

PADDLER

www.ricka.org

Newsletter of the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

Vol. XLVII

No. 4

April 2024

April Annual Meeting Keeping an Eye on Narragansett Bay Monday, April 15, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

What happens upstream doesn't stay upstream. The economic, recreational and ecological value of Narragansett Bay depends on the health of rivers and streams that flow into it from miles away.

Covering 147 square miles, Narragansett Bay is New England's largest estuary, where rivers meet the ocean to produce one of the most diverse and productive ecosystems on earth. The watershed that feeds Narragansett Bay covers over 1,754 square miles in MA and RI, and includes paddling favorites like the Taunton, Blackstone, Pawtuxet, Ten Mile, Palmer, Narrow, Wood and Pawcatuck Rivers.

At our April meeting, [Save the Bay](#)'s Kate McPherson will talk about her work as the **Narragansett Bay Riverkeeper**, advocating for the rivers that comprise the Narragansett Bay watershed. Kate works with watershed organizations, government officials, and organizations like RICKA to promote healthy marshes, rivers and streams. Kate is a lifelong Rhode Islander who came to Save The Bay by way of the RI Department of Environmental Management. She has paddled salt ponds, reservoirs, lakes, and rivers across MA and RI.



The meeting will be held on Zoom videoconference – the link will be posted on the website when available. **All members are encouraged to attend this important meeting to cast their votes for RICKA's 2024 to 2025 Executive Officers (see below).**

Vote for 2024 Club Officers at our Annual Meeting April 15, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

The Nominating Committee has presented the following slate of officers for the 2023 to 2024 year:

President: Erik Eckilson
Vice President: Steve Pechie
Secretary: Skye Pechie
Treasurer: Frank Cortesa

Members are encouraged to attend the April Annual Meeting (see above) to cast their votes. If you are interested in becoming more involved with the club, we have a couple of **Member at Large** positions open. Contact Nomination Committee member Cheryl Thompson at stonefoxfarm@juno.com if you are interested or would like more information.

Flatwater Planning Meeting April 6, 2024 from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Join us at [Visitor Center at River Bend Farm](#) for our annual Flatwater Planning Meeting. At this meeting, we will set up our calendar for the 2024 year, so please bring ideas for trips. Contact Cheryl Thompson at stonefoxfarm@juno.com for additional information.

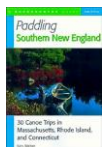
Sea Kayak Paddle, Planning Meeting, and Potluck May 4, 2024 – save the date!

The annual Sea Kayak spring planning meeting and potluck will be held on May 4th at Jon Sharlin's house in Westport, MA following a morning paddle in the area. Details are TBD, and will be posted in the May Paddler, and on the [website](#).

From the RICKA Library...

Local Flatwater Paddle Guides

Paddling Southern New England
30 Canoe Trips in MA, RI and CT
By Ken Webber



This is the original classic guide to paddling the waters of southern New England. Chapters include day trips on flatwater, selected whitewater runs, and suggestions for overnight trips—with 30 trips in all, there's something here for every level of paddler. Each chapter includes information on put-ins and take-outs, distance, water conditions, dams and rapids, portages, what time of year to paddle, and what you'll see along the way. A detailed map and a handy mileage chart for each river make planning easy.

Paddling Connecticut and Rhode Island
Southern New England's Best Paddling Routes
By Jim Cole



This is the NEW classic guide to Southern New England's waterways by our own [Jim Cole](#). From flatwater and tidal rivers to wilderness trips, easy whitewater, and coastal and open water expeditions, this guidebook describes thirty-one trips that encompass Connecticut's greatest watersheds and nearly every river that can be paddled in Rhode Island. Whether you use your canoe or kayak to fish, hunt, bird watch, or just relax and enjoy the outdoors, you'll find plenty of locations in this guide that are just right for you.

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 April 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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Gary Powers
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Registration Form:

[Join the Fun!](#)

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

Your RICKA membership expired on March 31, 2024...

Please renew your RICKA membership now!

Please visit the website at:

[Join the Fun!](#)

Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

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Please Renew your Membership Now

It's Easy with Our On-line Registration Form!

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

For 47 years, the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association (RICKA) has been providing great paddling opportunities for its members. We are the oldest and largest paddle sport club in Rhode Island. A new membership year began on April 1st, so please join or renew your membership today.

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

Are you looking to improve your paddling skills? Training is also an important part of the RICKA mission. Each year RICKA offers many fun and informative training sessions. Many of these sessions are offered free of charge, or at a significant discount to our members.

