

From the Newsletter Editor...

## Paddling in a World of COVID-19

It has been a month since I last sat down to update this newsletter, and what a long, strange month it has been. For me as the RICKA newsletter editor, May should be a busy month – editing trip reports and updating trip listings. Like everyone else, with a quick look at the [Paddler](#) I usually begin deciding on upcoming trips - but not this year!

This year, like everyone else, I have settled into a strange routine. The window to my new home office looks out on a bird feeder, so I can watch the birds and squirrels outside even if I don't spend a lot of time there myself. I have been able to get my canoe out for a couple of solo runs on the Blackstone, so things could be worse.

As the warm weather approaches, though, we are entering a critical new phase in the fight against coronavirus and COVID-19. The Governor has indicated that she hopes to lift the stay-at-home order later this month, and begin a phased reopening of economy. For our community, the big question is how will this effect paddling.

One thing is certain; the fight against COVID-19 is far from over. As we move forward, physical distancing will still be required, limitations on group gatherings will still be in place, and we will still be encouraged to stay close to home. The large group trips that we know and love as

RICKA members will not be an option. Still, if this pandemic has shown us anything it is the importance of outdoor recreation to our physical and mental health.

So assuming the stay-at-home order is lifted, how do we move forward in a way that is socially responsible, and that protects our health and the health of others? Like everything else, the answer is slowly and carefully. As a community that means that we must:

- **Stay local** – if you need to stop for gas or a bathroom break you are probably travelling too far.
- **Keep the trip well within your skill level** – our health care system is busy enough without having to deal with accidental injuries.
- **If you paddle in a group, keep the group small** – while size limits on groups may also be increased, at least for the moment we should still be paddling in small groups.
- **Avoid group shuttles** – if you can't arrange to shuttle with a family member, skip the trip. (This is the tough one for me.)
- **Avoid congregating at the put in** – get on the water, do your trip, and be on your way. Social gatherings can return once the pandemic has passed.

- **Be responsible for your own gear** – coronavirus can spread on surfaces, and it is more difficult to maintain social distancing while helping someone with their boat or other gear.
- And of course, **maintain social distancing at all times** – at the put in, on the water, and at the take out.

A new term has entered our COVID-19 vocabulary – “**attractive nuisance**”. An “**attractive nuisance**” is an event, usually promoted on social media that results in a large and unsafe gathering. As a club, we certainly don't want our events to become an “**attractive nuisance**”, so we will continue to restrict the use of our message boards for the scheduling of ad hoc trips.

While our ability to get together on the water is limited, we can still get together virtually. We have scheduled two Club Meetings via Zoom Video Conference in May - *Virtual Demo Day with the Kayak Centre* on May 5<sup>th</sup>, and *Is the River Up? USGS Stream Gages* on May 26<sup>th</sup>. See page 2 for details and we hope you can join us then.

This is a critical time in the fight against coronavirus, so we encourage everyone to be patient, stay safe and stay distant. We are making progress, and we look forward to getting the club back together again - eventually...

# Club Meetings via Zoom Video Conference

## Virtual Demo Day with the Kayak Centre

May 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Matt and Rachel will be providing an overview of their latest inventory and will provide discounts on new kayaks and accessories. Discounts will be available for participants and will be announced at the virtual meeting. Please take a look at the Kayak Centre's web page to see what new and let us know via RSVP what kayaks, equipment or accessories you would like to see highlighted. Their new website is:

<https://www.kayakcentre.com/>

## Is the River Up? USGS Stream Gages

May 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

The [USGS](https://waterdata.usgs.gov/ri/nwis/rt) runs an extensive surface water and groundwater network throughout the entire country. This network provides crucial information that allows people to safely manage water resources as well allow the public to appropriately judge the safety of trips on the water. Join our guest speakers Richard Verdi and Christopher Bruet on a talk about the USGS gaging network. You can find the USGS gages for Rhode Island here:

<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/ri/nwis/rt>

RSVP to Pat Lardner at [pslardner@gmail.com](mailto:pslardner@gmail.com) and the Zoom link will be forward to you via email.

## RICKA is an ACA



## Paddle America Club

Your RICKA membership expired on March 31, 2020...

