



Victoria Canoe & Kayak Club Newsletter

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

September 2011

**Potluck & BBQ
Tuesday
September 6, 2011
7:00 pm**

Members with surnames A-K please bring desserts and L-Z brings salads or appetizers to share. Everyone can bring something to BBQ for themselves and beverage is BYO.

VCKC members at Symphony Splash



Clubhouse News - Summer Report

Our members and volunteers have been busy this summer.

The Big Brothers, Big Sisters picnic was held on Saturday, June 11. Volunteers from the Genesis dragon boat team provided rides in voyageur canoes at the picnic. The Genesis team are all new members to the club. Welcome to you all and thanks for volunteering. A special thanks to Ken Gibbard and Mile Petrovic for organizing the group.

On Saturday, June 18, more volunteers helped with the Boys and Girls Club's whale derby. Our members again provided free rides on our two dragon boats. Along with the whale derby was a BBQ at Esquimalt Gorge Park with family orientated activities for the kids.

As part of the Canada Day celebrations, the Gorge Tillicum Community Association held their Strawberry Tea event at our clubhouse. VCKC provided voyager and dragon boat rides at Kosapom Park. A total of \$1239.26 was collected by our volunteers and donated to the Lion's Club for Camp Shawinigan. Another successful fundraiser by our members.

On August 4, the Grand Dragons hosted the Camp Blanshard kids from the Blanshard Community Centre. This is the second year the Grand Dragons have provided dragon boat rides for the centre. Most of these kids have never seen let alone paddled in a dragon boat.

Without volunteers from the club, we would not be able to provide some of these services back to our community. Thank you all.

The club's fall BBQ and General Meeting will take place Tuesday, September 6. This is an annual potluck event so members with surnames A-J please bring dessert and surnames from K-Z will bring a salad or appetizers to share.

Everyone can bring something for themselves for the grill. Beverages are B.Y.O.

This is a great chance for newer members to meet others from different programs. Hope to see everyone there.

Bon Lee
President, VCKC

Intro to Kayaking Course

An *Introduction to Kayaking* course will be held on Sunday, September 25, from 9:00am until approximately 4:00pm.

The cost for this course is \$30.

VCKC has five kayaks which can be used by our members for courses. Other necessary equipment will also be provided.

There are a maximum six paddlers for this course. I will contact you once you are registered for the course. Please read about our courses at: www.vckc.ca/kayak/courses.html.

In order to register for this course, please send me (Dorothea) an email at kayakcourses@shaw.ca with the Subject: 110925 IKC.

Please provide me with the following information:

Full name of each participant

Email address

Home address and phone number

When did you become a member of VCKC?

Do you own your own kayak?

Include any other information you think is relevant.

We are looking forward to seeing you.



Canoe Program Report

Hello everyone! Hope you've had a wonderful summer filled with paddles, PFDs, portages and great pictures. If you've gone on an amazing trip to an interesting destination, I would love to hear from you. Hopefully your video or photos, what gear you took, and how you planned it will become the "edutainment" for the next several canoe meetings. Help others to discover the wild and wonderful places you have visited by sharing your stories and pictures with us. I certainly look forward to hearing about them.

Canoe/Kayak Program Meeting Monday, September 19th at 7:30 pm

There will be a canoe trip presentation. Please keep an eye on the VCKC website and your email inbox for details.

National Canoe Day - Sunday, June 26, 2011

We got lucky again being able to have our event on a sunny weekend day. We took full advantage of that and had a great time celebrating that gem among the Seven Wonders of Canada – The Canoe.

We enjoyed several goofy races with the many folks who'd come for the fun. Hilarity and some dampness ensued as we put participants through egg races, blindfolded and backwards paddling and using bailers as paddles. We even had a few



(Photo: Alan Thomson)

brave souls attempt some gunnel bobbing (yes, this involves moving the canoe forward by standing on the gunnels and bobbing up and down!) We dropped a few buoys to make a "race

course", kept the number and type of boats the same for simplicity's sake, and just randomly drew names from among the gathered for the various heats and races. This worked smoothly and well, and everyone there had a blast.

We also set up the paper canoe racing rig and many of our attendees cut out, decorated and raced their creations down the watery race tracks.