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

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

To register for this year's season we strongly recommend that you use our on-line registration form. RICKA is a web-based club, and the on-line form provides an efficient, secure, and flexible registration process. So, here's what to expect ...

With the online form, you will see that there isn't a lot of "required" information (name, email, type of membership), but we do have fields for optional information like being able to add a free household adult to your membership.

The type or membership remains the same with RICKA-only or the combined RICKA/BVPC options.

After entering your info, follow the flow of the form to enter your payment option. For those choosing the preferred no-hassle



Enjoy the many benefits of RICKA membership

online payment, you will be directed to a PayPal-branded online portal where you can choose to pay with credit or debit card. You do not need to have a PayPal account.

For those who prefer, check payment is available with the address provided when that option is chosen. Note also that because RICKA is run by member volunteers, it may be several weeks before checks are processed.

Upon registering you will be emailed a welcome message with important details related to our club. You will also receive an attachment that includes a pdf of your form, invoice, and membership card (valid upon payment). Utilize either the welcome message or your card for paddles and store discounts.

So please join or renew for the 2024 season here:
[Join the Fun](#)

Finally, if you have any issues or prefer not to utilize the new form, simply email membership at: rickenmembership@gmail.com

Thank you for your support in the coming year, and we look forward to seeing you on the water.



Registration is easy with our on-line form

Practice Group Q&A

Paddling with RICKA Flatwater

What is the RICKA Flatwater group?

RICKA has four interest groups – [Flatwater](#), [Whitewater](#), [Sea Kayak](#) and [Wilderness](#). These groups often overlap and many members paddle regularly with all four groups. The Flatwater group is the largest of the four and holds trips on most weekends from late spring through fall.

What types of trips are there?

Flatwater trips run the gamut from lakes and ponds, to rivers, to open water. Swimming, picnicking, and short hikes accompany some trips.

How do I find out about trips?

You will find a list of trips on the flatwater calendar.

<http://www.ricka.org/FWCalendar.html>

If you would like to sign up for [flatwater](#) and [BVPC](#) trip notification emails, send an email to the [Flatwater/BVPC group](#) and write “email list” in the subject line.

Who runs the trips?

All trips are run by volunteer trip leaders. These leaders will have done the trip before and will be able to advise you of KNOWN potential hazards. Safety is always of paramount importance, **but you, and you alone, are responsible for yourself.**

What equipment do I need?

Every paddler will need a boat (canoe or kayak) that is appropriate for the conditions, paddle and personal floatation device (PFD). Your PFD must be zipped, buckled and properly adjusted anytime that



Summer day on a RICKA flatwater trip

you are on the water. You can find a list of other equipment on the website.

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

What about clothing?

Paddling is a water sport, so you should plan to get wet. Cotton cloths should be avoided. Polypropylene, fleece, wool, and lycra blends insulate well when wet. In colder weather, a neoprene wetsuit is a better insulator, and splash jackets and dry wear are good investments.

And for my feet?

Footwear should protect your feet in and out of the water. Sneakers, water shoes or heavy Teva-type sandals are recommended.

How do I join a trip?

Most flatwater trips are “show and go” requiring no advanced notice. Simply arrive at the time indicated and enjoy the trip. More difficult trips will require an RSVP.

Please note that the trip leader may cancel a trip or change its location as conditions warrant. When possible, cancellations and changes will be posted on the [message board](#) at least 2 hours in advance the scheduled launch.

What should I do to prepare for a trip?

Paddlers should research the trip in advance to make sure that it is right for them. The trip leader will often post basic information such as the length of the trip, the equipment that is needed, and the hazards that might be encountered. There are also a number of excellent paddle guides in the [RICKA Library](#).

Please be honest about your abilities when deciding to attend a trip. New paddlers should start with short, easy trips before attempting longer, more difficult ones. All flatwater paddlers need to be in good physical condition and be competent swimmers.

What will happen when I get to the put-in?

Please arrive for the trip on-time, and bring the right equipment. Paddlers should wait on-shore or near-by on the water for the trip leader to give a brief safety talk, and take a head count of paddlers. The trip leader may also need to assign a lead boat and a sweep boat.

What will happen on the water?

On the water, all paddlers are expected to stay with the group at all times. You should always paddle behind the lead boat, and in front of the sweep boat if one has been assigned. If you need to leave the group for any reason, please notify the trip leader. At the take out, please do not leave the parking lot until the trip leader has taken a final head count.

Do you offer training?

