



# Cataraqui Canoe Club

# News

Sept 2004

## COMMODORE'S NOTE

By Dukke van der Werf

Great trips, events and company marked the 2004 spring and summer paddling season. On a personal note, a three-week vacation in Holland this spring featured bicycling (the best cycling anywhere!), with delicious coffee at sidewalk cafes in medieval cities and towns, and walks through picturesque scenery. The flat landscape rules out any whitewater paddling, yet the many inland lakes, including lakes created from dikes across the sea, provide for ideal and challenging sailing.

Back in Kingston, I've heard excellent stories of our whitewater season. Minor casualties occurred involving people and boats, yet nothing too serious. All the rain undoubtedly helped to maintain the flow and level of whitewater and flatwater. It certainly posed an unexpected obstacle on our weekend trip into Hart Lake, yet Bob and Michael safely and effectively hauled all the boats through the narrows. They encountered poison oak, scrapes and bruises in the process, but thanks to their chivalry everybody came through unscathed.

Peter Kopp's initiatives to organize two orienteering trips lead to some fun-filled days with a learning curve. Who would have guessed that those little pivoting dance steps are a means of aligning the coordinates, and are **not** part of a mating ritual? Definitely worth repeating, Peter. May I twist your arm?

A lesson to all of us (my notes have to come with some words of advice): keep the group together as

much as possible at intersections and turns, and make sure that the persons following you are aware of the direction to take.

More useful bits of knowledge gathered during paddling trips:

- The person portaging the canoe can't see much (such as stumps, trees and signs).
- Paddling a canoe with paddles works better than paddling with sticks.
- Even if you think somebody does or should

know the way, don't count on it.

## NEWS FROM THE BOARD

By Dukke van der Werf

The Cataraqui Canoe Club (CCC), Annual General Meeting is Wednesday, Oct. 6, 2004, at 7 p.m., in the Kingston Library, Delahaye Room, on Johnson Street. Larry Showler of Frontenac Outfitters will share some exciting

experiences of his paddling expeditions (one of which was in New Zealand). Please plan to attend. We need your support in keeping CCC alive and thriving, and it is a great opportunity for socializing and exchanging tall tales with colleague members.

Safety and Environmental policies are now a routine part of club trips and events. To meet increasing demands for boats to paddle from the boathouse and for club-sponsored trips, we purchased two kayaks and one canoe in the spring. In support of the endeavors of the Canadian Canoe Museum in Peterborough, <http://www.canoemuseum.net>, to increase public awareness of the important role of the canoe in

NEWS...(Continued on page 3)



*An Evening Paddle from the Boathouse on the Cataraqui River*

## Cataraqui Canoe Club

PO Box 1882  
Kingston, Ontario K7L 5J7

Boathouse located on Orchard street near the Woolen Mill

Call 544-8375, or view [www.cataraquicanoe.on.ca](http://www.cataraquicanoe.on.ca), for a current listing of up-coming trips and events

### Executive and Board of Directors 2003 – 2004

<b>Commodore</b>	Dukke van der Werf	384-6054
<b>Vice Commodore</b>	Barry Irish	389-6334
<b>Secretary</b>	Charles Hannan	536-1610
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ed Jezak	389-4459
<b>Past Commodore</b>	Margaret Wild	542-9626
<b>Board of Directors</b>	Carolyn Bonta Johnson	531-4578
	Dugald Carmichael	542-8628
	David Ferguson	384-3044
	Jane Knibbs	634-6859
	Beth Orr	389-6362

### Committee Appointments

<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Sharon Ferguson (formerly Sharon Cartwright) – 384-3044
<b>Recreational Scheduling</b>	Dugald Carmichael
<b>Courses and Clinics</b>	Mark Hughes – 372-5989 / Barry Irish
<b>Events/Open House/Canoe Trips</b>	Barry Irish
<b>Publicity</b>	Margaret Wild
<b>Coordinator of Volunteers</b>	Beth Orr
<b>Boathouse Equipment and Activities</b>	Don Harris – 546-0842
<b>Boathouse Manager/Assistant</b>	Robert Tolley – 542-9626 / Mark Hughes – 372-5989
<b>Webmaster</b>	Alan Nicholls – 547-3781
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	Barry Irish
<b>Telephone Listings</b>	Judy Skeggs – 374-3420
<b>Whitewater Program</b>	Dugald Carmichael – 542-8628 / Mark Hughes – 372-5989
<b>Hiking</b>	Gary Birrell – 389-5154 / Beth Orr
<b>Skiing</b>	Ed Jezak

