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*See Petaluma  
From The Water*

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## Human-Powered Watercraft Users Making News

### PSC<sup>3</sup> Ongoing Activities

- PSC<sup>3</sup> promotes rowing, canoeing, kayaking, and the use of other human-powered or small craft on the Petaluma River
- We welcome all human-powered boaters to join our on-water activities, and periodically invite the non-boating public to experience the river from our watercraft
- We advocate for the interests of the many people using the Petaluma River for recreation, fitness, competition, and nature and historical appreciation
- PSC<sup>3</sup> supports our river-dependent commercial and industrial neighbors
- We collaborate with other river-advocacy groups
- We advocate establishment of a water trail, pocket parks, and other public access sites via the community planning and land use policy process

### COMING UP:

Petaluma River sea kayak outings have become a frequent tradition with the Petaluma Paddlers ([http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Petaluma\\_Paddlers/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Petaluma_Paddlers/)). Contact the newsgroup to confirm schedules.

*September 6, 2008:* Friends of the Petaluma River will stage a Race for The River: <http://friendsofthepetalumariver.org/>.

*October 5, 2008:* North Bay Rowing's Annual Wine Country Regatta. <http://northbayrowing.org/>

### RECENT ACTIVITIES:

PSC3 hosted three week-long **Watersport Camps for young people 12 and older**. Volunteers from North Bay Rowing, He'e Nalu, Ohana Wa'a, Lokahi, Clavey River Equipment, Petaluma Paddlers, and the Bay Institute introduced 31 young people to canoeing, kayaking, rowing, and river lore.

About 60 kayaks, rowing shells, and outrigger canoes participated in PSC3's and Friends' **Second Annual Mayor's Boat Ride** during the Sesquicentennial River Celebration.

Paddlers from **He'e Nalu O' Marin-Sonoma Outrigger Canoe Club** were on the road a lot this summer. He'e Nalu Junior paddlers (keikis) dominated their divisions during the Northern California Outrigger Canoe Association's sprint season, with nearly weekly races all over the region. The club also qualified and sent two crews, a keiki crew and a men's crew, to the prestigious biennial World Sprint Outrigger Canoe Races, which drew an international field of paddlers to Rancho Cordova for a week in August. The club also hosted its annual 'Round the Rock Alcatraz Challenge, Northern California's largest long distance outrigger canoe race. This year 84 crews raced, consisting of local and international teams. New Zealand, Canada, American Samoa, and Italy were a few of the countries represented. (<http://www.heenaluocc.org>).

**Petaluma Paddler** Lori Parmelee kayaked 51 days in a row, many of these days on the Petaluma River. She was often accompanied by fellow PPer, including other doughty souls who arose before sunrise to experience dawn over the river.

The **Petaluma Paddlers** newsgroup exceeded 360 members, making it one of the largest and most active kayaking groups in northern California. Members initiated 59 trips in the first six months of the year, two group campouts, and participated in May's river cleanup and the Friday night Nautical Masses.

PSC3 volunteer Susan Starbird and City of Petaluma Parks and Recreation Director Scott Brodhun are developing a National Park Service **grant application** to assist Petalumans in developing an implementation and funding strategy to create the waterfront trail and boathouse within the city limits.

#### *SPRING 2008*

The season opened with PSC3's **second annual Day on the River** May 31rst, in which members offered free rides in rowing shells, kayaks, and outrigger canoes, and other human-powered watercraft. About 200 people attended. Click on [www.PSC3.org](http://www.PSC3.org) for a report.

The **Healthy Community Consortium (HC2)** of Petaluma agreed to become PSC3's fiduciary agent.

**He'e Nalu O' Marin-Sonoma Outrigger Canoe Club** launched its new canoe, named for Petaluman John Gieser, in a marathon 25-mile paddle from Petaluma to Larkspur.

**Petaluma Butter and Eggs Day Parade.** PSC3/North Bay Rowing Club floated its "boat float" and affiliates Friends of the Petaluma River and Lokahi Outrigger Canoe Club also paraded.

PSC3 members from several clubs and groups participated in the **Annual Petaluma River Cleanup** staging at the Petaluma Marina.

Susan presented a colorful PSC3 powerpoint show to the **Petaluma Lions Club**.

The annual **Blessing of the Canoes** took place at **Lokahi Outrigger Canoe Club** in March.

