



VICTORIA CANOE & KAYAK CLUB NEWSLETTER

RCABC (www.bccanoe.com), CRCA (www.crca.ca) and CORA (www.canadianoutrigger.com) member
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Phone: 361-4238 (info line only) Website: www.vckc.ca

OCTOBER 2005

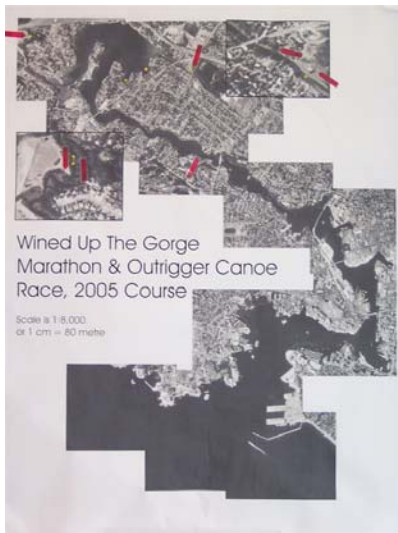


Photo by Lloyd Skaalen

GORGE WINED UP

What's inside:

- CLUB NEWS
- VCKC WEBSITE
- SEA KAYAK PROGRAM NEWS
- CANOE PROGRAM NEWS
- DRAGON BOAT PROGRAM NEWS
- OUTRIGGER PROGRAM NEWS
- PADDLING PARTNERS
- BUY AND SELL
- GORGE WINED UP
- CLUB EXECUTIVE CONTACT LIST
- EVENTS CALENDAR

GENERAL MEETINGS

First Tuesday of each month
(September thru June)

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE:
October 16th, 2005

GENERAL MEETING
ENTERTAINMENT TBA
TIME: October 4TH 7:30 PM

WINED UP THE GORGE 2005

The annual season closing event for VCKC brings together all the enthusiasts for racing small boats, from Surf Skis and K1s to OC2s. This year the Club's Marathon Program Manager, Ron Williams, had a little more difficulty than usual in finding eager race participants because so many were "burnt out" by strenuous training for and participation in other national and international events such as The World Games held in Edmonton in late July.

However, Ron found 31 participants from as far away as Bellingham and Vernon for the traditional Gorge Waterway and Portage Inlet Fall challenge of 2005.

He combined tricky buoy placements, brief portages in the creeks that feed into Portage Inlet, and tidal variations to produce a medley of races that would give every category of racer an interesting task.

The C2 Men's Marathon race drew 6 teams for the grueling grind of about 10 km into Portage Inlet Colquitz portage, back to a yellow buoy near the starting line and then return up the Inlet to the Craigflower portage before racing back against the tide to the finish line. The winner of this race was the team of Jonas Hudson and Jean-Francois Gagné with a time of 1:36:34. Second place was taken by Ron Williams (Sr) and Harry James, while 3rd was captured by Gord Wallace and Ron Williams (Jr) in just 1:41:22. A close race.

The C2 Mixed Marathon drew 5 teams for a somewhat shortened course. That was won by the team of Ron Williams (Sr) and Cindy Wright in a time of 1:13:12 closely followed by Jason Hudson and Lauren Telford with a time of 1:14:51 and the team of Alex Mann and Lynn Sanderson with a time of 1:16:08. Also a close race.

See **WINED UP RACES** p.4

CLUB NEWS

Greeting paddlers.

The arrival of fall and back to school signals that courses are up and running. All those interested in paddling programs should contact the respective coordinator, and while some programs are gearing up, others are winding down. The dragonboat is on land getting some much needed repairs, and the amas have some cracks from hulis that have been required by paddlers at practice.

We are still negotiating the basement renovations with Saanich Parks, but it looks favourable. We had hoped to have talks further along, but all good things come to those who wait. Our recent executive meeting saw another change. Kate Clark was a Director at Large who stepped into the Secretary's position when Alan Thomson regrettably resigned, but Kate has unfortunately resigned as well with family and work commitments. We were pleased to have Jean Chandler (alternate for Linda Thomson who had taken over from Brandy McBeath) volunteer to take minutes.

