CANOEING IN THE MIDWEST

MAY 1978

HUT



"tis the Season to be Cruising"
Photo by Bob Brown

INSIDE: Cruise schedules for May and June

Non–members always welcome on MCA cruises.

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"HUT" is the signal said by one canoer to his partner in order that both paddlers may switch sides in unison. This practice was originated by canoe racers of Minnesota in the late 1940's with the word "HUT" first used by Eugene Jensen, who still builds and races canoes. This swift and distinctive style of paddling has since been recognized as the most effective way to move a canoe by both recreational and racing paddlers.

HUT Magazine is published monthly by the Minnesota Canoe Association, Inc., a non-profit organization, and is distributed to more than 1500 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.

Statement of Policy: The Minnesota Canoe Association, Inc., cannot assume responsibility for the accuracy of the material presented by authors of the articles in the magazine. The pages of HUT! are offered as a clearing house of information and a forum for exchange of opinions, experiences, and ideas. The individual reader must evaluate this material for himself and use it as he sees fit. Every effort is made to present material of wide interest that will be of help to the majority.

Pictures (glossies), cartoons, art work, announcements, letters, and articles of all kinds which serve to promote the purposes of the MCA are cordially invited. Contributions should be typewritten, preferably double-spaced, and should be in the hands of the editor by the 15th DAY OF THE PREVIOUS MONTH. Contributions cannot be acknowledged and will be returned – usually within eight weeks – ONLY when requested and accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Editing, layout, and production
by Lew Miller
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Lino Lakes, MN
612-784-7667

CALENDAR

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MAY 13,14

Cascaders North Shore Hair wildwater race and cruise.

SATURDAY, MAY 13

Lower snake beginners cruise. Contact John Krack 566-1984

SUNDAY, MAY 14

Hell's Gate section of the Kettle River - beginners cruise but should have some river experience, John Krack.

MAY 20, SATURDAY

The Minnesota River rubberized river raft race is run from Judson to Mankato with the entry point at county road 23 bridge - northside, exit at Sibley. Most of the trip takers go in rafts of lashed together innertubes but last year there were over 100 canoes also. It's a lot of fun, a slow trip, a good time. Both ends of the trip are always very crowded and there is a fair and beer bust at Mankato, so come prepared to go slowly. There will be one and only one shuttle before the trip and rides will be given back only if you have an MCA membership card. Austin Chapter.

SATURDAY, MAY 20

Efficient canoeing classes - see article

SATURDAY, MAY 20

Mississippi River from Monticello to Elk River. Meet at the Elk River wayside park opposite the old atomic plant on Highway 10 at 9:30 A.M. This four hour trip is on one of the best stretches of the Mississippi - lots of islands and clear water. John Timmers - leader. 935-3829

SUNDAY, MAY 21

Snake River from Pine City dam to junction with St. Croix River. Rendevous at 10 A.M. at Embers Restaurant on Central Ave. N.E. This cruise is a dozen miles of travel on water varying from fast class II rapids to a rock garden, depending upon water level, Bob O'Hara - leader, 545-0748

SUNDAY, MAY 21

Rum River, St. Francis to Hwy. 22. Meet in St. Francis at landing on South side of bridge at 1 P.M. for shuttle. Bring a picnic lunch for a rest stop. Roger & Kathy Johnson -leaders. 755-4533.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MAY 20-21

Wisconsin Brule beginner, intermediate cruise. John Krack. 566-1984.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24

Cascader general meeting at Logan Park.

FRIDAY THROUGH MONDAY, MAY 26-29

Pigeon River from South Fowl Lake to Lake Superior. Cruise is limited to a max of 12 people so call soon for reservation. The Pigeon flows through a remote area of N.E. Minnesota, has class II and III rapids, and some of the most spectacular scenery in the state. David Paulson - leader. 588-3234 - evenings only.

JUNE 1, THURSDAY

Voyageur Chapter Meeting at Lake of the Isles — Chuck Alberg is host.



