

2016 WCHA Annual Assembly Program Descriptions

Featured Evening Presentations:

Tuesday, July 12th; [Bobcat Café, Student Centre]

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

Wednesday, July 13th; [Freer Auditorium]

Kennebec Canoes (D Miller)

Restoring a Kennebec Junior (R Grace)

In the Footsteps of the Group of Seven (J & S Waddington)

Thursday, July 14th; [Freer Auditorium]

Tribute to Tom MacKenzie (jointly with ACS)

Annual Membership Meeting (Nolan)

Early 20th C Tarpon Fishing (M. Grace)

Allagash River Trip (Nolan & Gardner)

Friday, July 15th; [Waterfront]

Paddle By and Salute (Al Sienkiewicz)

Candlelight Paddle on Lower St. Regis Lake (ACS)

Saturday, July 16th; [Freer Auditorium]

Northern Forest Canoe Trail for Working Stiffs (Alice Brylawski)

Building every kind of canoe ... in 10,000 years or less (Bob Holtzman)

FEATURED EVENING PRESENTATIONS DESCRIPTIONS;

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

Kennebec Canoes Dan Miller provides an overview history of the Kennebec Canoe Company.

Restoring a Kennebec Junior River Grace shares his first restoration experience of a 14 foot Kennebec "Riverboy"

Tribute to Tom MacKenzie We join with members of the ACA's Adirondack Canoe Symposium to pay tribute to the late departed Tom McKenzie for his longtime contributions to both events and organizations.

Annual Membership Meeting (Thursday) President Greg Nolan convenes the Annual General Meeting.

Tarpon Fishing Michael Grace recounts early 20th century tarpon fishing by A.W. Dimock and son in Florida, featuring Peterborough, Rushton and dugout canoes.

Allagash River Trip WCHA President Greg Nolan and Deborah Gardner recount their recent Allagash River trip guided by Polly Mahoney & Kevin Slater (Mahoosuc Guide Services; <http://www.mahoosuc.com/>)

Paddle By and Salute (Friday) Parade of canoes [Waterfront]
Al Sienkiewicz introduces and describes canoes and their owners in this parade on the water.

Northern Forest Canoe Trail for Working Stiffs;

Alice Brylawski chronicles four summers paddling, walking, wading, and wheeling a series to complete an end to end of all sections of the Northern Forest Canoe Trail. The NFCT is a heritage canoe route that spans from Old Forge, New York through Vermont, Quebec, New Hampshire and Maine to New Brunswick. Alice travelled solo in a 13' American Beauty, and with husband Bryce in the final section down the Allagash in northern Maine, in a 16' EM White Guide. Come hear exciting tales of howling winds, terrifying rapids, bottomless mud, and scary animals (and how to mostly avoid all of the above).

Candlelight Paddle on Lower St. Regis Lake The Adirondack Canoe Symposium presents an opportunity to paddle around randomly placed buoys with light sticks and LED candles accompanied by music. WCHA folks are invited to participate. No sign-up. Just show up at dusk Friday.

In the Footsteps of the Group of Seven Jim & Sue Waddington share a lifetime of hiking and canoeing to find the original painting sites of Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven artists. The best known Canadian artists travelled by canoe in Algonquin and Bon Echo parks. They painted in the Georgian Bay islands and around Lake Superior. Jim and Sue will compare the artwork of some of the 550 painting sites that they have found with photographs of what the scenes looks like today.

Building Every Kind of Canoe ... in 10,000 years or less Bob Holtzman

Throughout history and prehistory, canoes have been built in seven fundamentally different ways: dugout, plank-on-frame, sewn plank, skin-on-frame, bark, basket, and balloon. These different building approaches have yielded canoe types of such diversity that we question whether “canoe” even signifies a definable boat type – a notion that will be addressed in a preamble. We will survey all the basic methods of canoe construction and attempt to show how each method evolved from its indigenous, prehistoric roots into a vast variety of historic canoe types, including every type that exists in the present. Bob Holtzman writes the blog Indigenous Boats (indigenousboats.com). He works as an editor and writer and is president of Mythic Gear (mythicdrysuits.com), a drysuit manufacturer in Rockport, Maine.

