

PADDLER

www.ricka.org

Newsletter of the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

Vol. XLV

No. 4

May 2022

May Member Meeting Aquaculture and Right of Way/Water Access with the CRMC

Monday, May 23, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.



The Rhode Island [Coastal Resources Management Council](#) (CRMC) is the state agency responsible for managing and regulating activities that occur along the Rhode Island shore. Created by an act of the General Assembly in 1971, the CRMC is comprised of a professional staff of engineers and biologists, and a 10-member council representing different Rhode Island communities appointed by the Governor. The CRMC's mission is to preserve, protect, develop, and restore Rhode Island's coastal resources. The agency is involved with many issues that affect paddlers, but two of the most important are aquaculture and shore access.

At our May meeting, Aquaculture Coordinator Benjamin Goetsch will discuss the state's aquaculture industry (shellfish farming, etc.) and navigation through and around [farm areas](#), and Coastal Policy Analyst Leah Feldman will discuss rights of way and [water access](#). The meeting will take place on Zoom videoconference. RSVP to Frank Cortesa at frankcortesa@charter.net and the Zoom link will be sent to you via email.

Sea Kayak Paddle and Planning Meeting May 14, 2022 (Rain date May 15, 2022)

The day will start with a level 2-3 paddle in the Westport area. Depending on the group and conditions, we may break up for separate level 2 and 3 trips. Appropriate cold-water gear is required for the trip you are on. See the [Sea Kayak Message Board](#) for details. A "Potluck" and Planning Meeting will follow at 3:00 at 1404 Drift Road, Westport. The "Potluck" is optional – feel free to bring your own food if you would rather not share. Please bring ideas for trips to add to the calendar. If you cannot come to the paddle, please come to the Planning Meeting - we need your input.

Please contact Brenda Rashleigh at [rickaseakayak@gmail.com](mailto:ricenseakayak@gmail.com) with any questions.

Congratulations to RICKA's 2022 to 2023 Executive Officers

Congratulations to the Executive Officers for the 2022 to 2023 year that were elected at our Annual Meeting in April:

President: Frank Cortesa
Vice President: Danny O'Shea
Secretary: Skye Pechie
Treasurer: Sharon Dragon

We would also like to extend a special thanks to our out-going President Pat (Mayhew) Lardner (3 terms) and Treasurer Andy Viera (8 terms) for their dedicated service to the club. We appreciate all the work you have done.

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 capsizing. 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.

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.

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.

RICKA is an ACA



Paddle America Club

Executive Board Meeting:

The next Executive Board meeting will be held on May 4th at 7:00 p.m. online as a ZOOM videoconference. To participate contact Frank Cortesa at frankcortesa@charter.net and the Zoom link will be sent to you.

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

Your RICKA membership expired on March 31, 2022...

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

President: Frank Cortesa.....508-369-8205.....frankcortesa@charter.net
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Whitewater: Paul Leclerc 401-568-1103 paul_leclerc@hotmail.com

Wilderness: Chuck Horbert 401-418-2838..... chorbert13@gmail.com

It's Time to Renew your Membership

You'll be supporting Rhode Island's oldest and largest paddle sports club

For 45 years, the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association (RICKA) has been providing great paddling opportunities for its members. We are the oldest and largest paddle sport club in Rhode Island. **A new membership year began on April 1st, so please join or renew your membership now.**

Why should you join RICKA? Let's start with the trips. Each year RICKA organizes hundreds of trips ranging from easy daytrips to weeklong excursions. Whether you enjoy [flatwater](#), [sea kayaking](#), [whitewater](#) or [wilderness tripping](#), there is trip for every interest and skill level at RICKA.

Are you looking to improve your paddling skills? Training is also an important part of the RICKA mission. Each year RICKA offers many fun and informative training

sessions. Many of these sessions are offered free of charge, or at a significant discount to our members.

In addition to trips and training, we produce eleven monthly issues of our outstanding newsletter the [Paddler](#), hold [monthly meetings](#) with interesting and informative speakers, and maintain the [websites](#), [Facebook page](#), and message boards that keep you up-to-date on trips and activities. Our [library](#) also includes an extensive collection of paddling books and videos covering all aspects of paddling.

