

Tyee Club of B.C. Catch Record Project



*Final Report
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Cover photograph courtesy of the Museum at Campbell River
Catalogue No. 20282-53: *"Unknown lady angler with fish"*

The photograph was most likely taken by professional photographer Walter Miller of Seattle sometime during the 1920s. Mr. Miller served as one of the Tyee Club's first elected directors.

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Report Overview

The following report provides background information on the Tyee Club's project with the University of Victoria to digitize the Club's catch records. The handwritten catch records were entered into a digital spreadsheet that has been presented in a pdf list format where each line represents a fish 30 lbs or greater that was registered during the Club's annual summer fishing tournament. The records include supporting information on each catch, including the date, time, angler, rower, fish weight and tackle used. The catch records have been presented in the following three formats:

1. Chronological order
2. Alphabetical order by angler's last name
3. Alphabetical order by rower's name

This report has been written for a general audience who may not be familiar with the Tyee Club.

Historical Background

The Tyee Club of British Columbia and its annual two-month long summer fishing tournament was established in 1924. To gain Club membership the angler had to pay an entrance fee and then catch a salmon 30 lbs. or better on regulation tackle from a rowboat. The Tyee Club was modeled after California's Avalon Tuna Club located on Santa Catalina Island. Both clubs required anglers to fish utilizing relatively light tackle. One difference between the two clubs was that the Tuna Club did not permit female members. This eventually changed in 1990 when the City of Avalon refused to renew the club's lease unless the all-male policy was changed.

Since its establishment, the Tyee Club has maintained handwritten records of every fish registered in its annual tournament. These records were recorded by the Club's weighmaster in hard bound registers. Each entry includes the date, time, fish weight, angler, angler's residence, rower/guide and various other information related to the catch. Over the years, Club registers have been donated to the Campbell River Museum for safe keeping. Unfortunately, the Club's 1924-1932 catch records were lost which I will discuss in more detail later in this report.

Prior to the Covid epidemic, Randy Killoran and I were working together on the Club's yearbook, and I heard that one of the Club's registers had gone missing. This was concerning and we agreed that there would be value in digitizing the Club's catch records to both safeguard them and to make them available. We envisioned the creation of a user friendly online searchable database which could be used by both Club members and the general public. The database could be used informally by the public to look up a distant relative or more formally by the Club to generate statistics and graphs for analysis. It would however take considerable time to create this database because it would involve manually typing in each entry.

With some records management work experience, I began the process of entering the most recent catch records into a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. Excel was chosen because its data could be easily migrated over to a formal database. The data entry process was slow and tedious, and I estimated that it would take years to complete. At one point there was a University of Victoria graduate student interested in working on the project, but it was not until the University of Victoria became formally involved that the project took off.

University of Victoria's involvement

UVic's Associate Professor & Canada Research Chair for Ocean History and Sustainability, Loren McClenachan, expressed an interest in digitizing the Club's catch records for the purposes of fisheries research. Most importantly, she had graduate students who could help complete the data entry. This was significant because thousands of catch records would need to be manually typed into the Excel spreadsheet.

On November 30, 2023, Club president, Roger Gage organized an online meeting with Professor McClenachan, former UVic graduate student Jacob Salmen-Hartley, Campbell River Museum Collections Manager Megan Purcell and myself. Discussion centered around the process we would use to create the database. We needed a way to provide digital copies of the Club's registers to the University of Victoria. Megan Purcell noted that the spines of the older registers are relatively delicate and could be damaged if they were to be opened flat on a regular scanner. I looked into the option of purchasing an overhead "book" scanner but ended up using a high-resolution camera mounted on a tripod. While I made arrangements to photograph the Museum's four registers, President Gage located the remaining four registers which were being stored at a director's home. On February 2024, I finished photographing the Club's eight registers and made the images available on a photo sharing website so they could be viewed by the people involved with the project.

Weighmaster registers

While photographing the eight registers it became apparent that more than one appeared to be a copy of an original. You could easily tell the difference between an original and a copy because the originals were somewhat messy and signed by the angler while the copies were unsigned and were obviously re-written out by someone with very consistent neat handwriting. This was interesting, so I contacted former Club presidents and asked them their procedure to manage the registers. I wanted to know who made the copies? When did this start? When did it end? What happened to the original registers? Where were they kept during the off-season? RD Berger confirmed that at the end of each season the catch records were re-written in a separate ledger book. Reid Herkes remembered that this process ended once the Club began publishing catch records on its website. With respect to the original registers, memories fade and no one appeared to know what happened to them. It was however clear that copies were written out in an attempt to safeguard the records in the event that the originals were lost as was the case between the years 1924 to 1932.

Here are my observations of the eight registers:

1933 – 1964

Held in the Museum's collections since April 13, 1988.

This register is made up of several individual ledger books that were taken apart and re-bound together to create the hardcopy book. Journal entries were made in cursive writing which is particularly challenging to read during some years because the handwriting was not very legible. None of the entries have been signed by the angler. The book is fragile and care needs to be taken when viewing it. Catch records from the bottom of several pages from 1935, 1939, 1942, 1945, and 1946, were cut off during the re-binding process. These lost entries have been noted in the database and appear in Appendix A.

1965 – 1977

Held in the Museum's collections since April 13, 1988.

This register is one ledger book that appears to have been added to each season.

The register is a copy.

Who ever made the copy of the 1968 catch records omitted large amounts of information.

Approximately half the 1968 entries only include the anglers name and address. We do not know the dates, times, fish weight, rower's name etc. Photographs of the 1968 entries and the missing information are attached as Appendix B. People who are familiar with these entries are encouraged to contact me so that the missing information can be added to the database.

1978 – 1990

Held in the Museum's collections since 1993.

This register is one ledger book that would have been added to each season.

The register is a copy.

Instead of writing out the rower's first name, the person copying the 1978 and 1982 catch records only included the rower's first initial.

This register was given to the Museum in 1993 which is the same year that the presidency changed from Mike Gage to RD Berger.

1984 – 1992

Held in the Museum's collections since September 17, 1997.

This register is an original complete with angler's signatures.

1991 – 2003

Held in the Museum's collections since May 19, 2024.

The register is a copy.

Contains a list of members who attended the August 18, 2001, AGM.

1993 – 2000

Held in the Museum's collections since May 19, 2024.

This register is an original complete with angler's signatures.

Contains the names of weighmasters from 1993 to 2000.

The register also contains catch & release records from 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996 & 2000.

2001 – 2013

Held in the Museum's collections since May 19, 2024.

This register is an original complete with angler's signatures.

Contains catch & release records from 2007.

2014 – 2025 (currently in use)

Stored at the Clubhouse year-round.

This register is an original complete with angler's signatures.

Contains catch & release records from 2019, 2020 & 2023.

Club presidents would be responsible to maintain the catch records. Prior to the creation of the Club's website, it makes sense that the president would have arranged for copies to be made of the registers as a way to safeguard the catch records. What does not make sense is that the Club is no longer in possession of its original catch records prior to 1983. I am hopeful that one day they might turn up - particularly the records from 1968 to 1983.

