

Crabbing at Mukilteo with my Explorer 15

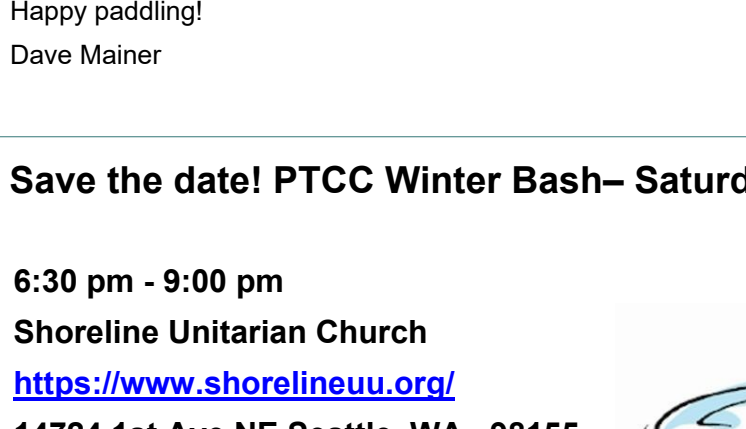
Message from the Prez

Dear Members,

Happy 2020! As we launch into a new decade, we wish that the next one plus nine years is full of health and happiness and paddling of course. I personally am looking forward to the next year as even though not 100% official, I will be re-tired by mid-March. Peggy and I are both excited about what this new chapter in our lives is going to bring. I want this next decade to be full of fun and adventure and we hope it will bring lots of time paddling small boats with all of you.

For Paddle Trails, having a diverse and robust trip schedule is my number one goal for the year. You should all realize that the club runs on volunteers and in that light, I am challenging you all to help fill the event calendar with great paddling opportunities to share with our members. I assume most of you have joined Paddle Trails Canoe Club because, like me, you like to paddle and so I also challenge each member to help us make it a great year by signing up for and joining other members on at least one paddling trip in 2020.

I'm challenging each Paddle Trails board member to at least 6 trips suitable for a range of paddling abilities during the next year. In addition, I want to encourage our other regular trip coordinators to continue to offer paddling opportunities to others by adding them to the event calendar. If you've never coordinated a trip before, look for one of our upcoming trip coordinator classes or feel free to pair up with one of the board members.



As we have in the past, we will have a calendar building event at the Winter Bash. There is no better or easier way to get your trip on the calendar than to attend the Bash and write down your trip so please try to make it! If you aren't able to attend and need help adding your paddling trip on the club's calendar, reach out to our trip coordinator, Kanako at iwataeng@hotmail.com.

Happy paddling!

Dave Mainer

Upcoming Trips

[Feb 22 Winter Bash](#)

[Feb 23 North Fork Stillaguamish—Class II](#)

[Feb 29 Wiener Roast \(TBD\) - Class II](#)

[March 14 Green River Headworks Class II+/III-](#)

Sign up for trips by clicking on the above hyperlinks or the [Events Calendar](#)

Website Resources

[Past CANEWS issues](#)

[Join the Club](#)

[Renew your membership](#)

[Update your profile](#)

[Membership Directory](#)

[Club FAQs](#)

[Tech/Outfitting Guidance](#)

[Gear for sale](#)

Save the date! PTCC Winter Bash– Saturday February 22nd

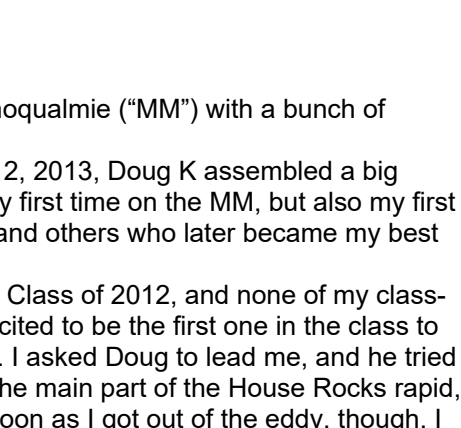
6:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Shoreline Unitarian Church

<https://www.shorelineuu.org/>

14724 1st Ave NE Seattle, WA 98155

Come join us for an evening of food, friends, and fun. All Club members and their guests are welcome. Please bring a pot-luck dish. The Club will provide drinks such as coffee, tea, soda, fruit juice, beer and wine. There is no charge.



POTLUCK DINNER

Activities include:

Trip coordinator awards

Gear swap--bring any of that paddling gear setting around the garage and pass it onto another person who can put it to good use.

2020 Trip Schedule sign-up: We also will have a sign-up sheet for the 2020 Trip Schedule. So, if you want to coordinate a particular trip this coming year, come and help us build a great year of paddling in 2020.

Contact Steve Reutebuch (sereutebuch@yahoo.com) if you have any questions or want to show photos from your 2019 paddling adventures.

