



PADDLE SPLASHES

Remember Your First Time? by Jeff Gregg

When was your first time, you know, paddling?

I'm sure it was not a Class 4 river or Sea Kayak Level 4 open water crossing. Chances are it was a Quiet Water paddle, on a gentle river or lake. What was it that hooked you? The natural beauty you experienced so directly? The self-sufficiency and quietness of your human-powered adventure? The near poetic efficiency of the way your boat moved through the water, either in reality or at least in your imagination? The pleasure of a peaceful afternoon on the water with good friends or family?

With these marvelous memories in mind, the Canoe and Kayak Committee (CKC) is pleased to announce a commitment to expand our Quiet Water (QW) Program.

What is Quiet Water? QW is the new label we will be using for trips previously rated as Flat Water (FW) or Brown Water (BW), as the water conditions, the appropriate boat types and the required skill level are so similar. And, let's face it, "Brown Water" never sounded very appealing, did it? QW trips can include paddle trips on rivers, lakes and even some salt water locations.

Criteria for QW designation

- The water is still or slow-moving
- The effect of wind is minimal, with no more than gentle waves
- There are no obstacles or route hazards requiring more than beginner skills to avoid
- Paddling pace and distance are appropriate for a beginner with some experience.
- Distance from land is no more than ¼ mile.
- Self rescue is easy.

Paddling conditions are easier than White Water Class1 or Touring Water 1 (formerly Sea Kayak Level 1).

QW paddling trips are a wonderful way to enjoy some peaceful time on the water, view wildlife and enjoy the company of fellow paddlers. They are also a great way of attracting new paddlers to the AMC and build our membership. Some paddlers will find all that they are looking for on Quiet Waters, while, for others, QW paddle trips may serve as an introduction to our White Water and/or Sea Kayaking programs.

When it comes to boat types, QW paddle trips are the most inclusive of trips. Depending on the particular location, your group could include a mixture of paddlers in canoes, recreation boats, white water kayaks, sea kayaks and/or sit-on-top kayaks. This diversity provides a great opportunity to learn something about boats with which you may not be familiar, and maybe even have

a chance to try them out.

To help coordinate and grow the QW program, the CKC now includes a Quiet Water Coordinator. I'm very pleased to have been nominated to serve as the first QW Coordinator. I would love to hear from you if you would be interested in leading any Quiet Water paddle trips or if you have any ideas for new QW paddle trips. I can be reached at [canoeKayak.QW\(at\)amc-ny.org](mailto:canoeKayak.QW(at)amc-ny.org). Let's have some fun and help create fond memories on Quiet Waters!



Jill and Quiet Water reflections

Contents

Quiet Water Paddling	p.1
From the Chair – PS Notes	p.2
Work Day at the Barn	p.3
AMC History	p.4
Book Review: <i>The River of Doubt</i>	p.5
Trip A Go-Go's	p.6
Members Photos & Activities	p.7-8
Activity Schedule	p.9
Paddling Thoughts	p.10
Back Page – Don't Forget	p.10

Editor's PS Notes

Connie Farley

The March-April, 2008 issue of Paddle Splashes is divided into genuine CKC articles and information plus something else - a bit of fun! We hope you notice our April Fool's tomfoolery.

Please note: the CKC does not endorse these April Fool's practices while on the water. Have Fun, Connie PS Editor

Special this month is our April Fool's issue – which is on-line only!

Those with on-line subscriptions will notice the issue immediately following the “Back Page” of the regular March issue.

Those who aren't currently on-line readers can also enjoy the April Fool's issue by going to the NY-NoJ AMC website and viewing PS.

Sign-up for the electronic issue of PS.

Each home delivered issue of Paddle Splashes costs the CKC \$1.50. Sure that isn't so much but multiply that value times 5 issues per year and over 250 mail recipients -- it adds up!

Please consider opting out of the printed version – you will save us money which we can use to purchase new paddling equipment.

Advantages of on-line viewing: PS is in COLOR, and has more pages including member photos.

Come see for yourself...

Paddler's Perspective by CKC Chair -- Victoria A. Butler

Special concern to us as paddlers is the nationwide drought situation. Check out the Drought Monitor Website.

The US Dept. of Agriculture and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) have created a US drought monitor website. We are happy to report the northeast is not in a drought this year nor is one predicted in the near future. Check out the site for national and regional information: <http://drought.unl.edu/dm/>.

