HUT!

APRIL-1971



MINNESOTA CANOE ASSOCIATION

HUT!
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APRIL, 1971

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NEW MEMBER SERVICE FEE INSTITUTED BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

by Joe Conrad

Facing rising production costs for HUT!, increased support of cruising and racing activities, and higher costs of membership services, the Board has wrestled for some months with our financial problems. The final solution has been to leave the renewing regular member's dues at $5 per year, but all *new* regular or junior members will pay a $2 *new member service fee.* Basically this will cover the cost of the membership packet (which includes the building book) and record-keeping costs.

The revised dues schedule for each class of membership is as follows:

Regular Member: New – $7 (receives all club benefits plus membership kit with building book). Renew – $5 (no kit).

Junior Member (not yet age 19): New – $5 (all club benefits except voting rights, includes membership kit). Renew – $3 (no kit).

Associate Member: $4 (magazine only).

Life Member: $100 (all club benefits; nontransferable).

Any renewing member may receive a new membership kit if he pays the $2 service fee in addition to normal renewal fee.

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

HUT! 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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April

14 (W) Board meeting at home of Jean-Marie Fisher, 7:30 p.m.

17-18 (SaSu) Mascoma Invitational Slalom (Exp.), Lebanon, N.H. LCC, Jay Evans, 201 McNutt Hall, Hanover, N.H. 03755.

18 (Su) Rice Creek Cruise, 1 p.m.; make reservations (see article).

21 (W) Activities Meeting, Buchanan speaking, Blake School, Hopkins, 7:30 p.m. Premeeting supper at Hickory Wheel Barbecue, Hwy. 100 - Excelsior Blvd., 6 p.m. (see article).

23 (F) Pro racers meeting (am. racers invited) at home of Buzz Peterson, 8 p.m. (see article).

24-25 (SaSu) Whitewater Paddling Clinic for standard canoes led by Ian Richards, U of M River Flats Park. Lot, Mississippi East Bank S. of Washington Av. Bridge, 11 a.m. (see article).

24-25 (SaSu) Eastern Slalom Championships, Loyalsock, World's End State Park, Penn. Mrs. A. Yearick, Box 93 RD 3, Bellefonte, Penn. 16823.

25 (Su) Efficient Canoeing Course, session 1, Shingle Creek (preregistration required – see article).

May

1-2 (SaSu) Whitewater Clinic and Race, beginners and intermediates, Snake River; preregistration required (see article).

1-2 (SaSu) National Canoe Slalom Championships, Savage River, Westernport, Md. Joe Monahan, Box 1291, Cumberland, Md. 21502.

2 (Su) Third Annual Kettle Downriver Race, experts, Banning State Park, Sandstone, noon. All competitors must trial-run Sat. (see article).

2 (Su) Cannon River Cruise led by Linda Jones, 784-5302, and Beth and Mari Siemon, 784-2089 (see article).

2 (Su) Efficient Canoeing Course, session 2.

8-9 (SaSu) National Kayak and Canoe Wildwater Championships, Savage River, Westernport, Md., Joe Monahan, Box 1291, Cumberland, Md 21502.

9 (Su) Sunrise River Cruise led by Stu Duncanson, 645-4251 (see article).

12 (W) Board meeting at home of Pam Foster, 7:30 p.m.

15 (Sa) Kettle River Cruise led by Janet and Janice Robidoux, 784-7086 (see article).

15-16 (SaSu) Midwest Wildwater Championships, Decked and Open Canoes, White Lake, Wis.; Wolf River Wildwater Races, Inc., White Lake, Wis. 54491.

15-16 (SaSu) Wildwater Race, Langlade, Wis.; Herb Buettner, White Lake, Wis. 54491.

16 (Su) Snake River Cruise led by Bob O'Hara, 544-7817 (see article).

16 (Su) Efficient Canoeing Course, session 3.

19 (W) "River Trails" Activity Meeting, Arts and Sciences Museum auditorium, St. Paul, 7:30 p.m. Premeeting supper at Sorini's Pizza on the Midway (see article).

22 (Sa) Jensen Handicap, at park near intersection 81st Ave. N. - River Rd., Mpls., noon; preregistration required (see article).

22-23 (SaSu) Midwest Slalom Championships, Wolf River, White Lake, Wis.; Wis. Hoofers, Memorial Union, Madison, Wis. 53706.

22-23 (SaSu) Namakagon (Wis.) Cruise led by Linda Jones, 784-5302.

29-31 (SaSuM) Flambeau (Wis.) Cruise led by Larry Johns, 633-6734.

(Code – WSaSu, etc., refers to day of week)

How many others in your family canoe? _____

Status (check one): ☐ New membership ☐ Renewal

Type of membership (check one): ☐ Reg ☐ Assoc ☐ Jr ☐ Life

Regular – new $7; renew $5

Junior – new $5; renew $3

Associate – $4

Life – $100

BOOKS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE MCA

Each member of the MCA should have a copy of *A Wilderness in Crisis* and the two Nature Study Aids, *Field Guide to Edible and Useful Wild Plants of North America* and *Field Guide to Tracks of North American Wildlife.* In the past, copies could be obtained at MCA activities meetings. Now, for the first time, they may be obtained by mail as well.

The following review of *A Wilderness in Crisis* is reprinted from the November, 1970, issue of HUT!.

A Wilderness in Crisis is an apt name for a spectacular booklet produced by the North Star Chapter of the Sierra Club and the Natural History Society. The purpose? To compile in one readable booklet the problems, the history, the characteristics, and the future of Minnesota's most valuable resource, the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. The booklet? A 32-page gem produced along the lines of The Naturalist, with black and white and color photographs by competent naturalist photographers like Les Blacklock, Arnold Bolz and Ron Winch, illustrations by F. Jacques and Les Kouba. The price? Two dollars plus postage. Use of the money? General conservation and especially to help preserve the wilderness character of the BWCA.

Why should YOU buy the booklet? To know more about the BWCA, to see it in outstanding photographs, to be aware of the problem confronting YOUR canoeing area, and, most of all, to show your concern about what can be done to the only wilderness canoeing area in the United States.

FIELD GUIDE TO EDIBLE AND USEFUL WILD PLANTS OF NORTH AMERICA by Myron C. Chase and FIELD GUIDE TO TRACKS OF NORTH AMERICAN WILDLIFE by Myron and Charles Chase are being sold as a pair (sorry, no single copy sales) for $3 plus postage. The titles are pretty much self-explanatory: both books are simple, basic, but fairly comprehensive field guides. They're large pocket book size (5 x 8 in.), which makes them portable, as they were intended to be. The illustrations are rough sketches, but unique and interesting. WILD PLANTS includes scale, and TRACKS include "inkprints" of animal tracks. Copies are limited, so order now if you wish to own these two handy pocket guides.

(Make check or money order payable to the Minnesota Canoe Association, Inc. Send payment with the information listed below to MCA Book Dept. A71, Box 14177, University Station, Minneapolis 55414.)

Please send me:

☐ **copies of A WILDERNESS IN CRISIS @ $2.12 each (includes postage) = $ _____**

☐ **copies of the pair, WILD PLANTS and TRACKS @ $3.12 per pair (includes postage) = $ _____**

TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED $ _____

Name _____

Street address _____

City and State _____ **ZIP CODE** _____
(must be included)

April Activities Meeting to be Held at Blake School

The April 21 activities meeting includes plans to reinitiate the casual premeeting supper get-together, at 6 p.m., followed by the meeting at Blake School in Hopkins at 7:30 p.m.

The activities meeting will feature speaker Dean Buchanan, Recreational Staff Director of the Superior National Forest, U.S. Department of Agriculture, who is particularly knowledgeable on the problems of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. He will address the MCA in the Blake School dining hall, Blake Road and Excelsior Avenue East, Hopkins – 2 miles west of Highway 100 on Excelsior Avenue. (To avoid confusion, it should be noted that Excelsior Avenue is called Excelsior Boulevard on the Minneapolis end of it.) Enter the school grounds from the Blake Road side – between the pillars – immediately forking left and driving up the hill to the south parking lot. Enter the building from the right side of the breezeway, and climb two flights of stairs inside.

