

PADDLER

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Newsletter of the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

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No. 10

October 2023

October Club Meeting Wilderness Tripping

Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 7:00

Join us for our October Meeting as RICKA Wilderness Chair Chuck Horbert provides an overview of the RICKA Wilderness group, and river trippers Bob Latshaw and Erik Eckilson talk about their recent trips.

Bob Latshaw will talk about his 22 day trip down the [Broken Skull and Nahanni Rivers](#) in Canada's Northwest Territories. The Broken Skull starts high in the Mackenzie Mountains and flows southwest to join the Nahanni River above Rabbitkettle Lake.

Erik Eckilson will talk about his week-long trip on the [Allagash Wilderness Waterway](#) in the [North Maine Woods](#). The Allagash Wilderness Waterway is a [92.5-mile state park](#) along the Allagash River that begins at Telos Lake and ends in Allagash Village. It is also one of the original "[Wild and Scenic](#)" rivers.

The meeting will be held on Zoom video conference. Link will be posted on the website.



Wilderness Tripping on the
Allagash Wilderness Waterway

Movie Night Our Favorite Trips of 2023

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 2023. 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

Register now for Autumn Gales

October 27 to 29, 2023

Registration is now open for [Kayak Wavologies' Autumn Gales](#).

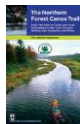
Autumn Gales is a rough water sea kayak training event geared to intermediate and advanced paddlers. It brings world renowned coaches from the UK and Europe together with local guides to create a fun and exciting experience. While not a RICKA event, RICKA has always had a strong presence with RICKA members as guides and participants.

Registration information is available here:

<https://www.autumngales.com/registrationcontact-info.html>

Wilderness Selections from the RICKA Library

Northern Forest Canoe Trail - Official Guidebook - Reviewed by Susan Engelman



The newest addition to the RICKA Library is a great source of information for anyone thinking of paddling a section of the Northern Forest Canoe Trail that runs 740 miles and links waterways from New York to Maine. The book is divided into sections by state and includes information on camping, portages, gear and equipment. It describes opportunities for flatwater, quickwater and whitewater paddling on a range of rivers, streams, lakes and ponds. Details of flora and fauna are also included. Paddlers of all skill levels will appreciate the vast amounts of information this book has to offer.

The Complete Wilderness Paddler – Reviewed by Log of Ibi



The authors use a canoe trip on the Moisie River as the vehicle for teaching us everything we need to know to make a similar trip. The book includes sections on navigation, maps, portaging, camping, reading rivers and learning how to plan descents by ferrying, lining and maneuvering. It covers everything from how to find a wilderness worthy of paddling, to managing capsizes and wilderness disasters. It's unfortunate that the book hasn't been revised, but the dated material is minor and easily ignored, as the most valuable information on things like safety, wind and the behavior of whitewater are timeless.

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 November 1st 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>

Membership:

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Registration Form:

[Join the Fun!](#)

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!

Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

Executive Board

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16th 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 thank our many volunteers.

This year, the picnic was held at North Kingstown Town Beach. Morning paddles were cancelled due to bad weather, but we still gathered for lunch and the RICKA Awards Ceremony. Club-wide awards were presented to:

Volunteer of the Year Award **Cat Radcliffe**

Cat is a long-time RICKA member who served as Safety and Education Chair from 2009 to 2018, helped organize the winter pool rolling clinics from 2007 to 2018, and was the RICKA Newsletter editor in 2009 and 2010. In 2023, she served as trip coordinator for paddles from Potters Cove and West Island, and co-coordinated rolling and rescue practice sessions at Gull Cove.

In addition, Cat stepped-up to represent RICKA at a Tiverton town hearing on a proposal related to aquaculture at the Seapowet Wildlife Management Area.

Based on her long history of supporting the RICKA team, her continuing active role volunteering to lead RICKA paddles and training sessions, and representing RICKA to our local community, Cat Radcliffe has earned the award for 2023 Volunteer of the Year.

Conservation Award **Bill Luther**

For his dedication and efforts to promote conservation.



Cat receives the Volunteer of the Year Award from Sea Kayak Chair Rich Coupland

Flatwater Leadership Award **Henry Dziadosz**

For his many years of running the Adirondack trip.

