

PADDLER

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Newsletter of the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

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October Zoom Meeting Best Places to Paddle in Rhode Island

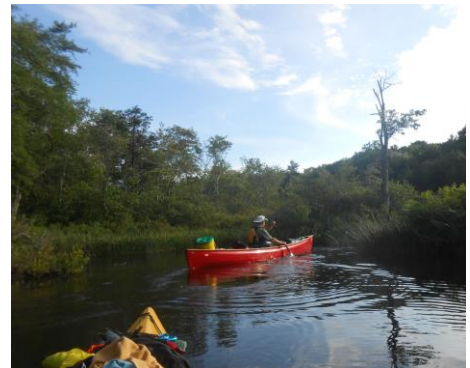
Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

At our October meeting, Chuck Horbert will be speaking about the best places to kayak and canoe in Rhode Island, as well as his 2014 Paddle Across Rhode Island.

Chuck is a long-time RICKA member, past RICKA President, and chair of the RICKA [Wilderness](#) group. Chuck and his wife Cindy are frequent [Flatwater](#) leaders, and recently coordinated the very successful week-long camping trip to the Adirondacks.

In addition to his Paddle Across Rhode Island, Chuck has also section paddled much of the [Northern Forest Canoe Trail](#) – a 700-mile water trail from Old Forge, NY to Fort Kent, ME. You can read accounts of his NFCT adventures on his blog [Northern Forest Canoe Tales](#), and follow him on his Facebook page [Paddle Across Rhode Island](#).

The meeting will take place on Zoom videoconference. Check the web page for the Zoom link.



Movie Night - Our Favorite Trips of 2022

Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at
7:00 p.m.



At our November Meeting, we'll look back with stories, pictures and videos at our favorite trips of 2022. With all the trips scheduled by RICKA this year, it can be tough to pick a favorite, but we'll do just that.

If you have a video you would like to share, please contact Erik Eckilson at eckilson@cox.net. Videos should be no longer than 10 minutes.

The meeting will take place on Zoom videoconference. The link will be posted shortly.

Amendment to the RICKA Bylaws

At our October meeting, members will be asked to approve amendments to the RICKA Bylaws to change the names of the flatwater and sea kayak groups:

- The name of the flatwater group in Article VII B. will be changed from the *Recreational Cruise (Flatwater) Committee* to the *Flatwater Committee*
- The name of the sea kayak group in Article VII D. will be changed from the *Coastal Cruising (Sea Kayak) Committee* to the *Sea Kayak Committee*.

Please join us at our October members meeting to approve these changes to the RICKA Bylaws.

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 2nd 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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Membership Notes

Going green and going forward you will see two changes to improve your renewal process. First is a [new email address](#) dedicated for member's questions. Second is a [new online renewal/join form](#) with pared down fields that includes space available to add your free adult family member's information and also added features upon registering. Gone, is the need to mail in a paper form. **Payment options remain the same but we do encourage using online payment with either PayPal, credit or debit cards.** Feedback is welcome at rickamembership@gmail.com.

Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

Executive Board

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15th 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 to get out and paddle and thank our many volunteers.

This year, the picnic was held at North Kingstown Town Beach. After morning paddles, we gathered for lunch and the RICKA Awards Ceremony. Club-wide awards were presented to:

Volunteer of the Year Award **Pat (Mayhew) Lardner**

The 2022 Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to Pat Lardner. Pat is a Flatwater leader, was RICKA Vice President from 2017-2019, and RICKA President from 2019-2022. Pat is also active with [SNEP](#), [WPWSR](#) and [WGCC](#).

Lifetime Membership Award **Tony Moore**

A Lifetime Membership Award was presented to Tony Moore. Tony is an active sea kayaker and trip leader who is known for his great [videos of RICKA trips](#). Tony was awarded the Volunteer of the Year Award in 2013.

Practice specific awards were given to:

Sea Kayak Leadership Award **Rick Brooks**

Flatwater Leadership Award **Steve Norris**

Conservation Award **Ron Entringer**

In honor of RICKA's 45th anniversary, we were also pleased to recognize two of RICKA's founding members with the **Founders Award**:



**RICKA Volunteer of the Year
Pat (Mayhew) Lardner**

Barbara August

Barbara was RICKA's first Vice President from 1977-1979, and RICKA President from 1985-1987. She then served as RICKA Secretary for 29 years from 1987 to 2016. Along with her husband Alan, Barbara received the Volunteer of the Year Award in 2005, was a frequent Flatwater leader, and was co-chair of the Rhode Island Fall Classic Race.

