



Newsletter of the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association VOL. XXXIII No. 11 November

NOVEMBER MEETING WHERE GOOD PADDLING INSTRUCTION CAN TAKE YOU

Greg Paquin, Kayak Waveology

7 pm Monday, November 15, 2010 Jewish Community Center, 401 Elmgrove Avenue, Providence



Greg Paquin of Kayak Waveology is a British Canoe Union (BCU) Coach 3 and 5 Star Sea paddler, and an American Canoe Association (ACA) Advanced Open Water instructor. He has been sea kayaking since 1989 and teaching & coaching since 2003.

"My kayaking travels take me up and down the East coast and to UK waters in search of challenging conditions and great paddlers with the same passion. I love to venture out on a big day to be part of the sea state, constantly learning more of the forever changing sea conditions. Having this knowledge isn't just for myself, but to pass on effectively to my students, to educate skills, seamanship, and most important, safety."

Join Greg for a talk and slide show presentation, including his recent trip to the Canadian Maritimes during Hurricane Earl.

Directions to the Jewish Community Center:

From Rt. 95 South: take Exit 24 & turn left onto Branch Avenue. (From Rt. 95N Northbound take Exit 24 & turn right onto Branch Ave.) Cross North Main Street at the lights and continue up the hill (past Kentucky Fried Chicken). Cross Hope St. and continue one block to the end at Morris Ave. Go left, then immediately right onto Sessions St., then down the hill to Elmgrove Ave. The JCC will be across the street. Please use the back entrance. Staff will buzz the door open. From there, take the elevator up to the second floor.







CLUBEVENTS&ACTIVITIES



RICKA Flatwater Trips

This completes our "official" season for Flatwater paddles untill spring. Please be sure to check the Flatwater <u>message board</u> weekly for unofficial paddles and events organized by other paddlers. If you would like to offer a paddle, hike, snowshoe trip, geocaching day etc... please feel free to post it on the board!

For **details and directions** go to <u>http://www.ricka-flatwater.org</u>. Please contact the listed trip organizer for details if you do not have web access. **Changes and cancellations** to trips will be posted on the flatwater message board. Please check the board before leaving for any trip.

October 30th Halloween Paddle on Norton Reservior

and pot luck. Meet at 1:00pm for a 1:30 launch. Join us for a beautiful paddle on Norton Reservoir and a get together at Lee Parham's waterfront home after the paddle. Bring a dish to share. Trip is suitable for all. Frequent Eagle sightings on the Reservoir. Costume or funky hat optional. GPS coordinates are N 41 59.420 W071 11.792 Trip Organizer: Lee Parham. 508-286-5999 leeparham@myway.com

October 30th <u>Pawcatuck River</u> Bradford Landing Meet at 10:30 Launching at 10:50. Trip organizer: Mark Roberts 401-533-1883 <u>hrmmark@gmail.com</u>. Suitable for all. Bring a lunch. N41°24.370' W71°44.895' This section of the Pawcatuck River has plenty of deep water.

November 13th, rain date of November 14th! <u>Turkey</u> Paddle, Wallum Lake, Douglas State Park, Douglas,

MA Meet at 1:00 pm for a 1:30 launch. Wallum Lake is

(Continued on page 3)

The PADDLER is published monthly except December by the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association, Inc. It is not available by subscription, but is included in the cost of membership in the Association.

EDITOR

Catherine Radcliffe 508-369-3028 <u>newsletter@ricka.org</u> 573 Rockdale Avenue New Bedford MA 02740

MEMBERSHIP

Jim Cole 401-377-1033 jimcole@hotmail.com P.O. Box 163 Wood River Junction RI 02894



Sea Kayaking

www.rickaseakayaking.org

Sea kayak trips will now be posted on the Show & Go Message Board, <u>http://rickaseakayaking.org/forums/index.php?board=2.0</u> Changes & cancellations due to weather or other conditions will be posted on the Changes & Cancellations Message Board by 8 am the day of the trip: <u>http://rickaseakayaking.org/forums/</u> index.php?board=3.0

Kayaking on the ocean is an inherently risky endeavor. Before choosing to participate in a group trip, consider the **Trip** Level(s): <u>http://rickaseakayaking.org/levels.htm</u>.

Check the **marine forecast**; adverse weather/sea conditions can increase the difficulty by one Trip Level or more: <u>http://</u>www.weather.gov/om/marine/zone/east/boxmz.htm

Check the RICKA **Sea Kayaking Paddling Basics**, for more information about group trips and boat/gear requirements:

http://rickaseakayaking.org/basics.htm.

