

April Annual Meeting Boat Repair with Carl Ladd Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Our monthly meetings will resume in April with the Carl Ladd of <u>Osprey Sea</u> <u>Kayak Adventures</u> speaking on boat repairs. We will also hold our Annual Meeting for the election of officers (see below), so all members are encouraged to attend to cast their vote.

Carl and Samantha Ladd opened up <u>Osprey Sea Kayak Adventures</u> in 2000 as a paddling school and resource center. Since then, it has grown to incorporate standup paddling, surf kayaking and boat repair. Carl's boat repair experience began 20



Carl Ladd of Osprey Sea Kayak Adventures

years ago doing composite repairs on sailboats, kayaks and other small craft. At our meeting, he will cover basic maintenance and repair, and ideas for a field repairs. He will also cover repairs for plastic boats. The meeting will be held at <u>REI</u>, 2 Chapel View Boulevard in Cranston. **Please note earlier time**.

Directions to REI in Cranston: From Route I-295 take the exit for Route 37 east. From Route I-95 take the exit for Route 37 west. From Route 37, take exit 2B to merge on to Route 2 north. Chapel View Boulevard is a short drive up Route 2 on the right.

<u>Vote for Club Officers at the</u> **April Annual Meeting** Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

The Nominating Committee has presented the following slate of officers for the 2017 to 2018 year:

President: Sharon Dragon **Vice President**: Pat (Mayhew) Lardner **Secretary:** Henry Dziadosz **Treasurer:** Andy Viera

All members are encouraged to attend this important meeting to cast their votes. Contact Erik Eckilson at <u>eckilson@cox.net</u> or Cheryl Thompson at <u>stonefoxfarm@juno.com</u> with any questions.

<u>Save the Date!</u> **RICKA Family Picnic** Saturday, September 16, 2017

This year's RICKA Family Picnic will be held on Saturday, September 16, 2017 at Goddard Memorial State Park in Warwick. We have reserved Field Shelter F from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

In the morning, flatwater and sea kayak trips will leave from the boat launch. Goddard Park also has ample room for ball games, badminton, or most anything else. Lunch will be served starting at 12:30 and will be a good old-fashioned barbecue. The RICKA Awards Ceremony will follow lunch.

Mark your calendars for this fun event!! Who knows.... you may be receiving an award!

From the RICKA Library

Paddling Connecticut and Rhode Island Southern New England's Best Paddling Routes By Jim Cole



This is the <u>NEW</u> classic guide to Southern New England's waterways by our own Jim Cole. From

flatwater and tidal rivers to wilderness trips, easy whitewater, and coastal and open water expeditions, this guidebook describes thirty-one trips that encompass Connecticut's greatest watersheds and nearly every river that can be paddled in Rhode Island. Whether you use your canoe or kayak to fish, hunt, bird watch, or just relax and enjoy the outdoors, you'll find plenty of locations in this guide that are just right for you. Paddling Southern New England 30 Canoe Trips in MA, RI and CT By Ken Webber



This is the original classic guide to paddling the

waters of southern New England. Chapters include day trips on flatwater, selected whitewater runs, and suggestions for overnight trips—with 30 trips in all, there's something here for every level of paddler. Each chapter includes information on put-ins and take-outs, distance, water conditions, dams and rapids, portages, what time of year to paddle, and what you'll see along the way. A detailed map and a handy mileage chart for each river make planning easy.

These are just two of the great books covering the range of paddling topics that are available in our <u>collection</u>. If you would like to check out these or any other selections, contact Bill Hahn at <u>librarian@ricka.org</u>. 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, April 5th at 7:00 p.m. at <u>REI</u>, 2 Chapel View Boulevard in Cranston. All are welcome to attend.

Newsletter Editor:

Erik Eckilson 11 Diana Drive Woonsocket, RI 02895 Email: <u>editor@ricka.org</u>

Membership:

Sharon Dragon P.O. Box 184 Hope Valley, RI 02832 Email: membership@ricka.org

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

If you haven't already renewed, your RICKA membership expires this month.

