails for details.

Canoe Program meeting - The first Canoe Program meeting will be held on the evening of September Sept 22nd. Please come and join us. Rick Bryan/Edmund will be speaking. In October we'll be having as yet to be determined talk. November's Canoe Program speaker will be Paul Lazarski, renowned explorer and guide.

Dan Walker

VCKC Canoe Program Director

It was a hot summer day, and Willows Beach was packed. On the water, and on the beach, there was a huge variety of paddlecraft: stand-up paddleboards, sea-kayaks, oar-rigs, and - oh yes - canoes!

The event was Mountain Equipment Co-op's (MEC) annual Victoria Paddlefest, held on July 12th. And among the commercial displays, VCKC's banner fluttered proudly. On hand was Canoe Program Chair Dan Walker, along with veteran single-stickers Doug Magnuson and Rick Bryan.

As it turned out, the VCKC's presence provided the only opportunity for folks to demo canoes. And the club's reps were kept busy throughout the day, providing basic instruction to interested paddlers, and promoting the club's instructional program.

In particular, families with youngsters lined up to find out that the open-Canadian canoe are the perfect craft for mom, dad, and a couple of ankle-biters to enjoy our local waterways.

The club's booth also featured a picture display showing VCKC whitewater boaters having fun on Island rivers. The common reaction was, "Wow! I didn't know you could do that in a canoe!" A certain solo playboat brought for demo purposes got a lot of use throughout the day!

And at the end of the day? Consensus among the VCKC reps was, "Let's do this again at next year's Paddlefest!"

The club's "THANKS" to Dan, Doug, and Rick.

Thanks also to Edmond Duggan for his organizational help prior to the event.



Photo by Ron Crabtree

Joe Boyd helping out on Canada Day.

VOYAGEUR PROGRAM

Canada Day, Gulf Islands Brigade and the Thompson River Trip

It was a busy summer for the Voyageur program. On July 1st we had Dragon Boat and Voyageur canoe rides for the general public at the Gorge-Tillicum Canada Day picnic. We raised over \$1,300 for Camp Shawnigan at that event. That brings the club total to just shy of \$20,000 raised to support summer camp for children with disabilities. Symphony Splash was another hit. On August 3rd two Voyageur canoes made the trip down to the inner harbour to enjoy an outdoor concert by the Victoria Symphony. We had front-row seating for the show and a great view of the sunset on a warm summer evening. The journey home was particularly fun as we dodged the many small boats also finding their way in the dark.

Gulf Islands Brigade

VCKC hosted its first Voyageur Brigade from July 26th to August 1st. Nine canoes with six paddlers each, and their camping gear for a week, set out from Nanaimo for a six-day journey to Victoria. Stops along the way included: Newcastle Island - Gabriola Island - De Courcy Island - Valdez Island - Transfer Beach - Wallace Island - Galiano Island - Pender Island - Morseby Island - Sidney Island - Island View Beach - VCKC Clubhouse.

Our club had two teams on the brigade that included seven teams from across Canada. It was a pleasure to show off the waters we paddle year round. Feedback was that the weather was well planned with no wind or even a cloud the entire week. Stop by the November general meeting for a slide show and stories.

Big Canoe Sterner Course

The club typically holds a Big Canoe Sterners course in November each year. The specific November date has not been set, but if you are interested, please send an email to voyageur@vckc.ca. The cost will be \$100 per student and includes 16 hours of on-water training. There are prerequisites for this course, but experience counts if you have not had all the courses.

Thompson River Trip

September 13th and 14th, 2014

This is a terrific two-day Voyageur event. The trip requires some planning and logistical arrangements to be made, so if, having read the description below, you want to take part, please let me know by Friday Sept 5th at the latest. At present, about 10 paddlers have signed up for the voyageur canoes, so there is space for 10 more. First come, first served. Paddlers taking their own canoes must have taken and passed the moving water tandem course. Paddlers in Voyageur canoes do not need formal moving water experience.

