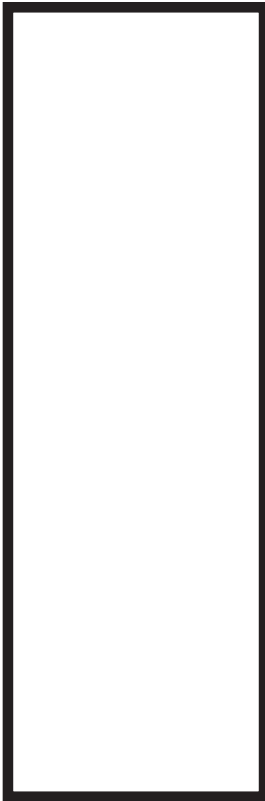


*Prairie State Canoeists*  
c/o Donna Goldman  
1118 Monroe St  
Evanston, IL 60202



# *PSC Paddler*

Newsletter of the  
*Prairie State Canoeists*

## Officers

### Chair (2003)

**Larry Forgala**  
708-425-0733

### Co-Chair (2003)

**Christina Taylor**  
708-445-0871

### Secretary (2002-2003)

**Ruth Igyarto**  
847-587-7462

### Treasurer (2003-2004)

**Donna Goldman**  
847-475-4794

### Training Coordinator

**Sandy Bate**  
847-587-7623

### ACA Representative

**Sigrid Pilgrim**  
847-328-0145

### Newsletter

**Sherri & Lanie Johnson**  
815-634-2811

### Webmaster

**Milt Levenberg**  
milspec@att.net

## Board of Directors

**Joann Benedetto**  
*(2003-2004)*  
847-697-3770

**Bob Fenger**  
*(2002-2003)*  
847-356-2171

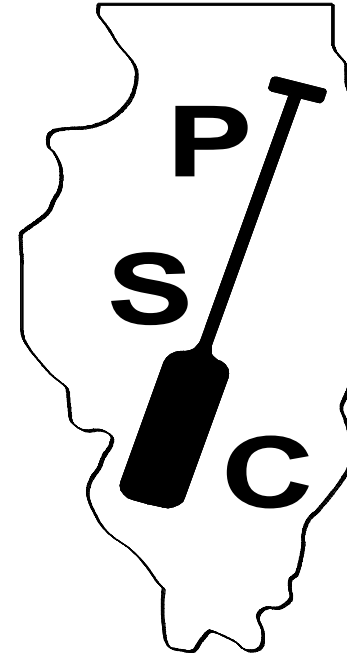
**Louis Igyarto**  
*(2002-2003)*  
847-587-7462

**Tom Lindblade**  
*(2003-2004)*  
815-963-5945

**John Shaw**  
*(2003-2004)*  
630-961-3479

**Larry Tennyson**  
*(2002-2003)*  
630-497-2516

**Ray Ziemer**  
*(2003-2004)*  
630-836-0086



*Volume 35 #5*

*August-September 2003*

visit our website at: <http://www.prairiestatecanoeists.org>

*Trip Listings for August - September*

**Trip reports for March-June Trips**

***Request for Advocacy on paddling issues***

## In this Issue:

It's the middle of the paddling season and I had more **Trip Reports** than I could print in this issue. It sounds like the season is going great and there a bunch more trips planned for August and September. The heavy rains have had rivers running high and paddlers grabbing chances to paddle later in the season on local spring streams.

Check out those **Trip Announcements** starting on page 6 and the **Trip Reports** starting on page 15.

There are a couple of **Announcements** asking for help with **Advocacy** for paddling issues. Please read them on pages 3-4 and get involved.

We have several **New Members** (page 4-5) and the **Paddlers Marketplace** (page 3) has a few items listed. From **The Chair** is found on page 3 as well.

See you on the River!!!

### **Psc T-shirts (\$12) and sweatshirts (\$20)**

are available for purchase. You may make arrangements for UPS delivery or in person at some trips by contacting:

*Christina Taylor: 708-455-087 or peace4368@aol.com*

### **Newsletter Deadlines for 2003**

Vol-35#	DeadlineTrip	Announcements
1	November 1, 2002	Dec 02-Jan 03
2	January 11	February-March
3	March 1	April-May
4	May 1	June-July
5	July 1	August-September
<b>6</b>	<b>September 1</b>	<b>October-November</b>
Vol 36-#1	November 1	Dec 03-Jan 04
You may e-mail copy (preferred)to: newsletter@prariestatecanoists.org		
OR to FAX : You must call 815-634-2811 first		
OR mail to: PSC Paddler, 570 Trotter Drive, Coal City, IL 60416		

## **1-6-Jun Ozarks - Mulberry River, AK & Jacks Fork & Eleven Point Rivers, MO**

Arriving in Arkansas on Sunday night, thunderstorms made 14 paddlers very happy by filling the milky-green Mulberry River to optimal levels. Wolf Pen to Redding Camp provided solid CI. II excitement, followed the next day by Big Eddy to Campbell Cemetary. Weather was sunny and warm, with wildlife abounding: green and great blue herons, three deer splashing across the river, and painted turtles. Off-river, we spotted two greater roadrunners and a pileated woodpecker.

