



Victoria Canoe & Kayak Club Newsletter

Victoria Canoe & Kayak Club
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June 2007

Spring Clean Up

I would like to thank everyone who turned out for the Club's 2007 Spring Cleanup of the Clubhouse and the Gorge Waterway. It was a great day with a lot of good work accomplished.

We are so fortunate to have a place to call home on this beautiful waterway (the envy of all Paddling Clubs) and so it's very important that we as club members recognize this by coming every year and helping out with this special event.

Thanks should also be given to RDI (dumpsters), CRD (dumpage fees, gloves, garbage bags) and Tim Hortons (coffee, mugs, muffins and gift certificates).

Cleanup Organizer
Don Munroe



President's Message

Greetings!

The General Meeting for May was well attended. Dave Giuliani gave us a wonderful presentation on birds and plants that we probably walk by every day and not notice. I think as a result of his presentation, I tend to look around more now than I had in the past, wondering, "What did Dave say that this is?" The sound of his voice, his manner and his sense of humour made his presentation easy to enjoy.

In my communication with Saanich, I proposed that the upper, right parking area closest to the playground should be made available for people who use the playground. That means that we should avoid parking our vehicles in those parking spaces, except at night when nobody is in the playground. I know that the whole parking lot is for public use and that you might rightly include yourself as "public" and, therefore, have the right to park there as well. However, we need, as club members, to show courtesy to the public that uses the playground on a regular basis. It had been suggested by Shannon Carlow, who is one of our Club members, that people can ride a bike to the Club. For the time being, bikes can be put in the compound until such a time that we get a secured bicycle stand.

Due to the efforts of Glynis Newman and Susan Duhamel, along with many volunteers and some talented "models", the Kayak Program was able to raise almost \$4,000 for the Shawnigan Lake kids. The event took place at Ocean River Sports. It was well attended and everyone had a wonderful time. Way

to go, ladies, and all who took part! You make us proud! I also want to thank Brian Henry (nice legs, Brian) for opening his doors to us.

This month we should be getting a second dragonboat. Mike Fox informed us that it is almost done. This will help us with the practices as well as accommodating new teams.

We have the committee established for the five-year budget plan and are ready to go.

Harold Nishikawara, a long-time member of VCKC, has offered VCKC enough funds to build a second dock. We have gratefully accepted and now we have a committee working on this project with a strong backup from Saanich. This kind of offer comes once in a lifetime and Harold's generosity will be remembered by all of us.

Security is an ongoing problem at the clubhouse. When St'Keya has practices three times a week, I make a point of closing the door before we leave. If you think that that is a good idea, assign one person for each practice to do the same. Outrigger people can follow the same example. We are all responsible for security; however, we expect somebody else to do it.

The next General Meeting on Tuesday, June 5, is a barbeque. Come and join us before the summer break. At the barbeque, Francine Burnett, would like to give us a 15-minute presentation on the Gulf Islands National Park.

Until September,

Mile Petrovic
President, VCKC

General Meeting Tuesday, June 5 BBQ – 6:00pm

VCKC will hold its annual BBQ before summer break on Tuesday, June 5 beginning at 6:00pm. It's the usual potluck with surnames from A-M bringing salads or side dishes and surnames from N-Z bringing desserts. Individuals can bring something to BBQ for themselves.

Beverages are BYOB.

Paddlers Wear Prada A Fundraiser for Camp Shawnigan

The energy in the room was electric! The laughter, camaraderie and handclapping were infectious. Corrine Eisenstein and her mother Kristen were the stars of the inaugural VCKC "Paddlers Wear Prada" Fashion Show held April 18 at Ocean River Sports. Fifteen year old Corrine, with her huge smile and lovely disposition, in a wheelchair, says that attending Camp Shawnigan is higher on her list of favourite things than Christmas!

