



Crosscurrents

Next Board Meeting

WRPC's next board meeting will occur on Wednesday, August 19, at 7 p.m. in the log cabin on Second and Chelan. Everybody is welcome.

Next WRPC Event

ORONDO/DAROGA to LINCOLN PARK

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

Hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, and drinks will be provided. Side dishes are potluck and they can be dropped off at Lincoln Rock State Park prior to proceeding to the 9 a.m. put-in at Orondo River Park (about a mile past Orondo Elementary School off SR97) at 9 a.m. Or if you're interested in a longer paddle, put in at Daroga Park! Plan to rendezvous at 8:45 at Lincoln Rock.

And Don't Forget

Rock Island to Vantage. Saturday, September 19 Kyle Flick and Wolf Mueller to coordinate this event. Call or email Wolf Mueller at 884-3160 or wmueller@verizon.net if you're interested. Some club boats are available for use.

Guano Rocks. Sunday, September 27 This annual event begins at Lincoln Rock State Park and goes out around Guano Rocks and back. You may tour the course at your own pace or race the course. Wolf Mueller and Larry Tobiska to coordinate. Call Larry with any questions, 662-3209. Some club boats are available.



A few thoughts from Wolf Mueller

I love kayaking and I try to get out on the river as often as possible. I've been kayaking on a regular basis for about twelve years and yesterday it hit me - literally -- that we can sometimes become too complacent and we're not as aware of the risks we're taking as we should be.

I was paddling up the Columbia next to the bank near the mouth of the Wenatchee under a large maple, and I decided to paddle under a small opening on the overhanging branch. The front of the kayak caught on a dead branch and pulled the branch forward, creating spring-like tension. The branch then released, hitting my left eye.

I was stunned. There was no pain but there was also no vision left in the left eye. When I opened the left eye, I was staring at a white screen, nothing else. I paddled back to the boathouse and drove to the Eye and Ear Clinic to see my eye doctor. We found that the iris was torn which caused bleeding in the eyeball and therefore lack of vision.

The doctor ordered bed rest with no paddling or walking for two weeks. Both of those, of course, are activities I really love to do. I am now taking five different eyedrops with the hope that the vision will return at some point in the future. So be careful out there on the water and I hope to see you on the river in about two weeks in August. So, take care, bye.

New Boats

WRPC now owns a second double kayak, acquired by donation from Kim George. It is a Valley Aleut II, 22' long, 26" wide and it weighs 90 lbs. You will find it in space number 3 of the Barn. This boat has an interesting history as it came from the east coast where it had been used in the Outward Bound program. Somehow it ended up at the program's Mazama base camp last summer along with some other surplus equipment. You'll find it to be a very stable boat, yet it glides along with surprisingly little effort. Be sure to check it out.

It's possible that WRPC may be acquiring two kayaks from the Seattle Canoe and Kayak Club. Jim Heinlein will be bringing the boats over to Wenatchee and Tom Feil will check them out. More about this later.



WRPC has acquired two Vespoli 8 rowing shells (Troy and Evan) from the women's crew team at Western Washington University. Pretty exciting stuff! Bob Derry has made two great boat racks and an oar rack for these boats. Thank you, Bob, you are truly a Knight of the Rack.

Boat Maintenance

No matter how careful we try to be, club boats get damaged. Or problems will occur with our boats from normal wear and tear as the boats age. It just happens. But bigger problems arise when damage or problems with a boat aren't reported. Please, if a boat gets damaged, or if you notice something wrong with a boat, report it. Tom Feil should be notified about any damage to kayaks or canoes. Larry Tobiska is the contact person for any damage to rowing shells. Contact needs to be made directly to one of these two individuals. And if you could leave a note on the boat itself letting other members know the boat is out of commission, that would help the next person know that the boat shouldn't be taken out until it's been repaired.

Boat Carts

Four carts are now in the Annex for members to use to transport their boats to the dock. They'll come in very handy for transporting the heavier boats. If you do use a cart, please place it into the Lindstrom boathouse while you're out on the river. Then when you're done paddling, please take it back to the Annex and leave it there for the next paddler/rower.

Anyone?

SURF SKI FOR SALE. Valhalla, with carbon fiber Barton paddle. \$800 for both. Contact Jay Bender at jay@jaybender.com or (509) 433-1090. (Jay just bought a Maas rowing shell and he's planning on doing some rowing on Beaver Lake in the Ozark Mountains in northwest Arkansas.)

Weeds

There are weeds at the Annex waiting to be pulled! Some are pretty big and very tenacious. If you should happen to have a little extra time on your hands, perhaps you could swing by and pull some. Work gloves and garbage sacks are just inside the Annex door. (There's even a claw hammer to use on some of the more vexing weeds.) Bags of weeds can be left inside the Annex.



Skylights

As some of you may have noticed, the skylights on the Annex roof could use some cleaning. Does anybody have access to a 40-foot man-lift? Just asking! Or does anybody have any other ideas for getting the job done safely? Please contact any WRPC officer or board member if you think you might be able to accomplish this cleaning task.

