

## 2018 WCHA Annual Assembly Program Descriptions

### Featured Evening Presentations:

**Tuesday, July 17th;**

**Paddler's Welcome Gathering** Wine & cheese reception social event. [Gzowski Dining]

**Wednesday, July 18th;** [Auditorium Room 114]

**Indigenous Welcome** / Introduction W' dae b' wae (Mike Ormsby)

**My Father's Legacy** (Becky Mason)

**What it's really like to Canoe with Bill Mason** (Ken Buck)

**Behind the Scenes' Shooting films with Bill Mason** (Ken Buck)

**Let us go Laughing** (music of Bruce Cockburn) (Ken Buck)

**Thursday, July 19th;** [Auditorium Room 114]

**Annual Membership Meeting (President; Michael Grace)**

**An Inside History of the Chestnut Canoe Company** (Dick Persson)

**A Journey of Two Sisters; Chestnut Canoes in the UK** (Nick Dennis)

**Paddles from the Old World** (Graham Warren)

**Friday, July 20th;** [Waterfront]

**Paddle By and Salute** (Al Sienkiewicz)

**Saturday, July 21st;** [Auditorium Room 114]

**Lake Superior to Manitoba by Canoe** (Hap Wilson)

**A Renaissance Woman's View from the Canoe** (Andrea Wilson)

**Tom Thomson's Last Bonfire – Algonquin Park's Enduring Mystery** (Geoff Taylor)

### FEATURED EVENING PRESENTATIONS DESCRIPTIONS:

**Paddler's Welcome Gathering** Wine & cheese reception social event.

**My Father's Legacy** Becky Mason recalls a lifetime of family canoe travel and camping with her parents Bill & Joyce Mason and brother Paul.

A series of shorts by Ken Buck, author of "Bill Mason: Wilderness Artist; From Heart to Hand" will be presented by Reid MacLachlan; "**What it's really like to Canoe with Bill Mason**", "**Behind the Scenes; Shooting films with Bill Mason**" and "**Let us go Laughing**", a slide show featuring the music of Canadian folk music icon Bruce Cockburn.

<https://brucecockburn.com/>

**An Inside History of the Chestnut Canoe Company** Master builder and historian Dick Persson (Buckhorn Canoe Company) reveals some of the more esoteric history of the longest producing wooden canoe producer in Canada.

**A Journey of Two Sisters; Chestnut Canoes in the UK** Nick Dennis, UK Chapter Head talks about two Chestnut canoes that made their way to England and their eventual restoration.

**Paddles from the Old World** Graham Warren provides a survey of European canoe culture from 9000BC

**Lake Superior to Manitoba by Canoe** Canoe guide and trail builder Hap Wilson shares his experience exploring and mapping the water routes connecting 25% of the cross-Canada Great Trail located in northern Ontario.

**A Renaissance Woman's View from the Canoe** Andrea Wilson recounts a lifetime of canoeing in the Canadian north.

**Tom Thomson's Last Bonfire – Algonquin Park's Enduring Mystery** Author Geoff Taylor reveals new perspectives on the mysterious drowning death of artist Tom Thomson from his recently published book.

**Annual Membership Meeting President Michael Grace convenes the Annual General Meeting.**

**Paddle By and Salute** Perennial Master of Ceremonies Al Sienkiewicz introduces and describes canoes and their owners in this parade of canoes on the water.

#### **PROGRAM PERENNIALS:**

**Board of Directors meeting** Elected Board members gather for their semi-annual meeting. (Tues 1-4) [Room 110]

**New Attendee Orientation** This session provides an opportunity to learn first-hand about the Assembly from the WCHA President, Michael Grace. (Wed 8:30-9) [Room 111]

#### **Quilting Workshop**

Little Whatever Bag

This little bag measures 7" X 3 1/2" X 4 1/2". It is great for organizing incidentals in your purse, jewelry or make-up for a trip! It has a cute lacie zipper for a closure that is really easy to install. Kits will be all cut out and ready to sew. If you can bring a sewing machine that will be helpful. Kits will be \$10.00 US and 12.50 CAD. Limit of 10 for the class. ( F. Sienkiewicz) (Thurs. 1:30-4) [Room 105]

**Quilters' Meeting** Kits for next year's raffle quilt will be distributed. Bring "Show and Tell". (Fri 1:30-3:30) [Room 105]

### **Pro Builders Forum**

An opportunity for professional canoe builders to share ideas and provide feedback to a Board Representative about how the organization can support and promote canoe sales, repair and restoration. (Fri 9-10) [Room]

**Ladies Tea** Bring your fancy hats, china teacups and a fun-filled attitude. There will be tea, cookies and some surprises orchestrated by Meg Breslow and Ruth Zalonis. Join us! (Thur 1-2:30) [Cafe]

**Paddle By & Salute** Al Sienkiewicz and team will choreograph this opportunity to parade your pride and joy before the Assembly attendees! Paddlers in costume make this event even more entertaining. This is a wonderful Assembly tradition. Please join in the fun!

