HUT!

FEBRUARY 1971



MINNESOTA CANOE ASSOCIATION

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COVER
Portage on the Coppermine

Photo by Bob O'Hara

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb. 10	Board meeting at home of Abner Jones, 7966 Eastwood Drive, Minneapolis, 7:30 p.m.
Feb. 17	Outdoor Activities Fair, House of Hope Presbyterian Church (location of last Annual Banquet), 797 Summit Avenue, St. Paul, 7:30 p.m.
Mar. 10	Board meeting at home of Kurt Mommsen, 6265 Sunny Lane, Minneapolis, 7:30 p.m.
Mar. 17-20	Whitewater Carnival, Brookdale Shopping Center, central mall, evenings.

CONTENTS

Activities 1
Editorial 2
Pro-Racing 5
Cross Continent Canoe Safari 6
Walt's Corner 7
Finding the Right Outfit 8
Cruising Capers 10
How to Fiberglass a Canoe Paddle . . 12
Trading Post 13
Letter From Bavaria 14
Floating in the Ozarks 15
Conservation 16

DEADLINES FOR EACH ISSUE:
News – the 15th day of previous month
Features – the 10th day of previous month

HUTI Magazine is published monthly by the Minnesota Canoe Association, Inc., a nonprofit organization, and is distributed to more than 1000 members and numerous friends of the MCA across the nation. Our purpose is to distribute information about canoe sports and canoe camping, to preserve and promote wild rivers, to effect conservation of canoeable waterways, and to encourage canoeing as family recreation.

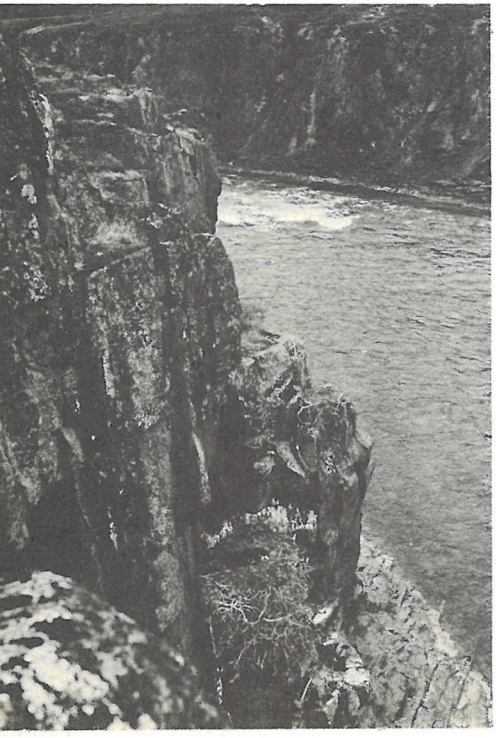
MCA Outdoor Activities Fair Set for House of Hope

The February activities meeting promises to be informative. The Outdoor Activities Fair will include demonstrations, displays and information on ski touring, winter camping, pro racing, whitewater *cruising,* canoe building, conservation, canoe camping and other subjects. Equipment, from lightweight (backpacking) to heavy (car camping), will be displayed.

The Fair will be held in the same building, same room, in which the November Annual Banquet was held. Come to the House of Hope Presbyterian Church on February 17 at 7:30 p.m. The building is at 797 Summit Avenue, St. Paul. See you there.

March Whitewater Carnival Still Scheduled for Brookdale

Brookdale is still the scene, we're told, for the Whitewater Carnival, the MCA's March activities meeting. It is scheduled for the evenings of March 17 - 20. Ian Richards has been dubbed "man in charge". The whitewater people will demonstrate the ups and downs of whitewater paddling, featuring such things as the English gate and the spectacular Eskimo rolls. Although no one will confirm it, we hear there may be films of world championship canoe and kayak races. You will be brought up to date next issue.



Travelers Share the Beauty of Arctic Space and Time

The January activities meeting was held at the Prudential Auditorium. Captivating the audience, Bruce Koci and Bob O'Hara unfolded a very informative evening for MCAers while adding humorous anecdotes of their separate journeys on the Coppermine in the Northwest Territories. As Bruce expressed it, "You can only appreciate the beauty of the Tundra by getting on your hands and knees," and this was proven by their nature-sensitive slides.

EDITORIAL

Now You Can Help Control Your Environment

Thanks to Denny Withers, I recently read some pertinent, specific ecological information that I plan to apply myself. The items were in the *Environmental Action Committee Newsletter* published by interested individual employees of General Mills, Inc. (Denny is employed by General Mills.) I hope you find the following summary useful.

In response to one-way container critics, glass and can manufacturers have initiated programs to collect and recycle bottles and cans. The Glass Containers Manufacturers Institute is offering 1¢ per pound for glass bottles in 25 states. 14 million bottles per month were redeemed from July through September. Reynold's, Kaiser, and Alcoa offer 1/2¢ per aluminum can. Reynold's reports collecting 10 million cans per month. Locally you can take one-way bottles to Brockway Glass Company and cans to American Iron and Supply Company.

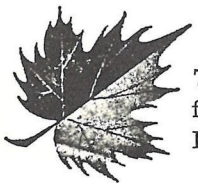
Brockway Glass Company in Rosemount will pay you 1¢ per pound for your one-way bottles. They're open to accept bottles on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 to 6 and Saturdays from 8 to 4. (Take 35W south to Highway 42, turning east through Apple Valley, to Highway 3. Turn north and go one mile.) Glass should be separated by color, and any metal rings should be removed. The American Iron and Supply Company in Minneapolis will pay 8¢ per pound for your aluminum cans. They're located at 2800 N. Pacific and are open each weekday from 8 to 4:30 and 8 to 12 on Saturdays.

Paper recycling. The United States accounts for 6% of the world's population and 50% of its consumption. Our consumption has produced the growing problem of solid waste and its disposal. Over one half of this country's solid waste is paper – paper that can be recycled and used again. By saving your newspapers, for example, you can help reduce 50% of the solid waste problem and protect the timber required for paper. One ton of recycled newsprint saves 17 trees. Check each Thursday evening's *Minneapolis Star* for paper pickups near you.

Phosphate detergents. Much has been said about the danger of phosphates in detergents, but some confusion still exists among consumers. Detergent phosphates are not broken down by bacteria, and can directly enter our own lakes and streams. The phosphates then cause eutrophication, the spurring of algae growth. This super-growth of the algae uses up the oxygen and kills the lake or stream. For example, it is estimated that Lake Erie has aged 15,000 years over the last 50 years.

Here are some nonphosphate detergents that are locally available in most grocery stores: Valley Dew, Ecolo-G, Sears Laundry Detergent, Basic L, Liquid All. No-phosphate detergents are not the complete answer but they do help, and it's something that you can do.

Lead-free gasoline. A great deal of controversy currently surrounds the use of lead-free gas. Two facts to keep in mind are that automobiles contribute nearly 60% of the nation's air pollution – and leaded gasolines dump an estimated 500 million pounds of lead into the air. Using lead-free gas will materially lessen the amount of lead poisoning put into our atmosphere. Our free enterprise system allows us to choose the products we buy, and you can choose cleaner air the next time you buy gasoline. If your car can use regular gas, try the lead-free gas from Standard Oil, Spur, or Shell.



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Summary of January Board Meeting

The January 13th meeting was held at the home of Larry Johns. Only Director Curt Momsen was absent.

