

# PADDLER

www.ricka.org

Newsletter of the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

Vol. XLV

No. 8

September 2022

## 15<sup>th</sup> Annual RICKA Family Picnic

Cold Spring Community Center  
at the North Kingstown Town Beach  
Sunday, September 25, 2022



Cold Spring Community Center

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual [RICKA Family Picnic](#) will be held on Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at the Cold Spring Community Center at the North Kingstown Town Beach – a great location with gorgeous views of Narragansett Bay. The Cold Spring Community Center is located at 36 Beach Street, North Kingstown, RI 02852.

In the morning a flatwater trip will leave from [Wilson Park in Wickford](#), and a sea kayak trip will leave from [North Kingstown Town Beach](#). See the Flatwater and Sea Kayak calendars for details.

Lunch will be served starting at 1:00 at the Cold Spring Community Center. Options are available for vegan and gluten free. The cost will be \$15.50 per person. The 2022 RICKA Awards Ceremony will follow lunch.

**Register now for this fun event - your registration is due by September 10, 2022.** See page 3 for registration details.

## 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.

## Fall Adirondacks Trip September 10 – 17, 2022

This year's Adirondacks trip will be to Lake Eaton Campground in Long Lake Village, NY. If you are planning on joining the group, please contact the coordinator – Chuck Horbert at [chorbert13@gmail.com](mailto:chorbert13@gmail.com) - so he can add you to the list for future emails.

Campsite registrations is now open, and you should try to find a site in the area of sites 10-54 (waterfront sites from 31-54). Once you have reserved a campsite, please let Chuck know what site number you'll be on and when your expected arrival and departure dates will be.

For additional information or to sign up, please contact Chuck Horbert at [chorbert13@gmail.com](mailto:chorbert13@gmail.com) or 401-418-2838.

# Whitewater Paddling from the RICKA Library

## Whitewater Handbook

By Bruce Lessels

Whitewater kayaking and canoeing have come a long way in the last few years with new gear, new techniques, and new ways to run the river. To start the novice off right, or to polish whitewater skills already acquired, renowned whitewater paddler and instructor Bruce Lessels has created step-by-step lessons for all essential techniques. He surveys safety issues such as managing risk, dealing with hazards, and rescue tools. Equipment choices are also surveyed. An introduction to racing is provided along with advanced techniques of playboating, squirt boating.

## Whitewater Rescue Manual

By Charles Walbridge & Wayne Sundmacher Sr.

Regardless of skill, running rivers presents an element of danger. *Whitewater Rescue Manual* presents a tightly focused look at the best, most current techniques for both self-rescue and rescue of others on the river. The authors provide well-reasoned guidance that will teach you when to stay with the boat and when not to; how to retrieve a lost boat; how to swim out of trouble and when not to swim; how to reach a victim by wading, swimming, or using ropes; how to coordinate a rescue effort how to make sure that would-be rescuers don't become victims.

These are just two of the great books and DVD's 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](mailto: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 Meeting:

The next Executive Board meeting will be held on September 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. online as a ZOOM videoconference. To participate contact Frank Cortesa at [frankcortesa@charter.net](mailto:frankcortesa@charter.net) and the Zoom link will be sent to you.

### Newsletter Editor:

Erik Eckilson  
11 Diana Drive  
Woonsocket, RI 02895  
[eckilson@cox.net](mailto:eckilson@cox.net)

### Membership:

Gary Powers  
P.O. Box 1251  
1550 Nooseneck Hill Road  
Coventry, RI 02816  
[RICKAmembership@gmail.com](mailto:RICKAmembership@gmail.com)

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](mailto:editor@ricka.org)!

## Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

### Executive Board

**President:** Frank Cortesa.....508-369-8205.....[frankcortesa@charter.net](mailto:frankcortesa@charter.net)  
**Vice President:** Danny O'Shea .....401-527-3447.....[doshea5031@aol.com](mailto:doshea5031@aol.com)  
**Secretary:** Skye Pechie .....401-647-0074.....[scitamb.2@juno.com](mailto:scitamb.2@juno.com)  
**Treasurer:** Sharon Dragon .....401-225-3942.....[shdrag1@gmail.com](mailto:shdrag1@gmail.com)

### Members at Large:

Deb Britt..... 401-413-6841..... [botherbird@gmail.com](mailto:botherbird@gmail.com)  
Rich Coupland ..... 401-595-1175 ..... [rlcoupland@msn.com](mailto:rlcoupland@msn.com)  
Peter Hill .....508-366-6381..... [peter.kayaker@yahoo.com](mailto:peter.kayaker@yahoo.com)  
Sean Murphy .....401-206-7829 ..... [sean026@hotmail.com](mailto:sean026@hotmail.com)  
Jenifer Stanton ..... [bigredstantons@gmail.com](mailto:bigredstantons@gmail.com)