Do you need to buy or sell boat? You should check out the [RICKA Classified Ads](#) on our website and in the Paddler. If you can't find what you need there, RICKA members also get special discounts at several area retailers (see the website).



Join RICKA and be part of the fun!

So, if you like what we do, but are not a RICKA member, please join today - its just \$15 for the entire family. If you are a RICKA member, please renew your membership now. Memberships run from April 1, 2022 to 2023. You can join the club or renew your membership online using PayPal at:

<http://www.ricka.org/Join/JointheFun.html>.

For additional information, please contact Membership Chair Gary Powers at RICKAmembership@gmail.com.



2022 Membership Application/Renewal

(Please submit one form per family)

New members complete the entire application.

Renewal members fill in ONLY your NAME and any NEW information.

RICKA DUES (with email newsletter) = \$15	[]
BVPC DUES (Blackstone Valley Paddle Club) add \$10	[] (RICKA membership is also required)
Total	[]

Enclose your check and mail to: RICKA, PO Box 1251, 1550 Nooseneck Hill Rd., Coventry, RI 02816

Name Adult 1 (primary) _____

Name Adult 2 (spouse, significant other) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ - _____

Phone 1 (____) _____ - _____ Home/Cell/Work Phone2 (____) _____ - _____ Home/Cell/Work

Email 1 _____ @ _____ Email 2 _____ @ _____

Interest(s): Flatwater [] Sea Kayak [] Whitewater [] Wilderness []

Are you willing to volunteer for club activities? Picnic [] Newsletter [] Trip Leader [] Other: _____

You can also renew your membership online using PayPal at <http://www.ricka.org/Join/JointheFun.html>

Interest Group Q&A

Paddling with RICKA Sea Kayak

What is the RICKA Sea Kayak group?

The [RICKA Sea Kayak](#) group is specifically focused on kayaking in coastal environments. We organize trips throughout the spring, summer, and fall. We encourage people to join us and discover the joy of sea kayaking.

What types of trips do you do?

Our trips range in difficulty from novice to highly experienced. RICKA does not assign ratings to paddlers. We assign difficulty levels to our trips (see [RICKA Sea Kayaking Levels](#)). A trip's rating is designed to be a guide to help you judge if you have the skills to participate in a trip.

Who runs the trips?

RICKA is not a professional paddling organization. Our members coordinate paddles for their own enjoyment and the enjoyment of the rest of the paddling community. These trip coordinators are not professional guides or instructors.

How do I know if a trip is right for me?

You should assess your comfort level for participating in the trip based on the difficulty level, the forecasted conditions, your skill and experience, and your comfort with the other participants in the group. Each participant in the group trip shares the responsibility for the safety and enjoyment of the entire group.

Surf and rocks present special dangers to paddlers. Surf is unpredictable and powerful, and rocks can smash you or your kayak. Only skilled paddlers should venture into these conditions.



RICKA paddlers off Sakonnet Point in Little Compton

How do I find out about trips?

From June through September, RICKA Sea Kayak trips are posted on the trip calendar on our website:

<http://www.rickaseakayaking.org/calendar/month.php>

All times listed are **LAUNCH** times. Please arrive early enough to prepare. If necessary, paddles will be cancelled by 8:00 a.m. Check the [message board](#) for cancellation notices.

Off-season, "show & go" trips are posted on the message board:

<http://www.rickaseakayaking.org/forums/index.php>

What equipment do I need?

In order to participate in RICKA Sea Kayak trips you **MUST** have a sea kayak (15 feet or longer with front and rear floatation and perimeter lines on the deck), a Coast Guard approved PFD, a spray skirt, paddle, paddle float, bilge pump, helmet (for surfing or rock gardening), appropriate clothing for the conditions, and a whistle (or other approved daytime signaling device).

We also recommend that you bring drinking water, food, sunscreen, a change of clothes, a knife and a compass. For sunset or night paddles, a headlamp and coast guard approved navigation lights are

also required. It is also a good idea to bring an emergency strobe light

What about cold water trips?

When the water is cold hypothermia is a serious danger. Submersion in cold water dramatically reduces a paddler's ability to assist in their own rescue. In cold-water conditions, we required that all paddlers wear a dry suit with fleece or polypro underneath, a hat or neoprene hood to protect the head, and neoprene gloves or poggies to protect the hands. A change of warm, dry clothes stored in a dry bag is also required.