Reports

Minutes were approved. Al Button read a summary report of action taken on the BWCA written by John Arver and Al Buchholz. Arver and Buchholz had attended the St. Paul hearing, at which time Al read a statement he had prepared on behalf of the MCA. [See this statement elsewhere in this issue. – Ed] Regulations were announced by Jarle Leirfallom on December 30, 1970, and most will be effective February 1, 1971. End results: Detergent ban was not included, most other points were included. Duncan and Daniels Lakes were omitted as requested. Deadline for stored boats was extended to 1973. Articles on the hearing have or will be submitted to HUT editor by Arver, and a summary of the rules by Buchholz.

The Cruising Committee met on December 18. Larry Johns was named new Cruising Council Chairman. So far 15 cruises are planned and have leaders. Another 12 or more cruises still need leaders.

The Blake Whitewater Club will sponsor a pool slalom on January 23 and 24 at the Blake School pool. Plans are being made for starting whitewater practice sessions at Southwest High School pool. Films are available from the Old Towne Company on past international slaloms for showing.

Pam Foster reported that everything is set for the January meeting. Tentative plans are being made for the February meeting, a Canoe Camping Fair, and for March, a paddling demonstration at Brookdale Shopping Center. Joe Conrad will head the May meeting with the topic River Trails.

The Professional Racers Committee profited $145 from the canoe raffle. Plans are being made for other money-making projects from which the profits will be pledged to various races.

A summary of previous board meeting minutes will be published in each subsequent edition of HUT!

Discussion

The possibility of making a film of the professional racers, to be owned and promoted by the club, was discussed.

Resolutions

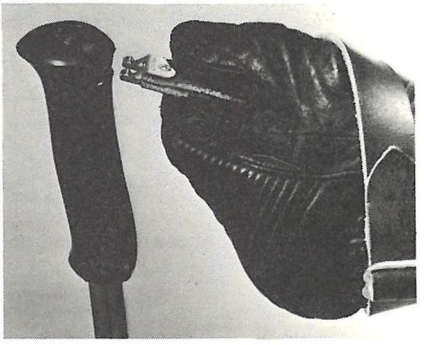
1. *Resolved:* that the club duplicate funds raised by the professional racers through their canoe raffle, the amount to total $300, to help promote races. *Accepted.*
2. *Resolved:* That the Board of Directors advocate the making of a professional racers promotion film. *Accepted.*
3. *Resolved:* That an honorary membership of the Minnesota Canoe Association be given to Betty Ketter. *Accepted.*

Four additional resolutions were tabled until the next meeting.

Advertisement

CLICKit™ SKI POLE STRAP RELEASE

PAT. PENDING



A new product of interest to canoeists-turned-skiers, CLICKit Ski Pole Strap Release, has been introduced this season. CLICKit is described by the manufacturer as a "unique safety-and-convenience device" which may be applied at home in minutes or purchased factory-installed on Scott brand poles. It permits the skier to "plug" the straps in and out of the pole handles. Thus, CLICKit provides a "safety release" if a pole gets caught in trees or tow apparatus. And it eliminates the troublesome struggle to slip straps off and on over bulky ski gloves when getting on and off the lift.

Other features cited were: Adaptability, to fit almost every ski pole; reliability, to prevent premature strap release unless there is abnormal accidental stress; simple installation, requiring only a screwdriver; attractive stainless steel construction, concealed in the handles.

Descriptive literature and dealer information available by writing to: Alpine International, Box 8501, White Bear Lake, Minnesota 55110.

BOB HAUG: A "Widget" Man Who Means Business as President

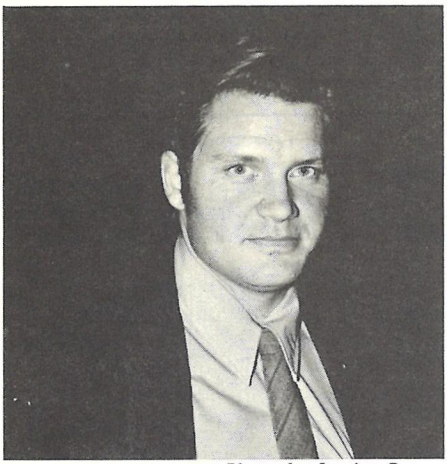


Photo by Lucian Brown

He's a reasonable man who likes reasonable people, but in spite of that he gives himself generously to reason with those who forget to do so. He means business. He accomplishes business. His steady, intelligent blue gaze hints why.

Bob Haug had an Army boss in Washington, D.C., who was a national wildwater K-1W champ. He borrowed her boat to make his first kayak trip down the lovely Shenandoah River, and was won to that mode of transportation. With a friend he made first his own mold and then his own kayak. The first races he entered discouraged him but didn't dissuade him.

When he finished his Army stint he returned to Minneapolis packing six boats and a mold. In the summer of 1967 he started advising others on making fiberglass and epoxy boats and paddles. Now he's probably the first man consulted by would-be builders of whitewater boats.

Bob first heard about the MCA in the Fall of 1966. To be specific, he heard about the "paddling math professor", Ian Richards, a whitewater man, and tracked him down in his hallowed halls of ivy at the U. to find out more about local whitewater paddling.

His first attempt at leadership in the MCA was helping put on the St. Croix Slalom in the Fall of 1967. Other assignments followed. He was elected President of the MCA in November, 1970.

He's an engineer for Honeywell – he calls himself a man who makes "widgets." Next to the MCA, a hobby ranked high is photography. At one point in his paddling career he landed in the hospital for a week. Unable to paddle as he wished, he turned to shooting movie footage. His present equipment centers around a Super-8 movie camera and a 35mm camera, plus equipment. Favorite subject material: birds and animals.

Bob married Georgia Longtin in October, 1968. The crossed paddles on their wedding announcement signified dual interest. Georgia made a kayak which has since been stolen.

When asked what he thought that he could best offer the MCA as its president, he responded, "Organization. And getting the whole thing on firm, not floating, policies – getting them all in black and white. Defining the MCA's goals."

We asked him what he thought one of the MCA's major roles should be. "Getting training sessions going," he said definitely. "We should become a known and effective voice for all types of canoeists, for all types of canoeing and related activities, as stated in our constitution."

The MCA means a lot to Bob Haug, and Bob Haug means a lot to the MCA. It's a healthy interchange.



RESOURCEFUL RACER DISCOVERS A WINTER USE FOR BANJO PADDLES

PROFESSIONAL RACING

Championship Race to be Held on AuSable River

The Oscoda-AuSable Chamber of Commerce has been selected to host the 1971 USCA National Championship Downriver Canoe Race. The announcement was made by Robert D. Gramprie, Race Chairman. It will be held August 28-29 on the AuSable River (lower peninsula of Michigan, northeast corner). The course, rules and regulations will remain almost the same as in last year's amateur race held there.

DIVISIONS – Classes are: championship senior men, championship senior women, championship mixed doubles, intermediate senior men, championship junior boys (must be less than 19 years old). Championship senior men will paddle 46 miles, about 3½ hours, the first 27 miles is across two ponds (two portages across dams), the last 19 miles is downriver. All other races cover 20 miles, about 1½ hours; the first mile is across part of a pond, with one dam to portage, and the course continues 19 miles downstream.

AWARDS – Two trophies will be given to each of the first five teams of each event. Embroidered arm patches commemorating the race will be given to each participant upon receipt of entry fee.

