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# Oregon WHITewater ASSOCIATION

Volume 12 Number 9

November 2011

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## NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, November 9, 2011  
7:00-9:00 PM

**Flying Pie Pizza**  
7804 S.E. Stark Street  
Portland, OR 97215

## RIVER TIP

Submitted by Tom Hanson

Attaching a spare oar so it's easily accessible can be tricky. I use "panic latches" that can be purchased at any horse tack shop. Secure them with a one-inch strap, sewn in a loop and attached to your frame.



## TRIP REPORT: North Santiam Run

October 1, 2011 • Submitted by Rick Hendon

The temperatures were in the high 60s/low 70s and during the whole run it rained lightly for only about 10 minutes. The river was running at a vigorous 2900 cfs which meant that most of the bones were covered and the two or three named rapids were a little more interesting. All in all a perfect day – with no need for greasy sunscreen.

Fourteen early risers met at the Hanger Cafe in Mulino for breakfast on the way to the river, and those who did were treated with the picture post-card drive from Mulino down to Stayton through the most beautiful farmlands in Western Oregon ... any drive that includes a town named Sublimity is a good bet. We set our shuttle at 10:30 a.m. and got onto the river just before noon.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

*Oregon Whitewater Association is dedicated to preserving, protecting and promoting Oregon's rivers for the safe enjoyment of both public and private non-motorized boating, now and in the future. We advocate fairness in accessibility to river resources and provide a voice for responding to river issues and management concerns.*



# Contact Information

Your OWA officers and volunteers

Brenda Bunce, President  
[president@oregonwhitewater.org](mailto:president@oregonwhitewater.org)  
360.931.4224

Bruce Ripley, Vice President  
[vice-president@oregonwhitewater.org](mailto:vice-president@oregonwhitewater.org)  
503.522.7470

Karen Eichhorn, Secretary  
[secretary@oregonwhitewater.org](mailto:secretary@oregonwhitewater.org)  
503.246.4504

Rick Carman, Treasurer  
[treasurer@oregonwhitewater.org](mailto:treasurer@oregonwhitewater.org)  
503.642.9347

Mary Cooper, Membership Director  
[membership@oregonwhitewater.org](mailto:membership@oregonwhitewater.org)

Scott Ogren, Technology Director  
[webmaster@oregonwhitewater.org](mailto:webmaster@oregonwhitewater.org)  
503.267.9785

Tom Hanson Tips Editor  
[rivertips@oregonwhitewater.org](mailto:rivertips@oregonwhitewater.org)  
503.201.4428

Pat Barry, Trip Editor  
[tripeditor@oregonwhitewater.org](mailto:tripeditor@oregonwhitewater.org)  
971.222.5422

Cary Solberg, Advertising Editor  
[advertisingeditor@oregonwhitewater.org](mailto:advertisingeditor@oregonwhitewater.org)  
503.222.6718

Karen O'Neel, Newsletter Editor  
[newslettereditor@oregonwhitewater.org](mailto:newslettereditor@oregonwhitewater.org)  
503.789.3636

**OWA list server address:**  
[H2OAddicts@OregonWhitewater.org](mailto:H2OAddicts@OregonWhitewater.org)

**OWA web site address:**  
<http://www.OregonWhitewater.org>



**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

**BRENDA BUNCE**

**J**im Collins, long time OWA member, will introduce the importance of whitewater safety and our featured video "White Water Self Defense". Join us November 9 from 6-8:30 p.m. at Flying Pie Pizzeria.

Now is the time to think about planning your 2012 river trips. Consider being a trip leader and send your details to our new Trip Editor, Pat Barry.

We are taking nominations for the Vice President and Treasurer position. If you are interested or know somebody else who is, please send an email to president@oregonwhitewater.org and we will put your nomination on the ballot. All nominations will close at the November OWA meeting on Wednesday, November 9, 2011.

