

PADDLER

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Newsletter of the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

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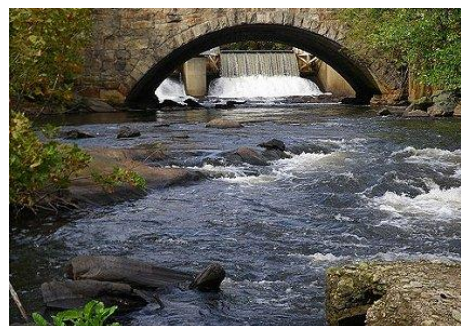
October Zoom Meeting

A View from the River

Historic Sites on Rhode Island's Blackstone River

Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Local historian and RICKA member Erik Eckilson will take us on a multimedia tour of Rhode Island's historic Blackstone River. Using pictures and video, many taken on the river, Erik will take us on a trip down the Blackstone to visit the ten mill villages that grew up along the river in the early nineteenth century.



Woonsocket Falls through the Globe Bridge

Erik is a resident of Woonsocket and a volunteer at the Rhode Island Historical Society's [Museum of Work and Culture](#). When he is not exploring local history, Erik can often be found paddling the Blackstone River. He is a leader for the [Blackstone Valley Paddle Club](#), a trip leader for the [RICKA Flatwater group](#), and the current Newsletter Editor.

The meeting will take place on Zoom videoconference. RSVP to Pat Lardner at pslardner@gmail.com and the Zoom link will be forward to you via email.

Halloween Monster Paddle at Roger Williams Park

Saturday, October 24th at 4:00 p.m.

Come join the fun at this year's Monster Paddle! Boooooooooo! Come as you are, or in full costume, or anything in between. We will paddle around the Cunliff Lake checking out the Halloween Lights and Swan Boats. The paddle will last an hour to an hour-and-a half. Since this is a twilight paddle, you will be required to bring a headlamp or flashlight for safety. A seasonal favorite that you don't want to miss.

Contact Chris Kracik at kracikcj@cox.net for additional information.

Movie Night - Our Favorite Trips of 2020

Tuesday, November 17th at 7:00 p.m.

With COVID-19 it has been a difficult year, but as a club we have adapted. Groups were smaller, trips were fewer, but with care and determination we did get out on the water. At our November Meeting, we'll look back with stories, pictures and videos at our favorite trips of 2020. The meeting will take place on Zoom videoconference. RSVP to Pat Lardner at pslardner@gmail.com and the Zoom link will be forward to you via email.

If you have a video you would like to share, please contact Erik Eckilson at eckilson@cox.net.

AMC Paddle Guides from the RICKA Library

Sea Kayaking along the New England Coast By Tamsin Venn

This is the AMC's classic guide that leads adventurous kayakers on more than 45 trips along the magnificent New England coastline. Kayakers of all abilities can explore expansive sand beaches, bird watch in vast marshes, tour solitary estuaries, or challenge their skills along wild shorelines. Each trip includes a detailed map and description. Whether you're just discovering the joys of sea kayaking or have been exploring the New England coast for years, Sea Kayaking Along the New England Coast will expand your list of paddling locations.

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.

Quiet Water MA, CT and RI By John Hayes and Alex Wilson

This is the AMC's popular Quiet Water guide that offers paddlers of all ages and abilities adventure and enjoyment on the water. These tours lead you to out-of-the-way lakes and ponds, meandering rivers, marshy coves and inlets, and more. Each trip features a detailed tour description including habitat type and notes about the flora and fauna you'll discover along the way. Beginner and experienced paddlers, birdwatchers, anglers, and families alike will appreciate this detailed, easy-to-use guide to southern New England's best quiet water.

RICKA is an ACA



Paddle America Club

Executive Board:

The next Executive Board meeting will be held on November 4th at 7:00 p.m. online as a ZOOM videoconference. Contact Pat (Mayhew) Lardner at pslardner@gmail.com if you would like to participate.

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

Submit your stories to the

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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13th Annual RICKA Family Picnic

A fun day, and an opportunity to thank our many volunteers

Once a year, the entire club gets together for the RICKA Family Picnic. It's a great time for everyone to get together for some fun. It's also an important opportunity to recognize the dedicated volunteers that make our club possible.