Missouri's Jacks Fork River is noted for its jewel-clear water and schools of gar, a sharp-nosed fish left over from prehistoric times. Tiny flat green turtles were probably common map turtles, and the black-skinned turtles with heavily keeled shells most likely were razorback musk turtles. Gazing from the sparkling water to the high, varnished bluffs, one paddler noted that the Jacks Fork is "one of the prettiest places I've ever been."

An overcast day heightened the mysterious aura of the Eleven Point River. About five miles after put-in at Cane Bluff, Greer Spring pierces the river like a giant, green spear, adding its daily 220 million gallons of clear, green water daily to the Eleven Point. The temperature differential between the spring water and river water may account for the fog characteristic of the Eleven Point. Among the swallows, green herons, cardinals, and kingfishers were three yellow-crowned night herons: fishing quietly or perched on trees or rocks, unperturbed by the four paddlers who sighted them.

Many thanks to all paddlers making this trip so enjoyable, and especially to those who carshifted for us and contributed their goods, good humor, and labor to our spaghetti dinner. See you on the river, **Carole Snowdon and Karen Wedde**

## **7-June DuPage River Sweep (Clean-Up)**

Two tandems and three solo canoeists gathered up plenty of trash, old tires, garbage cans — and dozens of golf balls, while winding down the West Branch through Winfield and West Chicago. After lunch, Tom Lindblade and others did some needed stream maintenance by cutting and clearing a small log jam. Good sports All, notably Rich and Steve for helping with car shift, and Joan - sorry about the slippery fingers! **Ray Ziemer**

**24-26-May Wisconsin River**

In this leaders opinion, the beautiful Wisconsin River still commands its timeless posture as "The Best". On this trip sandbars were at a premium as the water was quite high, but the river had crested and was beginning to recede. The weather was very close to perfect. Clear skies, pleasant breeze (tail wind), with highs in the low 70's and lows in the mid 50's. Mosquitos were obnoxious at time, but those times passed and life became comfortable again. The sighting of eagles has become commonplace along this stretch of the river. Ice cream from Nobles store at Port Andrew was a very welcome break (twice on this weekend). And healthy young boys with shovel, in timeless tradition, were last seen searching for the ever-elusive legend of China. The most unusual facet of this trip were the varied situations of the paddlers. Some brought guests with river limitations and needed to camp in a motel. Some arrived late as they needed to tie up loose (tie rod) ends. Some base camped the first night to rendezvous with our late members and some base camped on our precious sand bar, paddled empty canoes upstream to a take-out after breakfast and we all re-ran the same section plus four miles the second day where we all river camped the second night and finally broke camp and made for our final take-out at the Green River access site on Monday. **Louis, Ruth, & Tyler Igyarto**

**31-May-1-June Grant River**

Saturday was windy with a threat of rain, but pleasant temperature. The river was a little low but nice. Sunday cleared up nice and the wind stopped. Muskrat, several Canada geese families, barred owls, water snakes, turtles, and a pair of nesting Bald Eagles were among some of the wildlife spotted. It was good to see and paddle with the ever-expanding Metz family. Thank you Priscilla for car shifting us both days. **Bob Kane**

**1-June Des Plaines River, Beginner**

PSC is alive and well if quality of new members is an indicator. This was a special trip for new members. It was a great pleasure to meet such enthusiastic, cooperative boaters including two youngsters. Special appreciation goes to Rich Rothrock for assisting at the put in and the portage. Happily, by the end of the trip the newcomers were helping out. The lunch stop was at Rivershire. **Bill Kessler & Joan Taylor**

**From The Chair:**

The "season" is about half over. How time flies!!! Hope you have enjoyed the trips so far. Lots of great trips are still to be had so, don't let the hot weather and/or housework, or other less important things prevent you from enjoying some more trips.

One of the good events in the offing is "Paddle-in-the-Park" on 7/26 and 7/27. It is a great place for beginners and new members to attend. You'll find canoe and kayak lessons, voyager and dragon boat rides and a chance to try out a number of different boats provided by a number of vendors; all for a very nominal fee. For more information, contact Sig Pilgrim or any of the club officers and board members.

Also a reminder, Sig and the club both need volunteers to assist with the happenings and the club booth. Contact sig if you can help, and/or myself or Christina Taylor for the club booth.

See you on the river!!

Larry

**Paddlers Marketplace**

Due to limited space, items will only be listed here once unless you contact the editor and request that your ad continue. A new list is compiled for each issue.

**For Sale:** Fiberglass, Blackhawk Zephyr - \$500; Dagger Ovation, used approximately 10 times - \$500; Poke Boat - \$150. Call Rose Kirwan @ 847/356-6772 or e-mail [r.kirwan@worldnet.att.net](mailto:r.kirwan@worldnet.att.net).