Another informative site:

http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert_assessment/drought_assessment.shtml



Paddle Splashes is on-line! View PS as soon as it is uploaded!

Send email to: **[PSonline \(at\)amc-ny\(dot\)org](mailto:PSonline(at)amc-ny(dot)org)**

Sign-up for the electronic issue. We will send you a notification when PS is ready

CKC Position:	email:	Contact
Chair	canoekayak(dot)chair(at)amc-ny.org or canoekayak(at)amc-ny(dot)org	Victoria Butler
At-Large At Large	canoekayak(dot)atlarge(at)amc-ny(dot)org	Henry Schreiber
Quartermaster &	canoekayak(dot)quartermaster(at)amc-ny(dot)org	Chris Viani
CL 4 Paddler Coordinator	canoekayak(dot)equipment(at)amc-ny.org	Rob Holbrook
Equipment Coordinator	canoekayak(dot)equipment(at)amc-ny.org	Rob Holbrook
First Aid	Wildernessfirstaid(at)amc-ny.org	Maureen McCahery
Instruction	Canoekayak(dot)instruction(at)amc-ny.org	Butch Futrell
Kayak & Canoe		assisted by Charles Michener (Canoe)
Membership / Publicity	Canoekayak(dot)membership(at)amc-ny.org	Sarah Francis
Paddle Splashes	Canoekayak(dot)newsletter(at)amc-ny.org	Connie Farley
Quietwater Coordinator	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	Canoekayak(dot)safety(at)amc-ny.org	Ara Jingirian
Sea Kayak	Canoekayak(dot)seakayaking(at)amc-ny.org	Carter Bland
Secretary	Canoekayak(dot)secretary(at)amc-ny.org	Casey Bentz
Treasurer	Canoekayak(dot)treasurer(at)amc-ny.org	Lenny Grefig
Trip Scheduler	Canoekayak(dot)scheduler(at)amc-ny.org	Bill Canfield

PADDLE SPLASHES

Staff editors, writers and photographers

Connie Farley
Kurt Brummund
Jeff Gregg
Charles Michener
Marty Plante
Victoria Butler
Pinar Ayata
Kurt Navratil
Dick Bailey
Bill Canfield
Joe Pylka
Wayne Gman
Don Getzin
Jimmy Dougherty

CKC Notes

The Barn, Orphans, Inquiring Paddler, PFD's & Helmets

Directions to the Barn:

From NYC or points east: Palisades Interstate Parkway north to Exit 12. At end of exit ramp make left, drive to traffic light at Route 45, turn left and go a short distance south to Pomona Road, turn right. About one mile down the road you will see McNamara Road on the left, take the next left, a private road flanked by two stone pillars. Go about a block, turn right and you will see the Barn on your right and the trailers on your left.

Directions from North:

Palisades Interstate Parkway south to Exit 12. At the end of the exit ramp turn right onto Route 45 Southbound, go a short distance south to Pomona Road, turn right. (Follow directions above "from NYC")

Directions from New Jersey or points west and south:

Take 1-80 or I-287 to NY State Thruway toward NYC and the Tappan Zee Bridge. Take Thruway Exit 12 N to Palisades Parkway north. Follow directions from NYC or points east.

Orphans in the Barn

There are two privately owned Mad River ME's currently being stored in the Barn. Are you the owner? If so storage rent is due. Please contact the Quartermaster at:
[canoekayak\(dot\)quartermaster\(at\)amc-ny\(dot\)org](mailto:canoekayak(dot)quartermaster(at)amc-ny(dot)org)

Inquiring Paddler Wants to Know...

For our May and September 2008 issue: this is a two part question.

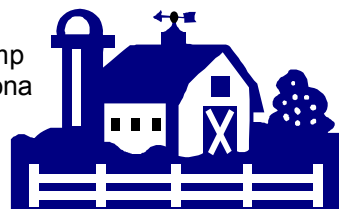
Part 1: What are your paddling plans for Summer 2008?

May PS.

Part 2: What did you do – paddling-wise – this summer?

Sept PS

Please submit your response to: [Canoekayak\(dot\)newsletter\(at\)amc-ny.org](mailto:Canoekayak(dot)newsletter(at)amc-ny.org)



Barn Work Day

Apr 19, 2008

Whether it's for the day or an hour, your help is needed.

Join us for a fun day working on the club canoes, the recreation / touring / whitewater kayaks, and equipment at the CKC storage facility "The Barn".