BVPC Leadership Award **Steve and Julie Riendeau**

For their many years as leaders in the Blackstone Valley Paddle Club.

Rubber Ducky Award **Tom Farley**

For multiple swims on the Wood River.

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

Elaine Andrews (B)
Deb Britt (EB, F)
Dave Biernacki (B)
Justin Boyan (SK)
Rick Brooks (SK)
Rich Coupland (EB, SK)
Frank Cortesta (B, EB, F)
Jim Crowley (B, F)
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 Gianfrancesco (F, W)
Tim Gleason (SK)
Bill Hahn (EB)
Mike Hazeltine (SK)
Peter Hill (EB, SK)
Chuck Horbert (EB, F, W)
Eric Johnson (SK)
JeanMarie Josephson (F)
Beklen Kerimoglu (SK)
Pat Ladner (EB, F)
Paul Leclerc (EB, WW)
Bill Luther (F)
Earl MacRae (B, F)
Bob Martin (B)
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)
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

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

Check the [Flatwater Message Board](#) for trip changes. Appropriate skills and equipment are required.

October 14th - meet at 10:30 for 11:00 launch

Tully Lake and River – Royalston, MA
Coordinators: Steve and Joanna Norris
sirron30@gmail.com

Meet at the car-top boat launch on Doane Hill Road, Royalston, MA. This is a very picturesque paddle and the fall colors should be out to view. Bring a lunch.

October 14th - meet at 9:30 for a 10:00 launch

Blackstone Gorge Foliage Paddle
Coordinator: Gary Powers
garpow28@aol.com

The put-in for this section is near the Blackstone Gorge across from 66 County Street, Blackstone MA. This is a pretty fall paddle, just under 4-miles round trip and suitable for all paddlers. Parking lot is small.

October 22nd - meet at 9:30 for a 10:00 shuttle

Pawcatuck River - Potter Hill to Westerly

Coordinators: Cindy Gianfrancesco
gleanergardens@gmail.com and Chuck Horbert
chorbert13@gmail.com

We will be using the DEM access on Post Office Lane. This is a relatively short (5.5-miles) paddle that is mostly flatwater but has several quickwater and moving water sections as well as a couple short stretches that could be considered Class I (straightforward) rapids. You should be confident in controlling where your boat is going in moving water. Our take-out will be the Westerly Boat Ramp on Main Street in Westerly. Bring a lunch.

October 28th - meet at 10:30 for an 11:00 launch

Charles River – Medfield, MA
Coordinators: Steve and Joanna Norris
sirron30@gmail.com

We will meet at the launch ramp behind the former Charles Cafe on Route 109. This is an easy paddle but some spots can get narrow as it is a meandering wetland river. We may encounter some beaver dams before returning downstream. Plan to stop at Devils Foot Island to explore and have lunch.

November 4th - meet at 1:30 for a 2:00 launch

Turkey Paddle at Wallum Lake
Coordinators: Cheryl Thompson
stonefoxfarm75@juno.com 401-497-5887
and Sharon Dragon shdrag1@gmail.com
401-225-3942.

A lovely fall paddle with dinner at a nearby restaurant. Wallum Lake in Douglas State Park is located on the border of RI and MA has crystal clear water, and is an easy paddle. Restaurant to be determined. RSVP by October 31st if you intend to have lunch with us. No RSVP needed for the paddle. At this time of year a change of clothes in a waterproof bag is required. A wetsuit or drysuit is recommended.

December 2nd - meet at 11:30 for a 12:10 launch

Santa Paddle in Wickford Harbor
Trip coordinator: Pat Lardner
pslardner@gmail.com

Join us as we escort Santa as he arrives by boat in Wickford Harbor. We will meet at the Wickford Town Dock next to Gardner's Wharf (170 Main Street, North Kingstown, RI). Please RSVP to Pat Lardner at pslardner@gmail.com so we know how many hats we will need for Santa's elves. A wetsuit or drysuit is required for this paddle.

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.

Wilderness Paddler's Gathering

October 13 to 15, 2023

After a couple years hiatus, the [Wilderness Paddler's Gathering](#) is scheduled for October 13 to 15, 2023 in Thetford, VT.

