



PSC Paddler

The Newsletter of the Prairie State Canoeists

From the Chairman

Much has gone on in the world since the September 11 attacks took place.

Thoughts are that a lot of people may want to stay closer to home and enjoy family recreational activities as opposed to overseas travel.

One of the best ways to enjoy these activities with family and friends is with the humble canoe and kayak. We're lucky to have a club like ours in our area to organize these trips.

However clubs of any sort are run by volunteers and the only way to keep things fresh and interesting is by continuously bringing in new members and, in our case, new trip leaders.

Now it's normal to lose a few new members every year through attrition but I feel that we need to do more to

address the needs of those who are new to our organization. If you as a trip leader, have new members on one of your trips, do them and our club a favor and go a little out of your way to make them feel welcome.

Staging an introduction before the start of a trip is a good way to start. It's been my experience that a lot of beginners feel that

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The Spring Dinner Returns!

After a 3-4 year absence we will be hosting a spring dinner this year as stipulated by our by-laws. It will be held on Saturday March 23rd at Harrington's Catering which is located at 4300 N. Central Ave. on the northwest side of Chicago.

This year, by popular demand, our own **Ralph Frese** will conduct a slide show and lecture on Illinois rivers after dinner. Those of you who haven't heard Ralph speak before are in for a treat as he is both

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Kazan River Presentation

Please join us as we welcome **Howard Caplan** and **Doug Hissom** of Milwaukee as they entertain us with slides and stories of their recent trips to the Barrens. Their latest trip took place this past summer on the Kazan. Doug and Howard are seasoned wilderness travelers with a down-to-earth style that is sure to entertain. Program will begin at 7 p.m. Feb 28th. Call Vic for details 847-803-4575

Are your 2002 Dues Paid?

Check your mailing label to see if they're due and if you haven't paid, send your \$15 check and membership renewal/application (page 6) to Prairie State Canoeists c/o Bob Kane, 305 Westshore Drive, Shorewood, IL 60431.

Year 2002 Officers

Chairman ('02) -

Vic Hurtow
773-777-1489
canoedic@iwc.net

Co-Chair ('02) -

Larry Forgala
708-425-0733

Secretary ('02-'03) -

Ruth Igyarto
847-587-7462

Treasurer ('01-'02) -

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

Training Coordinator -

Sandy Bate
847-587-7623

ACA Representative -

Sigrid Pilgrim
847-328-0145

Board of Directors

Kim Parsons ('01-'02)
414-764-2827

Christina Taylor ('01-'02)
708-445-0871

Carole Snowdon ('01-'02)
414-962-0879

Bob Fenger ('02-'03)
847-356-2171

Donna Goldman ('02-'03)
847-475-4794

Louis Igyarto ('02-'03)
847-587-7462

Larry Tennyson ('02-'03)
630-497-2516

Newsletter Editor

Mark Rothman
847-674-6726
4019 N Narragansett Ave
Chicago, IL 60634
paddle@adhoc-solutions.com
(email preferred)

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Web Site/Telephone Hot Line

PSC Web Site

Check out the PSC web site: <http://www.psc.ctsserver.com>. Members receive a password to access detailed trip info, online newsletter, trip pics and more.

Hotline for late trip postings: call Bob Kane at 815-744-8129 if you are planning a last minute river trip and would like us to put an entry on the web for you. Include the details of when and where, with your name and a phone number to contact you.

PSC Items For Sale

PSC T-shirts (\$12) and sweatshirts (\$20) are available from Christina Taylor at 708-445-0871; E-mail: peace4368@aol.com. Christina can bring your shirts to a trip or send via UPS.

Notices

THIS IS THE LAST NEWSLETTER ISSUE FOR MEMBERS WITH UNPAID 2002 DUES

We're looking to upgrade our promotional materials. Do you have photos you've taken on PSC trips in either a hard copy or electronic form? Please send a few of your favorites to us! We plan to use some on the website and use others to put together either a scrapbook or a new promotional board for use at paddling shows. Please identify the pictures if you can, i.e., which river ... Please send any electronic pictures to Christina Taylor at Peace4368@aol.com. Please send any hard copies to Christina Taylor, 910 S. Lombard, #2, Oak Park, IL 60304. Thanks!

I run a retirement home for old (worn-out, beat-up, broken and damaged) paddles and oars located on the walls of my garage on the shores of beautiful Lake Koshkonong. Let your retired paddles live out their last days basking in the sun and balmy lake breezes. call Jack 847-724-5678.

