

PADDLER

www.ricka.org

Newsletter of the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

Vol. XLVI

No. 5

May 2023

May Members' Meeting Kayak Waveology and Autumn Gales with Greg Paquin Monday, May 15, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.



At our May Members' Meeting, owner and head coach Greg Paquin will provide an overview of [Kayak Waveology](#). Operating out of nearby eastern Connecticut, Kayak Waveology is one of the premier organizations in the northeast for sea kayak coaching, training events, and adventure travel. Greg will discuss the Kayak Waveology products and services, review their 2023 events calendar, and show the excellent Autumn Gales 2022 video.

Autumn Gales is a rough water sea kayak training event geared to intermediate and advanced paddlers. It brings world renowned coaches from the UK and Europe together with local guides to create a fun and exciting experience. Training takes place in the dynamic waters and tide races of Fishers Island Sound. RICKA has always had a strong presence at this event with RICKA members as guides and participants.

The meeting will be held on Zoom videoconference – link will be [posted on the website](#) when available.

Sea Kayak Paddle and Potluck/Planning Meeting

**Saturday, May 20, 2023 – Paddle at 10:00 a.m.,
Potluck/Planning Meeting at 3:00 p.m.**

A morning paddle (weather permitting) will launch from the **Westport River Public Boat Launch**, which is next to the Back Eddy Restaurant in Westport, MA. Please arrive at 10:00 for a 10:30 launch. The potluck/planning meeting will start as people arrive after paddling, typically 3:00 to 3:30, and will be held at Jon Sharlin's house, 1404 Drift Road, Westport. Please [RSVP on the RICKA Sea Kayak message board](#), and let everyone know what you plan to bring to the potluck.

Please contact Rich Coupland at rlcoupland@msn.com with any questions.

Basic Flatwater Training

Saturday, June 10, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

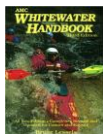
The Flatwater group will be holding a Basic Flatwater Training on Saturday, June 10th at 1:00.

In this 3-hour class, paddlers will learn the basic strokes and maneuvers to control their boats on flatwater. We will also cover basic rescue techniques. The class will take place at Stump Pond in Smithfield and will be free for RICKA members. All participants must sign an ACA waiver. Participation is limited to 25 paddlers. Attendance is on a first-come, first-serve basis, so register now!

For additional information or to register, please contact Cheryl Thompson at stonefoxfarm@juno.com, Erik Eckilson at eckilson@cox.net or Bill Luther williamluther058@gmail.com.

Whitewater Paddling from the RICKA Library

AMC Whitewater Handbook by Bruce Lessels



Whitewater kayaking and canoeing have come a long way in the last few years. To start the novice right off, 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, safety and rescue tools. An introduction to racing is provided along with advanced techniques of playboating, squirt boating, steep creeks, and more. There are over 200 instructional photographs and illustrations.

Whitewater Rescue Manual by Charles Walbridge and Wayne Sundmacher



In *Whitewater Rescue Manual*, two paddlers who have long been at the forefront of whitewater safety and rescue present 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; how to coordinate a rescue effort; how to make sure that would-be rescuers don't become victims; how to safely evacuate injured paddlers; and much more.

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.

RICKA is an ACA



Paddle America Club

Executive Board:

The next Executive Board meeting will be held on May 3rd 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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<http://ricka.org/paddler/paddler/PaddlerList.HTML>

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Registration Form:

[Join the Fun!](#)

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

PFD's are now required in RI



Wearing a PFD while paddling in Rhode Island is no longer optional; it is required according to new [boating safety regulations](#) announced by the DEM. The mandatory personal flotation device (PFD) for all paddle craft rule went into effect on April 2nd and requires that all operators and passengers of canoes, kayaks and paddleboards wear a Coast Guard approved PFD at all times regardless of age. **Paddle safe, paddle smart – always wear your PFD.** It's now the law!

Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

Executive Board

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Have you renewed your RICKA Membership?