Centennial Middle-Middle

By Kanako Iwata-Eng

On December 15, 2019, I ran the Middle-Middle Snoqualmie ("MM") with a bunch of kayakers. This was my 100th run on this section. I still remember my first run very well. On February 2, 2013, Doug K assembled a big group (20+ people?) of kayakers. It was not only my first time on the MM, but also my first paddle with Doug, Bill P, Mary K, Pete S, Larry G, and others who later became my best paddling buddies.

I started whitewater kayaking in the WKC Beginner Class of 2012, and none of my classmates had run the MM by that time. I was super excited to be the first one in the class to paddle the MM, but at the same time, I was scared. I asked Doug to lead me, and he tried his best. When we got to the river left eddy above the main part of the House Rocks rapid, he said, "Just follow me and ferry to the right." As soon as I got out of the eddy, though, I felt some violent surge under my boat. I momentarily thought someone was joking and was pushing up the bottom of my boat, but of course nobody but water would do such a thing. I flipped, rolled, but immediately flipped again. I rolled for the second time, just to flip for the third time. Going through the turbulence upside down, I had to hang on for a while before finding a quiet place to roll. When I rolled up for the third time, the entire rapid was over. Though I didn't swim and said it was fun, my first time on the MM remained as a small trauma. Those days, I had few friends to paddle Class 3 rivers with on the regular basis. I ran the MM a dozen times over the next two years with long intervals, and House Rocks looked different every time. I never swam there but was always nervous. The game changer came in November, 2015. Becky S was a new boater, and Lisa F and I went there with her. Lisa took us to the river right shore and we scouted House Rocks. For the first time, I could see what's where and identified holes and slack waters. Since that day, I became confident to run House Rocks. First I became proficient with the safest lines and then started trying more adventurous lines. At one point, I was pushing my limit to run the MM with my playboat. One evening in May, 2018, I went there with Mike S. It was almost 2000 CFS, and it was just two of us. I went first on the boulder garden right after the A-Frame. I was about 50 yards ahead, and he was busy playing up there. About the halfway in the rapid, I went behind a rock where I had eddied out before. However, that day, the eddy wasn't there; instead, it was a small but sticky hole. My tail got caught, and I flipped. I rolled up but was still in the hole, and flipped again. Knowing Mike was not even aware of me being upside down, I had to get out of the hole but stay in the boat. Upside down, I shook my boat until the hole let me go. I could roll up, but it was a close call. Rolling doesn't work every time. I have swum in the MM three times over years. The latest one was in A-Frame. I took a challenge line and tried to go around the biggest hole in the center. I didn't maneuver well, had to punch through the hole, didn't succeed and flipped. I got stuck in the hole and could feel the pour-over on my hands setting up for a roll. I could spin around but still couldn't take a breath and swam out of the hole. The river never fails to humble me. The Middle-Middle is one of my favorite runs where I can hone my skills and have lots of fun every time. I hope you join me in next 100 runs.

Gear Talk

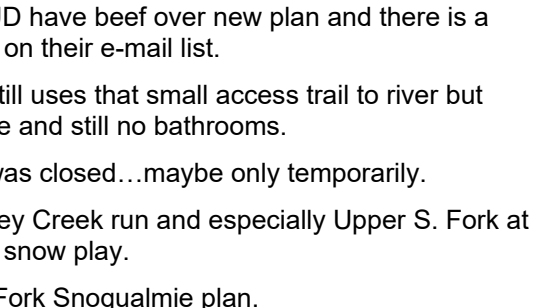
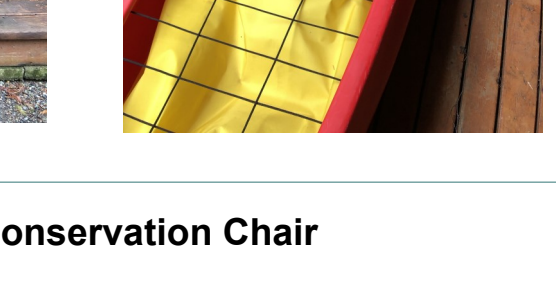
Classifieds

Kevlar Clipper Canoe Probe 12--\$950

Very lightly used kevlar Probe 12 manufactured by Clipper Canoe, Abbotsford, BC. This kevlar version of the Mohawk Probe 12 is 12.5 ft long and weighs about 50 pounds. This boat was always stored inside and is in very good condition.

