



# 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](http://www.vckc.ca)

December 2010

## *Annual Christmas Party*

*Tuesday*

*December 7, 2010*

*beginning at 5:30pm*

Last Names from A - L:  
Please bring main dishes and  
appetizers;

Last Names from M - Z:  
Please bring salads and desserts

In lieu of a gift exchange this year,  
we will be accepting donations for  
World Vision.

There will also be a container  
for donations to the  
Mustard Food Bank .



## Clubhouse News

The annual Christmas party will be held on December 5 starting at 5:30 pm. Surnames from A-L please bring main courses and appetizers and surnames from M-Z please bring salads and desserts. If anyone has a donation for the Christmas raffle, please contact Mavis at 250-857-9564 or [pillarhetiller@shaw.ca](mailto:pillarhetiller@shaw.ca).

If you would like to help decorate the clubhouse for the Christmas Party please contact Diane at [misspring@shaw.ca](mailto:misspring@shaw.ca).



Membership renewal for 2011 is coming up fast. Don't forget to renew your membership before the end of the year. If you would like to vote for your favourite executive member or are interested in becoming a candidate yourself, your membership must be renewed before the AGM on January 4, 2011.

VCKC will have five vacant executive positions open for 2011. If you know of anyone interested in running for an executive, position please ask them to contact Linda Thomson at [3135thom@islandnet.com](mailto:3135thom@islandnet.com) or any current executive member. See more details on page 3.

The latest news on the Mega Yacht Marina is that CMC/WAM has filed its revised project with Transport Canada. The proposed marina is now reduced from the 55 vessels to 29 vessels. The passage for paddler safety remains unchanged. Anyone with concerns has 30 days (Dec 27) to write to "Navigable Waters Division" of Transport Canada.

## Don't Forget

### Membership Renewals

Just a reminder that it's almost time to renew your club membership for 2011.

In addition to the membership fees a signed waiver is required annually from each club member.

When paying online agreement to the waiver is part of the process.

However, if paying by cheque you need to either do the online waiver (need to go to the members tab and log in to do this) or sign a paper copy of the form and submit it along with your membership cheque. Waiver forms are available in the clubhouse or you can print off a form from the members page of the club website.

Please note that Boat and Locker Storage fees for 2011 are also due on January 1 and can be paid along with Club Membership dues via the VCKC website.

## CANOE PROGRAM REPORT

### Meetings

Many thanks to everyone who braved the weather for the November 15th Canoe/Kayak meeting during which we enjoyed a great presentation from Ken Gibbard about an artifact which hangs in the clubhouse but of which many of our newer members may not know the story: The Goofer's Trophy.

In 1986 Ken and fellow member Kurt Frost embarked on an August trip on the South MacMillan-Pelly Rivers (in the [Yukon](#)). They had a bit of a challenging time setting up the shuttle of their vehicle. And when they finally did, there was a ferry involved and they unloaded in such haste they left their paddles behind. They were literally up the creek without a paddle! So despite Kurt's recently sprained ankle, they fashioned three in total with the tools they had, and off they went. The trophy has since been "awarded" to other club members who have had similar... how shall I put it ... setbacks on their trips.

The next meeting will be on Monday, January 17. There will be a presentation by Alan Thomson on a summer trip in the Johnstone Strait area - Telegraph Cove to Rock Bay (near Chatham Point). There were two canoes and a kayak so there is appeal to both types of boaters.

### Courses

The club's Annual General Meeting is coming up in January and the canoe section is in good shape.

We have run many successful courses this year and have instructors Bon, Jean, Ellie, Todd, Alan, Linda, Tom, Dan, Herb and more to thank for volunteering their time to teach and inspire a new crop of paddlers.

We also brought on board a big class of newly certified flatwater instructors which is very exciting. These folks are chomping at the bit to teach more courses which is wonderful. So if you are interested in taking a course, please contact me and I'll add your name to my lists.

For a complete list of all the courses we can offer, you can go to [www.bccanoe.com](http://www.bccanoe.com) and look up the diagram under Courses, then Programs.

The Club has instructors for everything but playboating and poling. So if we don't expressly offer a course you'd like to take, just ask. We will be developing the January to June course schedule before the January Canoe/Kayak meeting and it will be published online as soon as we have it. And it will be announced at our meeting on January 17, 2011.

Happy Hollidays  
Yasmin Rampuri  
Director, Canoe Program



Susan, Joe, Sam and Ryan  
Recent graduates of the Lakewater 3 Advanced Tandem Canoe course



## Flat Water Trip Report

### Tod Inlet - the Snow and Ice Trip

The last flatwater trip of November took place on Sunday the 21st. I'd been thinking about going out towards Sooke but there were some family reasons not to be late home and the freezing spell for two days before argued for something more local.



