

# Washington Canoe Club **NEWS**

Issue No. 2

February 2018

## **This Sunday: Oyster Roast -- Bring Friends!**



**February Oyster Roast** - You know you want some!

Sunday, February 25th, 1pm-4pm

Menu: Oysters (Raw and Roasted), Oyster Stew, Hotdogs, Sides, and Desserts

\$25 per adult, \$60 per family

This event will happen rain or shine! Thanks in advance to WCC's event coordinator, Lisa Ramm.

Bring friends! The club is again seeking new members. Feel free to bring friends who might like to just get a sense of the social aspect of the club (and of course friends who are not prospective members are welcome, too).

## **Volunteerism at WCC**

Welcome to the 2018 paddling season! Even though ice can still be seen on the river, it won't be long before we're back out paddling (unless you are Ann Armstrong who is out regardless of ice).



As we ramp up for the return of the docks, it's time to remind everyone of the importance of volunteerism at WCC. In 2017 50% of our members volunteered for at least one activity

and most of those volunteered for more than just one. That's not bad but we need those numbers to grow. We could not operate without volunteers! This year we hope to see 100% membership participation. We all know sometimes life gets in the way but it's important to remember that the club can only function with your help. It's not just encouraged; it's expected. And it's a great way to meet good people!

We have a talented group of paddlers and a vibrant community of members whose skills include everything from fundraising to race organization to communications to architects to handy men and women. Christina Potts, our volunteer coordinator, will contact all members in the next month or so to say hello and to see how you would like to help. Volunteer needs will be posted each month in the newsletter. In the meantime, feel free to reach out to Christina [crpotts.wcc@gmail.com](mailto:crpotts.wcc@gmail.com) to sign up for something now or to suggest other ways in which you can help. You can help a little or a lot...but please help.

Currently, we are looking for the following:

- **WCC 'Swag' Coordinator** - Keeping track of inventory of give-away items as well as coordinating ordering with teams
- **Newsletter Co-Editor & Co-Publisher** - Needed to join our excellent team putting together monthly articles and information as well as distribution to members
- **Communications Committee Facilitator** - Volunteer needed to direct existing committee in scheduling social media posts, website updates, article creation and to ensure internal and external communications are clear and accurate
- **Webmaster** - Individual to keep our website current and accurate.
- **Weekend Steward Coordinator** - Individual to coordinate the Weekend Steward Program ensuring that a representative from the Club is on-site during the busiest weekends.
- **Foster Families** - Offer to 'foster' a new member! Introduce them to friends. Answer questions. Show them around. We want new members to feel at home.

## Member Profile: Ann Armstrong

Our new member profile looks back on an amazing year for one of our members, Ann Armstrong. Although she has only been high-kneeling for a little over a year, she's already made the U.S. National team and raced in Europe. That may seem like an incredible rise to paddling excellence, but in some ways, it's par for the course for this 23-year-old U.S. Navy professional. Over the past 5 years, she has proved herself on many paddling fronts, and we congratulate Ann on her impressive achievements!

See Ann's story [on the WCC website](#).



## **New Membership Orientations**

We will have one or more new member orientations per month during the spring. Current members who think they don't know enough about the benefits of membership, club rules, where things are, etc. are also welcome to attend. They typically take less than an hour. If you would like to attend a session please contact Kelsa Gabehart, WCC's Membership Chair, at [membership@washingtongcanoecub.org](mailto:membership@washingtongcanoecub.org).

## **2018 WCC Membership Registration**

WCC members who've not yet registered for the 2018 season, please do so today using [this link](#). Log in to your SportsEngine account (top left hand corner) to begin.

## **WCC Juniors Team Is Welcoming New Paddlers!**

Do you have kids ages 10-18 who are interested in learning how to paddle? Have them join the WCC Juniors Program. In addition to proper paddling technique, the program covers general physical fitness, water safety, care and use of equipment, the principles of competition, and the importance of teamwork.

Athletes will start out in the novice program, which emphasizes boating skills and fun. Once an athlete becomes more experienced and is interested in becoming more competitive he/she can move into the intermediate paddling group where they will be able to compete in races throughout the year.

To join or for any questions contact our Head Coach, [Kathleen McNamee](#).

## **January Oyster Roast - An Amazing Sunny Day**

On a rare, 60-degree Sunday, the WCC hosted the annual Oyster Roast. Nearly

100 members turned out to dine on oysters - raw and roasted - fried turkey, hot dogs, and calorie-filled desserts! A big thank you to Lisa Ramm and her team of volunteers for organizing the fete and we look forward to more days and events like this throughout 2018!



## AmazonSmile Helps Nonprofits (Like Us)

WCC is affiliated with this program and you can help! A small amount of your Amazon purchases will be donated to



the Washington Canoe Club.

Amazon-shoppers, go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and click on the "AMAZONSMILE" tab below the main ad. Then at the top-right, it displays your current charity. You can then click "Change charity" and then search at the bottom for "Friends of the Washington Canoe Club" and select it when it displays. Then whenever you want to buy something on Amazon, go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) (and not just amazon.com) and then proceed with your purchase as normal. The AmazonSmile Foundation will then donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible purchases. Tens of millions of products are eligible for donations, and this is a great way for WCC to bring in some extra revenue.

## **WCC Member Photo of the Month**

One Last Paddle - by Chris Stomberg

"I managed to sneak in one last paddle on this afternoon before the cove froze over, and was treated to this sunset from the Patuxent. That is ice on my deck, and when I got back home, a rim of ice had formed over the whole cove around the dock. Soon this will be impassable."



### **REMINDER: WCC Photographers, Share Your Shots!**

Help us tell the stories of the WCC - from paddling to potlucks to people! Share your photos with the Newsletter Team so we can spread your news and fun with the WCC Community. Send pics to [crpotts.wcc@gmail.com](mailto:crpotts.wcc@gmail.com) for possible use in the newsletter and/or our social media feeds. Be sure to include a brief description

along with the names of anyone pictured. The Newsletter Team will select a "photo of the month" for the image that best captures spirit of the club. At the end of 2018, the Newsletter Team will select the "photo of the year" with the winner to be awarded a special prize at next year's annual meeting.

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