



Beaver Tales

Official News Views and Muse of the Beaver Canoe Club of BC **JULY 2022**

NO FORMAL MEETING in JULY!
Instead it's the Beaver Canoe Club PICNIC!!!!



10.30am on, Sunday 17th July 2022

BEAVERS WATERFRONT PADDLE & BRUNCH

Bring your own canoe & potluck food for sharing

Fisher's Field Picnic Shelter

Deas Island Regional Park, Delta



Fun, games, potluck... a chance to meet fellow canoeists & their families.

Paddle in the gentle waters surrounding the park, or just enjoy the company, the games, the park & trails... and the food

Parking & washrooms on sit. More info to follow...



BEAVER CANOE CLUB
Learn to paddle, make friends & have fun!



PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Prez Phil at Rivers' Week in a state of bliss-induced repose after one day boasting about a successful roll on the Tulameen and the following day blessed by who-knows-who after surviving a swim into a logjam on the same river (Ed – note, this reporter was not there, so this may merely be gossip and vague innuendo) – Photo attributed to Greg Scutt.

Introduction to Moving Water



(Photos courtesy Dave Broughton) Ongoing training: if you are interested, many RCABC-certified instructors (including some of our members) offer courses. Access <https://bccanoe.com/members/courses.php>

Trips Director – Dave W westell@shaw.ca

For July's Trips see Schedule on last page, Page 8, this Issue

INFORMAL PADDLING TRIPS

Anyone can organize an informal, non-official, non-club trip, just by sharing their email with other members. But three members seem to do it all the time.

- Mike D mike2166@hotmail.com likes evening trips on Lakes or Gr 1 in the Fraser Valley
- For that matter, so does Dave W westell@shaw.ca
- And Phil R frankierb@telus.net likes the Seymour River, esp. when the level comes up after a rain

If you're looking for trips in between the official trips, email one of them and let them know, and get on their contact list(s)!

POLICY PIECES

Did you know?

...that all club trips are annually proposed by the executive, printed in Beaver Tales and ratified by the Club Members in March.

<https://beavercanoecub.org/wp-content/uploads/BCC-policies-updated-to-include-Jan-12-2022-amendment.pdf>

TRIP REPORTS

Upper Nicomen Slough - June 12, 2022

There was a slight ripple on the water as we shoved off below the Deroche bridge heading north to what is known as "Bell Dam" at the end of Malcolm Road. Kym W. and Yiolanne A. paddled one canoe while Peter G and his wife Deb, and Carole and I paddled the remaining two boats. The water level was exceptionally high which made this trip a little easier because the top end of the waterway can be choked with tall grass and the high water will allow easy passage there. In addition there are two separate driftwood dams up there that can be challenging to get through at lower water levels.

We paddled up the waterway in pleasant conditions knowing the forecast was predicting decent weather for at least the next four hours. The water was calm and flat but we still practiced "S" turns where they are normally needed in a channel that is evident at lower water levels. The "S" is still defined by the corridor through the grass tops that, despite the high water, still rise above the water. As we approached our lunch stop we passed over the driftwood dams. There were tall reeds to find our way through but knowing we could stay in the canoes to get through made it a fun part to work through.

/Cont'd...



We had lunch at the Western Painted Turtle sanctuary – saw 3 turtles sunning themselves on logs.



Heading back down after lunch we had a medium breeze to push against but nothing that taxed our group. We stayed near shore in the sheltered corridors as we worked our way back down the waterway. As we approached, what are normally dry land small islands, we had a chance to paddle through the forests, something I've never done before!



We arrived back comfortably after about 3 ½ hours paddling and just before the afternoon rain would arrive. By all accounts the trip was enjoyed by everyone and well worth the trip "way out" to Mission. It was a pleasure to lead this trip and to meet this group of people fairly new to the Beaver Canoe Club.

Bob Podesta, Trip Leader

My Interesting and Not So Fun Paddling Holiday or How I Almost Died – TWICE

While happily paddling a great rapid I had a heart malfunction and instantly lost consciousness.