The birth of this event occurred a few months before, when Susan Duhamel and Glynis Newman, Kayak Program Directors, wanted to get the Kayak Program more involved in the VCKC and public communities. They were overwhelmed by the energetic and efficient response of the many volunteers. Countless hours were spent by many club members organizing the event: everything from arranging use of a professional catwalk; asking for and getting donated food and beverages; getting incredible items for a silent auction; and coordinating with Ocean River Sports for the models' clothing.

On the night, the setting up started at 5:30pm. There were about 20 kayakers as well as Ocean River staff, all with a purpose. Under the watchful eye of Wayne Aitken, several guys were moving heavy objects like the catwalk which was carried in in sections from Dan Girard's truck; Ocean River Sports clothes racks and displays had to be moved out of the way; tables and chairs had to be set up; models were briefed; AV equipment was set up; and scripts were fine-tuned.

The food and drink area was arranged and later managed by a very efficient team: Maureen, Lynn and Maria along with help from a Canoe Club Brewery

employee who adeptly poured beer for customers! Jane and Francesca did a fabulous job artistically arranging the silent auction items. Nancy and Ian helped the models with their outfits while Tony, Stan, Gary, Glen and Tracey, Karen, Doug L, John P, and I were helping out where needed. Terri seemed to be everywhere, as she was coordinator of the models and liaised with the vivacious MC, Robin Farrell. Robin, a DJ on radio 107.3 KOOL FM, was very adept at keeping the show moving along and keeping it fun. The eleven door prizes were drawn after half time and were a hit! The 50/50 draw was won by kayaker John Levey who generously donated all of his winnings (\$138) back to the fundraiser!!

People were lining up at the door by 7pm. Nadeen and Chris, the very welcoming greeters, handed out the Ocean River Sports bags and checked tickets. The models did a great job. Doug Alderson, Ben Garrett and his daughter Rhiana, Brian Henry, Gary Allen, Gary Doran, Alex Matthews, Marnie Philips, Rochelle Relyea and Duncan Pennington, as well as two dogs, all put on a great show! The DJ, Robin Deans, played very lively music which helped the models to relax and at times ham it up as they paraded down the cat walk. The crowd loved it!

There were 115 tickets sold, and the event raised an amazing \$3808 for Camp Shawnigan. What a success! Congratulations and a huge "thank you" to all those involved in helping!

Submitted by Jennie Sutton

Big Brothers/Big Sisters Annual Picnic June 10

On Sunday, June 10, the Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Victoria will be holding its annual picnic and BBQ at Kinsmen Park. Kinsmen Park is just across the water from the VCKC Clubhouse.

Our club has supported this event in previous years by providing two voyageur canoes and a group of club paddlers to take small groups of Bigs and Littles out on the Gorge.

It would be great to see this tradition of club involvement continue this year and make this annual picnic a memorable event for all involved. If there's enough interest we could even take them out in an outrigger this year.

Please contact Don Munroe at 385-2268 if you are interested in helping out on Sunday, June 10.



RUNNING OF THE COWS May 14, 2007

The Cowichan Lake to Cowichan Bay run has been a fixture for about five years past. The first run was essentially an experiment with three tandem boats to see if running the whole river (minus Skutz Falls) was feasible as a single trip. We had all paddled all parts of the river before but not as one run. It worked well and was repeated the next year with more boats. The final stretch from the last bridge to the take-out at Hecate Park involves paddling (or walking and dragging canoes) for a couple of miles, often with a brisk onshore breeze, a challenge at the end of a long day. A larger group also meant a slower trip, with more co-ordination, so the third year we declared that the last bridge, being tidal, qualified as 'the Bay', and since then we have taken out there.

The trip is usually fairly well scouted, with Club members having run the main sections in the month before, but we were surprised in the 4th year by the presence of two major log-jams near the last bridge, which required a 300-400' portage as the river then ran under major sweepers. That slowed us up by an hour or more but we did find the original water gauge by the old White Bridge and took it home as a souvenir!

