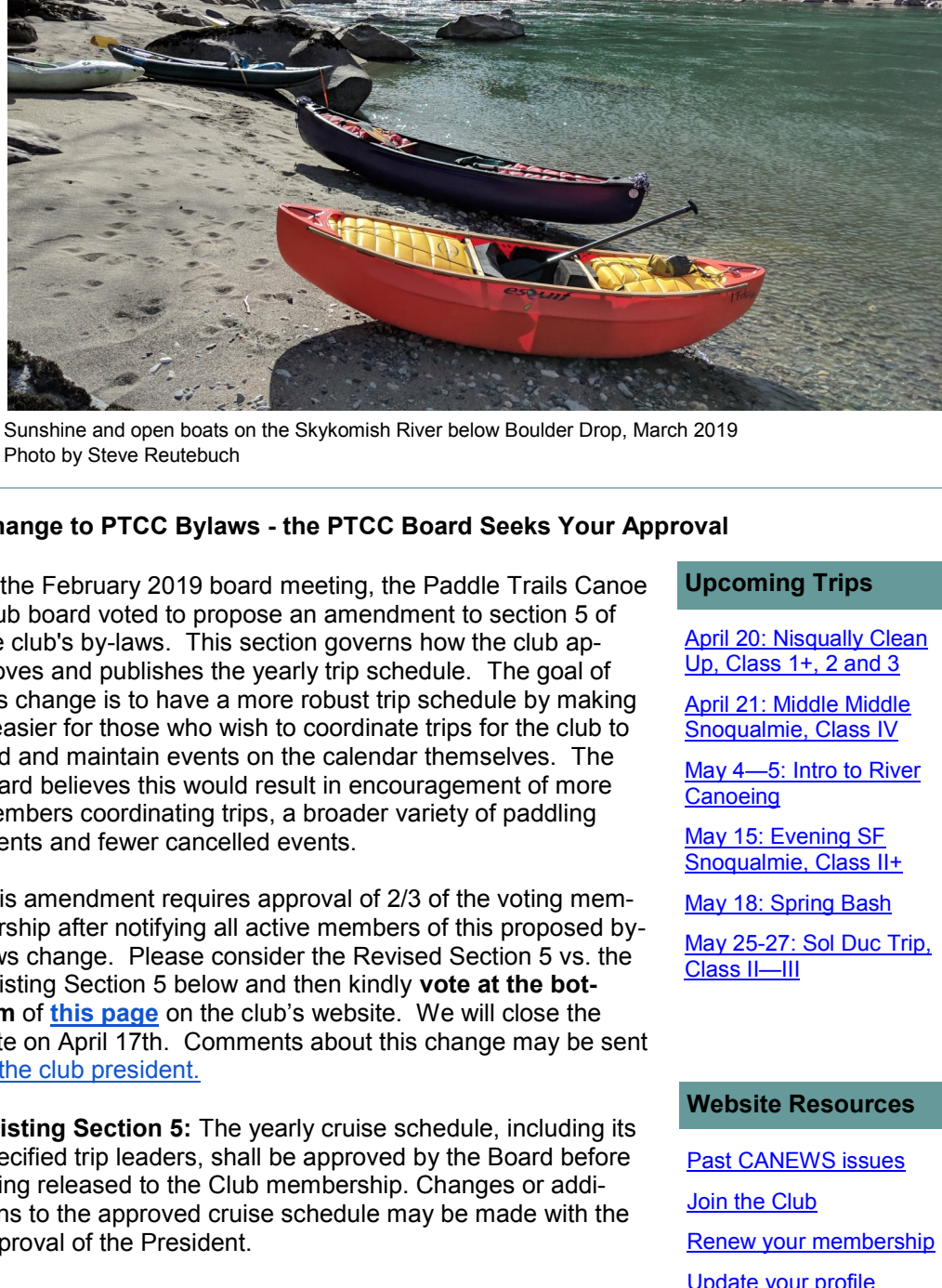


Paddle Trails Canoe Club

CANEWS

April 2019



Sunshine and open boats on the Skykomish River below Boulder Drop, March 2019
Photo by Steve Reutebuch

Change to PTCC Bylaws - the PTCC Board Seeks Your Approval

At the February 2019 board meeting, the Paddle Trails Canoe Club board voted to propose an amendment to section 5 of the club's by-laws. This section governs how the club approves and publishes the yearly trip schedule. The goal of this change is to have a more robust trip schedule by making it easier for those who wish to coordinate trips for the club to add and maintain events on the calendar themselves. The board believes this would result in encouragement of more members coordinating trips, a broader variety of paddling events and fewer cancelled events.