This is a joint gathering of wilderness paddlers and snow walkers (wilderness camping accessible by either canoe/kayak or snowshoes/XC skis). There are presentations that cover many trips that have been accomplished as well as workshops on a number of wilderness skills for folks who either want to learn or want to improve existing skills. There is also a Wilderness First Aid class on October 12 to 13, 2023. You can sign up for some or all of it, whatever you want. To sign up, go to the [website](#).

RICKA Wilderness Chair Chuck Horbert commented "I went to the last one in 2019 and thought it was an incredible opportunity. I can't go this year, but I hope some folks from the club can take advantage of this opportunity!"

RICKA Classifieds

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

- **P&H Aries 155** – 2016, Expedition Layup w/Keel Strip, 70P Compass, Paddle Britches. Pea Green Deck/ White Seam/White Hull/White Kevlar Keel Strip. Foam Block Footrest - \$2,200. **Betsy Bay Recluse** - 19' long and 20 1/2" wide; Weight 30 to 34 lbs. Paddler Weight 175 lbs. & Up; Spray Skirt, laminated Greenland Paddle (Betsy Bay). Adjustable foot pegs. Epoxy protection on bow and stern - \$1, 800. **P&H Cetus MV** – 2014, Carbon/Kevlar w/Kevlar Keel Strip, 70P Compass, Paddle Scabbard. Yellow Deck/White Seam/White Hull/White Kevlar Keel Strip - \$2, 200 firm. Seller lives in Providence - text 401-654-3168
- **Boriel Saguana** - 18 feet fiberglass with rudder in red - \$800. **Borial Inukshuk** - 17 feet with rudder in yellow - \$500. **Futura Surf Ski** - 19 feet in blue fiberglass with a rudder - \$1,000. **Kayak Cart** - \$60. **Lendal Paddle** - \$200. **Borial Paddle** - \$100. **Roof Rack** - Hully rollers and saddles - \$400. Other items on website. Contact Julie at 401-688-7907 or jet14jem@cox.net
- **SKUK Romany Excel Expedition** - fiberglass sea kayak for extra large paddler, all white with red trim and white keel strip, compass, custom foam bulkhead and sacral block, all new deck rigging, has only been used for light touring, 2021 hull - \$3,200. Contact timothyjmotte@gmail.com
- **Necky Manitou II** - 14'6" tandem kayak - like new condition. Yellow. Spray skirt for the stern paddler available. Rudder is controlled by stern paddler. Aft seat can be adjusted for solo paddling - \$845. **Necky Looksha** - 17' sea kayak. Gray with rudder. Good condition, stored indoors - \$695. Contact Jay at josephlwade@yahoo.com
- **Thule Kayak Rooftop Rack** - dock glide system and 2 J-racks – \$225. **Greenland Style Carbon fiber paddle (black) 220 cm** - \$215. **Gear Lab 2-piece Aukaneck paddle** - 210 cm - \$250. **Kokatat Semi-dry Suit** - large, with XL fleece dry suit liner. Good condition, but needs wrist gasket replaced - \$100.00. **Kokatat Farmer John Wetsuit** - large, shorty and **Kokatat Paddle Jacket** - \$75.00. **Pro Tec Helmet**- \$25.00. **NRS Booties** - size 11- \$25. Contact Fred at g33zr2@gmail.com or text 401-569-6038
- **Carbon Werner Shuna paddle** - 205cm, used only a couple of times, as a spare paddle. in like new condition. 2 piece, straight shaft - asking \$225. Contact rcruelles@gmail.com
- **Skin on frame kayak made by Seawolf** - the model is the Kurki. 17 feet long, 29 lbs, rolls easily, I easily maintain 4-5 mph in the open ocean. Spray skirt and float bags included. Delivery within the RI-CT-MA area can be negotiated. Contact 443-974-0814
- **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@seasheerpakayak.com
- **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 here is the link) - used only a few times - \$200. Contact jonathansharlin@gmail.com
- **Necky Kayook** - 15 foot, 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** - this was the last Arluk 1.8 ever made - excellent condition, 'Ocean Cockpit', always garaged. 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 - \$1,250. Contact lovepotent@hotmail.com
- **Point 65N Mercury GTX Modular Kayak** - still in box - \$1,600 Please leave message 978-667-1841
- **Lendal Storm Paddle** - 215 cm - several years old but lightly used. Asking \$190. Contact Richard at 401-595-1175

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.