HUT!

VOLUME 4, NO. 7, MAY 1970



Calendar of Events

May 16 Sat.	Snake River Cruise
May 16-17 Sat. & Sun.	Wolf River Wildwater Races
May 17 Sun.	Snake River Cruise
May 17 Sun.	Kettle River Cruise
May 20 Wed.	Activities Meeting, 7:30 p.m.
May 23 Sat. & Sun.	Wolf River Slalom Races
May 27 Wed.	Board Meeting, Joe Conrad's
May 30 Sat.	Peck's Timber Trails, Campout
May 30, 31 Sat. & Sun.	Root River Cruise
June 6, 7 Sat. & Sun.	Flambeau Cruise
June 17 Wed.	Activities Meeting, Lake of the Isles

MAY 1970

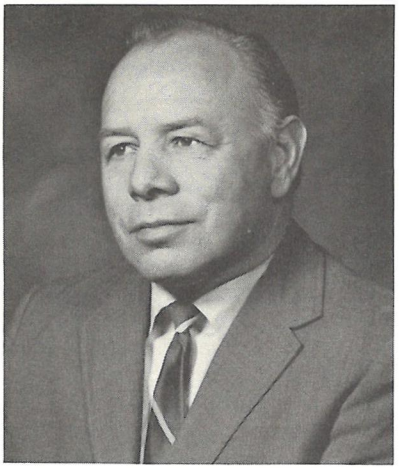
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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JUNE 1970

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
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28	29	30	-	-	-	-

HUT Staff

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Cruising – Ham Kurtz
Conservation – Glen Bennington
Amateur Flatwater Racing – Joe Conrad
Professional Flatwater Racing – Jeff Howe
Whitewater Racing – Georgia Haug
Photography – Bob Haug



Myron Chase

Activities Meeting

Each month the Minnesota Canoe Association holds a public meeting on a topic of interest to all canoeists.

Topic: Edible Wild Plants to Enrich Every Canoe Trip and Canoeists.
Date: May 20, 1970, 7:30 p.m. Sharp!
Place: Diamond Lake Lutheran Church at Diamond Lake Rd. and Portland Ave. S. in Minneapolis (about 2 blocks N. of 60ht St. on Portland, take Diamond Lake Rd or the 60th St. exit off I35W)

Myron Chase of Red Wing, Minnesota will present a unique program about edible wild plants and canoeing experiences near the Twin Cities, in Alaska, the Yukon, and Hudson Bay. Can you imagine living off the land on the Flambeau River with a youth group for nine full days? Or 300 People having a wild food dinner in the Catskill mountains. Such knowledge could save your life!

You will learn about useful and edible wild plants found everywhere from your back yard to the Quetico-Superior wilderness. You may even get a tasty sample!

Myron Chase is President of NATURE STUDY AIDS, INC., author of "Field Guide to Edible and Useful Wild Plants of North America" and "Field Guide to Tracks of North American Wildlife." NATURE STUDY AIDS, INC. are developers of visual aids and programs for schools Life Sciences, Conservation Education and Environmental Studies. They also pro uce visual aids for the Home Economic and Medical fields.

The MCA will have copies of Mr. Chase's books available for sale to MCA Members

Arctic River Described

Over 300 members of all ages filled the Stevenson Elementary School gymnasium in Fridley for the April 15th activity meeting. They enjoyed pre-show visiting, an excellent slide presentation by Bob O'Hara, and cookies-coffee-conservation talk afterward.

Bob commented on his good forture in getting a glimpse of all the major wildlife as they paddled the Thelon River in the Canadian Northwest Territories. Although he and Einar Anderson were delayed ten days by a late (July) ice breakup, it was obvious that this provided extra time for some fine closeup photography of the tundra flowers. Bob contrasted the former self-sufficiency of the Eskimos with the devastating impact of the modern industrial economy and questioned what effect the recent oil development would have on both the Eskimos and the delicate ecological balance in the Tundra.

Ian Richards urged members to take advantage of the conservation write-in organized by Al Buchholz and Glen Bennington, with information and writing materials provided for expression of viewpoints on the BWCA to Minnesota congressmen.

Fishing by Canoe

. . . or get hooked on fishing from canoes

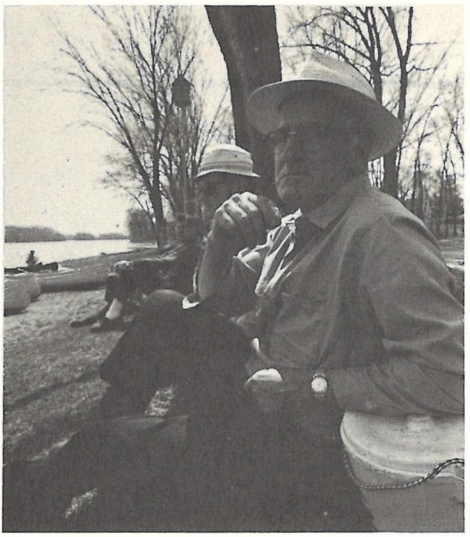
With the May 16th opening of Northern and Walleye season coming soon, why not use your canoe to fish with?
There seems to be three reasons why people fish from canoes. First, it is often the only boat owned by the fishermen. Secondly, the waters being fished are most easily managed by canoes. Thirdly, you may be cruising, and fishing is a great sideline activity.

There are some waters which seem to be best suited to canoe fishing. The car-top character of the canoe and its portage-ability make it ideal for those small lakes just off the road that you've been curious about. The smaller rivers also lend themselves to canoeing. Drifting downstream and casting into likely pools can be very pleasureable. To prevent the canoe from swirling around while drifting you might try dragging a small weight on a short rope to keep the canoe generally lined up and down the current.

