



CReW CLUB NEWS

October 31st 2006

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Happy Halloween!!!!,

We wish everyone a spooky and safe Halloween!

Since the last time wrote (September 30th) we had a couple of good outings and despite another rainy month enjoyed the rivers and the good times that go with it!

To begin allow me to welcome François Terreault tour our paddling community. François comes from St-Anicet, Quebec and paddles regularly at the whitewater park in Valleyfield.

Bienvvenue François!

1- October 4th got me out in Valleyfield with François and Marc-André (a local young paddler) that they would be joining us on our annual Thanksgiving pilgrimage to the Ottawa River.

2- **THANKSGIVING WEEKEND!!!! YAHOO!!!**

Well the CReW annual Pilgrimage to the Ottawa River was a weekend to remember!!!! On Friday October 6th we arrived at the end of the day at the Curtis Cabins located just bellow McKoys Rapids and Odessy on the Ottawa River. The cabins are well situated both for the scenic value and the proximity to the best paddling around.

We (Sylvie, Zachary, Emily and I) were joined on Friday night and Saturday by Sean Blaine. Unfortunately Sean's little girl was not feeling well at all so his wife Andrea and his daughter Quinn had to forgo the fun. I am sure we will see the out there next year!.

Saturday morning we all woke up to a beautiful crisp fall morning. Had a great breakfast and got out on the water as soon as we could. The levels were a bit higher than we usually see and some of the features that we hoped to see were not out. But: Horseshoe provided a good play hole and way on river left and on river right a nice green surf wave stayed out as well. Corner Wave was also at it's best.

Later that afternoon François along with Marc-André and Charlémy showed up at the 2nd cabin and spent the rest of the day on the water with us.

Sean left that evening and the others stayed to paddle with us until the end of the day on Monday. Every one had a great time from the paddling during the day to the excellent meals and campfires at night. Take a look at some of the pictures below and imagine yourself there....



Sean on Horseshoe (Left side)



Robert on Corner Wave



Charlémy Bouncing at Waikiki



Zachary riding Horseshoe (Right)



Marc-André spinning on corner wave



Emily showing us how to eddy out.



François running lunch stop waves



Sylvie getting it done



François at corner wave

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Between the popular play spots and a couple of creek runs it was an awesome weekend. Needless to say we all will be back on the Ottawa next year. Thanks again to Dale Curtis and his family for making such great accommodations available on their property.

- 3- The following weekend (Saturday October 21st) saw us back at the Wall in Ottawa. A last minute outing encouraged by the high water levels and our need to pick up some gear in town as well and we spent a couple of memorable hours hooking up with a few friends and making a few new acquaintances. The air was cold and when the eddy started getting really busy we called it a day.
- 4- A lot of us have ended our season here. The water and the air is cooling down. However the Raisin River gave us some higher than usual river levels and I have been getting out as much as possible. Sean joined me out on the river on the 30th for a night paddle. Sylvie dropped us about a mile upstream from our house and we enjoyed a pleasant moonlight run down a series of class 1 and 2 rapids and ended it with several jumps off our ramp at the house. (Launching off the ramp into the dark is really a lot of fun!).

By the way, check out the CReW website and you will see our new picture link. We are now able (thanks to the excellent help of Eric and his link to "dropshots") to upload lot's of pictures and even video. **Yeah that's right now I will be able immortalize all your great moments on video!!! Way cool!**

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR THE COMING WEEKS:

- 1- **WINTER PADDLING:** November 10th is our first kayak polo session!!! We will be joined by Adam and Sean Hakvoort, Sean Blaine, Robert and Zachary Zwanenburg as well as Aime-Jean Lavigne (another local Valleyfield paddler and co-worker of mine). This will be awesome. Warm water, a ball and a bunch of paddler. See you all there.
This will continue through the winter (every second week until the end of February).
- 2- **NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY.** On November 19th from 4:30 till 6:30 at the Cornwall Aquatic Center CReW, along with "Partir d'un Bon Pas", Big Brothers And Sisters, Children's aid and supported by Jackson Kayaks and H2O Performance Paddles, is hosting a pool session for children between the ages of 6 through 13 who are less fortunate than our own.
It is all about kid's and fun and is sure to be a good time.
Any club members who wish to volunteer their time to make this a big success please call Robert at 613-347-9089.
- 3- We will also be offering a variety of pool classes from intro to kayaking to rolling clinics throughout the winter at the Glengarry Memorial Community pool in Alexandria. A Course schedule will be posted on the website soon. If you have friends who are interested in learning to kayak maybe we can help.
- 4- Our aspirations for the development of a small whitewater park in Cornwall are still alive. The drawings are done and with a bit more fine tuning we will be presenting again to the city this winter. I can feel the water in the spillway already! Hold tight for updates!
- 5- **As always we welcome your ideas for paddle fun and education.** If you have an idea we will be thrilled to look into it with you.

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

To this for whom the winter season closes the year on paddle sports we hope to see you on the hills this winter.

AS for the rest of you: Be Well, Be Safe and paddle hard and we will see you on the river or in the pool soon.

Robert Zwanenburg