Your board is flexible, to say the least. With rising costs, insurance, supplies, etc., the board was forced to review fees that had not been raised for many years. Our current fees do not cover our current costs, so as a fiscally responsible board, the 2006 membership fees will be \$45 for singles, and \$60 for families. The outdoor canoe storage fees will also be increased from \$20 to \$30 and the indoor storage will be increased from \$40 to \$60. Even with these increased rates, VCKC maintains the lowest rates in town as storage is usually paid per month, and we charge for a whole year. Our one membership fee covers all paddling, whereas the large businesses charge per activity.

Our mission is still to promote fun safe paddling, and our volunteers have done an excellent job of providing you with these activities. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact any member of the executive.

Judi Murakami

WEBSITE NEWS

Electronic version of the newsletter. Get your newsletter before everyone else! The monthly newsletter is posted to the website (www.vckc.ca) a few days before the printed version is mailed out. If you would like to take advantage of this and save the club both printing and mailing costs, then please contact Ken Dwernychuk via email at kenandcarol@telus.net or phone 385-4300. Online subscribers also receive email notification that the newsletter has been posted online.

Online Calendar. Clubhouse bookings (meetings, seminars, etc) and other events of interest to members (activities, races, social, etc) are now posted to our online calendar. Upcoming events are listed on the main page of our website (www.vckc.ca) If you would like to book the clubhouse for a club event or wish to let other members know of an upcoming event of interest then please submit these details to Muriel Johnson at paddlingfool@shaw.ca including your name, the

event, date and time, and contact details (phone number, email, web site, etc).

Forums. This has been suspended pending implementation at the new host.

Online Photos. Got some interesting photos you would like to share? The website has the space. We now have a photo album on the website and are looking for some good photos and links of club members in action. Please submit photos to Mike at foxes@shaw.ca, and make sure you follow the guidelines published on the photos page of the website. There are currently a number of pictures and links on the page for the Voyageur Program and the Wake Up the Gorge Event.

Bruce Irving/Michael Fox

BOAT STORAGE

Indoor and outdoor boat storage as well as lockers are full and we have a large wait list but will continue to take names. If you are no longer using your space, please let us know as there are others who would like it. The price of storage will go up for the year 2006 to \$30.00 for outdoor and \$60.00 for indoor. If you have any questions please contact Marilyn or Ken at 479-2759.

SEA KAYAK PROGRAM NEWS

I will be stepping down as kayak program director at the end of this year. I have held this position for quite a number of years and feel it is time for new blood. It has been a very rewarding and enjoyable experience. I feel the kayak program has accomplished a lot in terms of providing courses, clinics and paddling trips. I certainly hope to see this continue. I will be there to help whenever I can. I know there are many of you out there who could do a fine job as kayak program director so please give it some thought. We only have October and November to find someone. We don't have a meeting in December.

One of the toughest tasks for me lately has been trying to find guest speakers for our meetings ... I seem to have exhausted most of my contacts. So, if any of you have any ideas or know someone who might be an interesting guest speaker please let me know. Perhaps you have done a trip recently and could show some slides at a meeting. Remember, a club is only as good as what it's members put into it.

Please check the 'Trips and Courses' section of the newsletter for upcoming courses, clinics and new member and intermediate member paddles. Please take the time to read the trip guidelines and also go to the club website and read the 'Members Guide'

Our Video and Book Library is available at Kayak Program meetings. Members can sign out titles for a **one-month period**. Pam Renney is the administrator of the video library. Please help Pam by returning borrowed videos by the meeting following the one that you borrowed them at so that others will get an opportunity to view them. Pam can be contacted at 480-0880.

Next program meeting is Wednesday October 19 at 7pm.

Remember, when out paddling, to always dress appropriately for the sea and weather conditions as well as for your paddling skills. Always paddle with a buddy and file a float plan.

Submitted by Gary Allen

BUTCHARTS FIREWORKS PADDLE

On Saturday, September 3 about one dozen people gathered at the Brentwood ferry park to paddle up Todd Inlet in order to watch Butcharts Garden's last fireworks display of the summer. There is plenty of room for dozens of boats of all sizes and shapes, yet there was only one spot that offered the best view through the trees. We all crowded in, some getting comfortable, sort of, on the beach (it was high tide), others staying in their boats.

