



Crosscurrents

General Membership Meeting

Some of you may recognize these thoughts from last year's WRPC president, Mike Bills. "We are entering an exciting time for WRPC with possibilities of expanding our boat storage, becoming THE resource for Junior Ridge to River, and becoming a community resource for rowing and paddling in the Wenatchee area. We have so much potential for growth right now."

Mike was right on target. Look at what an exciting year this has been! Under President Skip Johnson's leadership, we have SIGNIFICANTLY expanded our boat storage, thereby greatly expanding the resources we can in turn offer to the Wenatchee area. And we are THE resource for Junior Ridge to River. Under Mike's direction, WRPC took charge of a very successful river portion of the Jr. R2R this year.

There is much that we are working on. If you'd like to know more about projects coming up, or if you'd like to have input on them, please come to the General Membership Meeting. The annual general membership meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, October 20, in the library at the Eastmont Junior High School, 905 NE 8th Street in East Wenatchee.

Open House

If you weren't able to attend WRPC's first open house on Saturday, September 26, you missed Vitek's delicious banana nut loaf he brought to the event. You missed a chance to race against someone else on one of the two ergs that Jim Dahl brought in. You missed a chance to watch some entertaining videos on a large flat screen TV that Karl set up in the Annex.

Here's one showing how to catch a crab:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BWFO1wLXeA>

(Some of us have already mastered this maneuver.)



Other rowing videos included:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M0Oq2gi_p4Q&feature=related

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OR3ETUOOaZk&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9GaDqzSDBk8&feature=related>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V3qn4RYjwVQ>

But most of all, you missed talking to and sharing the excitement with everybody who stopped in. It was a fine open house!

WRPC's Knight of the Rack

Once again, Bob Derry demonstrated why he has been named a "Knight of the Rack." Without being asked, he voluntarily brought his ladder and a high-pressure washer and climbed onto the roof of the Annex and spent five hours (with the temperature in the mid 80's) cleaning the Annex skylights in time for the Open House. Wow.

ROCK ISLAND TO VANTAGE

By Wolf Mueller

The Rock Island to Vantage 9/19/09 paddle began at 9:29 a.m. at the public boat launch at Crescent Bar. Bob Derry, Jerry Rappe', Wolf Mueller and Sharon Morris glided downriver in two double sea kayaks on a pleasant overcast morning. The sun soon appeared highlighting the towering basalt canyon walls and rugged landscape that has changed little in many places since the explorer David Thompson first paddled through here in 1811.

After an hour and a half, we had a brunch break on a sandbar on the Kittitas County side and continued downstream with a slight breeze behind us. About a mile or two above Sunland Estates, the gentle breeze suddenly turned into 30 mph gusts with sporadic headwinds that churned up the river with angry whitecaps. (Does this ring any bells, Dave and Freeman and Alan?) Sprays of water came into the kayaks as we had not put on our spray skirts when conditions were calmer. The strong winds pushed us from the sandy beaches of the Kittitas County side towards the nearly vertical beachless basalt cliffs of the Grant County side which prevented us from putting ashore. We slowly proceeded towards Sunland Estates against the wind and waves and called our driver to pick us up at the public boat launch. And of course in true "Bob



the Burner" tradition, 83-year-old Bob Derry and Jerry Rappe' beat the 62-year-olds to the dock with minutes to spare. It was a fun paddle even though it ended early in the afternoon and we didn't make it to Vantage.

GUANO ROCKS 2009

As seen by Larry Tobiska

Somewhere I have a record of all the years we have done the Guano Rocks Regatta, but I don't think I could find a record of a nicer day. Classic autumn still water and Indian Summer sunshine.

Sixteen people turned out in all sorts of craft except classic canoe. We didn't have any classic canoes this year. Those have given way to the Huki outrigger double surf skis, which are very neat fun boats. They are light and fast and, did I mention, fun.

Jim Dahl and his son, Connor, age 15, were fastest - even faster than the very fast Sean Koos (just back from winning his age division in some world class K-1 event in Scandinavia). Jim and Connor rowed a Vespoli double. Sean was second and yours truly, in the club Coffey rowing shell, was third. Then Vitek Siroky was fourth in a club Maas 24 even though he took time to take some pictures and take off his shirt.

Then, it gets a little confusing because our timing wasn't real organized. Scott, and Isak in that incredible high kneel canoe, were right in there, and Tom and Linda also, and Glen Frese, but who really cares. Everyone was rowing or paddling well and had a great time.

Next year maybe we will be able to transport one or two of the 8s up there. In the past we've had a tribe or two bring out their big multi person canoes. What a kick to see them!

For those who aren't familiar with this event, it is about six miles beginning at Lincoln Rock Park, going up the west side of Turtle Rock Island and beyond to the Guano Rocks; around them and back down the east side of the river and Turtle Rock Island. It makes a nice event, although the start and finish are always a little imprecise. Check out some beautiful pictures taken by Vitek of the event:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/31444489@N08/sets/72157622491748230/show/>



drifting . . .

Boat usage figures showing usage as of October 15 will be compiled and posted later this month.

Anybody have a secret remedy for removing tagging from the block on the lower level of the Lindstrom Barn? Bob Derry says oven cleaner works okay. He says his high pressure washer works well with some of the tagging. Kim found some graffiti remover at Lowe's and had some success. Loraine tried paint thinner, with some success. Karl tried a stiff wire brush, again with some success. Any tagging needs to be removed immediately so please let us know ASAP if you notice any.

And if you want to take the first stab at removing it, that would be appreciated!

Who ya Gonna Call??

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