



# PADDLE

## Our Trip to Broughton Archipelago

Feeling frustrated at my lack of ability to round up a couple of friends to do a Sunday day-paddle with me, I remembered a friend who had spoken with enthusiasm of an organization called SKABC. I looked them up on the internet and went along to my first meeting. It was on the beach in August. I arrived too late to hear the fishing stories, however, I duly paid my membership fee and was given a magazine and the secret password.

To my absolute delight I saw my dream trip advertised. Ten days kayaking with the whales in Johnstone Straight. Fully believing the trip would be organized by now, I nevertheless sent off an email to Bill, the co-ordinator. To my great surprise, he mailed back to say they had just had a cancellation and I was welcome to join, if I could manage to rent a kayak.

The next week was hectic. I had to justify an unexpected vacation at our busiest time of the year, work long hours to get my deadline out and somehow get together the gear for my very first camping trip – ever. I was a little apprehensive. I was about to set out to the “wilds” with six people I had not yet met.

Tuesday arrived and we met in Vancouver and loaded my little car to its limit, then set out in convoy with another fully loaded little car to Horseshoe Bay and the ferry to Nanaimo. We stopped to play mini-golf and got to know the others on the way. We finally arrived at Telegraph Cove much later than intended., booked the boats and set up camp in the dark, had a quick supper and off to bed.

Our start on Wednesday was a little frustrating as our 3 hatch double kayak had rudder trouble and a hatch cover missing and needed repairs. Staff at the rental shop were competent and helpful, but we lost our advantage of leaving early with the tide. It did not matter. We paddled for a couple of hours up towards Robson Bight, found a great beach to camp and proceeded to unload the boats and set up camp.

We were soon rewarded by the sight of a pod of whales passing by. As soon as the kayaks were unpacked, we took to the water and paddled towards Robson Bight where we were rewarded again by more whales. I will never forget the look on Stephanie’s face when she realized the pod was

(continued on page 5)

### Next Meeting

Tuesday

November 2, 2004

Van. Maritime Museum  
7:30 p.m.

Marine Mammals of the  
Pacific North West  
by  
Walt Walmsley  
from the  
Vancouver Aquarium

\* \* \*

No Tuesday Meeting In December

### Upcoming Events

**The Christmas Party** - set for Saturday, December 11th at 7 pm. The party will be at the Vancouver Museum, downstairs. It is a Pot Luck, however, the Club will supply and cook the Turkey.

**Robbie Burns Evening** - Saturday, January 29, 2005 6 pm - 11 pm. Vancouver Museum - downstairs

**Tsunami Award** - It is an annual Award given to a member voted by the members for outstanding contribution, years service to the club. Members, send in your vote to [kayaker@shaw.ca](mailto:kayaker@shaw.ca) The Executive will set up a sub-committee to overlook the votes and come up with a recipient.

## SKABC Executive

President:

Steve Moon..... 604-298-0893

Vice-President:

Roxanne Rousseau

..... rrousseau@mrl.ubc.ca

Secretary:

Janet Letourneau

..... jletourneau@shaw.ca

Treasurer:

Phyllis Mallett ..... solander@shaw.ca

Membership:

Edwin Bussey ..... 604-434-1739

Training: Position Vacant

Trips:

Dan Wicke (chair)..... 604-734-2955

See trip committee list and contacts on last page

Programs:

Heather Hamilton ..... 604-731-2446

Library:

Ray Saadien .....saadien@telus.net

Safety Officer:

Mark Kelly ..... mkelly@mec.ca

Social:

Sue McLeish ..... smmleish@shaw.ca

Conservation Liaison:

VACANT

Outdoor Recreation Council (ORC):

Tony Clayton ..... 604-921-7947

Website:

Edwin Bussey ..... 604-434-1739

SKABC Newsletter:

Blair Mann .....604-836-8712

Email: bmann@fivestarwebnet.com

Affiliate Club Contacts:

Al Eskelson– Cowichan Kayak and

Canoe Club: (250) 416-0607

dm-al@shaw.ca

Rod Moorcroft - SCAPE:

(604) 886 – 7923

rod.moorcroft@hspp.ca

### MEMBERSHIP YEAR:

April 1 to March 31. The fee is \$45.00 for one year and is pro-rated for new members only.