In year five, we made the trip a two day trip, to allow more time for the paddle and for socialising on the Saturday evening. Four paddlers from Vancouver came over to take part and added to the occasion - I believe there were about 15 - 17 boats, and the shuttle logistics were fearsome. This year, we planned for a two day trip again, the first weekend of May. As luck would have it, the option arose for Linda and I to take part in a trip on the Green River in Utah at that time, so the date had to be changed (yes, we are selfish!). But there was no weekend in April or May that Tom and Alan could paddle both days so we went back to the one-day format, picking April 22 as the date.

The river was quite high compared to past years and much had not been run by Club members in the past few months, the Chemainus being the river of choice these days. What had been run - Stoltz to Vimy - showed that there was a lot of new wood on the banks and at least two sections where portaging might be required. So we were a lot more careful about who could come on the trip this time expecting that boats might have to make quick decisions about manoeuvring and doing it right first time. So we started off with five boats - Alan Thomson and Andy Denholm (the odd couple); Tom Staebell and Jack Burdon; Leonard Thor and Luke Chandler; Ellie James and Travis Ferby; and Dave Westell from Vancouver in his solo boat.

The run from the Lake to Skutz Falls took us 1.75 hours and surprised us by requiring no portaging. The pink fawn lilies at the take out were in full flower- lovely to

see. The usual log jam area was a very tight dog-leg, as ever, but the river was clearer than it has been for some time. Skutz put-in to Last Drop (the Canyon) took us 1.5 hours, allowing time for scouting S or Horseshoe bend and a swim/rescue shortly after the put-in. The water level was such that Double Whammy could be skirted river left with a little scraping, and S-bend could be run river centre/right, so more volume than we've seen in past trips. Two boats ran Last Drop, the rest of us lined round and then on to Stoltz for lunch at 1:30 - so a four hour run for the Upper + Canyon.

We left Stoltz at 2pm and hurtled down to Vimy in 1.5 hours, weaving on and out of the woody debris to avoid any portages or even scouting - the advantages of a small and experienced group. Vimy to the Silver Bridge at Duncan took us only an hour, with no logs, or any other obstructions. Tom and Jack took out there and the rest of us went on the last section where we expected to face a number of log-jams, based on past experience and the report of the band on the reservation at the mouth of the river. But there were none. All the usual places for log build up were still packed but the river found an open way through it all that we could follow safely. The only portage was about 300 yards above the last bridge where two cottonwoods stretched across the channel we were running.

So the trip was less problematic than we had anticipated - less in the way of log-jams and sweeper hazards. We had three swims one way and another but none in serious circumstances - all could swim to shore and re-enter an empty canoe.

Thanks to Jean Chandler, Kari-Ann Thor and Rose Westell for running the shuttle vehicles down. It saved a lot of time for the paddlers and we appreciated their help when they'd really like to be paddling. Thanks also to Tom for the organising and fielding of calls, etc.

We finished off at the Cowichan Valley Inn where there was quite a gathering of paddlers. Don Barbour from Nanaimo was there, post rugby game; Tony Shaw turned up with son Kenyon, en route from Victoria to his new home in Nanoose; and the new executive of the Vancouver Island Whitewater Paddling Society were at the next table, Don Barrie and Rose Sirois among others. A fitting end to a good day with good weather. Next year, we plan to make it a two day affair again - as long as no new trip offer arrives to tempt me away again, of course !

We hope that some of the original paddlers will be able to come out then. Tom and I have paddled in all the trips, but, with all respect to our fellow paddlers, it ain't the same without Dan Walker and the Forishes.

Alan Thomson

Kayak Program Report

After the amazing efforts put out by so many for the fundraiser fashion show "Paddlers Wear Prada" in April, we are pleased to report a final donation of \$3808.62 to go the BC Lions to help kids have a terrific experience this summer at Camp Shawnigan! Once again, we would like to thank our many volunteers. Without them this event wouldn't have happened, let alone been the huge success that it was! On page three in this newsletter you'll find a personal account of the evening from one of our members.