Those MCAers who want to rub elbows, and chin over a little friendly chow, should meet at 6 or so at the Hickory Wheel Barbecue, 5420 Excelsior Boulevard (on the northeast corner of the Highway 100 - Excelsior intersection, across from Miracle Mile Shopping Center). Walt Jones, who is in charge of selecting and securing these premeeting locations, tells us that he regrets he will not be able to attend this first supper, as he plans to be cruising the Rio Grande, south of Santa Fe, that day. (Not a bad alternative, we say.)

To sum up, the activities meeting for April will be held on Wednesday the 21st, 7:30 p.m., at Blake School in Hopkins. This will be preceded by supper, for those who want it, at the Hickory Wheel Barbecue, Highway 100 at Excelsior, 6 p.m. (no reservations).

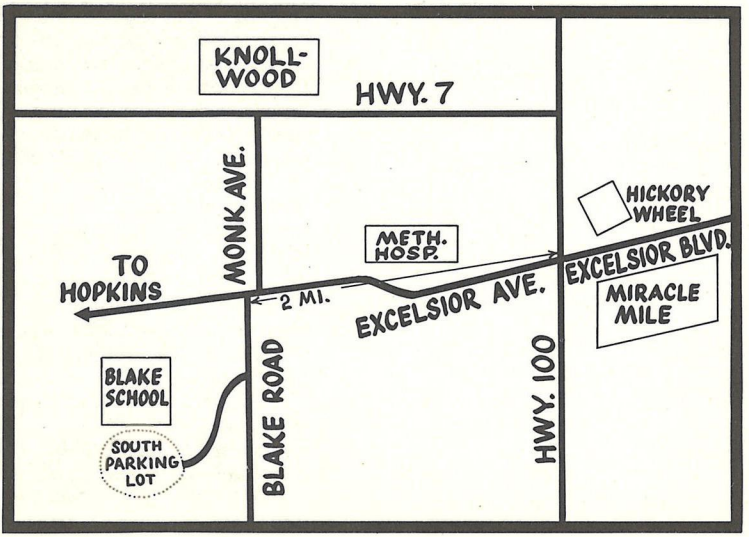
River Trails to be Topic for May

The ever-popular subject of "river trails" is expected to draw a capacity audience in May. Joe Conrad is rounding up people and materials related to the topic.

Joe is expected to focus on Minnesota and Wisconsin river routes, with an emphasis on where to go and what to expect. Joe hopes to obtain handout information, so this would be a good time for summer trippers to attend.

The May 19th meeting, set for 7:30 p.m., will be at the Arts and Sciences Museum, 30 E. 10th Street, St. Paul (just off the I-94 10th Street exit), in the auditorium.

Preceding the meeting several MCAers plan to sup at Sorini's Pizza, 1569 University Avenue (4 doors east of Snelling, on the north side of the street).



EDITORIAL

MCA Hospitality Network Proposed for Summer

Have you ever thought: Gee, I'd like to take in one of the Big Out-of-State Canoe Races; or Wouldn't it be nice to cruise down such-and-so famous river? Your next thought was probably one shared by many a canoeist: But all that driving, and two nights of bleak motel rooms (or, if tenting, I hear they've been socked in with rain for a week).

Well, it's not easy for the canoe-toting set to get around that driving. But wouldn't it be nice if you knew that each evening you could look forward to bedding down under the roof (or in the backyard) of a fellow canoeist, with a chance of a little canoeing conversation?

Most canoeists are out-of-doors people, and would just as soon camp a little more "in the rough". But there are times when that's not only unsuitable, but impossible.

I hereby propose that we set up an MCA Hospitality Network. If you have floor space for two or more sleeping bags or, if that doesn't suit you, a nice spot in your backyard for a tent, you're eligible. If you're eligible as a host, you're eligible to be a guest in the network. (In order to "visit", you must plan to have "visitors".) The following basic rules would be inviolable:

1. Only MCA members would be eligible for this interchange, which would run from June through September. Only "hosts" may be "visitors".
2. Would-be guests are responsible for confirming an eligible host's availability in writing or by telephone as far in advance as possible (minimum 48 hours). Conversely, a confirming host is responsible for quarters once he's given his word.
3. Invitation to conversation would be up to the host. It would be up to him, too, to profer breakfast, if he so desires; guests must not expect breakfast, or be foolishly offended if it is not offered.
4. Guests are limited to one night's stay, are expected to make a timely departure, and are to leave their quarters in respectful order.

To express your interest in the MCA Hospitality Network, send to MCA Hospitality Network, P.O. Box 14177, University Station, Minneapolis 55414 the following three items: Data: Send your name, address, telephone (including area code), facilities, limitations you wish to impose (e.g., pets), and known dates when you will be unavailable to host. Envelope: Send a no. 10 (ordinary long) return envelope that has been stamped and self-addressed. Dime: Send one dime to cover cost of handling.

No names will be added to the list after May 19 for the 1971 season (June through September), so write now if you want to be included. The list will be compiled by the end of May, and your copy will be sent in the stamped envelope you send.

If the 1971 Hospitality Network proves successful, a new list will be compiled early next year for the 1972 season. Let's hear from you out-of-state MCAers – the success of the Network depends a lot on you.

Last month's editorial, "The Good Things in Life Can Be Freed", stated that the first conservation fund project would be announced this month. This announcement will be postponed until the desired information is received, hopefully by next issue.

Summary of March Board Meeting

The March 10 meeting was held at the home of Joe Conrad. Only Treasurer Ian Richards and Director Al Button were not able to attend.

Reports

1. Cruising Committee: The Rice Creek Cruise on April 18 will be the first cruise of the year. Arrangements are being made with Chuck Burns of the Department of Natural Resources for publishing in newspapers the weekly river conditions reports. Forms for reports of river conditions will be distributed at the May meeting. An award for "Cruiser of the Year" was discussed. It would be given on the basis of the number of miles canoed during the year and would be awarded at the November Annual Banquet.
2. Professional Racers: First race of the year will be the Jensen Handicap on May 22. Larry Peterson has been named Race Chairman. Jackets with the MCA patch will be given away as prizes to the winners. The Professional Racers will be holding an Efficient Canoeing Clinic on April 26, May 2 and 16. Further details will be published in HUT!.

3. Publications Board: Karl N. Ketter has resigned to devote more time to racing. Denny Withers has agreed to chair the group. A statement on the MCA's stand on ecology will be submitted to the *Minneapolis Star and Tribune* for publication in a special supplement on environment. A copy of the stand, written by John Arver, Conservation Chairman, was distributed to the Board and approved. Board members were asked to submit at the next meeting any anticipated special supplements for HUT!. The membership directory will be printed in May. Joe Conrad reports that "Canoeing Is Thy Name" is 75% done and will be printed by the end of this month.
4. Membership: Margie Johns is the new membership chairman. Her name will appear on the inside front cover of HUT!.
5. Miscellaneous: Book Department – The Board would like to find someone interested in keeping books such as *Minnesota River Trails* available to members. Marian Cordiner will be looking for such a person.

A Constitution Review Committee is being set up. A Chapter Review Committee is also being formed. Anyone interested should call Bob Haug.

Membership application form changes were discussed. A supply will be printed for a special HUT! insert.

MCA patches also will be ordered. Curt Mommsen will be mailing out the patches when they arrive. The cost of the patches has not yet been determined.

Resolutions

1. *Resolved:* That the MCA approve in principle the appeal to members for Conservation Fund drives for specific water-oriented projects. *Accepted.*
2. *Resolved:* That the MCA create a Book Department starting with 100 Minnesota River Trails and 50 of each of the three Wisconsin River Canoe Trails, for the May meeting. *Accepted.*
3. *Resolved:* That the MCA advance money for a whitewater training boat to be built and maintained by the Boy Scout Council for BCS and MCA use. If the post were dissolved the boat would become the property of the MCA. *Tabled.*
4. *Resolved:* That the Board of Directors accept Karl N. Ketter's resignation and accept Denny Withers as new Publications Board Chairman. *Accepted.*



Notes from the President

by Bob Haug

Do you like to meet with people and tell them about the MCA and your canoeing activities? Many requests are received monthly for speakers and demonstrations on such subjects as building canoes, whitewater, Quetico adventures, and so forth. The occasions are meetings or dinners for such groups as Boy Scouts, YMCA, YWCA, Lions Club, etc. If you want to be on our speakers list, call Marian Cordiner, 645-1773, or write: 1740 Arona, St. Paul 55113.

Two review committees are being set up, one on the constitution and bylaws and the other on chapter activities. If you're interested in either one, call me, 331-5634.