**We are continuing to collect money for fundraising by way of our 50/50 raffle at club meetings in order to contribute to our Swift Water Rescue Training for 2012. Let us know if you would like to volunteer to help us with fundraising events.**

Email nominations will close on Tuesday, November 8 and the final nominations will take place at the club meeting on November 9.

After all nominations have been received and announced at the November meeting, a ballot will be sent out by email and there will be a period of time where votes will be taken online and the final votes will be taken at the Annual Meeting on December 14, 2011 where the results of the election will be revealed. The new terms for those elected will begin on January 1, 2012.

Upcoming events include the New Year's day float on the Sandy River from Dodge to Oxbow with a potluck and barbeque lunch provided by the Team River Runners –

"The marsh, to him who enters it in a receptive mood, holds, besides mosquitoes and stagnation, melody, the mystery of unknown waters, and the sweetness of Nature undisturbed by man."

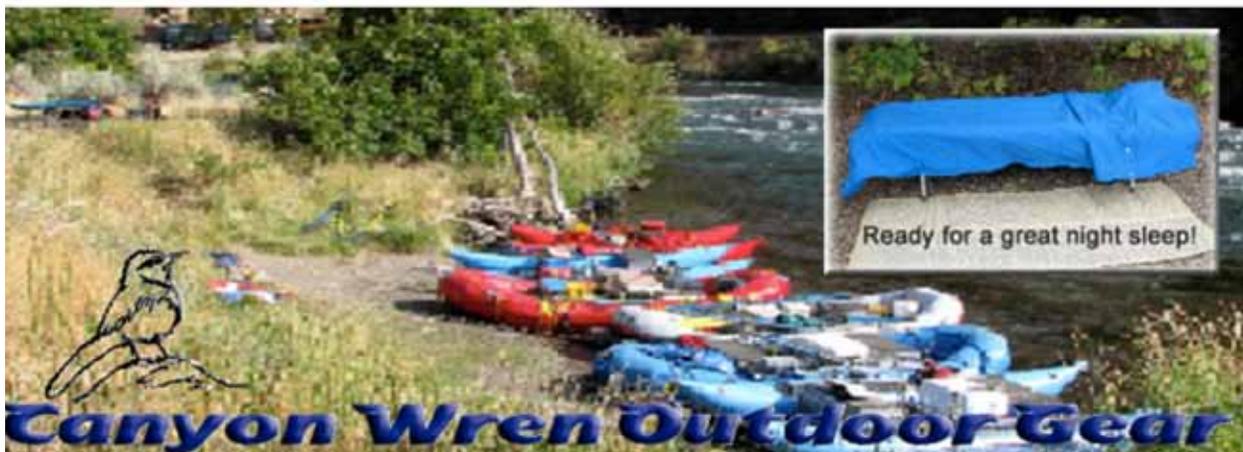
~ Charles William Beebe,  
*Log of the Sun, 1906*



Disabled Veterans.

Also, our February 8 meeting will be held at the Clackamas Aquatic Pool where we will have a fun night of practicing our river rescue skills ... followed by a relaxing hot tub opportunity.

See you all at the Flying Pie, Brenda



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# Volunteer Appreciation

## Special thanks to OWA past and present board members

**A**s many of you are aware, our club is growing by leaps and bounds – the energy of the club is exciting indeed! Over the last decade, since OWA was founded in 2000, the growth and success of our club is largely due to volunteers and our phenomenal board, both past and present, who have worked very diligently to keep up with the projects required to keep a club healthy, growing, safety conscience and connected with one another.

