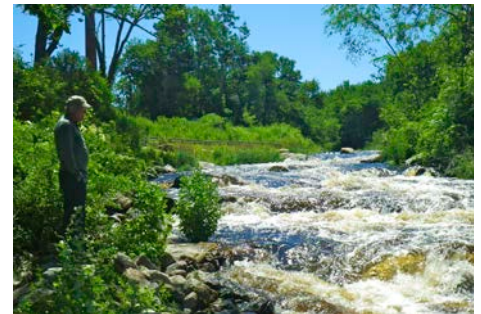


April Annual Meeting What's New on the Pawcatuck Monday, April 20, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

At our April Annual Meeting Chris Fox, Executive Director of the Wood Pawcatuck Watershed Association (WPWA), will give us an overview of the fish passage projects on the Pawcatuck River (past, present and future) with an eye toward recreational boating and habitat restoration.

Born and raised in Cumberland, RI, Chris moved to the Wood/Pawcatuck watershed in 1996 after graduating from the University of Rhode Island with a Bachelor's Degree in Natural Resource Development. He became the Executive Director of the WPWA in March of 2008.



The reconstructed Lower Shannock Falls on the Pawcatuck River

Directions to the Jewish Community Center: From Rt. 95 South take Exit 24 and turn left onto Branch Avenue. From Rt. 95 North take Exit 24 and turn right onto Branch Avenue. Go past Benny's. Cross North Main Street and continue up the hill (past Kentucky Fried Chicken). At the top of the hill cross Hope Street and continue one block to the end at Morris Avenue. Go left, then immediately right onto Sessions Street. Go down the hill to Elmgrove Avenue. The Jewish Community Center will be across the street. **Please follow the signs and enter on Elmgrove Avenue and exit on Sessions Street.**

Vote for Club Officers at the April Annual Meeting

Monday, April 20, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

The Nominating Committee has presented the following slate of officers for the 2015 to 2016 year:

President: Susan Engelman

Vice President: Jim Cole

Secretary: Barbara August

Treasurer: Andy Viera

Members are encouraged to attend the April Annual Meeting to cast their votes. Contact Nomination Committee Chairman Erik Eckilson at 401-765-1741 or eckilson@cox.net with any questions.

Flatwater Planning Meeting

April 18, 2015 at 1:00 p.m.

Join us at River Bend Farm in Uxbridge, MA for our Flatwater Planning Meeting. If you would like to lead a trip but do not have experience, we can partner you with an experienced leader. **See Page 5 for details.**

Sea Kayak Potluck Paddle and Planning Meeting

April 25, 2015 – Paddle at 10:00 a.m., Potluck at 3:00 p.m.

Join the sea kayakers for their annual spring gathering. If you cannot participate in the paddle, please come to the Potluck Planning Meeting. **See page 5 for details.**

Enjoy Camping and Paddling this Summer

Cape Cod Paddling Week June 13 -20, 2015

Join us for a week of paddling the waterways of Cape Cod. All paddling trips will be in protected bays, harbors and rivers. Participants must be able to handle 5-10 miles of paddling, and there may be days of paddling against current and wind. Sea kayaks and recreational kayaks 12 feet or longer will be best for most trips. We will be camping at [Shady Knoll Campground](#) in Brewster. Contact [Louise Price](#) for additional information.

2015 Adirondacks Trip August 1 – 9, 2015

With thousands of miles of beautiful waterways, the toughest part of paddling in the Adirondacks can be deciding where to go. Make it easy on yourself and join this wonderful weeklong trip. We will be camping at Rollins Pond State Park in the waterfront area around sites A001 – A031. Make your campground reservations at Reserve America: <http://www.reserveamerica.com>. Contact [Henry Dziadosz](#) for additional information.

All paddling trips are at the discretion of the leader. Paddlers will need a canoe or kayak that is appropriate for the conditions, paddle, personal flotation device (PFD), paddle float, pump, and spare clothes. You will also need camping equipment including a tent, sleeping bag and cooking gear. You are responsible for your own food. Contact the leaders for additional information.

