HUT!

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Technical portage on the Flambeau River, Wisconsin. Happy April.
Photo: © Burt Levy Photography

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HUT! is the signal on which paddlers change sides. It was first used by Tom Estes and Eugene Jensen in the 1940s as they won four Aquatennial canoe races. It was adopted as the title of the MCA magazine because it symbolizes the teamwork and coordination necessary for effective canoeing.

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DEADLINE FOR EACH ISSUE: Articles are to be received no later than the 10th of the month preceding publication. Advertising and calendar items are to be received no later than the 15th of the month preceding publication.
Send submissions to:
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HUT! Editor
4421 36th Avenue North
Crystal, MN 55422

PUMPING WOOD



BENDING BRANCHES PADDLES

BENDING BRANCHES

1101 Stinson Blvd., Mpls., MN 55413 612-378-1825

FROM THE BOW

It's been a dry winter here in the metro area, and prospects of a low-water spring are evident everywhere. A few days ago our temperature here was in the 70's, and of course a bunch of us flocked to the river.... You couldn't float a stick on Minnehaha Creek below the falls where it enters the Mississippi. Slim prospects indeed for an early season run off.

This may be the dryest spring since the mid 1970's. In '76 I walked "meadows" I canoed last summer... and we had a rash of early spring fires that lasted all through the summer.

There must be plenty of depth in the bank accounts of our member chapters, however. A few weeks ago we asked for a estimate of what expense requirements would be for '87 from the various chapters. The Rapids Riders were the only group to answer, and their requests were met in full. The MCA is on a firm financial footing and the board will act on special requests from chapters on a first-come-first-served basis. Frankly, I was surprised that we didn't hear from you outstate folks and racers when we put out the word.... I guess it's true that sometimes you can't give it away.

Keep an eye on the planning calendar pages of **HUT!**. The events of the coming season are starting to show up and we wouldn't want any of you to miss some important date. The Governor's Cruise, for example, is planned for June 13th on the Minnesota River near the Mankato area. This is the 125th Anniversary of the Souix Uprising and has been designated the "Year of Reconciliation" by Governor Perpich. A number of events will be taking place in that area at that time, besides the Family Canoe Day.

As we have in the past, we will be having some special paddle nights with Wilderness Inquiry II at selected locations in the metro area. These special nights, enjoyed by all in attendance, present the opportunity for some handicapped folks to try canoeing before going on one of WI II's full-scale northwoods trips.

Those are just a few reasons to watch **HUT!** and plan to come paddle with us this summer.

--Al Gustaveson, President



May 29-31, 1987

Bike trekking on THE GREAT RIVER RIDE is like bike touring – and a whole lot more!

You'll find that the American Lung Association of Hennepin County has planned a weekend adventure May 29-31, 1987 that takes you on a winding tour of the beautiful and historic Mississippi River Valley by bike, boat and train.

Along the way you'll have time to stop, sightsee, take pictures and enjoy a friendly welcome from the quaint towns that dot the route from the Twin Cities to Winona, Minnesota.

This trek is created for people, novice and expert alike, who simply enjoy bicycling and the great outdoors. In fact, experienced leaders from the Minnesota Coalition of Bicyclists will accompany you on the trek and provide you with a pre-trek bicycle training program geared to your biking needs and interests.

But that's not all. The American Lung Association of Hennepin County also provides trekkers with breakfasts, dinners and campsites or suggestions for hotels/motels. And if your bike breaks down, a mobile bike shop will help you fix it.

Combine a boat tour of the Old Miss', biking along some of Minnesota's finest scenery and a ticket home by rail and you have this summer's premier bicycling event. It's THE GREAT RIVER RIDE – all aboard – a weekend adventure you won't want to miss.

CALL 871-7332

MINNESOTA CANOE ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 4, 1987

The meeting was called to order by President Al Gustaveson, at 7:30 p.m.

In attendance were: Al Gustaveson, Don Mitchell, Ron Lueck, Bob Brown, Earl and Janice Liberko, John Tuttle, Jim and Verna Robinson, Cliff Jacobson, Caryl Duke, Bill Simpson, John and Debbie Murphy, Jan Amberson, Greg Lais, and George Skinner.

The January minutes were approved as read.

Conservation: For all practical purposes, the artillery range/training camp is a dead issue.

The latest newsletter from "Friends of the Boundary Waters" reports that military aircraft are allowed to fly over the BWCA at 300-500 feet. Don Mitchell thinks this is an issue the MCA members should be aware of.

The BWCA show will be held on March 21, 1987 at the Brooklyn Center Civic Center.

Whitewater Chapter: The Rapids Riders will be having a conditioning program at their next meeting.

A motion was made by Burt Levy, seconded by Earl Liberko to give the Rapids Riders $300 seed money (which will be repaid), to fund the Whitewater Expo t-shirts. The motion passed, with George Skinner voting in the negative.

Publications: Jim is having difficulty deciding how to print the membership list. There was some discussion about the membership list, and a decision was made to print the membership list as a mailing separate from **HUT!**.

Cruising: There have been a few trips submitted. Bill is going to contact Tom Nolz and make sure the racing calendar is included in the Calendar of Events. There was debate/discussion regarding cruise/rating systems. There was also discussion regarding Cliff Jacobson's article in the February **HUT!**, on trip leaders. Some board members would like to look into the issue of a trip leader training course. An Ad Hoc Committee was formed to look into this issue further.

Education and Safety: One beater boat has been donated for use in the River Rescue class. Rolling classes are starting soon.

A motion was made by Burt Levy, seconded by Caryl Duke and unanimously carried to establish a scholarship fund for ACAWW instructor school. The fund shall be no greater than $500 disbursed to MCA members at the discretion of the Rapids Riders Chapter. The maximum scholarship, per individual, shall not exceed 50% of the cost of the school.

Old Business: Bob Brown reported that the building book is on schedule to be printed in March. The building book committee would like to include a chapter on building paddles. It was recommended that the book be sent to some national trade publications for a possible book review.

New Business: Bob Brown would like some volunteers to help glass a voyageur canoe in Ely on Memorial Weekend. See the May **HUT!** for further details.

A motion was made by Burt Levy, seconded by Debbie Murphy and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Murphy, Secretary

MCA CLASS REGISTRATION FORM

All information is confidential, for instructors' use only.

CLASS TITLE _____

CLASS DATES _____

NAME _____ SEX_____ AGE_____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE (HOME) _____ (WORK) _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: NAME _____ PHONE _____

EQUIPMENT

Are you supplying your own boat? Yes_____ No _____

Type of boat: Canoe-Tandem_____ Canoe-Solo _____ Kayak _____

If paddling tandem, who is your class partner? _____

All boats must be currently registered!

MEDICAL INFORMATION

If you have a medical condition, please explain (example: heart condition, diabetes, high blood pressure, epilepsy, acute allergies, etc.). Also note any medication you might be taking. _____

_____

SKILL LEVEL Please check the highest level at which you are *competent*.

PADDLING

_____ No experience
_____ Lakes
_____ Easy rivers/moving quietwater
_____ Mild rapids/Class I
_____ Intermediate rapids/Class II
_____ Advanced rapids/Class III

SWIMMING _____ Strong _____ Moderate _____ Weak _____ Non-swimmer

Other related experience or instruction you have had, and general comments: _____

_____

Note: *All students under 18 years of age must have a parent or approved guardian participating in the same class.*

LIABILITY RELEASE

I understand that the MCA and affiliated chapters always strive to make my boating experience as enjoyable and safe as possible. However, some element of risk always exists in canoeing, kayaking, and other water activities. I do hereby recognize this risk and agree to hold harmless the Minnesota Canoe Association, its outing organizers, and instructors from liability for any personal loss or injury which I may incur, and do hereby waive any remedy I may have in law or equity. This liability waiver is in effect while in transit to and from any MCA event, and while participating in any MCA outing.

Signature _____ Date _____

EDUCATION & SAFETY--CLASSES FOR 1987

The following classes are planned for this year. Please read the general section and class descriptions very carefully. If you still have questions after re-reading the material, contact the listed coordinator for your event. If you can't make contact with the person coordinating the event, call me at (612) 473-4565, and I'll help you. See you on the river!**--George Skinner**

General Information on MCA Classes:

- **--You must be a current MCA member.**
- --Your boat must be currently licensed. We use state parks and state laws will be enforced.
- --All paddlers must have approprate PFD's; decked boaters must also have helmets.
- --For day classes, bring: snacks and lunch, canteen, proper clothing for projected weather, a change of clothes (in case you get wetter than anticipated), and sunscreen.
- --Any additional special gear is detailed in the class descriptions.
- --Unless otherwise noted, you will be responsible for providing your own boats, transportation, shuttles (organized by instructors), camping gear, and food.
- --A class registration form and release must be completed by all participants for each class attended. Send all registrations to listed coordinator.
- --Unless otherwise noted, all registrations and class fees must be received by mail no later than one week before the scheduled class. No refunds after the cut off date.
- --All class fees are per person.

Do not attempt to register for more than one class per registration form. Make and fill out photocopies if you intend to take several classes.

Class descriptions:

BEGINNING WHITEWATER - CANOE/KAYAK:

Class will follow the Red Cross format for Fundamentals and Basic River Canoeing/Kayaking, with many additions our highly experienced paddlers have recommended.

Students start with an orientation session followed by an in-pool session. Students then progress to quietwater, learning essential boat control and progress in easy stages through class I, II and III rapids. In addition to paddling techniques, you learn river safety, basic rescue, how to prevent hypothermia, and many other tidbits of whitewater skill and folklore.

St. Croix Canoe Weekend party includes food and lodging.
North Country Canoe Weekend --June 6, 7-- requires separate registration with Twin Ports Chapter.

If you are a solo paddler and want to paddle solo during the class, please note this information on your registration form.

This class traditionally fills quickly, so sign up early.
Registration closes April 15th.

