

PADDLER

www.ricka.org

Newsletter of the Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

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No. 6

June, 2016

June On-Water Meeting

and Demonstrations

Monday, June 20, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

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 replaces the more structured meetings of fall through spring, and takes place on the third Monday evening of the month. Join us at Lincoln Woods State Park (sites 45 and 46) for our June meeting as Henry Dziadosz demonstrates tarps and knots, Earl MacRae discusses river reading, and Erik Eckilson demonstrates camp cooking techniques. Demonstrations will begin at 7:00. You will also have time for a short paddle in Olney Pond. Bring a folding chair along with your boat.



Last year's On-Water Meeting
at Lincoln Woods

Directions to Lincoln Woods State Park: from Route 146 take the exit for Twin River Road. If you are traveling north on Route 146, you will turn left at the end of the exit. If you are traveling south on Route 146, you will turn right at the end of the exit. Continue on Twin River Road until you reach the entrance booth for Lincoln Woods State Park. Take a right at the park entrance (it is a one-way road). The entrance for sites 45 and 46 will be on your left shortly after entering the park. Look for the large rock on the left.

Basic Flatwater Training

Sunday, July 10, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.

The RICKA Flatwater Group will be holding a Basic Flatwater Paddling Class on Sunday, July 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 and ACA members. If you are not an ACA member, there will be a one-time \$5 event membership fee. Class size is limited to 25 paddlers. Attendance is on a first-come, first-serve basis.

For more additional information or to register you can visit the website at <http://woonsocket.org/flatwatertraining.html>.

Core Principle of Sea Kayaking

Saturday, July 16, 2016

Whether you have paddled for years, or are just beginning, solid fundamentals are the key to fun and safety on the water.

This half-day class will focus on building the "Core Principles" of sea kayaking. These core principles are techniques that apply to all strokes allowing you to understand how to maneuver your boat in a variety of conditions with less effort and better results. The class will be taught by Carl Ladd of Osprey Sea Kayak Adventures. The cost is \$15 for RICKA members, and registration is limited to 10 members.

For more additional information or to register you can visit the website at <http://www.ricka.org/trainingosprey.html>

Enjoy Camping and Paddling this Summer

Connecticut River Overnight June 10 to 12, 2016

We will put in at the Hadlyme Ferry Boat Ramp and paddle to the Cedars Campsite on Selden Neck Island. Saturday paddles could include Hamburg Cove and Whalebone Cove. We will then paddle to the Gillette Castle Site. Both sites have picnic tables and outhouses. Fires are allowed at Selden Island, but not Gillette Castle. The cost is \$5.00 per night, per camper, and you can sign up for one or both nights. Car-pooling is suggested. Please RSVP to Jim Cole at jimcole@hotmail.com or call 401-699-1172.

Cape Cod Paddling Week June 25, 2016 to July 2, 2016

Join us for a week of paddling the waterways of Cape Cod. All paddling trips will be in protected bays, harbors and rivers. Participants must be able to handle 5-10 miles of paddling, and there may be days of paddling against current and wind. Sea kayaks and recreational kayaks 12 feet or longer will be best for most trips. We will be camping at [Shady Knoll Campground](#) in Brewster. You will be responsible for your own meals. Contact [Louise Price](#) for additional information.

All paddling trips are at the discretion of the leader. Paddlers will need a canoe or kayak that is appropriate for the conditions, paddle, personal floatation device (PFD), paddle float, pump, and spare clothes. You will also need camping equipment including a tent, sleeping bag and cooking gear. You are responsible for your own food. Contact the leaders for additional information.

RICKA is an ACA



Paddle America Club

If you haven't done so already...

Please renew your RICKA membership now!

Please visit the website at:

<http://www.ricka.org/Join/Jointhefun.html>

You can renew by mail, or online using PayPal.

Executive Board:

The next Executive Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 1st at 7:00 p.m. at the [REI Cranston Store](#) 22 Chapel View Boulevard, Cranston. All are welcome to attend.

Newsletter Editor:

Erik Eckilson
11 Diana Drive
Woonsocket, RI 02895
Email: editor@ricka.org

Membership:

Sharon Dragon
P.O. Box 184
Hope Valley, RI 02832
Email: membership@ricka.org

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Rhode Island Canoe & Kayak Association

President: Susan Engelman.....508-353-6411..... sje54@hotmail.com
Vice President: Sharon Dragon401-225-3942..... membership@ricka.org
Secretary: Henry Dziadosz401-567-0313..... hdziadosz@verizon.net
Treasurer: Andy Viera.....774-218-5731..... andyv51@hotmail.com

Members at Large:

Lysa Amaral774-930-6590 lysaca@comcast.net
Mike Bussell.....401-568-8605..... canoedad@cox.net
Lori Lucas508-494-2131... lorilucas41@gmail.com
Tom McHugh.....401-454-2752..... tmc99992@yahoo.com

