



Cataraqui Canoe Club

News

January 2012

COMMODORE'S NOTE - BOARD NEWS

By Mike Fisher

The new Board is now in place; thanks for your participation to all who were able to attend the Annual General Meeting and, of course, a "Happy New Year".

On behalf of the Club membership I extend my thanks and appreciation to Ed Jezak for his contribution to the Club as Commodore; This is the third time he has 'stepped into the breach' and has never failed to undertake duties beyond his remit. The Club is indeed indebted to him.

Carolyn Bonte, who retires from the Board, will be missed. Her tireless enthusiasm and professional approach has resulted in meaningful improvements; Well Done Carolyn.

We are fortunate that Transport Canada's proposed regulation changes were rescinded; we can relax and resume 'Normal Operations', albeit with a continued attention to safety and trip preparation.

The Board is presently reviewing the usage or otherwise of our boats in the boathouse; Steven Manders has provided us with detailed records, which are quite revealing. Also, the question of whether it is worthwhile to staff the boathouse during certain periods of the year is to be considered. Our main preoccupations, however, involve routine maintenance issues such as reserving funds for the inevitable repairs to the roof of the Boathouse.

As I reflect on the many members of the Club, who I know personally, and have contributed their time and efforts to serving on the Board, I realize just how much experience is available. I have no doubt the Board would welcome input from the membership and please feel confident that your suggestions will receive serious consideration.

Lastly, Dugald has provided us with a full and varied schedule, our thanks to all the trip leaders, and all that's left is for us to participate and enjoy the season.

Cataraqui Canoe Club

PO Box 1882 Kingston ON K7L 5J7

Boathouse located on Orchard Street near the Woolen Mill

For an update on current schedule check our website www.cataraquicanoe.on.ca

For other information contact the a board member by phone or use the club email:
catarqui_canoe_club@hotmail.com

Executive and Board of Directors 2010-2011		
Commodore	Mike Fisher	613 547-5386
Vice Commodore	Jim Lorimer	613 373-2847
Past Commodore (non-elected position)	Ed Jezak	613 389-4459
Secretary	Gonny Moncur	613 549-5538
Treasurer	Harry Burgstaller	613 549-4832
Board of Directors	Mary Buchanan	613 536-5486
	Steve Manders	613 542-1054
	Debbie Twiddy	613 374-1704
	Linda Whitfield	613 546-1359

Program Appointments		
Newsletter Editor	Jo-Anne Beckett	613 548-7905 jebeckett@gmail.com
Boathouse Manager	Steve Manders	613 542-1054
Instruction	Mary Buchanan	613 536-5486
Membership Secretary	Debbie Twiddy	613 374-1704
Publicity & Special Events	Linda Whitfield	613 546-1359
Volunteer Coordinator	Jim Lorimer	613 373-2847
Webmaster	Ed Jezak	613 389-4459

Newsletter Contributions Welcome!

Members of the Cataraqui Canoe Club (CCC) are invited to submit write-ups of their favourite CCC outings, outdoor adventure, or just about anything that would be of general interest to our members. If you have one or two pictures to accompany the article even better. Email the articles and pics to the News Editor at

jebeckett@gmail.com

Commodore



CTV newsman Craig Oliver has paddled thirty wilderness rivers, often in the company of well-known paddlers like Wally Schaber and Pierre Trudeau. In Oliver's *Twist*, his highly readable autobiography, he puts into metaphor what many paddlers have thought: Paddling a river is like living a life.

I will hang on to memories of that bittersweet moment when passengers and gear have been unloaded and the Twin Otter barrels across the tundra and disappears over the horizon, the drone of its engines echoing back and around until it is gone and silence falls into the space left behind. Its departure always left me with feelings of keen loneliness and wonderful peace. There follows the sound of a wilderness campsite, metal zippers announcing every coming and going, tent flies flapping in wind and rain, and bloodthirsty mosquitoes assaulting the netting. Nowhere else can I hear the hollow thud of muskox butting heads in the distance or the champagne-like pop of glacial ice in my rum daiquiri. I will remember falling asleep to the unremitting roar of rapids and waterfalls. Above all, I will try to retain the sound of the cut-loose laughter of my companions who, for this brief time, had not a care in the world beyond what faced them downriver.

Those who go to the wilderness to discover themselves or God would do

better to visit a therapist or a priest. I found no answers to the great perplexities of life in my many years of wilderness adventuring, but rather the joy of personal achievement. I was reminded countless times of the power of the mind and will to overcome obstacles. The darkest, most miserable times give way to bright days for those who persevere.

