

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.



## In This Issue

<i>Father's Day Trip</i>	1
<i>OWA Contact Info</i>	2
<i>President's Corner</i>	3
<i>Liam's Trip Report</i>	6
<i>Women's Trip</i>	7
<i>Boating 101 Report</i>	8
<i>Pussy Tales Clack Fest</i>	9
<i>OWA Picnic</i>	10
<i>River Safety</i>	11
<i>Recipe of the Month</i>	13
<i>Knot of the Month</i>	15
<i>OWA Trip Calendar</i>	17

## Father's Day Deschutes Rafting Trip June 17-19, 2017

*Submitted by the D'Mello Family  
Leader Scott Ogren*

Our group of regular fathers, Scott, Martin, Tom, Chris, Bosco, Brian were joined by several our family hadn't met before, including John, Andy, Tyler, Ed. A pleasurable group of 27 with 17 adults and 10 kids and 2 dogs with a total of 11 crafts including rafts, mini cat boat, and an IK, we headed for a two night/three day raft trip on the Deschutes River. All eager for the warm weather, everyone was at Trout Creek Boat Ramp, unloaded and ready for adventure by 10:00, hoping to be floating to Whiskey Dick Camp and the big tree. To some of our dismay the spot was already taken so we rounded the bend and stayed in lower Whiskey Dick Campground. This spot however, was beautiful as well, and thanks to Scott's sun shade we were able to stay cool. There was ladder ball, playtime in the water, capture the flag, fishing, good conversation and cold beverages for the remaining afternoon as we made it to camp by very early afternoon.

*Continued on page 4*

### OWA Summer Picnic & Gear Swap:

*Willamette Park  
(Picnic A)*

SW Macadam Ave &  
Nebraska St

**Sunday,  
August 13, 2017  
from 11 AM - 3 PM**

*See page 9 for details.*

# Contact Information



## Your OWA Officers and Volunteers

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**Do you have something you would like to submit to the OWA Newsletter?**

Contact Michele Gila at  
[VicePresidentNewsletter@oregonwhitewater.org](mailto:VicePresidentNewsletter@oregonwhitewater.org)

To show our appreciation and to encourage future contributions, the Oregon Whitewater Association will have an annual drawing for \$150 gift certificate to one of the OWA sponsors. Every member who submits written material that gets published in the newsletter will automatically be entered into the drawing.

## OWA Mission Statement

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.

## The Amazing People of OWA

by Scott Ogren

OWA had a very busy spring! The safety auction and the Zip lining/Bungee jumping event was a major success and raised a record amount of money for the safety program. The RST class was full to capacity and all who attended finished the class with new skills and certainly had fun. And some of those skills were put to good use during the Boater 101 event as the N Santiam River was flowing at about 8000 cfs and there were a few flips at Spencer's! All in all, we had a very busy and successful spring!

These events, and all OWA events, are made possible by you – OWA club members who show up and bring the fun with you. I first joined OWA in 2007 and since that time have met some amazing people and made some great friends. In those ten years, I have never been on a club trip and been on only two or three private trips where I didn't meet someone new. For me, one of the best things about this club is I am constantly meeting new and fun people to be on rivers with. When my non-river running friends ask me why I love rivers so much and what's the best part about our club I just tell them, "It's a life style." They really don't know what I mean, but I'm quite sure you do. So, as you meet new people and take river trips this summer, make new friends, enjoy the people you meet and celebrate your time together. To those river friends who I've already met, I look forward to our next river trip together and to those river friends whom I've yet to meet, I look forward to meeting you at a put-in and sharing a laugh with you at camp one day.

Looking ahead, the Wilderness First Aid class will be September 29 to October 1 at Dodge Park this year. Look for the sign up to go on the website in mid to late August. This is another highly recommended class and you leave that class with WFA and CPR certifications upon completion. I have used the skills I learned in this training on more than one occasion. You just never know when something will happen and these are handy skills to have. We are catching up with technology! OWA has an Instagram account called oregonwhitewaterassociation. Follow that account and tag it with pictures from your river trips! If you're not sure how to do that, ask the closest teenager to you...that's my plan.