Cliff Lee is our Building Chairman, and with help from Curt Mommsen we expect to see some new projects started and information circulated. Next month we will publish a list of canoe and kayak molds available in the midwest.

You Can Help Send U.S. Champs to Italy

The World Slalom and Wildwater Championships are being held in Merano, Italy, in mid-June. At least two MCA members are trying out for the U.S. team to paddle against the world's best in Italy this year. Since all U.S. team members must pay most of their own expenses to this event, the whitewater committee has set up a fund to help defray expenses of any MCA members who may qualify for the team. If none of our people do qualify, all money contributed will be forwarded to the U.S. team fund. If you would like to help these hard-working amateur paddlers, send a donation to MCA Whitewater Team Fund, P.O. Box 14177, University Station, Minneapolis 55414.

A confused computer failed to properly process approximately 80 membership renewals. Our apologies for this. If you have missed some copies of HUT!, please notify the membership chairman, Margie Johns (633-6734), and copies will be mailed.

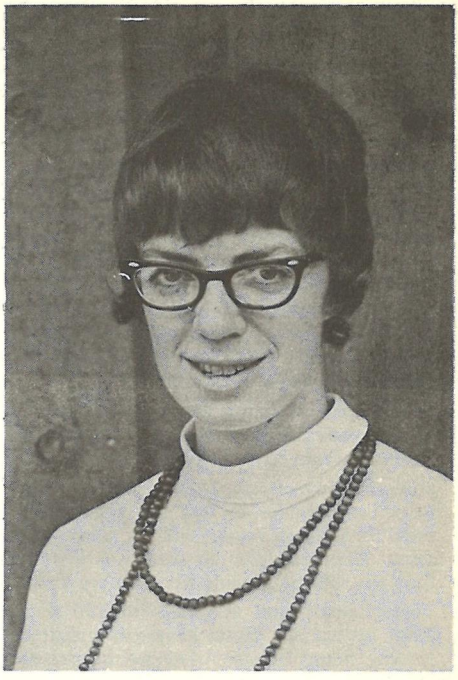
Molly Redmond Wins Trophy in Annual Storyteller's Contest

Molly Redmond of St. Louis Park, Minnesota, won first place in the Annual Storyteller's Contest which ended November 15, 1970. Molly's story, a humorous first person experience, begins on this page. She will be awarded the first place trophy at the April activities meeting.

The entry which took second place was submitted by Janet and Janice Robidoux of Minneapolis, "If We Can Only Keep 'em in Sight". Their story was printed in the last issue of HUT!.

Jerry Wagner's "A Trip to Remember: Giants Don't Have to Be Large" received honorable mention rather than a "place" merely because it was longer than the maximum length specified in the rules of the contest (approximately twice as long). His tale will be serialized in subsequent issues. Jerry is from Oscoda, Michigan.

The Second Storyteller's Contest will be announced in late summer. We hope that the contest continues to inspire inksters from all over HUT! land.



Molly Redmond – Winner of Storyteller's Contest

Canoeing the Upper Saint Croix by Night

by Molly Redmond

Once upon an August in the very early days of my camping career, a canoe, a long weekend, and another canoe fanatic materialized simultaneously. Having a bad case of canoe fever (as always), we consulted natives of this area for advice on easy, nearby, nonpopulated rivers. The St. Croix River from Riverside to St. Croix State Park was the unanimous recommendation.

Sherrie and I packed up an incredible amount of stuff, tied the borrowed canoe to a makeshift rack, and set out. At the last minute, the canoe's owner threw in an extra hunk of rope – mentioning that we might need it for something like tying the food pack out of reach of bears and raccoons.

Thus armed, we went forth to a river I hadn't really known was there. Our previous experience with the St. Croix had been on the wide, muddy-looking, junk-floating, powerboat-filled lower part of the river. We put in on a Saturday afternoon and didn't see anybody but wildlife the rest of the day. Weather was perfect – sunny, good swimming temperature, enough breeze to keep the bugs off. We lazed cheerfully and uneventfully to our first campsite.

We set up a relatively efficient camp (as beginners we were actually quite proud of it), cooked, ate, and cleared up. Noticing raccoon tracks on the bank, we took our friend's professional advice, hoisted up the food pack and tied it to another tree. We watched the fire and the stars a while, listened to owls hunting up and down the river, quietly became more intensely converted to camping, and turned in.

An uneventful night was followed by another beautiful blue and gold day – full of river and swimming, eagles and osprey, mink and muskrat, an occasional still-cold beer, and the constant amazement of "how can this place be so close to the Cities and still exist in such an unspoiled state?"

The change came, of course, as we neared the park – lots of people, more beer cans glittering at us, a few small motors on boats, and transistor radios blasting. Rather than camp in the midst of all this nonwilderness ruckus, we decided to paddle down closer to our take-out point at Head-of-Rapids Landing.

It was late afternoon before we got out of

earshot. The sun was going down; we noticed a number of rocks appearing in the river, and we couldn't see any good campsite areas. We finally found a very long, skinny island that seemed suitable despite the steep bank, lashed the canoe to an obliging silver maple, hoisted the gear up, made camp (highly professional by now) and fixed dinner.

I then began clearing up dishes. Sherrie found a place to hang the food pack. We were clattering about, griping about the tin cans some despoilers had scattered around the site, when we heard a loud rustle and an emphatic "hwhuff". When scared, I turn white – which I did; Sherrie flushes – which she did. Without a word we each picked up a tin cup and plate and stepped to the top of the small ridge behind the fire. Not quite 70 feet away was the largest black bear I'd ever seen. (Considering it now – with the advantage of a few years and a few more bears and a cozy writing spot – I don't suppose the fading light or the solitude or the general fear level diminished his size any.) Hoping to cure the situation somehow, Sherrie and I started yelling and clanging the pans around. The bear stared at us a while, then turned around and slowly sauntered off.

We discussed the matter quickly. This bear had just shattered several time-honored illusions and old-wives tales: He had come around (1) before it was completely dark, (2) while the fire was going, (3) while we were still talking and crashing pans around. (4) He had *not* scurried off in terror – leaping into the water and heading for the mainland. He'd casually strolled away, with an "I'll see you later" message in his backward look. (5) He apparently didn't realize that (according to our experts) you don't find bears on islands. Any bear, we decided, that is so ignorant or so uncaring about the rules was not one we wanted to spend a night with on an island.

With this incentive, we established our still-standing speed record for breaking a completely set-up camp – rolling sleeping bags and tent, and dousing the fire to an extent that would satisfy even the Smokey-bear fanatics. We also set our record for noise accompanying breaking camp – clanging and banging and nervously hollering our opinions of bears who don't obey the rules and sneak up on people besides.

Sitting in our loaded canoe, we discussed problems and alternatives: the sun had set and, though there was a moon, it was haze covered and seemed to be clouding over completely. The river was getting rockier; we didn't want to paddle much more. We had no idea how far we were from our take-out point, and didn't want to pass it in the dark. The bear on the island we were tied to probably outweighed both of us, and looked like miserable company.

The decision, therefore, was to proceed slowly downriver, and set up camp at the next possible site at a *comfortable* distance from the island. The shores were marshy in that section, but we finally spotted a high place. We were heading for it thankfully, when we heard a large crashing coming out of the woods and down towards the river. (Mental checklist of large noise producers: man, deer, or bear. Man would have had a light. Smaller checklist: Deer or bear. Some growls were then produced – causing me to remember an old Natural History lesson: deer do not growl.)

On down the river. The next possible spot had noises that sounded like something chewing a tin can. (Once again the mental checklist – no favorable conclusions). That spot also had a huge tree trunk arched over in the water about 20 feet off shore. Because we didn't know the river, we absolutely did not want to travel further. We lashed the canoe firmly, bow and stern, to the trunk and decided to spend the night right there. Spending the night on the water in the canoe was, we realized, not quite common – even for experienced campers – nor quite comfortable. It seemed, however, the most logical choice when you are being accompanied by invisible (and visible) bears on land. We rearranged the mound of gear to provide more room to stretch out in the bottom of the canoe, keeping the fast-dimming flashlight and a few tin plates on a surface layer. (Identify your enemy with your light before you hit him on the nose with your plate?)