Continuing on with the program's camaraderie generated by the fashion show, we had our first, and we suspect not our last, "social" at the clubhouse on May 16. Each person wore a nametag with their name and a topic of interest enabling introduction and conversation for even the most shy! There was a lot of mingling, munching, sharing of facts and stories, and tons of laughter. The evening was a wonderful opportunity to meet fellow paddlers and a great success!

Looking ahead, for our monthly program meeting on June 20, we'll be having a "movie night", complete with popcorn!! See you there for the last meeting before the summer break.

The monthly Get-Together and Energizer paddles will continue through the summer. Members will receive e-mail reminders for each of them.

Neil Solomon has kindly organized a crew of Paddle Canada Level 2 members to help out with Thursday evening sessions at Elk Lake, so there'll be friendly faces that can lend a hand or offer some advice. As in previous years, we will try to have volunteer Paddle Canada instructors in attendance as well. If you want to practice strokes, rescues or fine tune your roll, this is a great place to do that. Emails will be sent out in advance of the May 31 start date.

Finally, thanks to all who filled out the survey - your comments and information have given us much to consider for the fall, and for the future Five Year Plan. Your participation and enthusiasm is greatly appreciated.

See you on the water, and safe paddling!

Glynis and Susan

Canoeing Trip Report

Maple Bay to Vesuvius and Back April 29, 2007

Weather report: salt air and sunshine; moderate tide change with an ebb flow and slack currents helping us off on the way over to Saltspring; flood tide with stronger and favourable currents and light westerly winds at our back ensuring a relatively easy return trip.

Logistics for transportation involved ride share arrangements to save on fuel costs and to minimize emissions. A couple of canoes were stacked into a boat pyramid on the vehicle that I was in and conversation centred around the sharing of travel tales while enroute. In all a total of ten people participated in the paddle.

We put the canoes in at Maple Bay after taking advantage of the WC facilities of the local rowing club. We headed out of the Bay and crossed Sansum Narrows, then hugged the coastline up the west side of Saltspring Island. The pace was very relaxed, as we all marvelled at our good fortune with the wind and weather conditions. We held up the paddling for moments to observe a solitary loon on the water, an assemblage of turkey vultures on shore and assorted seals and other creatures.

Just as people's stomachs started to growl we reached our mid-trip destination. We took lunch on the ray-catching brew-rich food-fantastic deck at Vesuvius Seaside Restaurant. An eagle kept an eye on us while we ate. Some of us borrowed the shovel to do some business before heading off after lunch. Once Donna got the girls (!!!) lined up we put out again.

On the trip back we made a quick detour to check out Booth Creek. A few paddlers did their part to bring up the water levels in the creek. Just the same, shallow water levels did prevent us from getting too far which was likely a good thing as a local resident ensured us that there wasn't anything to see further up anyhow - hmmm...

Winds at our back nudged us gently for our return to Maple Bay. Except for one or two wayward canoes that ventured out at warp speed from the rest of the pod and another that couldn't resist checking out nooks and crannies as they presented themselves, all boats stuck together to ensure a safe journey back.

Thanks to the weather gods and goddesses and all participants for a great day on the water! Ah yes, and kudos to Dave for leading the trip and to Joy for organizing us all.

Observations by Laurie Flahr

For Sale

MEC Tarn 2 tent with footprint and gear loft. Excellent shape. \$120.00. If interested, contact Gary Allen at 818-0277

Canoeing – Trip Report

Frost-Free Campout Wallace Island

On Mother's Day weekend our small group caught the 9:00 a.m. ferry to Saltspring for a put-in near the Fernwood Point dock. Driving the vehicles down onto the beach made for easy loading and launching of the three canoes. The vans were then left up on the roadside, tucked into the bushes, almost dangling over the cliff.

