

WCHA 42nd Annual Assembly, July 12-17, 2022

Paul Smith's College, Paul Smith's, New York

EVENT LOGISTICS: [Main Tent]

Information & Registration (Accommodations & Meals);

Sign in, collect name tags, keys and meal vouchers from staff or volunteers at the reception table. Vendors & Display booths check in before setting up.

Watch for daily changes and updates to the program on the Master Schedule.

WCHA Store; Books, pins, clothing, hats, and related items for sale.

Open; Wed.-Fri. 9AM-4PM, Sat. 9AM-12Noon

Annual Raffle and Auction:

Intake and Administration; Fran Sienkiewicz

Donations intake Thurs 1-5PM & Fri 9-Noon

Preview from Friday Noon. Auctioneer; Jack Nettleton

Event; 2PM Saturday [Main Tent]

Featured canoes; 1911 OT Charles River Ideal restored by the Norumbega Chapter

1969 Old Town 15 footer restored by the Norumbega Chapter

16' Bearwood (Chestnut Pal pattern) built by Pam Wedd in 2003

Rushton Indian Girl replica built in 2005 by Northwoods Canoe Co.

FEATURED EVENING PRESENTATIONS:

Tuesday, July 12th; [Bob Cat Café, 2nd floor, Joan Weil Student Centre]

Paddler's Welcome Gathering Wine & cheese reception social event.

Wednesday, July 13th; [Freer Auditorium]

An Alaskan Hospital and Haven (Geoffrey Burke)

Pub Paddling & Early British Canoe Builders (Nick Dennis)

Resurrection of a Burn Pile Rushton (Jim Clearwater)

Thursday, July 14th; [Freer Auditorium]

Annual Membership Meeting (President; Michael Grace)

The Boat Connects the People; An Interview with Tom MacKenzie (Deborah Gardner)

Remembering Tom MacKenzie (Charlie Wilson)

Friday, July 15th; [Lakefront]

Paddle By and Salute (MC: Al Sienkiewicz)

Candlelight Paddle on Lower St. Regis Lake (ACS + WCHA)

Saturday, July 16th; [Freer Auditorium]

Solo Canoes; How They Got That Way and Where They are Going (Alex Comb)

One Man, One Canoe; Solo Canoes in the Early Days of Recreational Canoeing

(Dan Miller)

Bill Mason's Favourite Canoe (B Mason & R. McLachlan)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

FEATURED (EVENINGS)

Paddler's Welcome Gathering (Wednesday)

Join us for a social reception (beer, wine and nibbles provided). [Bob Cat Cafe]

An Alaskan Hospital and Haven

Geoffrey Burke recounts the lives of his grandparents founding and running a charity hospital in Alaska for Native Americans.

Pub Paddling & Early British Canoe Builders

Nick Dennis (UK Chapter Head) narrates a paddling tour of the waterside pubs and introduction to some early British canoe builders featuring a Turks all wood canoe.

Resurrection of a Burn Pile Rushton

Jim Clearwater recounts the restoration of an Indian Girl, including rib-pocketing inwales.

Tom MacKenzie Evening (Thursday)

The Boat Connects the People; An Interview with Tom MacKenzie

Deborah Gardner will screen a video interview she did with Tom MacKenzie (2013). He talks about his canoe building career and his role in founding the WCHA, and includes memories about him and his important contributions to the organization by other WCHA members.

Remembering Tom MacKenzie

Friends and relatives reminisce about this special collaborator, canoe builder and fellow paddler.

Paddle By & Salute (Friday)

MC Al Sienkiewicz and team will choreograph this opportunity to parade your pride and joy before the Assembly attendees! Paddlers in costume make this event even more entertaining. This is a wonderful Assembly tradition. Please join in the fun!
(Fri 6:45PM-dusk) [Lakefront, Joan Weil Student Centre]

Timbersports Exhibition PSC forestry students demonstrate timbersports competition skills.
(Fri 6-6:45) (McLeod) [Green/Waterfront]

Candlelight Paddle on Lower St. Regis Lake

Joint ACS + WCHA twilight paddle with glow sticks and LED lights. (Friday dusk) [Waterfront]

Solo Canoe Evening (Saturday)

Solo Canoes; How They Got That Way and Where They are Going

Canoe builder Alex Comb (Stewart River Boatworks; <https://www.stewartriver.com/>) ponders his involvement with historical developments of solo canoe design.