As we settled down near our already familiar snag, we discussed how ludicrous the whole situation was, how our panicky behavior was ridiculous (but actually highly rational), how all our camping friends would react to the story (hysterical laughter), and how there *must* be another alternative. About then, we noticed the lightning. First thought: How lucky we are to have a fiberglass canoe. Immediate second thought: It doesn't make one bit of difference. Our plans expanded to include emergency bivouac procedures on the beach if the storm moved in on us. With eyes to the sky and ears to the bank, we hardly noticed the headlights approaching on the far side of the river. Some loud yelling, then some clanging of beer cans indicated the nature of the company. We felt that our side with its trunk and invisible bears was more hospitable – and so stayed put. The party progressed full tilt for about 15 minutes. The cars suddenly wheeled around, roared out, and left us alone again.

Resettled. Let the feeling of wilderness try to come back. Eyed the sky until the lightning ceased and the clouds cleared – one worry out of the way.

The rest of the night was spent sky watching, listening to the night animals, and trying to

shift into a comfortable position. Sky watching is great in early August because the Perseid meteor shower (10th to 14th) provides the best show of the year. The night was full of bright large falling stars you could watch go from one edge of the sky to the other. Night sounds were beautiful – owls hunting, bobcats quarrelling, whippoorwills and other night birds calling, and miscellaneous grunts, growls, yips, and rustles. I was startled once by a "thump" near my elbow. Grabbing the flashlight (and a tin plate), I focused on a very surprised mink swimming away from the canoe.

Morning. Invisible bears are traditionally banished by the sun, and the riverbank suddenly was no longer menacing at all. We paddled over to the far shore – site of the midnight beer-bust, and slept until forty young church group canoeists arrived. Somewhat groggy, we gave up ideas of sleeping, cooked breakfast, and headed on down the river.

A postscript to this beginners' camping experience: Sherrie and I have both become very enthusiastic campers. Uncertainties about bears and other technical difficulties have subsided. We do highly recommend spending a whole night up listening to that other side of the woods wildlife. Take a tape recorder in case you should situate yourself too comfortably: you might fall asleep and miss most of the action.

After reading Molly's story the editor invited her to join the HUT! staff as editorial assistant. She consented. Molly teaches environmental education at Hyland Lake Nature Center, south of Minneapolis.



Van Reyper

BWCA Incident at Home

by Ham Kurtz

You have to canoe in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area to appreciate little things that can make life pleasant.

It was winter and cold and snowy and very uncanoeing. The week had been a drag, with little worth remembering. This particular day was one of those that most people, myself included, could do without. Boring moments interspersed with minor irritations and frustrations that typify many a person's winter workday. Yet, when I went to bed that night, I felt invigorated and great. Something happened that made that day special. It was the BWCA.

Several weeks earlier I had given a contribution to the Izaak Walton League through Allan Buchholz of the Minnesota Canoe Association. At that time I had openly admired Al's blue and yellow button that said "SAVE THE BWCA". Allan said if he got another one, he'd mail it to me. But I dismissed it.

Today, in the mail, came a letter from Al Buchholz with, you guessed it, my very own "SAVE THE BWCA". Somehow that turned me on. I was thinking of cool lakes, of warm fires, of good companionship. And just as important, I found someone else who apparently knew how much would be awakened by the pin. Thanks, Al.

More on the Kruger-Waddell Cross-Continent Canoe Safari

Clint Waddell and Verlen Kruger, part-time professional canoe racers, are leaving April 15 on their unusual Cross-Continent Canoe Safari from Montreal to the Bering Sea. Their reasons for going and their itinerary were published in the February issue of HUT!.

They are trying to get as much publicity as possible for the reasons they list below. In the following description by Kruger, "presentation" refers to the packet of information they sent us about themselves and about their achingly long trip.

Who Will Receive This Presentation

1. Anyone we feel might be especially interested, and a booster or a help in one way or another.
2. A possible Safari sponsor.
3. Someone who might like to make a 16mm movie.
4. Some of the news media, TV, radio, newspapers, magazines, etc. We want to encourage wide coverage, as a book is planned to be written, possibly along the lines of Colin Fletcher's, *The Man Who Walked Through Time."* We will be keeping a complete diary, as well as 35mm slide coverage of such things as: the route, scenery, lakes, rivers, portages, wildlife, people, weather, activity, reactions, equipment, clothes, food, health.
5. Certain food and equipment manufacturers.
6. A contact man at various main points along the route (through Chambers of Commerce), or a fellow canoeist who could assist immensely in providing information on locale and finding food and supplies and, on rare occasions, shower and laundry.

Some Possible Problems

Weather: Rain, storm, fog, wind. (The only weather besides freeze-up that can bring canoe travel to a temporary standstill is wind. The prevailing wind will be against us all the way. We plan to keep going through all other weather.)

Physical Limitations: There may be a question whether it is physically possible to push hard and fast enough to make this trip in one season. Sixty-five hundred miles is a long way when measured by a 5-foot canoe paddle. It is a lot of long hours sitting in a canoe seat, and a lot of paddle strokes, with possible backaches, blisters, sore bottoms, circulation, fatigue, cold, wet and sun miseries, and of course, accidents and sickness.

Psychological Problems: Number one on this list is that two people in close association day and night, month after month, must be able to get along together. This could be our most unpredictable and toughest problem. Only a couple of fanatics would stand a chance. Some other psychological problems could be: Loss of interest, boredom, monotony, lack of confidence, discouragement, temperament, attitudes.

Navigation Problems: Big lakes, multiple bays, thousands of islands strange country, fog, misinformation, inaccurate maps, magnetic variations, flood water, fast current, low water rapids, portages, no markers or trails. We do not plan to use a guide at any time.

Newsletter

If enough people express an interest we will arrange to put out a newsletter about every two weeks. To cover the cost of material, printing, stamps, and the editor, it would be about $10.00 per subscription. It would be a type of progress report and diary, and would include other miscellaneous information.

Maps

In addition to what you receive in this packet, we have a few extra beautiful large multicolored maps, (40 x 36, scale 1" equal 64 miles) of the whole route on one sheet for $2.00.

Any inquiries may be sent to either of us: Verlen Kruger, 243 East Webb Road, DeWitt, Michigan 48220, U.S.A., or Clint Waddell, 1695 North Cleveland, St. Paul, Minnesota 55112, U.S.A.

Breezing Along Safely, Securely

by Curt Mommsen

In the way of precautions when transporting boats:

1. Don't leave unattached life jackets or flotation in boats – they will blow out.
2. Use all nylon lines, preferably 1/4-inch, to secure boats to carriers, and 5/16 or 3/8-inch for front hold-downs.
3. Secure both ends of every boat.
4. On a longer trip, check all bolts, ropes, etc., once every hour.
5. Add extra ropes at ends for bracing when driving in strong wind.
6. Slow down when driving in heavy side winds.

CRUISING CAPERS



No Ice on Rice? Check for April 18 Opening Cruise

If the ice has indeed melted by April 18, we'll start 1971's first cruise on Rice Creek at 1 p.m. We'll put in at Ramsey County Road H and U.S. Highway 10 north of New Brighton, and will take out at Locke Park in Fridley. Be prepared to deal with a strong, fast current in places – and, failing that, with *cold* water (32°). We may have to limit the number of canoes, so contact Abner Jones (784-5302) early to reserve your spot on the season's opener.

Shoot the Cannon With Us

by Beth Siemon

The Cannon River is a winding bit of beauty and adventure, yet few people know of it except the Malt-O-Meal plant and the little community of Northfield, Minnesota.

Join us on Sunday, May 2, for a cruise to the town where the historic Jesse James was finally caught. Our probable starting place will be Faribault. Those interested can obtain maps from me (784-2089), 8021 Eastwood Drive, Minneapolis 55432.

Sunrise Cruise Coming May 9

by Stu Duncanson

The obvious question when we first acquired a canoe was, "Where can we learn to paddle?" A friend suggested the Sunrise River. We had Scout-camped on the Sunrise River near the game refuge east of Stacy, so we went there, downstream from the dam. Before long we discovered the other end, which is "where it's at".

The upper region of the river, a lazy winding stream well stocked with fallen trees, is an excellent stretch for rank beginners. Kids enjoy dragging over or slithering under. "Young" parents do, too.

About a quarter mile above Sunrise Village, the river starts its rapid descent to the St. Croix. The trickiest rapids are under the upper bridge. After two disasters in two successive weekends, I was a believer.

