

# PADDLER

www.ricka.org

Newsletter of the Rhode Island Canoe/Kayak Association V ol. XXXII No. 10, October 2009

## October Club Meeting:

Date: Monday, October 19

Location: Jewish Community Center, Providence

Time: 7pm

### Adam Bolonsky: Sea Kayak Modification and Repair

Want to make your kayak more comfortable, more efficient, and easier to control?

Come to October's meeting and hear Adam Bolonsky talk about and demonstrate how to modify and repair fiberglass sea kayaks, including making a customized seats and foot peg system for better fit and comfort, installing an on-deck towing rig for more efficient rescues, and making more radical changes to your kayak like moving and replacing bulkheads for increased storage capacity and faster self-rescues. Adam will have a modified kayak with him to show these changes and modifications.

Adam writes about sea kayaking for WaveLength Magazine and a variety of online paddling publications. A founding board member of the North Shore Paddlers Network, he has also has taught

at the Essex Shipbuilding Museum, REI, EMS and other outdoors organizations. He maintains blogs at SeaKayaking.Net and North American Kayak Fishing.

**Please note:** the JCC is now locking the front door at 6PM for security reasons. RICKA members should use the back entrance. Staff will buzz the door open. From there, take the elevator up to the second floor.

Directions to the Jewish Community Ctr, 401 Elmgrove Ave., Providence:

From Rt. 95 South: take Exit 24 & turn left onto Branch Avenue. (From Rt. 95N Northbound take Exit 24 & turn *right* onto Branch Ave.) Cross North Main Street at the lights and continue up the hill (past Kentucky Fried Chicken). Cross Hope St. and continue one block to the end at Morris Ave. Go left, then immediately right onto Sessions St., then down the hill to Elmgrove Ave. The JCC will be across the street.

## CRMC Wants No-Wake Zone Restored

*by Hannah Connorton, the Narragansett Times*

Friday, 18 September 2009 - It's a matter of safety, both for the fragile ecosystem and for the many that enjoy Narragansett's Narrow River. On June 3, the Narragansett Town Council passed a motion in a 4-1 vote to reduce the Narrow River "no wake zone" from 1,300 feet north of Sprague Bridge to 300 feet. The 1,300 foot no wake zone is an ordinance voted on and implemented yearly, and was rejected this year by the Town Council.

Groups that have taken interest in bringing back the larger zone include the Narrow River Preservation Association and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS), supported by the Audubon Society of Rhode Island, who petitioned the Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) to re-address this issue with the council.

Michael Tikoian, chairman of CRMC, has asked to work together with the town via a Sept. 1 letter to Chief of Police and Acting Town Manager Joseph Little. Tikoian cites environmental concerns regarding the reduction of the zone, and is pursuing to re-establish its full length in order to "find a solution that protects the integrity and value of the salt marsh resources in this area."

"Public safety is an issue here," Councilman Chris Wilkens said. "With canoes, kayaks and the boat launch, there's too much activity. The No Wake Zone should go back [to 1,300 ft] for public safety."

## DEM: AVOID CONTACT WITH MANATEE SIGHTED IN RI WATERS

PROVIDENCE - With the recent sightings of a Florida manatee in Rhode Island waters, the Department of Environmental Management is reminding the public to avoid contact with the animal so that it will leave the state's waters and return south before water temperatures drop.

While it is unusual for Florida manatees to stray this far north, several have been seen in Rhode Island waters in recent years. The numbers of manatees found outside of Florida during the summer months are gradually increasing. Although most return to Florida as the weather cools the coastal waters, a number of these animals have been lost to cold stress or required rescuing.

As DEM, the US Fish & Wildlife Service, and the Marine Mammal Stranding Network receive reports of people feeding, watering, and touching the animal, it is important to remind the public that these actions are detrimental to the animal. April Valliere, supervising marine biologist in DEM's Division of Fish and Wildlife warns, "If the manatee does not get turned around and head south before the water temperatures fall, it will not survive. As long as people feed or water the manatee, it is less likely to leave."

*Continued on page 3*

# DEM: SEPTEMBER 25 WEST NILE/EEE STATUS UPDATE

## EEE Horse Death Confirmed in Tiverton

PROVIDENCE - The Department of Environmental Management announces that test results from the remaining 54 mosquito pools, or samples, from 32 traps set during the week of September 14 are negative for both West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE.) As was previously reported, one mosquito pool in the Woodlawn/Fairlawn area of Pawtucket has tested positive for West Nile Virus.