### Newsletter Contributions Welcome!

Members of CCC are invited to submit write-ups of their favorite CCC outings, outdoor adventure, or just about anything that would be of general interest to our members. Mail them to the club or pass them on to any member of the board or executive, or better yet, bring them to the schedule making pot-luck. If you have one or two pictures to accompany the article even better. Your pictures will be returned. The newsletter editor can also be reached by email at [ccc.editor@sympatico.ca](mailto:ccc.editor@sympatico.ca).

### Has Your Address Changed?

Has your mailing or e-mail address changed? We want to stay in touch and make sure that you receive the newsletter. Please forward any change in mailing/email/phone number to: Member Secretary, at 389-6334, or to the club address listed above.

NEWS...(Continued from page 1)

Canadian history, we purchased a corporate membership and made a donation. A club trip to the museum scheduled for early October includes the opportunity to view an amazing collection of canoes kept in storage, due to the lack of display room. They have a truly great array of canoes.

We feel very fortunate receiving the generous gift of Kim Barker's painting of the Cataraqi River, seen from the boathouse. Unfortunately, temperatures, humidity and other hazards would play havoc with the painting if displayed in the boathouse. The Board decided to entrust the painting to the commodore, under the condition that it would be on display, at any possible occasion for club members to enjoy and to admire. You will be able to see it at the AGM, at scheduling parties and at open houses. I am the present and appreciative keeper of the painting, and grateful for the opportunity. Many heartfelt thanks to Kimberley for sharing her talent and generosity with CCC.

Another year has passed with trips and events that were enjoyed by many of our members. Interest in the instruction courses continues to be high. Longer and more challenging trips were added to the whitewater program this year and their success promises repeats and/or additions for the following years. The flatwater trips were very popular and the members enjoyed the popular paddling-from-the-boathouse evenings and afternoons. The barricade erected across the Cataraqi River, an auxiliary to the sewer pipe installation by the City of Kingston, did not noticeably dampen the boathouse paddler's enthusiasm.

We cannot stress enough the vital role our volunteers play in the success of CCC. They contribute time, effort and talent to the club as trip leaders, organizers, instructors, board members, resource people and in maintenance of the boathouse and equipment. There would be no CCC without them and we take this opportunity to extend our sincere thanks for their dedication. We encourage new and young members to volunteer their talents and time to make CCC a club that meets everybody's needs. Contact our Coordinator of Volunteers, Beth Orr (389-6362).

Community involvement this year included workshops at Cataraqi Conservation Area and Frontenac Park, paddling instructions to the Boys and Girls Club and assistance for the Chestmates, dragon boat team.

We are sorry to lose David Ferguson, who has decided to step down as board member. David has been very active on the board. Based on his inventory of gear and equipment in the boathouse it was decided to purchase additional Personal Floating Devices (PFDs). His perspective on several issues will be missed. David has assured us of his willingness to continue to be of assistance in issues related to the use and maintenance of the boathouse and equipment.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the AGM.

## CATARAQUI CANOE CLUB

### GEAR SWAP



*The Cataraqi Canoe club offers a service to buy, sell, or swap used outdoor gear by way of the newsletter and/or the web site.*

Just send a description of your item and a contact number to our newsletter editor and to our webmaster.

Sharon, [ccc.editor@sympatico.ca](mailto:ccc.editor@sympatico.ca) 384-3044

Alan, [cccwebmaster@ca.inter.net](mailto:cccwebmaster@ca.inter.net) 547-3781



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**CCC's FIRST OFFICIAL DUMOINE RIVER WHITEWATER TRIP***By Mark Wideman*

Cataraqui Canoe Club's top whitewater trip began its inaugural year in a de Havilland Beaver floatplane, flying thirty minutes from Des Joachims on the Ottawa River to Lac Laforge, just downstream from the Dumoine River's headwaters in Quebec. Three flights transported our five paddlers as the Beaver conveyed one canoe lashed to a single pontoon, on each flight.

All the paddlers were veterans of last year's non-club test trip on this outstanding river – a testament to Peter Kopp's leadership and to the Dumoine's addictiveness!

