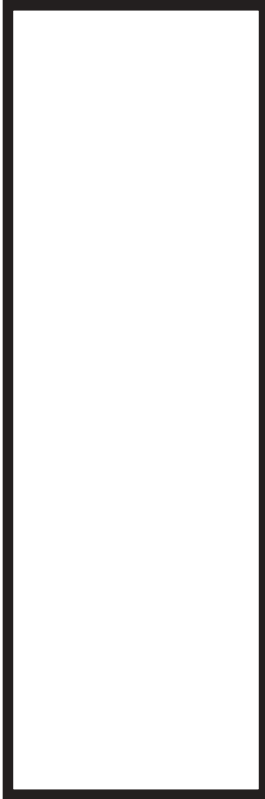


It's a ***GOOD TIME*** to renew your membership!

Any membership paid after September 1 is applied to next year so pay it now in one envelope with your Fall Dinner reservation!!

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



Fall Dinner Reservation Forms  
DUE October 20, 2003

# PSC Paddler

Newsletter of the  
*Prairie State Canoeists*

## Officers

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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  
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847-356-2171

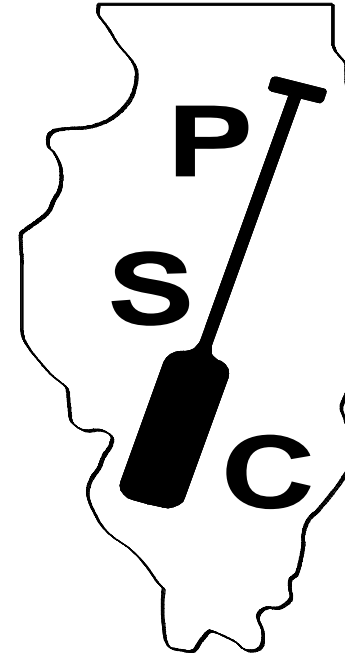
Louis Igyarto  
*(2002-2003)*  
847-587-7462

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 #6

October-November 2003

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

*Trip Listings for October-November*

Good time to renew your membership

Trip reports for April-Sept Trips

**Fall Dinner Reservations Forms DUE October 20, 2003**

**In this Issue:**

WOW! Where has the paddling season gone? It's already fall--but there is more paddling yet! As the trees begin to turn color, there are lots of opportunities to get out before the snow flies (see **Trip Announcements** on page 4. **Announcements** and **Paddlers MarketPlace** are found on page 3 with the 'From the Chair'.

Be sure to check out the **Trip Reports** on page 9 (more to come next issue--not enough room again. You also want to be sure to read the information on the **2003 PSC Fall Dinner** found below and on pages 3, 4, 5 and the signup form on page 14

See you on the River!!!.

*The Speaker at the 2003 PSC Fall Dinner:*

**Tom Lombardo: *Vanua Balavu, Exploring Isles of Fiji***

The Fijians call it "The Long Island", a mountain of volcanic rock and uprising coral in the most remote region of the Fiji Islands. Here the people live as their ancestors once did, traveling between villages in open canoes and small fishing boats without electricity or running water.

This was a very unlikely destination for a second year river kayaker from Chicago and the setting for an amazing journey into the tropics of the South Pacific.

Come join us as we welcome Tom Lombardo for a slideshow presentation that chronicles his solo-kayaking trip to Vanua Balavu Island in Fiji. Traveling in a Feathercraft expedition kayak, Tom attempts to circumnavigate the island while living in the Fijian villages along the coast. From treks through the bush, to kava circles with the village elders, Tom's photos capture the heart of Fiji and the warmth of its people.

