

2019 WCHA 40th Annual Reunion Assembly

“Centenarian Canoes”

ASSEMBLY PROGRAM

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. (Griffin Greene)
Open; Wed.-Fri. 9AM-4PM, Sat. 9AM-12Noon

Annual Raffle and Auction 2PM Saturday

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

Preview from Friday Noon. Auctioneer; Jack Nettleton

FEATURED EVENING PRESENTATIONS:

Tuesday, July 16th;

Paddler’s Welcome Gathering Wine & cheese reception social event. [Bobcat Café]

Wednesday, July 17th; [Pine Room]

A Day in the Life of a Canoe Shop Rollin Thurlow/Northwoods Canoes

Restoring Fancy Old Canoes: A Book in Progress Mike Elliott/Kettle River Canoes

Hidden Heritage: The Deep History of Lakes and People in the Adirondacks Curt Stager

Thursday, July 18th; [Pine Room]

Annual Membership Meeting (President; Michael Grace)

WCHA at 40: Looking Back and Looking Forward (Gardner)

Music from the Golden Age of Canoeing (Tom McCloud)

Friday, July 19th; [Lakefront]

ACS Freestyle Demo

Paddle By and Salute (Al Sienkiewicz)

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

Saturday, July 20th; [Pine Room]

ACS Exhibition (Church Pond)

Open Mic

Traditional Square Dance

FEATURED EVENING PRESENTATION DESCRIPTIONS:

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

A Day in the Life of a Canoe Shop Rollin Thurlow provides an overview of the layout and function of Northwoods Canoes, of Atkinson, Maine.

Restoring Fancy Old Canoes: A Book in Progress Mike Elliott, author of upcoming "This Fancy Old Canoe: A Collector's Guide To Restoring Antique Canoes", talks about restoration of fancy canoes such as courting canoes, sponsons, long-decked canoe, etc.

Hidden Heritage: The Deep History of Lakes and People in the Adirondacks Professor Curt Stager presents current research on the long human presence in these mountains, including ancient dugouts found in local lakes.

Annual Membership Meeting President Michael Grace convenes the Annual General Meeting.

40th Anniversary Reminiscences: Deborah Gardner curates a special video featuring interviews with Founders. Also, photo slideshow of memorable people and moments in the history of our organization.

Music from the Golden Age of Canoeing Tom McCloud shares the fruits of extensive research into vintage music about canoes and canoeing.

ACS Freestyle Demo As WCHA members launch and line up for the Paddle By and Salute, members of the Adirondack Canoe Symposium demonstrate "Freestyle" ie. canoe "ballet"

Paddle By and Salute

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

Candlelight Paddle on Lower St. Regis Lake Adirondack Canoe Symposium members lead a night-time paddle on the Lakefront illuminated by glow sticks and LED lights. All welcome to participate.

ACS Exhibition

Participants in the Adirondack Canoe Symposium demonstrate "Freestyle" canoeing techniques on Church Pond accompanied by music.

Open Mic Share your musical talents, singing, poetry, standup comedy, or other performance skills.

Traditional Square Dance Join in this traditional square dance with live music.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:

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)

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

Raffle Quilt Reunion Jim and Wendy Morris curate a collection of the annual raffle quilts will be displayed Thursday evening during the Annual Membership Meeting for all to enjoy. (Thursday-Saturday) [Pine Room]

Tour of Notable Canoes on the Green (various WCHA Historians, Pro Builders & members) (Fri. 3-4:30PM) & Sat. 9:30-11AM) [Green]

Board of Directors meeting Elected Board members gather for their semi-annual meeting. (Wed 8-11AM & Fri 8-11AM) [Board Room, Basement of Joan Weil Student Centre]

Guided Bird Walk Ruth Zalonis leads a walk through the university Wildlife Sanctuary Trail area. (Wed. 8-9AM) [Meet at Parking Lot in front of Joan Weill Student Centre]