Learn new skills; use the skills you already know, meet fellow paddlers and help us bring the fleet up to readiness for the coming season.

Your help is greatly appreciated -- please come out and join in the fun!

We start at 9 a.m. and will continue until 5 p.m.
(unless we finish earlier).

Contact Quartermaster Chris Viani
Register for this work day by e-mail to:
[canoekayak\(dot\)quartermaster\(at\)amc-ny\(dot\)org](mailto:canoekayak(dot)quartermaster(at)amc-ny(dot)org)

CKC Helmet and PFD Policy

During activities conducted by the Canoe & Kayak Committee (CKC) of the NY-NoJ Chapter, a properly fitting PFD must be worn at all times while on the water, regardless of the type of boat or the difficulty of the water. The PFD must be type III or V and must be fully zippered.

Closed boaters are required to wear helmets on any whitewater trip of Class 1 or above.

Sea, quiet/touring and recreational kayakers are required to wear helmets on all Level 3 and 4 paddle trips in which there will be continuous exposure to rocky shorelines or bottoms or other similar hazards (e.g. pilings, sea walls, etc.)

Helmets are required of open-boaters on all rivers of Class 3 or higher and are strongly suggested for Class 2 trips.

The trip or river leader may require the use of helmets in other circumstances if the conditions warrant their use.

Appalachia Journal and Whitewater By Don Getzin

Appalachia journal advertizes that it is "America's Longest-Running Journal of Mountaineering & Conservation." Indeed, it has been published continuously since 1876, the year AMC was founded. But did you know that it contains articles on whitewater, too?

On the Friday afternoon before the AMC Annual Dinner & Meeting in Danvers, MA, I spent a few hours in the Joy Street HQ Library, looking through their complete *Appalachia* collection for the earliest whitewater references.

The oldest article I found is in the June 1929 issue, and it is "Quick-Water Canoeing" by John W. Worthington. The article discusses whitewater features and paddling techniques, and it has 8 period photographs. The most memorable lines in the article are: "The kyack (sic) has been used for sport in quick water, although it was obviously designed for use in the sea. It is exceedingly quick to turn and will live in water which would swamp an open canoe. But one cannot stand in it, or even kneel, or use a pole, or carry more than a trifle of dunnage. The position is cramped and vision limited. The use of the kyack in quick water is not recommended." Boy, how times have changed!

There are several interesting photographs in later issues. Photo 1 is from the Dec. '31 issue and is captioned "A Narrow Place on the West River." That's a CL III river near Jamaica, VT. My guess is that the drop shown is "The Dumplings." Notice that the solo canoeist is wearing a nice hat, but no PFD, helmet, or paddling gloves. The canoe appears to be wood and canvas with no outfitting. And look at the way he stores his spare paddles!



Ralph W. Gray
A NARROW PLACE IN THE WEST RIVER

Photo 2 a tandem canoe team taken on May 31, 1937 on the CL II-IV Ammonoosuc River in northern NH. Again no PFDs, helmets, or gloves, and they are still paddling a wood and canvas canoe with no outfitting!



WHITWATER ON THE AMMONOOSUC
A. N. G. GARDE TRIP, MAY 31, 1937

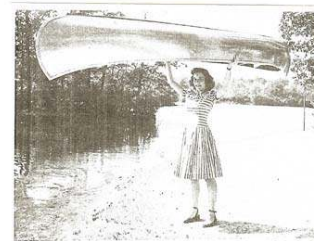
Photo 3 was published in *Paddle Splashes* several years ago, but the history behind it was unknown. [The copy published here



is the original photo that is in my possession. I also

have a colorized copy of this photo.] It shows Murray deCamp Spear running Lover's Leap on the Housatonic River, about 2 miles below New Milford, CT. It was published in the June '43 issue as part of an article by Paul L. Rittenhouse, who also took the photo. Does anyone know whether this drop still exists, or has it been inundated by a dam? Murray not only isn't wearing safety gear, but he doesn't even have his shirt on! He is said to be "former treasurer of the NY Chapter, and now with the Mountain Troops." A tough guy, I guess!

The last photo, Photo 4, is from the Dec. '45 issue and shows Grumman's new 13' aluminum canoe. How many of us - female or male - could hold that canoe up as this young lady is doing? She probably paddles it wearing that dress and shoes, too! Maybe women were tougher then!