In the voyage down the rivers and meandering tributaries of our lives we cannot hope to change the end, yet we can control the journey. Never speak of opposing or conquering or defeating a river. Think instead of seducing a river. You do not run a rapid; you negotiate it, just as life itself is a series of negotiations. Chart your own course and trust the compass, but heed the counsel of those who have done this trip before you.

Foolish bravado or rash decisions can end a trip too soon. If circumstances land you in a bad spot, you must try to think rationally and stay cool. Whenever possible, avoid confrontation with powerful natural forces that can undo

you. Join the mainstream and shape its power to your own ends. Point the prow gently into the strong current. Edge it out by degrees, delicately absorbing the impact of the surge against the gunwale. Then, as far as you can, go cheerfully with the flow. But don't commit yourself unequivocally to the direction of the current, for it may lead into a fool's bay or to disaster over a ledge. And, if your river courses down to the ocean, take the flood tide or else be left in the unhappy shallows of a backwater.

Coming troubles always announce themselves noisily. Be prepared to slow your forward progress momentarily, to backpaddle, to ferry back and forth,

dodging the silent sweepers or deadly logjams that await the careless. Practise flexibility at all times, not rigidity.

Become part of the river; harness its force to control your speed and direction. In the worst of rapids, look sharp for openings to thread your fragile craft between granite and undertow and the large curling waves that can swamp you. Then, seeing the safe line, throw caution to the winds and dig hard for your objective. The calm, still pool on the other side will be your well-earned lasting reward.

From: *Oliver's Twist: The Life and Times of an Unapologetic Newshound* by Craig Oliver. Copyright © Craig Oliver, 2011. Reprinted with permission of Penguin Group (Canada).



Camping and Paddling in Killarney – June 2012

Killarney Provincial Park is one of the crown jewels of our provincial park system. It has some of the clearest fresh water in the world, magnificent quartzite mountains, and was the source of inspiration to many members of the Group of Seven artists. Steve Manders is planning a club trip to Killarney in June of this year, probably the second week while the days are long, the weather not too hot, and it is not too crowded. This will involve a full day of driving each way because it is near Sudbury and probably a week of leisurely paddling and a few demanding portages. Traveling light is important. Camp sites are limited to 9 people, and 3 tents. We can reserve a camp site on each lake along the way, but no specific site. Extra sites can be reserved, but that is unlikely to be needed. Sites cannot be reserved more than 5 months in advance. The demand in July and August is very high. Give Steve a call at [613 542-1054](tel:613-542-1054) if you are interested in going. Final plans can be decided by those that participate, but reservations should be done ASAP. *****



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Official 2012 Winter Schedule for the Cataraqui Canoe Club

Change in activity may be necessary due to weather or water conditions. Check with the trip leader. Changes with enough lead time will be posted on the website version of the schedule:

<http://www.cataraquicanoe.on.ca/events.htm>
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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 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 make a 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

SAT-SUN JAN 21-22 Gatineau Ski

Gatineau Park offers superb cross-country and/or downhill skiing with all the amenities. Expect an early departure on Saturday so that one-dayers can

return to Kingston in good time. Others may wish to stay over and extend the fun. Call Ed at 613 389 4459.

SAT JAN 28 Back-Country Ski One of many blessings within an hour's drive of Kingston is plenty of suitable terrain for enjoyable off-trail skiing. For details call Dugald 613 542 8628.

SAT FEB 4 Massassauga Mystery A winter adventure sure to be fun, but will it be a ski? A skate? A snowshoe? A hike? All of the above? Call Janice 613 542 9958.

SAT-SUN FEB 11-12 Algonquin Ski Weekend

Inexpensive accommodation is available at East Gate Motel in Whitney, close to a great set of cross-country ski trails in a scenic sector of the Park. Breakfasts are included; Saturday night is potluck. Option to arrive Friday night will greatly increase our time on the trails. Call Mike early to be sure of a place – 613 547 5386.

SAT FEB 18 Frontenac Swamp Hop

(snowshoe, ski or hike) Beaver ponds may be obstacles in summer, but when frozen solid they give us easy access to snowy granite ridges and scenic overlooks, starting and ending at the FPP Trail Centre. Selection of equipment for hopping will depend on conditions. Call Janice 613 542 9958.

FRI FEB 24 Boiler Room Climb Feeling fenced in? Come and climb the walls at the Boiler Room Climbing Gym:

<http://www.climbinggym.ca/index.cfm/home/>
Beginners are welcome. Qualified staff will teach us how to work the belay device. Climbing shoes and harness can be rented at the gym. Please call Jane 613 634 6859 at least four days early. Big discount for a group of six!

SUN FEB 26 Sandbanks Ski 10 km of groomed XC trails woven through forested sand dunes, a cozy cabin to warm us up, and perhaps hot cocoa provided by the Friends of Sandbanks. Call Barry 613 389 6334 or 613 539 4864 (cell).