CLASSES CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

CLASSES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Dates, times and places:
April 21: General orientation, introductions, personal gear, slides. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Lynnhurst Community Center.
May 8: Indoor pool session. 6:30-9:00 p.m. Oxford pool, one block south of I-94 on Lexington Avenue at Iglehart Avenue in St. Paul.
May 12: "Path of the Paddle" films, additional orientation. 7:30-9:30 p.m. St. Paul Student Center, U of M St. Paul Campus.
May 17: Quietwater paddling sessions and classroom work. 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park, East side of river, 9750 Egret Blvd. $2 parking fee or have Hennepin County Parks annual sticker.
May 30-June 1: St. Croix Canoe Weekend, St. Croix State Park. Lodging and food included.
June 6, 7: Brule and Kettle Rivers. Tent camping at North Country Canoe Weekend by Twin Ports Chapter, Brule, Wisconsin.
June ??: Survivors Graduation Party. Bring potluck items and your slides. Definite date and place to be announced.

Fee: $70 due April 15, no refunds after April 15.
Limit: 30 students canoe, 10 students kayak.
Coordinator: Greg Johnson, 1647 W. County Rd. B, #8, Roseville, MN 55113. (612) 633-0928.

RIVER RESCUE:

A "hands on" weekend stressing technical rescue techniques such as: Z drags, telfor lowers, and tag lines. All are critical in rescue of swimmers and equipment in moderate to heavy whitewater. Participants should be graduates of a whitewater class and possess intermediate to advanced skills. Camp fee included, bring your own food. Details mailed after registration.
Dates: July 11, 12.
Fee: $20 due July 1, no refunds after July 1.
Place: Eau Claire County Youth Camp (to be confirmed).
Limit: 20 people.
Coordinator: George Skinner, 485 Vixen Rd., Wayzata, MN 55391, 473-4565.

ESKIMO ROLLING:

An essential technique for all decked boaters is learning to right an overturned kayak or decked C-1 while remaining inside of it. This class will cover wet exits, eskimo rescues, and the eskimo rolls. Beginners are welcome. All boaters must supply their own equipment. Some paddling technique is briefly covered, but not to the extent necessary for proper boat control (See Whitewater Classes).

Summer sessions:
Dates: Aug 4, 6.
Fee: $10 due July 29, no refunds after July 29.
Place: Lake Nokomis.
Time: 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Limit: 16 people.
Coordinator: To be announced.

EFFICIENT PADDLING:

This class has something to offer most anyone from beginners to well seasoned paddlers who thought J-strokes or ruddering were the only

way to control their canoe's direction. Switch paddling techniques as pioneered by MCAer's will be the main emphasis. Other topics include basic safety, boat trim, paddle selection, and boat control. Upon completion of this class, you will be amazed at how effortlessly you can move across the water in your canoe.

Spring session:

This session includes the St. Croix Canoe Weekend party at St. Croix State Park. Arrive Friday evening or Saturday morning. Saturday will be spent on the river learning various techniques. Sunday will be a trip down the river applying newly learned skills.

Date: May 30-May 31.
Fee: $25 due May 10, no refunds after May 10.
Place: St. Croix State Park.
Time: 9:00 a.m. Sat, May 30.
Limit: 20 people.
Coordinator: Bill Simpson, Box 72, Marine on St. Croix, MN 55047 (612) 433-3451.

Summer session:

July 21. On-the-water instruction. $10.00. 12 person limit. Furthur details to be announced.

REPAIR CLINIC:

A "hands on" workshop where you will learn many innovative repair techniques for your fiberglass, Kevlar, woodstrip and possibly aluminum and ABS boats. Preregistration will not be required for this workshop.

Special equipment: Your own mildly to hopelessly crunched boat to work on and suitable work clothing. Use of safety goggles, dust masks and hand protection is highly recommended.

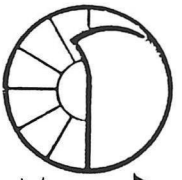
Other details to be announced.

Cedar Strips

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square edge $ 83
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WHITE ASH GUNWALE STRIPS
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CLIFF'S CORNER--READY RECIPES



Trippin' season's just around the corner, time to give serious thought to planning the good times that lie ahead. You've had a winter to clean equipment and to make ready the summer's adventures. All that remains is to plan good meals for the overnighters and to beat the equipment store rush on freeze-dried entrees.

Surprisingly, you don't need to spend a bundle to obtain quality camp foods these days. Most experienced trippers buy everything they need at their local supermarket. More often than not, it's the casual canoeists who opt for the quickie dried foods. Those of us who've boiled and stirred more years than we can recall have developed a bag of inexpensive and tasty tricks. Here are some...

LUNCH STAPLES: For years I carried the traditional Rye Krisp/Wasa Brot crackers. They were hard to pack, acceptably nutritious, and reasonably tasty. But they couldn't compare to real yeast breads, not by a long shot. Then I discovered kosher bagels in the frozen food section of the supermarket. The onion variety keeps especially well (up to a week in the heat of summer) and is nearly indestructible. In fact Verlen Kruger once told me he tapes a half dozen or so to a canoe thwart (in the plastic bag of course)! Stuff a sliced bagel with sausage, cheese, peanut butter and jam, and you've got a hearty, tasty sandwich.

PITA BREAD: Pita bread is even better than bagels, mostly because it keeps better (has preservatives, bagels don't). Pita bread is tough, tasty, easily packed, and it keeps up to three weeks, if well-sealed. You'll find this product at all mediterranean shops and most supermarkets. Buy the supermarket kind which contains preservatives. Keep them frozen until the day of your trip.

Pita bread is much more than a grand lunch food; it's a superb bread. Toast it for breakfast, or just warm it and slather on margarine. Makes great buns for smoked bratwurst and fries into interesting "french toast." Now that I've discovered pita bread, it's a regular staple on all my trips.

SMOKED BRATWURSTS: Smoked brats will keep three or four days even in the heat of July. Grill 'em like hot dogs, or simply pan fry 'em. Two brats, a piece of pita bread and macaroni and cheese make a tasty and very inexpensive mid-week supper.

SAUSAGE: There are a number of brands of summer style sausage which require no refrigeration. These can be sliced for breakfast or lunch, or diced, lightly fried, and used to supplement traditional dried foods. Spaghetti and chili, with chunked sausage substituted for the suggested hamburger, are tasty indeed. You just can't beat fresh meats on the trail. Note: be careful with spices--especially pepper--as these sausages are quite spicy!

A chunk of sausage, piece of pita bread and a granola bar make a tasty, diverse instant breakfast on those days when you absolutely have to get moving.

INSTANT STEWS: Make a mixture of Bisquik and water in a Zip-lock bag. Punch a hole in the bottom of the bag and squeeze the mixture through the hole into boiling instant soup. Lop off marble size dumplings into the boiling liquid. Add a handful of instant rice and let the mixture simmer for 10 minutes. Exellente! And, very inexpensive.

10 HUT!

CHUNK WHITE CHICKEN: Where cans are permissable, we always carry chunk white chicken. Add it to a mixture of instant rice and cream of chicken soup (the Cup-A-Soup's work fine for this), and you'll have a hearty meal.

BAKING BREADS: Most effective, and least expensive oven I've found is a large ring aluminum Jello mold. Grease the mold, add your bakestuff, set a high cover on top (so the product will have room to rise), and center the mold over your trail stove. Turn the heat low, sit back and relax. Cooking times are nearly identical to that at home. You can even use the mold to rehydrate fruits and vegetables (as a steamer). If you don't have a stove, fire the mold with Sterno. For specifics, see my books.

THE MINI-FREEZER: For years, I scoffed at folks who carried ice chests filled with fresh foods into the back country, but now I'm convinced that for short trips, the idea has merit. Lately, I've been using a small styrofoam ice chest inside my EM Wanigan box. At the outset, I fill the ice chest to the lid with frozen hamburger, bacon and cheese. These products keep up to a week in this manner, and the chest is nuisance-free inside the Wanigan box. Fresh spaghetti or chili with fresh hamburger and onion is a real treat in the back country, as are quality cheeses. Certainly, the combo is heavier than going the freeze-dried route, but the good taste and lower cost is worth it.

SPICED COFFEE: To spice camp coffee, add 2/3 capful of pure almond extract to six cups of boiling water. Everyone loves the almond flavor, which also takes bitterness out of the brew. Try the same technique with brandy and orange extracts. Or mix straight brewed coffee with powdered cocoa for that special "mocoa" blend.

PILLSBURY SNACK'N CAKE: Best trail cake around. Comes in several flavors, cooks in 30 minutes, and you don't even have to grease the Jello mold. Just pour the powdered batter into the mold, add water and stir with a fork.

FRESH EGGS: I usually carry fresh eggs for the first two days of my canoe trips. I leave them in the original corrugated carton, then armor them in newspaper and slide them into a light plastic garbage bag. This unit then goes into a light nylon sack for still further protection. Best way to carry eggs is in a traditional Maine packbasket, or well secured at the top of an EM Wanigan box. By the way, "Smoky Link" pork sausages are great for breakfast; they cook up fast, take up little space in a pack, and they won't break. Even unrefrigerated, they'll keep three or four days in typical canoeing weather.**--Cliff Jacobson**

CANNONDALE TENTS

Most of you know how excited I get whenever I mention the Cannondale Aroostook tent. If you've used one, you know why. Sadly, Cannondale has decided to quit producing tents. Period. Aroostook's are no longer available.

I've received a number of calls from folks who'd like one of these phenomenal tents, which last year sold for $400. Cannondale said they would consider making Aroostook's on special order for me, once a year, in minimal lots of fifty. If enough folks are interested, Aroostook's will again be available.