ENTRY FEES – The entry fee of $3 for each Junior and Senior ($6 per team) covers all races and allows you to enter as many events as you choose and qualify for. Plan to register early to aid race planning, coordination and coverage. If you want a copy of the newspaper coverage of last year's race, please include an additional 25¢ for each copy and mark it on your entry blank.

Pro Racers Initiate Series of Articles

The pros have found a nice sharp pencil and a very good typist. In future issues of HUT! the pro racing section will feature short informative articles. Subjects to be covered will range from tips on efficient paddling to canoe design and construction. If you have a particular question or area of interest, let a pro know, and we'll try to cover it for the benefit of all HUT! readers. Watch this section – the pros are on the move.

What's the Hurry, or What's a Canoe Racer?

It has something to do with challenge and achievement. It has a lot to do with one's efforts to improve. But it has most to do with doing.

Canoe racing is the activity of people who are impatient. It is a selective impatience directed toward those whose values are aligned with the internal combustion engine and the stadium seat. Rather than leisurely riding or idly applauding, the canoe racer would rather work his own muscles, rely upon his own abilities, develop his own skills.

The racer can enjoy the miles covered, rapids navigated, portages run, canoes designed and built, innovations tried, but most of all, the races completed. The racer does not perform for crowds, for not many rivers are contained in stadiums. The important audience to a racer is the one in the other end of the canoe and himself.

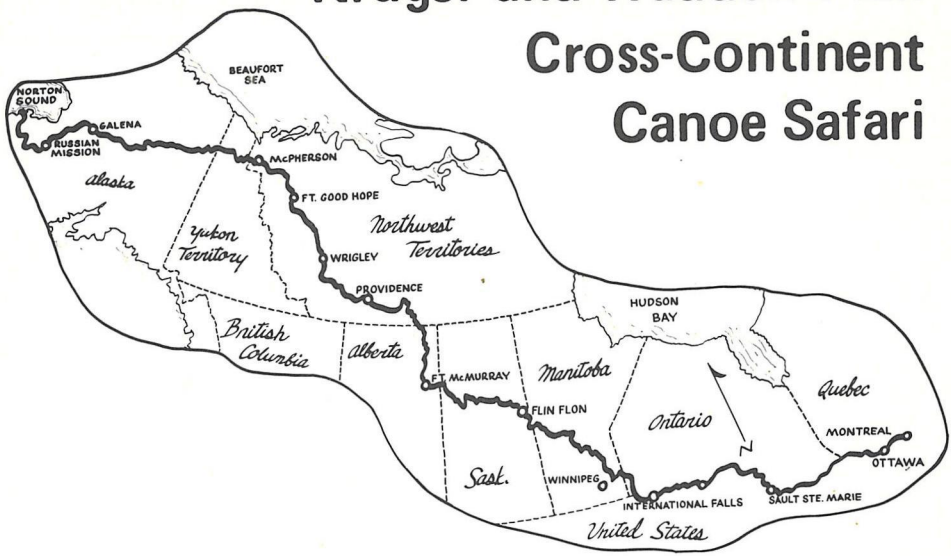
The canoe racer likes rivers and lakes for what they are and not what the Army Corps of Engineers plans them to be. He views the waterways as his workshop. He uses those waterways with the respect and knowledge that thousands of hours of paddling have taught him.

Before racing it is necessary to be a builder of canoes and paddles. After racing it is necessary to be a repairer of canoes and paddles. The racer also does designing and testing. It is in these activities that there is the pride of the craftsman. Competitive canoeing would be less without all these tasks.

The racer is very much like his brother, the cruiser. Their interests in the double-ended craft are often parallel, and they often learn from one another. And they, in turn, show a semblence to the explorers and voyageurs.

Minnesota's water pollution control program has been approved by the U.S. Federal Water Quality Administration, making the state eligible for $155,400 in federal aid on a matching grant basis.

Kruger and Waddell Plan Cross-Continent Canoe Safari



The good Lord willing, Clint Waddell and myself, Verlen Kruger, both part-time professional canoe racers, are leaving April 15, 1971, on our unusual Cross Continent Canoe Safari from Montreal to the Bering Sea. We will put our home-made, 22-foot wood and fiberglass canoe in the St. Lawrence River from the docks at Lachine and head up the Ottawa River, following the Old Voyageurs Highway (see map and schedule) – sort of modern day voyageurs reliving the past.



In the 1700s and early 1800s the fur traders, using several sets of canoes and crews, each covering a round trip of about 3,000 miles in one season, covered most of this same route. At that time this was the super highway to the Northwest. We have been challenged by the idea of traveling all of this water highway plus going on across Canada, over the north end of the Rocky Mountains and down the Yukon River, across Alaska – a total distance of approximately 6500 miles. We plan to do it in one season, from thaw to freeze-up, in about 5-1/2 months, which may mean breaking a little ice at both ends of the season. We will travel every foot of the way, on land or water, under our own power. We will accept no assistance in portaging, paddling, ferrying, or towing and *no* motors.

As far as we have been able to find out through reading everything available on the subject this has never been done. It will be a hard, fast trip of long days through all kinds of weather. But that seems to be the kind of trip that Clint and I enjoy. On portages we plan *one* carry, canoe, all gear, and food in one haul. Consequently we will have to keep items to a minimum: only the very best lightweight equipment and mainly freeze-dried foods. We will be stopping long enough at most of the check points on our time and distance schedule so that every week or two we can replenish our supplies.

WALT'S CORNER



The Wolf

The pictures and story about the wolf presented at the Quetico-Superior meeting inspired me to offer a little more information on the animal.

After a long and bitter struggle, the wolf is losing its struggle for survival in the United States. Infrequently there are still reports of stock loss to wolves in some areas, but most often these so-called wolves are packs of wild dogs.

The wolf is among the largest of the big game predators, and its history goes back to the Pleistocene period. It is the ancestor of the domestic dog and has a long record of depredations against stock.

Because of his not too pleasant disposition and the grief he has given farmers and stockmen, the wolf has not gained many allies in his fight to retain his northern territories. When a wolf hunts, if food is plentiful he eats only once from his kill. When wolves are numerous, tremendous numbers of cattle and sheep are killed, making it almost impossible to bait the wolf into a trap. The manner in which he makes his kill does very little to improve the wolf's reputation. He most often takes his prey by the hindquarters and eats his way forward.

Still, the huge dog-like animal is a native species and, hopefully, efforts of some kind will be made to save it from complete extinction. One never knows when he will sight a wolf, as they are only where you find them.