### OWA Board Turnover

Have you thought about being on the OWA Board? What? The elections don't happen until the fall, you say. Well, there is turnover on the Board every year and it's never too late to start thinking about serving your club by being on the Board of Directors. We are thinking ahead and looking for people who are interested in taking on a leadership role with the OWA. If you are wanting to take an active role in making decisions about how the club operates and be an active part of what we do, please send me an email and I can fill you in on more details about some of the upcoming roles and needs. If you don't want to be on the Board and still want to help with behind the scenes work, we have needs for that too!

### SUMMER PICNIC

*The next club event is the summer picnic. It will be at a new location this year! Join us at Willamette Park and share some of your summer river stories. The gear swap also happens at the picnic!*

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dues.html](http://www.oregonwhitewater.org/dues.html)



# Father's Day Deschutes Trip



## **Father's Day Trip: Continued from page 1**

As the evening began we enjoyed appetizers, to be followed by a buffet of delicious make your own burritos, followed by the most mouthwatering S'more cookies and blueberry bread (made by Erica). Wait it gets better, Erica provided after dinner drinks for adults of White Russians, while the kids had their kid bar (supplied by Scott). As the evening sun set, and the White Russians set in we had quite the entertainment of river style Karaoke with Brian taking the top scores of his rendition of "You Never Even Call Me by My Name" by David Allan Coe, with the runner up of Scott and Brian duet of a Poison song "Every Rose Has Its Thorn". It was not for the faint of heart but fully of laughter, good times and relaxation.

Amazingly everyone was up and functioning by 7:00 a.m. Father's Day, with Scott already having made the coffee, we all were treated to scrumptious French toast, strawberries, yogurt and other goodies. With everyone pitching in, all loaded up we were off to conquer White Horse rapid. Carson manning a mini Cat boat, only his third time handling it, was ready to make his first ever attempt. After a brief scout for all but Martin, we all had a beautiful clean run. Good job Carson! As we dried off from White Horse, some became too hot and a water fight ensued between couch man (John we believe is his actual name) versus kids. Craig refereed and declared couch man victorious. The river day seemed short with hot sun, nice waves and splashes to keep us cool. We arrived into Rainbow camp for our second night on the river. Many of kids floated through the river, swung on tree limbs, and played card (BS seems to be a favorite). Liam the youngest rafter worked on some beautiful artwork as well. Many of us took the afternoon heat to seek shelter in the shade and have a long siesta. With appetizers calling us, we began to stir. Dinner was a pasta Alfredo dish with olive garden salad and cheese sticks. As the evening breeze picked up and our bellies were full, it was time for a new game, match that dance move and add one with Laurie starting us off with the sprinkler and building from there to including many such as Erica's lawnmower, Cindy's bat eye, Bonnie's back stroke, Bosco's Sauv  hip move and Brian's Charleston move. Did I mention there was more White Russians this night as well? We all agreed to a slightly later start to the morning. The D'Mellos being ecstatic, as we had breakfast duty and are not morning people!

Monday morning with the wild horses on the mountainside across the river whinnying, we rose to prepare breakfast of tasty eggs with everything and potatoes, ready for another gorgeous day on the river. Again with everyone helping we were all packed and ready to splash onto the river by 10, even by sleeping in that extra half hour!

**Continued on page 5**





**Father's Day Trip: Continued from page 4**

Onto the river we went, seeing a variety of wildlife including: osprey, a bald eagle, either a river otter or beaver depending on who saw what, deer, and crayfish in the water. Even though we have done this trip many times before I am stunned by the beauty of the surrounding rock faces and canyons and the majestic beauty of the flowing river. Buckskin Mary rapid was refreshing and a great ride, such that it beckoned several to a second trip through it. To fulfill the desires of the few, we made a stop at Buckskin Mary camp so that Carson and Farley could walk up river and swim Buckskin Mary, followed by Brian in the tube while Chris found a high rock to jump from startling the onlookers who didn't see the take off just the body launching toward the river from behind a tree.