Abundant parking is available beside the "Bank", across the street from the lower bridge in the village. (Most canoeists start their cruise here.) A little over an hour after put-in should find the average paddler at the St. Croix anxious to be picked up for another quick go at it.

A noon start on Sunday, May 9, should give our party time for three or four passes and a picnic supper either at the St. Croix or below the cemetery. Drive east from North Branch on Highway 95 and, after crossing the river, go north to Sunrise Village. From 95 to Sunrise Village is about a 4-minute drive or a 4-hour paddle.

For reservations, call or write Stu Duncanson (645-4251) 1754 Ryan Avenue W., Roseville, Minnesota 55113.

Cruising Schedule

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	–

Kettle and Snake Trips Planned Jointly

by Janet and Janice Robidoux

The proximity of these two rivers makes a perfect two-day outing for those who wish or a one-day trip for those who can't make both days. Bob O'Hara, and Janet and Janice Robidoux, therefore, are jointly planning "piggyback" cruises. Make reservations for shuttle service for either trip with them. If enough people are interested, they may hire shuttle service.

What to bring:

Life preservers (no one will accompany us without one);

Lunch (better waterproof it);

Extra paddle (tie it down);

Change of dry clothing (keep some in your car; bring a few things along in a waterproof bag);

Inntertube (optional for those who want extra buoyancy).

Where and when:

Saturday, May 15 – Kettle River. Meet at 10:30 a.m. at the Highway 48 bridge east of Hinckley.

Sunday, May 16 – Snake River. Meet at 10 a.m. at the dam on the east end of Cross Lake near Pine City.

Reservations and shuttle service:

Bob O'Hara (544-7817) 2900 N. Douglas Drive, Minneapolis.

Janet or Janice Robidoux (784-7086) 6775 E. River Blvd., Minneapolis 55432.

Camping:

Camp overnight if you wish. Some of the group will be staying at the Highway 70 bridge campground Saturday night.

Warning:

If the water is extremely high, these trips will be *cancelled or postponed;* so keep in touch with the leaders. We expect normal or slightly higher runoff this year, so we highly recommend that there be a minimum of one experienced canoeist per canoe and a maximum of two persons per canoe.

Whitewater Clinic for Standard Canoes

A whitewater clinic for standard canoes will be conducted by Ian Richards Saturday and Sunday, April 24-25. Come either or both days at 11 a.m. to the River Flats Parking Lot, University of Minnesota, just south of the Washington Avenue Bridge on the East Bank of the Mississippi. Bring your standard canoe (if you have one – otherwise just come), a lifejacket, a lunch, and lots of energy for a program that concentrates on paddling rather than on lecturing about it.

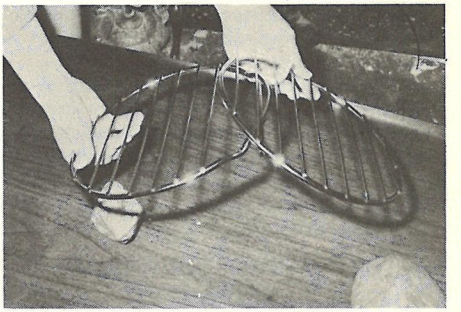
Curt Mommsen Invents Indispensable Cook Kit Grill

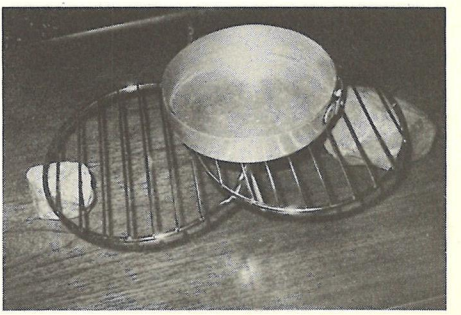
by Molly Redmond

This year, canoeists don't have to choose between balancing their cooking pots on rocks or toting in a bulky grate. Curt Mommsen, an MCA director, has invented a neat, lightweight Cook Kit Grill. The Grill, two 9-inch circular grates of nickel-chrome plated steel, fits compactly in the bottom of a cook kit bag or large pot. The pieces link together easily (shown above) and are held together firmly by the weight of the pots on them.

A dozen of the grills have been successfully tested and marketed so far. Terry McGaughey, acting as distributor, is presently showing them to outfitters, guides, and stores. The Cook Kit Grill will be put into production in a few weeks, and will be available soon for about $4.95 at better sporting goods stores.

Having solved the campfire cooking problem, Curt says he is already "working on some other things." He hopes this sideline will bring in enough for him to make a few extra trips.





Flood Conditions at a Pool Slalom?

by Al Button

Would you believe flood conditions at a pool slalom? Fifteen gates in one swimming pool? Clean runs in most expert classes? A Minnesota-designed C-1 being tested under pressure – and winning? The Rockford Pool Slalom had it all, plus good fellowship, movies, talk and singing after Saturday's competition.

The flood was compliments of Rockford College – they raised the water level one foot over the poolside deck so boaters didn't have to worry about hitting the pool walls. Only six gates were hung, but several were used two or three times to make a 15-gate course with sharp turns, reverse U-turns, spins and straightaways.

How do you win a pool slalom? Well, our midwestern competition has matured and is very tough, so you must plan to have a clean run (*no* gate touches) and still paddle at breakneck speed (about two minutes through all 15 gates). It takes practice, a steady nerve and fast reflexes. A small but determined MCA team brought back more than its share of Fred Young's hand-stamped and machined gold, silver and bronze medals in both expert and intermediate divisions.

A pool slalom is an excellent way to meet midwestern whitewater paddlers, to swap tales of the past year's cruises, hair-raising experiences and races, to sharpen paddling technique, or to try slalom racing for the first time. Our thanks to Fred Young and Rockford College for setting up an enjoyable race.

ROCKFORD POOL SLALOM

KAYAK (K-1)

Place	Contestants	Total Score
Class: K-1 Expert		
1	Sam Powers	104.6
2	Al Button	124.0
3	Eric Olsen	168.8
4	Bruce Campbell	192.0
5	Dave Anglin	192.7
6	John Strahler	196.7
7	Russ Nichols	203.4
8	John Laing	204.6
9	Steve Rock	213.2
10	Les Ferrier	244.0
11	Greg Kosowski	260.0
12	Walt Brummund	262.6
13	John Jonker	293.1
Class: K-1W Expert		
1	Judy Westbrook	178.8
2	Bonnie Losick	189.8
3	Judy Anderson	194.0
4	Barb Wonson	224.4
5	Marge Uhalde	336.0
Class: K-1 Intermediate		
1	Fred Young	328.0
2	Bill Leja	365.6
3	Mike Milbach	469.0
4	Greg Southard	508.0
Class: K-1W Intermediate		
1	Kim Williams	331.7
2	Denise Edwards	419.1
3	Elaine Kroupa	590.2

ONE-MAN CANOE (C-1)

Class C-1 Expert		
1	Al Button	123.6
2	Sam Powers	125.0
3	Eric Olsen	147.4
4	Walt Brummund	237.1
5	John Strahler	250.6
6	Bruce Campbell	254.0
7	Russ Nichols	254.6
8	Fred Young	276.0
Class: C-1W Expert		
1	Bonnie Losick	199.0
2	Marge Uhalde	257.2
3	Judy Anderson	320.4
Class: C-1 Intermediate		
1	Dave Anglin	304.0
2	John Jonker	376.3
3	Greg Southard	416.3
4	John Laing	433.2
5	Les Ferrier	433.7
6	Mike Milbach	440.0
7	Bill Leja	446.6
Class: C-1W Intermediate		
1	Kim Williams	355.0
2	Barb Wonson	630.4

TWO-MAN CANOE (C-2)

Class: C-2 Expert		
1	Walt Brummund - Sam Powers	149.0
2	Russ Nichols-Eric Olsen	155.2
3	Al Button-Fred Young	185.2

Place	Contestants	Total Score
4	Bruce Campbell - John Jonker	269.5
5	Dave Anglin - John Laing	309.8
6	Steve Rock - John Strahler	319.5
7	Mike Milbach - Greg Southard	358.8
Class: C-2M Expert		
1	Barb Wonson - Al Button	157.8
2	Judy Westbrook - Russ Nichols	168.9
3	Judy Anderson - Sam Powers	169.1
4	Bonnie Losick - Eric Olsen	180.8
5	Marge Uhalde - Walt Brummund	201.3
6	Kim Williams - Fred Young	379.3
Class: C-2W Expert		
1	Kim Williams - Bonnie Losick	206.4
2	Barb Wonson - Marge Uhalde	228.0
3	Judy Anderson - Judy Westbrook	233.9
4	Jean Wilcox - Elaine Kroupa	505.5
Class: C-2M Intermediate		
1	Elaine Kroupa - John Jonker	315.4
2	Jean Wilcox - John Laing	326.6
3	Denise Edwards - Bruce Campbell	363.0

Racers to Challenge Kettle River May 2

by Denny Withers

The Third Annual Kettle Downriver Race will begin at noon on Sunday, May 2, at the Banning State Park, Sandstone, Minnesota. Expert kayak and canoe racers will challenge the canyon section of the river during exciting high-water conditions. All races will be on Sunday this year, a single action-packed afternoon, for the enjoyment of spectators. Competitors will be expected to trial-run the racecourse on Saturday.