**Conservation:** Ron Entringer ..... [rentringer42@gmail.com](mailto:rentringer42@gmail.com)  
Pat (Mayhew) Lardner.....401-524-8057..... [pslardner@gmail.com](mailto:pslardner@gmail.com)

**Flatwater:** Cheryl Thompson .....401-497-5887.....[stonefoxfarm@juno.com](mailto:stonefoxfarm@juno.com)

**Librarian:** Bill Hahn..... 401-524-1612.....[librarian@ricka.org](mailto:librarian@ricka.org)

**Safety & Education:** Steve Pechie ..... [resq1192@gmail.com](mailto:resq1192@gmail.com)

**Sea Kayak:** Brenda Rashleigh ..... [rickaseakayak@gmail.com](mailto:rickaseakayak@gmail.com)

**Webmaster:** Cheryl Thompson .....401-497-5887.....[stonefoxfarm@juno.com](mailto:stonefoxfarm@juno.com)

**Whitewater:** Paul Leclerc ..... 401-568-1103 .....[paul\\_leclerc@hotmail.com](mailto:paul_leclerc@hotmail.com)

**Wilderness:** Chuck Horbert ..... 401-418-2838.....[chorbert13@gmail.com](mailto:chorbert13@gmail.com)



---

# 15<sup>th</sup> Annual RICKA Family Picnic

**Cold Spring Community Center at the North Kingstown Town Beach  
Sunday, September 25, 2022**

The 15<sup>th</sup> annual RICKA Family Picnic will be held on Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at the Cold Spring Community Center at the North Kingstown Town Beach.

The Cold Spring Community Center is located at 36 Beach Street, North Kingstown, RI 02852. In the morning, there will be flatwater and sea kayak trips. Details will be posted on the flatwater and sea kayak calendars.

Lunch will be available starting at 1:00 at the Cold Spring Community Center. Options will be available for vegan and gluten-free. The cost will be \$15.50 per person. The 2021 RICKA Awards Ceremony will follow lunch.



**Chuck receives the Wilderness Award at the 2021 RICKA Awards Ceremony**

Because this is a catered event we must have your reservation no later than **September 10, 2022**. You can register by mail or online using PayPal at:

[http://www.ricka.org/Payments/ricka\\_picnic.html](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:

Sharon Dragon  
124 Highview Avenue  
Hope Valley, RI 02832

All are welcome to attend including members, their families, significant others, and friends.

**Register now for this fun event.** Rain or Shine. Who knows, you may be receiving an award. Hope to see you all there!



---

## 2022 RICKA Family Picnic Registration due by September 10, 2022

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Meals (same price for all): \_\_\_\_\_ X \$15.00 per meal = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Meal (include number): Italian Bread - Vegan \_\_\_\_\_ Roast Beef \_\_\_\_\_ Turkey \_\_\_\_\_  
Gluten Free Wrap - Vegan \_\_\_\_\_ Roast Beef \_\_\_\_\_ Turkey \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to RICKA and mail to:

Sharon Dragon  
124 Highview Avenue  
Hope Valley, RI 02832

You can also register on line at [https://ricka.org/Payments/ricka\\_picnic.html](https://ricka.org/Payments/ricka_picnic.html)

---

# Enjoying Summer Whitewater

## Fife Brook Section of the Deerfield

By Erik Eckilson

It has been a while since I've been out in my whitewater boat, so I decided to test out my cranky knee and do a run with Paul on the Fife Brook Section of the Deerfield River.

Deerfield River arises in southern VT and flows for 76-miles through VT and MA to join with the Connecticut River in Greenfield below Turners Falls. With a drop of over a thousand-feet, hydroelectric development began on the river in 1910 when the New England Power Company was formed to acquire water rights and build hydroelectric dams.



Paul below Hangover Helper

There are now 10 dams on the Deerfield owned by three different electric utilities. An innovative licensing agreement in 1994, brokered in part by [American Whitewater](#), increased the number of recreational releases on Deerfield at the class [II/III Fife Brook](#) section, and the class [III/IV Dryway](#).

We would be paddling the Fife Brook section, which is named for the Fife Brook Dam at the top of the run that controls its flow. The Fife Brook Dam was the last dam built on the river in the early 1970s. It was built in conjunction with the Bear Swamp Pumped Storage Facility, which uses excess power during slack hours to



Erik in Pinball

pump water up to a reservoir on top of a mountain so it can be released during periods of peak demand.

