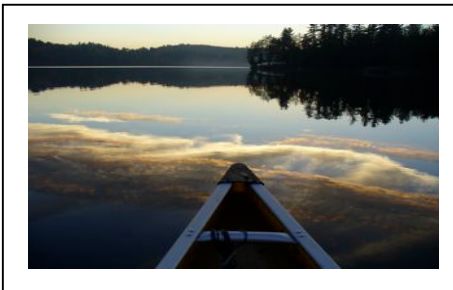


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The purposes of the Recreational Canoeing Association of British Columbia (RCABC) are:

- To coordinate, promote, and encourage all types of recreational paddling;
- To develop safe canoeing practices and activities for canoes;
- To involve the society in appropriate conservation and environmental issues around the province.

What does RCABC provide?

- Teaching and course standards for recreational canoeing in BC
- Official instructor and paddler certification programs
- Information for paddlers who are interested in canoeing in BC
- Significant benefits for active members of the association
- Environmental activism in the best interest in BC's rivers

All Aboard: Join the RCABC Team!

Käri-Ann Thor (RCABC president)

I would like to put forward here the call for people to consider filling one of the positions coming open at the AGM in April. The two positions, that have no incumbents willing to continue for another term, and so are needing to be filled are: treasurer and newsletter editor (see descriptions below). I would like to encourage you all to consider stepping up to these roles in which both would have good guidance and support to help ease you into the position. RCABC has a great team of people working together and we both treasure our long-time, devoted, and hard-working executive members and also avidly welcome new people to be part of this dynamic team.

Please contact Käri-Ann Thor (president) at: kalthors@mac.com 604-253-5450 and Don Flowers (secretary) at: dflowers@cintek.com if you may be interested. Thanks!

Treasurer - Position Description

This key position on the executive of the RCABC includes a variety of exhilarating tasks including: using Quickbooks for financial reporting, regular bank deposits, monthly bank reconciliations, managing a Paypal account, paying invoices, assisting with budgeting, managing the RCABC membership database, and acting as point-person for insurance inquiries from clubs and members.

Dwight Milford (present treasurer) says that no, this is not a boring job but a fun and challenging position. Being treasurer has been an impetus for him to learn a variety of tasks that have helped him manage his own guiding/accommodation business. He will be available for questions and a smooth transition.

President Report Continued Page 4

Interim editor's message:

Well talk about getting your feet wet!!

Issue number 2 as a novice newsletter editor. I had hoped to play around with the layout and work in a program called Pages, which is for MAC.

But alas the constraints of earning a living at a job with too few employees to do the work have cramped my time to experiment.

A few words of advice for the incoming editor: Find a layout that is pleasing to the eye in the sense that it makes information flow easily from page to page and doesn't task the eye too much. Getting fancy makes it difficult for new editors to come in if need be.

Content is very important in an association information vehicle like this. And the content is only as good as the volunteer paddlers taking up a pen.

Now keep those tales, reports and advice columns coming. You look as good in print as you do with a paddle!!

On a personal note, I'm going into my third year as a whitewater and flatwater canoeist. The sport has changed and deepened my life-lessons and experiences immensely.

Indirectly, I have the RCABC to thank because without the marvelous mentoring and guidance of superbly trained instructors, I wouldn't be where I am now.

Specifically, thank you to Leonard Thor, Carey Robson, Roger Warnatsch, Allyson Phillips and Don Flowers.

You are superb instructors and mentors thanks to the RCABC. I look forward to more mentoring with you and other instructors. I've become a serial learner. ;-)

Carol Thorbes (interim editor)



Positive Impact Camping

Roger Warnatsch (Kootenay zone)