If you are using your canoe for general fishing you might consider adding an outrigger pontoon or two for increased stability. Perhaps a small anchor could be of help. As a general rule stay off larger bodies of water or at least stay near shore.

For cruise fishing try to cut back on the amount of fishing equipment, especially large tackle boxes. Investigate pack rods and protective pouches for your reels to prevent damage to your equipment while packing and portaging.

Always remember the limitations of your canoe while fishing, and you should have many safe, profitable fishing experiences.



Abner Jones, Cruising Council Chairman

A Cruiser's Best Friend

If you have ever attended any of the MCA Whitewater races or most of the cruises, perhaps you have become aware of the presence of a very unassuming individual who is always ready to pitch in and help. Not only is this individual willing to help, but he is very capable besides, for he has been canoeing for some years and is quite at home in the outdoors. This easy familiarity with nature comes from a fondness and quiet concern that would serve as a fine example for most of us. I know that you would find your life enriched by getting to know Abner Jones, canoeist and MCA Director.

I find the more that I get to know Abner the more I enjoy living. Many people have found this to be so. Our secretary, Beth Siemon, was introduced to canoeing by Abner. She remembers how patient he was. "He pointed out what you were doing wrong in such a kind and patient manner that you couldn't help but get more interested in what you were doing." Now he has been trying to get a lot more people interested in cruising through the Cruising Council of which he is chairman. He has tried to organize that elusive creature the cruiser. So far the response to organized cruises has not been what he would like. I am convinced that we could all have more enjoyable cruising experiences if we heeded Abner's advise as set forth in his account of the Rum River Cruise.

The most important thing one could gain from a group cruise is the pleasure of good companionship. How can we compare the rich rewards of new friendships with a little bit of rain or wind? These cruises are organized to give you a chance to get out in your canoe, make new friends and try new rivers. I encourage you to get out and get to know Minnesota's rivers. While you're at it, get to know a cruisers best friend, Abner Jones.

Cruising

Snake River

Tom Green, 735-0905 Saturday, May 16

Tom is canoeing with a group of Explorer Scouts on the Snake River and welcomes MCA members to join him. Call him for details.

Snake River

Dave Markusen, 922-0304 Sunday, May 17

Dave is leading a cruise on this River on Sunday. Be sure to call him to check on water conditions and last minute details.

Kettle River

Tom Green, 735-0905 Sunday, May 17

Tom welcomes any MCA members to join with an Explorer Scout group cruising the Kettle on that Sunday. Call for details.

Root River

Willie Eppen, Rushford, Minn. May 30 & 31

The MCA joins with the Root River Canoe Trails Association for the annual Memorial Day weekend cruise of the Root River. This scenic trip starts at Chatfield and ends at Rushford after passing through some of the prettiest hardwood forests in the state. The put in point is just south of Chatfield and has been well marked in past years. Starting time is 9:00 a.m. Overnight camping Friday night is provided near the put in point if you wish to drive there the night before.

Following Saturday's paddling will be camping at Lanesboro campsites and transportation to other services.

If you do not want to cook, you can get a package meal plan from the Root River Canoe Trails Association. Included meals are: two bag lunches, two suppers (Lanesboro and Rushford), and Sunday breakfast. The cost is $15.00 per canoer.

If you plan on going, write to: Willie Eppen, Root River Canoe Trails Association, Rushford, Minn., 55971. Let him know the number of canoes in your party, the number of people, yes or no about camping Friday in Chatfield, if you plan on Sunday church and which denomination, and your name and address. If you want the meal package, enclose the correct amount. He must know all this to make arrangements by May 23th.

Shuttle service will be available at the end of the trip.

Memorial Day Week-end Camp-out

WHERE: Peck's Timber Trails Camp Grounds,
2 miles S.E. of Danbury Wisconsin

Danbury is the gateway to the wild rivers area of northwestern Wisconsin. The St. Croix, the Clam, Yellow, Namekagon, Bois Brule the Totagatic - dream rivers for the canoeist.

"Wild" refers mostly to the wild nature of the area rather than the wildness of the water. Most of these rivers have long stretches of placid, family type canoeing water. There are also some rip roaring rapids that will please the white water enthusiast. You will have your choice. There is hardly another place in the U.S. where a canoeist can camp in the proximity of such a variety of canoeable water. There are rivers you will want to canoe again and again.

There will be activities too for those who prefer not to canoe. The camp features hiking, swimming, fishing (the fishing is good) a play ground and a fenced in wading area.

Plan now, if you want to join us for this adventure. It will be necessary for us to contact the Camp in advance to be assured of a spot for your tent or camper. For reservations and more information call Linda Jones at 784-5302

Flambeau Cruise

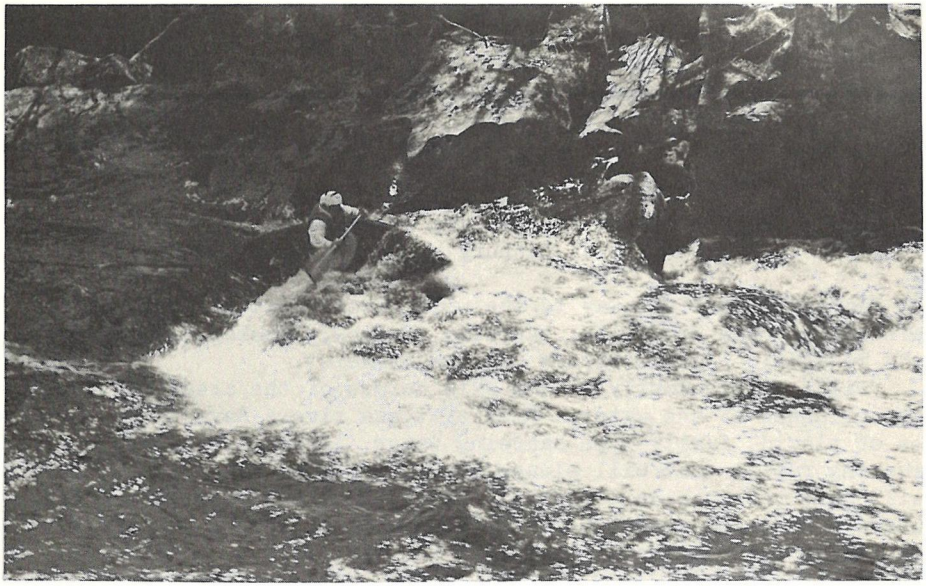
Janice and Janet Robidoux, 784-7086 June 6 & 7