One Man, One Canoe; Solo Canoes in the Early Days of Recreational Canoeing

Dan Miller (Dragonfly Canoe / Wooden Canoe Museum.com) looks at the early influence of J.H. Rushton in the development of solo canoes.

Bill Mason's Favourite Canoe

You've seen it in the movies, you've seen it in his books. You know that it is red. But what was Bill Mason's favourite canoe? Becky Mason and Reid McLachlan take you on a journey in each of Bill's favourite canoes that he had through the years, with stories and iconic images and video of them in action and an update on where they are now!

Adirondack (Freestyle) Canoe Symposium Exhibition

Participants in the Adirondack Canoe Symposium demonstrate "Freestyle" canoeing techniques on Church Pond choreographed to music. (Saturday 7PM)

ONGOING / MULTIPLE SESSIONS

Tom MacKenzie / Loon Works Special Display Tent [Green]

Come view a variety of canoes built by Tom MacKenzie, with informational displays about Tom's key roles as a founder of the WCHA, canoe builder and freestyle paddling instructor. Thanks to contributions by WCHA & ACS members, and the Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Museum, Spooner, Wisconsin.

Yoga For Every Body Jeanne Griffin-Greene leads beginner sessions in yoga and meditation mornings at the Beach. (Wed, Thurs, Fri. 7:30-8:15AM)

Guided Bird Walk Ruth Zalonis leads a walk through the university Wildlife Sanctuary Trail area. (Wed & Thurs 6-7:30AM) [Meet at Parking Lot in front of Joan Weill Student Centre]

Guided Tour of White Pine Camp / Paddle to White Pine Camp

More info; See "Off Campus Excursions". Sign up in the Info tent.

(Wed. 2:30-4:30, Thurs. 2:30-4:30)

Optional/Alternative - Paddle to White Pine Camp; (Wed. 1-2:30, Thurs. 1-2:30)

Canoe Travel Registry Bulletin board to connect folks & promote sharing canoe transport from Assembly across the country. (ongoing) [Main Tent]

Weigh Your Canoe Mark Zalonis provides a scale and instructions on how to weigh your canoe. See the "Weigh Station" between the Green and the Lakefront dock/launch area. (Ongoing) [Waterfront]

Music Sharing / Jam Session / Open Mic (Nightly 9-11) [St. Regis Room]

Family Campfires Storytelling, music, sing-a-longs, S'mores and assorted informal entertainment and activities (Evenings, as weather permits) [Lakefront campfire]

DAYTIME SESSIONS

New Attendee Orientation First time attendees meet President, Michael Grace for a general introduction to Assembly. (Wed 8:30-9AM) [St. Regis Room]

Board of Directors meeting Elected Board members gather for their bi-monthly meeting. (Wed 8-11AM) [Pine Room]

Silk-Screening T-Shirts Martha Ball and Tony Stanton (of the Three Rivers Chapter) lead a workshop to learn the technique and print your own t-shirt. (Wed. 9-11) [Pickett 113]

Try Rowing a Canoe Alex Comb introduces canoe rowing, with opportunities to try out a fixed seat rig. (Wed. 9-11) [Beach]

Paint a Barn Quilt (F Sienkiwicz)

Paint your own 1ft x 1ft “barn quilt” pattern on wood. (Wed 1-5)

Canoe Sailing

A. How to Rig a Canoe for Sail

B. Introduction to Sailing a Canoe

Benson Gray & Jim Clearwater introduce basic gear and techniques for canoe sailing, and take you to the water to try it out. Bring your own rig and canoe if you have one, and share what you know. Come anyway if you are curious or interested. (Wed 1-4)

Paint a Memory of canoeing on Lower St. Regis Lake

No art experience necessary. Each participant will create a guided painting to take home.

Register in advance at Reception table. Fee; \$15 materials fee for acrylic paint, brushes, and canvas (provided by instructor, Laurie Hasty) Max 10 per class, offered 2 times.

(Wed 1-4PM) [Pickett 110] (Wed 6:30-8PM) [Pickett 110]

Canoe Paddle Mechanics

University of Guelph professor, John Runciman examines the design and function of canoe paddle mechanics, seeking to improve paddling efficiency and accessibility critically and scientifically. Improved canoe efficiency through better paddles will allow individuals to participate in the sport for greater periods of time and later into life, thereby increasing their overall activity levels and fitness. (Thur 9-11) [Pine Room]

Wooden Barn Quilt Mosaic (B Gordon)

Assemble your own wooden “mosaic” barn quilt. (Thur 9-11)

Quilting Workshop Fran Sienkiewicz coordinates this year’s quilting workshop.