**For Sale:** Blackhawk Nighthawk, 13'3" Beige; fiberglass; wood gunnels; pedestal seat; with (2) floatation bags; good condition. \$500. Call Tom or Carol at 630-469-0070

**Wanted:** I am looking for a reasonably priced, used whitewater boat to try out the sport. Steve LaPorte; 630-665-5707; [stevelaporte@earthlink.net](mailto:stevelaporte@earthlink.net)

**For Sale:** Michi-Craft 17' Alumium Canoe, Very Good Condition, \$450. Sherri & Dave Johnson 815-634-2811. [djohnson@uti.com](mailto:djohnson@uti.com)

**Announcements**

The **Friends of the Boundary Waters** is asking for your support in protecting additional lands in the **Superior National Forest** around the BWCA, by giving them a wilderness designation. The Forest Service is accepting comments on their 15 yr plan until August 11th. If you are interested and would like additional information please see their web site. [http://www.friends-bwca.org/programs/act\\_now.html](http://www.friends-bwca.org/programs/act_now.html). **Dave Johnson**

## Announcements

There are a couple of issues that are affecting the **Pine River in Michigan**. The Pine is one many Michigan State designated 'Wild and Scenic Rivers' which implies that it has a protected status. However, there is currently some activity along the river that involves using rock to stabilize the river banks and threatens to change or remove this 'protected' status as well as closing access points along the river. The cuts through the woods to get to the river bends are also an impact to the area. This activity is reported to be very expensive and is taking place at a time when the state has made numerous cutbacks to support/staff at the State Parks. The issue involves local Trout Fishermen and Livery business that currently share the river resources and how the resources is managed. I was not able to confirm the status of the issue at press time, but suggest that if you have ever enjoyed the Pine (or similar rivers), ever planned to go to the Pine (or similar rivers) but haven't yet gotten there or want to know what is going on, you should get involved. Joan Taylor, [taylorjrs@aol.com](mailto:taylorjrs@aol.com) has been encouraged to spread the word among paddlers by a friend who has a Campground/Canoe rental business on the Pine (This is where she stays when she leads paddling trips in the area). You may also contact Mark Miltner, Pine River Paddlesports Center, 9590 M 37 South, Wellston, MI 49689, [prpc@thepineriver.com](mailto:prpc@thepineriver.com).

## Welcome New Members

Abramat, Andrew 134 East Street, Cherry Valley, IL 61016	815-332-9309 <a href="mailto:abramat@hotmail.com">abramat@hotmail.com</a>
DeWalle, Dan 1715 N. 78th Ave, Elmwood Park, IL 60707	708-452-6535
Gallagher, Michael & Karen 2001 Palmgren Drive, Glenview, IL 6002	847-729-8086 <a href="mailto:armadillomike@msn.com">armadillomike@msn.com</a>
Hyson, Donald 601 S. Church St., Winnebago, IL 61088	<a href="mailto:d.e.hyson@att.net">d.e.hyson@att.net</a>
Jacobs, Gail 8339 Ridgeway Ave., Skokie, IL 60076	847-673-8702 <a href="mailto:gailmail2@worldnet.att.net">gailmail2@worldnet.att.net</a>

fragrant and enjoyed by all. The water rose while we paddled; it was fast (2000+cfs) and high (5.70 ft) with most of the usual riffles and rocks only waves in some places. The most daring part was the 2.5-3 ft standing waves below Oxbow Bridge (normal lunch stop). Only 4 paddlers were able to attend this trip but it was worth it! **Sherri Johnson**

### 17-May Bark River

We found the trail through the cattails on the Lower Nemahbin Lake which led to the Bark River. The water was high enough to paddle over a small dam at Cty P. We saw turtles, heron, sand hill cranes and deer. The water is very clear in this upper stretch with a sand and stone bottom. When we reached the take-out in Dousman, some to the group wanted to paddle further, so eight boats continued on to the closed park west of Dousman. The section before Dousman is clear and open, while the next stretch was full of dead-falls. A number of them required a portage. This definitely lengthened the time of the trip - an extra couple of hours. But a good time was had by all. **John & Marilyn Ziegler**

### 18-May Des Plaines River Canoe Marathon

Race day was a beautiful, warm spring day, not too hot, with some sun, and plenty of water — but not too much. A number of Prairie State members joined the hundreds of participants in several categories and types of boat. A good time was had by all, downriver and picnicking afterward. NOTE: Any PSC members who raced but did not sign in before or after the event should notify Ray Ziemer to get their paddle points. **Ray Ziemer**

### 20-May Fox River

After the weather caused cancellations we finally paddled the rookery route. The Rookery is thriving with nesting herons, egrets and cormorants. Trees in the Rookery are mostly silver maples and cottonwoods. Since the Fox River flushes excess bird droppings the trees are thriving. **Jerry Kolar**

### 24-May Eagle Spring Lake

An unexpected bird was a native trumpeter swan. It has a biography because it wore a bright collar and a leg brand. Another sight was a walking sand hill crane being attacked by a red curing. After lunch we hiked, saw sprung wildflowers and a frog. A wind made the paddle back strenuous. **Jerry Kolar**

upstream of Irwin Bridge and a concrete ramp and paved parking at the New Salem picnic area.