My cost to MCA members for the Aroostook's would be $325 plus tax and shipping, or $348.50 delivered. I will need a minimum order of 50 tents to get them and it could take up to a year for delivery. Nonetheless, it's worth the wait if you want the best. Give me a call at (612) 437-7497 if you're interested. I'll keep you advised. **--Cliff Jacobson**

TUESDAY MORNING PADDLERS

Perhaps there is a detached underground of morning paddlers. Paddlers with weird hours, forced to miss the many MCA evening activities. Paddlers with weird hours, alone on the morning water, no one to keep pace with or to talk with (sometimes a woodchuck is going the same way, but you can't draft off of them).
Perhaps there is an underground.....

Perhaps not.

Tuesday morning paddle, 10:00 a.m. starting in April
Hidden Falls Park.
For more information, call Tony or Kathy Mommsen (612) 781-3017

UPPER IOWA CRUISE - MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

CAUTION--BECAUSE OF LOW WATER CONDITIONS THIS CRUISE IS SUBJECT TO BEING CHANGED TO ANOTHER RIVER. Watch the May **HUT!** for details on alternate river.

The Upper Iowa cruise in past years has been a two day, 30 mile trip from Kendallville to Decorah. This year we will be adding a third day which will permit us to explore a 15 mile stretch of river below Decorah. Because of camping conditions on the holiday weekend, we will spend Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights at the campground in Bluffton. This means more shuttling, but insures us of a campsite for the entire weekend. There is a fee of $5 per night per tent for camping. This is a novice level cruise and families are welcome. We will have our traditional spaghetti feed on Sunday evening, so bring along some long spaghetti, Ragu sauce, and essence-of-tennis-shoe cheese. Call me at (612) 588-5402 for more information and directions to beautiful downtown Bluffton--**Jim Robinson**

I'D RATHER BE CANOEING

This year, our building show and banquet proved to be very successful, again. We had a tremendous turn-out for the building show, and people learned a lot about building canoes.

The building show ended at about 6:00 p.m. Then, we had to take all the canoes out of the auditorium and set it up for the banquet.

At the banquet, we had good food, good fun, and comraderie. We have heard lots of comments since then praising the meal that was served. It was very tasty, and the caterers did an excellent job in serving the food.

After the meal, we sat back and enjoyed the entertainment for the evening as Leigh Williams delighted us with her slide presentation of a YWCA trip she went on with four girls. They canoed the Winisk River, Hudson Bay, and Polar Bear Provincial Park in Ontario. A highlight of the presentation was Leigh's unique method of fighting forest fires.

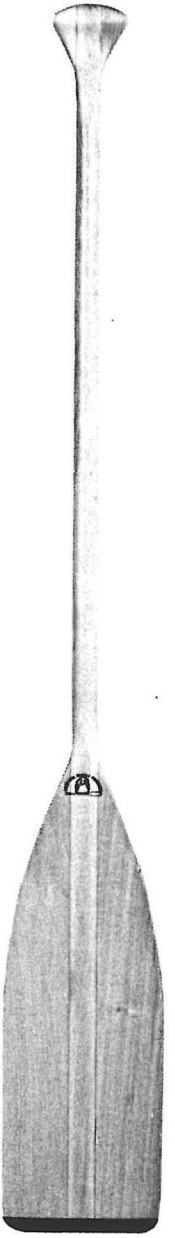
It was a delightful, fun-filled day, and the finale was the well-catered dinner and the slide presentation.

At this time, we want to thank the following: Midwest Mountaineering, Hoigaard's, REI, EMS, and Burger Brothers for their generous donations that helped the building show and banquet be more eventful and fun.

As a final note, Jim did NOT win a prize this year. But, to uphold family tradition, I won a prize for trip report writing.--**Verna Robinson, Assistant Editor**

HAVE WE GOT A TIP FOR YOU!

The New 'Scout' from Grey Owl offers an economical alternative to expensive high quality wooden canoe paddles. Made with the same detail and care as its more expensive rivals, this paddle boasts such features as a 7" performance designed blade, oval shaft and contoured hand fitting grip. It is balanced and light-weight with an all bass wood construction and a tip cast from urethane plastic that won't break, chip or wear from pushing off rocks or poleing on river bottoms. Found at better canoe shops for only $14.95



For more information write:

GREY OWL PADDLE COMPANY

62 Cowansview Road
Cambridge, Ontario N1R 7N3
Telephone (519) 622-0001

ROOKIE RACERS

From my office tower window in downtown Minneapolis, I daily gaze down at the Mississippi River. It is a view that can soothe the spirit, even on the most vexing of days. During one of these winter dream walks from real world cares, my mind meanders to thoughts of the approaching warmer seasons. Quietly drifting in the memories of pleasant times on those waters, I suddenly was jolted nearly to a cold sweat by the horrific notion that had just idled across my brain paths. I had been musing upon trying Rookie Racers, again! And this after having nearly killed myself the first time I had attempted their unique mode of madness.

Several years ago, after a winter of reading about Corbin, Crozier, Rudquist, Fries, Cichanowski, et al, I figured to give Rookies a try. Reasoning that I was sort of a jock-cum-macho kind of guy, not too badly out of shape, the recruitment come-ons in **HUT!** made it sound like a benign introduction to going fast in a canoe. I even decided that after watching me for a bit, they were each going to want me in their canoe for the season.

The weather had been full howl winter during the two weeks before the first Monday night session. I arrived at the put-in, clad from head to toe in layers of my finest and most carefully selected polypropylene and wool. After a few awkward moments of trying unobtrusively to be noticed by someone, a young lady came over, peered at me as if I were a manikin in a store window, and pronounced my attire to be acceptable. It was apparent that this woman had nary an ounce of ability to recognize raw talent as she enthused not a whit at my presence. However, the sun broke from the clouds, the temperature climbed close to 40 and I was certain these were omens of good fortune's intent to soon smile brightly upon me.

With racer canoe shouldered and my fiberglass/kevlar Krueger bent shaft paddle in hand, we head down to the river. Now, I am certain, the fun is really going to start. I am introduced to my boatmate/instructor and told to get in the bow. This will be new. I've never sat up here before. It's a little cramped until I cross my legs and put one atop the other, which is uncomfortable, but soon both legs fall asleep and I no longer notice that they are uncomfortable.

In a dozen tandems and a couple solos, we start downstream to some predetermined destination where, I am told, we will turn around and paddle upstream back to the cars. I think this is a little crazy and voice the opinion that coming upstream when you are likely to be the most tired sounds rather the opposite of sensible to me. Silence is the response, but I get the message quite clearly and decide to keep future opinions in my private thoughts.

First question from the instructor is, Do I know how to hut? Confidently, I answer that I am well acquainted with the term and its meaning. My God, this guy can't recognize raw talent either. Next, we get into paddle handling technique and I begin to discover that there is going to be more to this than I had expected - top hand is too high, don't feather the paddle out of the water, take shorter strokes, angle the paddle in the water, make the switches faster, don't lunge forward, dip the paddle deeper - his instructions and my errors are endlessly repeated.

One of the solos slips along side, and its occupant is introduced as a national champion. I jokingly admonish him to be on his guard, as at any moment I anticipate my partner and I may leave him in our wake. They chuckle, no doubt reflecting upon the impossibility of such an occurrence while I am in the canoe. The champ does his best to help augment the instruction I am getting. But, as my arms tire, we are losing the battle to gain any improvement. Adding

embarrassment to the situation, it is my tendency, about every fifth stroke, to splash gallons of water into my lap. I begin to realize that as good as these two must be, they are showing remarkable patience with my talent which is proving to be far more raw than I had previously envisioned.

We make the turn for home in last place by a considerable margin and it does not sound as if my instructor is accustomed to, nor pleased with such a circumstance. He ceases paddle technique aids, and begins simply to exhort greater effort, but I can't force more than about a dozen consecutive strokes with power and then I must relax for a half dozen. We are hutting every two strokes now because he is totally overpowering me from the stern. I am dousing my lap with greater regularity and the champ has given up our slow pace for his own work out.

At last, I see the take out. It appears to be a very long way off. Somehow, mercifully, we arrive at terra firma. I am exhausted and drenched from the waist down, water running in streams off my pants. My polypro has abandoned all pretense of attempting to wick away the sweat. I help carry the canoe the 60 yards or so to the cars as the sun goes down and the wind whips at 25 mph. By the time I set the canoe down, my fingers are numb, and I am shivering so badly, I need both hands to get my car key in the door lock. I now understand the sensations of early hypothermia and struggle into rain pants, hoping to alleviate the evaporative effects of the wind. (Those people who claim that wool is warm when wet, have obviously never actually worn wet wool.) The pro racers gather to decide where they should stop for a burger before heading home. Uppermost in my mind is getting warm and escaping the scene, before any of them gets an opportunity to ask me to join them in their canoe for the season.

I reflect back upon this experience as being tremendously educational, however difficult and frustrating it seemed at the time. I learned some things about proper paddling technique that I have retained and still use. I learned a few things (not all of them necessarily pleasant) about myself as well. I now understand why my wife got so peeved when I was continuously calling out instructions from the stern. I learned that reading about racers is, for me, considerably more enjoyable than actual participation. Lastly, I gained a greater respect for those men and women with the strength and will to involve themselves in so strenuous an endeavor.

After that one experience, I never went back to Rookie Racers. However, to all but the very aged and most infirm of you, I recommend strongly, that it should be attempted .....at least once.

--Gary Merritt



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PLAN AHEAD--A BOOK REVIEW

This mild winter has kept my thoughts even more on canoeing than most years. I realize again that half the fun of a trip for me is thinking and planning for it. Where should I go with my daughter, how long of a solo trip will I take, where do I want to go, is it a fishing or picture taking trip? The questions to be answered can go on and on. From experience, I know my best trips have had most of these questions answered before I departed.