CROSS CONTINENT CANOE SAFARI

TIME AND DISTANCE SCHEDULE

Location	Miles	Accum. Miles	Days
Montreal (April 15)	0	0	
Ottawa	110	110	4
Mattawa	210	320	8
North Bay (May 1)	45	365	1
Georgian Bay, Lake Huron	110	475	2
Sault Ste. Marie (May 8)	195	670	5
Fort William	420	1090	15
Atikokan (June 3)	180	1270	6
International Falls	100	1370	2
Lake of the Woods	90	1460	2
Kenora	80	1540	2
Lake Winipeg (June 12)	160	1700	5
Saskatchewan River, Grand Rapids	315	2015	10
The Pas	140	2155	5
Cumberland House	80	2235	3
Amisk Lake (July 1), Flin Flon (July 5)	60	2295	2
Churchhill River, Frog Portage	116	2411	4
Buffalo Narrows, Peter Pond Lake	369	2780	11
Clearwater River, Methye Portage	125	2905	3
Athabasca River, Fort McMurray	80	2985	1
Lake Athabasca, Fort Chipewyan	200	3185	4
Fort Smith	125	3310	3
Great Slave Lake, Fort Resolution	195	3505	3
Mackenzie River, Fort Providence	165	3670	3
Fort Simpson, at Liard River	140	3810	3
Fort Norman, at Great Bear River	305	4115	6
Ft. Good Hope, 25 mi. S. of Arctic Cir.	175	4290	3
Artic Red River	215	4505	4
Peel River, Fort McPherson	60	4565	2
McDougal Pass (over the Rockies, Sept. 5)	130	4695	10
Porcupine River, by way of Bell River	115	4810	2
Old Crow	100		1
Alaska Border, Ramparts House	55		1
Fort Yukon, Junction Yukon River	225	5190	4
Tanana, Junction Tanana River	320	5510	5
Galena	165	5675	3
Koyukuk River	30	5705	1
Kaltag	52		1
Anvik	140		2
Russian Mission	110	6007	2
Mountain Villate	130	6137	2
Bering Sea, Norton Sound (Oct. 10)	85	6222	2
Akumsuk	23		

From My Point of View

Sometimes it amazes me that we still have a Board of Directors to run this club of ours. First off, they have to get out the next issue of "HUT!" that we all look for in the mail. There is always that hectic rush looking for something of interest to all, and they put in some weird hours and lots of work. Most people would quit, so the fact that the "HUT!" is put out and on time shows you the kind of people we have working for us. In the months ahead I'm sure that they have many plans for us. I'm sure they hope that you will read the plans and share in them.

Their hope is that each of us will feel that the "HUT!" is *our* magazine. They want to print your news. They want to print your views. If you have a gripe or feel that the club is not doing enough for you, write a letter. You might be surprised by the support you get from members who feel as you do. Even the editor and her staff have gripes. But they don't know yours unless you tell them.

As for me, don't get the idea that my bellyaching means I have a gripe. No sir, not me. It is because I am mad all the time, and I like to make people squirm. Yes sir, I'm just mean.

Walter B. Jones

A Foam Pad for Bedtime Comfort

by Terry McGaughey

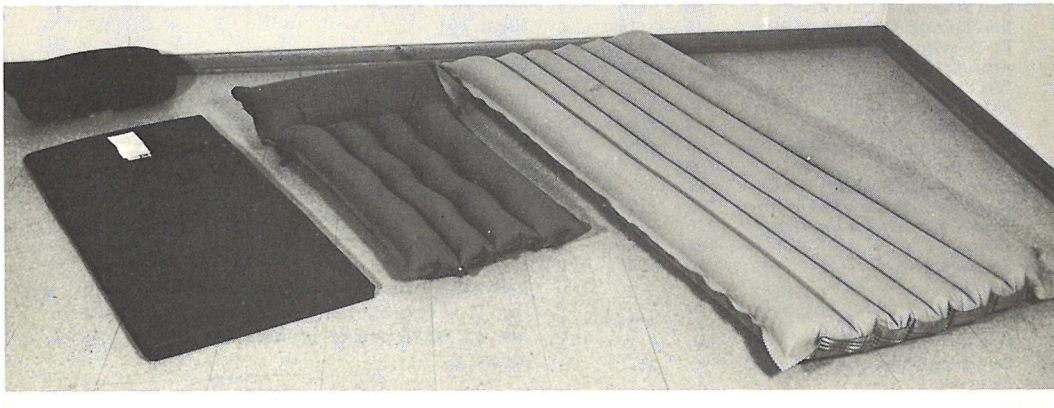
Last month you may recall we discussed the relative merits of various sleeping bags. A good foundation under that sleeping bag is important to provide maximum sleeping comfort. A furniture salesman once told me a good bed at home requires a good mattress and that a mattress is only as good as the box spring foundation. I think this is true of a wilderness bed as well. A few campers I know insist that a bed of balsam boughs is the ultimate in comfort. Perhaps this adds to the "roughing it" illusion or romance of the woods. Perhaps some men need this to satisfy their so-called "manliness." If you have ever slept on a balsam bed, you will agree that the fragrant aroma is delightful, but it usually becomes uncomfortable by morning, with pointed sticks tickling your ribs as you turn over during the night. The effort and time required to cut the boughs and prepare the bed is an unnecessary waste of time – but a better argument against using balsam boughs is that if everyone who goes into the woods to camp were to cut balsam boughs or other trees for bedding, our campsites would soon look terrible, to say nothing of bad environmental effects.

Folding canvas cots have been used by some on river float trips where no portages are made and space is not important. Some lightweight cots are comfortable, take only a moderate amount of space when packed, but are impractical to pack or portage. Some people believe that cots are the best protection and insulation from the cold because one is off the ground. This is far from the fact. Even when using a cot, some sort of foam pad or even newspaper between the canvas and the sleeping bag will contribute to warmth and comfort.

Air mattresses have been the most universally used foundation for wilderness journeys. There is no disputing the comfort they add over sleeping on the bare rocks. Air mattress styles are available in far too many varieties to mention. Most experienced campers using them prefer the 3/4 length (generally about 22 inches wide by 48 inches long, weighing about 22 ounces and made of a rubberized nylon fabric). A full-length air mattress adds very little additional comfort and plenty of unnecessary weight. It also requires more effort and time to inflate. With the main part of your body and head supported by the 3/4 length size, an empty canvas pack or jacket can be placed under your feet if necessary. A common mistake people make is to overinflate the mattress, making it rock hard. For the best results it should be inflated just enough so when you sit on it you barely feel the ground. Then, when you lie down with your weight evenly distributed, it will provide just the right amount of firmness. If you prefer to use an air mattress, make sure you get a top quality model. Rubber-nylon fabrics are the best, some canvas-rubber models are good. Stay away from plastic or vinyl. An air mattress is not a good insulator from the cold. The air inside the mattress will be the same temperature as the outside air. In really cool weather this can be uncomfortable.

About the biggest drawback to air mat-

LEFT: Lightweight 3/4-size foam pad (stowed at top) CENTER: 3/4 rubber-nylon air mattress RIGHT: Full-size rubber-canvas air mattress



tresses is that they are often unreliable, sometimes easily punctured. But a puncture could be patched if you remembered to bring the patching kit. The most frustrating situation, however, is the slow leak you can't find. Many campers have fought with a flat mattress in the middle of the night trying to restore comfort without waking their camping companions. I had a favorite air mattress I once took on a two-week trip. The first few nights it provided its usual comfort. Then one night it slowly deflated to leave me flat on the rocks by morning. I was unable to find the leak so I left it inflated for the entire day with two heavy packs sitting on it to see if it would go down again. By nightfall it was still firm. You guessed it! By morning it was flat again. My companion thought this somewhat hilarious. But since I had furnished all the gear on this trip I figured he could try the leaker the next night. Wouldn't you know it – it didn't go flat. The next night we switched and during the rest of the trip it sometimes stayed full and sometimes deflated. I was tempted to think it was using its own will and personality to outwit any camper using it. I still have that mysterious bag of air and I loan it only to people who like to borrow gear and forget to return it.

