



PADDLE SPLASHES

NEWSLETTER OF THE NY-NOJ AMC CHAPTER – CANOE & KAYAK COMMITTEE

January 2010

2009 Paddler's Holiday Party Were YOU there?

On December 12, 2009, over 75 members and friends of the Canoe & Kayak section of the NY-NoJ AMC gathered for our annual holiday party.

This year's event was held at the Ramapo Valley VFW Post in Suffern, NY. The location was spacious and very conveniently located to the New Jersey Transit train station, allowing our NY City friends to easily join the party.

The fun event was again beautifully coordinated by:

Phyllis Lindquist & Gretchen Tardell

Along with the Party Committee.

Phyllis, Gretchen and their team did a great job decorating the hall and tables in festive reds and greens. Each table had a colorful centerpiece and an assortment of chocolate candies, in case we were hungry.

A warm welcome: As soon as you walked in the door - you knew you were in the right place. Marcia S. and Jim Rubins again volunteered to be the official
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Good-bye Victoria, Hello Ara

Victoria Butler completes her term, Ara Jingirian starts his

Another name is added to the AMC Canoe & Kayak Committee (CKC) chair history page (see p. 6). At this year's holiday party Victoria Butler stepped down as chair and Ara Jingirian accepted the role as CKC chair for the 2010 – 2011 term.

Victoria served as committee chair for the 2008 – 2009 term. Some highlights of Victoria's term:

- Held the first and second annual Mohican Outdoor Center Paddler's Picnic & Boathouse Workday, both yearly events brought together club members from various boating disciplines, to spruce up the boathouse, paddle and enjoy the day near Catfish Pond. During these outings beneficial work was accomplished in and around the MOC Boathouse.
- Organized an instructional workshop for members who help teach rolling at the NJIT pool sessions – notably guest paddling instructor Ben Lawry.
- Started alternating CKC meetings in New Jersey as well as New York - for the many CKC members who live on the other side of the river, this is very convenient and increases attendance.
- Work was undertaken to re-vamp the chapter's website.
- Along with the multitude of duties the CKC chair normally oversees Victoria still found the time to teach at the kayak instruction classes and lead trips throughout the year!

Victoria's exuberance in everything she does will long be recognized in our club, whether it is her logically constructed kayak rolling technique to her attention to detail and inclusive attitude regarding quiet water, touring water or whitewater boating or her overwhelming love for the color **PINK!**

Victoria you are one of the best, we wish you well in all your endeavors!

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Holiday Party con't

greeters. They checked your name off the pre-registration list and handed you your re-cycled name tag. It is always fun to see who you are on the flip-side of that name badge – this year I was Lois G.

After taking off your coat you hardly had a minute to collect yourself and place your **home-cooked dish** on the buffet table or in the kitchen, before you heard laughter and numerous holiday greetings. The hall was filled with friendly folks extending hands for shakes and hugs. It was great to observe all the smiling faces of paddlers you don't see that often.

Right from the start (of course this meant Phyllis & Gretchen were hard at work long before any party participants arrived!) appetizers were available for tasting and wonderful they were.



(I've never seen a bigger bowl of shrimp!)

The bar was stocked with non-alcoholic refreshments judiciously concocted by Kerry O'Brien, and if alcoholic libations were more to your liking...at almost every table folks offered to share their stockpile.

Whenever a party goes so smoothly you know tremendous planning is behind the scene – Phyllis and Gretchen have the timing down to a science!

Because as soon as my stomach was a teeny bit hungry – the Party Committee started to parade out of the kitchen with armloads of delicious smelling steaming turkey, ham, lasagna – meat and meatless, gravies, meatballs, vegan specialties, vegetables, and assorted breads. All this and more, was placed buffet style for our enjoyment.

Did anyone say AMCers like to eat? Oh yeah we do!

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New CKC Chair Ara Jingirian

To fellow paddlers:

It will be an honor and privilege to serve as the Chair of Canoe & Kayak Committee (CKC).

As the new members of CKC take their place, we're looking forward to a smooth transition. Our first meeting is on January 27, 2010.

Few things to look forward to:

Website: I know we're all anxious about the new website. The Chapter is very close to "switch on" the new website. Our committee has done its' task in migrating the key components to the new website and our web-pages will be fully functional when the new website goes live. We will continue upgrading the content and improving the navigation, so there's still work to be done. (Update the switch is finished! 1-12-10)

Enhance communications with Leaders: We provide Leadership Training classes for our paddlers. However, before they qualify as Leaders, these Leaders-in-Training (LIT's) need to sign-up and assist on a trip. We need to improve the process of getting LIT's and Leaders to interface with each other. All trip leaders should consider taking on an LIT on their trip. We will distribute the list of LIT's along with their ratings to help with this process.

Leader's Manual update: Throughout the year the Committee may need to modify and/or create new procedures & policies. We will announce of such changes in *Paddle Splashes*. However, we also need to develop a live document where changes can be easily logged-in and be conveniently accessible to our Leaders. We would look into making the Leader's Manual a dynamic document, that will contain the latest CKC policies and procedures and be accessible on-line.

Finally, spring is not too far away. Let's look into **leading trips**. Coordinate with the Scheduler and get your trips listed on-line. I'm hoping to see 1 or 2 trips from each of the leaders.

Looking forward to a great year!

Ara

CKC Position:

email:

Contact:

Chair

canoekayak(dot)chair(at)amc-ny.org or
canoekayak(at)amc-ny.org

Ara Jingirian

At-Large

canoekayak(dot)atlarge(at)amc-ny.org

Victoria Butler

CL 4 Paddler Coordinator

Equipment Coordinator

canoekayak(dot)equipment(at)amc-ny.org

Chris Viani

Instruction Co-Coordinators

canoekayak(dot)instruction(at)amc-ny.org

Buddy Jedd

Butch Futrell

& Mark Tiernan

Membership / Publicity

canoekayak(dot)membership(at)amc-ny.org

Kafi Adams

Paddle Splashes

canoekayak(dot)newsletter(at)amc-ny.org

Connie Farley

Quartermaster

canoekayak(dot)quartermaster(at)amc-ny.org

Charles Michener

Quiet Water Coordinator

canoekayak(dot)QW(at)amc-ny(dot)org

Jeff Gregg

Ratings

canoekayak(dot)ratings(at)amc-ny.org

Michelle Sholtis

Records

canoekayak(dot)records(at)amc-ny.org

Marty Plante

Safety & First Aid

canoekayak(dot).firstaid(at)amc-ny.org or canoekayak(dot)safety(at)amc-ny.org

Matt Theisz

Sea Kayak/Touring

canoekayak(dot)seakayaking(at)amc-ny.org

Carter Bland

Secretary

canoekayak(dot)secretary(at)amc-ny.org

Carin Tinney

Treasurer

canoekayak(dot)treasurer(at)amc-ny.org

Frances Ennis

Trip Scheduler

canoekayak(dot)scheduler(at)amc-ny.org

Kayla Burlew

Meet the 2010 CKC

Chair: Ara Jingirian

I first joined AMC for outdoor activities. Paddling was not on my priority list, until a friend convinced me to sign-up for a weekend whitewater kayak clinic.

