

COLUMBIA CANOE & KAYAK CLUB

**Newsletter:
Fall 2015**



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CCKC AGM MINUTES – Oct. 18, 2015

Present - Bert and Sue Port, Henry Hutter and Shirl Bayer, George and Maurgo Wilson, Dave and Laurie Knox, Pat West, Bobbie Maras, Jennette, Uri, Maryanne, guest Leni and Kevin Forsyth.

Old Business - Kevin: Pool training did not take place as the Nelson District Aquatic Centre pool was shut down temporarily, and when re-opened their maintenance department banned all kayaks, canoes and scuba divers from the pool, as a precaution against further algae contamination. Although the Head of Aquatics supports white water kayakers (that had previously used the pool - white water does not have algae) we will have to convince the maintenance dept.. Also, good boat cleaning at the entrance was suggested, as done at the Castlegar Pool.

Endless Adventures rented the Castlegar Pool last spring (end Feb. - early April). For \$10, you could practice your kayaking skills for 1 hour. Or for \$20, you can do 1 hour of skills + 1 hour of water polo (great for skills and cardio. development). Kayak lessons (wet exit, bracing, rolling) with individual instructors are also available during the first hour at a reasonable cost.

New Business - The KICS List serve will close down, but will be replaced by a new list serve. Goggle Groups was suggested as a possible alternative.

President/Trip Co-ordinator's Report - Leaderless trips did not have leaders volunteer. Dave suggested sending email requesting trip leaders earlier in the year. Pat suggested letting leaders choose the trips, as they may be unfamiliar with the proposed trips that need leaders, and feel intimidated from taking on a trip they've never done.

More flat water leaders are needed, as flat water is the preference of the majority of members. Some of the current trip leaders are whitewater paddlers, and only occasionally do flat water paddling.

Treasurer's Report (Kevin) – We had \$641.82 as of Sept. 30, 2015. \$36 for membership was received at the meeting, and the RCABC is owed a further \$54.12 for insurance for these and other late memberships.

- The Bank of Montreal charges us \$2.50 maintenance fee/month since May 2014. This charge means our membership fee no longer covers our: RCABC liability insurance and membership fee, stationary/photo copying/mail expenses, and the bank fees. Transferring to the Nelson District Credit Union for lower fees (\$2.00/mth.) will cost us more due to needing new cheques printed. Our balance accumulated from previous years will carry us for decades, so all agreed no raise in membership fees was needed at this time.

Membership Report (Sue) - Membership was down by half this year at 36, due to a lack of publicity (the Publicity Manager position was vacant).

Developing a local web site was proposed, beyond the current RCABC listing of the CKKC. A new Publicity Manager is needed.

Motion – Bert proposed delaying elections until next spring, when CKKC web site will exist, and a mass email should create greater attendance than this AGM. Seconded by Pat, Kevin.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Dave, seconded by all.

The meeting was preceded by a sumptuous potluck dinner, and followed by Dave's and Laurie's spectacular slide show of their trip to the Gwai Hannas.

Thanks to Laurie and Dave for hosting the AGM.

Thanks to Kevin Forsyth for taking minutes.

Slocan River

July 25, 2015

Kevin Forsyth

With water levels too low to paddle the Little Slocan River sections that connect the Little Slocan Lakes and the end run down to Tedesco Rd. take out, we decided to paddle from Winlaw to Slocan Park on the Slocan River. Pat, Dave, Lynne and I did the shuttle through pouring rain to the take out, with Pat deciding it was too wet for her to enjoy paddling. We had now gone from 5 boats interested the night before, to just 2: Dave and Lynne in their 17' canoe, and me in my 13.5' sea kayak.

The put-in is down a short steep trail, just downstream of the Winlaw bridge, on river right, in a large eddy - we were on the water by 10:15 am. The standing waves at the Winlaw rapids were reasonable in size - with back paddling a canoe could ride up on the waves, and avoid taking on any water. We paddled long stretches of moderate current, interspersed with some class 1 rapids, seeing: mergansers, Canada geese, ospreys, an eagle, and one deer. Finding a route through shallows was the main challenge - the river was just deep enough that we avoided scraping bottom. We found some good waves to surf and enjoyed the practice in our longer boats. Lunch was on a grassy bank on river left, with the Passmore rapids a short distance downstream. It started to rain midway through lunch - it was the first real rain we experienced since putting in. Dressed in drysuits and a wetsuit, everyone stayed warm despite the rain.

