



# PADDLE SPLASHES

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

May 2009

## Pool Session Review

### Ara Jingirian

Pool Session Coordinator

First, thanks everyone for helping out!

We had a great turnout. Looks like some of the students will be signing up for our beginner classes.

Thanks to all those who helped out with the equipment transportation – moving the gear to the pool and back to the Barn. Thanks to Andrew Douglas for coordinating the not so fun task of equipment transportation.

Thoughts for next year: Create a list of equipment and bring only those needed (I think we had too many kayaks and way too many canoe paddles).

For next year some of what we need

- more spray skirts & pfd's
- an expanded list of instructors OR get Victoria to quit her new job, ban Connie from taking yoga in the winter, convince Kurt to stay healthy, let Bill bring the baby to the pool, change David R's work schedule...

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## AMC's 1<sup>st</sup> Spring Fling

### Lennie Steinmetz

Mohican Committee



**AMC's Spring Fling a Great Success – Jim Catozzi cooking**

The first-ever clubwide "Spring Fling" was held at the Mohican Outdoor Center April 24-26<sup>th</sup>. Over 90 participants, representing all twelve AMC chapters from Maine to Washington DC, came to Mohican to share a weekend of hiking, paddling, and music-making.

The agenda for the weekend was a full one, including multiple hikes, paddling on Cattfish Pond, a tour of the Lakota Wolf Preserve in Columbia, an "intro to trailwork" project, a Geocaching workshop, a knot tying and climbing demonstration, and an update on the Highlands Project in NJ and PA from AMC staff members Kristin Sykes and Jennifer Heisey.

Saturday night Happy Hour and dinner at the Mohican boathouse allowed participants to enjoy the beautiful scenery on the pond while getting acquainted with fellow AMC-ers.

Chef **Jim Catozzi** (pictures above) prepared a gourmet barbecue feast that included London broil and an array of outstanding desserts that the guests enjoyed with great enthusiasm (and cheers for the chef).

The Mohican Committee volunteers who organized the event were delighted with the positive response from the many participants, and have already started contemplating a possible Second Annual Spring Fling event for 2010.

## Pool Session Review

Once again, great job. SYOTR, Ara

### Summary report:

163 registrants over 8 sessions + over 43 NJIT students.

Here's the breakdown & stats (NJIT students are not accounted in these stats):

- 47% beginner, 27% novice, 24% intermediate.
- 77% used club boats

Only 1 canoe student (Charles, who attended multiple sessions)

We've received quite few praises from our students for our volunteer work. Here is just 1 example.

Note from satisfied 'customer'

"Hi Ara, Since I didn't get the chance to hang out for drinks with everyone after last night's final pool session, I wanted to drop you a note of thanks. You and your team were so fantastic in organizing and teaching, it really made things go smoothly and allowed us all to have fun while learning. I very much appreciated your generosity, patience and spirit of fun, as well as that of everyone else who participated. Thanks so much for making this happen! I hope to see you again, hopefully on a river somewhere!

Thanks, Marci"

## Paddle Sport 2009

**David Brucas**

CKC Volunteer

### We couldn't do it without YOU!

Jill Arbuckle	Pinar Ayata
Kafi Adams	Casey Bentz
David Brucas	Victoria Butler
Anthony Chiarello	Andrew Douglas
Connie Farley	Butch Futrell
Don Getzin	Lenny Grefig
Jeff Gregg	Ara Jingirian
Jennifer Koermer	Charles Michener
Kurt Navratil	Mark Tiernan
Carin Tinney	Chris Viani

*Big thank you to all who helped at Paddle Sport. Our presence at the show lets folks know AMC is more than just a hiking club.*

Most shoppers who go to the show are "family-oriented" and more interested in sea-kayaking and Quietwater. Our biggest problem is that no one is trained in marketing - we need training.

Thinking it over, I think we also need to be consistent in the shirts we wear. The grey AMC logo shirts now seem to me pretty dull and don't instill any sense of marketing identity. I like the older shirts with the "Paddle Leader" logo much better for these types of events.

Or how about a suit and tie next year?

### **CKC Position:**

### **email:**

### **Contact:**

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Trip Scheduler	canoekayak(dot)scheduler(at)amc-ny.org	Stephen Ferder

## **FILE YOUR TRIP A Go-Go!**

We love to share our paddling experiences. Our valuable Trip Leaders and Trip Participants submitted the following trip information for your enjoyment.

