



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

May 2010

General Meeting
May 4, 2009
7:30pm
Grand Canyon
of the Colorado River
by Raft and Kayak

In 2008 a group of 16 people from Canada, South Africa and Australia teamed up for an 18 day trip through the Grand Canyon. Mike Rott will talk about this trip at our upcoming general meeting.



Gorge Cleanup - Inside and Out
(Photos: Wendy Clapp)

A Few Notes from our President

A Warm Sendoff

Congratulations to Dave and Laurie on their recent marriage and also to Max who is retiring from his job. All three are VCKC executive members and are planning to move away from Victoria shortly. Between the three of them, they hold four executive positions at VCKC that we will need replacements for.

If you, or know of someone who has an interest in volunteering for one of these positions please contact an executive member or me for more information.

It is up to you as members to step up to play a role and to volunteer and support the programs established by our previous executives.

Positions vacant - Vice President
 Secretary
 Outrigger Director
 Boat and Locker Storage
 Kayak Director (still vacant)

Bon Lee
VCKC President



***Not every bride can pull
off wearing rubber boots
with her wedding dress***

Canoe/Kayak Report

Upcoming Canoe/Kayak Meetings

Monday, May 17 will be a food focused meeting with a recipe swap, dehydrating tips and tricks, and all the gear you take along on your trips to make a functional, lightweight or efficient kitchen. What's in your lunchbag for day trips, what is indispensable on longer trips? We'll talk about all this and more.

Yasmin Rampuri
Canoe/Kayak Program Director

Trips and Courses Canoeing & Kayaking

Running of the Cows

The 9th annual running of the Cowichan River from Lake to Bay will take place on the weekend of May 1 and 2. This is a two day trip with camp set up on Friday night at the Horseshoe Bend group camp site on the Cowichan River. Cost of camping is \$10 per tent per night to cover the reservation fees for the group site.

Saturday's run will go from the Lake to Stoltz Pool; Sunday's from Stoltz to the last bridge. Keeners can start early on the Sunday and re-run the Canyon, joining the others at Stoltz.

Members of the Beaver and Dogwood Clubs are invited to take part.

Note: All paddlers must have passed the tandem canoe Moving Water course. Canoe must be properly out-fitted for river running – airbags, throwbags, etc – and helmets, plus wet or drysuits are required.

Contact Alan Thomson 250-592-4170; 3135thom@islannet.com or Tom Staebell 250-655-7131; thestaebellfamily@shaw.ca if you plan to come on this great annual event.

Frost-Free Weekend

The club's annual season-starting camping trip will take place on the Mother's Day weekend. A three day trip is planned - Friday, May 7 – Sunday May 9. The trip will be combined with

the tripping portion of the Ocean Paddling course (See Courses section). At the time of writing, a destination has not been finalized, but it will be somewhere on the outer Gulf Islands between Gabriola and Saturna Islands.

The trip is not restricted to those taking the course. It is open to all Club members, kayakers and canoeists. The Club canoe or a voyageur will be taken if needed to accommodate members who don't have their own boat or lack ocean paddling skills.

Contact Alan Thomson at 3135thom@islandnet.com or 250-592-4170.

Lake Water Advanced Tandem and Solo (Level 3 & 4)

Saturday, April 10, 2010 (Level 3)

Sunday, April 11, 2010 (Level 4)

Lake Water Basic Tandem and Solo (Level 1 & 2)

Saturday & Sunday, June 5 & 6, 2010

Thursday, June 3, 6:00–8:30 pm for registration and classroom session.

Costs are \$25 for each Lake Water course (\$50 for the Lake Water 1 & 2 which we are offering as a package). In addition to the course cost, Lake Water 1 & 2 students will have to pay \$10 each to cover the costs of pool rental.

Moving Water course fees are \$150 per weekend and include the use of a club canoe and transportation costs.

To register for any of the above courses or for more information, please contact canoe@vckc.ca.

Paddle Canada - Intro to Kayaking

When: Saturday, May 15
Saturday, May 29

Cost for the course is \$30.

If you are interested in taking this course on either of these dates, please contact Dorothea Hoffman at kayakcourses@shaw.ca.

Dorothea asks that you provide the following information:

1. Your full name and the full name of any other participants;
2. Your address and telephone number;
3. The approximate date you joined/ renewed membership at VCKC. If you are not already a member you can join online;
4. Do you own your own kayak?
5. Do you want to borrow a VCKC kayak?

**WOODEN CANOE HERITAGE
ASSOCIATION**
**NORTHWEST CHAPTER
SPRING RENDEZVOUS**

**CAMP BISHOP
1476 WEST LOST LAKE ROAD
SHELTON, WASHINGTON**

MAY 14 - 16, 2010

This semi-annual gathering of traditional wood canoe enthusiasts brings together members from Oregon, Washington and British Columbia.

For further information, please contact Mr. Boudicca Van Oldenburg at 604-943-3052. NW chapter website is [HTTP://www.nwoodencanoe.org/](http://www.nwoodencanoe.org/)

Voyageur Program Report

Everyone in the voyageur program is taking a rest after the Paddle for the Kids at the end of March.

The canoes are being used by other groups – Esquimalt High School; Outward Bound and Dwight and Vanessa in Duncan

I recently took part in the first Paddle Canada Big Canoe course ever and am now a certified Big Canoe Instructor Trainer for that organisation – one of two in the country. Here are a couple of photos from that course.