Sea Kayak Trip Levels

Level 1: No previous kayak experience required.

Level 2: Participants should be able to:
Paddle 6 miles in a day.
Perform a wet exit.
Perform an assisted deep-water rescue.
Maintain a heading for short distances without the use of a rudder.
Turn a kayak using forward and reverse sweep strokes.
Level 2 trips generally follow the shoreline.

Level 3: Participants should be able to:
Perform skills listed under Level 2.
Paddle 13 miles in a day.
Control a kayak in 15- to 20-knot winds.
Feel comfortable in 2-3 foot waves.
Handle surf and beach landings.

Level 4: Participants should be able to:
Perform the skills listed under Level 3.
Paddle 15 miles in a day.
Control a kayak in 20-knot winds.
Handle large ocean swells.

Level 5: Participants should be able to:
Perform the skills listed under Level 4.
Paddle 20+ miles in a day.
Control a kayak in 25-knot winds.
Level 5 trips require an RSVP.

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](#)

May 10th - launching promptly at 6:15
Upper Pawtuxet River – Hope
Leaders: Roscoe Skurka
cskurka61@gmail.com 401-823-8925,
Skye scitamb.2@juno.com and Steve
Pechie Resq1192@gmail.com

Season opener for BVPC is a joint paddle with [Southern New England Paddlers \(SNEP\)](#). A 4-mile round trip up the Pawtuxet River to the Scituate Reservoir and back again.

May 17th - launching promptly at 6:15.
Quinsigamond River - Riverview Apartments, Grafton
Leaders: Frank Cortesa
frankcortesa@charter.net 508-369-8205,
Cheryl Thompson.stonefoxfarm@juno.com
or 401-497-5887 and Tom Farley.

We will put in behind Riverview Apartments in Grafton for an up and back trip on the Quinsigamond River.

May 24th - launching promptly at 6:15
West River – Upton
Leaders: Julie Julierie87@gmail.com and
Steve Riendeau steverie154@gmail.com

An up and back trip on the scenic West River in Upton. Trip is suitable for all but boats under 15 feet will have an easier time.

May 31st - launching promptly at 6:15.
Nipmuc River - Harrisville
Leaders: Julie Julierie87@gmail.com and
Steve Riendeau steverie154@gmail.com,
Frank Cortesa Frankcortesa@charter.net
508-369-8205

There are several beaver dams to drag your boat over. Trip is suitable for boats under 14 feet

June 7th - launching promptly at 6:15
Lacky Dam – Sutton
Leaders: Cheryl Thompson
stonefoxfarm@juno.com 401-497-5887
and Tom Farley.

We will paddle the flatwater behind the Lackey Dam and up a section of the Mumford River.

June 14th - launching promptly at 6:15.
West River - Uxbridge
Leaders: Julie Julierie87@gmail.com and
Steve Riendeau steverie154@gmail.com

You'll have the chance to see lots of wildlife as you paddle upstream through this stretch of clean, clear flatwater. Suitable for boats 15 feet and under in length.

June 21st - launching promptly at 6:15
Blackstone River and the Valley Falls Marsh - Lonsdale
Leaders: Skye Pechie scitamb.2@juno.com
and Steve Pechie Resq1192@gmail.com

A very scenic paddle for paddlers of all abilities. Enjoy the scenic marsh and a paddle up the Blackstone to the Pratt Dam

June 28th - launching promptly at 6:15
Blackstone Canal/River and Rice City Pond - Uxbridge
Leader Erik Eckilson eckilson@cox.net
617-794-0378

Paddle on the canal to Rice City Pond and the historic Goat Hill Lock, or more experienced paddlers can paddle the loop, down the Blackstone River and up the Blackstone Canal. The canal/river loop is for experienced paddlers only.

Flatwater Trips

Check the [Flatwater Message Board](#) for ad-hoc trips and hikes. Appropriate skills and equipment are required.

May 1st - meet at 9:30 for a 10:00 launch
Belleville Pond - North Kingstown
Leaders: Chuck Horbert
chorbert13@gmail.com 401-418-2838 and
Cindy Gianfransisco

A 108-acre pond with largely forested and often marshy shorelines. Bring a lunch and a change of clothes in a drybag.