Newsletter Deadlines for 2004		
Vol-36#	DeadlineTrip	Announcements
1	November 1, 2003	Dec 03-Jan 04
2	January 11	February-March
3	March 1	April-May
4	May 1	June-July
5	July 1	August-September
6	September 1	October-November
Vol 37-#1	November 1	Dec 04-Jan 05
You may e-mail copy (preferred)to: newsletter@prairiestatecanoeists.org		
OR to FAX : You must call 815-634-2811 first		
OR mail to: PSC Paddler, 570 Trotter Drive, Coal City, IL 60416		

**PRAIRIE STATE CANOEISTS APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL**

**DUES: \$15.00** (Dues paid after Sept 1, applied to next year.)  
 NEW MEMBER  RENEWAL  NEW ADDRESS/PHONE

Please make checks payable to: **PRAIRIE STATE CANOEISTS**  
 Complete & SIGN then mail to: **c/o Donna Goldman**  
**1118 Monroe St**  
**Evanston, IL 60202**

**READ AND SIGN BELOW:**

I AGREE THAT I WILL TAKE PART IN PRAIRIE STATE CANOEISTS ACTIVITIES AT MY OWN RISK. I WILL NOT HOLD PRAIRIE STATE CANOEISTS, IT'S OFFICERS, TRIP LEADERS AND/OR MEMBERS RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY INJURIES OR PROPERTY LOSS I MAY INCUR WHILE TAKING PART IN CLUB ACTIVITIES. I UNDERSTAND PADDLING IS AN ASSUMED RISK SPORT AND I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR MY SELF/FAMILY. I AM 21 YEARS OR OLDER.

**ALL ADULTS MUST SIGN BELOW**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 SIGNED DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
 PRINT LAST NAME PRINT FIRST NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
 SIGNED DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
 PRINT FIRST NAME PRINT FIRST NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY STATE ZIP CODE

\_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE NUMBER E-MAIL ADDRESS

CHILDREN-UNDER 18 (LIST NAMES AND AGES PLEASE)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 PRINT NAME/ADDRESS/PHONE IN DIRECTORY  YES  NO

\_\_\_\_\_  
 PRINT E-MAIL ADDRESS IN DIRECTORY  YES  NO

**Check one:**

I PREFER TO RECIEVE THE NEWSLETTER BY **POSTAL MAIL ONLY**

I PREFER TO DOWNLOAD THE NEWSLETTER FROM  
 HTTP://WWW.PRAIRIESTATECANOIEST.ORG  
 WHEN IT BECOMES AVAILABLE; PLEASE NOTIFY ME.

**8-Aug Lower Des Plaines River**

A light drizzle started during the carshift and continued through the day but nature was undisturbed. There was low water but adequate paddling and Herons and Egrets were in abundance. We stopped at the Madison Landing to stretch our legs and lunched just west of the Lemont Road Bridge. Some folks forgot their rain gear and got wet but most had a good time sharing the experience on the river. We saw our first Hawk as we neared the end. It was nice to get the boats up on the cars and get the heaters working. It was an enjoyable day paddling on the river that was one of the earliest routes to and from Chicago. **Rich Rothrock**

**Fall Dinner Reservation Form  
DUE October 20, 2003**

Please send payment to:  
**Prairie State Canoeists**  
c/o Donna Goldman  
1118 Monroe ST  
Evanston, IL 60202

**Adults:**

Name

*CIRCLE YOUR CHOICE*

<i>Pork Tenderloin</i>	<i>Salmon</i>	<i>Prime Rib</i>
<i>Pork Tenderloin</i>	<i>Salmon</i>	<i>Prime Rib</i>
<i>Pork Tenderloin</i>	<i>Salmon</i>	<i>Prime Rib</i>
<i>Pork Tenderloin</i>	<i>Salmon</i>	<i>Prime Rib</i>

Total Number of **Adult** meals \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$15.50 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Children:**

Name

*CIRCLE YOUR CHOICE*

<i>Chicken Tenders</i>	<i>Hamburger</i>	<i>Prime Rib</i>
<i>Chicken Tenders</i>	<i>Hamburger</i>	<i>Prime Rib</i>
<i>Chicken Tenders</i>	<i>Hamburger</i>	<i>Prime Rib</i>
<i>Chicken Tenders</i>	<i>Hamburger</i>	<i>Prime Rib</i>

Total Number of **Child** meals \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$6.50 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Total number of meals \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Special dietary requirement is needed**

Explanation  
PHONE#

**From The Chair:**

**2003 FALL DINNER ANNOUNCEMENT**

The 2003 Fall Dinner will be held on November 1st in historic Lockport at the Gaylord Building.

