

EDDYLINE



NORTHWEST VOYAGEURS CANOE AND KAYAK CLUB



Box 1341, Edmonton, AB T5J 2N2

Internet Address: www.nwvoyageurs.com

Upcoming Events

**Sept 26 (Wed)
7:30 pm**

General Meeting—Guest Speaker—Sierra Club

Northgate Loins Senior Centre—Seminar Room

7524-139 Ave.

Guest speaker from the Sierra Club - Subject: Global Warming, Climate Change & impact on the Environment

**Oct 2 (Tue)
7:30 pm**

Executive Meeting

Northgate Loins Senior Centre—Seminar Room

7524-139 Ave.

The club executive meet to discuss club business. Members are welcome to attend.

**Oct 31 (Wed)
7:30 pm**

General Meeting—Guest Speakers— Trip down the Athabasca River

Northgate Loins Senior Centre—Seminar Room

7524-139 Ave.

Guest Speakers Norma Ouellette and Melvyn Kadyk speak about there trip from Fort Assiniboine to Smith

Nov 6 (Tue)

Executive Meeting — More information to follow

**Nov 28 (Wed)
7:30 pm**

Annual General Meeting—Elections & Photo Contest

Northgate Loins Senior Centre—Seminar Room

7524-139 Ave. Elections—Vote / V olunteer for New Executive

Enter your photos from this years trips All members are encouraged to enter & attend

**January to
April 2008**

Whitewater Kayak – Beginner Lessons — Starting January 2008

More information to come



Above Photos are from the Aug. 17, 2007 trip from 50th Street to Fort Saskatchewan

NWV EXECUTIVE 2007

President	Rick Fetterly	438-1296	fetterly(a)shaw.ca
*Vice President	Melvyn Kadyk	484-3563	
Treasurer	Norma Ouellette	444-0263	normao(a)nait.ab.ca
Secretary	Josephine Petesky	474-2751	
Membership	Steve Budziszyn	461-3292	
Newsletter	Don Litven	476-7006	don_litven(a)hotmail.com
Website	Ben Coxworth	438-4062	coxworth(a)shaw.ca
Publicity	Alan Stewart	487-0607	alkemy(a)ocii.com
Archives	***Vacant*****		
Conservation	***Vacant*****		
Trip Coordinator	Melvyn Kadyk	484-3563	
Canoe Coordinator	Doug Knight	435-2348	dknight(a)telusplanet.net
*Kayak Coordinator	Ivan Isop	477-2441	puppydog875(a)phreego.com
Equipment Manager	Larry Richard	454-8680	
*Social Coordinator	***Vacant*****		
Member at Large	Kurt Sejr	922-6200	sejr(a)wildroseinternet.ca

NWV Internet Address: www.nwvoyageurs.com

NWV Snail Mail Address: Box 1341, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2N2

* Indicates new person in position

NWV Annual General Meeting & Elections

All Executive Positions are up for Nomination and Election
November 28, 2007

WE NEED YOU !!!

**Please help us out by volunteering a little bit of your time
If you can help out please contact one of the executive members listed above
A Great Big Thank You and Good Luck
go out to those that have served on the executive over the past year**

Important Notice!

RUNDLE PARK PADDLING CENTRE

As of September 19th, 2007 the Rundle Park Paddling Centre is closed for the season
It will reopen in May 2008

Whitewater Kayak Lessons

Slated to start January 2008

More information to follow

It's Only Rain: Maiden Voyage Musings of a New Northwest Voyager

by Deborah Lawson

Monday, 18 June 2007

Don't you sometimes want to grab Alberta weather by the shoulders, give it a shake and blow it the big raspberry? I certainly do. Outside my office window this morning the sun is shining, the sound of chirping birds is not drowned out by curtains of rain and the temperature is climbing steadily to its predicted high of 21°C. So couldn't this exasperating province have delivered such lovely weather to us last weekend as we sloshed and slithered our way down the muddy Red Deer River and its sodden valley?

I'd been longing to do something new—something that would challenge my physical endurance and skills. I've done a fair bit of paddling over the years, so canoeing itself was not the new part. The new part was joining a club, making arrangements with a new canoe partner, and learning a bit about how to plan gear, food and transportation.

On the weekend of June 16 & 17, a group from the Northwest Voyageurs Canoe & Kayak Club headed out on the Red Deer River. Around mid-week the Red Deer had been flowing at flood levels. Trip leaders Dan and Michelle Monroe, faced with the decision to cancel the trip or take it to another river, decided to move the expedition to the Pembina. But by Thursday, water levels on the Red Deer had dropped and it was decided to return to the original plan. On Saturday morning, we met just outside the town of Blackfalds—twelve paddlers in six canoes and a lot of rain gear.