Henry Dziadosz

Henry was RICKA Vice President from 1997-1999, RICKA President from 1999-2001 and RICKA Secretary from 2017-2021. Henry is also a long-time Flatwater leader.

We would also like to thank all of the other volunteers who have helped make this club a success over the past year:

AJ Barbato (B)
Deb Britt (EB, F)
Rick Brooks (SK)
Rich Coupland (EB, SK)
Frank Cortesta (B, EB, F)
Jim Crowley (B, F)
John Davenport (SK)
Lynne DeRosa (F)
Henry Dziadosz (F)

Sharon Dragon (EB, F)
Erik Eckilson (B, EB, F, WW)
Roberta Engel (F)
Ron Entringer (EB)
Tom Farley (B, F)
Bill Fournier (SK)
Cindy Gianfransisco (F, W)
Tim Gleason (SK)
John Harkey (SK)
Bill Hahn (EB)
Mike Hazeltine (SK)
Peter Hill (EB, SK)
Chuck Horbert (EB, F, W)
Eric Johnson (SK)
JeanMarie Josephson (F)
Pat Ladner (EB, F)
Paul Leclerc (EB, WW)
Bill Luther (F)
Earl MacRae (B, F)
Cam Mejia (SK)
Tony Moore (SK)
Sean Murphy (EB)
Steve Norris (F)
Marty O'Loughlin (F)
Danny O'Shea (B, EB, F)
Lee Parham (B)
Skye Pechie (B, EB, F)
Steve Pechie (B, EB, F)
Louise Price (B, F)
Gary Powers (EB, F)
Brenda Rashleigh (EB, SK)
Cat Ratcliff (SK)
Julie Riendeau (B)
Steve Riendeau (B)
Caryl Salisbury (F)
Al Sampson (F)
Jon Sharlin (SK)
Rosco Skurka (B, F)
Jennifer Stanton (EB, F)
Manny Terezakis (B)
Cheryl Thompson (B, EB, F)
Mike Vechinsky (F)

Key: B - BVPC, EB - Executive Board, F - Flatwater, SK - Sea Kayak, WW - Whitewater, W - Wilderness

“ZAP the Blackstone” River Cleanup

By Gary Powers

On August 27th, volunteers from RICKA participated in [ZAP50](#), a river cleanup marking the 50th anniversary of the original 1972 “ZAP the Blackstone”.

In 1972, 10,000 volunteers lined the banks of the Blackstone River for one of the largest river cleanup efforts in New England. Back then, everything from heavy equipment to school children provided the time, effort, and muscle to help beautify one of the regions greatest resources and birthplace of the American Industrial Revolution.

Today, the Blackstone River, now part of the [Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park](#), remains in need of attention but has come a long way in the 50 years since the original ZAP. Focusing mainly on water-borne debris at [Central Falls Landing](#) and [Manville Landing](#), two RICKA teams collected an estimated 535-lbs. of debris in 3-hours of cleanup.

RICKA’s efforts were recognized by the Blackstone Valley Tourism Council as an “*Organization in Action*” on their online and social media platforms as well as at the “*Revival*” post-cleanup celebration. RICKA’s efforts were also noted in the Woonsocket Call article [Zapping To It](#).

Thousands of pounds of debris were collected by over 2,000 volunteers. However, this is just the beginning! Many parts of the river still retain their scars from 200-years of industrialization as well as



Volunteers at the clean-up

trash thoughtlessly thrown into the river causing harm to the beauty, wildlife, water quality, and recreation activity along the river.

RICKA is dedicated to being stewards of the rivers in our area, providing clean-up opportunities each year. Thank you to this year’s ZAP50 volunteers!

Finding the Whitewater in Summer

By Paul Leclerc

The [Dryway](#) is a premier destination for most northeastern whitewater paddlers. Cars from all over New England as well as PA, NJ and NY are frequently seen in the parking area of this 2.5 mile, class III/IV section of the Deerfield River in Monroe, MA, a stone’s throw from Vermont.

Below this section is the tamer, family friendly class I/II [Fife Brook](#) section, with a brief, but optional class III rapid (The Gap) at the end. In the past, RICKA would hold a “Whitewater for Flatwater Paddlers trip” on the Fife brook section - something we will do again if there is interest.

