

One of the many camps on the wild and scenic section of the Rogue River, from a few years back.

President's Currents

by Kanako Iwata

Finally, it started raining, the day became longer, and skiers came back to rivers! I hope you have checked out the club calendar filled with many exciting trips.

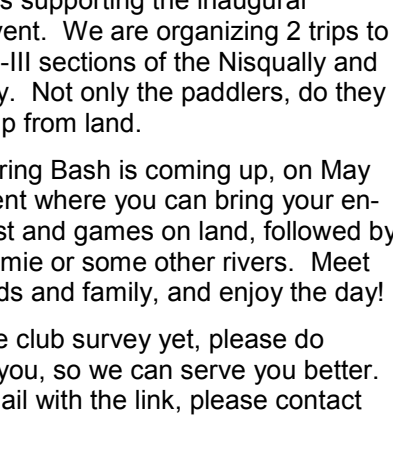
In addition to paddle trips, on April 14-15, we are going to hold a River Safety & Rescue class with Casey Garland as the instructor. I have taken Casey's class 3 years ago, and it was full of hands-on practices for 2 full days. I highly recommend it. We can have a couple of more people in this class, and the May 19-20 class is wide open. It is helpful for brand new and experienced boaters.

On April 21, Paddle Trails is supporting the inaugural Nisqually River Cleanup event. We are organizing 2 trips to paddle Class I and Class II-III sections of the Nisqually and pick up garbage on the way. Not only the paddlers, do they also need volunteers to help from land.

Next month, the annual Spring Bash is coming up, on May 19, too. This is a great event where you can bring your entire family to enjoy breakfast and games on land, followed by paddle trips to the Snoqualmie or some other rivers. Meet other members, bring friends and family, and enjoy the day!

If you haven't answered the club survey yet, please do so. We want to hear from you, so we can serve you better. If you didn't receive the email with the link, please contact us.

Enjoy the rain! Happy paddling!



Renewed Membership?

If you haven't renewed your PTCC membership for 2018 do it now. Without renewal, access to the website and CANEWS will go away by the end of February.

[Renew your membership](#)

Upcoming Trips

[April 14 & 15: River Safety & Rescue Class](#)

[April 14: Snoqualmie Club Stretch, Class II](#)

[April 21: Nisqually River Cleanup, Class I - III](#)

[April 22: Green River Yo Yo Stretch, Class II](#)

[April 26— 29: Northern Rivers Class III-IV](#)

[April 28: South Fork Snoqualmie River, Class II+](#)

[May 5: North Fork Stillaguamish River, Class II](#)

[May 5: Middle Middle Snoqualmie River, Class III+](#)

[May 6: South Fork Stillaguamish, Class II+](#)

Sign up for trips by clicking on the above hyperlinks or the [Events Calendar](#)

Website Resources

[Past CANEWS issues](#)

[Join the Club](#)

[Update your profile](#)

[Membership Directory](#)

[Club FAQs](#)

[Tech/Outfitting Guidance](#)

[Gear for sale](#)

New Trip Schedule

The new trip schedule is out, thanks to our Cruise Chair, Alan Brackney.

Check it out:

[2018 Trip Schedule](#)

Classes in 2018

PTCC offers a great set of courses for paddlers of almost all interests and abilities. We have excellent member-instructors who will focus on safety, helping you learn, but most importantly making sure you have a great time on the water.

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

River Safety & Rescue: April 14-15 (option 1) & May 19-20 (option 2)

Every year PTCC strives to provide River Safety & Rescue training options. This year, Washington Kayak Club & Paddle Trails Canoe Club (PTCC) are teaming up to offer a Swiftwater Rescue class! There are two options: April 14-15 and May 19-20. Note that May 19 is also the date of the PTCC Spring Bash, so you might prefer the April option.