New Attendee Orientation This session provides an opportunity to learn first-hand about the Assembly from the WCHA President, Michael Grace. (Wed 8:30-9AM) [St. Regis Room]

Tying One On Mark Zalonis leads a demonstration of basic knots for attaching canoes to roof racks and trailers. Learn the bowline, slip knot, daisy chain, and trucker's hitch. Includes time for hands on practice. (Wed 1-3PM) [Gazebo]

Photography in Nature Join WCHA calendar editors, Jim and Betsy Wilson, for a session to help improve your nature photography. Jim and Betsy will cover some basic rules and some more advanced techniques to take your photos from snapshots to something you might want to hang on your living room wall. Bring your cameras and questions. Jim and Betsy will be around all week (if they aren't out paddling), and you can feel free to ask questions whenever you see them. (Wed. 1-3PM) [Recreation Room, Joan Weil Student Centre]

Evening Paint'n'Sip; Enjoy a soothing, stimulating drink (BYOB) while you explore the experience of artistic painting. Laurie Hasty (Wed 6:30-8PM) [Pickett 110]

Quilting Workshop The Quilter's Workshop will be making braided bookmarks. It is a fun and quick technique! There will be multiple fabrics to choose from or you can bring some of your own favorite fabrics. You will need 3 contrasting fabrics at least 4" x 8". There is minimal sewing but an extra sewing machine with decorative stitches would be handy. Cost will be \$1.00 per bookmark. Class size 10. (Thurs 9-11AM) [St. Regis Room]

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]

Tricks of the Trade – Women and Canoeing Anatomical differences between men and women present some unique challenges to physiological functions for women in the wilderness. Jackie Hutyera offers this workshop which provides an opportunity for a candid, same-sex discussion of such things as, “how to pee in the wilderness”. Join in the conversation. Women only. (Thurs 2:30-4:30) [Bobcat Café]

Dam Hydraulics and Safety as it Pertains to Paddlers Russ Hicks, of the Association of State Dam Safety (Michigan) presents an overview of safety for paddlers near hydraulic dams. (Thurs 1-2:30PM) [St. Regis Room]

Rescue Rope Paul Klonowski and Rolf Kraiker will demonstrate various throw rope rescue techniques with time for hands on practice. Additionally there will a demonstration of how to harness a canoe for safe lining or tracking a canoe in current using a technique called a bridle. (Thursday 3-4:30PM) [Lakefront dock]

Pro Builders Forum An informal discussion for professional canoe builders about how the organization can support and promote canoe sales, repair and restoration, and how builder members can contribute to the WCHA. (Thurs 9-10:30) [Pine Room] (Moderators; Pam Wedd & Lew Markle)

Cast Iron Cooking on a Wood Fire Larry and Nancy Boeye demonstrate cooking over an open fire, including an appetizer, main course, and dessert. (Fri 1-3PM) [Lakefront firepit]

Reading Rapids to Decide if it's Safe to Go Rolf Kraiker shares his expertise in how to evaluate the safe runability of whitewater rapids to determine whether it is safe to paddle or portage. (Fri 1-2:30PM) [Pine Room]

Canoescapes This is a gathering to share thoughts, poetry, prose, music and readings that have special meaning and connection to canoes. Example; “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]

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 6:45PM-dusk) [Lakefront, Joan Weil Student Centre]

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 (Craig 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 9-10AM) [St. Regis Room]

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 10-11AM) [St. Regis Room]

Annual Raffle and Auction Bidding opens at 2PM Saturday on this popular and exciting event. [Main Tent] Donations intake Thurs 1-5PM & Fri 9-Noon Preview from Friday Noon. 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.

Open Mic & Traditional Square Dance

Share your musical talents, singing, poetry, standup comedy, or other performance skills. Learn traditional Square Dance, featuring live music (Gardner) (Sat 7-10PM) [Pine Room]

"PAY AS YOU GO" classes:

Carve Your Own Paddle (Pay as you go - ongoing) Caleb Davis offers ongoing (single & double-bladed) paddle-making workshops Wed-Fri 9AM-4PM.