The **Traditional Small Craft Association** held its annual Marina-to-Turning Basin River Row and picnic in April. See photos at [http://www.pressdemocrat.com/Gallery/template.cfm?sitecode=photogallery&s\\_code=petaluma&GalleryID=679&StartRow=1](http://www.pressdemocrat.com/Gallery/template.cfm?sitecode=photogallery&s_code=petaluma&GalleryID=679&StartRow=1).

About 75 people showed up to a **Salmon & Steelhead Forum** hosted by the Dept. of Fish & Game and Friends of the Petaluma River.

*2007*

Susan and Greg presented the PSC3 powerpoint show at **Petaluma Rotary**.

**Open House** in November at Friends of the Petaluma River, celebrating its second year.

Lighted **boat parade** in December from the Marina to the Turning Basin.

Friends of the Petaluma River's **Petaluma Marathon**/half marathon for kayaks, canoes, and rowing boats took place 9/2/07. <http://petalumarivermarathon.blogspot.com>.

Nine **kayak racers** coached by Susan Starbird "graduated" in April and earned a number of trophies over the summer and fall. A new cohort started training in October, commuting to the Petaluma Marina from Morgan Hill, San Francisco, Livermore, and Sacramento. (<http://www.starbirdcreative.com/idiosyncrasies/boating/SpringTraining.htm>)

The August 5 **Mayor's Boat Ride**, co-hosted by PSC<sup>3</sup> and Friends of the Petaluma River, attracted more than 100 boaters in outrigger canoes, kayaks, canoes, rowing shells, rowboats, and even a cycle-catamaran and a surfboard! It also attracted politicians galore: in addition to Petaluma Mayor Pamela Torliatt and Vice Mayor Karen Nau, Rohnert Park City Councilman Tim Smith, Assemblyman Mark Leno, and representatives of Lynn Woolsey's, Carol Migden's, and Jared Huffman's offices attended. Paddler Robin Herrick posted a slide show at <http://www.robinherrick.smugmug.com/gallery/3268039#181089863>

PSC<sup>3</sup>'s June 2 free **Day On The Water** at Foundry Wharf attracted between 75-100 individuals ready to be introduced to rowing, canoeing, and kayaking. Throughout the day members of the public enjoyed the view from the water, via North Bay Rowing Club's eight-person shell, He'e Nalu's six-person outrigger canoe, or a one- or two-person kayak from Clavey Equipment. Exhibitors and contributors included the Petaluma Sea Scouts, Lokahi Outrigger Canoe Club, He'e Nalu Outrigger Canoe Club, Friends of the Petaluma River, the Petaluma Paddlers, the North Bay Rowing Club, Clavey Equipment, the Aqus Café, and PSC<sup>3</sup>. [www.PSC3.org](http://www.PSC3.org)

**Teen Rowing Summer Camps** for 7<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders met over four weeks in July and August at North Bay Rowing ([www.northbayrowing.org](http://www.northbayrowing.org)).

North Bay Rowing Club began its second five-week **Introductory Rowing Class** for adults on June 23. <http://northbayrowing.org/>

**Annual Petaluma River Cleanup** took place May 9 at the Petaluma Marina. <http://www.petalumarivercleanup.org/>

North Bay Rowing Club offered the first of two five-week **Introductory Rowing Classes** for adults.

Petaluma Yacht Club hosted **Opening Day on The River**.

<http://www.petalumayachtclub.com/>

PSC<sup>3</sup> took its "boat float" to the annual **Butter and Eggs Day Parade**.

**Lokahi Outrigger Canoe Club** ([www.lokahiocc.org](http://www.lokahiocc.org)) started restoring a vintage 22 1/2 foot koa outrigger canoe, one of the few remaining in existence. Hewn out of a single koa tree trunk on the Big Island of Hawaii, the canoe was originally built in the 1920's and was used for fishing and surfing. When completed, the canoe will be used to raise Pacific Islander cultural awareness and education.

**Lokahi Outrigger Canoe Club** sent a crew to Arizona again this year at the end of April to compete in the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Tempe Town Lake outrigger Regatta.

Nine kayak racers coached by Susan Starbird "graduated" in April.

(<http://www.starbirdcreative.com/idiosyncrasies/boating/SpringTraining.htm>). This group commuted for nine sessions from Morgan Hill, Livermore, Sacramento, and Sebastopol to paddle from the Petaluma Marina.

