

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 (2002-2003)

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

Board of Directors

Joann Benedetto

(2003-2004)
847-697-3770

Bob Fenger

(2002-2003)
847-356-2171

Louis Igyarto

(2002-2003)
847-587-7462

John Shaw

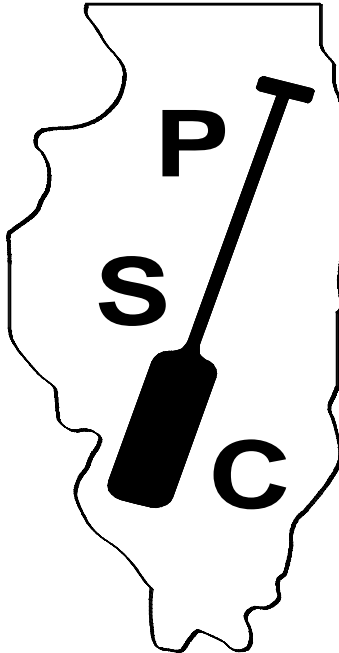
(2003-2004)
630-961-3479

Larry Tennyson

(2002-2003)
630-497-2516

Ray Ziemer

(2003-2004)
630-836-0086



Volume 35 #1

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

Year End Awards for 2002

Information about next Year Trip Planning

Membership Application form and 2003 Trip Listing form included

New Officers and Board Members elected

In this Issue of the Paddler:

I'm sure you've noticed the change in the format of the PSC Paddler ...It's been 3 years since I did an issue and yet we were able to retrieve the format and design and pick up like it was just last month (well, that sounds like it was easy anyway...). I am glad to be the editor again and look forward to serving the members of the PSC. My daughter Lanie is co-editing with me so it is a family project. Please note the **new officers** and **club contact information** on the cover as well as the **deadlines** and **newsletter information** at the bottom of this page.

Be sure to check out **From the Chair** for info from Larry about year end awards, the start of the new year, the trip planning for 2003 and the new officers. **From the Co-Chair** is a note to trip leaders from Christina. There are some important items in the **Announcements** including information about our **improved PSC web site**. (Watch for updated contact information in the next few weeks.) There is info about **Caroling in Canoes**, the **Open Pool** and the **The Access Project** of the **Illinois Paddling Council**. This includes the **Paddle Illinois Survey**. The **IPC** could use our input and support in these efforts. Please be sure to follow up on the details in the web addresses or make phone calls. Plan to get involved in support this effort to improve paddling opportunities in Illinois!

Please send PSC Paddler information (including Trip Announcements and Trip Reports) **to:**

pscpaddler@yahoo.com
PSC Paddler, 570 Trotter Drive, Coal City, IL 60416
815-634-2811

(Any information sent as an e-mail or attachments makes my job a lot easier.)

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
6	September 1	October-November
Vol 36-#1	November 1	Dec 03-Jan 04

You may e-mail copy to: pscpaddler@yahoo.com (preferred)
OR to FAX : You must call 815-634-2811 first
OR mail to: PSC Paddler, 570 Trotter Drive, Coal City, IL 60416

From The Chair:

PSC Paddling In 2002:

There were only 84 scheduled trips during 2002 continuing the downward trend in number of trips. Of those trips, 81 were completed and 3 were cancelled. A very good indicator is that we had 57 different trip leaders this year including some very good new ones. Hopefully these leaders will continue and hopefully expand their efforts.

The number of 100-point paddlers was only 42, possibly the lowest in recent years. Of these paddlers, 5 received "River Rat" patches, which is a nice increase. The club ran 6 clean-up trips and participated in "Paddle in the Park" and Canoecopia.

2002 PADDLER OF THE YEAR

The award goes to **Joan Taylor**. Her "**880 miles**" is, as far as anyone can remember, an all time club record. We all congratulate and thank her for not only running trips, but, also for assisting and introducing new trip leaders & for 4 clean-up trips.

" WAY TO GO JOAN!"

Officers and board members

There were 3 officers & 3 board members elected at the fall dinner meeting and presented to the members attending the dinner. Larry Forgala assumes the Chair, Christina Taylor was elected Co-Chair & Donna Goldman volunteered to assume the Treasurer duties. Vacancies in the Board of Directors lead to the election of John Shaw, Joann Benedetto, and Ray Ziemer as new Board Members. Sherri Johnson volunteered to become our new Newsletter Editor.