Conservation: Ric Souza508-572-3095 rj_salty@yahoo.com

Publicity: Open

Flatwater: Cheryl Thompson401-647-5887..... stonefoxfarm@cox.net
Librarian: Bill Hahn.....401-524-1612..... librarian@ricka.org
Membership: Sharon Dragon401-225-3942..... membership@ricka.org
Newsletter Editor: Erik Eckilson401-765-1741..... editor@ricka.org
Safety & Education: Cat Radcliffe.....508-369-3028. catherineradcliffe@earthlink.net
Sea Kayak: Carleen McOsker.....508-636-0546..... Carleenmco@gmail.com
Webmaster: Cheryl Thompson401-647-5887..... stonefoxfarm@cox.net
Whitewater: Andy Viera.....774-218-5731..... andyv51@hotmail.com
Wilderness: Jim Cole.....401-699-1172 jimcole@hotmail.com

Interest 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 website.

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

You can also join the flatwater email list to get email notifications.

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RICKA_FLATWATER/join

Who runs the trips?

All trips are run by volunteer trip coordinators. These coordinators will have done the trip before and will be able to advise you of 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 the 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 coordinator 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 coordinator 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 early for the trip, and bring the right equipment. Paddlers should not launch until the trip coordinator gives a brief safety talk, and takes a head count of paddlers. The trip coordinator may also need to assign a lead boat and a sweep boat. Please wait for the trip coordinator to launch their boat, or give the OK for you to launch.

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 trip for any reason, please notify the trip coordinator. At the take out, please do not leave the parking lot until the trip coordinator has taken a final head count.

Do you offer training?

RICKA often holds skills and rescue training. The next [Flatwater Training](#) will be Saturday July 10th at Stump Pond. All paddlers are encouraged to take advantage of these training sessions to improve their paddling and rescue skills.

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](#).

June 7th - launching promptly at 6:15
Nipmuc River - Harrsville, RI

We will put in at the Assembly Theater and paddle upstream. This is another very popular trip. Check for the website new put-in location due to bridge construction.

June 14th - launching promptly at 6:15
Ranger Night at River Bend Farm – Uxbridge, MA
Leader: Frank Cortesa
frankcortesa@charter.net 508-369-8205

Paddle on the canal to historic Goat Hill lock or more experienced paddlers can paddle the loop, down the river and then up the canal. We will be joined by NPS Rangers for this trip!

June 21st - launching promptly at 6:15
Chocolateville Landing – Central Falls
Leader: Erik Eckilson eckilson@cox.net
401-765-1741

We will put in at the Chocolateville Landing and paddle up to Valley Falls. This is a pretty section of the Blackstone River that rarely gets paddled.

June 28th - launching promptly at 6:15
Seekonk River - Pawtucket
Leader: Rosco cskurka@cox.net

First, we will paddle about 1/2 north first to get a spectacular view of the Pawtucket Falls on the Lower Blackstone. Then we will turn around and head south toward Swan Point.

July 5th - launching promptly at 6:15.
Whitehall Reservoir – Hopkinton, MA
Leaders: Louise Price
weezrad@yahoo.com and Frank Cortesa
frankcortesa@charter.net 508-369-8205

We will paddle the 592-acre Whitehall Reservoir - once used as a source of drinking water for the City of Boston. The reservoir has deep coves and dozens of islands to explore.

Flatwater Trips

Late changes and cancellations will be posted on the [Flatwater Message Board](#). Please check the board before leaving for any trip. Check [web site](#) for directions and/or GPS coordinates

June 4th - meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 shuttle
Assabet River- Acton to Concord
Trip Coordinators: Sharon Dragon
shdrag1@gmail.com 401-225-3942 and Erik Eckilson eckilson@cox.net(401) 765-1741

We will paddle down the Assabet to its convergence with the Sudbury to form the Concord. There is one short rapid that can be portaged. We can continue down to the Old North Bridge. Bring a lunch.

June 5th - meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 shuttle
Nemasket River – Lakeville, MA
Trip coordinator: Lee Parham 508-286-5999

The AMC River Guide describes this river as one of the prettiest in eastern

Massachusetts with some quickwater, a couple of easy portages, and a chance to check out two herring runs. Suitable for all boats. Bring a lunch.

June 10th and 12th - meet at 12:00 for 12:30 launch.
Connecticut River Overnight
Trip coordinator: Jim Cole
jimcole@hotmail.com 401-699-1172
RSVP Required

We will camp at the Cedars Campsite on Selden Neck Island and the Gillette Castle Campsite. The cost is \$5.00 per night, per camper, and you can sign up for one or both nights. See page 2 for more details.