DEM received confirmation from the RI Department of Health Laboratory that a horse from Tiverton has tested positive for EEE. As a result of the positive finding, DEM will set additional mosquito traps in Tiverton and Little Compton.

DEM notes that it is the height of the mosquito-borne disease transmission season and the possibility of disease transmission is increasingly likely. Throughout the mosquito season, residents are encouraged to protect themselves by eliminating mosquito breeding grounds and avoiding mosquito bites. Personal protection is the first line of defense against mosquitoes that can carry diseases such as West Nile Virus and EEE and is by far the most effective way of avoiding infection.

Mosquitoes are trapped every week statewide by DEM staff and tested at the RI Department of Health (HEALTH) laboratory. DEM will normally report mosquito test results once a week on a routine basis, with additional reports as necessary. Test results from mosquitoes trapped this week will be included in next week's announcement. Positive mosquito test results will generally trigger additional trapping to assess risk.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

Next meeting: **Wednesday, October 28 @ 7pm**

*The PADDLER is published monthly except December by the Rhode Island Canoe Association, Inc. It is mailed from Providence on the Thursday 2 1/2 weeks preceding the third Monday. It is not available by subscription, but is included in the cost of membership in the Association.*

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## Another win for Ed Earle

Saturday, Sept.19th, RICKA member Edward Earle won the Masters Division kayak race in the Slocum River Regatta, proceeds from which benefit the Lioyd Center for Environmental Studies and its many outdoor programs. The head wind of 8 to 10 mph and the strongly ebbing tide made the first one-mile leg of the course very difficult.

## Name (in) your boat!

No, not like the time you went to summer camp, when your mother wrote your name in every piece of clothing you owned. But your name and phone number inside your boat—right in the cockpit, where it can be seen—accomplishes 3 things:

- If your boat is found floating, the local authorities can find out if you're really missing or just parked in front of your TV (which should earn you a stern talking-to from the authorities, but at least you won't get a bill for a \$20,000 search & rescue);
- thieves are less likely to steal such an obviously marked boat (it's harder to sell);
- if it floats away on its own, who knows—you just might get it back.

*The Rhode Island Canoe/Kayak Association (Rhode Island Canoe Association, Inc.), although safety conscious, cannot guarantee your personal safety in club activities. You are responsible for the adequacy of your own skills, training and equipment when engaging in or attending RICKA activities. A PFD—worn as intended by the manufacturer—is a requirement for all RICKA trips.*

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Additional Member-at-Large position open

## No Wake Zone

*Continued from page one*

Wilkens also said environmental factors were a main concern, as fast-moving vessels can cause large wakes that destroy salt marshes and river embankments.

Councilwoman Alisa Trainor Fleet seemed amenable to listening to the CRMC. "I don't see any reason why this Town Council wouldn't sit down with anybody if they wanted to talk," she said. She also stated that the council would not meet if preconditions had to be met before the discussion.

On Aug. 3, the council voted 5 – 0 to table a discussion with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Charles Vandemoer, refuge manager for USFWS, sent an e-mail saying he would be happy to discuss the kayak ramp under the bridge, provided the no wake zone was reinstated. Vandemoer stated that unless this was revisited he would not meet with the council.

At the time, Councilwoman Susan Cicilline-Buonanno wanted to take the item off the agenda and table it for awhile. "I am just not interested in going to the table with conditions. I was hoping it would be a local dialogue with an exchange of ideas. Going to the table with conditions is not really a fair set of rules to follow," Buonanno said at the time.

Wilkens said he could see no harm in discussing mutual concerns on the river with the Narrow River Preservation Society, Audubon Society and USFWS. He said USFWS had the authority to reduce the amount of traffic to the kayak ramp by curtailing the parking. He said he felt there were more issues that could be discussed and felt this was a good idea.

"I think it is dirty business. We are talking about two separate issues. We had a lengthy debate about one of them. To hold us hostage to a meeting about another issue is unfair and unprofessional in my opinion," Councilwoman Glenna Hagopian said at that meeting. "I am not in the mood for the town to get into a kind of contest over this. There are many issues and the town will need cooperation from these various agencies. I don't see any harm in talking about all the issues," Wilkens said.