A new season started on April 1, 2023!

We have the answers to all your membership questions here.

For 46 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 season started on April 1st, so please [join or renew your membership](#) today. We have answers to all your membership questions here:

Q. How do I register?

A. Fill out the online form and follow to the payment page. Registration Form: [Join the Fun](#)

Q. Are their annual dues for membership?

A. Yes. Starting on April 1st, dues for the season are \$15 for RICKA-only or \$25 for RICKA + BVPC.

Q. Do you need a PayPal account to pay dues online?

A. No. RICKA uses PayPal as their payment tool but you do not need to create a PayPal account. Simply “pay as guest” with a Credit or Debit card. Guest payment



Registration is easy with our new on-line form

buttons are typically near the bottom of the payment page.

Q. I completed the Registration Form with my information but accidentally closed out of the payment page before completing my dues payment. How do I get back?

A. If you chose online payment and clicked on the “Register” button, you have received a welcome email that contains a PDF of valuable information including a quick link back to the payment page if you did not complete that step. You can also opt to simply just re-register.

Q. Can I pay by check?

A. Yes. Select the “Pay via Check” option and complete the Registration Form to receive an invoice with the current P.O. Box information. Note that because we are member volunteers, deposit of the check may take several weeks.

Q. I signed up in December, is that only good through the end of the current season, March 31st?

A. No. You may sign up as early as December 1st to get the benefits of the remainder of the current season as well as the full following season that begins April 1st.

Q. I signed up for RICKA-only but now want to join BVPC too; is there a way to do that?

A. Yes. Initiate a new registration and on the form, select the BVPC adder for \$10 and proceed to the payment page.

Q. My spouse sometimes likes to join me in paddles. Does that require a separate registration?

A. No. Each Primary Registration



includes adding an adult household member for free.

Q. I registered earlier in the year but now have a new email address. How do I communicate that to Membership so that I receive the Paddler to the new account?

A. Simply contact Membership at rickenmembership@gmail.com and we will make the necessary changes.

Q. The webpage mentions discounts at local canoe/kayak stores. How do I get that?

A. At the participating store, present your personalized RICKA membership card you received as an attachment with your welcome letter when you registered or the welcome letter itself. This benefit is only available to active-paid members.

Q. I have a kayak and equipment to sell on your classified section of the webpage and Paddler. Do I need to be an active member?

A. Yes. Only active-paid members are allowed to utilize this benefit.

Q. I'm having issues with or have questions about the Membership Form; what do I do?

A. Contact Membership at rickenmembership@gmail.com and we will help resolve any issues.

Interest Group Q&A

Paddling with RICKA Whitewater

What is the RICKA Whitewater group?

The [Whitewater](#) group is the smallest of RICKA's four interest groups. We paddle whitewater rivers and streams across New England.

What is a whitewater trip?

Whitewater trips are designated according to difficulty of the rapids (see AMC River Ratings at right). Our trips range from easy class I trips which are open to any experienced RICKA paddler, to extremely difficult class IV trips which are open to experienced whitewater paddlers only. Most trips are rated class II/III.

An important difference between whitewater and flatwater trips is one of emphasis. A whitewater trip usually takes place on a single section of a river that happens to have the desired level of difficulty. We may spend an hour playing at a single rapid.

How do I find out about trips?

On occasion, RICKA Whitewater trips are posted on the trip calendar on our website. <http://www.ricka-flatwater.org/wwtrips.htm>

More often, they are posted as "bootleg" trips on the club's message board. http://members.boardhost.com/RI_Whitewater/

Please note that these bootleg trips are not official RICKA trips. They are posted for the convenience of our paddlers. As always, you are responsible for determining if the trip is suitable for your level of experience.



Most RICKA members also paddle with other whitewater groups such as the AMC, MVP or other internet groups.

How do I join a trip?

Official RICKA Whitewater trips are always RSVP trips. Contact the leader via email or at the phone number listed.

