



Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club

Newsletter

November 2015

Victoria Canoe & Kayak Club 355 Gorge Road West Victoria, B.C. V9A 1M9

Phone: 250-590-8193 (Info only) Website: www.vckc.ca

Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club General Meeting Tuesday, November 3, 2015 at 7:30 p.m.

Notices

Club Cleanup

Club cleanup is coming up on Saturday, Nov. 7th at 9:00 am. A great time to volunteer and spend time with club members! Please bring what you can for indoor or outdoor work.

Executive Nominations

All executive positions are eligible for nomination. A number of executive have decided to take a break from volunteering in this way so we look forward to a variety of new faces. Each will provide support to members volunteering for executive in 2016. Your involvement is invaluable. Your interest is welcome. See Executive News for details. Pam Carroll

Flatwater Paddle

A flatwater paddle is planned for Sunday November 29th. See Canoe Program section for details.

Save the Date

Paddle for the Kids 2016 will be on Saturday March 19th. PFTK will start around February 7th with a paddle to Spinnakers.

Canoes for Sale

Two canoes for sale. See Canoe Program section for details.

Clubhouse Security

There were fewer issues with the clubhouse doors and windows left open this past summer than in 2014. Thank you to all for remembering to close the door when you are not near to it. However, there are still problems with the combination padlocks to the storage areas. They do not lock by just pushing them closed. The numbers have to be scrambled in the tumbler in order for them to be locked.

EXECUTIVE NEWS

Succession Planning

All executive positions are eligible for nomination. **Pam Carroll** has kindly agreed to **Chair the Nominations Committee** again and will be gathering people to be on it. The Committee will then contact all of the present Executive to see who is happy to stand for another year and who is stepping down. A number of executive have decided to take a break from volunteering in this way so we look forward to a variety of new faces.

Each outgoing Executive member will provide support to members volunteering for executive in 2016. All positions are for one year, although the Vice-President is encouraged to plan to be President, and to use the time as Vice-President to learn the role. All positions are elected and can be challenged. In recent years, there has been little voting at the AGM, with a slate of candidates offered and then accepted, but in the past, the AGM could be quite lively, with sometimes 3 candidates standing for a position. Anyone interested is encouraged to contact the incumbent to discuss the responsibilities and to possibly sit in on one of the remaining executive

meetings this year.

Your involvement is invaluable. Your interest is welcome. So, if you are interested in a position yourself, or would like to recommend someone for a position, please contact Pam Carroll (pastpres@vckc.ca).

Other news

Debi LaHaise has had to resign as Secretary of the club because she is no longer able to attend the Tuesday Executive Meetings. We would like to thank her very much for her contribution through 2014 and so far this year....almost two years of work, and wish her well in the course she is taking. Good luck, Debi!

The urgent plea for secretarial help in the last Newsletter was answered by **Helene Poulin**, and she now is the Club Secretary for the rest of the year, and can be reached at secretary@vckc.ca. Thank you, Helene.

The BC Marine Trail Network Association's AGM is on October 24th in Nanaimo. **Alan Thomson** is VCKC's representative but is unable to go. **Roy Scully** will represent us instead. Thank you Roy!

VOYAGEUR PROGRAM

Club General Meeting - November 3rd

Please join us Tuesday, November 3rd at the monthly Club General Meeting. Voyageur program leaders will deliver a presentation on what we do with big canoes throughout the year, and club adventures on the 2015 Badlands Brigade. Presenters are Joe Boyd and Julie-Anne Dorosz - and the rest of the Badlands Brigade Team. PFTK and Brigade participants come out and share your stories.

Voyageur Sterner's Course

The Big Canoe (Voyageur) Sterner's course will be held this year on October 31st and November 1st. 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.



Julie-Anne Dorosz



Sunday paddlers on the Gorge - photo Edward Duggan

VOYAGEUR PROGRAM (continued)

Remembrance Day on the Cowichan River - Wednesday, November 11th

The traditional VCKC Remembrance Day paddle on the Cowichan River will take place if water levels allow (50-70 cms). 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 am at the clubhouse parking lot; 9:30 am at Serious Coffee in Duncan; 10 am at Stoltz Pool. The plan is, as usual, to observe two minutes of silence at the Burma Star Memorial at 11 am.

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.

Save the Date

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Remembrance Day on the Cowichan 2014



Remembrance Day on the Cowichan 2014

CANOE PROGRAM

River of Consciousness Canoe Program Report

Canoe Program meeting

The next scheduled Canoe & Kayak Programs meeting is November 16th, 7:30PM. Expect a fun activity and an interesting speaker.

Day Trips

Flatwater trips are being advertised by email and at meetings. Stay alert and keep your pfd and paddle at the ready.

River season has started! Stay tuned for those river eddyhoppers! We should have already had one by the time this newsletter hits the press. More to come.