The Gaylord Building is a National Trust Historic Site located in downtown Lockport. The restored building, on the banks of the I & M Canal, offers exhibits about the canal, the Heritage Corridor, and local history. It also houses the "Public Landing" restaurant which will be catering our dinner upstairs in the "Norton Room".

Lockport has over 24 historic & restored buildings. The Gaylord site has a "Canal Days Village" and numerous exhibits inside the building, so come a couple hours early and walk around.

See you at the dinner!!!

For Further information about the Gaylord Building, go to:  
[http://www.nationaltrust.org/national\\_trust\\_sites/Gaylord.html](http://www.nationaltrust.org/national_trust_sites/Gaylord.html)

**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: 13' river runner R5 kayak**, complete with wave skirt and paddle; red hull; good condition. **\$175. Sharon or David 847-334-3488**

**For Sale: 17' We-No-Nah Spirit II Tandem Canoe** - Tufweave - Tractor Seats Alaskan Ivory - Excellent Condition - **\$750 Larry Petersen 219-923-7619**

**For Sale Very sturdy 20 year old Michi-Craft 17' aluminum double ended canoe** with keel for sale in very good condition **\$400. David or Sherri djohnson@uti.com 815-634-2811**

**Announcements**

**ACA Basic River Kayak/Canoe Instructor Update,  
October 12 - 10 am**

Several ACA Instructors have asked for an Instructor Update asap.. To fulfill this requirement, I am scheduling an update for October 12 at my house in Cary, Illinois. You will be brought up to date on new policies, have a chance to network with other instructors and fulfill your Instructor maintenance requirements. Five Instructors are necessary to conduct this course, so let me know asap if you're coming. **\$50 Marge Cline, 847-639-7336 rivermom@mindspring.com**

## Map to the Gaylord Building, Lockport, IL



The **Gaylord Building** is on the West side of the I & M Canal— **BUT** the **PARKING Lot** is on the **East** side of the I & M Canal on **8<sup>th</sup> Street**. It is a **short walk** across the RR tracks and the I & M Canal to the **Gaylord Building**.

**Directions:** The **Gaylord Building** Is thirty-two miles southwest of Chicago at IL 7 and IL 171 then one block north to 8<sup>th</sup> Street to the parking lot

**From I-55** (20min) take IL RT 83 South to IL RT 171 South (State Street), to 8<sup>th</sup> Street, right to parking lot **OR** Take IL RT 53 south to IL RT 7 east to IL RT 171, then left to 8<sup>th</sup> Street to the parking lot

**From I-80** (10 Minutes): take Briggs Street north, turn left on Division Street, right on IL RT 171 (State Street), then left on 8<sup>th</sup> Street to the parking lot.

### **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*

**Fall Dinner Reservation Forms**  
**DUE October 20, 2003**

### **2-3-Aug Wild Cat Rendezvous,**

The Wild Cat Rendezvous was great as usual. There was unusually high water as 2 weeks prior to the event there was a 100-year flood. We could see evidence of the water, which had been over the parking lot in the county park. About 100 folks total, 8 from PSC, enjoyed the paddling, eating Chili cooked over an open fire, music festival, an auction and good conversation. **Joan Taylor**

### **10-Aug Chicago River - Flatwater Classic**

Friends of the Chicago River turned out in good numbers for the 4th annual Flatwater Classic canoe race "and friendly float". Paddlers of all stripes enjoyed the beautiful summer day, paddling from the Clark Park starting line on the North Branch to the Tom Ping Park finish line on the South Branch. Along the way were interesting bridges, architecture new and old, and unique river views of the city's canyons. Some Prairie State volunteers were sighted, as well as the expected flotsam and jetsam. In Chinatown, food vendors and a local market added to the finish line festivities. **NOTE:** Participants should contact Ray Ziemer to be listed for paddle points. **Ray Ziemer**

### **16-17-Aug Dowagiac River, MI**

On Saturday, three of us explored the stretch from the park down to the dam and camped in Niles where folks came in kayaks, canoes and rafts from the dam down. Next year we plan to canoe or float on inner tubes from the dam to Niles. On Sunday, we were joined by several others including one new member to be who flew a plane into the Niles airport to join us. (That may be a first!). **Joan Taylor**