2003 Trip leaders meeting:

There will **not** be a formal trip leaders meeting this year. The general lack of attendance indicated an overall lack of interest. Instead a **Trip Leaders Listing form** is included in this issue. Please fill it in (make copies if necessary) and mail/e-mail to Larry Forgala or Christina Taylor by Jan. 17, 2003. (Editor's note: Plans are also in the works to make it available on the PSC web site: <http://www.prairiestatecanoeists.org>)

2001 paddler patches:

If anyone still has not received his or her 2001 paddler patches yet, please contact Larry Forgala.

Thanks to Vic Hurtow for his many contributions and efforts as chairman in 2002 & the great dinners at Harrington's.

Larry Forgala, 2002 Co-Chair/2003 Chair

From The Co-Chair:

I am looking forward to serving as your 2003 PSC Co-Chair. Thank you for the opportunity. I have two brief announcements:

First, as I was organizing the Co-Chair's boxes I went through the sign-in sheets from 2002. I was very pleased to see that we had six cleanup trips and 31 club members and two guests turn out to help clean up our rivers. Thank you. Larry will be getting cleanup patches to you soon.

Second, Milt, our webmaster, and I have been brainstorming around the trip report tallies. We plan to post both a listing of trips reported to date and a listing of accumulated points per member on the web site. In this way everyone can more easily keep a running score. Now this puts a little extra pressure on me to get the trips posted which I will probably do once monthly. And it also puts extra pressure on the trip leaders to get their sign-in sheets back to me promptly. So trip leaders, this is to give you a heads-up this is coming. I look forward to your feedback as this experiment goes forward!

Christina Taylor, 2003 Co-Chair

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: Mad River Rampage 13' whitewater open canoe, outfitted, \$500. Mad River Fantasy 13' whitewater open canoe, outfitted, \$350. Perception WW paddle, helmet, dry tops, and other miscellaneous WW gear. Grumman 17' aluminum canoe with center seat/portage yoke attachment and starter paddles, \$600. Old Town HW Model wood and canvas 16' canoe with antique beaver tail paddles, \$500, needs re-canvassing, but wood is sound. **Joan Healy:** 847-634-8859 or joanhealy@worldnet.att.net

FOR SALE: Pat Moore Reverie 1 Solo canoe \$600. New Dagger Freefall LT Whitewater kayak-new price \$1000, for \$600. New New Wave Cruise Control WW kayak, \$600. **Ron Thompson:** 309-266-9670 or canoesetc@aol.com

Announcements

*** **WE HAVE OUR OWN HOME** ***

Prairie State Canoeists has had a website for over two and a half years. Now our website has its own domain (a name to call our own). From now on, the Prairie State Canoeists website can be found at:

<http://www.prairiestatecanoeists.org>

Not only do we have our own name, but we have two names. The second name is just a little shorter, for people like me who get tired of typing so much. **<http://www.PSC-paddler.org>** Just like the name of our newsletter, but spaces aren't allowed, so we added a hyphen between PSC and paddler. Both URL's (names) point to the same place, so use whichever seems easier.

In the next few weeks we will set up generic e-mail accounts, so if you wanted to reach me, for example, you could send an e-mail to "webmaster@prairiestatecanoeists.org" and it would route to me. There will be similar accounts for our Chair, Co-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, etc. Watch the website and newsletter for more information.

Milt Levenberg, co-webmaster

PSC 2003 Trip Leader's Meeting

Please note, there will **not** be a meeting this year. See **From the Chair** on page 3 and use the **PSC Trip Listing** form on page 15 to submit your trips to the Master List. Contact Larry Forgala: 708-425-0733 or larryfor@msn.com for details.

The Open Pool is Open Again

For the tenth year consecutive year "The Open Pool" session opens again! Paddling returns to the larger-than-Olympic-size pool at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). The pool is open Wednesdays from 7:00pm to 9:30pm, October through May. The fee for the session is \$10 per person. Students and children accompanied by parents pay half price.