Alan Thomson



Photos Courtesy
of
Pricilla Haskin

More
photos
[Here](#)

**Don't forget to participate
in the 50/50 draws**
at the next General Meeting

Helen Curry is a Marathon and OC
1, 2 and 6 paddler and she is going to
New Caledonia to participate in
Worlds and we at VCKC are doing

our best to help her get there. 50/50
draws are happening at the General
Meeting until and including May's
meeting. Helen has been a member
of our club and an excellent paddler
for many years now.

Mavis Pilar

And a Good Time was had by all

That would be my summary of a successful Wake up the Gorge 2010 based on the feedback we received and my personal impressions.

About 30 teams participated including the Team Canada Women's team that will be racing in the World Championship in New Caledonia this May. And yes, that includes our own Helen as well. Team Canada competed in 3 categories and was



only defeated once my Ron William's men's team. However the women's team had the fastest time of the day, a pretty remarkable feat against Ron's strong team, especially as this was Team Canada's 6th race

of the day. Guess that's why they are the best in Canada.

And we had numerous compliments from other teams that came from out of town, they enjoyed our race, the food, the beer, yes beer for the first time ever. I sense that we have become a fixture on the outrigger racing circuit for many teams which is a credit to the club.

But it is the effort of the volunteers that really stands out for me. I arrived at the clubhouse at seven. Ann Marie and her crew got there a few minutes later and immediately began getting the parking crew ready and garbage cans lined up. Mike got there shortly after and his tent and



equipment went up quickly. Meanwhile Diane got the registration going.

Feeling somewhat inadequate, I offered to help Irena's crew in the kitchen and was told in no uncertain terms to get my coffee and stay the heck out of there for the rest of the day, they were on top of everything. (I stayed out of their way.) Doug was having fun warming the safety boat and Cory was everywhere helping out as well. Ocean River and Go came through with two of the same type of boats each around 8:30 and Herb and the crew kept the boats moving for the rest of the day.

Jen and her group set up and ran the beer tent concession – a first for the club and a thank you to our executive for agreeing to give this a try. So, we had music, we had food, we had beer, we had racing, we had Mavis drawing tickets and hollering (now that was a surprise) out ticket numbers for prizes, we had one of a kind Heron trophies that Ron designed and on and on. But most importantly we had fun and pulled off another successful event. Oh yeah, we made about \$2,200 as well.



Thanks to all the volunteers who made this possible. My apologies to anyone that I missed. Thanks for making this a memorable event for the racers and for me.

And not to forget the second day of racing where a volunteer crew, many of whom had helped out on Saturday, helped make the Sunday day of racing go smoothly as well.

Way to go VCKC.

Max Nock

(Photos: Wendy Clapp (Women's Team) and Malcolm Warrington)

Save the Harbour Rally

On Saturday April 17, the Save the Harbour rally attracted 50-60 club members. With a very uncooperative current of 7-8 knots running under Tillicum Bridge, our members still managed get to the rally. Three large club boats, both outriggers and a voyageur ran the current under the bridge safely. 20 dragon boaters were stranded because it was too risky to take the dragon boat under the bridge. Fortunately, the Gorge Rowing and Paddling Club loaned one of their dragon boat to our members. There were also around 15 small craft of canoes and kayakers who managed to be put in at various points below the bridge.

At the rally our very own VCKC's voyageur



people returned to the clubhouse for a meet and greet - BBQ organized by the dragon boat program. It was a great way to spend an afternoon.

Bon Lee



Photos: Wendy Clapp

led the procession of boats into the designated outlined area of the proposed marina. A crowd of about 800 people showed up on land and by boat for the demonstration. Many guest speakers were on hand supporting the demonstrators, whereas representation from the Liberal government was absent.

At the end of the rally about 40



Club and Gorge Clean-Up

The Club and Gorge Clean-Up were well attended this year with approximately 35 members coming out. Three voyageur canoes with five paddlers each went out to clean the shoreline along the Gorge and Portage Inlet. Our catch of garbage this year was the same as usual and we were able to fill more than one full bin.

The remaining members cleaned up the clubhouse and ground. The office and kitchen are

spotless as well, good work!

Thanks to all that came out to help. A special thanks to the six novice dragon boaters who are brand new to the club. This is their first activity with the club and they haven't had the opportunity to paddle yet. With members like them, our club will be well looked after. Thanks again to all the volunteers.

Bon Lee



Photos: Wendy Clapp

VCKC Executive

President		Voyageur Program	
Bon Lee	477-1381	Alan Thomson	592-4170
Vice President		Marathon Canoe Program	
Dave Whitehead	email	Ron Williams	592-6456
Treasurer		Education, Safety & Standards	
Sam Ludmer	298-7004	Doug Linton	727-0216
Secretary		Membership	
Laurie Flahr	email	Graham Lloyd	381-5090
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	Irena Jazwinski	388-9757
Sea Kayak Program		Diane Nishimura (Soc.) ..	383-3080
Doug Linton	727-0216	Mavis Pilar	590-4390
Dragon Boat Program		Executive Volunteer Positions	
Jack Louie	598-1569	Harold Gillis (Newsletter)	598-9488
Outrigger Program		Dave Whitehead (Boat & Locker Storage)	email
Max Nock	544-0051		

VCKC Calendar

[Click Here](#)

A couple more photos from Laurie and Dave's Wedding