For additional information, contact Bob Haug, or call me at 920-2887.

Whitewater Clinic and Race to be Held on Snake

by Denny Withers

The Snake River winds through hilly countryside near Mora, Minnesota, and is an enjoyable whitewater river for beginning and intermediate paddlers. There are numerous rapids that appeal to whitewater chasers, and the river offers isolation for those wanting a brief respite from our "plastic" world.

The weekend of May 1-2 has been selected for a Whitewater Clinic and Race for the MCA's not-so-experienced paddlers. The only requirements are appropriate equipment (i.e., kayak or canoe, wetsuit or equivalent, lifejacket and helmet) and ability to swim. We will cruise and have fun in the rapids on Saturday, and run several classes of 4½-mile downriver races beginning at 11 a.m. on Sunday. We will put in at Aitkin County Park, about 20 miles north of Mora on Route 65. All kayaks, whitewater canoes and open canoes (for those who want to risk open boats) are welcome. Intensive on-river instruction will be given Saturday, depending on the number of persons participating and the availability of qualified instructors. We plan to camp Saturday evening in the general area, and have a "fun" weekend.

Preregistration is required for the clinic and races. Entry fees of $1 (18 or younger) and $2 (for taxpayers) are necessary to cover the cost of race awards and expenses. Y'all come!

I will act as event leader and "registrar". Call me at 920-2887, or write to me, 2806 Xerxes Avenue South, Minneapolis.

Whitewater Classes Scheduled for April

by Brad Granum

The MCA's newly sponsored explorer post is offering a course in whitewater canoeing. It will be held at St. Louis Park High School, Tuesday and Friday nights from 7-9 p.m. on April 13, 20, 23, 27 and 30. Cost for the five sessions will be $7.50.

We will work on basics, rolls, braces and paddling technique. We prefer having interested persons sign up for the whole course, rather than individual sessions. Space is limited to 18 persons – first come, first served.

If you wish to attend, make check or money order payable to Brad Granum. Include your name, address and telephone number, and mail to Brad Granum, 5108 26th Avenue S., Minneapolis 55417.

Flood Predictions Flash Warnings to Canoeists

Several communities have been warned to prepare for severe and possibly record floods this spring. Heavy snow cover in the Upper Mississippi basin will probably produce near-record crests along some areas of the Mississippi River and its main tributaries in Wisconsin: the Chippewa, Trempealeau, Black and Wisconsin Rivers. Even greater flooding may occur on the Root and Zumbro Rivers in southeastern Minnesota and the Upper Iowa River in northeastern Iowa.

Of more immediate concern to canoeists who do not live in these areas should be insistence on canoeing safety on any high and, hence, tumultuous water. Now, more than at any other time of the year, nonswimmers should not boat in treacherous, swift-moving current. After surveying the scene, a good rule of thumb all boaters should adhere to is: *When in doubt, don't.* (A moment's hesitation on land is worth two in the water.)

We are proud of the fact that the MCA has a high safety record: no deaths or serious injuries to members while canoeing – to our knowledge. To reinforce our concern for preserving you, we are reprinting two articles on safety in whitewater (see following). Since most cruising rivers are at least sprinkled with whitewater, many of the points are applicable to cruisers as well as whitewater paddlers. Read – and heed.

PROBLEMS IN WHITEWATER

by Alf Gaensbauer

This article is reprinted from The Water Bubble, the monthly publication of the British Columbia Kayak and Canoe Club, Vancouver.

We generally run into problems for two reasons: poor equipment and misconduct. Unsolved problems can lead to loss of boat and life. Drowning can usually be avoided by swimming; nonswimmers have no business paddling.

When a swimmer drowns it is because he gets caught under water or he quits swimming because of exhaustion, hypothermia or knockout.

Most common dangers are: big rollers, backwater under wiers*, underwashed shorelines and whirlpools in big waves. Effective remedies are: diving deep and downstream; diving deep and to the outside in whirlpools (the lifejacket is a disadvantage here).

Another danger is the logjam. To avoid these, get out of the boat a split second before colliding, climb the obstacle if possible. Alternatively roll over low logs sideways – though never lean upstream. Turning and speed are, of course, essential.

It is wise to avoid such situations in the first place through foresight and forethought rather than forfeiture!

The chance of a knockout is best met with proper headgear; hypothermia (subnormal body temperature), with a wet suit.

Frequent causes for going down the drain are: too much gall, hesitation, distraction, hangover, showmanship, shortsightedness, poor paddling technique, lack of river reading experience (the ability to judge currents) and lack of conditioning. The most frequent victims are, therefore, the Sunday afternoon paddlers.

Swimming in whitewater should be practiced. It lends self-confidence and helps overcome surprises when meeting with actual extreme situations. Near shallow water swim on your back, feet downstream; at least you avoid knee injuries. Through rollers dive stretched out, head downstream and on your belly. Always get a lungful of air before hitting big waves. Breathe through a pointed mouth, like under a shower; you will swallow less water that way.

Whenever possible, hold on to your boat, and keep it downstream from you. In shallow water, head for shore by pushing off bottom with your feet, rather than by swimming. It is also necessary to look for and anticipate downstream obstacles and landing places.

The outside shore of a curve in the river is easier to reach than the inside one, but be prepared for a crash landing. Give yourself more scope and a chance to hold onto something by letting go of your boat's hand sling, and holding the end of the 15-foot boatline instead. In very fast knee-deep water, it is easier to run with leaping strides than to wade slowly. Any swimmer who is not already exhausted or frightened to death should let go of the towing boat temporarily, rather than cause his rescuer to capsize in apparently awkward situations.

The salvage of a boat without swimmer is best accomplished by having a short (2-foot) line attached around the rescue boat's cockpit with a snap-hook on its end, to snap onto the capsized boat's handsling.

It seems obvious that all such basic knowledge and advice, as mentioned above, gained through the experience of many seasoned paddlers, will be of value especially to the beginner, if he only would learn about it. It is the trip leader's responsibility that paddlers in his group know at least about rescue procedures before they hit the water.

*dams

WHITEWATER SAFETY– How to Run Rapids and Live to Tell About It

by Joe Conrad

The following article was reprinted from the March, 1969, issue of HUT!.

Early spring! High water! "Let's run those rapids now! The waves will really be great!" you say. So you jump into your canoe with your buddy, and down you go – maybe too far down. Maybe you didn't think about how cold the water would be, or how out of shape you are, or that a water-filled canoe weighs 2,000 pounds. Maybe you left that extra lifejacket at home, and completely ignored the fact that you haven't really run *any* high, flood-filled stream before. To avert disaster try the following rules.

1. **Personal** – Be in shape. Know your ability. Work up to the big rivers by starting on the easier ones. Know your partners and their abilities and judgment.
2. **Equipment** – Avoid battling a swamped canoe and frigid water.
   a. Put extra flotation in the canoe. Open canoes can be filled with a tractor-tire tube stuffed under the thwarts. You may want to attach a partial spray deck.
   b. *Wear a lifejacket.* Two that provide more freedom of motion (both come in sizes) are: "Sans-Souci", Stearns Manufacturing Company, St. Cloud, Minnesota 56301; and "Flotherchoc", Sports and Cycles, 3181 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, Virginia 22201.
   c. In cold water (until June 1 in these parts) wear a wet suit and neoprene booties. Avoid heavy leather or rubber boots.
   d. Carry a waterproofed change of warm clothes.
   e. Never impede your exit from the canoe in case of upset.
3. **The river** – Know what you are attempting. Learn what hazards the particular river may hold. Never rely solely on hearsay – especially if the approaching rapids are unviewable from beginning to end from the water. Get on shore and scout the river. Learn about moving water and potential river hazards such as fallen trees, underwater rocks, strong eddies, and side currents, undertows at dams, and falls.
4. **In case of upset** – Hang onto the boat by thwart, gunwale or grab-loop. Stay on the upstream end to avoid being pinned. Keep your feet up near the surface and face downstream to fend off rocks. In general, *don't leave the boat* until you are touching bottom and *know* you can wade to shore.
5. **Running rapids** – Never run rapids solo. Travel with an experienced leader and respect his judgment. Don't be ashamed to portage – the Voyageurs knew that!