## SEA KAYAK TRIPS

*Note: the following trips are for very skilled paddlers only—please review the sea kayaking guidelines on the web site before joining any of these trips, and be sure to dress appropriately.*

### Rock Gardening

**Level: 4**

Date: Saturday, October 3, 2009

Time: 10:00am

**Coordinator:** Tim Motte

**Put-in:** Sakonnet Point Boat Ramp

**Description:** Rock On! Rescue practice in amongst it. Helmets and towbelts required.

**Location:** Sakonnet Point

### Westport Harbor and Beyond

**Level: 4**

Date: Sunday, October 4, 2009

Time: 10:00am

**Coordinator:** Tim Motte

**Put-in:** Westport Town Boat Ramp

**Description:** Coastal tour from Westport Harbor toward Sakonnet and back.

**Location:** Westport Town Boat Ramp

### King's Beach

**Level: 4**

Date: Monday, October 12, 2009

Time: 10:00am

**Coordinator:** Tony Moore

**Put-in:** Kings Beach, Newport, RI

## NOTES ABOUT RICKA TRIPS

- As we head into cooler weather, all paddlers must dress appropriately. For flatwater paddlers, that means a dry change of clothes at minimum; sea kayakers should be wearing gear suitable for immersion. Always dress for the water, not air, temperature!
- The trip schedule shown in the newsletter can (and will) change at any time after publication. Trips will be added, cancelled, changed, moved or otherwise adjusted for a variety of reasons. Check the message boards and trip calendars frequently (and always prior to leaving for a trip) for changes. Sign up for the email lists to have information delivered to you.
- To clear up the confusion about launch times: in the case of club paddles, "launch" means "in your boat, ready to paddle," which is not the same as "launching your car into a parking space at the put-in."
- Due to space constraints, the newsletter may show only abbreviated directions to the put-ins. More detailed directions may be found on the web site.
- Acquaint yourself with our web site, [www.ricka.org](http://www.ricka.org)! Click on the buttons for the category of your choice: flatwater, sea kayak or whitewater. You'll find a wealth of information, including the specific gear and experience requirements for each.
- PFDs are always required; lights are required for all evening trips.

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# Warning signs, buoys installed on river before Pratt Dam tubes

## Last-ditch protection for paddlers at site of last fall's drowning

By Marcia Greene, Valley Breeze Editor

CUMBERLAND - A bright orange line stretched across the water and supported by giant plastic buoys now provides a last-chance escape for paddlers on the Blackstone River grasping to avoid "shooting the tubes" of the Pratt Dam in Lonsdale.

It was installed Saturday by members of the Blackstone Valley Watershed Council/Friends of the Blackstone at the urging of Cumberland Police Chief John Desmarais.

Rescue crews, who last November pulled the body of a drowned Attleboro boy from inside one of the five openings of the dam, responded twice during the past Fourth of July weekend, Desmarais said, to panicked paddlers trying to avoid being sucked into the strong current coursing through the dam.

The Pratt Dam, built in the late 1800s to replace an existing dam, has five tunnels with individual gates that allowed the Lonsdale Bleachery to control the flow of the river to assure power for the turbines. At the same time, the course of the river was blocked with boulders still evident today to redirect the water through the narrow passage and accelerate its force. A railroad track originally crossed the top and the state used the remains to open it for bicyclists in 2004.

While the bikeway didn't change the dam for paddlers, it has been one of several factors that's drawn more attention to the river in recent years. With more paddlers have come more river emergencies.

Frank Matta of Cumberland, who heads up the watershed council, doesn't mince words about the dam.

Calling it a "man-killer," Matta said inexperienced paddlers are drawn like "moths to a flame" to the rushing water in the tubes.

Matta says he loves the history associated with the dam, but suggests it's time it was modified.

Said Matta, "I'm a historian. I get it, but this is a man-made killer. How long are we going to maintain a public nuisance?"

Matta says some of the granite blocks that support the five-arch structure might be removed to open it up and slow the water.

The buoys and line, which cost about \$1,000, were donated by Paul D'Adamo, owner of Bill's Auto Parts on Macondry Street. D'Adamo's recycled auto parts lot backs up to the river off John Street and he says he's a supporter of conservation and safety issues.