Courses

We completed our formal course schedule the second last weekend in October. Moving water courses were a bit disappointing this year with lower numbers and a lot of last-minute

cancellations. We're considering doing a slow-motion moving water course this winter with those interested paddling several outings on single weekend days to complete the skills. Let me canoe@vckc.ca know if interested.

By my best guess, the Canoe Program will have taught safe paddling to about 120 adults, school students and girl guides this year. Thanks again to all the instructors who volunteered their time and effort.

In with the New

Yep, we've done it again - purchased a new canoe for the Program. This time it's a 16' Clipper Prospector (Duraflex). Good for river, lake and ocean as well as being bearable to carry. This boat will be a great addition to the fleet. You'll all be relieved to know that I did not put a new boat in the Canoe Program's 2016 budget.

CANOE PROGRAM

Out with the Old (1)

We're reducing the price on the Red Frontiersman we have for sale. You can now have your own perfectly OK canoe for \$100. Unfortunately the storage spot doesn't come with it but you can get on a waiting list with storage@vckc.ca

Out with the Old (2)

I've had it! After 3 ½ years (seems like 50) I'm stepping down as Canoe Program Director. Please let me know if you're interested in this life-fulfilling, fun, fascinating, and endlessly challenging position.

Dan Walker

VCKC Canoe Program Director

Flatwater Paddle

A flatwater paddle is planned for Sunday November 29th. A note will be sent to all members in the Canoe and Kayak sections about a week beforehand outlining the proposed trip. Given the short daylight hours, it will likely be on this side of the Malahat. As ever, the exact route will depend on the winds forecast for the day.

Canoe for Sale

Fully outfitted Dagger Ovation

- 11 ft. long Royalex solo white water canoe.
- Comes with pedestal seat, two air bags, thigh straps and toe blocks.
- One of Daggers most popular solo white water canoes, it provides stability without interfering with hull speed.
- A fun little boat!
- Asking \$500.00
- Contact jeff.marcy5445@gmail.com



Dagger Ovation Royalex Canoe for Sale

October 10th Course Report by Alan Thomson

Over the years, I have written many Trip Reports about paddles the Club has undertaken around the South Island, but I haven't seen any reports, other than announcements, on the courses that the Club puts on. So here is a report to rectify that deficiency.

The Canoe Program puts on between 12 and twenty courses each year, covering everything from basic tandem paddling through to the disciplines of poling, moving water and ocean paddling. The commonest course is basic tandem canoe paddling, and this report is about one of those.

Club canoe courses are decided by the Instructors at the start of each season and the program is put in the newsletter and website. Interested members send their names to the Program director who passes them on to the instructor responsible for the particular course. A week before the course, I was sent 6 names with contact information. With this, the information about the course - contents, equipment requirements, time and place - were sent out to everyone. Then the dance started. As the week went on, the numbers varied from 6 up to 8 and down to 5 as people withdrew, and new students were added. We ended up with 5 students, one of whom wasn't on the list of names. So about a 50% change-over. Not unusual, but teaching tandem canoeing is simpler with even numbers so while numbers are in flux, the instructor frets. Luckily, in this case I had two other instructors and one of us could, in a pinch, paddle solo. Maybe the registration and payment functions on the Club's new website (pending), this uncertainty will be reduced in future.

The usual location of these courses is the Gorge as it is close to the Clubhouse and equipment. But if there are to be winds over 10 knots, it is better to move elsewhere since controlling an unloaded canoe in medium to strong winds doesn't help to learn the right strokes. On this occasion, the forecast was for strong winds on the Gorge on Saturday morning, so an alternate plan to move to Thetis Lake was developed and sent out to everyone on Friday evening. Well, by

CANOE PROGRAM (continued)

Saturday morning, the arrival of the strong winds had been pushed back to the afternoon, so we decided to gamble on a morning of calm and to stay put. (Note to self; even if planning to teach elsewhere, always arrange to meet students at the Clubhouse. That way, everyone is in the same place to start with and so last minute decisions are possible. Also, they can learn a lot by loading canoes, choosing equipment, etc - all part of the course.)

The course went well, with 5 students who all had some paddling experience, and by 2pm we had covered all of the strokes and manoeuvres required by the curriculum and were getting ready to do the rescue session. At this point, once we were all in wetsuits/drysuits, down came the rain - no wind as yet, but the rain was fierce, bouncing off the water's surface. Linda wasn't needed for this part, so stayed in the Clubhouse to watch. The rescues went quite well, even although that rain meant that canoe over canoe rescues or not, baling was still needed. While we were doing this, Linda was watching a double kayak coming floating up on the flood tide from the Tillicum Bridge. In it were two women who were unable to get through under the bridge and so back to where they had rented their boat. They were a mother and daughter who had picked up the boat down by the Selkirk and gone out for a bonding paddle. They had been told not to go under the Tillicum Bridge - but they didn't know which bridge that was, and now were soaking wet and stranded with no footwear, no phone and no spare clothes. So she drove them down to the rental agency and left the boat by the ramp to be picked up later.

