

PADDLER

www.ricka.org

Newsletter of the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

Vol. XXXXI

No. 8

August 2018

August Meeting On-Water Meeting Narrow River

Monday, August 20th – launching at 6:00 p.m.

In lieu of a meeting in the summer months, we offer a paddle that is suitable for everyone. This month's paddle will be on the [Narrow River](#) in South Kingstown. We will put in at the [Pollock Street Boat Ramp](#). The Narrow River, also known as the Pettaquamscutt River, is home to the [John H. Chafee National Wildlife Refuge](#), which includes over 550 acres of wetland that attracts birds of all kinds. Our leaders for the evening will be Tony and Aline Moore tsunamikayak@juno.com.

Directions: Take 95 South to exit 9 towards Newport/S. County. Merge onto Rt. 4 South. Turn right onto Tower Hill Road. Turn left onto Bridgetown Road (at large tower). Turn slight right onto Middlebridge Road. Approximately a mile and half-mile up on the left will be Pollock Street. Turn and follow to the parking area. **GPS: N41 28.044 W071 27.013**



Cormorant at the John H. Chafee National Wildlife Refuge on the Narrow River

Sea Kayak Technique & Rescue Practice

Now through September 12th, the [Sea Kayak](#) group will be holding paddling and rescue practice **every Wednesday afternoon from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Narragansett Bay Campus beach**. Be sure to take advantage of this great opportunity to meet other sea kayakers and improve your paddling and rescue skills.

RICKA Family Picnic Saturday, September 22nd

This year's RICKA Family Picnic will be held at [Ninigret Park](#) in Charlestown. In the morning, [flatwater](#) and [sea kayak](#) trips will leave from the [boat launch](#). Lunch will be served at 12:30, followed by the RICKA Awards Ceremony. **See page 3 for additional information and to register.**

Club-Wide BC 2 Star Training Sunday, August 26th - 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

All RICKA paddlers – [Sea Kayak](#), [Flatwater](#), [Whitewater](#) and [BVPC](#) - are invited for an all-day BC 2 Star Training at [Tucker Pond](#) in South Kingstown.

[British Canoeing \(BC\) 2 Star Training](#) establishes and builds on the skills needed to paddle canoes, recreational kayaks, whitewater boats and sea kayaks. This training is an ideal course to build up your paddling skill foundations, to provide a breath of experiences through paddling maneuvers in multiple paddle crafts on flat water, and to control movement of both canoes and kayaks, while creating an understanding of how the paddle, boat, and water interact. This class will be taught by Greg and Paula Paquin of [Kayak Waveology](#).

This course will be free for RICKA members (a \$150 value), but an RSVP is required and class size is limited. **Please RSVP to Carleen McOske** Carleenmco@gmail.com or Cheryl Thompson stonefoxfarm@juno.com if you plan to attend.

From the RICKA Library

The Basics of Sea Kayaking

The Essential Sea Kayaker

By David Seidman

Includes sections on seamanship, navigation, and health issues, this edition of David Seidman's bestselling guide reaffirms its reputation as the best sea kayaking guide available. A top-to-bottom introduction for novice and mid-level kayakers, this highly visual handbook provides kayakers with the whole scoop on everything from gear, transportation, and paddling technique to the finer points of Eskimo rolling, rescue protocol, group and solo paddling.

Basic Essentials: Sea Kayaking

By J. Michael Wyatt

This exciting and demanding sport is much different than its flat-water sibling, with different equipment and techniques, all of which are covered in Basic Essentials: Sea Kayaking. Illustrations cover the many sea kayak models and accessories, as well as important information on tides and currents, packing and loading tips for comfort and safety, and a glossary chock-full of helpful terminology. A must read for experienced sea kayakers, and those new to the sport.

These are just two of the great books and videos 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 August 1st at 7:00 p.m. at the [REI Cranston Store](#), 22 Chapel View Boulevard, Cranston. All are welcome to attend.

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

If you haven't already renewed, your RICKA membership expired in April.

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

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RICKA Family Picnic

Ninigret Park in Charlestown

Saturday, September 22, 2018

This year's RICKA Family Picnic will be held on Saturday, September 22, 2018 at [Ninigret Park](#) in Charlestown. We have reserved the pavilion from 9:00 to 4:00.