June 12th - meet at 10 for a 10:30 shuttle
Pawcatuck River – Richmond to Bradford
Trip Coordinator: Henry Dziadosz
Hdziadosz@verizon.net 401-567-0313.

We will put in at the Jay Cronan Access (Richmond Landing) and paddle to the Bradford Landing. The river is mostly quiet and relatively slow moving, but there is a broken dam at Burdickville that can be run or portaged. Bring a lunch.

June 18th - meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 shuttle.
Charles River - Medfield to Natick, MA
Trip coordinator: Susan Engleman
Sje54@hotmail.com 508-353-6411.

A 10-mile trip on one of the prettiest sections of the Charles River. Any length boat is OK, but paddlers in shorter boats may find the distance too great. Bring a lunch.

June 19th
Slocum River - South Dartmouth MA
Trip coordinator: Cheryl Thompson
stonefoxfarm@juno.com or 401-497-5887

A joint Flatwater and Sea Kayak trip. Suitable for boats 12 feet and longer. Bring a lunch

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Continued from page 4.

June 20th – Demonstrations begin at 7:00
RICKA Meeting on the Water
Event coordinator: Cheryl Thompson at
stonefoxfarm@cox.net

Join us at Lincoln Woods State Park (sites 45 and 46) for our June meeting. Demonstrations will begin at 7:00, and you'll be able to launch your boat for a short paddle in Olney Pond. Bring your boat and a folding chair.

June 26th - meet at 10:00 for a 10:30 launch

Mystic Seaport – Mystic, CT
Trip coordinator: Susan Engleman:
Sje54@hotmail.com 508-353-6411.

We will launch at the state boat ramp under Route I-95 and explore the Mystic River. Experienced paddlers will venture out under the bridge. Trip is suitable for boats 12 feet and longer. Bring a lunch.

June 25th to July 2nd
Cape Cod Camping Week
Contact Louise Price for additional information.

Join us for a week of paddling the waterways of Cape Cod. All paddling trips will be in protected bays, harbors and rivers. We will be camping at Shady Knoll Campground in Brewster. You will be responsible for your own meals.

July 4th - meet at 10:00 for a 10:15 shuttle.
Pawcatuck River - Shannock to Richmond
Trip coordinator: Jim Cole
jimcole@hotmail.com 401-699-1172

We will put in at the Lower Shannock Falls and paddle to the Richmond Landing. This is a 6-mile trip with a short section of quickwater/whitewater that cannot be portaged. We will stop for lunch at the Carolina canoe campsite.

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

Pawcatuck River - Ashaway to Westerly
Coordinator: Mike Vechinsky.
M.Vechinsky@att.net 860-271-1586 shuttle.

This is a 7.5-mile trip that will start approximately 1 mile above the Potter Hill dam at a private residence. We will portage the Potter Hill Dam – bring wheels if you have them. The recent removal of the White Rock Dam restores the old riverbed and eliminates the run through the old raceway. There may be small rapids, and some areas may be scratchy in low water.

July 10th - meet at 1:00 p.m.
Flatwater Training at Stump Pond - Smithfield
Coordinators: Erik Eckilson
ekkilson@cox.net 401-765-1741 or Cheryl Thompson at stonefoxfarm@cox.net. Advance registration is required

In this 3-hour class, paddlers will learn the basic strokes and maneuvers to control their boats on flatwater. The class will take place at Stump Pond in Smithfield and will be free for RICKA and ACA members. If you are not an ACA member, there will be a one-time \$5 event membership fee. For more details and to register visit at <http://woonsocket.org/flatwatertraining.htm>

Sea Kayak Trips

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

June 4th - 10:00 launch
Gooseberry Point - Level 3-4
Westport, MA
Coordinator: Jon Sharlin
jonsharlin@gmail.com

June 5th - 10:00 launch
Fort Wetherill - Level 3
Jamestown, RI
Coordinator: Tim Guilbeault
timgilbo@gmail.com

June 11th – 10:00 launch
Fort Wetherill - Level 3
Jamestown, RI
Coordinator: Cam Mejia
mm1656@verizon.net

June 12th - 10:00 launch
King's Beach - Level 3
Newport, RI (This paddle is designed as a CRUISE of RI's magnificent Newport coast, NOT a typical rock gardening trip.)
Coordinator: Gary Branch
GPBranch@Verizon.net

June 18th - 10:00 am launch
Wilson Park - Level 2
Wickford, RI
Coordinator: Rich Coupland
RLCoupland@msn.com

June 19th – 10:00 launch
Annual Flatwater/Sea Kayak Trip Slocum River - Level 2
Russell's Mills Boat Launch, South Dartmouth, MA
Coordinators: Cheryl Thompson - stonefoxfarm@juno.com and Carleen McOsker- carleenmco@gmail.com