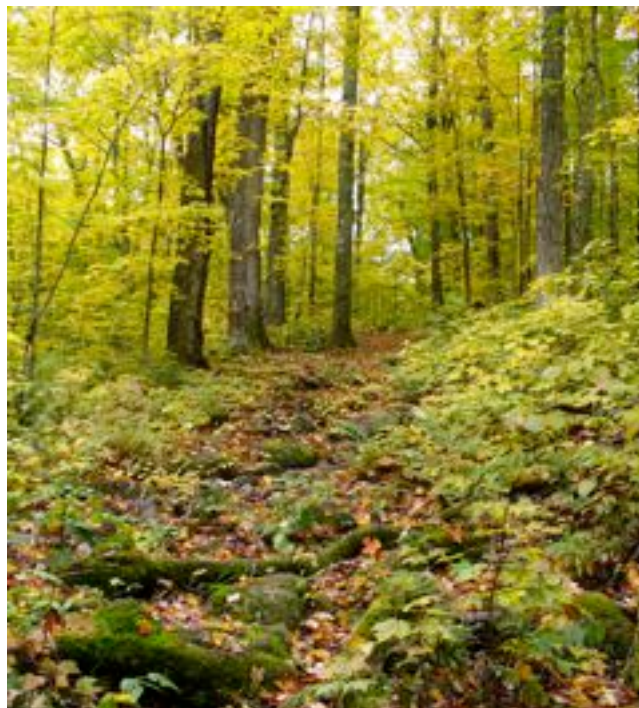
Inspired by one of my Capilano Wilderness Leadership Students this year, I want to introduce a new approach to cleaning up our canoeing and camping environment.

OK, it's not new at all. Probably all of us have taken part in a shoreline cleanup, or helped clean up a messy campsite at some point.

Positive Impact Camping simply means that you leave the place you camped at or stopped to have lunch at cleaner than when you arrive. Leave No Trace camping was introduced to many in RCABC by Roger McColm and Gladys Atrill, and is hopefully familiar to all of us now.

But often we are canoeing in "front country" areas that see a lot of traffic and Leave No Trace doesn't exactly resonate in those situations. This is where Positive Impact Camping will make a difference.

Making it happen is easy. Prepare by bringing one or two garbage bags along. Whenever you stop for a leg break, lunch or camping, pull out the garbage bag and challenge everyone to find 5 pieces of trash. You'll notice that you're making a real difference, and eventually everyone else will notice that canoeists are making a real difference!



Win Klepper folding kayak

Klepper Folding Kayaks in Canada is proud to launch the 2nd 'Win a Klepper Folding Kayak' Contest! The 2011 fabulous prize is an Aerius Classic 490 Klepper single, 16'1" long, loaded with accessories that packs away in bags and fits in the trunk of the car. "Canadians' overwhelming participation and response to last year's 'Win a Klepper Folding Kayak' contest clearly demonstrated enthusiasm for Klepper and folding kayaks," explains Gerhard Schedel from the Klepper manufacturing facility in Rosenheim Germany. "This is our way of saying 'Thank you Canada!'" he adds.



Comfort, stability and shrinking homesize are fueling an increase in folding kayak interest and ownership worldwide. "As Canadians downsize their living space, they want to increase their playtime outside. Canada borders three oceans and has the most freshwater in the world... Klepper Folding Kayaks fit an active outdoor lifestyle perfectly. Kleppers are stable kayaks that can also be sailed and stored in a condominium closet. "The trend is growing worldwide," exclaims Gerhard Schedel.

You could WIN! Visit www.klepper.ca for more details including the contest ballot and rules. Deadline to participate is May 1, 2011.

For more information: Klepper Folding Kayaks in Canada: www.klepper.ca.



RCABC Instructor Development Grant

Roger Warnatsch (Kootenay zone)

RCABC has developed a grant to help promote safe canoeing and the development of certified canoeing instructors in British Columbia.

The focus of the grant program is to:

- Certify new canoeing instructors in remote areas or areas with few instructors by bringing an instructor to the region or by encouraging the grant recipient to go to the instructor.
- Certify new canoeing instructors in any area of BC if no successful applications are received from remote areas.
- Facilitate running "paddler level" certified courses in remote areas of BC if no successful Instructor Candidate applications are received.

This effectively means anyone can apply and has a chance of being successful, however RCABC will prioritize applications that have the strongest potential to develop instructors.

The total budget for the grants for 2011 is \$2000. This amount will be divided amongst the successful applicants to cover the cost, or most of the cost of their course. An Instructor Development Grant is applied for by the Instructor Candidate, but will be payable to an RCABC Instructor Member teaching the applicant's course, upon completion of the course.