I met Paul at McD's for the ride up to Charlemont. After dropping him off at the put-in, I drove back to the take-out to drop off my car and catch a ride back in one of the shuttles. There were lots of groups getting organized, and I found an empty seat in a car with the [CTAMC](#). It was Deerfieldfest weekend and the Dryway wasn't running due to an issue with the dam, so there were crowds everywhere.

The Fife Brook Dam was releasing at 800 cfs – a medium low level. We put in at around 11:00 and began working our way downstream. The crowds at Hangover Helper and Carbis Bend were huge, but eventually we found some space to ourselves. We surfed the ledge below



Canoe running Zoar Gap

Freight Train and played in Pinball before taking a break for lunch at Miami Beach. We then ran the Island Rapid before heading down to Zoar Gap.

Zoar Gap is by far the most difficult rapid on this section of the river – a solid class III at this level. My record running the Gap is mixed - 15 attempts with 7 successful, 6 swims and 2 walks. I pulled over above the Gap to take some pictures before running it myself. Once in the Gap, I caught the eddy on the left below the first pour-over, and then went right of "Oh Shit Rock" though the second drop. It wasn't pretty, but I made it. So my record in the Gap now stands at 16 attempts with 8 successful, 6 swims and 2 walks.



Kayaks running Zoar Gap

After the run, Paul and I decided to check out Deerfieldfest - a 28-year-old festival sponsored by American Whitewater celebrating the agreement between the recreation businesses on the Deerfield River and the power companies who operate dams on the river. The festival was held at Berkshire East, and included music, food and refreshments. It is a major fund raiser for American Whitewater's work to restore river flows and improve river access. We had some food and entered the raffle (didn't win) before heading home.

---

## 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 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.

September 3rd - meet at 10:00 for a 10:15 launch  
**Charles River – Needham to Wellesley**  
Trip coordinator: Erik Eckilson 617-794-0378 [eckilson@cox.net](mailto:eckilson@cox.net)

We will put-in at the [Charles River Peninsula](#) and paddle upstream into the “Bays Region” of the Charles. The river flows through a mix of marsh and woodland and is relatively undeveloped except for some large houses. It is a 5-mile trip up to the [Elm Bank Reservation](#), which is the best place to stop for lunch. Long boats are better for this trip. Bring a lunch.

September 10 – 17, 2022  
**2022 RICKA Adirondacks Trip**  
Trip Coordinator: Chuck Horbert at [chorbert13@gmail.com](mailto:chorbert13@gmail.com) or 401-418-2838

This year's Adirondacks trip will be to Lake Eaton Campground in Long Lake Village, NY. If you are planning on joining the group, please contact the coordinator – Chuck Horbert at [chorbert13@gmail.com](mailto:chorbert13@gmail.com), ASAP. Campsite registrations is now open, and you should try to find a site in the area of sites 10-54 (waterfront sites from 31-54).

September 24<sup>th</sup> - meet at 9:30 for a 10:00 launch  
**Alton Pond - Hopkinton**  
Trip coordinators: Deb Britt [Botherbird@gmail.com](mailto:Botherbird@gmail.com), Chuck Horbert and Cindy Gianfransisco [chorbert13@gmail.com](mailto:chorbert13@gmail.com) 401-418-2838

Bring a lunch. Trip is suitable for all.

September 25<sup>th</sup> - meet at 9:30 for a 10:00 launch  
**Flatwater Paddle at the RICKA Family Picnic**  
**Wilson Park, North Kingstown**

Paddle in the calm, wind-protected waters among the islands and marshes, and join us after at the North Kingstown Town Beech for lunch.

October 8<sup>th</sup> - meet at 5:30 for a 6:00 pm launch.  
**Moonlight Paddle on Worden Pond - South Kingstown**  
Trip coordinator: Jen Stanton [bigredstantons@gmail.com](mailto:bigredstantons@gmail.com)

This access site on the south shore of Worden Pond has a small dock, a cement plank boat ramp, and a large gravel parking lot. Bring a headlamp or waterproof flashlight.

October 15<sup>th</sup> – meet at 9:30 for a 10:00 launch  
**Blackstone Gorge – Blackstone, MA**  
Trip coordinator: Gary Powers [garpow28@aol.com](mailto:garpow28@aol.com)

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

October 22<sup>nd</sup> - meeting time TBD  
**Manchaug Pond - Sutton MA.**  
Trip coordinator: Caryl Salisbury [caryl@netscape.com](mailto:caryl@netscape.com) or text at 401-480-7799 .