The **Traditional Small Craft Association Row** launched at the Petaluma Marina March 31, rowed up to the Turning Basin for a rest stop, then down to Papa's Taverna at Lakeville.

**He'e Nalu Marin-Sonoma Outrigger Canoe Club** formally kicked off its paddling season with the blessing of the canoes at their Sonoma County site on March 24. While the paddlers have been on the water training since January, the event gives the entire club, family and friends an opportunity to come together and express thanks and aloha. The Van Bebber family of Van Bebber Foundry were honored for their generous support in providing a practice and launch site along the shores of the Petaluma River for He'e Nalu's red and black outrigger canoes. The club is currently accepting new members. Adults and children 12-years old and older may contact club president, Monica Jones at (415) 246-4035. (<http://www.heenaluocc.org>)

**Lokahi Outrigger Canoe Club** had its annual Blessing of the Canoes On March 3 at its practice site at the Petaluma Marina. Along with food, music and renewing friendships again, Lokahi was honored to have the Mayor of Petaluma, Pamela Torliatt and Councilwoman Theresa Barrett attended. The club is accepting new members from age 8 and up. For more information, please visit [www.lokahiocc.org](http://www.lokahiocc.org)

*2006:*

**Friends of the Petaluma River** (<http://www.friendsofthepetalumariver.org/>) shared its river knowledge with a group of McNear students in an after-school program that met in October.

**North Bay Rowing Club** (<http://northbayrowing.org/>) reported its Head Race on October 8<sup>th</sup> was a huge success, with 86 rowers and perfect, flat, and fast conditions.

Six men and six women paddlers represented **He'e Nalu Outrigger Canoe Club** in the 35-mile Napali Challenge Race off Kauai. One competitor said it was the most fun he'd ever had in his long career in paddlesport. This group trains Saturday mornings and Wednesday evenings from Van Bebber.

Twelve kayak racers from throughout northern California convened for the first session of "Spring Training" marathon kayak racing training camp (<http://www.starbirdcreative.com/idiosyncrasies/mag/boating/SpringTraining.htm>).

**Sonoma State University** varsity rowing commenced practice, with novice crews starting two weeks after.

**North Bay Rowing Club** sponsored its annual Labor Day Marathon.

**Friends of the Petaluma River** sponsored the last of this summer's "Nautical Masses," an unorganized monthly convivium of human-powered watercraft enthusiasts.

**North Bay Rowing Club** completed its Juniors rowing camp.

Two-sided, full-color paddle maps are available by mailing \$25 to: **Friends of the Petaluma River**, PO Box 4928, Petaluma, CA 94955

**Lokahi Canoe Club's** master's team took first place in the 1,000m event at a Tempe, Arizona spring regatta. They also took first place in the large-club division at Northern California's first seasonal sprint regatta at Quarry Lakes in Fremont. This crew trains regularly out of the Petaluma Marina. For details see <http://www.arguscourier.com/sports/news/lokahi060607.html> or <http://www.lokahiocc.org/>

**He'e Nalu Outrigger Canoe Club** sent 20 keiki (juniors) from Petaluma to the NCOCA's (North California Outrigger Canoe Association's) first regatta at Quarry Lakes in Fremont on 6/3/06. All entries placed (first, second or third) in every event entered and scored enough overall points to win first place in the small club category for that regatta.

On June 7<sup>th</sup> the **Petaluma Paddlers** went from the Petaluma Marina past Schollenberger Park and up Schultz Slough into the marsh looking for baby birds. We found a tree full of nesting Egrets and another full of Blue Heron nests, lots of baby Canada geese, ducks, coots and grebes.

*June 23:* **North Bay Rowing Club** began the second five-week Introductory Rowing Class for adults. Meet at NBRC Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. \$125.00 per person <http://northbayrowing.org/>

**Friends of the Petaluma River** held its first monthly "Nautical Mass."

**Sonoma State University's** women's 8 took first place at the Western Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championships held on Rancho Cordova's Lake Natoma. This group rows out of the North Bay Rowing Club near Foundry Wharf. Details at <http://www.sonomastatestar.com/media/storage/paper846/news/2006/05/17/Sports/Womens.Varsity.Crew.Team.Brings.Home.The.Gold-2012165.shtml?norewrite200606131448&sourcedomain=www.sonomastatestar.com>

The Annual Petaluma River Cleanup launched from the Petaluma Marina in May.  
<http://www.petalumarivercleanup.org/>