*Thanks to all who have volunteered.*

### **PRESIDENT**

Tom Hanson; July 2000-Dec 2002  
Brent Davis; Jan 2003-Dec 2006  
Cary Solberg; Jan 2007-Dec 2008  
Brenda Bunce; Jan 2009-present

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Angie Evans; July 2000-Dec 2000  
Bruce Giggers; Jan 2001-Dec 2003  
Sandra Alcantara; Jan 2004-Dec 2005  
Dave Summers; Jan 2006-Dec 2007  
Tom Riggs; Jan 2008-Dec 2009  
Bruce Ripley; Jan 2010-Present

### **TREASURER**

Kendra Summers; July 2000-Dec 2000  
Carol Rolan; Jan 2001-Dec 2003  
Jeff Edwards; Jan 2004-Dec 2005  
Karen Eichhorn; Jan 2006-Dec 2007  
Rick Carman; Jan 2008-Dec 2011

### **SECRETARY**

Chris Gamgene; Jan 2001-Dec 2001  
Jan Danylchuk; Jan 2002-May 2002  
Phyllis Giggers; Jun 2002-Dec 2002  
Risa Davis; Jan 2003-Dec 2004  
Carol Beatty; Jan 2005-Dec 2008  
Paul Morin; Jan 2009-Dec 2010  
Karen Eichhorn; Jan 2011-present

### **MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR**

Gail Sparwasser; July 2000-Dec 2002  
Phyllis Giggers; Jan 2003-Dec 2004  
Mike Kirwan; Jan 2005-Dec 2008  
Scott Ogren; Jan 2009-Dec 2010  
Mary Cooper; Jan 2011-present

### **CLASSIFIED EDITOR**

Carol Beatty; July 2000-Jun 2009  
Position eliminated

### **TRIP EDITOR**

Bernie Danylchuk; July 2000-Dec 2002  
Tom Hanson; Jan 2003  
Bernie Danylchuk; Feb 2003-May 2003  
Dave Summers; Jun 2003  
Open; Jul 2003-Dec 2007  
Josephine Denison; Jan 2008-Dec 2011  
Pat Barry; Jan 2012-present

### **WEB MASTER**

(Now Technology Director)  
Dale Groetsema; July 2000-Dec 2004  
Val Shaul; Jan 2005-Dec 2008  
Will Volpert; Jan 2009-Dec 2010  
Scott Ogren; Jan 2011-present

### **TIPS EDITOR**

Tom Hanson; Jul 2000-present

### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Tom Hanson; Jul 2000-Dec 2002  
Charyn McDonnell; Jan 2003-Mar 2003  
Katharine Lykins; Apr 2003-Jun 2003  
Tom Hanson; Jul 2003-Dec 2006  
Brent Davis; Jan 2007-Feb 2007  
Karen O'Neel; Mar 2007-present