The good part is that I regained consciousness so I didn't die; the bad part was that I was underwater, out of breath and getting dragged through the rapid. Yes, I was befuddled, but I got to the surface and air, but I was very weak, uncoordinated and out of breath.

I couldn't help myself and couldn't comprehend other paddlers trying to help me. Finally Rick's Island group got me out of the water, but my chest was seized up. Sebastian immediately began first aid help and two club ladies Karen and Sandra, my special nurse Nightingale organized and comforted me.

I couldn't climb the steep rail grade embankment, so Gord shows up with the SAR contingent [*Princeton Search and Rescue*], and lined me up to the waiting ambulance.

Consequently, I got four days of room and board, courtesy of Interior Health, and a shiny new pacemaker.

When I told the surgeon that the procedure was going to ruin my summer paddling, his reply was while that was true, at least I will get to be around for the summer.

You may have sensed a theme in my description and you are correct. I had a significant problem and could not help myself, club members quickly and confidently came to my aid – from the in water rescue, stabilization, evacuation to getting my van and gear home while I was in hospital.

The old saying is that it takes a community to raise a child – it required a whole club to keep me alive.

I can hardly wait for next year's holiday....

Don

NOTICES

Celebration of Life

for John J. Onderdonk

February 2, 1945 – April 18, 2022



Please join me, our family, and friends to celebrate John's life.

John was a true gentleman who was kind and generous. He took immense pride in our home and his family, enjoyed paddling (especially canoe tripping), helping people, camping, and creating artistic wonders with wood.

We will be gathering at the West Langley Hall on Friday August 12th, 2022 to celebrate and honour the life of John. This log building tucked away in a forest near our home reflects John's love of wood and the outdoors. Leave your sadness at the door, but bring your stories, laughs, favorite pictures (prints), and happiness over a life lived to the fullest. The address is 9402 208th St, Langley.

The celebration will start at 12:30 p.m. and includes a light lunch, John's favorite snacks, and deserts as well as refreshments, including his favorite Earl Grey Tea! The event will last approximately three hours allowing time to visit and chat. To help with preparations, please let me know if you'll be coming by emailing Madeline.Waring@telus.net by July 23rd.

Madeline

Tla-o-qui-aht Dugout Canoe Steven Davies, BC (11 min)

After working as a clearcut logger in the Clayoquot Sound, master carver and land defender Joe Martin reconciles his past by revitalizing the ancestral knowledge and artistic practice of the traditional Tla-o-qui-aht dugout canoe. *On-line screenings, **free films at VIFF but book tickets until July 14*** <https://viff.org/>

July Trips

| | | | |
|--------|---|-------------------|--|
| | Rivers Week | Gr 2-3 | <p>The event of the year! A week of Rivers! This year, we're on the Similkameen. Hopefully water levels will cooperate.. See update on BCC website, and check for more updates before you go.</p> <p>Contact Dan B : burnettsonskana@gmail.com</p> |
| 10-Jul | Hayward Lake | Lake | <p>A family trip on a placid lake near Mission.</p> <p>Contact: April W watsonaprild@gmail.com</p> |
| 17-Jul | BCC Annual Picnic: Dease Island | Lake Water & Gr 1 | <p>This year, we've reserved a spot at Dease Island Regional Park near Ladner. Bring your own brunch, outdoor games, and of course, your canoe. Expect to see fabulous people. .</p> <p>Contact: Jill L jillpesi@gmail.com</p> |
| | Granite Falls Canoe Camping Trip | Ocean | <p>An ocean adventure in a sheltered inlet. Join us for a three to four day camping trip from Deep Cove to the head of Burrard Inlet's north arm.</p> <p>Contact: Dave W westell@shaw.ca</p> |
| 31-Jul | Steveston | Gr 1 | <p>A paddle along the shores and through the isles of the lower Fraser River.</p> <p>Contact: Dave W trips@beavercanoecub.org</p> |
| 07-Aug | Lower Chilliwack River | Gr 2 | <p>A popular midsummer trip on a friendly river. Some whitewater skills required.</p> <p>Contact: Dave W trips@beavercanoecub.org</p> |