After the paddle, we took advantage of that picnic area and enjoyed a potluck with Italian beet sandwiches, craft beers, soda and all manner of desserts, salad and miscellaneous junk foods which materialized from the various vehicles. MCC paddlers included Chuck Burns, Rob and Cindy Alexander, Ron Thompson, Roy Johnson, Float, Carl and Marilyn Peetoom, Marty Seigel, and Mary and David Stjern. **David & Mary Stjern**

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#### 27-April Kishwaukee River

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Although the water level was very low for early spring, and we experienced a head wind most of the day, a group of 20 paddlers in 14 boats had a great time on the Kishwaukee. Thanks to Sherri Johnson and Dave Brubdage for car shifting. **Bob Fenger**

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#### 4-May Bark River

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Even tough we had to carry in from the road because the entrance to the put-in is no longer opened by the county, and there is a very loud go-cart club operating close to the usual lunch stop, and the take-out is now a fire lane and no longer a boat landing. With a few changes in our plans we were still able to enjoy a day on the river. Fortunately the river itself has not changed. **Bob Fenger**

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#### 10-11-May Sugar River (Wine & Cheese Festival)

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After a dry beginning to the paddling season, we went from dry river beds to on in flood. Days of heavy rain took Sugar Creek out of its banks, so we paddled Raccoon Creek instead. There were no complaints as this is a fine trip that was enjoyed by all. As always I overate at the Saturday night wine & cheese dinner. **Bob Kane**

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#### 11-May Mazon River-rescheduled from 26-April

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This was a trip pulled together from the list of people who had called to attend either of the two Mazon trips listed on the Master Schedule. The water was high and fast; the wind was unbelievable. With a weather forecast that had been horrendous all week (for the whole country) with severe storms and even tornados in western/northwestern suburbs the night before, we were uncertain what to expect. The predicted 30-35 mph winds were a reality but were not bad on the river. Mostly when it did reach us, it was a swirling or tail wind; the stretches of headwind were not very long. Mostly the wind just made a LOT of noise. We saw numerous Great Blue herons, ducks, deer, swallow and even an owl. The flowers were very

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Klawitter, Michael & Christine	847-295-2696
130 E. Sheridan Plance, Lake Bluff, IL 60044 <a href="mailto:engineer@uic.edu">engineer@uic.edu</a>	

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Koclanis, Pat	847-998-9283
904 Shermer, Glenview, IL 60025 <a href="mailto:pkoclanis@aol.com">pkoclanis@aol.com</a>	

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Landerman, Mary & Douglas	815-886-1807
13953 Isle Royal Circle, Plainfield, IL 60544 <a href="mailto:langerm8@aol.com">langerm8@aol.com</a>	

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McGill, Dennis	217-483-6795
816 Whispering Pines Dr., Chatham, IL 62629 <a href="mailto:gabe@springnet1.com">gabe@springnet1.com</a>	

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Meyers, Eric	773-478-2426
4156 N. Spaulding #2, Chicago, IL 60618 <a href="mailto:frogsheath@yahoo.com">frogsheath@yahoo.com</a>	

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Miller, Georgette	847-903-7719
401 Center St., Grayslake, IL 60030 <a href="mailto:maico34@excite.com">maico34@excite.com</a>	

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Morlock, Chuck	847-540-0647
82 E. Harbor Dr., Lake Zurich, IL 60047 <a href="mailto:cmorhiker@aol.com">cmorhiker@aol.com</a>	

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Malin, Cynthia	
Plainfield, IL 60544	

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Ogren, Richard E	630-963-2766
4533 Linscott Ave., Downers Grove, IL 60515 <a href="mailto:rogren@lightfirst.com">rogren@lightfirst.com</a>	

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O'Malley, Michael	
221 W. 34th Ct., Apt #1, Griffith, IL 46319 <a href="mailto:rockman42@hotmail.com">rockman42@hotmail.com</a>	

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Puckett, Harry	847-475-7438
2723 Noyes St., Evanston, IL 60201	

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Remer, Robin	847-317-0931
817 Woodward Avenue, Deerfield, IL 60015 <a href="mailto:rsrnest@aol.com">rsrnest@aol.com</a>	

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Rigg, Christian & Liza	847-608-9563
410 Hancock Avenue, South Elgin, IL 60177	

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Snyder, Robert & Jennifer Litgen Snyder	773-736-4999
5033 W. Berteau, Chicago, IL 60641 <a href="mailto:jsnyder@loy.org">jsnyder@loy.org</a>	

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Wedel, Leslie	815-494-4628
4077 Berkshire Wasy, Rockton, IL 61072 <a href="mailto:lrfalk@yahoo.com">lrfalk@yahoo.com</a>	

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Wessling, Talla	815-260-9339
23138 Judith Ct., Plainfield, IL 60544	

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Wilensky, Uri & Donna Woods	847-832-9650
734 Arbor Lane, Glenview, IL 60025 <a href="mailto:uri@northwestern.edu">uri@northwestern.edu</a>	

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Wolfberg, Larry	773-878-9594
5652 N. Rockwell, Chicago, IL 60659 <a href="mailto:lwolfberg@hotmail.com">lwolfberg@hotmail.com</a>	

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## Trip Announcements

**2-Aug-3-Aug, Sat. & Sun Wild Cat Creek, IN**

**Indiana Paddlers Rendezvous- Advanced Beginner**

**Joan Taylor TAYLORJRS@aol.com 630-495-1565**

This is the annual Wildcat Rendezvous including camping Friday & Saturday at Wildcat Park, paddling and swimming, a chili supper and auction. Take Indiana 65 to Indiana 26; go west on 26 toward Lafayette 1.0 mile to 2nd stoplight. Right-turn onto Co Rd 350-East (Creasy Lane). Go 1.9 miles until you cross Wildcat Creek. Right turn (at far end of bridge) onto Eisenhower Rd. Go 1.8 miles to Wildcat Park, on right. Carshift for Sat. is from Knop Lake Fishing Area at 9 a.m. or Wildcat Park at 8:15 a.m. Please let me know you are coming.

