

PADDLER

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Newsletter of the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association Vol. XXXIV No. 10 October, 2015

October Club Meeting

Map and Compass 101 with Henry Dziadosz

Tuesday, October 20, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

The map and compass are the primary tools for wilderness navigation, or wayfinding. They can help you answer basic questions like: Where am I? How do I get to another location from here? How far is it, and how long will it take? At our next meeting, long-time RICKA leader Henry Dziadosz will cover the basic operation and use of the map and compass. He will discuss navigating by compass alone, navigating by map alone, and navigating using a map and compass together. He will also discuss how a GPS can be used to provide additional information. The meeting will be held in the Sterns Room at St. Martin's Church, 50 Orchard Avenue, Providence.



PLEASE NOTE DATE AND NEW LOCATION!

Directions to St. Martin's from Route 95 – From Route 95 North or South take the exit to Route 195 East. Take exit 2 for India Street toward Gano Street. Take a left on to Gano Street. Follow Gano Street to Waterman Street and take a right. Take the next left on to Wayland Avenue. Take your 4th right on to Orchard Avenue. St. Martins will be on your left.

Joint Wilderness/Flatwater Trip

Pawcatuck River Overnight

October 3-4, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.

We will launch at 2:00 p.m. from Bradford Landing and paddle up to the Burlingame Canoe Campsites for the evening.

We will do group meals so you won't have to worry about bringing food or cooking gear. You will need a tent, sleeping bag, mess kit (plate, cup and silverware), a folding chair (for sitting around the campfire), and your usual paddling gear. A dry bag for your cloths and sleeping bag is recommended. We will have a couple of canoes to bring some extra gear. These are primitive campsites, so outdoor facilities will not be available. See the [Flatwater Message Board](#) for details.

RSVP to Erik Eckilson at eckilson@cox.net.

RICKA Movie Night

Our Favorite Trips of 2015

November 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

At our November Meeting, we'll provide the popcorn as we look back at our favorite paddling trips of 2015.

With over 100 trips scheduled by RICKA this year, it can be tough to pick a favorite, but we'll do just that. Videos and slideshows should be no longer than 10 minutes and advance notice is required. We will have adaptors for connecting Mac and PC laptops to a projector. If anyone would like to show slides, a Kodak Carousel projector can also be available with advance notice.

If you have a story you would like to share, please contact Susan Engleman at sje54@hotmail.com or 508- 353-6411.

Whitewater Paddling and Rescue

Whitewater Handbook

By Bruce Lessels

Whitewater kayaking and canoeing have come a long way in the last few years with new gear, new techniques, and new ways to run the river. To start the novice right off, or to polish whitewater skills already acquired, renowned whitewater paddler and instructor Bruce Lessels has created step-by-step lessons for all essential techniques. He surveys safety issues such as managing risk, dealing with hazards, and rescue tools. Equipment choices are also surveyed. An introduction to racing is provided along with advanced techniques of playboating.

Whitewater Rescue Manual

By Charles Walbridge & Wayne Sundmacher Sr.

Regardless of skill, running rivers presents an element of danger. *Whitewater Rescue Manual* presents a tightly focused look at the best, most current techniques for both self-rescue and rescue of others on the river. The authors provide well-reasoned guidance that will teach you when to stay with the boat and when not to; how to retrieve a lost boat; how to swim out of trouble and when not to swim; how to reach a victim by wading, swimming, or using ropes; how to coordinate a rescue effort how to make sure that would-be rescuers don't become victims.

These are just two of the great books and DVD's covering the range of paddling topics that are available in our [collection](#). If you would like to check out these or any other selections, contact Bill Hahn at librarian@ricka.org. Library selections can be mailed to you with a postage paid return mailer provided at no cost to the borrower.

RICKA is an ACA



Paddle America Club

Executive Board:

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

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

Submit your stories to the **PADDLER**

Do you have a story that you could share, a picture, gear review or trip report? **Please consider sending it to the Paddler.** Chances are, there are a lot of people who would really enjoy seeing it.

Don't be shy, please send it along!

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Canoe and Kayak Camping

By Jim Cole and Erik Eckilson

Would you like to join us on the [Pawcatuck River Overnight](#) trip? Maybe you have something more ambitious in mind like the [Maine Island Trail](#) or the [Northern Forest Canoe Trail](#)? Trips like this can be a lot of fun, but if you don't prepare, even the simplest trip can become your worst nightmare.

The first decision that you will need to make is where to go. If you've never done this type of trip before, our advice is to join a group of experienced campers. If you go it alone, be sure to do your research in advance. The [RICKA Library](#) is a great place to start. The more you know the safer you will be.