Casey Garland will present a course on river safety, rope utilization and rescue techniques. Team leadership and rescue planning will also be covered to achieve the best results in a rescue effort. This class is great for a beginning whitewater boater or even a boater looking to tune up their rescue skills.

[Register for River Safety & Rescue, April 14-15](#)

[Register for River Safety & Rescue, May 19-20](#)

Introduction to Canoeing Whitewater, Part 1: June 9-10

In this 2 day course, explore the excitement of whitewater 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 canoes that are designed and equipped for whitewater.

Difficulty: Class II

[Register for Introduction To Whitewater, Part 1](#)

Introduction to Canoeing Whitewater, Part 2: June 16-17

Enjoy Part 1 and ready for more? Join for Part 2! 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 canoeing techniques as well as individual and group strategies for navigating rapids. Students need to have canoes that are designed and equipped for whitewater and have successfully completed Part 1 or have had similar experience.

Difficulty: Class II+

[Register for Introduction to Whitewater, Part 2](#)

Introduction to Canoeing Rivers: June 23-24

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+

[Register for Introduction To Canoeing Rivers](#)

Nisqually River Clean-up - April 21

The Washington Kayak Club, Washington Recreational River Runners and Trail Paddle Canoe Club invite you to join us to help clean up the Nisqually River. We are undertaking this cleanup with support from the Nisqually River Council and other partners, including American Whitewater, American Rivers and more.

By undertaking this Event, we hope to (a) heighten awareness and appreciation of the Nisqually River; (b) celebrate the river's unique attributes; (c) foster stewardship of the river; and (d) promote the Nisqually River Water Trail Plan and Recommendations.

Participants receive 7RC sticker!
Stay on to April 22 and enjoy an after clean-up river paddle with the group!

When: April 21st from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm

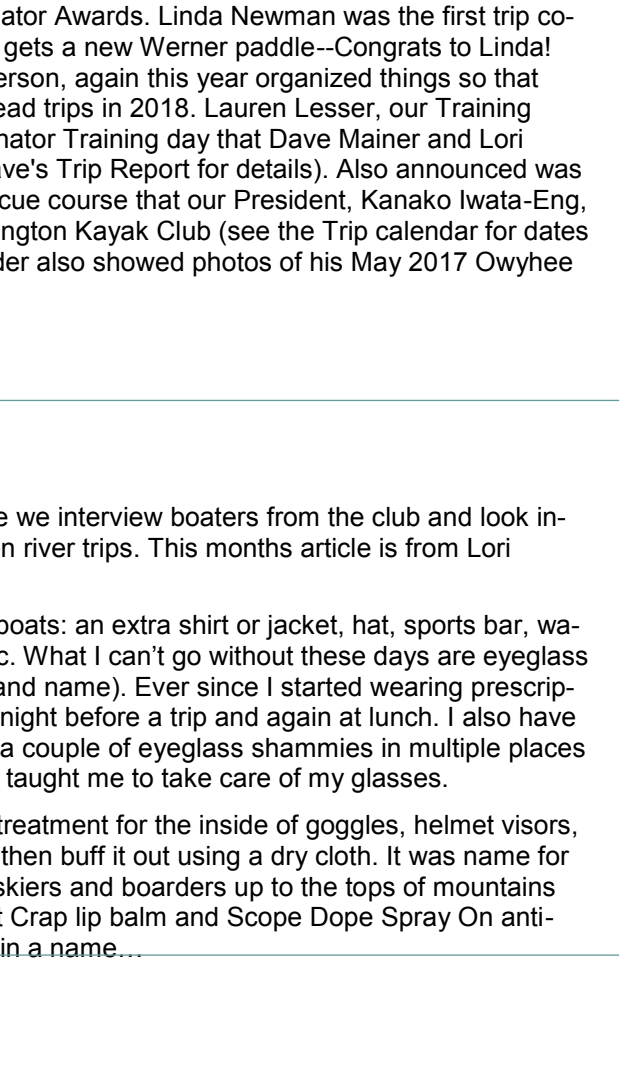
Where: We will be cleaning up two sections of the Nisqually River:
1) McKenna Park to Nisqually Park (aka Yelm Hydro Plant) - Class II-III - 9 miles; and
2) Nisqually Park to the 6th Avenue S.E. WDFW Water Access Site - Class I-II - 8 miles.