### **16-17-Aug Mecan River**

Very pretty river—small & Intimate & twisty at the north end. Due to low water we ran a section from Germania Marsh dam to Cnty N instead of the normal Sunday trip from Cnty N to Cnty C. Sandhills, muskrat, snakes and turtles were sighted. Because of the intense heat, the trips were cut slightly shorter than usual. Even with the heat, we still had a campfire both nights. **John & Marilyn Ziegler**

### **18-22-Aug Pine River, Michigan**

Readers must be getting tired of hearing about the great weather and lack of mosquitoes in Michigan. But once again we paddled the beautiful river under fine weather conditions. The water was at a 31 year low but it is the Pine so there was enough water for most of us. Solos fared better than the tandem. Fun was had by all what with the paddling, eating, campfires and singing. **Joan Taylor**

**28-29-June Beginning Whitewater-WI (Training)**

Co-run with River Touring Section of Wisconsin Sierra Club. A number of paddlers cancelled due to weather and other personal reasons. Camped at Bear Paw. River very low so some people ran rapids they had not done before. **Bill Barclay**

**29-June Des Plaines Cleanup**

We had four participants in three boats on a beautiful day on the Des Plaines. Welcome to Karen Hark and Deb Mikasser, guest who helped P.S.C. on our clean up! We put in at Dam #1, and we collected several bags of trash in the first hour or so. Our cleanup duties turned to animal rescue as we scouted a lunch stop, however! We heard frantic barking from a pile of branches and logs in the river, and we spotted a Chihuahua stranded on top. We pulled up, and Karen bravely and delicately climbed over the logs to plunk the pooch, and hand her off to the waiting rescue boats! We gave her some sandwich scraps and water, and she promptly fell asleep on the kneeling pad. This was one tired little dog.

We felt it was best to put the clean up on hold, and deliver, the dog (who we named 'Chi-Chi the River Dog') to a shelter, etc. At Dam #2 we took out, and Joan and Karen went to work calling the local authorities. Almost miraculously, we traced her owners, and sure ('Smegal' is her real name!) was safely on her way home within half an hour!

If every dog has her day, this was certainly 'Smegals'! You never saw such a happy little dog, or grateful owners - who had been frantic after she'd run off from home. We all have memories on the river, and this will be an unforgettable day for all of us! **Dave Coulter**

**13-July Kishwaukee River**

A bright sunny warm day with higher than normal water greeted 24 paddlers for a beautiful outing on the Kishwaukee. Our group consisted of quite a few paddlers who had never paddled before so I want to especially thank John and Amanda Puskar for providing on-water instruction to those who were having some difficulty. John also ran our car shift and Tracy Hunt ran the return shift. I would also like to thank Regina Brandys and Mark Morell for serving as sweeps which was a great help in keeping the group under control. We had an enjoyable lunch stop and everyone seemed to have a good time. I look forward to seeing the new paddlers out on the river again. **John & Barb Shaw**

**Prarie State Canoelsts 2003 Fall Dinner**

Saturday, November 1, 2003  
Gaylord Building - Norton Room  
200 W. 8<sup>TH</sup> Street, Lockport, IL. 60441  
815-588-1100

5:00 pm Cash Bar  
5:30 pm Dinner  
7:15 pm Awards, Etc  
9:00 pm Speaker

**Speaker****Tom Lombardo***"Exploring The Isles Of Fiji"***Menu**

<b><u>Adults</u></b>	<b><u>\$15.50</u></b>	<b><u>Children (12 &amp; under)</u></b>	<b><u>\$6.50</u></b>
<i>Includes: Soup or Salad</i>		<i>Includes: Desert</i>	
<i>Desert</i>		<i>Milk, Tea or Soda</i>	
<i>Coffee, Tea or Milk</i>			