### **MARCH 21-22 TOHICKON CREEK- MICHENER / SOLMAZ**

Where: Ralph Stover State Park, PA

Leaders: Charles Michener and Sozanne Solmaz  
15 Participants

Weather: sunny and toasty for March!

The Surf Scene: The Ledges and playholes were fun as usual and of course everybody was there! The scenery was great too, the Tohickon belongs as a tributary to the Lower Delaware National Wild and Scenic River.

The only grain of salt were mouse-droppings in one of the motel rooms. Next time: Request a room in the middle building!

### **APRIL 3-5 UPSTATE NY & ADIRONDACKS - BRUCAS**

PLACE: THE ADKs

RIVERS: WOODHULL, BLACK, SPIRIT, FISH, SALMON

WEATHER: COLD & RAINY WITH 4 FT OF SNOW AT THE CAMP – JUST BEAUTIFUL!

### **APRIL 18-22 WEEK OF NE RIVERS – KOERMER/ DOUGLAS**

Trip A So-So

Trip Name: NorthEast Spring Thaw

Rivers: East Branch of the Pemigewasset, NH, Warner, NH, Winnepesaukee, NH, Souhegan, NH - not, Natchaug, CT

Location, Miles Paddled: NH, 10 miles paddled

Number of Participants: 7

Boats used: K1s and a lone OC1

Weather: Beautiful, a little rainy on Tuesday

Food: Excellent Mexican in Milford, NH, Thai, in Plymouth, NH and of course Breakfast by Mom Koermer

Scenery: The NH white mountains were stunning as always

Other Comments: I think we managed to schedule the trip on the lowest water days in April. Good melting before and after our trip....but the water was low and limited while we were up there.....Maybe next year.

### **APRIL 25-26 STONYCREEK RENDEZVOUS – FARLEY / TIERNAN**

PLACE: JOHNSTOWN, PA. PARTICIPANTS: 15

BOATS: OC1s ALMOST OUTNUMBERED THE K1s!

WEATHER: Incredible late April warm – hot sun drenched dry days with temps in the 80's, and wonderfully camping-ly cool nights.

Notes: the 5 hours drive is still too long but this is a surfing-fantastic river with play the whole way. Can't wait for next year!

### **MAY 3 BARN WORK DAY – VIANI / CHIARELLO / BUTLER**

RIVER: THE BARN. A LOT OF WORK WAS COMPLETED AND AN

INVENTORY OF CLUB BOATS WAS TAKEN. THANKS EVERYONE WHO HELPED!

### **MAY 9 LOWER LOWER LEHIGH RIVER - SHOLTIS**

River: Lower Lower Lehigh,

Date: May 9th 2009

Leader: Michelle Sholtis LIT: Carin Tinney

Paddled from Dunbar's to Bowmanstown.

14 Participants all kayakers

With a prediction of 70% chance of Thunderstorms there was not a drop of rain.

Lots of play time under the Dunbar bridge. No one could call it the Knee-high today there was actually enough water to go down the left channel at the last rapid.

There is a new takeout in Bowmanstown. Just down the road from the old one. A nice big parking lot with an actual boat launch and yes there is a port-a-potty.

### **MAY 16-17 BEGINNER KAYAK INSTRUCTIONAL – SHOLTIS / LEROY**

Leaders/Instructors: Michelle Sholtis/Michel Leroy, Butch Futrell, Victoria Butler, Ara Jingirian

Support Boaters: Carin Tinney, Mark Leenhouts, Barry Rosolen, Ken Burlew

River: The Mighty Delaware

Location: Staircase to Sparrowbush

Number of Students: 11

Weather: The river gods were with us for once. It only rained at night. The temperature was warm on Saturday and cooler on Sunday but not freezing cold.

Food: Mexican, great Bagels, and Tater tot fantastic

Interesting facts: Last year the pipes broke the day before the weekend instructional. This year we put up with a couple of alarms going off.

On Saturday night there was heavy downpour and a glacier must have melted somewhere, which led to the river rising a foot and only 11 swims. Butler's rift was rockin'! A football was found on the river and of course that only lead to more fun.

Scenery: Always beautiful on the Mighty D.

### **MAY 30 Delaware River CL 1 SHOLTIS / LEROY**

Finally the last Trip a Go Go for me for May :)

Leader: Michelle Sholtis

Leader in Training: Pinar Ayata

Number of Paddlers: Lucky number 13 all kayakers

Location: Staircase to Sparrowbush (approx 6 miles) and a second run from Mongaup to Sparrowbush.

Water Level: 11,600 Cfs (or 7.19 Ft at the Mongaup wave)

Weather: 78 degrees and yes, there was some sun.