Glorious show! Very bright and noisy, even with several screaming youngsters nearby. The phosphorescence in the water that night rivaled the show in the sky! The paddle back was the first time out at night for some, and very uneventful (a good thing!). This is an annual event that some have attended every year, and a wonderful way to end the summer. Thank you Duncan!

Susan Duhamel

CANOE PROGRAM NEWS

The next program meeting will be held at the Clubhouse on **Monday 21st November at 7:30 p.m.**

IN SEARCH OF WILD PLACES: - Exploring the BC Coast. Presented by Chris Cooper at the **General Meeting**, 7:30 p.m. on November 1st.

Chris Cooper has run an adventure tripping company with a fleet of large canoes - voyageur size and larger. In 2004 he had a 42' Montreal-style canoe built by Western Canoeing so that he could undertake longer coastal paddling trips more safely. This large canoe has a spray deck and uses double kayaks as outrigger-style amas, with 4" cross-section aluminum iakos. With this boat, Chris has paddled the west coast of BC from Prince Rupert to Port Hardy, as well as north along the southern part of the Alaska Panhandle. Chris will present pictures of his trips in the summers of 2004 and 2005. Come out and see this presentation of a unique way of seeing the wild coastal places of BC.

Alan Thomson

DRAGON BOAT PROGRAM NEWS

Dragonboat season at VCKC is now officially over for 2005. Congratulations to all the VCKC teams this year at their festivals and we hope to see everyone in the spring for next year's season!!

We had an army of volunteers help to pull the dragonboat out of the water a few weeks ago and now the dragonboat is in the compound for the winter. We still have some work to do on the dragonboat before the temperatures get too cold or wet. This includes the resurfacing and painting of the hull, work on the seats (sanding, filling cracks, varnishing), plus some fibreglass work to keep our dragonboat in top shape. Many thanks to all the volunteers that have come out to help on one or more evenings or weekends to get all this work done!

Steve Romaine

Gung Ho News

The "novice" dragonboat program produced three great results:

The Gung Ho team was created and went all the way to a silver medal finish in the Victoria Festival; that was second place in the Pearl Division race that VCKC's Ageless Warriors won by just 13/100ths of a second!

The Gung Ho team had not only funded itself through personal and corporate contributions for both the Vancouver Island and Victoria festivals, but ended the season with a surplus of funds which permitted the team to send \$150.00 to the Greater Victoria Hospital Foundation and \$168.00 to the VCKC Dragonboat Program; in addition to which

Members of the Gung Ho team have joined other VCKC programs to keep active through the winter and in shape for the next dragonboat season; about half of the team, including Coach Fraser Tweedy, have joined the Outrigger Program and "flipped" at the chance to take the OC6 novice and huli workshop that was held September 3rd.

Well done Gung Ho



Here, Mavis and Irena bring one group back to the dock after a thorough workout prior to the huli.

Lloyd Skaalen

OUTRIGGER PROGRAM NEWS

Monthly Outrigger Meetings: 4th Tuesday of every month @ 7:15 p.m.

All meetings will consist of a short meeting and an information session on outrigger paddling. We will cover items such as: care of the outrigger; winter paddling & safety; paddling techniques videos with discussion; video & talk on rigging; open ocean techniques videos and talk; racing techniques and many more.

Outrigger Information

Outrigger Board – Please check the Outrigger Board every time your team goes out. Important information will be posted there.

PADDLING PARTNERS AND NON-CLUB ACTIVITIES

Three Rivers: *the wild waters and sacred places of the Yukon's great boreal wilderness*

Stunning images and sounds from the Yukon wild. Compelling new Three Rivers national group art exhibition.

Wednesday, October 19

Multimedia Slideshow • 7 pm
David Strong Building, University of Victoria

Maltwood Art Gallery, University Centre (just 50m away) • 8 pm.

Three Rivers art exhibition and reception.

Admission by donation.