The RICKA Flatwater group occasionally holds flatwater training for new paddlers. In these classes, paddlers learn the basic strokes and maneuvers to control their boats on flatwater. Watch the [website](#) and [Paddler](#) for details.

Contact Flatwater Chair Cheryl Thompson at stonefoxfarm@juno.com for additional information.

Favorite Trips from our Flatwater Leaders

There are so many great [flatwater](#) trips around Rhode Island that it can be tough to pick a favorite. Here are a few selections from the folks who know the area the best - our flatwater leaders.

Cheryl Thompson (Flatwater Chair)



I have a lot of favorite trips, but I especially enjoy paddling on the [Upper Pawtuxet](#), also known as the North Branch. This is a 4-mile trip up a beautiful river to the dam at the end of the Scituate Reservoir. The water is pristine and very cold since it comes from the bottom of the dam. Many times, I have seen eagles, herons, kingfishers, waterfowl and turtles. This water is stocked and you can look into the water and see the trout. If you paddle in the evening when the air is warm and the water cool you paddle through this mystical fog and mist. A beautiful trip. I also enjoy [Great Swamp](#) and the [Upper Wood River](#).

Skye and Steve Pechie



I would say one of our favorite local flatwater trips is the Quinebaug in Brooklyn, CT. We almost always have great bird sightings and usually interesting parachute or glider activity as well. It's winding and pretty, there are some quick water sections, and it's usually quiet as far as houses and others using the water are concerned. We also love the [Slocum River](#) in Dartmouth, [Point Judith Pond](#), and lots of other salty places where we can swim.

Pat Lardner

[Green Hill Pond](#) is one of my favorite paddles launching from [Charlestown Beach](#). The area is lush in salt marshes, islands and oyster beds. The return hugs the barrier beach with an easy walk to enjoy lunch on Block Island Sound. This paddle is a bird watchers delight.



Henry Dziadosz

My favorite is the Pawcatuck from [Bradford](#) to Burdickville and back. There is always plenty of water and sandy spots to take out for lunch and a swim. The foliage changes dramatically with the seasons, making it look and feel like a different trip each time. I've been paddling this section for fifty years and it never gets old.



Chuck Horbert

My favorite hands down is the [Great Swamp](#) trip - down the [Chipuxet](#), across [Worden Pond](#), and into the headwaters of the Pawcatuck River. Despite the challenges (or maybe because of the challenges) it is a rewarding trip through the most remote part of Rhode Island that one can reach by canoe. It changes year to year and never fails to disappoint...unless you forget to watch out for the poison ivy.



Steve Norris

I would say that Breakneck Pond in CT is one of my favorites. It has a 1 1/4-mile portage, but the pond is pristine. Last time we were there we had great weather and got to see a pair of eagles. I also really enjoyed the trip down the Wood River last spring great high moving water - lots of fun.



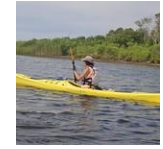
Danny O'Shea

Oh, without a doubt my favorite trip is the Palmer River starting at Providence Street in Rehoboth and downriver 7-miles to Barrington/Warren. This brackish river runs through some of the finest salt water and fresh water wetlands in the area. Halfway down stream you can also stop at Dickey's Clam Shack and have clam cakes and chowder. There is also a 2-mile nature hike in the town of Warren right off of the river.



Sharon Dragon

One of my favorites is the [Upper Wood River](#), a 7.5-mile paddle from Route 165 to Wyoming Pond in Hope Valley. This section of the Wood River twists and turns through the Arcadia Management Area and offers a short class I whitewater section and a great lunch spot at the WPWA headquarters. The upper Wood River paddle exemplifies why the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed was designated a [National Wild and Scenic River](#).



Frank Cortessa

I like the West River starting at West River Road in Uxbridge paddling up to the West Hill Dam and back. It combines open lake paddling with sections of twisting narrows and often a beaver dam crossing, a tunnel passage under East Hartford Avenue and at the end awesome views of the West Hill Dam. Another favorite is the [Nipmuc River](#) - clean water and after the first few minutes it narrows into a densely wooded area and it feels as if one could be in a northern version of the Amazon.



Jen Stanton

My favorite trip is the full moon paddle at [Worden Pond](#). Being on the water for the sunset and moonrise is a special



experience. We also like to head over to The Rathskeller for food afterwards.