SKABC Mailing Address:

Box 751, Station “A”

Vancouver, BC V6C 2N6

## Editorial

The Sea Kayak Association of BC held its Annual General Meeting last month. As you can see from the updated Executive list on the left, there are a number of new names. We are all looking forward to an exciting new season of enjoyable kayaking.

The newsletter not only provides members with practical information and resources, it is also your voice to let other members know about your trips, tips and experiences. This is your newsletter. It depends upon your submissions. Whether it's a story about a trip you under took with a group, information on currents, tides or navigations or for the best way to secure your kayak to a roof rack, gel coat an old hull or pack your boat for a weekend trip .... I'd like to publish it for you. To this, I'd like to thank the author of this month's feature publication, *Our Trip to Broughton Archipelago*. I must apologize as I don't know the author's name and would like to acknowledge them in the next newsletter. Please send me an email so I can give the writer due credit.

I've taken on the volunteer position as editor for the newsletter. It's taken a bit of time get up to speed and pull the information together. With your help, we can make this publication a newsletter to look forward to each month.

I look forward to hearing form you.

Blair Mann

## Contact the Newsletter

If you have content for the newsletter, you can send it by:

Email to bmann@fivestarwebnet.com,

snail mail 871 Bayview Drive,

Delta, BC

V4M 2R5,

or phone (604-836-8712) to arrange sending a fax.

**The Publishing Deadline is the 10th of each month**

If you need to change the address your newsletter goes to,

log onto:

**WWW.SKABC.ORG**

Click on “Members”

Username: skabc

Password: umiak

**FOR SALE**

Thule Rack with 58" bar that fits small to medium size vehicles with no rain gutter. \$230.00 or O.B.O.

Thule Kayak Cradles for sale with straps attached \$100.00

Please call Maria at 604-939-7176 or mariarp@telus.net if interested.

**Now Available**

The new Navigation DVD at a one time deal to Club Members of SKABC, PIKA, Cork and Kelowna Canoe and Kayak Club at 20% of the retail price.

Cost is 39.95 less 20% plus tax. I would deliver them at no cost to a downtown location. This makes a wonderfull Xmas present and is very well done, with the primary instructor being John Dawson and includes John Dowd, Shelley Johnston and Lee Moyer.

If anyone in the Club is interested, please send orders to Steve Moon.

**Ecomarine Freebies**

The doors will open at 7pm and the seminars will start at 7:30pm. There will be tea available for guests. All evening seminars are free of charge.

November 9, 2004

Travels through Tonga

Settle back with the Ecomarine staff and 8 year old Tessa as we explore the hidden reaches of Tonga by folding kayak. Often seen as a paddlers paradise, this south sea locale is full of white beaches, undersea treasures and unmatched cultural events.

December 14, 2004

History of Nautical Charts

We follow the early map makers and their efforts to discover a new and mysterious world.

Huge thanks to SKABC for supporting TLC's 3rd Annual Indian Arm Paddle-a-thon!

A number of your members were among the 95 paddlers who joined us September 26th for our paddling fund raiser. We had a beautiful sunny day, the water was calm and clear, and we raised just about \$10,000.00 for the protection of Thwaytes Landing.

Special thanks to SKABC members Peter Kearney and Maureen Benzon for coming out and volunteering their time as roving kayakers. The two of them kept their eyes and ears peeled for fellow kayakers who might need assistance. Luckily the day went off without incident and fun was had by all. Thank you Peter and Maureen!

TLC greatly appreciates the continued support of SKABC!