1924-32 Catch Records

The Club's first nine years of catch records were lost. I have never seen any official written documentation from the Club confirming how the records were lost. It is however understood that the original register(s) from 1924 to 1932 were lost when a hurricane-strength S.E. storm struck Campbell River on December 23, 1932. June "Granny" Painter recalls that during the height of the storm, waves and logs were washing right over Tyee Spit. In his book *Tyee, the Story of the Tyee Club of British Columbia* (page 62), Van Egan writes;

What happened to the registers from 1924 to 1932 is not known for certain, but the logical explanation is that they were lost in a flood in December 1932. In the early years Mr. E.P. (Ned) Painter served as weighmaster to the Tyee Club. He and his family lived on the Tyee Spit where he rented boats and kept the Club records. The Registers were stored in a shed along with rental tackle and blueprints of boat designs and other valuable boat building tools and materials. Mrs. June painter remembers the flood well. The worst of it occurred at night, three days before Christmas. A combination of a high river, high winds and a high tide inundated the Spit. In the morning they awoke to a foot of water in the house. She

and her four children had to take refuge in a car parked on a higher prominence away from the house, surrounded by a small herd of goats they kept for milk, which now persistently tried to join them in the car. At times she thought their house would be carried away but, in the end, it was the shed with all its tackle, tools and plans, and it seems, the Registers of the Tyee Club.

I have spoken to June and Ned's youngest son Joe several times about this storm and he said that it was a combination of high winds and waves and high tide that caused the flooding and not the river level. He said his dad and helpers combed the nearby beaches for two weeks after the storm in an attempt to recover oars and wood that had been washed away from the boatbuilding shed. Joe told me that by 1932, his dad was no longer the Club's weighmaster so it is not clear why the president at the time (James G. Potts; 1929-1933) would have left the Club's first nine years of catch records in Ned's boat building shed or any other building on the Spit. The registers would have been needed to update the membership roster in the Club's annual yearbook so it's likely that they were taken somewhere (Vancouver, Victoria?) at the end of the season by the person(s) responsible to prepare the yearbook. Unfortunately, there is no documentation on where the catch records had been stored – just speculation. After the loss of the Club's entire catch records, I would have expected a note of explanation from the president in either the 1933 or 1934 yearbook, yet there is no mention of the loss in either book. I am not convinced that the 1924-32 catch records were lost due to the storm.

The only catch records that remain from 1924 to 1932 are found in the Club's membership roster which was published annually in the Club's yearbook. The roster notes the name and address of the angler, their largest Tyee and the date on which they caught it. Although these records represent only a very small fraction of the fish registered, they are never-the-less, are all that remain. I mentioned these records to Professor McClenachan, who offered to digitize them if I could provide her with images.

Similar to the catch record registers, I contacted the Museum's collection manager Megan Purcell who confirmed that the Museum was in possession of the following yearbooks:

- 1926-27 (3rd tournament)
- 1927-28 (4th tournament)
- 1929-30 (6th tournament)
- 1930-31 (7th tournament – water damaged)
- 1932-33 (9th tournament)

I then made arrangement to photograph these yearbooks. I also reached out to my Tyee Club contacts to see if they could help me locate the remaining yearbooks from 1924-32. I was unable to find any more yearbooks however, Tyee Club collector, Neil Taberner of Lantzville had a copy of the Museum's water damaged 1930-31 yearbook and sent me photographs of the roster. I then made the images available to Professor McClenachan, who started the process of digitizing the records with the help of her graduate students. Since doing this work, I have come across a newspaper article from Neil Taberner and a statement in Van Egan's book "Tyee" (page 61) which states that the Club "began publishing a yearbook . . . at the end of the 1926 fishing season." If that is the case, then the Museum's 1926-27 yearbook would be the first yearbook published by the Club.

I have provided the 1924-32 records as a stand-alone set of records. I did not incorporate them into the 1933-2025 catch records because they would impact our ability to generate statistics. They do however tell us who registered fish during those first nine years and allow us to document the Club's membership roster. We therefore can only imagine what the fishing must have been like during those first nine years. In the 1933-34 yearbook it states:

"... some of the more skillful members of the Tyee club of British Columbia have taken as many as seven and eight Tyees . . . in one day, and three or four [anglers] have taken more than 40 in a season . . ."

Neil Taberner provided me with a very interesting and entertaining newspaper article written by Walter P. Miller which was published in the magazine section of the Vancouver Province newspaper on Sunday September 6, 1925. The article has a photograph of Dr. J.A. Wiborn, also known as the "Lone Angler", with his morning catch of 5 fish weighing 41, 38, 36, 30 and 28 pounds. Along with Zane Grey, Wiborn was from Avalon California on Santa Catalina Island - home of the Tuna Club. It was Wiborn, more than anyone else, who encouraged the formation of the Tyee Club which was based on the Tuna Club. In fact, the Tyee Club's initial bylaws closely mirrored those of the Tuna Club.

What is also remarkable is that published accounts from the commercial fishing and canning sector state that the glory days were over by 1920 because of commercial exploitation. Hard to believe. If only those first nine years of catch records still existed so we could see just how good the fishing was.

Before leaving the 1920s it is worth providing some more information on Walter P. Miller. He lived in Seattle Washington and was one of the first elected directors of the Tyee Club. He worked as a photographer/writer in the newspaper/magazine business and had ties to the Vancouver Province newspaper. It would be fair to say that his greatest contribution to the Tyee Club was the enduring black and white images he left us with from the 1920s. His reputation however would be called into question when he was arrested under the suspicion of murdering his wife. Miller was the former deputy sheriff, and he ended up being cleared of the allegations. The Vancouver Province newspaper article describing the allegations and Miller's statement is attached as Appendix C. Read it and you be the judge.

UVic completes data entry and my review starts

UVic completed its data entry work in the winter of 2024/25 and at the end of April 2025 Professor McClenachan provided me with the Club's digitized catch records from 1933 to the present day. When I started to go through the records, I found there were a large number of revisions and corrections required. The more I worked on the records the more I realized it was going to take me a significant amount time to do this. In the end it took me 175 hours to correct and clean up the records so that they could be published. A detailed account of my review process is outlined in Appendix D.

In addition to the 1933 to present day records, Professor McClenachan and her students digitized and created a separate spreadsheet of the fish and anglers that appeared in the 1924-32 yearbook membership rosters. I received these records in August 2025 and have since reviewed, revised and have presented them in chronological order.

I will now provide information on the digitized catch records, and how they have been processed and presented.

The Digitized Catch Records

The weighmaster's handwritten registers vary with respect to how they were organized, prepared and completed. After reviewing the records in detail, I provide some recommendations on what I believe would be best practices at the end of the report (see Recommendation # 2). The digitized catch records have been organized and presented in a series of columns in the following order.

- Fish Number
- Date (Y/M/D)
- Time (when the fish was hooked or caught)
- Angler's first name
- Angler's last name
- Angler's residence (city followed by province, state or country)
- Weight of fish (lbs.)

- Lure (spoon or plug)
- Tackle (extra light 3/6 class or not)
- Rower's name
- Notes (awards etc.)

Fish Number

Each fish has been given a number based on the order in which it was registered. This was done because in the early years anglers would often register multiple fish in a single day. Adding a number to each fish allows the data to be reorganized in various ways but still maintain the correct order in which the fish were registered. The number will also assist in referencing a particular catch.

Apart from anecdotal information, this report provides little analysis of the catch records. That work will occur in the future. 7,769 Tyees have been registered since 1933, and one half of those fish had been caught by 1956.