After a few year hiatus, the RICKA Family Picnic was reinstated in 2008 by then RICKA President (now RICKA Librarian) Bill Hahn. An important consideration in planning the picnic has always been to find a fun location where everyone can participate in the paddle. This year, the picnic was held at Bristol Town Beach Pavilion.

The day started with a paddle on Narragansett Bay into the Warren River led by Pat Lardner. After the paddle, everyone gathered at the Pavilion for lunch and the RICKA Awards Ceremony. The food was plentiful and great. This year, awards were presented to four deserving volunteers.

Volunteers of the Year Award **Skye and Steven Pechie**



The 2020 Volunteer of the Year Award goes to Skye and Steven Pechie. Skye and Steven have stepped up as leaders in a challenging year.

With safety concerns and our state under a global pandemic, Skye and Steven have

proven to be true leaders. They together have been role models for other leaders to follow when concerns of social distancing, mask requirements and a multitude of state restrictions have been monumental concerns to the board and club members.

Skye and Steven helped roll out the guidelines that the club has adopted for trips. They were the first leaders to follow that plan, leading the first official RICKA paddle with step-by-step procedures that made our members and board comfortable with the challenges. As a result, we are safely back out on the water.

Lifetime Achievement Award **Carleen McCosker**



Carleen has been a sea kayak leader and has served as only the second [RICKA Sea Kayak](#) Chair for the past 20 years. The group of sea kayakers has grown under her leadership as many have gained BCU certification and traveled to distant paddling locations.

Carleen has been an effective liaison for the sea kayak group with other board members. She is often vocal in her opinions and has never backed away from maintaining and enforcing tougher safety standards. Her home is a favorite place for group meetings and planning sessions.

Lifetime Achievement Award **Erik Eckilson**



Erik has been a flatwater leader as well as serving as the fifth RICKA Newsletter Editor for the last 8 years. He has presided over the annual nominating of officers and has been a leader for the Blackstone Valley Paddle Club for many years.

Erik's positive attitude is infectious. He is often the last one paddling during the course of a year. He paddles with everyone regardless of club affiliation, treats all with respect and has always represented RICKA with distinction.

Erik enjoys flatwater and occasional sea kayaking paddles but his passion for whitewater is well documented in the many photos and videos. Movie night has become one of the highlights of the year under Erik's direction. In a world where kayakers have gained prominence, Erik still paddles his favorite canoes and has been a great leader for RICKA.

It was great day, so thanks to everyone who helped make it possible. We would also like to thank all the other RICKA volunteers that make this club possible throughout the year – especially our many trip leaders. We couldn't do it without you!

Sharon's Excellent Adventure

By Sharon Dragon

It goes without saying that many, many people are undergoing terrible hardships right now, and I try to be someone who counts her many blessings, who acknowledges that her cup is more than half full – because it certainly is. So a cancelled vacation isn't the end of the world, but it is a major bummer. So what's a girl to do when her long-awaited trip to the ADK is cancelled? She goes on an excellent adventure of her own a month later!

First stop, Moreau Lake State Park campground in the Glens Falls, NY area for two nights. Alas, no water sites, but quite a nice campground - site was fairly private, actual bathrooms with tile, clean, biking and paddling opportunities. Particularly fun was biking the path through the woods around the lake. Glass more than half full!



Moreau Lake State Park

I tried some off-road biking while I was in the area, which for me meant some time off the bike, pushing it uphill or keeping me and it from rolling downhill – surprisingly more exerting than actually riding the bike! Hudson Pointe Nature Preserve offered well-marked trails with awesome views of the Hudson River.

An easier choice for me was the Glens Falls Feeder Canal Towpath. Starting at the Feeder Dam, bikers can see the remains of



Paddling on the Schroon River

the only lock in the area. After just a few miles of meandering through woodlands along the Hudson River, the path runs through a very industrialized area, so I thought my ride was over.

But, wait, what does that sign say? Warren County Bikeway? I decided to give it a go, and now I can't wait to bike more of it next time around. Long stretches of flat and gently rolling terrain, signage highlighting the historical attractions, and great rest stops along the way made this such an enjoyable cycling experience. Glass more than half full!

