



PADDLE SPLASHES



The CKC is proud to announce the launching of our new photo archive

<http://picasaweb.google.com/AMCNYNJ>

The photo website was created for posterity and the benefit of promoting AMC and Canoe Kayak Committee (CKC) events by our very own Michel Leroy who has agreed to serve as our image archivist. For those of you who haven't met Michel, he is an award winning professional photographer whose work has been published/exhibited in AMC Outdoors, NY Times, People Magazine and the National Archives.

Anyone who has photographs of AMC CKC events is encouraged to submit them to Michel for inclusion in the Archive. The CKC will use the archived images for Paddle Splashes, Trails & Waves and exposition events (PaddleSport, NY Times Travel Show, etc.). The website and all images are on a public domain site and therefore can be viewed and downloaded by the general public; this will allow you to share photographs of your fun-filled weekends with your friends and family.

Michel Leroy is the contact person for all submissions. Please contact him at michel@michelleroy.biz, to discuss the best way to submit the photographs. For example, if you have a single photo, it may be easiest to send via email, but if you have 100 images, then other arrangements will need to be made (CD, DVD or FTP 'file transfer protocol'). When submitting photographs please include the following information:

- 1) Name of photographer
- 2) Photographer's consent to use images
- 3) Date of images
- 4) River or activity (i.e., Paddler's Party)

Currently, we have plenty of great whitewater shots; we desperately need photographs of flat water, sea kayak, quiet water and touring trips.

With your help, we hope to have pictures from all our CKC trips this year and from years past!



Save this date!

August 9, 2008

Paddler's Picnic

Special CKC event – a summer picnic – especially for you!

**Paddler's Picnic and
Boathouse Spruce-up day
at
Mohican Outdoor Center,
Blairstown, NJ.**

- Bring your boat(s)
- boathouse clean up,
- **silly contests**,
- fun, fun and more fun.

Bring your family, and
non-paddling friends.

Picnic fee is \$10 for adults, kids
under 12 free.

Camping is available.

Register on-line at

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

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Editor's PS Notes

Connie Farley

See you in September.

*Next issue of PS on-line and in your mailbox
September 15, 2008.*

*Submit your articles, stories, recipes, pictures now or all
summer long – we will use your information.*

*Let's all have fun, safe adventures and come back in the
fall ready to write and read new paddling stories.*

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



Reminder come join us for the August 9, 2008
Paddler's Picnic at MOC

The Paddler's Picnic will have it all!

Camping is available.

Register for picnic/camping and boathouse clean up separately.

Picnic fee is \$10 for adults, kids under 12 free.

Picnic/camping LR Connie Farley cfnews03 aol com
973-975-7448

Boathouse LR Victoria Butler v-a-b rcn com 212-
647-8766.

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

Send email to: **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 & CL 4 Paddler Coordinator	canoekayak(dot)quartermaster(at)amc-ny(dot)org	Chris Viani
Equipment Coordinator	canoekayak(dot)equipment(at)amc-ny.org	Rob Holbrook
First Aid	Wildernessfirstaid(at)amc-ny.org	Maureen McCahery
Instruction Kayak & Canoe	Canoekayak(dot)instruction(at)amc-ny.org	Butch Futrell 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
Quiet water 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	Don Getzin
Michelle Sholits	Jack Chau
Dick Bentz	Andrew Douglas
Jim Rubins	Tanya McCabe
Joe Pylka	Jo-Anne Chasnow
Ara Jingirian	Bill Canfield

What does TW mean?**By Jeff Gregg**

You may have noticed this cryptic abbreviation in the summer schedule. What does TW mean? No, not "Trails and Waves" – the chapter newsletter. TW stands for Touring Water, which is the new name for the trip rating scale formerly called the Sea Kayak (SK) trip rating scale.

TW1 replaces SK L1, TW2 replaces SK L2. . . , you get the idea. But why? The reason for changing the former Sea Kayak trip ratings to Touring Water trip ratings was to create a rating scale that was no longer boat-specific. There are some trips where it is not appropriate to use White Water (WW) ratings, but using Sea Kayak ratings made it sound like only sea kayaks would be accepted.

Good examples would be trips on some of the big lakes in the Adirondacks or on a large tidal river, like the Hudson. The wind can create significant waves on these waters, so a Quiet Water rating might not be appropriate.

It is not uncommon to have a mix of boat types on such trips; canoes, sea kayaks and recreational kayaks. So, calling these trips Touring Water trips seems more appropriate than calling them Sea Kayak trips.

Of course, for purposes on-water safety and group management, the decision as to what boat types are appropriate for a given trip is ultimately up to the trip leader's discretion.

How do the TW ratings fit into the other trip ratings? Think of Quiet Water (QW) as a single starting point for both the White Water and Touring Water trip rating scales, which radiate like two separate spokes from the same hub.

The TW trip rating criteria will be incorporated into the next edition of "The Feathers" and the club

website. However, to help decrease the confusion, I would like to share them with you. These are the criteria for the TW trip ratings we will be using in the trip schedule:

Touring Water 1 (TW1)

Sustained winds to 10 knots. Waves up to 1 foot, minimal whitecaps and no break. Up to ½ mile from shore. Typical distance up to 10 miles at an average pace of 2½ knots. Minimal route hazards such as currents, rocky or steep landings, and heavy boat traffic etc. Typical waters include large lakes, slow-moving rivers, small estuaries and bays.

Touring Water 2 (TW2)

Sustained winds up to 10 knots. Waves up to 1 foot with whitecaps and small breaks. Up to ½ mile from shore. Typical distance up to 12 miles at an average pace of 2½-3 knots with few on-shore breaks. Moderate route hazards such as currents, rocky or steep landings, heavy boat traffic etc. Typical waters include large lakes and rivers, estuaries and bays.