### **ADVERTISING EDITOR**

Don Jacklin; Jan 2001-Dec 2001  
Cary Solberg; Jan 2002-present

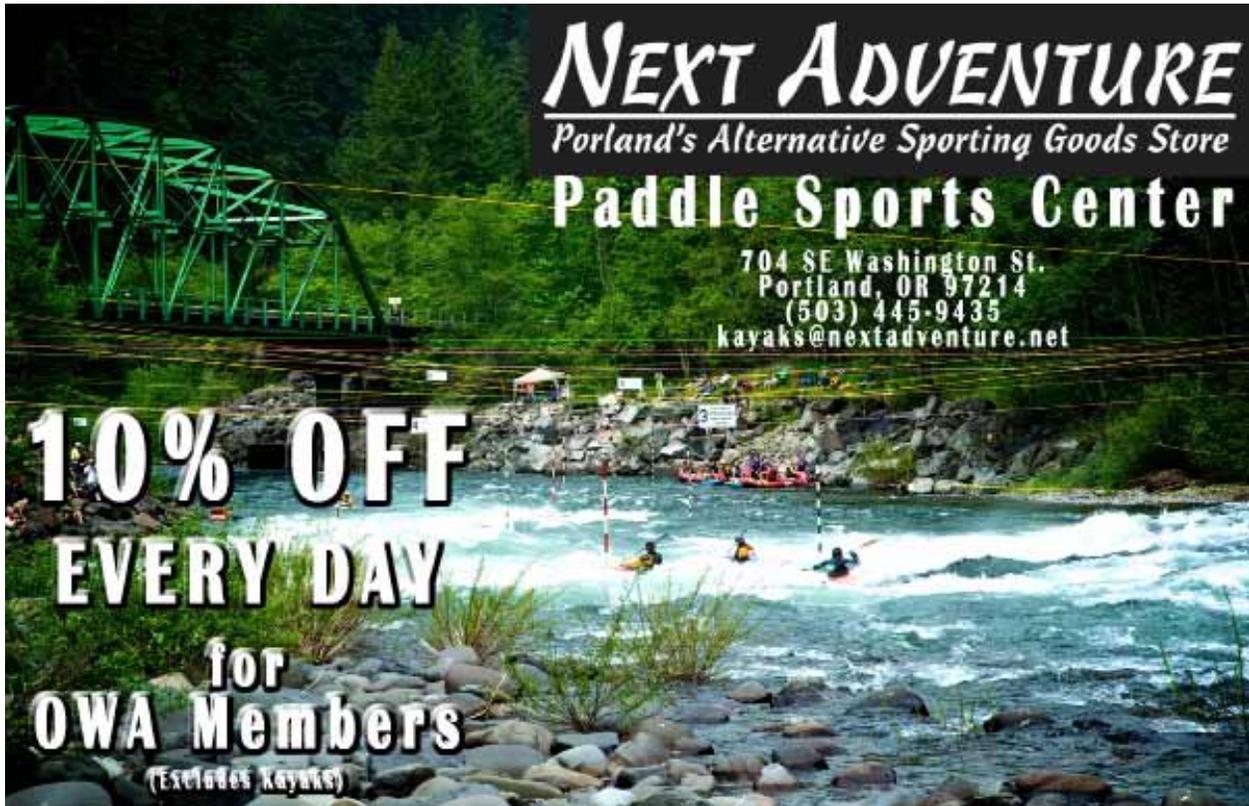
*Introducing our new volunteer*

## *Trip Editor*



**PAT BARRY** grew up in Nebraska on a family farm, attended a one-room country school, University of Nebraska and Northwestern University for graduate school in music. In 2000, she left a career as a professional oboe player in order to move to the great state of Oregon. She soon began buying fixer houses, renovating and re-selling them. Currently she is mostly goofing off, taking care of the rentals she owns with her husband, Bob, hiking, skiing, traveling and running rivers. She cannot really account for how she spends her time each day, but she does work at raising a Guide Dog Puppy named Cass. And she does *not* miss playing the oboe!





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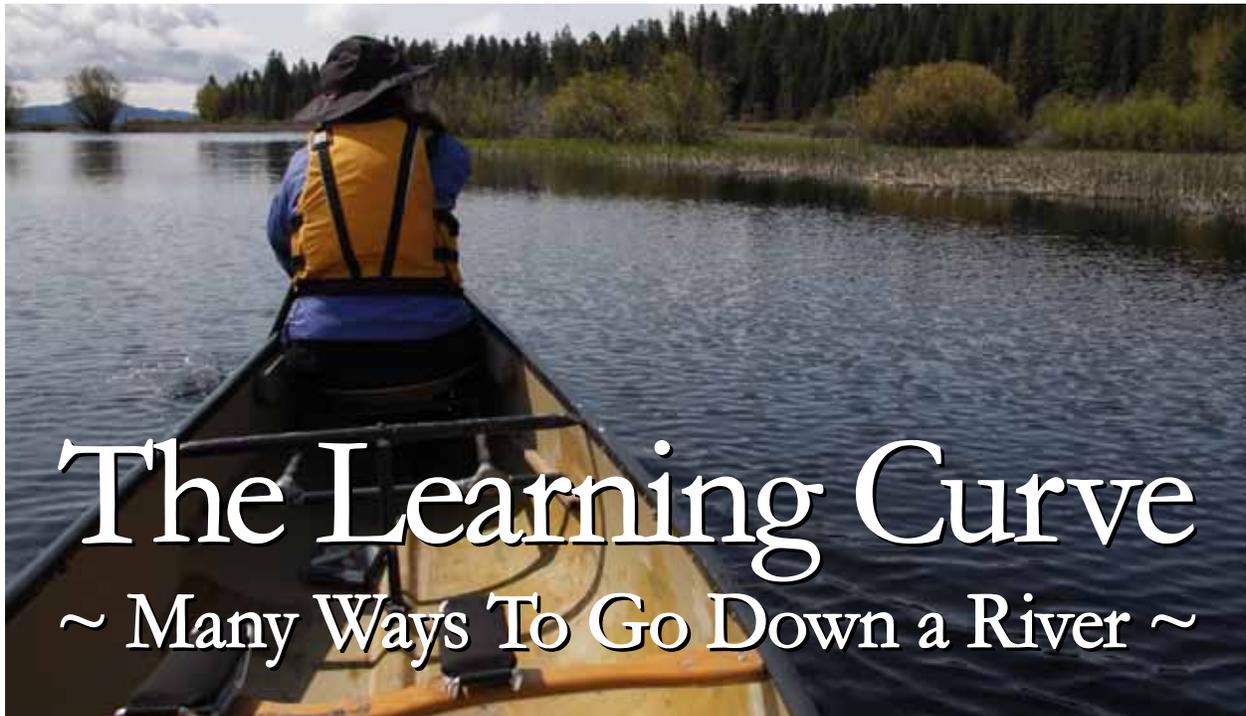
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# The Learning Curve