Additionally, a new, bold sign was posted for paddlers rounding the bend before the dam: "Danger. Unsafe passage at dam. Mandatory takeout before buoys. Portage river right."

Matta notes that paddlers can't get through the tubes at the moment because they are blocked by trees. Once cleaned out, bold paddlers may simply cross the buoy line, if they choose.

"We don't have the right to prohibit people," said Matta. "It's a free world."

Peter Casson, the watershed council's safety expert and general manager of the Eastern Mountain Sports outdoor school, says the dam represents "serious danger."

He said paddlers coming around the bend barely have time to realize they need to portage.

"We'd like to see every dam marked with a caution. It's getting more and more used," he said.

The Pratt Dam line is the third line of its kind. The other two, also fairly new, cross the river before the falls on the Central Falls-Cumberland line, and in Manville. Still unmarked is the dam in Albion.

Boaters using the gravel takeout area, just beyond the sign, must walk about a quarter-mile to get past the dam.

Saturday's work included a dozen or so members of the watershed council.

Desmarais told The Breeze Monday he's pleased the signs and buoys have been installed and thanks the watershed council for taking a lead on this.

"The current is very swift there and I didn't want to see another tragic event," he said.

Photo: Erik Eckilson



# Whitewater fans to ride Lehigh's most massive waves after Oct. 5 release

By AL ZAGOFSKY, for the Pocono Record

September 27, 2009 12:00 AM

Eight- or even 10-foot waves are usually unheard of on the Lehigh River, where scheduled dam releases are in the 750- to 850-cubic-foot-per-second range. That's going to change on Monday, Oct. 5, when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

will release 4,000 cfs from the Francis E. Walter Dam.

"At that level, it is a whole different river," said Steve Bretzik of Whitewater Rafting Adventures. "All the rocks that are normally sticking out of the river turn into big waves. The smaller rapids aren't there anymore."

"It is an incredible opportunity," he said.

## Close encounter with a 30-ton whale

by Greg Stolz, *The (Queensland, Australia) Courier Mail*, September 23, 2009

He's one of Australia's top "watermen" - a champion board paddler, renowned big-wave surfer and veteran lifeguard.

But none of Jamie Mitchell's experience could prepare him for the shock of a humpback whale breaching next to him during a paddle off the Tweed Coast.

It might be a whale of a tale were it not for the remarkable photographic evidence of his close encounter with the giant of the deep.

"I had goosebumps . . . I was in shock and awe," Mitchell said.

"I've seen whales out in the ocean before but never up that close . . . It was definitely a once-in-a-lifetime thing."

Mitchell, 32, was riding his stand-up paddleboard off Kingscliff on Monday, filming for a new television project, when the migrating whales surfaced.

"I heard a blow and saw the water spout up," he said. "They just kept coming closer. They were playing and breaching and flapping their tails just metres away."

Having ridden some of the world's biggest waves and won Hawaii's gruelling Molokai paddleboard marathon a record eight times, Mitchell is rarely intimidated by anything the ocean throws up.

But he admitted to being shocked when one humpback, estimated at 8m and weighing about 30 tons, surfaced right next to him.

"It was so big and so close," he said. "A couple of times, the whales were right underneath me. I was thinking to myself: 'If they breach now, I'm in strife'. But I think they knew exactly what they were doing and were just playing with me."

"The river's got to that level before, but never on a scheduled day when we can plan for it and run a trip. It's going to be a great day, but it's not going to get the attention it deserves because it's on a Monday in October. We don't have anybody booked."

Doug Fogal of Pocono Whitewater noted that "4,000 cfs is a lot of water. We will see if we have any crazies in our rafting pool that want to take advantage of it, and we will put a guide in each boat. And I'm sure we will use it for training purposes for our guides for high water, so they are exposed to more than a normal level in case they have to deal with it in the future. That's probably the biggest advantage to us other than private boaters and enjoying ourselves."

Asked if he was planning to go kayaking on the Oct. 5 Big Release, Fogal replied, "Oh, yeah! Me and the rest of the staff."

"This release is on a weekday, so it is smaller a draw," he noted. "The people who are really true enthusiasts will take a day off to do it. If we have 100 people, I will be happy."

"It is a lot of water in one day," McAward pondered. "Maybe it would be better as two 2,000 cfs release days."

