

The Oregon Whitewater Association brings private boaters together for the enjoyment of whitewater boating. Our vision is to promote whitewater safety and training for all of our membership in an effort to provide safety awareness and confidence when executing river rescue skills. OWA is the community of choice where fun and river adventures thrive and where people and rivers connect.



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## OWA Boating 101 Weekend Sat & Sun April 13 & 14, 2013 North Santiam River

"It looks like it's burning off" was the catchphrase for the weekend. Despite the mild Siberian weather, (Ever had a Ham, Cheese and Hail Sandwich?) the attitude of the group was sunny!

The put in was at Packsaddle Park where Matt Saucy and Ann Stephenson had artfully laid out a model river on Steve Oslund's trailer. Both went on to explain the workings of the river. They made boulder gardens, strainers, twists and bends, river widening, river narrowing, you name it. Matt and Ann explained each feature concisely. They explained the hazards and what to do as well as how to use river features to eddy out or ferry across the river to a safer spot. They also explained how to slow yourself down so you can assess or re-assess the river ahead.

*Continued on page 4*

### May Club Meeting

#### *Flying Pie Pizza*

7804 SE Stark Street  
Portland, OR 97215

**Wednesday,  
May 8, 2013**

**from 6:00-8:30 PM**

The May meeting speaker is Vince Welch, author of "The Last Voyageur: Amos Burg and the Rivers of the West". Amos Burg, a native of Portland, Oregon, was the first to complete transits of the free-flowing, undammed Snake and Columbia Rivers by canoe the first to navigate the length of the Colorado River in a rubber raft.

# Contact Information



## Your OWA Officers and Volunteers

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## RIVER TIP

### Tying Up

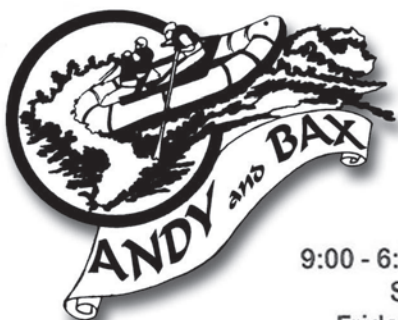
Submitted by Tom Hanson

When you are on a river trip you should always have a bow line that's long enough to reach the nearest tree or stable object. Many people carry 100-foot lines, and use them quite often. Don't assume that you can just tie off on someone else. In addition make sure you check your boat before you head to bed for the evening, that knot you tied quickly when you got to camp just might not be enough to last the night.

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## Dutch Ovens, Rivers, and Rapids

by *Bruce Ripley*

Fellow Club Members,

Well spring has certainly sprung, and lots of multi-day spring/summer trips are now starting to show up. If you've been watching the calendar you'll have noticed current or upcoming trips on the North Umpqua, Grande Ronde, John Day, Deschutes, Rogue, and many others. If you are new to the club my advice is to take advantage of these trips, they are a great way to meet new people, make new friends, and learn some new water. Lots of these trips on are fairly easy rivers, so even if you are new to boating there's a trip for you.

Speaking of new members, if you are new to the club you are not alone! We've signed up 40 new members this year alone. Our membership now stands at 235 current members, and we have about 100 members that we're chasing for dues.

If you missed the North Umpqua trip you were one of only a few. OWA was well represented with 50-75 members there, and if you add in the NWRA members the group was even larger. It was a great experience, even if you don't like big crowds there seemed to be a lot going on in smaller groups throughout the evening and everyone seemed to have a good time. The Dutch oven cook-off was really exceptional! In addition to the food, Brenda outdid herself by coordinating this event so you could choose from 1 of 3 river trips, which is unique in my experience. There was a class II, III, and IV section to run and none of them were crowded.

Last, I want to point out that the addition of the boating basics and rigging parties to our list of safety and training options has been really successful, and that's because you guys are all pitching in to help as well as attending. Thanks for your support, this stuff won't happen without everyone participating.

This is the last newsletter for a couple months so enjoy your summer boating and be safe on and off the water!

### *Thinking Safely*

As we move into summer there's a tendency to leave all that cold water gear behind because the air is warm and the sun is shining. Please don't forget that most of the rivers we run, even in the summer months are cold! Sometimes they are really cold, if you don't believe me go flip on the South Payette in Idaho on a 90 degree day, trust me it's really cold! Make sure you dress appropriately for your trip and remember this: You shouldn't just dress for yourself, you need to consider what you'd do in a rescue situation if you had to rescue someone else.