It is worth noting that the number of Tyee registered each season dropped dramatically in 1956 when the summer flows in the Campbell River were increased due to the construction and operation of hydroelectric dams which serve to maintain a higher controlled flow of water. The higher flows meant that the salmon could enter the river at practically anytime. This resulted in the fish no longer staging for the same length of time off the river mouth and the annual number of Tyee registered was significantly reduced. This change in summertime river flows introduced what is now known as the "Modern Era" of the Tyee Club.

Date

Occasionally, the registers did not list fish in chronological sequence. For example, a fish registered on August 19th did not appear in the register until after August 22nd. I'm not sure why this occurred unless these fish had been protested and it had taken a few days for the Board to make a decision on their fate. When I came across these entries I rearranged them in chronological order. Normally, if a fish was disqualified, it would be first registered and then crossed out with the word "Disqualified" beside it.

In the 1920s and early 30s, six fish appear in the Club's yearbook membership rosters that were registered outside of the Club's two-month window of July 15th to September 15th. They include C.A. Thulander's 41½ lb. which was oddly registered on June 19, 1931. These dates may well have been typing errors because there was no explanation of why these fish were registered.

The earliest fish to appear in the Club's catch records was registered on July 14th in 1947. During that year nine Tyees would be registered during the month of July second only to 1936 when 10 were caught during that month. Although rare, July fish are still caught and some quite early as was the case when Ken Chase rowed Edgar Orel to a 30 lb. on July 16, 1978.

In 1980 Mike Gage became Club president and the 1980 season was extended until September 20th. Four tyees were registered during that extension of which President Gage rowed two – both from Frenchman's Pool. One of the Tyees registered during this extension went on to win the 1980 tournament much to the chagrin of the gentleman who was leading up until September 15th. The Club has never extended the season since.

Time fish hooked or caught

No times were recorded until 1943.

From 1943 until 1955 just am and pm was recorded.

1956: one half the entries note am/pm and the other half records the actual time.

1957 is the first season that actual times are consistently recorded for each fish.

1981: this re-written copy of the original register rarely notes am & pm so guestimates were used.

1982: this re-written copy of the original register does not indicate am or pm for any of the times so guestimates were used.

2012 & 13: the times in the register did not include a.m. or p.m. and were obtained from the Club's website.

It is not clear if the times recorded in the registers represent when the fish was hooked or when it was landed.

Angler's Name

For the catch record database and future data queries to work correctly, the spelling of each angler's name needed to be consistent. When I re-organised the records in alphabetical order by angler name it became apparent that the various weighmasters did not and could not realistically record each name consistently. For example; Dr. Benjamin's name was recorded five different ways:

- J. Benjamin
- J.E. Benjamin
- Dr. Benjamin
- Dr. J.E. Benjamin
- Dr. Jullian E. Benjamin

Plus, a large percentage of the names had been interpreted and entered incorrectly because of cursive writing which at times was poorly executed. I had to study cursive writing guides from the 1930s to help me interpret names correctly. Weighmasters also spelt names wrong. In addition to spelling, names changed over time due to marriage or social norms. Prior to the mid 1960s, a woman's name would be written out as her husband's name preceded by Mrs. By the end of the 1960s this was changing and women were beginning to use their own names. In some cases, it took considerable time to figure out who was who based on addresses in the registers, guide partnerships, phone calls to senior guides and visits to Joe Painter up at Yuculta Lodge. The goal being to ensure that every individual member of the Tyee Club had only one name spelling. This took considerable time to solve and even then, I expect we will continue to find errors, particularly for anglers who only registered one Tyee.

Angler's residence

An angler's residence is where they lived when they caught the fish. For example, the Club's most successful angler, Wallace MacMillan originally lived in Winnipeg and after catching Tyee fever, moved to Victoria to live in the Empress Hotel for the rest of his days. McMillan would register a total of 268 Tyees – and he often used a portable rod holder clamped to the gunnel.

Weight of the fish

It has been the Club's long-standing policy to record weights in ½ lb. increments. If the two largest fish happen to have the same weight, then the winning fish is the one that was registered first. When Dr. Murphy became president in 1966, the weighmaster began recording weights in ¼ lb. increments. This practice continued until September 1, 1971, and then it went back to ½ lb. increments.

I served on the Club's board of directors for several years. During that time fellow director Rich Chapple prepared detailed instructions on weighing fish which were endorsed by the Board. These instructions were provided to the weighmaster to ensure that all fish were weighed consistently; in particular, the instructions stated that a fish is not considered a Tyee until it is truly 30 lbs. or more.

It was therefore very interesting to read the first page of the Club's 1978 – 1990 register which states:

"Advice to Weighmaster"

1. *In weighing fish which are just under 30, 40, 50, 60 or 70 lb mark; allow ½ lb under But No More. A fish has to quite clearly and easily weigh 29½. Even a small fraction under this will disqualify [the fish]. Same goes for a 39½, 49½ etc.*
2. *Be particularly careful weighing large fish.*
3. *In any dispute which may arise please avoid making any kind of judgment on the spot.*
4. *Do not record ¼ lbs in weighing fish – lbs and ½ lbs only.*

This advice to the weighmaster calls into question whether all 30 lb. fish were actually Tyees - probably not. The same goes for 40 and 50 pounders. It is unknown how long this practice continued. In my review of the catch records, I came across three "Tyees" registered on August 18 & 19, 1966 that were recorded as weighing 29¾ lbs.

The University of Victoria is using the Tyee Club's catch records to prepare a report on its analysis of the declining weight of Campbell River's Chinook salmon.

Lure:

This column notes if the fish was caught on a spoon or a plug.
This record keeping started in 1942.

The 1971 catch records are a copy of the original records. The person responsible to make the copy recorded if the fish was caught on a single or "triple" hook but they rarely noted if fish was caught on a spoon or plug. I therefore made an educated guess and recorded "plug" for every fish caught on a treble hook. I also double checked the 1970 and 1972 records to see what type of lure the rower normally fished.

Tackle:

The only entry in this column is whether or not the angler used extra light 3/6 tackle to catch the fish.

Rower's Name

Unlike angler's names which are organized in two columns represented by their first and last names, rower's names are recorded in one column. Rower's names have been entered by the name they were commonly called. For example; Reginald Pidcock has been entered as Reg Pidcock; Leslie McDonald as Les McDonald; William Herkes as Bill Herkes and Dr. Richard Murphy is noted as Dick Murphy. This was done because in the future, people searching the database for a guide they had years ago will remember the guide's first name but may not know or remember their last name.

At times it was challenging to sort guides out when they had the same last name and records only indicated an initial for the first name. Or in the case of Joe "Joey" Painter and his uncle Joe Painter; records did not always indicate who was who; and when I talked to Joe Painter, he could not always remember. Joe explained that the catch records initially referred to him as "Joey" because he was the youngest child in the Painter family by eight years and had always been called "Little Joey". At times I had to conduct genealogy searches to help me better understand a particular family who had several rowers such as the Perkin family consisting of Tom, John, George, Keith, Alvin, Jack, Ron, Bob and David.

Notes

This column notes the annual Tyee Man and 3/6 Champion. It also provides anecdotal information on various anglers and rowers. There is an opportunity to add more information to this column as time and resources permit. One idea that the University of Victoria came up with was to add an online link to the photograph of the catch.