The rescue class missed that excitement, but as they returned to the Club dock, down on the same current came two kayaks, one with a paddler, one empty, with the kayaker in the water. As the rear hatch cover had come off, self-rescue wasn't successful. Another shuttle to take them and their boats back to Banfield Park. So what with the course rescue and the kayak rescue, this class had more real life emergency practice than any other flatwater course I have taught.

So that is a course report - nothing dramatic, but 5 more paddlers know more about paddling a canoe safely, Joe has some teaching experience under his belt and the Club is \$125 better off. All good stuff.

Thanks to Dan for the organisation of the students and running the program.

Alan Thomson

Oct. 18 LWII Course

photos by Edward Duggan



CANOE PROGRAM (continued)

Oct. 18 LWII Course

photos by Edward Duggan



Oct. 24 MWI Course Cowichan

photos by Edward Duggan



OUTRIGGER PROGRAM

We had a successful summer this year with the weather being wonderful and two great places to paddle our OC6s; the Gorge and Cadboro Bay.

I hope those people that had never paddled out of Cadboro Bay got a chance to do so. If you did get an opportunity to paddle an OC6 out of Cadboro Bay you would have noticed the wonderful cover Sharon White made for the boat. It looks terrific and just what we, and the boat, needed. Kudos to Sharon for volunteering her time and showcasing her sewing skills.

Our new iakos, made by Western Canoe and Kayak have arrived.....finally. The old iakos seemed to require one repair after another. One boat now has a new set on and the other boat will soon too. These new iakos are the proper ones for our Calmar outriggers. We will be templating these new iakos and building another two sets for spares.

For those of you who are not sure how to rig an outrigger canoe, I have provided a link to the Canadian Outrigger Association (CORA) that has some great videos on rigging outrigger canoes, amongst other topics.

www.youtube.com/user/CanadianOutrigger

CORA is our governing body here in Canada and they put a lot of effort into providing information about the sport/activity of outrigger canoeing.

I submitted a request to CORA on behalf of VCKC to hold Wake Up the Gorge on Saturday/Sunday, April 2nd and 3rd, 2016. Hopefully we will have that date accepted and confirmed shortly

At this time some of our teams have completed their required huli drills and I hope that those of you who haven't done a huli in the last two years will do so while the weather remains warm.

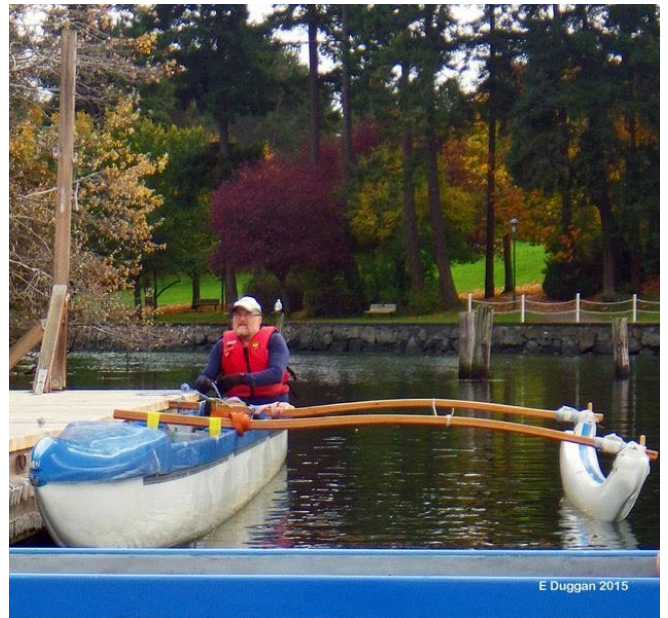
Paddle On,
Shawn - Outrigger Director



Sunday paddlers on the Gorge

Sunday paddlers on the Gorge

photos by Edward Duggan



E Duggan 2015

Bridges race - Va Va Voom VCKC senior ladies

photo by Wendy Clapp



Officers

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Vice-president
Linda Thomson, interim
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Treasurer
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Past President
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Voyageur Program
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Other Executive

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Membership
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Clubhouse and Grounds (maintenance)
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Executive Appointed Positions

Newsletter Editor
Maylene McMillan
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Webmaster
Victoria Mann
webmaster@vckc.ca

**Note: The next deadline for submissions
for the newsletter is November 18th.**

November 2015

VCKC Events

Today ◀ ▶ November 2015 ▾

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Nov 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		7:30pm VCKC Gener				9am Club Cleanup
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		7pm Executive Meet				
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		VCKC Newsletter D 7pm GWI Meeting				
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	Dec 1	2	3	4	5
		7:30pm VCKC Gener				

Events shown in time zone: Pacific Time - Vancouver

Google Calendar