As we loaded the canoes, the wind started picking up strength so we made a dash directly over to Wallace Island, into Conover Cove. With the breeze at our backs we had a leisurely paddle up to Chivers Point.

After setting up camp and a quick lunch we walked the length of the island, stopping at the old Conover farm to inspect some of the remaining buildings - a few guest cabins nestled in the trees on a slope over-looking the water on the north shore, a shelter decorated with messages carved into pieces of driftwood, created by visiting boaters over the past number of years and the old social hall where guests met for dancing and other social events. The buildings are set in a lovely grassy clearing, with fruit trees, wild flowers, the remnants of the family flower gardens, and of course, a beautiful ocean view. Heading back to our camp, we inspected a rusting farm truck and tractor left in the bushes and checked out some small trails heading down to some of the other coves.

Ahh, happy hour at last, and the wind was finally easing up. While Alan got the BBQ ready, we set out a spread of apples and liquid refreshment (important to replace those body fluids lost on that big 7 km. walk!). Basking in the sunshine, we had fantastic views out to the Secretary Islands, Galiano, Saltspring and the mountains of the "Big Island". Jack headed off to do some fishing, returning with one just right for his dinner. After a wonderful dinner and a quiet evening watching the sunset, we were all tucked in by 9:30.

Mothers' Day---hmmm---no breakfast in bed for any of these Moms. Up-and-at-'em bright and early, ready for take-off at 10:30. We headed up to the Secretary Islands, with a bit of headwind, and some confused chop in the entrance to the channels between the islands. We spotted a number of beautiful homes tucked in the woods along the shores of the islands, one with a tennis court. No one around though! As we rounded Norway Island, the white shell beach of Penelakut Spit on Kuper Island called to me but with the clouds indicating worsening weather we had a quick lunch and

continued on toward Jack Screw Island. We prepared to head out into Houston Passage for the crossing back to Saltspring as a large tug came speeding through the channel and we set ourselves up for the large waves that would follow.

White caps and wind made the crossing a bit challenging, especially for Maris and me, but we made it in just east of Southey Point. To put us to the test, the wind had changed direction by 180° so once again we paddled into a headwind. The current was against us and we slogged our way back to Fernwood Pt. Our group, Alan & Linda, Susan and Jack, Maris and I, had stayed close together but now the Thomsons sprinted for the take-out and then we made a mad dash to the ferry. (What a challenge trying to keep up to our leader!)

Reflecting on the trip, we listed seeing a few seals, oyster catchers, a couple of bald eagles, a deer and a mink. There were quite a few wild flowers scattered along the rocky cliffs and in the woods, death camas among them.

THANK YOU Alan, for organizing the trip, BBQ-ing for us and keeping us safe and happy---a wonderful weekend!

Joy Newham

Thank You, Sperrers!

Our big canoe trailer was in need of repairs and the Sperrer family kindly took action.

Emmerich pulled the trailer up to Eric's place in Duncan where Eric was able to weld some extra metal on to add strength to the trailer. Knowing we would need it for upcoming courses, Emmerich had it back in the compound within a couple of days.

Emmerich urges those of us who use it to have a grease gun with bearing grease and to give the wheel hubs a shot of grease before use.

We also need to be prepared for a flat tire by having a wheel changing tool with a 3/4 inch socket.

Thanks to you both for your extra effort.

Kayak Trip Reports

Energizer Paddle to Portland Island - April 14

HARO STRAIT: Small craft warning, winds from the southwest 15-20 knots, gusts to 25, chance of rain showers.

Perfect! Run and check the email. Nope, they're not going to cancel. Is this a new level of energizer? Oh well, grab the raingear and go!

(Sometime later) We stand on the beach gazing at the clear blue sky, and placid reflections in the water, and muse on the vagaries of west coast weather as we listen to a pre-paddle talk. Neil Solomon is leading us today with the help of a number of subordinates. (Well maybe insubordinates would be more accurate for some!) In spite of the humorous helpful hints, Neil laid out an obviously well planned trip route for us to follow. There was an initial concern on the behalf of the 3 women in our group of 14 that the testosterone level was going to be too high due to half of the group being leadership types. Fortunately, some of them were tired out from paddling with Nigel Foster the day before so that brought it down some.

