



CREW CLUB NEWS

September 30th 2006

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Hello everyone,

September has been one incredibly busy month!

Since the last time wrote (August 25th) we have been plodding along trying to get a fun fall schedule, continuing the CREW kayak classes and getting out on the water as much as possible.

First of all, please let me apologize for the lack of new photos on the website and the same for the updates. We have been going through some changes lately and on top of it all, my home computer had a 3 week visit to the repair shop. Well now the computer is back and I will get back to it.

1- Labor Day weekend got some of us out to the World Cup of Freestyle kayaking. The first of three competitions held by Wideness Tours at the Garburator wave on the Ottawa River. What a show. The competition was intense, the moves were spectacular and we got to see some friends compete and watch some of our favorites. The Jackson Kayak Team (our personal favorites) dominated in almost every class. Next year we will make sure to plan a camping weekend for that event.



Eric Jackson



World Cup 2006



Nick Troutman and Dane Jackson



Emily Jackson



Ruth Gordon



Stephen Wright

2- The club had 2 outings in Valleyfield (September 9th and September 24th). The weather turned out to be wet for both events but those of us who showed up had a great time. Frank Hakvoort and his two oldest sons, Adam and Sean came out and the boys paddled until they could not move any more. Sean Blaine also joined Sylvie, Zachary, Emily and I out on the water. What can we say other than yahoo. Both days were great. Everyone paddled well and worked together to keep an eye out when someone went for an unplanned swim. I am really proud and feel privileged to paddle with such a fine group of people. Between our club members and the local paddlers it was a great time. Check out the pics below. FUN FUN FUN!!



Me, Zachary and Adam



Young Sean showing us how



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- 3- In between the scheduled outings, we spent a lot of time in Valleyfield (most Wednesday evenings and Fridays too. We were joined by Sean Blaine and a bunch of local paddlers from Valleyfield and Montreal. (My apologies to Sean. All the pics I took of him are on his digital video camera and due to technical difficulties I could not download them. I will get you on film this week!!)
- 4- We had to say goodbye to Pierre Tranchemontagne for the winter. Pierre left to take a teaching job in Toronto. We will miss him but hope to get out on the water with him again in the summer of 2007. Good luck this winter Pierre.
- 5- September 30th (a beautiful Saturday) brought us back to the waterfront in Cornwall for another kayak class. Callum and Marrissa Cumming joined us from Williamstown Ontario for their flatwater A kayak course. They were a lot of fun to teach and spend most of the day with. The water level in Cornwall was ideal and despite the cooler water (learning to wet exit in late September is brisk!) we had a good time. From the smiles on their faces at the end of the day I think they really enjoyed themselves. Hopefully we will see them on the water again in the coming year.



- 6- In other paddling news: Zachary Adam and Sean have all showed us that they are the dude to watch. All 3 have now shown really good rolling skills. Emily Zwanenburg received her new PINK Fun 1.5 too. She is showing a lot of promise and will give the boys a run for their money in 2007.

More Pics:



Zachary and Adam contemplating "bob".



Looking at the sky!



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THE COMING WEEKS:

- 1- Thanksgiving weekend: Our annual end of season pilgrimage to the Ottawa River. This year we will be staying at the cabins located just off of McKoys Rapids. Hmmm Luxury! We will be joined by Sean Blain, his wife Andrea and daughter Quinn as well as a couple friends from the Valleyfield area. Hopefully we might see a few other CReW members out for a day or so.
- 2- The rest of the month of October will be regular weekly evenings in Valleyfield.
- 3- Winter plans!!! I have booked a pool in Alexandria for Kayak Polo! Starting the second week of November some of the club members will be playing a friendly game of Kayak Polo and working on our rolling skills at the same time. More on that to come...
- 4- I will be meeting with the pool management in Alexandria to work out a plan for more pool access throughout the winter months as well as courses to be held in the pool. Again more to come on that soon!
- 5- November 20th is National Children's day and CReW and it's parent group, Adventure Sports Access Group, in conjunction with "Partir D'Un Bon Pas" and other youth support groups are going to bring whitewater kayaking to the kids of the region. Another pool session in Cornwall and in Alexandria. Stay tuned for news of that in the followings weeks.
- 6- 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!
- 7- **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.

Be Well, Be Safe and paddle hard and we will see you on the river somewhere soon

Robert Zwanenburg

