

PADDLER

www.ricka.org

Newsletter of the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

Vol. XXXXI

No. 7

July 2018

July On-Water Meeting Wood River – Alton Dam

Monday, July 16th – 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 Wood River above the Alton Dam. We will paddle upstream to the Woodville Dam. This is a pleasant paddle on calm water through a pretty marsh. Our leaders for the evening will be Sharon Dragon shdrag1@gmail.com 401-225-3942 and Pat Lardner pslardner@gmail.com 401-524-8057.

Directions: From Route I-95 North - take exit 1 onto Route 3 South. At Route 216 turn left. Continue on Route 216 until it joins with Route 91. At that point, turn left on Route 91. Put-in will be on your left in a few miles. **From Route I-95 South** - take exit 2. Turn left off the exit and follow Woodville Alton Rd for 3.5 miles to the put-in on the left.



Paddling the Wood River
below the Woodville Dam

SUP Demo Night

Tuesday, July 10th – meet at 6:00 p.m. for a 6:15 p.m. launch

EMS Schools and the [Blackstone Valley Paddle Club](#) will be holding a stand-up paddleboard demo night at the [EMS Outdoor School on Late Pearl](#). This session is free and open to all RICKA and BVPC members. Please RSVP to Erik Eckilson eckilson@cox.net if you plan to attend.

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 McOsker Carleenmco@gmail.com or Cheryl Thompson stonefoxfarm@juno.com if you plan to attend.

From the RICKA Library

Sea Kayak Videos from Derek Hutchinson

Beyond the Cockpit - Volume 3

Many paddlers do all of their strokes and maneuvers while keeping their body directly over their kayak. Most sea kayaks turn a lot easier when they are put on edge. However, when you put your kayak on edge it increases the possibility of a capsize. If you can support yourself with your paddle as you lean out "Beyond the Cockpit" you can begin doing amazing things in calm water or rough water conditions. Derek has developed a unique approach (techniques & progressions) for getting his students to edge and lean their kayaks without the fear of capsizing and looking good in the process.

ABC's of the Surf Zone - Volume 4

This video will help the sea kayaker successfully negotiate their way through the surf zone while launching and landing. Even though there are some surfing demonstrations in sea kayaks, the focus of this video is learning how NOT to surf and remain in control. A full list of flatwater drills and skills are demonstrated to prepare you for the surf zone. The main sections include: oceanography, ocean effects on your kayak, the ABC's (Attitude, Body-Boat-Blade, Control, Safety), flat water drills, surf zone drills, launching, landing, capsizing in the surf zone, group launching & landing, surfing and more.

These are just two of the great videos and books 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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Erik Eckilson
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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.



Steve Haberek receives the 2018 Volunteer of the Year 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

A Little Rock Gardening at Fort Wetherill

By Erik Eckilson

I have often thought it was silly that I live a half-hour from the ocean, but I usually drive two or three hours to paddle at some far off river. Don't get me wrong; I love river paddling (especially [whitewater](#)), but it seems like I am missing out on some great paddling close to home.



Fort Wetherill

With that in mind, I spoke to Tony at one of our planning meetings about going out with him on sea kayak trip in his tandem Tsunami [sea kayak](#). I love tandem canoeing, so why would tandem kayaking be any different. I knew I wanted to do something with a little action, so we decided to do the trip at Fort Wetherill on the rocky Jamestown coast.

Fort Wetherill is former coastal defense battery and training camp located on 100-foot high granite cliffs across the East Passage from Newport and Fort Adams State Park. Shortly after the Revolutionary War, Fort Dumpling was built on this site to protect this strategic access to Newport and Narragansett Bay. The site would eventually become Fort Wetherill - part of an extensive coastal defense battery that included Camp Cronin on Point Judith, Fort Greble on Dutch Island, Fort Hamilton on Rose Island, and Fort Adams in



Heading out

Newport that protected Narragansett Bay during World War II.

I met Tony early so we could get our gear together and set up the boat. Fort Wetherill is a popular spot for scuba diving and fishing, and the divers and fisherman were out early as well. Eventually the rest of our crew arrived – 14 paddlers in 13 boats. The day was beautiful with sunny skies and light winds. We put in just after high tide with easy 1 to 2 foot waves.

The trip was led by the two Tims (Tim 1 and Tim 3) and was intended to be an introductory rock gardening trip to give newer paddlers experience around rocks in mild conditions. I strapped on my helmet and we headed out.