Most "bootleg" trips are "show and go" requiring no advanced notice other than confirmation on the message board.

What equipment do I need?

Every paddler will need a whitewater canoe or kayak with floatation, paddle, personal floatation device (PFD) and a properly fitted whitewater helmet. You can find a list of other equipment on our website.

<http://www.ricka-flatwater.org/wwschedule.htm>

What about clothing?

Whitewater paddling is definitely a water sport, and you should expect to get wet. Since the whitewater paddling season begins early in the spring, cold water paddling gear is required.

Do you offer training?

RICKA occasionally offers a Class II Kayak Whitewater School – details are posted on the [website](#) and in the [Paddler](#). Contact [Paul Leclerc](#) for additional information.

AMC River Ratings

Flatwater - There is little or no current - paddling upstream is easy.

Quickwater - The river moves fast, but is generally smooth.

Class I - Fast moving water with riffles and small waves, but few obstructions.

Class II - Straightforward rapids with wide, clear channels that are evident without scouting. Occasional maneuvering may be required.

Class III - Rapids with high, irregular waves that may be difficult to avoid. Narrow passages often require complex maneuvering in fast current. May require scouting from shore. Self-rescues are usually easy.

Class IV - Intense and powerful rapids requiring precise boat control. May include large, unavoidable waves and holes or constricted passages demanding fast maneuvers under pressure. Scouting is necessary the first time down. Swims will be long, and self-rescue difficult.

Earth Day Cleanup at River's Edge Park

An enthusiastic crew of RICKA volunteers launched from River's Edge Park in Woonsocket for an Earth Day clean up on the Blackstone River.

The crew collected over 8 bags of debris estimated to weigh more than 250 pounds including bottles, shopping bags, food containers, chip bags, styrofoam cups, foil balloons, face masks, soccer balls, and nip bottles. Some of the more unusual items included an arrow, a metal pail, a dog-ball-throwing device, and a medical boot.

Thanks to the RICKA's Earth Day volunteers for doing this important work.

It's Millers Time!

By Paul Leclerc

With poor snowfall over the winter, leaving no snowmelt and virtually no early spring rains, the whitewater rivers were low. Fortunately, there are several scheduled dam releases in April, so I organized a joint trip between RICKA and the [Penobscot Paddle and Chowder Society](#) - or as they're more familiarly known - the "Chowderheads". Three Chowders: Kenny, Ryan and Brendan joined me, Erik, Pat, and Ben, for a trip down the [Millers River](#) in north central MA.

Whitewater boating is done on two sections of this river - the [Upper Millers](#), a 7-mile stretch through mostly remote forested land beginning in South Royalston and ending in Athol and the [Lower Millers](#), a 5-mile segment beginning in Erving and ending in Millers Falls.



Ryan running the wavetrain

The Upper Millers is more technical with rock features scattered about and a few fallen trees, which needed to be avoided. The Lower Millers is endless class II/III wave trains and a powerful class IV rapid in the middle.

We put-in on the Upper Millers and began heading downstream. All was going well, until we came to the last class III rapid - a fairly strong rapid requiring quick technical maneuvering. Seasoned whitewater boater



Pat running the wavetrain

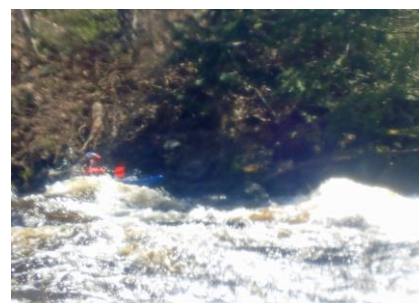
Erik Eckilson, decided to challenge himself and enter the section dodging what most boaters would rather avoid; he quickly found himself going over a large pour-over - water cascading over a boulder forming a "hole" at the bottom with a strong recirculation. Immediately he was separated from his boat and in the water. Knowing what lay ahead, he quickly and safely swam to shore. Fortunately, Pat was behind and able to push his boat into an eddy.