This favorite Wisconsin river will be the scence for a two-day cruise early in June. The trip includes some wilderness camping (so provide your own food and gear) and some of the more canoeable whitewater around.

Be sure to call the cruise leaders so that shuttle service can be arranged. Rental of canoes is also possible.

The Flambeau area is about a three-hour drive from the Twin Cities, north of Ladysmith, Wisconsin, and the cruise will be from Big Bear Lodge to Flambeau Lodge.

Make reservations by May 27th.



Kettle Wild Water Race

RESULTS: KETTLE RIVER WILDWATER RACE May 2, 1970

EXPERT CLASSES

K-1

Sam Powers	10:07
Denny Withers	10:52
Bruce Campbell	11:35
Steve Sirr	13:29
J. Baker	DNF
Pete Cary	DNF
Ed Klunder	DNF

C-2

Steve Ransburg Eric Olsen	10:05
Al Button Joe Conrad	10:12
Bruce Campbell Bruce Weber	23:31

C-1

Al Button	11:06
Joe Conrad	11:27
Harool Beecroft	13:59
Eric Olsen	14:08
R. Nichols	15:00
Ian Richards	15:16

C-2M

Lynn Olson Steve Ransburg	11:00
Bonnie Losick Eric Olsen	11:30
L. Vedder R. Nichols	DNF

K-1W

Lynn Olson	11:21

The Kettle was in good form for the MCA Wildwater Races held on May 2. At $4\frac{1}{2}$ on the gauge, the water level presented quite a challenge for the experts with many of them spilling in the hungrey Dragon's Tooth Rapids. This year there were no mishaps as experienced by Al Button last year. The fairer sex was well represented by Lynn Olson who made a beautiful run down the whole treacherous course.



Ian Richards at WW Clinic

WW Clinic Held

Ian Richards held his clinic at Ketter's landing on Saturday, April 25 and Sunday, April 26. Turnout was about twenty to thirty people each day, and the rapidly flowing Mississippi proved to all that judging distance and maneuverability of one's canoe is a bit tricky.

A quick lesson on draw, cross-bow draw, J-stroke and pry started the session off. A further discussion followed about leaning downstream to keep water flowing under the boat instead of over the gunnales, and then Ian started leading people on tours through the buoys placed just off shore.

Participants threaded the buoys just as Ian demonstrated (sometimes). But, had the buoys really been rocks as they had imagined to be, most boats would have been sorely dented a few times, and all quite scratched by the day's end.

Everyone had a good time and plenty of exercise with several people attending both days. No one capsized; and (perhaps) since dents, scratches and rocks were all imaginary, each bow and stern paddler were still friends at the weekends conclusion.

Wolf River Races

Wildwater

Date: May 16-17
Place: Langlade, Wisconsin

It's May again and time for the Wolf River Amateur Wildwater races to be held in Langlade, Wisconsin. For several years now the WOLF RIVER WHITEWATER RACES, INC. have sponsored these exciting races on the beautiful Wolf River. Saturday is the scene of the 2½ mile races down to the Langlade Bridge open to everything from canoes, covered or open, to rafts. Different classes represented include C-2M, Men's C-1, Men's K-1, Women's K-1, 1-Man Canoe Poleing, Men's Raft Race and Inflated Craft Race. The course is over one of the calmer sections of the Wolf but has a lot of rocks that try to catch you. The worst thing that can result from a tip-over is a soaking; however, life-jackets are still in order.

On Sunday, the grueling 10-mile race for C-2s will allow all types of canoes to compete together on the waters downstream from Langlade. The 8-mile wildwater race through heavy whitewater will be limited to decked and skirted whitewater craft under 16½ feet.

These whitewater races on Sunday afford the spectator an excellent opportunity to view the most beautiful rapids on the Wolf River. We suggest the gang start of the 10-mile race leaving about an hour to drive to the County M bridge at Markton and walk upstream on the west bank to the Hanson Rapids to see the canoes come through (and perhaps spill) in one of the toughest sections of the race. A little later, view the contestants in the 8-mile event coming through. Excellent viewing is also possible at Gilmore's Mistake, just off the road below Alft's, Shotgun Eddie Rapids (perhaps the fastest) and Pismire Rapids, the finish at the WW bridge.

For more information contact: Wolf River Whitewater Races, Inc.
White Lake, Wi 54491

Slalom

Date: May 23-24
Place: Langlade, Wisconsin

The University of Wisconsin Hoofers Outing Club does a tremendous job with this slalom on the challenging Wolf River rapids. The race over class 2 to class 3 water is very well organized with an expert, intermediate and novice course for the usual whitewater slalom classes.

For more information contact: University of Wisconsin Hoofers
Assistant Outing Director
Memorial Union
Madison, Wi 53706

Whitewater: Safety or Suicide

Whitewater sport is great fun when the safety rules are followed. The MCA has a good safety record - no serious injuries during five seasons of organized boating. Others are not always so fortunate.