This amendment requires approval of 2/3 of the voting membership after notifying all active members of this proposed by-laws change. Please consider the Revised Section 5 vs. the Existing Section 5 below and then kindly **vote at the bottom of this page** on the club's website. We will close the vote on April 17th. Comments about this change may be sent to [the club president](#).

Existing Section 5: The yearly cruise schedule, including its specified trip leaders, shall be approved by the Board before being released to the Club membership. Changes or additions to the approved cruise schedule may be made with the approval of the President.

Revised Section 5: The yearly cruise schedule, including its specified trip coordinators, shall be approved by the Board before being released to the Club membership. Any changes or additions to the approved cruise schedule may be made with the approval of the President.

In addition, approved Paddle Trails Canoe Club trip coordinators will be allowed to add trips they wish to coordinate for the club based on this procedure: "[Paddle Trails Canoe Club Procedures](#)" which may be revised by the Paddle Trails Canoe Club board by majority vote.

Upcoming Trips

[April 20: Nisqually Clean Up, Class 1+, 2 and 3](#)

[April 21: Middle Middle Snoqualmie, Class IV](#)

[May 4—5: Intro to River Canoeing](#)

[May 15: Evening SF Snoqualmie, Class II+](#)

[May 18: Spring Bash](#)

[May 25-27: Sol Duc Trip, Class II—III](#)

Website Resources

[Past CANEWS issues](#)

[Join the Club](#)

[Renew your membership](#)

[Update your profile](#)

[Membership Directory](#)

[Club FAQs](#)

[Tech/Outfitting Guidance](#)

Outreach

WATER RESOURCE DAY IN OLYMPIA

Under the umbrella coordination of the Center for Environmental Law and Policy, a loose affiliation of boaters, anglers, field scientists, and environmentalists lobbied two dozen state legislators in Olympia on Tuesday, March 19. With salmon and Orca recovery the primary objective, the coalition tried to raise awareness for two budget items: culvert replacement and the monitoring/enforcement of in-stream flows. For example, as Paddle Trails and Trout Unlimited noted several times, Dept. of Ecology minimum average flows have been dropping across many basins. Inversely, late summer water temperatures are increasing. All representatives were eager listeners, and most were in our court already. Today, March 20, the all important revenue forecast report is released, and the nitty gritty, difficult work of parsing out budget dollars begins.

URGENT ACTION ITEM

From American Whitewater:

<https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Article/view/articleid/33941/>

The article condenses Washington state legislation aimed at limiting or prohibiting public access at the end of publicly owned right-of-ways. Please follow the links in article and comment on this harmful and dangerous bill.

REMINDER

Much of the nuts-and-bolts of water and wetland resources are contained in your local jurisdiction's Critical Area Ordinance (stream and wetland designations and buffers) and your Shoreline Master Plan (bulkheads, docks, access.) These are both tremendously technical but can be viewed on line, are updated at regular intervals, and public comment/input/participation would be welcome. It is almost impossible for citizens to stop a legal and compliant development, but strong ordinances and regulations can help preserve and protect our access and venues.

Tom Matlock

Wiener Roast 2019

Despite the low water, the cold weather, or the put-in blockage, a fearless wiener roasters – on 11 hard-shell kayaks, a tandem canoe and a solo canoe - gathered on Saturday, March 2, to run the Skykomish from the Big Eddy to Sultan, Class 2.

Since the big snow storm in the mid-February, the Big Eddy boat launch area has been gated. We parked on the roadside of the Highway 2 and walked to the river sliding our boats on the snow. This year, WKC provided the food, and Bill Petty provided dry firewood and kindling from his yard. We divided up the load, and each boater carried something.

We had three newer boaters. The first Class 2 rapid comes up immediately after the launch. One of the new boaters flipped and decided to walk out. One kayaker helped him out, two waited for her, and the rest of us moved on, as we had a long way to go on a slow or no current on a short day of the early spring. Besides, I was sure they would catch up quickly.