~ Many Ways To Go Down a River ~

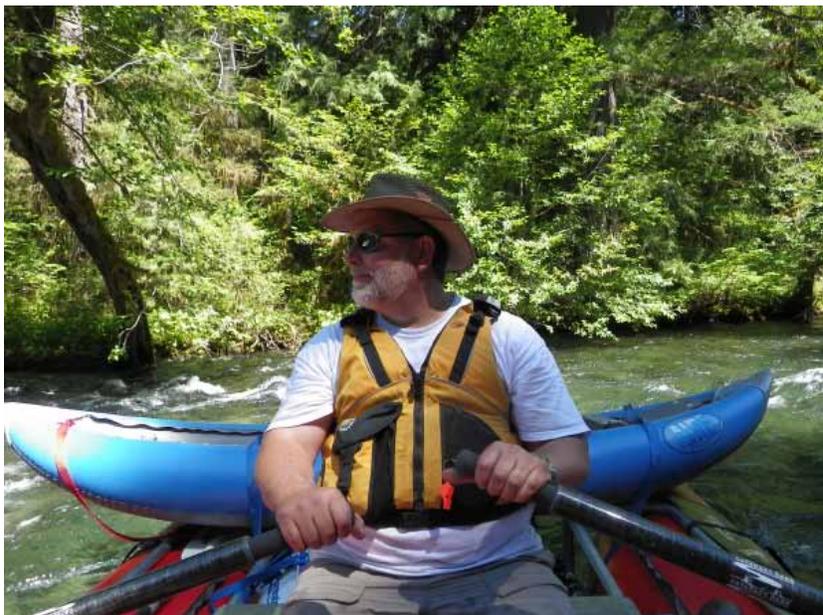
Submitted by Dave Graf

A couple of years ago I was conspiring with Dave Cross about doing a canoe trip on the John Day River. After some discussion he came right out and said that he would actually prefer to raft this river than canoe it. When I asked why he said that on the raft you could float lazily down the river and actually enjoy the view, rather than always having to pay attention just to the river as you tend to do in a canoe. This notion interested me, but it didn't do me any good because at that time I didn't have a raft.