### *May Meeting*

#### *The Last Voyager: Amos Burg and the Rivers of the West*

About the author: Vince Welch was a boatman on Northwest rivers for several years before heading to the Colorado River, where he guided for Grand Canyon Dories and first encountered the legend of Amos Burg. He has since lived and guided all over the West and has written for several magazines and was senior correspondent for Mountain Gazette. Welch lives in Portland, Oregon.



# OWA Boating 101



## **OWA Boating 101 Continued from page 1**

Once everybody was up to speed, Julie Nathe gave the safety talk and spent a fair amount of time on signaling and the proper use of. We don't use signals near enough while we are out on the river. Having somebody ahead of the group giving signals can really increase your enjoyment on the river as well as warn you away from minor hazards all the way up to a life threatening situation. It all depends on that person up front and each raft/kayak/IK passing the signal back to the people upstream of them.

Then Matt gave the go ahead to hit the water! There were 3 round boats, a hardshell, 4 inflatable kayaks, and Steve who managed to pry the Nimitz away from the Navy for use as the sweep boat.

We practiced finding eddies, ferrying boats, finding lines and everyone has a chance to be the "Guide" on their boat. We had swimmers both days. Had one retrieval using a throw bag and the rest were either close enough to their boat to get back in themselves or close enough to get hauled in by their shipmates. One flip in particular was near and dear to me as I had the opportunity to inspect the bottom of Julie's boat. Maybe I can spot potential business for Vic.

For some boaters Saturday was it. For those staying over, we had accommodations at the Saucy Fairmont in Salem. Matt was nice enough to offer his shop to us where we were able to set up cots and get a good night's rest out of the weather. Saturday night we had dinner at a little place right down the street followed by a very unique comedy duo. Matt also laid out a breakfast of coffee, bagels and oatmeal on Sunday morning.

Back at the put in on Sunday, we saw some familiar faces but also some new ones too. We basically went through the same drill and had a great time on the river!





A huge THANK YOU to Matt Saucy whose brainchild this was to begin with! He recognized a need for this type of training in the club and based on the number of participants and the group's enthusiasm, he was spot on. Also to Cat Loke as our safety and training director, Ann Stephenson for her river model and general river knowledge, Julie Nathe for the great talk on signaling, and Steve Oslund for his knowledge and words of encouragement to the newer boaters.

Matt is going to stage a repeat of this class on the weekend of May 4th & 5th. I would encourage anybody to attend. Marnie Sell offered this quote. "I appreciate the club taking time to organize a nice rafting day and helping OWA members to improve boating skills. I'm thankful to Matt for putting this together and to all of the volunteers too."

You don't have to be new to boating to learn something here!







## Trip Report: Tax Relief Float on the Deschutes from Harpham Flats to Sandy Beach, April 22, 2013.

**The Cast:** *Bill Goss, Mark and Bee Tyree, Jesse and Merrie King, John and Kathy Omer (new members), Nick (new member), Kjell (Nick's buddy), George Read (prospective member)*

It was raining in Troutdale, but by the time Hood River was in the rear view mirror, the sun was out. The weather man said the temperature would be 60 degrees and windy, and that's just what it was in the Maupin area for this annual three hour cruise. Eight boats, and ten rafters, not including Jackson the Pirate Dog, assembled themselves and their boats at Harpham Flats, and were ready to go according to the strict schedule of events. Tom Hanson showed up to acquaint his new six month old puppy, Mr Krebs, with the river, and they provided shuttle service for the drivers down to Sandy Beach. On the way back to the put-in Tom slowed down long enough to scout Oak Springs rapid, which according to Mark Tyree is a rapid, but not a fun one, that you just have to get through. Hmmm...

The boats cast off from dry land at 11:20 pm, only a few minutes late. Fortunately, the wind was mostly blowing downstream, so the pace seemed quick, but leisurely. As the group penetrated the city limits of Maupin, Bee Tyree's brand new party colored Sotar cataraft required some attention due to some loose straps. Like a well-disciplined convoy, everybody parked at the park while adjustments were made, and the float continued. Not long afterward, the group stopped for lunch at Blue Hole for rest and refueling. It was then that the story about the only swimmer for the day was revealed. Seems that Jackson the Pirate Dog was attempting to board Merrie King's boat but only had the front paws across when the boats drifted apart. In true OWA style, the rescue was a textbook case of survival on the river.

After lunch, Oak Springs was next, and everybody made it through this not fun rapid with any loss of honor. About 2:30 pm our intrepid boaters made landfall at Sandy Beach, secured their equipment and began the argument about the best way to drive back to Portland. After a beer or so, everybody said their goodbyes, mounted their respective rigs and began the journey back to the real world.