JUNE 4, SUNDAY

Root River from County Road 11 to Hwy. 250. Go east of Chatfield on Hwy. 30 to County Road 11, South on 11 about one mile to bridge. We will meet and shuttle cars at 8:30 A.M. and be on the river by 9:15. With good water the sixteen mile trip takes about 7 hours. The Root River is narrow and twisty with high bluffs. There is an old hydro plant to explore and many places to stop for lunch. John Carlin, leader

1801 3rd St. N.E.
Austin, MN. 55912 433-1631

JUNE 4, SUNDAY

Mississippi River Lockatennial. Meet on the West bank just south of the Broadway bridge at 11:00 A.M. for shuttle. Take out is at Hidden Falls just below Ford Dam. The trip will go through three locks. No reservations needed. Shuttle bus will be provided. Open to everyone, not just MCA members. Voyageur Chapter, leaders.

JUNE 10, SATURDAY

Cannon River from Cannon Falls to Welsh. Meet at County Park in Cannon Falls at 9:00 for shuttle. Darrel Foss, leader. 432-1566. Please call for reservations.

JUNE 17, SATURDAY

Minnesota River from Jordan to Chaska. Meet at Jordan Bridge on Cty. Hwy. 9 at 10:00 A.M. for shuttle. This is a four hour family type trip. Dave Probst, leader. 445-1258.

JUNE 17-18, SATURDAY, SUNDAY

Crow Wing River from Shell City campgrounds, camping over night on Saturday at Huntersville Forest campground, take out at Stigmans Mound in Nimrod. The Crow Wing is a semi-wilderness river in West Central Minnesota about 170 miles from the Twin Cities. It's a pleasant family river with a few easy rapids, wooded shoreline, some good fishing and canoeable water all summer. The trip will begin at 10:00 A.M. Bill Marcuiller, leader. 789-0074.

JUNE 24, SATURDAY

Mississippi River Race.

JUNE 25, SUNDAY

Jensen Handicap, See Mississippi Mud for details.

JULY 6, THURSDAY

Voyageur Chapter Meeting at John Wheeler's. Bring your own steak to fry

JULY 8, SATURDAY

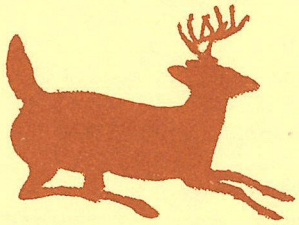
Mississippi Lock Cruise from showboat landing to Fort Snelling. Meet at Showboat landing at 9:30 for shuttle. Cruise starts at 10:30. We will go through the Ford Lock, stop for a picnic at mouth of Minnehaha Creek, and then proceed to the park. No reservations needed. Shuttle bus will be arranged. Everyone, even MCA members, is welcome. Brian Patterson, leader 521-4804

JULY 15-16, SATURDAY, SUNDAY

Namekagon River from Otrgo to Riverside. Meet at Howell Bridge Campground on Saturday at 8:30. To find it, Go east on Hwy. 77 past Namekagon River, turn right at the first paved road (Burian Road), go south to the end of the paved road. Reservations required. Tom Babcook, leader. 633-9323.

FIRST WEEKEND IN AUGUST (MAYBE)

Flambeau Days in Park Falls, Wis. Details in next Hut. A joint MCA, USCA, and WCA event. Free campground in Park Falls.



Mississippi Mud

Newsletter of the Marathon
Racing Chapter

PEOPLE: Mike Bohanon left the hospital early March with a full leg cast which he'll wear for at least three months He'll have to put on extra lifejackets to support that leg and maybe a trash bag to keep it dry.

BUFFALO RACE IS A POSSIBLE FOR 1978: Dennis Holmberg will attempt to run the successful Buffalo race in mid June. It should be a good warm up for the June 24th Classic in Minneapolis, If held, this race will be in the points championship for the silver bowls.

CANOE TESTING: Chris Berne, Brian Paterson, Darrel Foss and Bob Brown have begun experiments to determine the force required to propel various canoes. Chris is the scale expert. In a trial run, an MCA Explorer running about 3 mph required 300 grams of force. Any ideas, call Bob Brown (612) 432-7557.

ROOKIE RACERS MEET: Twenty people met March 29th and signed on as Rookie Racers. They will meet each and every Wednesday at 6:00 at the Broadway Bridge for a couple of hours of working and learning. We have room for more – the river is wide there. Come for one evening and see if there is anything you could learn. No obligation free trial. Call 636-8116 for information.

