

KWP Annual Report 2018

President's Report

Although this has been a challenging year we have achieved a tremendous amount of work. From re-establishing a cohesive board in the beginning of the year to our end of the year BBQ, our club has a resilient set of members, who consistently volunteer. This ensures we continue to function as a cooperative group of friendly, and safety conscious paddlers.

In January, Elly Walsh and Brent Dadds published a club newsletter. This helped the club communicate our current events and gave students the opportunity gain volunteer hours. We would like to continue this in the future. The response to this project was remarkably positive.

The MACKfest committee headed by long-time paddler and weather-water expert Tom Legere pulled off a fantastic event. We had paddlers coming from Quebec, and New York as well as many of the Ontario clubs. The prizes this year seemed uncountable. There is no amount of thanks that can be enough to our sponsors and volunteers to make this event such a success. Tom deserves the most credit, in making the daunting decision to postpone MACKfest, not once, but TWICE! He ensured that we had the great water levels this year. If you see Tom on the water he deserves a handshake, as he lived and breathed all things MACK. Thank you, Tom! People will look upon your example for years on how to run things.

Simon organized an L2 course (River Kayak Level 2) for our trip leaders. Paddling stars Stephanie McArdle, and Katrina Van Wijk instructed. Part of the course was funded by White Water Ontario, and KWP covered the rest. We need our trip leaders trained in preparation for mandatory certification by our insurer, likely to occur in approximately 4 years. Our hope is with continued coordination between WO and the other clubs in Ontario, inexpensive courses offerings will continue, and recertification of trip leaders will occur between clubs. A focus on training and trip leader development will make the Whitewater community stronger, safer, and more cohesive.

Although our fun runs have had varied attendance at Burleigh, Chris Card has gone above and beyond, to put forth a Tuesday run at the Gull. Fun runs have provided us some instances where we have been able to run several safety drills. In the past, KWP has run safety drills and I am happy to see that we are trying to get this going again. I want to take this opportunity to thank those who made it out during our safety practice days.

Who is KWP?

The Kawartha Whitewater Paddlers are a large, diverse and growing group of friends and whitewater enthusiasts. Though we call Burleigh Falls our home, our pursuit of whitewater takes us all over Ontario, Quebec and the Eastern US. While our members mainly paddle kayaks, we welcome open boaters in our ranks. For more information, see our club website at kwpcub.ca or contact us at kwpcubinfo@gmail.com

Palmerfest had a good showing of KWPers. Although Jessup's campground has been under different pressures, it remains an ideal spot for the long weekend. We had all sorts of paddlers heading down the chutes. All had fun. Despite some rain, some even made their way to the Coop to hear the live music.

The KWP Family and Friends Palmer Weekend at Palmer Rapid was a blast. We camped at the Co-op, and had a great time. We held a potluck as well as some rope and safety drills. Thank you to Tony for running a paddling clinic, attended mostly by new members.

Week of Rivers started with many paddlers at the Gatineau. The nearby rapids are quite magical. If you have not done this river, you are missing challenging rapids, gorgeous beaches, and great company; a real treat. Some of the group stayed the entire week, while others traveled to the Ottawa, and others made their way to have fun against rafts on the Seven Sisters section of the Rouge River. While this trip has in the past been a KWP event, it is in practice an inter-club trip that sees friendly faces from around the province. If you want to take part next year, please ask, as all are welcome.

King of Clubs had an excellent showing with our volunteers doing a great share of work to make things happen. Although there was some sadness at the retirement of the Cardboard Boat event, the Party Stand Up Paddleboard was certainly a hit. We did as we always do in KWP and ensured that our newer members got an opportunity to participate in as many events as they wished. Next year guys.

Our Club weekend at the Gull was very well attended. We dashed in and out of the waves in a surf session with Chris Card, roll clinics, paddle stroke reviews, and a potluck of champions. Greg Shantz ran a well-attended clinic, with mostly new paddlers. Being the first weekend of the summer without a fire ban, we were very happy to sit around the fire pit beside the Roger Parsons Centre. Everyone had a marvelous time.

Special thanks to Greg, Milton, Chris, Simon and everyone that helped out that weekend.

Whitewater Ontario (WO) has continued to support KWP. In 2017 WO donated \$454.15 to KWP, returning donations made by KWP from Mackfest surpluses over prior years. Also, WO pays annually \$400 to maintain Marmora area river access, necessary for Mackfest and our Spring runs.

Last spring, KWP donated \$500 of funds, split between Marmora Helping Hands Food Bank and the Central Hastings Support Network's Marmora Food Bank, and in August, we donated \$435 to Paddlers Co-op, in Palmer Rapids, to sponsor a child attending summer camp (they had given us free use of their classroom for 3 days of courses). At the annual Open Canoe Slalom, KWP donated \$3000 to the Fix The Gull Restoration. We feel it is important, that as a club help maintain and improve its condition for the benefit of our club, and the paddling community. For 2019, WO has offered to provide an instructor for a refresher session for our trip leaders, and to run two one-day youth clinics in the Marmora area, providing instructors, boats and equipment. They have asked us to cost share.

No matter your boat, I wish you all a safe and satisfying cold water season.