**9-Aug, Sat Kankakee River, IL**

**Beginner (Momence-Aroma Park)**

**Larry Forgala larryfor@msn.com 708-425-0733**

The current is usually fast, if the water level is normal, to make this a somewhat quick trip. Lunch will be at the take-out, or for those who wish, at the Glad Fest in Momence. Directions: take I-57 south to RT 17 east. Go east on RT 17 until just before the Ford Dealership outside Momence. Turn left onto river south road & continue approx. 0.5 miles to the put-in, Carshift at 9:30 a.m.

**9-Aug-10-Aug, Sat-Sun Sugar River, WI**

**Beginner**

**Bob Kane paddler@cbcast.com 815-744-8129**

**Paul & Alice Clifford 815-886-2554**

This is a nice river close to home. We will meet at the put-in on Saturday. From Janesville, WI take Rt11 west to Brodhead. There find Rt104, go north to County C. Turn west and the put-in is at the NE corner of the river and Hwy. Carshift is at 9:30. On Sunday we will paddle from Brodhead to Avon. We will camp Saturday at Camp Sweet Minnihaha located between Albany and Brodhead on county E. We will carshift from the campground at 9:00 A.M. on Sunday.

**10-Aug, Sun Kishwaukee River, Newcomers Trip**

**Beginner**

**Bill Kessler kslr@aol.com 708-547-5314**

**Joan Taylor TAYLORJRS@aol.com 630-495-1565**

This is a special invitation to NEW MEMBERS (as well as veteran members) to meet other club members and enjoy a trip on a favorite stream. You must have your own boats and a PFD for every person. Bring lunch, drinking water, and a change of clothes in a dry bag. We

## Trip Reports

**30-March West Branch DuPage River**

Cold weather and time constraints suggested a shorter-than-usual trip. We hiked to the Indian mound & village sites. It turned out to be a nice paddle in spite of low water. No serious log jaws encountered. **Ray Ziemer**

**5-April DuPage River**

Cold and windy, but fast water whisked us along with ease. Muskrats, hawks, ducks, geese, a herd of egrets, turkey buzzards, and a relatively harmless snake were sighted. **Ray Ziemer**

**18-19-April North Branch Occnto**

Lots of water but cold weather—predictions by meteorologists were wildly optimistic. We all enjoyed a chance to paddle the North Branch Occnto with good water. The Wolf at Ilcc cfs is a treat. **Bill Barclay**

**26-April Salt Creek, Des Plaines**

Our trip was wonderful. We paddled in sunshine and seventy degree temperatures all day. The river was low but clear. The group paddled at a leisurely pace. Some small log jams slowed our progress although we did paddle over the wood. Lunch was at Breezing for forty-five minutes. We paddled over a six-inch dam. Some paddlers were apprehensive but after I went first everyone followed. I received many compliments on leading the trip. **Glenn Jensen**

**27-April Sangamon River**

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times." Don't you believe it! Sunday's weather was perfect - mid 70's and bright sunshine. The recent rains helped raise the river level so there was plenty of water. We had 20 folks with the furthest traveling being PSC members Jim and Jule Mann from Mt. Prospect. There were six tandems, five solos, and three kayaks.

The high point of the trip for us was fitting 14 paddlers into our 14-year-old Suburban as the only shuttle vehicle. (We're certain that our insurance agent back in Springfield must have wondered why he was having chest pains on such a beautiful morning!) Wildlife sightings included herons, mallards, a sparrow hawk, a red tailed hawk, deer, turkey vultures, herons, Canada geese and a wild turkey. One of the nice features of this stretch of the Sangamon is that there are excellent areas to put in and take out - a dirt ramp just

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**26-Sept-28-Sept, Fri-Sun Wisconsin Whitewater**  
**Beginning/Intermediate whitewater**


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**Bill Barclay & Peg Strobel 708-386-1371**

Another beautiful fall weekend (if we're lucky). Time to paddle Pike, Peshtigo, and Wolf. River selection will depend upon water levels, paddler interests, and weather. Call leader for details.

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**27-Sept-28-Sept, Sat-Sun Fawn & Pigeon Rivers, IN**


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**Gerry Emerson 219-662-1296**

Contact Gerry for details.

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**For Future Planning**


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**3-Oct-4-Oct, Sat-Sun Kickapoo River, WI**  
**Beginner**


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**Sherri and Dave Johnson [canoesew@uti.com](mailto:canoesew@uti.com) 815-634-2811**  
**John & Marilyn Ziegler 847-742-7316**

This is our annual fall appreciation trip. Usually the colors are phenomenal and the river valley as seen from the lookout at the Wildcat Mountain State Park is breathtaking. It is known as the 'crookedest river in Wisconsin.' Saturday night we like to have a feast/community dinner. We have a group site reserved at Wildcat Mountain State Park (the one in the trees). Call for details, to sign up for what to contribute to the dinner and to reserve your spot. DIRECTIONS: Take I-90-94 west from Madison. Exit RT 82 at the Mauston (Milepost 69). Follow RT 82 west to RT 80. Go south through Elroy to RT 33 at Union Center. Take RT 333 west to Wildcat Mountain State Park or on to Ontario to the put-in. We will carshift from the campground at 8:30. Put-in is on the east side of the river at the edge of town at 9:00. Please call /e-mail if you plan to attend.

