



CReW CLUB NEWS

February 18th 2007

Page 1 of 2

So, it is a new year!!!!

January came and went and we all stayed busy with lots of pool time and fun! fun! fun!

First of all:

We wanted to congratulate Adam and Sean Hakvoort on their way cool Christmas gifts. Nothing quite like 2 kayaks sitting under the Christmas tree. (Though I doubt very much that there was enough room under the tree!) Congrats guys and we are looking forward to seeing our performances on the waves this coming Season.

Secondly:

Please help us to welcome Khalhela Zoeller and Cheryl McGregor into the club. Both took the CReW winter program (3 sessions) and are now ready to try their new skills on the river.

Both can roll. Kalhela has it done solid! Cheryl is right behind her!

Welcome!!! We are looking forward to seeing your smiles on the river this year.



With all the practicing that has been going on at the kayak polo sessions I am very proud to say that the level of paddling skill has increased dramatically among our members.

Adam found his mojo in his new boat and is back in the game stronger than ever!

Sean (little Sean) has nailed his hand roll. Both having been playing a good and aggressive game of polo too!.

Sean (big Sean) showed us all that his stern squirts cannot be touched by the rest of us and continues to show us where the bar is sitting when it comes to polo!

Zachary has got his hand roll down solid and his roll is bombproof!

Sylvie has a hand roll that is so smooth. That is the standard to beat! She and Sean H. also learned to rescue others using the hand of god. This will be a great safety feature for the club this coming year. We have also been fortunate to have Aime-Jean and Jean-Sebastien paddle with us. Their skills and readiness to share them proved to be a great help in our development throughout the winter months. As for myself: I can finally hand roll. Now it is time to make it bomb proof...

The key and everyone mantra: BE COOL AND KEEP THE HEAD DOWN (repeat as necessary...)

The polo sessions came to an end last Friday however this does not mean that our winter is done. Unfortunately I am off to Kelowna, B.C. for a week or so but when I return the pool time will continue!

So check out the next page to see what is coming up!



CReW CLUB NEWS

February 18th 2007

Page 2 of 2

- 1- At the end of March we are planning a club gathering (let's call it a party!). Frank and Mary Jane have offered their home for us to meet! (Thanks Frank, thank-you Mary Jane) We are looking at our schedules to determine the best day for this and when I return from Kelowna we will get back to you all with a date and time. Please join us there. Other than enjoying each others company we will also be determining what rivers we will be visiting and when for the coming season!! Yahoo! Sit tight and we will get back to you on this one.
- 2- As soon as I hear back from the pool in Cornwall I will get back to you all with possible dates and times for a pool session in Cornwall. The big pool will give us a chance to play a full court polo game and have lots of room for practice and skill improvements. Once again sit tight and I will get back to you on this one.
- 3- Anytime any of our members want to get together for some pool time in Alexandria please call Sylvie or me. We only require one-week notice so the pool can schedule the lifeguard.
NOTE: The pool cost for the club is \$50/ 1.5 hours. If you want to get in there call us and we will gladly arrange the time for you. I suggest groups of 4 (maximum 5). we have found this to be an ideal number for practice time without overcrowding the pool.
- 4- **LEVEL SIX RODEO:** April 21st and 22nd: Come out and compete (competition levels for all skills and ages) or come out to see what can be done with a kayak. It is an excellent competition, a chance to watch some friends in action and see what the Ottawa paddling community has to offer as well.
- 5- **WORLD FREESTYLE CHAMPIONSHIPS:** April 29th thru May 5th: Come check out one of the days and see the worlds best in action on the famous Bus Eater Wave on the mighty Ottawa River. they will all be there: The Canadian Team, Team USA, and others from around the world. It will be like nothing that you have ever seen before. See <http://www.worldfreestylekayakingchampionships.com> for more information on the specific dates and times. We can make a club outing out of this one!
- 6- **PALMER FEST:** May 18, 19 and 20th: Here is an event that is worth attending whether you are an advanced paddler or a beginner. 4 2-hour clinics, camping, food and entertainment with loads of other paddlers all in one place on the Madawaska River. Do not miss this one. It is awesome. Check out https://www.rapidmedia.com/palmer_fest/palmer_fest.php you will not be disappointed. Sylvie, Zachary, Emily and I are going and have made this a tradition. **I hope that many of you will come!**
- 7- !!!!! We are also working to put together a half day free event for young children at the Alexandria pool during the spring Season. We will be looking for some volunteers to help us put young kids who might have thought this possible, into kayaks. We will keep you posted on the progress of this project. If you would like to volunteer some time to put smiles on kids faces please let us know.
- 8- **As soon as the ice is off the Raisin River (usually the last week of March or 1st week of April) we will start some evening runs down the river.** In the spring the level is high and a few nice little waves and features show themselves. It is always a nice start to the river season and a good opportunity to reacquaint yourself with moving water. **Do not forget our KAYAK RAMP. It will be ready for Club Members then too!**

So there it is: the beginning of another great season.

We will have web updates posted in the coming week and a whole lot more for you in the months to come!

Keep in touch and we'll see you all very soon

Zachary, Sylvie, Emily and I look forward to paddling with you all again soon.

Robert Zwanenburg