Conditions were uncommonly good on the trip, as water levels were higher than usual, mosquitoes were in decline, and raspberries were plentiful and ripe for those who knew where to look.

Over the course of our five days on the river we ran about thirty-five sets of Class I to Class III rapids and portaged around several spectacular and "unrunnable" falls. The most memorable event happened on the second day at the infamous Class III, Canoe Eater Rapids, where Barry Irish, who was running solo, wrapped his Royalex Swift Dumoine on a rock.

Witnesses attest to Barry's efforts to do everything in



*Rescuing the Canoe Wrapped Around the Rock—Mark Wideman*

his power to avoid the wrap, including jumping repeatedly on the downstream gunwale of the canoe and off-loading all his gear into the river, but in spite of these efforts, the power of the water slowly had its way until the canoe was full of water and pinned

against the rock with one end bent at right angles to its length. Two leaders of a Blackfeather trip, who were first on the scene, generously contributed their time and expertise as the attempt began to extricate the pinned canoe. Somewhat later, two of Barry's trip mates, who had worked their way back upstream along the riverbank, helped assemble the final rig of ropes, pulleys and muscle that successfully freed the canoe. Amazingly we recovered all of Barry's gear.

As an epilogue to this incident, it should be noted that as soon as Barry pulled his canoe back into something resembling canoe shape, he resolutely re-entered it and ran the rest of the rapid, and, for that matter, the rest of the river, despite the new and distinctly warped personality of the canoe.



*Log-Boom-Hauling Paddle Wheeler—Mark Wideman*

As for wildlife, trip members had encounters with bear, moose and alligators. Well, perhaps that's stretching the truth just a little. The rusted remains of what were called "alligators", which we found on the shore of Lac Laforge, were turn-of-the-20<sup>th</sup> century, steam-powered, log-boom-hauling paddle wheelers that could also winch themselves across dry land when necessary. The bear, on the other hand, was real enough. It snuffled and grunted through our very clean campsite late one night until Peter spooked it into leaving with a few noises of his own, thus managing to save the local crop of blueberries for our next morning's breakfast. The rest of us were so cool about the bear's short visit that we never made the effort to wake up for it.

After taking out at Driftwood Provincial Park on the Ottawa River, we ran the shuttle, lashed the canoes to

**DUMOINE...***(Continued on page 5)*

DUMOINE...(Continued from page 4)

our cars, and followed Peter to Chapeau, Quebec. There we enjoyed one final adventure, in keeping with a tradition dating from Peter's early days as a Blackfeather Guide, a hearty post-trip dinner at Fred's Steak House – a grande finale to a grand trip.



*Bear — by Debbie Twiddy*

### CANOESONGS

*By Debbie Twiddy*

A new CD is on the market that should appeal to many canoeists on your Christmas list, or you may wish to pick it up for yourself.

Paul Mills in collaboration with James Raffan has produced a lovely compilation of folk music by various Canadian artists, all inspired by or written about canoes.

Featured artists include musicians such as Connie Kaldor, Tanglefoot, Nancy White, Three Sheets to the Wind and Bruce Cockburn, to name just a few.

A portion of the profits from the sale of this CD will go to support the Canadian Canoe Museum in Peterborough, Ontario, <http://canoemuseum.net>.

This collection of music, which provides much listening pleasure, is available by mail order from:

<http://canoesongs.ca>

#### **Portage Productions**

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## *Official 2004 Fall and Winter Schedule of the Cataraqi Canoe Club*

**Weather or water conditions, may necessitate activity changes. Check with the trip leader.**

**IS THIS ACTIVITY RIGHT FOR ME? Is it within my limits of fitness and skill? Do I have the right clothing, footwear and equipment? What water, food and protectants should be included in my pack? What are the potential risks, and do I accept them? Is there a health problem that could affect my participation? Am I aware of strategies to minimize impact on the environment?**

**Your leader can help with these and other questions when you call, and at the same time describe the plan for the activity. Also, at the designated meeting place you will be required to read an outline of the activity and the anticipated risks, before signing a waiver. Good preparation and safety awareness on the part of each participant will make the trip less risky and more enjoyable for all.**

**There is a \$5 fee for non-members on paddling trips and overnight trips. Guests are welcome at no charge on non-paddling day trips.**

### **OCT 3, Sun. CANADIAN CANOE MUSEUM.**

This unique museum in Peterborough provides an enthralling day-trip through Canadian history from a paddling point of view, starting with the aboriginal inventors of canoes and kayaks. Specially arranged for our club's visit will be a guided tour of the Annex, which houses hundreds of watercraft not yet on public display. For more info surf the CCM website [www.canoemuseum.net](http://www.canoemuseum.net) and call Charlie Hannan 536-1610.