As you plan your trip, you should review the [route and distance](#) to be traveled each day. Remember to figure extra time for portages if there are any, and to deal with unexpected conditions such as wind, waves or high water levels. Always leave a [float plan](#) so others can find you.

If you are not using a base camp (camping at the same site each night), you will need to locate campsites and alternatives for each day. Plan the day so everyone will be comfortable and relaxed when they arrive at the campsite. Make sure that there will be plenty of daylight for setting up camp and preparing the evening meal.

Whether paddling a canoe or kayak, your boat should be appropriate for the conditions. If you plan to camp at a different site each night, you will also need room in your boat to carry gear.

When carrying camping gear in your boat, [dry bags](#) are a must. Since there is nothing worse than being continuously wet on a trip, it is often a good idea to double bag critical items such as cloths and sleeping bags. Tents should also be packed in a manner that will keep them dry. If the



Our campsite at the 2014 Pawcatuck River Overnight trip

inside of your tent gets wet, so will your sleeping bag and anything else you put in it.

Having enough clothing without having too much can also be balancing act. Don't forget rain gear, and spring and fall trips will require a few heavier items that can be layered in case the weather turns cold. Check your [gear list](#) before you leave to make sure that you have everything that you need.

How you handle [meals](#) is another a critical consideration. Will you arrange group meals, or will everyone be responsible for their own? Food and cooking gear must be organized accordingly. Water is another important consideration. Will a water spigot be available, or will you need to carry or filter fresh water?

You should carry at least one good first aid kit for the group, plus a small personal kit in each boat. It is always a good idea for everyone to take a first aid course prior to the trip so they are prepared for [medical emergencies](#).

Canoe and kayak camping is a lot of fun, and a great way to improve your paddling skills. For more information, you can check out the RICKA [Wilderness Paddling webpage](#).

2015 RICKA Volunteer Awards

Congratulations to the 2015 RICKA Volunteer Award winners.

Volunteer of the Year Award



Tim Gleason (center) – presented by Tony Moore (left) and RICKA President Susan Engleman (right)

Golden Keyboard Award

Chuck Horbert

Conservation Award

Bill Luther

20/20 Vision Award

Sharon Dragon

I Love Whitewater Award

Terri Boothby

Most Consecutive Months Paddling (Geocaching - 30 months)

Chris Kracik and Lori Lucas

Most Consecutive Months Paddling (RICKA - 56 months)

Frank Cortes and Jim Crowley

Lamp Auction Winners

Karen Anderson and Susan Engleman

Kayak Centre Gift Card Winner

Terri Boothby

Thanks to the [Kayak Centre](#) for their ongoing support of our club. A special thanks to all the volunteers that make RICKA possible – we couldn't do it without you!

A funny thing happened to me on the way home from the Allagash Waterway

By Bill Luther

Modern Technology. Is it a bane or a blessing? I am the proud owner of a 2014 Ford Escape SUV. Many of the bells and whistles that come with a new car are unneeded for my part. I don't need to talk to the car. I'm an old school guy who used to change water pumps and alternators. For the better part of my paddling career I have put my car keys in a dry bag and always knew where they were at the end of a trip. Just the fact that there were a few new buttons on my new keys didn't faze me.

On this last day of my five day paddle trip that I had planned, I met Kevin and Nick Allworth at the Thoroughfare camp site at what is traditionally the start of the Allagash. It was early in the day and we chatted for a few hours. Indeed this was a one in a million chance happening. Later I paddled a short distance downstream wanting to load some stuff in my car. When I found the car I tried the remote entry device and the doors remained locked. Stymied for just awhile I then used the key to pop the door lock. I was in. Now my troubles began. When I put the key in the ignition to start it nothing happened except for the alarm system going off. I struggled with this and still could not start the car. The horns blasted about three more times while I tried to figure out from the owner's manual what the hell was wrong. There were a few pages on how to program your keys so your teenage offspring could not drive 90mph. Too much superfluous information. When I got back later Kevin asked "Was that your alarm system going off?".

I talked to the ranger and he gave me a bag of rice to soak the moisture from the keys. All that night I puzzled at what had gone wrong with new keys in a new car. Surely things would go right for me in the morning. Morning came and all three of us paddled downstream, some of us to leave

for home on that day. I set the alarm off time and time again on my 2001 Space Shuttle. I was talking to the car "Hal, Open the pod bay doors. Hal I will pull every wire off your Mother Board. Hal, I will treat you to a car wash when I get home. Hal, I will leave you in the North Woods forever." Drats! Hal would not co-operate. Technology had prevailed over Man. Kevin, Nick and I left for Millinocket where we would be in cell phone range of AAA.