Recently two college age men and a girl broke most of the rules, resulting in two near drownings in Hell's Gate canyon on the Kettle river. If several MCA paddlers had not taken swift action, two of three rafters might have drowned on April 26th, after their raft went over in Blueberry Slide. One man swam to shore after the upset, but the others suffered the consequences of:

1. not knowing the limits of their ability or equipment
2. not wearing wet suits as protection against cold spring water
3. not scouting the river in advance
4. not having an additional boat along for rescue
5. not notifying anyone that they were making the trip
6. not heeding a very strong warning from the more experienced MCA paddlers about the extreme danger of the river at high water (gauge reading 6.7 ft.)

The result was a very cold, turbulent, terrifying swim through one mile of class four water, with the girl trapped underneath the overturned raft in a web of rope.

Only luck prevented a repeat of last years drowning of raftsmen in the same spot. Three MCA members saw the raft washing through Dragon's Tooth Rapids and pulled it and the two remaining occupants to shore. Both were in shock by then and the girl stopped breathing several times. Pete Cary's medical training enabled him to revive her with mouth to mouth recuscitation. The warmth of the weather and warm blankets rushed in by trail prevented the girl's death from exposure. Several MCA whitewater boaters completed the rescue by summoning a doctor and ambulance, making a stretcher with a polyurethane foam pad, rope and paddles and carrying the girl out of the canyon. All three rafters had recovered within two hours from their close brush with death.

Whitewater boating is only as safe as you make it. We urge you to go with an experienced group if you are inexperienced and to always heed the rules of safety illustrated here. There will still be plenty of excitement in whitewater sport and you'll be around to enjoy it longer.

Allan Button

Conservation

Dear MCA Member,

Here's some good news for Wolf River Canoers. A Chicago firm that bought land on both sides of the Wolf River in Langlade County for the purpose of dumping the city of Chicago's garbage has been thwarted. When the plan became known to the public, there was such an uproar the plans were immediately dropped.

Don't forget the K-1 race across the Milwaukee harbor in July (will send exact date later). Anyone from the MCA coming down for the race is welcome to stay here.

Yours truly,

John C. Erickson
820 Delafield St.
Waukesha, Wis.

THE KETTLE RIVER: A SCENIC RIVER

The Kettle River may soon be covered under the Wild, Scenic and Recreational Rivers Act of 1968. Senator Walter Mondale and Representative John Blatnik plan to introduce bills which would add the Kettle to eight rivers throughout the United States already preserved under this act.

The Kettle River is well known to the MCA which hosts a wild-water race there each spring in addition to cruising the lower stretches. Banning State Park surrounds the toughest stretch of whitewater in Minnesota, Hells Gate, and provides many scenic spots for watching the experts battle the River.

The name Kettle refers to a geological formation left by the glacial rivers as they washed large holes in the sedementary rocks of the region. Of more recent historical importance is the lumbering operations which crossed this area in the mid 19th century and the early quarry which was mined at Sandstone and Banning.

The two million people who live within an hours drive of the Kettle will, no doubt, put excessive pressure on this River in the near future.

from the EDITOR

Every outdoor enthusiast has a favorite type of weather. I remember one day that was perfect for me. The morning had been so foggy that I couldn't see the granite islands which surrounded our boundary waters campsite. One T-shirt, one work shirt, one wool shirt, one sweat shirt, and one rain jacket topped off my apparel. As we paddled down the lake, my hands were a little cold in the water and drizzle, but I was so warm inside that it didn't bother me. The drizzle became rain every now and then. It was a test of concentration to navigate the route from such limited visibility. I was staying close to shore. None of us spoke. Every sound was muffled by a blanket of humidity. Our paddle strokes were simple sounds, the swish and swirl of water. A kingfisher swooped out of the fog and perched on an over-hanging limb. We agreed to eliminate the command to switch sides and counted the strokes to ourselves. No one could miss-count in such a quiet. A fish surfaced next to me, undisturbed by our silent shape, nor was I surprised; the quiet appearance of fish or kingfisher seemed as natural and expected as my own silent presence in this wilderness. Then a sound surprised me. It seemed to shake those granite rocks which had stood immobile a million years. It resonated from the water. It vibrated inside my canoe. It rummaged through my mind and replaced ancient instincts with the outline of a modern outboard ....I was lining up the young fox for a picture. My cross country skis gave me a good platform to photograph from even in the little light which was filtering through the heavy winter overcast. Then before my ears could detect a sound, the fox came to full alert. I saw him test the wind. Then the rumble of the cold air billowed against even my insensitive eardrums. I searched the open ice with my telephoto for movement. There I made out the form of a snowmobile, headed in my direction....I was running on a road through a marsh in the morning rain. The spring was a good time for birds and frogs, especially when it rained. I could hear them all singing to defend their territories. The red-winged blackbirds were almost ready to lay eggs in the nests of the marsh. I slowed to a jog and then stopped to listen more carefully. It was the music of the once wild country retained in these voices. I thought of the voices that are gone; the howl of the wolf and coyote. And I thought of the many more silent ones that are gone; the fisher, the bear, the passenger pigeon, the eagles, the osprey, the peregrine. It wasn't a very complete thought. I had never known all those creatures and I never will, at least on this road. I probably could have thought further but just then a car came down the road and splashed a little muddy water on me as it sped past. *ER*



Gary and Gwen Quick with Randy, Brya

Canoeing ...

Are you a married canoeist with three children? Do you long for adventure on Minnesota's rivers? Do you ever think that, with a family, canoeing is impossible? Are you still paddling around in a 15 or 17 foot canoe? Do you have ulcers? Wouldn't it be nice to paddle down Minnehaha creek after work? Or run up to the Rum river for a moonlight picnic supper? Are you short on exercise? Do you have a tolerant wife? If the answers are yes, then take heart. This is the story for you to read.

