

2017 WCHA Annual Assembly Program Descriptions

Featured Evening Presentations:

Tuesday, July 11th; [Bobcat Café, Student Centre]

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

Wednesday, July 12th; [Freer Auditorium]

Wilderness Secrets Revealed (Andre-Francois Bourbeau)

Shaw & Tenney Paddles and Oars Since 1858 (Steve Holt)

Folding Seats and Backrests (Grace)

Thursday, July 13th; [Freer Auditorium]

Annual Membership Meeting (Greg Nolan)

Canoes; A Natural History in North America (Mark Neuzil and Norm Sims)

Skin on Frame Boatbuilding (Hilary Russell)

Friday, July 14th; [Waterfront]

Paddle By and Salute (Al Sienkiewicz)

Candlelight Paddle on Lower St. Regis Lake (with ACS)

Saturday, July 15th;

Adirondack Canoe Symposium Freestyle Exhibition [Church Pond]

FEATURED EVENING PRESENTATIONS DESCRIPTIONS:

Paddler's Welcome Gathering Wine & cheese reception social event. [Bobcat Cafe/Student Center].

Wilderness Secrets Revealed (Andre-Francois Bourbeau)

<http://www.uqac.ca/wilderness/>

Skin on Frame Boatbuilding (Hilary Russell)

<http://www.berkshireboatbuildingschool.org/home/default.aspx>

Folding Seats and Backrests Michael Grace provides an overview of folding canoe seats and backrests.

Shaw & Tenney Paddles and Oars Since 1858 (Steve Holt)

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

Canoes; A Natural History in North America (Mark Neuzil and Norm Sims)

<https://www.upress.umn.edu/book-division/books/canoes>

Annual Membership Meeting President Greg Nolan convenes the Annual General Meeting. (Thursday) [Freer Auditorium]

Paddle By and Salute (Friday) [Waterfront]

Al Sienkiewicz introduces and describes canoes and their owners in this parade of canoes parade on the water.

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.

Adirondack Canoe Symposium Freestyle Exhibition (Sat. evening 6:45-dusk)
[Church Pond]

PROGRAM PERENNIALS:

Early Bird: Tuesday, July 11th, 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]

Tour of Notable Canoes on the Green (various WCHA Historians & members)
Rare, distinctive, 100 year old+ or challenging restoration. Introduce your canoe and tell the group a little about why it is special. (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 9-11) [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! (Thur 1-2:30) [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 after the Auction. (Sat. 4PM) 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. Auctioneer; Jack Nettleton
To donate an item prior to Assembly, please contact Annie Burke; 603-323-8992
annie@wcha.org [Main Tent]

WCHA Store Books, clothing, hats, and related items for sale. (Griffin Greene)
Open; Wed.-Fri. 9AM - 5PM, Sat. 9-12Noon [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 & Insect 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. Come early and we will return to campus in time for breakfast. (Wed 6-7:30 AM)

FROM THE CHAPTERS:

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

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:

Let Your Yoga Dance Jeanne Griffin-Greene provides instruction in yoga. (time/date)
[Locations]

Guided Paddle to Keese's Mill and Black Pond The intrepid Wilsons (Jim & Betsy) lead a group paddle on Lower St. Regis Lake to Keese's Mill with an optional short carry to explore Black Pond. (Fri. 9-11) [Beach]

"Hot" Camping Robin Lauer provides a display of his "Hot" camping (canvas tent with woodstove) gear to demonstrate techniques for extending the canoe seasons.
(Wed. 1-4 & Thurs. 9-11) On the Green

Tricks of the Trades Jackie Hutyera leads this practical discussion of women camping and canoeing. (Thurs.2:30-4) [Bobcat Cafe]

Camp Stove & Lantern Maintenance & Repair Barclay Foord and Stephen Poe provide an introduction and help to understanding how to maintain and repair your camp stove. Bring along your favorite model. (Fri. 3-4:30) [Pine Rm]

Photography WCHA Calendar photo-editors Jim and Betsy Wilson start off with a ½ hr introduction indoors, then lead a walk outdoors to practice tips and techniques. Bring whatever camera equipment you have from a big DSLR with tripod to your smartphone. You can make good images with any camera.
(Wed. 1-3) [Recreation Room]

Logging with Horses PSC Forestry Instructor Bob Brhel shows how to move and transport logs using horses. (Wed. 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.

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

Collecting Vintage Paddles Ken Kelly leads a condition on collecting vintage paddles. Members can bring their vintage paddles to discuss their provenance, features and collectability. (Wed.2:30-4:30) [Pine Room]

CANOE SKILLS INSTRUCTION: (WCHA Paddle Skills Coaches)

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

Please carefully read and choose what is appropriate for you so that each class can work on the assigned skills. We are increasing the # of classes and limiting the class size to give better personal attention. Please SIGN UP at the Registration tent. Spectators at the class location

are welcome. We are using two class locations (Beach & Main Waterfront Dock) so please be on time and at the correct location. Thanks.