Many of you have heard the Dave and Lora story of our first misadventure canoe trip on the John Day River years ago, so I won't go into that here, but the idea of paddling a loaded canoe through a Class III drop does not excite or intrigue Lora one bit anymore (maybe it never did). When I told

Lora that Dave wanted to do the trip in a raft she said "Hell, if you go in a raft, I will go with you." Wow, I thought to myself, this is an interesting opportunity! A couple of days passed and I did some research, asked a bunch of

questions and then went shopping, first by myself to get an idea of what new equipment would cost. I then spent a bunch of time looking at used equipment all over the West that would suit our needs, which we thought at the time was



primarily multi-day adventures. As you may have learned yourself, you never know all the things you could or should know when you start these kinds of quests, but you just have to start somewhere.

Armed with just a little bit of information, I took Lora with me to a local shop that has a basement full of these floaty things called rafts. It is always nice to talk to knowledgeable sales people and this shop had them. They steered us toward a 16-foot cataraft. A cat this size would be good for multi-day and still be row-able and maneuverable. Back home, I wandered the net looking for boats similar to what they had on the showroom floor and simply didn't see anything similar and decided that since this was going to be a long term investment we should buy new and get the equipment we liked and wanted. So the new 16-foot cat got packed into the back of the truck and another Learning Curve began.

I've come to find out there are a bunch of canoeists that are also rafters! There are also a ton of IKers that are canoeists and/or rafters too. Who knew? The amazing Mike Keating offered his services as trainer and guide on several of my first forays onto the river with the raft. This was extremely useful since the way you deal with a hazard in a raft is completely different than in a canoe



and that takes some time to get used to. The next thing you notice is how much slower you go down the river, followed by the sense of awe as you slide through a Class III rapid and barely get splashed. Class III is suddenly no big deal.

After many day trips we finally set off to conquer the mighty John Day River in our raft. This John Day River trip proved the raft a major success. We ran Clarno at something at or above 5,000 CFS and ended the trip with the river running around 20,000 CFS. Far as we were concerned it was a simple few days on the river and no big deal in terms of river difficulty.

One of the things I quickly figured out about the raft was that it was more fun for me because I was doing all the rowing. Lora got to go for a nice ride and she really is good with that to a point,

but it occurred to me that if we had an IK she could paddle that when she wanted to and then ride the raft through the more fun and challenging stuff. So an IK ended up at our house and then a second one a short while later.

Several more day trips with the raft came and went, and we started noticing how much bigger a deal it is to get the raft going somewhere than it is the canoes or the IKs. So the IKs started coming out more often for the fast water runs. The IKs are simple to load up and take essentially the same gear as the canoe. They are much easier to manage through Class II sections than our tandem whitewater canoe and far more forgiving of mistakes, of which we make many. So they have been used on runs that we would have been stressing out about in the canoe. While I am not looking to go play in Class III rivers per se with IKs, I wouldn't avoid a run now that had a Class III drop in it. My skill in the canoe is not adequate for Class III, but with an IK it is. With the raft I have now managed Class IV drops successfully and am comfortable with the challenge they create.

So now we have the ability to go where only a few other humans have gone and we can go there several ways. We can canoe and enjoy the speed and grace of these boats and their ability to cover a

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 8**

**There are many ways to go down a river – and they are all good**



## North Santiam Run

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The head count was 37 boaters and two dogs in at least 16 boats (I never got an accurate boat count). Six were IKs and at least two were well-crewed paddle rafts. A couple of the IKers took a swim and reported brisk water, but there were no injuries. One of the swimmers self-rescued and one was plucked into a raft. The pluckee lost and recovered one IK, one paddle and one left sneaker. Pluckee is now an enthusiastic new OWA member prospect.

At the put-in, Brent Davis described what could be anticipated with the named rapids. OWA President Brenda Bunce set a three-boat "pod", each with experienced boaters leading and sweeping. It only took three hours to run the 10-plus miles from Packsaddle County Park to North Santiam State Park – and that included a half hour lunch stop at Mill City.

We saw many flights and gaggles of Canadian geese and the usual Mergansers and fish hawks.



## The Learning Curve

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

substantial amount of river or lake. We can take the IKs on fast water rivers. Or we can load up the raft and float for days, slowly watching the scenery go by the way knowing that even a Class IV isn't an obstacle or a particularly big deal.