Please register via both the Eventbrite link [AND](#) at McKenna Park or Yelm locations:

[Eventbrite Registration](#)

[Register: Clean-up from McKenna Park](#)

[Register: Clean-up from Yelm](#)



Spring Bash is Coming Up

The Spring Bash is on Saturday May 19th. We are having it at the same spot as last year at Beaver Lake. Always a great time with a full breakfast, games, and then lots of paddling options on nearby rivers for all difficulty levels. So save the date and hope to see you there.

2018 Winter Bash Recap

On Saturday, February 24th we held the PTCC Winter Bash at the University Unitarian Church, which has been the location for the bash for about 30 years. In late 2018 and 2019, the facility is being demolished and rebuilt, so our next couple fall and winter bashes will be at another location. We had about 40 people in attendance. Bob Schneider (VP) supervised the drawing for Trip Coordinator Awards. Linda Newman was the first trip coordinator pulled out of the hat, so Linda gets a new Werner paddle--Congrats to Linda! Alan Brackney, our club Cruise Chair person, again this year organized things so that members could sign up at the bash to lead trips in 2018. Lauren Lesser, our Training Chair person, announced a Trip Coordinator Training day that Dave Mainer and Lori Lodzinski put on in early March (see Dave's Trip Report for details). Also announced was the opportunity to sign up for a river rescue course that our President, Kanako Iwata-Eng, organized in partnership with the Washington Kayak Club (see the Trip calendar for dates and details, April 14 & 15). Bob Schneider also showed photos of his May 2017 Owyhee trip. A great night was had by all.

-Steve Reutebuch

Peek-a-Boat

"Peek-a-Boat" is a monthly article where we interview boaters from the club and look inside what gear they carry in their boat on river trips. This month's article is from Lori Lodzinski:

I carry what most boaters carry in their boats: an extra shirt or jacket, hat, sports bar, water, lunch, TP, Bazooka bubble gum, etc. What I can't go without these days are eyeglass wipes and my Cat Crap (really, it's a brand name). Ever since I started wearing prescription glasses I defog my sunglasses the night before a trip and again at lunch. I also have one-use biodegradable lens wipes and a couple of eyeglass shammies in multiple places that I can get to easily. The Drs. Grimm taught me to take care of my glasses.

Cat Crap is actually a wax-like anti-fog treatment for the inside of goggles, helmet visors, binoculars, but I use on my sunglasses then buff it out using a dry cloth. It was named for the Caterpillar equipment used to haul skiers and boarders up to the tops of mountains that have no lifts. They also make a Cat Crap lip balm and Scope Dope Spray On anti-fog/lens cleaner and a lip balm. What's in a name...