THE NEW ALUMINUM CANOE
Thirteen-foot model

So it's clear that we are not really paddling much harder whitewater today than they did 80 years ago, even though we have all the advantages of better boats, paddles, safety equipment, and training. We must be wimps today!

Book Review By Don Getzin

The River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey By Candice Millard

The River of Doubt: Theodore Roosevelt's Darkest Journey By Candice Millard

New York: Broadway Books; October 2006

353 pages. ISBN-10: 0-7679-1373-6 (soft cover)

Price: \$10.17 from Amazon.com

It was Theodore Roosevelt's habit to throw himself into strenuous, dangerous adventures whenever he experienced set-backs in life. On November 5, 1912, he lost his bid for a second full term as President on the independent Progressive (aka "Bull Moose") Party ticket. He thus turned his attention to South America, where he second son, Kermit, was working as an engineer.

From October 18, 1913 to December 12, 1913 he took a speaking tour of South America, often having to defend his Roosevelt Corollary to the Monroe Doctrine that "legitimized" American interference in Central America to build the Panama Canal. Then he began one of the most remarkable and dangerous river expeditions in history.

The Brazilian government assigned Colonel Cândido Mariano Rondon to accompany the ex-President's expedition and serve as co-leader. Rondon was 5'3" tall and with a dark complexion that was perhaps partly due to his mixed Indian and European heritage. He was Brazil's most famous explorer, a Positivist (i.e. secular humanist), an advocate for Indian rights, the first head of Brazil's Indian Protective Service, and

the leader of Brazil's Strategic Telegraph Service that was stringing hundreds of kilometers of lines into the Brazilian interior. It was Rondon who first suggested exploring the Rio da Dúvida ("River of Doubt"), having earlier discovered its headwaters. This book is as much about the remarkable Rondon as Roosevelt.

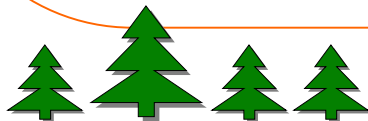
On February 27, 1914, after a two month overland expedition to the put-in, Roosevelt, his son Kermit, Rondon, and 19 others set

off down the river in dug-out canoes (pirogues) purchased from the local Nhambiquara Indians. For the next two months they dealt with hostile Cinta Larga Indians (cannibals with poison-tipped arrows), the jungle, poisonous snakes, unrelenting hordes of insects, piranhas, candirus (1" long spiny catfish that swim up one's urethra), caimans, disease, starvation, theft, murder, abandonment of the murderer, loss of another by drowning, unrelenting rapids, waterfalls, agonizing portages, loss of boats and starvation.

The river is now named Rio Theodoro Roosevelt. It is a north-flowing river in western Brazil's Mato Grosso region and it empties into the Rio Madeira, which is a tributary of the Amazon.

If you like to read about exploration, agony, courage, rivers, and history, then this is a must-read book!

...one of the most remarkable and dangerous river expeditions in history.



Bring your whole family



More information to come...

Save this date:
August 9-10, 2008
Paddler's Picnic
at MOC

June 14, 2008 Flag Day and "USO Cares Day": Contact: Helga for more information at Helgat@comcast.net

Trip A Go-Go's

22nd Annual Mullica River Expedition February 2-3, 2008 Trip Leaders: Victoria Butler and Curt Gellerman Put-In, Take-Out, etc

put-in at the Atsion Ranger Station, camped at the Mullica River campground, takeout at Batsto Historic Village
Trip Size: 5 hardy souls (Victoria, Curt, Stephen Ferder, Lien Olsthoorn and Jeff Gregg – everyone is a trip leader)

Weather: Sunny, high of 51° and a low of 26° (Saturday night)

Details: A small but hardy group of paddlers. Speaking of hardy, Lien and I found a mosquito in our tent on Sunday morning! Sunday we reached the Mullica River take-out at noon but that was too early to get off the river. At Curt's suggestion, we continued down the Mullica to the confluence of the Batsto River and attained up the Batsto to the historic village. That certainly kept us warm!

Moodna Creek CL3 : 2/23/08 Trip Leaders: Bill Canfield and Wayne Gman

Put-in: Pleasant Hill Road, New Windsor, NY

Group size: 3 brave souls (Wayne, Bill and David Brucas)

Conditions: Snow, ice and pretty darn cold.

