

NOVEMBER 2008

the

# Power Stroke

Saskatoon Canoe Club Newsletter

[www.saskatooncanoeclub.org](http://www.saskatooncanoeclub.org)

## Thank you!

A very special thanks needs to go out to Cliff Kignlen and his crew for the repairs they did to the **Little Devil** and **Great Devil** portage. Anyone that has used the portage trails around the Little Devil and Great Devil Rapids know just how poor they were. The trails stretch for 1.5 km with many spots that were almost impassible without getting your boots full of mud and water or losing your boots altogether. The trails were improved by building bridges over the wet stuff. In the worst spots the path was re-routed. Thanks again to Cliff for taking the initiative to repair and help conserve an area that we all would like to keep pristine.



## Coffee Socials

Members of the canoe club are still invited to Tastebuds on Lorne Avenue for coffee/socials. The next one will be November 6th at 7 pm. Everyone is welcome to bring your friends.



## Trip Tales and Potluck Supper

It's that time of year again. You are invited to the Saskatoon Canoe Club's fall edition of "Trip Tales and Potluck Supper" to be held on Tuesday November 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. Presentations will start at 7:00 pm. To be held at St. Paul's church, 454 Egbert Avenue in Sutherland.

Come out and enjoy an evening of food and story telling. Bring what ever type of food that you want for the potluck. There will be presentations on a SCC organized whitewater trip to Barker Lake, an annual Thanksgiving canoe trip with a voyageur twist, an update on Mark Lafontaine's summer adventures and more.

Bring a friend and introduce them to a whole new world of friendships and adventure.

Box 7764  
Saskatoon, SK S7K 4J1  
Hotline: 343-0191  
[info@saskatooncanoeclub.org](mailto:info@saskatooncanoeclub.org)



*Pictures taken at the Churchill River system (a very small part of) – Cathy and Dave Peters, 1<sup>st</sup> northern trip ever!*

## Club Items for Sale

**KAYAK:** The Saskatoon Canoe Club is selling one of their touring kayaks. This kayak is a “Sea Lion” model that was manufactured by the Perception (Aquetara) company. (S/N: WEM99257F989, Club ID #7). It is 17 feet in length, constructed of polyethylene material, and yellow in color. It is not equipped with a rudder but does have the water tight hatches for storage of gear. Price is set at \$400. Please contact the Clubs Equipment Manager, Glen Phillips by phone (244-4536) or email if interested ([equipment@saskatooncanoeclub.org](mailto:equipment@saskatooncanoeclub.org)).

**CANOE:** The Saskatoon Canoe Club is selling a tandem canoe. This canoe is an “Explorer 17” model manufactured by Mad River. (S/N: MADHX808K889, Club ID #4). It is 17 feet long, beige in color, constructed from royalex material, and equipped with the webbing style of seating. Price is set at \$400. Please contact the Clubs Equipment Manager, Glen Phillips by phone (244-4536) or email if interested ([equipment@saskatooncanoeclub.org](mailto:equipment@saskatooncanoeclub.org)).

## Club Member Items for Sale

**CANOE FORM:**

Mel Annand has a set of forms for sale to construct a 16.5 foot Prospector type cedar strip canoe. Price is \$100.00, which is 1/2 of the new price. Contact Mel by phone at 752-2707, or by email at [mannand@sasktel.net](mailto:mannand@sasktel.net).

---

## Positions Available

There are a number of opportunities available to help out with the Saskatoon Canoe Club. We are currently looking for a Treasurer and two members at large. If you are interested in volunteering for a great organization please call Mark at 955-4587.

## Boat-Building Workshop

For the winter of 2008/09, the Saskatoon Canoe Club is planning a boat building workshop. During this workshop members will learn how to build a canoe from start to finish. This workshop will include everything from setting up the stations on a strong-back to the application of the final coat of paint. In the end, the SCC would own a boat that was built by it's own members. This would be a great opportunity for those who have always wanted to build a canoe but didn't know how or have the space. The Saskatoon Canoe Club is inviting all members to participate in the project.

**For all those interested please call Mark at 955-4587.**

## Confessions of an addict... OR The road of excess leads to the place of wisdom (William Blake, and my father)

I've been a recreation paddler for decades. But this June the **Marathon Paddlers** took me under their wings and introduced me to why God put us in Saskatchewan, and just what to do if you're addicted to rivers and to paddling your buns off daily. Bonus: eating chocolate with impunity. Here's a taste of my excellent adventures.

### **Trips: Summer Solstice (June 20th)**

Somewhat nervous, I'm too old for this stuff and won't be able to keep up. We set off in perfect sunny weather, hide the canoes in bushes near the ferry, and drive further north to bike back 22 km, and then paddle downstream through the Forks for two hours. As we moil through the boils at the beginning of the paddle, it becomes clear why our Fearless Leader (F.L.) is wearing his life jacket. See deer, eagles, hawks and heaven on the South and North Saskatchewan.