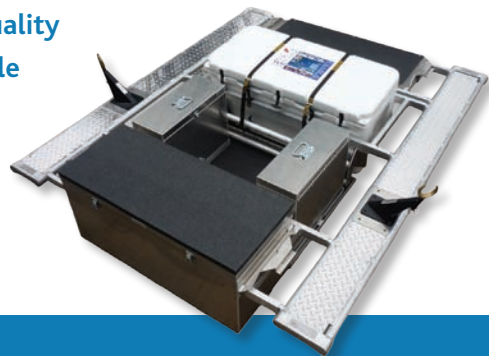
With more water fights, boat conversations and naps we floated on down to the take out at Harpham Flat all arriving safely at the take out about 1:30, loaded up and headed for Henry's for food and cool milkshakes, saying our goodbye until next time...we parted ways.



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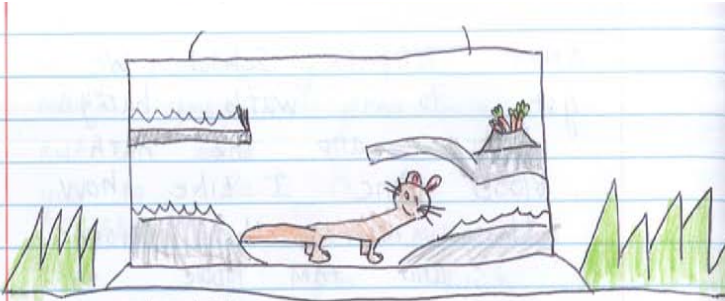
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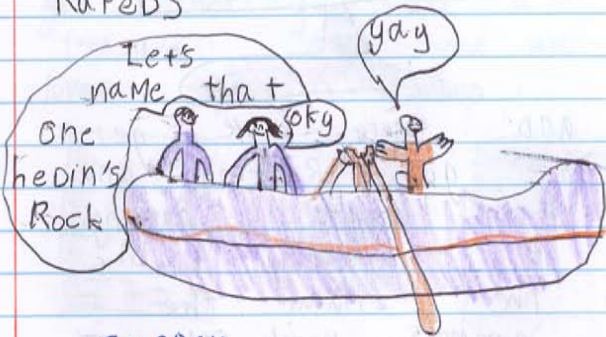
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# Liam's Father's Day Report



Saturday today was the first day of rafting at first me and MOM had fun nameing RAPIDS



Sunday today We got to go threw with horse RAPIDS I like that RAPID so Much it is my favret

Rapid But it is hafe a Meal long Becse ther. is 3 PARTS hiber, Lower, ka-ak-sown ka-ak-sone



Monday We got go threw the RAPID Buckskin Merry it is Pritty Fun Becos ther are no Rocks so it is SWIMABLE 2 Pebel swiam it on Perpis 1 Persin Did it on a inertube My DAD DiVD in Leterly My Dab SWIAM it Like 50 times





# Women's Trip 2017



## Women's Trip 2017

*Submitted by Nichole Marino*

Over Father's Day weekend 14 women rowed and kayaked the Lower Deschutes together. This trip has happened annually since 1998 thanks to the leadership of Carol Beatty. The trip kicked off with the annual potluck at Carol and Don's home in Maupin, with some of the women staying at their home and some of the women staying at Stacey Strausberg's home.

Friday morning everyone met at Buckhollow to rig boats and launch. The morning was overcast and on the cooler side but that did not dampen anyone's day. Everyone was in good spirits and worked together to get boats on the water quickly and to help one another unload so that we could launch as soon as possible. As many know, the first day is a relaxing float with Trestle and Wreck Rapids. All boats made it through both rapids with ease.

We arrived at Beavertail and everyone pitched in to help pull boats on shore to make room for all of the boats. Even those that were passengers and have never rafted before jumped in and helped as best as they could. Tom Hanson and Mr. Crabs joined us intermittently throughout the evening and enjoyed the community of the group. Suzie made her annual pasta dish and Ann Stephenson brought a delicious appetizer of shrimp with cocktail sauce and crackers. After dinner on Friday, we all sat in a group and discussed proper river and camp etiquette. This was a great conversation to reiterate with everyone and provided valuable knowledge for the new boaters that were on the trip. Risa Davis led and opened a great conversation in which we discussed topics from ramp etiquette to food.