At these low water levels, the Passmore rapids are a class 2, with more rocks to dodge than usual. Both boats negotiated these rapids with ease, and we were off the water by 2 pm. Pat met us at the takeout, and we all retired to the Dam Inn for liquid refreshments and nachos. It was a good day to be paddling on an otherwise dreary day.

Slocan Lake

August 22, 2015

Shirl Bayer

Club members, Herb, Caroline, Shirl and trip leader Henry Hutter departed in two kayaks and a canoe from Slocan Beach shortly before 10 a.m. The morning couldn't have been lovelier with almost glass calm water under a cloudless blue sky. We paddled up the left side of the lake to Evans Creek where we enjoyed an early lunch, then did a short

walk across the bridge over the creek above the falls. The strength of water crashing its way over boulders and rocks was a spectacular sight.

Upon returning to our boats, we paddled on around the next point to a secluded sandy beach where Caroline and Henry went for a swim. For the return trip we crossed the lake to paddle down the other side. This route took us past remnants of the old road and an old one-lane tunnel which has partially collapsed. A group of rock climbers were surveying the cliffs near the tunnel as we passed. We were back at the beach and our vehicles by 3 p.m. Very pleasant air and water temperatures and no smoke in the air added to a perfect day.



photo by Shirl Bayer

Slocan River in high water below Lemon Creek

Garland Bay, east shore Kootenay Lake

Sept. 18-20, 2015

Lyn Gardner

Four paddling campers in one canoe and 2 kayaks braved an inclement weekend on the east shore. On Saturday morning we went to Garland Bay south beach. The wind came up from the south so we headed back to the campsite for lunch. After lunch, we paddled north to Powder Creek and hiked to the falls. Sunday brought stronger winds and whitecaps so we decided not to venture out opting instead to enjoy the warmth of the campfire.

Slocan pools and Kootenay River

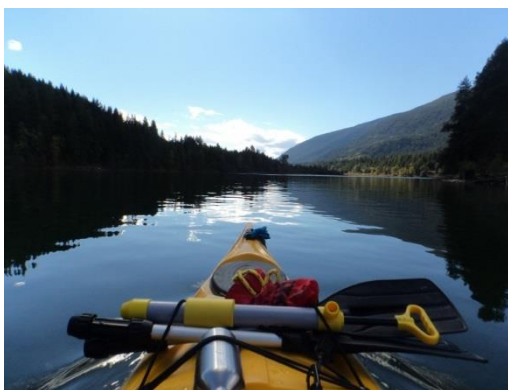
Sept. 26, 2015

Pat West

A perfect day for kayaking with all the fall colours. Weather warm and waters calm.

Cordie Moir and myself were the only members to venture out on this trip. The Lower Bonnington Dam was not letting much water through its gates. We kayaked around the islands below the Dam and paralleled the Trail from the Dam to Shoreacres. We exited on one of the islands for lunch. However, I almost got stuck in some nice, oozing mud which acted a bit like quicksand. After lunch, we were lucky to see several Blue Herons in flight. One Blue Heron was perched on a branch of a tree. We took a quick kayak up the Slocan River to the bridge and then we just let the current take us down to the mouth of the river. From there it was down the Kootenay, and eventually we crossed to the opposite side and headed back up the river. The water was cold on touch, but the weather conditions were so perfect and fairly calm. Another Blue Heron did not seem bothered by our presence, even when we got closer. Other birds sighted along the way were: Belted Kingfisher, Bald Eagle, Osprey and possibly a Kestrel. As we rounded the last

bend, we had to paddle into the wind. A wonderful day for paddling and Cordie discovered she could readjust her seat to fit her needs.



photos by Cordie Moir

Kootenay River East & West channels/CVWMA/Six Mile Slough

Sept. 27, 2015

Lyn Gardner

Ten paddlers in 6 kayaks and 2 canoes set out from the Duck Lake area. The river level was lower than ever but we managed to lunch in the usual spot and view waterfowl on the marshes. One of the paddlers was a researcher on the bat recovery program so we all learned more about bats and how specific cave temperatures must be for their survival. Six Mile Slough and the ditches actually had more water than the last couple of years so our foray into the cattails was easy. It was a beautiful early fall day to be on the water.