Records that came and went

The records that were recorded each season changed with time. Some records were maintained for only a couple of years while others have been maintained since they started. There are records in the registers that have nothing to do with the catch but are administrative in nature such as recording the buttons issued (for inventory purposes). Along with the information presented in the digitized catch records, here is a summary of additional records that appear in the registers:

- 1966: records began noting if fish was caught on treble hooks.*
- 1974: the last year of the ultra-light 3/6 class.*
- 1975: records began noting if the fish was caught on a star-drag or a single action reel.
- 1980: records indicate if Tyee was caught in "Frenchman's Pool" or "Tyee Pool" or "Other".
- 1981: records began noting if fish was hatchery fin clipped.
- 1984: records began noting Chinooks that were released.
- 1986: records started recording if fish was "bright" or "dark" or "in between" and for two years noted fighting qualities such as "strong", "very strong" or "medium strong".
- 1991: records noted age of fish (either 4 or 5 years)
- 1993: records started noting the location of where the angler registered; which was either the Club House, Painters Lodge, April Point or Dolphins Resort; or if the angler was a life member.
- 2000: Reid Herkes becomes president and the records begin noting where the fish were caught within the Tyee Pool. For example: "South Corner", "Argonaut" "Bar", "Boat ramp", "Potlatch", along with "April Point", and downtown locations such as "Ferry slip" "Beehive Restaurant" *
- 2001: Seven (7) Tyees were caught over at April Point (as a result of the April Point net pen project). Rookie April Point Guide Temple McPherson rows 3 Tyees to win the Dr. Richard Murphy Trophy which is the same number as Norm Lee who won the Dr. Julien E. Benjamin Trophy.
- 2003: Of the 15 Tyees registered, 6 were caught off the downtown waterfront between the Quadra Island ferry terminal and the Discovery fishing pier (as a result of the downtown net pen project).
- 2004: Records stopped indicating specific location where fish were caught and instead just note general location; i.e. "Tyee Pool".

** have been added to digitized catch records in "Notes" column.*

Frenchman's Pool

- 1980: records began noting if fish was caught in Frenchman's Pool. *
- 1981: more Tyees were caught in Frenchman's Pool (23) than the Tyee Pool (21)
- 1982: 10 Tyees caught in Frenchman's
- 1983: 29 fish caught in Frenchman's out of a total of 86 (34%)
- 1984: no Tyees were caught in Frenchman's
- 1985: only 1 Tyee caught in Frenchman's
- 1986: 4 Tyees caught in Frenchman's
- 1987: 3 Tyees
- 1988: none
- 1989: 14 Tyees
- 1990: 41 fish caught in Frenchman's out of a total of 119 (34%)
- 1991: 1 Tyee
- 1992: 7 Tyees
- 1993: 2 Tyees caught in Frenchman's
- 2005: 1; this was the last registered Tyee caught in Frenchman's Pool; rowed by RD Berger.

Treble Hook Era: 1966-1977

The catch records indicate that up until 1966 fish had been disqualified if caught on treble hooks (earlier referred to as "triple" or "gang" hooks). Then in 1966, under the leadership of new president Dr. Richard Murphy, the Club permitted treble hooks. This change appeared to be a departure from

the Tyee Club's values of "*sportsmanship and fair chase*". I spoke with RD Berger and John Barker and asked them if they could recall why this decision was made. RD remembers that Painter's Lodge head guide Mike Rippingale was under increasing pressure for his guides to register more fish from the operators of San Francisco's Crown Zellerbach pulp & paper company. At the time, the company owned and operated a number of pulp & paper mills including Campbell River's mill, and they spent a considerable amount of money hosting trips for their guests at Painter's Lodge. Anyone who has worked in the sport fishing business can appreciate the pressure that Mike Rippingale found himself in, and not surprisingly, Mike went to the Board and asked them to consider permitting treble hooks.

When word got out that the Board was considering this regulation change, four Painter guides, including John Barker, made a presentation to the Board asking them to deny the request. These four guides agreed that, yes, trebles catch more fish (actually lose less fish) than singles but argued that the decision ran counter to the foundations of the Club. In the end the decision went ahead and catch records indicate that Mike Rippingale rowed Leslie Clarke to the first treble caught Tyee on August 28, 1966.

From 1966 to 1977 records indicate which fish were caught on treble hooks because the Board had decided that while an angler could register a fish caught on trebles, the fish would not be eligible to qualify for the Tyee Man trophy. During those 12 years the largest fish registered in 1967, 1973 and 1974 was caught on trebles but did not win the annual tournament. One of those three fish just happened to be caught by the owner of Campbell River's pulp and paper mill, Chuck Zellerbach and his guide was Mike Rippingale.

While anglers and guides could not qualify their treble caught fish for Tyee Man, they could qualify them for all the other trophies. Dan Plamondon won the guide's Dr. Julien E. Benjamin rowing title in 1972, 1973 and 1974. Of the 30 Tyees Dan rowed during those three years, 22 were caught on trebles. In 1976 Clint Cameron set the Club's modern era record by rowing 16 Tyees that season. All of Clint's 16 fish were caught on trebles.

It is somewhat surprising that the Club permitted individuals to win trophies while using treble hooks because they provide an advantage over single hooks. The digitized catch records indicate which fish were caught on treble hooks.

The treble hook era ended in 1978 when the federal department of fisheries implemented a single hook regulation special management zone adjacent to the mouth of the Campbell River in response to reports and observations of Buzz Bomb anglers snagging fish.

Notable anglers, rowers & fish

My review of the catch records and on-line research has given me the opportunity to learn more about the Tyee Club, its anglers and rowers. Some of what I learned was quite interesting and I wanted to pass along a few of the following highlights.

Joe Painter Sr. had a knack of catching big fish. He rowed the winning fish more times than anyone else – 6 times over a period of 30 years in 1936, 1940, 1945, 1954, 1958, 1961 and 1966. No one has rowed more fish than Joe Painter Sr. In 1945 he only rowed 3 Tyees to two women but one of the fish, a diamond button 62.5 lb. Tyee, won the tournament.

More recently is the story of Beth Newton who also appears to have the knack of catching big fish. Beth has only registered two Tyees, one in 2021 and another in 2025, but each fish has won her the title of Tyee Man. Beth is one of only four women to have won the Tyee Man title twice.

Les McDonald and Joe Meredith must have been real gentlemen because records show that they often rowed the ladies - more than any of the other guides.

Not all fish were caught on a spoon or plug. Records indicate that on September 14, 1936, Dr. E.W. Rocky caught a 36 lb. Tyee on a fly. His guide was Ed Forrest.

On August 8, 1943, Wallace McMillan caught a 60½ lb. Tyee which went on to earn him the title of Tyee Man. Twenty-seven days later, on September 4th, he caught another 60½ lb. That year McMillan would register 41 Tyees.

With so many fish being caught in the early years, I asked Joe Painter what happened to them because a person can only eat so many salmon. Joe explained to me that back in the day, guides held commercial fishing licenses which allowed them to sell the fish.

Up until 1944 there was a very limited number of guides working but that changed during the summer of 1945 when the numbers of anglers and rowers dramatically increased. This coincided with the end of the World War II.

One of the busiest days for the weighmaster occurred on August 17, 1947, when 23 Tyees were registered. 1947 would go on to be the weighmaster's busiest season in which 310 Tyees were registered.