Saturday morning we woke and launched early. Everyone was packed up and ready to launch before 8:30am. By 1:00pm we had reached Lockit. Another group arrived to Lockit before we did and the upper portion of the site was overgrown with grass. Carol made the decision to continue down river to Fall Canyon. Everyone rallied and we reached camp before 3:00pm. All of the ladies patiently waited in an eddy above to be signaled down to camp so that each boat could be parked with ease. That night, we sat around the kitchen area and just enjoyed community. We all swapped stories about past river trips and laughter was shared. For dinner, Ashley Churchill made a pulled BBQ chicken that was a big hit with all of the women and Ginny provided a delicious cheesecake for dessert.

*Continued on page 8*

## *Women's Trip 2017: Continued from page 7*

Sunday morning we ate Joy Cleaver's amazing home made granola with yogurt and bagels and launched around the same time as we did on Saturday. The day moved a little quicker with more rapids and less miles to row. We had no swimmers and every rower had a clean line down each rapid. Ann Stephenson had smooth runs in her hard shell kayak as well and it was awesome to watch her surf her kayak in several spots. After Colorado, one boat had some issues catching the eddy and took the eddy around the next bend. When we pulled around, the boat was stuck on a tree that was down in the eddy and Ann successfully helped the boat free their oar from the tree. For the rest of the day, we continued to have fun and enjoyed conversing with one another as we made our way to Heritage. Throughout the trip, the newer boaters had the opportunity to row behind Carol and learn from her, watching her lines and following her down as she sat as safety below each rapid for them. A couple of passengers who had not previously rowed before also took the opportunity at various points throughout the trip to row the boats they were riding on and learn from those who had experience.

After the trip, several of us went to Big Jim's and had lunch, along with Don. All in all the trip went smoothly and it was wonderful to run the Lower Deschutes with a group of amazing women.

# Boating 101 Trip Report



## **Boating 101 Trip Report**

*Submitted by Marla Craft*

As new members of OWA, my husband Scott (his birthday) and I signed up for boating 101. He was hoping to learn a bit more about running an oar rig and I was hoping to up my game on my IK. We both have been rafting with our 3 boys for years but are slowly losing our crew to adulthood!

Our past experience with the Santiam were relatively easy runs with a few fun holes followed by calm pools. Perfect for boating 101. This year's Santiam was a bit more to handle. As Matt Saucy told us in the beginning of his pre river talk...The focus of boating 101 this year will be to get everyone down the river safely. And exciting it was on May 6th at 8000CFS!

We were all encouraged to do our best to stick together, keeping fellow boaters in sight. Everyone would have to work to get to eddies to slow ourselves down; stay close but not too close. There was a collection of mostly Cats, some IKs and a few paddle boats. Round robin discussion revealed lots of boating passion and personal goals including skills development, soul searching and boating camaraderie. Scott was a little nervous about me in that big water but I was too psyched up to give up before I tried. Shakya and Michelle had some words of advice and I was ready. I soon realized that I was in over my head in my IK. The waves were draining me of my confidence. Not to worry though, my fellow OWA friends were there to support and encourage! After a few wins and a few losses with the rapids, I found my edge and I strapped my IK to Doug and Bev's boat and I hitched a ride to Scott's oar rig. It was so great to see how well supported everyone there was as we met the challenging water that day.

The biggest challenge was yet to come however. Spencer's hole had lots of power and swept many out of their boats and kept the rescue crew busy pulling in boats, crews and captains to safety. Our boat did not flip but Spencer did dump my captain and left me in the oar rig with no idea how to operate the darned thing...it was a great vantage point to watch the continued carnage in the hole. Sarah was able to make it through unscathed and all proudly cheered her on. A kind member came along and helped me sort out moving my oar rig back to Scott.

All and all, it was a great first trip with the club. The community of folks who love the river and love to share that with others. I felt wrapped in a blanket of security as we all sought to find our edge and go one step further.

Thanks to the OWA community.