PROGRAM PERENNIALS:

Early Bird: Tuesday, July 14th, 10-11AM

Adirondack Museum Tours of the Collection with Assistant Curator, Doreen Alessi-Holmes. Group admission rates to the museum and collection tour available to WCHA members. That's \$15, compared to regular admission of \$18. [Blue Mountain Lake]

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]

Guided Tour of Kennebec Canoes on the Green

Resource People; Dan Miller, etc. (Thurs 1-2:30)

Guided Tour of Notable Canoes on the Green

Resource People; Dan Miller, Benson Gray, etc. (Fri. 3-4:30, Sat. 10-11:30)

New Attendee Orientation This session provides an opportunity to learn first-hand about the Assembly from the WCHA President, Greg Nolan. (Wed 8:30-9) [Pine Room]

Board of Directors meeting Elected Board members gather for their semi-annual meeting. (Wed 9-11) [Pine Room]

Quilting Workshop Make a small wall hanging or table mat using Bali batik fabrics. Bring your sewing machine if you can and a sewing kit. Extras will be available. Fabric kits with everything you need will be provided. Small cost for the kit. Class size 10. (Thurs 1-3:30) [Pickett 113]

Quilters’ Meeting Kits for next year’s raffle quilt will be distributed. Bring “Show and Tell”. (Fri 3-4:30) [Pickett 113]

Pro Builders Forum (Markle)

An opportunity for professional canoe builders to share ideas and provide feedback to WCHA President about how the organization can support and promote canoe sales, repair and restoration. (Fri 9-10) [Pine Room]

Ladies Tea Bring your fancy hats, china teacups and a fun-filled attitude. There will be tea, cookies and some surprises. Judy Nunnelly will talk about Chinese teas, tea-leaf reading, etc. Join us! (Fri 1-3) [Bobcat Cafe]

Paddle By & Salute 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 6:45-dusk) [Lakefront Dock/Launch Ramp/Student Centre]

Family Campfires Storytelling, music, sing-a-longs, S’mores and assorted informal entertainment and activities (Evenings, as weather permits)

Canoescapes (Mark Zalonis) Canoescapes is 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. (Fri 1-3) [Beach or LMS Lounge –in case of rain]

Assembly Feedback & Planning (A Burke, Stevens)

Share what you like (or not) about this year's Assembly and what you'd like to help plan to happen next year. **"Help Wanted" Volunteer opportunities** to join the **Assembly Planning Committee** (various roles) (Sat 10-11) [Pine Room]

Assembly Group Photo Gather in front of the Student Centre/Recreation Room porch immediately BEFORE the Auction. (Sat. 1:50PM) Wilson & Wilson

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

Annual Raffle and Auction Bidding opens at 2PM Saturday on this popular and exciting event. Preview from Friday Noon. Guest Auctioneers; Robert Ross & Geoffrey Burke.

To donate an item prior to Assembly, please contact Annie Burke; 603-323-8992

anniegburke@gmail.com [Info/Registration Tent]

WCHA Store Books, clothing, hats, and related items for sale. (Griffin Greene)

Open; Wed.-Fri. 9AM - 5PM, Sat. 9-11AM [Main Tent]

Guided Relaxation The intrepid Ruth Zalonis offers "Guided Relaxation" sessions including aromatherapy. Start off your day relaxed and refreshed!

