

Washington Canoe Club **NEWS**

May 2019

WCC Crab Feast, June 9

The WCC Crab Feast will be **June 9, 1pm - 4pm, rain or shine!** Members and guests of members are welcome. Along with crabs, we will also offer hot dogs, sides, desserts, and beverages. Cost is \$30 for adults, \$10 teens (kids under 12 free) and \$70 for families.



Two Events for New Members, May 15 and June 7

WCC will be holding a new member orientation on Wednesday May 15 at 6pm. Please RSVP to [membership](#). New members are highly encouraged to attend so they can 'learn the ropes' and see what the club has to offer - and what they can do to help keep the club running smoothly.

WCC is also hosting a new member social on Friday, June 7 at 5:30 PM. Don't let the name fool you - all members are welcome! It's a great chance to meet some new people, get a tour of the club and all it has to offer, find out how you can get involved, and of course, paddle around a bit on a (hopefully) beautiful summer evening.

Now for the shameless plug - we still have open slots available for members. Please consider recruiting your friends, coworkers, neighbors, etc to join! Summer is a great time to bring them out on the water and introduce them, or reacquaint them, with paddling.

Last Call to Join the Master's Program

For members looking to improve their strength and technique, the master's program is the perfect opportunity. The program runs through October and uses sprint kayaks. The group currently has 15 members, with room for a few more. They meet every Thursday evening at 6:15.

If you sign up now, you get one free training session with coach Dariusz!

For more information, contact Darek at DarekObi@gmail.com



Serving Our Community - WCC Hosting DC Public Schools in June

On June 3rd and 4th, WCC will host a group of students from DC public schools. The program will involve an average of 30 students. Half of the class will go out on the water while the other half will participate in an environmental education program, then the two halves will switch. The focus of the program is on learning about and enjoying the outdoor resources in the Washington DC area.

We are looking for some volunteers to work with, on the water program. It will be conducted on a weekday probably from 10 am to 2 pm. If you are available to help out, reach out to [Louise](#), [Kathleen](#) or [Linda](#).

Blessing of the New Outrigger, May 19

On May 19 at about 6:00 PM, WCC will be performing a Hawaiian blessing for our new OC6 (Bradley Lightning in the middle) before we race her. Manu Boyd, a musician and cultural director of the Royal Hawaiian Center at Helumoa, will be in town and available to come to WCC to lead the blessing. The club may also be blessing the other outriggers as well. Please come out to participate in a very unique event for the club.



Member Profile: John Tambornino

A lot of WCC club life revolves around racing. But nearly every member also loves being out on the water for another reason - the peace, quiet, solitude, and sense of renewal it can bring. And those of us who spend more time paddling recreational, especially in solo boats, get to experience the best of this. Recreational paddler John Tambornino, with his passion for both nature (and restoring it) and the kayak his late father made for him, can teach all of us a lesson in finding peace on the water.

John joined WCC in 2010, after walking past the club and asking a member about it. His initial reason for joining was simply to find a place to store his kayak as he was living in a condo in the city, but he quickly came to value his membership far beyond the convenience of it.

Now about that kayak? John's personal craft is an 18-foot sea kayak, handmade by his late father out of beautiful wood. John's father passed away unexpectedly shortly after completing it, before he could deliver it to his son, and before John could thank him for it.

Besides his unique and gorgeous kayak, John stands out as well for the large hauls of trash he collects from the river each time he goes for a paddle. He says that collecting trash was never his intention, but he can't resist collecting it, and once he got started, he couldn't stop. "Picking it up is not a chore," John says, "but instead brings me peace, like tending a wound, or helping someone. We become connected through caring, whether to other people or to nature. So for me picking up trash is part of the experience of connecting with nature, in the same way we tend to ourselves and those we love."



The full profile is here on [WCC's website](#)

A Note on the Quality of the Potomac River (for those who may fall in)

Did you know that the water quality of the Potomac River is regularly tested to see if it's safe for human contact? The fine folks at Anacostia River Keeper regularly check the pH levels of both rivers and post the results, along with a swim guide, to their [website](#). The water at WCC is one of the sampling locations and was below the danger threshold at the most recent test. Note the quality tends to degrade as you get south of Rock Creek.

It's technically illegal to swim at WCC, but this is a great resource to check for those who take advantage of hot summer afternoons to fall off the dock, splash about after crashing into Three Sisters, or topple over while attempting SUP yoga.

Job Opening: WCC Club Coordinator

The Washington Canoe Club (WCC) is looking for a part-time Club Coordinator to assist with general club and volunteer coordination efforts. **This is a paid position.**

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

- Responsible for following up with responsible board member on action items/task list from monthly board meetings
- Assist in the preparation for and conduct of annual meetings, semi-annual meetings and special events
- Maintain club inventory of promotional giveaway items/swag
- Such other tasks and activities as are from time to time agreed to by the Coordinator with the Primary or Secondary Contact

GOAL: Increase volume of and track volunteer participation

For more details on the position, visit the website [here](#).

THANKS WCC!

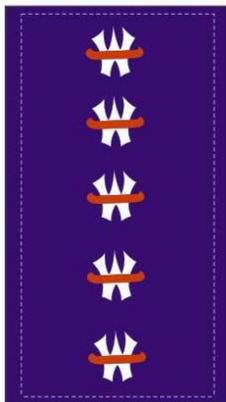
The Board would like to give a special thanks for all the good folks who came out to help the WCC do its annual spring clean-up. Too many to name without getting in trouble forgetting folks. So, THANK YOU ALL!!!! We are a volunteer club and so things don't get done without "somebody" stepping up and saying "I'll help." However, a special thanks to Carole O'Gara for stepping in with great lunch for the volunteers! Many, many thanks and it was all delicious. THANK YOU ONE AND ALL!!

Don't forget to grab a Tee or a buff!



Show off your club spirit and look good doing it!

Visit the new WCC Store!



WCC Buff (NEW Item)

Want some swag that also supports the Club's restoration efforts? (Hint: the answer is YES, YOU DO!) Buy a buff head-wear and show your WCC pride! All proceeds to go the Club's restoration profits. \$10 each. Contact [Lisa](#) to reserve yours. Only Paypal and cash accepted.

What is a buff?, you may ask - Its a head-wear/head-scarf which can be used as a Bandana, Balaclava, around the neck, over your head folded or single layer to keep your hair away, keep you warm/cool..etc. Yeah, you need one! #wccinbuff



WashingtonCanoeClub.org