Whitewater

Check the Whitewater Message Board for trips: <u>http://members.boardhost.com/RI Whitewater</u>

EXECUTIVEBOARD

Next meeting: Wednesday, Nov 24, 2010, 7 pm Call or email Mark Roberts (see masthead) for location. All members are welcome to attend.

RHODE ISLAND CANOE & KAYAK ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT.....Mark Roberts.....401-533-1883.....hrmmark@gmail.com VICE PRESIDENT.....Andrew (AJ) Barbato.....401-568-3960.....android2@earthlink.net SECRETARY.....Barbara August.....401-735-3344.....b.august@cox.net TREASURER.....Charlie Larocque, CPA.....401-822-5425.....charlie2051@aol.com MEMBERS AT LARGE.......Mike Bussell.....401-568-8605.....canoedad@cox.net Bill Brown.....401-767-7057.....kayakbill@aol.com Benn Thompson.....401-647-5887.....stonefoxfarm@juno.com Andy Viera.....andyv51@hotmail.com COMPETITION.....Position Open CONSERVATION.....Position Open FLATWATER.....Cheryl Thompson Cameron.....401-647-5887.....stonefoxfarm@juno.com LIBRARIAN.....Elijah Swift.....401-294-6043.....librarian@ricka.org PUBLICITY.....Jim Cole.....401-377-1033.....jimcole@hotmail.com SAFETY & EDUCATION.....Cat Radcliffe......508-369-3028.....catherineradcliffe@earthlink.net SEA KAYAK.....Carleen McOsker.....508-636-0546.....carleenmco@charter.net

WEBMASTER.....Alan August.....401-725-3344.....webmaster@ricka.org WHITEWATER.....Erik Eckilson.....401-765-1741.....eckilson@cox.net



CLUBEVENTS&ACTIVITIES (ctd)



2011 Rolling Clinics

Dates, times and locations are still being finalized for RICKA's annual rolling clinics, but full details and registration forms will be published in the December newsletter.

Clinic I will be held in January and Clinic II in February 2011.

Each clinic consists of two 2-hour sessions held a week apart. Boats, paddles & helmets are available, but participants should supply their own PFDs.

Costs:

2-week clinic: \$55 per person

Practice (no instruction): \$15 per 2-week session

<u>Insurance</u>: There is no event fee for current ACA members. Non-ACA members may choose a \$5 event fee per 2-week session, or join the American Canoe Association at discounted annual rates of \$30 individual, \$40 family (regularly \$40 and \$60).

Instructors wanted!

Please contact Cat Radcliffe at catherineradcliffe@earthlink.net or 508-369-3028.





Flatwater (Continued from page 2)

located on the border of RI and Ma., has crystal clear water, and is an easy paddle. Any size boat is OK, suitable for all levels. Dinner after at the waterfront Lodge Restaurant in Webster MA (148 Gore Road, Webster).

Come for the paddle, come for the dinner or both. RSVP required by November 11th if you are planning on coming to the restaurant. **Note: A wet suit or dry suit is recommended or a change of clothes in a waterproof dry bag is required.** GPS coordinates: N42 01 301 W071 46 073 Trip Organizer: Louise Price 508-441-7279 weezrad@yahoo.com



Just a reminder that there will be no club meetings in December and no January newsletter.

Announcements for club meetings held in January will be published in the December newsletter.











A Cold-Water Omnibus Staying Alive When the Thermometer Dives By Tamia Nelson

tamia@paddling.net

It's not likely to make it into the nightly news anytime soon, but there's a big story out there: General Winter's forces have invaded Canoe Country. In my corner of northern New York, the <u>wetlands</u> and small <u>ponds</u> that are my favorite summertime haunts have frozen over, while the margins of many of the big lakes are already sheathed in ice. The rivers still run free, of course—but there's a translucent skin on the edge of every bay, and there's ice in plenty of the eddies, too, not to mention the slippery glaze that now sheathes the exposed crowns of most midstream rocks. In short, this is the start of the Season of Hard Water and the end of the paddling year. The <u>winter of our discontent</u> is upon us.

Or is it? Not necessarily. A few hearty souls simply refuse to chill out. For them...

Winter's Just Another Word

And they'll keep paddling as long as there's open water to be found anywhere close to home. I once belonged to this indomitable cohort, in fact. I took pride in being the last one to hang up my PFD—and the first to take it down again. I even managed to paddle right through the Adirondack winter on a couple of occasions. Admittedly, I was helped along by unseasonably warm weather both times I did it. (Eager as I was to stay out on the water, I wasn't prepared to trade my Tripper for an ice-breaker.) That was then. Now I leave my boats in port from December to April. I guess I've grown more timid. Or maybe I've grown wiser. Whatever the explanation, I no longer challenge General Winter's occupation of my home waters. I play a waiting game, instead. After all, I figure time is on my side.