Now, I am a firm believer in polyurethane foam pads. The foam pad is fast replacing air mattresses as the most popular bed foundation for good reasons: it is inexpensive, totally reliable, very lightweight, and an excellent insulator from the cold ground. It is easily stowed. The one inch high-density polyfoam with a light nylon cover is just right for good sleeping comfort. The most popular size is 24" x 48" and weighs about 3/4 of a pound. Other sizes are 24" x 60" (about 1-1/2 lbs.) and a full sized 27" x 72" (just under 2 lbs.). Don Beland, the progressive Ely canoe outfitter, is constantly experimenting with equipment to find the best for his rental customers. He has gotten away from air mattresses completely in favor of foam pads and other outfitters are following. The leading camping stores have found, in sales to canoeists and backpackers, foam pads are far outselling air mattresses.

Your wilderness bed will be as comfortable as can be if you carefully select the best sleeping bag and a foam pad to suit your needs.

Whitewater Trip on the Salmon River Planned

In 1969 a group of midwest paddlers, including Joe Conrad and Denny Withers, made a whitewater trip down the Middle Fork of the Salmon. They highly recommended this trip for similar groups. Thus a similar trip is planned for late July.

For experienced boaters, the Middle Fork is one of the most enjoyable mountain streams in the West. The Middle Fork has no equal for combined whitewater, scenery, wildlife, and wilderness.

The Middle Fork's credentials are impressive:

- 2600-foot drop in 100 miles.
- No rapids rated higher than category 4 at expected levels.
- Clear and unpolluted air and water.
- An intimate boulder-dodging stream flowing through deep canyons and past rugged mountain ranges, in particular, the Bighorn Crags.
- Excellent fishing.
- Warm springs and pools to rejuvenate the old bod.

The Middle Fork flows through the Idaho Primitive Area, where motor vehicles are prohibited; thus this trip requires raft support for carrying food and dunnage. I've contacted Don Hatch of Hatch River Expeditions. He has offered us an exceptionally low price for the services of a raft, food, and the preparation of food for us. Please contact me if you are interested in making this trip: *Andy Westerhaus, 1905 River Hills Drive, Burnsville, Minnesota 55378; phone 890-1161.*



NOTICE TO MEMBERS

In the future, please note on your calendar the date for not only this month's activities, but next month's, as well. This way, if your HUT! should arrive late one month, you will still be informed. Get in the habit of checking the Calendar of Events on the inside front cover as soon as HUT! arrives at your home.

CRUISING CAPERS



Cruising Council Presents Schedule

The cruising council, which represents one of the major interest groups of the MCA, is busily planning this summer's cruising schedule. Twenty trips are already in the works with many more in the tentative stage. Scheduled cruises will start in April and we are planning trips that become progressively more challenging. Some of the earlier outings include Rice Creek and the Rum and Sunrise Rivers. These offer an opportunity to gain experience and confidence and will prepare you for more challenging streams such as the Flambeau, Kettle, Bois Brule and Wolf. In addition, we strongly urge you to attend Ian Richards' on-the-water whitewater clinic. This will be held in late April or early May. Beginners and experienced canoeists alike will benefit from these sessions.

This summer, there will be possibly eight two or three day trips which will involve camping. These were immensely popular last year.

Listed below are the cruises that have been scheduled so far. Of special interest will be the run through the Hell's Gate section of the Kettle River. This will be for open canoes (water levels permitting) and will be led by Ian Richards. Other recent additions to the schedule are a rafting-canoeing weekend on the Wolf and a lengthy cruise on the Middle Fork of the Salmon in Idaho. The MCA has also been invited to accompany an NYH group for a cruise on the Upper Iowa River near Decorah. You will note that several of the cruises still require trip leaders. If you are familiar with a stream and would be willing to serve as leader, call Larry Johns at 633-6734.

Date	River	Leader
April 18	Rice Creek	Abner Jones
May 2	Cannon	Linda Jones, Beth and Mary Siemon
May 9	Sunrise	Stu Duncanson
May 15	Kettle	–
May 16	Snake	Bob O'Hara
May 22, 23	Namakagon, Wis.	Linda Jones
May 29, 30, 31	Flambeau, Wis.	Larry Johns
June 5, 6	Crow Wing	Walter B. Jones
June 6	Hell's Gate	Ian Richards
June 12, 13	Bois Brule, Wis.	Harry Miller
June 20	Upper St. Croix	–
June 26	M'haha Creek	–
June 27	Upper Iowa	Chuck Stevens
June 26-27	Wolf	Andy Westerhaus
July 3, 4, 5	Upper Mississippi	Bob Haag
July 11	Lockwatennial on Mississippi	–
July 23	Midnight Run on Mississippi	Janet & Janice Robidoux
July 25-31	Salmon	Andy Westerhaus
July 31	Upper Flambeau	Larry Johns
Oct. 3	St. Croix Color Cruise	–

The cruising council wants to be of as much service to cruisers as possible. With this in mind, we are initiating a reporting service for the most popular rivers. This will involve a weekly report to someone in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area and will make up-to-date information on river levels and conditions readily available to cruisers. If you would be interested in this service and would like to suggest rivers to be included, please call 633-6734.

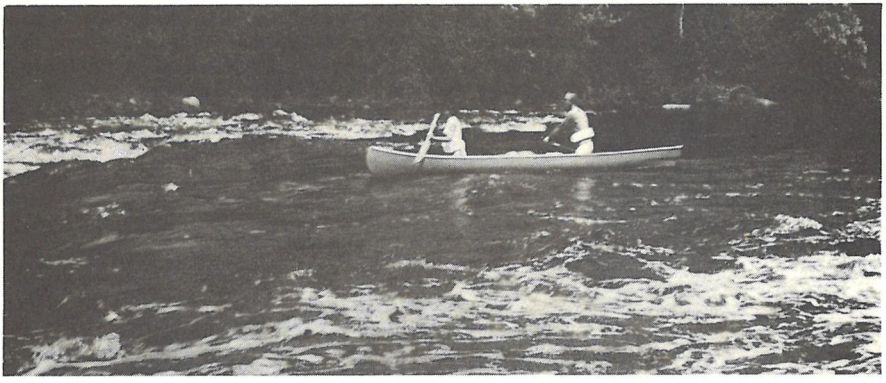
Tour One of Our Finest "Wild Rivers"

by Andy Westerhaus

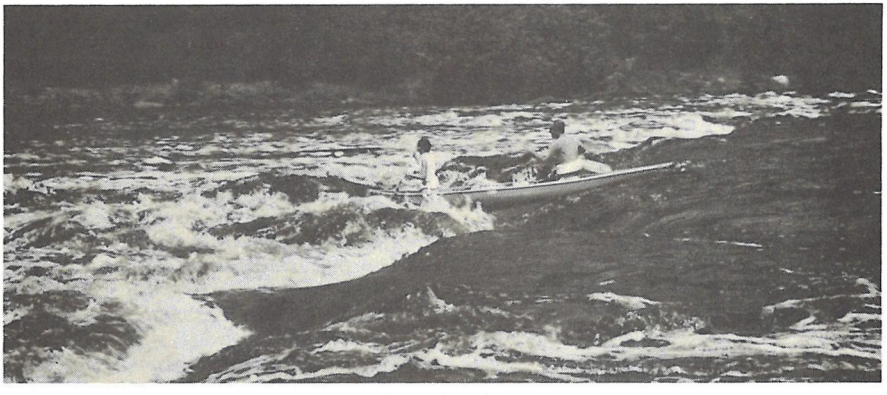
A weekend combination raft and canoe tour is planned to acquaint MCA members with one of our nation's most beautiful "wild rivers", the Wolf in east central Wisconsin. In order to really appreciate the splendor of this river one must see it dynamically while riding the river.