Other Comments: Not many eddies but really great waves.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MAY 3, BARN WORK DAY

PLACE: THE BARN

TIME: 10 A.M.

BARN WORK DAY SUNDAY, MAY 3.

### AUGUST 1-2, PADDLER'S PICNIC AND WORK DAY AT MOC

PLACE: MOC

TIME: SATURDAY IS BOATHOUSE WORK DAY FOLLOWED BY AFTERNOON PICNIC AND FUN ACTIVITIES.

### DEC 12, PADDLER'S PARTY SPECIAL EVENT

PLACE VFW POST 2973, 16 RAMAPO AVE, SUFFERN NY

TIME: 7 P.M.

Mark Your Calendar!

The annual Paddler's Party is Saturday Dec 12th, 2:00-7:00PM.

Note the party is the second Saturday in Dec. this year.

It will be held at VFW Post 2973, 16 Ramapo Ave, Suffern NY.

This location is a short distance from the facilities we have used the last two years.

### Checkout the new AMC website

#### Lots of trips listed!

[http://www.amc-ny\(dot\)org/information/schedule.php](http://www.amc-ny(dot)org/information/schedule.php)

## OTHER EVENTS NOT AMC

### JUNE 23-28, WINOOSKI RIVER SOJOURN

#### PADDLE & PEDAL THROUGH HISTORY

PLACE: MARSHFIELD, VT TO LAKE CHAMPLAIN

THE FRIENDS OF THE WINOOSKI RIVER ARE LOOKING FOR SAFETY BOATERS – EVENT FEE WAIVED FOR QUALIFIED VOLUNTEERS, PADDLERS AND SPONSORS FOR THIS MULTI-DAY PADDLING AND BIKING EVENT.

PLEASE SEE THEIR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION:

WEBSITE [WWW\(DOT\)WINOOSKIRIVER.ORG](http://WWW(DOT)WINOOSKIRIVER.ORG)

EMAIL [FWR\(AT\)SOVER.NET](mailto:FWR(AT)SOVER.NET)

CALL 802-655-4878

## MEMORIAL DAY Weekend Mullica River

### Expedition Trip May 22 - 24

Trip-A-Go-Go? Definitely!

Trip Leaders: **Diann Connell & Kurt Brummund**

Location: Southern New Jersey – Pine Barrens – Wharton State Forest.

**12 Paddlers:** Jeff Gregg, Anjali Dhiman, Nathan Baker, Pat Daly, Tat Yuen, Paul Potochniac, David Heerwagen, Gus Miron, Lenny Grefig, Henry Schreiber, Diann Connell, Kurt B.

**Type of Boats:** two RK-1's, one RK-2 (paddled solo), four SK-1's, two OC-2's and one OC-1. Put-in: Atsion. Take-out: Pleasant Mills. Miles Paddled: 13

**River Level:** Measured at Batsto, it was about 1.1 ft. (80 cfs) on Saturday and 1.05 ft. (75 cfs) on Sunday. This was a little lower than at other times I've been on this river. But to our relief it was high enough not to be a problem. There were two blow-downs on the upper section that required a pull-over or assist. The beaver dam by the Old Mullica Campground was less challenging this year. It seems to have changed, more than just the lower water level. All in all the lower water level and some changes by mother nature, her creatures, and man seemed to make for a bit easier paddle this year.

**Weather:** Good, Sunny with some clouds, highs in the mid 80's, overnight lows in the upper 50's to the low 60's.

**Food:** Thank you Diann!

Saturday Happy Hour: Arizona iced teas, crackers, cheeses, crud-da-tat, dip, pretzels, and chips.

Saturday Dinner: Chicken stew & rice. Dessert: Cup cakes.

Sunday Breakfast: Scrambled eggs, pork sausage patties, home fries and Zabars French/Italian roast.

Memorable sights: A dear dashing up the river bank as we came around the bend. A spotted turtle, that a couple of paddlers made our mascot for a brief time.

As always the Mullica River was beautiful.

**Comments:** We really lucked out two years in a row with good weather and another fantastic group of paddler/campers. Anjali Dhiman was a veteran Mullica paddler from the trip last year.

Jeff Gregg is a veteran paddler and leader of the winter Mullica trip. It was great having Lenny Grefig and Henry Schreiber join us too! (They are two of our instructor/mentors at Basic Canoe, Basic WW Safety & Rescue, and Leadership Training. Instruction that is worthwhile for everyone on the water).

