



Beaver Tales

Official News Views and Muse of the Beaver Canoe Club of BC **SEPTEMBER 2021**

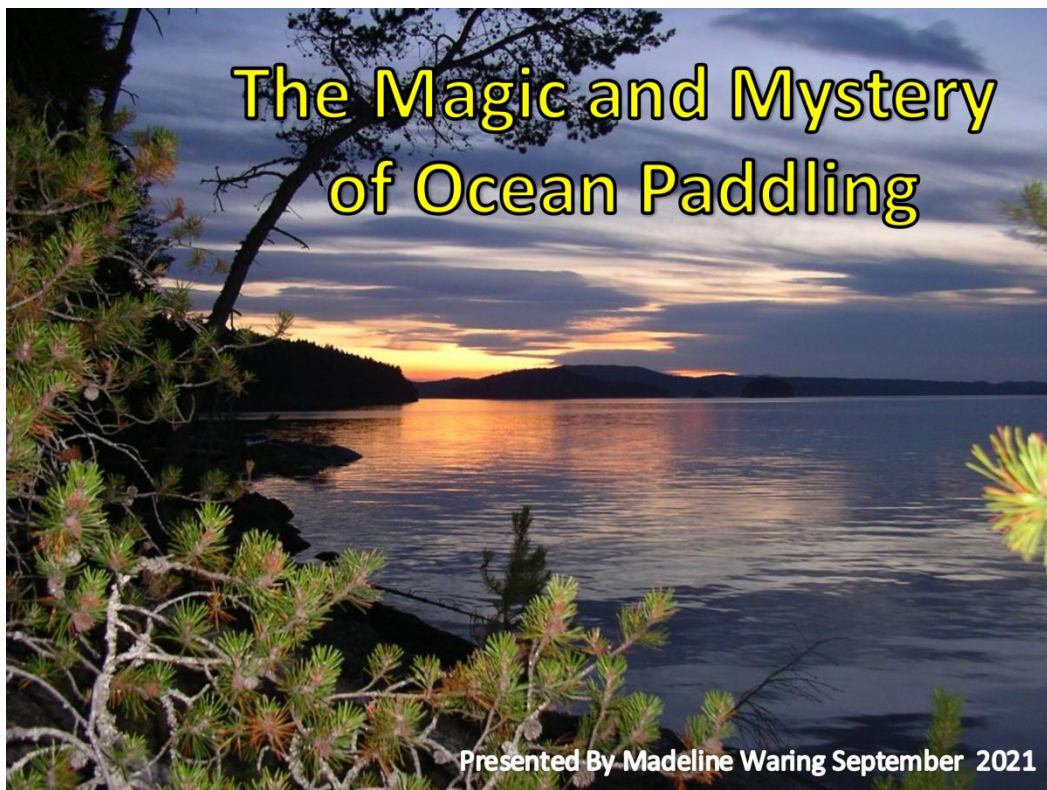
SEPTEMBER Beaver Canoe Club Meeting (Online)

Date: **Wednesday, SEPT 8, 2021**

Location: *Zoom Online* Time: 8:00 p.m.

Instructions: 1. Beforehand, download the free Zoom app on your mobile device or computer (computer is better). 2 Watch for the email on [Sept 8](#) before the 8:00 p.m. meeting. It will have a link to Click and Join.

The ocean offers endless possibilities for canoe tripping with spectacular scenery, magical beaches, and an endless variety of plants and life-forms. Join Madeline to visit some west coast treasures and hear about what you need to know before you go.



President's Report

Well, another summer is closing and what a year: fires, droughts, vaccinations, road closures, lock-downs, masks, social distancing -- and yet we continued to paddle come hell or high water! There was a lot of paddling on Chilliwack, lower and classic, as well as a number of formal and informal trips to the Cheakamus and Mamquam, among others.

The Grand summer finale for 2021 is upon us, the Adams, which will be **Friday, September 3-Monday September 6, 2021**. We will meet each day at 10 a.m. at the rafting takeout by the bridge.