photos by Sharon Henderson

PADDLING IN TWEEDSMUIR AND NAZKO PROVINCIAL PARKS

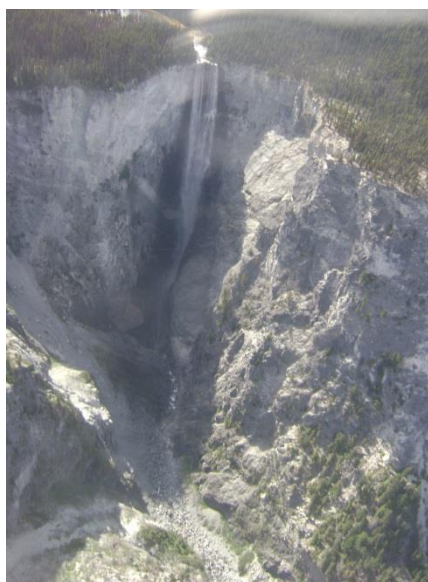
August 10-19, 2015

Emilee Fanjoy

August 9th Fred and I met Lyn and Mel in Nimpo Lake to camp and sort equipment. Our destination was the Turner Lakes, a chain of six small lakes in southern Tweedsmuir Provincial Park. These lakes are just west of Lonesome Lake, known for Ralph Edwards and his feeding of Trumpeter swans in the 1950-60's. August 10th we flew into Turner Lake with Tweedsmuir Air opting for the scenic flight over the Monarch Icefield with a reverse circular flight over Hunlen Falls. Great views. We landed in perfect weather, loaded our "spectacular" rental canoes and headed to the south end of Turner Lake to a lovely open campsite with great views.