## Pussy Tales from the Clack Fest

*Submitted by Stephannie Pringle*

The week began like many previous years preparing for the Upper Clackamas Whitewater Festival. Bob picked up the 20-foot trailer of festival gear from Steve Mahoney's property on Tuesday as that was the only day Steve could help navigate the trailer through a somewhat overgrown wooded driveway. He drove it home and parked it in front of his house in the South Tabor neighborhood with the plan to drive it up to the festival area on the Clackamas Thursday. Meanwhile, I



got the camping gear together. On Thursday we drove the trailer out to the festival area, set up our camp and left the trailer in the campground. Sam and his little pooch camped next door and kept an eye out.

Friday we returned and began setting up the tents at Carter Bridge. Job Corps brought some young men to help with set-up along with a few other volunteers. Around lunchtime, Bob said he had something to show me. He led me to the back of the trailer and opened the lid of an old beat up storage bin to reveal a box of five 3-week old kittens! Immediately I was upset because I realized the implications. Five tiny creatures, eyes open, furry balls of dark gray fluff. Where was mom? She could have jumped out when the trailer was moved from Steve's place, or she could have escaped when the trailer was parked in front of Bob's house, or she could have ridden all the way to the Clackamas River and was somewhere nearby. If mom wasn't around, then the kittens would have been without food or water for 72 hours!

Like any seasoned mom, I sprang into action. Rifling through one of my gear bags, I found a small eye dropper. I then warmed some milk on the Coleman stove and carried it from the campground to the hungry kittens. They weren't real keen on drinking cow's milk from an eye dropper, so every time one opened its mouth to mew, I deposited a few drops of warm milk. This approach appeared to work well, until I couldn't tell who had been fed and who hadn't. They all looked alike! Enter Jan Buskirk. Jan has been working the registration booth for a few years and arrived to help out. We devised a strategy to separate the fed from the unfed kittens with questionable results. Finally, we covered them up, replaced the bin lid, and went back to the camp to make dinner.

All through dinner I kept thinking about the future of those dang kittens. Steve was setting up the gates across the river all day and I knew he wouldn't be driving home until he finished...and that wouldn't be until after dark. I prepared for another kitten feeding. Jan and I collected the box of kittens, fed them two more times and kept them in my car at the campground. Around 9 pm that evening Steve came by to collect them. The plan was that he would put the box in an old abandoned car in his property near where the trailer had been parked.

Again, I worried about the fate of the kittens all night. When I saw Steve the next day, the first thing I asked was, "Did the mom return?" He said he checked on the kittens first thing in the morning to find mama cat nursing all her babies. All is well and Steve even brought some food for mom. Now, to get on with registering race participants and entering race scoring data. Just another year at the Clackamas Whitewater Festival.

# Oregon Whitewater Association



## Gear Swap at Willamette Park (Picnic A)

SW Macadam Ave. & Nebraska St. Portland, OR

Sunday, August 13th 11-3 p.m.

### Details:

- There are picnic tables and we also have the shelter reserved
- Picnic tables located In Picnic Area A (Shelter)
- Throw rope competition (bring a throw rope)
- 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 potluck side dish or dessert, lawn chair or beach towel, the whole family

**Fee:** **Willamette Park is Pay to Park (\$6 fee)**

**RSVP:** [vice-president@oregonwhitewater.org](mailto:vice-president@oregonwhitewater.org)

### Directions and park maps:

[get directions](#)

<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/article/631117>

Park Website: <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/parks/finder/index.cfm?&action=ViewPark&propertyid=861>



## Hand Signals for Safety (part 1 of 3)

Submitted by Dan Hudson

The ideas outlined below are fairly common, but I offer them to those who may never have been on an organized trip, or in a structured group where there was a safety briefing on the river.

### Communications: Orientation Terminology and whistle/hand signals

**Orientation Terminology:** Our orientation terms for the river are always considered looking downstream. River left or river right are always expressed from the aspect of looking downstream.

### Whistle Signals and Hand Signals

The river is a noisy environment, which means we need to establish and utilize a standard set of hand and whistle signals for use on the river. With the utilization of hand and whistle signals, we never have to worry about a functioning radio for communication (charged batteries for a radio? Right Channel? In reach or range?). The key element for non-verbal communications is understanding what hand and whistle signals all mean.