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. Hand tools provided. Class cost is \$110.00 and you leave with a completely shaped paddle. Finish varnish, oils, sandpaper etc. are available.

Build a Wanigan Craig Johnson & Rob Stevens lead you in building your own Baltic birch plywood wanigan. All materials provided. Max. 12 Cost=\$25

Sign up in the Main Tent. (Wed 9-11:30AM)

Also see; "Decorate a Wanigan" (Fri. 3-4:30)

Paint a Memory of canoeing on Lower St. Regis lake at the WCHA Assembly! No art experience necessary. Each participant will create a guided painting to take home.

Register in advance at Reception table. Fee; \$20 materials fee for acrylic paint, brushes, and canvas (provided by instructor, Laurie Hasty) Max 10 (Wed 1-4PM) [Pickett 110]

CONSTRUCTION Workshops, Classes, Demos, Displays; [Construction Tents]

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

Build a Wanigan See “Pay as You Go” classes. Also see; “Decorate a Wanigan”.

Color Matching Don Kerr shares his alchemy on how to make new wood look 100 years old. (Wed 1-4PM) [Special Events Tent]

Finishing Forum A panel of experienced professionals provide an overview of key information about application of shellac, marine paint and spar varnish. (Wed 9-11AM) [Special Events Tent]

Traditional Adirondack Guideboat Construction Joe Spadaro demonstrates traditional methods for construction of Adirondack Guideboats. (Wed 9-11, 1-4) [Canopy on the Green]

Scherzo Geoffrey Burke examines a 13' lapstrake canoe built in 1887 by the St. Lawrence River Boatworks in Clayton, NY. (Fri 1-3PM) [Special Events Tent]

How to modify a trailer to haul a canoe Laird Smith provides a sample of an inexpensive utility trailer (Harbor Freight) and discusses how he converted it into a canoe hauling rig using simple hardware and angle iron. The trailer can be broken down for storage with little or no tools. (Thurs. 9-11AM) [Lakefront, Joan Weill Student Center]

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 9AM-12Noon, Part 2; Fri 9AM-12Noon) [Construction Tent 1]

Carving a Herreshoff Spoonblade Double Paddle Susan Christie shares the techniques learned from her father (Dick Christie) for carving a Herreshoff-design double bladed paddle. (Thurs 1-3PM) [Construction Tent 1]

Knife Share Dave Niles guides a “Show & Tell” of many assorted straight blade knives. He will show a couple of ways to make a knife with a purchased blade. Bring along a knife to share its story. (Thurs 3-4:30PM) [Special Events Tent]

Refurbishment of old kerosene lamps Laird Smith shares the ins and outs of use, maintenance and restoration of kerosene lamps and lanterns. (Fri. 1-3PM) [Construction Tent 1]

Decorate a Wanigan Rob Stevens shares techniques and materials for decorating your wooden wanigan, including; freehand painting, design transfer, stenciling, decorative nail patterns and pyrography. (Fri 3-4:30PM) [Construction Tent 1]

Decorate Your Own 40th Anniversary Souvenir Mini-Paddle;

12" mini-paddles in a variety of woods (white cedar, mahogany, black cherry, black walnut, maple and birch) will be available to decorate using markers, acrylic paint or wood-burning (pyrography). (Sat. 9-11AM) [Construction Tent 1]

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

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.

Family Paddling Join Lyn Barsevskis & Jim MacLachlan as they lead a family paddling excursion. Sign up in Main Tent by Friday noon so we can order box lunches from the dining hall. (Sat 9:15AM-2PM) [Meet at Beach]

ADIRONDACK CANOE SYMPOSIUM

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

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)

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]

OFF CAMPUS EXCURSIONS:

EARLY BIRD ACTIVITY: Tuesday, July 16th, 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.