Earl Macrae

If I had to pick one, I guess it would be the [Blackstone River from Blackstone to Millville](#). When paddling this stretch of the Blackstone, I usually see swans, ducks, geese, king fishers, herons, turkey vultures, many small birds and occasionally an eagle, or beaver. It has easy flat water, some wide areas, some twist and turns and some quick water. It has some history that you can explore, like the canal, tow path, it's lock, and old mill building foundations that date back to the early to mid 1800's. The lack of urban noise, makes for a very quiet and enjoyable paddle.



Bill Luther

I like the Bungay River on Holden Street in Attleboro, Mass. It is a short 4-mile up and back paddle. It usually has water throughout the year even in dry summers. It winds through a lush oak swamp and there are many birdhouses on the way that you can almost touch. It narrows to spots where you must turn around. It is almost impossible to reach the National Fish hatchery in it's headwaters. You will be tempted. Double parking is usually required at the start. You will be surprised when you hear the whistle of a close Amtrak train.



Gary Powers

I really enjoy just about any freshwater river but I think when I'm not falling in trying to go down the Bradford fish ladder, I remember super enjoying the lower Pawcatuck from [Bradford](#) to [Potter Hill](#) (even wet). In the fall I love the colors doing the [Blackstone Gorge](#) or for a challenge and step back in time I loved doing [Manville](#) to [Central Falls Landing](#) on the Blackstone.



Erik Eckilson

I'd have to say my favorite is the Narrow River on the Narragansett/ North Kingstown line. It has a little bit of everything. [The upper section](#) twists and turns through a pretty woodland before emptying into large lakes. The [lower section](#) opens into a huge salt marsh before ending at a beautiful beach on Narragansett Bay. Catch it as the tide is going out, and shore birds are everywhere!



Paul Leclerc

My favorite would be the Quinebaug River from Danielson to Plainfield in CT. When the water is up, this section has some quickwater and even a couple of easy rapids. It is a little more than your typical flatwater trip, but I am the [whitewater](#) chair after all.



Tom Farley

My favorite trip is [Point Judith Pond](#), or the Great Salt Pond. It has it all – open water paddling, lots of coves and islands to explore, and great beaches for lunch and a swim. I also enjoyed last year's swallow migration paddle on the Connecticut River, even though we didn't see a lot of swallows.



Michael Vechinsky

I'd have to say that my favorite trips is the Pawcatuck from [Potter Hill](#) down to [Westerly](#). It is a pretty section of river that twists and turns through woodlands and farmland. There are also plenty of places in Westerly to go out for food and drinks after the trip.



Deborah Britt

One of my favorite paddles is [Big River](#) in Coventry. Despite its



name, Big River is mostly narrow, a series of loops and turns that meander through freshwater marsh. It's an up-close experience with red-wing blackbirds, phoebes, herons and more, along with a dazzling array of dragonflies. The river eventually runs under the I-95 overpass, and paddlers get a break from navigating the curves as they pass under those huge arches. This waterway is best enjoyed early in the season.

Jim Crowley

My favorite is the [Blackstone Gorge](#). It has some scenic bridges and some challenging fast moving water (sometimes). Usually see a few swans and herons. I also like Buffumville Lake in Charlton. It's a nice leisurely paddle with scenic views.



Jean Marie Joseph

I love the [Slocum River](#) as long as I go out with the tide and then come back with it. Lots of osprey nests and a sandy lunch spot.



Julie and Steve Riendeau

The [Nipmuc River](#) is Steve and my favorite paddle. If you go upstream, it's like you are in an unexplored jungle! You would swear no one has ever been there before. And of course going over the beaver dams can be a fun challenge as well. If you go downstream, it opens up to a lovely little mill pond with a dam (and it's not a beaver dam this time!) It's a very nice paddle especially in the evening where you might see a lot of wildlife.



These are just a few of the great trips that you can enjoy with our [Flatwater](#) group. If you have a favorite trip that you would like to share with the group, please contact Flatwater Chair Cheryl Thompson at stonefoxfarm@juno.com.

The “Really Upper” Millers

By Erik Eckilson

Usually, when I drive out to Royalston, MA it is to paddle the whitewater section of the Millers River below the Birch Hill Dam known as the “Upper” Millers. This time we would be paddling the flatwater section above the Birch Hill Dam, so maybe we should call it the “Really Upper” Millers.

The Millers River arises in Auburdale and flows 52-miles to join the Connecticut River in Millers Falls. There are lots of paddling options on the Millers including two sections that are popular for whitewater boating – the [Upper Millers](#) from Royalston to Athol (class II/III), and the [Lower Millers](#) from Erving to Millers Falls (class II/IV). In between from Athol to Orange is a quickwater section that is the site of the annual spring [River Rat Race](#). Today, we would be paddling the flatwater section above the Birch Hill Dam from [Winchendon to Royalston](#).