Touring Water 3 (TW3)

Sustained winds up to 16 knots. Waves up to 3 feet and/or breaking waves up to 2 feet. Up to 1 mile from shore. Typical distance up to 14 miles at an average pace of 3 knots with few on-shore breaks. Moderate route hazards such as strong currents, surf launches and landings, rocky or steep landings, heavy boat traffic etc. Typical waters would be very large lakes, large estuaries and bays, sounds and open ocean.

Touring Water 4 (TW4)

Sustained winds up to 25 knots. Waves up to 5 feet and/or breaking waves up to 3 feet. Typical distance up to 14 miles at a pace of 3 knots or greater with few on-shore breaks. Potential for significant route hazards such as strong currents, surf launches and landings etc. Typical waters include surf zones and open ocean.

AMC Ratings by Michelle Sholtis

Warmer weather is upon us so that means a lot more AMC trips.

This is just a little reminder about rating cards.

All rating cards can be downloaded from the website:

<http://www.amc-ny.org/information/download.php>

Paddlers - if you want to be rated please ask a leader with the appropriate rating to observe you, don't just assume it will just happen because you are on a trip. The rating you receive will be dependent on your skills.

Leaders if you are asked to rate someone please remember surviving the trip does not mean they have achieved that rating.

Send the rating form to me either by email (canoekayak.ratings(at)amc-ny(dot)org) or snail mail (Michelle Sholtis 267 Burns St. Forest Hills, NY 11375).

Remember to fill out the form completely: Paddlers first and last name, their current rating, canoe or kayak, observers name and current rating, the river, section and class (Whitewater WW) or waterway and conditions (Touring Water TW), dates of the trip (including the year), the recommended rating and any additional comments.

You may put multiple rivers/waterways on one but please only one person per card.

We now have rating cards for Class 4 Whitewater!
Thanks, Michelle

2008 Pool Sessions Summary NJIT Pool Newark, NJ

By Ara Jingirian

We had 7 sessions, held in February & March 2008. At each session we had a great turnout, with a total of 120 attendees, including NJIT students.



We had 19 Open Canoe (OC) registrations, which was larger than last year. Additionally there were 30 beginner registrations, who were encouraged to join the club and continue learning new paddling skills.

Many volunteers helped out both with transporting club boats and gear: first to the NJIT pool then home to the A bonus for all of us was having Happy Hour at the local establishment after each session.

The most unique session was the night of Feb. 12th. Due to a snow and ice storm, the roads were hazardous and driving was dangerous. However, **the session was not cancelled** and 10 brave students along with 1 instructor made it in. Another instructor was on his way to the session, unfortunately he got stuck in traffic for few **hours** (on a normally 15 minute drive). He finally made it to the session, but just as the session was over.

See you next season!

Smiling pool faces – from top to bottom: Pictures from the last NJIT pool session. Ara explaining the procedure, Soo-Mee and nose plugs, Andrew, Kurt, Frances, Soo, David, Marta, Alyssa, Si, Kayla,, Jennifer, Charles, Diane, Victoria, Jennifer, Chris, Mark, Butch, and ARA!



The CKC
proudly invites you!
to our

Paddler's Picnic
August 9, 2008
at MOC

This is our 1st annual (we hope) Paddler's Picnic!

Won't you come and join the activities?

The Paddler's Picnic will have it all!
There will be QW paddling on the pond, a picnic, we will clean-up the boathouse,
play silly contests, and most of all have ...
fun, fun and more fun!

**Bring your family, non-paddling friends,
and bring your boat(s).**

We will provide hamburgers and hot dogs (and veggie burgers and hot dogs),
you bring the rest in a **POT-LUCK** extravaganza.

Rain or shine (but it will not rain on our picnic).

Camping available, at additional costs.

Register for picnic/camping and boathouse clean-up separately.

Picnic fee is \$10 for adults, kids under 12 free.
at MOC Mohican Outdoor Center, Blairstown, NJ

Picnic/camping LR Connie Farley
345 Ridgedale Ave. East Hanover NJ 07936 cfnews03 aol com 973-975-7448

Boathouse LR Victoria Butler
v-a-b rcn com 212-647-8766

Thank you to our Paddle Sport volunteers – March 29-30, 2008

Thank you to our volunteers, who signed-up 7 new AMC paddlers or the 3 day event!

Andrew, Butch, Casey, Chris, Connie, Don, Frances, Gretchen, Hanno, Jennifer, Jordan, Kurt, Rob, Sozanne, Tom, Victoria, and **we couldn't have done it without you Sarah!** [See photos on p.10](#)

Every year the club hosts an information table. And sometimes we ask ourselves: Is Paddle Sport worth it? Here are some replies from our volunteers.

Kurt Navratil I'm a friend of Jersey Paddler's manager and I know the new owners Father. I have done Paddle Sport for at least the past 15 years. I've helped out the Garden state Canoe club, the Delaware Valley chapter of the ACA, the KCCNY, and the AMC. I am happy to say I never paid to get in. We still have to ask ourselves is it worth it? My .02 cents, yes! The Paddle Sport is a social event. This year I talked to old members of the GSCC, KCCNY, ACA and of course the AMC. It was well worth my time.

I also try to buy everything I need for the next year. I know I'm not getting cutting edge products; I'm getting what JP has in stock and wants to get rid of. Last year I spent about \$1200.00 dollars. I got off with only \$800.00 this year. There is also so much information to gather about other clubs and trips. I say **"Go to Paddle Sport, it's worth it!"**

Will I volunteer again? Of course!

What could we do differently? Get a computer that works. However the new CD is very well done.

Other Comments. I didn't get a tee shirt :-). But I'm told I will receive one. The Tee-shirts are really cool. Whoever did them, job well done! (PS. It was Sarah's wonderful idea!)

Over all, Paddle Sport is not the best venue for us but by far it's not the worst. I say stay with it.

Gretchen Tardell I signed up one new member on Friday afternoon and I hope we didn't lose the new membership registration. It sounds like you were going great guns on Saturday and Sunday.

Friday afternoon is not peak time so my statements may not be true for the whole weekend.