The snow-covered Mount Index and other mountains with the blue sky was breath-taking. For most of us, this stretch felt easy and relaxing. The two remaining newbies were doing well, too. In 1.5 hours, we got to the road side I had chosen when I scouted in a few days advance. The problem was that those three people who helped the walking-out boater hadn't appeared yet. They were capable boaters, and I was sure they would not be in trouble. No, in trouble were the rest of us, because Doug Knapp who were behind had a big torch to start the fire.

I pulled out my emergency fire starter kit – a mini torch I bought at a cigarette shop ("the best \$5 ever spent!") and cotton balls covered with Vaseline. With the dry kindling Bill brought from home, my fire starter kit successfully started a fire in no time. By the time Doug showed up with his torch, some of us had already finished the first wiener. It turned out that the walking-out boater and a helper were disoriented and "ended up in Oregon" according to Doug. By the time they came back and asked for help, almost 30 minutes had passed since the rest of the group took off. About 10 minutes after Doug, two remaining kayakers arrived, too.

Some people brought metal skewers, but the rest of us skillfully made skewers out of twigs. The hungry bunch enjoyed the beef, chicken and veggie wieners with or without hot dog buns. The weather was nice, and it was almost hot to stand too close to the fire. Homemade desserts made by Kathy McGee completed the lunch. The crew was finally full. We threw a few handfuls of snow on the ground over the fire which died in a nice sound effect.

The second half was flatter than the first, and we exercised our forward-stroke muscle. There were a couple of log jams to get around. It wasn't exactly easy as the water was so low that we had to get close to the logs. Both new boaters were caught by surprise as the shallow water pushed them towards a log jam, but they didn't get in it. One swam right after the last log jam, but it was where we could see the take-out, and a quick rescue and her good-sport attitude didn't make a dent on our fun memory.

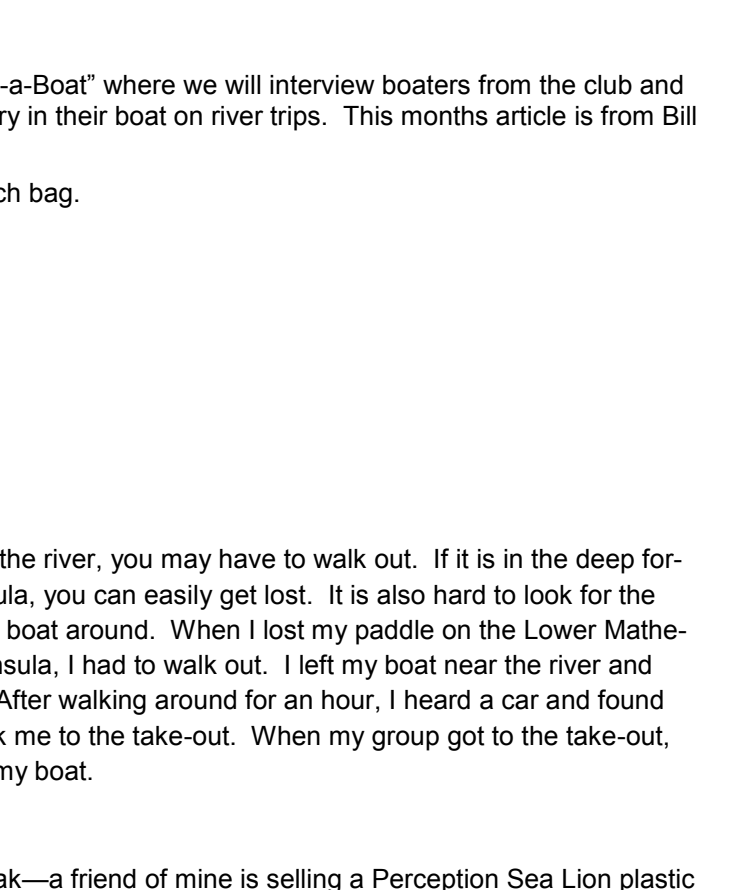
Kanako Iwata-Eng

2019 Winter Bash

On Saturday, February 23th we had a fun filled Winter Bash at the Shoreline Unitarian Church with 35-40 club members attending. The festivities included a great potluck dinner during which we saw vintage videos of 15 river trips that were on the club schedule in 1992 & 1993. The videos were compiled and presented by Dick and Kathy Spencer, long-time club members who joined in 1991. It was somewhat humbling to see just how many great paddlers the club had in those days and how many more rivers they were paddling!