An up and back trip on Manchaug Pond.

October 29<sup>th</sup> - meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 launch

**Tully Lake Tully Lake - Royalston MA.**  
Trip coordinator: Erik Eckilson 617-794-0378 [eckilson@cox.net](mailto:eckilson@cox.net)

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, you could also take a short hike (or drive) from the canoe launch to Doanes Falls – a beautiful series of four waterfalls topped by a stone arch bridge.

November 5<sup>th</sup> - meet at 1:00  
**Turkey Paddle – Wallum Lake**  
Trip coordinators: Cheryl Thompson [stonefoxfarm@juno.com](mailto:stonefoxfarm@juno.com) 401-497-5887 and Sharon Dragon [shdrag1@gmail.com](mailto:shdrag1@gmail.com) 401-225-3942.

Meet at 1:00 for a paddle around Wallum Lake and then we will travel to a nearby restaurant for dinner. Wallum Lake in the Douglas State Park, Douglas, MA has crystal clear water, and is an easy paddle. RSVP for the dinner only. Note - we will be trying a new restaurant this year, details to come.

## Sea Kayak Trips

Before choosing to participate in a trip, check the marine forecast and consider the trip level – we do not rate the paddler, only the paddle. Read the RICKA Sea Kayak [Paddling Basics](#) section of the website. Always check the [Calendar](#) for changes to the schedule. Cancellations due to weather or other conditions will be posted on the Message Board by 8:00 a.m. the day of the trip.

September 3<sup>rd</sup> - **Kings Beach Fishing Area** - Level: 3 (Tony M.)

September 25<sup>th</sup> - **RICKA Picnic – North Kingstown Town Beach**

---

# RICKA Classifieds

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

- **North Shore Atlantic fiberglass sea kayak** - white on white with black trim. 16' 10" length, 22 inch width. Skeg with a manufacturer installed keel strip – priced to sell at \$800. Contact Ken at [kkaykk100@gmail.com](mailto:kkaykk100@gmail.com) or via phone at 401-486-0264
- **Ocean Kayak Malibu 2 XL** - sit-on-top tandem kayak. Seats included. Paddles can be supplied for extra charge. Color- Envy (Green and White) Condition- very good; a few scratches. Price \$629. E-mail- [shinnen108@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:r.john.davenport.phd@gmail.com)
- **Price Reduced: Surftech Universal SUP** - length- 11'6", width- 32.1", thickness- 5.1, weight- 39 lbs. Capacity- 220 lbs. Fins- Center+2 side. Deck- full deck pad. Condition- very good; a few scratches, occasional bubbles on deck pad - \$699. **Angulo Surfa SUP Surfing 10'** - length 10', width 32", thickness 4.75", weight 31 lbs, capacity 200 lbs. Fins- Center+2 side. Condition- garaged; very good; a few scratches and dings; deck pad rubber worn in spots asking \$1,099 Contact [shinnen108@gmail.com](mailto:shinnen108@gmail.com)
- **Eddyline Fathom Touring Kayak** – sapphire, nearly new pristine condition. Length: 16'6", Width/Beam: 22, Depth: 13.5, Weight: 50, Cockpit Size: 31.6 x 16.5. Includes: Seals neoprene cockpit cover Kokatat basicc Sea Skirt (XL) - \$2,100. Location: Metro Boston MA. 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
- **PRICE REDUCED: Lendal Storm paddle** - 215 cm - several years old but lightly used. Asking \$220. Contact Richard at 401-595-1175
- **Malone Roof Racks** - steel cross system adjustable for kayak or canoe - \$90. E-mail [bellshole1973@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:emilkrasich@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.
- **A high performance paddle board** - offered @ \$900. **Valley Pintail** - excellent condition - asking \$2,300. [rogernc@mac.com](mailto:rogernc@mac.com) or cell 401-339-4068

Would you like to read more about sea kayaking? **Subscribe to Atlantic Coastal Kayaker**

Atlantic Coastal Kayaker will bring you a 36-page issue all about sea kayaking, 8 months a year.  
(March through December)

**Special rate for RICKA members  
\$18 a year – a \$6.00 discount**

Send for a free sample issue.

Atlantic Coastal Kayaker  
224 Argilla Road  
Ipswich, MA 01938  
Phone: 978-356-6112 (phone and fax)  
Email: [ackayak@comcast.net](mailto:ackayak@comcast.net)  
Website:  
<http://www.atlanticcoastalkayaker.com>

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