The application form is now online at <http://www.bccanoe.com/documents/documents.cfm>

Detailed guidelines are included with the application form. Applications include requests for previous canoeing and related experience, references and a detailed description of why you are applying.

The deadline for 2011 applications is March 1st, 2011. Applicants will be informed of the status of their application around April 1st, 2011, with a promise of no April Fools jokes!



All Aboard RCABC: Cont'd from Page 1

To enquire more about the position details, call Dwight on his toll free # 866-748-7430.

Also, although the RCABC currently uses Quickbooks, the bookkeeping can be transferred to any system. The position is open for the next second year of a term, but ideally, the candidate will stay on for the following term as well. Treasurer is also a voting position on the RCABC executive.

Newsletter Editor - Position Description

CANEWS is the official newsletter of RCABC. The opportunity to become newsletter editor is now open for the second year of the current two-year term. Jean Chandler (Van. Island Rep) described the experience as rewarding in that she had direct contact with many of the contributors and developed friendships and paddle buddies while being involved in this position.

The newsletter editor position is responsible for editing, (but not writing the content) and disbursement of each of the 3-4 per year issues. Full duties include setting issue dates, soliciting content, setting deadlines for content submissions to meet issue dates, editing and layout, printing, collating, e-mailing each of the issues, and advising the treasurer of the amount to be billed annually to our advertisers.

One idea is that the newsletter editor can recruit help by others doing the snail mailing (we have had a small group of volunteers headed by Linda Eng and they may be able to continue offering this support). There are two different templates available from previous editors that will be helpful in organizing the CANEWS. The newsletter editor is a voting executive position.

Okay, let's get this canoe on the river/lake — waiting with bated breath for new executive team to start paddling.



RCABC Annual General Meeting

Käri-Ann Thor (RCABC president)



This is the official announcement for the AGM of RCABC. It will be held on April 9, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Kawkawa Camp, 66706 Kawkawa Lake Road, Hope, B.C. in the dining hall lower room.

One of the important functions of the AGM is to elect directors to the association's executive (board).

All members of the executive are elected for two-year terms, half being elected in odd-numbered years and the other half in even-numbered years. This year, the positions of president, secretary, instructor coordinator and members-at-large are up for election. In addition, the positions of treasurer and newsletter editor are open, each for a one-year term (the second half of a term).

Nominations must be received by February 28, 2011 so that they can be sent out to the membership for voting, electronically or by mail. Send any nominations to the secretary, Don Flower: dflowers@cintek.com.

For this upcoming term, and in the case of absence of other nominations, those incumbents in the roles of president (Käri-Ann Thor), secretary (Don Flowers), instructor coordinator (Roger McColm), members-at-large (Lynne Smith and Jamie Boulding) have agreed to continue for another term, so official nominations are put forward for them at this time of printing.

RCABC AGM Continued Page 6

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MEMBER AT LARGE
INSTRUCTOR COORDINATOR
ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTOR

KÄRI-ANN THOR
LEONARD THOR
ALAN THOMSON
DON FLOWERS
DWIGHT MILFORD
CAROL THORBES
LYNNE SMITH
JAMIE BOULDING
ROGER MCCOLM
ROGER WARNATSCH

British Columbia Canoe Clubs:

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COLUMBIA CANOE CLUB
NAKUSP CANOE
BLACKWATER PADDLERS
DOGWOOD CANOE CLUB
PORT MOODY CANOE CLUB
THOMPSON RIVER INTERIOR PADDLERS
KELOWNA CANOE AND KAYAK CLUB
VICTORIA CANOE AND KAYAK CLUB
COWICHAN KAYAK AND CANOE CLUB

HEATHER MATTHEWS
BERT PORT
DIANA KELLAND
JOHN MARIEN
MARK ALEXANDER
GORDON CLAY
JOHN MARIEN
RON MCKAY
LINDA THOMSON
RON MCKAY

Zone Representatives:

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FRASER VALLEY
ALTERNATIVE
KOOTENAY
ALTERNATIVE
NORTHEAST
ALTERNATIVE
NORTHWEST
ALTERNATIVE
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CORRIETTE HOFSTEE
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JOHN MARIEN
LYLE DICKIESON
ROGER MCCOLM
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LARRY HEMMINGSON
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AGNES D'ENTREMONT
JEAN CHANDLER
LINDSEY CORNELL

Agency – Supporting Members:

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Check the RCABC Website for contact information about
your representatives and your executive:

<http://www.bccanoe.com>

Win gear from WCK:

Western Canoeing & Kayaking is offering a Gear Up for Spring event for the month of March.