Last year, Al Gustaveson gave me a book, **A PADDLER'S GUIDE TO QUETICO PROVINCIAL PARK** by Robert Beymer, to take along on a two-week solo trip in the Quetico. If you have always wanted to try the Quetico, this book will answer a lot of your questions about entry points, costs, and procedures to follow to enter Canada. Mr. Beymer expects you to have adequate wilderness camping and canoeing skills. If you have these skills, his book provides some excellent tips on different possibilities from three day excursions to 13 day trips. his book gives some good estimations on distances that can be covered easily in a day by a group of average paddlers. The information on portages, lakes he has had good fishing on, and special campsites that he has come across are very helpful. The added information on pictographs, wildlife, and land formations make this a very interesting as well as informative book.

Start your planning now. In four trips to the Quetico, I have found fewer people, more wildlife, and larger bodies of water to paddle than the BWCAW. "A Paddler's Guide to Quetico Provincial Park" is a good place to start your planning.**--Jim Schiebe.**

****

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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SPECIAL EVENT:
Great Minnesota Canoe Event
Saturday the 25th
Sunday the 26th

1 WED MCA BOARD MEETING. 7:30 p.m. John Tuttle's, 4041 Merriam Road, Minnetonka, MN 55343. (612) 933-6603

4 SAT MINNESOTA RIVER CRUISE. Day cruise--Shakopee to Fort Snelling. Register with leader: Harlan Nickerson, (612) 535-1373, evenings.

11 SAT WHITEWATER CRUISE. River not yet determined. More information in Cruising Notes.

11 SAT LOWER TAMARACK RIVER. Duluth Chapter cruise. Difficulty depends on river level. For details, call Gardner Ellis (218) 728-5304

14 TUE RAPIDS RIDERS MEETING at the Ground Round in Roseville, Snelling Ave. just south of Co. Rd. B. Room reserved for 6:30 p.m. Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

15 WED CANOEING THE FAR NORTH. Slide show series sponsored by Wilderness Inquiry Association and MCA. Session #4: Victoria Island, Northwest Territories. With Tom Anderson. Valley Co-op Meeting Room in Stillwater, MN. 215 North William St. Take Minnesota #36 to downtown Stillwater, second light (Myrtle St.) turn left, three blocks past top of hill, turn right on William St., two blocks on right. For more information, call Don Mitchell (612) 433-3284 evenings.

15 WED REGISTRATION for Whitewater Class closes.

16 THUR TWIN PORTS CHAPTER MEETING. 7:00 p.m. Godfather's Pizza 1623 London road, Duluth. Ken Gilbertson, Director of UMD Outdoor Program, will present his experience on the liability issue.

16 - MAY 21 TRAVEL WRITING: WOMEN AND WILDERNESS. Non-credit class on books and articles by women canoeists, and mule or camel trekkers, both present and past. FMI Call Judith Niemi, (612) 227-2284. Register by April 1st at The Loft, 2301 Franklin Ave. East, Mpls, Mn. 55406. $65 Loft members, $75 non-members.

18 SAT LOWER SNAKE RIVER. Unisys Chapter mild whitewater trip. Details in UNISYS CHAPTER NEWS.

18 SAT RICE CREEK CRUISE. Day cruise with moderate level of difficulty--recreational pace. Register with co-leaders: Caryl Duke (612) 544-2668, Al Gustaveson (612) 778-8525

21 TUE Rapids Riders Whitewater class meeting number one; equipment & outfitting; 7-9 pm Lynnhurst Community Center.

MORE CALENDAR ON PAGE 18

CALENDAR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

22 WED ONE DAY HIKING AND EXPLORING - Scientific and Natural Area - Helen Allison Savanna. Participants will be picked up at the Lake Harriet bandstand in South Minneapolis. NORTHWOODS AUDUBON CENTER, Route 1, Sandstone, Minnesota 55072. (612) 245-2648

23 THUR Whitewater Canoe Class. Whitewater canoe classes for beginners through the Duluth Community Schools. FMI, call Byron Selbrede (715) 392-6350.

25, 26 GREAT MINNESOTA CANOE EVENT. Sponsored by Midwest Mountaineering. See center insert for more details.

25-26 SPRING BIKE TOUR, a scenic spring ride along the Mississippi to get ready for the up-coming season. You'll be able to pick up some bike touring tips, as well. Contact Woodswomen, 2550 Pillsbury Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN. 55404, (612) 870-8291.

25 SAT FLAMBEAU RIVER, Wisconsin.
26 SUN MONTREAL RIVER, Michigan. Unisys Chapter. Whitewater cruises. Details in UNISYS CHAPTER NEWS.

25 SAT ANNUAL TROUT SCOUT ON THE BRULE RIVER. Twin Ports Chapter. Stones Bridge to DNR. Call Dave Spencer (218) 624-3413.

26 SUN TWIN PORTS CHAPTER POOL PARTY. Pot luck dinner and swimming 6:00 p.m. $2.50 per person, under 15 free. Superior, Wisc. YMCA. 9 North 21st, Superior, Wisconsin.

26 SUN NORTHWOODS AUDUBON CENTER - The Root River. Participants will be picked up at the Wood Lake Nature Center in Richfield. NORTHWOODS AUDUBON CENTER, Route 1, Sandstone, Minnesota 55072. (612) 245-2648

MAY

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1-3 ST. CROIX SPRING HIKE, an easy-going trip in the beautiful St. Croix River Valley (beginners welcome). Contact Woodswomen, 2550 Pillsbury Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN. 55404, (612) 870-8291.

3 SUN CANNON RIVER CRUISE. Welch Village to Red Wing. See "CRUISING NOTES."

6 WED MCA BOARD MEETING. 7:30 p.m. Caryl Duke's, 1626 Kentucky Avenue South, St. Louis Park, 544-2668

7 THUR URBAN CANOEING SERIES. Chain of Lakes Cruise. See article on page 26. Bob Brown, 432-7557.

8 FRI Rapids Riders Whitewater class meeting number two. At Oxford pool, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. See pages 6-9 for details.

Third Annual Great Minnesota Canoe Event
Tentative Schedule Saturday, April 25, 1987

8:30
Bring in canoes and kayaks for auction

10:00
Inspection of canoes and kayaks to be auctioned

10:30
Camping gadgets Paul Martin - Stage 1
Hiking the Border Route Trail Mark Johnson/Ed Solsted - Slide Area

11:00
Photographing Wild Flowers Craig & Nadine Blacklock - Auditorium
Canoe and Kayak Auction Outside

11:30
Water purifying - Stage 1
Canoe Routes in the BWCA Rolf Thompson - Slide Area

12:00
Easy and Efficient Paddling Harry Roberts - Main Stage

12:30
White Water Safety Bill Kallner - Stage 1
Kayak Touring in the Boundary Waters Andy Knapp - Slide Area

1:00
Earthsongs Concert Doug Wood - Main Stage

1:30
Canoe Camp Cookery Sandy Bridges - Stage 1
Forest Fire & Wildlife in the Boundary Waters Bud Heinselman - Slide Area

2:00
First Descent of the Amazon Piotr Chmielinski - Auditorium

2:30
Outdoor Leadership Jon Ridge - Stage 1

3:00
Loon Magic Tom Klien - Auditorium
Sig Olson Narrates Spring and Summer in the Boundary Waters Fred Thompson - Slide Area

3:30
Canoeing with Tots and Teens Cliff Jacobson - Stage 1

4:00
Poverty Kayak Traverse - a Five Year Odyssey Matt Simonson & Rose Kuth - Auditorium
Voices of the Earth - the Pre-historic People of the Quetico Harry Drabik - Slide Area

4:30
Canoe Racing Bill Simpson - Stage 1

5:00
Voyageurs National Park Jim DuFresne - Auditorium
A Century of Adventurous Women Judith Niemi - Slide Area

5:30
Canoe Design and Local Canoeing Hot Spots Bob Brown - Stage 1

6:00
Up North Through the Seasons Sam Cook - Main Stage
Loving the Boundary Waters to Death Tony Lockhart - Slide Area

**Kayak rolling on the hour at the pool
Info sessions on various aspects of paddle sport every half hour
La Compagnie's Voyageur's story telling, wild critters, puppets, folk songs, and cloggers for the kids through out the day
**Author's corner 1:00 to 3:00

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MIDWEST MOUNTAINEERING
PRESENTS
THE THIRD ANNUAL



Third Annual Great Minnesota Canoe Event
Tentative Schedule for Sunday, April 26, 1987

10:00
Bring in canoes and kayaks for auction
11:00
Poverty Kayak Traverse - a Five Year Odyssey Matt Simonson & Rose Kuth - Auditorium
Inspection of canoes and kayaks to be auctioned
11:30
Canoeing With Kids Gregg Bruff - Stage 1
Geology of the Boundary Waters Howard Moores - Slide Area
12:00
Alaska on Ice - Kayaking by the Hubbard Glacier
Jim DuFresne - Auditorium
Canoe and kayak auction begins
12:30
Outdoor Leadership Jon Ridge - Stage 1
Sig Olson Narrates Fall and Winter in the Boundary Waters
Fred Thompson - slide Area
1:00
Woman of the Wilderness Justine Kerfoot - Auditorium
1:30
Solo Canoeing Harry Roberts - Stage 1
Wolves and Humans Karlyn Atkinson-Berg - Slide Area
2:00
Equipment for Canoe Tripping Cliff Jacobson - Auditorium
2:30
Up North Through the Seasons Sam Cook - Slide Area
3:00
Photographing Wildlife Craig Blacklock - Main Stage
3:30
Kayak touring on Lake Superior Andy Knapp - Slide Area
Canoe Rescue Bill Kallner - Stage 1
4:00
First Descent of the Amazon Piotr Chmielinski - Auditorium
4:30
Water Purifying - Stage 1
Travels in the BWCA Jerry Stebens - Slide Area

Kayak rolling on the hour at the pool
Info sessions on various aspects of paddle sport every half hour
Traditional Indian Dancers at 1:00
La Compagnie's Voyageur's story telling, wild critters, puppets, folk songs, and cloggers for the kids throughout the day

9 SAT KETTLE RIVER CRUISE. Unisys Chapter. For details, see UNISYS NEWS in May.

9, 10 NAMEKAGON RIVER CRUISE. Twin Ports Chapter. For details, call Gardner Ellis (218) 728-5304.