Heading out from the Winchendon Canoe Launch

We met at 10:00 at the parking lot for the Birch Hill Dam off River Road in Royalston. Unfortunately, the gate on the road down to the canoe launch at the dam was closed, so we knew we would have to portage. We consolidated our boats and gear and headed up to the put-in at the Winchendon Canoe Launch.

For this trip we had four boats – all canoes, and Bob and Dan would be poling. The



Paddling through the trees

river was at a nice level with a slight current as we launched and headed downstream. For the first few miles the river twisted and turned through pine forests and swampland.

About 3-miles downstream we started to see the impact of the impound of the Birch Hill Dam. The pool behind the dam was 14-feet - normally it is 0. The river rose over its banks and started flowing through the trees. We were surprised to find the bridge at New Boston Road completely under water – Dan poled right over it.

We took a break for lunch a little further downstream at King Philip Rock, where Wampanoag sachem Metacomet held tribal councils during King Philip’s War. By now the river had completely disappeared and we were paddling through a large shallow lake filled with trees. From King Philip Rock we paddled through open water over to the beach at [Lake Dennison](#), which is usually connected to the river by a small stream.

As we continued downstream, we paddled past the remnants of an old trolley bridge, so we knew we were approaching the confluence with the Otter River. The Otter



Taking a break at King Philip Rock

River arises in Templeton and flows north for 10-miles through the [Otter River State Forest](#). We paddled a short distance up the Otter River before heading back downstream to the Birch Hill Dam.

The [Birch Hill Dam](#) is a part of a network of flood control dams on tributaries of the Connecticut River. Completed in 1941, Birch Hill Dam was one of the first dams the Army Corps of Engineers built in New England to prevent floods like those that devastated Athol and Orange in 1936 and 1938. At 14-feet, there was a large pool of water behind the dam, and the take-out at the base of the dam was flooded.



Portaging around the Birch Hill Dam

We took a walk up to the top of the dam to take-in the view and assess our options. Then we loaded our boats on carts for the portage on River Road around the dam.

Below the dam we were able to get back on the river for the short section down to the take-out. I got to sit by the river and watch the boats while the rest of the crew ran the shuttle back to the cars - a nice treat.

On the way home I decided to check out [Doanes Falls](#) on Lawrence Brook - a series of five waterfalls just above [Tully Lake](#). When the Upper Millers is running the waterfalls at Doanes Falls are usually pretty spectacular, and they were. Lawrence Brook feeds into the Tully River, which joins the Millers River in Athol.

Between the Millers, the Otter and the Tully Rivers there are some great flatwater trips around here. Hopefully we can come back in the summer, and maybe do some camping as well. We’ll see...

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 ad-hoc trips and hikes. Appropriate skills and equipment are required.

April 6th from 12:00 to 2:00
Flatwater Planning Meeting

Join us at [Visitor Center at River Bend Farm](#) for our annual [Flatwater](#) Planning Meeting. At this meeting, we will set up our calendar for the 2024 year, so please bring ideas for trips. If you would like to lead a trip but do not have experience, we can partner you up with an experienced leader.

We will have party pizza and soda; you may bring a snack or dish to share, if you wish. The Visitor Center is located at 287 Oak Street, Uxbridge, MA.

Contact Cheryl Thompson at stonefoxfarm@juno.com for additional information.

April 28th - meet at 9:30 for a 10:00 launch
Earth Day Clean up and Paddle - Rice City Pond, Uxbridge, MA
Coordinator: Gary Powers
garpow28@aol.com

Partnering with [Keep Blackstone Valley Beautiful](#), [The Greenway Challenge](#), and [The Great Global Cleanup](#), RICKA will provide some needed environmental stewardship of the Blackstone River.

Concentrating mainly on easily captured trash such as bottles, cans, and wrappers we will be part of a global program tracking collected debris for this Earth Day event.

We will put in behind the Medical Center at 281 Hartford Ave E, Uxbridge, MA 01569 (1/4 mile north of River Bend Farms, entrance on Oak St.). The full loop is 2-1/8 miles and after the cleanup and paddle we can go over to River Bend Farms for a lunch and museum tour. A change of clothes in a drybag is required. RSVP is not required, but welcomed.

Please check out the Flatwater Message Board for updates.

