

February 2015

The Eddyline

I think the February blahs must be setting in.

A few short days ago, someone near and dear to me sent me this photo from their recent trip to Cuba. I took one look at this picture and all I wanted to do was to hop on a plane to somewhere warm and tropical. Kayaking on a crystal clear azure sea. Sigh.

Ah well, spring is surely on its way and very soon our club will be planning a variety of paddling excursions for 2015.

So save the date. Our trip planning meeting will be held on February 25th at 7:30 p.m. at the Strathcona Community Centre.

Hope to see you all there.

your Editor, Pat

Now this looks like the place to be !





Upcoming Events:

Feb 25 - Trip Planning Meeting

Mar 25 - Haida Gwaii & Churchill trips; Dirk Pauwels et al

Apr 29 - Abraham Lake by Werner Goechel

May 27 - Open House at the family centre in Rundle Park

June 24 - Annual picnic in Rundle park

Haida Gwaii

Haida Gwaii , a place of incredible beauty, has been named as one of National Geographic's 20 Best Trips 2015.

You won't want to miss Dirk Pauwel's presentation on March 25th of his trips to Haida Gwaii and Churchill.

Dirk will be sharing his impressions and experiences as well as his award winning photographs.

HUMOR

Dave's River Classification System

Someone was asking me about my class IV comfort level the other day, and my answer was something like "I'm comfortable that I can usually find an eddy to swim to". This inspired me to write, 'Dave's International Scale of River Difficulty':

Class I: Easy. Fast moving water with riffles and small waves. Swimming is pleasant, shore easily reached. Almost all gear and equipment is recovered. Boat is just slightly scratched.

Class II: Novice. Straightforward rapids with wide, clear channels which are evident without scouting. Swimming to eddies may require moderate effort. Climbing out of river may involve slippery rocks and shrub-induced lacerations. Paddles travel a great distance downstream requiring a lengthy walk. Canoe hits a submerged rock leaving a ding on gunwale.

Class III: Intermediate. Rapids with moderate, irregular waves which may be difficult to avoid. Water is swallowed. Legs are repeatedly ground against sharp pointy rocks. Several eddies are missed while swimming. Difficult decision whether or not to stay with boat is made. Decision to stay with boat results in moment of terror when swimmer realizes they are downstream of boat. Paddle is recirculated gently in small hole way upstream. All personal possessions are removed from boat and floated in different directions. Paddling partners run along river bank shouting helpful instructions. Boat is munched against large boulder hard enough to leave series of deep gouges. Sunglasses fall off.

Class IV: Advanced. Intense, powerful but predictable rapids requiring precise swimming in turbulent water. Swimming may require 'must' moves above dangerous hazards. 'Must' moves are downgraded to 'strongly recommended' after they are missed. Sensation of disbelief is experienced while about to swim large drops. Frantic swimming towards shore is alternated with frantic swimming away from shore to avoid strainers. Rocks are clung to with death grip. Paddle is completely forgotten. One shoe is removed. Hydraulic pressure removes car keys and credit cards from zippered paddle jacket pocket. Paddle partners running along stream look genuinely concerned while lofting throw ropes 20 feet behind swimmer. Paddle partners stare slack-jawed and point in amazement at canoe, which is finally stopped by major feature. Climbing up riverbank involves an inverted tree. One of those little spring-loaded pins that attaches watch to watchband is missing. Contact lenses are moved to rear of eyeballs.

Class V and beyond: Expert. Not recommended for swimming.

RECIPE

Coconut Curry Soup

YIELD: 1 serving

PREP TIME : 5 minutes

COOK TIME: 2 minutes

INGREDIENTS :

30 grams coconut cream powder (1/2 a packet)

1-2 cubes vegetable bouillon

1 teaspoon curry powder

pinch of cayenne

a handful of rice noodles

a handful of dehydrated veggies

2 cups water

METHOD:

At home, combine coconut cream powder, bouillon, curry powder and cayenne in a small zip top bag. In another bag, portion out your noodles and dehydrated veggies.

At camp, boil the noodles and dehydrated veggies in the water. Once the veggies are re-hydrated and the noodles are tender, stir in the coconut cream mixture.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

It's time to renew your membership for 2015.

Click link below to access membership form.

2015 NWV Membership Form



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