1. I thought the CD was great. Just one thought - Many folks made a comment that they didn't paddle in the winter so maybe fewer snow/ice pictures...more sun/warm pictures. (I thought they were cute but some people seemed too hung up on them.)

2. The pin map got a lot of attention and I think it was a good idea because it showed that we were in both North and South Jersey.

3. Some of the folks were new paddlers - 'just getting into it'. Maybe we could post our instruction somewhere and have a hand out just with the instruction and where they are located would help too. I know the instruction was in the schedule but it is buried with the trips.

I worked PS many years ago and it was good to see it again. I bought a new kayak paddle (custom). I better not lose the thing. It remains to be seen how much I will be able to use it this summer though. I just got cortisone shot in my left wrist today, but I suspect I am facing surgery. It's not all from paddling last year - a lot of other things too. I couldn't have done a better job giving myself carpal tunnel if I had actually tried.

Thanks Sarah for the T shirt - great idea.

Tom Trevor I've "worked our booth" in the past few years. It is definitely worth it from 2 perspectives: AMC CKC activity promotion and my personal experience.

This year I helped "open the show" and as expected, traffic was a little slow on my watch. In the past I've signed up new members. It is always fun for me to meet both experienced and new paddlers at Paddle Sport and for that brief encounter exchange experiences that make many of us kindred spirits. It helps me to get a sense of the many different motives paddlers have for taking to the water.

Also, to my knowledge, there is nowhere else nearby that offers a look at such a vast array of paddling "toys" in one place. For me, it definitely continues to be worth the effort, both for me personally and the club.


Jordan Yaruss What did you buy? New booties and a pretzel. ...and tried on the drysuit I want.

Was the day well spent? Absolutely. I had fun helping out, bumping into people I know, getting funny looks wearing my helmet, pfd and nose plugs, and talking to potential new members.

Will you volunteer again? Yes.

What could we do differently? Oh, I guess we should have more flat-water pics. Also, a big bathtub so we can do rolling demos.

Planning Ahead:

- **Paddler's Party** 
- December 6, 2008
West Nyack, NY

Contact **Gretchen Tardell** for more information

Trip A Go-Go or a No-No

Participants in **AMC Leadership Workshop** taken in February 2008 are:

Pinar Ayata, Nathan Baker Patrick Daly, Cameron Klinger Kerri Klinger, Paul Lawless Hanno Schop, Jean Trapani
 (Jean is a CT paddling leader, and chair of the CT flat-water committee) Thank you!

A Go-Go Mullica River, April 5, 2008

Thirteen intrepid paddlers turned out for what was expected to be a rainy trip on the Mullica, and enjoyed one of those fine April days when the temperature is warm and the sun shines almost all the time. We met at Adams Canoe Rental in Atsion, sorted out partners for three open canoes, and collected seven solo recreational kayaks in addition. No private boats on this trip. Wayne Adams handled the trailering as usual, dropping us at the old campground putin and picking us up at the Route 542 bridge at the end of the day.

Kurt Brummund, a veteran Mullica paddler, was able sweep. Elana Fine volunteered to corral the waiver signatures and paddling fees – a great help, as anyone who's ever led a trip will appreciate. Apart from a few startup tangles while paddlers got used to their boats, we had a mellow, easy cruise down this pretty little river.

Everybody agreed that the four no-shows and the eight people who sent in cancellations on the week of the trip had missed out on a most enjoyable early-season outing. Jim Rubins

A Go-Go: Upstate NY ADK Rivers. April 4-6, 2008 Trip Leader: David Brucas. Rivers: Fish (Upper & Lower), Salmon, Woodhull, Moose.

A Go-Go: Splitrock Reservoir. April 12. Trip Leader: Jeff Gregg. In Morris County, NJ is approximately 3.5 miles long. We had a total of 11 paddlers in a variety of boat types (canoe, inflatable kayak, recreational kayak, sea kayaks) We paddled a total distance of around 6.8 miles.

A Go-Go: NH Spring Rivers. April 18-20 Trip Leaders: Jennifer Koerner & Andrew Douglas. See trip report on p.7.

A Go-Go: Bronx River. April 19. Trip Leader: Jim Rubins. See pictorial on p.10

A Go-Go: Barn Work Day. April. Trip Leader: Chris Viani. The Barn is beautiful!

A Go-Go: Lower Lower Lehigh, April 20, 2008 Trip Leaders: Butch Futrell & Pinar Ayata (Leader in Training)
Trip Size: 8 (5 enthusiastic paddlers [Kayla, Bill, Ken, Mark and Pinar] + 3 altruistic mentors [Michelle, Victoria and Butch])

Put In: Train station/parking lot, Jim Thorpe, PA. Take Out: Bowmanstown, PA

Weather: Chilly and cloudy, turned into warm and sunny with some wind in the afternoon

River conditions: Long flat-water stretches with some CL2 play & practice spots

Highlights: 1) A last minute add-on to the schedule, 2) Pinar's first leadership experience.

A-Go-Go Bronx River, April 19, 2008

On this year's edition of the annual Bronx River Quiet Water paddle, we had a fully-subscribed roster of 18 paddlers plus leader, and one person on the waiting list. Two people didn't show (unfair to the wait-listed person!). We put 15 boats in at 119th Street, at the little dock in Bronx Park: 10 RK-1s, two OC-2s, two SK-1s and one OC-1 (the only Club boat on the trip, the sweet little Peconic). We took out at Hunt's Point Riverside Park. Newly-spiffed up by the City; the park is full of jungle-gym equipment for neighborhood kids, and also home base for an active rowing community.

Paddlers included guests Dick and Liz Bentz from the Boston Chapter, joined by their New-Yorker daughter Casey. Another guest was Bob Hartling's son Curtis; Bob is by now a constant paddler on these Bronx trips, and again weighed in as sweep.