The Open Pool session is not a class and you may do whatever you like during the session; meet old friends, make new ones, learn a new trick, revive a rusting old skill, swim, or just mess around in the boat for a while. This is a great place to introduce a friend to kayaking in a safe, warm water, controlled environment.

A limited number of kayaks & gear will be available for rent. Call first to check on availability. If you are interested in instruction, we will once again conduct Introduction to Sea Kayaking and Rolling classes. For information on classes and/or to check rental boat availability, please contact Cory Nagel: 773-209-1800 or cory@kayakchicago.com

Announcements

Announcements, The Open Pool Opens Again (con't)

For more information on **The Open Pool** please contact Gary Mechanic: gary@chicagopaddling.org or 773-267-0146.

Caroling In Canoes and Kayaks

This is an invitation to join us for the Annual “**Caroling in Canoes and Kayaks**” on the **Chicago River** on **Saturday, December 15th**. The trip should take about an hour and a half. Not only is this event a heck of a lot more fun than last minute holiday shopping, but also it raises public awareness of the local paddling community and the non-motorized recreational use of the Chicago River.

Of course, **SAFETY** must be a concern for everyone participating in a public event, on cold water, at night. You **MUST** be wearing a PFD on this trip as we will be in full sight of the public and media and there are continuous vertical walls with few ladders throughout this entire section of the river. A split red/green bow light and 360 degree white stern light are strongly recommended for all boats. Of course, dressing to swim and/or bringing a change of clothes in a drybag is a standard safety precaution for any trip.

In previous years, those who decorated their boats greatly added to the color and fun of the trip. Anyone who can bring and play a musical instrument (on the water) gets extra credit! If anyone wants to come up with “paddler adapted” words or verses for traditional carols I will re-broadcast them here and we’ll add them to the song sheets. We’re also looking for a conductor to volunteer to lead the “singing”.

Please pass this on to your paddling friends. For complete details contact Gary Mechanic: 773-267-0146 or gary@chicagopaddling.org

The **Illinois Paddling Council** is trying to improve river access in Illinois. There is an article about **The Access Project**, found at:

http://www.illinoispaddling.org/access_project.html

that explains their efforts. There was not enough space in this newsletter to include the article but it is something every paddler should look at. The **Paddle Illinois Survey** is a part of this project and is an excellent way to provide information useful to the Project. Go to

http://instructor.home.mchsi.com/paddle_illinois_survey01.html

Fill out the survey and send it to: Gary Mechanic, Director, The Access Project of the Illinois Paddling Council: 773-267-0146 or fax 773-267-0948 or gary@chicagopaddling.org

Welcome New Members

Bell, Steven & Victoria 825 Western Ave., Geneva, IL 60134	630-208-7369 sbell812@aol.com
Burnett, Jean 7339 Park Ave., Park Ridge, IL 60527	630-323-3475 momartz@aol.com
Chirchirillo, Michael 1428 W. Wolfram Basement, Chicago, IL 60657	773-348-0239
Dieter, Greg 23W305 Woodcrest Ct., Naperville, IL 60540	630-416-4585
Eschete, Kenneth 7366 N. Ashland Blvd., Chicago, IL 60626	773-381-9654 k.eschete@northwestern.edu
Esler, Mary Ann 2306 Brown Ave, Evanston, IL 60201	847-328-1232 maesler@attbi.com
Halvorsen, Susan 1515 26th St., Rockford, IL 61108	815-397-5145 susanlee@inwave.com
Johnston, Steve & Tammy 930 Prospect St., DeKalb, IL 60115	815-756-5355 ghostnellie@yahoo.com
Kiolbasa, Diane & Elizabeth 115 Pheasant Dr., Countryside, IL 60525	708-579-1273
Layton, Rose 7345 Baybury Rd., Downers Grove, IL 60516	630-322-9529 rlayton@dg58.dupage.k12.il.us
Pelton, Robert 23057 Kent Rd., Channahon, IL 60410	815-467-2851 rpe1000403@aol.com
Roe, Anne 1423 Rural St., Rockford, IL 61107	815-962-6809
Stevens, Rick & Debora 404 Knoch Knolls Rd., Naperville, IL 60565	630-416-8639 haikudeb@yahoo.com
Vonholdt, Bill 7847 N Kedvale, Skokie, IL 60076-3548	847-674-8155 billvonholdt@msn.com
Wachsman, Cy & Barbara St. John 991 Judie Dr., Sandwich, IL 60548	815-498-9068 woodsugar@hotmail.com
Zanio, Robert 922 E. Old Willow Rd.-20T, Prospect Heights, IL 60070	847-808-1409