**Prime Rib**

W/Au Jus  
double-baked Potatoes,  
Seasonal Vegetables

**Herb Coated Pork Tenderloin**

W/Dijon sauce  
Au Gratin Potatoes  
seasonal vegetables,

**Baked Atlantic Salmon**

W/white wine sauce  
wild rice blend  
seasonal vegetables

**Prime Rib**

W/Au Jus  
Double-baked Potato  
Vegetable Medley

**Chicken Tenders**

W/Fries  
BBQ Sauce

**½ lb. Hamburger**

& Trimmings

**Trip Announcements****27-28 Sept, Sat & Sun****Fawn & Pigeon Rivers, IN****Beginner****Gerry Emerson****219-662-1296****Paul & Alice Clifford****815-886-2554**

We will canoe the Fawn & Pigeon rivers through an Indiana Wildlife area. This is a great family trip. We will be camping at Riverside Campground near Shipshewana. Carshift will be at 915 AM both days from the campground. Those that are interested may join the leaders for an Amish dinner Saturday evening. Directions : Take Indiana Tollroad east to SR 13, Middlebury exit. Go south to SR 120 (about 2 Miles). Go East(left) 9 1/4 Miles to County road 450 West. Go North(left ) about 1 1/2 miles to the campground across the river. Bring dump clothes, PFD's, and lunch for both days. Please call the leaders.

**3-4-Oct, Sat-Sun****Kickapoo River, WI  
Beginner****Sherri and Dave Johnson- 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 'crookedist 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.

**9-13-Oct Thu-Mon****Pine & Manistee Rivers(Lower MI)****Moving Water Training/ Intermediate.****Tom Lindblade lindblade@mac.com 815 963-5945**  
**Joan Taylor taylorjrs@aol.com 630-495-1565*****It is essential that you talk with one of the leaders by October 6.***

Camping and canoeing in Michigan in the fall is beautiful. Weather may include temperatures in the 30s at night, 60s during the day and rain. We will have a group-shared dinner one evening and a hootenanny so bring instruments and plan to share a dish.

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.

Take 94 east to 196 to 131 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. Please do not bring firewood. It will be available at the campground.

**11-12-Oct, Sat-Sun****Wisconsin Whitewater****Intermediate/advanced whitewater****Bill Barclay chocolate.house@verizon.net-708-386-1371**  
**Rick Fleming rick24fleming@attbi.com 847-253-9383**

Motto: "We can and want to - do this one more time before winter comes." Possible rivers include Peshtigo (Roaring Rapids), Wolf

The swallows were catching flying insects for their young. We call it biological insect control. **Jerry Kolar**

**15-June****Dowagiac River, MI**

A beautiful day and an energetic group of 17 participated in a twelve-mile paddle on this narrow, shaded, cool river in Michigan. Many thanks to Tom Croak, Larry Tennyson and Przemek Panek for car shifting. **Przemek Panek and Joan Taylor**

**16-21-June****Pine River, MI**

The weather was monotonous. Every day was sunny and in the 70s/80s, the evenings were cool enough for campfires and to keep bug population down. Events included one paddler experiencing rapids and surfing for the 1st time. He took an unscheduled swim and conducting a successful self rescue. One very experienced paddler tipped while going under a log with only 2 inches clearance. Sightings included a muskrat mom swimming with a baby in her mouth, a pileated woodpecker who was tearing apart a tree with great gusto, a dragon fly laying eggs, a raccoon swimming into its hole, turkeys, turtles and minks. **Joan Taylor**

**21-22-June****Pere Marquette River, MI**

Finally a sunny, warm summer day. There were remarkably few other paddlers and fishers, though we encountered some obnoxious paddlers. Low water made it possible to collect some very old cans from the river bottom. **Mike & Anita Budrys**

**22- June****Fox River, IL (Yorkville)**

Thirteen people joined us in ten boats on what seemed like the first real day of summer for a pleasant paddle. A number of new members were present and enjoyed the nice weather and many great blue heron sightings. Thanks to Bob Forster for re-configuring his staton wagon to run the car shift and Barb for running the sweep. **John Shaw**

**28-June****DuPage River**

Although the water was low, those who followed directions had difficulty finding the put-in, 40 % of the boats dumped, the weather was threatening all day; a good time was had by all. Thanks to a long lunch, we missed a heavy rainfall at our takeout. Truth is: with rain showers going on all around us, we had only a few drops. Sightings included swimming muskrats or beavers, green/night herons, egrets, blue herons and deer. **Christina and Joan Taylor**