May 14th - meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 launch
West River – Uxbridge
Leaders: Jim Crowley
crowbird888@msn.com and Frank Cortesa
frankcortesa@charter.net 508-369-8205

You'll have the chance to see lots of wildlife as you paddle upstream through this stretch of clean, clear flatwater. Bring a lunch

May 14th - meet at 7:00 for a 7:30 launch
Moonlight Paddle on Worden Pond - South Kingstown
Leaders: Jen Stanton
bigredstantons@gmail.com and Chuck
Horbert chorbert13@gmail.com 401-418-2838

Access is on the south shore with a small dock, a cement plank boat ramp, and a large gravel parking lot. Bring a headlamp or waterproof flashlight.

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Continued from page 5.

May 15th - meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 shuttle
Quinebaug - Danielson to Canterbury

Leaders: Paul Leclerc
paul_leclerc@hotmail.com and Erik
Eckilson eckilson@cox.net

Flatwater, lots of white water and top class
I rapids (depending on water level) that can
be run or portaged. All size boats welcome.
Skirts recommended. Bring a lunch.

May 21st - meet at 10:30 for a 11:00 launch
Pachaug Pond – Griswold

Leader: Sharon Dragon
shdrag1@gmail.com 401-225-3942

This 7-mile paddle is suitable for all boat
sizes. Bring a lunch - we will look for a
place to stop along the way.

May 28th - meet at 9:00 to launch at 9:30
Big River- Coventry

Leaders: Deb Britt Botherbird@gmail.com
and Pat Lardner pslardner@gmail.com
401-524-8057

Paddle upstream against the current and
then return with the current to the put-in
Not suitable for kayaks over 15 feet. Bring
a lunch.

June 4th - TBD
Wood River - Leader's Choice

Leader: Sharon Dragon
shdrag1@gmail.com 401-225-3942

Save the date - details to follow.

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

**Slatersville Reservoir and the Branch
River - North Smithfield**

Leaders: Jim Crowley
crowbird888@msn.com and Frank Cortesa
frankcortesa@charter.net 508-369-8205

This trip provides a nice paddle through a
flatwater section of upper Slatersville

Reservoir and then a stretch of the Branch
River.

June 12th - meet at 9:30 for a 10:00 shuttle
**Five Mile River to Warsaw Pond - East
Putnam**

Leaders: Chuck Horbert
chorbert13@gmail.com 401-418-2838 and
Cindy Gianfransisco.

The river flows through a rural area, which
is a combination of woodland, marsh and
some farmland. There is always plenty of
wildlife to be seen. There is at least one
easy portage at the first bridge on Five
Mile River Road. Suitable for shorter
boats. This trip requires a car shuttle so
please have a mask available in the event
the leader and/or drivers require one. Bring
a lunch

June 18th - meet at 9:30 for a 10:00 launch
100-Acre Cove - Barrington

Leaders: Danny O'Shea
doshea5031@aol.com 401-527-3447 and
Pat Lardner pslardner@gmail.com 401-
524-8057

Take a leisurely paddle of about 4 to 5
miles around the saltwater marsh islands of
100-Acre Cove, and then into the scenic
twists, turns and high reeds of the Runnins
River.

June 20th - meet at 5:45 for a 6:00 launch
**June Meeting on the Water
at Stump Pond**

Leaders: Skye scitamb.2@juno.com and
Steve Pechie Resq1192@gmail.com and
Roscoe Skurka cskurka61@gmail.com
401-823-8925.

Our first on-water meeting/paddle of the
season is the signal that summer is here!
For those new to the club, a group paddle
or event replaces the more structured
meetings of fall through spring. We will
take a leisurely paddle around Stump Pond,
also known as the Stillwater Reservoir or
Woonasquatucket Reservoir

June 25th - meet at 9:30 for a 10:00 launch
**Ten Mile River and Central Pond - East
Providence**

Leaders: Al Sampson
wanderlust_bristol@yahoo.com
401.441.4427 and Danny O'Shea
doshea5031@aol.com 401-527-3447

We will paddle around Central Pond and
up the Ten Mile River to Slater Park in
Pawtucket. Bring a lunch

June 26th = meet at 10:00 for a 10:30
launch

7 Rivers Festival Paddle at Alton Pond
Leader: Pat Lardner_pslardner@gmail.com
401-524-8057

Join the festivities as RICKA and SNEP
participate with the Wood-Pawcatuck Wild
and Scenic Rivers "7 Rivers
WPWSR Festival".