It is taught in many whitewater safety classes that when you are out of your boat and in the water that you should lie on your back with your feet near the surface and pointing downstream. This is called the safe swimming position and is fine if the river is an easy class I or II, or if there is a boater nearby to assist in ferrying you to shore, or if there is someone on shore with a throw rope that can be successfully caught and used to belay you to safety. For rivers that are turbulent, fast, and technical like the Millers, more aggressive swimming is needed since help may not be available.

Ben, being fairly new to whitewater, found himself too far right and unable to escape another large pour-over and quickly capsized. Unable to roll his kayak, he ejected. As Ben capsized, he hit his forehead on a shallow rock above his right eye. He assumed the safe swimming position and floated downstream, perhaps as he was taught.

I was up ahead leading the group when I spotted a large tree just under the surface. It was too late to safely paddle around it, so I paddled hard to get over it. Not having enough speed from the short distance, my boat came to rest on top of it. I turned to warn the group and spotted Ben in the water. I blew my whistle to warn Ben of the hazard and to signal for help.

Either not hearing me above the turbulence or being disoriented from his injury, Ben helplessly floated towards the tree and got sucked under. After a few heart stopping seconds, he was pushed through under the tree and came up gasping for air. At this point the current was calm enough for him to swim to shore.



Paul running the wavetrain

His impact resulted in a cut and a golf ball size swelling. Had he been caught under the tree it might have been a very different outcome. Luckily it was near the end of the river, and he finished the run. We provided an ice pack for the swelling and a bandage. As it turned out, Brendan is a nurse and said he'd be ok.

Four of us continued to the Lower Millers: me, Pat, Kenny, and Ryan. Other than a hard-fought combat roll by myself in the class IV rapid known as The Funnel, all went well. It was a long day and something I'll never forget with Ben - and neither will he. After that, it really was Miller time. Be safe out there. SYOTR.

Paul is a [Flatwater](#) and [Whitewater](#) leader and the Chair of the Whitewater group.

Jim O'Brien Memorial Paddle

By Erik Eckilson

In 2010, well-known local paddler Jim O'Brien died in a [tragic boating accident](#) on [Hubbard Brook](#). Other than Gordon McKinney, the [RICKA paddler](#) who died on [Esopus Creek](#) in 1992, it is the only death of a local whitewater paddler that I am aware of in my time paddling.

Each year, Jim's friends organize a memorial paddle for him on his home river - the Westfield in western MA. It's a nice section of the river - [Knightville Dam to Huntington](#), its dam-controlled so there is always water, and there is always a HUGE crowd. It is the bumper-boats of whitewater paddling, and I always make it if I can.



Group picture at the put-in

The [Westfield River](#) arises in the Berkshires and flows generally southeast for 78 miles to its confluence with the Connecticut River in Agawam. The river has lots of great whitewater paddling on three branches that join in Huntington to form the main stem - the North Branch (sometimes called the East Branch) that includes [Pork Barrel](#), the [Middle Branch](#), and the West Branch that includes [Knightville](#). Several sections of the river have received national [Wild & Scenic River](#) designation.



Paul running the Gorge Drop

This was also the weekend of the [Westfield River Wildwater Race](#), so we knew there would be a big crowd on the river. The Westfield Wildwater race is the oldest consecutively run canoe/kayak race in the country.

The downriver race starts on the Middle Branch in Huntington, and the whitewater race starts below the dam on the North Branch. A pinned canoe in the middle of the river below the Gorge Drop on the whitewater course told us that the safety boats had been busy. It was nice to see a lot of canoes out on the river, even if many of them were paddled with double blades.

I dropped off Paul and the boats at the put-in at the Knightville Dam and headed back to the take-out in Huntington to meet the rest of the group for the shuttle. I was back at the dam at 12:00 for the group picture.