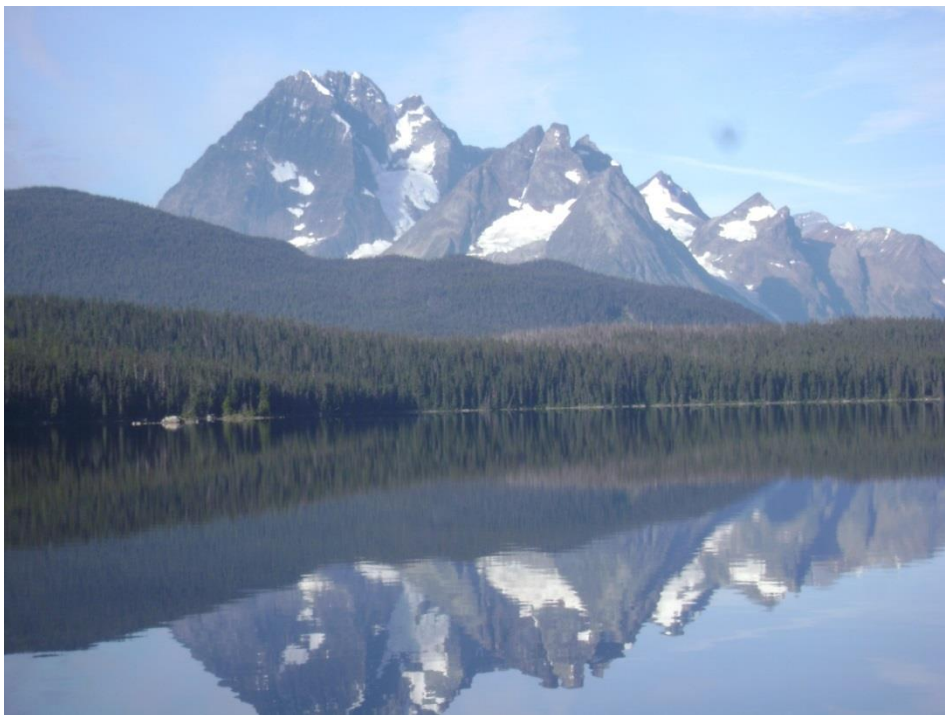


(l) Lonesome Lake elev. 482; (r) Turner Lake elev. 1099

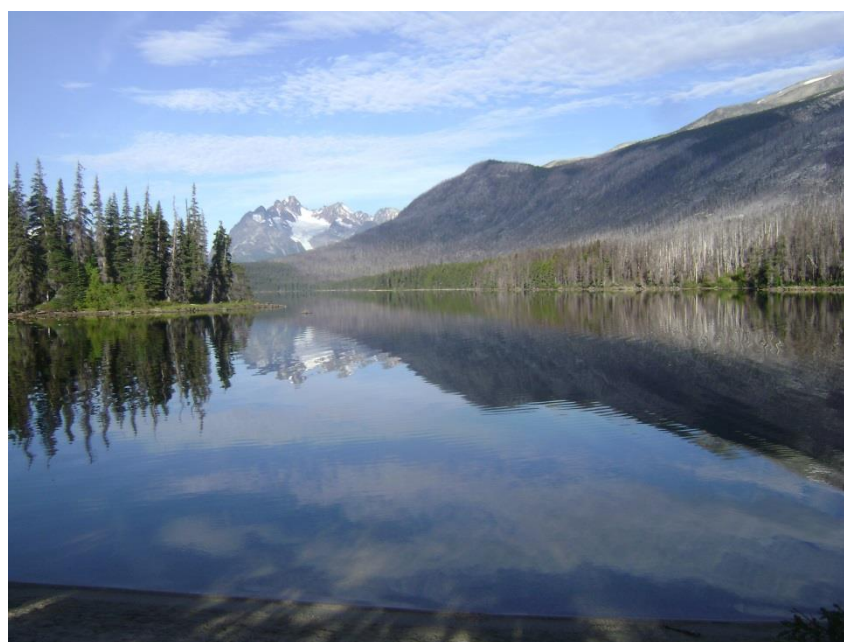


Hunlen Falls 780'





Kidney Lake/Coast Mountains



Widgeon Lake

Photos by Fanjoy and Gardner



Panorama Ridge

The next day we paddled and portaged a number of times and made our way through Cutthroat, Noname, Vista and Junker Lakes, setting up camp at the end of the portage at Widgeon Lake. This camp was defiantly a top choice location with views up the lake with the coast mountain looming above. The sun kept on shining, the fishing was good and Lyn's couch a perfect location to enjoy the sun and the views. The rental canoes were awkward and heavy to portage so we enjoyed a few days not having to move camp. One day we paddled to the end of Widgeon Lake and walked through to Kidney Lake to see what we could see and have lunch.

The large forest fire of 2004 that started on the plateau between Lonesome and Turner Lake left dead standing trees on Kidney Lake and the west side of the other lakes, it looked as if the fire danced across the hillside touching down to the lake sides in some places. At Lonesome Lake the fire burnt the lake area and the two homesteads, Edwards and Turners.

August 14th we paddled and portaged back to Turner Lake and camped midway on the west shore, a lovely spit to ourselves. The next day we paddled to the north end and hiked to view Hunlen Falls, a 2000' drop into the north end of Lonesome Lake. Back at the north end of Turner Fred and I shouldered our overnight packs to hike to Ptarmigan Lake for two nights and left Lyn and Mel to enjoy a few more days on Turner. Ptarmigan Lake is a wide open, stark landscape with dispersed hiking opportunities. We could have easily spent two more nights in this area. August 17th we hiked back down to Turner Lake and rejoined Lyn and Mel for our flight back to Nimpo Lake. Then off we headed to Nazko Lake Prov Park, north of Alexis Creek. After a long bumpy dusty drive we car camped at Deepelt Lake. The

next day we drove a short very very bumpy narrow road to a roof top boat launch at Nazko Lake to start our exploration of this park. Nazko Lake is an area known for its white pelican population and is a popular fishing lake with locals. We paddled down the lake and portaged into Tanikul Lake hoping to camp. From one end of the lake to the other was an amazing growth of blue-green algae blobs suspended throughout the water column. Realizing the water was not consumable and no joy to look at, we retreated but not before lifting one canoe 50m into Natstachi Lake. The lake was very shallow with very sharp rocks, alas a "no go". We paddled and portaged back to Nazko Lake to camp at a nice site near the north end, went for a swim, and watched the white Pelicans soaring and floating by. The next day we paddled back to our vehicles, congratulated ourselves on a great trip to Turner Lakes and wished each other safe travels as we parted ways.

We were Lyn and Mel Gardner, Fred Thiessen, Emilee Fanjoy.

Look for information coming soon about CCKC's new Listserv.



Photos by Cordie Moir