RICKA is an ACA



Paddle America Club

Executive Board:

The next Executive Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at 70 Scott Street, Pawtucket. All are welcome to attend.

Newsletter Editor:

Erik Eckilson
11 Diana Drive
Woonsocket, RI 02895
Phone: 401-765-1741
Email: editor@ricka.org

Membership:

Sharon Dragon
P.O. Box 184
Hope Valley, RI 02832
Phone: 401-225-3942
Email: membership@ricka.org

The **Paddler** is published monthly except December by the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association, Inc.

Your 2014 RICKA membership expired on March 31, 2015. If you haven't done so already please...

Renew your RICKA membership now!

Please visit the website at:

<http://www.ricka.org/Join/Jointhefun.html>

You can renew by mail, or online using PayPal.

Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

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Wilderness: Jim Cole.....401-699-1172 jimcole@hotmail.com

A Message from
RICKA
President Susan
Engelman

Welcome to 2015 and RICKA's thirty-eight year. As we begin planning for 2015, this is also a great time to look back at what we accomplished in 2014.

In 2014, RICKA had a very busy year with over 100 [flatwater](#), [whitewater](#), [sea kayak](#) and [wilderness](#) trips. These trips ranged from easy daytrips to weeklong excursions. Our affiliated clubs – the [Blackstone Valley Paddle Club](#) and the [Southern New England Paddlers](#) – also scheduled weeknight paddles throughout the summer.

Training is also an important part of the RICKA mission, and RICKA held a number of great training sessions including our annual rolling clinic, flatwater and sea kayak skill training sessions and a beginner



RICKA President Susan Engelman paddling in Greenwich Bay during the RICKA Picnic Flatwater Paddle

overnight camping trip. Many of these sessions were offered free of charge or at a significant discount to our members.

In addition to trips and training, eleven monthly issues of our newsletter the [Paddler](#) were produced, and eight [monthly meetings](#) with interesting and informative speakers were organized. Our [library](#) continues to be updated with new paddling books and DVD's. We also held our fifth annual RICKA Picnic, and our [Facebook](#) page continues to add new friends.

None of this would have been possible without the generous efforts of our many volunteers. These volunteers coordinated trips, planned and executed training sessions, and worked behind the scenes to make everything happen. Thanks to all of the volunteers that make this club possible.

If you have yet to put some time in supporting club activities please consider doing so in the coming year. Maybe you could coordinate a trip at your favorite paddling site, or perhaps you have a special paddling skill that could be added to a training session or spoken about at a monthly meeting. Please volunteer to help.

Most importantly, don't forget to renew your RICKA membership. Your 2014 membership expired on March 31, 2015. You can register for 2015 with the form below, or on line using PayPal at: <http://www.ricka.org/Join/Jointhefun.html>

For additional information on membership please contact Sharon Dragon at 401-225-3942 or membership@ricka.org, and thanks for supporting RICKA.



2015 Membership Application/Renewal

(Please submit one form per family)

New members complete entire application.
 Renewal members fill in **ONLY** your **NAME** and any **NEW** information.

RICKA DUES (with email newsletter) = \$15	<input type="checkbox"/>
BVPC DUES (Blackstone Valley Paddle Club) = \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> (RICKA membership is also required)
Total	<input type="checkbox"/>
First Class Mail option for newsletter add \$5	<input type="checkbox"/> (Not recommended – go green with email delivery)

Enclose your check and mail to: RICKA, P.O. Box 184, Hope Valley, RI 02832

Name Adult 1 (primary) _____

Name Adult 2 (spouse, significant other) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ - _____

Phone 1 (_____) _____ - _____ Home/Cell/Work Phone2 (_____) _____ - _____ Home/Cell/Work

Email 1 _____ @ _____ Email 2 _____ @ _____

Indicate your interest (s): Flatwater Sea Kayak Whitewater Surfing Wilderness

Are you willing to volunteer for club activities? Picnic Newsletter Trip Leader Other _____

You can also renew your membership online using PayPal at <http://www.ricka.org/Join/Jointhefun.html>

Interest Group Q&A

Paddling with RICKA Sea Kayak

What is the RICKA Sea Kayak group?