## 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.

## Board Meetings:

The next Executive Board meeting will be held on May 6<sup>th</sup> online as a ZOOM videoconference. Contact Pat (Mayhew) Lardner at [pslardner@gmail.com](mailto:pslardner@gmail.com) if you would like to participate

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## Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

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# RICKA Classifieds

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

- **Werner Camano 100% carbon bent shaft paddle** - 220 length. Excellent condition - used 4 times - \$300. **P&H Cetus** - low volume, yellow over white kevlar combo in very good condition - \$1,700. Contact [aikijerry@optonline.net](mailto:aikijerry@optonline.net)
- **Wanted to Buy: General recreational flat-water kayak** in the 12 to 13 foot range. I have in mind an Eddyline Skylark Kayak or similar model. Please contact me with specs, location, pictures and price at [mike.rubin54@gmail.com](mailto:mike.rubin54@gmail.com)
- **Werner Bent Shaft Cyprus Paddle** – 205 cm small shaft diameter, good condition, asking \$300. **Werner Bent Shaft Cyprus Paddle** – 210 cm, good condition, asking \$300. **Werner Bent Shaft Shuna Paddle** – 210 cm Citrus, never used (just sat on the kayak deck for 2 trips), \$260. Contact [emilkrasich@gmail.com](mailto:emilkrasich@gmail.com) or 508-878-1502
- **Take Greenland Model Kayak** - 18 x 20 white over white fiberglass. Ocean Cockpit in very good condition. No deep scratches, or damage - \$1,500. Contact [aikijerry@gmail.com](mailto:aikijerry@gmail.com)
- **Valley Skerrary** - 17 ft. X 23". Color Yellow Rotomold, wire skeg, ocean cockpit and lots of rocker - \$500. **Valley Avocet** - 16 ft. X 22". Color Yellow Rotomold, wire skeg, keyhole cockpit and lots of rocker - \$500. **Dagger Baja** - 16 ft. X 22". Color Blue Rotomold, integral rudder, keyhole cockpit - \$500. Please contact: Greg Paquin, Kayak Waveology, LLC. email: [coach@kayakwaveology.com](mailto:coach@kayakwaveology.com) tel: 860-304-4000
- **Old Town Discovery 16.9 Canoe** - Blue rotomolded plastic, 1990s vintage, good condition, with 2 Mowhawk ABS paddles, in N. Kingstown, \$250. Contact [garywhitney3@cox.net](mailto:garywhitney3@cox.net)
- **Betsie Bay Recluse Kayak** - 19' long and 20 1/2" wide; weight 30 to 34 lbs.; Paddler weight 175 lbs. & greater; Excellent Condition (stored indoors/only fresh water use); \$2,400 (\$4,000 new); Includes cockpit cover, spray skirt, & Greenland paddle. Contact Charlie 518-234-9235 in Albany, NY area.
- **2011 Valley Etain Sea Kayak** - it is the 17-7 model. The boat is in excellent structural condition, with only a few cosmetic repairs to the gel coat on hull. \$1,700 OBO. Located in North Kingstown. Contact Gary at [glreynolds@hotmail.com](mailto:glreynolds@hotmail.com) or 401-295-1449
- **High Performance Paddle Board** - approximate retail value of \$2K, offered at \$900. Available for viewing on the East Side of Providence. **Valley Pintail** - excellent condition - sking \$2,300. **Necky Gliss** - \$1,240. Contact [rogermc@mac.com](mailto:rogermc@mac.com) or cell 401-339-4068
- **P&H Scorpio LV** - (2009) 16'7" beam 22", custom cockpit with foam sacral block instead of back band, foam footrest, and foam under-deck thigh pad (have original thigh braces and foot pegs for re-installation if desired). Boat is in very good condition. Always stored in garage. \$675 OBO. **Valley Aquanaut** - (2005) 17'7" Beam 22". The boat is very good to excellent condition. Foam sacral block instead of back band, new front and rear hatch covers. Always stored in garage. \$1,275 OBO. Will also consider a trade for right boat. Contact Fred at [g33zr@gmx.com](mailto:g33zr@gmx.com) or text 401-569-6038
- **QCC500** - Fiberglass, length/width: 16' 10" x 23" cockpit: 30" x 16" yellow/white, nice stable boat. Comes with full-zip custom canvas cover and storm paddle. New skeg & cable. \$1,200 firm. **QCC700** - carbon kevlar, length/width: 18.0' x 21" cockpit: 30" x 16" Used 3 times, stored indoors, perfect condition. Includes cockpit cover; extremely fast. \$3,000. Contact 401-480-7799
- **Necky Looksha IV** - 17' long x 22" wide, polyglass. Fore & aft hatches, rudder, some poly dings repaired, new keel strip; double hard chines & rockered hull. About 54 pounds. \$1,500 OBO. Located in East Bay area. Contact [kayakjmj@yahoo.com](mailto:kayakjmj@yahoo.com)

Send your classified ads to RICKA Webmaster Cheryl Thompson, 53 Anan Wade Road, Glocester, RI 02857-2611 or [webmaster@ricka.org](mailto: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.

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