From the Chairman

(Continued from page 1)

this club is for "experts" and are hesitant to get involved.

I've also heard from a few that they've gotten the impression that our group is "cliquish" and were reluctant to participate after such an initial experience.

So let's address these issues and be a little more aware of what it was like when we were new. See you on the river..

Vic

Swap Meet

If you have equipment to trade or sell, send the information to the newsletter editor.

Canadienne 1988-89, white GRP with aluminum trim, 3 paddles, 3rd passenger seat. Pulley halyard system for stowing canoe in overhead of garage. 1/2 of a car carrier (used station wagon rack for back end). 2001 registration. Practically new condition. \$700 complete. Gary Nelson, gnelson@zynrgy.com

Folbot, Super (17 1/2' folding Kayak) with rudder, sprayskirt and paddles.\$400 Folds into 2 bags. Call Tom or Anne at 708 361 4970 or e-mail at afuel40010@cs.com

Yakima racks 58" bar and towers Y9, Y2, Y4, Y13, ski accessory, canoe braces, \$100. Mike 773-594-9247.

Blackhawk Nighthawk 12' solo, Kevlar, wood gunwales. \$600 Beth Sandles 773-271-3415

Mad River 16' solo large volume tripping fiberglass \$300, alum john boat 10' \$250, raft white water rubber 8' & 6' \$150 & \$75. Portable rowboat \$200 Bob Warren 630-739-6040.

We-no-nah 16' Solo Plus, (solo or tandem) 50lbs, teal, paddled 1 season. \$1000 (\$1600 new) Noreen Long 847-486-0752.

Aquatera Chinook 16' sea kayak, yellow never been in the water. \$750. S.Vilardo svilardo@netzero.net

Old Town 17' newly restored wood and canvas canoe. Excellent condition. Eight coats of interior varnish. A beautiful boat to paddle. \$1900. Paddles included. Contact Leo Krusack.

Grumman 17' aluminum \$600 Alan Close 708-748-2102

Newsletter Deadlines

Issue	Deadline	For Trips
3	March 7	April – May
4	May 7	June – July
5	July 7	August – September
6	September 7	October – November

Published newsletter contains all content received prior to close of business on deadline date. Sorry, no exceptions.

Send address changes to Bob Kane, sign-in sheets to Larry Forgala, and trip reports to Mark Rothman, paddle@adhoc-solutions.com (e-mail preferred). Trip leaders do not have to use the pre-stamped envelopes for trip reports – e-mail if you can.



Tentative 2002 Schedule

There will be trips added and deleted as the season progresses. Please check future newsletters, the PSC website and the hotline for the latest details. Check with the leader before finalizing trip plans. **Bold Entries** require advance contact.

Sun 3/3 N.Branch of the Chicago River – Emerson/Fenger
Fri 3/8 Sun 3/10 Canoeopia – Vic Hurtowy
Sun 3/17 Upper Des Plaines - Gaut/Fenger
Sun 3/17 Du Page Kane – Emersons
Sat 3/23 Introduction to Paddling - Sandon Bate 847 587 7623
Sun 3/24 WestBranch Du Page - Ray Ziemer 630 836 0086
Don Shueman 630 665 8628
Sun 3/23 Des Plaines Maple Syrup Festival - Bob Kane 815 744 8129
Sat 3/30 Nippersink Creek – Steve Shapiro 847 253 5875
Paul Clifford 815 886 2554
Sun 3/31 Au Sable River Bob Kane - 815 744 8129
Sat 4/6 Mazon River, IL – Dave & Sherri Johnson
Sun 4/7 Nippersink Creek - Joan Taylor Christina Taylor
Sun 4/7 Little Vermillion River - Bob Kane
Sat 4/13 Du Page River -The Ziemers
Sun 4/14 Kyte Creek - Bob Kane
Sat 4/20 Du Page River - Paul Clifford Ray Ziemer
Sun 4/21 Moving Water Training on the Du Page River – Bob Kane
Sun 4/28 Big Rock Creek – Joan Taylor Tom Lindblade
Fri 5/3 Sun 5/5 Wolf River - Bill Barclay 708 386 1371
Larry Rice 309 246 8351
Sat 5/4 Sun 5/5 Middle Fork Vermillion - The Tennysons
630 487 2516
Sat 5/4 Fox River Clean Up – The Zieglers
Sat 5/11 Sun 5/12 Beginning Whitewater - Bill Barclay,
Kim Parsons
Sat 5/11 Sun 5/12 Wine and Cheese Festival, Sugar Creek, Indiana -
Bob Kane, Paul and Alice Clifford
Sun 5/12 Mazon River, IL – Dave & Sherri Johnson
Tue 5/14 Big Pine Creek Indiana - Joan Taylor/Tony Spanley
Wed 5/15 Thursday 5/16 Sugar Creek Indiana - Joan Taylor/Jim and
Alice Deck
Sat 5/18 Moving Water Training #2 – Sandon Bate
Sat 5/18 Bark River WI. - The Zieglers
Sun 5/19 45th Annual Des Plaines River Marathon -
773-777-1489
Sun 5/19 I&M Canal - Larry Forgala
Sun 5/19 Bark River WI – Joan Taylor
Sat 5/18 Sun 5/19 Elkhart River Chain of Lakes – Emersons/Igyartos
Sat 5/25 Des Plaines – Joan Taylor/Chipp Flagg
Sun 5/26 Kishwaukee River – Joan Taylor
Mon 5/27 Kishwaukee Clean up – Joan Taylor/Mark Morrall
Mon 5/27– Fri 5/31 Niobrara River, NE – Carole Snowden 414-962-0879 Karen Wedde

