



Beaver Tales

Official News Views and Muse of the Beaver Canoe Club of BC - Dec2020/Jan2021

Year End Party!

Everything you need to know

When: December 12, 2020, virtual doors open at 7:30 pm with "The Year That Was" slideshow. Events begin at 8:00 pm

Where: your house, via zoom. The link will be emailed to all the morning of Dec. 12, and posted on at beavercanoecub.org and on the club Facebook page

Dress Code: your choice, but consider fabulous zoom backgrounds and/or attire such as ugly sweaters. Standouts will be given special applause.

Food and Drink: your own creations. Flaunt them and be the envy of all!

The Great Beaver: The All Knowing Great Beaver might make an appearance. Think of questions to ask! We'll use the chat zoom function

The Photo Contest

- Entries must be submitted via email to Dan Burnett vp@beavercanoecub.org by December 6, 2020.
- All photos must be taken by a club member and be from a trip or event featuring club members (that means if you got together on the Seymour one day or did a wilderness trip it is eligible even though they were not officially scheduled club events).
- All photos must be taken in 2020 except for the Misery category. Since that has never been done before, we want to see your most miserable moments from any time in the past 5 years.
- All photos must be labelled with its category; Humour, Action, Scenic or Misery.
- Each member is limited to two submissions per category

BE SURE TO DOWNLOAD THE LATEST VERSION OF ZOOM!

President's Report

That's Life

Beavers like to keep busy and so it is with us paddlers. This year will pass, hopefully, and a new vaccine will help next year. Even without it, life and paddling goes on. I'm not sure wisdom grows with age, but at the risk of sounding like a tiresome boomer which I am, here goes...

On [December 12](#), 2020 is another Beaver [Christmas](#) Dinner, sans food buffet, and in quarantine. I hope to see you there on Zoom!

There is an AGM on line [Wednesday January 13](#), 2021 and a new Executive to vote for. We are looking for new blood as some of us oldies are getting long of tooth. So don't be shy, consider a year or two on the Executive as a small contribution to Beavers and as part of the successful continuity of the Club.

There are so many rivers, there is so much discover and so many fears much pleasure to have and bear. That's life!

Having reached the age, passing is a great tragedy, share. Anyway here it is: relentless, decrepitude

you can out of your life before it passes. If you don't seize it, life passes -- but I am overdramatizing as usual - get paddling!



trips, there are so many gear, there is so much to to overcome. There is so so may disappointments to

where no one will think my I have few wisdoms to life is short, time unavoidable, so get what

you can out of your life before it passes. If you don't seize it, life passes -- but I am overdramatizing as usual - get paddling!

Phil Rankin

The BCC would like to thank Western Canoe and Kayak for their generous contribution to the Beaver Canoe Club Awards this year. They matched the BCC funds of \$25 dollars x four gift certificates so we now have four \$50 gift certificates to be awarded at the [Christmas](#) (on-line) party. It is very much appreciated, they are a long term supporter of the BCC so we look forward to supporting them!

Thanks to Mary and Lynn for the quick response and to Marlin for his ongoing support.

WCK WESTERN CANOE KAYAK

On-line Entertainment

Although in-person tours of Lower Mainland Watersheds may be postponed, the Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable committee compiled a video in September that invites the public on a virtual tour. As sections of the Coquitlam River are frequently paddled by Beavers, (particularly the lower section through the city of POCO and the Kwikwetlem First Nation, original occupiers of the area), this opportunity to explore online is brought to our attention by member in-ever-good-standing, Leigh B. Thanks Leigh! <https://www.tricitynews.com/news/take-a-virtual-tour-of-the-coquitlam-watershed-1.24240341>



JANUARY 13, 2021 ENTERTAINMENT

At our January AGM, Rebecca Helps will present a slide show about our week-long August Beaver Canoe Club canoe trip to **Murle Lake**.

(And for those who missed last month's Kootenay River presentation, here's a link to an abridged version on BCC website: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fj55ZKZF1Kg&feature=youtu.be>)

Training Director Announces

2021 Significant Training Dates: Mark Your *NEW* Calendars!

2021 Basic Paddlers', Trip Leaders' Clinic, and Intro to Moving Water dates are now posted on the Beaver Canoe Club website.

And:

2021 Rivers' Week will be **June 26** to **July 4** inclusive!

--Carey R.

TRIPS DIRECTOR'S NOTICES –Dave W.



2021 Annual Long Trips Meeting

Wed Jan 27 2021 - 7 pm by Zoom

This is an opportunity for members and their guests to propose extended canoe trips, voice or solicit interest, ask about what is involved, express hopes and dreams, or just hang out to hear what's going on.

Each attendee gets the chance to express his or her wish list, invite or incite, and answer questions. At this stage, no commitments or obligations are requested or made. Each of us leaves with a list of participants and their contact information. The rest is up to you.

RSVP to Dave W westell@shaw.ca

and I will send a link along with instructions on using Zoom during the week prior to the meeting

Access the Beaver Canoe Club website for any *ad hoc*, unofficial, trips that may have occurred and a write up posted at <http://beavercanooclub.org>

Beaver Tales

Trip Reports Draw at December 12 Party

You may have provided to your fellow Beaver members a descriptive review of a trip you were on this past year. In recognition of not only your literary skills, but also your willingness to transfer paddle-strokes to key-strokes so as to post to the BCC website a Trip Report, *your* name may be ceremoniously drawn to win! a 2021 Beaver Canoe Club membership!! A huge thanks to all for sharing the stories of paddling with the Beavers this past year.