(Wed, Thurs & Friday 8-8:30AM) [Lakeside Lounge]

Bird Walk (Ruth Zalonis): There are many rich birding areas on or near the PSC campus and we will explore some of them. Meet @ Recreation Room, Student Centre to carpool to nearby site. Come early and we will return to campus in time for breakfast. (Wed 6-7:30 AM)

Paddle Share (Stevens) Bring your paddles to allow others to try out a variety of styles, shapes, lengths, materials and construction types. (Wed. 2:30-4) [Waterfront Dock / Launch Ramp]

FROM THE CHAPTERS:

Visit the **Chapter One** (Western New York) tent to meet and socialize. (Ongoing) [Green]

WCHA in the UK Chapter Head Nick Dennis provides an overview of paddle-carving and canoe building in the UK and issues about water access. (Wed 1-2:30) [Pine Room]

Chapters Meeting (Kitchen)

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 9-10) [Pine Room]

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:

DIY Wine Making Retired teachers and home wine makers Julia Veronezi and Doug Cropper demonstrate the art of making wine using all natural ingredients. Bring your favourite local wine

and cheese to pair and share. Participants will leave with a half gallon of unfinished wine to take home. The materials and equipment fee is \$20, which includes a new reusable half gallon jug and air lock. All ingredients will be provided. Class size limited to 10 participants. (Thurs. 10-11:30) [Pickett 113]

Hobby Maple Syrup Production Greg Howe chronicles his introduction to maple sugaring in Vermont and how he has carried on this family tradition for more than 20 years near Canton, New York. (Fri. 1-3) [Pine Room]

Salesman's Model Canoes Display of rare model canoes with discussions by Roger Young, Benson Gray, Zach Smith, R.C. Cross, Michael Grace, Robert Ross & Glenn Raiche (Fri. 9-11) [Pine Room]

Canoe Carts A participatory workshop sharing the features and functionality of a variety of brands and designs of carts for transporting canoes. Please display carts in the corral beside the Student Centre from lunchtime. Tom McCloud (Thursday 3-4:30) [Waterfront Dock / Launch Ramp]

Campfire Cooking Larry Boeye demonstrates campfire cooking including an entire meal; appetizer, main course and dessert. (Fri 9-11) [Main Firepit]

Last of the Wild Rivers; The Past, Present, and Future of the Riviere DuMoine Watershed Author Wally Schaber guides on a trip through history on the DuMoine River (tributary of the Ottawa) in Quebec. (Fri. 3-4:30) [Pine Room]

Sawmill demonstration PSC Forestry Instructor Bob Brhel demonstrates lumber milling at the PSC sawmill. (Wed. 9-11) [Sawmill]

Logging with Horses PSC Forestry Instructor Bob Brhel shows how to move and transport logs using horses. (Thurs. 9-11) [PSC Stables] Directions; turn left out of the campus front exit, immediately turn left again onto Keese's Mill Rd (towards Alumni Campground). Travel about ½ mi. Stables on the left side. Parking along roadway. Also walkabout in about 15 minutes.

Adirondack Wildlife Refuge Display Volunteers from the ADK Wildlife Refuge show and answer questions about assorted wild birds, reptiles, and possibly a wolf. (Wed. 11-3) [Main Tent]

CANOE SKILLS INSTRUCTION: (WCHA Paddle Skills Coaches)

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

Class size max 6 solo, 12 tandem, Ages 12+ EXCEPT KID'S PROGRAM 8-14.

Please help us by selecting the appropriate class to match your present skill level.

Traditional Solo, Basic review, Caleb Davis & Jim MacLachlan

Intro, Traditional- Long smooth recreational stroke, What canoe? What paddle? Carry to water, enter & exit, Trim / Position (on knees) / Tempo, Steering, Basic forward stroke, Stopping, Sweep stroke forward and reverse, Cruising time. (Wed 6.30-7.45 AM) [Beach]

Introduction to Freestyle Techniques (tandem & solo), Kim Gass+

Learn some static strokes to make your canoeing touring easier. We will discuss the remaining elements of freestyle on land. This overview class will be geared to the paddler(s) who have never tried freestyle but are comfortable with going straight on paddling tours. Class is for seated or kneeling paddlers using a canoe paddle. Bring your own boat be it a solo or a tandem boat. (Wed 9.30-11AM) [Beach]

