

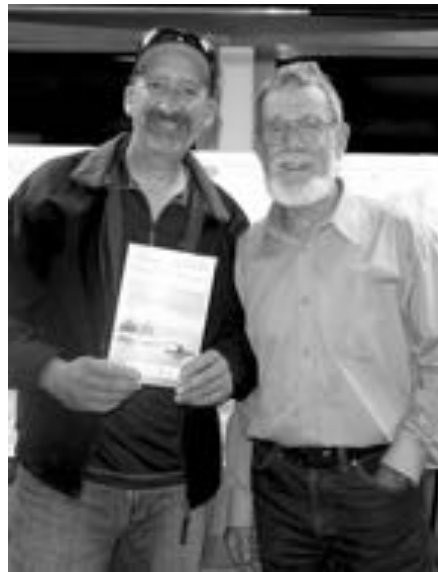


# *Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club Newsletter*

November 2014

*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)*

***VCKC Monthly General Meeting  
Tuesday November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.***



Roy Scully receives a book prize from Ken Gibbard at October's monthly general meeting.

The November General Meeting will feature an interesting presentation by Joe Boyd, Roy Scully and Ellie James of the Voyageur Program.

The fall clubhouse and grounds cleanup will be on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>

# EXECUTIVE NEWS

## Monthly General Meeting, Storage Renewal and Clubhouse Cleanup

### General Meeting

The next general meeting is November 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by the Voyageur Program. Ellie is presenting the planning, organization and details of the Gulf Islands Brigade. Roy is giving a slideshow with music to capture the atmosphere and Joe is reviewing the overall Big Boat Program.

### Storage and Membership Renewals

Membership and Storage renewal is due January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015. This means that membership and storage fees must be paid prior to the New Year. Watch for the notice in the December newsletter advising when we expect to be able to process your payments on line.

### Clubhouse clean up

The Fall Clubhouse Clean up is November 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Bring gardening and house cleaning equipment.

### 10 Year Plan

The executive completed the sections for: VCKC's 2015 People Development Plan, Operating Budget and part of the Risk Register at the October meeting. It was determined that the existing budget process meets the guidelines for the plan's budgeting section. The November executive meeting will focus on the 2015 budget.

### VCKC Clubhouse

With the first cool weather, the clubhouse heat is on again. Please don't prop the basement door open. If you are in the clubhouse and use the heat, please be sure to turn it down again before leaving.

### Associate Group Memberships

The executive approved policy revisions for the Associate Group Memberships. All associate members will be contacted by the program director, and or, the president, before the membership renewals are due in January.

The VCKC executive is pleased to announce the appointment of our new Webmaster, Victoria Mann. She can be contacted at (victoriavckc@gmail.com). Victoria reviewed the results of the membership survey with the executive.

### Committees:

#### 1 Nominations Committee:

Pam Carroll (pastpres@vckc.ca) is heading a nominations committee for the January 2015 elections.

All executive positions are open for nominations. A number of current executive have decided to take a break from volunteering in this way so we are expecting to see many new faces on the executive.

We will be seeking three Director at Large volunteers who will work as a team to provide volunteer coordination when there is VCKC club wide events, Associate Group Membership coordination, and social director duties such as bringing meeting drinks and goodies and help keep the clubhouse ready for upcoming events.

#### 2 VCKC Associate Group Memberships:

The committee to prepare revised guidelines and other documentation for Associate Group Memberships worked quickly and completed their work. Executive has sanctioned their recommendations with a couple of minor changes.

#### 3 History:

Alan Thomson (3135thom@islandnet.com) is the History Committee contact person.

#### 4 Instructor/Coach training reimbursement:

Pam Carroll (pastpres@vckc.ca) chairs this committee.

#### 5 Storage:

Derek Jenkins

(derek.russell.jenkins@gmail.com) is chairing the storage project.