Join CPAWS-Yukon, the Maltwood Gallery and special guests for an unforgettable tour of the Yukon's boreal riches – home to grizzlies, wolves, caribou, peregrine falcons, wild waters and wildflowers. Join us on the amazing Three Rivers Journey that led to the national touring art exhibition (featuring 8 juried Canadian artists from Newfoundland to Yukon and BC), awe-inspiring photography, and fine writings.

BUY AND SELL

Kayak stands. Sturdy and durable. Can be used for boat storage or when washing your kayak. Metal construction with webbing straps to support the kayak. They fold up to approx. 3" x 30" when not in use. \$50 per pair. Call Glynis at 655-1272 or Gary at 818-0277

Dragon Boat paddle for sale. Height 46". Gently used, and in excellent shape. Asking \$30. Wet suit. Full length, with zippered front. Size approx 8-10. Asking \$35. Call Jenny 477-1876

Ladies wet suit, Medium Size, Gloves and Booties included, Asking \$50, contact Brandy 250-213-1984

MEC Paddling Jacket, barely worn, like new, New Approx \$300 - \$400, ASKING: \$120
Excellent Quality, Unisex, Ladies(L-XL) Men's(M-L) Contact Brandy 250-213-1984

Would the person or persons who have borrowed my kayak paddles (light blue and black) please return them to the clubhouse as I would like to use my kayak. Thank you.
Pauline Campbell

One, all day kayaking certificate for two from Ocean River Sports. **Cheap!!** Must be used before the end of Oct.
Mavis 384-4390

Tent. MEC Tarn 2 . Light, compact, easy setup, like new, c/w footprint. \$150; Stove. Coleman Peak1 Apex II. Separate fuel bottle. Burns white gas or kerosene. Still in box. \$40 Gary 818-0277

WINED UP RACES from page 1.

Those two races were completed by 4:30 pm on Saturday, 27 August, and all participants had a relaxing BBQ evening at the Club House celebrating the successes of the day AND the 65th birthday of Race Master extraordinaire, Ron Williams (now "very" Sr).

On Sunday, 28 August, additional participants joined for the small craft races comprising of K1s, Surf Skis, OC1s and OC2s for the morning event and C1s for the afternoon race.



The first race on Sunday was assembled at the Tillicum ferry dock in quiet water as the tide was "flat" at 10 am. Ron supervised the maneuvering of fourteen craft in this relatively confined space for a clean start down the Gorge Waterway through the Inner Harbour to the west side of the entrance to Victoria, a course of about 8 km with the return to the VCKC finish line on a gentle flood tide.



With all craft started at the same time, it was expected that the K1s and Surf Skis would be the first to return; indeed it was Jonas Hudson who stormed through the finish in his K1 with a time of 1:04:46 closely followed by Jerome Truran with 1:08:07 and Don Craig with a time of 1:08:22.

The first OC2 returned was crewed by Kevin Hayward and Helen Currey in a time of 1:09:20 closely followed by the first OC1 paddled by J-F Gagné in a time of 1:09:23. The next two OC1s were in the hands of Roman Matieschyn and Pete Hartman with times of 1:14:25 and 1:15:28.

The first OC2 crewed by women, Lauren Telford and Karolyn Jones, returned with a time of 1:18:19, and Sheila O'Shea returned in her K1 at 1:18:42.

After presentation of awards during the lunch hour, the final race of the day and the event was restricted to solo marathon canoes. Here there were 6 men and 2 women competing on a course into Portage Inlet that was very similar to that followed for the C2 mixed race on Saturday afternoon.

The C1 men's competition produced an exciting finish between Ron Williams (Sr) and Gord Wallace. At times each held the lead but it was Ron who crossed the finish line first with a time of 1:11:27 and Gord had to settle for the 2nd place finish 4 seconds later. Third place went to Edoh Amiran of Shuksan with a time of 1:16:25.

The ladies C1 competition consisted of just two entrants, Rosemary Henry and Veronica Wisniewski. Rosemary came in with a time of 1:24:56 and Veronica recorded 1:29:10.