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced its Lehigh River Management Plan for 2009 in the spring — a plan that took the desires of the commercial outfitters, private paddlers, fishermen and other recreational interests into account.

"The 4,000 cfs release is going to happen," said George Sauls, Northern Area engineer for the U.S. ACE, who is responsible for executing the plan. "The thing that hasn't been ironed out is how we get to 4,000. That release is on a Monday. The plan is to release up to 850 cfs for Saturday Oct. 3, and Sunday, Oct. 4. The issue is how to get from 850 cfs on Sunday afternoon up to 4,000, and how do we get down from 4,000 to the weekday releases, which are in the order of 300 cfs?"

Sauls is referring to the ramping process which is the procedure for changing the river flow rate. The fishing community has asked for slow ramps of hours or even days so as not to shock the fish and not to surprise any wading fishermen. Sauls anticipates that the gates on the Walter Dam will be opened in several steps to allow the river flow to gradually adjust.



## FLATWATER TRIPS

Our leaders provide directions as a courtesy to paddlers; it is your responsibility to refer to a map and familiarize yourself with the trip location.

Changes and cancellations to trips will be posted on the flatwater message board. Please check the board before leaving for any trip.

### **Saturday, October 10th Pawcatuck River: Bradford to Potter Hill.**

Meet at 9:00 am to shuttle at 9:30am.  
Leader: Mimi Corey: 401-846-1408,  
mimicorey@gmail.com

Trip is suitable for all. Bring a lunch.

Bradford access go to: N41°24.370'  
W71°44.895'

RT 95, R.I. to Exit 1 onto Rt. 3 south for 1.8 miles. At Rt. 216 go left (onto 216). Follow 216. Put in will be on the left shortly after a right turn where 216 merges with Rt. 91 (same road, two route #'s).

### **Sunday October 11th Hopeville Pond, Griswold CT**

Leader: Bill Brown  
kayakbill222@aol.com. Bill Prefers e-mail communication, if you do not have access to e-mail, you can call Cheryl at 401-647-5887.

Changes and cancellations to trips will be posted on the flatwater message board. Please check the board before leaving for any trip.

Hopeville Pond is a widened three mile section of Pachaug River in Griswold, Connecticut. It winds through woodland, farmland and areas with light cottage development between a dam at the north end and a section of the river connecting to Pachaug Pond at the south end. Pachaug pond can be reached by paddling upstream on the river at the south end and carrying around the dam to make the trip longer.

Directions: Take Interstate 395 to exit 86 and take Route 201 East, following signs for Hopeville Pond State Park. Stay on Route 201, which forks to the right after about a half mile. (where Hopeville Road

goes off to the left); the park entrance is on the right one mile past the fork.

Our leaders provide directions as a courtesy to paddlers however, you are responsible to refer to a map and familiarize yourself with the trip location.

### **Sunday, October 25th Halloween Paddle on Norton Reservoir.**

Join us for a beautiful paddle followed by a get-together at Lee Parham's waterfront home after the paddle. Meet at 1:00pm for a 1:30 launch. Leader Lee Parham.  
leeparham@myway.com 508-286-5999.

Bring a dish to share. Trip is suitable for all. Costume or funky hat optional.

Directions to 47 Island Road, Norton MA. Take exit 11 off of RT 495 south. Get off exit and immediately move into left lane to Reservoir Street. Go 0.7 tenths of a mile and take a right onto South Lakeview. Take a quick left onto Hawthorne. Your first right is Island Road, Lee's home is #47.

GPS coordinates are N 41 59.420 W 071 11.792

**DRESS FOR THE  
WATER  
TEMPERATURE,  
NOT THE AIR  
TEMPERATURE.  
WATER CAN  
REMOVE HEAT  
FROM YOUR BODY  
UP TO THIRTY  
TIMES FASTER  
THAN AIR, EVEN  
THOUGH IT MAY  
FEEL WARMER.  
AND OF COURSE,  
ALWAYS WEAR  
YOUR PFD.**

## SPECIAL SAVINGS FOR RICKA MEMBERS

*You must show your RICKA card  
to receive these discounts:*

### **Canoe Passage Outfitters:**

Glass and Kevlar boats, 10% off retail; polyethylene boats 15% off retail accessories, trips and instructions, 10% off regular prices. 277 Water Street, Warren, RI, (401)289-2754 [www.canoepassage.com](http://www.canoepassage.com)  
**Eastern Mountain Sports: Cranston and Middletown locations only;**

15% off plastic hulls and accessories (when purchased with a hull); 10% off all other kayak accessories without purchase of a hull. Terms & Conditions: Discount is off full-priced, in-stock merchandise only; not valid in other locations, online, or on phone orders. Offer expires 12/29/2009.