The [RICKA Sea Kayak](#) group is specifically focused on kayaking in coastal environments. We organize trips throughout the spring, summer, and fall. We encourage people to join us and discover the joy of sea kayaking.

What types of trips do you do?

Our trips range in difficulty from novice to highly experienced. RICKA does not assign ratings to paddlers. We assign difficulty levels to our trips (see RICKA Sea Kayaking Levels). A trip's rating is designed to be a guide to help you judge if you have the skills to participate in a trip.

Who runs the trips?

RICKA is not a professional paddling organization. Our members coordinate paddles for their own enjoyment and the enjoyment of the rest of the paddling community. These trip coordinators are not professional guides or instructors.

How do I know if a trip is right for me?

You should assess your comfort level for participating in the trip based on the difficulty level, the forecasted conditions, your skill and experience, and your comfort with the other participants in the group. Each participant in the group trip shares the responsibility for the safety and enjoyment of the entire group.

Surf and rocks present special dangers to paddlers. Surf is unpredictable and powerful, and rocks can smash you or your kayak. Only skilled paddlers should venture into these conditions.



RICKA paddlers off Sakonnet Point in Little Compton

How do I find out about trips?

From June through September, RICKA Sea Kayak trips are posted on the trip calendar on our website:

<http://www.rickaseakayaking.org/calendar/month.php>

All times listed are **LAUNCH** times. Please arrive early enough to prepare. If necessary, paddles will be cancelled by 8:00 a.m. Check the [message board](#) for cancellation notices.

Off-season, "show & go" trips are posted on the message board:

<http://www.rickaseakayaking.org/forums/index.php>

What equipment do I need?

In order to participate in RICKA Sea Kayak trips you **MUST** have a sea kayak (15 feet or longer with front and rear floatation and perimeter lines on the deck), a Coast Guard approved PFD, a spray skirt, paddle, paddle float, bilge pump, helmet (for surfing or rock gardening), appropriate clothing for the conditions, and a whistle (or other approved daytime signaling device).

We also recommend that you bring drinking water, food, sunscreen, a change of clothes, a knife and a compass. For sunset or night paddles, a headlamp and coast guard approved navigation lights are

also required. It is also a good idea to bring an emergency strobe light

What about cold water trips?

When the water is cold hypothermia is a serious danger. Submersion in cold water dramatically reduces a paddler's ability to assist in their own rescue. In cold-water conditions, we required that all paddlers wear a dry suit with fleece or polypro underneath, a hat or neoprene hood to protect the head, and neoprene gloves or poggies to protect the hands. A change of warm, dry clothes stored in a dry bag is also required.

RICKA Sea Kayaking Levels

Level 1: No previous kayak experience required.

Level 2: Participants should be able to:
Paddle 6 miles in a day.
Perform a wet exit.
Perform an assisted deep-water rescue.
Maintain a heading for short distances without the use of a rudder.
Turn a kayak using forward and reverse sweep strokes.
Level 2 trips generally follow the shoreline.

Level 3: Participants should be able to:
Perform skills listed under Level 2.
Paddle 13 miles in a day.
Control a kayak in 15- to 20-knot winds.
Feel comfortable in 2-3 foot waves.
Handle surf and beach landings.

Level 4: Participants should be able to:
Perform the skills listed under Level 3.
Paddle 15 miles in a day.
Control a kayak in 20-knot winds.
Handle large ocean swells.

Level 5: Participants should be able to:
Perform the skills listed under Level 4.
Paddle 20+ miles in a day.
Control a kayak in 25-knot winds.
Level 5 trips require an RSVP.

Before you Paddle...