In the morning, [flatwater](#) and [sea kayak](#) trips will leave from the [boat ramp](#). Lunch will be served starting at 12:30. The 2018 RICKA Awards Ceremony will follow lunch.

Fire Works Catering will provide a wrap sandwich luncheon that includes a selection of specialty wrap sandwiches (including vegetarian), mixed green salad, pasta salad, chips, cookies, watermelon and drinks. The cost will be \$10.50 per person.



Tony Moore receives the Golden Camera Award from Sharon Dragon. Who will get an award this year?

Because this is a catered event we must have your reservation no later than September 15, 2018. You can register by mail or online using PayPal at:

http://www.ricka.org/Payments/ricka_picnic.html

If you register by mail, please print out the form below and return it with your check payable to RICKA to:

Andy Viera
8 Bradford Road
Milford, MA 01757

All are welcome to attend including members, their families, significant others, and friends.

Mark your calendars for this fun event!! Rain or Shine. Who knows.... you may be receiving an award. Hope to see you all there!

Member Name: _____

Number of Meals (same price for all) _____ X \$10.50 = \$ _____

Fire Works Catering will provide a Wrap Sandwich Luncheon including:

Selection of Specialty Wrap Sandwiches (including Vegetarian)

Mixed Green Salad, Pasta Salad and Chips

House Baked Cookies

Drinks and Watermelon will also be available

Make check payable to RICKA and mail them to:

Andy Viera

8 Bradford Road

Milford, MA 01757

Paddling at Point Judith Pond

By Erik Eckilson

[Point Judith Pond](#), or the Great Salt Pond, is located along the border of Narragansett and South Kingstown, and is the second largest of the Rhode Island's South County salt ponds. It is a shallow, four-mile long pond located behind the barrier beaches and sand dunes that form Point Judith Harbor. The pond is 20 miles around with many pretty islands and coves to explore. It offers diverse scenery ranging from woodlands in the north to barrier beaches in the south.

Point Judith Pond is a classic estuary where the Saugatucket River empties to the sea. Rhode Island's other major salt ponds ([Ninigret](#), [Green Hill](#), [Quonochontaug](#) and Winnapaug) are coastal lagoons. The pond supports a great variety of shellfish including quahogs, clams, crabs and oysters, along with fish like stripers and flatfish. There are also a large variety of birds including osprey, cormorants, herons, egrets and gulls.

The easiest put-in for paddlers is at the [Marina Park Boat Ramp](#) at the north end of the pond. Located in South Kingstown, this is a town boat ramp that is open to the public year-round. Leaving the ramp you will be paddling through a congested marina. Around the docks to the right is a small cove where the Saugatucket River flows into the Upper Point Judith Pond.



Harbor Master in the Upper Point Judith Pond



Osprey nest in Congdon Cove

You can paddle under the Route 1 Bridge, into Silver Spring Cove and a short way up the Saugatucket River.

Paddling south in the marina, you pass through a mooring field before breaking out into more open water. After about a mile you enter the Narrows – a narrow channel that connects Upper Point Judith Pond to Lower Point Judith Pond. The Narrows curve to the right and everyone has to squeeze through this narrow channel, so you will need to alert for motorboats and their wakes.

Once you leave the Narrows you will enter the Lower Point Judith Pond. Wind and waves can be much more of an issue in the lower section of the pond. Paddling northwest across the pond you will pass just north of Cummock's Island and into Congdon Cove. At the far end of this lovely cove is Whaley's Pots, where stonewalls were built across the narrow opening to trap buckies (alewives), white perch and smelt that entered the lagoon to spawn.

Paddling south along the western shoreline you will enter Smelt Brook Cove. At the southern tip is Crown Point also known as "haul out". Up through the 1950's, fishermen would use small boats to set seine nets and haul them back onto the beach to catch stripers and flatfish.

From Crown Point, you can paddle southeast across the pond to Jonathan's Island and the southern tip of Ram Island. You will pass several small, undeveloped islands along the way. Some of these islands once had small fishing shacks that were destroyed by the Hurricane of 1938. Any of these would be a good place to get out and stretch your legs or stop for lunch.