September 7-14, 2024
RICKA Adirondacks Trip

The [Flatwater](#) group will return to Lake Eaton Campground in Long Lake Village, NY for the 2024 Adirondacks camping and paddling trip. You can make campground reservations now at Reserve America:

<http://www.reserveamerica.com/>

Please try to select a site in the 10-54 area (waterfront from 31-54).

If you are planning on joining the group, please contact Chuck Horbert at chorbert13@gmail.com to be added to the list for future organizational emails.

Sea Kayak Trips

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

May 4, 2024 – save the date!
Sea Kayak Paddle, Planning Meeting, and Potluck

The annual Sea Kayak spring planning meeting and potluck will be held on May 4th at Jon Sharlin's house in Westport, MA following a morning paddle in the area. Details are TBD, and will be posted in the May Paddler, and on the [website](#).

Whitewater Trips

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

A Cold Water Caution

As we approach the spring paddling season when the air is warm but the water is still cold, its time to think about cold water safety.

Exposure to the cold can drain your strength and rob you of the ability to make sound judgments regarding safety. Cold water immersion is especially dangerous due to the initial shock and rapid loss of heat. For cold water paddling, please remember:

- Never paddle alone - at least three boats are recommended, four boats are better.
- Keep the trip short, and well within the paddling ability of the group.
- Dress for immersion in a drysuit or wetsuit. Protect your extremities with a hat, neoprene gloves and warm footwear. Always carry a change of clothes in a waterproof bag.
- Know how to recognize and treat the symptoms of hypothermia.
- Always, always, always wear your PFD.

Paddle safe. Paddle smart!

RICKA Classifieds

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

- **Cedar Strip Night Heron kayak** - the deceased owner of this boat wanted the proceeds of its sale to benefit the Rhode Island Canoe and Kayak Association (RICKA) - \$100 or best offer. All details and photos for the kayak are on [this web page](#). Contact mkrabach@cox.net or 401-333-5350
- **Necky Looksha** - 17' sea kayak. Gray with rudder. Easily accommodates medium to larger paddlers and all of their gear. Good condition, stored indoors - \$695. Contact Jay at josephlwade@yahoo.com
- **Placid Boatworks Shadow** - Garnet color, 16 feet long and 25 inches wide, ultralight carbon and kevlar fusion with carbon and kevlar fusion gunwales and thwarts. Bow has a 3 inch rocker and stern has a 1.5 inch rocker and weights 23 lbs. A fun and fast tripper - \$2,700. Call Lee at 508-286-5999
- **Valley Gemini ST composite kayak** - 14' 10 and 45 pounds. Yellow deck with white hull and a keel strip. Kayak is in excellent condition as it has only been very lightly used and stored properly indoors. Asking \$1,750 including a Werner carbon fiber touring paddle and a Seals cockpit cover. Contact Bill Hahn: bhahn02835@yahoo.com or 401524-1612
- **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. **Betsie Bay Recluse Greenland Style Boat** - 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. Maintained in Excellent Condition - \$1,800. **P&H Cetus MV** - Carbon/Kevlar w/Kevlar Keel Strip, 70P Compass, Paddle Scabbard. Sail mounting system in place. Yellow Deck/White Seam/White Hull/White Kevlar Keel Strip. Foot pegs. Maintained in Excellent Condition: Modest amount of hull gell coat scratches and normal spider cracking - \$2,200 firm. Seller lives in Providence - text 401-654-3168
- **Borial Saguana** - 18 feet fiberglass with rudder in red - \$800. **Borial Inukshuk** - 17 feet with rudder in yellow - \$500. **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
- **Gear Lab 2-piece Aukaneck Paddle** - 210 cm, excellent condition with extra tips and canvas storage sleeve - \$250. **Kokatat semi-dry suit** - large, with XL fleece dry suit layer. Good condition, but needs wrist gasket replaced - \$100. **Kokatat Farmer John Wetsuit** – large - \$40. **Shorty Wetsuit** - large, \$15. **Pro Tec Helmet** - large yellow, like new. \$25.00. **NRS Booties** - size 11, **NRS Paddle Shoes** - size 10 - both for \$25. Contact Fred 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@seashepakayak.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', two sealed compartments, foot-controlled rudder. Includes cockpit cover, spray skirt, some accessories - \$175. Contact Ed Poyer at edpoyer@gmail.com
- **Golden Kevlar Arluk 1.8** - excellent condition, 'Ocean Cockpit', 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 - \$1,250 cash. Russell Norton at lovepotent@hotmail.com

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.