Sincerely,

Tracy Keeling

TLC The Land Conservancy of BC  
5655 Sperling Avenue  
Burnaby, BC V5E 2T2  
P 604-733-2313 F 604-299-5054  
[www.conservancy.bc.ca](http://www.conservancy.bc.ca)

**In Recognition**

A Letter of Recognition was received for Peter Kearney and Maureen Benzon for their help with the TLC 'The Land Conservancy of BC' thanking them for volunteering their time with the 'Thwaytes Landing Day'.

**Ecomarine 'Family and Friends Day'**

Friday Dec. 3rd 10am - 8pm

All or most merchandise on sale.

All are welcome.

**Solstice GTS Kevlar for Sale**

Solstice GTS is suitable for small to medium built paddlers who have hard time keeping up with others in speed and distance. With GTS Kevlar you can join the faster group and circumnavigation of Bowen Island will not be difficult. Its high initial stability makes it suitable for beginners as well.

Goto: [www.cdkayak.comkayak\\_scompssolsticets.asp](http://www.cdkayak.comkayak_scompssolsticets.asp) for more details.

My green on white GTS Kevlar is two year old and in excellent condition with loads of improvements such as a under-deck dry bag suspender and wet storage webbing in the cockpit for multi-day trips, hip and thigh braces for better boat control, lots of reflectors and more.

Comes with Aquabound ATM Tripper 230/225 paddle, Current Designs spray skirt and paddle float.

Asking \$3,800  
Contact Kazuo at 604-985-0241 or [kshiroki@gai21.net](mailto:kshiroki@gai21.net)

## A Thank You Party

On behalf of the trips and training committee along with the rest of the SKABC club, I would like to invite you all to a thank-you party. The party is by invite only for those people, along with their partners, who have kindly volunteered their time, whether it be leading a trip, teaching/assisting a course or helping the executive in some way, to make the club run as smoothly as it did last year. Currently there are around 50 people plus partners invited. The information is as follows:

The party is scheduled for Saturday, November 20th at 6:00pm and Peter Kearney has graciously opened his house for the occasion (we will send directions to his home closer to the date). This is a potluck, therefore those people with FIRST names from A to G bring a salad or an appie, H to P bring a side dish, Q to Z bring a dessert. SKABC will be supplying fresh salmon, meats, and drinks along with a number of excellent door prizes.

Right now I would like to get an idea of how many people intend on going, so please send me a quick e-mail letting me know if you would be coming and if you are bringing someone with you.

Thanks and I look forward to hearing from you!!!

Dan Wicke  
Chair - Trips Committee  
SKABC

## SKABC Radios

Five are available free of charge to members participating in club trips.

Radios are kept at:

North Van:

Tim Morris, 604-929-1302,

East Van:

Cindy Carson, 604-327-9796

Karin Rennert 604-873-4411

Vancouver:

Rob Leeson 604-739-1201,

Dan Wicke 604-734-2955.

**Please note: A Radio Operator's Certificate is strongly recommended.**

If you don't have a VHF radio, cell phones are an option areas with available coverage. Dial \*16 to connect directly with the Vancouver Coast Guard Radio or \*311 to directly connect to the Victoria RCC (Rescue Coordination Centre). Or dial 911

## DISCLAIMER

Kayaking is inherently a risky activity involving unpredictable weather and water conditions. All SKABC trips are considered to involve "groups of common adventurers".

Trip participants must personally assess the risks involved in relation to their own level of skills and experience and are solely responsible for their own safety. The publication of kayak trips in this newsletter, on the website and elsewhere does not imply SKABC's endorsement of the trip itinerary, the coordinator's competency or safety practices involved.

## Reflective Decals

### For Sale

One of the biggest safety issues on the water is our low profile and poor visibility to power craft operators. Reflecting decals make your kayak and your paddle strokes visible from a great distance, even on sunny days! Now you can purchase decals that stick well on paddle blades and on hulls/decks of kayaks. A set of reflective decals including 6 small decals and three large decals, all printed with the SKABC logo, costs a mere \$5.00.