I was hooked. That was summer of 2002 and I've been paddling ever since.

Once the snow melts, you will find me on the rivers, paddling most weekends.

I've met some great people on and off the river.

At-Large: Victoria Butler

I started paddling with the Chapter on July 31, 1999.

On my very first trip I caught the kayak bug and my life has not been the same since.

I have met a fabulous group of friends and (to paraphrase Chris Viani) discovered a need to drive long distances to be wet and cold every weekend.

Equipment Coordinator: Buddy Jedd

After canoeing in the Boy Scouts for several years, I took weekend canoe/camping trips on the Delaware up around Calicoon and Skinner's Falls right through college.

Then sit-on-top ocean kayaks became big, and my folks have a place on Long Beach Island where I did that for years.

I bought recreation kayaks for my kids to use at Deer Lake, and I used them year round on the Passaic River (yechh) for exercise.

While doing backpack trips with the AMC I was told about CKC activities. After taking Butch's Basic Paddling class I was hooked. Looking to bust through to CL3, but New Boston told me it may take a while!

Paddle Splashes: Connie Farley

I joined AMC in 2002 to paddle and haven't been disappointed!

Whitewater is my favorite but the quiet waterways of the Pine Barrens & Sedge Island are amazing any time of the year – Mullica in February! Sedge in October!

I've been editor of PS since Jan 2007, and set about filling the newsletter with pictures because no one reads the copy anyway☺. For the coming year I continue to count on our NY-No. NJ membership for stories of their paddling adventures – I will especially be looking forward to your pictures – you received a digital camera for the holidays – didn't you?

Ratings: Michelle Sholtis

I started seriously paddling about 6 years ago. In addition to running club trips, I lead and coordinate the May beginner kayak instructional.

Mostly I paddle whitewater but will be happy to head to Baja mid-winter for 5 days of island hopping sea kayaking and sea life watching.

Quietwater Coordinator: Jeff Gregg

My first paddling experience was in a beloved, and heavy, aluminum canoe with my father during childhood camping trips.

During a vacation in Maine about eight years ago, I discovered my love for Sea Kayaking.

Hence started my growing appreciation that different types of boats have different advantages for different types of water, and my quest to build a fleet to meet the challenges of the different waters I wanted to paddle (current fleet size - 6 boats).

A few years ago, I decided to get my feet wet, and my head wet, with a little whitewater.

More recently, I've rediscovered the joys of canoeing, and the advantages of Royalex. I've been paddling with AMC for 5 years.

My other interests include hiking, backpacking and cooking.

Secretary: Carin Tinney

My first whitewater experience was Michelle Sholtis's May instructional in 2008 - and at the time, I didn't know it was whitewater - until we hit the Mongaup wave on the Upper Delaware!

I got into paddling because I am fiercely drawn to the water, but was (and occasionally still am) pretty scared of it. I can't say that paddling doesn't come naturally, because I have always known and felt that there is a river running through me - but my learning curve seemed to be very steep. I had to work incredibly hard to get to where I am today (and will continue to do so).

Most of the work has been around the psychological and mental aspects of paddling whitewater—learning to focus on the task at hand even if it's one wave or rock at a time; control my fears and anxiety; manage the disappointment of the inevitable swims; trusting myself and my friends on the river.

Most importantly, I had to really overcome the mindset that paddling is easy (anyone can sit in a boat and propel themselves across water with a glorified stick, right?)

I don't think there are many folks (unless you learn when you're young) that sit in a boat and 'get it' and 'get good' instantly - I certainly wasn't one of them. To be in this sport, you have to be willing to be a learner, be vulnerable, deal with embarrassment, ask for help, and work hard.

The payoffs however, are plentiful: a stronger mind and body, 8 months worth of weekend vacations, thousands of smiles, and an amazing family of friends.

I am grateful for the opportunity to give back as a member of the CKC and look forward to supporting our new chair, my original duck from the Upper Delaware, Ara.

Treasurer: Frances Ennis

Since joining the AMC in 2007, she is known to us now as the pedaling paddler. *Reminder* –don't forget to send in your trip paperwork in a timely manner.

Meet the 2010 CKC

Safety & First Aid: Matt Theisz

Safety courses are listed on the website.

Records: Marty Plante

My career as a canoeist began during one of my extended backpacking trips in the Adirondacks. After a particularly grueling day on the trail, it occurred to me that paddling a canoe full of camping gear would be a lot easier than schlepping everything on my back.

I joined the AMC in 1991, took a few canoe lessons and have been paddling ever since.

When I'm not in a boat, I can be found hiking, skiing or snowshoeing, usually in the Adirondacks.

Trip Scheduler: Kayla Burlew

Contact me to get your trips listed. More trips the better!

CL4 Paddler Coordinator: Chris Viani

I bought my first canoe (a used Old Town Tripper) in 1990. The Tripper is long gone, but her descendents have multiplied, and fill my garage.

I started out paddling flatwater, then moved into whitewater when I joined the AMC in 1999.

I've been teaching the whitewater solo canoe instructional for the past 3 years, and I also serve as the Class 4 ratings chairman.

My favorite paddling destinations are the Upper Yough (whitewater) and the Florida Everglades (flatwater).

Membership/Publicity: Kafi Adams

Open House at NYC Office: Mon Jan 11, 2010

Contact me to help out at the Paddle Sport show March 26, 2010., or any membership questions you have!

Sea Kayak: Carter Bland

I have been an AMC member for more than sixteen years and an active paddler for six.

I am an ACA-certified coastal kayaking instructor and have been working to expand the chapter's sea kayaking program both as an instructor and trip leader.

Trip Scheduler: Kayla Burlew

Contact me to get your trips listed. More trips the better!