That said, there are a lot of canoeists and kayakers living on the southern fringes of Canoe Country and beyond. These lucky folks are usually out of reach of General Winter's army of occupation. They have cold water to contend with, true enough, but their local lakes and rivers stay mostly ice-free all winter long. What about them? Can they really paddle year-round without putting their lives on the line? Or do the risks outweigh the rewards? As is so often the case, there's no clear-cut answer. Each of us-children excepted, obviously-has to make his or her own calculation, balancing threats against thrills and arriving at a (probably unique) level of acceptable risk. All I can do, all any paddlesport hack can do, is to point out dangers where they exist, and suggest ways to avoid the avoidable. And that's what Farwell and I have attempted over the years we've been writing In the Same Boat, as a glance at our archives will show. But with nearly 500 of our articles online, it's not always easy for curious readers to find what they're looking for.

This was brought home to me recently when I received a letter from a first-year kayaker:

Good Morning, Tamia-



Weather has turned chilly here in South Carolina, and will stay that way until March or so. I'd like to keep paddling on the lakes and ponds, though, and therefore have given thought to a wetsuit for safety. My Advanced Elements Expedition kayak is pretty darn steady, but who knows what can happen, especially because I'm usually alone?

Drysuits look nice, but are well beyond my limited financial resources. Maybe a drytop and drypants? Well, that's still pretty pricey for me.

So, a "farmer john" wetsuit came to mind. What do you think for my kind of easy-water paddling and limited expertise, after only a season of kayaking? I saw an NRS 3-mm farmer john advertised for around USD115 or so, and I've found even cheaper ones at some other places. Would that do the trick? With some warmer layers? Best wishes,

Bob

Tough questions, those. Bob's note is a pretty good summary of the dilemmas confronting many cold-season paddlers. Topflight, stateof-the-art gear can minimize many risks, but it's often prohibitively expensive. And while it's never a good idea to paddle alone—this is doubly true in winter!—not everyone can find suitable companions...or wants to, for that matter. Some canoeists and kayakers simply prefer the joys of solitude to the comforts of conviviality. Maybe Bob is one of these.

OK. With the proviso that each of us decides for himself how to evaluate risk and reward, let's address the points Bob raises in his letter, in the hope that some discussion of the relevant issues will make his decision easier. It remains *his* decision, of course. That said, here are the major considerations:

- ✦ Water temperature
- ✦ Outfitting
- ✦ Skill level
- ✦ Going it alone

Water temperature heads the list. By far and away the biggest danger in cold-season paddling is...

The Risk of Hypothermia

Here's the bad news: Cold kills. For humans, as for all other mammals, heat is life—provided we don't get too hot, that is. Our bodies have a pretty narrow operating-temperature range. If the temperature at our body's core surges too high, the result is entirely predictable. We die. And if it drops too low? No surprise there. Here, too, we die. Now guess which of these problems is more likely in winter? Right!

This isn't much of a mystery, of course. The water is colder in winter, for one thing. But that's not all. Water is a very efficient tool for transferring heat away from the human body at any season of the year, which explains why it's such a joy to go for a swim on a hot day. You cool off even in water that feels pleasantly warm to the skin. Yet while water's efficient heat-transfer properties are wel-







come on sultry summer afternoons, the vital fluid shows another face in winter. Stick your hand in a basin of ice-water, and your first reaction is to pull it out immediately. Cold water hurts. And that's just a taster. Imagine the pain you'll feel if you capsize in a freezing-but not yet entirely frozen-river on a cold winter's day. In fact, there doesn't have to be ice on the water for the agony of immersion to be the last thing you ever feel. Death can come quickly, and in the most unlikely places. This is well illustrated by one of Farwell's early misadventures. It happened on a little stream in April. The sun was shining. It was a warm spring day. So warm, in fact, that Farwell had stripped down to his shorts and a t-shirt. Then his companion (not me; someone else, a novice paddler on a first outing in moving water) misjudged the force of an eddy. Unfortunately, Farwell's attention was elsewhere. It was only a Class II rapids, after all, and it was a beautiful spring day. That's Farwell's explanation, at any rate. The upshot? He and his companion were in the water before he could bring his brace into play. The little stream was high and fast, not yet in flood but still swollen with snowmelt, and the water temperature was only about 35° Fahrenheit. Farwell remembers how it felt when the water enfolded him in its icy embrace. Cold fire seemed to shoot though his body. He gasped uncontrollably. (Luckily, he was wearing his life vest, and his mouth and nose were both above the water's surface. If they hadn't been, his heart might have stopped then and there.) For long seconds, his arms and legs refused to move, and when at last they began to stir, they were sluggish, weak, and unresponsive. His companion suffered the same fate, and it took them several agonizing minutes to cover the ten yards to shore. It was exhausting work. They crawled the last few feet, and more than an hour passed before they were ready to head back out on the water.