Renew your membership now!

You can renew by mail, or online using PayPal. Please visit the website at: <u>http://www.ricka.org/Join/Jointhefun.html</u>

Beginning this year, membership renewal letters will be sent by email. In addition, you will no longer need a membership card to get member discounts at local retailers. Just show the email to the retailer, or print and bring the letter with you while shopping.

Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

Pat (Mayhew) Lardner	401-524-8057	<u>pslardner@gmail.com</u>					
Lori Lucas		<u>lorilucas41@gmail.com</u>					
Tom McHugh	401-454-2752	tmc99992@yahoo.com					
Danny O'Shea	401-527-3447	doshea5031@aol.com					
Conservation: Ric Souza	508-572-3095	rj_salty@yahoo.com					
Flatwater: Cheryl Thompson	401-647-5887	<u>stonefoxfarm@juno.com</u>					
Librarian: Bill Hahn	401-524-1612	<u>librarian@ricka.org</u>					
Membership: Sharon Dragon	401-225-3942	<u>membership@ricka.org</u>					
Safety & Education: Cat Radcliffe508-369-3028.catherineradcliffe@earthlink.net							
Sea Kayak: Carleen McOsker	508-636-0546	Carleenmco@gmail.com					
Webmaster: Cheryl Thompson	401-497-5887	stonefoxfarm@juno.com					
Whitewater: Andy Viera	774-218-5731	andyv51@hotmail.com					
Wilderness: Chuck Horbert	401-418-2838	<u>chorbert13@gmail.com</u>					





It's Time to Renew your Membership

You'll be supporting Rhode Island's oldest and largest paddle sports club

For over 40 years, the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association (RICKA) has been providing great paddling opportunities for its members. We are the oldest and largest paddle sport club in Rhode Island. **A new membership year begins in April, so please join or renew your membership now!**

Why should you join RICKA? Let's start with the trips. Each year RICKA organizes hundreds of trips ranging from easy daytrips to weeklong excursions. Whether you enjoy <u>flatwater</u>, <u>sea kayaking</u>, <u>whitewater</u> or <u>wilderness tripping</u>, there is trip for every interest and skill level at RICKA.

Are you looking to improve your paddling skills? Training is also an important part of the RICKA mission. Each year RICKA offers many fun and informative training

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sessions. Many of these sessions are offered free of charge, or at a significant discount to our members.

In addition to trips and training, we produce eleven monthly issues of our outstanding newsletter the <u>Paddler</u>, hold <u>monthly meetings</u> with interesting and informative speakers, and maintain the <u>websites</u>, <u>Facebook page</u>, and message boards that keep you up-to-date on trips and activities. Our <u>library</u> also includes an extensive collection of paddling books and videos covering all aspects of paddling.

Do you need to buy or sell boat? You should check out the <u>RICKA Classified</u> <u>Ads</u> on our website and in the Paddler. If you can't find what you need there, RICKA members also get special discounts at several area retailers.

So, if you like what we do, but are not a RICKA member, please join today - its just \$15 for the entire family. If you are a RICKA member, please renew your membership now. New memberships run from April 1, 2017 to 2018. You can join the club or renew your membership online using PayPal at:

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

For additional information you can contact Sharon at <u>membership@ricka.org</u>. **Please join today and support your club!**

2017 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 (wi	th email newslet	ter) = \$1 5	[]				
BVPC DUES (Blac	BVPC DUES (Blackstone Valley Paddle Club) add \$10		[]	[] (RICKA membership is also required)			
Total			[]				
Enclose your check and mail to: RICKA, P.O. Box 184, Hope Valley, RI 02832							
Name Adult 1 (primary)							
Name Adult 2 (spouse, sigr	nificant other)						
Address							
City			State	Zip Code			
Phone 1 ()		Home/Cell/Work	Phone2 ()	Home/Cell/Work		
Email 1	@	Email :	2	@			
Interest(s): Flatwater [] Sea Kayak [] Whitewater [] Surfing [] Wilderness [] Geocaching []							
Are you willing to volunteer for club activities? Picnic [] Newsletter [] Trip Leader [] Other:							
You can also renew your membership online using PayPal at <u>http://www.ricka.org/Join/Jointhefun.html</u>							





Interest Group Q&A **Paddling with RICKA Flatwater**

What is the RICKA Flatwater group?