Quartermaster: Charles Michener

Crappy attitude crappy paddler (Editor's Comment – this is false), and just not a very nice guy (Ed. comment – this is NOT true!). Works too hard, doesn't paddle enough and will talk your ear off if given a chance (Ed. comment – this IS true!)

Contact me to help at Workday on The Barn.

Instruction co-chair: Mark Tiernan

I joined AMC in 2002. I am an American Canoe Association (ACA) certified whitewater kayak instructor.

We have a full schedule of paddling / safety instruction classes planned for you this year – be sure to check the website for the latest info.

Instruction co-chair: Butch Futrell

I am a life member of AMC. I am also an ACA certified whitewater kayak instructor – I will be teaching a beginner kayak class in June.

See you at the pool - and at our many instruction classes!

Departing CKC members

Many thanks to the members of the CKC who are stepping down: we sincerely thank you for your time and dedication. Leaving the committee this term are:

Pinar Ayata

past Membership

Henry Schreiber

past At-Large

Maureen McCahery

past First Aid

Anthony Chiarello

past Quartermaster

Stephen Ferder

past Trip Scheduler

Welcome to all the returning CKC members:

**Ara, Victoria, Chris, Connie, Charles, Carter, Butch, Jeff,
Michelle, Marty, Matt, Mark and Frances**

***And a very warm welcome to our new members
who are serving on the CKC for their first time!***

Buddy, Kafi, Carin, and Kayla

Holiday Party con't

Continued from p. 2

Please view the Paddler's Party Photos on pgs. 9 & 10 of this newsletter – see if you were there.

**Gear Swap & Sale
in addition to socializing and eating, we had a gear swap!**



Out of the closet or out of that old duffel bag, came items chosen carefully in the past but seeking a new owner in the present.

Gently used helmets, drytops, fuzzy rubber clothing, paddles and camping gear traded hands and pleased both sellers and buyers at this year's Paddler's Party.

Other items didn't find a buyer this year – but will be back in 2010!

The AMC CKC also had a sales table, our new chair Ara now has possession of the T-shirts, hats, nose-plugs and other water related gear. Contact him for purchase of these items.

Comments / notes on the party:

Thanks to all who brought the fabulous food!

Dick B. and Dale S.:

"What a success. The venue was pleasant and convenient to all. The food was the best—even Dale thought so. Thank you for **a terrific party.**"

Rich B.: I'm sure I'm not the only one to express our appreciation for the **outstanding Paddler's Party** this year. The party was beautifully organized and everything was perfect. It was great fun to see so many of our paddling buddies at the same time. Everyone's **cooking was extraordinary** and worth every calorie or pound.

I just wish we could make the time last longer, the party always ends too soon. Many thanks for all your skillful work!

Other comments: The location was great and the VFW folks could not have been more cooperative.

The best part of the party was seeing our friends.

Submitted anonymously: Could we have caffeinated **coffee** in addition to de-caf, next time? I need my fix.

Special Note: After many years of non-use the **Canoe & Kayak River Folders** files were given to Rudi M. He has taken over the storage of the folders, and if time permits he will review the collection and compile a summary of the information. The River Folders have not been updated since before 2002, and there have been no requests for individual folders since 2005. **Today we get our information on area water via the Internet.** Thank you Rudi for volunteering to manage this interesting piece of our paddling history.

What could be done better at the party?

The coordinators mentioned our late registrations made planning difficult. **Let's not let this happen again!**

Check your issue of the Oct-Nov **PADDLE SPLASHES** for party details and send your information in **on time!**
Next Party will be held in December 2010!

Party Volunteers

the stars of the show!

We couldn't do it without YOU!

VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO:

**Gretchen & Ken Tardell
Phyllis & Bob Lindquist**

Along with the hard working

Party Committee:

Phyllis Lindquist
Gretchen Tardell
Bob Lindquist
Ken Tardell
Tee Zazzera
Jay Buettner
Cath Kraft

(Other than Marcia, Jim R. and Kerry people did multiple tasks)

Helpers:

Herb Stermer
Stephen Ferder
Don Getzin
Marcia Streaan
Jim Rubins
Kerry O'Brien
Maureen McCahery
Betsy Collins
Brant Collins
Norman Blumenstein
Amanda Burman

Jimmy Dougherty who helped Bob and Phyllis load their trunk even though he arrived at the end of the party (car trouble).

**Thanks to all the other folks
who helped out as well!**

G and P

Sadly we note – Gretchen and Phyllis will NOT be coordinating the Holiday Party for 2010.

This means we need other folks to step-up and carry on with the great planning and effort Gretchen and Phyllis have established. Please consider helping on the new Party Committee and carrying on with our festive and fun holiday party tradition!

CKC History:: Pre-1939 to 2010

NY/NoJ AMC CANOE COMMITTEE CHAIRS*

<u>Year</u>	<u>Chair(s)</u>	<u>Highlights of Term</u>
Pre-1939	James Dunning	Spring 1937: First Chapter canoe trip listed in Appalachia schedule: Langdons-Delaware. May, 1938: Johnston Mali commissioned 7- canoe wooden trailer.
1939	Lawrence C. Moore	
1941-43	Arnold Knauth	
1943-46	Paul Rittenhouse	Beginning of South Jersey brown water trips.
1946-49	Chapin Jackson	
1949-52	Helen Fair	
1953-54	Henry Francis	
1955-56	Walter Meseck	
1956-58	Cornelius “Corny” King	Beginning of two-trailer, 2-trips-a-weekend program.
1958-60	Bob Bliss	First canoe trip leaders’ procedure booklet.
1960-62	Louise Davis	
1962-63	Woody Hedden	
1963-64	Ark Tilson	
1964-65	Ruth Walker	Brakes installed on both trailers.
1965-67	John Nankivell	Locked tops on trailer boxes.
1968-69	George & Claire Barth	
1970-71	George Thomas	
1972-73	John Meirs	Beginning of <i>Paddle Splashes</i> .
1974-75	Helen Marie Chapman	
1976-77	Emilie Pentz	
1978-79	Jim & Mary Lou Rideout	
1980-81	Drew & Bobby Reynolds	
1982-83	Tom & Joan Sanders	Purchase of ten-canoe trailer.
1984-85	Fran & Al Braley	The Feathers published.
1986-87	Dave & Liz Pratt	First ACA Instructor Certification.
1988-89	Brenda Steele & Bruce Lichtenberg	First club kayaks purchased.
1990-91	Don Getzin	First Bob Foote Canoe Clinic.
1992-93	Henry Schreiber	First trips listing as Canoe/Kayak.
1994	David Schneider (1 yr only)	First canoe trip on Colorado River, Grand Canyon, AZ.
1995	Dick Bailey (one year only)	
1996-98	Walter Bonilla (until June '98)	
1998-00	Bob Zazzera (from June '98 on)	
2001-02	Gretchen & Ken Tardell	
2003-04	Lenny Grefig	First purchase of the Sea Kayak fleet; began upgrading whitewater kayaks and equipment; Revised CKC Leaders Manual; First kayakers on CKC. Beginning of PFDs requirement on all trips. Last Chair of the “Canoe Committee” and the first Chair of the “Canoe-Kayak Committee”.
2005	Herb Stermer (one year only)	
2006-07	Marty Plante	<i>Paddle Splashes</i> begins its transition from hardcopy to the Web.
2008-09	Victoria Butler	First & 2 nd MOC Paddler’s Picnic & Boathouse Work Day. CKC meetings held in NY & NJ.
2010	Ara Jingirian	

