



THE CATCH

South Niagara Canoe Club Newsletter, Volume 13 Issue 11

December 2023



Best wishes for

2024

Head Coach Öztürk Kuru

Coach Öztürk will begin to coach SNCC athletes in January 2024. First featured in the May 2023 edition of The Catch, Coach Öztürk is from Türkiye. He is very excited to move to Canada and to be part of the SNCC family. The Board of Directors is very excited to see how Coach Öztürk can help our athletes grow and develop, as well as help our club grow and develop. Welcome, Öztürk !

Photograph supplied by Öztürk, from a recent canoe/kayak regatta.



Winter Training at SNCC



Don't forget to sign up for Winter Training either with Canoe/Kayak or with Dragon Boat. Visit our website, SNCC.CA, for details.

Canoe/Kayak has winter programs for Youth Racing Camp, U14, U16, High Performance, and Masters athletes. Training sessions have already started in November at various sites.

Dragon Boat has programs for beginners, recreation, development, and performance paddlers. Training will begin on December 4, 2023 at the Welland International Flatwater Centre.

The Catch shares news about SNCC and its members
So you can stay connected with SNCC and its members.

Member profile: Lindsay Davis

By Marilyn Abbs.

Lindsay joined SNCC after seeing our ParaSport Festival display at the Scotiabank Convention Centre in Niagara Falls, in the early Spring of 2019. Evidently it piqued her curiosity enough to sign [up] later in the year.

At first, it was challenging as her job entailed working shift work, being afternoon shift. Being undeterred, Lindsay joined us later in the year, right before KC [Head Coach of SNCC at the time] went to Regina for Nationals. Like everyone else, she started practising with the stabilizers on her kayak. It seemed like she would never be able to get rid of those things!

During one particularly windy day, Lindsay learned how quickly things can turn when under a bridge - like having a perfect "storm" of the wind tunnel effect catching you off guard, and making everything upside down in the water. Luckily KC was ready and dove in and helped Lindsay get sorted out enough to tow the boat back to dock (full of water of course).

It was hard being off during Covid, but when we returned, all of us picked back up where we left off.

When KC moved east to be a part of Canoe Kayak Canada, it then became [Head Coach] Rob Smith's turn to work Lindsay in his style, and get some great performances he knew she was capable of. New personal bests were starting to happen, and halfway through the season, he got her to ditch the stabilizers right before a regatta. She was a bit nervous, but also "stoked" for the challenge!

I convinced her to accompany me to the Nationals in Shawinigan, Que, and CanMas, seeing as she was old enough to race in CanMas. That was last year - she did amazing! Fittingly she was named the Paracanoe Athlete of the Year! I was so happy for her!

This year saw a change in Coaching with having Evan Landry at the helm for us in Canoe Kayak. He worked really well with Lindsay this year, along with Aiden Davis, they made sure Lindsay had the continued support with morning practises. Because of what parameters Paracanoe has with the sport, medical documentation must be submitted to the Classification Committee prior to attending a Canadian Nationals.

Why share this? Because of Lindsay's little known hidden superpower - Lawyer! I swear she has something about being able to engage in discussions most would fear to be a part of. Not our Lindsay. I am going to say this comes from the many years as a member of the Brock Niagara Penguins, and has been involved with the dealings in other Para sports, such as Wheelchair Basketball (that she is really good at by the way).

She also has the ability to advance the conversation (if the other party is willing) to try and make it better not only for her, but all of those who might follow in her footsteps.

Oh, just one more thing - she is an avid motorcyclist! She owns a Spyder, Ryker model - which is a gorgeous 3 wheeled motorcycle that she rides to work, rides to the club, goes on jaunts with her father, who has a cruiser, a Harley if I recall correctly. ■



Welland Santa Claus Parade



Many volunteers helped make the SNCC entry in the Welland Santa Claus Parade a success! Thank you to Lori Dwyer for leading the charge, along with decorating help from Bernadette Morrissey, Donna Moffatt, and Joan Crawford. Thank you to all those who dressed up in costumes to the delight of the many children at the parade.

Thank you also to Marilyn Abbs for organizing the volunteers for the Warming Station at Welland City Hall. There will be another Warming Station at Welland Market on December 9, 2023 for a Hometown Christmas.