Decals are available at club meetings.

## CLUB Meeting Dates

2004 - 2005

7:30 PM

Vancouver

Museum in the  
Planetarium

## Message Board in Yahoo Groups

To join you have to go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/skabc/>.

If you do not already have a free yahoo profile you will have to establish one.

I approve new memberships to the group; I will check new memberships against the published membership list before approval, so I need to be able to find your email address in the membership list.

This message board should be useful for selling stuff, organizing trips, and discussing issues affecting club members.

Please email me any comments:  
Edwin Bussey webmanager@  
skabc.org

## November 2004

swimming directly towards her, then under and up behind! We then watched in amusement as they did the same to a commercial whale watcher. One minute the boat was listing heavily to port as all passengers watched the whales, then suddenly to "Ooh's" and "Aah's", the boat listed to the other side as all passengers rushed to watch the pod emerge behind them. Back to shore were we ate our dinner at the world's finest restaurant with a panorama of whales and porpoises passing at regular intervals. Breakfast offered more of the same. It was difficult to get moving, but eventually we were packed and across the channel, hoping we had judged the currents correctly for our crossing of Blackfish Sound. Our timing was perfect, the water "confused" when we arrived, just long enough for a huddle and group pep talk and the waters were calm and we crossed without incident.

On to Mound Island, all feeling very pleased with our progress and tired enough to really relax on the beach – except for Bill, who got in some practice on his Eskimo roll – not bad Bill!

After a lazy supper and lots of star gazing and shooting star sightings, Graham and I set out for a night paddle. I had previously only seen the luminescence in the breakers. I had never been out in it. At first we played with our paddles, then were amazed at how far behind us the turbulence from our strokes extended and how much of wake our very smooth kayaks were leaving behind. I was puzzled by the bright "flowery" things in the water until I realized it was a school of small fish. I was then even more enchanted. We had set out not really knowing how long it would take us to circumnavigate our little kingdom,

but after about an hour, the stars seemed to be in familiar aspect and we easily found our beach.

Day 3 took us on to Mamalilaculla on Village Island where we relaxed while we waited for the guided tour. We were invited to camp and were treated to a bedtime story hour of Indian legends. Thank you to our hosts, Tom and Chad

Each day was the same, more of paddling in this enchanting world, yet completely different in that each day offered slightly different weather or currents or navigational challenges or group interaction. I can't relate them all or I will never finish, so I will just share a few memorable moments:

Stephanie's array of camping gadgets, which included a solar shower!

Bill standing in the double for reasons best kept to himself – Did Graham get a photograph?

Paddling Fife Sound feeling tired after a long paddle – realized the wind was with us so hoisted Bill's tarp and sailed up in style, Bill navigating at the front, and Ruth steering from behind.

Arriving at Burdwood group which we had been told were far enough to be off the usual route and therefore completely undisturbed. We saw more people here than we had on the rest of the trip, but as this was our rest spot we were happy to share our evening fire with other travelers and enjoyed their company. Both parties arrived with fresh fish, which we accepted with thanks.

Thunder, lightning and heavy rain in the night to awaken to clear skies in the morning.

Wolves howling in the night, bear scat on the beach, Cathy competently

## PADDLE: the SKABC Newsletter

organizing a bear cache when others were too tired, eagles, otter, mink, curious seals.

Navigating in the mist, feeling a little uneasy about the sound of a float plane about to take off. The mist clearing just in time for us to see it on the other side of the channel. Did it know we were there?

Ruth's observation that Stubbs Island maintained an invisible force field around it. We concluded it was the current, so we deviated to Pierce island to rest and wait it out.

Arriving at Alert Bay hoping to find some totem poles and finding instead that we were just in time for the annual seafest. We watched the opening ceremony with parade and dancing and lunched on smoked salmon.

No time left for more whale watching, it was beginning to rain so we made our way back to Telegraph Cove and THE BEST HOT SHOWERS in the world!