### **The Kayak Centre:**

Glass boats 6% off normal retail; plastic boats 10% off normal retail; accessories with boat purchase 15% off, 10% off all other times for RICKA members. Brown and Phillips Streets, Wickford. 1-888-SEA-KAYAK, [www.kayakcentre.com](http://www.kayakcentre.com)

### **NorthwindSports**

10% RICKA discount on non-sale items. 267 Thames St., Bristol, 401-254-4295 [www.northwindsports.com](http://www.northwindsports.com)

### **OceanState Adventures:**

10% RICKA discount. 99 Poppasquash Road, Bristol. 401-254-4000. [www.kayakri.com](http://www.kayakri.com)

### **OspreySea Kayak Adventures:**

10% off accessories. 489 Old County Rd Westport Mass. 02790 (508) 636-0300 [www.ospreyseakayak.com](http://www.ospreyseakayak.com)

### **Quaker Lane Outfitters :**

All canoes & kayaks 10% off. Accessories 20% off. 4019 Quaker Lane (Rte 2) North Kingstown. 800-249-5400.

### **Claude's Cycles**

Snowshoes 10% off. Canoe & power sports accessories 10% off. Wood canoes & fiberglass canoes 8% off. 50cc scooters 3% off. Receive an additional 2% discount on canoes and 50cc scooters when you pay by bank check. Discounts are for card carrying RICKA members and apply to non-sale items. Foxborough, Ma. (call for directions) 508-543-0490 [www.claudescycles.com](http://www.claudescycles.com)

### **WaveLengthMagazine:** Offers a \$10

introductory "Club Sub" for new subscribers (regularly \$15). Send a check with your name, mailing address and a note saying you're a RICKA member to: WaveLength Magazine, 2735 North Rd., Gabriola, BC, Canada, V0R 1X7. [www.WaveLengthMagazine.com](http://www.WaveLengthMagazine.com)

## TRIP REPORT:

### Nulhegan and Clyde Rivers downstream both ways from the St. Lawrence/Connecticut divide, June 2009

by Tom Taylor

- Northern Forest Canoe Trail Map #6
- Bill Luther in the Spruce Goose Mohawk Whitewater
- Tom Taylor in the beat-to-crap Mad River Explorer

Well I left my camera in the truck Thursday so I got no pictures of the Nulhegan. Billy and I ran from Nulhegan Pond down to the Route 105 bridge where we scouted the Class III-IV rapids in May. Those rapids looked much less threatening but very very technical. We did not try to run those rapids. The river was too low.

After 8 or more beaver dams and more tight turns than I've ever paddled I was so happy when we finally got to the easy rapids—until I realized that there was not enough water to float.

We got ten to twenty feet and ground to a halt. Get out and drag till we could get another ten or twenty feet. The unrunnable gorge looked like it could be run in a whitewater boat at the level we saw it and likely some higher but it, like the rest of the river is pretty narrow and it wouldn't take a whole lot of water to push it into the unrunnable zone, at least for me. The portage was not pretty but we got it done. Not many mosquitos but lots of big deerflies. Got a hard hour of rain that night.

Friday Chris from Clyde River Recreation dropped us in Island Pond. We had a nice breakfast at the Clyde Hotel and then paddled from Island Pond back to CRR just past

Pensioners Pond, where we camped. That lists as 18 miles of flatwater so we tandemed in the Spruce Goose.

We left Island Pond about 8:30 or 9 AM and pulled into CRR around 3PM

The first 5 miles or so, down to the "tubes" we had a pretty good current helping us along, There was less current after that but still some. We found no beaver dams, blowdowns or other obstructions that we could not paddle through. I'll guess you could paddle up that in 9 hours or maybe a little more. If the blowdowns, etc., came back it could take longer. It rained a little more Friday night.