The water in the Dryway section is usually bypassed by a diversion canal to the reservoir above the Fife Brook Dam. This

is where the nickname “Dryway” comes from, as it is virtually dry without a dam release. Dam releases usually run throughout the summer on Fridays and weekends at slightly different levels. Due to the drought, the releases have been lower than usual, so on this particular day, we’d be running at 900 cfs. (cubic feet per second) - a more technical run. In addition to kayaking, many raft companies offer guided trips down The Dryway (and its companion Fife Brook/Zoar Gap section downstream). These include [Zoar Outdoor](#), [Crabapple Whitewater](#), and [Berkshire Outfitters](#).

After having done the Fife with Erik a few weeks earlier because of work on the Dryway dam, I was itching to get on some challenging water. Having met up with Pat, we shuttled up to the top to find an abundance of rafts and kayaks walking down the long staircase to the put in.

Fortunately, this section of river builds in intensity as you go. Not long after the warmup II+/III rapids, you find yourself in



Staircase to the put in

a minefield of large boulders strewn about the river. For some reason, these boulders always appear at the bends in the river, making the maneuvering much more challenging by limiting your line of sight, making them “read and run” rapids.

After encounters with class IV rapids with colorful names like Split Rock, Pinball, Rodeo and False Tooth, you come upon the premier rapid of the river – Dragon’s Tooth. Spectators and photographers usually sit on the large

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boulder on river right to watch the action unfold. Depending on your skill, there are several options.

Dragon's Tooth is narrow and turbulent rapid with a large retentive hole above a shallow rock ledge - this feature is the "Tooth". Just below the Tooth is another powerful recirculation known as Rodeo Hole. Without the proper skill, getting pulled into these features can be tricky to get out of and usually results in a swim. The usual route starts from river right moving towards river left through heavy turbulence just to the left of the "curl" on the Tooth. From there, paddle hard to river right to avoid the pull of Rodeo Hole below - about a ten foot wide window or slot. Most people eddy out at this point and avert Rodeo Hole altogether.

Pat went first. His line off the "curl" of the Tooth was not as good as he would have liked and found himself headed straight for

Rodeo Hole. When faced with a formidable thrashing hole, the best way to hit it is straight on as hard as possible, lean forward and get a stroke in above the crest if you can, to avoid being sucked in. Success for Pat on that maneuver.

My turn. I paddled in but got kicked sideways going up into the curl and immediately had to change plans. Rivers do that often. I went for a micro-eddy on the left between the two holes. Safely away from the first hole, I had to paddle across river without much entrance speed to avoid Rodeo Hole. American Whitewater describes this maneuver as the "Scary Ferry" and not for the lighthearted or unskilled. I was quite proud I pulled it off.

However, my pride was short lived after I entered and found myself not making the slot. I got pulled into Rodeo Hole and ejected after being unable to get my paddle above my torso to pull off a roll. A short swim later I was reunited with my boat and continued into the Labyrinth - a



Running Dragon's Tooth

treacherous, swift running class IV boulder field. The best feature in Labyrinth is a rock where you point the nose of the kayak towards the rock and get flushed down almost sideways like a slide, to catch the eddy behind it.

We would do two more runs on the day. Pat made all three Dragon's Tooth runs successfully. I swam two and successfully did a combat roll on the third Dragon's Tooth run. Nothing like a little whitewater in the summer.

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

Late cancellations and changes to trips will be posted on the [Flatwater Message Board](#). Please check the Message Board before leaving for a trip. Check [web site](#) for directions and/or GPS coordinates.

October 15th - meet at 9:30 for a 10:00 launch

Blackstone Gorge - Blackstone, MA
Trip coordinator: Gary Powers
garpow28@aol.com

The foliage should be beautiful. Suitable for all levels of experience.

October 29th - meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 launch

Tully Lake Tully Lake - Royalston MA.
Trip coordinator: Erik Eckilson 617-794-0378
ekilson@cox.net

Canceled
We will put-in at the Tully River Canoe Launch off Doanes Hill Road, Royalston MA and paddle up the Tully River to Long Pond where we will stop for lunch. We will then paddle back down the Tully River and explore the northern shore of Tully Lake. Before leaving, we will take a short hike over to Doanes Falls.