*Now called the Canoe & Kayak Committee.

All information up to 1986-87 comes from *Upsets on Many Rivers: New York Canoeing – its First Decade*. This is “A 75th Anniversary White Paper; AMC New York-North Jersey Chapter” edited by the late Robert N. “Bob” Bliss.

The information after that date was **compiled by Don Getzin**.

The Big Bass Award Jeff Gregg

Outgoing CKC Chair - Victoria Butler presents the Big Bass Award to Jeff Gregg for the second year consecutive year!



Left: This fish sings! *If the batteries are new.*

Right: Jeff with photo by Tom Trevor

Jeff Gregg is a very hard working member – he leads numerous Quiet Water paddling trips and expeditions – like the upcoming Mullica trip, he also serves as QW committee member and buys batteries for the fish.

The Big Bass Award is given by the CK chair to a member who contributes above & beyond to the club or demonstrates unique qualities that add value for all.

Thank you

for
all your work
Jeff!



Continued from p. 1

The River Gods?

What is The God & Goddess Plaque?



Victoria passing the River Gods plaque to Ara

If you've ever attended the annual holiday gatherings of the CKC you may have seen the River Gods Plaque.

This tablet is passed from chair to chair and held for safekeeping. The figurines on the plaque are composed of driftwood, but on closer inspection really do resemble human figures.



According to the January 1990 issue of Paddle Splashes: the "God" was found by past co-chairs Drew & Bobbie Reynolds (chairs 1980 – 1981).

Past chair Don Getzin (1990 -1991) had the figurines mounted on a plaque along with the river "Goddess" wooden figure "found" by Jane Bottner.

Victoria was also presented with some tokens of appreciation from the CK committee: a river knife (top) and a PINK camp chair (left).

Attention: All Boaters

Quiet water / Touring water / Whitewater

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO LEARN THIS YEAR??

The Instructional Committee is looking for your help and input in planning this coming season.

We are asking you to tell us what skills you would like to learn.

Answer the questions below and send them to: Mark Tiernan, at [Markfrog182\(at\)aol.com](mailto:Markfrog182(at)aol.com)

1. What type of instruction would **you** like to see the club offer?
2. What skill or instruction would **you** like to review or refresh?
3. **What personal goal** might **you** have for the upcoming paddling season and what instruction could help archive that goal?
4. We are also **asking for your help** with instruction. Is there anything **you** would like to teach or help teach?

**Make a New Year's resolution to learn or help a fellow member –
Now's the time to learn and grow with the AMC.**

Please contact Mark Tiernan, at [Markfrog182\(at\)aol.com](mailto:Markfrog182(at)aol.com) with any help or suggestions.

2009 Trip Leaders!
We couldn't do it without YOU!

The CKC would like to thank our trip leaders
who helped make the 2009 paddling program such a success!

Jill Arbuckle
Nathan Baker
Carter Bland
Rich Brenton
David Brucas
Kurt Brummond
Victoria Butler
Brant Collins
Diann Connell
Mike Dalton
Andrew Douglas
Paul Edwards

Russ Faller
Connie Farley
Stephen Ferder
Elana Fine
Butch Futrell
Curt Gellerman
Lenny Gregig
Jeff Gregg
Ellyn Ihrig
Ara Jingirian
Jennifer Koermer
Mark Leehouts

Michel Leroy
Bob Lindquist
Phyllis Lindquist
Tanya McCabe
Patricia McHenry
Charles Michener
Marty Plante
Joe Pylka
Barry Rosolen
Jim Rubins
Henry Schreiber
Michelle Sholtis

Joe Sklar
Sozanne Solmaz
Gretchen Tardell
Matt Theisz
Mark Tiernan
Carin Tinney
Tom Trevor
Chris Viani

The CKC would also like to acknowledge the contribution of the following persons
who assisted our leaders during the trips throughout the season:

Pinar Ayata
Ken Burlew
Betsy Collins
Cristiano Degiorgis
Ken Fink
Sarah Francis

Don Getzin
Arlene Kaplan
Dave Kaplan
Rob Holbrook
Cameron Klinger
Kurt Navratil

David Rosenfeld
Clare Tattersall
Radu Teodorescu
Pamina Vitta
Jordan Yaruss

Thank you to the 2009 Trip Leaders

At the Holiday Party, as a token of thanks to all our fabulous Trip Leaders, Victoria presented them with **warm and colorful hats** (gee, last year it was socks, all we need now is long-johns, and we will have our Mullica expedition gear all set!).



Special note the **New Chapter website** is finished – please follow <http://www.amc-ny.org/> To view all the new features, photos, and trips!

How to Register for the Pool Sessions:

Registration is by lottery.
Sign-up for each session separately on the Wednesday prior to the session, six days in advance via the website at www.amc-ny.org/poolsessions.
LR will reply promptly to confirm and provide travel directions.

check the web schedule for the latest information.

NJIT Pool Sessions

Starting February 9th, 2010!

Held every Tuesday evening in February and March (except 3/16) at NJIT in Newark, N.J.

Time 8 to 10:30 p.m.

Suitable for **beginner to advanced** paddlers.
Volunteer instructors available for informal introduction to paddling.

Good public transportation from NYC. (Transit Code 12 – PATH train to Newark Subway).