Saturday we left my boat on Billy's car at Bridge Street, my truck on Lake Memphremagog in Newport and had Chris from CRR shuttle us to Durgin Road, bypassing Charleston Pond and its two portages. We again tandemed the Spruce Goose Down an easy class I rapid and across Little Salem pond and Salem Lake then down another class I-II rapid to Bridge Street. There I got back into my own boat and we then floated the rest of the class I-II rapids down to Clyde Pond. I'd call the level low runnable, mellow but sweet.

The portage trail at Clyde pond is on the right side of the dam looking out from the pond. That was good, because Billy and I had already decided

to take out there. The portage potty is a wonderful thing and I left much lighter than I came. I think It would be nice poling up from Clyde pond to Salem Lake and above Salem lake at least to Bridge Street. Above Bridge Street there is a broken dam/ledge you might be able to line up, and I think there's another above that before you must portage the dam into to Charleston Pond.

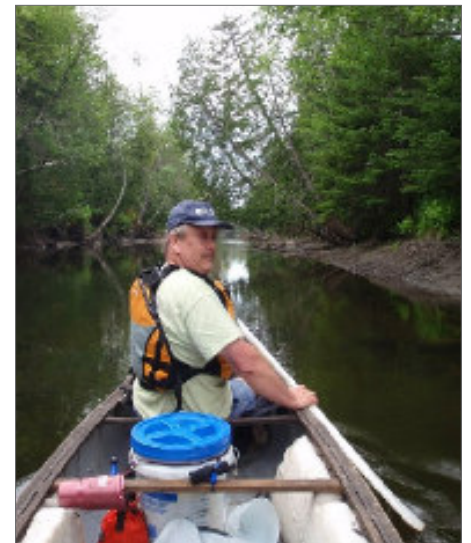
The portage down to the power station was steep but easy with the carts. The rapids below that are not only class II-III but they have LOTS

of wood in them. We dragged, lined and portaged and managed to get through but in hindsight we would have been better off continuing the portage down to where Clyde Street or even Route 105 crosses the river. That would be a pretty good climb pulling a portage cart, but its all smooth road. I wouldn't consider poling up that section even if there was no wood to deal with.

We put in around 8:30 am and were down to the big lake around 3 PM. About an hour and a half of that was getting down the half mile below the power station. If the water was high enough to float you but not so high that poling up was too difficult, you could likely pole/paddle from Clyde Pond up to Charleston Pond in 7 to 9 hours.

Having done more tandem paddling than I have in 15 years I have to say it wasn't that bad. The Spruce Goose is a nice hull that needs some outfitting changes (as does my Explorer). As Mike and Jim know, Billy is a pretty good tandem partner and the fact that he never once beat me with his paddle leaves me hopeful that I was not too awful. It was handy to have the extra muscle and ballast in the boat on the flatwater sections when the breeze came up. I'd do it again.

*Bill Luther on the Clyde Photo by Tom Taylor*



# Classifieds

**Partially completed Pygmy kayak kit**, stitch & glue construction. Includes enough mahogany and teak for a 2nd boat. Wood Rockguard Journey paddle, composite Nimbus paddle, dry suit (med/lg). 2 dry bags, camera bag, bilge pump, numerous tapes, books, plans, magazines. PRICE REDUCED! \$800 or b.o. for everything. Call 508-823-1426 (8/27)

**Perception Dancer xt**, 12 ft, red, good condition; kept in garage. \$350.00. [pmini@bryant.edu](mailto:pmini@bryant.edu) (8/18)

**Valley Avocet**, 2006, Fiberglass. Length 16 feet, width 22 inches. Black on black with red trim. Sharp looking boat. Manufacture installed keel strip, custom skeg slide, glass hung seat (room to store your hand pump inside the cockpit). Deck mounted 70p compass. Boat sells new for \$3600. This is a great all around kayak that is priced to sell at \$1800. If interested call or email Ken. 401-486-0264, or [kkaykk@aol.com](mailto:kkaykk@aol.com) (8/9)

**Yakima crossbar pads**, 1 pair, black, never used (still in package). Originally \$30, asking \$15 OBO. Call Dorcey at 401-863-1797 (work # - leave voicemail if after hours). (8/9)