November 5th - meet at 1:30 for 2:00 launch

Turkey Paddle - Wallum Lake
Trip coordinators: Cheryl Thompson
stonefoxfarm@juno.com 401-497-5887
and Tom Farley

We will meet at 1:30 for a paddle around Wallum Lake in the [Douglas State Forest](#), and then we will travel to [Bistro Eighty Ate](#) (172 Gore Road in Webster) for dinner. RSVP for the dinner only.

Sea Kayak Trips

[Sea Kayak](#) trips are posted in the [Paddles](#) section of the [Sea Kayak Message Board](#). Appropriate skills and equipment are required.

RICKA Classifieds

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

- **Golden Kevlar Arluk 1.8** - excellent condition, 'Ocean Cockpit', always garaged and treated with Polyglo polyurethane UV protection. Skin coat top and bottom for weight savings (48 pounds / 18'x22"), Smart Trak rudder, up to date deck lines, bungees, rudder cables, rudder cord and inner hatch covers. New Brooks neoprene sprayskirt, Snap Dragon neoprene cockpit cover, plus two used repaired Wildwasser neoprene spray skirts with zippered pockets. The factory supplied 'racing seat' has been replaced with an excellent custom molded seat. Located in New Haven, CT but will discuss delivery - \$1,200 cash. Russell Norton lovepotent@hotmail.com
- **Thule Roof Rack** - full Thule set-up for your kayak or canoe. Thule 838 Hull-a-Port Aero - \$75, 50" Steel Square Bars - \$75, Crossroad Feet (works with most side rails) - \$75. All parts are gently used and in perfect operating condition - make a reasonable off for the full set! Contact 401-297-9792
- **Ocean Kayak Malibu 2 XL Sit-on-top Tandem Kayak** - Length- 13' 4". Width- 34 inches. Weight- 68 lbs.
- Total Capacity- 500 lbs. Color- Envy (Green and White). Condition- very good; a few scratches. Seats included. Paddles can be supplied for extra charge. Price \$629. E-mail- shinnen108@gmail.com
- **Current Designs tandem Unity Kayak** - excellent shape comes with spray skirts, travel cockpit covers, and two graphite paddles (220cm/210cm) - \$3,000. Contact r.john.davenport.phd@gmail.com
- **PRICE REDUCED - Surftech Universal SUP 11'6"** - Length- 11" 6 inches. Width 32.1 inches. Thickness- 5.1 inches. Weight- 39 lbs. Capacity 220 lbs. Fins- Center+2 side. Deck- full deck pad; Color- Green and grey Condition- very good; a few scratches, occasional bubbles on deck pad. - Price \$699. **Angulo Surfa SUP Surfing 10"** - Length- 10". Width- 32 inches. Thickness- 4.75 inches. Weight- 31 lbs. Capacity - 200 lbs. Fins- Center+2 side -Construction- Semi-Custom Carbon -Deck- partial deck pad; Color- Brights yellow with orange and white graphics -Condition- garaged; very good; a few scratches and dings; deck pad rubber worn in spots -- asking price \$1099. Contact Mark at shinnen108@gmail.com
- **Eddyline Fathom Touring Kayak** - Sapphire Blue - \$2,100 Nearly new pristine condition (Original – No Modifications) Specifications: Length: 16'6", Width/Beam: 22", Depth: 13.5", Weight: 50 lbs, Cockpit Size: 31.6 x 16.5", Weight Capacity: 340 lbs. Hatches: 3. Paddler Size: Medium/Large Includes: Seals neoprene cockpit cover, Kokatat basic Sea Skirt (XL) - \$2,100. Location: Metro Boston. Contact Nicholas 978.621.7935
- **Point 65N Mercury GTX modular kayak** - still in box. Will deliver south and east of Fitchburg MA to Cape Cod Canal - \$1600 Please leave message (978) 667-1841
- **Lendal Storm paddle** - 215 cm - Several years old but lightly used. Asking \$220. Contact Richard at 401-595-1175
- **Nigel Foster Silhouette Kayak built by Seaward Kayaks** - 17' 10" length, 20.5" width. Good condition, stored indoors. Kevlar construction Yellow deck, built-in compass, Sea-lect hatch covers. \$1,200.00 cash only in person. wsmith16@charter.net
- **Kokatat Women's Odyssey Drysuit Medium** - "Ice" color. Barely used and in excellent condition. Asking price \$900. Comes with a detachable hood. Please contact emilkrasich@gmail.com.
- **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

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.