For photos and trip plan visit:  
[www.bill.tubbs.name/johnstone.html](http://www.bill.tubbs.name/johnstone.html)

### Passing the Torch

Well my friends, I can hardly believe that two years have gone by since I started doing the newsletter. It has been a lot of fun, and I thank each person who has made my job so easy by sending in fantastic articles, ideas, and pictures. It is with some sadness that I "pass the torch" to Blair, but also with great anticipation of the new life and fresh ideas he will bring to the PADDLE. I look forward to seeing you at meetings and on the water next year!

Cindy

# **Club Property Log**

**This is a list of club property and where it currently resides**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Held By</b>	<b>Note</b>
Banner 1	Steve Moon	
Banner 2	Steve Moon	
BBQ (propane)	Steve Moon	
Computer	Heather Kirk	
Display stand	Tony Clayton	
First Aid Kit	Karin Rennert	
Flipchart / whiteboard	Steve Moon	
Library	Ray Saadien	
SKABC Club brochures	Tony Clayton	
SKABC Club Business Cards	Paul Rae	
Collection of Marine Charts	Dan Wicke	
VHF Radio 1	Tim Morris	Head Caretaker K Rennert
VHF Radio 2	Cindy Carson	Head Caretaker K Rennert
VHF Radio 3	Karin Rennert	Head Caretaker K Rennert
VHF Radio 4	Rob Leeson	Head Caretaker K Rennert
VHF Radio 5	Dan Wicke	Head Caretaker K Rennert

## **IS YOUR IDEAL TRIP NOT ON THE LIST ????**

Contact the TRIPS COMMITTEE  
with your ideal trip and we will do  
our best to make it happen. Click  
'Trips Committee' to contact us  
by e-mail or call a trips committee  
member:

Dan Wicke  
604-734-2955,  
dwicke@rjc.ca

Patrick Mooney  
604-594-2345,  
patrick\_mooney@hotmail.com

Rick Paisley  
604- 517-0408,  
baidarkaboy@yahoo.com

If you are interested in joining the  
trips committee please contact either  
Dan or Patrick.

## 2004 SKABC Trips

Please check the internet for trip information.

### Trip Classification System

STRENUOUS (assumes some paddling experience)

Code	Description	Estimated Paddling Time	Distance (nautical miles)
A	Minimal	<3 hours	<6 nm
B	Moderate	3 to 5 hours	6 to 10 nm
C	Strenuous	5 to 6 hours	10 to 15 nm
D	Very Strenuous	> 6 hours	>15 nm

DIFFICULTY (Expected conditions require matching paddling skills)

Code	Expected Conditions	Paddling Skills Required
1	Calm	Beginner
2	Intermediate	Basic (self/assisted rescues capable)
3	Exposed/difficult	Good seamanship
4	Challenging	Advanced

### SKABC Tripline

Key in tel. # for Tripline	604 290 9653 (our mail box #)
SKABC 'Greeting'. To bypass press	9
On 'Prompt', key in password	86425 (Umiak)
To hear messages, press	1 (or 11 for new messages)
To skip through messages, press	# (this also auto-resaves message)
To save messages, PLEASE! press	9 (ALWAYS RESAVE MESSAGES)
To reply to a message, press	8 (best way to input a message)
Do not delete messages, press	7 only to delete your own/stale messages
To leave a message, press	2 record message then press #, when askedfor destination mailbox enter604-290-9653

### IS YOUR IDEAL TRIP NOT ON THE LIST ABOVE????

Contact the TRIPS COMMITTEE with your ideal trip and we will do our best to make it happen.

Click 'Trips Committee' to contact us by e-mail or call a trips committee member:

Dan Wicke (604-734-2955, dwicke@rjc.ca)

Patrick Mooney (604-594-2345, patrick\_mooney@hotmail.com)

Rick Paisley (604- 517-0408, baidarkaboy@yahoo.com)

(If you are interested in joining the trips committee please contact either Dan or Patrick.)