**Participants**; please complete a canoe & paddler(s) info sheet at the Info/Registration Tent and be ready to **launch at Rowing Club dock by 7PM**

**Spectators**; assemble in viewing area on the river bank at the south side / east end of the pedestrian bridge. **Use extreme caution crossing the roadway or view from the pedestrian bridge.** (Fri 6:45-dusk) [Waterfront]

**Family Campfires** Storytelling, music, sing-a-longs, S'mores and assorted informal entertainment and activities (Evenings, as weather permits) [Fire Pit]

**Canoescapes** (Mark Zalonis) Canoescapes is a gathering of people who love canoes and things and places that canoes take us to. It is a sharing of those thoughts, poetry, prose, music and readings that have special meaning to us and a connection to the canoe. Bring a special book, poetry, music and thoughts to share or just listen to what others offer. "Yesterday is ashes, tomorrow is wood, only today does the fire burn brightly". Sigurd Olson. Bring a reading to share, and a chair, or blanket to sit on the grass. (Fri 1-3) [Fire Pit or Room 103 in case of rain]

### **Assembly Feedback & Planning** (A Burke, Stevens)

Share what you like (or not) about this year's Assembly and what you'd like to help plan to happen next year's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. "Help Wanted" Volunteer opportunities to join the Assembly Planning Committee (various roles) (Sat 10-11) [Room 115]

**Assembly Group Photo** Gather on the slope on the Green immediately after the Auction. (Sat. 4PM) Wilson & Wilson

Also "**Raising Cane**" Photo of owners of Hugh Clark carved canes. Bring your cane.

**Annual Raffle and Auction** Bidding opens at 2PM Saturday on this popular and exciting event. Preview from Friday Noon.[Main Tent]

**WCHA Store** Books, clothing, hats, pins, and related items for sale. (Griffin Greene)  
Open; Wed.-Fri. 9AM - 5PM, Sat. 9-12Noon [Main Tent]

### **Chapters Meeting** (Craig Kitchen)

Chapter Heads are asked to meet for breakfast to socialize prior to meeting to share what and how they plan and run Chapter activities. All active members of any Chapter are welcome to join in the discussion. (Sat 9-10) [ Room 115]

**United Kingdom Chapter** UK Chapter Head Nick Dennis provides an overview of their group activities. (Wed 1:30-3) [Room 111]

### **OFF SITE EXCURSIONS:**

**Guided Paddle to Warsaw Caves** Kevin Callan leads a group paddle from the town of Warsaw to the Warsaw Caves. <http://www.warsawcaves.com/>  
(Wed. 9-1) [Meet at Parking Lot to carpool]

**Buckhorn Canoe Co. Open House** Self-guided/carpool excursion to Dick Persson's shop in Buckhorn. (Wed 9-12)

Directions; Follow Peterborough County Rd. 23 north for 20 minutes. Turn left two minutes to 1887 Lakehurst Road, Buckhorn, ON K0L 1J0

**Canadian Canoe Museum Guided Tour of the Collection/Warehouse** (Thurs 9-Noon)

Spaces limited, sign up in the Main Tent. Carpool to site near downtown Peterborough.

<https://canoemuseum.ca/>

**Group Paddle to the Peterborough Lift Lock & Round Lake** (Trent Severn National Historic Waterway) (Fri 9-Noon)

Meet at Rowing Club dock, ready to paddle departing at 9AM, 5.76km. or 4.2 miles each way, return canoe shuttle trailer available for those who want to paddle only one leg.

### **ADDITIONAL PROGRAM ACTIVITIES:**

**Walk a Mile in My Wet Shoes** Tim Humes of Canoe Kayak New Brunswick (CKNB) shares 10 years of research of the Restoring Ancient Portage Trails of New Brunswick project to re-establish ancient travel routes that were lost to history. (Fri. 1:30-3) [Room 115]

**26 Ways to Cook Bannock** Andre Francois Bourbeau reveals multiple ways to cook camp bread. (Wed 1:30-3) [Fire Pit or Room103 in case of rain]

**Survival Skills** AF Bourbeau shares a host of survival skills from years of experience of extreme travel in the outdoors. (Thurs 1:30-3) [Room 111]

**Guided Bird Walk** Ruth Zalonis leads a walk through the university Wildlife Sanctuary Trail area. (Wed. 8-9) [Meet at Parking Lot]

**How to be a Happy Camper** Kevin Callan and 10 yr old Kayla Callan recount tips and tricks for enjoying canoe tripping. (Thurs 1:30-4) [Room 108]