June 25th - 10:00 launch
Fort Wetherill - Level 3
Jamestown, RI
Coordinator: Gary Branch
mailto:GPBranch@Verizon.net

June 26th - 9:00 launch
Independence Park - Level 2-3
Bristol, RI
Coordinator: Brenda Rashleigh
vtbren@gmail.com

RICKA Classifieds

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

- **Cane Canoe Seats Replaced** - contact Jim Cole - 401-699-1172
- **Vally Nordkapp LV**- green deck, grey trim, white hull. Professional keel strip. Garage stored, well-kept, light use - \$1200 obo. Contact Mike at 401-644-9946 or gadmanrdh@gmail.com
- **NRS Flux Drytop** - men's size XL, red with black highlights, latex wrist and neck gaskets. Excellent, like new condition used less than 6 times. Sells new for \$325, yours for \$200. **Henderson 7mm Dive Boot** - men's size 11 fit my size 10 feet with thick socks and drysuit booties with room to spare. Two years old but used less than a dozen times. Sells new for \$95, yours \$45. **Reed Aquatherm Fleece Men's Long Sleeved Top** – black, men's size large. Worn less than 12 times and in good shape. I paid around \$95, yours for \$35. Contact Gerry at sea.sherpa.kayak.dot.com
- **Bungee/ Stretch Cord** - all sizes, colors, and styles available. Prices start at \$5.00/spool. Jonathan at 401-447-7973 Jon@marineropeinternational.com
- **Dagger Exodus 168** – red, length 16'-11", width 23.25", weight 60 lbs, cockpit 34" x 19". Bow and stern storage compartments, full rudder system - mint condition. Asking \$789. **Corsica S Whitewater Kayak** – purple, length 10' 7", width 24", weight 39 lbs. Some scratches. Kayak, spray skirt, PFD, carbon fiber paddle – \$389. **Two Dagger Mamba 8.1 Whitewater Kayaks** - your choice of sunrise or yellow. Length 8' 1", width 26.75", weight 47 lb., cockpit 34" x 19". Very little use. Kayak, PFD, helmet, carbon fiber paddle - \$699. Email or call watersedge99@comcast.net 508-944-2539
- **Valley Pintail (2001 model)** - asking price is \$1200. More information and photos are available at this website - <http://www.krabach.info/pintail/thumb.html>
- **NDK Pilgrim** - white/white/navy seam, 15'9" length, 19.7" beam. Versatile sea kayak for small or lean paddler. Well-maintained by long-time RICKA sea kayaker, the usual hull scratches. Offers considered. Contact pikake98353@mypacks.net
- **Romany Explorer sea kayak** – fiberglass, 17'6" X. 21.5". **Prijon Hurricane whitewater kayak** with stern air bag. **Kopapa Kiwi kayak** - 8' X 26". Medium dry top & drysuit (needs wrist & ankle gaskets). Large PFD, bilge pump. 3 cockpit covers. 5 paddles and 2 dry bags. Yakima rack w/ locks plus 2 sets of saddles. Extra towers & clips \$1500. Contact goray7ray@gmail.com
- **Werner Carbon Fiber Ikelos paddle** - bent shaft. 215 cm. Only used twice and is in brand new condition - \$350. Contact aikijerry@optonline.net
- **Valley Aquanaut** - plastic, in good condition with built in skeg - \$600. Contact Paul O'Reilly at 401- 640-5052
- **Necky Looksha** - 17' poly model includes Werner carbon paddle, cockpit cover, spray shirt, paddle float, kayak dolly - \$1,200. Call Pat Cosma at 401-480-3508
- **Necky Arluck III** - 18', 35 lbs., kevlar with rudder, yellow & white with blue stripe. Cuts through the wind and surf like butter - \$2400 OBO. Contact Bill at 401-447-2397
- **Malone XV kayak Auto Loader** - complete system, new 2015, never used - \$300. Pat Cosma 401-480-3508
- **Tiderace Xplore-X** - length: 18', width: 24", cockpit: 34.5"x19", depth: 14". Black and red deck over white hull with black keel strip. Gently used for two seasons and in perfect condition - \$2,400. SeaNskidog@hotmail.com
- **Make me an offer on any item listed:** Canoe/Kayak equipment - 2 four foot end air bags for OC1, 2 pieces of foam closed cell side flotation, pair of adjustable foot pegs for kayak, other items (if you're looking for miscellaneous whitewater items, please email me, I may have them). Email me for details. Jimcole@hotmail.com or 401-699-1172

Would you like to read more about sea kayaking?

Subscribe to Atlantic Coastal Kayaker

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

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

Send for a free sample issue.

Atlantic Coastal Kayaker
224 Argilla Road
Ipswich, MA 01938

Phone: 978-356-6112 (phone and fax)

Email: ackayak@comcast.net

Website: <http://www.atlanticcoastalkayaker.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 discretion.