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# Oregon Whitewater Association



## and gear swap

at Eagle Fern Park

(Area 1)

27505 SE Eagle Fern Road, Eagle Creek, Oregon 97022

Sunday, August 11th 11-3 p.m.

### **Details:**

- There is a large covered shelter, with picnic tables (so come rain or shine)
- Picnic tables located right next to the beautiful Eagle Creek
- Throw rope competition (bring a throw rope)
- Located next to playground
- Well behaved DOGS allowed
- Alcohol is allowed in the park, so bring your own

### **Gear Swap and Sale:**

Swap or sell your new or used boating gear. From boats to bags, all gear is welcome. There are great deals every year!

**Provided:** hamburgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers and non-alcoholic beverages (pop and juice)

**You Bring:** a pot luck side dish or dessert, lawn chair or beach towel, the whole family

**Fee:** \$5.00 vehicle pass at the entrance gate

**RSVP:** [riverbeetyree@gmail.com](mailto:riverbeetyree@gmail.com) by August 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Directions and park maps:**

[get directions](#)

<http://www.co.clackamas.or.us/parks/eaglefern.htm>



# Recipe of the Month

## INGREDIENTS

1/4 cup butter

1 pound bulk sausage-uncooked (not links or patties)

1 egg 6oz. cheddar cheese - grated

3 cups Bisquick mix (Can use less Bisquick)

Hot pepper sauce - optional



## Breakfast Sausage Balls

### DIRECTIONS

Coat bottom of dutch oven/pan with butter or put in a layer of aluminum foil and coat it with butter. Then mix all ingredients together with your clean hands. Pull off small pieces and roll into 1 inch balls. Place a layer of balls in dutch oven and cook 10-15 minutes. If using a conventional oven cook 30-40 minutes.

Serve and sprinkle with hot sauce if desired. Makes about 12 balls.

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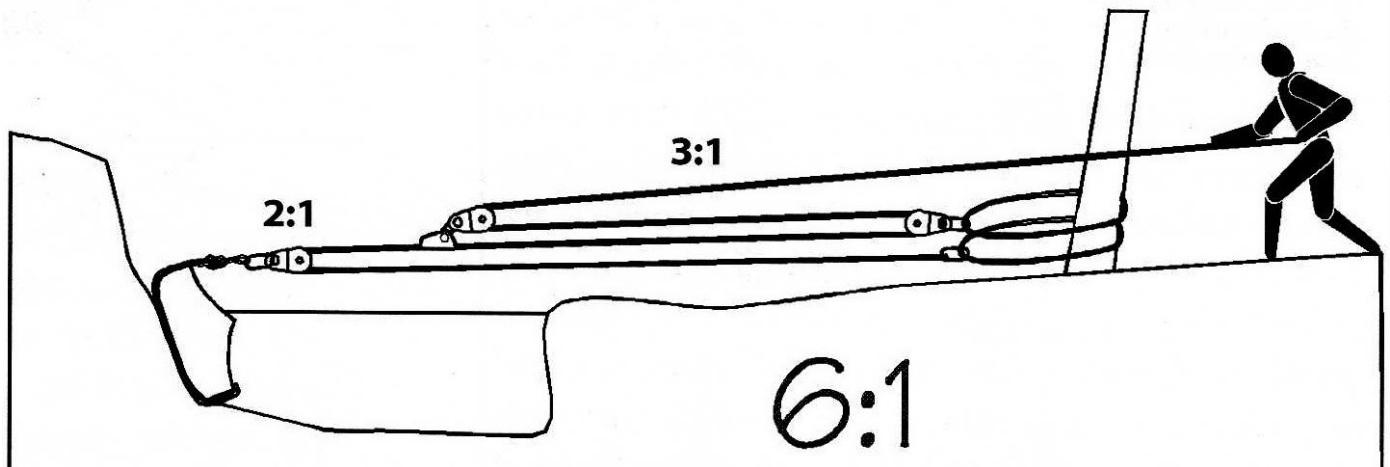


## May Safety Tip

### Haul System: -- 6:1 Mechanical Advantage

- Requires:
- Static rope: Yes
  - PMP Pulleys: Yes, 3
  - Prussic cords: Yes, 1
  - Anchor rope or strap: Yes, 2
  - Carabiners: Yes, 4

(Next month: The 9:1 haul system)



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## Knot of the Month –Bowline

Each month we will showcase essential knots you should know for river situations

### Overview

- Bowline creates a fixed loop at the end of a rope
- A very strong knot but generally considered weaker than a Figure 8 loop

### Use

- Quick knot to make a permanent loop
- Can be tied around an object
- Can be used to join 2 ropes together, to pass a haul line out to a boat etc..