**Experimental Paddles** Graham Warren, author of "100 Paddle Designs", talks about recent ideas on paddle design. Sat. 9:15-10 [Room 117]

**Aboriginal Canoe Paddle Research Program** John Runciman (University of Guelph) shares findings of research into traditional paddle shapes. Sat. 10-10:45 [Room 117]

**Paddle Decoration** Murat Vardar shares his experience researching, reproducing and decorating traditional aboriginal paddles. Sat. 10:45-11:30 [Room 117]

**Bill Mason Films** (Ongoing) [Auditorium Rm 114]

**Paddle to the Sea** (1966)

Based on Holling C. Holling's book of the same name, **Paddle to the Sea** is Bill Mason's film adaptation of the classic tale of an Indigenous boy who sets out to carve a man and a canoe. Calling the man "Paddle to the Sea," he sets his carving down on a frozen stream to await spring's arrival. The film follows the adventures that befall the canoe on its long odyssey from Lake Superior to the sea.

**The Rise and Fall of the Great Lakes** (1968)

In this short documentary from conservationist Bill Mason, he illustrates that although the Great Lakes have had their ups and downs, nothing has been harder to take than what humans have done to them lately. In the film, a lone canoeist lives through the changes of geological history, through Ice Age and flood, only to find himself in the end trapped in a sea of scum.

**Path of the Paddle** (1977): 27 min x 4 Source; National Film Board of Canada

**Solo Whitewater** This short film from canoeist Bill Mason explains clearly how to locate a deep water channel by reading the rapids and how to apply paddling strokes and manoeuvres to steer the canoe where you want it to go. It also depicts what happens if you "wipe out" in a turbulent rapid and shows you how to survive the swim.

**Doubles Whitewater** This short film from canoeist Bill Mason shows how to read the rapids and plan a course and follow it, with complete control of the boat, using the basic paddling strokes. Running rapids will always be a calculated risk, but risk diminishes with skill and knowledge. The strokes can be used in endless combination to reduce the risks of whitewater canoeing and increase the sheer joy and exuberance.

**Doubles Basic** This short film from canoeist Bill Mason demonstrates the basic doubles paddling strokes and how to apply them in various combinations. The application of each stroke in rapids is shown briefly and the emphasis is always on working as a well-coordinated team.

**Solo Basic** This short film from canoeist Bill Mason illustrates the joy and poetry of paddling solo. All the basic strokes used to control the canoe are rendered with perfect clarity through animated lines.

**Song of the Paddle** (1978) (47 min)

This documentary features outdoorsman Bill Mason and his family as they camp and canoe in the wilderness. The film fosters an appreciation for the art of canoeing while celebrating the

sheer joy and beauty of nature. Along their trip, the Masons experience countless adventures and some breathtaking scenery, including indigenous rock carvings by Lake Superior.

**Waterwalker** (1984) (1hr 26 min) This feature-length documentary follows naturalist Bill Mason on his journey by canoe into the Ontario wilderness. The filmmaker and artist begins on Lake Superior, then explores winding and sometimes tortuous river waters to the meadowlands of the river's source. Along the way, Mason paints scenes that capture his attention and muses about his love of the canoe, his artwork and his own sense of the land. Mason also uses the film as a commentary on the link between God and nature and the vast array of beautiful canvases God created for him to paint. Features breathtaking visuals and exciting whitewater footage, with a musical score by Bruce Cockburn.

**CANOEING SKILLS INSTRUCTION/SAFETY: (Jim MacLachlan & WCHA Paddle Skills Coaches) All programs at Rowing Club dock / River waterfront**

NOTE: All participants are expected to provide your own canoe, paddle & PFD.

**Wed Jul 18;**

6:30-7:45am Traditional Recreational Solo Basic (MacLachlan)

4:15-5:30pm Traditional Recreational Tandem Basic (Barsevskis & Wyman)

**Thurs Jul 19;**

6:30-7:45am Traditional Recreational Solo Intermediate (MacLachlan)

Northwoods Style Paddling Basic (Nolan)

4:15-5:30pm Traditional Recreational Tandem Intermediate (MacLachlan & Whitehead)

**Fri Jul 20;**

6:30-7:45am Traditional Recreational Solo Basic (MacLachlan)

4:15-5:30pm Traditional Recreational Tandem Basic SWITCH (Barsevskis & Whitehead)

**Sat Jul 21;**

6:30- 7:45am Traditional Recreational Solo Intermediate (MacLachlan)

Poling Basic (A. Brylawski)

Canadian Style Solo Paddling TBA (Becky Mason)

**CONSTRUCTION;**

Ongoing Demos in the Construction Tent

Members of the Wooden Canoe Builder's Guild demonstrate repair and restoration techniques of a cedar/canvas canoe.