Camping is not included, however, a suggested camp ground is to book at R & G Lewis camp about 1.5 km down from take out -- right across the road from Roderick Haig



*(The Adams' Canyon, Brian Otter photo-shopped
– carnage not usually this extreme!)*

Thompson from Spences Bridge to the Frog, after which you can return home via the Fraser Canyon.

The Adams this year is co-hosted with the RCABC and the Beavers and is essentially a Canoe Camp but we our agnostic, other paddling craft are welcome as in kayaks, inflatables and whatever.

People should be members of the RCABC and if you belong to an RCABC affiliated club you are. We can deal with non-members but, if possible, join a club or RCABC online.

Brown salmon-viewing. Camping is in a yard about an acre with outhouses, water, and hook up for 2-3 trailers. Address 2375 Squilax Phone Jack Lewis 1-250-679-4415 (may be added \$ 25/ night for hookup).

The Adams is mostly grade 2 with a grade 3 canyon. There will be an option to go to the Clearwater on Sunday; and possibly on Monday, the

Contacts: Phil Rankin: 1-(778)-871-4873 Keiran Rankin: 1 (-778) 220-7808

Further, of course, a Fall paddling season is offered: check our Beaver Canoe Club Schedule. Also, an exciting new addition for the Fall is the RCABC-led Cariboo Rivers week in October. Keep looking for information on that on the RCABC website.

Over and out,

President Phil

FEATURE ARTICLE - PART 1 OF 3

Cedar and Canvas Canoe Restorations

Part I – Getting Started



18' Chestnut Prospector (circa. 1960's – 70's)

Some may wonder why I've used the word "restorations" versus "repair" in the title of this article. For me it's about perspective, I look at these canoes as sentimental pieces from a recently past era. During that period damaged boats would have been repaired for regular service. Today many of these boats that are 60+ years old, are restored for a second life of less rigorous use and an added measure of care for them as they have reached the prestigious age of "antique" (similar to me – minus the prestige). In this three part article I will share with you my interest in this hobby, my new experiences, and the community around heritage canoes; perhaps it will spark an interest in you as it has in me.

Woodworking was my thing from the time I was peewee making toy boats for puddles and forts for backyard adventures. Canoes got my attention early and in 1974 I started to save to buy one while my friends were saving to buy cars. Cars turned out to be the better bet for getting girls but mine was better for getting fish, not sure I got the better deal in that one. Anyway, my affinity for woodworking and interest in canoes seemed to lay the foundation for what would become a rewarding retirement hobby.

The boat in the picture above was my first attempt at restoring a boat. To figure out what I was trying to do I had a copy of Mike Elliott's book "This Old Canoe" and he was generous in responding to email questions I had. Though this was my first project boat it was not the first boat I bought to work on. Earlier I found a 60's era Bill Greenwood Prospector canoe but did not want to try doing it until I'd developed some skills so I stored it away in the rafters (where it remains) waiting its turn until I feel ready to do it justice. I bought this boat from another restoration fellow at Copper Canyon Canoes on Vancouver Island named Marek. Since then we've developed a good friendship and he is also very generous with sharing his knowledge and experiences.

As if that weren't enough, one day I was involved in an NMF (not my fault) MVA (motor vehicle accident) - my 1 ton "dually" truck vs texting driver in a small compact car- (even more compact afterward) but luckily no injuries. Funny thing was it happened in front of a family member of Desi Winterbottom. He is a well known canoe builder/ restorer who has been doing it since the 60's and it turns out he lives just around the corner from me. I happened to have my canoe on the roof of my truck when the accident happened; after the accident scene was settled the conversation led to one about Desi. So...I gave him a call and we've been working together for a couple of years now; he is extremely helpful in teaching me these skills. I would also be remiss if I didn't mention Rod over at Orca Boats, another true craftsman who is helpful and has a whack of good DIY videos on his website. Are you noticing a theme here? People who do canvas canoe restorations are very happy to help out new people who want to learn. Building a network of help can happen with little effort and in my case, even by *accident*.

The Chestnut has become my new source of pride and I'm anxious to paddle it. I was saving its maiden voyage for the annual Wooden Canoe Heritage Association meeting normally held in the fall but that is cancelled this year due too, you know what....so I'm debating a less formal debut at a local lake in September.