Educate yourself about the area in which you will be paddling, and carry appropriate gear, clothing, water, food, etc. Always check the weather forecast before launching. **YOU ALONE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING THE DECISION TO LAUNCH YOUR BOAT.**

Flatwater Trips

Flatwater trips are now posted on the Flatwater Message Board at:
<http://members.boardhost.com/FLATWATER/>

April 18, 2015 at 1:00 p.m.
2014 RICKA Flatwater Planning Meeting

Join us at River Bend Farm in Uxbridge, MA for our annual Flatwater Planning Meeting. Please bring ideas for trips. If you would like to lead a trip but do not have experience, we can partner you with an experienced leader. Contact Cheryl Thompson at 401-647-5887 or stonefoxfarm@cox.net for additional information.

June 13 – 20, 2015
Cape Cod Paddling Week

Join us for a week of paddling the coastal waterways of Cape Cod. All paddling trips will be in protected bays, inlets, harbors and rivers. Sea kayaks and recreational kayaks 12 feet or longer will be best for most trips.

August 1 – 9, 2015
2015 Adirondacks Trip

We will be returning to Rollins Pond State Park in the Adirondacks for our 2015 Adirondacks trip. You will need to make

campground reservations (sites A001 – A031) at Reserve America:
<http://www.reserveamerica.com/>

Sea Kayak Trips

Sea kayak trips are now posted on the Show & Go Message Board at:
<http://rickaseakayaking.org/forums/index.php?board=2.0>

Saturday, April 25, 2015
Sea Kayak Potluck Paddle and Planning Meeting

Join the sea kayakers for their annual spring gathering. The day will start with a level 2/3 paddle at the Westport State Boat Ramp at 10:00 a.m. The paddle will be followed by a Potluck Supper and Planning Meeting hosted by [Carleen McOsker](#) at 75 Drift Road in Westport at 3:00 p.m. There will be plenty of food and conversation, so bring a potluck dish to share. Paddlers are encouraged to bring ideas for trips to add to the summer calendar. If you cannot come to the paddle, please come to the Planning Meeting. We need your input as we plan for the upcoming year.

Whitewater Trips

Whitewater trips are now posted on the Whitewater Message Board at:
http://members.boardhost.com/RI_Whitewater/

SNEP Planning Meeting

Southern New England Paddlers (SNEP) will be having a planning meeting on April 15, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the Kettle Pond

Visitor Center in Charlestown, RI. All members are welcome to attend. This meeting will be to setup paddling locations and other details for the upcoming season. You can find additional details on the website:
<http://www.meetup.com/KayakFun/events/220961487/>

Discounts for Members

The following retailers offer special discounts for RICKA members:

Blackstone Valley Outfitters
401-312-0369
<http://www.bvori.com/>

Claude's Cycles
508-543-0490
<http://www.claudescycles.com/>

CrossFitRhody
<http://www.crossfitrhody.com/>

Narrow River Kayaks
(401) 789-0334
<http://www.narrowriverkayaks.com/>

Osprey Sea Kayak Adventures
508-636-0300
<http://www.ospreyseakayak.com>

Outdoorplay.com
<http://www.outdoorplay.com/kayaks>

Quaker Lane Outfitters
401-294-9642

The Kayak Centre
888-SEA-KAYAK
<http://www.kayakcentre.com/>

WaveLength Magazine
<http://www.wavelengthmagazine.com/>

See the [website](#) for details and remember to ASK for the discount.

RICKA Classifieds

Classified ads free for RICKA members and are printed here on space-available basis. Please see the [website](#) for the complete list.