### **Racing (July 16) - regular Wednesday night paddles:**

Figured we could pull ahead of Terry and Bill-I'm only 64 so I've got 5 years on one of them; but they pull ahead as we near the pier. Everybody's excited after the race Wednesdays, all shaking hands enthusiastic, encouraging: "Good Job!", even if we were third or fourth. Do they all use same hand to blow snot out?

### **The day before my first BIG race (June 27th):**

My fears that it's not even 50 degrees Fahrenheit (only 8 Celsius), raining, and wind of 30 km/hr. gusting to 50 and 60, are ignored. Also today's my birthday. I whine. Actually I'm scared. Fearless dismisses the wind: "It's OK. It's from the Northwest" whatever the hell that means. We must "fine tune" in spite of this god-awful weather. I'm a wimp; realize I must've signed up for sunny calm days.

First BIG race; I lose my keys gardening, try not to think too much about the upcoming "event", feel like puking by the time I get to the boat house, and we finish the 14 km 5 minutes behind Cathy and Ken, (1 hour 28 minutes).

### **Paddling from Fred Heal (July 21st):**

Fearless uses "moderate" word for our travails: "low intensity" he says. Seems to me this is an oxymoron: we paddle quick non-stop always, averaging 101 minutes from the Berry Barn when we do the trip weeks later. River smooth as glass; paddling as serene as serenity can be. Saskatoon berries galore on branches overhanging the East bank of Yorath Island. An hour's pickings last me all week in the fridge. Partner just eats everything he picks.

### **Sunday Paddles (mid July):**

After paddles now we lounge in the sun at River Landing, eat Barret's aunt's goodies and linger over stories of past adventures. What a gift this river, this sun, and these friends.

### **The NARROWS Race (July 26):**

It's hot again thank God, but I sleep in, my disorganization makes us almost late, and I'm too ready to puke to eat properly. We round the half way point first and I'm thinking this is going to be all right. But on the return trip I keep thinking we're near the end, and there's still  $\frac{3}{4}$  hours of what seems like interminable struggle left. I watch two horseflies feed off Terry's back, and wonder, since we're third and fourth, why he doesn't just slow down a bit. We finish in 1 hour, 58 minutes (fourth) only 2 minutes behind Cathy and Ken (compared to 5 minutes a month ago). Everyone's in fine fettle afterwards, and we all shake hands, feast on a burger, and listen to folk music concert all afternoon. What a great way to spend a day in Saskatchewan! How blessed we are by these waterways and these friends.

### **October 7th and still paddling:**

Floated just yards away from cranes at South end of Yorath last Wednesday evening paddle. Plus 5 beaver and three yellow-legs. And 22km bike with 2 hour paddle on Batoche trip the day before. With bald eagles and great blue heron. How can anyone resist? And all for just 55\$ a year! And nothing to lose but rolls.

Ann Popoff

This summer, Mark Lafontaine ([www.wildpaddler.com](http://www.wildpaddler.com)) embarked on a “Paddle to the Bay” adventure. Come out to our **Trip Tales and Potluck Supper** on **November 18<sup>th</sup>** to see hear all about his trip highlights and tribulations, and see his photos. Here is a preview of some of his photos from that trip, and his other paddling trips.

Visit our **sponsor stores** for some valuable club member discounts. Remember – Christmas is coming!!!



President:	Mark Lafontaine	<a href="mailto:president@saskatooncanoecub.org">president@saskatooncanoecub.org</a>	955-4587
Treasurer:	Randy Chapman	<a href="mailto:treasurer@saskatooncanoecub.org">treasurer@saskatooncanoecub.org</a>	242-7520
Equipment Manager:	Glen Philips	<a href="mailto:equipment@saskatooncanoecub.org">equipment@saskatooncanoecub.org</a>	244-4536
Recreation Director:	Wes Deptuch	<a href="mailto:recreation.div@saskatooncanoecub.org">recreation.div@saskatooncanoecub.org</a>	955-0566
Membership Director:	Penny-Lynne Micklewright	<a href="mailto:membership@saskatooncanoecub.org">membership@saskatooncanoecub.org</a>	956-3536
Marathon Director:	Trevor Robinson & Bob Farthing	<a href="mailto:marathon@saskatooncanoecub.org">marathon@saskatooncanoecub.org</a>	280-0982 (Trevor)
Publicity Director:	Karrie & Bruan Sauer	<a href="mailto:publicity@saskatooncanoecub.org">publicity@saskatooncanoecub.org</a>	242-1200
Secretary:	Jo Ann Walker	<a href="mailto:secretary@saskatooncanoecub.org">secretary@saskatooncanoecub.org</a>	933-3297
Webmaster:	Bryan Sauer	<a href="mailto:webmaster@saskatooncanoecub.org">webmaster@saskatooncanoecub.org</a>	242-1200
Newsletter:	Cathy Peters	<a href="mailto:newsletter@saskatooncanoecub.org">newsletter@saskatooncanoecub.org</a>	933-0042