**Ribs;** removal, new, steam bending and install (Wed 9-10:30)

**Steam bending;** ribs & stems. Different options for steamers. (Wed 10:30-11:30)

**Rib repairs;** top & back side repairs (Wed. 1:30-2:30)

**Inwale and stem splicing** (Wed. 2:30-4)

**Planking replacement;** choosing planks, fitting, staining. (Thurs 9-10)

**Tack clinching** (Thurs 10-10:30)

**Oiling or Varnishing hull** (Thurs 10:30-11)

**Painting and varnishing** (Thur 1:30-3)

**Seat caning** (Fri. 9-11:30)

**Canvassing a hull** (Fri 9-10:30)

**Filling the canvas** +different filler options (Fri 10:30-11:30)

Assessing the condition of an old canoe (Fri 1:30-3)

**Installing outwales** (Sat. 9-11)

#### **OTHER CONSTRUCTION PRESENTATIONS:**

**Identify and Assess your Chestnut Canoe** (Dick Persson, Mike Elliott + various WCHA Historians & members) (Sat. 9:15-11)[Room 103]

**Chestnut Canoe Restoration** Mike Elliott, Kettle Creek Canoes, and author of “This Old Canoe”, talks about build characteristics and restoration of Chestnut Canoes. (Thurs 1-3) [Room 103]

**Restoring Fancy Old Canoes: A Book in Progress** Mike Elliott, author of upcoming “This Fancy Old Canoe: A Collector's Guide To Restoring Antique Canoes”, talks about restoration of fancy canoes such as courting canoes, sponsons, long-decked canoe, etc. (Wed. 1:30-3) [Room 103]

**Paddle Carving** Roger Foster of Carlisle Canoe Co. leads a full day paddle carving workshop. (Friday 9-5). A variety of shaped black cherry blanks will be provided. All participants will leave with a fully carved, sanded and sealed cherry paddle, with their initials stamped in the shaft. Cost \$170. Participants (14+ yrs old, limit 6) Requires preregistration with Roger Foster / Carlisle Canoe Co [roger@carlislecanoe.ca](mailto:roger@carlislecanoe.ca) <https://www.carlislecanoe.ca/index.html>

YouTube Video; <https://youtu.be/G3h7vJSzS20>

#### **LOCAL INTERESTS & ATTRACTIONS:**

**Peterborough & the Kawarthas Tourism;** <https://thekawarthas.ca/>  
**Kawartha Highlands Provincial Park;** <https://www.ontarioparks.com/park/kawarthahighlands>  
**Friends of Algonquin Provincial Park;** <http://www.algonquinpark.on.ca/>  
**Ontario Provincial Parks:** <http://www.ontarioparks.com/en> (celebrating 125 years!)  
Note; Reservations for Provincial Parks are done online 5 months ahead of time –which affects availability of sites. <https://reservations.ontarioparks.com/>

#### **PADDLING RESOURCES:**

**Paddle Canada:** <https://www.paddlecanada.com/>  
**Ontario Recreational Canoeing and Kayaking Association (ORCKA):** <http://www.orcka.ca/>  
**Wilderness Canoe Association:** <https://www.wildernesscanoe.ca/>

#### **REGIONAL CANOE ROUTES:**

**Algonquin Provincial Park:** <http://www.myccr.com/content/algonquin-provincial-park>

**French River Region;** <http://www.myccr.com/content/french-river-region>  
**French River Provincial Park:** <https://www.ontarioparks.com/park/frenchriver>

**Georgian Bay;** <http://www.myccr.com/content/georgian-bay-basin>  
<http://www.myccr.com/content/georgian-bay-coast>  
**Massassauga Provincial Park:** <https://www.ontarioparks.com/park/themassassauga>  
**Friends of Massassauga Provincial Park:** <https://friendsofthemassassauga.wildapricot.org/>  
“Thirty Thousand Islands” [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thirty\\_Thousand\\_Islands](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thirty_Thousand_Islands)

**Haliburton, Kawarthas & Georgian Bay;** <http://www.myccr.com/content/haliburton-kawartha-muskoka>

**Kilarney;** <http://www.myccr.com/content/killarney-region>  
**Friends of Kilarney Park:** <http://www.friendsofkillarneypark.com/>

**Ottawa River Valley;** <http://www.myccr.com/content/ottawa-region>  
+Whitewater Rafting; <https://owlrafting.com/>  
<http://www.wildernesstours.com/>  
<http://www.riverrunners.com/>

**Temagami Region:** <http://www.myccr.com/content/temagami-region>  
Ottertooth forums; <http://www.ottertooth.com/discus/discus.cgi?pg=topics>

#### **ONTARIO WOODEN CANOE BUILDERS:**

**WCHA Builder Members:** <http://www.wcha.org/builders-and-suppliers-directory> ("Ontario")  
**Wooden Canoe Builders Guild:** <http://www.wcbguild.com/>