There's no doubt that this was a very close-run thing indeed, as a celebrated general is supposed to have said about his most famous victory. If the day hadn't been unseasonably warm, if the sun hadn't been shining bright, and if both Farwell and his companion hadn't been young and fit, with the shore only ten yards away, they might not have lived to tell the tale. They had no matches and no thermos, and their spare clothes had been swept downstream. In short, they made just about every mistake that they could have made, except for one vital thing: they had life vests, and they were both wearing them. It was a salutary lesson, and a humbling experience. Farwell will never forgot it. He needs no convincing that cold can kill.

It kills by stealth, as well. You don't have to capsize in freezing water to become dangerously chilled. You just have to sit out in a cold rain for long enough, or put off donning that extra sweater you know you need—maybe it's buried in the bottom of your pack and there's no icefree eddy nearby in which to park your boat—until your hands are trembling and your wits have deserted you. Farwell, who seems to have had a knack for narrow escapes, once became so addled on a solo winter climb that he forgot how to tell time. He'd been shivering for what seemed like forever, and he remembers looking at his watch to estimate how much further he had to go, only to realize with a start that he no longer knew which hand told the hour. (This was in the days before digital watches.) Fortunately, he didn't have much further to scramble, and there was a mountain inn at the end of the trail. He finished the climb, staggered into the inn's restaurant, and downed three large mugs of hot cocoa in as many minutes. His hands were shaking so badly that he spilled much of the first mug over his anorak, but this didn't bother him. He found the warmth agreeable, and the other two mugs went where they were supposed to go. The moral of the story? General Winter has many weapons in his arsenal. Some kill quickly. Some kill slowly. It makes no difference in the end. But you *can* fight back. See "<u>Winning the Cold</u> <u>War</u>" for some ideas, beginning with a few hints on...

What the Well-Dressed Paddler Wears

This isn't a question of fashion. Nor is it a concern only for paddlers who live in the northern latitudes I call (a little whimsically, I admit) "Canoe Country." There's plenty of cold water to be found south of the Mason-Dixon line. Not even southern California is immune. As Farwell can attest, it's *water* temperature that matters most. And a t-shirt and shorts won't hack it. Start with a well-fitting <u>PFD</u>. They're called life vests for a reason. They do more than keep you afloat. They insulate, too. But your PFD is just the foundation of your cold-water wardrobe. If the water temperature is any lower than comfortably warm—and even then, if you'll be venturing far offshore—you need more. There are really



only three good choices: a full drysuit, a drytop and drypants combo, or a wetsuit.

Drysuits are simply waterproof garments with watertight seals at neck, wrists, and ankles. Drytops and drypants are similar, though each offers only half-body coverage. (Paddling jackets are lightduty drytops. Call them semi-drytops. Some have waterproof gaskets at the wrists, but few have neck gaskets. They're intended for cool but not cold conditions.) The drytop-drypants combo is arguably more comfortable than the drysuit—you can tailor your protection to conditions—but the overlapping waist seal can prove







SAFETY





troublesome, and it remains a potential failure point. All "dry" shells work by keeping water out of your insulation. In other words, they're only as good as their seals, and only as warm as the clothing you wear underneath them. Synthetic fleece tops and bottoms are favorite undergarments. They're cozy and light, and if a little water seeps in around the seals, they still retain some of their insulating properties. What's the bottom line on drysuits (and drytop-drypants combos)? So long as their seals are intact and any waterproof zippers live up to their billing, they make ideal cold-water wear. They allow great freedom of movement, while minimizing cold shock in a capsize. After all, they're dry. And so will you be, if you wear one. Except for your sweat, that is. Drysuits can get pretty steamy, and some folks (I'm one) can't stand the constricting neck gaskets. Worse yet, a lot of people find the high prices almost as much of a shock as a sudden capsize in icy water. Classified ads sometimes yield real bargains, but watch out for blown seams, chafed fabric, wonky zips, and torn gaskets. A leaky drysuit is worse than useless. Buyer beware.