RICKA has four interest groups -Flatwater, Whitewater, Sea Kayak and <u>Wilderness</u>. These groups often overlap and many members paddle regularly with all four groups. The Flatwater group is the largest of the four and holds trips on most weekends from late spring through fall.

What types of trips are there?

Flatwater trips run the gamut from lakes and ponds, to rivers, to open water. Swimming, picnicking, and short hikes accompany some trips.

How do I find out about trips?

You will find a list of trips on the flatwater website. http://www.ricka-

flatwater.org/rickaschedule.htm

You can also join the flatwater email list to get email notifications. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RICKA FL ATWATER/join

Who runs the trips?

All trips are run by volunteer trip coordinators. These coordinators will have done the trip before and will be able to advise you of potential hazards. Safety is always of paramount importance, but you, and you alone, are responsible for yourself.

What equipment do I need?

Every paddler will need a boat (canoe or kayak) that is appropriate for the conditions, paddle and personal floatation device (PFD). Your PFD must be zipped, buckled and properly adjusted anytime that



Summer day on a RICKA flatwater trip

you are on the water. You can find a list of other equipment on the website. http://www.rickaflatwater.org/kayakgear.htm

What about clothing?

Paddling is a water sport, so you should plan to get wet. Cotton cloths should be avoided. Polypropylene, fleece, wool, and lycra blends insulate well when wet. In colder weather, a neoprene wetsuit is the better insulator, and splash jackets and dry wear are good investments.

And for my feet?

Footwear should protect your feet in and out of the water. Sneakers, water shoes or heavy Teva-type sandals are recommended.

How do I join a trip?

Most flatwater trips are "show and go" requiring no advanced notice. Simply arrive at the time indicated and enjoy the trip. More difficult trips will require an RSVP.

Please note that the trip coordinator may cancel a trip or change its location as conditions warrant. When possible, cancellations and changes will be posted on the message board at least 2 hours in advance the scheduled launch.

What should I do to prepare for a trip?

Paddlers should research the trip in advance to make sure that it is right for them. The trip coordinator will often post basic information such as the length of the trip, the equipment that is needed, and the hazards that might be encountered. There are also a number of excellent paddle guides in the **<u>RICKA Library</u>**.

Please be honest about your abilities when deciding to attend a trip. New paddlers should start with short, easy trips before attempting longer, more difficult ones. All flatwater paddlers need to be in good physical condition and be competent swimmers.

What will happen when I get to the put-in?

Please arrive early for the trip, and bring the right equipment. Paddlers should not launch until the trip coordinator gives a brief safety talk, and takes a head count of paddlers. The trip coordinator may also need to assign a lead boat and a sweep boat. Please wait for the trip coordinator to launch their boat, or give the OK for you to launch.

What will happen on the water?

On the water, all paddlers are expected to stay with the group at all times. You should always paddle behind the lead boat, and in front of the sweep boat if one has been assigned. If you need to leave the trip for any reason, please notify the trip coordinator. At the take out, please do not leave the parking lot until the trip coordinator has taken a final head count.

Do you offer training?

RICKA will be holding a Flatwater Training on Sunday, June 11th at 1:00 at Stump Pond in Smithfield. In this 3-hour class, you will learn the basic strokes and maneuvers to control your boat on flatwater. For more additional information or to register you can visit the website at http://woonsocket.org/flatwatertraining.htm 1





My First RICKA Trip - Almost 40 Years Ago By Bill Luther

Many years ago - before there was a Waterplace Park, Waterfire or a River Relocation Project - there was the Woonasquatucket River and the many parking spaces over it in downtown Providence.