Two canoes and four kayaks (+ owners, of course) gathered at the Clubhouse and we agreed to head out to Brentwood Bay and look into Tod Inlet. The weather forecast was for rising northeast winds in the afternoon so a sheltered trip seemed sensible. Coming from Oak Bay, I was rather surprised to find three inches of snow at the Brentwood Ferry. And the ploughed parking places showed that there had been more.

We put in at Canoe Park and headed up into Brentwood Bay proper, round by the Tsartlip First Nations lands. It was cloudy, but not too windy and the water was clear, letting us see the starfish and jellyfish as we headed along the shore. It also let us see the many deer bones on the seabed near the shore, culminating in some complete skeletons towards Hagan Creek. The band is obviously getting plenty venison – unless poachers are disposing of the evidence of their illegal activities.

Hagan Creek wasn't running very high but there was a pleasant little waterfall to visit on the way to Henderson Point. From there, we cut over to Senanus Island, in light snow, then down to Willis Point. The conditions were good and I wondered about cutting over to the Bamberton side of the Inlet and so down to Sheppard Point, across to McKenzie Bight and back up. But the possibility of higher winds, the low temperature and the fact that one of our number was on her first trip lead me to favour the cautious approach. The snow on the trees and land made the scenery entering Tod Inlet very pretty in spite of the overcast conditions.

Rounding the bend into Tod Inlet proper, we could see that the whole of the Inlet was covered with ice except for a narrow strip near the shore. So we hugged the shore – except Mark and Neil in plastic kayaks. They pushed there way through to the dock on the Butchart Gardens side. The rest of us paddled down until a break in the ice

appeared. Whether it was made by someone in a boat the day before, or was a natural fracture line, I don't know, but we followed its zigzag course to the far side. There we stopped for



lunch, moving as we ate to keep the circulation in our feet going. The site is sheltered, so there wasn't any wind, otherwise, I think we'd have foregone the stop and kept paddling.

On the way out from the Inlet, an OC6 passed us heading into ice. It would have been a good picture – a Hawaiian canoe paddling among ice floes – but they turned back before getting into the slush. The rest of the trip was a straight paddle along the shore via the Butchart Landing and inside the wee island before heading to the take out.

A three hours trip, enough for the coldest day of the season so far. Thanks to Bon and Ronnie, Diane, Neil, Mark and Kat, five of whom were first timers as far as Club trips are concerned – at least as far as I am aware. Also thanks to Linda, who agreed to paddle in the cold on her birthday!

*Alan Thomson*



## Next Flatwater Paddles

There will be a half day paddle offered on Saturday, December 4 – probably round Ten Mile Point or something similar.

The next Flatwater paddle will be on Sunday, January 9, 2011.

VCKC's traditional **New Year's Day Paddle** will held on January 1, 2011, starting from the Club house and paddling up the Gorge.

Be at the Clubhouse for **10:30 am** ready to launch your boat or help get the voyageur canoes or outriggers into the water. This is a two hour paddle to welcome the New Year with your fellow Club members and followed by a **pot luck lunch**.

So bring along your left-overs. We'll bring some mulled wine and some soup. Afterwards, we'll help take down the Christmas decorations so the room is clear for the AGM on Tuesday, January 4.

Any questions, call Alan or Linda Thomson 250-592-4170.



**VCKC's Annual General Meeting  
Tuesday, January 4, 2011**

**Report from the Nominations Committee**

VCKC's Annual General Meeting for 2011 is coming up soon and during it the 2010 Executive will step down and the 2011 Executive will be voted in.

The following list indicates who has agreed to stand from the 2010 executive and the positions they are willing to hold.

Apart from the position of Past President, all positions are voted on for a one year period and can be contested. All nominees must have a nominator and seconder. Nominations can be

made at the AGM or beforehand to the Nominations Committee, via Linda or Alan Thomson at 250-592 4170 or e-mail : 3135thom@islandnet.com.

Only PAID-UP MEMBERS for 2011 may vote. This can be done at the AGM but is quicker and easier to do on-line BEFOREHAND!

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Thomson  
Alan Thomson

President - Bon Lee  
Vice-President - Vacant  
Treasurer - Vacant  
Secretary - Marie Lansdowne  
Past President - Linda Thomson

Program Directors

Canoe Program - Yasmin Rampuri  
Sea Kayak Program - Vacant  
Dragonboat Program - Vacant  
Outrigger Program - Dave Schweitzer  
Voyageur Program - Alan Thomson  
Marathon Program - Ron Williams

Education, Safety & Standards - Doug Linton  
Membership - Vacant  
Clubhouse and Grounds - Sandy Rattray  
Boat & Locker Storage - Vacant

Directors at Large

Michael Fox - (willing to continue as web  
master)

Diane Nishimura - Social Secretary  
Mavis Pilar

Newsletter - Harold Gillis (non-elected)

Brian Clarke has been nominated by Jack Louie and has agreed to stand as Dragonboat Program Director. Ron Crabtree, nominated by Bon Lee, has also expressed interest in being on the Executive. Marianne West has kindly volunteered to continue doing the formal bookkeeping for the club. The Treasurer deals with the day to day finances only.