#### 6 Website committee:

Victoria Mann (victoriavckc@gmail.com) chairs this committee. This new committee will provide options to the executive for a replacement website to the executive at the November executive meeting.

# CANOE PROGRAM

## Program Information and the October Trip Report

The fall paddling season has been going well. A Club flatwater paddle has already been run and rivers are expected to rise over the next couple of weeks to more normal 'whitewater' levels. Almost thirty-five students participated in five Lakewater and Moving water courses. The Club will once again try to run alternating weekend flatwater and moving water trips.

A Canoe & Kayak Program meeting is planned for Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. I'm still trying to confirm the speaker but will send out details well in advance.

The Canoe Program will once again join with the very heavy Voyageur Program for the Remembrance Day paddle. Beginning at the Burma Star Memorial, the Remembrance Day paddle down the scenic middle stretch of the Cowichan River is good practice and fun for all paddlers. Fully rigged boats and paddlers are required so please let Dan Walker (canoe@vckc.ca) know if you'd like to go along but need a boat, partner or some equipment. Helmets, wetsuits or drysuits, and pfd's are a must!

Jamyang and Holly Lodto have very generously donated their 'like new' Clipper Escape to the Club. This boat will be a great addition to the Clubs teaching and paddling fleet. Sincerest thanks to Holly and Jamyang.

Dan Walker  
VCKC Canoe Program Director

### VCKC TRIP REPORT Oct 5<sup>th</sup> 2014

The first flatwater trip of the fall, was well attended, with six paddlers in the Club canoe, five tandems, three kayaks and a solo canoe - twenty members in all. And six of those were new to these trips, which was very welcome.

The destination was Sooke Harbour/Basin. The tide was coming in all morning until about 1 p.m., so the plan was to paddle in either the Harbour or the Basin and then head up the river for lunch when the tide was at its maximum. The forecast was for warm weather and light westerly winds until later afternoon - perfect for our purposes. The last time we made this trip, the winds got up a bit early and we only just managed to creep round Billings Spit from the Basin into the river by dint of hard paddling.

We set out to go to Whiffen Spit and the Strait of Juan de Fuca, but the flood current caused some problems for those sterns unused to steering in current. After thirty minutes and four passing powerboats having to thread their way through a scattered fleet of ten boats, we took the hint and turned about and paddled with the current into Sooke Basin. We followed the south shore of the Basin and the newer sterns regained their skills. By the time we reached Anderson



VCKC paddlers at the entrance to Roche Cove.  
Photo by Christina Johnson-Dean

## CANOE PROGRAM

### A Trip around Sooke Basin

Cove, everyone had got it together and we were all within shouting distance of each other. We stopped at the entrance to the cove and had twenty minutes on land, then circumnavigated the cove before heading over to Roche Cove.

Four boats decided to head back to Billing Spit at that point, the other six heading under the bridge into the Cove. This bridge is one of the last wooden bridges left in the CRD - Admirals, Craigflower and Helmecken bridges having been replaced by concrete in the last five years or so. There are still the Selkirk Trestle and the bridge at Esquimalt Lagoon, but who knows how long they will be allowed to stand.

After a check around in the cover, we headed out and followed the shore round by Eagle's Nest and Hutchinson Cove. We saw plenty of salmon jumping out of the water, probably trying to escape being eaten by seals. The fish are waiting until the Sooke River and the various creeks have enough water in them to let them get up stream to spawn. That could be a few weeks yet. There were many fishers on Billings Spit and at various other spots along the shore, all happy with their day as far as we could tell. But no eagles yet -

they prefer the rotting, dead fish that will be in abundance after the spawning.

The wind did rise a little bit on the way back to the Spit, but nothing to cause the now comfortable sterners any difficulty and we got back to the put-in about 2:30 p.m.

