

PADDLER

www.ricka.org

Newsletter of the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association Vol. XXXXI No. 9 September 2018

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 launch site](#). Lunch will be served starting at 12:30. Fire Works Catering will provide a wrap sandwich luncheon. The RICKA Awards Ceremony will follow lunch. **See page 3 for additional information, and mark your calendar for this fun event!**



RICKA paddlers on the beach at the 2015 RICKA Family Picnic at Ninigret Park

Directions: Take Route 1 South to Charlestown, going 2.3 miles past the junction of Route 1 and Route 2. After going past Prosser Trail (Windswept Inn on corner), make a U-turn onto Route 1 North, then bear right onto Route 1A (at the Tourist Information sign). Follow the Ninigret Park (a town park) sign on Route 1A for 0.5 mile and then turn right into the main entrance to the park (across from Charlestown Police Station).

The launch site is at the very end of the main access road (about 1 mile down Park Lane). Follow the road (Park Lane) left at the tennis courts, past the Frosty Drew observatory, and then straight to the terminus of the road at the Grassy Point Parking Area in the US Fish and Wildlife Refuge.

There is a gravel road at the end of the parking area to drive down to the Kayak Launch to unload your boats. Once unloaded, drive cars back to parking area. There is also a rest room located at the parking area. Parking available for 25 to 30 cars.

GPS coordinates to parking lot: N 41 21.900 W 071 39.400

Sea Kayak Technique & Rescue Practice September 5th and 12th

On September 5th and 12th, the [Sea Kayak](#) group will be holding paddling and rescue practice 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.

Wilderness Camping Trip October 4th - October 8th

[Wilderness](#) Chair Chuck Horbert will be leading a 5-day, 4-night camping trip on the Raquette River in the Saranac Lakes Wilderness Forest Area. This trip is open to anyone, beginner to expert, who has done at least one self-supported, canoe or kayak overnight primitive camping trip. **See page 5 or the website for additional information.**

<http://www.ricka.org/RaquetteRiver.html>

Wilderness Selections from the RICKA Library

Northern Forest Canoe Trail - Official Guidebook (Book) - Reviewed by Susan Engelman



The newest addition to the RICKA Library is a great source of information for anyone thinking of paddling a section of the Northern Forest Canoe Trail that runs 740 miles and links waterways from New York to Maine. The book is divided into sections by state and includes information on camping, portages, gear and equipment. It describes opportunities for flatwater, quickwater and whitewater paddling on a range of rivers, streams, lakes and ponds. Details of flora and fauna are also included. Paddlers of all skill levels will appreciate the vast amounts of information this book has to offer.

The Complete Wilderness Paddler (Book) – Reviewed by Log of Ibi



The authors use a canoe trip on the Moisie River as the vehicle for teaching us everything we need to know to make a similar trip. The book includes sections on navigation, maps, portaging, camping, reading rivers and learning how to plan descents by ferrying, lining and maneuvering. It covers everything from how to find a wilderness worthy of paddling, to managing capsizes and wilderness disasters. It's unfortunate that the book hasn't been revised, but the dated material is minor and easily ignored, as the most valuable information on things like safety, wind and the behavior of whitewater are timeless.

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 September 5th 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.

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 to editor@ricka.org!

Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

Executive Board

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RICKA Family Picnic

Ninigret Park in Charlestown

Saturday, September 22, 2018

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In the morning, flatwater and sea kayak trips will leave from the [boat launch site](#). 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.



RICKA paddlers take to the water at the 2015 RICKA Family Picnic at Ninigret Park

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 calendar 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 Soggy Day on the Sudbury River

By Erik Eckilson

The forecast called for rain, and rain is what we got, but that didn't dampen the spirits of four intrepid paddlers who explored the [Sudbury River](#) as it meanders through the towns of Wayland and Sudbury in Massachusetts.

The Sudbury - a [National Wild and Scenic River](#) - arises in Westborough and flows generally northeast for 37 miles to its convergence with the Assabet River at Egg Rock in Concord to form the Concord River. The smaller but faster moving Assabet takes priority as water flows into the Concord River. The larger but slower moving Sudbury has to wait its turn, and water from the Sudbury backs up to form the huge wetlands that are part of the [Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge](#).



Heading out from Sherman's Bridge Road

We met at 9:00 at the put-in at Sherman's Bridge Road in Wayland. Our original plan was to run a shuttle down to Lowell Road in Concord, but with rain and the threat of thunderstorms, we decided to skip the shuttle and stay close to the cars in case we needed to get off the river. We launched our boats at around 9:30 and headed south through the marshes toward Route 27.

Al explained that one of the major battles of King Philip's War - [the Sudbury Fight](#) - was fought here in April 1676. As Native American warriors moved east after devastating attacks in the town of



1848 Old Town Bridge

Marlborough, residents of Sudbury evacuated to the nearby [Haynes Garrison House](#) - a fortified structure where they successfully repelled several attacks.