Thank you to everyone on this trip for making it a pleasure!

KB

## Reminder!

AMC policy requires that all trip leaders be current AMC members on the date of their trip.

Please remember to renew your membership on a timely basis.

[http://www\(dot\)amc-ny.org/information/join\(dot\)php](http://www(dot)amc-ny.org/information/join(dot)php)

## DON'T FORGET US!

Don't forget to update your contact list, address book or white list with our e-mail address:

[psonline\(at\)amc-ny.org](mailto:psonline(at)amc-ny.org)

We'll send a reminder to you from this address whenever a new issue of PaddleSplashes is available.

Email providers vary. To add our address, check the top of your email window, your inbox or the side menu. Look for one of these common headings:

- Mail
- Actions
- Addresses
- Options



Save this date:

August 1-2, 2009

2nd Annual Paddler's Picnic at MOC



### Our first picnic was so successful we're doing it again!

The CKC will be holding a very special event – a summer picnic, boathouse work day and campout – especially for you!

### The Paddler's Picnic will have it all!

Touring Water paddling on a pond, picnic, boathouse clean up, silly contests, fun, fun and more fun.

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

We will provide hamburgers and hot dogs, and veggie burger/dogs you bring the rest in a pot-luck extravaganza.

The enjoyable event will be held rain or shine (but it will not rain on our picnic).

Register for picnic/camping contact: Connie Farley cfnews03(at)aol(dot)com

or for Boathouse clean up /work day contact:

Chris cwwiani(at)optonline(dot)net

or

Anthony reduc68(at)hotmail(dot)com

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

Camping is available (small extra fee)

# ACTIVITY SCHEDULE - 2009

Date		Touring Water	Quiet Water	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Instruction /Misc
<b>May</b>	2-3				Weekend of Northern Rivers <i>Plante</i>			
	9-10 Mother's Day	Fri-Sat: Saranac Island <i>Portmore</i>		Sat: Lehigh <i>Sholtis</i>				
	16-17							Fri-Sun: Beginner Kayak Instruction <i>Sholtis/Leroy</i>
	23-24 Memorial Day	Fri-Sun: Mullica <i>Brummund/ Connell</i>						
	30-31	Sat: Manhasset Bay <i>Ihrig</i>		Sat: Delaware River <i>Sholtis</i>				Sat: Pelham Bay Cleanup <i>McCabe/Brummund</i>
								Sat: Intro to Paddling <i>Bland</i>
<b>June</b>	6-7	Sat: Farrinton Lake <i>Gregg</i>		Sat: S. Branch Raritan River <i>McHenry</i>	Sat – Sun: Esopus River <i>Sklar</i>			
	13-14				Lehigh or the Nescopeck Barbecue <i>Lindquist</i>			Fri-Sun: Beginner Kayak Instruction <i>Futrell</i>
							Sat: Rockaway River Cleanup <i>McCabe</i>	
							Basic Safety & Rescue <i>Plante</i>	
							Fri-Sun Intro to Solo Whitewater Canoeing <i>Viani</i>	
20-21	Fri-Sun: Sedge Islands <i>Collins</i>			Deerfield/ Fifebrook <i>Brucas</i>		Deerfield/ Monroe Bridge <i>Brucas</i>		
	Sun: Manhasset Bay, L1 <i>Ihrig</i>							
27-28				Deerfield/ Fifebrook <i>Michener/ Solmaz</i>		Deerfield/ Monroe Bridge <i>Michener/ Solmaz</i>		

# ACTIVITY SCHEDULE - 2009

Date	Touring Water	Quiet Water	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Instruction /Misc
<b>July</b>	4-5	Whitney Wilderness July 4 <sup>th</sup> to 9th <i>Faller</i>					
	11-12						Fri-Sun: Beginner Kayak Instruction <i>Tierman/Farley</i>
							Sat – Sun: Basic Whitewater Safety & Rescue <i>Plante</i>
	18-19				Sun: Leader's Choice ADK <i>Plante</i>	Fri – Sun: Salmon <i>Farley</i>	
	25-26	Sat: Alhambra Beach <i>Ihrig</i>			Deerfield Fifebrook <i>Futrell</i>		Deerfield Monroe Bridge <i>Futrell</i>
Sat: Merrill Creek Reservoir <i>Gregg</i>							
<b>August</b>	1-2						2nd Annual Paddler's Picnic & MOC Work Day
	8-9						
	15-16	Sat-Sun: Stockport Flats <i>Faller</i>					
	22-23				T-gaup <i>Ferder</i>		
	29-30	Sat: Manhasset Bay <i>Ihrig</i>			Deerfield Fifebrook		Deerfield Monroe Bridge
<b>September</b>	5-6						
	12-13						Fri- Sun: Basic Canoe Instruction Schreiber Grefig
	19-20	Sat: Delaware and Raritan Canal, Griggstown <i>Gregg</i>					
26-27	Sat: Upper Passaic River and Great Swamp Trevor / Gregg						

## New Active Paddlers' List

The updated Active Paddlers' List is now available on-line at

[http://amc-ny\(dot\)org/information/download.php](http://amc-ny(dot)org/information/download.php) .