Sat 6/1 Du Page River Sweep – The Ziemers
Sat 6/1 Sun 6/2 Whitewater, Training – Sandon Bate.
Sun 6/9 Isle la Cache on the Des Plaines - Bob Kane/the
Igyartos
Sat/Sun 6/15 6/16 Pere Marquette River MI -
Bill Barclay/Peg Strobel
Sun 6/16 Lower Fox River – Larry Forgala
Sat 6/22 Sun 6/23 Beginning whitewater - Bill Barclay/
Kim Parsons
Sat. 6/22 Cedar Creek – the Heckenbachs
Sat 6/29 Du Page – Chip Flagg 630 231 9085
Thu 7/4 Wisconsin River – Dave & Sherri Johnson
Sat 7/6 Du Page River - Joan Taylor/Chip Flagg
Sun 7/7 Du Page River - Joan Taylor/Jon Gaut
Sat 7/13 Sun 7/14 Mekan River WI – the Zieglers/
Christina Taylor
Sat 7/20 Sun 7/21 Little Manistee River MI Barclay/ Stro-
bel, the Cliffords
Tue 7/23 Thu 7/25 Blue River – Joan Taylor/Jim and Alice
Deck
Sat 7/27 Sun 7/28 Paddling in the Park – Donna Goldman
Sat 7/27 Sun 7/28 Wildcat Creek - Joan Taylor
Thu 8/8 Kankakee River – Joan Taylor/Tony Spanley
Sat 8/10 Kankakee River - Larry Forgala
Sun 8/11 Kishwaukee Cleanup - Joan Taylor/Vic Hurtowy
Sat 8/17 Sun 8/18 Kickapoo River Wisc. Joan & Christina
Taylor
Sat 8/18 Sun 8/18 Kankakee River – Dave & Sherri
Johnson
Sat 8/31 Mon 9/02 Namekagon River – Dave & Sherri
Johnson
Sat 9/28 – Sun 9/29 Kickapoo River, WI – Dave & Sherri
Johnson
Sat 9/7 Mon 9/9 Section IV Wolf River WI. &
Peshtigo River– Bill Barclay/Larry Rice
Sat 9/14 Sun 9/15 Pine River MI – Barclay Strobel/The
Cliffords
Sun 9/22 Chicago River Flatwater Classic – Ray Ziemer
Sat 9/28 Lower Fox River – Larry Forgala
Sat 9/28 Sun 9/29 Fawn & Pigeon Rivers – Jerry Emerson
219 662 1296/ The Cliffords
Sat 10/12 Wolf & Peshtigo Rivers – Bill Barclay/Larry
Rice
Sat 10/12 Thurs 10/17 Pine River - Joan Taylor/Mark
Rothman
Sun 10/10 I&M Canal -Larry Forgala
Sat 10/26 Sun 10/27 Wisconsin Dells -Igyartos
Sun 11/3 Pecatonica River – Joan & Christina Taylor
Sun 11/10 PSC Fall Dinner, time and place TBA.
**Mon 12/2 Fri 12/6 Panhandle Rivers, FL – Carole
Snowden 414-962-0879 Karen Wedde**
Weds 01/03 17th annual New Years Day N. Branch of the
Chicago River – Vic Hurtowy



Trip Announcements

Please Call The Trip Leader If You Plan To Attend

Des Plaines River

February 17, Sunday
Vic Hurtow 847 803 4575

Route 120 to Route 60. We will meet at 10.00 A.M. at route 120 and the Des Plaines river on the south frontage road. The trip is contingent on the weather so please call trip leader in advance.