Trip Announcements

Dec 2-6, Mon-Fri

**Quietwater rivers of Florida Panhandle
Car Camping**

**Carole Snowden
Karen Wedde**

414-962-0879

Five day-trips on clear, sparkling water, amid white sandbars, on creeks such as Juniper, Yellow, Shoal, Holmes, and Econfina. Group will assemble at first campsite Sunday night, December 1. **Directions:** South of Montgomery, AL on I 65, exit #69 southeast onto Alabama 113. At junction with U.S. 29, jog south on U.S. 29 to Florida 4, follow it east past Florida 87 and into Blackwater River State Forest. Continue on Florida 4 past intersection with Co. 191 at Munson, then look for a diagonal left turn north onto Hurricane Lake Road. Watch for road to the east to Hurricane Lake North campground.

December 4-10, Wed-Tuesday

Florida Rivers

Base Camping

Ed Nelson enelson@mc.net

847-382-3372

We will meet at Juniper Springs Campground in the Ocala National Forest on Tuesday, December 3 and paddle Juniper Springs, Alexander Springs, and Silver Springs as well as the Oklawaha River. Then we will travel on Sunday to the Homossassa Springs region about 75 miles south and west on the Gulf Coast for two more days of paddling down there on the tidal rivers: Halls River and the Chassahowitzka River (Check my trip report in the June-July Newsletter for more info.) We will see gators, many birds possible a bear (they're in the Ocala National Forest) and even monkeys at Silver Springs (left over from the Tarzan films). It should be a great trip. **Please e-mail or call if you plan on going.**

January 1, 2003

North Branch of the Chicago River

17th Annual New Year's Day Trip

Vic Hurtowyc canoewic@iwc.net 773-777-1489

Join us Wed, Jan. 1, 2003 as we welcome in the New Year doing what we love... paddling! This will be the 17th year that the club and many guests will be gathering together below the dam at Willow Rd. to celebrate the New Year. For those of you who haven't joined us before either due to intimidation by the promise of cold weather or whatever reason, let me put your minds at ease. You do not need to have "special" gear to join us in the festivities. Just pretend that you're going for a walk in the woods and dress accordingly. The only difference is that you need to bring a change of clothing in case you do go in and it's recommended that you have footwear that can get wet and muddy and still keep your feet warm.

I would really like to see 200 paddlers on the river that day and we almost achieved this lofty goal in 2000 when we had 187 people participate. One of the reasons to get out such a large group is to illustrate the fact that the Chicago River is a valuable recreational resource that needs to be vigilantly maintained and protected from those that would and do treat it like a sewer.

Over the years I've seen hawks, deer, muskrat, waterfowl, kingfishers herons and more while floating down the stream on New Year's Day. Unfortunately I've also seen tires, garbage cans, Styrofoam coolers and more rubbish than I care to remember or mention here. But then again the river has become much better then it was the first time I joined Ralph Frese and group of about 10 others years ago. So don't put your boat away just yet, and join us. The atmosphere at the put in is most festive and the camaraderie is incredible. With such a large number of people the only way to make this trip work is to stagger the put in times. We begin the first shuttle at about 8:30 and we'll continue until about 10:30 depending on how many show up. Give me a call @773 777 1489 (days) the week prior or send me an email to let me know what time you would like to start. Those who call at the last minute will be assigned an approximate starting time. It's pretty loose and yet we pull it off every year.

DIRECTIONS: To reach the put-in: **From the city** take the Eden's Expressway north to the Willow Road East exit and drive 1/2 mile to Forestway Drive. Make a left on Forestway and travel about 50-60 yards and you're there. **From the north:** exit at Dundee take that east to Forestway and then south. Park when you see all the maniacs with the boats on their cars. After we're done (the length of the trip is only about 6 1/2 miles) we'll head over to the Hackney's on Lake St. (in Glenview) for some food drink and conversation about the day. I hope to see you there! Vic, now the Ex-Chairman of Prairie State.