We started at a lazy 2 knot warm-up pace for a mile or so through the Little Group and then moved it on up to the 3 knot pace set for the day. The almost complete absence of power boaters was a real treat. I guess they believed the weather report. The group split into two at Charmer point, some wanting to enjoy a little more relaxed pace and enjoy the sun and flat seas. The

others, feeling spring coursing through their systems, formed a line abreast of the designated leaders and cruised across to Princess Bay, unconsciously increasing our speed as we did so. It became a 3+ paddle without anyone noticing. It was one of those days when everything 'clicks'.

We proceeded to the beach at the south camping area for lunch, which was enjoyed under a clear sky and warm sun, so of course we stayed a little longer, ahhhh. We laughed at the big clouds that we could see dumping rain on the upper part of the island, the poor sods. The wind whiffled, 14 heads came up, and a black cloud appeared over Swartz Bay rising fast. But not as fast as we loaded up and scampered! The wind became a steady enough breeze to get us working a little harder and the showers cooled the warmth we soaked up at lunchtime. Off Curteis point some enjoyed a brief look at a sea lion. Half way across Tsehum Harbour, a large seal, thinking that the whole group had passed, surfaced to check them out, noticing too late that it was between two other kayaks. Kersplash!!! The sun reappeared as we landed of course! All in all it was an excellent energizer paddle of about 9 nautical miles. Accolades to Neil and his troop of back-talking humourists for a great day.

Submitted by Stan Ball

(Photo on Page 9)

Get Together Paddle - April 13, 2007

"8nm, 28 kayaks, sunny day, no wind" was the email message I received after Saturday's paddle. No kidding! And did somebody mention organization? Hats off to Jennie Sutton for a beautifully orchestrated day. As each of the twenty-eight kayakers arrived at Cadboro Bay, they were welcomed by the organizer and her team, which included lead kayaker, sweeps and roving kayakers. And a weatherman, and even a bandaid keeper! The group was a diverse bunch, with new Canadian residents, new kayakers and new club members. As we followed the current toward Trial Island, the group had time to mix and mingle.

Those wanting a little more, tucked into each bay and followed the shoreline, while others paddled leisurely across the mouth of the bays. The tide was low and fell as we travelled south, so we had a good view of the sandy bottom at Willows Beach.

After lunching at McMicking Point, four paddlers got the okay to check out the south cardinal buoy which was tilting with the flood current. As they cleared the islands, they were surprised to see a houseboat being

towed through Enterprise Channel and got to play a few minutes in the lively waves.

We began to understand how well the day had been planned when we returned to Cattle Point to see a wedding party all in black. Three cheers for the bride, led by Lynn, and we were off again. Our next surprise was at the Royal Victoria Yacht Club, where we were greeted by the HMCS Oriole, the navy's steel hulled sail training vessel. As Duncan led us through the yacht club, we heard the strains of a band playing just for us (it was opening day for the yacht club).

The group stayed nicely together (unlike some of our other paddles) with paddlers weaving in and out to chat and, once in a while, to work up a sweat. Well done, Jen, a lovely day.

Submitted by Dorothea Hoffman

Trips & Courses (Kayaking)

Energizer Paddle

When: Saturday, June 23, 2007

Meet for breakfast --OR-- Meet at Maple Bay.

0900 Pioneer House for breakfast (Whipple Tree Junction)
0945 Depart Pioneer House
1000 Arrive Maple Bay (Rowing Club - public launch area)
1230 Vesuvius on Saltspring
1500 Maple Bay.