Sign

Does anyone happen to have "DO NOT BLOCK DRIVEWAY" sign laying around we could use to attach to the Annex gate entrance? Would you like to make one?

Spanish Castle

Kyle Flick wrote in saying there were nine of us who showed up for the Spanish Castle trip on July 18; three double kayaks, a canoe and a single kayak. We stopped en route to Malaga so Mark Behler could tell us the Indian legend of the Owl Sisters.

Once we found the launching area for the boats, we began the journey to Spanish Castle around 10:30 a.m. The warm weather was tempered with a nice breeze to accompany us to our first stop on the river. The Indian pictographs are now protected by a chain link fence. After we got back into our boats, we were treated to wonderful sightings of wildlife: coyote, a herd of bighorn sheep, blue herons (who were companions on the paddle back too), along with a multitude of waterfowl.

Once at Spanish Castle, we had lunch, and Mark showed us pictures of what the hacienda looked like not so long ago. He further recounted how the daring boat captains of the day had to maneuver up the river before the dams were constructed. Afterwards we paddled up river and arrived back to our cars by early afternoon. An enjoyable and insightful trip that allowed us to escape back in time as well as from the day's heat.

The double kayakers included Kyle Flick and Gabriel (my son), Freeman Keller and his wife Sherrill, Jerry Rappe and his wife Teri. In a canoe were Mark Behler and his son Andrew, a grad student at Central doing work in ESL.



Sherrill and Freeman Keller wrote in saying that the bighorn sheep were absolutely stunning. It was the one day Freeman forgot his camera and regretted it. Freeman also seconds Kyle's comments about Mark and his knowledge; Mark commented that many of the old Indian legends were oral and passed down through story telling and he very much keeps that tradition by retelling the stories. Fascinating!

A note of caution about the pictograph site--there is a significant amount of poison oak so care is in order. According to Mark, Fish and Wildlife actually introduced the stuff as added protection for the pictographs. Effective, and quite creative of them!

Bridges and Back

Fourteen people participated in this event on July 19. For the first time ever, participants could choose between doing the normal Odebashion-and-back event (Bridge & Back), or they could choose to do the Odebashion-Sellars-and back route (Bridges & Back). Temperature was in the high 70's with a very light wind.

First place for this event went to Linda Stephan and Tom Feil in the Huki. They came within 9 seconds of their predicted time to do a Bridge & Back. Second place went to Isak Gasi who came within 2 minutes, 30 seconds of his predicted time. Third place went to Dick Feil and Jim Doyle who came within 2 minutes, 40 seconds. Others who participated in the Bridge & Back were Kim George, Glen Frese, Don Essick, Bridgette Ranne, and Chance and Sandra Harris.

Sean Koos and Larry Tobiska chose to do the longer Bridges & Back route. Sean predicted a time of 61 minutes, 30 seconds, and actually completed the course in 67 minutes, 20 seconds. Larry Tobiska predicted a time of 90 minutes and completed the course in 76 minutes.

FYI, all rowers

Here's an email recently received by Skip Johnson: This message is to introduce you and your club to us, the Palouse Community Rowers.

We're a largely masters group who live in the Pullman, WA/Moscow, ID area and row on the Snake River. This is our 4th year of sweep rowing and we've just begun sculling this summer. For the past couple of years we've held a



small informal regatta with the Coeur d'Alene rowing club in mid-August. This year the regatta will be held at Fernan Lake, ID hosted by Coeur d'Alene.

We'll be racing fours and eights and would like to invite your club to join in. Knowing this is late notice though, we'd especially like to invite you to next summer's regatta that we will be hosting at Wawawai Landing. We don't have our own web page yet but if you'd like to know more about us, check out http://row.wsu.edu/myFiles/Mens_Crew/palouse.html and send us an email!

Boat Usage Update

Following are the number of sign-outs as of August 2 by individual or family memberships with at least 15 sign-outs:

Mueller	170	Riggs/Ingle	46	Grim	26
Koos	136	Wallace	46	Hohnstein	23
Peters	130	Stephan	42	Keller	21
Tobiska	89	Heinlein	41	Sutherland	21
George	87	Bartel	38	Derry	20
Willinsky	80	Snyder	36	Harnish	18
Siroky	77	Steve Smith	32	Milliette	18
Gasi	72	Koch	30	McClune	17
Frese	63	Jaecks	29	Feil, D	16
Harris	61	Jackson	27	Ockinga	16
Kaputa	59	Valaas	27	Ken Johnson	15
Feil, T	53				

Please list one boat per line on the sign-out sheet, and give either the full name of the WRPC member using the boat, or "guest," whichever is applicable.



Who ya Gonna Call??

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Vice President: Kyle Flick 782-1044, kyleflick@hotmail.com
Secretary: Stacie Hoiland 670-7276, stacann@nwi.net
Treasurer: Larry Tobiska 662-3209, ltobiska@nwi.net
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