Trip Reports

Kankakee River, Saturday, August 17, 2002

The paddle from Bird Park in Kankakee to the Kankakee River State Park was nice. This stretch of the river is wide and shallow in most places with an occasional ledge and rocky areas. The water levels were sufficient but there were some places where scraping was unavoidable. Since the livery service was not operating in the State Park, there were no other canoes on this stretch with us. We had lunch at the picnic area at the south edge of the park, stopped to hike up to Rock Creek Canyon and arrived at the take-out in mid-afternoon. The takeout is also the location of our campground so about half of the paddlers set up camp for the night while the rest headed on home. Some came prepared to take advantage of the nice bike trail and went for a ride. Later we had a nice campfire and enjoyed the late summer evening. **Sherri & Dave Johnson**

Kankakee River, Sunday, August 18, 2002

We broke camp from the Kankakee River State Park Sunday morning and drove as a group to the Illinois-Indiana State-line bridge for put-in. We met up with several other paddlers joining us for the day and set off on our trip in pleasant weather. This stretch is very different from the previous day's trip as it is narrower with a sandy bottom. There are numerous cottages along the river in places, numerous fishermen and we met the local river police on patrol. We ate lunch on a sandbar and had another great day on the river! **Sherri & Dave Johnson**

Namekagon River, WI, Labor Day Weekend, Aug 31-Sept 2, 2002

This was an awesome trip! We had 23 people drive all the way to Northern Wisconsin for a 3-day Holiday on the St Croix National Scenic Riverway (which is essentially a National Park). The Namekagon River is beautiful and when you combine it with a group of great people and good weather (for most of the time, anyway), it makes for an OUTSTANDING experience.

We met for breakfast at the Dinner Bell in Trego, WI as planned on Saturday morning. This is probably the first time we didn't call the Park Service for a check on the river conditions during the week before the trip and we soon found out they were rebuilding the bridge at the put-in. While this was not a major problem, it did complicate the carshift, and the route was quite a bit longer. Once on the river though, this was soon forgotten.

At the put-in, some of us wondered how to get all of our gear into the canoes, but somehow managed. We launched among other groups also out to enjoy this spectacular river. We paddled in beautiful weather and scenery on Saturday to arrive at the campground in mid-afternoon (as planned). We shared the campground with several other groups. The shared dinner was a feast! We enjoyed a wide variety of foods including: salad, rice salad, tacos, roasted sweet corn, chocolate cake, raspberry desert, chili, pierogies—too many things to remember!

The weather on Sunday was just as nice as Saturday—until late in the day. While we knew that the camping facilities on Saturday would not present a problem to such a large group, however, Sunday was another matter. The Saturday night stay was at a 'campground' with road access and large areas to camp on each side of the river. Sunday night we knew we would be staying in a primitive group site on the river. The sites are listed as '6 or more people' but are secluded and limited in space. We planned an early start so we could get to an area where we have camped in the past early in the afternoon. We planned to get our 'regular' site

and the one just before it, which was about a 5 minutes walk away through the woods. We figured this would give us enough camping room for our larger group. We found the first site occupied so when we got to our regular site, we began to discuss our options. We thought we might need to split into two or more groups to camp on some other sites downstream and regroup in the morning to paddle to the take-out. We decided to start setting up tents on the site and decide if we could all fit—we did, but it was cozy! About an hour after we set up camp, we got a warning from Mike's weather radio that we had a severe thunderstorm with 69 mph winds coming our way. We began to 'batten down' and the storm hit about 15 minutes later—before everything was locked down. The group rallied and came up with tarps, moved the Scrabble game into a tent and basically settled in for the duration. The campsite was quite an obstacle course with 14 tents set so close together that a 'tent city' formed in places. The ropes from tents crossed with others nearby and tarps were set up over the spaces between and overlapping the tents. The storm rolled in around 3:30 pm and it was still raining at 10:30 pm when most of us had gone to bed. We had a break when it seemed to let up long enough for people to cook supper around 7:00 but most of the evening was spent sitting under the large 'community' tarp/shelter in lawn chairs and on coolers. We had a lantern for light and the close proximity and shelter from the wind kept us warm while we were entertained by the conversation as we shared stories. Somehow Terry kept a campfire going while it poured rain for hours.