- **Wooden Row Boat** made by the Stowe Company in Vermont - 12 feet long and 46 inches wide, has oak rails and deck, cane seats, 2 rowing stations, rated for up to a 3 hp outboard. The boat is white and has always been kept in a heated garage - 1500. Call 401-523-5498
- **PRICE REDUCED: Ocean Kayak Malibu II** Sit-on-Top Tandem Kayak – color: red, length: 12', width: 34", weight: 57 lbs, polyethylene construction. Seats two adults, plus a small child or pet, or can also be paddled solo from center seat. One seat and one paddle included - asking \$375. Kayak is located in Warwick. Contact Susan at 401-996-3177
- **Kokatat Tropos Super Nova Dry Suit** - US made, pumpkin XL with relief sipper, breathability, neoprene punch through collar for long term comfort, booties, new never used, tags still on - \$375. Contact Pat in Westerly at 401-480-3508 or patcosma@juno.com
- **Perception Sonoma Kayak** - Airlite material, white hull with red top - length 13', width 23". Includes spray skirt and paddle. Like new - used only a few times - original retail \$1,150 – asking 64. Contact Allen at 401-739-5151 or calafrancisco@aol.com
- **Necky Alesk Touring Kayak** - 14' with rudder and front and aft bulkheads - stored inside. Asking \$500 or best offer. Also: Sawyer wood paddle - 226 cm; Neoprene spray skirt; Harmony kayak bilge pump; Kayak seat cushion; Inflatable leg (thigh) cushion; Voyageur Paddle Float; Paddle leash; Kayak portage cart wheels. Contact JimCole@hotmail.com or 401-699-1172
- **Cane Canoe Seats Repaired** - cane replaced at \$25.00 per seat, or 2 seats for \$45.00. Contact JimCole@hotmail.com or 401-699-1172
- **Cetus MV** - one year old, a few minor scratches on the finish, includes a deck mounted compass - \$2800. Contact Richard at tamrich1@gmail.com
- **Strip Built Outer Island** - beautifully built and in great shape - \$1,800 or trade for Valley Avocet. See Craigslist ad for details and photos: <http://newyork.craigslist.org/wch/boa/4777175170.html>
- **Valley Anas acuta** - several years old but very clean. A little oxidation on the deck and only minor scratches on the hull with new fiberglass keel strip and new deck lines. Foam seat and back rest. \$1,600. Located in NJ, but can be brought to Narragansett, RI for serious interest. Photos on request from kfkehoe@verizon.net
- **PRICE REDUCED: Kevlar 17'6" Looksha 1V** - aqua deck, white hull, garage kept, new condition - \$900. Located in Westerly. Call Pat 401-480-3508
- **North Face Blue Kazoo sleeping bag** – barely used, perfect shape. 650 (high quality) down bag, comfort rated to 20 degrees, regular size that fits most folks to 6'. This model currently sells for \$270. I am offering it for \$150, firm. Contact gerry@seasherpakayak.com
- **Fiberglass Valley Skerray Sea Kayak** - red over white, 17' by 23", skeg, weighs in under 60 lbs. Ocean Cockpit for easier surf launching. Includes neoprene spray skirt - \$1100. **Skerray RM** - great rock gardening boat, needs hatches. Ocean cockpit, skeg, spray skirt included with sale - \$500. Buy both for \$1500. Contact Ric S. at 508-572-3095 (call or text), email rj_salty@yahoo.com
- **North Shore Polar HV** - 17.5 x 22 purchased new June 2013, unusual circumstances force sale, Lists for \$3,295, but will sell for \$2,100. Call for photos, Westerly, 401-480-2508
- **WANTED: Kayak Rack** and feet to fit 2000 Buick Regal contact 401-941-8061

Would you like to read more about sea kayaking?

Subscribe to Atlantic Coastal Kayaker

Atlantic Coastal Kayaker will bring you a 36-page issue all about sea kayaking, 8 months a year. (March through December)

**Special rate for RICKA members
\$18 a year – a \$6.00 discount**

Send for a free sample issue.

Atlantic Coastal Kayaker
224 Argilla Road

Ipswich, MA 01938

Phone: 978-356-6112 (phone and fax)

Email: ackayak@comcast.net

Website: <http://www.atlanticcoastalkayaker.com>

Send your classified ads to RICKA Webmaster Cheryl Thompson, 53 Anan Wade Road, Glocester, RI 02857-2611 or webmaster@ricka.org. Include your name for membership verification. Please notify the Webmaster when your gear is sold so that the ad can be removed. Acceptance, duration and formatting of your ad is at the webmaster's discretion.