Wednesday

POLING BASIC Joel Weinhold & Greg Nolan

This is a new offering. We have volunteers with basic skills who wish to help you get started. Poles are provided. Participant numbers limited (TBD). Your canoe should be similar to a Prospector design. (Wed. 6:30-7:45AM) [Main Waterfront Dock]

TRADITIONAL RECREATIONAL SOLO BASIC Caleb Davis & Ken Kelly

What type of canoe, what type of paddle, safety, carry to the water, entry/exit, trim, position, tempo, forward/reverse, stop, steering (stern rudder or J when appropriate), and some cruising time. NOTE: PADDLING ON YOUR KNEES. Limit 6 participants. (Wed 6:30-7:45AM) [Beach]

TRADITIONAL RECREATIONAL TANDEM BASIC Lyn Barsevskis & Brad Wyman

Safety, carry to the water, entry/exit, trim, position, tempo, forward/reverse, stop, steering (stern rudder or J when appropriate) and some cruising time. Limit 8 participants (Wed. 4:15-5:30). [Beach]

Thursday

TRADITIONAL RECREATIONAL TANDEM INTERMEDIATE Ken Kelly & Lyn Barsevskis

Review Basic and add sweeps forward/back, draw/push-away, sculling to/away, perfecting J stroke, and some cruising time. Limit 8 participants. (Thurs 6:30-7:45AM) [Main Waterfront Dock]

TRADITIONAL RECREATIONAL SOLO INTERMEDIATE Caleb Davis & Jim MacLachlan

Review Basic and add sweeps forward/back, draw/push-away, sculling to/away, perfecting J stroke and some cruising time. Limit 6 participants NOTE: PADDLING ON YOUR KNEES. (Thurs 6:30-7:45AM) [Beach]

NORTHWOODS STYLE PADDLING BASIC Greg Nolan

This can be done tandem or solo or even without a canoe. The skills are learned on land and then brought to 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; the first part is power, and the second is correction and recovery done at the same time. It does not involve twisting the wrist. Limit 4 participants (Thurs 6:30-7:45AM) [Beach]

TRADITIONAL RECREATIONAL TANDEM BASIC Andy Hutyera & Joel Weinhold

Safety, carry to the water, entry/exit, trim, position, tempo, forward/reverse, stop, steering (stern rudder or J when appropriate) and some cruising time. Limit 8 participants (Thurs 4:15-5:30). [Main Waterfront Dock]

TRADITIONAL RECREATIONAL TANDEM BASIC Jim MacLachlan & TBA

Safety, carry to the water, entry/exit, trim, position, tempo, forward/reverse, stop, steering (stern rudder or J when appropriate) and some cruising time. Limit 8 participants (Thurs 4:15-5:30). [Beach]

Friday

TRADITIONAL RECREATIONAL TANDEM BASIC SWITCH Caleb Davis & Andy Hutyera

Same as above but the partners switch positions and learn the "other" job. Limit 8 participants. (Fri 6:30-7:45AM) [Main Waterfront Dock]

TRADITIONAL RECREATIONAL SOLO BASIC Jim MacLachlan & Brad Wyman

What type of canoe, what type of paddle, safety, carry to the water, entry/exit, trim, position, tempo, forward/reverse, stop, steering (stern rudder or J when appropriate), and some cruising time. NOTE: PADDLING ON YOUR KNEES. Limit 6 participants. (Fri 6:30-7:45AM) [Beach]

KIDS GET STARTED Lyn Barsevskis & TBA

This class helps kids ages 8-14 develop their paddling skills. Specific skills are covered depending on what skills the kids bring. Tandem boats are needed. We strongly advise you to come with a partner as it saves significant time for the class. Limit 8 participants (Fri 9:30-11) [Main Waterfront Dock]

INTRODUCTION TO FREESTYLE TECHNIQUES FOR SOLO CANOE ACS Freestyle

Instructor TBA

Learn some strokes and maneuvers to make your canoe more obedient on lakes and rivers. This overview class will be geared to the paddler who has never tried freestyle but is comfortable with going straight on paddling tours. We will be kneeling. Bring your own boat, paddle, PFD and kneeling pad. Solo boats, kneeling pads and paddles will be available to borrow, if needed. Limited to 5 participants. (Fri 9:30-10:45) [Church Pond] – across the road from PSC.