Since completing the Chestnut Project I've done 2 others and learned a lot of new skills. Each boat has its own set of challenges; the Prospector did not require any ribs to be changed so it wasn't until my second boat that I learned that skill. My third boat had some warping in the bottom so presented unique challenges again that I hadn't seen yet. It seems every boat has lessons to teach, but you need to be patient and persistent to learn them.



In Part II of this article I'll focus on a custom canoe restoration I did this spring that turned out to be a major project and one heck of a learning experience!

Bob Podesta

TRIP REPORTS

Check out Bob's account of leading 11 Beavers in 5 Boats in the Club's August 8th paddle of Hatzic Lake near Mission, B.C.

<https://beavercanoecub.org/hatzic-lake-paddle-2021-08-08/>

<https://goo.gl/maps/Y9roh8NwBXhHFpJZ8> (bird's eye view)

CLASSIFIED

LAKE WATER INSTRUCTORS' COURSE

Three weekends starting September 24th and a Zoom meeting September 22nd.

This course includes Paddler levels 1 to 4 and is suitable for anyone that has a competent J-stroke, (you can solo paddle around Deer Lake). Contact: Carey@CanoeBC.ca

Details at www.Learn2Canoe.ca

For Members: Got canoe-related surplus cluttering valuable space? Sell, trade, or give away! Send ad copy to editorbeavercanoecub@shaw.ca.

BCC Trips Page

September 2021

Organized BCC club canoe trips, are posted here on the monthly Beaver Tales Trips Page, and on the BCC Web Page events calendar. Remember that trips can change with weather, water levels, & leader availability, so keep an eye on the Events Calendar for updates <https://beavercanoecub.org/events/>

05 Sep	False Creek	Ocean	A fun downtown family paddle for those staying home over the long weekend. Contact April W watsonapriid@gmail.com
03 to 06 Sep	Adams River Weekend	Gr 2 & 3	A weekend of paddling through the Adams Canyon close to Chase BC, and maybe some other nearby rivers. Friday to Monday. Camping J and K Lewis 237 Squilax Ave Adams Lake 2km from Adams Bridge. Meet at 10a.m. Adams Bridge Parking lot at rafting takeout. <u>And don't forget to tell Phil R you're coming!</u> frankierb@telus.net
12 Sep	Harrison River	Gr 1- & Lake Water	A beautiful all day run through a pocket of wilderness in the fall. Bryan G will meet for this trip at Kilby boat launch at 9. Email him, and he'll be back from his trip just in time to see that you're coming. Contact: bryan_gormann@sfu.ca
12 to 19 Sep	Azure & Clearwater Lakes Canoe Trip	Lake Water	We are planning now for this weeklong canoe camping trip. Sign up now if you want to go! Contact westell@shaw.ca
19 Sep	Leader's Choice		Watch the BCC Web Page Calendar for a nifty trip this date.
26 Sep	BC Rivers Day Coquitlam River Cleanup	Gr 1	A paddle down the Lower Coquitlam River picking up garbage as we go, and leaving a cleaner river. By the end, I promise, we will have almost more than our canoes can hold. Contact Dave W westell@shaw.ca
03 Oct	Cheakamus or Upper Squamish	Gr 2 & 3	Maybe levels on the Squamish River will allow a rock & roll paddling marathon section we rarely do, and if not, we'll have a good day on the Cheakamus. For updates, check next month's Beaver Tales Trips Page, or the Calendar on the BCC Web Page, or contact trip director Dave W westell@shaw.ca
09 to 11 Oct	North Thompson River Canoe Trip	Gr 1 & 2	A three-day meander down the North Thompson River from Little Fort to Heffley Ck. For updates, check next month's Beaver Tales Trips Page, or the Calendar on the BCC Web Page, or contact trip director Dave W westell@shaw.ca
16 Oct	Widgeon Creek	Lakewater	The bookend trip for the official paddling season. Will it be stormy? Will it be nice? Whatever adventure we have, we are sure to look after one another. Que sera. Contact Leigh B cat8canoe@gmail.com