12 TUE MOVIE NIGHT - Path of the Paddle; open to public, free admission. Also, Rapids Riders whitewater class meeting number three, St. Paul Student Center, U of M. 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

12 TUE RAPIDS RIDERS MEETING at the Ground Round in Roseville, Snelling Ave. just south of Co. Rd. B. Room reserved for 6:30 p.m. Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

13 WED BIRDING, join Linda Getz for a couple of hours of birding. We'll learn about bird identification and sight water fowl through a spotting scope. Contact Woodswomen, 2550 Pillsbury Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN. 55404, (612) 870-8291.

16 SAT WHITEWATER TRIP. Twin Ports Chapter. Class III on local river. Kettle?, St. Louis?, depends on water level. For details, call Dave Spencer. (218) 624-3413.

16 SAT Rapids Riders Whitewater class meeting number four. Flatwater paddle session, Coon Rapids Dam, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

16 SAT MINNEHAHA CREEK CRUISE. Day cruise with moderate level of difficulty. Details in "CRUISING NOTES."

16, 17 YELLOW RIVER OVERNIGHT. Twin Ports Chapter. For details, call Fred Freeman (218) 525-6486

16, 17 VERMILLION RIVER RAFT TRIP. Unisys Chapter. For details, see UNISYS NEWS in May.

19 TUE SOLO PADDLE NIGHT. Lake Nokomis, N.W. corner. 5:00 p.m. to dark. Bob Brown, 432-7557. Rain date: Wednesday the 20th.

20 WED BIRDING, join Linda Getz for a couple of hours of birding. We'll learn about bird identification and sight water fowl through a spotting scope. Contact Woodswomen, 2550 Pillsbury Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN. 55404, (612) 870-8291.

21 THUR TWIN PORTS CHAPTER MEETING. 7:00 p.m. or earlier if you want to paddle. Summer meetings will be held at the end of Park Point at the boat docks. Film afterwards.

23-25 UPPER IOWA RIVER CRUISE. Three-day weekend cruise with camping. Details on page 12.

23-25 NORTH FORK OF THE FLAMBEAU--WHITEWATER CRUISE. Details in "CRUISING NOTES."

26 TUE SPECIAL PADDLE NIGHT WITH WILDERNESS INQUIRY II. Lake Nokomis. See "FROM THE BOW."

MORE CALENDAR ON PAGE 20

CALENDAR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

26 TUE SUMMER PADDLE AND DINNER. Twin Ports Chapter. Park Point area. For details, call Gardner Ellis. (218) 728-5304.

27 WED ONE DAY HIKING AND EXPLORING - Scientific and Natural Area - Black Dog Preserve. Participants will be picked up at the Lake Harriet bandstand in South Minneapolis. NORTHWOODS AUDUBON CENTER, Route 1, Sandstone, Minnesota 55072. (612) 245-2648

30-31 ST. CROIX CANOE WEEKEND - PARTY AND DANCE, at St. Croix State Park. Overnight lodging included on Saturday. The MCA efficient paddling class will be meeting here as will the Rapids Riders Whitewater class meeting number five.

JUNE

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3 WED MCA BOARD MEETING. 7:30 p.m. Don Mitchell's, 20233 Quinnell Ave. N., Scandia, MN. 433-3451

6 SAT NORTHWOODS AUDUBON CENTER - The Upper Kettle River. Participants will meet at Northwoods. NORTHWOODS AUDUBON CENTER, Route 1, Sandstone, Minnesota 55072. (612) 245-2648

June 6-7 NORTH COUNTRY CANOE WEEKEND. At Lake Nebagamon. Sponsored by Twin Ports Chapter. More details later. FMI, call Tim Nicodemus (715) 394-6024.

June 6-7 Rapids Riders Whitewater class meeting number six. Brule and Kettle River. We will stay at North Country weekend.

10 WED SPECIAL PADDLE NIGHT WITH WILDERNESS INQUIRY II. Lake Phalen. See "FROM THE BOW."

13 SAT GOVERNOR'S FAMILY CANOE DAY. Minnesota River. More details to follow.

20 SAT METHODIST HOSPITAL MINNEHAHA CREEK RACE. Wayzata start at 10:00 a.m. "Citizen" race to Methodist Hospital - 11 miles and "Racers" to Minnehaha Falls - 24 miles. Shuttle(s), classes, medalions and awards. $7 Preregistration. Ken Yager, (612) 474-1212 or Methodist Hospital Foundation Office, (612) 932-5023.

23 TUE SPECIAL PADDLE NIGHT WITH WILDERNESS INQUIRY II. Lake Calhoun. See "FROM THE BOW."

24 WED SPECIAL PADDLE NIGHT WITH WILDERNESS INQUIRY II. Bush Lake. See "FROM THE BOW."

JULY

1 WED MCA BOARD MEETING. 7:30 p.m. Burt Levy's house, 3204 Fremont Ave. So., Minneapolis. 823-4533.

20 HUT!

UNISYS

Contact person for Unisys Canoe Club is:
Winnie DauSchmidt
1679 W. Minnehaha
St. Paul, MN 55104
(612) 456-6792 (work)

UNISYS CANOE CLUB SPRING KICKOFF MEETING

THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 4:30 P.M.

PLANT 4, BUILDING 3, CAFETERIA, ROSEVILLE

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BRUCE NYE: INTRODUCTION OF WHITEWATER SCHEDULE
WINNIE DAUSCHMIDT: INTRODUCTION OF QUIETWATER SCHEDULE
INTRODUCTION OF 1987 CLUB OFFICERS
MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION
HANDOUTS

We offer the full spectrum from serene calm waters to challenging whitewater. If you need a map or further information, contact:
Tom Olson (612)635-3124
Winnie DauSchmidt (612) 456-6792

DON'T MISS THE SEASON OPENERS

Spring is the time of year for whitewater. The club can help you master the skills of whitewater canoeing in a series of progressive steps.

April 18 LOWER SNAKE RIVER (1C-2C) SATURDAY

The LOWER SNAKE is a warm-up trip for the beginner and veteran alike. You will practice manuevering in current with maybe a few rocks and a few rapids. It is a prerequisite for the whitewater trips, for beginners to learn the strokes and for veterans to limber their muscles.

PLEASE RESERVE ONE WEEK IN ADVANCE, FOR TRIP PACKETS CALL:
Gary Brunsvold (W) (612) 435-4667 (H) (612) 423-4744

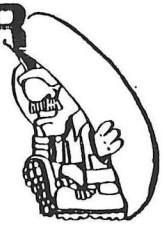
April 25 FLAMBEAU RIVER (2K-3C) SATURDAY
April 26 MONTREAL (3K-4C) (no alum.) SUNDAY

This series of one day trips will traverse the spectrum of whitewater. Choose one or both! The FLAMBEAU is the second step in our whitewater series. Time for you to practice manuevering around rocks and chutes through 10 named rapids in just 4 hours. On Sunday the experienced canoers can tackle the MONTREAL, canoeing between sheer cliffs and over ledges. No Aluminum canoes are allowed on this trip because of the many rocks. RON DAHL (H) (612) 888-4797

On May 9th, we complete the whitewater series on the Kettle and on May 16-17 all lovers of big whitewater will raft the Gorge and Table Rock Falls on the Vermillion. Watch for more info on these trips in May.

(1=beginner, 2=novice, 3=intermediate, 4=expert, c=canoe, k=kayak, r=raft.)

DULUTH TRAVELER



NEWSLETTER OF THE TWIN PORTS CHAPTER
President: Fred Freeman, (218) 525-6486
Cruising: Gardner Ellis, (218) 728-5304
Whitewater: Rick Luck, (218) 724-7992
Racing: David Spencer: (218) 624-3413
Membership & Treasurer: Greg Furtman, (218) 525-6027

Twin Ports members are having their problems with the weather just like everyone else, except possibly different goals. Some members want to go ice fishing, but are thinking of the possibility of coming upon open water. Others want to go canoeing, but are thinking of the possibility of coming upon ice. Decisions! Decisions!

A few of us that fell into the last category decided to paddle the Whiteface. At each crossing, we saw open water. We had open water for the entire trip, plus the other pleasures that can go along with an early warm day trip on the river. An eagle soars overhead, ducks take flight from their resting place as we approach, seeing places where woodpeckers have been busy in dead trees, and to be able to have lunch sitting on the river bank in the warm sun. The first trip always seems a very memorable experience, but aren't they all?

Some of the members got together on Monday, March 9th for a trip planning session. A lot of nice trips and activities are being planned. To all members "Down South," come up and join us.

Watch the calendar for our events, and Keep On Paddling.
--Fred Freeman

Mississippi Mud

NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG DISTANCE CANOE RACERS
President: Karl Ketter, (612) 636-8116
Race Calendar: Tom Nolz, (612) 689-5719
Rt. 1, Box 202
Cambridge, MN 55008
Coordinator: Betty Ketter: (612) 561-2208

The marathon racing season starts in earnest in May. Tom Nolz, current Race Calendar Coordinator, has already put together a pretty complete schedule of the coming season's events. The calendar will be updated as more info comes in. Please note the calendar and call Tom Nolz if you have further information to offer.