North Branch Chicago River

March 3, Sunday Advanced Beginner
Emerson/Fenger (847)356-2171

Enjoy a day with us on the Chicago River. We will be putting in at the dam at the south end of the Skokie Lagoon. Bring a can of soup for a community-shared lunch.

Directions: From Chicago take the Edens exit Willow Rd. Go east on Willow to Forest Way. Turn Left on Forest Way. Parking is 50 yrd ahead on left. If you are coming from the north exit Tower Rd. Go east on Tower to Forest Way. Take Forest Way approx. 1 mile. Park on right. Put in will be at 9:30am.

Upper Des Plaines (Wadsworth)

March 17, Sunday Advanced Beginner
Jon Gaut (847)299-4922 Bob Fenger (847)356-2171

We will be paddling through the Wetlands Restoration Project in Wadsworth, IL. We are hoping to see some migrating birds, so bring your binoculars.

Direction: Take I94 north exit Grand Ave. Go east on Grand Ave 1.5 miles to Milwaukee Ave. Turn left on Milwaukee Ave proceed until it ends at Rt 41. Turn left on Rt41. Take Rt 41 to Wadsworth Rd. Turn Right on Wadsworth go 1 mile river. Parking is on the right. Put-in will be at 9:30am.

Introduction to Canoeing - Flat Water Instruction

March 23, Saturday – tentative date Beginner
Contact Sandon Bate 847-587-7623

Des Plaines River, Maple Syrup Festival

March 24, Sunday Beginner
Bob Kane 815-744-8129 paddler@cbcast.com

This is one of my favorites. We put in at Dundee Rd. (Rt68). Carshft at 9:30A.M. We then paddle to the River Trail Nature center where we can dine on coffee, O.J. and all-you-can-eat pancakes. Five dollars last year. Spend a couple of hours enjoying the nature center and watch maple syrup being made followed by a short paddle to the take-out. Bring extra dry warm clothing.

Aux Sable River

March 31, Sunday Advanced Beginner
Bob Kane 815-744-8129 paddler@cbcast.com

A nice stream, very dependent on snow-melt or rain for paddle ability. Take I-80 west of I-55 to the first exit, Ridge Road in Minooka. Go south to stop sign. We will meet in McDonalds' parking lot at 9:00 A.M. Bring lunch and dump bag. Please call.

New Members Welcomed to PSC

The following individuals and families have recently joined the Prairie State Canoeists. We welcome them to the PSC family and hope this is the beginning of a long and enjoyable association for all of us.

- Bank, Bruce & Sharon Ogawa, Arlington Heights, IL
- Barber, Fred & Carole, Oak Park, IL
- Clark, Frederick & Francine Wendorff, Chicago, IL
- Coulter, Dave, Oak Park, IL
- Dissinger, Donald & Frances, Streamwood, IL
- Erath, Tim & Lynn, Lake In The Hills, IL
- Essex, Richard, Woodridge, IL
- Garron, Alan & Lisa, Aurora, IL
- Hall, John & Kris, Island Lake, IL
- Jiha, Jihad & Chantal Lutfallah, North Riverside, IL
- Kingery, Michael, Westchester, IL
- Kleck, Bob, Joliet, IL
- Larson, Allen & Deanna, Capron, IL
- Metz, James & Alison, Yorkville, IL
- Moffitt, Robert, Tinley Park, IL
- Nolan, Tim & Mary Ann, Palos Park, IL
- Panning, Ronald & LouAnne, West Dundee, IL
- Parson, Chris & Nan, Park Ridge, IL
- Poland, Malcom, Deerfield, IL
- Schmitz, Joyce, LaGrange Park, IL
- Schneider, Laurel, Chicago, IL
- Spreitzer, Tony & Carol Triggiano, Chicago, IL
- Weber, David, Des Plaines, IL
- Wierenga, Harold & Sharon, Worth, IL
- Zadigan, Martin & Pamela, Northbrook, IL



Trip Reports

Northern Florida Rivers Trip

We paddled several sections of the beautiful Blackwater River, two sections of its tributary, Juniper Creek, and one section of the Shoal River, a river about twenty miles east, running parallel to the Blackwater.

All these waterways were beautiful and serene, flowing through a wilderness landscape. We had all this to ourselves, and we loved it.