THE TRADING POST

Intriguing idea for outdoor equipment and clothes made to fit your individual needs: sleeping bags, tents, down-filled jackets, etc., all made by hand at about 20% savings off retail price of ready-to-wear. Call Jill Nichols, 933-3261.

For Sale: Prijon kayak, like new; 633-6170, est. 5122, days.

For Rent: Prijon-style kayak mold; Minnesota Rovers Outing Club, 645-2338 or 645-6923.

WANTED: Filing cabinet, legal or letter size, 2, 3 or 4 drawer for MCA records and materials. Call Margie, 633-6734.

Wanted: Paddling partner. I have all equipment and transportation. Ed T. Kolar, 3325 Glenn Rd., Newport, Minn. 55055 or call 459-5374.

Wanted: Paddling partner for cruising. Merlin R. Davis, 935-9962.

For Sale Gunther 65 sq. ft. sailing rig for grumman canoe. Holiday Draw-Tite umbrella tent 9'6" x 9'6" with top fly. Tom Wepfer, Loyal, Wis. 255-8800 or 255-8801.

Want canoe-camping tent, used, 3-man. Gary Quick, 755-5319.

Wanted: Lightweight 13 or 15 ft. used Grumman. Call Ham Kurtz, 825-3155.

Wanted – Used rugged woman's style bicycle, 5-speed preferred. Call 935-2217.

Want lightweight tent. Bob Haag, 781-1328.

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.

Persons seeking canoe partners for cruising should call in or send their names and telephone numbers to Trading Post as soon as possible.

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

PROFESSIONAL RACING

Stern Man Is Usually Hut Man

Hut is the signal given so that one's canoe partner knows when to change sides. It was developed by professional racers in the Minneapolis Aquatennial canoe races of the 40s. It was named "hut" by Eugene B. Jensen and Thomas Estes, who went on to win four Aquatennials. Many recreational canoeists have adapted this method to leisure paddling, especially in the MCA. Recently the switching style has invaded whitewater competition, although the singles paddlers often omit calling *hut*. In the 1967 Trans-Canada Canoe Pageant, where six-man teams raced 4,000 miles to Montreal's Expo 67, Canada's best teams used the *hut*.

As a brief review, a *hut* is accomplished by (see diagrams):

1. Raising the paddle out of the water with the *lower* hand;
2. Passing the blade over the canoe;
3. Placing the free hand just below the hand holding the paddle;
4. Sliding the hand to the grip.

In addition to the basic procedure there are a number of pointers that make *hut* successful. These are general guides and may be altered to fit the individual paddlers:

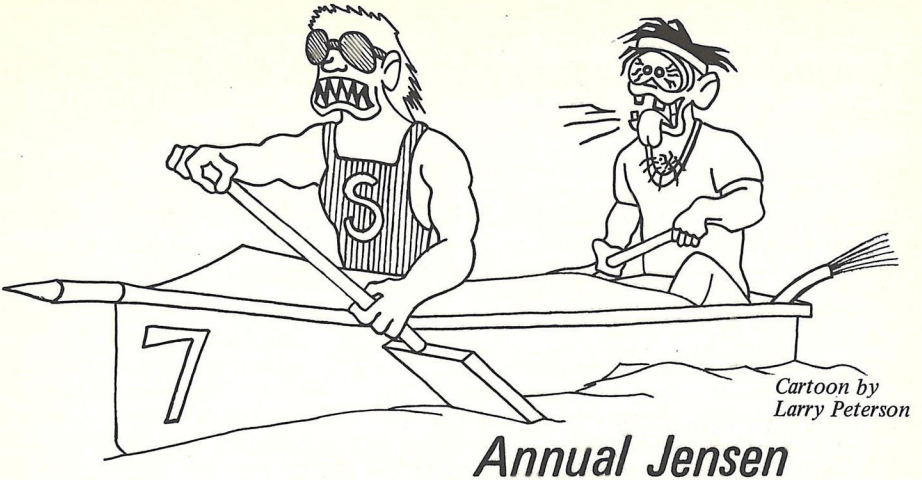
1. Take six to eight strokes per side for racing, or ten to twenty for cruising.
2. Omit or delay a *hut* in heavy rapids or while on top of a large wave.
3. Call *hut* at the beginning of the preceding stroke. Both paddlers complete the stroke before switching.
4. Switch sides in as much time as a stroke would take.
5. Perform the procedure simultaneously.
6. A word other than *hut* may be used (i.e., hutt, hup, switch, kick, work, sex, arf).
7. Use a slight draw or a pitch blade stroke in the rear for control, as a J-stroke will hinder timing.
8. Usually the sternman calls the *huts*. Bowman may call *huts* in small twisting rivers or in boulder-field rapids.





Drawings by Larry Lapole

It's time to redo the MCA Directory. Please check the yellow directory that was included in the September, 1970, issue. If any part of your listing is not correct or up-to-date, please send the corrected information *immediately* to MCA Directory Listing, Margie Johns, Membership Chairman, 2936 N. Simpson, St. Paul 55113. In addition, it would be wise to check the label on the last HUT! you received; it should have the same address as the directory. Information on new members will be taken from their application forms. If you sit down and do it right now, you won't forget. Please help us in this little way.



Cartoon by Larry Peterson

Efficient Canoeing Course Offered

The MCA's pro racing group will be offering an Efficient Canoeing Course for those who want to compete in the Jensen Handicap Canoe Race, May 22. The first three classes will be held April 25, May 2 and 16 in Shingle Creek. The final training session will be on the Mississippi River, over the course of the Jensen Handicap.

Classes, which will stress farther, faster canoeing with less effort, will cost $1 each or $2.50 for the series. Preregistration, which is required, can be done by calling Karl Ketter, 869-0021, or Jeff Howe, 331-3154. A few pro racers and racing canoes will be available, but bring your own canoes and paddles if you have them.

Des Moines Ikes to Hold Amateur Race in May

The Des Moines (Iowa) Izaak Walton League canoe race will be held May 16, according to Jerry Hustad. The race is for amateur contestants only. Classes to be included are USCA (men, mixed, teenage) and aluminum (men).

Hustad states that they had 46 entries last year, but that they need canoes from Minnesota.

The pros are preparing a calendar of Minnesota MCA pro and amateur long-distance races.

Annual Jensen Handicap Race to Be Held May 22

by Larry Peterson

In order to participate in this year's Jensen Handicap, novice paddlers are required to attend a minimum of one practice session prior to the race or to bring a 16-foot canoe when the race starts. (See March issue of HUT!, Pro Racing.) These sessions will help assure beginners better stability in the canoe and a greater understanding of the professional way of paddling. So, let's show those old-timers what good partners we can be.

The race will start on the west side of the Mississippi River at a small park down 81st Avenue N. (just off Highway 169, a few miles north of I-694) on May 22 at 1 p.m. Experienced and novice paddlers are to be paired off as partners, so participants should arrive early for this drawing. Paddlers under 21 must have written consent of parent or guardian; married men must have consent of wives.

Paddlers, be sure to bring a paddle and a life preserver. Members, bring along a picnic lunch and some friends. After the race prizes and trophies will be awarded, followed by a big get-together.

Pro and Amateur Racers Invited to Pro Meeting

A pro racers meeting will be held on Friday, April 23, at the home of Buzz Peterson, 10721 Mississippi Blvd., Coon Rapids. Anyone interested in pro or amateur racing is welcome. For more information call Buzz at 421-7024, or Tom Olson, 421-9618.