Wednesday night racing training on the St. Croix will begin April 8, 5:30 at the DNR landing one (1) mile north of Stillwater. For more information-Bill Simpson -(612) 433-3451

Monday night Rookie Racing will "officially" begin on April 6th at Showboat Landing at The University of Minnesota. Arrive about 5:30 p.m.**--Bill Simpson**

MINNESOTA 1987 RACE CALENDAR -- APRIL 1987

DATE	RIVER/LAKE	COMMUNITY	EVENT	CONTACT
4/26	Straight River	Faribault, MN.	Bullpuckey's	Larry Kriesel (507) 451-0325
5/2	Snake River	Mora, MN	Snake River Race	Glen Johnstone (612) 679-2500
5/3	Blue Earth River	Blue Earth, MN		Scott Ankeny (507) 526-5740
5/9	Rum River	Cambridge, MN	Cambridge Lion's Race	Mark Pocrnich (612) 689-5035
5/16	Zumbro River	Zumbro Falls, MN	Elgin Lions Race	Jim Bennett (507) 876-2168
5/17	Mississippi	Brooklyn Park, MN	Jensen Handicap	Betty Ketter (612) 561-2208
5/30	Cannon River	Morristown, MN		Jim Warmemunde (507) 685-4200
6/7	Straight River	Medford, MN	Straight River Days	Jerry Kay (507) 451-3760
6/13	St. Croix River	Taylors Falls, MN	Log Jam Days	Doug Thomas ???
6/13	Elk River	Elk River, MN	Elk River Race	David Sipe (612) 441-6821
6/20	Minnehaha Creek	Minneapolis, MN	Methodist Hospital Race	Ken Yager (612) 474-1212
6/28	Cannon River	Faribault, MN	Heritage Days	Tom Schema (507) 332-2808
6/28	Mississippi River	Little Falls, MN	River Festival	No info at this time.
7/4	Mississippi River	Winona, MN	Steamboat Days	(tentative)
7/11	Minnesota River	Mankato, MN	Bend of the River	Dale Henek (507) 625-2770
7/18	St. Louis River	Duluth, MN	Gitche Gumee Canoe Classic	Scott Neustel (218) 724-8525
7/26	Several	Ely, MN	Amateur Canoe Marathon	Steve Piragis (218) 365-5024
8/1	Minnehaha Creek	Minnetonka, MN	Up the Creek	Ken Yager (612) 474-1212
8/2	Little Rock	Saint Cloud, MN	Little Rock Pro/Am	Dan Hunstiger (612) 393-2033
8/14-8/16			USCA Nationals	No further info at this time.
8/29	St. Croix River		Women's State Championship	Bill Simpson (612)433-3451
8/30*	Rum River	Anoka, MN	Mixed State Championship	Betty Ketter (612) 561-2208
9/12	Mississippi River	Coon Rapids, MN	Mississippi Classic	Betty Ketter (612) 561-2208
10/3	St. Croix River	Stillwater, MN	Apple Fest	Bill Simpson (612) 433-3451

*Date tentative

Thursdays, Lake Calhoun, Minneapolis, Mn. Hoigaards Race Series, more details later on.



NEWSLETTER OF THE WHITEWATER CANOE AND KAYAK CHAPTER
President: John Tuttle, (612) 933-6603
Vice President: Rick Nagle, (612) 440-5335
Secretary: Kim Hochstein, (612) 934-2863
Treasurer: Paul Rem, (612) 645-3538
Membership/Cruising: Jeff Grigsby, (612) 636-4373

Dateline: The Kettle River, March 7. Ten Rapids Riders members initiated the paddling season on the Kettle River at Banning State Park. The water level was at 1.2 and almost all of the minimal snowfall had melted. This is quite a low level for springtime but with ice chunks still in the river it was a great way to loosen up and start the season. I personally can attest to the fact that the water was really cold!

At our march meeting tentative plans were discusssed to take several day trips to the Banning rapids in the coming weekends, so make sure to contact our cruise director, Jeff Grigsby, 636-4373 so you don't miss out on the fun. Any one wishing to lead a trip should also contact Jeff.

The March meeting at the Ground Round was well attended by 27 members. We are seeing new faces at almost every meeting, so if you want the latest info on whitewater trips and activities, come to the April 14 meeting. Plans for the March 14 Whitewater Expo were finalised and we are all looking forward to a successful event. The Rapids Riders rolling classes were so well attended that it was necessary to extend to a third session. A great deal of thanks goes to all of our instrictors for their time and effort.

The voting for the Rapids Riders new logo will take place at the April 14 meeting. Entries will be received until that date.

For information on the Rapids Riders Beginning Whitewater class, check the class schedule or Call Greg at 633-0928.

All Rapids Riders members interested in an out of state trip please call Barb Peterson, 422-7158 (w) 421-4888 (h) with your suggestions or interest. The date for this trip is open at this time.

Any club members with photos suitable for a club scrapbook please contact Kim at 934-2863 or bring them to one of the club functions.

Any Rapids Riders members who have changed address or phone please call Jeff at 636-4373.

--John Tuttle (I'll be the one that's upside down)

MIDWEST MOUNTAINEERING--MCA MEMBER DISCOUNT

Some MCA members have asked for Club Discount at Midwest Mountaineering and have been asked for their MCA Membership card. As you know, the MCA no longer issues cards. To verify your membership and be eligible for the 10% discount, bring in your **HUT!** with its mailing label. MWM will accept this as proof of membership and issue you a discount card.

DOWN STREAM BOTH WAYS

I stood on the bank of the Ashley, not quite sure which way to go. The tide was obviously going out. I was away from home turf and I didn't want to get into something over my head.

The winter of '85-'86 was a bad year for winter canoeing in Minnesota. I hadn't paddled since mid-January when the last open holes froze over. For a paddling junky like myself, I was suffering withdrawal symptoms.

I was standing on the shore at Dorchester State Park, the morning temp was in the mid 50's. I had traveled to South Carolina hoping to find spring, it seemed like I was getting close. After sizing up the muddy banks, I came to the conclusion that the tide must be nearly out. I found a firm place and launched. I headed out with the outgoing tide.

The Ashley is a small river at this point with a dense pine forest right up to its muddy banks. I was less than half a mile away from housing developments and a shopping center, but here on the river, I found a real wild life sanctuary. A Heron rose ahead of me and I said to myself that he wouldn't be doing so well at home with 2 feet of ice.

I passed the back yards of some really plush homes, each with an impressive dock and boats slung above the high tide. I paddled on past the King's Grant Golf Course and out into a salt marsh.

The pine forest was now further from the river as I moved out into the marsh. There were many shore birds running about finding a meal while the tide was out. Almost everywhere I looked, I'd see a few Carolina Eagles circling, looking for something dead to eat. Turkey buzzards, the bird book calls them. I saw a few Red-Tailed Hawks circling about also. Like me, they had come south to enjoy the winter.

I was getting hungry and stopped for lunch on a flat sandy island. Flat, I guess, no part of this island was more than 2 inches above the water. No place to sit, so I stretched my legs a bit as I ate my peanut butter and jelly sandwich.

Talk about the illusion of wilderness, I was only a mile from civilization, yet I could have been in darkest Africa. It was barely noticeable at first, but as I ate, the tide was changing. My island was beginning to disappear. The ocean was once again winning the battle that has happened twice daily since long before my time. The tide was definitely coming back.

I didn't have to launch my boat. By the time I was ready to shove off, I was ankle deep in water. I paddled on downstream for a few minutes, around a couple more bends. The strength of the current was increasing. It was time to turn back.

As I retraced my route, there was no sign of my lunch island. The mud banks were noticeably smaller. I was obviously making real good time.

I made a few side trips into creeks that were too shallow earlier, then back into the main channel. When I got back to my put-in point, the mud banks that I had crossed earlier were nearly gone. The afternoon temps were into the mid 60's. I had traveled a long way in search of spring, and found it.--**Bob Brown**

BUILDING TIP

Another hint--not new, but some of you don't know yet. Put all your staples in neat rows. Just before the final sanding, use a sponge or brush to run a strip of water down the row of staple holes. Most of them will swell closed. The dents from the cross bar on the staple will often lift and give you a surface that will sand smooth.
--**Bob Brown**

LETTERS TO HUT!

Dear Editor,

I wish to comment on last month's article by Cliff Jacobson concerning protecting wilderness areas. Through most of the article, we are in agreement. However, I must contest his belief that sensible, conscionable logging doesn't harm wilderness areas any more than fire.

Mature and over-mature wilderness areas are unique habitats which support their own array of species. to produce old-growth areas can take from decades to a couple thousand years, depending on the type of vegetation (redwoods, for example). The lack of sufficient mature habitat is considered a major contributor to the extinction of the Ivory-Billed Woodpecker, among others, in the United States. For each species which benefits from a younger forest, there is a species which suffers.

Fire differs from logging in that some trees are more fire resistant than others, and may depend on periodic burns to reduce brush and competition. Logging, on the other hand, is targeted towards harvesting the most mature trees, none of which are blade-resistant.

We need logging, but a healthy ecosystem also requires untouched wilderness. As there is so little old-growth left, I feel we would be better served to leave it alone and work towards sustained-yield lumber harvesting.

Respectfully submitted,
Warren Thunstrom

URBAN CANOEING SERIES

Some wilderness canoeists get upset at the sight of another party on their route. I do a lot of canoeing right here in the city, and sharing the water with other canoeists, sailboats and wind surfers doesn't particularly bother me. Neither do motor boats and towboats on the river, these things are part of the scenery.

I actually enjoy meeting other "canoeists" on my outings. It's all the turkeys that I see that bother me.

I love to canoe. I hate to drive. I have found a number of enjoyable canoeing spots in Minneapolis.

Since I've pulled in my canoeing range, I've become more concerned with how I paddle and less concerned with where. I've become a better canoeist for it.

I'd like to offer an "Urban Canoeing Series." I will take you along into some of my secret places, but I'm picky about who I paddle with. I'll take along only people who make an honest attempt to improve their skills with each outing, only folks that will take the time to learn to do it right.

Session one will be May 7th at 7 p.m. for a chain of lakes cruise. Everyone is welcome at this first session. Bring along the spouse that will never, never spend a night in a tent. Bring along your children or grandchildren, girlfriend or boyfriend.

As we tour the lakes, we will talk canoe. We will talk draw stroke, back ferry, hut, and discuss post. By the end of the session, you should be able to make a canoe go forward, backward, or sideways (many canoers can't). We will talk canoe, we will not allow talk about tents, BWCA routes, or entry permits.