Janniene Licciardi showed slides from a 300+ mile trip down the Stikine River during last summer's wildfires. The landscape and river were spectacular. Thank you Janniene!

Club President, Dave Mainer, briefed us on proposed changes to the club bylaws which will allow members to add trips to the trip schedule throughout the year. Stay tuned for an email or two for further details. We will still be developing a 2019 annual trip schedule over the next month, but the proposed changes will make it more flexible to adjust the schedule to people's availability and water conditions. Kanako Iwata-Eng, who is our trip schedule compiler (Cruise Chair) this year, brought monthly calendars for 2019 so that members could sign up to coordinate trips throughout the year.



We then had Trip Coordinator awards, officiated by VP John Kelly--the name of each person who had signed up to coordinate a trip in 2018 was put in a drawing. Dave Mainer won the grand prize--a new Werner paddle, but he graciously passed up the prize so that it could go to the next person drawn from the hat: Dale Perry. About 15 other prizes, ranging from boat straps to carabiners were awarded to trip coordinators.

Steve Reutebuch

Scouting Report by Martha Parker

This month we were fortunate to get a report from Martha Parker on the many rivers and trips she paddled all across the west and far north. Looking forward to trying some of these rivers in the future.

We first lived in Washington in the Tri-Cities (Richland, Pasco, Kennewick). There we started a canoe club, and all trips were exploratories, since we hadn't run them. We did map studies and got gradients (river fall per mile) before doing the rivers. We also did car tours in advance. So we got experience, eventually getting a good idea of what difficulty to expect based on gradient and car tour.

I can start out in western WA by telling you we did exploratories on the Nooksack, north and south forks, the Carbon (Crocker to McMillin), Chehalis, Tilton, Skookumchuck, Newaukum, Naselle, White (Buckley to Auburn)

On the Olympic peninsula), the Hoko, Soleduck, Queets, Hoh, Quinalt, Clearwater. The ranger station had a Class 3 for the Hoh, but we scheduled it on Labor Day, and it was Class 2. It became popular later.

We did the North Fork, Flathead (Montana vacation), scheduled in July.

In eastern WA, Grande Ronde, Klickitat, Umatilla, Walla Walla, White (to Lake Wenatchee), and north Fork, John Day (OR). Also Yakima, Cle Elum.

We did safety while on the trip and in sign up phone calls. "If you hear a roar, get out and scout on land".

Have lead and sweep boats. Ray gave talks on shore before the trip. Once I confiscated a thin line meant for a safety rope. We did receive some complaints about our safety.

River Safety Council is meant to influence the county about their tree projects for salmon recovery, so they don't endanger boaters. Ordinary trip safety is not their mission. I joined when it started in 1997.

We had a great time on exploratories with Al Wiegand, the North River and Smith Creek that flow into the ocean, also the Stikine River from Telegraph Creek, B. C. to Wrangell, Alaska, although the Stikine had been run the previous year by Linda Gately (Petrie).

We also went on a vacation trip with Stuhaugs on the Dease in B. C., ending at Lower Post, Yukon.

Martha Parker

Be sure and mark your calendars for the Spring Bash!

Be sure and mark your calendars for the Spring Bash:

Sat May 18th 9:00 AM

Beaver Lake Park

25101 SE 24th St.

Sammamish, WA 98075

As in previous years Club officers will be cooking and serving PTCC members and their guests a full breakfast on the club! Breakfast will be followed with the annual rope throwing contests for distance and accuracy. After festivities at the park are complete, you will have your choice between several paddling trips from Class I to Class III.

All members and their guests are welcome.

Steve Reutebuch

Nisqually River Cleanup

A Message from Washington Kayak Club, Washington Recreational River Runners & Paddle Trail Canoe Club:

Please join us on Saturday, April 20, 2019 for this year's cleanup of the Nisqually River. Invite your family and friends to this stewardship event and join us afterwards for a BBQ at McKenna Park.

As was done last year, WRRR, WKC and PTCC are co-sponsoring this Event with support from the Nisqually River Council and other partners. We ask that all volunteers, regardless of club affiliation, register in advance through Eventbrite.com by clicking [here](#). This helps us plan the Event and communicate with volunteers if needed. All the details you need to know can be found there.