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**9-Oct-13-Oct, Thu-Mon Pine and Manistee Rivers, MI**  
**Intermediate, Moving Water Training**


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**Tom Lindblade [lindblade@mac.com](mailto:lindblade@mac.com) 815 963-5945**  
**Joan Taylor [TAYLORJRS@aol.com](mailto:TAYLORJRS@aol.com) 630 495-1565**

Moving water skill brush up for intermediate level paddlers who would like to work on their eddy turns, peel out and ferrying skills on the Peterson to Low Bridge section of the Pine. For additional info see Aug. 18-24 listing.

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will put in at Cherry Valley. Carshift at 9:30. Take I-90 toward Rockford. Be alert for milepost 61. Exit at U.S. 20. Go a short distance to the Belvidere exit. Proceed east on 20 to the Cherry Valley exit. At the first stop light turn right and proceed to the first intersection (stop sign.) Turn left. Cross the bridge to the first street on the right. Turn right into Baumann Park. The boat launch is located on the first road on the right beyond the playground.

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**10-Aug, Sun Chicago River, IL- Chicago Flatwater Classic**  
**Canoe Race**


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**Ray Ziemer 630-836-0086**

Sponsored by Friends of the Chicago River, this 4th annual event is an opportunity for competitive racers, families, and casual paddlers. The unique urban paddling experience for canoes and kayaks supports River issues such as revitalization and public access. The 7+ mile course begins on the North Side's Clark Park at 10:00 and finishes up at Tom Ping Park in Chinatown, where a River Festival with rides, food, and entertainment await. You must register for the race by completing an entry form and waiver; the early registration entry fee is \$25 for adults, \$15 for children. Free T-shirts if registered by July 25. For registration form call Friends of the Chicago River at 312-939-0490; or visit the web site: <http://www.chicagoriver.org/news/classic.asp> Call Ray if you plan to participate.

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**16-Aug-17-Aug, Sat-Sun Mekan River, WI**  
**Beginner/Advanced beginner**


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**John & Marilyn Ziegler 847-742-7316**

The Mekan is a small spring-fed river with a steady current and sandy bottom. Numerous downfalls and twists in the river can make for interesting paddling. We will be camping at Mekan River Outfitters at the primitive group site. All campers must stop at the lodge to check in. Tell them that you are with Prairie State Canoeists. Call leaders for more info on the campground. Mekan River Outfitters (920-295-3439) is located 3 ½ miles west of Princeton on Hwy 23 or 6 ½ miles east of Montello on Hwy 23. Car shift from campground at 9:00. Please call trip leaders.

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**16-Aug-17-Aug, Sat.-Sun Dowagiac River, Michigan.**  
**Advanced Beginner**


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**Joan Taylor [TAYLORJRS@aol.com](mailto:TAYLORJRS@aol.com) 630-495-1565**  
**Christina Taylor [PEACE4368@aol.com](mailto:PEACE4368@aol.com) 708 445-0871**

Paddle a delightful, narrow, shaded river in southwest Michigan. Sat.'s trip is exploratory. Call leader for details. The Sunday Carshift

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is a 9:30, IL time; carshift at the Dow-Wah-Jack's Canoe Rental (There is a \$. per canoe/kayak charge. These folks do a great job of keeping the river clear.) Take 94 East into Michigan to exit 4A. Take U.S. 12 east 22 miles to Business 12/Niles turnoff. Take Business 12 into and through Niles to junction with M51 just past St. Joseph River Bridge. Go north on M51 to the Dow-Wah-Jack's Canoe Rental. (4 miles north of Dowgiac.) **Please let us know you are coming.**

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**18-Aug-24-Aug, Mon-Sun Pine and Manistee Rivers,MI**

**Experienced paddlers only**

**Joan Taylor TAYLORJRS@aol.com 630-495-1565**

**Bill Kessler kslr@aol.com 708-547-5314**

Come and paddle on the beautiful, exciting but forgiving rivers of Lower Michigan. We will camp at Paddlesports Center and Campground just south of the Pine on Route MI 37. We will car shift on Monday from the campground at 8:30 a.m., Chicago time. Please let Joan know when you plan to paddle. Take I94 east to I96 to I131 to Highway 10 at Reeds City and go west to Baldwin where you take 37 north, about 20 miles, to the Paddlesports campground, on the west side just before the Pine River bridge. Paddling permits and a parking permit are needed for Tuesday- Friday sections of the river and can be obtained in Baldwin at the Forest Service office during office hours. Those presenting a National Park pass receive a free parking permit.

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**19-Aug-21-Aug, Tue-Thu Blue River, IN**

**Advanced Beginner**

**Bob Kane paddler@cbcast.com 815-744-8129**

**Cathy, Brian & Cassie Maylee**

E-mail (preferred) or call for details

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**23-Aug, Sat Horicon Marsh, WI**

**Advanced Beginner**

**Jerry Kolar 847-336-1187**

A two-hour drive from the Illinois border into Wisconsin gets us to the 50 square mile Horicon Marsh; a 'Wetland of International Importance'. We'll review Marsh History and view the fauna and flora in the southern State portion. Since dry lunch sites are small and scarce there is a boat limit for this trip. Please call Jerry to sign up.