Catch records show that Katie Ferguson from Denver Colorado landed a 63½ lb. Tyee on August 17, 1963. It was the largest Tyee of the 1963 season, yet she did not win Tyee Man and there was no explanation in records. I contacted RD Berger who told me the story of how Katie's guide, Nick Gilbert was removing weed from the weight when the fish hit, and it was felt that he actually struck the fish and so it ended up being disqualified. Katie's fish was just one of many large fish hooked on the surface. During the last evening of the 1989 tournament, Brian Talyor would row John Hinchcliffe and his #8 Stewart spoon up over the bar with no weight to catch a 57½ lb. Tyee to win the tournament in dramatic style (from Van Egan's *River of Salt* pp. 27-30).

Reasons for disqualifications: 1. Rod too short; 2. Line too heavy or wire; 3. Triple or gang hooks; 4. angler did not register; 5. Line or reel controlled by the guide/rower. The most notable disqualification has to be Dr. G.L. Moore's 70½ lb fish which was registered and later disqualified because someone found out that Moore had snapped the tip off his rod in the car door and it was an inch too short. The date was September 10, 1949.

Heber Smith was the son of the famous cougar bounty hunter and Tyee guide Cecil Smith. From 1934 to 1943 Heber guided 130 Tyees, the last one being a 49½ lb. to Wallace McMillan on September 10th. Heber then disappears from the records, re-appearing three years later rowing friend Jack Carmichael to at 43 ½ & 42 lb on August 29th & 30th. Jack then returns the favour and rows Heber to his first Tyee - a 40 lb. on September 1, 1946. Records show that Heber is now living in Kamloops, and online research uncovers that his doctor had recommended he move to a drier climate for health reasons due to asthma. A year later in 1947 Heber would return to the Tyee Pool one last time rowing Jack to three Tyees and his mother a 57½ lb. and registering two Tyees for himself. Along with friend Jack Shaw, Heber had become a well-respected fly-fishing guide on Paul Lake and was quoted by Roderick Haig-Brown in his book "*The Western Angler*". Turns out that Haig-Brown had lived with the Smith family when he first arrived in Canada. Heber ends up establishing and operating two interior fly-fishing camps and passes away in 1975.

The "Thulin Triple" was the most impressive feat of rowing that I have witnessed. It occurred on the evening of August 23, 2012, when Mark Thulin took his 19-year-old son Brady and 79-year-old father Harry out in a northwest gale and rowed them against the wind and the flood tide to catch three Tyees. Brady would become the newest Club member, Harry would go on to win the Ballentine "Daily Double" Trophy with a 42 ½ and 32 lb. and Mark would win the guide's Dr. Jullien Benjamin rowing title, all in one tide when almost the entire fleet stayed ashore while watching the whitecaps whip Discovery Passage.

Angler & Rower Relationships

One of the more enjoyable aspects of this project was seeing the relationships that developed between the anglers and rowers. These relationships did not become apparent until I re-arranged the records in alphabetical order, first by angler name and then by rower name. Tyee Club members will always remember the details of the day they registered their first Tyee and who rowed them. This event creates a bond between the angler and rower which can last a lifetime. Joe Painter Sr. rowed Joe Hess from Montreal to his first Tyee in 1954 and the pair would fish together until Joe passed away in 1967. During that time Hess would register 42 Tyees and would win the tournament three times. Marie Odell from California had a great run with Robert "Bobby" Groulx*. For five seasons between 1954 and 1958 the pair would register 46 Tyees - most often caught on a Ghandi spoon. Then there was Betty and Elmer Davis and their guides Ross Spiers and Dan Plamondon. There are many, many other relationships which has brought a richness to the Club and its history.

** The last name Groulx is pronounced simply as "groo" (rhymes with "boo" or "too"). The letters "-lx" at the end are entirely silent.*

Time required to complete project

The catch record project required a total of 452 hours to complete. Of that time, UVic graduate students spent approximately 100 hours entering data; Professor McClenachan provided students with 12 hours of project oversight, and I spent 340 hours completing the following tasks:

Task Description	Hours
Create Excel spreadsheet and begin entering catch records	7.25
Photographing registers & uploading images to photo sharing website	14.0
Meetings, email & phone call correspondence	29.0
Preparation of progress reports to president & board of directors	16.25
Review, revise & correct UVic catch record spreadsheets	175.4
Review, comment & provide information for UVic's report	5.7
Preparation and review of my final report	85.95
Preparation of catch records & report for online publishing	6.7

Next Steps

Now that the catch records have been digitized, it is recommended that they be uploaded to the Club's website along with this report and basic instructions on how to search through the records using various criteria. The following four pdf (read only) versions of the records have been prepared:

- Records listed in chronological order
- Ordered alphabetically by the angler's last name
- Ordered alphabetically by rower's name.
- 1924-32 catch records in chronological order taken from yearbook membership rosters.

The catch records will be updated at the end of each season so they can be re-posted to the website. Suggestions on how best to present the records and search the records have been prepared and have been added as one of the report's recommendations.

The catch records consist of 7,769 entries; each of which have 10 separate pieces of information. Manually typing in 77,690 handwritten entries perfectly is not realistic or possible when you consider that the quality of handwriting for certain years was poor. I spent 175 hours reviewing entries and making corrections as needed. I still expect that the records will require further revisions and corrections and encourage Club members and the public to contact me at pfwipper@gmail.com if they see any errors or misspellings. I would be particularly grateful for any assistance filling in missing information on the 1968 records.

The Club can now begin analyzing the records and producing statistical reports, charts and graphs for a wide range of criteria. UVic's Professor McClenachan has offered to assist the Club in this regard.

This project has generated several recommendations for the Board of Directors to consider which are listed at the end of this report. Topics include:

1. Presenting catch records on Club's website
2. Preparing the catch record register & recording information
3. Completing year-end statistics
4. Club Membership Roster
5. Records Management
6. Use & distribution of the catch records

Conclusion

I did not anticipate that the project would take this long. At times it was tedious and I found the best way to get through it was to commit at least an hour of work on the records every day. Now that it is completed, I am left with a feeling of accomplishment. The Club has changed considerably since its inception, but that exciting anticipation of catching a Tyee will never get old. Many years ago, anglers focused on winning the tournament but now I would say that most anglers and rowers just enjoy the challenge of trying to catch a fish under the same regulations that have existed for over 100 years and the very real possibility of "*hooking a big one*". Tyee fishing is truly an honest way to catch a salmon and certainly one of the most pleasant and at times - exciting!

Acknowledgement

I would like to begin by thanking the University of Victoria's Dr. Loren McClenachan for making the decision to commit university research time and resources to help complete the Tyee Club's catch record project. Interpreting cursive writing records from the 1930s was not always easy, but in the end Dr. McClenachan's graduate students typed in 7769 lines of catch records. No small task which I am sure involved many late nights and lots of coffee. It has been a pleasure working with Dr. McClenachan and I am very grateful for the partnership that has developed between the University of Victoria and the Tyee Club of BC. It is rewarding to know that Club records are now being used in fisheries research.

I would like to thank the Campbell River Museum's Collections Manager, Megan Purcell, who searched, located and made available Club records for me to photograph. Megan and the Museum staff were always friendly, and I enjoyed my time in the archives.

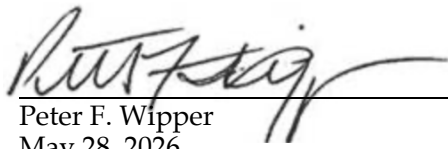
Many thanks to Karen Hutton for the time she spent teaching me how to use Microsoft Excel, showing me how to present the data and proofreading and editing the report. A word of thanks also goes out to Tyee Club collector, Neil Taberner, for providing me with newspaper clippings and photographs of old yearbooks from the 1920s and 30s.