All members will receive 10% off individual gear purchases, 10% off regular priced boats in stock and 7% off special order Clipper canoes.

For every \$200 (combined invoice totals) your group spends you get one entry into a draw for \$500 worth of gear. Planning to buy new gear... do it in March at Western Canoeing & Kayaking.

This special is available to registered club members only.



RCABC AGM Cont'd from Page 6

Four zone director positions — Burnaby/Delta, Kootenay, North East and Vancouver Island — are also due for election. The nominations for zone reps are done within the zone and if there is no more than one nomination per position, then the filled roles are ratified at the AGM.

Each zone rep also names an alternate who assists in the zone rep duties. Contact your local zone rep for details if you are interested. Names and contact e-mails are on the website www.bccanoe.com.

In the case of no other nominations for zone reps, the incumbents: Corriette Hoftsee and Leigh Burton can continue as BBY/Delta rep and alternate; Allyson Phillips has agreed to continue as Kootenay rep and is looking for an alternate; both John Marien and Lyle Dickieson have agreed to remain as northeast rep and alternate; and at the upcoming Vancouver Island annual zone meeting, both the rep and alternate roles will be up for election with Jean Chandler offering to stay involved preferably as alternate.

The duties of these positions as laid out in our constitution are:

http://www.bccanoe.com/media/constitution/constitution_2003_05_05.pdf. You can also contact the present office holders for more information.

RCABC Paddle Conference 2011, April 8-10, Hope, BC

RCABC is presenting an exciting and informative weekend of paddling and workshops at the annual Paddling Conference and AGM/IAGM. Non-members and novices are welcome to attend!

The planning committee has been hard at work for several months now and registration began Feb. 1st. About one quarter of the early bird spots are taken so don't delay in registering! The deadline for the subsidy is Feb. 28 or the first 60 'chaleters/cabiners' and 40 campers.

Agnes d'Entremont has put together a fantastic registration site (there have been a few paypal/website link glitches that are being attended to). Right now we have about one half of the workshops leader spaces filled, so we are still in need of instructors. We are getting everyone to be involved with two workshops and unless they are travelling with an executive member, they will be eligible for a \$50 travel subsidy.

We also have quite a few volunteers to help with the three sub-committees (registration, welcoming, waterfront), but could use a few more. We are collecting donations and will have some sort of small piece of gear as a thank-you for the committee volunteers. We are wanting to get as many people as possible to participate in this event which is all about promoting paddling, safety and environmental awareness and it is a great opportunity for the paddlers and instructors of B.C. to network.

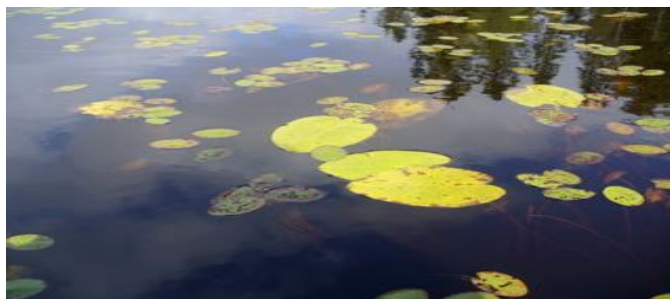
RACAB conference 2011 continued Page 7

RCABC Conference Cont'd from Page 6

New this year: More sessions! You will have more chances to get out on the water and a greater variety of workshops, presentations and other activities such as local nature walks — Friday night dinner is now included. Guided paddling on the lakes will be offered, including a night paddle.



Returning favourites: On the water sessions for everyone from novices to instructors (including the popular Big Boat sessions). There will be presentations on trips and workshops on teaching, AGM/IAGM meetings, with fabulous door prizes, social time and square dancing!



Additional sessions: Lakewater Instructor Recert (additional \$75, all day Friday April 8); Intro to Canoeing for Hope locals (additional \$20, Friday, April 8, 1-3 p.m., register through Hope Mountain Centre).