**Pro 150 Wilderness Systems** Fiberglass Kayak \$2,400.00 or Best. (North Kingstown, R.I.) The kayak is in perfect condition. No Scratches. Many, Many, Many EXTRAS. Designed for Fresh or Salt Water Fishing. The guy that designed it, must be a genius. MUST SEE. Call Ed (401-885-2326) or e-mail me at: [zita59@verizon.net](mailto:zita59@verizon.net) (7/30)

**Mad River Rampage whitewater canoe**. Solo boat; used lightly for 3 years and stored in garage ever since. Fully outfitted with sidewall reinforcing foam, custom(izable) saddle, quick-release straps, electric bilge pump, air bags, waterproof storage compartment. Vinyl rails. Suitable for big water, extreme rocker, extremely stable (primary & secondary). Manufacturer's description of this model [here](#), discussion of merits [here](#). \$475. **Also** available, Rampage more heavily used, similar outfitting & storage. Wood rails, \$250. Will sell one or the other. Offers considered. Alan, [webmaster@ricka.org](mailto:webmaster@ricka.org). (7/19)

**Necky Arluk 1.9** Kevlar, only 40 lbs; FAST; 18 feet long; 22 inches wide; yellow deck, ivory hull, grey bulkhead hatches; Very good condition; some hull scratches (nothing unusual) and sunfading, but excellent seaworthiness. \$1000. Call 508-631-3375 or [amy.tidwellcrwe@gmail.com](mailto:amy.tidwellcrwe@gmail.com) (5/31)

**Necky Elaho**, Red, Length: 15'8" Width: 22.5" The Elaho is a low profile touring playboat. Its multi-chine diamond hull and rocker combine to make a very playful and maneuverable kayak. Polymer construction makes this boat incredibly durable. Excellent condition. \$800 obo. Will email pictures upon request. Call Rick at 401-864-5457 or [ricktjader@cox.net](mailto:ricktjader@cox.net) (5/22)

**Boreal Inukshuk** Red Touring Kayak 16ft with rudder. Everything is in good shape, a few scratches on the bottom. 650.00 [APaul041@hotmail.com](mailto:APaul041@hotmail.com) (2/23)

**Old Town Penobscot 16 canoe**. One owner, stored indoors. Good condition. Superb all-around canoe, and a great tandem. Loves moving water. Selling to make room for a solo canoe. Located in eastern CT. \$500 Contact Wayne at [wsmith16@charter.net](mailto:wsmith16@charter.net)(2/3)

**Betsie Bay Recluse** 19 feet by 20.5 inches. Fast, fun boat, and a good roller. New hatches, decklines forward of cockpit, gel seat insert, and backband. Sprayskirt included. \$1,500.00 Contact Wayne at [wsmith16@charter.net](mailto:wsmith16@charter.net) (2/3)

**Hull-A-Port** kayak rack, used once, new July 08, \$ 85.00 Pat 401-480-3508 (10/4)

**P&H Capella RM166** Lava red poly sea kayak with a skeg, 3 bulkheads, and a day hatch. Length 16' 7", Beam 22" Weight 54 lbs. Good condition, great overall performance and a fine boat for the Bay! Cost-\$750 Contact Joe Sherlock 603-325-0046 email [sherlock244@gmail.com](mailto:sherlock244@gmail.com) (9/28)

**Garage-clearing sale!** 2 [Kokatat GoreTex Deluxe Sea Skirt](#) (almost new used approx 5 times) the two I have are identical to this except no pooling reinforcement colour is mango \$65 ea OBO. [Yakima set of Mako Saddles and Hully Rollers](#) (fits one Kayak). Will supply with Yakima Bow/Stern tie downs. Used for approx three years in great condition \$70 OBO, could add Yakima Subaru Forrester Might Mounts for another \$15. A pair of NSI thigh padz new in packet \$8. [nicholas.fairweather@skye-tek.com](mailto:nicholas.fairweather@skye-tek.com) (9/16)

**Dagger Honcho** in excellent condition. Blue/gray/white. Surf/whitewater. Asking \$375. Call Al at 401-624-4251 or email me at [alccri@hotmail.com](mailto:alccri@hotmail.com) (8/16)

**Pygmy Coho** wood (Mahogany) kayak. Kit boat. Excellent condition, about 9 years old. Fast, good handling sea kayak. Many extras. \$1,200 or BO. Located in Cumberland. Call Neal 401 333-4091 or [nealpiggott@cox.net](mailto:nealpiggott@cox.net) (8/11)

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