Gman & snowman

Trip Info: The snow was deep, but the river was flowing strong and there wasn't ice along the shoreline. There were amazing "ice-chandeliers" hanging from drooping braches along both river edges.

The river flows through a very scenic wooded area. We noticed ducks, geese and a herd of deer. The upper section is all CL2 with a river-wide dam as a starting mark for the lower CL3 section. This dam is just upstream of the Route 32 bridge. We ran the dam left to right on the river right side. It was an easy slide down the sloping cement dam and there was a small recirc eddie on the river right bank. Wayne ran this drop with a snowman on top of his spray skirt (yes, both made it safely into the eddie).

The rapids in the lower section are fairly straight forward. As of this trip there was a tree stuck in the first rapid below the Rt 32 bridge. Further downstream there is another river-wide dam. It's not a classic low-head, but none of us deem this dam safe to run. We took out river left and walked the 25' downstream below the dam. This dam is easy to see coming and makes a very distinct horizon line.

At 4.3 miles the river flows under the Forge Hill Road Bridge. If you run the Moodna, use extreme caution in this rapid, aptly called "Hells Teeth", as there are old steel footings (I-beams filled with concrete) located mid-river, directly under the bridge, that were cut at various heights. They create a pinning hazard just below the final drop of the rapid. We ran the rapid far right, staying right, and we also ran right of center continuing right below the final drop to miss the "teeth".

A mile later the river split and we used the far right channel to get to our take-out on Shore Rd. (Cornwall on Hudson). Luckily the bar was open and the beer was warmer than the river.

Other Info: The put-in is about 3.5 miles south of 5-points in New Windsor NY (intersection of rts 94, 32, and Temple Hill Rd).

There is a small bar/trailer at the take-out and we asked permission before parking in their lot.



Leadership Workshop 2/23/08 Trip Leaders: Henry Schreiber and Lenny Grefig

Ramapo 3/1/08 Trip Leader Stephen Ferder.

18 paddlers came out on a sunny Saturday: 8 OC-1's and 10 K1's. The water was cold but spirits and happy camaraderie were high. The river level was decent except in the scrappy section above the carry around dam. Most notable feature of this trip, besides the festive group singing of Happy Birthday! were the numerous strainers. We had to walk around at least three downed trees.

Leader's Choice 3/8/08 Trip Leader Jennifer Koerner

We picked the Brodhead Creek in PA and it was rockin'- about 4.5 ft on the gage, and rising! Fast and pushy, with numerous sticky holes. Rained almost the whole time, but the temperature was rather pleasant.

The Miracle Mile claimed two victims. Luckily, there were some good CL 3 paddlers along to help rescue the CL 4 paddlers. There were also quite a few unplanned hole-riding sessions. A very different river than the last couple of times we paddled it (at about 3 ft or so).

Tohickon 3/15 & 16/08 Trip Leader Bill Canfield, Hanno Schop, Wayne Gman. Beautiful day, cold, and rain. Lots of renewed friendships as paddlers from NY, NJ, PA, and MD congregated to welcome the 2008 paddling season, as they paddle Toh-to-Toh. One high water disadvantage this year – the lower take-out parking lot was underwater – this enabled us to use a lot of creative thinking on how to run the river shuttles. 8 OC-1's and 9 K-1's.

Sad news: Andrew Nelson Reynolds, age 71, died February 7, 2008 at his residence. He was a CL4 canoeist and member of the NY/NoJ Canoe Committee in 1980-81

Members Photos & Activities



Moonda Creek 2/23/08 Photos and comments below by Wayne Gman

Bill and David at the put-in.

Remember: we can never assume everyone on a trip knows all the river hazards. Share your knowledge of the waterway **BEFORE** you paddle!



Hell's Teeth use extreme caution!
Pinning hazard!!



Club paddlers that regularly paddle the Mongaup, Lehigh, and Nescopeck, or in the future plan to run the Lower Yough and West, will want to learn on this wonderful nearby river at low levels. When high levels flow those aspiring to class 3-4 would get a good work out at Hell's Teeth.

Remember the hazards are easy to pick out. Be Safe.



Below. NJIT Pool Sessions: Some of the pool instructors: Bill, Cristiano, Victoria, Andrew, Kurt, Butch, Rob, Chris.



NJIT Pool Sessions. Running now until March 25.

Above left: Ara (pool coordinator- star shirt) checking paperwork, Jordan and Frances look on.