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**14-Sept-19-Sept, Sun-Fri BWCAW,  
Intermediate Camping**

**Ed Nelson 847-382-3372 enelson@mc.net**

We will base camp and do day trips. Call me or e-mail me, if you're interested.

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**19-Sept-24-Sept, Fri-Wed Pine and Manistee Rivers, MI  
Experienced Paddlers Only (or come for the weekend)**

**Joan Taylor TAYLORJRS@aol.com 630-495-1565**

For more info, see above write-up for Pine, August 18-25

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**20-Sept, Sat Eagle Spring Lake, WI**

**Advanced beginner**

**Jerry Kolar 847-336-1187**

West of Muckwonago, we'll paddle a lake, a channel, another lake and a crooked creek to a scenic overlook. After lunch and a hike, we'll loop back and perhaps see orchids at the water's edge. Very limited facilities mean a boat limit.

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**21-Sept, Sun Lower Fox River, IL (Sheridan-Wedron)  
Beginner**

**Rich Rothrock richrothrock@yahoo.com 630-325-7019**

**Larry Forgala larryfor@msn.com 708-425-0733**

This section of the lower Fox River from Sheridan to Wedron (approx. 11 miles) is always interesting with the rock formations. Hoping for a beautiful early fall trip. The put-in will be at Scooters on Robinson Road at the river just north of downtown Sheridan. We will take-out at either Ayers Landing or C&M canoe. There is a \$1.00 fee for putting in and a \$3.00 - \$5.00 fee for parking and take-out. This is a longer trip than just the Rte. 52 to Wedron section, which is the second half of this trip. Car Shift at 9:30 a.m.

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**21-Sept-28-Sept Michigan Rivers  
Advanced Beginner**

**Bob Kane Paddler@cbcast.com 815-744-8129**

As much as I love the Pine and Little Manistee Rivers I would like to try something different. Rivers under consideration include the Sturgeon, Black, Ocqueoc, Pigeon and Jordan. I plan on camping at and car shifting from Sturgeon River Campground in Wolverine unless someone has a better suggestion. I've rated these advanced beginner only because I have not done any of them before, and am not sure of what to expect. They all have liveries so they can not be too difficult. Please email [preferred] or call if you are coming.

**13-Sept-14-Sept, Sat. & Sun Kickapoo, WI****Advanced Beginner**

**Joan Taylor** TAYLORJRS@aol.com 630 495-1565  
**Christina Taylor** PEACE4368@aol.com 708 445-0871

Car shift at 9:30 from Brush Creek Campground or 9:45 at Bridge 12. Take 90/94 west from Madison to exit SR82 west at Mauston (milepost 69). Follow SR82 to SR80. Go south through Elroy to SR 33 west at Union Center. Take 33 west and pass RT.131. Continue 3 miles west to 17th Avenue. (Note: There are 2 roads called 17th. Look for a Brush Creek sign. Take 17th Ave south ½ mile to the Brush Creek Camp Ground. Reservations are made in the name of Prairie State. Please let us know that you are coming.

**13-Sept-14-Sept, Sat-Sun Pine River, MI****Advanced Beginner**

**Bill Barclay & Peg Strobel** 708-386-1371  
**Alice and Paul Clifford** 815-886-2554

We will paddle two days on the Pine River (Elm Flats to Low Bridge), returning to camp after the first day. The Pine is a beautiful river with a moderate to quick current and one stretch of Class I rapids. Tight bends and chutes, especially on the second day, require basic paddling skills e.g. draws, prys, etc. The Pine is part of the wild and scenic river program. However, because we have moved this trip beyond the permit expiration date, we will not be required to obtain permits; the parking fee will be in effect, however (\$5 for the weekend). We will camp at Pine River Paddlesports Center on the left (west) side of highway 37 just before you cross the Pine River going north.

**14-Sept, Sun Upper Fox River, WI  
Beginner**

**John & Barbara Shaw** 630-961-3479

This is an easy paddle through southern rural Wisconsin only about 1 hour from O'Hare. Forget the chores and join us! Directions: Take I-94 to Highway 50 in Wisconsin. Go west on Highway 50 to Highway 83N. Take 83N towards Burlington until you reach County Highway JB (Approximately 2.3 miles). Go east (right) on JB to the bridge (.2 mile). PFD'S are required, dump clothes always recommended. Carshift at (9:30 am sharp).

**23-Aug , Sat Kankakee River, IL (Bird Park to Kankakee River State Park)  
Beginner**

**Sherri & Dave Johnson** canoesew@uti.com 815-634-2811

(Also see trip listing for Sunday, August 24—Join us for one or both days and/or camping overnight at Kankakee River State Park.) This is a really nice trip especially for late summer and it is close to home. We will paddle from Bird Park in Kankakee to the boat landing and Campground just west of Warner Bridge Road/Kankakee River State Park. This stretch is known for more rocks, gradient, numerous islands and some beautiful limestone outcroppings. We usually stop to have lunch at the picnic tables in the State Park and later hike the Rock Creek Canyon if there is interest. Directions: Take IL RT 17 or IL RT 113 to where they intersect on the west side of Kankakee at the Kankakee River. On the west side of the river, IL RT 113 (Wall Street) ends at IL RT 17. Go south on Wall Street to the first driveway; turn left into Bird Park and follow the road to the left under the bridge to the boat landing. Carshift at 9:30am; please call/e-mail if you plan to attend.