(Thurs 9-11AM) [St. Regis Room]

Guided Tour of the Tom MacKenzie / Loon Works Special Display Tent [Green]

WCHA & ACS folks provide commentary and insight into canoes built by Tom MacKenzie. Includes; Canoe designer David Yost, canoe builder Alex Comb, etc.

(Thurs 2-4)

Twig Barn Quilt

Becky Gordon assists you in making your own 12" x 12" geometric quilt made of various color and textures of wood. Materials provided. (Thurs 1-3) [Construction Tent]

Ladies Tea Bring your fancy hats, china teacups and a fun-filled attitude. Also, something to "show and tell". There will be tea, cookies and some surprises orchestrated by Meg Breslow and Ruth Zalonis. Join us! (Thurs 1-2:30PM) [Bobcat Café, upstairs, Joan Weil Student Centre]

Fun on the Water Paddling Events Organized by Bill Van Keuren & team.

Get your crew ready and come out for the first annual FUN ON THE WATER EVENTS.

Five events take place on a 100 yard paddling course. There are medals or ribbons for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Sign up at main tent. Properly fitted PFDs must be worn by all contestants. All events open to men, women and children in any combination.

1: WRONG END PADDLE; For tandem crew; paddlers use single blades upside down holding the blade and paddling with the handle.

2: TAIL END RACE; For solo paddler; paddler sits on bow seat (or kneels in bow) and uses paddling skills with single blade to navigate course.

3: PUSH ME PULL YOU; For tandem crew; Bow paddler sits facing the stern and stern paddler sits facing the bow. Single blades only.

4: HAND PADDLE RACE; Four person crew (good race for kids who can reach the water at the bow and stern positions) Must paddle with hands only.

5: TANDEM SPRINT: 200 yards; Single blade only; Any combination of women, man or child paddlers sitting or kneeling in any position in the boat

(Thurs 1-4) [Waterfront]

Rescue Rope Paul Klonowski & friends demonstrate various throw rope rescue techniques with time for hands on practice. There will also be a demonstration of how to harness a canoe for safe lining or tracking a canoe in current using a technique called a bridle. (Thursday 2:30-4:30PM) [Lakefront near dock]

Group Paddle to Spitfire & Upper St. Regis boathouses (Fri 8:30-12) (Wilson's) [Beach]

Paddle a Solo Canoe Alice Brylawski & members of Three Rivers Chapter facilitate canoe sharing so you can try out a solo canoe from among a selection of sizes and shapes. "Welsh" healing planks also available. (Fri 9-11) [Beach]

Contour Drawing Martha Ball shares an interesting drawing technique.
(Fri 1-3) [St. Regis Room]

Tour of Notable Canoes on the Green (WCHA Historians & members) (Fri 1-3)

Pressure Stove and Lantern Workshop

Barclay Foord guides you through a hands-on workshop to repair or refurbish your pressure lantern or stove. Bring your own, or adopt one on site. (Fri 2:30-4:30) [Construction Tent]

Water Quality & Clarity in Canoe Country Lakes

Professor Charles "Chuck" Rose (St. Cloud University, Minnesota) shares a variety of information about lake water quality affecting drinking water (waterborne pathogens) and fish and flora habitat. (Fri 3-4:30) [Pine Room]

Tour of Solo Canoes on the Green (WCHA Historians & members)

Sat. 9-11AM [Green]

Canoescapes

A gathering of people who love canoes and things and places that canoes take us to. It is a sharing of those thoughts, poetry, prose, music and readings that have special meaning to us and a connection to the canoe. Bring a special book, poetry, music and thoughts to share or just listen to what others offer. "Yesterday is ashes, tomorrow is wood, only today does the fire burn brightly". Sigurd Olson. Bring a reading to share, and a chair, or blanket to sit on the grass. (Mark Zalonis) (Fri 1-3PM) [Beach or St. Regis Room in case of rain]

Quilters Meeting Kits for next year's raffle quilt will be distributed. Bring "Show and Tell". (Fri 3-4:30PM) [St. Regis Room] (Becky Gordon)

Bird-Watching Paddling Excursion Ruth Zalonis leads a morning paddle to explore nearby birds. Meet @ Beach ready to go (Sat 8:30-11AM)

Chapters Meeting (Pete Shea)