Canoes, kayaks, and gear will be provided.
Simply bring your swimsuit, towel, and lock.
Fee: \$10.

Refer to the website for additional information or to register (www.amc-ny.org/poolsessions/)

For further info, contact LR Ara Jingirian at poolsessionsleader@amc-ny.org

2009 CKC Paddler's Party Suffern , NY



*CKC members



Party VIPs
Ara, Victoria
Gretchen
Bob
Phyllis
Ken &
Gretchen



* CKC member



* CKC member

* CKC member



* CKC member

Ara & Victoria**, Gretchen, Bob & Phyllis, Ken & Gretchen, Judy & Ken, Kayla* & Bill, Kafi* & Ben, Jimmy & Donna, Kurt & Lynda, Mimi, Fran, Bob, Jim, Stephen, Linda, Jill , Jordan, Wayne Gman, Neil, David, Betsy & Brant, Kathy, Bob, Rudi, Frances*, Barry, Carin*, Dick & Dale, Fran, Helga, Herb, Dick, Andrew, and Chris*
*CKC member

2009 CKC Paddler's Party Suffern , NY



Dan, Amanda, Maureen, Lois, Herb, Barbara & Jeff, Mark* & Connie*, Kerry, Marcia, Lein, Curt, Bob, Aviva & Leela, Don, Jay & Tee, Carin*, Kafi*, Jennifer & Andrew, John & Ann, Stephene, Gail, Cath, Rich, Brant, Ben, Patrick, Eileen, Chris*, Jane, Claudia & Russ, Matt*, David, Carl. Crowded Party Hall, main course, desserts, happy holidays.

*CKC member. Somehow we missed photos of: David R, Buddy, and Norman B! Where were you when the cameras were snapping?

FILE YOUR TRIP A Go-Go!

We love to share paddling experiences.

Our valuable Trip Leaders and Trip Participants submitted the following trip information for your enjoyment.

Trip a Go-Go by Kurt Brummund

Trip: Round Valley Expedition.

Dates: Sat. Oct. 24th – Sun. Oct. 25th, 2009.

Leader: Jeff Gregg

Number of Paddlers: 7. Jeff Gregg, James More, Art Portmore, Charles Ferrigno, Paul McGregor, Jack O'Connor, and Kurt (gear-head) Brummund.

Boats Used: One OC-2, two OC-1's, two SK-1's, and one RK-1.

Weather forecast: Jeff called it right on Friday when he sent the group this e-mail:

"The weather forecast is less than ideal, and we will most likely have some rain, but the trip is still a go for those adventurous enough to brave the elements. Showers and breezy, with a 30% chance of a T-storm later in the afternoon.

If the T-storm does come, it will most likely be after we have arrived at the campsite and pitched our camp. We will also need to keep an eye on the wind, which will probably build later in the day. Sunday looks better.

Be prepared with appropriate clothing and gear".

Description:

Everyone showed-up early at the Ranger Station for our Saturday 9:30 AM meeting time. Good thing because the ranger that usually handles registrations wasn't there, so it took longer than usual.

The planned put-in time was 10:30 AM. Mostly because of Kurt and all his gear: we wound-up putting-in at around 11:00 AM. For a while it looked like we'd start the trip off dry but it rained a little while we were unloading our cars and packing our boats.

The rain let-up and didn't return until later in the afternoon/evening. So we had a dry 2-hour paddle to our campsite on the opposite side of the reservoir.

We unloaded our boats, had lunch, and set-up camp. Then we went back out for another 2-hour paddle.

We got back to camp before the rain and later thunderstorms and wind started.

Luckily we had set-up a reasonably large tarp (15' x 15') so we were able to enjoy Happy Hour and a terrific "Oktoberfest" themed dinner that Jeff prepared. We had kielbasa, bratwurst, red cabbage, pirogues, baked beans, and German potato salad. Despite the rain, we were able to have dinner & desert with a campfire going.

There was plenty of informative chat and quick witted banter. We had an intrepid and good spirited group.

The thunderstorms let-up in the middle of the night so we had a beautiful and dry Sunday to look forward to. I think everyone managed to stay dry overnight in their tents. Sunday morning we had pancakes (with real maple syrup), sausage, and coffee for breakfast. You always eat well on Jeff's trips.

The plan was to take our time this morning since we only had a 2-2½ hour paddle (wind permitting) back to the take-out. One of us (gear-head) took that plan too much to heart. We started our paddle back at around noon.

The wind threatened a few times, both days, but let-up and did not force us off the water. It's amazing how fast conditions on this reservoir can go from rough to placid and back the other way. All in all the wind was pretty cooperative, calming down at the best times. Like when we were crossing the most exposed area of the reservoir.

Wildlife & Scenery:

We saw a bald eagle a couple of times on Saturday and again on Sunday. We also saw some loons and other birds. The fall colors were past, but pretty near, their peak.

We were all very happy that this trip was not canceled due to the weather forecast.

Thank y-o-o-u-u-u... Jeff! Fearless Leader!



Snow dunes at the ocean 12/20/09

Trip a Go-Go by Kurt Brummund

Trip: Oct. 9th – 12th Maurice River/Menantico Pond

Leaders: Tanya McCabe, Gretchen Tardell.

Other Participants: Michael Dalton, Ken Tardell, Noel Cotter (river leader), Betty Palmer, Anne Bailey, Kerry O'Brian, Norman Blumenstein, Kurt Brummund, Jim Laly, Debbie Cohn, Charles Ferrigno, Paul Edwards, Dianne Edwards, Stephen Ferder.

Boats Used: four OC-2's, six OC-1's, two RK-1's.

History/background: This is the first and longest running camping trip that the NY-NoJ CKC has run over the years. It has been done annually; except for the past two years (problems with the dam at Willow Grove Lake). Many people are happy to see it back on the schedule. Fellow AMC paddlers will recognize the names of a good number of experienced leaders in the group. Several of whom have been previous leaders of this trip.

Camping: We base camped at Parvin State Park, group site A. The nicest group site they have. We shared a large pavilion, with group site B, in which we had our kitchen set-up on one side and group B on the other. They proved to be good neighbors. Most of our group arrived on Friday afternoon/evening. The rest arrived Saturday morning.

Team work: Our leaders ran the trip like a well oiled but easy-going machine. I guess that comes with experience. With the rest of the group also being experienced paddlers and campers, everyone pitched in where needed. There were no chores, just people doing it.