All in all it was a great program executed in the finest of weather conditions. The tides were less favourable than one would wish but added to the challenges that make such events interesting. The spirit of participants and volunteers was outstanding. Of course, without the support of sponsors like Ocean River Sports and Western Canoe & Kayak it would not be possible to continue to bring such enthusiasts together to test their skills.



Rosemary Henry crosses the finish line to win the Ladies C1 Marathon at VCKC, 28 August 2005.

Lloyd Skaalen

GORGE WATERWAY INITIATIVE

Background

In January 2005, organizations with an interest in the Gorge Waterway and adjacent watersheds began to meet to discuss their mutual interests.

Over the first nine months of monthly meetings, representatives of groups on what became known as the Gorge Waterway Initiative (GWI) have developed the following understandings:

What: A community driven, collaborative group of organizations dedicated to the protection and enhancement of the Gorge Waterway, Portage Inlet and surrounding watersheds in a way that respects the local cultural heritage

Mission: To maintain, protect and enhance the health of the Gorge Waterway, Portage Inlet, their watersheds and communities, for the enjoyment and well being of present and future generations

Vision: A healthy environment in perpetuity for all life in the Gorge Waterway, Portage Inlet and surrounding watersheds

Goals:

1. To encourage and promote education, stewardship, and awareness programs and appropriate land and water uses
2. To serve as a hub for information sharing and act as a point of contact for waterway issues
3. To encourage and advocate for the protection, restoration and enhancement of the waterway and its watersheds

Membership in GWI is open to any group with an interest in what the group is trying to do. As of September 2005, the following groups were members:

Burnside Gorge Community Association
Friends of Cuthbert Holmes
Gorge Tillicum Community Association
Gorge Waterway Action Society
Portage Inlet Protection Society
Portage Inlet Sanctuary Colquitz Estuary Society
Seachange Marine Conservation Society
Seaquaria in Schools
The Land Conservancy
Habitat Acquisition Trust
Veins of Life Watershed Society

Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club

Victoria West Community Association Capital Regional District
City of Victoria (Victoria Shoreline and Environmental Advisory
Committee)
District of Saanich
Saanich Environmental Advisory Committee
Township of Esquimalt (Esquimalt Parks and Recreation
Commission)
View Royal Environmental and Shoreline Committee

(Financial support from Fisheries and Oceans Canada,
administered by CRD)

If you have concerns regarding the present or future of the
Gorge Waterway please contact Don Munroe at 385-2268.

VCKC EXECUTIVE

President

Judi Murakami 360 - 2776

Vice President

Mile Petrovic 893 - 1904

Treasurer

John Levey 479 - 5647

Secretary

Vacant

Past President

Paul de la Bastide 598 - 9611

PROGRAM DIRECTORS:

Canoe Program

Brandy McBeath 213 -1984

Dragon Boat Program

Steve Romaine 475 - 6964

Outrigger Program

Mavis Pillar 384 - 4390

Sea Kayak Program

Gary Allen 478 - 8004

Voyageur Program

Don Munroe 385 - 2268

Marathon Canoe Program

Ron Williams 380 - 7496

Education, Standards and Safety

Doug Linton 727 - 0216

Membership

Muriel Johnson paddlingfool@shaw.ca

391 - 0560

Clubhouse and Grounds

Vacant

Social Coordinator

Francoise Brunet 388 - 7512

Boat Storage

Ken & Marilyn Tomlinson 479 - 2759

Newsletter

Ken Dwernychuk 385 - 4300

kenandcarol@telus.net

Directors-at-Large

Peter Kabel 479 - 3934

Lloyd Skaalen 388 - 7512

OTHER VOLUNTEERS

Sea Kayak Instruction

Doug Alderson 656 - 0530

VCKC Clubhouse Bookings For Classroom And Grounds

October		2005				
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3	5:00 p.m. 4 General Meeting Judi 360-2776	5	6	7	1/8
9	10	7:30 p.m. 11 VCKC Executive Meeting Judi 360 - 2776	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	7:00 p.m. 19 Kayak Program Meeting Gary 478-8004	20	21	22
23	24 No Canoe Program Meeting till Nov 21	7:00 p.m. 25 Outrigger Program Meeting Mavis 384-4390	26	27	28	29
30	31					