Traditional Tandem, Basic Review, Caleb Davis & Andy Hutyera

Intro, Traditional- Long smooth recreational stroke, What canoe? What paddle? Carry to water, enter & exit, Trim / Position / Tempo, Steering, Basic forward stroke, Stopping, Sweep stroke forward and reverse, Cruising time. (Wed 4.15- 5.30PM) [Beach]

Traditional Solo, Intermediate, Caleb Davis & Jim MacLachlan

Intro, Traditional- Long smooth recreational stroke, Brief review of “Basic review” class, J stroke, Draws & Push-away, Skulling. Cruising time. (Thurs 6.30-7.45AM) [Beach]

Kids Get Started Paddling Tandem 8-14, Kim Gass & Jim MacLachlan

What is taught depends on what sort of skills the kids bring. Tandem boats are needed. We strongly advise you come with a partner. This is not required but saves significant time for the class. Thurs 9.30-11AM (Gass) & Sat 9.30-11AM (MacLachlan) [Beach]

Traditional Tandem, Intermediate, Caleb Davis & Bill Hart

Intro, Traditional- Long smooth recreational stroke, Brief review of “Basic review” class, J stroke, Draws & Push-away, Skulling. Cruising time. (Thurs 4.15-5.30PM) [Beach]

Traditional Solo, Basic Review, Caleb Davis & Andy Hutyera

Intro, Traditional- Long smooth recreational stroke, What canoe? What paddle? Carry to water, enter & exit, Trim / Position (on knees) / Tempo, Steering, Basic forward stroke, Stopping, Sweep stroke forward and reverse, Cruising time. (Fri 6.30-7.45AM) [Beach]

Northwoods Kim Gass & Greg Nolan

Northwoods can be tandem, solo or even without a boat. The skills are practiced on land and then on the water. The Northwoods stroke is a traditional style of paddling from New England. The paddle is held quite horizontally and the cadence can be fast. It is a two part stroke; first part is power, with the second being correction and recovery done at the same time. It does not involve twisting the wrist. Fri 1.30-3PM [Beach]

Traditional Tandem, Basic Review, Jim MacLachlan & Caleb Davis

Intro, Traditional- Long smooth recreational stroke, What canoe? What paddle? Carry to water, enter & exit, Trim / Position / Tempo, Steering, Basic forward stroke, Stopping, Sweep stroke forward and reverse, Cruising time. (Fri 4.15-5.30PM) [Beach]

Traditional Solo, Intermediate, Jim MacLachlan & Bill Hart

Intro, Traditional- Long smooth recreational stroke, Brief review of “Basic review” class, J stroke, Draws & Push-away, Skulling. Cruising time. (Sat 6.30-7.45AM) [Beach]

Traditional Tandem, Intermediate, Andy Hutyera & Bill Hart

Intro, Traditional- Long smooth recreational stroke, Brief review of “Basic review” class, J-stroke, draws & push-away, sculling + cruising time. Sat 9.30-11AM [Dock]

CONSTRUCTION: [Construction Tents x2]

Knife-Making Dave Niles will show simple ways to put handles on purchased blades to make your own unique knife. Included will be a discussion on how to plan and form handle, including how to shape and finish it. An eclectic collection of unique, mostly handmade knives will be shown to spur interest. (Thurs. 1-3) [Construction Tent 1]

Steam Bending Ribs Greg Nolan and John Fitzgerald demonstrate steam bending ribs. Fri 9-11 [Construction Tent 1]

Steam Bending Gunnels in Place John Fitzgerald and Greg Nolan reveal the poly bag method of steam bending gunnels directly onto a canoe for better fit. Saturday 9-11 [Construction Tent 1]

Building the 6 hour canoe (Gillis/Upper Chesapeake Chapter)
Build a small solo canoe of plywood using the “stitch & glue” method. (Wed 9-11 & 1-4:30, Thurs.9-11) [Construction Tent 1]

Canoe Seat Caning Pam Wedd & Jean Bratton introduce basic canoe seat caning in this 2 part workshop. All tools and materials will be provided. A limited number of seat frames will be available to practice the technique, or for purchase. Or bring your own canoe seat all prepped and ready to cane. Class size 15. (Part 1; Thurs 9-12, Part 2; Fri 9-12)