The river was at nice level - 4.75 feet, 1,000 cfs. - a typical dam release level. The run is mostly class II rock dodging until you get to the Gorge Drop in the Gardner State Park.



Erik running the Gorge Drop

The Gorge Drop is the main feature on this section of the river. It is a 3-foot ledge to the right of a large jumble of rocks. The easiest line is just to the right of the rocks. From there you can either catch the eddy behind the rocks, or ride the haystack waves downstream. I usually try to catch the eddy so I can climb up on the rocks and get some pictures of other folks coming through.

As I came over the crest of the drop I noticed three kayakers sitting in the eddy below waiting to surf the wave at the bottom of the shoot. My line was set, so in I went. I bumped into two of them and pushed one out the other side.



Erik in the eddy below the Gorge Drop

Open boaters call that eddy clearing, and I did a pretty good job. They were OK with it, and I quickly got out of their way to take some pictures.

From the Gorge Drop down to the take-out is quickwater and more class II rock-dodging. We usually stop at the Hill and Dale rapid on the way home to catch the carnage from the downriver race, but with the earlier start time, we missed it this year. Fun day, great community - just wish the get together was for a different reason.

Erik is a [Flatwater](#) and [Whitewater](#) Leader and Editor of the [Paddler](#). You can read his blog at [Open Boat, Moving Water](#).

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 9th - launching promptly at 6:15
Upper Pawtuxet – Hope
Trip Coordinators: Roscoe Skurka cskurka@cox.net, 401-823-8925 and Skye scitamb.2@juno.com and Steve Pechie

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. Bring a headlamp, sunset is at 7:53.

May 16th - launching promptly at 6:15
Lacky Dam and the Mumford River – Sutton, MA
Trip coordinators: Julie Julierie87@gmail.com and Steve Riendeau steverie154@gmail.com

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

May 23rd - launching promptly at 6:15
West River – Uxbridge, MA
Trip coordinators: Frank Cortesa 508-369-820 frankcortesa@charter.net and 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.

May 30th - launching promptly at 6:15
Quinsigamond River - Riverview Apartments
Trip coordinators: Julie Julierie87@gmail.com and Steve Riendeau steverie154@gmail.com and Frank Cortesa 508-369-820 frankcortesa@charter.net

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

June 6th - launching promptly at 6:15
Manville Dam - Cumberland
Trip coordinators: Skye scitamb.2@juno.com and Steve Pechie

An up-and-back trip on a pretty section of the Blackstone River. Bring wheels if you have them, it will help getting your boat to the launch from the parking lot.

June 13th - launching promptly at 6:15
Nipmuc River – Harrisville
Trip Coordinators: Julie Julierie87@gmail.com and Steve Riendeau steverie154@gmail.com

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

June 20th - launching promptly at 6:15
Rice City Pond and the Blackstone River - Uxbridge, MA
Trip coordinator: Erik Eckilson eckilson@cox.net

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.

June 27th - launching promptly at 6:15

Slatersville Reservoir - North Smithfield
Trip coordinators are Frank Cortesa frankcortesa@charter.net 508-369-8205 and Jim Crowley crowbird888@msn.com

This trip provides a nice paddle through a flatwater section of upper Slatersville Reservoir and then a stretch of the Branch River.

Flatwater Trips

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

May 6th - meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 launch
Quinebaug River – East Brimfield, MA
Trip coordinators: Cheryl Thompson 401-497-5887 stonefoxfarm@juno.com and Frank Cortesa 508-369-8205 frankcortesa@charter.net

The Quinebaug River Canoe Trail winds through marshland filled with wildlife. An up and back trip that is a little over 7 miles. Suitable for all boats and all levels of experience. Bring a lunch. A change of clothes in a drybag is required.

May 7th - meet at 9:30 for a 10:00 launch
Ten Mile River and Central Pond
Trip coordinator: Danny O'Shea doshea5031@aol.com 401-527-3447

This site gives you access to Central Pond. The shores are tree-lined, and you can paddle up the Ten Mile River to Slater Park in Pawtucket. Bring a lunch. A change of clothes is required for this early season trip.