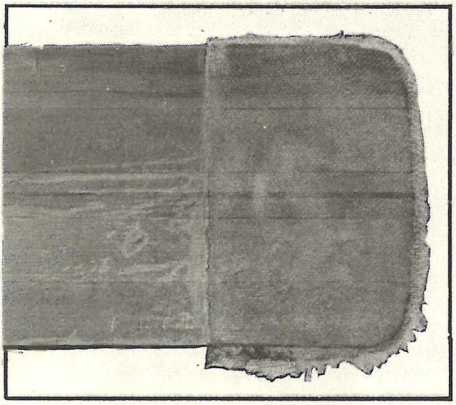
Protecting paddles for flatwater differs from whitewater-method

I read Mr. Button's article on paddle repair .... in which he recommends using 50 oz. roving and those layers and layers of assorted weight cloth fastened to the ends of paddles with epoxy "glue".

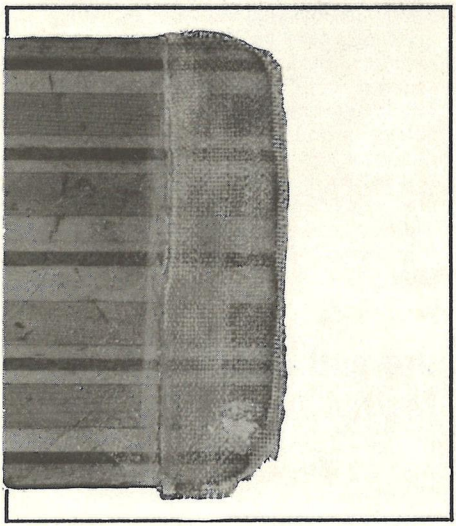
For those who may wish a little less plastic on their paddles I offer these suggestions (see photos):

1. Apply fiberglass cloth and resin with the paddle in a horizontal position to prevent the resin from running down the blade.

2. Use one layer of 4 oz. glass on each side of blade. Do not attempt to bend glass over the edge, but run the glass past the edges of the blade.



Glass extends 1/4 inch over blade edges.



Apply fiberglass without bending over edges of paddle blade.

3. Trim excess glass to 1/4 inch over blade size after resin has hardened.

4. Using thickened resin, fill in the notch between the fiberglass extensions.

Karl N. Ketter

For further clarification, the editor asked Al Button to reply to Karl's comments.

Several points should be clarified.

1. Our roving is 18½ oz., not 50 oz.

2. Only roving *strands* are used, not the roving itself. The roving strands prevent the resin from chipping and cracking, as unreinforced resin would do under brutal pounding.

3. Karl's paddle is lighter, adequate for cruising and flatwater racing, but would not hold up well at all under the continual grinding encountered in paddling upstream in rocky rapids. I have worn through the 4-oz. cloth on such a paddle in half a season, and then the resin bead dropped off; hence the multiple layers of cloth used on more recent models.

4. Both methods work well – *for their respective purposes.* So decide where you will use your paddle and then choose the best method for you. (Karl and the other pros are much more successful at avoiding rocks with boats and paddles than are we whitewater paddlers.)

Al Button

Herbst Opposes BWCA Mineral Search

Minnesota Commissioner of Natural Resources Robert Herbst has registered a strong objection to announced plans of the U.S. Geological Survey to search for minerals in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. On Thursday, March 4 the USGS revealed that they plan on sending a mineral mapping team into the BWCA this summer and that exploratory drilling might be undertaken later.

Herbst said the mineral exploration is premature. The USGS says the information is needed in order to establish a value on minerals in case the courts decide that private mineral holdings must either be purchased by the federal government or allowed to be developed by their owners. Herbst stated in a letter to Secretary of Interior Rogers Morton: "It is my conviction that mineral exploration in the BWCA is undesirable and unnecessary until a judgement has been entered by the court in the lawsuit now pending in federal district court, Duluth." Herbst requested Secretary Morton to reconsider any decision which may have been made to proceed with the geologic mapping program.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR MCA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Apply for membership on official MCA forms only (see other side of this card). Fill in all spaces (including Mailing Data) each time you renew. Print in ink, or type.

Make check or money order payable to the Minnesota Canoe Association, Inc. Do not fold card (use large envelope). Send card and payment to the MCA, P.O. Box 14177, University Station, Minneapolis 55414. Your membership card will be proof of payment.

Memberships are not transferable.

Classification of Memberships

Regular Member — Full club benefits. New — annual dues $7 (includes membership kit); renew — annual dues $5 (does not include kit).

Junior Member (not yet age 19) — All benefits except voting rights. New — annual dues $5 (includes membership kit); renew — annual dues $3 (does not include kit).

Associate Member — Receives club magazine. Annual dues $4.

Life Member — Full benefits for life. $100.

Application Form on reverse side

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(Our publications will not reach you without zip code.)

Age _____ Sex _____ No. of years canoeing _____

Occupation _____

Own canoe? _____ Type _____

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Name _____

Address _____

City and State _____

Zip Code _____

R A J L N R

Telephone _____

How to Make and Attach a Carrying Yoke

by Al Buchholz

A well-fitted carrying yoke can increase the enjoyment of your canoe trips and, at the same time, add support near the gunwales of your canoe.

The carrying yoke can be made from oak, ash, or mahogany; sitka spruce gives a strong, light-weight yoke. Start with a 1 in. x 5 in. x 3 foot piece of wood. Before you cut into it, cut a yoke from corrugated cardboard and shape until the neck hole and nibs fit you comfortably. A design which works well for the guide model canoe is given in the figure. Note that the indentations of the yoke are offset for greater strength. Add or subtract length at the ends to fit your boat. After you have made a cardboard yoke that fits you, trace it on the wood and cut it out. Round the edges. Be sure to taper the inside of the neck hole to fit your shoulders if you don't add pads. Cut the length to fit your canoe (see where to place it below). After sanding, cover with a good spar varnish or exterior polyurethane.

Pads may be made from 2½ in. x 5 in. x ¾ in. pieces of exterior plywood and 1-2 inches of foam padding. Seal the plywood before covering. Use a firm type of foam such as that from an old water skier's belt. Cover the foam and wood with nylon, Naugahyde, or plastic. The last two may get hot on long portages. Canvas is also good for covering but may not dry well. Screw the pads onto the thwart from the underside with brass screws. Offset the pads a little. With pads, less care is required in fitting the neck hole of the yoke.

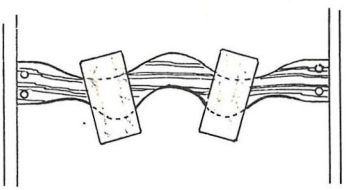
Where to attach the yoke? This is a matter of individual preference. I like mine about 2-3 inches forward of the center of balance of the canoe (the carrying yoke has to go on last!). This allows you to see when portaging as the canoe will be slightly stern heavy. Other people prefer to put the yoke dead center and push up the front of the canoe when necessary.

How to attach the yoke? Another matter of preference. The strongest way is to shape a cut piece to the edge of the canoe, rounding all sharp corners. The piece is glued (epoxy is best) to the inside of the canoe. Rough sand the edge of the canoe for better adhesion. A scrap of 4 or 7½ ounce fiberglass cloth is cut on the bias (45° angle) and used to glass in the piece. In the figure, this is shown as the dotted line. The yoke is screwed into this as shown.

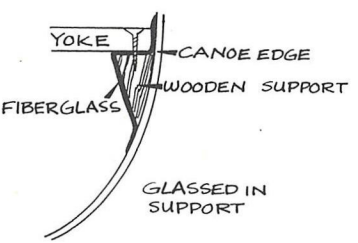
Another way is to screw a block through the outside of the canoe. When doing this, add waterproof glue to the hole to seal it. Yokes may also be attached to the gunwales. Use brass screws as they do not discolor.

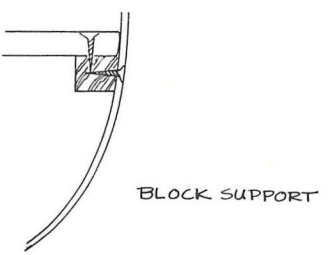
For aluminum canoes, Grumman sells a padded yoke on an aluminum tube which can be added to canoes of the same width as Grumman models. The pads are a little weak. Be sure to check whether it will fit your canoe.

You will find that the time spent in making a yoke will more than repay you on the portage trail.

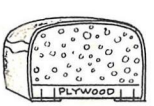


PAD PLACEMENT





BLOCK SUPPORT



YOKE PAD

Drawings by Larry Lapole

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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