TANDEM TEAM PADDLING ACS Freestyle Instructors TBA

Good teamwork is the key to successful and enjoyable tandem paddling. This class will focus on developing the "teamwork" approach, and might include paddling in sync, developing a good feel for what is happening at the other end of the canoe, responsibilities and repertoire of maneuvers for bow and stern paddlers, developing technique and finesse rather than just using strength, and maneuvers and strokes to encourage paddling efficiency. Bring your own boat, paddle and PFD. Limited to 4 canoes. (Fri 9:30-10:45) [Portage Landing Dock]

TRADITIONAL RECREATIONAL TANDEM INTERMEDIATE Andy Hutyera & Brad Wyman

Review Basic and add sweeps forward/back, draw/push-away, sculling to/away, perfecting J stroke, and some cruising time. Limit 8 participants. (Fri 4:15-5:30) [Beach]

Saturday

TRADITIONAL RECREATIONAL SOLO INTERMEDIATE Caleb Davis & Ken Kelly

Review Basic and add sweeps forward/back, draw/push-away, sculling to/away, perfecting J stroke and some cruising time. Limit 6 participants NOTE: PADDLING ON YOUR KNEES. (SAT 6.30-7.45AM): [Beach]

POLING BASIC Joel Weinhold

This is a new offering. We have volunteers with basic skills who wish to help you get started. Poles are provided. Participant numbers limited (TBD). Your canoe should be similar to a Prospector design. (Sat. 6.30-7.45AM) [Main Waterfront Dock]

CONSTRUCTION: [Construction Tents x3]

Dick Christie Memorial Tool Demo Susan Christie and Dave Niles demonstrate the adjustment and use of spokeshaves, block and compass planes in canoe restoration. Advice on buying block planes & spokeshaves and how to sharpen them will be shared as well as a demonstration of compass plane use. Participants will have the opportunity sharpen and adjust a block plane. Bring your own block plane for maximum learning.
(Fri. 1-3) [Construction Tent 3]

War Canoe Restoration Bob Henderson presents the build history of a Chestnut Canoe Company war canoe form. (Fri 10-11) [Pine Room]

Lapstrake Canoe Building Geoffrey Burke discusses the history, construction and use of traditional light-weight lapstrake canoes, which are indigenous to the Adirondack region.
(Wed, 1-2:30) [Pine Room]

Skin on Frame Boatbuilding Hilary Russell (<http://www.berkshireboatbuildingschool.org/>) demonstrates rib bending and lashing and application of skin to the boat frame. (Thursday to Saturday Noon) [Construction Tent 3] (Also **“SOF Boatbuilding Explained”** Thurs. evening Freer Auditorium)

Applying DACRON canoe covering (Gillis/Upper Chesapeake Chapter)
Practical demonstration of the technique for applying DACRON on a canoe as a light-weight alternative to traditional canvas. (Wed 9-11 & 1-4:30 ??) [Construction Tent 1]

History and Use of the Axe Geoffrey Burke discusses the history, and demonstrates the care and the use of this essential tool. (Fri. 1-3) [Fire Pit]

“Pay as You Go” classes:

Weave an Adirondack Packbasket Sandy Muller of Clearwater Weavers leads an **all day** workshop Thursday; \$80 large, \$70 small, harness \$20 (red or green) [Construction Tent 1]

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. Come make your own traditionally shaped cherry canoe paddle. The class takes 6-8 hours and you can complete it in one day or come several days. You will get a blank(shapes; Willow Leaf, modified Beavertail (Malecite) or Voyageur) and only use hand tools that are all provided. Class cost is \$110.00 and you leave with a completely shaped paddle. Finish varnish, oils, sandpaper etc. are available. Check out the website for more information tremolopaddles.wcha.org email or call to reserve. [518-624-2572](tel:518-624-2572)

CHILDRENS PROGRAM: (Coordinator; Mary Gault)

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

Also, evening campfires, games and movies [various locations]
S'mores, baked apples and hot dogs on the fire. [Fire Pit]
Schedule to be determined based on the weather.

Kids Get Started Paddling Ages 8-14 (WCHA Paddle Skills Coaches)
NOTE: All participants are expected to provide your own canoe, paddle & PFD.
(Fri 9-11) [Main Waterfront Dock]

Campfire Cooking Adult leaders assist the kids to cook a typical 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)

Kid's group photo (Sat 10AM) [Teepee]

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

Kids/Family Paddling & Picnic*

Lyn Barsevskis & Jim MacLachlan lead a paddling excursion.
Sign up in Main Tent by Friday noon so we can order box lunches from the dining hall.
(Sat 9:30-1:30) [Beach]

LOCAL INTERESTS & ATTRACTIONS:

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

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]

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)