So we keep learning about small boats and the incredible rivers in our region and that one type of boat does not fit all. Truth is, there are many ways to go down a river and they are

all good. The main thing is to go down the river sunny side up (most of the time). You will also find all kinds of interesting people that want to go down those rivers with you in all kinds of different floaty things. So let the river float your boat, and your friend's boats, whatever kind(s) of boat that may be.

Don't tell anyone, but we are already thinking about adding a smaller raft that might be more fun for day tripping and one of the IKs just got traded for a hardshell kayak. The Learning Curve continues!

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## TRIP CALENDAR

Submitted by Pat Barry

11.12-11.14 Sat-Mon	Rogue River	III/IV	Scott Ogren	<a href="mailto:scott@scottogren.com">scott@scottogren.com</a>	503.267.9785
------------------------	-------------	--------	-------------	--	--------------

The trip is from Graves Creek to Foster Bar. A group of us will be spending Friday night, November 11 at the Galice Lodge before the launch on Saturday morning.

1.1 Sun	Sandy River	II/III	Val Shaul	<a href="mailto:valshaul@frontier.com">valshaul@frontier.com</a>	503.805.8991
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Meet at Dodge Park and be ready for the shuttle to depart at 10:00 am. Run from Dodge Park to Oxbow Park. Potluck/BBQ to follow at "Site A" at Oxbow. Disabled American Veterans and Team River Runner will supply the BBQ. This trip is a joint venture between OWA and NWRRA. Members provide the side dishes/desserts. NO dogs allowed at Oxbow Park. Service dogs MUST have certifying papers.

2.18-20 Sun	Rogue River	III/IV	Bee Tyree	<a href="mailto:dillflet@comcast.net">dillflet@comcast.net</a>	503.753.4081
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This will be a joint trip with OWA and OKCC. We have reserved the Galice Lodge for Friday, February 17. There is limited availability, reservations are required and are first come, first served. Please contact the Galice Lodge directly. Breakfast is also available for Saturday and reservations are also required.

3.24-26 Sat-Mon	Lower Deschutes	III	Scott Ogren	<a href="mailto:scott@scottogren.com">scott@scottogren.com</a>	503.267.9785
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The annual OWA Spring Deschutes trip! Put in at Buck Hollow and run to Heritage Landing; 42 river miles. The trip is open to all skill levels from beginner to seasoned boater and it is kid friendly so bring the family. For new members wanting to learn more about boating, it's a great opportunity to learn from experienced boaters.

4.14 Sat	Deschutes River	III/IV	Tom Hansen	<a href="mailto:TJHRafter@earthlink.net">TJHRafter@earthlink.net</a>	503.201.4428
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This is a day float on the middle Deschutes. The river is free of other boaters at this time, so join us for a pleasant day on the Deschutes. Meet at Harphan Flats at 9:00AM. We will shuttle the vehicles down to Sandy Beach starting at 10:00 am sharp. This will put us back at Harphan Flat for a 11:00 am launch. Bring your lunch since we will be stopping along the way to enjoy the bright sunny day and have a bite to eat. This is a Class IV river with Wapanitia, Boxcar and Oak Springs providing some big water, so rowers need to be competent. The float takes about three hours.

7.19-22 Thu-Sun	McKenzie River	III	Brenda Bunce	<a href="mailto:Brenda.bunce@gmail.com">Brenda.bunce@gmail.com</a>	360.931.4224
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Join us for an OWA Board-sponsored weekend of rafting on the McKenzie River. OWA has paid for campsite reservations at Horse Creek Camp. This is a beautiful Class III river. We have a choice of separate runs rated Class II+ to III between Ollalie Campground and McKenzie Bridge. This is an excellent family float. We arrive Friday evening and raft Saturday and/or Sunday. Enjoy hot springs at Belknap and a group potluck for Saturday evening.