On Monday morning we all counted our blessings and marveled at the severity and the endurance of the storm as we broke camp. The river had gone up several inches and there were many boats that had water in them. We packed up our soggy gear and prepared for the short paddle to our cars and the long drive home. We remembered the Bald Eagles and other wildlife we saw in the previous days and enjoyed the scenery. The rapids that we were prepared for on the last stretch around Big Island were washed out with the higher water level but it was still faster water. We were really glad we had camped together on one cozy campsite since the storm very well could have presented us with more danger and challenge. It was comforting to know we were all together and safe. The drive home presented more severe weather as tornados and severe storms were reported on the route home near Ladysmith, WI. (The leaders headed north for another week of paddling in Quetico.)

This trip would not have been a great experience EXCEPT that we had such an AWESOME group of people! Everyone kept a good attitude even though we were a large group with crowded conditions and severe weather. THANK YOU ALL FOR A GREAT TRIP!! We'll be leading the trip again next year and will be prepared for a good trip and hope not to have severe weather. **Sherri & Dave Johnson**

Kickapoo River, WI, September 28-29, 2002

This is billed as our 'Fall Appreciation Trip' and we enjoyed it as usual! The fall color was a bit, pale but the weather, the river and the group were exceptional. We had a record 41 paddlers on Saturday including some brand new PSC'ers on their first club trip. We found that the road construction project for the whole year made the carshifts more difficult and the main roads were all closed. We arrived at the landing in Ontario on Saturday morning and shared the put-in with a large group from the Wisconsin Sierra club. We accepted a generous offer from local livery, Mr. Duck, to have them do our carshift for what worked out to be only \$1 / car and avoided having to figure out the route or to do a driver return. We also had some confusion at the lunch stop, as there were numerous livery canoes and other groups also on the river. The weather was beautiful and so was the river! There has been quite a bit of development by a local group to make access and parking easier along the river. There is currently a volunteer donation for the use of the areas and they are developing trails for multi-use: for horseback riding, biking and hiking. In some areas there are also primitive campsites.

Most of the group met back at our group campsite in the trees at Wildcat State Park for the group dinner Saturday afternoon. Again we out did the meaning of 'FEAST!' There was a plentiful variety of food and we all enjoyed it. We had a great campfire after the food. Some industrious members had set up two tarps over the picnic tables in the afternoon and it proved to be highly beneficial as it did start raining around 9:30 pm.

On Sunday our group was much smaller and we paddled the stretch further downstream from Rockton to LaFarge. The river had gone up over a foot overnight and wasn't the nice clear stream it had been the day before. It had rained quite a bit through the night and the water looked more like hot cocoa than water. This stretch is narrower and more 'wild' feeling than Saturday's trip. We enjoyed another gorgeous sunny day on the water and had lunch at the take-out before heading back home. Another great weekend on the River! We'll be there again next year! **Sherri & Dave Johnson**

Wisconsin River, Sat-Sun, Oct. 5-6

This was an unusual trip in that we had one day of perfect weather framed by two days of terrible weather. Fortunately, the one-day was Saturday, the day we paddled the most. It was sunny, with a comfortable 60-degree temperature, and windless. The day before, driving up, I was almost blown off the road by wind that, the weather radio later informed me, gusted up to 60 miles per hour.

The river was unusually high for this time of year, and we had a difficult time finding a sandbar, paddling almost to take-out before discovering a

beautiful spot with a spectacular setting and logs already cut for the fire.