## COLD WEATHER PADDLING

Now that we are getting some serious cold, it's time to re-think our paddling outings.

The Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club guidelines state that paddlers should be aware of the weather and that it is up to individuals and crews to decide whether they paddle or not.

Club boats (and most others) are not icebreakers so paddling them through ice is a definite no-no.

Everyone paddling in extreme weather should be aware of the consequences of a swim when the air is near or below freezing and must dress appropriately (wet or dry suits would be best). Everybody should certainly have a change of clothes (at least as warm as the first set) available either in the boat or at the clubhouse (if paddling from there), so they can get changed immediately upon getting off the water. It is not unheard of for folks to get hypothermic while putting boats away or standing around in sweaty clothes after paddling.

Particular care should be taken if paddling at night. For example, every paddler should have some sort of PFD light that can be deployed in the event of capsizing (a chemlight should be OK for this). Please be aware that it is not a good idea to use individual PFD lights all the time as night vision of themselves or the stern may be affected. Navigation regulations state that only one white light visible over 360 degrees should be shown.

So, enjoy paddling in the cold, crisp weather, but don't take any chances. I'll see you on the water

*Doug Linton*



## Dragon Boating Update

Now that the 2010 Dragon Boating season is over, we are looking forward to a great next year by building on the strengths and successes that the program had developed over this year. The first general dragon boat meeting of 2011 will be held at the Clubhouse on Thursday, January 20, 2011 at 7:00 pm.

Your current membership ends at the end of December so please ensure that you have renewed your VCKC membership early so that we can contact you as only active members will be contacted when the new season begins. Your renewed membership will provide you with a say at both the VCKC Annual General Meeting and the Dragon Boat Meeting in January.

Jack Louie



For a little dragon boating cross training, Barbara, Anne, Diane and Tony walk around Elk & Beaver Lakes

*(Photo: Wendy Clapp)*



The VCKC Halloween Party, Saturday, October 30 attracted over 30 members and friends to the clubhouse which was transformed into a haunted house. Costumed paddlers created and enjoyed “frightful food” for the potluck. After a few games of Pumpkin Bowling and a Mummy Wrap the party continued outside for the bonfire. The evening concluded with a “Glow Ring Pickup” and the award for the Best Costume went to Irena-gorgeous Gypsy Fortune Teller! We truly lucked out that evening as we put out the bonfire, put the witches and cobwebs away and locked the clubhouse door... the rain came!



A “howling” Halloween...

Diane Nishimura

Photos:  
Wendy Clapp





## VCKC Executive

<b>President</b>		<b>Voyageur Program</b>	
Bon Lee .....	477-1381	Alan Thomson .....	592-4170
<b>Acting Vice President</b>		<b>Marathon Canoe Program</b>	
Mavis Pilar.....	778-430-4390	Ron Williams .....	592-6456
<b>Treasurer</b>		<b>Education, Safety &amp; Standards</b>	
Sam Ludmer .....	298-7004	Doug Linton .....	727-0216
<b>Acting Secretary</b>		<b>Membership</b>	
Marie Lansdowne.....		Graham Lloyd .....	381-5090
<b>Past President</b>		<b>Clubhouse &amp; Grounds</b>	
Linda Thomson.....	592-4170	Sandy Rattray ..	386-9144
<b>Program Directors</b>		<b>Directors-at-Large</b>	
<b>Canoe Program</b>		Michael Fox .....	391-0160
Yasmin Rampuri .....	655-4859	Irena Jazwinski .....	388-9757
<b>Sea Kayak Program</b>		Diane Nishimura (Soc.) ..	383-3080
Doug Linton .....	727-0216	Mavis Pilar .....	778-430-4390
<b>Dragon Boat Program</b>		<b>Executive Volunteer Positions</b>	
Jack Louie .....	598-1569	Harold Gillis (Newsletter)	598-9488
<b>Acting Outrigger Program</b>		Dave Whitehead (Boat & Locker Storage)	<a href="#">email</a>
Dave Schweitzer .....	<a href="#">email</a>		

## VCKC Calendar

[Click Here](#)



*Gorge resident takes an interest in paddling activities at the VCKC dock  
(Photo: Wendy Clapp)*