How about a neoprene wetsuit, then? They're cheaper than drysuits, and they're available in a bewildering array of sizes, cuts, and thicknesses, from sleeveless shorty "farmer johns," made with 0.5-mm neoprene, to 3-mm-thick full suits. Still, choice is a good thing, right? And it seems like there's a wetsuit for every purpose. Downsides? I can think of three. Wetsuits aren't exactly comfortable. I've never owned one that didn't chafe me somewhere, and full wetsuits make me feel about as lithe and supple as the <u>Michelin Man</u>. Moreover, there's an unavoidable tradeoff between comfort and protection. Thin suits and shorties allow you to move freely, but offer little protection in freezing temperatures. (The armpits are an especially vulnerable area, and sleeveless farmer johns leave them exposed.) Full suits made from thick neoprene are warmer, but they're terribly restrictive. Farwell once had a ¼-inch (6-mm) full suit. He said he'd rather wear it in the water than in a boat.

And then there's the problem of cold shock. Wetsuits are—you guessed it—wet. Water infiltrates the narrow space between suit and skin. The neoprene now serves as an insulting barrier, allowing the trapped water to warm rapidly to body temperature and slowing heat loss from the body's core. So far, so good, but the warming doesn't occur quickly enough to prevent cold shock, with predictable results. The first minute after a capsize is likely to be mighty unpleasant for wetsuit-clad paddlers, who'll most likely spend the time gasping and flailing about.

In short, you pays your money and you takes your choice. Sometimes minor considerations loom large. Many drysuits now come with relief zips. That eases the difficulties attendant on "<u>pumping ship</u>" while under way, though <u>women</u> will find the necessary paraphernalia awk-ward, to say the least. Unfortunately, relief zips aren't yet universal on wetsuits. This requires making alternative arrangements when caught short. It's something you get used to. Well, some of us do, at any rate. It's an unpleasant throwback to our days in diapers, but at least it's warm.

The same thing can't be said for paddlers' extremities. No boater is ready for cold water if he hasn't taken steps to protect his <u>hands</u>, <u>feet</u>, and (most importantly) <u>head</u>. While fleece hoods and balaclavas are better than nothing, a neoprene hood provides the ultimate in survival headgear, insulating your scalp and neck, as well as keeping cold water from being forced into your ears if your head is immersed. This can trigger attacks of vertigo in susceptible individuals, and vertigo isn't something you need when you're upside down in the water, trying to roll back. Nose clips are worth considering, too, at least in extreme conditions, since a jet of ice water up the nose can sometimes make an unlucky paddler's heart stop beating, a phenomenon variously known as "vagal inhibition" or "reflex cardiac arrest." By either name, it's a disheartening prospect.

One last consideration: If your cold-season paddling trips will take you to or through places frequented by hunters, be sure that your outer garments advertise your humanity in no uncertain terms. <u>Hunter Orange</u> isn't just for hunters, after all.

Now let's turn to the third and fourth points raised by Bob's letter: **Are You Experienced?**

And is it ever safe to go alone? These questions are related. We all begin as novices. None of us is born with a paddle in her hand, and the only way to advance from novice to expert is to get out on the water as often as possible. When the great bicycle racer Eddy Merckx was asked for the secret of success in the Tour de France, he replied simply, "Ride lots." The same can be said of paddling. There's no royal road to expertise. You have to paddle lots. But there's a caveat. It won't help much if your quest for experience gets you killed. Coldwater paddling is always a calculated risk, and experienced paddlers can do the calculations better than beginners. Are you experienced enough? Only you can make that call, though an expert companion can offer some guidance-if he (or she) can be persuaded to speak frankly, that is. Bear one thing in mind, in any case: everyone makes mistakes, and the margin for error is less in cold water than it is when the sun shines and the water's warm. Much less. Then there's the question of age. Paddlers past the first flush of youth face even longer odds, I'm afraid. Like it or not, we grow less resilient as the years pass by.











Going alone raises the odds against you even more. Experts sometimes make extended solo trips on frigid water, but these are expeditions, not casual jaunts. Old hands understand just how narrow the line between life and death can be in the cold, and how important it is to have companions standing by when things go wrong. *Less experienced boaters should venture out alone in winter only with the utmost circumspection, and with a full knowledge of the possible consequences*. Novices who like to keep on the right side of the odds are well advised to paddle in company. <u>Solo paddling</u> is best left to experts, in other words, and even they should probably think twice. Canoeists and kayakers who prize solitude more than safety might wish to weigh the words of Andrew Marvell before setting out for a solo trip on winter waters: "The grave's a fine and private place..." 'Nuff said?

Of course, having experienced companions is no guarantee that things will always go well. ALL paddlers, whatever their skill level, should heed the familiar advice of Baden-Powell:

Be Prepared!