Weather fair and warm for April, no strainers encountered, and a few little riffles to make things interesting. With the enthusiastic help of all hands, we managed the one long carry past the Snuff Mill in the Botanical Garden and the two little dams in the Zoo. Unexpected highlights: the sitting Mother Goose in the lee of the Zoo's island, and a great blue heron a bit below that. Tide was up so the killer weir down by tidewater was not a problem, and we pushed right over the neoprene trash catcher in the gritty section below the Zoo [as a City paddler, one encounters some hazards not seen on countrified rivers].

We are grateful, again, to Anne-Marie Runfola of the Bronx River Alliance (a NYC Park Dept agency), who secures permissions for paddling through the NY Botanical Garden and the Bronx Zoo. That group runs an active program on this river, which you can check out at www.bronxriver.org. Jim Rubins

A Go-Go: Stonycreek, Johnstown, PA. April 26-27, 2008. Trip Leaders: Connie Farley & Mark Tiernan for KCCNY.
Trip Size: 15 paddlers

Put-in: at the ball field. Weather: hot! Beautiful early April. River Conditions: 3.4 ft on the bridge gauge.

Highlights: Rushing to find safety before a blinding thunderstorm.

A Go-Go: Week of Southern Rivers. April 26-May 2. Trip Leaders: Don Getzin & Dick Bailey.

A-Go-Go Rockaway River Clean-up. Saturday, May 3rd

Leaders: Tanya McCabe & Kurt Brummund.

Number of paddlers: 11 (Diann Connell, Karen Linzenberg & her son Aaron, Marc Laub, Carlos Alvarez, Michael Gorman, Ron Gentile, William Whelan, Michael Tanis, Tanya McCabe & Kurt Brummund).

Boats Used: 7 Club tandem canoes, all used for free.

Put-in: Jackson Street Park, Rockaway, NJ

Take-out: Gardner Park, Denville, NJ.

Length trip: Approx. 3 miles.

Description: Everyone did a great job, including newcomers Ron Gentile & Mike Gorman. They found the mother load of old tires. There was enough for all of us to top-off our loads, and then some. Karen & Aaron were the real stars though, paddling a tandem and towing a second tandem (both loaded to the hilt). Everyone participated enthusiastically and really loaded-up their boats. Some with a stack of extra tires that could still float in tow as well. We were loaded up within the first half of this section of river. Next time we should really work on the second half. All in all a productive day.

A Go-Go:-Mongaup River. May 4, 2008. Trip Leaders: Victoria Butler and Butch Futrell

Trip Size: 11 paddlers: 7 kayaks and 4 canoes

Weather: started out dreary but the sun came out and we had a beautiful day

River Conditions: 1 tube release

Description: This trip was a last minute add on to the schedule. It is wonderful to have the Mongaup back. A good river, good friends, good time. This was our second club trip to the M'gap this year. On April 19, Charles Michener and Sozanne Solmaz organized the outing.

Picture at right: Lauren Cook, the KCCNY Conservation Chair. Lauren did a tremendous amount of work to restore this river to the paddling community. Thank you sign on Charles Michener's truck says it all! Thank you Lauren



A Go-Go: Lehigh River, White Haven to Rockport, PA., May 10, 2008 Trip Leaders: Connie Farley.

River Leaders: Sozanne Solmaz & Stan Klein – our group was so big we split-up.

Trip Size: 18 paddlers. 2 OC-1's, 16 kayaks

Weather: cloudy and cool in the morning but sunny and clear later in the day. My first campout of the year – under star-filled skies and mummy sleeping bags tucked up to my nose.

A Go-Go: Beginner Kayak Instructional: May 16-18th 2008 Trip Leaders: Michelle Sholtis and Michel Leroy

Trip Size: 8 students, 5 instructors and 6 support boaters.

Weather: Sunny for a couple of hours while we were at the barn. Cloudy on the water Saturday and of course it wouldn't be an instructional without a little rain...all day on Sunday. Welcome to kayaking!

Details: Normally the class meets at the Barn Friday night and heads out to the cabin at High Point State Park for the weekend however Thursday Victoria called with bad news. A pipe broke and we can't stay there. My first thought was I need a drink but I was at work and they frown on that. Butch arranged some campsites and now it was time for a mass email and a bunch of phone calls in-between my classes to see who, if any, still wanted to come and camp and who needs what gear. We decide to meet Saturday morning instead so we didn't have to set up in the rain. By 8 pm on Friday I think we had a definite number of students...yeah! Saturday it was sunny when we left, I thought it was a good sign. We were hoping to get to the Barn before the students to organize a few things. Ha! A car accident on the Palisades took care of that. Waiting to figure out whether we should wait it out or cross the median is when Victoria's car (Mona) decides it doesn't want to move, not for the Fire Police or the Ambulance so we had to push her out of the traffic lane. When Mona was in the re-combustion mood she was back in gear and crossing the grassy median and the next set of calls was started on trying to reroute everyone. Finally everyone made it and we headed over to the pond for the first day, a couple hours later than scheduled but hey we made it!

I had expected a lot less people to show up. Considering all the last minute changes and stuff I forgot everyone did a great job. The instructors and support boaters were amazing and I can't thank them enough. The students were really enthusiastic and did a great job and I thank them for sticking with it in the cold rain and with 6 swims to start then 4 then 2...look we improved! Good Job and thanks for being part of my first Instructional as Leader. Michelle Sholtis
 Thank you Rob Holbrook for making nose plugs for all the students! What a creative way of bending wire, adding quick drying rubber and attaching string – they stayed on our nose and indeed kept the water out!

A-Go-Go Pelham Bay Clean-up Saturday May 17th. Leader: Tanya McCabe.

Paddlers: Eight total. Four club members (Tanya McCabe, Kurt Brummund, Bonnie Gonzales and Ed Strachar), two members of the Siwanoy Trail/Friends of Pelham Bay Group, and two Urban Park Rangers.

Boats Used: 4 tandem canoes (provided by the Park Rangers for free).

Put-in and take-out: Orchard Beach canoe/kayak launch. *Continued on the next page.*

This clean-up was also done in tandem with the AMC sponsored clean-up of the Siwanoy Trail, leader Ken West, AMC with additional help from Katie Whitney-Bukofzer, AMC.