From Maple Bay -- paddle 5 miles -- east to Saltspring Island and north to Vesuvius. We can stop for coffee and pie at the restaurant above the public wharf. (I have not been there in years) but the pub-restaurant should still be there.

Back to Maple Bay about 3pm.

Organized by Doug Alderson
(doug_alderson@shaw.ca)

Get Together Paddle

When: Saturday, June 9, 2007

Where: Telegraph Cove. Meet at the parking lot at the end of Telegraph Bay Rd.

When: Saturday, June 9. Meet at 0930 planning to be on the water by 1000 .

The Plan: The tide will be moderate and the current, while not strong, will be with us in both directions. The plan is to head North from Telegraph Cove exploring the shoreline and many coves along the way to the Mt. Douglas Park area where we will have lunch at a nice sandy beach. The distance will be approximately 8 nautical miles round trip.

Contact: Please contact Dan Gedosch at 721-0562 or dgedosch@hotmail.com to let him know if you are coming or if you have any questions.

Upcoming Courses:

Paddle Canada Flatwater Course

Saturday, June 9, 2007

Minimum 8 hours

Cost \$55

To register contact Gary Allen at gd.allen@shaw.ca

Paddle Canada Level 1 Courses

Saturdays, June 16 & 23, 2007

Saturday July 14 – Sunday July 15, 2007

Minimum 12 hours

Cost \$90

To register for either of these courses contact Gary Allen at gd.allen@shaw.ca

There is a maximum of four (4) participants in each course so register early.

For information on course content go to www.paddlingcanada.com

For Sale

Seaward Kevlar Shadow sea kayak. Fast, stable with added bow protector, new seat and skeg cable, safety straps, hatch cover. Asking \$3,100;

ICOM VHS radio model IC-M2A, waterproof, shock resistant. Asking \$100.

Pictures available by email. Tony at 479-1308 or acopping@shaw.ca



Trips (Canoeing)

June 10: Chatham/Discovery Islands - Tides and currents look favorable for the crossing, but we'll have a Plan B in place just in case of wind. Please contact Joy by Thursday night, June 7 if you would like to come.

Phone 385-5876 or e-mail: pjnewham@telus.net.

June 24: Sooke Basin to Sooke River for lunch. We'll meet at the club for car-pooling, then put-in near the spot where the Galloping Goose crosses Sooke Road. This will be a good trip for new or novice paddlers to practice their skills. Please contact Joy by Thursday night, June 21 if you would like to come.

Phone 385-5876 or e-mail: pjnewham@telus.net.

Thompson River Trip

Advance Notice. We plan to run a Thompson River trip this Fall as usual. Dates are not finalised but most likely will be either September 8 - 9 or 29 - 30. This trip involves paddling the Thompson River from Savona to Ashcroft. We camp half way down this stretch of water at Juniper Beach Campsite and run the whole trip on the Saturday and the first half again on the Sunday. The tradition has been to run the river in voyageur canoes so that those with little or no whitewater experience can take part. Those wishing to do the run in tandems are welcome to join in. Solo paddling is possible, too, but with some long flatwater stretches, be prepared for hard paddling to keep up. Costs involve travel, campsite fees and a share in the costs of the voyageur canoes - we either rent them on the Mainland or trailer them from Victoria with ferry costs, etc.

If you are interested, call or e-mail Alan and Linda Thomson 592-4170 or 3135thom@islandnet.com.

Courses (Canoeing)

Lakewater Level 1 (Tandem):

Thursday, June 7 (6:30 - 8:30pm)

Registration and classroom session (theory)

Saturday, June 9 (8:30am - 4:30pm)

On the water most of the day; basic strokes for tandem canoeing; canoe-over-canoe rescue.

Lakewater Level 2 (Solo):

Saturday, June 16 (8:30am - 4:30pm)

On the water most of the day; basic strokes for solo canoeing; self rescue.

Cost for each level is \$25.00 and participants must be paid up club members. For more information or to register, please contact Joy Newham by June 2. Phone 385-5876 or email: pjnewham@telus.net.