General Description

This trip runs the Thompson River between the bridge at Savona (Steelhead Provincial Park) and Ashcroft. We will use voyageurs: tandem and solo boats can come if they have airbags. While the big canoes will be provided, bring your own PFD and paddle. No river paddling skills are required if you plan to paddle in a voyageur, but it is helpful to have paddled in one of them before.

The river is large, generally flat, but with a good current. There are some good waves, but nearly all can be avoided if needed. The biggest set of waves comes early on, after the first bridge. Thereafter, they are generally smaller, less severe, and/or more avoidable. The weather is likely to be warm and the river not too cold, although there may be a head wind in the afternoon. Wet suits can be worn, but are not a requirement. There is some history to the area - the Wallachin settlement pre WW1 - and the scenery is lovely. On past experience, the daytime temperatures should be quite warm, but the early mornings and evenings can be chilly.

Accommodation

We camp at Juniper Beach Provincial Park, which is half way between Cache Creek and Savona on the TCH from Cache Creek to Kamloops. The Park is on the banks of the Thompson River. There is tent camping on the lawn there; most users are trailer campers. There are toilets, showers and drinkable water. Sites cannot be booked, but we have not had

VOYAGEUR PROGRAM (cont'd)

Thompson River Trip

any difficulties in past years. For details, see the website

http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/explore/parkpgs/juniper_bch/

Cost is \$21 per party per night for tent camping, \$25 if hooked up to electricity. The telephone number is 250.457.6794

The site is bracketed by two railway tracks, one next door to the campsite, the other across the river. If you don't like being woken up at night, take ear-plugs to dull the sound of the trains and their whistles. Also note that there are prickly pear cactuses in the scrub/bush beyond the campsite, so don't go beyond the park without thick-soled footwear.

For those who don't camp, there are motels in Cache Creek and Ashcroft. A Club member recommends the Sage Hills Motel in Cache Creek, owned by Hal and Karen Geddes. It has 18 rooms, 4 with kitchens; other rooms have a fridge, coffee maker and microwave upon request. Address Box 126 Cache Creek, V0K 1H0, toll# 1-888-794-4949; E-mail:sagehills@coppervalley.bc.ca.

The hotel is situated on the main street but not too noisy whereas the backside of the building is quieter. I think corporate rates are about \$65 double and \$60 single but these rates need to be verified. Double rooms would probably have 2 beds per room.

There are no restaurants or fast food places near the Juniper Beach campsite - you need to be self-sufficient for food or willing to drive 15 minutes each way to the nearest diner.

Transport

Up to individuals, but if people commit, sharing of vehicles can be arranged. People who are working can catch the 5 p.m. ferry and drive up to Juniper Beach arriving between 11 p.m. and midnight. If you are driving up the Fraser Canyon, Juniper Beach is about 18 km east of Cache Creek - the sign is easily seen. If you go up the Coquihalla, head back towards Cache Creek and the park is 10 km west of the Savona Bridge. On the Sunday, we will leave in time to catch the 7, 8 or 9 o'clock ferry back to Victoria

Thompson River Trip Program

Saturday

Drive boats and people up to Savona Bridge, east of Juniper Beach - about 20 minute drive. Unload boats, and then shuttle vehicles to Ashcroft. Drivers return in one vehicle to put-in - about a one-hour shuttle. Paddle down river to Juniper Beach campsite where we have lunch - no need to pack one. Then paddle down to Ashcroft in the afternoon. The take-out is conveniently close to a pub; back to the campsite for dinner.

Sunday

Drive boats to the put-in again, and paddle to Juniper Beach - half day run. We aim to be packed and on the road to Tsawassen by about 2 p.m.

In past years, some members of the Thompson River and Interior Paddling Society (TRIPS) have joined us, which adds to the fun.

Thompson River Trip Costs

Transportation - ferry, gas - obviously reduced if shared. It is about 400 km each way, so work out the costs based on your cars mileage.

Camping - see above. [\$21 per party per night]

Food - depends on what you eat and where. We usually have a beer or two in Ashcroft, and some people eat there too.