This embraces all the things we've already talked about: dressing for the water temperature, wearing a PFD, and having a realistic understanding of your limitations. But it also means carrying the <u>Ten Essentials</u>—and adding a few more items in winter. A <u>thermos</u> containing something <u>hot and sweet</u> (and *nonalcoholic*), say, plus a space blanket and a <u>poncho</u> or <u>tarp</u> that you can use to craft a makeshift shelter. A cell phone or VHF transceiver could be a



life-saver, too—check coverage before you set out!—and it doesn't hurt to have a <u>whistle and a package of flares</u>. And then there are the *other* Ten Essentials, the intangible qualities that Farwell wrote about in the two articles entitled "<u>From Curiosity to Confidence</u>" and "<u>The Final Five</u>." These may be the most important essentials of all. What else? It goes without saying that your boat and gear have to be in top shape. A <u>prefloat check</u> is imperative, as is a written <u>float plan</u>, left in the care of someone who can be relied on to summon assistance if you're overdue. This is especially important if you choose to go it alone out on the water.

Is it time to surrender to General Winter? That depends. The Season of Hard Water sees most paddlers turn to <u>other outdoor activities</u> or spend more time <u>at the gym</u>. Still, some paddlers will keep going right through this year and into the next, even in Canoe Country. For them, the benefits outweigh the risks. If you're one of these hardy souls, good. But it's vital to remember that you're putting your life on the



line. You have to hedge your bets. Study to be safe. Dress properly. Keep your gear in good condition. Know your limits. And most important of all, know when to say NO. Sometimes staying on shore is the smartest thing.

In conclusion, here's...

A Little List...

For your consideration—a few articles from the *In the Same Boat* archives, including some I've already mentioned, all collected in one place for easy browsing:

"Finding the Perfect PFD-for You"

"Winning the Cold War: How NOT to Die of Hypothermia" "Why Chill Out? The Challenge of Late-Season Paddling" "The Lone Canoeist: The Importance of Being Prepared" "Take Ten! Ten Things No Paddler Should Leave Home Without" "Sound Off and Light Up! Signals That Work for Us" "Show Your Colors! Are You Bright or Outta Sight?"

"Worst-Case Scenario: Plan to Survive!"

And here are two more invaluable references from outside <u>Pad</u>dling.net, as well:

"<u>Cold Water Safety</u>"—Intended for rowers but applicable to paddlers, too, this site was born out of a tragedy. Scroll down the page to the PDF link "Cold Water Safety Guidelines," but bear in mind that the HELP (Heat Escape Lessening Posture) strategy described therein is of limited value to paddlers, unless they capsize in open water under conditions which make prompt rescue likely.

"<u>A Chilling Winter Warning</u>"—Why it pays to be prepared. A cautionary tale with a happy ending.

Does the onset of cold weather signal the end of the paddling year? For many—maybe most—canoeists and kayakers, it does. But there are many exceptions, too, indomitable folks who rise to General Winter's challenge. This decision has more to do with perceptions of risk and reward than the reading on the thermometer.

How about it? Are you thinking of joining the ranks of the "winter navy"? If so, it's best to make haste slowly. To help you along, I've outlined the dangers, and I've suggested ways to avoid those that can be avoided. The rest is up to you.



Copyright © 2008 by Verloren Hoop Productions. All rights reserved.





MARKETPLACE



RICKA CLASSIFIEDS

Necky Elaho HV- \$1,500. purchased new this summer, list is \$2,900. yellow over white 17' & 22 1/2 " w/rudder, picture on Craigslist R1 call Pat at 401-480-3508 (9/30)

Old Town Tripper Roylex canoe, in great shape. 17' 2" long and can hold up to 1200 lbs.color matched Kevlar skid plates, newer yoke, thwart and more comfi web seats. \$595. Can be test paddled at my home on the Norton Reservoir in Norton MA 508 286 5999 or leeparham@myway.com (9/27)

Arctic Hawk '01 (Wilderness Systems) fiberglass; red deck, black seam. white hull. 18' x 22" Original owner, Kayaksport seat, new deck lines. Always stored in a garage. Greenland style, very light (47 lbs) and fast. Good primary and excellent secondary stability. \$1,300. Contact Jon at <u>ojphoto1@cox.net</u> (9/27)

<u>2 P&H Orca 15 kayaks</u>, \$725/each or \$1,350 for both. One blue one yellow. These are a large person's, hard chined, 3 layer, poly touring kayak perfect for anything from day trip river exploration to open water, multi day expedition use. <u>Includes</u> <u>Werner Skagit 220cm paddle</u> with each boat in very good shape. \$130 new. Popular as club boats in the UK. Also available: <u>Seals Coastal Tour Skirt 2.2</u> (fits the Orcas) in unused shape. \$85 new. Asking \$60. <u>http://www.sealsskirts.com/</u> <u>prod_tr_coastaltour.html Gerry 860 235-0430</u> (9/21)

<u>Compass Cavak Streamer</u> 10.5', 18 lbs. Kevlar . Built by (late) Joel Flather as a modified Rushton hybrid canoe/kayak. Looks like a small canoe but paddled like a kayak. Two for sale: one fully open deek, one partial deck. Both have green hulls, foot pegs, removable seats and two-piece wood paddles. Always stored inside, normal hull scratches. Asking \$450 each. Photos or demo on request. *Jim 401-624-6031 or jim.spears@cox.net* (9/13)

Nigel Dennis Explorer in very good condition-with keel strip. White with Crimson trim. Fiberglass. British built. Price \$1500.