In Millinocket I had another brainstorm that the batteries in the remote control needed to be replaced. I went to the auto parts store replaced the batteries and then did not pass their open the door clicker test. Kevin said that it could be something more than just the battery. When the tow truck driver came I figured that I would just need a lift and the car would start for me again. After the bumpiest ride on a logging road that I have ever had, I arrived at the car and Hal had the last laugh once again. Now I was being towed 55 miles back to Millinocket with a car that would not start.

I was now stuck in a shopping center on a rainy gray day on a wing and a prayer. I called Ford Roadside Assistance who gave me little help on how to solve the key problem. They agreed to pay for a tow to Lincoln, Me where the dealership did not open until Monday. The next tow truck arrived and the driver was father to the son from the previous run. They both looked as if they had crawled out from under a turnip truck. These guys were good though. The driver took me to Bangor, Me where the dealer was open on Saturday. The tow drivers were the Hayes Brothers and the guy took one look at my keys and told me that they were wet and that I had to get the whole darn key microchip replaced. Where were you 24 hours ago I asked? Hats off to the tow drivers. They had probably rescued

many a person who had driven off a back road in Maine.

Arriving at Darling Ford around 8:00 pm, I had little chance to get service. The staff told me that they had never heard of keys not working after getting moist for a few days. They pointed to a hotel where I found the prices to be \$140 and over for a night. So I slinkered back into the rear seat of Hal and pulled some camping gear over me so some ambitious guard would not bust me in the middle of the night. All I needed now was to get nabbed inside of a dealership. I slept about three hours and went over to an all night Dennys where I filled up on coffee. Around 8:00am the service manager told me that it would take about two days to get another key in to process a new one. When my head spun around on my body he later told me that I could call a locksmith who may be able to get me going earlier. About 3 hours later and \$185 cash discounted deal I had a new reprogrammed key and was not going to leave the car until I pulled in my driveway. Mankind has prevailed again!

The moral of the story is to keep your electronic ignition car keys as dry as possible or find a way to not even carry them on your boat. When you buy new electronic equipment find out quickly what fatal flaws exist. The Ford dealer had never told me that the keys were neither waterproof nor shockproof. This was an expensive lesson to learn.

*HAL was a HAL 9000 on-board space shuttle computer that attempted to hijack the ship from Dave and the crew in the film Space Odyssey 2001.

Bill is a past RICKA President and frequent contributor to the Paddler.

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

Late cancellations and changes to trips will be posted on the [Flatwater Message Board](#). Please check the Message Board before leaving for a trip. Check [web site](#) for directions and/or GPS coordinates.

October 3rd and 4th RSVP Required.
Pawcatuck River Overnight
Trip Coordinator: Erik Eckilson
eckilson@cox.net 401-765-1741

We will launch in the afternoon from Bradford Landing and paddle up to the Burlingame Canoe Campsites for the evening. We will do group meals so you won't have to worry about bringing food or cooking gear. You will need a tent, sleeping bag, mess kit (plate, cup and silverware), a folding chair (for sitting around the campfire), and your usual paddling gear. A dry bag for your cloths and sleeping bag is recommended. These are primitive campsites, so outdoor facilities will not be available.

October 17th - meet at 10:00. for the launch
Charles River - Wellesly to Needham
Trip coordinator: Susan Engleman
sje54@hotmail.com 508-655-1633 Home and 508-353-6411 cell

This is another pretty stretch of the Charles River starting at the 182-acre Elm Bank reservation in Wellesley. Surrounded on three sides by the Charles River, the reservation is listed on the National

Register of Historic Places. The river twists and turns to the take out at Cochrane Dam on Fisher Street in Needham. Bring a lunch.

October 24th – meet at 10:30
Nashua River – Groton to Pepperell
Trip coordinators: Louise Price
weezrad@aol.com and Frank Cortesa
Frankcortesa@charter.net 508-369-8205

The Nashua river has been referred to as one of the prettiest places to paddle in eastern Mass. The twists and turns among the many islands and side channels turn this inundated marshland into a giant 5 mile long maze. Round trip will make this an approximate 10 mile paddle. Bring a lunch. Suitable for all boat and all levels of experience.