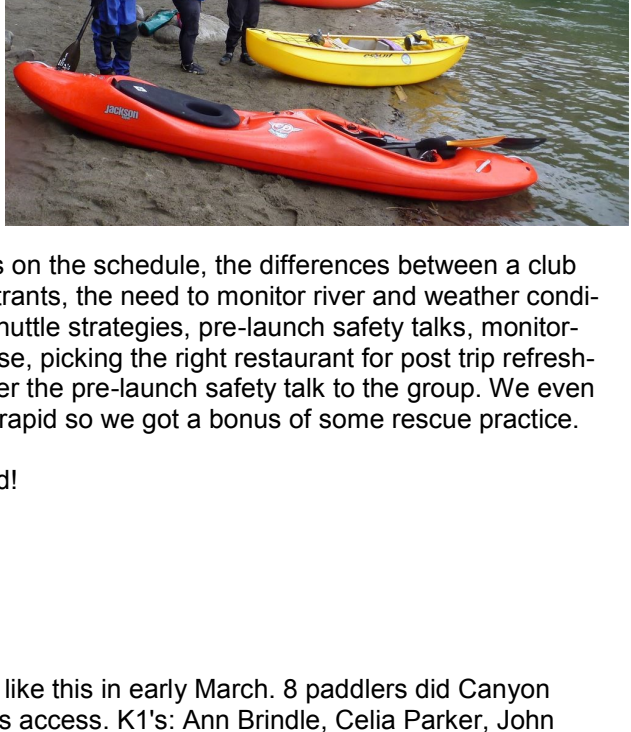
-Lori Lodzinski

Trip Reports

Trip Coordinator Basics — Snoqualmie River Powerhouse

March 3rd

Paddle Trails conducted its second annual Trip Coordinator Training Class on Sunday, March 3rd on the Powerhouse section of the Snoqualmie. 5 members partook in the training, including future trip coordinator Lilian Andrews (age single digits) as well as Esther Andrews, Idamay Curtis, Pete Sohn and Lauren Lesser. Helping the class were Lori Lodzinski and Peggy Mainer. Lauren paddled solo kayak, Lilian and Esther were in a Jackson Duo and everyone else was in a solo canoe.



We reviewed the mechanics of how the club website works for getting trips on the schedule, the differences between a club trip and a pick-up trip, qualifying registrants, the need to monitor river and weather conditions, changing and cancelling trips, shuttle strategies, pre-launch safety talks, monitoring the group on the river and, of course, picking the right restaurant for post trip refreshments. Attendees were asked to deliver the pre-launch safety talk to the group. We even had a swim at the summer play wave rapid so we got a bonus of some rescue practice.

Thanks to all who helped and attended!

-Dave Mainer

Canyon Creek Class II+

March 10th

What a great trip. Don't get many days like this in early March. 8 paddlers did Canyon Creek from Masonic Park to fishermen's access. K1's: Ann Brindle, Celia Parker, John Kelly, Kathy McGee, Jessica Hwang, Tara, and Bob Schneider; and our token canoeist: Tom Matlack.

River was 5.9' at launch and 5.75 after taking out. Pretty low but no one got stuck anywhere. However, everyone hit multiple rocks. Nice technical level. Tom fell asleep early and flipped. Very short swim. Then Tom chose to entertain us again after lunch. This time in the middle of the river, however he did a great self rescue. Tom and Jessica both on separate occasions perched on top of a mid stream boulder. Both made it off without incident.

There is a new, almost river-wide, log. But there is room to get around either side of it. At higher water it may be more difficult to see.

Weather was outstanding - sunny all day. After the run several of us enjoyed some stories and food at the Buzz Inn in Granite Falls. When we got there it was 61 degrees! .

-Bob Schneider

NF Stilly Hazel to Oso @ 1250 CFS

March 17th

Eleven of us had a great day on the North Fork Stillaguamish on Sat, March 17th. The weather was partly cloudy and around 50 degrees which made for a very pleasant paddle. Flow was a bit low at 1200 cfs on the NF Stilly gauge in Arlington. Tom Matlack, Alan Brackney, Julie Titone, Pat Contor, Steve Reutebuch, Don Bottles, Peggy and Dave Mainer were paddling solo canoes. Karen Hensley and Erin Moore were in hardshell kayaks and Daryl Williams was rowing his small cataraft.

Julie was paddling her bland new Savage River Illusion carbon fiber canoe that only weighs about 25 pounds (see attached photo). Although there were no portages, there was a log blocking the middle of the rapid we call "Pinball"

which is about 1/2 mile below the Oso slide. The run through the slide area was very sobering, but without any logs in the river. After the run, several of us stopped at the Rhodes River Ranch in Oso.

-Steve Reutebuch