Dagger Crossfire (poly) - 2 float bags inc- color, white, cranberry and green- Price \$350. Westport, Ma carleenmco@charter.net (9/4)

<u>Valley Argonaut (a/k/a- Aquanaut HV)</u> Composite fiberglass/diolene. Agility with capacity. Good to great condition, stored indoors, waxed, and cared for. Pump storage under the deck and an extra bow hatch cover with compass. Hatch cover and pump included. L=17'7" (538cm) W=22" (57cm) D=15" (38cm) weighs 52LBS (47kg) Asking 1,600 OBO *jeff6570@yahoo.com* (7/20)

Old Town H2 YO - \$399 Carrying handles * Rear-deck storage equipment Length: 11/2" Width: 29.5" Depth: 17.5" Approx. Weight: 42 lbs. Approx. Capacity: 250 lbs. This kayak is green/yellow and has seen limited use and is garaged and well cared for.

Werner 'Sprite' Kid's Fiberglass Kayak Paddle - \$59 The Sprite is a touring paddle for kids. Featuring proportionally smaller, fiberglass reinforced nylon blades on a smaller diameter fiberglass shaft. Smaller blades and shaft are a good fit for small hands. Great for family paddling! The smiley face sticker on the blade face lets you know if you are holding the paddle correctly. Excellent condition, well cared for. 850g (30oz) at 200 cm

Youth PFDs from MTI Adventurewear- \$39 Youth life vests perfect for young paddlers. <u>http://www.mtiadventurewear.com</u> Colors: blue, yellow, violet. Well cared for, good condition, lots of life left in them. *Peter 508-878-8382 or pa*bergh@gmail.com (7/20)

Garmin eTrex H GPS Yellow, new \$99.95, \$50.00 obo. Waterproof Ewa-Marine D-A Marine case for digital photo <u>camera</u> good down to 110ft. New \$264.00, \$100.00 obo. - Glass, PVC, like new <u>www.ewa-marine.com/index.php?</u> <u>id=103&L=0</u> Perfect for superzoom digital cameras. Jimcole@hotmail.com (7/10)

Valley Nordkapp Jubilee sea kayak, 17'10"x21" cockpit 29.5 x 15.5 retractable skeg, 56 lbs., color is white on white, vg cond. 4-5 years of age, saw little action, always garaged. \$2100.00 - lovely boat for the right size person. *Ralph 401-954-3203 or rwernett@aol.com* (7/2)

One Ocean "Cirrus" kit built kayak, 22"X17.5', 40" cockpit, for large person (I'm 64", 235). Two tone deck, 2 hatches, lines, carry handles. Natural finish, spray cover. Very fast. 1 year old, some bottom scratches from normal use. View "Cirrus" @ oneoceankayaks.com. Located Narragansett. Can deliver. \$950 OBO. 401-792-2291 tnprins@yahoo.com (6/20)

Dive fins (new). Blue + black Mares Challenge Size 7.5-8. \$10. <u>NRS Kavak Air Bags</u> from Northwest River Supply. Fits 9.5 foot Perception or similar recreational kayak. *Call 401.941.8061 and leave a message and phone number*. (5/18)

Brand new Swift Bering Sea kayak, kevlar, skeg, red over white. 40 lbs, 15'10" long, 23.5" wide. Fast, stable, forgiving kayak. See details at http://www.swiftcanoe.com/kayak/touring/BeringSeaSport.htm. Retails for \$3,200, asking \$2,300. Cat 508-369-3028 or catherineradcliffe@earthlink.net (4/25)

Yakima Kayak J Rack, includes installation tool, instructions and straps, great condition, like new, purchased August 2008. \$125.00. 508-713-5697 (4/15)

Orion kayak, designed by Hans Friedel and hand-built by seller. Length 17'9", width 20'3/4", weight 49 lbs. Fibreglass w/ beautiful red/white cedar deck and green hull. Hard-chined Greenland style. A great and eye-catching play boat that tracks well & will be fun to paddle by all skill levels. \$1,500. *peterlc@msn.com* for further details, photos, test paddle info. (4/6)