The second key component is remembering ANYONE can exercise or initiate these signals, not just the lead raft or the sweep raft.

### Whistles (See Figure 1)

Everyone should be carrying a whistle on their PFDs where it can be easily reached. The whistle should be tethered in a manner where the whistle can be held in between your teeth even if you turn your head side to side. The tether should not be so long that it can get snagged and be an entrapment issue. I recommend about 8 to 10 inches for tethers depending on the attachment point on your PFD. The best whistle on the market is the Fox 40 whistle. Some of the whistles out there that get sold with PFDs (specifically the flat style) do not work when wet or are not loud enough for the river environment. Also avoid whistles that have a cork ball or any ball in them.

### Signals:

**One Whistle Blast:** Look my way or attention - prior to giving a hand signal.

**Two Whistle Blasts:** Upstream, attention upstream, move upstream.

**Three Whistle Blasts:** Downstream, attention downstream, move downstream.

**Three Whistle Blasts repeated 3 or more times:** Emergency – Distress

**International Distress Signal:** Move to the sound of the signal.



Figure 1

## Hand Signals

There are many hand signals out there, but these might be the most common. When giving a hand signal, first make sure you have the attention of the party you are intending the signal for or the whole group.

Start with a loud whistle blast to get attention on you.

***I am okay/are you okay?/Are you 'Ready'*** (See Figure 2).

This is a question and answer hand signal. If given, no answer back will mean we will be starting a rescue. This communication signal is a tapping on top of the head. If you are okay, simply tap your head back in response. It also is a question and answer for 'are you ready?' If you need help, the response is a hand held out as if saying hi or engaging someone to stop.



Figure 2

***Point Positive.*** One of the best hand signals to agree on is the method of "Point Positive." We never point at a hazard, we always point the route or direction of travel. When we see a point positive, we never have to worry what the problem might be, we are being focused on the safe or positive route of travel. Whistle Blast: point in the direction of travel. (See Figure 3)

***Eddy Out.*** Eddy out is a two part signal. When we want to gather for a break, to discuss something, or to exit the river to scout, we want the entire group to exit the river in close proximity. In this case we Blow the whistle one time and circle hand over head in a horizontal manner, followed by an indication of which side of the river you want people to eddy out.

***Stop.*** The signal to stop is a paddle hand held horizontal overhead or by placing your arms straight out to the sides horizontal from the shoulders. (See Figure 4)

***Clear to Proceed.*** The signal for clear to proceed is a paddle or hand held straight up. (See Figure 5)



Figure 3

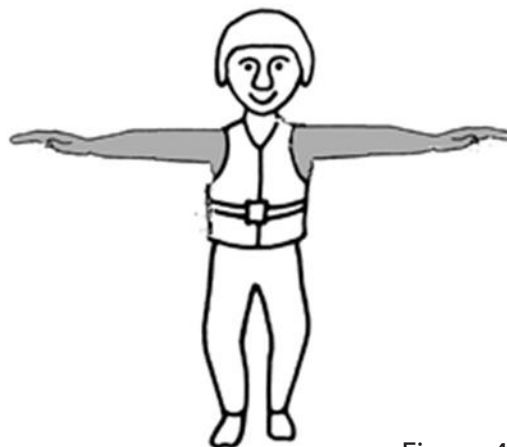


Figure 4



Figure 5



## INGREDIENTS

1 lb package fresh thin wonton noodles  
(Precooked Crispy chow mein noodle could be substituted)

2lb brussel sprouts

2 tablespoons golden mountain seasoning

1-2 cup cooking oil  
(enough oil to fry noodles)

1/4 cup mayonaise

2 tablespoons sriracha



## Golden Mountain Brussel Sprouts

*Submitted by Ben Limahai from NWRA*

## DIRECTIONS

Heat oil in dutch oven (very carefully) deep fry the fresh noodles until puffed and crispy, noodles should remain as a round crispy wafer.

Cook 2 or three noodle cakes and set aside to drain.

Remove oil leaving 2 tablespoons Add brussel sprouts and golden mountain seasoning. Cover and cook for 10 minutes until crispy.