Marianne Anderson, Acting Administrator for Pelham Bay Park said "We managed to pull out about 3 cubic yards of debris from the western shoreline, including lots of large floatables that would have been difficult to remove if it hadn't been for the skillful maneuvering of our able-bodied canoeists". She also said "about 23 bags of trash were hauled out by the landlubbers which also included some large items like tires and such".

A-No-No May 24, 2008. Lower Delaware Trip Leaders Pat McHenry and Joe Pylka. This trip was canceled. Some paddlers canceled prior to the trip and with only 4 paddlers remaining (3 kayaks and 1 OC1) to paddle in the Big D at high water levels - the trip leaders decided for safety and rescue reason to cancel the trip.

A-Go-Go May 24th & 25th Memorial Day Weekend Mullica River Expedition Trip.

Trip Leaders: Jo-Anne Chasnow, Diann Connell, and Kurt Brummund with grateful assistance from Tanya McCabe.

Number of Paddlers: 13 terrific good spirited souls! Rosanne Doblin, Joe Sklar, Henry Kessin, Ron Gentile, Digna Del Orbe, Matthew Theisz, Tim Renshaw, Anjali Dhiman, Donna O'Shea, Tanya, Jo-Anne, Diann, and Kurt. A Fantastic Group! There was no job sign-up sheet, because everyone just pitched-in 110%. The beginning paddlers' learning curves went straight up and there were No Swimmers!

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

Put-in: Atsion. **Take-out:** Pleasant Mills.

River Level: Measured at Batsto, it was about 1.4 ft. (105 cfs) on Saturday and 1.3 ft. (100 cfs) on Sunday. This seemed just about right to us, being able to run over the usual beaver dams and duck-under most blow-downs. There was one blow-down on the upper section that we had to saw an opening through. This was greatly appreciated by the other paddlers on the river.

Weather: Beautiful! Sunny with some clouds, high in the mid 70's, overnight low in the mid 40's. No mosquitoes to speak of, but the Gypsy Moths in the caterpillar stage were in abundance at Atsion campground.

Food: Yummy! Saturday Happy Hour: Ritz crackers, whole wheat chips, cheeses, dip, salsa, crud-da-tat.

Saturday Dinner: A delicious Diann Connell creation we named "Stew-Gonnoff".

Desert: Macadamia nut, chocolate chip & oatmeal raisin cookies.

Sunday Breakfast: Zabars French/Italian roast coffee, eggs, pork sausage patties, chicken sausage, and mini cinnamon rolls.

The Mullica River Campground was jumpin'. Including us, there were about four or five different groups totaling about 70-80 people. But there was plenty of room. Each group had their own area; without being crammed together. I've been there with 10-12 people, twice before, in February. But I did not realize how far the campground extended. We were also pleasantly surprised to find very few mosquitoes.

Memorable sights: A six foot plus long man eating snake wiggled past our group, crossed the river and slithered up a tree along the opposite river bank (probably to shed its skin); Turkey Vultures; and a heck of a beautiful river.

Thank you Diann Connell for the idea of a warm weather Mullica expedition trip!

Thank you Tanya McCabe for all your guidance and mentoring!

Thank you Jo-Anne Chasnow for keeping us all energized and focused!

A Go-Go June 6-8 Kayak Instruction.

A Go-Go June 14, Rockaway River QW Paddle.

Leaders: Jo-Anne Chasnow & Diann Connell, assisted by Tanya McCabe & Kurt Brummund.

Number of Paddlers: 17; Richard Anscher, Joanne Walker, Amanda Burman, Li Chen, David Grupper, Diane Judge, Marc Laub, Gail Neffinger, Antoinette Wilchen, Chris Zinno, Mona Yee, Tom Brown, Stephanie Kaltnecker, Jo-Anne, Diann, Tanya, and Kurt.

Type of Boats: One K-1, three RK-1's, five SK-1's, and four OC-2's.

Put-In: Jackson Street Park, Rockaway Township, NJ.

Lunch Stop: Gardner Field, Denville, NJ.

Take-Out: Griffith Park, Boonton, NJ.

Length of Trip: 7.3 miles. Mostly easy flat water, there were some scratchy parts in the first couple of miles.

As Jo-Anne Chasnow expressed "We all did the correct rain dances, as the storms didn't hit until most of us were safely home." The high temperature was 89°. It was cloudy most of the day, which was welcome so we didn't bake in the sun.

This location is accessible by mass transportation. So if you don't have a ride, no problem. You can usually get a ride home. We brought the club canoe trailer with eight canoes. So if you didn't have a boat, no problem.

Memorable Sights: Deer, egrets, mallards, geese, nice homes.

Forgettable Sights: Tires, a one cubic yard dumpster, poison ivy at the take-out.

A Go-Go June 6-8 Canoe Instruction.

A Go-Go June 20-22 Deerfield River

A Go-Go June 14, South Branch of the Raritan.

Four kayaks and a canoe went down this bucolic river on a hot spring day. Water level turned out to be a bit low but we had the whole river to ourselves, with the Kingfishers, Herons, Ducks and Sandpipers, plus the usual turtles along the way. Been some changes since last year -- winter floods moved a lot of gravel around and changed some of the usual lines. still it was a great day with a leisurely pace and practice in trying to read the water. We should be doing this river more often. Personnel were Pat McHenry, Jeanne Fletcher, Sue Bickford-Martin, Elinor Hendershot, and Joe Pylka.

A Go-Go June 19, T'ville 5 paddlers, 2 OC1 and 3 K1, played for 4.5 hours with a level of 1.5'. Half of the day was spent at the 2 holes on the river and we outplayed a group from Boston at both.

A-Go-Go: Hackensack Meadowlands Summer Solstice Paddle June 21st, 2008

Leaders: Tanya McCabe & Kurt Brummund.

