

PADDLER

www.ricka.org

Newsletter of the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

Vol. XXXXI

No. 4

April 2018

April Club Meeting What's New in Boats, Boards and Gear Tuesday, April 17, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

For our April Meeting, Matt Bosgraaf, Manager of the Kayak Centre, will talk about trends in the paddlesport industry, and provide tips for buying boats, paddleboards and other gear. Our meeting will be held at the Kayak Centre's flagship store at the Wickford Marketplace.

With locations in Wickford and Charlestown, the [Kayak Centre](#) has been a longtime RICKA partner providing high quality programs and a large selection of boats, paddleboards and other gear. RICKA members also receive special discounts through our Member Discount program. See the [RICKA website](#) for details. The Kayak Centre is located at 70 Brown Street in Wickford Village.



Last year's meeting at the Kayak Centre

Directions to the Kayak Centre in downtown Wickford:

From points north - Rte 95 South to Rte 4 South to Rte 102 South (Exit 5a). Turn left on Rte 1A. Store will be on your left.

From points south - Rte 95 North to Rte 102 South (Exit 5). Turn left on Rte 1A. Store will be on your left.

When using a GPS use the address 70 Brown Street, North Kingstown, RI 02852. The GPS will not pick up Wickford as a town.

Flatwater Planning Meeting Saturday, April 7, 2018 at 12:00 p.m.

Join us at Visitor Center at River Bend Farm in Uxbridge, MA for our annual [Flatwater Planning Meeting](#).

At this meeting, we will set up our calendar for the 2018 year, so please bring ideas for trips. If you would like to lead a trip but do not have experience, we will partner you up with an experienced leader. If you would like to lead a trip, but cannot attend the meeting, we can reserve a date in advance of the meeting. We will have party pizza and soda; you may bring a snack or dish to share, if you wish. The Visitor Center is located at 287 Oak Street, Uxbridge, MA.

Contact Cheryl Thompson at stonefoxfarm@juno.com for additional information.

Vote for Club Officers at the April Annual Meeting Tuesday, April 17, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

The Nominating Committee has presented the following slate of officers for the 2018 to 2019 year:

President: Sharon Dragon

Vice President: Pat (Mayhew) Lardner

Secretary: Henry Dziadosz

Treasurer: Andy Viera

Members are encouraged to attend the April Annual Meeting to cast their votes. Contact Erik Eckilson at eckilson@cox.net or Cheryl Thompson at stonefoxfarm@juno.com with any questions.

From the RICKA Library

Local Paddle Guides

Padding Connecticut and Rhode Island Southern New England's Best Paddling Routes

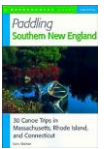
By Jim Cole



This is the NEW 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.

Padding 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, tapes 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 April 4th at 7:00 p.m. at the [REI Cranston Store](#), 22 Chapel View Boulevard, Cranston. All are welcome to attend.

Newsletter Editor:

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

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.

Your RICKA membership expired on March 31, 2018...

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

Executive Board

President: Sharon Dragon401-225-3942.....membership@ricka.org
Vice President: Pat (Mayhew) Lardner ..401-524-8057.....pslardner@gmail.com
Secretary: Henry Dziadosz401-567-0313.....hdziadosz@verizon.net
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It's Time to Renew your Membership

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

For 41 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 on April 1st, so please join or renew your membership today.**

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 [flatwater](#), [sea kayaking](#), [whitewater](#) or [wilderness tripping](#), 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



Join RICKA and be part of the fun!

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 [Paddler](#), hold [monthly meetings](#) with interesting and informative speakers, and maintain the [websites](#), [Facebook page](#), and message

boards that keep you up-to-date on trips and activities. Our [library](#) 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 [RICKA Classified Ads](#) 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 (see the website).

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. Memberships run from April 1, 2018 to 2019. 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 membership@ricka.org. **Please join today and support your club!**



2018 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

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

Interest Group Q&A

Paddling with RICKA Flatwater

What is the RICKA Flatwater group?

RICKA has four interest groups – [Flatwater](#), [Whitewater](#), [Sea Kayak](#) and [Wilderness](#). 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_FLATWATER/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.ricka-flatwater.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 [RICKA Library](#).

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?

The RICKA Flatwater group occasionally holds flatwater training for new paddlers. In these classes, paddlers learn the basic strokes and maneuvers to control their boats on flatwater. They can also practice wet exits and basic recoveries. Watch the website for additional information on this year's training sessions.

Blackstone Valley Paddle Club is planning its 21st Season

The [Blackstone Valley Paddle Club](#) will begin its 21st season on Monday, May 7th at 6:00 with a joint paddle with the [Southern New England Paddlers](#) (SNEP) on the Upper Pawtuxet River in Hope, RI. Trips will then continue every Tuesday starting May 15th through August 28th. Come paddle with us as we enjoy the scenic waterways of the Blackstone River Valley.

In addition to enjoying a relaxing evening on the water, club members can improve their paddling skills, discover great paddling locations, and learn about water quality, conservation and local history.

To participate in the Blackstone Valley Paddle Club events, a Rhode Island Canoe



Rosco and Jim at the put-in at Lackey Dam on the Mumford River

& Kayak Association membership fee of \$15.00 is required, as is a \$10.00 membership fee for the Blackstone Valley Paddle Club. These fees provide family memberships and are good for the entire 2018 season.