SAT MAR 3 Murphy's Point Ski Snow may be iffy near Kingston, but is likely deeper in Murphy's Point Provincial Park. 20 km of groomed trails and two heated chalets. Call Don 613 384 4346.

SUN MAR 11 Charleston Lake Ski Charleston Lake Provincial Park offers a picturesque 12-km loop-trail with mostly easy slopes. One steep slope will be scouted, with the option to portage our skis. Call Beth 613 389 6362.

SAT MAR 17 Ridgewalk Hike

Come and enjoy scenic panoramas of Gould Lake from Ridgewalk Trail and shoreline vistas from the Rideau Trail, starting and ending at the CRCA parking lot. About 8 km, plus a chance to try out Jim's new boardwalk! Call Jim 613 373 2847.

SAT MAR 24 Frontenac Park Hike Come and tramp a track (hike a trail) in our beautiful backyard provincial park. Call Susan 613 542 6146.

SAT MAR 31 Napanee River Paddle From Yarker to Camden East; a cold introduction to beginner's white water. Adequate clothing essential. Call Ed Jezak at 613 389-4459.

MARCH 31 Your 2011 membership expires Time to renew, if you have not done so by now.

SAT APR 7 Lower Moira Whitewater Moira River provides a bouncy 6.5-km ride from Chisholm to Latta, with swifts and Class 1-2 rapids. The club's three whitewater tandem canoes can be rented first-come-first-served, but wetsuits or drysuits will also be required. Call Steve 613 542 1054.

SAT APR 14 Massassauga Paddle And Hike A CCC rite of spring! Massassauga Creek offers us a beautiful 12-km round trip with gentle current and perhaps one beaver dam to negotiate. After lunch, a 2.5-km bushwhacking hike to the outlet of Buck Lake is optional. Call Janice 613 542 9958.

SUN APR 15 Lower Salmon Whitewater Again, almost a ritual, we take advantage of this excellent local river. An early spring event for whitewater enthusiasts, starting at Roblin and continuing for 12 km to Kingsford through swifts and Class 1-2 rapids with two short portages. Experience and suitable equipment is essential as the water will be cold. Call Mark 613 767 6513.

Trailhead February 22

7 p.m. (Free)

The Wabakimi Project – presented by Phil Cotton

The Wabakimi is a park up near Thunder Bay and Phil Cotton has been the key player in re-mapping the entire area over the past 10 years. He is the spokesman for the park.

http://www.wabakimi.org/project/ab_organizers.html

SAT APR 21 Clare River Paddle In the spring, the Salmon River leaks into the Clare River by a creek big enough to give us easy access to Mellon Lake Conservation Reserve: <http://friendsofsalmonriver.ca/paddling/SalmonWatershedSpringsaLeak.pdf> Come and explore while the beaver dams are underwater, starting and ending at the Gull Creek put-in. Dugald promises to stay upstream of Little Falls. Call Dugald 613 542 8628.

SAT APR 28 Schedule-Making Potluck Party Good food and good fun! Dugald and Dukke will be our convivial hosts as we make plans for summer paddling etc. Call Dugald 613 542 8628 to take part. If you might like to lead an event this summer or fall but cannot attend the party, please call Ed 613 389 4459.

SUN APR 29 Verona To Colebrook Paddle In the spring, Hardwood Creek and Napanee River provide a secluded 18-km paddle with a 19-km shuttle. Mostly flatwater and gentle current, but includes about 300m of swifts with bouncy waves at Petworth. Option to paddle 13km to a takeout 1 km north of Petworth. Call Bob 613 384 4482.

TUE, WED, THUR MAY 1,2,3 Cataraqui Canoe Club Open House 6 - 8 p.m. at our boathouse. Come to meet with others; find out what is happening; sign up for various clinics; and renew your membership, if you have not done so by now.

SAT MAY 5 Opinicon Hike From scenic trails near Skycroft we can explore mysterious mineral pits, abandoned boilers from the age of steam, sinkholes, springs,... Call Dukke 613 384 6054.

SAT MAY 12 Mother's Day Family Paddle The Napanee River upstream from Petworth provides a sheltered and relaxing paddle, with spring flowers in bloom and perhaps wild leeks and fiddleheads. Moms with kids are specially invited. Call Deb 613 374 1704.

SAT MAY 19 Crooked Creek Paddle Putting in from Salmon Lake Road, we shall paddle about 5 km via Otter Lake, Rathwell Lake and Holleford Lake, have lunch atop Crooked Creek Overlook, and then return. Call Dugald 613 542 8628.