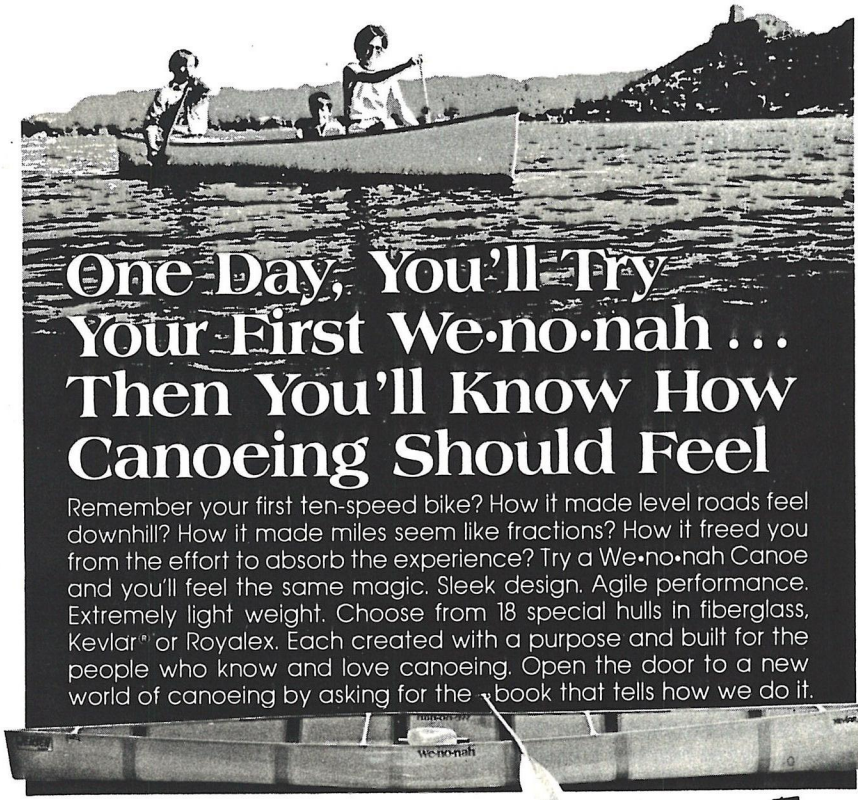
I'll let you know where the second session is if you've done well on the first outing. We will probably have a smaller group when we meet at the river. Only the folks willing to take canoeing serious will be invited.

Session three will be on the creek. I'll only lead you down the creek after you have followed me up the river.

Urban Canoeing, Ah, the games people play. Session four will be a sweaty evening in early July when we go to the races. You are not likely to win, but go once and try the game and you will begin to understand what fast and efficient paddling is all about.

Anyone left? Did I leave you all back on the creek? We will finish the series with Brown's gut buster. This is not a race, rather it is an endurance event. This will be another Saturday session. We will cover some real miles.

You might surprise yourself and complete the series. You will come away a better canoeist. Having paddled the wilds of Minneapolis, you may never feel the need to go to the Boundary Waters again.**--Bob Brown**



THE BOUNDARY WATERS JOURNAL

"The Magazine of America's Favorite Wilderness Area"

S.R. 1 BOX 1740, ELY, MINNESOTA 55731



The new Boundary Waters Journal (BWJ) features informative and entertaining stories about the **unique** recreational opportunities and natural resources found in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, Quetico Provincial Park and surrounding Superior National Forest. A combination outdoor recreation/nature interpretation magazine, BWJ is designed to help readers thoroughly enjoy their experiences in the Boundary Waters region.

Boundary Waters Journal will strive to meet the growing demand for **reliable** and **specific** information about the tremendous variety of wilderness experiences available across the region. The in depth "Where To Go" stories by area experts are presented in a journal style format making it easy to plan wilderness canoe trips and family resort/camping vacations. First time visitors will find BWJ to be a valuable vacation planning guide. Repeat visitors will want to read BWJ to enrich their understanding and appreciation for the area they have come to know and love.

SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY SUBSCRIPTION OFFER

Yes, I would like to save 20% by subscribing today to the new BOUNDARY WATERS JOURNAL. If not completely satisfied, I am entitled to an immediate refund for all cancelled issues.

The premier issue of BWJ is Summer 1987 but is being brought out early (mid-February).
Our regular bi-monthly publication schedule will begin with the Sept./Oct. issue.

____ ONE YEAR SUBSCRIPTION 5 ISSUES $10
Includes free 36" map of the entire Boundary Waters region

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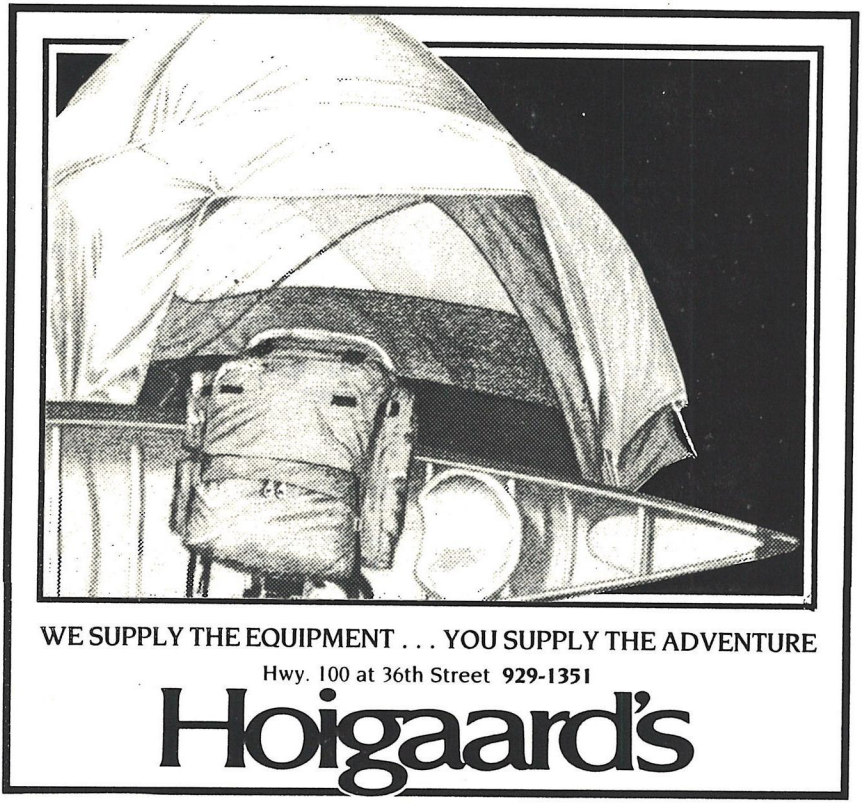
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WOMEN IN THE WILDERNESS April and May: Canoe Lessons, day trips on the Mississippi, St. Croix, Pickerel Lake. Beginning canoeing, handling winds, whitewater. (Guaranteed low-stress high fun learning situations.) June-September: BWCA trips, including special trips for women over 40. Canadian wilderness trips on the beautiful Steel and Pikitigushi Rivers.
Contact Judith Niemi, 566 Ottawa Ave., St. Paul, MN 55107.
(612) 227-2284.

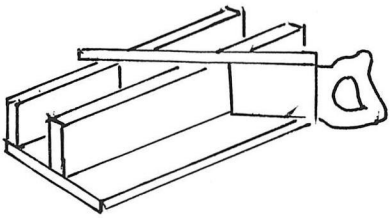
CEDAR STRIPS 150 strips--1/4" x 7/8" x 8'--Bead and Cove. More than enough for an 18' canoe. Call after 6:00 p.m.
(612) 251-5809.
Mike Zapf, 1714 Woodland Rd., St. Cloud, MN 56301

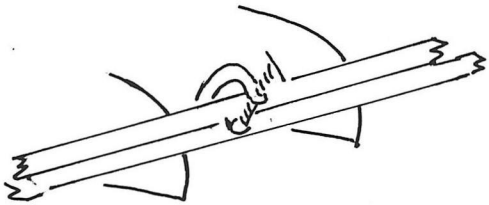


BUILDERS CORNER

For many years, I was under the impression that the only way to build a canoe was with full-length, knot-free strips.

After a chance meeting with a friend of mine, all that has changed. Since the first of the year, I have built three canoes using strips of various lengths. (Two to eight feet.) The answer was simple, cut out the knots. Using the bead and cove method, the strips locked together, allowing me to use strips of any length. To join the ends of the strips together, I cut them at a 45 degree angle with a simple miter box made from a couple short lengths of 2 X 4's. After stapling the strip to the template, I applied glue to the joint and held it together with a C-clamp. The next strip applied is simply passed through the opening in the C-clamp. and stapled in place. Using "Elmer's Carpenters Glue," which sets up very quickly, I was able to remove the C-clamp by the time I added the next strip. I found it easier to make my joints between the forms rather than joining the strips on a template. The joints should not be directly over each other, but staggered. With the varying lengths of strips, this is easily accomplished.





The end results give a pleasing look, somewhat like a varnished planked oak floor. To prove to myself that anyone could do it, I gave verbal instructions only to a new MCA member, wanting to build a canoe. He has now completed stripping his canoe and informed me he had no trouble at all.

I have been building mostly 17' canoes, and 18' clear lumber is expensive. Buying less expensive cedar and cutting out the knots, so to speak, I can now get by with a smaller dollar investment. Teamed together with Resin and Cloth from the MCA, it brings the cost of building a canoe within reason.--**Mike Zapf**

CRUISING NOTES

April and May cruises (see March **HUT!** for details on April cruises).