Below some of our pool participants, and lots and lots of activity in and around the pool! Come join us: sign up on the web page at:

<http://www.amc-ny.org/poolsessions/>



*Next issue of PS
will re-cap the
2008 NJIT Pool
Session*



Ramapo River
3/1/08
Good Folks and lots
of cookies!
Marty, Henry, Lenny,
Stephen, Frank, Joe,
Kurt.



Victoria, Jennifer,
Andrew, Michel.

Snowy put-in, Kurt.

Pinar, Michelle,
Monica, Butch.

Cookies!
Don, Andrew



This row:
Marty in ice,
another carry!
Frank, John



Tohickon Creek
Spring Release March 15-16, 2008
Trip Leaders: Bill and Hanno take care of the paddlers
fee and the paper work.
Sozanne & Charles, Joe, Stephen, Herb
Curt, Wayne, Si and hidden by a hand is Neil
Herb in his OC-1

Activity at a play spot.



ACTIVITY SCHEDULE – 2008

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

	Date	Touring Water	Quiet Water	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Instruction /Misc
March	22-23 Easter				Sat: Ten Mile Gastrich			Tue: Pool Session Jingirian
	29-30			Sat: Paulinskill McHenry/ Pylka		PA Rivers Lindquist		Fri-Sun: Paddlesport
April	5-6		Sat: Pine Barrens Rubins Sun: Great Swamp NY Faller			Upstate NY & Adirondacks Brucas		
	12-13	Sun: Split Rock Gregg			Shepaug Connell/Edwards	Zoar Gap/Miller's Holbrook/Francis		
	14-19	New Hampshire Rivers Koerner/Douglas						
	19-20		Sat: Bronx Rubins					Sat: Barn Work Day Viani
	26-27 Orthodox Easter				Lehigh McHenry	Stonycreek Rendezvous Farley Sat: Farmington, Collinsville Connell/Edwards		
	Apr. 26 – May 2	Week of Southern Rivers (CL3/3+) Getzin/Bailey						
May	3-4		Sun: Raritan Bay/ Cheesequake Creek Gregg	Farmington - Riverton Peters/Rubins				Sat: Rockaway River Cleanup Brummund/McCabe
	10-11 Mother's Day	Indian Lake, L1 Portmore			Lehigh Farley			
	17-18							Fri-Sun: Beginner Kayak Instruction Obrien Sat: Pelham Bay Cleanup McCabe
	24-25 Memorial Day	Hudson, L2 Bland	Mullica Connell/ Chasnow/ Brummund	Sat: Lower Delaware McHenry/ Pylka		Western PA/Lower Yough Holbrook		
May 24-30		Week of Southern Rivers (CL3) Butler/Futrell						
May 31 – June 1		Sedge Island, L1/2 Collins						Sat: QW Instructional Gregg/Bland

Don't Forget – upcoming AMC events 2008

<u>What</u>	<u>Where</u>	<u>When</u>	<u>Contact person</u>
Pool Session	NJIT	March 25	Ara Jingirian
Paddle Sport	Somerset, NJ	March 28 - 30	Sarah Francis
Work Day at the Barn	The Barn	April 19	Chris Viani
Kayak Instruction	May 16; June 6; July 11		
Canoe Instruction	June 6; July 11; Sept 6		
Paddler's Picnic	Mohican Outdoor Center	August 9-10	Connie Farley
Paddler's Party 2008		Dec 6, 2008	

Submission for next issue of Paddle Splashes: Deadline May 15, 2008

Send your articles to [canoekayak\(dot\)newsletter\(at\)amc-ny\(dot\)org](mailto:canoekayak(dot)newsletter(at)amc-ny(dot)org)
 Our sincere thanks to everyone who has submitted articles, pictures and information to make
 Paddle Splashes an informative and colorful newsletter!

Paddling Thoughts by Charles Michener
I hate pool sessions!

Spring is coming; I can smell it in the still cold air, I see it in the dawn, each day earlier then the day before.

I had to laugh at myself the other day; it was the first day I went to a pool session - it took three and a half hours to get there! I said "I hate pool sessions" to my traveling companions. I was so tired from my day at work, trying to finish everything I had to do in time for the pool.

Pushing though traffic, first to pick up my sister then my girlfriend I could feel my blood pressure rising until I was ready to blow a blood vessel. Trying to eat a burrito while driving a manual shift pick-up truck with three people across the front seat just added to my feelings of frustration.