**OCT 6, Wed., 7-9PM, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM), Delahaye Room - Kingston Public Library.** At the AGM we review the business of the club and elect new members of the executive, but we also have fun! Come and enjoy a

paddling presentation by Larry Showler of Frontenac Outfitters. This is also a good chance to meet other paddlers, share photos, and tell stories of our paddling adventures. Let's all support our club by attending the AGM!

**OCT 9-11, Sat.-Mon. THANKSGIVING IN ALGONQUIN PARK.** Barry Irish will roast a scrumptious turkey on the open hearth and we potluck the rest, at a drive-in campsite with easy access to good paddling and/or hiking. Fall colors should be near their peak in Tom Thompson's favorite part of the world. Contact Barry 389-6334, or 539-4864 (cell).

### **GOT A GREAT PHOTO FROM A CATARAQUI CANOE TRIP!**

Email the photo with a short description to the Newsletter Editor!

*ccc.editor@sympatico.ca*

### **OCT 16, Sat. BUCK LAKE - SLIDE LAKE.**

An easy paddle down Buck Lake and a portage 80m to Slide Lake, a local gem in any season. We might spot wildlife and a pack of hikers, led by "Wild Bill" Bill Murdoch of the RTA. 10km there and back. Call Bob Clooney 384-4482.

**OCT 17, Sun. CHARLESTON LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK.** This gorgeous park offers us a variety of short, interesting interpretive loop trails or an invigorating longer loop hike. For details call Barry Irish 389-6334 or 539-4864 (cell).

**OCT 23, Sat. GOULD LAKE ORIENTEERING.** Here's a good chance to sharpen our map-reading and bush-navigating skills. Orienteering stations will be set out, and special orienteering maps with accurate contours will be provided. Beginners are welcome. For details call Peter Kopp 546-9216.

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**OCT 24, Sun. CANOE LAKE TO KINGSFORD DAM AND POTLUCK.** A 16-km end-to-end paddle via picturesque Desert Lake and Birch Lake to whet our appetites for a potluck at Nancy Young's cottage on nearby Eels Lake. 150m portage. Call Dugald Carmichael 542-8628.

**OCT 31, Sun. BLAIR WITCH HIKE.** Beth Orr is cooking up a cauldron of Halloween high jinks. Who dares to call Beth 389-6362?

**When participating in the Club's fall hikes wear the appropriate apparel and footwear for the conditions of the day.**

**NOV 7, Sun. SKYCROFT HIKE.** Dukke van der Werf will lead a moderate hike on scenic trails north of Opinicon Lake. Come and envisage horse-drawn carriages on historic Bedford Mills Road (superseded by Perth Road 150 years ago). Call Dukke 384-6054.

**NOV 14, Sun. GANANOQUE RIVER PADDLE.** Too cold for swimming, but should be fine for paddling! Exact plans may depend on wind and weather. Call Ed Jezak 389-4459.

**NOV 21, Sun. GIBSON LAKE HIKE.** Come and crunch through freshly fallen leaves! A picturesque 15-km loop hike in northern Frontenac Park, starting and ending at Kingsford Dam. Call Bob Clooney 384-4482.

**NOV 28, Sun. GHOST TOWN HIKE.** Bob Tolley will lead this scenic 10-km hike with a spooky destination, starting and ending at Narrows Lock, mostly on the Rideau Trail. Call Bob 542-9626.

**DEC 4, Sat. PARROT BAY HIKE.** Barry Irish will lead a brisk walk, also suitable for families, to limber up our lungs for carol singing at a seasonal party hosted and catered by Dave and

Sharon Ferguson. Call Barry 389-6334 or 539-4864 (cell).

**DEC 4, Sat. SCHEDULE-MAKING PARTY.** David and Sharon Ferguson will prepare another magnificent feast at \$5 a person. Carol singing is planned. New members are especially welcome to this event, please call early. Call Dave 384-3044. If you might like to lead a scheduled activity next spring but can't make it to the party, please contact Dugald Carmichael 542-8628.