Chapter Heads are asked to meet for breakfast to socialize prior to meeting to share what and how they plan and run Chapter activities. All active members of any Chapter are welcome to join in the discussion. (Sat 9-10AM) [St. Regis Room]

Assembly Feedback & Planning (A Burke, R Stevens)

Share what you like (or not) about this year's Assembly and what you'd like to help plan to happen next year. Note; We need to find a new venue for next year. (Sat 10-11AM) [St. Regis Room]

The New Canadian Canoe Museum

Executive Director Carolyn Hyslop and Curator Jeremy Ward bring updates about the new lakefront museum being built and the complexities of preparing and moving their unique watercraft collection to its new home. (Sat 10-11) [Pine Room]

Annual Fundraising Raffle and Auction [Main Tent]

Donations intake; Fran Sienkiewicz Thurs 1-5PM & Fri 9-Noon

Preview from Friday Noon.

Bidding opens at **2PM Saturday** on this popular and exciting event.

Auctioneer; Jack Nettleton

Assembly Group Photo Gather on the front porch of the Recreation Room, immediately after the Auction. (Sat 4PM) Wilson & Wilson, Esqs. [Joan Weill Student Centre]

Also "**Raising Cane**" Group photo of owners of Hugh Clark carved canes. Bring your cane.

CONSTRUCTION & RESTORATION Workshops, Classes, Demos, Displays, Videos;

Carve Your Own Paddle See “Pay as You Go” classes.

Leaking Proofing Your All Wood Boat

Geoffrey Burke (Chocorua Boatworks) does a reprise on his “Boat Soup” providing other traditional techniques for making all wood boats watertight. Geoff will talk about and demonstrate cutting laps and scarfs, clinch nailing and riveting.

(Wed 9-11) [Construction Tent]

Traditional Adirondack Guideboat Construction

Joe Spadaro displays and discusses traditional methods for construction of Adirondack Guideboats. (Wed 9-11, 1-4) [Canopy on the Green]

Restoring a 50 pound Trapper (Norumbega Chapter/Steve Lapey et al.)

(Wed 1-2) [Pine Room]

Recanvassing a Cedar Canvas Canoe (Bill Paine/NW Chapter) (Wed 2-3) [Pine Room]

James Bay Railway Travelling Canoe

Jim MacLachlan’s Northern Lakes Chapter talk about builder Joe Calnan

(<https://joecalnan.com/canoes-skiffs-and-batteaux.php>) reproducing a Henry K. Wickstead modified design of a Chestnut 14ft “Canadian Railway Canoe”.

(Wed 3-3:40) [Pine Room]

Fire Sale Tools (Johnson, Hutyera, Nolan)

Several long-time members have donated tools & canoe related items to be sold at bargain-basement prices. All proceeds to the WCHA. (Thurs 9-11) [Main Tent]

Fish or Fowl? Brad Fisher ponders the wood + fibreglass “Northland” canoe construction of Albert Maw. (Thurs 1-2) [Pine Room]

Canoe Seat Caning

Jean Bratton introduces and demonstrates about basic canoe seat caning material and process. (Fri 9-11) [Construction Tent]

Restoring a 42’ Peterborough War Canoe

Bob Henderson provides insight into the restoration of this unique 42’ Peterborough War Canoe built by Murdock for Taylor Statten Camps (Algonquin Park) in 1925.

(Sat 9-10) [Pine Room]

PADDLING SKILLS INSTRUCTION

WCHA Paddle Skills Coaches [Beach]

NOTE: All participants are expected to provide your own canoe, paddle & PFD.

Please SIGN UP at the Main Tent.

Spectators are welcome.

Day/Date	Time	Class
Wed July 13	6:30 - 7:45 am	Traditional Recreational Solo Basic (Pt 1)
	4:15 - 5:30 pm	Traditional Recreational Tandem Basic
Thurs July 14	6:30 - 7:45 am	Traditional Recreational Solo Intermediate (Pt 1)
	4:15 - 5:30 pm	Traditional Recreational Tandem Intermediate
Fri July 15	6:30 - 7:45 am	Traditional Recreational Solo Basic (Pt 2)
	3:00 - 5:00 pm	If You Capsize (adults and kids)
Sat July 16	6:30 - 7:45 am	Traditional Recreational Solo Intermediate (Pt 2)

PAY AS YOU GO classes:

Carve Your Own Paddle Caleb Davis offers ongoing (single & double-bladed) paddle-making workshops Thurs & Fri 9AM-4PM. (Class limit 4 per day)

Come make your own traditionally shaped cherry canoe paddle. Cost: \$115.