There were a number of Tyee Club members that took the time to answer my emails and phone calls including; John Barker, RD Berger, Greg Cameron, Neil Cameron, Reid Herkes and John Todd. I particularly would like to thank Norm Lee who always had a good story for me and more than anyone, fostered my interest in Club history. Club president Roger Gage has been very supportive of the project organizing the kick-off meeting and making time to quickly respond to my various requests. Former president, Randy Killoran helped get the ball rolling many years ago when he began discussions with a UVic graduate student who had expressed interest in the catch records.

I'd like to finish by thanking Joe Painter who now lives up at Yuculta Lodge care facility with his wife Eileen. When I first visited him, he said: "*Pete, I don't have great hearing so I'm not a great listener,*

but I like telling stories." And telling stories he did! I would arrive with a list of catch record questions which invariably lead to all sorts of stories; and there were some good ones! I am going to finish this report with my favorite Joe Painter story which describes how his parents, Ned and June ended up in Campbell River.

Ned Painter was 14 years old when he began his apprenticeship at Vancouver Shipyards and went on to become a master boat builder. At the outbreak of World War 1 he was a naval engineer in Vancouver and ended up working as a shipwright during the war. Following the war, he was given a lump sum of money which he used to buy a large wood planer and bandsaw which enabled him to start his own boatyard in Port Alberni where he built and rented boats. The problem with Port Alberni was that the summer wind always came up in the afternoons which discouraged people from renting his boats. After marrying June Barclay in 1921 a friend told him about Campbell River and the tremendous Chinook and coho fishing and the fact that it was usually calm during the summer. Ned came up to Campbell River to check it out and later June joined him after making the trip by Union steamship. When June arrived on the Spit all the wildflowers were in bloom and Joe said, *"she just fell in love with the place."* Shortly thereafter in 1922 they packed up their boat building business in Port Alberni and re-built it on the inside of Tyee Spit. Two years later the Tyee Club was established and *"the rest they say, is history."*


Peter F. Wipper
May 28, 2026

/pw

Attachments:

1. Recommendations #1 - Presenting catch records on Club's website
2. Recommendations #2 - Preparing the catch record register & recording information
3. Recommendations #3 - Completing year-end statistics
4. Recommendations #4 - Club Membership Roster
5. Recommendations #5 - Records Management
6. Recommendations #6 - Use & distribution of the catch records

7. Appendix A: Photographs of catch records that were cut off during re-binding process
8. Appendix B: 1968 missing entries
9. Appendix C: Newspaper article on the arrest of Walter Miller
10. Appendix D: Catch record review process
11. Appendix E: Cursive writing diagrams from 1930s

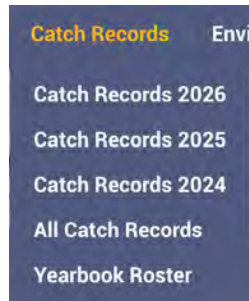
Recommendation #1

Presenting catch records on Club's website

The banner at the top of the Club's home page currently looks like this:



When you hover your cursor over Catch Records, a drop-down menu appears that looks like this:



I recommend that the drop-down menu beneath Catch Records be changed to look like this:

Catch Records
2026 with photos
2002 to 2025 w photos
1933 to 2025
1924 to 1932
Membership Roster

Two separate webpages need to be created for the 1933 to present day catch records and the 1924 to 1932 records. I recommend that the pages look like this (see next page):

Catch Records: 1933 to present day

Over a period of two years (2024-2026) the University of Victoria and the Tyee Club worked together on a project to digitize the Club's catch records. A report on the project can be found here:

Download

The digitized catch records can be viewed in the following three (3) formats:

1. Chronological order

Download

2. Alphabetically by angler's last name

Download

3. Alphabetically by rower's name

Download

The easiest way to search for names in the records is to download one of the three formats, open up the document and press the Control + F keys (Windows) or Command + F keys (Mac) which will bring up a search box where you can type in the name you are searching for.

The digitized catch records will be updated on an annual basis. Individuals are encouraged to contact Peter Wipper at pfwipper@gmail.com if they notice any errors or misspellings.

Catch Records: 1924 to 1932

The Tyee Club's first nine years of records were lost. Although there is no official documentation explaining how they were lost, it is understood that they were washed away by a major storm that hit Campbell River's Tyee Spit on December 23, 1932. Further information on this story can be found in Peter Wipper's report on the catch record project.

The only catch records that remain from 1924 to 1932 are found in the Club's membership roster which was published annually in the Club's yearbook. The roster notes the name and address of the angler, their largest Tyee and the date on which they caught it. Although these records represent only a very small fraction of the fish registered, they are never-the-less, are all that remain. With the University of Victoria's assistance, these records were digitized and can be found here in chronological order.

Download

Recommendation #2

Preparing the catch record register & recording information

How the registers were set up and completed varied. Some were easier to read than others. Column widths were often not wide enough which forced the weighmaster to squeeze information into a small space, making it difficult to read. At times, handwriting was very challenging to interpret with confidence. Based on my review, I recommend the following:

- a) Print the year and weighmaster's name on the top of each page. If the person who wrote out the records was different than the weighmaster, include their name so that they can be contacted if questions arise over the entries.
- b) **Column order**
 - Fish #:
 - Date:
 - Time:
 - First name:
 - Last name:
 - City:
 - Prov./State/Country:
 - Weight:
 - Lure:
 - Rower:
 - Area caught:
 - Hatchery fin-clipped
 - Followed by all of the other administrative columns
- c) **Date:** Write out the month (i.e. July, Aug & Sep). Do not use numerical dates because they can be interpreted different ways. For example; is 08/09/66 Aug 9th or Sep 8th?
- d) **Time:** i.e. 6:30 a.m. – when writing the time, use lower case a.m. & p.m. because capital AM & PM are easy to mix up.
- e) **Weight:** The weighmaster is currently recording fish weight in pounds and ounces; yet trophies have always been awarded on weights being recorded in ½ lb. increments. I reviewed the Club's *Official Rules & Regulations* and neither Section E3 nor E4 fully clarifies the Club policy on weighing fish for the purposes of awarding trophies. I suggest that the Board review these sections and consider revising them. Award descriptions found in the yearbooks all state “. . . angler who registers the largest fish of the season under Tyee Club Rules and Regulations.” If the weighmaster records the two largest fish of the season as weighing 42 lbs. – 9 oz and 42 lbs. - 14 oz, then it is quite clear which is the largest fish of the season. If the weighmaster instead records both fish as weighing 42½ lbs. then the first fish registered would win the tournament even though it weighed less than the second fish (based on Club policy). If the Club is going to stick with ½ lb. increments for the purposes of awarding trophies, then I recommend that the weighmaster record fish in ½ lb. increments and that the regulations be revised to reflect that. The quality, accuracy and ease of reading weigh scales have improved since the 1920s so (apart from tradition) there is nothing preventing the Club from recording fish weight in pounds and ounces and doing away with ½ lb. policy.
- f) **Angler & rower names:** print full name; do not use first initials.
- g) **Email addresses** are considered personal information. If the Club collects personal information, it has a responsibility to protect it. I suggest that the Board of Directors review the information currently being recorded in the registers and decide if the information needs to form part of the historical records or if the information should be kept somewhere else. If the information is not being used, then why is the information being collected? The Club has a responsibility to comply with the provincial government's *Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA)* which sets the rules on how non-profit organizations collect, use and disclose personal information.