We discussed such important items as the aggravation of automated phone menus, the evils of double prepositions, the pros and cons of using the possessive adjective with days of the week, and my special hatred of the expression "vast majority." I suppose you can tell that we had two ex-English teachers and one who had a son that was training to be one, on this trip. Nevertheless, we enjoyed this beautiful river, which we had to ourselves this weekend. **Ed Nelson**

Kickapoo River, WI, October 5 & 6

Outstanding memories of this trip include colorful hills and bluffs, good company, and paddling with folks from the local area. On Saturday, we paddled 16 miles through Wildcat State Park and beyond and on Sunday did a new stretch from Reedstown to Solders Grove, a short but breezy paddle. **Joan Taylor**

Pine River, MI, October 12-16

Camping and canoeing in mid October proved to be very rewarding. It seemed that the spirit and enthusiasm of the group increased in direct proportion to the challenges met. Our goals included seeing the fall colors, staying dry, staying warm and enjoying each other's company. All were accomplished and we saw a soaring owl on two occasions. Although the number per day varied, a total of sixteen participated in the adventure. Thanks to Tom Lindblade for teaching and recording. (A video complete with campfire singing records the trip.) Thanks to Bill O'Malley for leading the singing and assisting with car shifts. Thanks to all who came and helped make the trip memorable. **Joan Taylor**

Fox River, IL-Sheridan to Wedron, October 20

Twenty folks showed up to enjoy bug free and hot free atmosphere, muted fall colors, sun shine and good company while paddling the bluffs stretch of the river. Thanks to Dean Wiegel, Dave Brundage and Dave Coulter for carshifting. Apologizes to all who were bawled out by the outfitter at the takeout. Apparently the person who gave me permission was not the owner. **Joan Taylor**

Kishwaukee River, IL, November 9

For some it may have seemed like the last opportunity to paddle this fall. For whatever reasons, twenty-two folks showed up to enjoy fall on the Kish. We had several first timers. We had one dump, which maybe should be called initiation. One dumper was heard to say. "I learned a lot today". Thanks to Mark Morrall, Rich Rothrock and Murray Peshkin for help with carshifts. **Joan Taylor**

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:

**Donna Goldman
1118 Monroe St
Evanston, IL 60201**

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

SIGNED _____ DATE _____

SIGNED _____ DATE _____

LAST NAME _____ FIRST NAME _____

SPOUSE LAST NAME _____ SPOUSE FIRST NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ PHONE NUMBER _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

CHILDREN-UNDER 21(LIST AGE PLEASE)

PRINT OUR NAME/ADDRESS IN DIRECTORY YES NO

PRINT OUR E-MAIL ADDRESS IN DIRECTORY YES NO

I prefer to receive Newsletter by:

POSTAL MAIL DOWNLOAD FROM PSC WEB SITE

NOTIFY ME BY E-MAIL WHEN AVAILABLE ON WEB SITE

PSC Trip Listing for 2003

Trip Leaders, please fill in the required information in the form below and send to Larry Forgala by post or e-mail. **Please note that the traditional Trip leaders Meeting will not take place.** The master Schedule will appear in the first newsletter of the new year.

Send to: Larry Forgala,
9724 S Cook Ave,
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
708-425-0733
larryfor@msn.com

DEADLINE: January 17, 2003

Name of River	State/Location of River	Date(s)
Leader(s)	Phone	E-Mail

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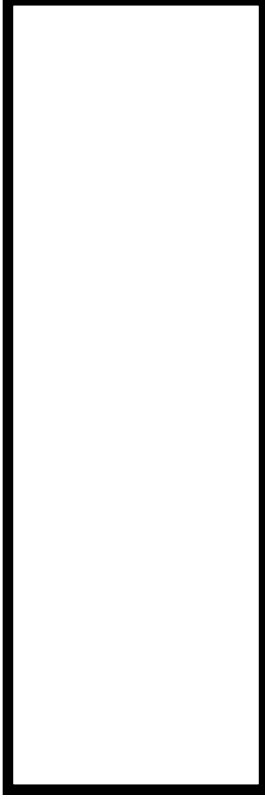
Name of River	State/Location of River	Date(s)
Leader(s)	Phone	E-Mail

Optional Information:

- Skill Level of the trip
- Notes or Description (You must still submit your trip announcement with complete details to the newsletter editor by edition deadline prior to your trip)

Prairie State Canoeists

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



If you have a **RED '02'** on your label
YOU NEED TO PAY YOUR DUES!
THIS will be the last issue you will receive!!!!!!
And You won't be in the 2003 PSC Directory!!
If you have a **black '03' or '04'**
your membership is up to date.