Info, schedule, costs and registration form can be found at:

<https://sites.google.com/site/rcabcpaddlingconference/>

NOTE: Please contact Kāri-Ann Thor at kalthors@mac.com or 604.253.5450 about participating as an instructor, presenter or volunteer. Thanks!

Coppermine River Explored 2010 (Northwest & Nunavut Territories)

Hugh Westheuser (Kootenay zone)

A one-month canoe trip on this river in 2009 started at Winter Lake; ascended the Winter River; crossing the height-of-land at Starvation Lake and taking Starvation River to Point Lake on the Coppermine River.

It was aborted at Peterson's Lodge on Point Lake due to time factors. The remaining 441 km on the Coppermine was planned for August 2010.

With 3 paddlers from 2009 and 3 new paddlers, the trip took off from Yellowknife on Aug. 2nd. We anticipated low water levels; no ice (which delayed us in 2009); fewer and/or no bugs; a good chance to see the Tundra draped in fall colours.

We also hoped to see part of the Bathurst Caribou Herd which has been counted in the tens of thousands of animals and who use the river corridor when returning to their winter range in the taiga north of Yellowknife.

Finally I was really looking forward to running this section of the river again, as I had canoed it 28 years ago, in 1982.

We flew out of Yellowknife on Air Tindi's Twin Otter Aircraft, landing 1½ hours later on a lovely sandy beach on Point Lake.

For equipment we had 3 Pakboats and spray decks; 4 weeks of food; tents; miscellaneous equipment and personal gear.

Our pace would be leisurely taking 4 weeks to reach Kugluktuk (formerly Coppermine) on Coronation Gulf, Arctic Ocean. This same trip could be done in 2 to 3 weeks. We would have some discretionary time to fish, hike, photograph and explore the country and its history enroute.

The Coppermine is arguably one of the more accessible Barrenland canoe routes. It was well known to First Nations people for centuries. It was first put on a map by Samuel Hearne in 1770-72 who had walked most of the way from Prince-of-Wales Fort on Hudson Bay to the mouth of the river.

Coppermine River Continued on Page 8

Coppermine cont'd from page 7

To his dismay, his Indian guides slaughtered a large family of Esquimaux (now called Inuit) near the mouth, and in close proximity to a rapid that is still known as Bloody Falls because of this incident. In 1819-20 it was Sir John Franklin's turn to chart and explore this river. On his return from the Arctic Ocean in late fall, heading for Winter Lake where he had built a small fort the previous winter, he followed a river later called Starvation River, as he lost 11 men enroute; 9 to starvation; 1 murdered and 1 summarily executed. Another murder of two Catholic priests in 1913 near Bloody Falls with the subsequent investigation by members of RNWMP and the prosecution of 2 Inuit men in Edmonton intrigued us. Between the history and the wildlife, there would be lots of things to do and see.



The Coppermine River passes through two lakes after leaving Point Lake. The minor rapids between these lakes provide good fishing. Max Ward, the renowned Arctic pilot and founder of Wardair, has a picturesque Lodge on Redrock Lake. Despite our disheveled appearance, he and his wife invited us into their beautiful summer home, serving us coffee and cake. They were entertaining their 9 grandchildren and some of their friends for a week. Ninety-year-old Max Ward is still sharp and alert, but no longer piloting his own aircraft. He lives in Edmonton but keeps his lodge open all year round, having a caretaker there in winter months.



I could not help but compare the river conditions now, with those I recall from 1982. I thought we were paddling in fairly high water and when I asked Max Ward, he replied that they had had a lot of heavy rain in July this year, and that water levels were near normal for a spring runoff. I later received a similar answer when I inquired among the Inuit at Kugluktuk. The water level was of concern as permafrost melts in a warming, wet climate. We would need to canoe more conservatively than I recall we did in 1982. When canoeing Arctic waters, I often add a higher Class level to my estimate of the rapids we are scouting, and perhaps may run. What would be a Class 3 rapid in southern Canada would be a Class 4 in the Arctic. I do this because of the cold water. In the event of a swim, a body cannot stay in the water too long. I have had some firsthand experience in this regard!

...To Be Continued in March 2011 CANEWS