Most photographs on this page are from Anthony Gallaccio. The photo above is from Dei Paule.



Fundraising Fun!

There are many fundraising initiatives happening at SNCC. Here is a brief outline of what they are.

Club-wide Initiatives.

On the first Sunday of the month, SNCC volunteers age 19 years or older can be found at Delta City Bingo in Welland from 12:30-3:00pm. So far, SNCC has raised over \$7000 through the Bingo. Contact Marilyn Abbs if you are interested in volunteering at Bingos.



Alan Wright and Marie-Jeanne Monette have created the SNCC Circle of Friends. Members of the *Circle of Friends* make either one-time donations or monthly contributions to the Club so that 2024 may be a successful year for on-water and dryland training, for recreational paddling, for kids' summer camps, as well as for our members' participation in regional, national, and international competitions across the paddling disciplines. See our website, SNCC.CA, to find the link to donate right on our homepage.



On February 9, 2023, SNCC will host its first Trivia Night fundraiser likely at the Welland Legion. Many volunteers will be needed for the trivia game, for the raffle, for the 50-50 draw, for the food table, and for the fundraiser bar to ensure a successful event!

Italy-specific initiatives.

Hope Floats (BCP or Breast Cancer Paddlers) and ParaDragons (PD2 or para-dragons 2 which includes para-athletes and supporters) are heading to the 14th Club Crew World Championships (CCWCs) in Ravenna, Italy to be held September 3-8, 2024. The crews will be fundraising for many goals such as registration fees. A clothing drive and a Big Red Meats sale was held in November. Coming up is a bottle drive and a dessert auction at the Canal Dragons Christmas party.

Canal Dragons Executive

Business Managers: Margaret and Remo Battista

Canal Dragons Secretary: Marisa Battista

Canal Dragons Treasurer: Jamie Mereweather

Canal Dragons Fundraiser Co-Chairs: Liz Guitard and Frankie Guaiana

Roles and responsibilities to be discussed with stakeholders including the SNCC Board of Directors, dragon boat coaches, and dragon boat membership.

Other Dragon Boat Leadership

Hope Floats Challenge Treasurers: Linda Bell and Frankie Guaiana

CCWCs Treasurers: Linda Bell and Frankie Guaiana

CCWCs Fundraiser Chair: Lori Dwyer



Update from the Board

Changes in Leadership at SNCC.

Alan Wright has stepped down as Commodore of SNCC in early November. We wish Alan well and we look forward to continue seeing him around the Club. Kathleen Reardon has taken up the post of Commodore of SNCC. Kathleen also currently holds the Treasurer role for SNCC. A new Treasurer for SNCC will hopefully be officially announced in January 2024. Annie Eckhardt is stepping down as Assistant Treasurer for SNCC. Additionally, Bernadette Morrissey has stepped down as Secretary for SNCC. Barb Perry is now the new Secretary.

The current Board of Directors at SNCC are:

Commodore: Kathleen Reardon

1st Vice Commodore, Canoe/Kayak: Michelle Lowry

2nd Vice Commodore, Dragon Boat: Mark Swan

Secretary: Barb Perry

Registrar: Marilyn Abbs

Treasurer: Kathleen Reardon



Directors at Large:

Anne Marie Ciano

Carolyn Swan

Jo Feekery

Linda Bell

Marie-Jeanne Monette

Carlos Peralta (until December 31, 2023)



There are also changes at the Coach level. Öztürk Kuru, who was interviewed in the Spring for the Head Coach position is expected to start working for SNCC on January 8, 2024. Additionally, Brenda Arndt has been made Head Coach of Dragon Boat programming by Vice Commodore, Dragon Boat Mark Swan, pending approval.

Thank you to those stepping down for your service. Congratulations to those who are in new leadership roles! It is going to be an exciting 2024 for SNCC!

Ontario Non-Profit Corporations Act, 2024 (ONCA)

This new law came into effect in 2021 and SNCC will need to ensure it is compliant with this new law by October 2024 as SNCC is a non-profit corporation. This will include a review of our by-laws and policies.

Next issue: February 2024

Next creator(s) of The Catch will be determined soon.



SNCC.CA