Saturday (probably the last weekend in June) we'll try our hand at paddling rented rafts, two or three people per raft. These unsteerable, bouncing, spinning rafts are a barrel of fun, plus they allow us to safely ride parts of the Wolf which would be difficult for standard canoes.

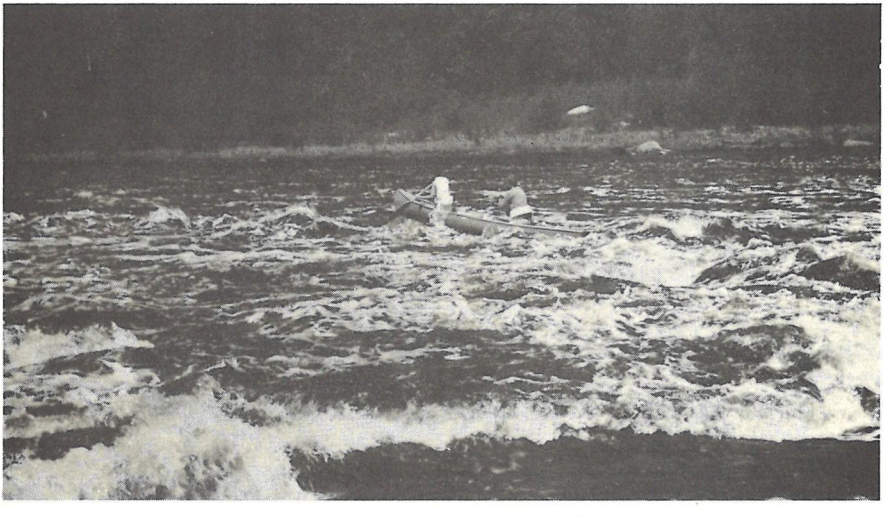
Sunday we'll arrange a cruise for open canoes which best suits the interests of the paddlers. More than one cruise will be set if enough paddlers are interested.



Approaching Beaver Dam on the Flambeau . . .

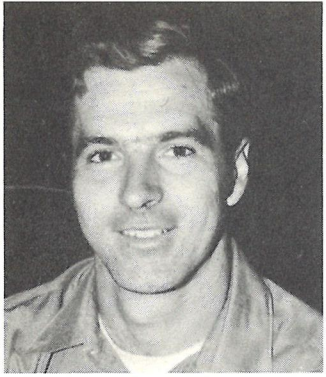


. . . down the chute



. . . through the standing waves – still afloat!

Photos by John Krack



Al is a serious contender for the national wildwater canoeing championship. He has fiberglassed at least a dozen canoe paddles to aid his efforts, and has arrived at the following method as being most satisfactory. – Editor

How to Fiberglass a Canoe Paddle

by Al Button

Fiberglassing a canoe paddle blade increases its life. A paddle thus processed is less likely to chip or crack, and the protection is a must in serious whitewater paddling.

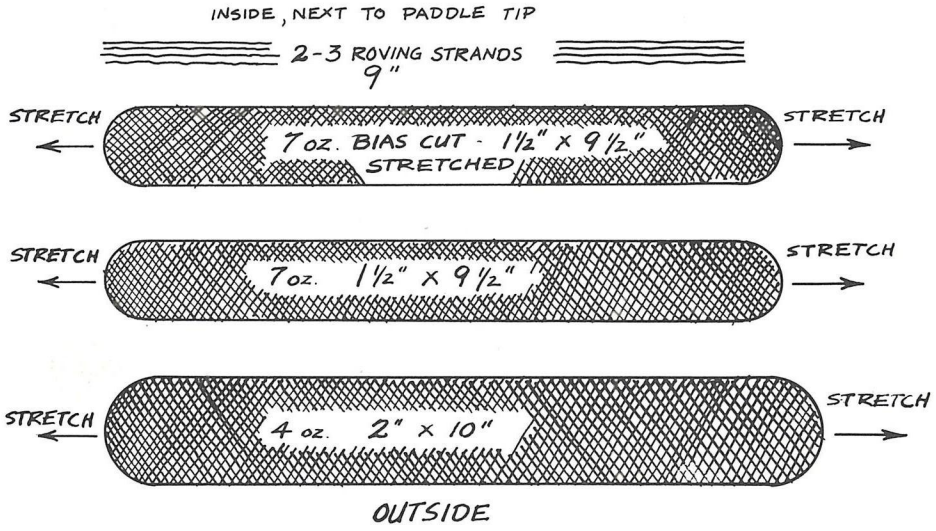
Materials required are: Paddle, sandpaper or varnish remover, newspapers or plastic dropcloth, scraps of 4 oz. and 6 or 7 oz. fiberglass cloth, scissors, paper cup, small amount of epoxy resin, waxed paper, 1 to 2" brush, 1 to 3 pieces (bundles) of roving, rubber or plastic glove, rag, acetone cleaner.

Assemble your materials. Apply sandpaper or varnish remover to the bottom 2 inches of the paddle blade. Tape the paddle, blade upward, to a table leg or other similar structure. Protect floor and table with newspapers or plastic. Bias cut two pieces of the 6 or 7 oz. fabric 1-1/2 inches wide by 9 to 10 inches long (1 inch longer than paddle width – an 8-inch blade requires a 9-inch length of fabric). Trim corners or round ends of cloth. Bias cut two pieces of 4 oz. cloth similarly, except make them 2 inches wide.

Mix a small amount of epoxy resin, about 1 inch in the bottom of a paper cup. (I use epoxy because its finish is tougher and harder than alternate products, and it is easier to work with because it's gluey.)

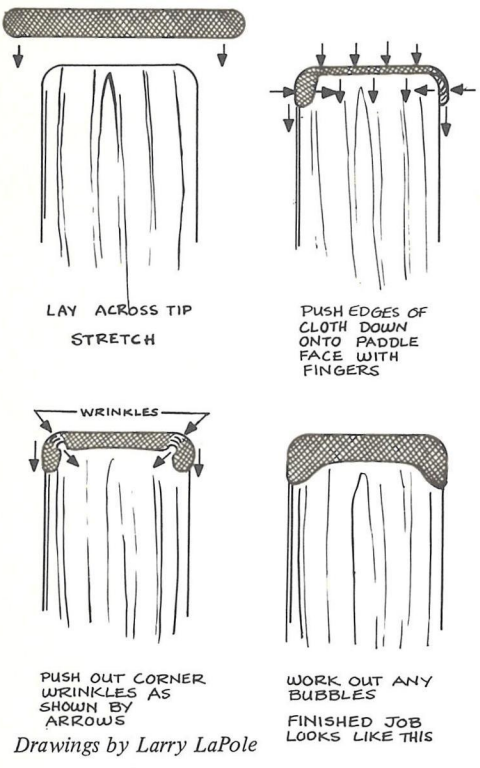
Lay a 4 oz. strip on waxed paper. Use brush to wet strip with resin. Stack on second 4 oz. strip and wet down. Add the 6 or 7 oz. strips one at a time, wetting each with resin. Stretch each strip lengthwise as you lay it down (the bias cutting permits maximum stretchability).