Everyone agreed that Juniper Creek was the best of these rivers, although all were excellent with good scenery and the best sandbars I've ever seen. All three had abundant sugar-white sandbars.

A high pressure system suspended itself over us for most of this trip, bringing us sensational weather as each day was the same sunny, windless, 75 degrees.

There were nine of us in the group, 8 regulars and a guest from North West Arkansas who was in the campground and so we asked him to join us (He had a van, so was helpful on the carshifts).

We base camped in Blackwater River State Park, near Pensacola, where there were few other campers and a very friendly, helpful crew of rangers. It was a very good trip.

Ed Nelson

Spring Dinner Returns!

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informative and entertaining.

Just before dinner **Lorry Davies** of the Prairie Club will give a short talk about their activities. The Prairie Club is the parent club of our paddling group with a history that goes back to the turn of the last century.

There will be a board meeting starting at 4:00. So mark this evening on your calendar and **get your reservations in early** as the venue will only accommodate 50-60 diners.

Off street parking is available across the street "kiddie" corner from the hall. The offerings will be tossed salad, corned beef, chicken, roasted potatoes, corn o'brien and bread rolls. The price is only \$12.00 a head and vegetarian lasagna or grilled portabella mushrooms will be available on request.

I'm looking forward to the return of this P.S.C. tradition. and hope to see many of you there.

Newsletter Distribution Options

As most of you know, the PSC newsletter, currently mailed out 6 times a year, is available on the PSC website for members to view, download and print at their leisure. Club chairman, Vic Hurtowy has initiated a plan to give members distribution options in addition to the regular newsletter mailings.

Members will be able to choose to 1) keep their hardcopy newsletter coming by regular mail, 2) request that they be notified by email when the online *Adobe Acrobat* edition is available at the website, or 3) simply visit the website when the newsletter is available online and receive no additional email or postal mail.

Online publication can be a reliable, cost effective, environmentally-friendly means of distributing club information to all net-connected members. By reducing mailing and printing costs it be may possible to decrease membership dues.

Let us know your preference by emailing paddle@adhoc-solutions.com

Instruction/Pool Classes

Contemporary Solo Canoeing

This class will cover the basics of solo canoeing. Content will touch on strokes, braces, rolling and rescue procedures. A variety of boats from flatwater through whitewater models are usually available...or if you have your own solo boat, you can bring that, too. Classes start Tuesday, February 19. Students call Conant High School, District 211 Continuing Education Program to register - 847-755-6600 (in January). Club members who are willing to help with the instruction and let students use your boat for the class time, call Marge Cline-847-639-7336 or email <rivermom@mindspring.com> You will have an hour of free paddling time in the pool after the class is finished each week for your help.

The Open Pool Sessions - Ending Date Changed

"Open Pool" paddling sessions are available at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) pool every Wed from 7:00pm to 9:30pm until the last session on Wed, April 24, 2002. (NOTE: The ending date has changed from that published in the previous issue of PSC PADDLER) The fee for the session is \$10 per person. Students and children accompanied by parents pay half price. A limited number of kayaks & gear will be available for rent for \$5/session. Call first to check on availability (see below).

The Open Pool session is not a class but some instruction is available by prior registration.

You must clean your boat thoroughly before you put it in the pool. Wash it out at home if you can, but we can hook up a hose at the pool if you can't.

For more information on access info e-mail questions to Gary Mechanic at gary@chicagopaddling.org or call him at 773-267-0146. For information on classes and/or to check rental boat availability, please email Cory Nagel at cory@kayakchicago.com or phone 773-209-1800.

Membership Application/Renewal Form, Year 2002



Dues: \$15. Make checks payable to Prairie State Canoeists. Complete, sign and mail to Bob Kane, 305 Westshore Drive, Shorewood IL 60431. Check if this is a new address

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; its 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.

Signed _____

Date _____

Signed _____

Date _____

Last Name _____

First Name _____

Spouse Last Name _____

Spouse First Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

First names of children under 21. Include age. _____

Telephone (incl. area code) _____

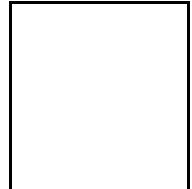
E-mail Address _____

Print My Name/Address in Directory? Yes No

Print My E-mail Address in Directory? Yes No

I want the newsletter: by postal mail. by downloading from PSC website. notify me by email when available on site

**Prairie State Canoeists
c/o Bob Kane
305 Westshore Drive
Shorewood IL 60431**



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**First
Class
Mail**