**DEC 5, Sun. CLIMBING AT THE BOILER ROOM.** Feeling cooped up by winter? Jane Knibbs invites us to literally climb the walls, at the Boiler Room indoor climbing gym. Beginners are welcome; qualified staff will teach us how to work the belay device. Climbing shoes and harness can be rented at the gym. The number of participants must be known in advance; please try to contact Jane 634-6859 at least 4 days early.

**DEC 11, Sat. FRONTENAC PARK.** Mike Fisher is doing some ardently hopeful snow dancing, but let's face it - most likely this will be a hike! Call Mike 547-5386.

**DEC 18, Sat. HUCKLEBERRY HOLLOW HIKE.** Ray Wilson invites us to hike this inland route to the summit of Blue Mountain, a high quartzite knob near Charleston Lake with a stunning view in all directions. 5-km horizontal and 100-m vertical each way. Call Ray 382-7189.

**See your various resource people or trip leaders if you require clarification about trip needs, gear, and for any other questions or information you may need.**

**DEC 19, Sun. BUFFLEHEAD LOOP HIKE.** Too late for the Challenge, but Frontenac Park will be 'unconcealed' by foliage and 'uninfested'

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*(Continued from page 7)*

with flies! Gary Birrell will lead this 11-km hike, starting and ending at Park HQ. Call Gary 389-5154.

**DEC 21-26, Tues-Sun. FAR HILLS INN, VAL MORIN, QUEBEC.** How about a holiday sojourn in the Laurentians? "Over 130-km of groomed cross-country ski trails leave directly from the hotel. Superior accommodations pool and squash club. Five gourmet dinners and breakfasts." More info from Margaret Wild or Bob Tolley 542-9626.

**JAN 2, Sun. BOB'S LAKE ADVENTURE.** For the New Year something totally new: John Van Oostrom invites us to ski, snowshoe, skate and/or hike near Bob's Lake, and to warm up, eat lunch and relax in his lakeside chalet. Call John 483-5514.

**JAN 8, Sat. MASSASSAUGA HIKE, SKATE OR SKI.** A winter adventure somewhere in or around the magical Massassauga domain of Janice Ley and Eric Usherwood. For details call Janice 542-9958.

**JAN 15, Sat. TRIANGLE SKI CLUB.** Terrific trails (30-km, more than half of them groomed) and a snug chalet await us near Charleston Lake, but will there be enough snow? Maybe this will be our lucky year! Call Ed Jezak 389-4459.

**JAN 23, Sun. SANDBANKS SKIING.** How could you beat this? 15-km of mostly groomed XCski trails woven through forested sand dunes, a cozy chalet, and probably hot cocoa provided by the Friends of Sandbanks, all for a "suggested donation of \$1.00/day (adults)." Call Barry Irish 389-6334 or 539-4864 (cell).

**JAN 30, Sun. CHARLESTON LAKE SKI.** This magnificent park is a winter wonderland with hardly any walkers. Beth Orr invites us to XCski a new 12 loop trail with easy slopes. Call Beth 389-6362 for details.

**FEB 6, Sun. CHARLESTON LAKE SNOW-SHOE.** Rugged terrain too steep for comfortable skiing, but snowshoes eat it up! Ray Wilson will be our leader. Snowshoes can be rented from Trailhead. Call Ray 382-7189.



### **FUNDRAISER FOR CATARAQUI TRAIL**

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14 km, 3-4 hours**

**BIKE FUN – Start 11 a.m., Perth Road Village  
22 km return, 2-3 hours**

**BIKE CHALLENGE – Start 10 a.m., Chaffeys Locks  
57 km, 5-6 hours**

Collect \$25 in pledges and get a free lunch. Your name will automatically go into a draw for fabulous prizes.

You are invited to come out and support the 104 km trail, which follows an abandoned rail line, through natural habitat and historic villages.

**CATARAQUI REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

## **CATARAQUI CANOE CLUB**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**Wednesday, October 6, 2004, 7 p.m.**

At the Kingston Library, Delahaye Room

On Johnson Street

**Featured Speaker — Larry Showler of  
Frontenac Outfitters**

*Speaks of his Exiting Paddling Expeditions,  
including his experiences in New Zealand*