- h) Although they can and should be consulted, the weighmaster should not be responsible for setting up the columns and **preparing the register**. That responsibility should fall to someone on the Board of Directors who is familiar with the Club's catch record registers.
- i) Columns that record **administrative information** (such as buttons purchased) should not precede information on the actual catch.
- j) During the season the Club president or secretary should occasionally review the catch record register to ensure that it is being completed accurately and legibility; particularly if a new weighmaster has been hired.
- k) The biggest challenge facing this project was **interpreting cursive handwriting** from the 1930s, 40s and 50s. 1949 and 1950 were the most challenging. Interpreting names involved having to study cursive writing guides from the 1930s, studying the person's individual style of the handwriting, comparing previous records and occasional guesswork. Recording information was much easier when the person responsible to record it had legible handwriting. Weighmasters may or may not have those skills plus they may be rushing to record information on a busy night where they are expected to carry out several tasks along with general ambassador duties. I came across a large number of names and addresses that weighmasters had incorrectly recorded. In order to address this situation, the Club may want to consider using a separate form that is jointly completed by both the weighmaster, who records information on the catch and the angler who records their name, address & contact information and then signs the form confirming that the information is correct. Then during a quiet time of the day, the information is transferred to the register by the weighmaster or someone else with legible handwriting. The completed form would be kept on file for future reference. It appears that the only reason the angler is asked to sign the register is to confirm that the recorded information is correct.
- l) As mentioned previously, people viewing the catch records are encouraged to contact me if they find errors and miss-spellings at pfwipper@gmail.com

Recommendation #3

Completing year-end statistics

At the end of each season, it was standard practice for the weighmaster to provide a written summary of who won each award along with catch statistics. This information would be written in the register and (starting in 1951) signed off by the weighmaster as being true and accurate. These season summaries were regularly done between the years 1935 and 1960 but since then they have been inconsistent. Some years there were no summaries, while other years there was just a list of award winners.

I recommend that this practice of recording and signing off at the end of each season be reinstated as one of the weighmaster's responsibilities. The weighmaster should have his calculations checked and initialed by the president or Club director. Along with listing the award winners, the summary should include statistics such as:

- Number of Tyees registered
- Largest fish
- Average weight
- Number of new members
- Number of rookie rowers
- Number of spoon caught fish
- Number of plug caught fish
- Number of fish caught in morning, evening & mid-day
- Any notable fish or achievements

Recommendation #4

Club Membership Roster

When I compared the Club's existing membership roster to the new digitized catch records I came across a significant number of errors, misspellings, duplicate entries and missing members. The existing roster needs to be replaced. When the roster was originally created, it contained an angler's full mailing address so that members could communicate with one other. The roster has always included the angler's largest fish. Continually updating the roster to include the angler's largest catch and their latest place of residence was and has been an administrative nuisance. Now that anyone can access an angler's full catch history on the Club's website, I no longer feel it is necessary to update the roster with the angler's largest catch. I recommend that the existing membership roster be replaced with a new roster that notes:

- name of the angler when they became a member
- where angler was living when they became a member
- date on which the angler became a member
- size of the fish that granted them Club membership

This would eliminate the need to update member information and would only require new members to be added to the roster. It would be quite easy to do by going through the catch records arranged alphabetically, selecting the angler's first fish and then adding the 1924-32 records. If the Board adopts this recommendation, then the new revised roster should include a note explaining the changes and where an angler's largest catch can be found.

Recommendation #5

Records Management

- a) Appoint a member as records manager who would be responsible to maintain Club records and make them available when requested.
- b) Initiate a project to scan, digitize and catalogue all Club records and photographs.
- c) Maintain a records inventory which is updated on an annual basis, which lists all Club records and where they are kept.
- d) Rent a safety deposit box in a bank's fireproof vault to store external hard drive(s) that contains the Club's records.
- e) Maintain and annually update three (3) external hard drives containing identical copies of club records including: catch records, photographs, AGM minutes, financial statements, yearbook files, etc. One hard drive is kept in the safety deposit box, the other two are kept with the records manager and Club president.
- f) At the end of each season the catch records from that season are photographed, transferred to an external hard drive and stored in safety deposit box.

Recommendation #6

Use & distribution of the catch records

Apart from the University of Victoria, it is recommended that the Club does not distribute its digital Microsoft Excel file of the catch records to any person or organization. The records have value and should be maintained by the Club for official Club use. Persons expressing interest in the catch records should be directed to the Club's website where pdf copies will be available.

APPENDIX A:

Photographs of catch records that were cut off from the bottom of the page during the re-binding process.

1935 August 14-15th

Mr. A. N. Holverson	Bremerton, Wash.	Carl Erickson	46 1/2
Mrs. A. N. Holverson	Vancouver, B.C.	Dave McDonald	36
Dr. R. L. Schutt	Vancouver, B.C.	Ed. Torneck	39 1/2
Mr. B. Meachcote	Bremerton, Wash.	Thor. Erickson	37
Mr. H. M. Kirkland	San Francisco	H. H. Bidcock	45
	Vancouver, B.C.	Seq. Bidcock (In)	27 1/2
		Mr. McDonald (B)	45 1/2

1939 August 27th

27 H. Leavitt	Montreal Quebec	27 C. L. Lary	34	
27 R. E. Hunter Jr.	505 South Orange Pasadena	George Perkins	32 1/2	B.
27 W. H. Wilson	Seattle Wash.	Reg. H. Bidcock	40 40	
27 Mrs. J. J. J.	2745 - Wolf St. Calgary	Ed. Torneck	38	B
27 E. Kirchberg		Thor. Erickson	30 1/2	
		Jack Perkins	42	

1942 August 26th

22 Mrs. H. E. Kop	1345 W. 57th	Vancouver B.C.	Hennis Butte	31 1/2	15
24 Mrs. Dorothy Pinchard	Langley	B.C.	Frank Shaw	38	
25 B. N. Wolverson	Vancouver	B.C.	Tom Perkins	30	3/6
25 W. O. Lancaster	3356 Shaw St.	Seattle Wn.	Reg Bidcock	40 1/2 - 35 1/2	31 B.B.
26 Mark Bellack	Naranda	Calif.	Cecil Smith	30 1/2	
26 H. Adams Jr.	Langley	B.C.	J. Vanstone	37 1/2 - 73	
				42 1/2	

1945 August 13th

13 J. T. Steffen	3337 Hunter Blvd.	Seattle Wn.	H.M.	Bob Sealow	44 1/2
13 W. T. Parker	Bremerton Wn.	H.M.		Carl Erickson	45
13 Mr. Ray Schutt				Thor. Erickson	45 1/2

1946 August 10th

10 A. N. Holverson	Vancouver	4:30 PM	Boyes Lundellom	3/6	35 1/2
10 Wallace H. Michlan	Victoria Wn.	4:30 PM	J. Cecil Smith		32 1/2
10 Gen. E. Nelson	Seattle Wn.	4:30 PM	A. Erickson		42
10 J. J. J.					