Paddling activities: Saturday we paddled the Maurice from Willow Grove Lake (CR 690) to Almond Road (CR 540). Sunday we paddled it from Almond Road to Sherman Avenue (CR 552).

River Sections: The upper section had been cleared by the local outfitter (Sam & Al's). The lower section did have some obstructions but fewer than I expected. We found ways to navigate through most of them. I can't remember having to portage but there were a couple of lift-overs. A couple of us did drag around them.

We had two pleasant day paddles, on a lovely river.

Monday morning after breakfast we broke camp and Tanya, Noel, Jim, Kerry, and Charles paddled Menantico Ponds while the rest of us drove home. The ponds were a bit overcast, but fall colors were deep.

They paddled up the inlet as far as they could go, then sailed back down the inlet and cruised over to the railroad overpass. They found it would be too difficult to get into the marshes, they stopped for lunch in the usual spot (30-40 yards before the overpass), then out and headed back home. A nice quiet day.

Food: Saturday & Sunday Happy Hour: Fruits, cheeses, salami, crackers & dips.
Saturday dinner: Salad, spaghetti and meatballs, bread.

Sunday dinner: Salad, chicken and noodles in a cream sauce, bread.

Deserts: Chocolate cake, cheese coffee cake.
Saturday, Sunday & Monday breakfasts: Coffee, tea, orange juice, fruits (grapes, apples, bananas, oranges, melon, etc.), hot oatmeal with choice of condiments (raisins, cranberries, walnuts, brown sugar, bananas, milk, etc.), or cold cereal with the same choice of condiments.

Weather (according to weatherchannel.com): Fri. 10/9, Partly Sunny; Hi 78° F, Lo 56° F; Sat. 10/10, Partly Sunny; Hi 75° F, Lo 49° F; Sun. 10/11, Partly Cloudy, Hi 66° F, Lo 37° F; Mon. 10/12, Partly Sunny, Hi 56° F, Lo 41° F. The Weather Channel has no recorded precipitation but we did get a little rain Friday overnight and then a little rain at the put-in Sat. morning that didn't last long.



Trip: Sedge Island
Date: Oct 10 -12
Leader: Brant Collins
Boats: beautiful glass / plastic sea / touring kayaks, 1 sit-on-top
Weather: Sun and salt!
Activities: Please see photo essay on page 14.



Trip: New Boston section of the Farmington River, MA
Date: Oct 17 & 18, 2009. First of 2 consecutive weekend releases.
Leader(s): Victoria Butler / Mark Leenhouts / Carin Tinney



Trip: Tohickon
Date: Nov 7-8
Leader(s): Victoria Butler / Mark Leenhouts
Boats: 5 OC-1s, 19 K1s.
Special Events: Besides two great days of paddling – we had a super special surprise party! Thank you Ruby & Mark!

Trip a Go-Go by Charles Michener

Trip: New Boston section of the Farmington River, MA

Dates: Sat. Oct. 24th – Sun. Oct. 25th, 2009.

Leader: Charles Michener & Sozanne Solmaz

New Boston: The New Boston is a trip I try hard not to miss; I want to make it to at least one of the two weekends. At release levels it can be a bit scratchy but it is a very accessible and dependable Class 3 run. One of my first CL 3 runs.

Meeting the other chapters & Accommodations: I think for some people the late season and possible inclement weather turn them away from this trip. But that is a mistake, because of the efforts of the **Boston, New Hampshire and the New York-North Jersey chapters of the AMC** we have the American Legion Hall to use. This gives us several options when it comes to camping. There is the usual, sleep in your car (for some) or in a tent (my preference) with flush toilets nearby. Or bivouacking in the large unheated meeting hall. I have even seen a tent set up in this hall. And lastly there is sleeping on the floor of the heated hall. So night time comfort is rarely a problem.

Water Level: This year we got really lucky with the rain and water levels so on Saturday after a breakfast of bacon and eggs we hit the river with a water level of 4.2 ft. The group was really good and some folks from the other chapters joined the usual suspects from NY-NoJ. Some of us were just stretching our class 3 wings and others have been flying in these waters for awhile.

Carnage! Chris Viani skillfully led us down the river, and the Little Red Witch (my OC-1) and I decided to duke it out over the day. **The carnage fest began!** During the day there were at least 12 or 13 swims that I know of. The Witch and I provided 5 of them. I am claiming that two of them were play swims so they don't count.

New technique: I learned a new technique for emptying a boat. If you are in very shallow water just lay on your back and bench press with your arms and legs, so the boat clears the water level. It empties right

out and can be turned over no-muss no-fuss. Now all you need to do is figure out how to get back in to it the middle of the river. **Maybe I will start carrying an anchor.**

Rain & Food: I believe it rained a little during the day but I did not notice and I think everyone had a good run. That night it was BBQ chicken and hamburgers in the hall while it poured buckets outside. Then we

hung out around the fire pit, it has a roof over it so we were happy and about midnight the rain stopped. Sunday dawned bright and sunny, with a cool crisp breeze. The river was running about 1 foot higher than normal release levels and we started a kicking run. Due to the high water and general exhaustion I dialed it way back so no fun swims on Sunday for me. For the rest of the group we *still had folks trying out for the swim team.*

After a break for lunch a few of us paddled all the way to the Bears Den. All in all a great weekend of paddling.

AMC Rents the American Legion Hall: If you have never paddled the New Boston and are thinking of it, do it it's a fun trip. Also the AMC rents the Legion Hall and that cost \$\$\$.

The club needs your support if it is going to continue renting the hall! If the AMC does not rent the hall there is no public take-out with parking at the bottom of the class 3 section, meaning that you will be required to paddle the additional 2+ miles of CL 1 to the Bears Den.

Thank you! Lastly I need to say thanks to folks: Harlan thanks for your help checking the water levels and your river knowledge was really helpful. Conrad and Jessie for your good company on and off the river. **And to whoever it was** that cleaned the legion hall while we were finishing up the Bears Den. When we returned we found the floor vacuumed and we just needed to finish up the chores. And thanks to everyone who joined us. **Thank you! Charles.**

Trip: MONSTERGAP on the Mongaup

Date: Oct 31, 2009

Leader: Carin Tinney

River: Mongaup

Comments: Loads of boats and loads of characters in decorated helmets and more. Special Halloween Fun – bobbing for apples! Yup, Carin tossed delicious apples into the river and we spent the whole trip looking for and finding them.

How hard is it to Eskimo roll with an apple in your mouth?