Number of Paddlers: 10; Digna Del Orbe, Nathan Baker, Gabrielle Pisano, Grace Campagna, Jerry Lakatos, Kan Yu, Pat Daly, Jim More, Tanya, and Kurt.

Type of Boats: Five SK-1's, one RK-1, one OC-1 & one OC-2.

Put-In & Take-Out: Laurel Hill Park, Secaucus, NJ.

Lunch Stop: at the end of the Mill Creek Canoe Trail.

Length of Trip: 11½ miles.

Weather: Partly sunny with a high of 84°.

Description: We paddled 4.2 miles up the Hackensack, with the incoming tide, from Laurel Hill Park boat launch to Mill Creek Point. Then 1.5 miles up the Mill Creek Canoe Trail to the end. We stopped for lunch there at the start of the Mill Creek Marsh Walking Trail on which most of us went for a stroll. Then we made the return trip, with the outgoing tide, to Laurel Hill Park. On the return trip we encountered a headwind while paddling back down the Hackensack, this slowed progress for the canoes, but it was not nearly as rough as last year's return trip (I'd have to say that sea kayaks are really the ideal type of boats for this trip). Afterwards we enjoyed some good food at a good price at a local Tai restaurant in Secaucus.

People wanting a shorter (and more sheltered) paddle can paddle the Mill Creek Canoe Trail, without paddling the Hackensack, by putting-in at the Mill Creek Point boat launch. But you'll still want to watch the tides. However, according to Nathan and Pat you'll actually see a lot more birds at low tide (when they're looking for a meal along the exposed mud flats). There's a section (1½ miles one way) that can be paddled at either high or low tide, and an additional section (1 mile long) that can only be paddled at high tide. They can be combined into a loop about 2½-3 miles long. Maps of the Mill Creek Canoe Trail can be obtained from the Hackensack River-keeper, or you can contact me and I'll be happy to e-mail you a PDF copy of the map. SYOTR, Kurt

A Go-Go June 21-22 Basic Safety & Rescue

A Go-Go June 27-29 Deerfield River

A Go-Go: July 3-6 Ohiopyle area in Western PA

Trip leaders: Jennifer Koermer & Hanno Schop.

The trip was full of adventure, we paddled 3 rivers in 3 states (PA, WV, MD).

Great company and great paddling. Unfortunately, it also included some problems: car with transmission problem (had to leave behind), flat-tire (fix on the spot), a paddler w/ upset stomach (paddled only 1 day)...

Regardless, we were able to shuffle people around in different vehicles, and managed to have fun.

We stayed at group campsite at Ohiopyle State park. Pork chops was the dinner menu for Friday night. Sat night we ate at the local bar / restaurant, followed by some dancing!

We had quite a bit of rain, but cleared up towards the end of the weekend.

Fri (7/4): split into 2 groups on the Lower Yough @ normal levels. Sarah's first decent. Congratulations, she paddled like a pro. Sat (7/5): One group paddled Lower Yough, another group paddled the Little Sandy to Big Sandy. Sun

(7/6): One group paddled Lower Yough, another group paddled the Savage[1200 cfs].

Thank you Trip Leaders and participants for submitting your Trip A Go-Go (or a No-No) summaries!

Please keep Paddle Splashes in mind after your trip – we all love to read of our adventures!

More of the June and July trips will be published in the September PS issue.

Congratulations to Andrew Douglas

our newest CL 4 rated paddler



at 2.75 ft (high). This one is a high volume fast flowing river that actually has separate rapids - not common on other NH rivers.

New Hampshire Rivers 4/18-20/08 Trip Leaders: Jennifer Koerner and Andrew Douglas

Trip Report by Andrew Douglas

The Crew: David Brucas, Christiano DeGiorgis, Curt Gellerman, Pamina Vitta

The Rivers: Mascoma, Walker Brook, the Swift, the East Branch Pemigewasset, Mad

The weather: GORGEOUS days 60+ with SUN

The water: clear as ice and just as warm

The Goal: To re-introduce the NH snow melt as a paddling destination for the club while adding some quality choices to the 3-4 end of the schedule.

The Challenge: was to catch the short NH season and provide multiple class 3-4 rivers without long drives.

The Hope: is to keep intermediate paddlers with the club and to build new opportunities for them to paddle while continuing to progress and grow as paddlers.

Thursday: Jennifer and Curt scouted the Concord River in Massachusetts. The man-made hazards and rubble in the river made them decide to move on without taking the boats off the car.

Friday morning: David and I arrive we all run the Moscoma, (1050 cfs – medium level). This river felt fast and plump. Once we settled in to the speed the class 3 river was a fun warm-up for the planned weekend. There is a mandatory portage of a mean looking lowhead dam, located somewhat inconveniently directly after the only class 4 rapid on the reach.

Friday afternoon: we paddled the Walker Brook (class 4(5) at 5.5 ft. considered a low level). This little gem of a creek is apparently new to the AW website and not in any of our guide books. The creek is beside a small road, and is easy to scout (unless there are 4ft snow drifts).

The first thing that you see is a monster class 5 falls.

Hiking upstream, the going looked better and by the time we reached the top we decided to give it a go. The reach begins in a two boat pool just below yet another class 5 waterfall. The whole river is only about 1.75 miles.

Canoes may find this river to be pretty serious boat abuse, but Curt took his 16ft ME down the whole thing. It is narrow and steep with almost continuous blind drops the whole way. The low volume and lack of hazards help keep it fun. I think that this 1 and 1/2 mile reach took us about 4 hours.

Saturday: we paddled the Swift River with Pamina and Christiano joining us. The Swift, a class 4 was running

was just below a class five falls. The beautiful weather and great level brought out many boaters and many more spectators. Spectacular carnage was on tap as wannabe star boaters tried their hand at the “triple ledge waterfall”.