END OF YEAR VIRTUAL PARTY REMINDERS

- Download the most recent version of Zoom;
- Need help to set up Zoom? Send email to Carey@CanoeBC.ca
- Prepare to watch the photo assemblage of the Year that Was;
- Submit photos for **Photo Contest** by **December 6** – Final Deadline!
- Prepare to come as you are or as you want to be;
- See Page 1, above, for more details.

NOTICE OF BEAVER CANOE CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

January 13, 2021 8:00 pm

Location: *via* Zoom

(link to be emailed same day)

President Phil gave Notice in his report above that the Beaver Canoe Club will hold its AGM on January 13, 2021. A new Executive will be nominated and elected; a budget for 2021 has been drafted and will be presented for discussion and vote. The following are brief descriptions (and may not be verbatim of the Club by-laws, and are provided to pique your interest in nominating someone or standing to run yourself.

President – coordinates club and executive activities, chairs meetings, & writes letters on behalf of Club.

Vice President – substitutes for Pres in the latter's absence.

Secretary – takes Minutes of all meetings, manages club correspondence and documents.

Treasurer – manages membership dues, pays bills, financial records, prepares annual budget.

Trips Director – plans annual schedule & newsletter calendar (March –Oct), recruits trip leaders.

Training – organizes instructors, materials, for Basic Paddlers, Intro to moving water, & clinics.

Membership – organizes club membership list, promotion, posters, business cards, and fields enquiries.

Entertainment – recruits and arranges entertainment for 9 meetings and Newsletter notices.

Social Director – organizes Club BBQ, Rivers Week socials, Year-End Party.

Newsletter Editor – edits & formats articles, Executive reports, and notices and emails 11 monthly issues of Beaver Tales.

Webmaster – Appointed, (non-elected), position to manage BCC website.

Some incumbents may run again, and other positions are or may become vacant, so don't be shy, take a step up and join the roundtable discussions and political intrigue manifest in the upper echelons of the Beaver Canoe Club that is the Executive!



A
PADDLER'S
CHRISTMAS
POEM

[Editor's note: apologies to author Terry Gowler, as I changed the word *kayak* to *canoe*]

*'Twas the night before Christmas at our house on the water,
Not a creature was stirring not even an otter;
The dry bags were hung by the chimney with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas would drop paddling goodies there;*

*The children went off to bed without daddling,
Soon their heads were filled with dreams about paddling;
Mamma in her fleece 'kerchief and me in my wool cap,
Had just settled down for a long winter's nap,*

*When out on the water there arose such a splatter,
I sprang from my bed to see what's the matter.
Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.*

*The moon on the water looked the whiteness of snow
It shone the luster of mid-day on the sea shore below,
When what to my wondering eyes did reveal
But a great big old canoe and nine mighty seal,*

*With a spry old paddler, so lively and quick,
I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.
More rapid than orca on course they soon came,
And a whistle he blew and then shouted their name;*

*"Now Splasher! Now Bracer! Now Eddie and you Flo!
On Rocker On Roller, Curly, Larry and Moe!
To the top of the dock, and up the beach now Haul!
Now Paddle Away! Paddle Away! Paddle Away All!"*

*Off the beach, to the air and away they did fly,
With beautiful edge turns silhouetted against the night sky.
Up to the house-top on course they now flew,
With a canoe full of toys, and old St. Nicholas too.*

*In a twinkling, on the roof, there came such a sound,
The sound of a canoe running aground.*

*As I grimaced at the noise thinking there must be a hole,
Down the chimney came St. Nick, and snapped up with a roll.*

*He was dressed in a drysuit from his head to his foot,
And the gortex was tarnished with ashes and soot;
With a bundle of toys on his back which did sag,
He looked like an old paddler carrying a heavy dry bag.*

*His eyes how they twinkled! His dimples how merry!
His cheeks were like roses, his noise like a cherry,
The beard on his chin was as white as sea foam,
It looked like it needed a brush or a comb;*

*The stump of a whistle he held tight in his teeth,
The cord from the whistle circled his neck like a wreath;
He had a broad face and a little round belly,
That shook when he laughed like a fish called a Jelly.*

*He was a happy ol' canoeist, a right jolly old salt,
And I laughed when I saw him, It wasn't my fault;
A wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
He gave me the high sign, I had nothing to dread;*

*He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
Filled the dry bags with goodies then turned with a jerk,
Laying a finger aside of his little red nose,
A Brace he did do and up the chimney he rose;*

*He sprang to his canoe, to his team blew the whistle,
And away they all paddled like a water borne missile.
I heard him exclaim, ere he paddled out of sight,
"Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good-night."*

*"And may happiness and good health always be yours,"
May you always return, safely back to the shore"*

- Terry Gowler - Mount Vernon, WA

[Many thanks, Terry! – and thanks to Madeline W. for this submission -- Ed., Beaver Tales]