Bumble-bee Carin & Lady Bug Sarah on the Mongaup

Photo Essay

By Connie Farley
Sedge Island

Welcome to Sedge Island

Natural Resource Education Center
Sedge House (below)

We are here!



Island oyster and clam beds

Beautiful boats waiting to launch

Paddling at **Sedge Island** has been a club trip for years thanks to Brant & Betsy Collins – not only is it an incredible paddling destination it is a vibrant learning laboratory!

Each year hundreds of visitors (on non-AMC trips) explore the island and surrounding salt marsh.

The location offers the opportunity to slow-down and smell the salt air, as the experience is one of 'total immersion'. Resources on the island are precious and you "live a conservation ethic" – meaning fresh water is limited – the grey water from sinks and showers is specially treated, electricity is provided by a solar generator and sewage is composted in a modern Clivus Multrum composting toilet.

The island thrives as a nursery for blue claw crabs, hard clams, oysters and the hatchling terrapin turtles. In the surrounding water there are abundant bass, and weakfish. The Island is also located within the Atlantic Flyway for observation of birds.

Brant along with a group of dedicated paddlers work hard at maintaining the Sedge House from the elements.

In the early summer and fall they perform needed tasks for the opening and closing of the house, which make the facility welcoming for all. Thank you Brant!

Explore Sedge Island.



Brant & Connie

Group on the salt water

Horseshoe crab



More on Sedge Island check:

www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/sedge/htm

Jason – a Naturalist who works on the island describing the estuarine eco-system.

Newly hatched Northern Diamondback Terrapins. Truly endangered do to commercial style crab pots, some motor boat propellers and overdevelopment this species of turtle finds a small refuge on Sedge Island. Check: www.ProjectTerrapin.org



Terrapins of Barnegat Bay
Marine Academy of Technology
and Environmental Science



Jason, Paul, Jeff, Mark, (back row)
Mimi, Sue, Elaine, Brant, Betsy (front row)



Ahh, Sunset at Sedge Island

PADDLE SPLASHES is now on-line only.

Starting with this issue - paper copies will **not** be mail to your home. Benefits of this change: Not only are we saving printing and postage costs we are reducing our environmental footprint. Yeah AMC!

To view current and past issues of Paddle Splashes visit the link below – the archive currently displays issues starting from 1986!

<http://www.amc-ny.org/recreational-activities/canoe/newsletter/>

Please do your part and help AMC save money; and save a tree! – by Ed Goldstein

Get Trails & Waves delivered electronically!

Printing and mailing Trails & Waves is a significant expense for our chapter. You can help cut those costs by getting the newsletter delivered electronically instead of on paper. You'll also get it sooner. Here's how:

1. go to the AMC web site www.outdoors.org
2. click on "AMC member center" (under "Get Involved")
3. click on "access the Member Center" (bottom/center of screen)
4. enter your sign on password and account (see below)
5. click on "set my chapter newsletter preferences" (under New York - North Jersey Chapter Activities)
6. check "Yes! I'd like to receive electronic delivery of Trails & Waves, the official NY-NoJ chapter newsletter, when available."
7. click on "submit"

You will need to have an account and password to access the member center. These are obtained as follows:

1. go to the AMC web site www.outdoors.org
2. click on "AMC member center" (under "Get Involved")
3. click on "member validation" (center of screen)

You will be asked for you AMC member number. Please follow directions - you will receive further instructions and sign in procedures.

Once you have an account, you can arrange for electronic delivery of Trails & Waves.

Update on LUNgevity Walk and Memorial Paddle for Bill Canfield - Tohickon Creek November 7, 2009

In the October Paddle Splashes we reported on the untimely death of our paddling friend Bill Canfield (*photo right*).

On October 25, 2009 the LUNgevity Foundation sponsored a walk in Battery Park, NY to raise funds for lung cancer research.

http://events.lungevity.org/site/TR/2009TRs/General?pg=team&fr_id=1910&team_id=11150

Some of our club members were able to participate in the walk. Other members who were unable to join the walk, supported the effort with monetary donations - we thank them all.

Bill's team – Team Canfield – set a goal of raising \$10,000 for future cancer research but overwhelming support from Bill's family and friends raised a grand total of \$20,722! Sincere thanks to all who supported Team Canfield.



At the Tohickon Creek: saying good-bye to Bill. Photos by Ara Jingirian



During the fall release of the Tohickon one paddling trip was specially dedicated to Bill Canfield. In quiet remembrance of Bill the group wore black armbands in sorrow and spoke fondly of what a great guy Bill was.

Photo left: Our shoreline gathering, with words by Ara and thoughts of remembrance by Cristiano, Andrew, Jennifer, and Bree - holding the chrysanthemum flower wreath.



Paddlers removed a flower-bud from the wreath and placed it in their armbands. The wreath was then released onto the river and the group followed the flowers as they swirled and glided on the flowing whitewater – smoothly following the river - so much like Bill - our missing friend.

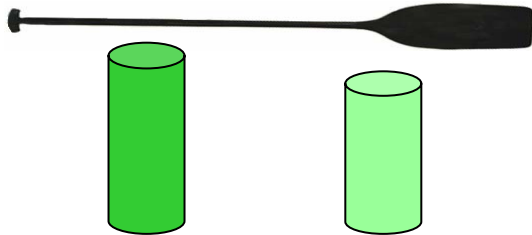
Photo right: Pamina looks towards the river as the flowered wreath floats past.