Fiberglass kayak, 17' X 23", rudder. Never used and in immaculate condition. \$1,900 (New \$2,900+). This is a great kayak for expeditions or day use and is stable and handles rough seas extremely well. For manufacturer's info go to: www.borealdesign.com/ en/kayak.php?id=3 aikijerry@optonline.net (4/2)

NRS Ladies wet suit with relief zipper. Size medium but runs small. Worn once. \$75. 401 374-0924 welcomeplacefarm@yahoo.com (3/20)

Big Agnes Parkview 3 Tent (includes rainfly & footprint - perfect for the annual RICKA trip to the Adirondacks!) for only \$100. Original cost is tent \$300 and footprint \$30. Both are barely used and in excellent shape. Visit the REI website for specs http://www.rei.com/product/785350. Both are barely used and in excellent shape. Visit the REI website for specs http://www.rei.com/product/785350. Both are barely used and in excellent shape. Visit the REI website for specs http://www.rei.com/product/785350. Both are barely used and in excellent shape. Visit the REI website for specs http://www.rei.com/product/785350. Both are barely used and in excellent shape. Visit the REI website for specs http://www.rei.com/product/785350. Both are barely used and in excellent shape. Visit the REI website for speces http://www.rei.com/product/785350. Both are barely used and in excellent shape. Visit the REI website for speces http://www.rei.com/product/785350. Both are barely used and in excellent shape. Visit the REI website for specees http://www.rei.com/product/785350. Both are barely used and in excellent shape. Visit the REI website for specees are species and species are s

<u>2 Prijon Seavaks</u> (red) <u>http://www.wildnet.com/tour.asp?name=seavak</u> Great boats used very little, both with rudders, sprayskirts some other accessories. \$1000 each. I also have <u>2 carbon fiber Bending Branches slice hybrid paddles</u>, 1 normal grip 1 small grip. *Rolf@Xmission.com* (12/10)

Classifieds are free for RICKA members only. E-mail webmaster@ ricka.org, phone 401-725-3344, or Webmaster, Alan August, 70 Scott Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860. YOU MUST INCLUDE YOUR FULL NAME IN THE MESSAGE (but not necessarily in the ad) so we can determine that you are a member. If you do not include your name the ad will be ignored. Your ad will be removed after one year unless you request that it be reposted with a lower asking price.



Bring your RICKA membership card and remember to ASK for the discount.

Blackstone Valley Outfitters

10% off retail prices on all kayak accessories, guided trips and instruction. 25 Carrington Street, Lincoln, RI 02865 401-312-0369, <u>www.bvori.com</u>

Claude's Cycles

Snowshoes 10% off. Canoe & power sports accessories 10% off. Wood canoes & fiberglass canoes 8% off. 50cc scooters 3% off. Receive an additional 2% discount on canoes and 50cc scooters when you pay by bank check. Discounts are for card carrying RICKA members and apply to non-sale items.

Foxborough, Ma. (call for directions) 508-543-0490 <u>www.claudescvcles.com</u>

CrossFitRhody

Work out as if your life depends on it. 20% discount off any CrossFit membership. http://www.CrossFitRhody.com

Eastern Mountain Sports

Cranston and Middletown locations only; not valid in other locations, online, or on phone orders. Valid on full-price, in-stock merchandise only. 15% off plastic hulls and accessories purchased with a hull; 10% off all other kayak accessories without purchase of a hull. Offer expires 12/31/2010.

Ocean State Adventures (OSA)

10% discount on lessons, tours and rentals. 508-292-5632 <u>www.oceanstateadventures.com</u>

OspreySea Kayak Adventures:

10% off accessories.
489 OldCounty Rd Westport Mass. 02790 (508)636-0300 <u>www.ospreyseakayak.com</u>

Quaker Lane Outfitters :

Canoes & kayaks 10% off. Accessories 20% off. 4019 Quaker Lane (Route 2) North Kingstown. 800-249-5400

The KayakCentre

Glass boats 6% off, normal retail, plastic boats 10% off normal retail; accessories with boat purchase 15% off, 10% off all other items. Brown and Phillips Streets, Wickford Village 1-888-SEA-KAYAK www.kayakcentre.com

WaveLength Magazine

<u>http://www.WaveLengthMagazine.com</u> Offers a "Club Sub" introductory subscription to club members for \$5 off the regular price of \$15. Send a \$10 check with your name and mailing address along with a note saying you belong to the RI Canoe & Kayak Association to Wave-Length Magazine, 2735 North Rd., Gabriola, BC, Canada, VOR 1X7.