July 2nd - TBD

**Flatwater Training - Stump Pond in
Smithfield**

Leaders: Bill Luther
williamluther058@gmail.com 508-7671-
7961 and Erik Eckilson eckilson@cox.net
401-765-1741

Save the date – details to follow

Sea Kayak Trips

Sea Kayak trips are now posted in the
Show and Go Section of the [Sea Kayak
Message Board](#). Appropriate skills and
equipment are required.

Sea Kayak Paddle and Planning Meeting
May 14, 2022 (Rain date May 15, 2022)

See page 1 for details. Please come to the
Planning Meeting even if you cannot come
to the Paddle - we need your input.

RICKA Classifieds

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

- **Lendal Storm paddle** - 215 cm - several years old but lightly used. Asking \$295. Contact Richard at 401-595-1175
- **Corsica S Pro Line Whitewater kayak**. – older design - 10.5' long x 24" wide. Cockpit opening 31" x 16.5. Includes neoprene sprayskirt, life jacket and paddle. This boat has a bulkhead for your feet but I have foot pegs for it also. Life jacket and spray skirt are medium to large. \$275. Contact Earl at earlandpat@comcast.net
- **Delphin 150** – a rock play/surf/day trip kayak for small to medium size paddler. Boat is 5 years old, orange color, and in good shape. Has been used solely for surf play - \$900 cash. Located in MA. Contact Sing at dmoyhk63@gmail.com
- **Malone Roof Racks** - steel cross system adjustable for kayak or canoe - \$90. E-mail bellshole1973@gmail.com or phone Don 774 266-3809
- **Nigel Foster Silhouette Kayak built by Seaward Kayaks** - 17' 10" length, 20.5" width, good condition, stored indoors. Kevlar construction with yellow deck, built-in compass, Sea-lect hatch covers - \$1,200 cash only in person. wsmith16@charter.net
- **Kokatat Women's Odyssey Drysuit** – medium, "Ice" color, Goretex, barely used and in excellent condition. Asking price \$900. Comes with a detachable hood. Please contact emilkrasich@gmail.com
- **Heritage Expedition** - kevlar, red - \$1,200. Contact pabergh@gmail.com
- **Betsie Bay Recluse** - 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 - \$2,750. Contact Charlie 518-234-9235 in Albany, NY area; meet half way possible.
- **Waldon Passage Kayak** – 15-foot performance touring kayak - yellow. Perfect for coast, bay, or river. Adjustable foot pedals, built-in skeg, bow and stern bulkheads - \$675 including nylon spray skirt and cockpit rim cover. **Matching two-piece 230 cm wood paddle** also available for extra \$100. Contact Mark at shinnen108@gmail.com or 401-999-7364.
- **A high performance paddle board** - offered @ \$900. **Valley Pintail** - excellent condition - asking \$2,300. **Necky Gliss** – new, - offered @ \$1,240. rogernc@mac.com or cell 401-339-4068
- **PRICE REDUCED: Handmade wooden kayak with wooden paddle** - Wood Duck 12 Hybrid from Chesapeake Light Craft. Fiberglass/epoxy so no maintenance required - \$1500. petemeboy@gmail.com
- **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 sprayskirt. Fast for plastic, but also good for taking a beating in the rock gardens - \$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. Worn but functional sprayskirt included. Foot pegs removed- customize with foam - \$150. Contact Todd at tsmoore991@gmail.com
- **Mad River Rampage** - 14' ABS whitewater canoe - equipped with an electric bilge - \$250. Alan, alan02860@usa.com or 401-725-3344.

Thanks to Rich Coupland for coordinating RICKA's popular Pool Practice Sessions.



Stay tuned for other opportunities to improve your rolling, rescue and paddling skills later in the year!

Send your classified ads to RICKA Webmaster Cheryl Thompson, 53 Anan Wade Road, Gloucester, 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.