Then I got to the pool and there were friends and paddlers I hadn't seen in a while. I still tried to hold on to my pain and get pissed at my girlfriend for taking some of my clothes into the girl's locker room. (She is a great woman for putting up with my stupid moods.)

But then I sat in my boat for the first time in four months. I felt the smile crack my face in two and I forgot that I hated pool sessions and the anger fell away.

It left behind enough room in my heart for me to remember my passion for the sport of paddling.

Of course the next week I did it again, "I hate pool sessions".

The evening started with me again tired, beat-down, depressed. It ended with me bouncing on the balls of my feet laughing out of pure joy.

I hope I see you all on the river. Charles

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



PADDLE SPLASHES

AMC Canoe Garage Sale

New CKC Chair Victoria Butler announces

Change is a coming

Radical New Changes Are Coming!

★ ★ ALL CANOES MUST BE SOLD! ★ ★

Out with the old! In with the new!

Composite and aluminum, solo and tandem, broken or past loved
all will be sold,
or else smashed with Butches' new car.



Victoria's mission statement includes
praises for the 'old paddling ways and days' of the open-
boater,

but now we must move into the 21st Century
and fill the Barn with whitewater and recreational kayaks!

If you want to pick up a cheap canoe be sure to investigate this

AMC Canoe Garage Sale

get them while you can – (we hope) they won't last!



The Barn

The Barn is being sold to a condo
developer!

The open boats will be use as
planters and the kayaks ground-
up for colorful patio pavement.

This is your last chance to visit
the Barn and figure out the
combination lock.

PS. Barn Work Day is canceled
so we can go paddling!

Happy
April Fools
Day!

Save the Yough - Trout

By Bill Canfield

► The Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission is requesting the assistance of the local paddling community in trying to stop the illegal poaching of fish stocks on the Youghiogheny River.

► Each year there are numerous incidents of illegal harvesting of local fish species, including the world famous (and now protected) giant PA river trout (pictured at right). On a recent paddling trip, one boater captured the attached photograph that clearly shows the typical modus operandi of most poachers... "spear with gear". These clever poachers fashion stolen or recovered paddling equipment (normally long shaft kayak paddles) into custom spear fishing devices.

► Besides having a devastating effect on local indigenous fish populations, this practice also leaves a bloody mess on our rivers (tourist complaints have been noted).

► Please help us identify and prosecute these vicious poachers who maraud our rivers depleting our already fragile fish stocks and endangered species.

Together we can all make a difference.



Bree spearing her catch

Hot off the Press reported by D. Bailey

Wall Street Journal April 1, 2008

Perception Manufacturing will discontinue all kayak production to concentrate on expanding open canoe demand.

CEO says "In the interest of our stockholders, must re-deploy our resources where the real action is.

CKC Approves Use of New Self-Rescue Device

Special to PS from Joe Pylka

NYC - 1 April. AMC-NY's Canoe & Kayak Committee (CKC) today approved and recommended the use of a new self-rescue device intended to be used in last-resort situations.

A spokesperson for the committee said, "It's an ideal safety device. It is readily available at almost any store, is inexpensive and requires no training to make it work. It's small, about the size of your hand. It can be kept in a waterproof case in a PFD pocket where it can always be available. It can be used in all boats and conditions, from sea kayak to recreational boat to Class 4 whitewater. Probably most paddlers already own one."

The newly recommended self-rescue device is a Bar of Soap.

Intended for use as a last resort, operating instructions are very simple. If one has passed the last spit of land or blew by the last person with a throwbag and no alternative means of rescue is visible, the paddler takes it the out and opens the waterproof case holding the soap. It is then unwrapped and the paper put back into the container (Leave No Trace! after all...).

The then paddler deploys the soap into the water around him and... washes himself ashore.

Change “Park & Play” to “Park & Pay”?

By Marty Plante

ALBANY, NY – Whitewater kayakers will soon need to include a pocketful of change to engage in their favorite sport under a measure that cleared a New York Senate committee last week.

The Transportation Committee approved the “Pay to Paddle” bill (S0401) introduced by Sen. John Gazingstock, D-Albany. The bill places all navigable rivers in New York State under the jurisdiction of the highway departments of the towns through which they flow, making those who use them subject to local ordinances. “Those kayakers have been freeloading for too long. As users of public waterways, they must pay their fair share,” said Gazingstock. The State Assembly approved an identical bill last month.