Visit the Blackstone Valley Paddle Club website for the complete schedule at: <http://www.ricka-flatwater.org/bvpaddlers.htm>

Thanks to Gary for three great RICKA Rolling and Rescue Sessions

RICKA would like to thank Gary Branch for organizing this year's RICKA Rolling and Rescue sessions at the South County YMCA. The sessions provided a great opportunity for members to practice these important skills. Thanks Gary.



Ray demonstrates a roll

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

Check the [Flatwater Message Board](#) for ad-hoc trips and hikes. Appropriate skills and equipment are required.

April 7, 2018 from 12:00 to 3:00
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@juno.com for additional information.

August 4 to 11, 2018
2018 Adirondacks Trip

We will be camping at Lake Eaton Campground in the Adirondacks for our 2018 summer camping and paddling trip. You can make campground reservations now at [Reserve America](#). Please try to select a site in the 40's and 50's or other sites close by. Contact Henry at

hdziodosz@verizon.net to be included on the invite list.

Sea Kayak Trips

Sea Kayak trips are posted in the Show and Go Section of the [Sea Kayak Message Board](#). Appropriate skills and equipment are required.

May 5, 2018 at 3:00
Sea Kayak Potluck/Planning Party

Paddle in the Westport area followed at 3:00 by a potluck and planning meeting at the home of Carleen McOsker, 75 Drift Road, Westport, MA. All are welcome to attend and meet fellow sea kayakers.

RICKA Classifieds

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

- **Valley Aquanaut** - fiberglass, 17'7", looks like new and in very good to excellent condition. Also includes Werner Shuna paddle (215 cm), Snap Dragon spray skirt (LG), and cockpit cover. Asking \$2,150. **Superior Kayak carbon-fiber Greenland paddle** - 220 cm, one piece; and 1 **western red cedar Greenland paddle** - 215 cm; and **western red cedar storm paddle** -180 cm. Asking \$250. Contact Fred at g33zr@gmx.com or text 401.569.6038
- **Old Town Vapor 10XT** - 10' kayak in good condition - perfect for beginners and intermediate skill levels. Package includes the kayak, paddle, SEALS brand cockpit cover (for storage) and SEALS brand "Sneak" model spray skirt - \$300 OBO. Contact Chris at cjkracik@yahoo.com
- **Coleman duel fuel lantern with case** - \$50 - goes for 110 new. Louise Price at weezrad@yahoo.com
- **Dagger Animas whitewater kayak** - good condition, stored indoors. Includes flotation bags and cockpit cover. \$200 OBO. Contact Rick at ricktjader@gmail.com
- **Adirondack Guide Boat** - 17 feet, seaworthy and fast rowing boat, that needs TLC. \$350 obo. Contact aelliott@aol.com
- **NDK High Volume Explorer** - \$1,000 - mathermotorsports@gmail.com
- **North Shore Atlantic Fiberglass Composite LV** - gently used 6 times, like new. Skeg, keel strip, built in compass and neoprene cover. Total value \$3,800. Asking \$2,650. Located in Wrentham, MA. Contact barachial@icloud.com
- **Mad River Malecite** - ultra lightweight Kevlar canoe - \$1,600 - mathermotorsports@gmail.com
- **Betsie Bay Recluse** - 19 feet x 20.5 inches Fair to good condition \$500 cash only. Located in eastern CT - you come get it at my house. wsmith16@charter.net
- **PRICE REDUCTION: Betsie Bay Recluse** - Greenland style kayak. 19 feet long; 20 1/2 inches maximum beam; 32 lbs. One season of use; less than 10 times on the water. Includes Greenlander paddle (unused); spray skirt; cockpit cover; 2 hatch lids; and an instructional DVD on Greenland Paddling. \$2700. Contact Ken at kenpariseau@verizon.net.
- **NRS Catalina spray skirt** - never used, go for \$60 new. \$40 today. Label says 38 inches stretched. Email David target3777@yahoo.com
- **Current Designs Sirocco** - white. I bought it in 2004 and it has ALWAYS been stored inside when not in use. PFD, spray skirt, paddling jackets, Two paddles Kokatat Semi Dry suit. Compass, sponge, pump, paddle float, etc. Paul 401-644-8529 or wynnpw1@yahoo.com
- **P&H Code Zero Sail for kayak (with mast)** - used only a few times. \$200. jonathansharlin@gmail.com
- **Kayak wetsuits, PFDs and Drytop** - Jerry Borenstein aikijerry@gmail.com
- **Current Designs Caribou** - used fewer than 10 times, water launched, stored exclusively indoors and with gaskets treated from time to time, this boat is in excellent condition. Color red and white. Asking \$2,100. Located in Portsmouth, RI. Text Carin 401-374-1145
- **Mad River Rampage** -14" whitewater canoe. \$600. Alan, 401-725-3344 or alan02860@usa.com
- **PRICE REDUCTION Three Werner Camano Paddles** - two fiberglass paddles with blue shafts and white blades (these are two piece paddles). One is 230 and the other is a 240 in length - \$50 each. Also for sale is a one-piece Werner Camano fiberglass paddle 240 length with an offset of 45 degrees. This paddle has yellow blades with a black shaft - \$75. Contact Cheryl at stonefoxfarm@juno.com or 401-497-5887

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 are at the webmaster's and newsletter editor's discretion.