Boats - paddlers in the voyageur canoes will have to contribute to TRIPS for the use of their voyageur or to pay for the cost of renting and transporting the other voyageur canoes from Maple Ridge. The estimated cost is \$30 per paddler, based on the rental charge for three canoes plus a share of the gas money. [Taking the Club voyageurs would cost the same, due to the ferry fares and require towing the boats further.]

If you have any questions, call or e-mail. I will also be at the General Meeting on September 2nd.

Joe Boyd

Voyageur@vckc.ca

THE RAGGLE TAGGLE SECTION

Harbour Speed Limits, Montana Dragon Boat Festival, and Paddle for Health

The Harbor Masters' office has informed all harbour users that the 5-knot speed limit will be enforced. This is in accordance with regulations under the Canada Marine Act. For pretty much the first time, the Harbour Master office will be looking at the speeds of human-powered craft, and pointed out that human-powered boats are required to obey the regulations.

In light of this, the SMU Club at Fairway Gorge Paddling have developed traffic flow patterns for the waters above the Selkirk Trestle as much of their rowing and paddling activities must now be carried out in the restricted waters of Selkirk Water and the narrows above. Basically, they suggest that all boats simply stay to the right-hand side of the channel, so traffic going in opposite directions should not interfere with one another. Be aware that some recreational users (in much slower boats) may not be aware of this practice, and care should be taken to avoid collisions. POLITELY inform them of the preferred routes if possible.

It would be terrific to have some feedback from VCKC because as a group as we will be impacted as well. If you have groups in your program that need to be involved, then please get them involved.

Please let us know your thoughts!

Thanks

Anne Ardiel and Doug Linton

The Second Annual Montana Dragon Boat Festival sponsored by the Flathead Community Foundation and produced by the Kalispell Convention and Visitors Bureau took place September 7th - 8th, 2013 at Flathead Lake Lodge.

91 teams from Kalispell, and across Montana as well as Alberta and British Columbia Canada, Wisconsin, Oregon, Washington, and California competed in Recreation, Competitive, Breast Cancer Survivor and Women's divisions.

This year the festival will be held on September 13th and 14th.

To register:

<https://kalispellevents.sportngin.com/register/form/930870121>

Paddle For Health

On September 6th, 2014 the 'Paddle for Health' benefit paddle in support of the Vancouver Island Chapter of the BC Childhood Cancer Parents Association takes place from Willows Beach Oak Bay.

This is the 7th annual fundraising-paddling event we've held in Victoria and is 100% volunteer organized and run.

It is a fun, family friendly event that welcomes all types of paddle craft (pfd use is mandatory).

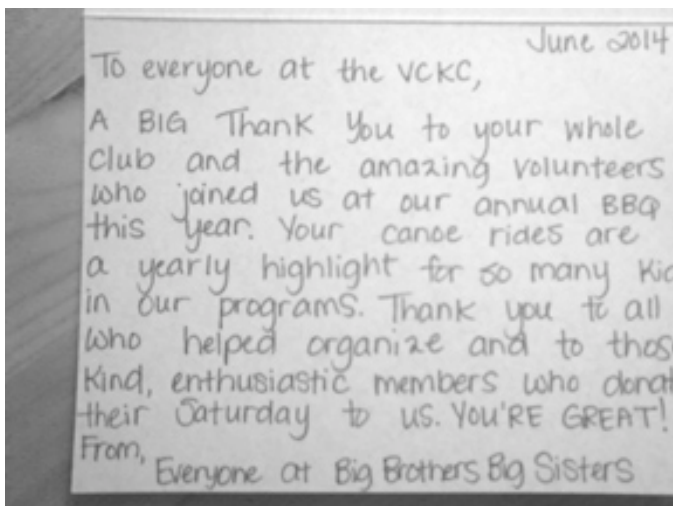
Check us out at www.paddleforhealth.ca and please let your members know about us.

Don Lowther

Volunteer Organizer

Founder, Paddle for Health

www.paddleforhealth.ca



A Thank You Note from Big Brothers and Big Sisters to VCKC.

VCKC Executive

Executive

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Note: The next deadline for submissions for the newsletter is September 16th.

September 2014