<https://www.theadkx.org/>

Note: Blue Mountain Lake is 60 miles / 1.25 hrs drive southwest of Paul Smith's

Naturalist Guided Visit to the Wild Center Meet WCHA member Larry Boeye at the Wild Centre in Tupper Lake; <http://wildcenter.org/> (Sat 9-12) Note; location is 30 miles from Paul Smith's College.

LOCAL INTERESTS & ATTRACTIONS:

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

PSC Visitor's Interpretive Centre; VIC Summer programs;
<https://www.paulsmiths.edu/vic/programs/>

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.

Adirondack Experience; The Museum on Blue Mountain Lake; <https://www.theadkx.org/>

The Adirondack Mountain Club; <https://www.adk.org/>

Visit Adirondacks; <https://visitadirondacks.com/>

Adirondack Attractions; <http://adkatractions.com/>

Lake Placid; <https://www.lakeplacid.com/>

Saranac Lake; <https://www.saranalake.com/>

Tupper Lake; <https://www.tupperlake.com/>

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

Adirondack Folk School; <https://www.adirondackfolkschool.org>

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

Adirondack Scenic Railroad; www.adirondackrr.com
See especially, "River and Rail"; <http://ticknerscanoe.com/>

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

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

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

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

CANOEING SKILLS INSTRUCTION/SAFETY:

(Jim MacLachlan & WCHA Paddle Skills Coaches + ACS Instructors)

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 three class locations (Beach, Main Lakefront Dock & Portage Landing Dock) so please be on time and at the correct location. Thanks.

WEDNESDAY

POLING BASICS Joel Weinhold

Learn basic stand up poling skills. Poles are provided. Participant numbers limited (TBD). Your canoe should be similar to a Prospector design. (Wed. 6:30-7:45AM) [Main Lakefront Dock]

TRADITIONAL RECREATIONAL TANDEM BASIC Lyn Barsevskis & Andy Hutyera

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 SOLO BASIC Caleb Davis

Exclusive almost private lessons with the Master. Limit 2 participants. Contact: Caleb caleb.tremolo@gmail.com well ahead of time to confirm availability. (Thurs 6:30-7:45AM) [Beach]

TRADITIONAL RECREATIONAL SOLO INTERMEDIATE* Colin Whitehead

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 Lakefront Dock]

Rescue Rope Paul Klonowski and Rolf Kraiker will demonstrate various throw rope rescue techniques with time for hands on practice. Additionally there will a demonstration of how to harness a canoe for safe lining or tracking a canoe in current using a technique called a bridle. (Thursday 3-4:30PM) [Lakefront]

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 Lakefront Dock]

TRADITIONAL RECREATIONAL TANDEM INTERMEDIATE*

Brad Wyman & Colin Whitehead

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

Exclusive almost private lessons with the Master. Limit 2x2 participants. Contact: Caleb caleb.tremolo@gmail.com well ahead of time to confirm availability. (Fri 6:30-7:45AM) [Beach]

TRADITIONAL RECREATIONAL SOLO BASIC Colin Whitehead

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]

NORTHWOODS STYLE PADDLING BASIC Alice Brylawski

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 (Fri 6:30-7:45AM) [Portage Landing]

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. 9:30-10:45AM) [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. 9:30-10:45AM) [Portage Landing Dock]

Reading Rapids to Decide if it's Safe to Go Rolf Kraiker shares his expertise in how to evaluate the safe runability of whitewater rapids to determine whether it is safe to paddle or portage. (Fri 1-2:30PM) [Pine Room]

TRADITIONAL RECREATIONAL TANDEM SWITCH Lyn Barshevskis & Colin Whitehead
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 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. (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 Lakefront Dock]

Family Paddling Join Lyn Barshevskis & Jim MacLachlan as they lead a family paddling excursion. Sign up in Main Tent by Friday noon so we can order box lunches from the dining hall. (Sat 9:15AM-2PM) [Meet at Beach]