[Click for Step by step directions](#)

[Click for a Video](#)

Steve K 2012

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MAY 18TH & 19TH



UPPER CLACKAMAS  
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FESTIVAL 2013.

The Upper Clackamas Whitewater Festival was first held in 1984 by an informal group of rafters calling themselves the "Oregon River Rats." Planned by Russ Snively, the Northwest Rafters Association and friends (the River Rats). They were determined to challenge each other to a contest of skill, running a race through the Carter Falls section of the Upper Clackamas River.

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# Upcoming Trips

Submitted by Pat Barry,  
Trip Editor



Please go to the OWA website for additional details on each trip, [CLICK HERE](#)  
Or go to <http://oregonwhitewater.org/calendar/trip-calendar>

5.10-12 Fri-Sun	<a href="#">Grande Ronde River</a>	III/IV	Eric and Candace Ball	<a href="mailto:balle@pocketinet.com">balle@pocketinet.com</a>	509-525-6134
5.17-20 Fri-Mon	<a href="#">Rogue River Lodge Trip</a>	III/IV	Van McKay	<a href="mailto:vanm1@aol.com">vanm1@aol.com</a>	360-737-3148
5.17-19 Fri-Sun	<a href="#">John Day River</a>	II	Dave Graf	<a href="mailto:dmgraf55@centurytel.net">dmgraf55@centurytel.net</a>	360-737-3148
5.18-19 Sat-Sun	<a href="#">Lower Cispus River</a>	II/III	David Elliot	<a href="mailto:dce@dcell.com">dce@dcell.com</a>	425-985-0640
5.25-26 Sat-Sun	<a href="#">Lochsa River</a>	IV/V	Steve Herring	<a href="mailto:steve@raftalot.com">steve@raftalot.com</a>	
5.31-6.1 Fri-Mon	<a href="#">Upper North Umpqua</a>	III/IV	Bill Goss	<a href="mailto:zanng@msn.com">zanng@msn.com</a>	503-757-465
6.8 Sat	<a href="#">Klickitat River</a>	III/III+	Doug Smith	<a href="mailto:Doug@davidsmithmapping.com">Doug@davidsmithmapping.com</a>	503-232-5285
6.14-16 Fri-Sun	<a href="#">Lower Deschutes Annual Women's Trip</a>	II/III	Carol Beatty	<a href="mailto:caroldon1@comcast.net">caroldon1@comcast.net</a>	503-816-6172
6.27-30 Thu-Sun	<a href="#">McKenzie River</a>	III	Brenda Bunce	<a href="mailto:Brenda.bunce@gmail.com">Brenda.bunce@gmail.com</a>	360-931-4224
7.4-6 Thu-Sun	<a href="#">Lower Salmon River</a>	III/IV	Eric and Candace Ball	<a href="mailto:balle@pocketinet.com">balle@pocketinet.com</a>	509-525-6134
9.14-16 Fri-Sun	<a href="#">Hell's Canyon (Snake River)</a>	III/IV	Mike Moses	<a href="mailto:mtymo_@hotmail.com">mtymo_@hotmail.com</a>	509-240-4220
11.9-11 Sat-Mon	<a href="#">Rogue River</a>	III/IV	Scott Ogren	<a href="mailto:scott@scottogren.com">scott@scottogren.com</a>	503-267-9785

## PAST OWA RAFTING TRIPS

5.3-5 Fri-Mon	<a href="#">John Day River</a>	II/III	Eric and Candace Ball	<a href="mailto:balle@pocketinet.com">balle@pocketinet.com</a>	509-525-6134
5.2-5 Thu-Sun	<a href="#">South Fork Owyhee</a>	III/IV	Jerry Smith	<a href="mailto:crossfox21@gmail.com">crossfox21@gmail.com</a>	541-429-1580
4.26-28 Fri-Sun	<a href="#">Lower N. Umpqua</a>	II/III	Brenda Bunce	<a href="mailto:Brenda.bunce@gmail.com">Brenda.bunce@gmail.com</a>	360-931-4224
4.20 Sat	<a href="#">Deschutes River</a>	III/IV	Bill Goss	<a href="mailto:zann@msn.com">zann@msn.com</a>	503-757-4659
4.20-26 Sat-Fri	<a href="#">2013 Owyhee River</a>	III/IV	Jeff Nicholson Dave Graf	<a href="mailto:jeffwnicholson@mac.com">jeffwnicholson@mac.com</a> <a href="mailto:dmgraf55@centurytel.net">dmgraf55@centurytel.net</a>	503-308-2010 503-543-5743



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