Deck over the Woonasquatucket River in Providence in the 1970s

Today, we paddle to Waterplace Park as a matter of civic pride - to celebrate how downtown has really changed and how the city has beautified itself. There are a few amongst us who remember what a blighted area this once was, and a very few amongst us who have paddled up the river through the infrastructure that was once there.

Why a handful of RICKA canoeists decided that this would be an exciting trip in the spring of 1978, I will never recall. When someone asked what the widest bridge in the USA was in 1978, the answer was the bridge and parking spaces over the Woonasquatucket River.

If my spotty memory serves me right, I had just returned home from Texas and was following the outdoor activities section in the Providence Journal. I usually followed what was then the Rhode Island Canoe Association (RICA) and their weekend trips. When I bought a 17' Sears's aluminum canoe, I decided to take part in one of the RICA trips along with my father, a boat builder from East Providence. We were rank green paddlers who never paddled in a straight line. I had paddled a canoe as a Boy Scout at Camp Yawgoo, but just about knew which end of the paddle went in the water. As I recall we put in near the hurricane barrier.

I remember about six canoes leaving and going up stream. We passed under a building which extended over the river. I remember someone telling me to stay bent over because there were long spikes hanging down at head level from the structure above us.

The rest of the trip was a blur until we reached a long gravel bar somewhere near Olneyville Square. The river came tumbling down over the bar in a fast current. I thought that was it - time to turn around. No matter almost everyone in a canoe tried to paddle upstream beyond the current. One guy, Doug Nagle made the most progress and got about half way up the current before being turned around. At the time, I thought that these people were fruitcakes.

I don't remember much else until we hit the large pool of river near the Point Street Bridge. My father and I were zigzagging across the river practicing our antisubmarine maneuvers. A couple of other boaters pushed us aside as we crashed into their boats as they followed a straighter course of direction.

To this day both my father and I blame each other for taking the plunge. We went over in one of the dirtiest sections of the Providence River. We swam alongside our canoe and pushed it into shore. A nearby onlooker asked if we were OK. My father never minced words and replied "What the heck do you think #^@&%#!!!!". It was a memorable first time adventure, and I came back for many more.

Waterplace Park in Providence Today

Today, a paddle on the Woonasquatucket River in downtown Providence is one of the finest urban paddles in the country thanks to the completion of Waterplace Park in 1994.



View of the Providence skyline today

Located along sections of the Moshassuck, Woonasquatucket, and Providence Rivers, Waterplace Park is a four-acre park located in the heart of the city. Pedestrian bridges over the river connect over a mile of cobblestone-paved walkways known as the Riverwalk. The park is home to the popular summertime <u>Waterfire</u> events, a series of bonfires lit on the river accompanied by music.

Paddlers interested in paddling in downtown Providence can put in at <u>Bold</u> <u>Point in East Providence</u> and paddle across the Providence Harbor towards the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier. Alternatively, they can put in at the <u>South Water Street</u> <u>Landing</u> closer to downtown, but parking there can be difficult. Once you are on the water, it is a pleasant trip up through downtown Providence to the Cove at the Providence Place Mall.

The cove is a natural amphitheater with great views of the Statehouse to the north and the city's skyline to the south. After paddling under the Providence Place Mall you can continue up the Woonasquatucket River to Olneyville just like Bill did in 1978.





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 changes and cancellations will be posted on the <u>Flatwater Message Board</u>. Please check the board before leaving for any trip. Check <u>web site</u> for directions and/or GPS coordinates.

April 8th - meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 shuttle Willimantic River - Stafford Springs to Mansfield Depot, CT

Trip Coordinator – Earl MacRae <u>earlandpat@comcast.net</u> home: 508-928-2650 cell: 508-988-5589

A 13.5-mile trip. The Willimantic is a quick water river with riffles, turns and rocks. Dry or wet suits required. Kayak spray skirts recommended. Bring a lunch.