Do the Math

By Marty Plante

Twenty

Number of paddlers who paddled on 10 or more trips in 2009



66

56

2008

2009



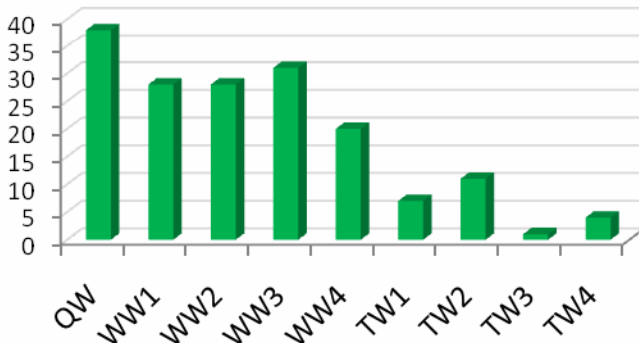
95

78

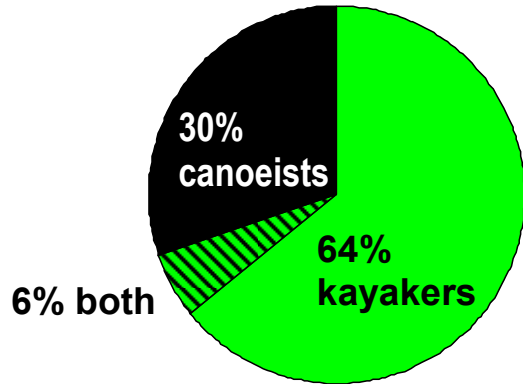
2008

2009

total trips, instructions and pool sessions



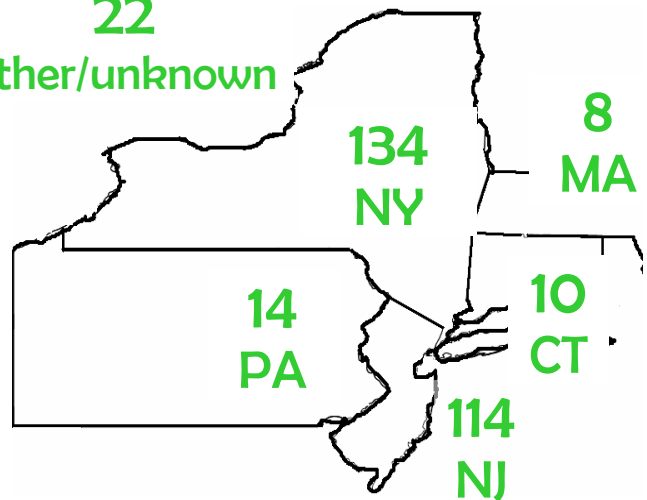
Distribution of rated paddlers in 2009



Percentage of paddlers in 2009 for whom a boat preference is known.

302 total paddlers on 2009 trips

22 other/unknown



Where our paddlers live

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE – 2010

<http://trips.outdoors.org/index.cfm/method/public.publicsearch>

	Date	Touring Water	Quiet Water	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Instruction /Misc/Holidays
Jan	1	Fri: Croton <i>Schreiber / Grefig</i>				Leader's Choice NH <i>Koermer / Douglas</i>		
	2-3							
	9-10							
	16-17							Jan 18 Martin L. King Jr. Day
	23-24							Annual Chapter Meeting Jan 23
	30-31							
Feb	6-7	Atsion Annual Expedition Mullica River <i>Gregg</i>						Tuesday: Pool Session <i>Jingirian</i> 2/9, 16, 23
	13-14							Feb 15 President's Day
	20-21							
	27-28							NY Times Travel Show
	6-7			Sat: Ramapo <i>Ferder</i> CL1+				Tuesday: Pool Session <i>Jingirian</i> 3/2, 9, 23, 30
March	13-14							March 14 Daylight Saving Time begins
	20-21	Lake Hopatcong <i>Gregg</i> TW2				Tohickon Sun: Leader's Choice CL2-3		March 20 Spring Begins
	27-28			Sat: Lower Paulinskill River NJ <i>Pylka/ McHenry</i>				March 30 Passover
	3-4					Fri-Sun ADK <i>Brucas</i>	Fri-Sun ADK <i>Brucas</i>	April 4 Easter
April	10-11							
	17-18					MA Leader's Choice <i>Ferder /Edwards</i> CL2+ 3		April 22 Earth Day
	24-25	Sat: Splitrock Res <i>Gregg</i> TW2						
May	1-24							
	8-9							May 10 Mother's Day
	15-16	May 14-16 Beginner Kayak Instruction <i>Sholtis</i>				Stonycreek Rendezvous <i>Farley</i>		May 14-16 Beginner Kayak Instruction <i>Sholtis</i>
	22-23							
	29-30							May 31 Memorial Day

Don't Forget ... upcoming AMC events 2010			
<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Contact person</i>
Paddling Trips	NY, NJ, PA, MA	All the time	See our Website
Pool Sessions 2010!	NJIT	Tuesday's Feb/Mar	Ara Jingirian
Paddle Sport	Somerset, NJ	March 26-29	
Barn Work Day	The Barn	to be announced	Quartermaster Charles Michener
Canoe & Kayak Instruction Classes	On a lake/river near you	May - Sept	CK Leaders
Annual Chapter Meeting and Dinner	at Overlook Lodge	Sat Jan 23, 2010	
NY Times Travel Show	NY	Fri Feb 26 - Sun Feb 28	
MOC Paddler's Picnic	MOC	Saturday August 7	Details to come
Next Paddle Splashes deadline is March 15 th , 2010 Send your articles to: CanoeKayak(dot)newsletter(at)amc-ny.org			

Appalachian Mountain Club
 NY-NoJ Canoe & Kayak Committee
 Editor: Connie Farley
 354 Ridgedale Avenue
 East Hanover, NJ 07936

My Paddling Thoughts

By Charles Michener

Hey it's a New Year!

✳ Here's to many great **rivers** in 2010!

✳ Let's hope that **peace** gains a foothold on our planet.

✳ Let's **paddle** into a future that is better than the past.

✳ Here's to making our eddy turns and infrequent swims.

✳ Let's throw our bags true and lend a hand to those in need.

✳ Keep watch for the **safety** of our fellow man and fellow paddler.

✳ Do our share for the liberty of our rivers and our world.

✳ Regardless of your views on this country's actions in the world, give a thought to the young men and women that wear the uniform.

✳ Feel for their families that live in fear of never seeing their son's and daughter's again.

✳ Sorrow for the ones that will never again get to paddle in our streams.

✳ But look forward to the New Year with joy and renewal.

✳ In the New Year there are **friendships** to be made and strengthened. New rivers to explore and new chances to challenge ourselves against the river.

✳ Be humble before the power of nature, and love your life and the lives of all others.

Happy New Year

Wanted! Trip Leaders & Coordinators

For the
2010 Paddling Season
 Quietwater, Whitewater,
 Touring Water

Please contact your CKC members to volunteer!

We will all be glad you did.

Save this date: August 7, 2010

We are planning another summer-time picnic at Mohican Outdoor Center, Blairstown, NJ

Everyone is welcome: bring your family, paddlers and non-paddlers.
 More information to come!

Pool Sessions
 at
NJIT

Wanted! Paddler's Party Coordinators

we need volunteers to coordinate the party in 2010.

Please contact anyone in the CK committee if you can help.