We then enjoyed a fabulous BBQ culminating in a beautiful cake decorated for the day with a bright red canoe on it. Instead of winning competitions on the water, we had a great doorprize draw and many of the participants came away with useful prizes. Thanks to everyone who contributed and helped out; a wonderful time was had by all.

Canoe Trips and Courses

A meeting will be held in the next week to plan the fall canoe courses for moving and flat water, and also some trips. Keep your eye on the website for updates. At the moment, we have the following on offer:

Flatwater Trip

There will be a Club Flatwater trip on Sunday, September 4. All canoeists and kayakers are welcome. The destination not yet chosen - it will depend on the weather - but there is a flood tide all morning and little ebb in the afternoon, so perhaps an estuary paddle in the Sooke area.

Let Alan Thomson know by the evening Thursday, September 1 if you plan to attend: 250-592-4170 or 3135thom@islandnet.com. If you need to borrow a club boat, contact Susan Zedel szedel@shaw.ca for a kayak or Yasmin Rampuri canoe@vckc.ca for a canoe. If you need a partner, let Alan know.

All participants should have taken and passed the basic paddling course in canoe or kayak.

Meet at the Clubhouse at 8.45am. We will be back before 5pm.

Canoe Poling Course

Two weekends, four days of instruction and practice as you progress from quiet lakewater to challenging upstream chutes. The course will be led by RCABC Master Instructor Leonard Thor and assisted by several instructor candidates. The course begins at the VCKC clubhouse and the Gorge waterway on Saturday, September 10 and runs through Sunday September 11, Saturday, September 17 and concludes on Sunday, September 18. The course fee of \$150 will include transportation from VCKC to the various lake and river destinations. We can

accommodate a maximum of six (6) students and require a non-refundable deposit cheque of \$50 to VCKC to register.

Please contact Tom Staebell directly to register or if you have any questions.

thestabebellfamily@shaw.ca

250-655-7113 (home)

250-588-2207 (cell)

Yasmin Rampuri

Director, Canoe Program



Canada Day

The Club put on its usual event of voyageur and dragon-boat rides on Canada Day working from the beach by the Craigflower School. The tide was quite low for the morning, so we had to be careful which bridge arch we passed through, but no-one was stranded. There were two dragon boats and one voyageur canoe in service, and they were kept pretty steadily busy all day from about 10 am through to 3.30pm. At \$2 per ride, the Club raised over \$1200, which will go to the Lion's Easter Seal Camp Shawnigan.

Thanks to the many Club members, particularly from the dragon boat program, who staffed the table where money was collected, the selection and collection of PFDs and paddles, and helped the public in and out of the boats.

Alan Thomson



Photos: Alan Thomson

Victoria Dragon Boat Festival





(Photos: Wendy Clapp)



For Sale

A canoe trailer is for sale. Capacity 800lbs, galvanized, good for a row boat, canoe or inflatable. Never been in the ocean or lake, less than 300km in travel. Weight approx 235lbs. Overall length 16'. Asking \$700.

Contact Rob Laundy:
info@counterquake.net
or 250-655-4414

More Canada Day Photos



Photos: Wendy Clapp

VCKC Executive

President		Voyageur Program	
Bon Lee	477-1381	Alan Thomson	592-4170
Vice President		Marathon Canoe Program	
Mavis Pillar.....	778-430-4390	Ron Williams	592-6456
Treasurer		Education, Safety & Standards	
Linda Thomson	592-4170	Doug Linton	727-0216
Secretary		Membership	
Marie Lansdowne.....	email	Maris Ratel	email
Past President		Clubhouse & Grounds	
Linda Thomson.....	592-4170	Sandy Rattray ..	386-9144
Program Directors		Directors-at-Large	
Canoe Program		Michael Fox	391-0160
Yasmin Rampuri	655-4859	Wendy Clapp ..	email
Kayak Program		Diane Nishimura (Soc.) ..	589-3080
Herb Stark	email	Elizabeth Hoffpauir	email
Dragon Boat Program		Ron Crabtree	email
Brian Clark	email	Executive Volunteer Positions	598-9488
Outrigger Program		Harold Gillis (Newsletter)	email
Dave Schweter	email	Doug Magnuson (Boat & Locker Storage)	email

Calendar of Events
for September
can be found [here](#)



Flat Top Islands
off Gabriola Island
Photo: Harold Gillis