Rock gardening is the “whitewater” paddling of the sea kayak world. In rock gardening, you ride ocean swells over and around the rocky coast. Timing is everything as you ride the swells over rocks, and efficient paddling helps to keep you from getting bashed by waves.



Enjoying the waves

We paddled out of West Cove and headed west under the huge granite cliffs. The Tims provided coaching as we paddled in and around the rocks, and practice running gaps and pour-overs. When we weren't playing, it was great just to sit back and enjoy the scenery. We paddled around Southwest Point and into Mackerel Cove for lunch.

After lunch, we headed back to West Cove. Tony and I tried to run a pour-over at the end of Southwest Point against the waves. Unfortunately, our timing was slightly off, and the water receded before we could get our 20-foot boat completely over the rock. We were stuck high and dry, and there was nothing to do but wait for the next wave.



Among the rocks

That wave came, and pushed us back into a hole with a cross current that made it difficult to paddle back up and out through the shoot. We got bounced around by a couple of waves, but eventually got ourselves lined up and powered out and over the rock – it was cool.

We paddled in and around the rocks and enjoyed the views on the paddle back to Fort Wetherill. Hopefully Tony will paddle with me again, or I may need to find myself a sea kayak.

Erik is a [Flatwater](#), [Whitewater](#) and [Blackstone Valley Paddle Club](#) leader, and the Editor of the [Paddler](#) Newsletter. You can read his blog at [Open Boat Moving Water](#).

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.**

Blackstone Valley Paddle Club Trips

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](#).

July 3rd – meet at 6:00 for a 6:15 launch
Chocolateville Landing – Central Falls

We will put in at the Chocolateville Landing and paddle up to Valley Falls.

July 10th – meet at 6:00 for a 6:15 launch
SUP Demo Night

EMS Schools and the Blackstone Valley Paddle Club will be holding a stand-up paddleboard demo session at the [EMS Outdoor School on Late Pearl](#). This session is free and open to all RICKA and BVPC members, but you must register in advance. Contact Erik Eckilson eckilson@cox.net to register.

July 17th – meet at 6:00 for a 6:15 launch
Bowdish Lake - Gloucester RI

A pleasant paddle around Bowdish Lake.

July 24th – meet at 6:00 for a 6:15 launch
Blackstone Gorge – Blackstone, MA

We will put in above the Rolling Dam and paddle up to the Millville Lock.

July 31st – meet at 6:00 for a 6:15 launch
Manville Dam – Cumberland

We will put in above the Manville Dam and paddle up the Blackstone River. We often see herons and other wildlife.

August 7th – meet at 6:00 for a 6:15 launch
Providence River – Bold Point, East Providence

We will cross a short section of the Providence Harbor, paddle through the Hurricane Barrier, and up the Woonasquatucket River to the Providence Place Mall. This is a great urban paddle through the City of Providence. Kayak skirts are recommended for the crossing.

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!

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.

July 7th – meet at 9:30 for a 10:00 shuttle
Pawcatuck River – Richmond to Bradford
Leader: Erik Eckilson eckilson@cox.net
401-765-1741

We will put-in in at the J Cronan Access and paddle down to Bradford Landing. The river twists and turns, and you can run or portage the broken dam at Burdickville. We will stop for lunch, and a swim if it is warm enough, at Burlingame. Bring a lunch.

July 10th – meet at 6:00 for a 6:15 launch
SUP Demo Night
Organizer: Erik Eckilson eckilson@cox.net
401-765-1741

See Blackstone Valley Paddle Club listing.

July 14th – launch at 10:30.
Ninigret Pond - Charlestown
Leader: Sharon Dragon
shdrag1@gmail.com 401-225-3942

Ninigret Pond is Rhode Island's largest coastal salt pond. The area features stunning landscapes and abundant coves to explore. Bring a lunch.

July 16th – launching at 6:00
Meeting on the Water - Alton to Woodville
Leader: Sharon Dragon
shdrag1@gmail.com 401-225-3942

We will put-in at the Alton Dam and paddle upstream to the Woodville Dam. This is a pleasant paddle with little current through a pretty marsh.

July 22nd – meet at 10:00
Wickford-Harbor – North Kingstown
Leaders: Erik Eckilson Erik Eckilson
eckilson@cox.net 401-765-1741 and Earl MacRae. earlandpat@comcast.net. 508-928- 2650 cell: 508-988-5589.