Use a piece of roving 1 to 1-1/2 inches shorter than strips of fiberglass cloth. (Two or three bundles are recommended for heavy paddle use.) Using rubber or plastic glove, dip one end into the resin, then the other. Lay soaked-out roving on top of cloth stack. Gently lift stack by ends and flip over the end of the paddle lengthwise. Fan corner crease until it



disappears. Make sure roving stays on tip of paddle. Keep working, if necessary, to remove bubbles and creases for half hour or longer, until resin gets tacky. However, as soon as possible turn paddle blade downward to keep resin at tip and avoid further dripping, continuing to work strip.

Have a rag ready to wipe off drips. Use acetone to clean brushes when finished.



Drawings by Larry LaPole

ABC Covers the BWCA

On Sunday, December 19th, ABC's national network TV show *Discovery 70* went on a canoe trip in the BWCA. In the show were the Patterson family from Ely and Don Beland, Moose Lake outfitter and long time friend of the MCA. The half hour color program demonstrated the basic activities involved in wilderness canoe camping. Noticeable were the eight-inch blade paddles introduced to the BWCA by the racers a few years ago. The distinctive blade laminations of the paddles indicated that they were Caderettes from Quebec, Canada, and Peterson-Jenson Paddles from Minneapolis. The color photography did as good a job as possible in showing the beauty of the BWCA. It was a very fine effort and an indication of the BWCA's national appeal.

Pool Slalom to be Held in Rockford

The best reason for participating in a pool slalom held in Rockford, Illinois, is to see another part of the country. Besides pool slaloms are fun and a novelty: races without tension.

Fred Young, whitewater paddler from Rockford, announced he hoped to have a pool slalom February 20-21 near Rockford. The contest would be open to novices and intermediates, one or both days paddler's choice. Before you trot off, check to see if it's still on by calling Denny Withers, 920-2887, evenings or weekends.

THE TRADING POST

WANTED: TWO OR THREE PERSONS willing to offer one three-hour period per month (usually first weekend of month) collating (assembling, stapling) HUT! in north Minneapolis. Prefer firm commitment for stated period of time (6 mon., 1 yr., etc.). Call Margie Johns today, 633-6734.

WANTED: MEMBER WITH PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE as writer or editor to assist with HUT! in editorial capacity. Knowledge of graphics helpful. Call Jean-Marie Fisher, 935-2217.

WANTED: ADVERTISEMENTS for this column (individual items related to canoeing). Free to members.

Nine Fish Kills Noted in 1970

Minnesota recorded nine more major pollution-caused fish kills in lakes and streams through November 26 of last year. The kills were investigated and documented by the State Pollution Control Agency and the game and fish division. Other fish kills also occurred but were caused primarily by fish diseases and winter freeze-out in lakes.

Department officials emphasized that fish killed by pollution represented a great loss, but the degrading of fish habitat by pollution is even more important. A chemically polluted stream or lake may have no fish kills but may be in such poor condition it won't produce fish, a Department official pointed out – *News Release from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.*

LETTER FROM BAVARIA

Being an Account of Some of the Wilde Men who Paddle Kayaks in the German Alps

by Ian Richards

Who's not true of honor made, has luckily far from kayaks stayed.

This motto is emblazened over the door of the Club Munchner Kajakfahrer hut, situated on the bank of the Isar River in Munich, Germany; or, as the Munchners would say, in Munich, *Bavaria*. To Americans, Munich is probably best known for its "Oktoberfest," during which eight million quarts of beer are drunk. (The population of Munich is about 1½ million.)

Club Munchner Kajakfahrer, one of seven Munich kayak clubs, was founded shortly after World War I and now has about 150 members. These members range in age from kids to grandfathers. The kids, I hasten to add, are seen *and* heard – our stereotypes about how German parents discipline their children being no more true than the German stories about how American wives discipline their husbands. Beginning in the Fall of 1968 I was privileged to join the club during a year's stay in Germany. They meet once a week during the winter, paddle in the summer and have frequent parties and dances. During Fasching, the German Mardi Gras, costume dances are the rule. They pick a theme – one year it was Hippies, another year, the Old West (they had a cloth dummy named Tom Dooley). The year I was there it was Knights of Old. I wore a clown suit labeled "Advisor to the King of Bavaria."

The club has a core of top level competitors, both in the junior (teenage) and senior divisons. Some of the juniors drop out when they reach the senior age level. For instance Gunther Teupe, the younger brother of my paddling companion Werner, was told: "Gunther, you have talent, but if you're ever going to be any good, you'll have to give up music and girls." Gunther chose music and girls and kayaking for fun. One clubmember, Sigi Holzbauer, a big lusty, humorous fellow, reached the summit of kayaking, becoming the World Sialom Champion without any apparent effort – or at least so the stories about his drinking, joking and wenching would indicate. The club has a rule that whoever tipped over and failed to Eskimo-roll on a club trip had to buy his compatriots a liter of wine. Sigi liked wine! So he would try to increase the supply by boxing his companions into a hole! Werner Teupe told me about the time he was lazily going down a river backwards, when he saw Sigi coming towards him. Without looking, Werner knew exactly where he *didn't* want to go – namely, where Sigi was pushing him. Werner managed to slip away just in time to avoid being guided into a fallen tree.

Such horseplay was not applied to beginners, and in that club I rated as a beginner. Later Joachim Schwarz, third in International Wildwater, "Indian wrestled" with me in the middle of one river. (He was in a tippy racing kayak and I was in a C-2, and he was winning.) At that point I figured that I had been promoted to "accredited touring companion."

Werner Teupe, a university student in engineering, introduced me to European wildwater, paddling bow in my C-2. As a small return I helped him prepare for a math exam. One of the first rivers he showed me was the "Imster Schlucht," a section of the river Inn above Innsbruck, Austria. It's not technically difficult – about class 4 (rivers which are "dangerous to life" are class 6). But it is impressive. Above the rapids you see a solid plug of water over a hundred yards wide, being pushed ahead faster than the Mississippi River in flood stage. The rapids bounce along for stretches of up to a quarter mile, with six-foot waves coming in every direction. These tend to hypnotize you. Once I absent-mindedly steered us over a ten-foot wave that had a rock underneath. Werner said some unpleasant things. Luckily, he had taught me how to do an effective low brace. It's not fun to swim in that river. When we came to the end he told me over a glass of schnapps: "That was not wildwater, Ian! There are rivers where you must battle!"



Floating in the Ozarks

by Joel M. Vance

One way to enjoy the autumn scenery is to take to the streams in canoes.

There's a lot of water in the Ozarks. It bursts free of the earth in countless pure springs, ranging from icy trickles at the heart of an oak-shaded glen to powerful gushers daily spewing forth millions of gallons from underground limestone caverns.

This vast watershed extends into several states, but the bulk of it lies in Arkansas and Missouri. Much of the water forms clear, scenic rivers and creeks. And in autumn, when the wooded hills along the shores turn to an artist's palette, the canoeist is treated to a dazzling display of nature at her gaudiest.

There's no way to *explain* the beauty of the outdoors to children, and I don't want mine to grow up without it. So, comes a bright fall day, we often plunk our three in a canoe and take them down a free-running Ozark stream, through rocky riffles, deep blue pools and mineral-streaked cliffs to let them enjoy for themselves the artistry of October-yellowed sycamores, fiery maples and green-to-crimson oaks.