Thanks to all those who helped load and unload the Club canoe on our van - next time I promise to remember to put on the proper canoe roof rack! Those on the trip were John and Jill, Pat and Jim, Arthur and Pat, David, Helene and Julie-Ann, Ken, Jean, Jen and Nasheem, Ross, Linda, Greg and Gulylaine, Christina and Bob. A good day for all and a great introduction for the new trippers.

Alan Thomson



VCKC paddlers on October's flatwater trip.  
Photo by Christina Johnson-Dean

## VOYAGEUR PROGRAM

### November's monthly meeting, Big Canoe Sterners Course, and Remembrance Day

#### Club General Meeting - November 4<sup>th</sup>

Please join us Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at the Club General Meeting. Voyageur program leaders will deliver a presentation on what we do with big canoes throughout the year, and our adventures on the Gulf Island Brigade (GIB). Presenters are Joe Boyd, Roy Scully, and Ellie James. GIB and PFTK participants come out and share your stories.

#### Voyageur Sterner's Course

The Big Canoe (Voyageur) Sterner's course will be held this year on November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. This 16-hour course will be of interest to those who want to grow their Voyageur skills to include trip leadership, fancy manoeuvres, and handling large canoes on the open water. The cost is \$100 per student. Pre-requisites include RCABC Canoe Levels 1 through 3, plus Voyageur and/or big boat experience is an asset.

If you are interested in taking the Big Canoe Sterner Course, contact Joe Boyd at (voyageur@vckc.ca).

#### Remembrance Day on the Cowichan River - Tuesday November 11<sup>th</sup>.

The traditional VCKC Remembrance Day paddle on the Cowichan River will take place if water

levels allow.

Voyageur canoes will be taken if demand warrants. Please let Joe Boyd (voyageur@vckc.ca) know if you would like a seat in one of the big canoes so the right numbers of boats are taken.

Moving water skills are not required, but are desirable. All paddlers must have a wet or dry suit and a helmet, in addition to the usual PFD and paddle.

The meeting place for this moving water trip will be at the Clubhouse so we can load the boats. Time - 8:30 a.m. at the clubhouse parking lot; 9:30 a.m. at Serious Coffee in Duncan; 10 a.m. at Stoltz Pool. The plan is, as usual, to observe two minutes of silence at the Burma Star Memorial at 11 a.m.

Tandem and solo canoes are welcome, of course. Please let Joe or Dan know if you plan to take part. Non-Voyageur paddlers must have passed a Moving Water course and be properly equipped - canoe with airbags, bailers, painters, throwbag, as well as helmet, wet or dry suit and PFD.



Voyageur paddlers running rapids on the Cowichan River



VCKC members at the Burma Star Memorial in Cowichan River Provincial Park

## DRAGONBOAT PROGRAM

Moving the Dragonboat



VCKC members lend a hand - late at night - to move the VCKC dragonboat. Photo by Wendy Clapp

## THE RAGGLE TAGGLE SECTION

2015 Annual General Meeting, A November Flatwater Paddle, and A Vintage Photograph

### 2015 Annual General Meeting

Mark your calendar: the Annual General Meeting is later for 2015 - January 13<sup>th</sup>. The extra time will allow the treasurer to complete the yearend financial statements before the meeting.

### November Flatwater Paddle

Linda and Alan Thomson will lead a flatwater trip on Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please watch your e-mail for further details.



Do you recognize the building? An older photo of what is now a very popular community location. Photo contributed by Wendy Clapp

## VCKC Executive

### Executive

**President** [president@vckc.ca](mailto:president@vckc.ca)  
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### Program Directors

**Canoe Program** [canoe@vckc.ca](mailto:canoe@vckc.ca)  
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 Darrelle Butler .....  
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### Other Executive

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 Shelley Scott .....

### Executive Appointed Positions

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**Webmaster** [webmaster@vckc.ca](mailto:webmaster@vckc.ca)  
 Victoria Mann

**Note: The next deadline for submissions for the December newsletter is November 18<sup>th</sup>.**

## November 2014