APPENDIX B: 1968 missing entries (page 1 of 2)

TIME	N. NAME	ADDRESS IN FULL	NEW CLASS	WEIGHT	LENGTH	WING	TAIL	SPREAD	SEX	AGE	DATE
10:50 AM	1 MISS PINKSHAW	302 CARSTOCK VENTURA - CALIFORNIA	✓	4 1/2	3 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	2/19/68
8:35 AM	2 EDWARD SPINASH	43 DE WIT ST. GIPSFIELD - N.J.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	3/18/68
11:15 AM	3 MRS F. WARD WORTH	BUSS. LOVELL RD. CONCORD MASS.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	3/18/68
11:30 AM	4 MRS CHASE	20 MURPHY ST. B.R.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	3/18/68
1:30 PM	5 LARRY CHEN	2344 BEACH DRIVE VICTORIA	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	4/18/68
2:00 PM	6 MRS GEORGE PENNEY	3815 STRINGS HOUSE LAKE C.R. OHIO	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	7 DE BENJAMIN	1310 PETERSON ROAD C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	8 MRS J.L. EBERT	1310 PETERSON ROAD C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	9 MRS J.L. EBERT	1310 PETERSON ROAD C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	10 MRS R. MOTION	1420 175 AVENUE C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	11 MRS R. MOTION	1420 175 AVENUE C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	12 MRS ART BAHUN	531 MINNA GATE C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	13 MRS ANNAMIA VANSTONE	KURAL ROUTE 2 C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	14 MRS ALFRED VANSTONE	KURAL ROUTE 2 C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	15 JOHN EVERTS	410 MILLSIDE AVENUE C.R. VALLEY CAL.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	16 WALTER SHUTTS	1205 KLINE ST. CORVALLIS OREGON	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	17 CLEO SMITH	1846 EAST HUBBLELL PHOENIX (CZ)	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	18 WALTER SHUTTS	1205 KLINE PLACE CORVALLIS OREGON	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	19 MRS D. SPIERS	710 WESTMERE C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	20 ROSS SPIERS	131 THULIN ST. C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	21 MRS WALTER	12051 WOODLAWN TRESTIN CAL.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	22 D.W. SHARPE	1145 MURPHY C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	23 R.S. SHARPE	13 SOUTH MURPHY C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	24 MRS R. PERRY	2331 EAGLEY ROAD C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	25 MICHAEL BAKER	2222 LANSLOW AVE. WEST VANCOUVER	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	26 MRS J.L. EBERT	1310 PETERSON ROAD. C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	27 MRS KARIN	BIGLER ROUTE 2 BOX 209 TULARE CAL.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	28 MRS CURRIE	SEAVIEW MARCA C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	29 MRS E. PARKER	342 BIGH. C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	30 MRS W. SHUTTS	1205 KLINE PLACE CORVALLIS ORE.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	31 D.S. DOREMAN	CORNWELL ON HUDSON NY	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	32 MRS SMITH	1846 EAST HUBBLELL PHOENIX B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	33 MRS SPEARS	131 THULIN STREET C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	34 MRS GLENN K. SUGENOTO	R.R. 1 BOX 21. HAWAII	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	35 MRS JEFF EVANS	455 CAPITAL MALL SAC. CAL.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	36 MRS R.B. GORDON	1040 ISLAND HIGHWAY C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	37 MRS J.C. GORDON	1040 ISLAND HIGHWAY C.R. B.C.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	38 MRS C.W. SCHEDLER	402 STATIM AVE. OAKLAND CAL.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	39 MRS HANCOCK	35 SOUTH MURPHY W. PEG. MAN.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	40 MRS W. A. POMMER	384 WINTERLEY ST. W. PEG. MAN.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	41 MRS T. WHITRIDGE	3449 PACIFIC SAN FRANCISCO CAL.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68
2:00 PM	42 MRS W. MILKAS	12751 WOODLAWN AVE. TUSTIN CAL.	✓	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	✓	✓	5/18/68

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WIFE IS DROWNED; HUSBAND ARRESTED

Mrs. Walter Miller Lost Her
Life While Crossing Lake
Washington.

SEATTLE, Oct. 14.—While policemen and deputy sheriffs dragged Lake Washington this morning for the body of Mrs. Bertha Elinor Miller, wife of Walter P. Miller, former deputy sheriff and official photographer with Explorer Dr. Cook on the Mount McKinley expedition in 1906, the husband is held a prisoner at the county jail.

Mrs. Miller was drowned about 1 o'clock Monday afternoon while she and her husband were crossing the lake to a sanitarium to prove or disprove Miller's accusation that his wife was a drug addict. She was a former wife of Mayor George Baker.

Miller was grilled by the police after his arrest but satisfied them he was blameless of his wife's death. Two hours after Miller was released by the police he was rearrested by deputy sheriffs who asserted that they found bloodstains inside and outside the launch in which Miller and his wife were riding.

The deputy sheriffs took Miller from his room at the New Arctic Hotel and lodged him in the county jail. He is held incommunicado. No charge has been filed against him.

According to Miller, he was adjusting a faulty spark on the launch engine when he felt the boat list sharply.

"The first I knew that my wife was overboard was when I turned around from the engine and saw her in the water," Miller told the police after the tragedy.

"I slowed down the boat and turned her around. I was nervous and slowed down too late and the launch ran right over her. I tried to grab her as she was passing under the launch, but I failed. Then I heard a kick from the propeller and I ran to the stern, thinking she had been caught in the propeller. All I found was her coat, caught in the propeller blades. I never saw her again."

APPENDIX D:

Catch Record Review Process

After receiving UVic's Excel file I started the process of reviewing the catch records to ensure there were no errors. This process took much longer than I had anticipated (175.4 hrs) and involved a series of reviews which included:

- a) Re-sorting the records by angler's name to ensure that the spelling was correct and consistent. In the 1930s and 40s it was common practice to identify an individual by their first initial(s) which required revisions to confirm that every individual member of the Tyee Club had only one name spelling. Once revisions/corrections were completed, I re-sorted and reviewed the records again to ensure that nothing had been missed.
- b) Re-sorting the records by rower's name using the same review process that I used for the angler's names.
- c) Re-sorting the records into chronological order and began the long process of checking every entry of the UVic spreadsheet with photographs of the actual registers. This review required that I study cursive writing guides from the 1930s (Appendix E) and study the handwriting style of each weighmaster. This review identified thousands of errors and misspellings. The years with the worst handwriting resulted in the highest number of errors. Corrections were required as a result of:
 - i) Poor handwriting by the weighmaster
 - ii) Incorrect interpretation of cursive writing (i.e. Ts often recorded as Js)
 - iii) Mistakes and omissions
 - iv) Spelling mistakes by the weighmasters
- d) When I re-sorted the catch records in alphabetical order for a second time, I noticed that fish caught by certain anglers were not listed in chronological order. I eventually figured out that many of the first names had trailing spaces which the computer read as different names. Once I eliminated all the trailing spaces the angler's catch fell into the proper chronological order.
- e) Carried out a final review of both angler's and rower's names.
- f) Reviewed, edited & positioned all columns.
- g) Carried out a review of the 1924-32 catch records to ensure they were accurate.
- h) The final review involved checking the digitized records in relation to the Club's existing membership roster and completing the necessary revisions. I came across a significant number of errors, misspellings, duplicate entries and missing members in the existing membership roster and have recommended that it be replaced.

APPENDIX E: 1930s Canadian cursive handwriting guides