9.15-17 Sat-Mon	Hell's Canyon	III-IV	Mike Moses	<a href="mailto:mtymo@hotmail.com">mtymo@hotmail.com</a>	509.240.4220
--------------------	---------------	--------	------------	--	--------------

We will stay at Big Pines BLM campground and float from the state ramp on Ringer Loop Road near Ellensburg to our campground at Big Pines, a 14-mile float. This is a family float with absolutely beautiful scenery along the river. The trip leader will go early and try to hold several camp sites for those who would like to arrive the evening before the float. Whether you come Friday evening or Saturday morning, we will start the shuttle at 10:00 am. Be ready to put in at 11:00 am. For those who want to stay Saturday night, there will be a potluck that evening.

9.29 Sat	Yakima River	II	Vance Cordell	<a href="mailto:pyloris58@yahoo.com">pyloris58@yahoo.com</a>	360.253.3013
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We will stay at Big Pines BLM campground and float from the state ramp on Ringer Loop Road near Ellensburg to our campground at Big Pines, a 14-mile float. This is a family float with absolutely beautiful scenery along the river. The trip leader will go early and try to hold several camp sites for those who would like to arrive the evening before the float. Whether you come Friday evening or Saturday morning, we will start the shuttle at 10:00 am. Be ready to put in at 11:00 am. For those who want to stay Saturday night, there will be a potluck that evening.

**TRIP CALENDAR CONTINUED**

9.29 Sat	Yakima River	II	Vance Cordell	<a href="mailto:pyloris58@yahoo.com">pyloris58@yahoo.com</a>	360.253.3013
The annual September Hell's Canyon trip. Shuttle: <a href="http://www.hellscanyonshuttle.net/reservations.html">www.hellscanyonshuttle.net/reservations.html</a> . Hell's Canyon Shuttle is a primary sponsor of the OWA Swiftwater Safety Course. Other services provided at SCOTTY'S, in Halfway OR.					
11.10-12 Sat-Mon	Rogue River	III/IV	Scott Ogren	<a href="mailto:scott@scottogren.com">scott@scottogren.com</a>	503.267.9785
The annual November Rogue River trip from Graves Creek to Foster Bar. A group of us will be spending Friday night, November 9 at the Galice Lodge before the launch on Friday morning.					



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## Oregon Whitewater Association Membership Application Form

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Check for a hard copy newsletter via US mail.

A household membership is \$24.00 for one year, from July 1 to June 30.

Dues after January 1 are prorated at \$12.00, otherwise annual dues are \$24.00.

I hereby state that I wish to participate in courses and/or activities offered by Oregon Whitewater Association (OWA) a non-profit corporation. I recognize that any outdoor or aquatic activity may involve certain dangers including, but not limited to, the hazards of traveling by boat on rivers or other bodies of water, accidents, or illnesses in remote places or occurring during portages, forces of nature, and the actions of participants and other persons. I further understand and agree that without some program providing protection of its assets and its leaders, officers, and members, OWA would not be able to offer its courses and activities.

In consideration of and as part of my payment for the right to participate in the activities offered by OWA, I hereby release OWA and its leaders, officers, and members from any and all liability, claims and causes of action arising out of or in any way connected with my participation in any activities offered by OWA. I personally assume all risks in connection with these activities, and further agree to indemnify OWA and its leaders, officers, and members from all liability, claims, and causes of action which I may have arising from my participation in activities including, but not limited to those involving death, drowning, personal injury, and property damage. The terms of this agreement shall serve as a release and indemnity agreement for my heirs, assigns, personal representatives, and for all members of my family including any minors. [Parent or legal guardian must sign for all persons under eighteen (18) years of age.] This agreement is effective as of the date signed, and has no termination date. I have fully informed myself of the contents of this release and indemnity agreement by reading it before I have signed it.

**All participating adult members of the household (age 18+) must sign. Guardians must sign for minors.**

Participant	Printed name	Signature
Member #1		
Member #2		
Member #3		
Member #4		

Participant	Email address	Preferred phone(s)
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Member #3		
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