This list is available for use solely by our trip leaders. As always, the list is password protected to keep it from prying eyes. If you need the password, please contact the Records Chair.

In response to your requests, the next update to the list will include e-mail addresses so that our trip leaders can better communicate with AMC paddlers. **If anyone would like his or her e-mail address to be excluded, just let the Records Chair know by July 1, 2009.**

The Records Chair is at [canoekayak.records\(at\)amc-ny.org](mailto:canoekayak.records(at)amc-ny.org). Don't forget to include your name in any correspondence.



## Canoes for Sale

The Barn is bursting, so to make room for the new, we have to part with some of our older boats.

The Canoe & Kayak Committee is offering three classic whitewater open canoes for sale. The hulls are in good condition, but you'll likely want to upgrade the outfitting. All boats are being sold as-is and are available at The Barn for inspection.

These canoes are no longer manufactured and there's high demand for them, but we're offering them to our active members at fire sale prices. Any unsold boats will be offered to the general public at much higher prices. To qualify for these bargains, you must have paddled on at least one AMC NY-NoJ trip in the last two years. Only one boat to a customer and sales are on a first-come-first-served basis via e-mail to Marty Plante at [canoekayak.records\(at\)amc-ny.org](mailto:canoekayak.records(at)amc-ny.org) .

### ***Dagger Genesis solo canoe. Only \$200***

Designed by Bob Foote for big water. Longer (13 ft) and with more volume than later model canoes, the Genesis is dry and stable as it dances over big waves, predictable and smooth when surfing. Includes knee pads and foam saddle, but no thigh straps.

### ***Dagger Dimension tandem canoe. \$275 each.***

A large volume OC-2 that's dry, stable and forgiving, but still responsive. Great for tandem teams looking for a beginner boat that they won't grow out of. These legendary boats are no longer made, but we have two for sale, both outfitted with foam saddles and thigh straps. These are the Millers and the Nahani.



## Don't Forget ... upcoming CKC events 2009

<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
Safety Instruction	NY	June - July	Marty Plante
Canoe & Kayak Instruction Classes	On a lake/river near you	May - Sept	CKC Leaders
MOC Paddler's Picnic	MOC	August 1	Connie Farley
CKC Paddler's Party	Suffern, NY	Dec 12	Gretchen Tardell

Next Paddle Splashes deadline is September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
Send your articles to:  
CanoeKayak(dot)newsletter(at)amc-ny.org

## Gone Missing .....

**Last seen April 27 on the Bronx River!**

**Please help Jim find his paddle...**

**Lightweight single-blade canoe paddle –**

**white blade, green oval shaft,**

**has my name on the blade.**

**If found, notify Jim Rubins, 212-362-2299**

## Paddling Through Adversity

**Charles Michener**

My Paddling Thoughts

In case you haven't noticed the economy has gone south and most of us have less cash to throw around. That means some things are going to change, but really not too much; because paddling is an inexpensive way to spend a day or weekend.

If you own your equipment then a club trip is only a few bucks. If it's a camping trip then you have to add your share of the camp site fees and communal food. Even if you rent equipment it's still probably cheaper than staying home. I know what I spend on the average weekend in New York City!

I expect we will all be seeing more car-pooling to and from the river and that's good - we get to spend more time together. Unless your end up in a car with a driver that has a no talking rule -then you're out of luck.

All the equipment needed can add up, but nothing like skiing or scuba or sports like that. With careful selections a few items can be all you need. So let's all get out and paddle!

If you're like me the down turn has depressed your outlook. I assure you the feeling the river gives you will make you feel good. Maybe better in contrast to a gray overcast on your soul.

Now if you are one of the folks that are happily retired with plenty socked away or otherwise unaffected by the times and you're not feeling blue...Well Bollocks-off and come to the river to cheer the rest of us up.

The river is the best tonic, see you there.

Connie Farley  
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