Next stop, Lewey Lake Campground outside of Indian Lake for five relaxing nights on the lake! Oh, not so quick – car overheats on the way. How lucky am I that I just pulled off the highway into the town of Warrensburg where there's phone service and a campground to stay in while my car is towed and repaired! I even had a chance to unload all my gear before the tow truck came without any rain! Glass more than half full!

Stranded without a car? Not me – the campground was located right on the Schroon River, and I had my bike and kayak! Biking along River Road, remnants of Warrensburg's past were visible in the form of stone pilings used to weigh down

cribs that served as holding areas for logs coming down the river.

I also had time to pull my kayak into the water and paddle a beautiful stretch of the river. The river shoreline is experiencing some significant erosion, and the Adirondack Park Association is limiting points of entry to the river to help restore it.

After two days, the car was fixed, and off I went to Lewey Lake, but it wasn't really fixed after all. Just as I pulled into the campground, it overheated for a second time. Again, how lucky am I that I wasn't stuck on I-87?

No wireless phone service at the campground, but at least they had a landline. As I waited to be towed back to the repair shop, I enjoyed the quiet solitude of the lake and a great view of the mountains – can't wait to go back and actually camp there. Glass more than half full!



Back home in Rhode Island

Conceding defeat on car repairs in NY, I had to get my car back to Rhode Island by driving a 10-foot box truck towing my car on a trailer. Quite an experience indeed! Overall, it WAS an excellent adventure, and after a few bumps in the road (literally), I made it home safe and sound. Glass full!

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. **ESPECIALLY WITH COVID-19, 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. **An RSVP to the coordinator is required for all trips.** Appropriate skills and equipment are required.

October 10th - meet at 10:30 for an 11:00 launch.

Blackstone Gorge Fall Colors Paddle

Trip Coordinator - Gary Powers
garpow28@aol.com

This is a pretty fall paddle, just under 4 mi. round trip and suitable for all paddlers. Due to the size of the parking lot, this trip will be limited to 10 cars or 15 paddlers. This trip may change depending on MA quarantine requirements.

October 11th - meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 launch

Pawcatuck River – Potter Hill

Trip Coordinator: Sharon Dragon
shdrag1@gmail.com

We will paddle up river from Potter Hill and back, maybe 7-8 miles. The parking lot is on Post Office Lane in Westerly. Bring lunch.

October 12th - meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 launch

Pachaug Pond - Griswold, CT

Trip coordinators: Cheryl Thompson 401-497-5887 or stonefoxfarm@juno.com and Tom Farley trfarley0816@gmail.com

Approximately a 7-mile paddle. Suitable for all boats and levels of experience. Bring a lunch.

October 17th - meet at 10:00 for a 10:15 launch

Tully Lake Recreation Area - Royalton, MA

Trip Coordinator - Erik Eckilson
eckilson@cox.net 617-794-0378

It's a bit of a drive, but worth the trip, the foliage can be spectacular. Suitable for all boats and all levels of experience. Bring a lunch. This trip may change depending on MA quarantine requirements.

October 24th - meet at the launch at 4:00 for a 4:30 launch.

Halloween Monster Paddle at Roger Williams Park

Trip organizer: Chris Kracik
chris.kracik@gmail.com

See page 1.

November 7th - meet at 1:00 pm for a 1:30 launch (Rain date of November 8th)

Turkey-less, Turkey Paddle on Wallum Lake

Trip Coordinators: Cheryl Thompson
stonefoxfarm@juno.com 401-497-5887 and Sharon Dragon shdrag1@gmail.com

Suitable for all boats and all levels of experience. Due to current circumstances, we will have to miss out on our annual after paddle dinner. This trip may change depending on MA quarantine requirements.

Sea Kayak Trips

[Sea Kayak](#) trips are posted in the [Paddles](#) section of the [Sea Kayak Message Board](#). Appropriate skills and equipment are required. Due to recent upgrades you may need to re-register to access the Sea Kayak Message Board

Join us for these fun holiday paddles!