Ocean Paddling: June 15 - 17

The Ocean Paddling Course Level 3 & 4 will take place on June 9 & 10 (classroom sessions) and June 15 - 17 (ocean paddling trip). Cost for Club members is \$100 plus costs of chart, tide tables and compass (probably about \$50).

For non-Club members, it will cost \$100 plus club membership fee. Interested paddlers should e-mail Alan Thomson at 3135thom@islandnet.com. The course concentrates on understanding tides and currents, the effects of weather on the sea and on charts and navigation. The objective of the course is to teach/learn how to safely canoe in the ocean environment by which Vancouver Island is surrounded.

Paddlers who have taken the course in the past are welcome to sit in on the classroom sessions and to join in with the trip at no cost.

If you can't make all the classroom sessions or all 3 tripping days, let me know and we'll see if a trip can be arranged which allows joining in late or leaving early.

NOTE. As I will be out of e-mail contact from May 22 to June 3, students who decide to join the course after May 22 will not hear back from me until June 4.

Alan Thomson



Energizer Paddle - Portland Island - April 14/07
Photo: Dave Ostovich

VCKC Executive

<p>President Mile Petrovic 250-733-2013</p> <p>Vice President Linda Thomson..... 592-4170</p> <p>Treasurer Fred Trudel 480-0880</p> <p>Secretary Lorna Petrovic 250-733-2013</p> <p>Past President Judi Mirikami 360-2776</p> <p>Program Directors:</p> <p>Canoe Program Joy Newham 385-5876</p> <p>Dragon Boat Program Mike Fox 391-0160</p> <p>Outrigger Program Keith Larusson 598-7193</p> <p>Sea Kayak Program Susan Duhamell 361-4738 Glynis Newman 655-1272</p>	<p>Voyageur Program Don Munroe 385-2268</p> <p>Marathon Canoe Program Ron Williams 380-7496</p> <p>Education, Standards & Safety Doug Linton 727-0216</p> <p>Membership Tony Copping 479-1308</p> <p>Clubhouse & Grounds Kathleen Gunn 384-6436</p> <p>Directors-at-Large Mavis Pillar 384-4390 Diane Nishimura 383-3080 Michael Jackson 385-5727 Fraser Tweedy 380-6952</p> <p>Executive Volunteer Positions Irena Jazwinski (Social Coordinator) 388-9757 Harold Gillis (Newsletter Editor) ... 598-9488 Maris Ratel (Boat & Locker Storage .. 592-7082</p>
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VCKC Clubhouse Bookings and Club Activities June 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
3	4	5 General Meeting BBQ beginning at 6pm	6	7	8 St'Keye Social 8:00pm - 10:00pm	9 Course: Flatwater Kayak 8:30am Get-together Paddle (Kayak) Course: Ocean Paddling Canoe 9am Course: Lakewater Level 1 (C) 8:30am
10 Canoe Trip (Chatham-Discovery Islands)	11	12 VCKC Executive Meeting 7:30pm Mile 250-733-2013	13	14	15 St'Keye Social 8:00pm - 10:00pm	16 Course: Level 1 Kayak 8:30am-5pm Course: Lakewater Level 2 (C) 8:30am
17	18	19 Outrigger General Meeting 7:30pm	20 Kayak Program Meeting 7:00pm	21	22 St'Keye Social 8:00pm - 10:00pm	23 Course: Level 1 Kayak 8:30am-5pm Energizer Paddle (Kayak)
24 Canoe Trip (Sooke Basin and River)	25	26	27	28	29 St'Keye Social 8:00pm - 10:00pm	30

The Victoria Canoe and Kayak Club is a member of:

RCABC (bccanoe.com);
 Paddle Canada (paddlingcanada.com);
 CORA (canadianoutrigger.com)

General Meetings

First Tuesday of each month (September to June)
 September Newsletter deadline: August 21, 2007