The largest battle occurred when hundreds of Native American warriors ambushed a combined force of roughly fifty militiamen from Boston and Watertown coming to support the Sudbury residents. As we approached the Route 27 (Old Sudbury Road) Bridge, we pulled over and hiked a short way down old Route 27 and across the Old Town Bridge to a historical monument marking the burial site of some of these militiamen.

We returned to our boats and paddled under the historic Old Town Bridge. This stone arch bridge was built in 1848 on the site where the earliest bridge across the Sudbury River had been built in the 1640's.



Into the "Oxbow" - the old course of the Sudbury River

For many years, this was a major east-west passage connecting Boston to points west and south.

With higher water, we were able to paddle under the Old Town Bridge and through the swamp grass and bushes that are slowly filling in the "Oxbow" - the original course of the Sudbury River. As we headed back a steady rain began to fall, but with rain gear it was still comfortable.



Heading back to the put in after a great morning on the water

With 5 miles under our belt, we continued downstream past our put-in at Sherman's Bridge Road and into the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge - a 3,800 acre protected wetland and bird sanctuary along the Sudbury and Concord Rivers. The rain got heavier as we approached Lee's Bridge at Route 117 (South Great Road). We took a break under the bridge to let the worst of the rain pass before heading back. We arrived back at the put-in at around 1:30 after an 11-mile trip. In spite of the rain, it was another fun day on the water.

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.**

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.

September 8th – meet at 10:00 for a 10:15 shuttle
Pawtuxet River - Warwick to the Cove
Leaders: Bill Luther
williamluther058@gmail.com, 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 - Gloucester, 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 16th - meet at 12:30 for a 1:00 launch
**GO Program Paddle
Lincoln Woods, Lincoln RI**

This paddle is being offered by the Blackstone Valley Paddle Club, and is open to everyone.

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.

Round trip will make this a 10-mile paddle. Suitable for any size boat. Bring a lunch.

Sea Kayak Trips

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

September 2nd at 10:00
Rockapalooza at Sakonnet Point
Level: 3
Coordinator: Tim Motte
timothyjmotte@gmail.com
Helmets required, tow belts appreciated

Wilderness Camping Trip - Thursday, October 4th through Monday, October 8th (Columbus Day)
Raquette River in the Saranac Lakes Wilderness Forest Area in Adirondack State Park
Leader: Chuck Horbert (chorbert13@gmail.com) or (401-418-2838). **RSVP required no later than September 21st**

This trip is open to anyone, beginner to expert, who has done at least one self-supported, canoe or kayak overnight primitive camping trip. **This trip will be limited to a maximum of 6-7 individuals.** Well-behaved dogs also welcome.

We will put in on the Raquette River at the Axton Landing access, camp overnight on the river for 4 nights, and take out at ‘The Crusher’ access on Rte 3/30. Camping locations are plentiful and flexible and can be decided on the river as dictated by the weather, campsite availability and group preferences. A tentative schedule is to camp the first two nights at the junction of Stony Creek and Raquette River, with a day trip up to Stony Creek Ponds. Paddle upstream to Raquette Falls on Day 3, camping nearby on the way back downstream. Continue downstream on Day

4, past Axton Landing, and selecting a campsite on the way between there and The Crusher. Day 5, paddle the rest of the way to The Crusher, run shuttle, pack up and go home. Total mileage will be approximately 25 miles over 4 days of paddling (there will likely be only minimal paddling the first day)

Raquette River is a moderately wide flatwater river with no rapids. Stony Creek is flatwater, sharply meandering and narrow, with slow current, flowing out of medium-sized Stony Creek Ponds where wind-generated waves are generally small.

We will camp on established campsites, which all have fire pits, and may or may not have picnic tables, privies/outhouses, or lean-to shelters. All camping and paddling equipment must be self-provided.

Some group equipment will be arranged between confirmed participants.

Participants will be expected to be responsible for all of their own food, but if some or all members of the group want to do group breakfasts or dinners for some or all days, that is OK as well. Bear-proof containers are highly recommended but are not required.

Good dry bags or a foolproof waterproofing system are an absolute must to keep clothes and sleeping bags dry in both rain and in the event of a capsizing. Equipment lists and other packing recommendations will be provided to confirmed participants.

See the website for additional details.
<http://www.ricka.org/RaquetteRiver.html>

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@seasheerpakayak.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

BCU-2 Class August 28, 2018

RICKA's BCU-2 class on August 28th was a great success. Twenty paddlers signed on and **Tim Gleason** and **Brenda Rasleigh**, both seasoned and accomplished paddlers, came in a supportive role.

Many thanks to the RICKA board for offering this class to our members.

Thanks to Greg and Paula of [Kayak Waveology](#) for their expert help and direction. And as a plus, the weather was fine for a day on Tucker Pond!

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.