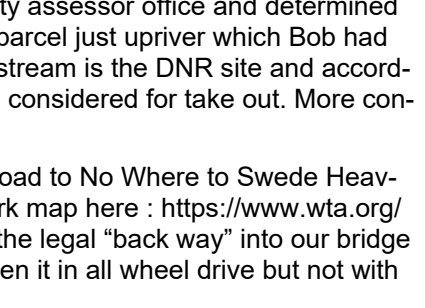
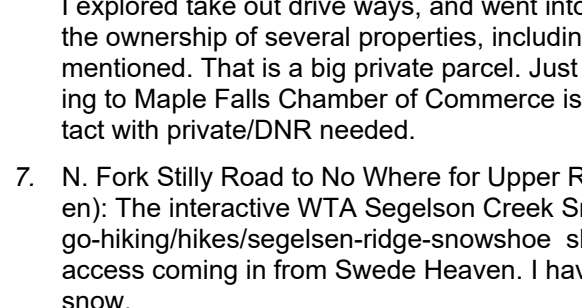
From the Mohawk website:

This is a boat that most entry level paddlers can start out with, but not grow out of. Its 28" beam at the 4" waterline make it quick to accelerate. The flair at the center section give it a tremendous amount of secondary stability that Probe paddlers love. The Probe 12 has symmetrical rocker, this feature makes ferrying, eddy turns and peel outs very predictable. This, along with the flared sides instills a lot of confidence while leaning the canoe. The canoe is fully outfitted with saddle and airbags. Howard Matzat of Redding, CA is selling this canoe. He is also interested in finding a tandem tripping Royalex canoe and is open to trading and offers. His contact info is: Email: melinbro@aol.com



Blackfly Option for Sale—\$1000

I just got this email about a Blackfly Option up for sale. Air bags and Werner paddle are included. The boat is in Bellingham, WA. Contact Mike Taylor at mikewtaylor2000@yahoo.com for details if interested.



Notes from Our Access and Conservation Chair

As of January 20, 2020:

1. Cispus River folks and Lewis County PUD have beef over new plan and there is a letter of noncompliance. Celia Parker is on their e-mail list.
2. Tanner Road for MM and Club Stretch still uses that small access trail to river but lined out parking spaces are on river side and still no bathrooms.
3. Lower Snoqualmie Plum Landing road was closed...maybe only temporarily.
4. Lots of snow on South Fork Stilly for Wiley Creek run and especially Upper S. Fork at Deer Creek where the road is closed for snow play.
5. Many boaters filed comment for Middle Fork Snoqualmie plan.
6. N. Fork Nooksack(Schneider). From American Whitewater RE the crappy take out over rip-rap rock right next to Hwy:

Access points near milepost 27 are all on private property, with the exception of a small parcel of DNR land that could offer some opportunities. At mile 26.4 you will see a drive with a chain across it that opens into a small clearing (you will need to park along the highway but from the clearing it is a short walk to the river). This is the DNR site and is the only public land in the area. At mile 26.8 there is a paved drive (gated) that leads into a good site that outfitters have used with permission of the landowner. At mile 27.0 (upstream side of the milepost marker) there is another site which has also been used by outfitters. Both of these sites are closed off to the public and offer no parking unless you have the key. Some have used the access at mile 27.1 which has space for a car off the highway.

I explored take out drive ways, and went into county assessor office and determined the ownership of several properties, including the parcel just upriver which Bob had mentioned. That is a big private parcel. Just downstream is the DNR site and according to Maple Falls Chamber of Commerce is being considered for take out. More contact with private/DNR needed.

7. N. Fork Stilly Road to No Where for Upper Run (Road to No Where to Swede Heaven): The interactive WTA Segelson Creek Sno-Park map here : <https://www.wta.org/go-hiking/hikes/segelsen-ridge-snowshoe> shows the legal "back way" into our bridge access coming in from Swede Heaven. I have driven it in all wheel drive but not with snow. The gate near 530 at big electrical substation is locked again and NO ENTRY sign still posted. Locals have two roads around gate but they risk heavy fines according to DNR police. Pedestrians could access river just past locked gate and put in there. Cars would be legally parked near substation. This option loses about a mile of river running.

8. Canyon Creek at Masonic Park: the local Masonic Lodge secretary informed me via voice mail that the Masonic Park Board is getting back to their by-laws which prohibits public entry. He said he would relay my "talking points" to their board but it does not look good, as even their Boy Scout Troop could be shut out. Our options:
 - A. Recruit a Mason as Paddle Trails member and bring him/her with us on trips.
 - B. One person pay the \$75 entry fee for Weyerhaeuser Rd. next door and use that car to shuttle gear/boaters. Obviously, that permit owner would have to be on the trip....
 - C. Use the Bill Petty (WKC) access which I think I have walked. It is far and hard. Expedition stuff. Kanako has done it several times.
 - D. Learn to paddle Canyon Falls and the lower Class IV section coming out at Jordan Rd. River Scene/Swinging Bridge put it. Not sure how to foot scout this section w/o trespassing.
 - E. Maybe a resident at Paul Smiths neighborhood would grant access?

Note: Losing Road to No Where AND Canyon Creek takes away two nice Class II runs. As PacNW population increases, shouldn't our recreation accesses also be increasing....not decreasing. Grrrrr.

Tom Matlack