If you plan to join us as a member of WRRR, WKC, or PTCC, please register on their website as well. If your club or organization has not organized a trip in conjunction with the cleanup, please encourage them to do so. Of course, everyone is welcome to join us regardless of club membership.

We look forward to seeing you on the river on April 19, 2019.

[Contact the Organizer](#)

2019 Training Schedule

Introduction to Canoeing Rivers, May 4-5, 2019

In this 2 day course, come learn about how moving water affects your boat. This is pre-whitewater, so we are covering some of the basics: entering and exiting current, paddle strokes, and being an active group member. Based on the time of year and cold water temperatures, a drysuit or wetsuit with dry top is required for safety. Canoes should have flotation. Contact training@paddletrails.org if you need to borrow equipment.

Difficulty: Class I – II

Based on the time of year, I would also recommend drysuits / require wet suits with dry tops. Dry tops we can probably scrounge up. There's a little known secret that there is a hastily written document about canoe outfitting in our documents library. It is pretty rough and probably should be updated. You can link to it from the events page. This also looks like a decent [video](#). We don't want to scare people away by implying they need tons of outfitting but my impression is that most people don't have enough to make the experience enjoyable. Knee pads and adequate flotation are minimum. People can wear construction quality knee pads instead of gluing them in.

Introduction to Whitewater, Part 2: June 8-9, 2019

In this 2 day course, continue to practice whitewater skills while learning how to safely navigate obstacles and maneuver efficiently and effectively through a dynamic environment. You will learn more advanced skills and dynamic paddling techniques as well as individual and group strategies for navigating rapids. Students need to have boats that are designed and equipped for whitewater.

Difficulty: Class II+

Introduction to Canoeing Rivers: July 13-14, 2019

[Register here](#)

Note: Registration deadline is July 1. Canoes will need to be equipped with some flotation. Children 12 and older accompanied by an adult are welcome if they are taking the class as a paddler. In this 2 day course, come learn about how moving water affects your boat. This is pre-whitewater, so we are covering some of the basics: entering and exiting current, paddle strokes, and being an active group member. Canoes will need to be equipped with some flotation.

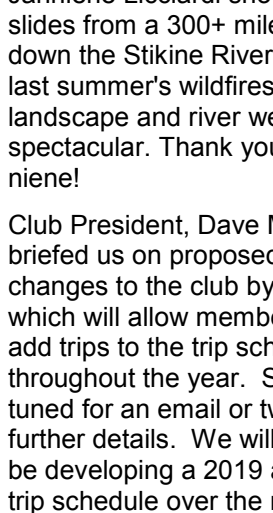
Difficulty: Class I – I+

Need more info? Contact the club training coordinator at training@paddletrails.org

Peek-A-Boat

Here is an article called "Peek-a-Boat" where we will interview boaters from the club and look inside what gear they carry in their boat on river trips. This month's article is from Bill Petty:

I carry flagging tape in my lunch bag.



When something happens on the river, you may have to walk out. If it is in the deep forest like in the Olympic Peninsula, you can easily get lost. It is also hard to look for the road, while carrying the heavy boat around. When I lost my paddle on the Lower Matheyny Creek in the Olympic Peninsula, I had to walk out. I left my boat near the river and walked out marking my way. After walking around for an hour, I heard a car and found the road. The car's driver took me to the take-out. When my group got to the take-out, they went with me to retrieve my boat.

Classified Ads

Perception Sea Lion Sea Kayak—a friend of mine is selling a Perception Sea Lion plastic touring kayak with all the gear
<https://seattle.craigslist.org/see/boa/d/seattle-perception-sea-lion-169/6860788537.html>

Lightly used Esquif Nitro solo canoe for sale. Royalex construction. Outfitted with pedestal saddle, knee and thigh braces, NRS float bags. One float bag needs broken inflation tube replaced. Clean, stored indoors in garage. \$1000. 11.5 ft long, 27.5 in wide, 16 in deep, 51 lbs, mango color.
Contact Kay Norton, 206 362-1303, kaynorton@msn.com

Lost – Canoe roll. Last seen somewhere in the Pacific Northwest approximately 10 years ago. If found, please report to Dave Mainer

Check out all the other great info and deals on gear at [Gear Talk](#)

Recent Trip Reports

Check out the trip reports at [Trip Reports](#) for stories or browse the photo gallery on the website for more photographs [Photo Gallery](#). Here are a few photographs of trips from February—April.