The winter of '69 found Gary Quick removing portions of a wall in his home so that his 18-1/2 foot canoe might be carried to the basement for a coat of fiberglass. "It got too cold in the garage for working with fiberglass," commented Gary. "We had to find a warmer spot." Gary recalled a few other minor problems. "I was sanding the inside with an electric drill and disc when I saw my feet right through the canoe." But things didn't really go that badly. Gary got the whole thing patched in a hurry and Karl Ketter was asleep after twelve if emergency instructions were needed during the morning hours. Gary, who is the MCA's printer, worked on free evenings to complete the boat by March just in time for the spring break-up.



n and Danny while canoeing the Rum River.

Family Style

Gary and his wife Gwen were married in 1958 and bought an aluminum canoe in 1959. This craft served their purposes for a while, but now the Quick's have three children, Danny who is 2-1/2 years old, Bryan who is 7, and Randy who is 9. So Gary needs a bigger canoe and that was how he chose the 18-1/2 foot strip canoe.

The Quick's have often vacationed from Sawbill Lake in Northern Minnesota, and they were interested in the portaging weight of their boat. In the end the boat was 68 pounds. Gary attributed this to the use of 7 oz. fiberglass cloth on both the inside and outside of the canoe. He believes that 4-1/2 oz. might be better for the inside in terms of keeping the weight down.

In any case, the canoe was still light enough to blow off their car on the way back from the chilly Rum River MCA cruise, but strong enough to stay in one piece. "I had to replace the seats and gunnels," said Gary, "but the rest of it was OK."

The three children have been raised on the water. They were all canoeing, or resting on a little bed in the canoe, from age three months on. "We have had a wonderful experience overall," concludes Gary, "and we have learned a great number of things which will help when we build our next canoe, soon."

ACTING PRES

Dear Members,

Last week I received an interesting letter which I would like to show to you in order to share my thoughts about it.

March 4, 1970

Dear Sir;

I no it does'nt mean anything but I would also like to resign from the Minnesota Canoe Association. It seems like we've created the same kind of "establishment" that people go canoeing to get a way from. I have been an out of state member for a year now and I have found a club in California that really makes sence to me. The Feather River Kayak Club. If it will help I would like to quote from Mel Schneller of the Feather River Club. "Our club is unusual. The only requirement is a boat and an interest in improving. There are no dues, by-laws or rules except normal decency and respect. No one votes you in or out--thats your decision... We are unique in that we don't want the organization to interfere with our enjoyment of the sport as most clubs usually end up." Beautiful! You should all join. Think about it, its not a small club.

Thomas J. Abbett, Assoc. Member
Minnesota Canoe Association
944 Murray
Medford, Oregon

*This letter is reprinted exactly as I received it.



Protection Sought for Kettle River

By Al McCONAGHA
Minneapolis Tribune
Staff Correspondent

WASHINGTON, D.C. — ngressional efforts will gin this week to add Min-sota's 53-mile-long Kettle ver to the national wild nic and recreational system.

Sen. Walter F. M Minn., will introdu the Senate Mo ce the river und tection, it urday. Rep. J District Dem soon introduc islation in the House.

The river in east-central nnesota begins in Carlton nty and flows south to St. Croix River. The por-of the St. Croix above lors Falls, Minn., is al-

Mondale, Blatnik Want National System

river pools.

is rich in his-tion with ev-nesota lum-during the and early ning, and

ded im-mity to It also ravaged ckley for-

a large fish ficularly wal-rgeon and ass. Deer, bea-rat, heron and part of the river

Twin Cities.

The Minnesota D ment of Conservation has ready authorized the Kettle

result of glacial activi includes moraines, holes and caves alon river bank.

The river runs th heavy aspen and birch at its beginning to pin hardwood forest f south. Though it flow some farmland, nearly thirds of the Kettle ba forested.

At Banning State near Sandstone, the dashes through a about 130-feet deep. T the Hells Gate Rapids. mile long and carries four major drops of five feet each.

The Kettle enters Croix River after a run of rapids on the ern boundary of St State Park at Cheq State Forest. The ri

I, perhaps more than anyone, can understand why Tom wrote this letter. I've been a member of the MCA for four years, but I avoided getting involved until recently. There is irony in the fact that the more one organizes an activity the less time one has to do it. I was not willing to sacrifice paddling time to sit around talking about canoeing. There will probably always be people who feel that way, but on the other hand, there are usually a few who are willing to spend time to coordinate the efforts of many people to further the purposes of the group. There are two ideas here, and I think that there is room for both of them in the MCA.

The MCA is made up of various interest groups: cruisers, racers and campers to name a few. Most members do these things on their own and would do them even if there were no club. They get together, however, to enjoy the comradeship of others, to work on projects and to share with newcomers some of the tricks of the trade.

We have a club dedicated to promoting all aspects of canoeing. Who will carry out the promotion of building, competition, education, conservation or just the pure enjoyment of canoeing? When we unite to carry out these goals, we become the "establishment".

Perhaps, Tom, the Feather River Club is doing these things I mentioned. If so, then someone is sacrificing time to organize. You may have only your kayak and the desire to improve, but somebody is doing the work. Maybe you should find out who and offer to help!

Concerning our own MCA, anyone interested in nominating himself for an office for next year or in helping one of the committees can get in touch with one of the board members, and we will start showing you the inner workings of the club now. We need fresh ideas and enthusiasm. Let's work together to keep the canoe club here helping those who just want to get out and enjoy a little solitude.

Jeffrey B. Howe
Jeffrey Brian Howe
Acting President
Minnesota Canoe Assn

"The Wayward Wind" is the first of a series of articles by Bill Fisher. Bill has spent the previous sixteen summers traveling in the Quetico-Superior Canoe Country. Readers may recognize many of the lakes and portages, and will appreciate learning of the more remote lakes.