April 22^{nd} – meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 shuttle

Quinebaug River - Danielson to Canterbury, CT

Trip Coordinator – Earl MacRae earlandpat@comcast.net home: 508-928-2650 cell: 508-988-5589

A 10.5-mile trip. The river is wide, quick water with a few sections of riffles and rocks. Dry or wet suits required. Kayak spray skirts recommended. Bring a lunch.

May 6th - meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 shuttle Shetucket River - Windham to Baltic, CT Trip Coordinator – Earl MacRae earlandpat@comcast.net 2650 cell: 508-988-5589

A 10-mile trip. The Shetucket River is a wide mostly smooth river with a few sections of quick water with rocks and riffles. Dry or wet suits required. Kayak spray skirts recommended. Bring a lunch.

May 7th - meet at the put in at 9:30 for the 9:45 shuttle

Great Swamp - Taylor's Landing to Biscuit City - Kingston, RI Trip coordinators: Henry Dziadosz 401-567-0313 hdziadosz@verizon.netand Cheryl Thompson 401-497-5887 stonefoxfarm@cox.net

Great Swamp provides perhaps the most intriguing canoe trip in the state - very scenic, but not a beginner trip. Suitable for kayaks under 15 feet. A change of clothes in a waterproof bag is required. Bring a lunch.

May 13th - meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 shuttle **Assabet River – Acton to Concord, MA** Trip coordinators: Sharon Dragon <u>shdrag1@gmail.com</u> 401-225-3942 and Erik Eckilson <u>eckilson@cox.net</u> 401-765-1741

We will put in at the Acton Canoe Launch and paddle down the Assabet River. This trip is mostly flatwater, with some quickwater, and one broken dam. Suitable for all boats and all levels of experience. Bring a lunch.

May 20th - meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 launch **Charles River and Populatic Pond- Norfolk to Medway/Franklin, MA** Trip coordinators: Louise Price <u>weezrad@yahoo.com</u> and Frank Cortesa 508-369-8205 <u>frankcortesa@charter.net</u>

Suitable for all level of experience. Many twists and turns. The river is narrow and more suitable for boats 15 feet and shorter. Bring a lunch. May 21st - meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 launch **Bungay River - Attleboro MA**

Trip coordinator: Bill Luther <u>Prijon@juno.com</u> 508-761-7961.

An easy paddle up a very scenic river - you will forget you are in the city of Attleboro after a few of the twists and turns of the Bungay River. You should find this trip easier with boats under 15 feet. An RSVP to the leader is required for this trip. Bring a lunch.

May 27th - meet at 9:30 in the commuter parking lot

Pawcatuck River - Ashaway to Westerly, RI

Trip coordinator: Mike Vechinsky <u>M.Vechinsky@att.net</u> 860-271-1586

A 7.5 mile trip. This is a very scenic trip that will start approx 1 mile above the Potter Hill dam. There may be a small set of rapids further downstream depending on water levels. Bring wheels for the portage if you have them. Bring a lunch.

May 28th - meet at 9:30 for a 10:00 launch **Big River - Coventry, RI.** Trip coordinators: Cheryl Thompson <u>stonefoxfarm@juno.com</u> 401-497-5887 and Louise Price weezrad@yahoo.com

Narrow and twisty river – we will paddle upstream against the current and then return with the current to the put-in. Johnson's Pond is a beautiful pond. Trip is not suitable for kayaks over 15 feet. Bring a lunch.