Mix mayonaise and sriracha let stand (a squeeze bottle is recommended to apply the sriracha mayonaise).

When the sprouts are done, remove 1/2 of the sprouts, layer noodle cake and brussel sprouts adding sriracha mayonaise between and on top. Garnish with cilantro or green onion.



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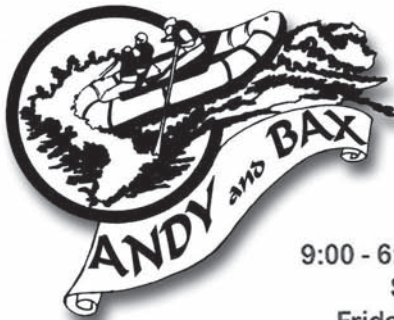
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# BUNGEE jumping





## Considerations

- Never tie a rope around yourself or wrap it around your arm/wrist etc..
- If you are going to put ropes in the water be sure to have a knife!
- Keep your ropes in good condition, how old is your throw bag line? Does it have dry rot? Could you use it as a haul line?
- You need a bowline, why not have a strong 3/8" bowline that can do double duty in a vector pull
- 1/4" throw bags are light weight and save some space, but are not as well suited for use in a haul system
- If you use a carabineer on your water bottle, can it do double duty as a piece of rescue equipment?

Steve K 2012



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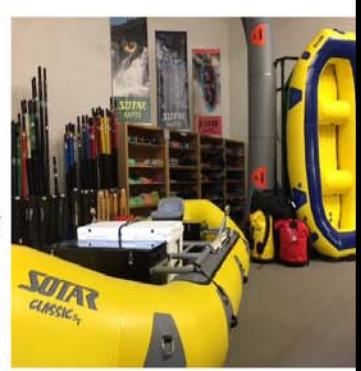


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# Upcoming Trips

Submitted by Cheryl Ford,  
Trip Editor



## UPCOMING OWA TRIPS

TRIP	DATES	TRIP LEADER	CONTACT INFO
2017 Fall Colors, North Santiam, Class II/III	October 8, 2017	Matt Saucy	<a href="mailto:sawdusty9@yahoo.com">sawdusty9@yahoo.com</a> , 971-241-5396
2017 -Tieton River, Class II/III	September 16-17, 2017	David Elliott	<a href="mailto:dce@dcell.com">dce@dcell.com</a>
2017 Veteran's Day, Rogue, Class III/IV	November 10-12, 2017	Kevin Buck	<a href="mailto:buckriverman@gmail.com">buckriverman@gmail.com</a> , 360-890-6776

## PAST OWA RAFTING TRIPS

2017 McKenzie River, Class II/III	June 22-25, 2017	Brenda Bunce	<a href="mailto:brenda.bunce@gmail.com">brenda.bunce@gmail.com</a> ,
2017 Women's Trip on the Lower Deschutes, Class II/III	June 16-18, 2017	Carol Beatty	Stacey Strausberg, <a href="mailto:scs@scs1024.com">scs@scs1024.com</a>
2017 Upper N Umpqua	June 2, 2017	Bill Goss	<a href="mailto:zanng@msn.com">zanng@msn.com</a> , 503-757-4659
Annual Upper Clackamas Whitewater Festival	May 20-21, 2017		<a href="http://www.upperclackamasfestival.org">www.upperclackamasfestival.org</a>
2017 Rogue River Lodge Trip, Class III/IV	May 19-22, 2017	Van McKay	<a href="mailto:vanm1@yahoo.com">vanm1@yahoo.com</a> , 360-737-3148
Boating 101 Skills Building, North Santiam	May 5-7, 2017	Matt Saucy	<a href="mailto:sawdusty9@yahoo.com">sawdusty9@yahoo.com</a> , 971-241-5396
2017 Grande Ronde River, Class II/III	May 5-7, 2017	Eric & Candace Ball	<a href="mailto:balle@pocketinet.com">balle@pocketinet.com</a> , 509-525-6134

For additional details on upcoming trips or to view past OWA trips go to <http://oregonwhitewater.org/calendar/trip-calendar>



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