**2-6-June Little Missouri River Canoe Trip**

Water levels on the Little Missouri River in North Dakota are variable, but the river looked do-able from our scouting, so we set off as planned to paddle the hundred-mile stretch between the south and north units of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. The river winds through Badlands terrain of high rocky bluffs and great plains grasslands, cottonwood trees and cactuses and spring wild flowers in bloom, gravel bars and quicksand-like mud. The wider stretches of the river were very shallow, necessitating a fair amount of poling and walking, but no portaging! A good rain the first night gave us good water levels the second day, but it only lasted the day. By Wednesday, we were high-and-dry in the backcountry and had to get back to town some other way, which we did with the help of some very nice people. We spent the remainder of our trip hiking in the park and enjoying Medora's famous pitchfork fondue and musical. Wildlife was abundant on and off the river where we saw buffalo, elk, pronghorn antelope, prairie dogs, mule deer, wild horses, bighorn sheep, a porcupine, and dozens of bird species, including white pelicans and magpies. Thanks to Tom and Carol Gorman for doing the shuttle. **Kim Parsons, Paul & Alice Clifford**

**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**

**8-June Des Plaines – Isle a la Cache**

Heavy headwinds and rain made for an interesting paddle. Strong wind gusts held solo boaters at a standstill at times. Rain at the meseum put some of the action there on hold. Wildlife was scarce, due in part I'm sure to the weather. A deer crossing the river just above Fishnet rapid made the day. A young couple, canoeing for the first time, did not have a good outing (sorry). I hope they do not become discouraged. **Bob Kane**

**14-June Fox River**

We paddled up and down a section of the Fox River and a piece of the Mukwonago River. This meant no shuttle. On the under side of three bridges we saw many barn swallow and cliff swallow nests.

(whatever we can get on), Oconto, etc. Call leaders for camping and other details.

**12-Oct, Sun Rock River, IL (Oregon-Grand Detour)  
Beginner/Adv Beginner**

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

The Rock River, from Oregon, Illinois to Grand Detour. Absolutely great fall canoeing. Put-in is in Oregon at the Park East Access Area, south of the spillway dam, one block north of Rte. 64 on the east side of the river. Car shift at 9:30 a.m. Expect rock formations, very few power boats, maybe the resident bald eagles will make an appearance.

**18-Oct, Sat Salt Creek of the Des Plaines River  
Advanced Beginner**

**Glenn Jensen Mixinmimi@aol.com 708-795-7995**

A western suburb adventure that begins at the Graue Mill and winds through various forest preserves, splits Brookfield Zoo, and ends at Plank Road Meadow Forest Preserve in Lyons. This narrow and shoaly creek with many riffles, flanked by a heavily wooded forest, will be a ten-mile delight for any city denizen. Getting to Graue Mill is easy. Take 294 to Ogden Avenue (Route 34) and drive west to York Road, turn north and proceed to the southeast parking lot at Fullersburg Woods Forest Preserve. The short six-mile car shift will begin at 9:30 am.

**18-19-Oct, Sat-Sun Kankakee River, IN (Jasper-Pulaski)  
Beginner**

**Phyllis Wells phylnclyde@yahoo.com 847-966-7146**

**Fran Almquist franalmquist@yahoo.com 815-459-8134**

Contact Fran or Phyllis for details

**18-19-Oct, Sat-Sun Raccoon Creek, IN (Covered Bridge Fest)  
Beginner**

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

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

It's that time of the year. The annual Covered Bridge Festival of central Indiana is coming up. With the festival there is a scheduled dam release on the beautiful Raccoon Creek. Come join us for a day or two on this nice stream and gorge yourself at lunchtime at the festival. We will carshift at 8:30 A.M. from the Raccoon State Recreation Area. Take US 41 south to US 36 Go east to the State Park.