Right at the put-in on the riverbank, I could tell this was going to be a weekend with a difference when, most unexpectedly, almost all my newly-met fellow paddlers indulged my passion for rocks by carrying a rock or two (without any derogatory comments!) from the riverbank to the trunk of my VW—uphill, and in a fine mist of rain that was the precursor of things to come. Several confessed to having their own fascination with rocks, so I knew I was among kindred spirits.

The first day we paddled under mostly cloudy skies, with intermittent showers for variety. But the canoeing was great. The scenery was fantastic and we saw the first of the pelicans, which were to be with us in increasing numbers throughout the weekend. The geology of the riverbank revealed occasional hoodoo-like formations, subtle at first, but becoming increasingly notable as we went on. We didn't go far enough to get right into hoodoo territory, but we could see we were heading in the right direction.

We made camp for the night at a spectacular site. Clustered in the midst of our camping spot were three of the most dramatic boulder specimens I personally have ever seen. We all lusted over them, but alas, until *Star Trek's* Scotty can arrange for a site-to-site transport, those three monoliths will be staying right where they are—which is just fine; everyone should be able to admire and appreciate them. But hey, a rock-hound can dream ...

After supper the group huddled together under a leaky tarp; conversation was stimulating, with an extremely low whining level in spite of the rain. Really, after a certain point, you can't get any wetter, right?

I slept in a tent, on the ground, for the first time since I was pregnant with my middle child (summer of '85). But our little two-woman tent (which we managed to pitch on a perfectly level spot having neither rock nor root nor wrinkle) kept us warm and dry as we slept, contributing immeasurably to the success of the weekend.

On Sunday it rained with even greater determination and we fought an intermittent headwind. Every pit stop landed us in yet another water meadow, with mud skootching underfoot. But the pelican sightings were thrilling. Flocks of these magnificent birds—over fifty, at one point—congregated on shore or flew directly overhead. Against the grey and glowering sky, their white bodies stood out like searchlights. The graceful arc of powerful, black-tipped wings moved them in a perfectly choreographed dance, accompanied by the wild musical counterpoint of wind and water. Even through rain-spotted glasses, it was an awe-inspiring sight.

I'd gladly do this trip again, even though I must agree with Michelle's rueful comment: "We might as well just tell people that the Red Deer River trip gets rained out every year." Yes, it was wet. But for me, the success of a weekend hinges a lot on being able to keep warm and dry while sleeping, which we accomplished. And maybe it's because they have to be dry to fly, but even the mosquitoes were less pesky than I'd thought they might be. In the end, I brought home 24 new rocks, most of them stepping-stone flat, for my back yard dry creek bed. In my books, that qualifies as a great weekend. And I was only a wee bit stiff on Monday morning, a small price to pay for a weekend I'll long remember

And to be fair, although it's dry and sunny outside at the moment, the forecast for the rest of the week isn't all that promising. This window of sunshine appears to be just that—a brief window, reminding me that perhaps one of these weekends we'll paddle our canoes beneath clear skies, sunscreen within easy reach. I hold that hope in my mind as I mark my next trip on the calendar. But it doesn't really matter. Rain or shine, it's the water underneath the keel that calls me back for more.

EDMONTON RIVER DAYS

June 9, 2007



Members of the Northwest Voyageurs manned an information table and participated in helping people new to canoeing and kayaking at the Edmonton River Days celebrations in Rundle Park, June 9, 2007

This was an opportunity to get ourselves seen out in the community and according to Kurt Sejr there were approximately 1000



(yes that's one thousand) participants.

Thanks again to all of you who were able to help out.



**NWV GENERAL MEETING
&
GUEST SPEAKER**

SUBJECT:

***Global Warming,
Climate Change
and the
Impact on our Environment***

**Wednesday
September 26, 2007
7:30 pm**

**Northgate Lions Senior Centre
7524-139 Ave.**

Come join us and listen to the latest information concerning the impact of Global Warming and Climate Change is having on our Environment from members of the Sierra Club, Prairie Chapter, Edmonton Group

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE !!!!!

Some photos from the
ANNUAL NWV BBQ

Wednesday 6:30 pm - June 27th, 2007
Rundle Park Paddling Centre





affix to car visor



12328-102 Avenue NW | car racks | kayak cradles | canoe kits | straps

ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST

Enter at the
Annual General Meeting

Wednesday
November 28, 2007
7:30 pm

Northgate Lions Senior Centre

Enter your photos from this year in the following categories:

Action on the River

At the Campsite

Humour / Other

Contest is Open to
Northwest Voyageurs Club Members

SEE YOU THERE !!!!!