The class 4 reach has two rapids worth scouting. The first is called Cabin Gorge and begins shortly after a string of summer cabins ends. We all took quite a while to walk this rapid and study our choices. Faces were grim and conversation almost nil. A few hand signs were passed from various vantage points to clarify what lay beyond and behind the visible obstacles. As each found their path they trickled back to their boats and one by one launched into the maelstrom. With each attempt watched by the rest the lines grew more daring, complicated, and clean. The fun of running a new river is everyone gets to learn how each of us “sees” the water, learn from their efforts and challenge ourselves.

None of us made the same choices through that rapid. The second one sneaks up on you and is not easy to view from above. We just let David float into it and watched what happened. Very informative. David seems to have taken his paddling to new levels the last few months and looks really strong. He also does really nice 360's while surfing. Curt liked this one so much he carried up and ran it again.

Saturday afternoon we ran the East Branch of the Pemigewasset class 4 2400 cfs (med/high). Last May we ran this river with Jeff DePue on his “southern” rivers trip. We had 700 cfs that day and had so much fun we had to stop only because we were giggling so hard we couldn't breathe. This is miles of nonstop boulder garden with no break the entire way.

At 2400 cfs it had standing waves, folding waves, breaking waves, reactionary waves, wave trains, and exploding waves. Given the speed, width, temperature, and difficulty of this reach I would say that it is non-stop class 4. I don't believe Curt managed more than a 1/4 mile between bails.

Sunday: Mad River class 3 at 7.9ft (low). As we started out Jennifer thought we would be disappointed, but this river builds as you go, and was found to be quite fun. The normal take out was blocked by a 5ft snow drift so we shorten the run by about one mile. We ran the 7.5 miles in about 75 minutes, and we really did play quite a bit.

We had a great NH paddling experience!

Members Photos & Activities from Quiet Water to Touring Water...



Group lunch at SplitRock Res. Kurt, Jill paddling



Below photos by Jack Chau
Bronx River April 19, 2008
Whitewater and waterfalls on the Bronx!



Photos by
Dick Bentz
Bronx River April 19,
2008



Photos by Peter McBride Mullica April 5, 2008

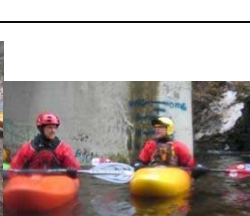
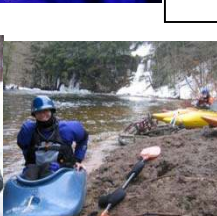


Paddle Sport
March 2008
Sarah, Connie, Victoria,
Butch, Jordan

To whitewater AMC has it all!



Nescopeck, Pa.
Neil, Stan, Sozanne,
Stephen, Soo, Si



ADK trip April 3,
2008



Stonycreek April 26, 2008
Charles, Butch, Curt, Hanno



Group at Lehigh, Pinar hiding
from flying insects at the
Mongaup.



Lehigh River, May 10, 2008. Nat's
first AMC paddling trip and wet exit!
Nat in boat & out of boat, Gretchen,
Stephene, Victoria, Pat, Butch,

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)

Learn CPR and how to use an AED

Wed., Jun. 25, 2008

Learn how to recognize and treat life threatening emergencies, including cardiac arrest and choking for adults.

Students also learn to recognize the warning signs of heart attack and stroke in adults.

Location&Time: Rockland Co. Fire Training Center, Pomona, NY @7:00pm – 10:00pm.

Course fee is \$35 which includes book and certification card.

Limited space. Priority will be given to Canoe & Kayak leaders.

L Maureen McCahery, R Butch Futrell [Blunderbuddy\(at\)aol.com](mailto:Blunderbuddy(at)aol.com).

June 14, 2008 Flag Day and "USO Cares Day":

Contact: Helga for more information at Helgat@comcast.net

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
June	14-15		Rockaway Connell/ Chasnow	Sat: Raritan McHenry/ Pylka	Sat: Farmington, T-ville Ferder			
	21-22		Hackensack Meadowlands Brummund/ McCabe		Deerfield/ Fifebrook Brucas		Deerfield/ Monroe Bridge Brucas	Basic Safety & Rescue Schreiber/ Grefig/Jingarian
			Leaders Choice, LI Sklar		Lehigh BBQ Lindquist			
	28-29	Sun: Manhasset Bay, Ihrig	Leaders Choice Arbuckle		Fri-Sun: Deerfield/ Fifebrook Solmaz/ Michener		Fri & Sun: Deerfield Monroe Bridge Solmaz/ Michener	
July	5-6	Cranberry Lake NW ADK L1 Faller				Fri-Sun: Yough Koermer		Wed: Monksville Instruction Gregg/Navartil
	12-13	Adirondacks L2 Bland						Wed: Monksville Instruction Gregg/ Navartil
								Fri-Sun: Beginner Kayak Instruction Farley
								Fri-Sun: Basic Canoe Instruction Breton
	19-20		Minnisceongo and Cedar Pond Creeks Trevor/ Gregg					Wed: Monksville Instruction Gregg/ Navartil
	26-27		Sun: Farrington Lk Gregg		Deerfield Fifebrook Canfield		Deerfield Monroe Bridge Canfield	River Reading Workshop Sklar
Wed: Monksville Instruction Gregg/ Navartil								
August	2-3	Sun: Esopus Creek, L1 Navartil/ Doyle	Sun: Merrill Creek Gregg					Basic Safety & Rescue Plante/Schreiber /Grefig/Futrell
		Sat: Cold Spring Har L1 Ihrig						
	9-10							Paddler's Picnic at MOC

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
September	16-17	Sun: Thimble Islands, Navratil/ Gregg	Wawayanda/ Monksville O'Brien		Sat: Farmington, T-ville Ferder		
	23-24	Sat: Manhasset Bay L1 Ihrig					
	30-31		Sat-Tue: Little Tupper to Lila Lake, ADK Faller				
	6-7		Sat: Erie Canal Plante		Sat. Mongaup Sklar		Basic Canoe Instruction Schreiber/Grefig
	13-14		Sun: Walkill Navratil/ Zucker				
	20-21		Sat: Delaware & Raritan Canal Gregg Sun: Constitution Marsh Doyle				Advanced Safety & Rescue Plante
	27-28	Sat: Manhasset Bay, L1 Ihrig	Sun: Constitution Marsh Faller			Sat: West Bailey	

Check the website to our up-to-date Trip Schedule!