The Wayward Wind

Of the many who have written of their adventure in this area, Sig Olson speaks as no other man can. But each man who has traveled the canoe country has known special moments and places, and two elements common to all: the spell of the wilderness and the companionship that develops when men share this experience.

Many MCA members know this land well, going each summer with family or friends, or having guided at camps which cruise through it and beyond. Some will wish to write and add another story about a lake or portage mentioned.

Windbound--and a "time schedule" to meet. Sooner or later one admits that such a schedule is not part of the wilderness and he can then sit with his back against a great pine and watch it sway and feel the interplay of forces. He knows that evening will bring a gently rolling lake and after eating where he is, he can navigate the big lake in darklight if he must (only once did I get a 48-hour blow).

In the mid-1950's when I began from the Ely end, moving northeast and circling back (the Knife chain, Kekekabic, Thomas--or Ogishkemuncle, Little Sag, Alice, Insula), the lakes were small or broken by islands and the wind made work for us but did not halt us. But when we headed farther north (the Man chain, Saganagons, and down the river to Kawnipi) we hard the warning, passed in small exchanges at portages--"Hope you don't get a southwester on Agnes."

Mid-morning we came into Agnes from the East branch river, thinking of reaching Louisa Falls in the afternoon and showering there. A steady wind blew occasional gusts--from the southwest. By the time we made the south end of the big island we were glad to get off the lake. We held a war council (three of us in a 17 ft. Grumman). We watched the whitecaps roll by and estimate

the troughs at five feet and decided to give up reaching the Falls and take the alternate Silence-Shade route. It was a mile and a half to that portage--if we could quarter to the west shore, a half mile across, we hoped to dodge in and out of the bays for the remaining mile.

Once on the open lake again, we took the mainline waves, which had come rolling four miles from the south. Someone wrote of the 7th wave that rolls in from the ocean--it is supposedly the heaviest, after which the cycle begins again. In the stern of that canoe with a 650 lb. load, I discovered the fourth one was the one to fear. The biggest rollers came in groups of three--we tried to hold our quarter angle as these hit us, but each one swung us slightly more broadside, and we knew that if a fourth roller came it would swamp us.

We made the far shore. We tried to work down the shoreline but somehow there were always those rollers pounding the points. Each time we went out we told ourselves we should not have--we debated portaging the last point but finally paddled round it and escaped into Silence.

Some say a tailwind is more dangerous than a headwind. Twice since then I have been out in bad winds on Pickerel lake on the northern border of the Quetico, both times running with the wind. The one time we were seeking help for a tragedy-stricken party. The other time the wind came on us when we were too far from shore and we knelt and drifted to the nearest island, each canoe arriving at a different one. I still see the other canoes rising and disappearing into troughs, and my bow man perching on a crest before plunging down. "I'm getting seasick," he said.

The wind and the river currents are realities of wilderness canoe travel, and those who choose the journey must measure the challenges with good judgment.

HUT Advertising

Advertising in "Hut" is good business. One thousand canoeists receive our monthly journal, which is a substantial readership with a specific interest. This should interest the merchants who rent and sell canoeing and camping equipment. The next time you purchase sporting equipment tell the businessman that you are from the MCA and that the best way for him to reach the entire MCA is by advertising in "Hut".

Bob Haug is the business manager for "Hut" and will be more than happy to discuss "Hut" advertising with any member or interested merchant. Bob's phone number is (612)-331-5634.

Board Meeting

MINNESOTA CANOE ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors. The meeting was called to order at 8 p.m. by acting president Jeff Howe in Lakeland, Minnesota on April 22, 1970.

The following were present at the meeting:

Jeff Howe, Acting President	Royce Sanner, Director
Beth Siemon, Secretary	Pam Foster
Ian Richards, Treasurer	Bob and Georgia Haug
Al Button, Director	Joe Conrad
Abner Jones, Director	Glen Bennington

RESOLUTIONS:

1. RESOLVED: that the club give back to chapters $1.00 for every five-dollar member. Passed.
2. RESOLVED: that Ian Richards, Jeff Howe, and Royce Sanner be empowered to write checks (singly) on both bank accounts. Passed.
3. RESOLVED: that the Board of Publications be authorized to follow the guidelines for advertising rates and sales procedures as outlined by Bob Haug, and report back to the Board. Passed.
4. RESOLVED: that a vote of confidence be given to the newsletters recommendations of expenses and page size of HUT! Passed.
5. RESOLVED: that the Board empower Joe Conrad to take whatever steps necessary for the next two months to get the HUT! issues out. Passed.
6. RESOLVED: that the MCA dues/membership policy be amended so that (1) individual annual memberships shall run for one year from the first day of the month following the initial application of membership together with payment in advance of one full year's dues, and (2) an annual membership shall lapse (and the member shall not be a member in good standing) unless the renewal dues is paid within 15 days after the member's annual renewal date; provided that nothing in this policy shall preclude freedom of action in mailing of copies of HUT. to persons whose memberships have expired. Passed.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Siemon, Secretary

The weather didn't cooperate for the Rum River Cruise on April 12. It was windy, rainy and cold, so we didn't have the 20 or more canoes we expected; we had 3 (2 girls and 4 men).

The weather improved as any optimist would expect and we cruised in warm dry comfort. This brings me to the time when I must offer my philosophy for the benefit of those who wait until "we see what the weather is like", to wit: "Don't ever let the weather interfere, plan with no thought whatsoever of the weather." I suppose a lot of this has to do with the way I grew up. Life on the farm - running trap lines - involved work in the woods. We couldn't wait for the weather to improve, we had to go now; but we were prepared for anything and dressed for it. Even in Minnesota you can be warm and comfortable under most conditions. Early spring and late fall are the most difficlut times to prepare for; you must expect anything from warm sunshine to rain or a blizzard and 30 below.