Canoe Connections Mike Elliott (Kettle River Canoes), author of “This Old Canoe: How To Restore Your Wood-Canvas Canoe” (2016), tells stories about people, their canoes and the restoration challenges along the way. <http://www.canoeshop.ca/> (Thurs. 2:30-4:30) [Pine Room]

Carve a Paddle in One Hour Using old-fashioned woodworking hand tools, Geoff Burke will demonstrate how to make a one-piece spruce paddle in an hour. (Fri 1-2) [Construction Tent 2]

Carve your own paddle (Pay as you go - ongoing) Caleb Davis offers ongoing (single & double-bladed) paddle-making workshops Wed-Sat 9-4 through the duration of the Assembly. Work at your own pace. Each paddle takes approximately 5-7 hours to craft. Styles available; Traditional cherry canoe paddle (Willow leaf style), double bladed cherry Greenland style paddle or a cherry stand up paddle (SUP). \$110/person Max. 8
To reserve a spot contact; Caleb Davis <caleb.tremolo@gmail.com> or 518-624-2572

CHILDRENS PROGRAM: (Coordinator; Mary Gauld)

Kids get started paddling tandem 8-14, (WCHA Paddle Skills Coaches)

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

What is taught depends on what sort of skills the kids bring. Tandem boats are needed. We strongly advise you come with a partner. This is not required but saves significant time for the class. Thurs 9.30-11AM & Sat 9.30-11AM

Kids' Craft and Outdoor Activities Daily @ 10-11:30 AM & 1-2:30PM [meet at Teepee or Recreation Room –in case of rain] (Gauld)

Stepping Stones Rob Stevens and Mary Gauld assist in the casting of decorative concrete stepping stones for your garden.

Wind Chimes The Dombrowski family take the lead in constructing wind chimes from branches and other materials.

Nature Mosaics Mary Gauld and Lilie Welych Miller guide your creative expression using natural items collected from the forest.

Campfire Cooking Adult leaders assist the kids to cook a typical camping lunch around the campfire.

Kid's Hands on the Teepee We maintain the tradition of painted handprints on the teepee. (Thurs. 10 & Fri. 2:30)

Adirondack Museum Kids Activity ADK Museum leads a craft activity for children. (Fri 1-3) [Student Centre porch/Recreation Room]

Ceramic Tile Coasters (Hasty)

Laurie Hasty leads a decoupage session to turn an ordinary ceramic tile into a decorative coaster. Bring your favourite soda and cereal boxes. We are going to cut these up to make the coasters. Must be at least 10 years old or accompanied by a responsible adult. (Fri. 3-4:30) [Recreation Room porch]

Kids Woodworking Project Susan Christie will lead this workshop for kids (Fri. 10-11:30) [Recreation Room Porch]

LOCAL INTERESTS & ATTRACTIONS:

EARLY BIRD ACTIVITY: Tuesday, July 12th, 10-11AM

Adirondack Museum Tour of the Collection with Assistant Curator, Doreen Alessi-Holmes. Group admission rates to the museum and collection tour available to WCHA members. That's \$15, compared to regular admission of \$18. [Blue Mountain Lake]

ADDITIONAL, UNSCHEDULED AREA ATTRACTIONS:

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

PSC Visitor's Interpretive Centre; <http://www.adirondackvic.org/AboutVIC.html>

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; Strenuous activity. Take account of the weather, bring water and wear appropriate footwear.

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

Adirondack Wildlife Refuge; <http://www.adirondackwildlife.org/>

Adirondack Canoe Symposium

ACS Freestyle Demo (Fri. 6-6:45 preceding WCHA Paddle By and Salute) [Waterfront]

Candlelight Paddle on Lower St. Regis Lake

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

ACS Freestyle Exhibition (Sat. 6:45-dusk) [Church Pond]

Enjoy "canoe ballet" performed to music. (Church Pond is 100 yards beyond the front entrance of PSC)