May 14th - meet at 9:30 for a 10:00 shuttle
Pawcatuck - Lower Shannock to Jay Cronan
Trip Coordinators: Cindy Gianfransisco gleanergardens@gmail.com and Chuck

Continued on Page 8.

Continued from Page 7.

Horbert chorbert13@gmail.com 401-418-2838

This section of the Pawcatuck River feels relatively wild, with only occasional houses visible from the river. The river is mostly quiet and relatively slow-moving, but there are intervals of quickwater. Wetsuits or drysuits are required for this trip. Bring a lunch.

May 20th - meet at 9:30 for a 10:00 shuttle
Wood River - Route 165 to Wyoming Dam

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

A 7-mile trip on a pretty section of the Wood River. The beginning of the river may be narrow, shallow and rocky but soon opens up. Bring a lunch.

May 27th - Meet at 10:30 for an 11:00 launch

Charles River - Dedham, MA

Trip coordinator: Steve Norris
sirron30@gmail.com

A 6.5 mile trip along a pretty section of the Charles River passing along the VFW Parkway. Bring a lunch

May 29th - meet at 9:30 for a 10:00 launch
Big River - Coventry

Trip coordinators - Pat Lardner 401-524-8057 pslardner@gmail.com and Deb Britt

We will put in at Zeke's Bridge, paddle upstream against the current, and then return with the current to the put-in. River is narrow with lots of twist and turns - not suitable for kayaks over 15 feet. Bring a lunch.

June 3rd - meet at 2:00 for a 2:30 launch
Overnight Camping at the Burlingame Canoe Campsites

Trip Coordinator: Erik Eckilson
eckilson@cox.net 401-765-1741

We will launch at 2:00 p.m. from Bradford Landing and paddle up to the Burlingame Canoe Campsites for the evening. We will do group meals for supper and breakfast so you won't have to worry about bringing food or cooking gear. You will need a tent, sleeping bag, mess kit (plate, cup and silverware), a folding chair (for sitting around the campfire), and your usual paddling gear. A dry bag for your cloths and sleeping bag is recommended. We will have a couple of canoes to bring some extra gear. These are primitive campsites, so outdoor facilities will not be available. RSVP required.

June 10th - meet at 1:00

Basic Flatwater Training

Coordinators: Erik Eckilson
eckilson@cox.net 401-765-1741, and Bill Luther williamluther058@gmail.com

In this 3-hour class, paddlers will learn the basic strokes and maneuvers to control their boats on flatwater. We will also cover basic rescue techniques. The class will take place at Stump Pond in Smithfield and will be free for RICKA members. All participants must sign an ACA waiver.

June 15th - meet at 6:00 for a 6:30 launch
Stump Pond - Smithfield, RI

Trip coordinators: Cheryl Thompson
stonefoxfarm75@gmail.com or 401-497-5887 and Carol Filliatreault
carol.filliatreault@gmail.com

A pleasant Thursday evening paddle around Stump Pond. This trip is suitable for all boats and all levels of experience.

June 19th - meet at 6:00 for a 6:15 launch
June Meeting on the Water

Upper Pawtuxet - Hope, RI.

Trip Coordinators: Tom Farley
stonefoxfarm75@gmail.com and Cheryl Thompson 401-497-5887

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

paddle up to the Scituate Reservoir and back again - about 5-miles round trip. The water is very clean, coming directly from the reservoir. Sunset is at 8:23, bring a headlamp or waterproof flashlight. This trip is suitable for all.

June 24th - meet at 9:00 for a 9:30 launch
Sudbury River - Lincoln, MA

Trip Coordinators: Bill Luther
williamluther058@gmail.com and Erik Eckilson eckilson@cox.net 401-765-1741

The Sudbury is a designated Wild and Scenic River. We will head upstream through a large marshland known as the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge for about 4 miles and return downstream for a total of about 8 miles. This will be a one-way non-shuttle trip. Bring a lunch

June 25th - meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 launch
100 Acre Cove - Barrington

Trip coordinators are Danny O'Shea
doshea5031@aol.com 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. Bring a snack.