April 4th--Minnesota River-Harlan Nickerson 535-1373
April 11th--Moderate Whitewater Run-- Bill Simpson 433-3451
April 18th--Rice Creek--Caryl Duke 544-2668 and
Al Gustaveson 778-8525

May 3rd, Sunday. Cannon River Cruise--Welch Village to Red Wing with bicycle shuttle optional. Day Cruise with efficient paddling at a moderate pace on an easy river. Pot luck picnic lunch. Please call for more information. Bill Simpson (612) 433-3451 later evenings.

May 16th, Saturday. Minnehaha Creek--a day cruise at a recreational pace with a moderate level of difficulty. Meet at

Minnetonka City Office at 9:00 a.m. Call Caryl Duke 544-2668 or Boyd Tuve 861-7178 for more information.
May 23, 24, 25-Sat, Sun, Mon. - Memorial Day Weekend - North Fork of the Flambeau--Nine Mile Creek to Big Falls. A moderate whitewater overnight trip at a recreational pace, (47 miles), Solo boats welcome. Call John Murphy for more information. (W) (612) 888-7725 or (H) (612) 431-5569.
May 23, 24, 25 - Sat, Sun, Mon. Memorial Day Weekend - Upper Iowa River. A moderate, overnight cruise at a recreational pace on a beautiful, quietwater river with high limestone bluffs. For more information, call Jim Robinson (612) 588-5402. (See page 12.)

Other notes:

If you can't take the MCA Whitewater Course, Northwoods Audubon Center in Sandstone is sponsoring a whitewater class on May 2nd and 3rd. Call (612) 645-2525 for more information.

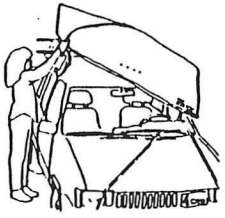
If you would be interested in helping with the efficient paddling class on Canoe School Weekend, May 30 and 31, at St. Croix State Park, please let me know. If you haven't tried efficient cruising techniques, or want to refine your skills, this class will be a good opportunity to get into it. The MCA style of paddling changes the way you perceive the sport. Pleasure no longer comes just from traveling from point A to B, but from the act of paddling itself.
--Bill Simpson, Cruising Director

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WANTED:

WILDERNESS ENTHUSIAST LOOKING FOR PARTNER. Two weeks of canoeing "Hunters Island" in Quetico & BWCA, May 9-24. Can outfit. Split costs. Contact Barry, (612) 425-5976.

WENONAH J-200 or **SAWYER SHOCKWAVE.** Karl Brietkreutz, R#2, Box 120, Redwood Falls, MN 56283.

USED ROYALEX CANOES. Do not have to be in the best of condition. To be used for Arctic tripping. Bill Simpson, (612) 433-3451. (Evenings or leave message).

DAMAGED OR WORN KAYAKS AND CANOES (need not be paddleable) for MCA River Rescue Class. You know you won't fix it, so donate it! George Skinner, 485 Vixen Road, Wayzata, Mn. 55391 (612) 473-4565.

USED KEVLAR SUNDOWNER. Call Brian Murn, 537-0027(H), 535-2960(W).

FOR SALE:

SOLO CANOE: Phoenix Merlin. Rare Mike Galt design with wood trim by Blackhawk Canoes. Fast, responsive and in excellent condition. $595 or best offer. Can be delivered to the Rochester area. Steve Baker, (312) 747-2366.

WENONAH J-200 C-1. 1986. Kevlar. **WENONAH WHITEWATER XX.** 1986. Kevlar, C-2. Contact John, (715) 597-2233.

OLD TOWN CANOE Cedar strip. OTCA with guide ends. Classic green finish. Excellent condition. $1200 or best offer. Call (612) 521-5451 after 5:00 p.m.

WENONAH SUNDOWNER. White, 18', 70 lbs. Fiberglass, contoured seats. $400. Call Chris, 699-1201.

ALUMACRAFT 17' 64 lbs. One summer lake use. $250. Call Nick, Evenings/weekends 448-5994.

PROBOAT - KEVLAR "007." Jensen designed/Crozier built. Rigged for racing (sliding bow and stern seat, footbraces, center cover, jug holders). Can paddle mixed with heavy person in the stern due to extra set of seat brackets for slider. Good condition. $850. Call Mike, (612) 647-9911.

ALUMACRAFT 17' Good Condition. $250. Moving May 1, must sell. Call Randy Neprash, 645-7819, days or early evenings.

WENONAH JENSEN 17' 1984, brown. Excellent condition. Call Ron Schmidt, 559-0177.

WHITEWATER KAYAK. Aquaterra Blazer. Used one season. Excellent condition. With air bags. $325. Call Scott after 6:00 p.m., (612) 379-4931.

SAWYER SUMMERSONG. Fiberglass. In excellent condition. $650 includes full 2-piece cover. Caryl Duke, (612) 544-2668.

OLD TOWN CJ SOLO. 1984. Green. $400. **GRUMMAN 17' STANDARD.** $200. Call Jeff Ricker, (612) 295-3639.

FOR SALE

WHITEWATER DUCK HUNTERS' SPECIAL. Dark green Old Town Tripper with full fabric camo splash cover. Kevlar skid plates, extra thwart behind bow seat. Shockcorded decks & thwarts, painters installed at cutwater and padded portage yoke. Used but not at all abused. Boat alone new is $795---$600 takes the whole shebang. I'm in Fargo, but will deliver to Minneapolis. Call Jim at (701) 232-4559, Days, or (701) 280-0232, Nights.

MAD RIVER EXPLORER. Royalex, 16' Excellent condition. $650. Call Ron, (612) 378-1825.

WHITEWATER KAYAK. Hyda Tuf-Lite. Model: Swift. Rotomolded plastic. Seda spray skirt and Seda epoxy paddle. All in excellent condition. One year old. $400. John Tuttle, (612) 933-6603.

GREAT WHITE WHALE. Immaculate 18'6" Kevlar/S-glass Mad River TW Special. Padded ash yoke, extra thwarts (beefed-up for tripping), knee pads, etc. Replacement cost on this boat is around $1800. Will sell for $1250. Cliff Jacobson, (612) 437-7497.



HELP SPEED UP THE MAIL

When you write to the MCA using the Post Office box address, your mail may be delayed for some time until someone can open it and determine who should handle it. By adding the name of the individual to whom it is directed, you can speed things up greatly.

If you are ordering building books, plans, T-shirts, etc., send your order to the address listed on the order form.

Be sure to put "Membership Director" on all Membership Applications, Renewals and Address Changes.

Canoe Building Plans, $5.00 each (SALES TO MCA MEMBERS ONLY)

Make check (U.S. funds) payable to: **Minnesota Canoe Association.** Send with plan order form to: Bob Brown, Canoe Plans, 12936 Galaxie Ave., Apple Valley, MN 55124

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

[ ] Woodstrip canoe building manual with Explorer and Guide plans

[ ] BWCA Cruiser

[ ] MCA 14' Solo

[ ] Free Spirit Solo (Brown)

[ ] 17' Osprey (Zapf)

[ ] 17' Kootenay (Kunz)

[ ] 15'6" Kootenay Solo (Kunz)

[ ] 15'6" Solo Canoe Pirate (Brown)

[ ] 15' Solo (Ketter)

[ ] Griffen II Solo Kayak (Brown)

[ ] 18'6" 4&32 USCA Racer (Burley)

[ ] 18'6" 3&27 Racer (Ketter)

[ ] 30' Voyageur Canoe (The cost of this plan is $20)

[ ] Free leaflet describing canoes **(Enclose self-addressed, stamped, business size envelope).**

BUILDING SUPPLIES

For Sale: MCA resin and fiberglass cloth. Polyester resin with catalyst and wax (if required) is $13.00 per gallon. Four oz. cloth, 50" wide is $3.00 per yard; 7 1/2 oz. cloth, 60" wide, is $4.25 per yard. Six oz. cloth, 60" wide, is available only from the Eagan and Apple Valley depots at $4.10 per yard.

West System Epoxy is available only from the Apple Valley depot. Call Bob Brown for prices and availability.

Rules for Purchase: Call ahead and schedule pick-up time. Payment must be by check or money order to: Minnesota Canoe Association. **No cash. Sales to MCA members only.**

Depots:	Betty Ketter	561-2208	North Minneapolis
	Bruce Kunz	454-7207	Eagan
	Steve Franklin	457-3369	So. St. Paul
	Bob Brown	432-7557	Apple Valley (West System only)

MINNESOTA CANOE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Send form with check (U.S. funds) to: **Minnesota Canoe Association, P.O. Box 14207 University Station, Minneapolis, MN 55414**

I am joining the MCA as a [ ] New [ ] Renewal member. Please check:

[ ] Regular Member--1 yr. $10 [ ] Supportive Member--1 yr. $ 25

[ ] Regular Member--2 yr. $19 [ ] Life Member $100

[ ] Regular Member--3 yr. $27 Fill in name, address and phone no.:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone:( ) _____

[ ] If you're moving, check here and fill in your new address above. Include your **HUT!** mailing label for proper handling.
The Post Office will not forward HUT!

ORDER FORM--Stickers/Patches/T-shirts (Sales to Members only)

Make check (U.S. funds) payable to: **Minnesota Canoe Association.** Send order form to: Verna Robinson, Minnesota Canoe Association, 4421 36th Ave. No., Crystal, MN 55422.

Stickers--Blue MCA logo on a white reflective background, great for canoe or car. $1.00 each.

Sew-On Patches--MCA logo. Gold paddles/silver canoe, $2.00 each.

T-Shirts--50/50 blend. $5.00 each, plus $1.50 mailing per order.
Adult sizes: S, M, L, XL.
Light blue shirt with navy blue MCA logo.
Green shirt with white MCA logo.
Red shirt with white MCA logo.
Grey shirt with navy blue MCA logo.
Dark blue shirt with white MCA logo.

To order: Fill in name and address below. Indicate quantity desired for each item. State second color choice for shirts if acceptable.

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Address: _____

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Description	Color (1st)	(2nd) choice	Size	How many	Amount
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