Eric Chaplin, KWP President

Membership Update

The 2018 membership for KWP was 69 members, a slight decrease from 2016 and 2017 membership numbers (72), or a generally stable membership. A comparison of membership numbers and demographics over the last few years is provided below for interest. Note the addition of 59 'new' members in the last two years, which represents ~86% of the current club membership numbers.

| Membership Demographics | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|----------------|---------------|
| Year | Total | New | Returning | Gender (W / M) | Adult / Youth |
| 2018 | 69 | 31 | 38 | 17 / 52 | 64 / 5 |
| 2017 | 72 | 28 | 44 | 19 / 53 | 66 / 6 |
| 2016 | 72 | No data available | | | |
| 2015 | ~62* | No data available | | | |
| Pre-2014 | No data available | | | | |

Note: * 2015 membership is estimated based on revenue

Looking at the areas our current membership comes from and being conservative with the boundaries of the Kawartha Region, we have 38 members (55%) who call the Kawartha's home and 31 members (45%) who are considered out of the region (including Toronto, Ottawa, Kingston, Belleville, Mississauga, Brampton and Barrie).

Finance Update

This finance update includes 2018 revenue and expenses up to September 14, 2018. One bank account holds both the KWP and Mackfest budgets. The first table provides the starting balance of the bank account, revenue/expenses for 2018 and closing balance of the bank account as of September 14.

The club bank account ran a deficit of \$2879.72 in 2018, largely due to donations related to the historical Mackfest funds accumulated. During 2018 the board came to understand that Mackfest was intended to run as a non-profit with proceeds being donated to local charities and paddling community initiatives. With this understanding the board created a plan to donate:

1/3 of the Mackfest account (\$3,000) to the Whitewater Ontario Gull River improvements as it was seen as the most significant current whitewater improvement project in the region and it is one the project that impacts the membership directly. Paddler's Co-op also approached KWP to seek a donation to fund a kayak camp for a child from the Palmer Rapids area and the board considered this donation request a valid use of the Mackfest charitable proceeds.

1/3 of the Mackfest account to the local charity in the Marmora area in which Mackfest is run. This 1/3 would be presented at 2019 Mackfest and the charity would be selected prior to that date, with recommendations from the Mackfest organizing committee.

To keep 1/3 of the Mackfest funds for sustaining the event and covering losses, if any in future years. Typically the losses on Mackfest are not significant, but 1/3 was considered a conservative amount to ensure that the festival would continue for several years into the future.

This table gives a breakdown of revenue and expenses for particular areas of club activities.

| Budget 2018 | | | |
|--|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| (as of Sept 14, 2018) | | | |
| | Out | In | Balance |
| KWP | | | 6,161.82 |
| Mackfest | | | 8,948.42 |
| Bank Balance Forward 2017 | | | 15,110.24 |
| KWP | 6,652.82 | 5,907.44 | -745.38 |
| Mackfest | 5,742.44 | 3,608.10 | -2,134.34 |
| Exp/Inc 2018 | 12,395.26 | 9,515.54 | -2,879.72 |
| KWP | | | 5,416.44 |
| Mackfest | | | 6,814.08 |
| Closing Bank Balance 2018 (Sept 14, 2018) | | | 12,230.52 |

The table below gives a breakdown of revenue and expenses for particular areas of club activities. Training included the leadership training for KWP river trip leaders, pool included Courtice (only a portion of) and Trent University pool sessions, and events included an AGM, pizza party and King of Clubs.

| KWP Budget Highlights | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | OUT | IN | Balance |
| Fees | 145.08 | 0.00 | -145.08 |
| Events | 999.98 | 0.00 | -999.98 |
| KWP - MACKFEST | 988.06 | 1,005.00 | 16.94 |
| Membership | 929.00 | 2,545.69 | 1,616.69 |
| Pool | 2,590.70 | 2,356.75 | -233.95 |
| Training | 1,000.00 | 0.00 | -1,000.00 |
| MACKFEST - Event | 1,807.44 | 3,608.10 | 1,800.66 |
| MACKFEST - Donation | 3,935.00 | 0.00 | -3,935.00 |
| Exp/Inc 2018 | 12,395.26 | 9,515.54 | -2,879.72 |

Annual General Meeting

September 29, 2018 4:30 to 6:00 pm

Roger Parsons Centre

Minden Whitewater Preserve

Agenda:

45 minutes for items 1 to 9, 15 minute break, then 30 minutes for Elections. Online participants must sign-in by 4:15 pm to participate. We will not be able delay the meeting starting to address on-line participation. Several proposed Motions will be circulated at the beginning of the meeting.

1. Motion on AGM date change-chair
2. Accept last year's minutes –chair
3. President's Report
4. Treasurer's Report
5. MACKfest Future: discussion and planning

Optional items for discussion below, if time permits

6. SWAG – Lisa
7. Burleigh update and planning – Simon
8. Training in 2019 and Trillium grant proposal - Simon
9. Pool Sessions: setting a member and non-member fee or not? - Simon
10. Youth boat program Simon/Eric

Break

11. Elections --Lisa

Being Present

Kayakers love to socialize. Whether it is floating in an eddy talking to friends, or having a drink sat around a campfire reliving the day's paddle. This AGM will have some difficult issues to resolve. It will be important to have our members focused and engaged, and limit distractions. We ask that this meeting be alcohol free please.

Volunteers Needed

- Burleigh Falls Stakeholder Meeting
- Training Grant Application
- Pool Session Leads Toronto, Courtice and Trent

Please contact our President if interested. Any call-out for MACKfest volunteers will be completed separately.

Pool Sessions

Series of pool sessions occurred last winter at the Courtice Sports Complex and Trent University Pool. We hosted a kids Christmas party in the pool at Trent, and a pre-Mackfest roll clinic and safety practice in Courtice, in March. We introduced a drop-in rate for the 10 sessions at Trent. This worked well and covered under-selling the 10 session series. Courtice needed a small amount of costs covered due to a person backing out at the last minute. This year, we will add in a third series of pool sessions in Toronto. Reminder: boats must be debris free (pine needles and leaves) before they are brought into the pools. It is so much easier to hose them out on your lawn now than in January.