Sea Kayak Trips

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

Sea Kayak Paddle and Potluck/Season Planning Meeting

May 20th - Paddle at 10:00,
Potluck/Planning Meeting at 3:00

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.

- **Werner Stakine Paddle** - high end surf, rock and WW paddle - 203 cm, 0 degree feather, straight shaft - \$175. **Werner Kaliste Paddle** - carbon with dynel edges for relaxed, low angle paddling - 220 cm, bent shaft, feather angle is adjustable in 15 degree increments - \$200. **NDK Explorer HV** - touring, expeditioning and active water play boat. About 10 years, modest gel coat scratches and cracking, Yellow over white with black deck seam and cockpit coaming. Hatch covers are in good shape. Includes a deck mounted Bruton compass and recessed deck fittings - \$1,450. Contact Gerry@seasherpakayak.com
- **Kokotat GoreTex Drysuit** - men's medium in pristine condition - \$600. Contact Howie at 508-259-7349 or howardcadams@yahoo.com
- **Valley Avocet Kayak and paddling gear** - the boat is like new and totally restored with replacement parts. It includes a brand new Werner Shuna paddle, NRS life jacket, NRS booties and Seals cockpit cover. Also, a solid neoprene spray skirt, bilge pump, paddle float and gear bag are included. The price is \$1500.00 with everything included. Contact timothyjmotte@gmail.com
- **Perception Eclipse Kayak** - 2000 model with a composite Kevlar layup weighing only 45 lbs - length 17' 2", width 22", anodized rudder system. The original seat has been replaced with a foam seat. It has a dealer added Kevlar keel strip - asking \$1300. View photos and more information on this [web page](#)
- **Wilderness System Sealoution 16.6** and **Necky Manitou 14** - both plastic boats are in paddle ready condition, the Sealoution could use a little TLC - \$400 for either boat. Contact mbouley@gmail.com
- **P&H Code Zero Sail for Kayak** - with mast, used only a few times - \$200. Contact jonathansharlin@gmail.com
- **Necky Kayook** - two sealed compartments, foot-controlled rudder. Includes cockpit cover, spray skirt, some accessories - \$175. Contact Ed Poyer, edpoyer@gmail.com
- **Golden Kevlar Arluk 1.8** - excellent condition, 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 sprayskirts with zippered pockets. Located in New Haven, CT - \$1,250 cash. Contact lovepotent@hotmail.com
- **Full Thule Rack System** - includes Thule 838 Hull-a-Port Aero, 50" Steel Square Bars, Crossroad Feet. Each component set is \$75 - make a reasonable off for the full set! 401-297-9792
- **Ocean Kayak Malibu 2 XL Sit-on-top Tandem Kayak** - length- 13' 4", width- 34 inches, weight- 68 lbs. Color - Envy (Green and White). Condition- very good; a few scratches. Seats included. Paddles can be supplied for extra charge - Price \$629. Contact hozho108@gmail.com
- **Current Designs Tandem Unity Kayak** - 21', excellent shape comes with spray skirts, travel cockpit covers, and two graphite paddles (220cm/210cm) - \$3,000. Contact r.john.davenport.phd@gmail.com

Congratulations to our 2023 Executive Officers

Congratulation to the 2023 Executive Officers who were elected at our April Annual Meeting:

President: Frank Cortesa
Vice President: Steve Pechie
Secretary: Skye Pechie
Treasurer: Sharon Dragon

We would also like to thank out-going Vice President Danny O'Shea for his years of service on the board. We are glad that he will continue to serve on the board as a Member at Large. Thanks to all our executive board members (see page 2) for all the work you do for the club.

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.