My family and my brother-in-law's family have been floating Ozark streams for several years. Between our two families there are six children, ranging in age from four to 10. Each family has two boys and a girl, and all are now veteran floaters.

Our 17-foot aluminum canoe fits easily and quickly on the carrier rack on my Fairlane station wagon, and our in-laws pull two old canvas and wood canoes on a trailer. We plan our floats carefully, trying to pick the brief time of autumn when the trees are in full color.

Ozark streams come in all sizes, but have definite similarities – quick currents, wooded bluffs, caves and springs and clean gravel bars for camping. Courtois Creek, a small tributary of the Meramec River, is one of our favorites. My wife and I floated it late last September, and found it so beautiful that we returned two weeks later with our in-laws and all the children.

We caught the trees when they were just bursting into color on a perfect fall day. The woods were teeming with bird life in great variety: kingfishers, blue jays, soaring buzzards and hawks, awkwardly flapping blue herons and ducks. A blood-red cardinal flitted right in front of us and a grey squirrel, concealed high in the whispering, drying leaves of an old oak, chattered away with his distinctive "chick, chick, chick, chick, chrrrrrrrrk!"

The water was so clear when we launched the canoes at a low water bridge that we could see every detail of the bottom. Schools of suckers, sure indicators of clean water, skittered out from under our canoes and the kids almost went overboard peering into the depths trying to see them.

We frequently paused on gravel bars to examine crawfish skeletons or try to catch the live ones as they shot backward away from us. The children were enthralled, shrieking and giggling, as they pursued the creatures with outstretched hands.

Finally, we shot through some fast, rocky rapids. The first two canoes made it, but my brother-in-law, Dale, and his two sons were not as lucky. Not turning when the river did, they ran headlong into a 50-foot cliff. Fortunately, their pride was damaged more than their canoe.

Because of the looming hills, evening comes early to the Ozark valleys. We found the gravel bar where we planned to camp just as the shadows grew long and brooding. The stones, washed by centuries of clean water, sparkled in the setting sun.

Dale's five-year-old daughter found a skink – a small lizard – and was the center of attention for a few minutes until her brother found one of his own and perched it fearlessly on his shoulder.

Mulligan stew, prepared at home for warming over the campfire, soon began to send savory messages into the evening breeze. We had brought plenty of food, and a good thing too. The crisp air and strenuous all-afternoon paddling had built appetites that a logger might have envied.

We sat around the campfire, watching the jump and shimmer of the flames, and I unlimbered my banjo. We all sang – appropriately enough, "Down by the Riverside" – and the kids toasted marshmallows. It was dark now and we put on sweaters against the chill.

A whippoorwill cleared its throat, then began to call. The cries bounced off the bluff face behind us and echoed from the opposite direction.

In the morning, we knew, there would be a chill mist rising from the river. But before that we would crawl into soft warm sleeping bags, tired and relaxed, and leave the peaceful Ozark night to the whippoorwill.

The above article was reprinted from *Ford Times*, October 1970, with the permission of the publisher and the author.

MCA Stand on BWCA Includes Specific Recommendations

The following statement of the Minnesota Canoe Association before hearings for proposed rule for the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, December 21, 1970, was delivered by Al Buchholz.

The Minnesota Canoe Association is a non-profit organization of over 1,000 persons, most of whom reside in the State of Minnesota. Our purpose is to distribute information about canoe sports and canoe camping, to preserve and promote wild rivers, to effect conservation of canoeable waterways and to encourage canoeing as family recreation.

In keeping with these purposes, we support the proposed rules of the Commissioner of Conservation Governing State Lands and Waters within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area, pursuant to the authority of M. S. 1969, Sections 84.03, 84.027 and 105.39. We respectfully suggest that Section (b) (2) entitled "Use, Transportation and Storage of Equipment", part (aa) include the words "This shall include, but not be limited to, snowmobiles, all terrain vehicles, motor bicycles, and trail bicycles". We also suggest that Section (b) (1) entitled "Campsites", part (bb) include the words "Only natural soaps and cleaning agents shall be permitted; synthetic detergents and cleaning agents are specifically prohibited". Finally, we suggest that the following be stricken from the list in Section (c) (1) of lakes partially within the BWCA where motors would be allowed:

Isabella Lake, T. 62N., R. 8W.
Homer Lake, T. 63N., R. 3W.
Duncan Lake, T. 65N., R. 1W.
Daniels Lake, T. 65N., R. 1W.
East Pike Lake, T. 65N., R. 3E.

The following summarizes new rules for state-owned lands in the BWCA as recently issued by the Department of Natural Resources (formerly Conservation Department). This was one of the last items from Commissioner Leirfallom before he left office. The rules are similar to those governing the federal land.

Campsites:

Human waste facilities provided must be used; otherwise waste facilities must be at least 100 feet from shore.

No new campsites except those designated by the DNR.

Only food and beverage containers designed and intended for reuse are allowed. Nonburnable trash must be packed out.

Campers are responsible for trash and litter on their site.

Posted, closed campsites must be honored.

Fires must be in fireplaces only. If no fireplace exists, fires must be on rock, sand, or gravel. They must be thoroughly extinguished. No living trees or branches shall be cut for firewood.

No permanent or semipermanent camps except as provided.

No fish houses after February 28, 1973.

Equipment:

No roads, motors, snowmobiles, ATVs or mechanized equipment except as provided. Unattended equipment shall be confiscated.

Motors, motorized snow and ice craft only in the designated motor routes

Two special snowmobile routes are on:
Crane Lake-Little Vermillion Lake Winter Portage
Saganaga Lake Winter Portage

Ice and snow craft only between November 1 and April 15 *and only* when ground is covered with snow.

Canoes and camping equipment may be stored at the head of an overland trail during a current visit only if hidden.

Other Provisions:

Commissioner may set up backpacking trails and may enter into joint management with the U.S. Forest Service.

No motors on any lakes which are partially inside the BWCA unless on a designated motor route or 12 specially listed lakes.

Amphibious craft and houseboats are prohibited.

Effective Dates:

Boat storage rules effective May 15, 1971.

Nonburnable food and beverage containers May 1, 1971.

All other provisions effective February 1, 1971.

Violations:

Persons violating the campsite or equipment sections may be evicted from and denied the use of the BWCA for 30 days. They must present a copy of the order to leave the BWCA to a State Conservation Officer in Ely or Grand Marais within 24 hours of the time specified.

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 — $4.00 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.

Do Not Fold or Xerox — Use Business Envelope No. 10 (Detach On This Dotted Line)

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CANOE OWNER_____ TYPE_____

HOW MANY OTHERS IN YOUR FAMILY CANOE?_____

NEW MEMBERSHIP ☐

RENEWAL ☐

Please make checks payable to Minnesota Canoe Association, Inc. Your membership card will be your receipt and proof of payment.

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☐ NEW MEMBERSHIP ☐ RENEWAL ☐ WILLING TO DO VOLUNTEER WORK ☐ REC'D MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE AT MONTHLY MEETING

MINNESOTA CANOE ASSOCIATION, INC.

Address correction requested:

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

MCA OFFICERS

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Vice President	**Pam Foster** **6229 Pillsbury Ave. So.** **Minneapolis 55423**	**861-6613**
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