



Newsletter

Established for
Flat water Paddlers
of all kinds
in April, 2003

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April, 2009

MEETING INFO

Date: Apr. 23, 2009

Place:

Seaman's Lodge,
425-A Nimrod St.
Pioneer Park
Nevada City

Time: 6:30 Social
7:00 Meeting

Program Presentation:
How to Use a GPS

Speaker: Doug Jensen

SNCKC Meeting, Thursday, April 23rd **How to Use a GPS**

Doug Jensen will give a presentation on how GPS' work, an overview of working with computer maps and working with Google Earth maps, tracking and laying out courses, and more.

Salad and bread will be available.

The social begins at 6:30, followed by the general meeting at 7:00 p.m.

New Slate of Officers for 2009-2010

It's that time again folks and at the April meeting we will be electing our new slate of SNCKC officers for the coming year.

The candidates are as follows:

President:	<i>Wendy Thibeault</i>
Vice President:	<i>Ron Brunmeier</i>
Treasurer:	<i>Dave Bishop</i>
Programs:	<i>Laslo Privari</i>
Newsletter/Web:	<i>Robin Hart</i>
Communications:	<i>Mike Tipton</i>
Directors at Large:	<i>Chris Crain</i> <i>Jan Prendergast</i> <i>Jerri Powers</i>

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Newsletter Editor:

Robin Hart

Send articles and contributions to:

rhstarbird@earthlink.net

(before the 15th of the month)

2008-2009 SNCKC OFFICERS

President: Joe Abrell

Vice President /Trip Planning:
Susan Rossman

Membership Coordinator: Diana Abrell

Treasurer: Dave Bishop

Program Director: Connie Wright

Newsletter Editor: Robin Hart

Board Member At Large: Chris Crain

Board Member At Large: Colleen Wirth

Board Member At Large: Vivian Tipton

Founder & Honorary

Board Member At Large: Kit Wiegman

2009 Trip Schedule

**April 17, 18, 19th Clear Lake*

*Dave has reserved Site 58 (on the lakefront)
and Site 56 (across the road).*

This was changed from May 1st, 2nd, 3rd.

Dave Bishop 272.7982

**May 8, 9, 10th Camping at Englebright Lake.*

*This is first come, first serve, so some of
us will need to go out early
and establish camping for the group.*

Leader needed

May 23rd Lake Natoma Joe and Diana Abrell 273.3095

May 29th, 30th & 31st — Butt Lake Marlee Chamberlin 530-272-4804

** Dates Changed from Original Schedule*

Members with trip suggestions or who have an additional trip they would like to schedule and lead may contact Susan Rossman at (530) 265-6146 or e-mail her at srossman21025@sbcglobal.net Carpool arrangements are between drivers and riders, please coordinate accordingly. All events are available to members and their guests. Paddlers not affiliated with SNCKC may attend at the discretion of the trip leader. All paddlers must sign a "Waiver of Release and Liability" before launching their paddle craft and must abide by the safety rules for the paddle.

Mystery Paddle

IT WAS ALMOST LIKE SUMMER...

by Dave Bishoop

The sky was bright and sunny, air temperature was pretty warm, and there was a brisk breeze as I paddled back down the lake to the launch ramp. Almost like summer, but not quite. Nearing the lake, the water sliding over the dam spillway was a broad, white, sparkling drapery. Picture perfect, and my expectation the lake level would be up was confirmed even before I arrived at the put-in. Patches of grass here and there along the way were alive with little yellow and little tiny white blossoms, a few willows were just starting to leaf out, and the gray the rocks along the water's edge were sporting the bright green of well watered moss. I felt a twinge of conscience when I paddled past the buoys bearing the bold admonition "5 MPH," but I didn't speed up!

Right after that I finally spotted the fisherman whose empty trailer was the only vehicle in the parking lot – one man crouched over his trolling motor, two rods in the water, and a net sizeable enough to land a salmon sticking straight up in the aft corner of his craft. I'm not sure he ever saw me, but the geese on the sandy beach started honking immediately. All except one lone fellow who stood like a statue on one leg as I eased along. His body never moved, but his head followed me like a .radar controlled weapon that had homed in on its target.

The explorer in me took me into the channel that separates the low sandy island from the north side of the lake. I knew there would be no question of running aground back in there but suspected that the passage might be too choked with brush to get through and as the channel got narrower, that proved to be the case. I pushed through a couple tight places but got to a point where I figured I could force my way through, but if that then proved to be the end of it, I'd "never" be able to back out to a turn around spot. Even then it took "forever" to tediously back out. The boat was littered with dead leaves and twigs. Entering the lake once more, a startled mud hen half flew and half ran across the surface of the water for maybe fifty yards. Its feet left a short lived trail of dozens of little rings as it fled my great, scary boat. Or great scary me??..

Further up the lake I glided over shallows that we generally have to go around, and the usual beaches were not quite as broad as they often are when the Club visits. A series of lines along the shore in several places, looking like miniature cliffs in the sand, showed that the water level had been a few inches higher quite recently. Only a few footprints in the sand.

Returning to the put-in was very much like summer; the sun in my eyes and the wind in my face. Where? Which lake was this? Didn't I say? Well...there's a lot of clues. You figure it out. The Club has been down that long, narrow, windy road many times. – *Dave, the Ark*

ENGLEBRIGHT

by Connie Wright

It was an "unofficial" paddle, put together just a few days before at the club meeting, but it turned out to be very popular. The weather was great and the poppy fields were spectacular. Thanks to Ron and Lani Brunmeier for putting it together.

Sac & American River Paddling

Sacramento & American River Paddle

by Joe Abrell

On Saturday, April 5th, 18 SNCKC members and two guests had an absolutely great trip on the Sacramento and American Rivers, essentially in downtown Sacramento. We launched at Discovery Park, very near the confluence of the two rivers. In the morning we paddled over two miles down the Sacramento River and then back upriver to Discovery Park for lunch. In the afternoon we paddled probably three miles up the American River and then back down river to Discovery Park for the take out.

The weather was near perfect. There was full sun all day. It was a little cool at launch but shortly many were shedding layers, and, we finished the day in the 70's. The launch site was as near perfect as you can find, sand with a very shallow bench several feet out from shore. Also, the lunch site at the Discovery Park is excellent, either on the sand or on a grassy bank. Many of us were surprised at the how little current there was in both rivers. A little more in the Sacramento than the American but much less than some of us expected. It's also a very interesting paddle within Sacramento.

So, thanks to Chris Crain for taking the initiative to find this place for us, and, for leading the trip. When the rivers aren't running high, as they were not for this trip, it's a place many of us would like to see become a regular trip on our schedule.



A Brake for Lunch and More Sac Paddling

Photos by Connie Wright

Sac & American River Paddling, Cont'd.

Sacramento & American River Paddle

by Connie Wright

Despite the early breezes and currents, about 20 folks enjoyed this trip, paddling easily downstream past Old Town in Sacramento and historic boats and bridges. The paddle back upstream was a bit more work and everyone welcomed lunchtime back at the start on the beach in Discovery Park. By that time the wind had almost died completely and the group enjoyed a leisurely quiet paddle up the American River a few miles and back. Thanks to Chris Crain for leading a fun day.



SNCKC Takes The Sacramento & American Rivers by Storm

Photos by Connie Wright