If you continue southeast along the western shore of Ram Island and you will pass though a narrow channel at the northern tip of Great Island known as Horseshoe Point. This will bring you into Welcome Cove on the eastern shore of Great Island. Great Island is about 2 miles long and 1/2 mile wide, and full of summer cottages. As you continue to paddle south down the east side of Great Island you will paddle into Bluff Hill Cove. This is a popular spot for clamming and at low tide

Continue along the eastern shore of Great Island until you pass under the bridge at Great Island Road. The [Galilee State Boat Ramp](#) is located here, but parking is restricted to boats with trailers, making Marina Park the better put-in for boaters with canoes and kayaks. As you paddle under the bridge you will enter Galilee.

The Port of Galilee is the fourth largest fishing port in New England, as well as the home of the Block Island Ferry. From the southern shore of Great Island you can see the bustling wharfs and piers of this busy commercial port. Continue to paddle around Great Island until you reach the

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Cormorants at the Port of Galilee

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western shore, but be careful to stay well outside of the motorboat channels, which are marked by red and green buoys. From the west side of Great Island, you can paddle out into the shallow water between Great Island and Snug Harbor. As you look south, you will get a nice view of the Port of Galilee on the east shore, and the small village of Jerusalem on the west shore. In between is the Breachway, which connects Point Judith Pond with the sea.

While the Point Judith Pond was connected to the sea by a natural breachway for most of its history, this permanent, man-made breachway was constructed in 1910. It allows the tide to flush the pond twice a day. The harbor at the mouth of the pond, now the Port of Galilee, was dredged and a



Lighthouse at Snug Harbor

dock constructed in 1935 to create this port for Rhode Island's fishing industry.

As you continue up the west side of Great Island you will get a nice view of the summer cottages on Great Island and the lighthouse and marina across the pond at Snug Harbor. For an interesting side trip, you can cross Point Judith Pond at Snug Harbor, and paddle up the inlet channel

located between the Snug Harbor Marina and the lighthouse. You will paddle under the Succotash Road Bridge and into Potter Pond. Potter Pond is a small salt pond with pretty views of the Matunuck barrier dunes to the south.

Continue north along the western shore of Great Island until you return to the southern tip of Ram Island. From here, you can paddle up either the east or west shore of Ram Island. Along the way you will paddle through the Moonstone Oyster Farm – one of several major aquaculture operations in Point Judith Pond.

At the northern tip of Ram Island, you need to follow the western shore of Harbor Island. Continue north, favoring the eastern side of the pond to avoid boating traffic, and then retrace your path through the Narrows and back to Marina Park.

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.**

Unless otherwise noted, Blackstone Valley Paddle Club trips are suitable for all boats and skill levels. More detailed trip descriptions can be found on the [web site](#).

Blackstone Valley Paddle Club Trips

August 7th – meet at 6:00 for a 6:15 launch

Manchaug Pond – Sutton, MA

Manchaug Pond is a 380-acre reservoir located in the towns of Sutton and Douglas, MA, which along with the Whitin

Reservoir serves as the headwaters of the Mumford River. Manchaug Pond is 6-miles around with lots of scenic coves, shoreline and islands to explore.

August 14th – meet at 6:00 for a 6:15 launch

Slatersville Reservoir - North Smithfield

This trip provides a nice paddle through a flatwater section of upper Slatersville Reservoir and then up a stretch of the Branch River.

August 21st – meet at 6:00 for a 6:15 launch

Year-end Party at Spring Lake

We will put in on Black Hut Road and paddle around Spring Lake to the waterfront home of Julie and Steve for a party - all are welcome!

August 28th – meet at 6:00 for a 6:15 launch

Stump Pond - Smithfield

Paddle around Stump Pond with a stop at the nearby Thirsty Beaver after the Paddle!

September 16th - meet at 12:30 for a 1:00 launch

GO Program Paddle

Lincoln Woods, Lincoln RI

Coordinator: Cheryl Thompson

stonefoxfarm@juno.com or 401-497-5887

This paddle is being offered by the Blackstone Valley Paddle Club for the [Blackstone National Heritage Corridor's "Go Program"](#), and is open to everyone.