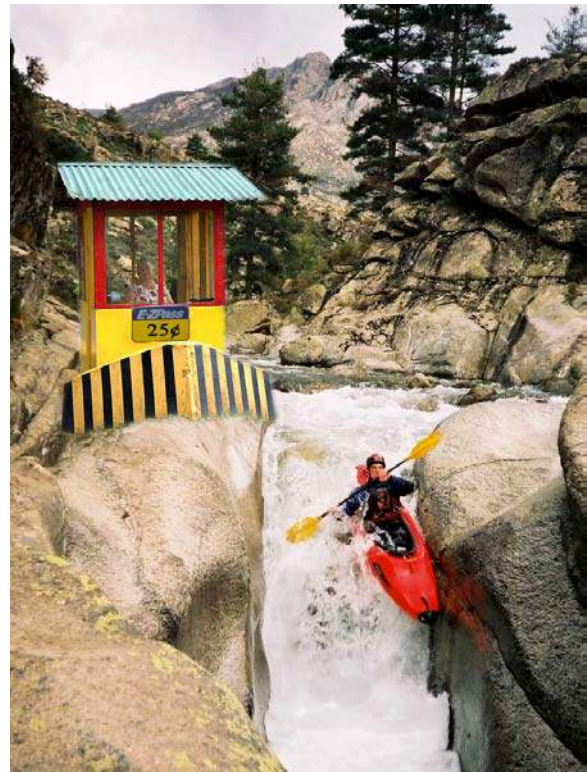
Many towns plan to use the ruling for new revenue sources. “This will be a windfall for us,” said Penny Argent, Treasurer for the Town of Phoenicia. The town plans to designate Esopus Creek as a toll way, collecting user fees from each boater. Toll gates will be erected at half-mile intervals from The Portal to Boiceville and kayakers will be required to pay a 25 cent toll as they paddle through each gate. The town is testing a prototype transponder developed by E-ZPass that can be mounted on the bow of a boat.

The Ramapo town board has voted to take a different approach. “There are few areas on the Ramapo River where boaters can stop for lunch,” said councilwoman April Pazzo. “We’re going to make use of this precious asset by installing parking meters at the most popular sites.” When they stop for lunch, kayakers will be required to place their boats within one of the designated parking sites and deposit the required number of

coins in the parking meter. Meter maids wearing brown wetsuits will patrol the riverbank and issue summonses to violators.

To facilitate enforcement, all kayaks must be registered with the newly established NY Dept of Floating Vehicles and display a license plate on the rear deck.

While town treasurers throughout the state are looking forward to having larger coffers, others question the efficacy of the new legislation. “Are they (bad word) crazy?” asked Buddy Blunder, a New York City kayaker, when told of the impending changes.



POOL ANNOUNCEMENT!

Hurry to the NJIT Pool Sessions – Get in the swim before the city sells the facility to NJPAC. The Bi-More Architect Company has just announced plans for an indoor ice skating ring as well as a Reptile House to replace the pool.

Everybody come out and use the pool before we lose it!

ACTIVITY SCHEDULE - 2008

Date		Touring Water	Quiet Water	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Instruction /Misc
April	1-2					Leaders Choice <u>Jimmy</u>		
	1-2	Leaders Choice <u>Dougherty</u>						
	1-2		Leaders Choice <u>Jimmy</u>					Introductory Knitting Classes Riverside
	1-2						Leaders Choice <u>Jimmy</u>	
	1-2	Leaders Choice <u>Dougherty</u>						

Paddling Thoughts by Charles Michener

To my many paddling friends, this message is for you.

Boon companions on so many rivers and around countless campfires you have all added to my life. So at this time when I find my life turning in a new direction I hope that you will understand why:

I am quitting paddling.

I have found a new passion that has surpassed my love of the river. I discovered it during the long dark months of winter. I took a class in watercolors and it opened a window into my soul similar to finding God.

The long hours of quiet solitude swimming in colors has completely overcome any desire to take a cold swim in a river.

The need I feel to compose a stunning still-life overwhelms any need I have to surf or paddle again.

I know that this may surprise some of you and I will miss you all but I know this is the right path for me in life and it will lead me to an even greater understanding of myself and my place in the universe.

Appalachian Mountain Club
 NY-NoJ Kayak & Canoe Committee
 Editor: Coco Farley
 354 Ridgedale Avenue
 Paris, France 00006

