

**Shuswap Association for Rowing and Paddling**  
**S.A.R.P.**  
**Outrigging Year End Report**  
**Submitted by Cary Lentz- Outrigging Director**

What a wonderfully eventful season, we have had in the Outrigging Division of SARP. After an incredibly active year involving, initializing a CORA sanctioned Outrigger Race, offering Individual Outrigging training, and a fall, first ever paddle of two OC 6's down the Shuswap River, from Enderby to Mara Lake. We are completing 2011 with summarizing your 2011 Outrigger Survey results, and are settling into the planning of the upcoming 2012 paddling season!

We give thanks for all the help of the volunteers and members, that have made 2011 a banner year!!! Excellent work everyone!

**January- May :** Cary Lentz was elected Outrigging Director for SARP at the December SARP Annual General Meeting, it was noted that in 2011 there would be 4 out of the eleven board members who were outrigging paddlers. Karin Crouch agreed to be the Outrigger Coordinator. Randy Brooks had agreed in 2010 to Chair the committee, for planning and implementing the First Annual "Survive the Triangle" Outrigger Races, to be held in conjunction with the Annual SARP Dragon Boat Festival. Randy and Michael van der Kraats offered to help facilitate the coordination of the Dragon Boat Festival, with Tom Makey and Gord Henderson. Much planning and many meetings were to ensue in the coming months.

**May-** the Outriggers came out to join in the SARP annual OPEN HOUSE SAT- MAY 14 at Canoe Beach, we had fun races and enjoyed the great fellowship and food. Club Paddling officially began on Monday May 16 at 7pm. Organized paddling was scheduled for 25+ paddlers on Monday / Wednesday and Tuesday / Thursday; weekend paddles were organized by individuals, on an individual participant basis. Training began for the upcoming Beat the Train triathlon, with 14 SARP members paddling in 2 -OC 6's and 1 -OC 2, and one paddler did the 10km uphill run- way to go Michele Brooks.

**June-** planning, working and meetings had been the nature of the preceding months for the "Survive the Triangle" Outrigger Races committee, which culminated in the very successful marriage of Outrigging racing and Dragon Boat festival on the weekend of June 25/26 at the Salmon Arm, downtown Wharf, and we had an awesome sunny day! We are very grateful for this successful event, with participants from Alberta, BC and the US. Randy Brooks, Chair of the Race, and his dedicated committee are looking forward to 2012 June 23 and 24. Our club participated as well, a determined boat of novice and experienced women paddlers trained and competed in the OC 6- 14km race! Way to go girls! As well there were 2 OC- 2 boats and 1 OC- 1 race entries, and I now know how to steer an OC- 2, learning very quickly- at the start line! Through out the month as weather permitted, organized paddles went out from Canoe Beach. There was on going instruction facilitated by club members for new paddlers.

**July-August-** the weather wasn't so great in July, many durable paddlers ventured out regardless and had a good time paddling, but unfortunately we had to cancel a few paddles due to weather again. May and June were tough month's weather wise for paddling. Not Salmon Arm's greatest spring, we are looking forward to our sunny skies in 2012. We ran and advertised locally, for the first time, individual coaching in an OC 2 and OC6, provided by Michael and Carla van der Kraats. We were very pleased with the positive feedback from the participants, and are planning to run this program again, but earlier in 2012. Watch for upcoming notices and advertising in our local media, in May and June. There were no teams racing in OC 6 races in the area, but members did participate in OC 1 and 2 races in Vernon and Kelowna.

**September-** we ended our Outrigger Paddling Season on Sunday September 25, with a fantastic paddle of 2 OC 6's down the Shuswap River putting boats in at Enderby. We paddled rely style, with some getting out at below the Grinrod bridge, and others paddling the entire 30km, finishing up at Mara Lake, where we enjoyed a scrumptious potluck dinner.

**October-December-** as another season was completed, the faithful few came down and cleaned up the SARP compound at Canoe Beach, and put the boats- two OC 6's to bed for the winter. Karin Crouch, Outrigger Coordinator sent out a survey to all active paddlers, requesting feedback on their paddling experience and offering opportunity to provide any comments and new ideas for future seasons. Karin, Michael, Len and Cary met and reviewed the results in October. And as many enjoy getting together, (you noted this in your survey comments), social events were planned! As well SARP board executive met with Randy Brooks, to debrief of the "Survive the Triangle" Outrigger Races, results were reported to the board. **There were ongoing meetings of the Outrigging executive, planning, planning Its going to be a great 2012!!!**

**I am grateful for my term as Outrigging Director, and thank everyone for their input and commitment to Outrigging in the Shuswap, we have a great team!!! Paddles up!!**