**24-Aug, Sun Kankakee River, IL (State Line to Momence)****Beginner**

**Sherri & Dave Johnson** canoesew@uti.com 815-634-2811

(Also see trip listing for Saturday, August 23—Join us for one or both days and/or camping overnight at Kankakee River State Park). We will paddle from the IN/IL state line to Momence. This is a really nice trip especially for late summer and it is close to home. The view at the put-in is rather amazing. When you look upstream you see the Kankakee River Ditch in Indiana that was engineered by the US Army Corps of Engineers. When you look downstream, you see the natural curves and shoreline to the untouched portion in Illinois. The stretch has some cottages on it but is quiet. This area is part of the "Grand Kankakee Marsh", a wetlands restoration project. Directions: The put-in is at the intersection of State Line Road and the River at the North side (DO NOT try to access this from the south—the bridge is closed!). You may access State Line Road from IL RT 17. Go south of RT 17 approximately 3 miles to the closed bridge at the river. There is a large gravel parking lot on the left. Carshift at 10:00 am; please call/e-mail if you plan to attend.

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**30-Aug-1-Sept,Sat-Mon Wisconsin River, WI,  
Intermediate Camper-(Muscodas to Woodman)**


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**Ed Nelson 847-382-3372 enelson@mc.net**

We will paddle from Muscodas to Woodman, spending three leisurely days camping on the sand bars. Bring enough water for the whole trip. Directions: Take 14 from Madison to Gotham. Go west on 60 to highway 80 which is a four way stop. Turn left, cross the bridge, then take the first left at the sign saying Victora Park. Go about two blocks and take a left to the landing. Please be at the landing by 9AM to unload so we can car shift at 9:30. I will be camping in the group campground at Victora Park Friday night.

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**30-Aug-1-Sept, Sat-Mon Namekagon River, WI  
Advanced Beginner/River Camping**


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**Sherri & Dave Johnson canoesew@uti.com 815-634-2811**

This river is part of the St Croix National Scenic Riverway. We will paddle from the County K landing below the Trego Dam to Riverside landing of the St Croix River. We will be river camping at campsites that are maintained by the National Park Service. The sites have pit toilets, fire rings and drinking water. We will paddle 34.5 miles in the three days. This may seem like a lot, but we paddled the first 10 miles in two hours on this trip in previous years. The Namekagon flows an average of 3 miles per hour in this stretch. The river is rated as Advanced Beginner as it has lots of ripples and things to negotiate but isn't considered to be technical. We will do about 14 miles on Saturday, 12-17 miles on Sunday, and 4.5-7.5 miles on Monday. This shouldn't be too taxing and should allow us all to be setting up camp in mid-afternoon Saturday and Sunday and to be on the road heading home around noon on Monday. The drive to the Trego, WI area requires approximately 4 hours from Madison, WI. If you would like to participate in a community/shared dinner on Saturday night, please let me know. Please call/e-mail for more details.

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**30-Aug-1-Sept, Sat-Mon Michigan Rivers**


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**Vic Hurtow 773-777-1489**

 Contact Vic for details
 

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**31-Aug, Sun Des Plaines River, IL  
Beginner/Adv. Beginner (Willow Springs-Isle La Cache)**


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**Rich Rothrock 630-325-7019 richrothrock@yahoo.com**

Historic canoe route, Willow Springs to Isle a la Cache in Romeoville (approx. 12 miles). Put-in at Columbia Woods Forest Preserve canoe landing, downstream right from the Willow Springs Road bridge, west side of Willow Springs Road 1/2 mile North of Archer Ave. (Hwy 171). Entrance into Columbia Woods between the railroad overpass and the gas station. Car shift 9:30 a.m.

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**7-Sept, Sun, DesPlaines River, IL  
Cleanup, Advanced Beginner**


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**Joan Taylor TAYLORJRS@aol.com 630-495-1565**
**Dave Coulter osage59@ameritech.net 708-660-0674**

This is an opportunity to practice your retrieval and maneuvering skills. Carshift is 9:30. We will paddle from below Dam One, (east side of the river), to Dam Two. Take 294 north to Willow Road. Go west on Willow Road to Sanders Road. Go north to Route 68. Go west on 68 to a road on the south which is the east side of the river. So south to Dam One. Bring gloves, a rake or stick with a nail on the end, lunch and lots of water. Please let us know you are coming.

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**8-Sept-13-Sept, Mon-Sat Root River, MN**


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CANCELED

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**10-Sept, Wed, Kishwaukee River, IL  
Cleanup**


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**Joan Taylor TAYLORJRS@aol.com 630-495-1565**
**Jessie Crow quercusalba@charter.net 847-428-8618**

We will clean up this pleasant area of the Kishwaukee from Belvidere to Cherry Valley. (IF WATER LEVEL PERMITS.) CALL A LEADER FOR UP TO DATE INFO. Take 90 west to Genoa exit. Take Genoa right to U.S. 20. Turn left unto 20 and go west to the 3rd exit that is South Appleton Road. Turn right onto So. Appleton and go north. Cross the Kishwaukee and immediately turn left into the parking lot. Bring PFDs, gloves, dump clothes and lunch. (A rake or stick with nail or hook is helpful too.)

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