We will put in at the Wilson Park boat

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Continued from page 5.

ramp, and paddle in the calm, wind-protected waters among the islands and marshes. We will stop for lunch at Cornelius Island. Bring a lunch.

July 27th – meet at 6:00

Full Moon Paddle on Norton Reservoir

Leader: Lee Parham home -508-286-5999, cell 774-266-0709.

We will meet at 6:00 for a get-together at Lee Parham's waterfront home. Bring your beverages and any snacks you wish to share. We will launch at 7:45 for the paddle. Moonrise and sunset is at 8:10. Trip is suitable for all. Bring a headlamp or flashlight.

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 10:00 for a 10:15 shuttle

Sudbury River – Wayland to Concord

Leaders: Bill Luther prijon@juno.com and Erik Eckilson eckilson@cox.net 401-765-1741.

An 8-mile trip on the scenic Sudbury River. We will put-in at Sherman's Bridge Road in Wayland and stop for lunch at a small island in Fairhaven Bay. We will take out on the Concord River at Lowell Road in Concord. Bring a lunch.

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

Pawcatuck River - Bradford to Potter Hill

Leaders: Chris Kracik Kracikcj@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 approximately 7 miles down to Potter Hill. This section of the Pawcatuck River has plenty of deep water. You can run or portage the new fish ramp that replaced the old Bradford Dam.

August 20th – meet at 6:00

Meeting on the Water - Narrow River

Leaders: Tony and Aline Moore tsunamikayak@juno.com

We will put in at Pollock Street and paddle this pleasant section of the Narrow River.

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.

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.

July 1st at 10:00

Seapowet Beach

Level: 2

Coordinator: Cam - cam_mac@verizon.net

July 4th at 9:00

Sakonnet Harbor - Little Compton, RI

Level: 3/4

Coordinator: Jon Sharlin - jonathansharlin@gmail.com

July 7th – RSVP only

Circumnavigation of Fishers Island

Coordinator: Tim Motte-
timothyjmotte@gmail.com

July 14th at 10:00

Esiker Point Boat Launch, CT
Level 5

Coordinator: Tim Motte-
timothyjmotte@gmail.com

July 21st at 10:00

Potters Cove, Jamestown, RI
Level 2

Coordinators: Carol COSTANZA -
c2sea@verizon.com and Carleen McOsker
carleenmco@gmail.com

July 29th at 10:00

Pier 5, Narragansett, RI
Level 3

Coordinator: Gary Branch
gpbranch@verizon.com

August 4th 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
gpbranch@verizon.com

August 14th at 9:00

Circumnavigation of Cape Ann, Gloucester, MA

RVSP only

Coordinator: Tim Gleason
gleason63@gmail.com

August 25th 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

RICKA Classifieds

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

- **Wilderness Systems Tsunami 125 Touring Kayak** - lightly used for a couple of seasons before giving way to longer boats. Roto-molded shell, phase-3 air pro seating, thigh braces, slide lock foot braces, bow and stern compartments with domed hatches, fully rigged with bungees and perimeter deck lines. 12'6" long, 54 lbs - \$575. Cash only. Contact r.tremper@comcast.net
- **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
- **Nordica glass ocean kayak** - prime condition, yellow - asking \$2,600. **Gliss whitewater play boat** - brand new, yellow - \$1,600. **Infinity paddleboard** - used less than a dozen times in Narragansett Bay, red - \$1,600. Might consider offers for all three. Call or text Roger at 401-339-4068 or rogernc@mac.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
- **P&H Cetus-MV carbon-fiber sea kayak** - built 2010, red, excellent condition, 17' long, with neoprene spray skirt. Large capacity, efficient hull, 4 hatches, compass, stored indoors - \$2,500. Contact Fred at fffgrif@yahoo.com
- **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 \$1,950. Also for sale: **2 Thule J-bars and racks with c-clips** (items show wear and tear but structurally still sound). Asking \$35.00. Contact Fred at g33zr@gmx.com or text 401.569.6038
- **P&H Delphin 150 Surf** - length: 15', width: 21.5" - good condition. always stored in a garage. Asking \$950. Contact Gary at gpbranch@verizon.net or text/call - 401.269-6850
- **Coleman duel fuel lantern with case** - \$50 - goes for 110 new. Louise Price at weezrad@yahoo.com
- **Adirondack Guide Boat** - 17 feet, seaworthy and fast rowing boat, that needs TLC. \$350 obo. Contact aelliotd@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

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.