All proceeds donated to the WCHA.

Advanced registration required. Contact Caleb Davis by phone, text or e-mail.

1-518-409-2233 caleb.tremolo@gmail.com

Paddle blanks available; willow-leaf shaped (28 & 31 inch shafts) as well as native double blade kayak / canoe (54 inch shaft 24inch blades). All necessary hand tools provided.

All are welcome to participate but keep in mind about 8 hours of work. You will leave with a completed paddle except for the waterproof finish (materials provided to DIY).

Paint a Memory of canoeing on Lower St. Regis Lake

No art experience necessary. Each participant will create a guided painting to take home.

Register in advance at Reception table. Fee; \$15 materials fee for acrylic paint, brushes, and canvas (provided by instructor, Laurie Hasty) Max 10 per class, offered 2 times.

(Wed 1-4PM) [Pickett 110] (Wed 6:30-8PM) [Pickett 110]

CHILDRENS PROGRAM: (Coordinators; Mary Gauld & Lilie Welych)

Kids' Craft and Outdoor Activities

A variety of options will be available. -See the daily program in the Main Tent, check with Mary in the Dining Hall. Meet at Teepee after breakfast, or in case of rain, at the Student Center Recreation Room.

Kid's Hands on the Teepee

We maintain the tradition of painted handprints on the teepee. (Times TBA)

ADIRONDACK (FREESTYLE) CANOE SYMPOSIUM Concurrent event

<http://freestylecanoeing.com/adirondack-canoe-symposium/>

Candlelight Paddle on Lower St. Regis Lake

ACS folks provide the opportunity to paddle among LEDs and glowsticks. All welcome to participate. (Fri. dusk following Paddle By and Salute) [Lakefront]

ACS Freestyle Exhibition

Enjoy “canoe ballet” performed to music. (Church Pond is 100 yards beyond the front entrance of PSC) (Sat. 6:45-dusk) [Church Pond]

OFF CAMPUS EXCURSIONS:

EARLY BIRD ACTIVITY: Tuesday, July 12th from 10:15 to -11:15 AM.

Adirondack Experience (formerly Adirondack Museum) **Tour of the Collection** with Assistant Curator, Doreen Alessi-Holmes.

Group admission rates to the museum (\$17.50) and collection tour (\$5) available to WCHA members. Location; 9097 State Route 30 Blue Mountain Lake 60 miles / 1.25 hrs drive southwest of Paul Smith’s.

Pay Admissions at the museum’s main campus before driving to the Collections Study & Storage Center (CSSC). It is a 1.7-mile drive to CSSC from the main campus. Maps can be provided.

Guided Tour of White Pine Camp

Tour this Adirondack Great Camp.

Note; Walk, cycle or drive 2.5 miles from Paul Smith’s College.

Nominal \$5 fee. Limit 20 per timeslot. Sign up in the Info tent.

(Wed. 2:30-4:30, Thurs. 2:30-4:30)

Optional/Alternative - Paddle to White Pine Camp; Paddle (approx. 2.5 miles / 1.5 hours) from Church Pond (across the road from entrance to Paul Smith’s College) to Osgood Pond to meet the Leader and participate in the “Guided Tour of White Pine Camp

(Wed. 1-2:30, Thurs. 1-2:30)

<http://www.whitepinecamp.com/>

LOCAL INTERESTS & ATTRACTIONS:

St. Regis Canoe Area; <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/70572.html>

Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation; <http://www.briloon.org/adkloon>

PSC Visitor’s Interpretive Centre; VIC Summer programs; <http://www.paulsmiths.edu/vic/>
Calendar; www.paulsmiths.edu/vic/calendar

Adirondack Interpretive Centre; <http://www.esf.edu/aic/>

The Wild Center, Tupper Lake; <http://wildcenter.org/>

Six Nations Indian Museum; <http://www.sixnationsindianmuseum.com/>

Adirondack Scenic Railroad; www.adirondackrr.com

See especially, “River and Rail”; <http://ticknerscanoe.com/>

Hike Mt. St. Regis; <http://www.saranalake.com/recreation/hiking/st-regis-mountain>
<http://www.summitpost.org/saint-regis-mountain/155121>

Note; Challenging terrain, strenuous activity. Consider your physical condition, check the weather, bring water and wear appropriate footwear.

Northern Forest Canoe Trail; <http://www.northernforestcanoetrail.org/>