Flatwater Trips

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

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August 4th to 11th

2018 RICKA Adirondacks Trip

Once again we will be paddling the waters of the Adirondacks State Park. Camping will be at Lake Eaton State Campground. Please contact Henry Dziadosz at hdziadosz@verizon.net with any questions if you plan to attend.

August 11th - meet at 9:00 for a 9:15 shuttle (new time)

Sudbury River – Wayland to Concord

Leaders: Bill Luther

williamluther058@gmail.com and Erik Eckilson eckilson@cox.net

An 8-mile trip on the scenic Sudbury River from Wayland to Concord. Bring a lunch.

August 18th - meet at 10:00 for a 10:15 shuttle

Pawcatuck River - Bradford to Potter Hill

Leaders: Chris Kracik Kracickj@cox.net, Henry Dziadosz hdziadosz@verizon.net home 401-567-0313 and Frank Cortesa frankcortesa@charter.net 508-369-8205

We will put in at the Bradford Landing and paddle down to Potter Hill. You can run or portage the new fish ramp that replaced the old Bradford Dam. Bring a lunch.

August 20th – meet at 6:00

Meeting on the Water

Narrow River – South Kingstown, RI

Leaders: Tony and Aline Moore tsunamikayak@juno.com

We will put in at the Pollock Street boat launch. The Narrow River is home to the [John H. Chafee National Wildlife Refuge](#).

August 25th - meet at 8:30 for a 9:00 am launch

Taunton River- Berkley Bridge Village Heritage Park.

Leader - Marty O'Loughlin

maopao@comcast.net 508-336-9592.

We will travel north toward the Weir section of Taunton River with a possible side trip on the 3 Mile River. Trip is suitable for all. Bring a lunch.

August 26th - 9:00 to 4:00

Club-Wide BC 2 Star Training - Tucker Pond in South Kingstown

Coordinators: Carleen McOsker Carleenmco@gmail.com or Cheryl Thompson stonefoxfarm@juno.com

See page 1 for additional information.

September 8th – meet at 10:00 for a 10:15 shuttle

Pawtuxet River - Warwick to the Cove

Leaders: Bill Luther

williamluther058@gmail.com, Erik Eckilson eckilson@cox.net 401-765-1741 and Chuck Horbert chorbert13@gmail.com 401-418-2838

The put-in is on the curve at Knight Street. The river twists and turns through the woods down to the Pawtuxet Cove. Bring a lunch.

September 15th - meet at 10:00

Bowdish Lake - Glocester, RI

Leaders: Pat and Earl MacRae earlandpat@comcast.net 508-928- 2650 cell: 508-988-5589.

If there is someone at the gate, just tell them you are here to use the boat ramp and you will not be charged an entrance fee.

September 22nd

RICKA Family Picnic

See page 3 for additional information and to register.

September 29th- meet at 10:30

Nashua River – Groton to Pepperell

Leaders: Louise Price

weezrad@yahoo.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 MA. Round trip will make this a

10-mile paddle. Suitable for any size boat. Bring a lunch

Sea Kayak Trips

Before choosing to participate in a trip, check the marine forecast and consider the trip level – we do not rate the paddler, only the paddle. Read the [RICKA Sea Kayak Paddling Basics](#) section of the website.

Always check the [Calendar](#) for changes to the schedule. Cancellations due to weather or other conditions will be posted on the [Message Board](#) by 8:00 a.m. the day of the trip.

August 5th at 10:00

Fort Wetherill, Jamestown, RI

Level 3

Coordinator: Tony Moore

tsunamikayak@juno.com

August 11th at 9:00

Sakonnet Point, Little Compton, RI

Level 3

Coordinator: Gary Branch

gbranch@verizon.com

August 18th at 9:00

Circumnavigation of Cape Ann, Gloucester, MA

RVSP only

Coordinator: Tim Gleason

gleason63@gmail.com

August 19th at 9:00

Fort Wetherill, Jamestown, RI

Level 3

Coordinator: Can Mejia

cam_mac@verizon.com

August 26th

BCU 2 Star Training with Kayak Waveology

See page 1 for details.