If you are one who "waits for the weather report" you are going to miss so much. Get a good complete rain suit with rubber boots or overshoes, some rubberized or buckskin gloves and go next time. You may find it exhilarating to paddle in a soft rain. Most of the time when you arrive at the put-in spot, the rain will have stopped the sun will be out again and you will have a duffle full of rain gear that's not needed.

Abner Jones

KAYAKERS!

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Pro Racing

The Minnesota pros are getting organized for the coming season. A meeting was held at Buzzy Peterson's house where we discussed the Jensen Handicap, Grand Rapids, and Cloquet Races.

The racers compiled a list of 16-foot racing canoes that might be available for the Jensen Handicap, and arrangements were made to contact the owners for permission to use them. The idea of trying to get as many competitors as possible to the Handicap was discussed with the hope that they might be enticed to race at some of our other early races where good turnouts could influence the future of the events.

The Grand Rapids race, billed as the Minnesota State Canoe Championship, has not confirmed its date yet, but there is a lot of enthusiasm in the area to make it an even more successful race than in the past. Will Buzzy and Steve Peterson win the Cohasset sprint in the same spectacular manner they have for the past two years, or will the undisputed state champions be dethroned? Come and see for yourself. The time and place of the start will be announced in the June "Hut".

The main topic of conversation was the new race to be held on the Cloquet River on Friday, June 19th, and Saturday, June 20th. It promises to be a tough race from the County Road 52 bridge to Cloquet. The first lap, 3 to 4 hours, will end at Floodwood where festivities are planned with awards for the winners of that lap. Racing from Floodwood to Cloquet, the second lap, should take about 6 to 8 hours. There is $1500 in prize money paying down to seventh or eighth place. The 18½-foot, 3&27" rule will apply. Teams as far away as Michigan and Canada are being invited, and negotiations are being made to have the Wide World of Sports film the race from a helicopter.

There will also be an amateur class and a Boy Scout class. At this time there are no details of the amateur class available. The Boy Scout class will be run by the Boy Scouts of Cloquet. If interested, please contact the Cloquet Chamber of Commerce.

A Victory for the MCA

...and for Al Button, who went East to meet the big guns in American Whitewater racing. The occasion was the Potomac Wildwater Race, held in West Virginia over the April 4-5 weekend. Al, paddling C-1, used the Minnesota switching style (HUT! - except you don't yell it when yourre paddling single). This is considered hopelessly amateurish by the Eastern paddlers, who have traditionally ruled American Whitewater canoeing, and Al's performance won him comments like "That poor guy, doesn't know how to steer." It also won him 1st. place, by one and a half minutes over the 40 minute course.

Second was John Sweet, a former American champion, followed by seventeen others. The shoreline comments were recorded by Jean Hamm who teamed up with Al in C-2 mixed. An unlucky tipover put them back in fifth place. Congratulations Al and Jean!

Canoe Cookery

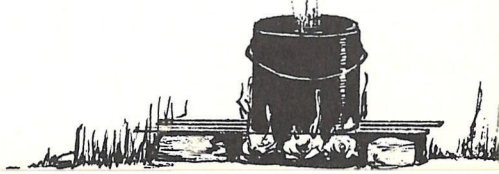
by Jean-Marie Fisher

HEAT-SEAL YOUR OWN CAMPING FOODS

If you've got the trail foods blues, consider carrying your own mixes. Too perishable, too heavy, too much work at camp, you say? Not necessarily. Less expensive, more tasty, more variety, I say. Most important, you can tailor the food to your tastes. (You can still complement the food list with prepackaged trail foods you like.) The secret is heat-sealed pouching.

Heat-sealing permits you to seal out destructive moisture and most airborne bacteria, and to seal in messy-to-carry foodstuffs. You can carry everything from dry mixes to fresh shelled eggs to molasses without worrying about disasterous consequences. Pouch anything you will want to water-cool except meats, which must be canned or dried, and fresh dairy products. Pouching deters spoilage, but is not a substitute for canning. (As reference, keep in mind that meat is normally refrigerated at temperatures close to 42° and eggs at 35°.) If you don't put anything sharp in the same pack, you need not worry about the pouches bursting open. And it's probably just as well not to assign carrying the pack to Awkward Charlie.

I use Kapak Industries pouches (made from 3M Scotchpak heat-sealable polyester film). They can be sealed with your clothes iron. It's faster and more reliable to use Kapak's electric sealer. You could buy one on shares with camper friends. (Heat-sealing is handy for home freezing, too.)



Upper Mississippi

When Ken Berger planned the Upper Mississippi River Cruise for April 18th and 19th, he hoped for a small group. His hopes were realized with one other canoe coming along on this trip. At launch time he had a prediction of four inches of snow, but that exceed his wishes too. On Sunday there were ten to twelve inches of new snow. Though Saturday was "nice" according to Ken, Sunday was something else. So much snow fell that quiet places in the River became slushy. It was possible in several places to stand a paddle upright in the slushy water! Much of the River was a swamp area Sunday which shallowed out and required alot of walking. A few rapids were encountered but had to be portaged. Ken reports that the canoe makes a fine toboggan on steep portages in fresh snow. And then, things got worse. Ken's car was snowed in, and he had to walk to a farm house for aid. Ken reported that Ed Beck piloted the other canoe and credits the smoothness of handling all the problems to Ed's good canoeing ability.

They did see some wildlife, as planned. A mink came within six feet of Ed's canoe, several heron were spotted, many ducks seen, and three deer were observed.

Ken may plan the same trip next year as a joint venture with some local snowmobiling group.