November 1st – meet at 1:00
Halloween Paddle on Wakefield Pond!
Coordinator: Henry Dziadosz
hodziadosz@verizon.net or 567-0313

A beautiful paddle on Wakefield Pond in Burrville and a get together at Henry's waterfront home after the paddle. Trip is suitable for all. Meet at the nearby state boat ramp and we will paddle around the pond to Henry's home. There will be a fire going, bring your own everything. (chairs, snacks, drinks)

November 7th - meet at 1:00 pm for a 1:30 launch (rain date is November 8th)
Turkey Paddle on Wallum Lake
Trip Coordinators: Sharon Dragon
shdrag1@gmail.com 401-225-3942 and Cheryl Thompson stonefoxfarm@cox.net 401-647-5887

A fun paddle on Wallum Lake with dinner after at the Lodge Restaurant in Webster MA. Come for the paddle, come for the dinner or both. RSVP required by November 1st if you are planning on coming to the restaurant.

Sea Kayak Trips

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

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.crossfithody.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.

- **Cane Canoe Seats Replaced** - contact Jim Cole - 401-699-1172
- **Necky Chatham** – 17' ocean kayak with paddle, life vest and roof top carrier - \$600 OBO. Call Ginny at 860 694-9804
- **Necky Looksha** - 17' poly model includes Werner carbon paddle, cockpit cover, spray shirt, paddle float, kayak dolly - \$1,200. Call Pat Cosma at 401-480-3508
- **Necky Arluck III** - 18', 35 lbs., kevlar with rudder, yellow & white with blue stripe. Cuts through the wind and surf like butter - \$2400 OBO. Contact Bill at 401-447-2397
- **Current Designs Soltice GT XL** - yellow over white fiberglass, 55 lbs. 17'. Very stable and predictable boat. Cockpit cover and sprayskirt included - \$1800. E-mail hdziadosz@verizon.net or 401-497-5887
- **Wilderness Systems Aspire 105** - Phase 3 Air pro Seats with cockpit covers. One is red and the other is mango. They are two years old and in excellent condition. We are asking \$500.00 each. Contact 401-749-8354 or taylorlk@verizon.net
- **NEW LOWER PRICE! 2001 Wilderness Systems Artic Hawk Pro** - 18 ft. Greenland-style kevlar sea kayak. Excellent condition - \$750. **1987 Dirigo 17 ft. classic fiberglass sea kayak** - large ask/teak cockpit and wood rails. Very good condition - \$750. **2001 Folbot Aleut Expedition** - 12 ft. folding kayak with carrying cases. Very good condition - \$500. 401- 524-5126 cjbook2@gmail.com
- **Malone XV kayak Auto Loader** - complete system, new 2015, never used - \$300. Pat Cosma 401-480-3508
- **Tiderace Xplore-X** - length: 18', width: 24", cockpit: 34.5"x19", depth: 14". Black and red deck over white hull with black keel strip. Gently used for two seasons and in perfect condition - \$2,400. SeaNskidog@hotmail.com
- **Folbot collapsible kayak** - weighs 40 lbs., color is bright orange. 2007 model in like new condition with paddle, spray cover and extra seat included, as well as full directions. Asking \$1000.00. Call Tom at 401-783-2750 or cell 520-240-7353
- **Make me an offer on any item listed:** 226 cm Sawyer kayak paddle (wood, like new), Harmony kayak bilge pump, Kayak seat cushion, Voyageur Paddle Float, Paddle leash, Kayak portage cart wheels, 2 four foot end air bags for OC1, 2 pieces of foam closed cell side flotation, Pair of adjustable foot pegs for kayak. If you're looking for miscellaneous white water items, please email me, I may have them. Email me for details. Jimcole@hotmail.com or 401-699-1172.
- **Valley, Aquanaut Sea Kayak** - plastic, in good condition with built in skeg - \$1000. **Impex Mystic** - 14 foot fiberglass boat in good condition with built in skeg - \$1000. Contact Paul O'Reilly at 401- 640-5052
- **Valley Knordkapp HM** - a classic. Mid 90s model – yellow hull and deck, chimp pump, mounted compass. Used but not abused, stored indoors, clean, good shape. \$1200. OBO. Todd at tsmoore991@gmail.com
- **Dagger Sitka** - fiberglass, yellow/black/white, 17'11 x 22". Good condition. Fast and comfortable; front/rear ultra-wide hatch openings; day hatch behind the cockpit - \$800. cammac@ieee.org
- **Perception "Sonoma" kayak** - Airlite material - white hull red top- length 13' width 23", includes pray skirt and paddle. Like new - used only a few times - original retail \$1,150- ASKING \$645. Contact Allen at 401-739-5151 OR CALAFRANCISCO@AOL.COM
- **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. Photos on request from kfkehoe@verizon.net

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.

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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 are at the webmaster's discretion.