Halloween Monster Paddle – October 24th



Turkey-less Turkey Paddle - November 7th

RICKA Classifieds

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

- **Mariner Express** - a very hard to find fiberglass sea kayak - 16" x 21.5". Very good condition and has always been stored indoors - \$2,300. Contact jklowan@excite.com
- **Impex Force 3 Sea Kayak** - 2019 but like new condition. 17' x 20.5". White with lime green stripes. After buying this beautiful boat, I realized it was not suitable for me - \$2,200. **Wilderness Tempest 165** - rotomolded sea kayak – lime green - \$800. Call Beklen at 646-263-9359
- **Dagger Sitka**- fiberglass, white hull, yellow top. Close to 18 feet with smart rudder system. Very good condition with dry hatches. Contact jonathansharlin@gmail.com
- **Valley Avocet (poly) along with two paddles** - (one a two piece wooden) hula-port cradles, a paddle float and cockpit pump. Asking \$900 for the package. Contact aja151@aol.com
- **Valley Aquanaut** – 2000, 17'7" Beam 22", yellow over white. The boat is very good to excellent condition - \$1,250 OBO. Email scr1v3nr@gmail.com or text at 401-569-6038
- **Yakima Even Keel rooftop kayak saddles** - brand new, never used; bought during quarantine, accidentally put in storage during move and now it's too late to return them. Paid \$119; will sell for half price-\$60. Contact caryl@netscape.com or 401-480-7799
- **Yakima roof rack** - Q-towers, Q70 & Q124 clips, 48" crossbars .Used for 10 years, most recently fit a 2005 Toyota Prius -\$60. Contact babsona@gmail.com
- **Tiderace Xplore S** – 2014 in excellent condition. Stored indoors, lovingly maintained. 17' 5" x , 20", weight 55 lbs. Includes Tiderace neoprene spray skirt and Wildwasser pump - \$2400. Contact Jean at 917-379-4499
- **Tahe Greenland Kayak** – 18' x 20" - white over white fiberglass. Ocean cockpit in very good condition. No deep scratches, or damage - \$1500 **Werner Camano** - 100% carbon bent shaft paddle 220 length. Excellent condition - used 4 times - \$300. Contact aikijerry@gmail.com
- **WANTED TO BUY: General recreational flat-water kayak** -12 to 13 foot range - Eddyline Skylark Kayak or similar model. Please contact me with specs, location, pictures and price at mike.rubin54@gmail.com
- **Old Town Discovery 16.9 Canoe** - blue rotomolded plastic, 1990s vintage, good condition, with 2 Mowhawk ABS paddles, in N. Kingstown, \$250. garywhitney3@cox.net
- **Betsie Bay Recluse** - Greenland Style Outfitted Boat; built/bought 2007/original owner; 19' long and 20 1/2" wide; weight 30 to 34 lbs.; with spray skirt, cockpit cover, Greenland Paddle (Tuktu), Brooks Tuilik (large), and other accessories; Excellent condition (stored indoors/only fresh water use); \$2750 (\$4500 value); Contact Charlie 518-234-9235 in Albany, NY area.
- **High performance paddle board** - approximate retail value of \$2K, offered \$900. **Valley Pintail** - if new, approximately \$4,500. This one in excellent condition; Asking 2,30. **Necky Gliss** - is new. A great value, offered @ \$1,240. Available for viewing on the East Side of Providence rogernc@mac.com or cell 401-339-4068
- **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. \$3000. Contact 401.480.7799
- **Necky Looksha IV** - fore and aft hatches, rudder, some poly dings repaired, new keel strip; double hard chines and rockered hull. About 54 pounds - \$1,500 OBO. Located in East Bay area. kayakjnj@yahoo.com
- **PRICE REDUSED Handmade Wooden Kayak with Wooden Paddle** - Wood Duck 12 hybrid from Chesapeake Light Craft. Fiberglass/epoxy so no maintenance required - \$1,500. Contact petemeboy@gmail
- **Valley Skerry RM Sea Kayak** - 17' x 23", bought new in 1994, well maintained. Skeg, ocean cockpit (slightly longer than the original ocean cockpit). Includes nylon spray skirt- \$400. **New Wave Cruise Control WW/Surfing Kayak** - 10.5" x 26", mid-90s design, well maintained, stored indoors, not too abused as it has been used for surfing - \$150. Contact Todd at tmoore991@gmail.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.