Sea Kayak Trips

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





RICKA Classifieds

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

- Necky Chatham Kayak 17', carbon fiber. Built to minimize windage, with great maneuverability and superb rough water performance. Includes Werner Sultan 220 cm carbon fiber paddle and Seals spray skirt \$2,500. Contact Gary at gpbranch@verizon.net
- **Betsie Bay Custom Greenland Kayak** all white, in very good condition. Comes with new neoprene cockpit cover and spray skirt with medium tunnel. Pictures are available upon request. Carl Ladd of Osprey Sea Kayak Adventures can deliver from Florida thru March 21st to his location in Westport MA and can verify condition. Asking 1,700 for everything. Chris 813-390-8222 or ctobbe12@gmail.com
- Little Wing Tandem Sailing Kayak easily transportable on roof rack, can be sailed by one or two people. Price is negotiable. Torqeedo ultralight motor sold separately. <u>Click here for price and photos</u>. Contact Pat at <u>pslardner@gmail.com</u>
- Warner Carbon Ikelos Paddle 210 cm. Used on less than 10 occasions. Nearly indistinguishable from new - \$200 OBO. I will accept PayPal and Cash only please. Call Mike at 401-644-9946 11/16
- Valley Q-Boat Quill over Quill Q-Boat with black trim. Some spider cracks. Asking \$1000 or B.O. Eric <u>emjohnso3@verizon.net</u>
- **PRICE REDUCED: Kokatat front entry GORE-TEX GFER dry suit** with relief zipper and GORE-TEX socks. This suit has been lightly used and is in excellent condition. \$250. Contact <u>Bill Hahn</u>
- Old Town Tripper this 17" royalex canoe has been stored inside for over 20 years and is in very good condition asking \$800. Contact 508-808-0530 or jrmiller59@yahoo.com
- Kokatat Orbit Tour PFD Small/Med used 3 times then I realized that it was too small \$75. Contact michael.hazeltine@gmail.com
- FOLBOT "Yukon" 13', excellent condition. Spray cover, extra seat, paddle. \$800 OBO. Wakefield area, can deliver to RI buyer 401-783-2750
- NRS Flux Drytop men's size XL, red with black highlights, latex wrist and neck gaskets. Excellent, like new condition used less than 6 times. Sells new for \$325, yours for \$200. Henderson 7mm Dive Boot men's size 11 fit my size 10 feet with thick socks and drysuit booties with room to spare. Two years old but used less than a dozen times. Sells new for \$95, yours \$45. Reed Aquatherm Fleece Men's Long Sleeved Top black, men's size large. Worn less than 12 times and in good shape. I paid around \$95, yours for \$35. Contact Gerry at sea sherpa kayak dot com
- **Bungee/ Stretch Cord** all sizes, colors, and styles available. Prices start at \$5.00/spool. Jonathan at 401-447-7973 Jon@marineropeinternational.com
- **Dagger Exodus 168** red, length 16'-11", width 23.25", weight 60 lbs, cockpit 34" x 19". Bow and stern storage compartments, full rudder system mint condition. Asking \$789. **Corsica S Whitewater Kayak** purple, length 10' 7", width 24", weight 39 lbs. Some scratches. Kayak, spray skirt, PFD, carbon fiber paddle \$389. **Two Dagger Mamba 8.1 Whitewater Kayaks** your choice of sunrise or yellow. Length 8' 1", width 26.75", weight 47 lb., cockpit 34" x 19". Very little use. Kayak, PFD, helmet, carbon fiber paddle \$699. Email or call <u>watersedge99@comcast.net</u> 508-944-2539
- Werner Carbon Ikelos paddle bent shaft. 215 cm. Only used twice and is in brand new condition -\$350. Contact aikijerry@optonline.net
- Valley Aquanaut plastic, in good condition with built in skeg \$600. Contact Paul O'Reilly at 401- 640-5052

Send your classified ads to RICKA Webmaster Cheryl Thompson, 53 Anan Wade Road, Glocester, RI 02857-2611 or <u>webmaster@ricka.org</u>. 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 and newsletter editor's discretion.



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: <u>ackayak@comcast.net</u> Website: <u>http://www.atlanticcoastalkayaker.com</u>