FRYING BREAD* (15 camp minutes)

Pour quick bread batter into well-greased 9 or 10 inch heavy skillet. Smooth surface of batter with back of spoon. Cover and fry like an oversized griddle cake. When set, about 10-12 minutes, turn and fry uncovered 5 minutes more. Watch carefully to avoid scorching. (Tip: To turn loaf without breaking it, loosen quickly with spatula until you're sure bread is free of skillet. Invert on cover or metal plate. Use spatula to gently slide bread back into skillet.

JOHNNY CAKE* (15 camp minutes)

1 c. flour	2 tsp. baking powder	Blend first five ingredients
1/2 c. corn meal	3 T. dried eggs	thoroughly with fingers.
1/2 tsp. salt	1/3 c. milk powder	Lightly stir in remaining
1/4 c. sugar		ingredients. Put mix in
1/4 c. shortening		pouch and heat-seal.

At camp — Add 7/8 c. water; mix well. Pour into greased 9 or 10 inch skillet and heat (see FRYING BREAD, above).

*from A FINE KETTLE OF FISH And Other Things: The Wilderness Chef's Handbook, © 1970 Jean-Marie Fisher



Information on Epoxy:

The MCA epoxy has been reformulated to provide easier working in many situations. The new formulation will cure faster, 3 to 5 hours or overnite at even relatively low temperatures 55° or 60°. This epoxy also will cure in thin layers, as for strip boats, since many persons are now using epoxy resin for superior hardness on wood and foam cored boats. The resin also is thinner (lower viscosity) for greater ease of lay up for molded boats and gives a reasonable pot life of 45 minutes to 3 hours depending on temperature.

One doesn't get all these properties purely gratis, and some procedural precautions are necessary;

1. These are two different liquids in the hardener container - mix thoroughly for best results,
2. Be reasonably careful to accurately mix 1 part of hardner to 2 parts of resin by volume. Epoxy is much more critical this way than polyester,
3. Wear rubber gloves and work in a well ventilated area.

A few further tips:

1. Mixing the 2 hardener liquids is easier if both are warmed slightly by perhaps floating the container over warm water,
2. If solid crystals form in the hardener warming 160° to 212° 212° F (boiling water) will disolve them and no harm will result,
3. Be sure containers, brushes and rollers are dry, water in uncured epoxy will severely affect it.

Bob Haug

Epoxy Materials

The MCA will have epoxy resin about the 20th of May. Shortly after that, if should be available at both the North and South Depots

North Depot	Cliff Lee 423 - 79th Way N.E., Fridley	(Phone 784-8202)
South Depot	Jerome Kress 5647 Wood Lane, St. Louis Park	(Phone 929-6949)

Cost is $9.00 for 3/4 gallons (minimum quality)
$15.00 for 1 1/2 gallons and up.

Available in 3/4, 1 1/2, and 3 gallon units or multiples.

Book Review

The Environmental Handbook. Ed. by Garrett De Bell; Published by Ballantine Books, Inc./Friends of the Earth. 345°01894°X°095

Rumor among "eco-freaks" has it that The Environmental Handbook was produced in two weeks of evenings at the request of Mr. Ballantine (an ardent conservationist) of Ballantine Books, Inc. Regardless of the time element involved, the Handbook is a remarkably comprehensive collection of articles dealing with virtually every aspect of the environmental crisis.

The Handbook, edited by Garrett De Bell, was prepared specifically for the National Environmental Teach-In on April 22, 1970, and is only the first of a series of handbooks. This book is a "must-be-read" for all concerned about the state of the environment not because of the wealth of information provided by the experts whose articles appear--this kind of information can be seen almost daily in the mass media--but because of the Handbook's emphasis on action that can and should be taken by individual citizens in articles like "On How to be a Constructive Nuisance," in two large sections of "Eco-tactics," and also with catalogs of and applications for conservation organizations.

The materials contained in the Handbook are mainly excerpts from articles or speeches by experts who are to-the-point, hard-hitting, and frankly outraged at Man's flagrant abuses of his environment. Though the articles are all strictly factual, the authors pull no punches: "How convenient for the petroleum industry if it were no longer compelled to drill wells and such for petroleum, but could simply skim oil from the ocean's surface..." "... the American petrochemical industry and its subsidiary, the U.S. Department of Agriculture..."

Of particular interest to canoeists concerned about the preservation of truly fresh water would be the remarks in "On How to be a Constructive Nuisance" dealing with the credibility gap and noteable inactivity of the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration.

Keynotes of this book are provided by editor De Bell and Dr. Paul Ehrlich (The Population Bomb), respectively: "The solution to the problem is not found in a simple banning of billboards and non-returnable bottles, nor in the promotion of anti-litter campaigns and highway beautification... Dealing with our ecological crises in population, water and air pollution, pesticides, transportation and the quality of life requires more than mere palliatives. It requires the restructuring of many aspects of society."

"It is the top of the ninth inning. Man, always a threat at the plate, has been hitting Nature hard. It is important to remember, however, that NATURE BATS LAST."

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please print in ink or type. Make application for membership on official MCA forms only. Fill in all spaces each time you renew. If you do not want to use the back page of your Hut, join at a monthly meeting. Forms will be available there.

MEMBERSHIPS

1) Regular Members —$5.00 annual dues; full club benefits.
2) Junior Members —$3.00 annual dues; full benefits except for voting rights. Not yet age 19.
3) Associate Members —$2.50 annual dues; receives the newsletter. May purchase separately, items in the membership kit.
4) Life Members —Full benefits for life.

Your membership card will be your proof of payment. Memberships are non-transferable. Make checks payable to the Minnesota Canoe Association, Inc.

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MINNESOTA CANOE ASSOCIATION, INC.

P. O. Box 14177, University Station, Mpls., Mn. 55414

Address correction requested:

The Minnesota Canoe Association, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to promote all aspects of canoeing.

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