Coordinator: Carleen McOsker

Carleenmco@gmail.com or Cheryl

Thompson stonefoxfarm@juno.com

RICKA Classifieds

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

- **Snapdragon neoprene kayak skirt** - cockpit size large - 18 wide x 33-35 length, tunnel size small, 28-30 inches circumference - \$50. Contact welcomeplacefarm@yahoo.com
- **Beautiful handmade wooden kayak with wooden paddle** - Wood Duck 12 Hybrid from Chesapeake Light Craft. Fiberglass/epoxy so no maintenance required - \$1,750. Contact petemeboy@gmail.com
- **PRICE REDUCED: P&H Delphin** - kayak has been lightly used on flat water only and stored indoors. Typical poly hull scratches but nothing deep into the plastic, seat and back band all in great condition - \$750. Contact aikijerry@gmail.com
- **Walden Passage** - 15-foot performance touring kayak in yellow. Perfect for coast, bay, or river. Adjustable foot pedals. Built-in skeg. Bow and stern bulkheads. Includes nylon spray skirt and cockpit rim cover, matching two piece 230 cm Driftwood paddle, and bilge pump. All yours for \$750. Contact Mark at shinnen108@gmail.com
- **V10 Sport Surf Ski. Generation 1 V10 Sport** - in great shape, performance layup, 33lbs, no scratches or dings. Always stored indoors. Good choice for a kayaker looking to try a ski that is stable, efficient and can handle rough water conditions. Includes Epic leg leash and removable hip pads. Located in Essex, CT. Asking \$800. Contact Gerry at gerry@seasherpakayak.com
- **Perception Sparc** - good for flat or moving water. Listed as beginner to advanced kayak for a paddler under 170 pounds - \$125. Will throw in free paddle. Contact welcomeplacefarm@yahoo.com
- **Current Design Gulfstream** - kevlar kayak with skeg. Outstanding condition - yellow over white, highly maneuverable - \$1,800. Contact petekir@comcast.net or 508-748-2346
- **Valley Skerry RM sea kayak** - 17' x 23". skeg, ocean cockpit, sealed bulkheads, nylon sprayskirt. Fast for plastic, but also good for taking a beating in the rock gardens - \$400 OBO. **New Wave Cruise Control WW/ surfing kayak** - well maintained, stored indoors, not too abused as it has been used for surfing. Worn but functional sprayskirt included. Foot pegs removed- customize with foam - \$150. **Kevlar Arctic Hawk/ Wilderness Systems** - 18" X 21, fast and extremely light (35 lbs) boat. It is striped down for weight - no forward bulkhead or hatch, no pigment, just the basics - \$600. Located in Tiverton Contact Todd tmoore991@gmail.com
- **Canon WP-DC300 waterproof case** - free to a good home. Cheryl - stonefoxfarm@juno.com or 401-497-5887.
- **Mad River Rampage** - 14' ABS whitewater canoe with both high initial and excellent secondary stability; it tracks well yet is very maneuverable. Equipped with an electric bilge pump that puts the water back in the river while you paddle. \$250. Alan, alan02860@usa.com or 401-725-3344.
- **Astral Adult Life Jacket** - small/medium with organic Kapok - \$30 Contact wanderlust_bristol@yahoo.com
- **Old Town Discovery 16.9 Canoe** - Blue rotomolded plastic, 1990s vintage, good condition, with 2 Mowhawk ABS paddles, in N. Kingstown, \$450 or best offer - garywhitney3@cox.net
- **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 Greenland paddle (unused); spray skirt; cockpit cover; 2 hatch lids; and an instructional DVD on Greenland Paddling - \$2500.00. Contact Ken Pariseau at kenpariseau@verizon.net

Thanks to [Narrow River Kayaks](#) for their generous support of RICKA.



[Narrow River Kayaks](#) provides kayak and SUP tours and rentals on Rhode Island's beautiful Pettaquamscutt watershed, commonly known as the Narrow River. RICKA members also get special discounts on purchases (see the [website](#)).

Narrow River Kayaks
94 Middlebridge Road
Narragansett, RI 02882
(401) 789-0334

<http://www.narrowriverkayaks.net>

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.