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

BOOK REVIEW by Don Getzin

Alone Against the Sea (and Other True Adventures)

By Jon Bowermaster Guilford, Connecticut: The Lyons Press; 2004. 299 pages. ISBN 1-59228-547-3 (soft cover)
Remember the big snowstorm in NYC the night of Sat., Jan. 22, 2005? That was the AMC NY/NoJ Chapter's Annual Dinner and Meeting at Annie Moore's Pub, and Jon Bowermaster was the featured speaker. Jon captivated the hardy but diminished audience with his stories, mostly of daring sea kayaking adventures in remote parts of the world. I bought an autographed copy of his book, but it sat on my shelf until now because the title put me off.

This book is a collection of twenty adventure "stories" – the one entitled "Alone against the Sea" gives the book its name, but the title is a misnomer. Jon's stories actually take you to Kenya, Morocco, Patagonia Chile, Peru, Cuba, Guatemala, Baja Mexico, China, Pakistan, the Antarctic, the Arctic, Boundary Waters, Quebec, Newfoundland & Labrador, Wales, and Croatia. Only two are about the sea and sailing, while seven are about canoeing, kayaking, and rafting. Most have previously been published in magazines such as *National Geographic*, *Men's Journal*, *Outside*, and *National Geographic Adventure*. Most are about his personal exploits and the other prominent adventurers he knows.

All are exciting yarns told well and with considerable humility.

Paddler's Marketplace For Sale/Wanted to Buy

KAYAK WAVE SPORT SIREN blue, good for beginner, 7' long by 25" wide, volume 40 gallons, weight 32.5 pounds. \$500. View kayak on <http://www.eddyflower.com/ShowBoat.aspx?BoatId=104>
SPRAY SKIRT Bomber Gear for Wave Sport. \$50. Measures: 18 3/4" wide by 31 1/4" long.

PADDLE Bending Branches-'Extreme Spirit' 200 cm, carbon composition. \$150. Measures: paddles 7 7/8" wide by 19 1/4" long each, center 40 1/4" long, one straight piece, black.

FARMER JANE Henderson Aquatics, Women's SMALL. \$45. Women's Small helmet with kayak. All items in good condition. Contact Nancy nancylavendar@hotmail.com 908.234.2572.

FOR SALE: Dagger RX 6.7 Asking \$550 <http://www.dagger.com/rx-6-7> - Red - 1.5 seasons of use (good condition with the usual scratches) - Good river runner/play boat. Located in northern New Jersey. Contact: kerribeth34@yahoo.com

WANTED Used sea-kayak suitable for small paddler to use on Touring Water Level 1 or 2, about 16 feet, skeg, hopefully priced in 3 digits? arbuckle@verizon.net

Leave No Trace

At first glance, the Leave No Trace principles may not seem important to our paddling trips, but their value is paramount when you consider the combined effects of millions of outdoor visitors.

Leave No Trace is worth the effort whether we are in the backcountry, a park or even a take-out parking lot.

Our banana and fruit peels, peanut shells and other biodegradable waste is still trash to the next visitor. Pack it in, pack it out; pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter.

When camping, inspect your campsite and rest areas for trash or spilled foods. Properly dispose of what you can't pack out, such as waste water and human waste.

- Leave what you find.
- Minimize outdoor alterations.
- Minimize use and impact of fire.
- Build fire within existing fire ring in a well-placed campsite.

Individually we can make a change; together we can change the world.

Information about MOC

Mohican Outdoor Center

50 Camp Road
Blairstown, NJ 07825-9655

Located on a beautiful glacial lake in the 70,000-acre Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, close to the Appalachian Trail, the Mohican Outdoor Center is an ideal retreat for groups and families—or anyone interested in hiking, paddling, climbing, and skiing in this unique natural area.

Just a 90-minute drive from New York City and Philadelphia, Mohican Outdoor Center offers city dwellers a convenient base from which to explore this jewel of wilderness.

Get away for a long weekend, or bring the entire family for a week long vacation.

Stay With Us
Reservations and Lodge Office:
908-362-5670,
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.,
7 days/week

Paddling Thoughts by Charles Michener

Don't Forget – upcoming AMC events 2008

<i>What</i>	<i>Where</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Contact person</i>
Paddler's Picnic	Mohican Outdoor Center	August 9-10	Connie Farley Victoria Butler
Canoe Instruction	Sept 6		Schreiber/Grefig
Paddler's Party 2008	West Nyack, NY	Dec 6, 2008	Gretchen Tardell

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

Send your articles to 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!

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

This has been an exciting spring for me. The first time out paddling after the winter months I found I had not lost too much of my river sense and skill as I feared. Less than I lost the year before I'm sure. I think for two reasons, first I was lucky enough to end last years' paddling season in great shape having paddled a lot and built up my skill to a comfortable level. Also I dragged my ass to the gym a couple of times, not many but I think just enough to keep some important muscle tone that I need for the river.

I find myself inordinately proud of **my Class 3 rating**, it took hard work to get it, and it means a great deal to me.

This has been a great spring for rejuvenating friendships new and old. Some folks like Steven Ferder, who I haven't seen much in the last year or two, I have paddled with more. Or the new folks, Caroline (CJ) who joined Sozanne and me on the first Mongaup trip; then paddled a bootleg with us the next day. From that trip, the image that sticks with me is Butch reaching up to put his pink shuttle bunny ears on CJ's very tall dark and handsome husband, hilarious!

In the past week I met my first Tasi (Tasmanian). She hitched a ride to the Lehigh River and added a lot to the trip, both on the water and off. Then there was talking to Stef about making her own kayaks, very interesting and I want to hear more.

This kind of community is why I love to boat!
I look forward to seeing all of you on the river. CM