**19-Oct, Sun I & M Canal (Channahon)****Beginner****Larry Forgala larryfor@msn.com 708-425-0733**

A close & easy trip for those who would like a leisurely paddle enjoying the early fall colors. **Directions:** South on I-55 to Rt.6, (Channahon Exit). Turn right (West ) on Rt.6 and continue approx. 2.6 miles to Canal Road. Turn left and continue to the 2nd stop sign, turn right, go over the bridge & immediately turn left into the parking lot. No car shift. Put-in at 9:30.

**25-26-Oct (Sat-Sun) Wisconsin Whitewater****Intermediate/Whitewater****Rick Fleming rick24fleming@attbi.com 847-253-9383**

Contact Rick for details.

**25-Oct/26 (Sat-Sun) Elkhart River/Chain O'Lakes State Park, IN (Dells Trip-Indiana) Beginner****Louis & Ruth Igyarto 847-587-7462**

This year we will alternate from Wisconsin and head to Indiana for our annual 'Dells' trip. We will be paddling the Elkhart River and/or the Chain O'Lakes State Park. Water levels and weather conditions will dictate which we do and when. Carshift will be 9:00 am from the campground in Chain O'Lakes State Park. **Special note:** there will **not** be an organized dinner for Saturday night so come prepared for whatever you desire. **Directions:** From Chicago: Take Indiana Tollway-I80/190 east to Indiana RT 13 (east of Elkhart & Goshen, IN). Take RT 13 south to US RT 6 and drive east on US RT 6 to Indiana RT 9. Turn right (south) onto RT 9 and proceed through the town of Albion about 3 miles until you see the sign for the Chain O'Lakes State Park. Turn left (east) and the park gate will be about another mile down the road.

**1-Nov, Sat Rock River, IL**

CANCELED

**2-Nov, Sun Lower Fox River, IL**

CANCELED

**9-Nov Sun, Mystery trip-close to Chicago****Beginner****Joan Taylor TAYLORJRS@aol.com 630-495-1565**

Depends on weather, water level and whim of the leader. Call/e-mail for details

**1-5-Dec Florida Panhandle - Econfina, Wacissa, Aucilla****Carol Snowden csnowdon@juno.com 414-962-0879****Karen Wedde karenw@northnet.net 920-235-7159**

Warm water paddling in Florida when our streams are frozen! Econfina Creek is considered by some paddlers to be the most beautiful and challenging stream in Florida. Leaders may divide paddlers into two groups, with more experienced paddlers tackling the canyon on the upper Econfina while paddlers wishing a more leisurely float will enjoy the lower Econfina; exceptional scenery on both sections.

The Aucilla and Wacissa, perhaps the most popular canoeing rivers in Florida's Big Bend area, are only a few miles apart, but are totally different. The Aucilla, limestone-ringed and bedded with dark, clear tannin water and beautiful vegetation, varies from high banks with upland hardwoods to more tropical-looking areas of cypress, palms, and palmettos. Ten miles west of the Aucilla, the Wacissa River, fed by 12 first-magnitude springs, rises broad and crystal clear. From its broad beginning, the river narrows and runs around islands and off into swift, narrow fingers. A lower section flows through deep swamp. (Descriptions are courtesy of Elizabeth Carter and John Pearce in A Canoeing and Kayaking Guide to the Streams of Florida.)

For further information, contact leaders: Carole Snowdon, #414-962-0879, csnowdon@juno.com, or Karen Wedde, #920-235-7159, karenw@northnet.net.

**For Future Planning****1-Jan North Branch Chicago****Vic Hurtowy canoedic@iwc.net 847-803-4575**

Watch for details in next Paddler or contact Vic.

**Trip Reports****24-Apr Wolf River, WI**

Trip leader biked Thursday and Friday AM. On Friday the Wolf was running at 25 on Cap's Gauge (just below the black on Kellnar's r tie in the water just N of the SR64 bridge). Close to flood stage. We paddled from Irrigation Ditch to the SR64 landing on Friday afternoon. Water was very pushy so we paddled Lilly to Hollister Saturday, again after waiting for the day to warm up a bit. Did the normally 4 hour paddle in 1:45! There are some nice rapids in this section at high water. **Rick Fleming & Fran Almquist**