1978 SILVER BOWLS: Seven silver bowls will be presented at the MCA Banquet in October to the winners of the point system in the following divisions:

Grand Master . . . . . Expert
Intermediate. . . . . Rookie
Mixed Couples . . . . . Junior
Women

If interest is shown, an award could be added for solo and six-people teams. Twenty points will be earned for a first place finish, 19 for second, 18 for third, etc. As of April, the races to be counted are:

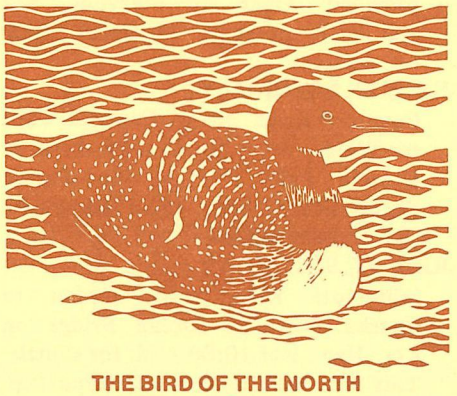
Fairbault . . . . . May 21st
Buffalo . . . . . June 10 or 11th?
Mississippi Classic . . . . . June 24th
Jensen Handicap . . June 25th (no points)
Sauk Rapids . . . . . July 8th
Grand Rapids . . . . . July 15th?
Hoyt Lakes . . . . . August 4 or 5th
Glenwood . . . . . July 29th

Due to low input from our racers, each of these races may not have all the separate classes for which points can be earned. If you want points you will race with the other racing canoes and points will be assigned accordingly to times, even if the race sponsor doesn't have race awards that day for your particular class. Also, some of these events have no prize money and amateurs may refuse prize money if they wish.

NOTICE: If you have any of the race chapter's traveling trophies, they must be returned in June. These include seven 12" silver bowls for the point system, three Jensen Handicap trophies (Two first and one booby), one tennis shoe award, and one builder's award. If you don't return them, Betty Ketter (561-2208) will be calling on you.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS: We now have a phone list of canoe racers. It includes MCA members, and those who paddle together regularly, the few names we had of racers around the state, and a couple of race organizers. Lists are free to MCA members, $8.00 to non-members.

JENSEN HANDICAP 1978: Sunday, June 25th, at 11:00 a drawing will be held. An EXPERT RACER AND HIS CANOE will be matched with a lean and hungry new racer. Race starts and ends at Mississippi Park at 83rd Avenue North, three blocks east of Lyndale Avenue (Highway 169). Spectators are recommended to bring their canoes for improved spectatoring. We expect a large turnout as the Classic will be held the day before.



THE BIRD OF THE NORTH
By Lucy Bruntjen

EFFICIENT CANOEING CLASS
Saturday, May 20

People wishing to take the MCA class called Efficient Canoeing have two locations to choose from.

One class is being taught by Bob Brown at Jenson Park on Pilot Knob Road one fourth mile South of Cliff Road. Cliff Road is the same as Dakota County Road 32. The class begins at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday May 20. Bob can be contacted by calling 432-7557 after 5 p.m.

The other class will have Chris Berne as its instructor. It will meet at Medicine Lake at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday May 20. Contact Chris at home 929-5714, or at work 941-2233.

PLAN AHEAD — OR DON'T PLAN ON CANOEING THE BWCA IN 1978

As of January 1, 1978, permits for entering the BWCA for the summer of 1978 were accepted at the District Ranger Stations located in Grand Marais, Ely, Cook, Tofte and Isabella.

The big change has been adoption of a 100 percent long-term reservation system. Last year only 25 percent of the quota was available by advance reservations. The remaining permits were available 48 hours in advance of the trip. But the demand for the remaining permits to enter the BWCA was so great that people waited all night in lines on some of the peak weekends like the start of fishing season, Memorial Day, the last week in July and the first two weeks of August.

This year all available spots between May 11 and September 4 can be reserved in advance on a first-come, first-served basis up to and including the day of the trip.

Robert Rehfeld, Superior National Forest Supervisor, said, "To correct last year's problems, we invited the general public and representatives from organized camps, commercial outfitters, conservation groups, and user associations to participate in our workshop. At this session several alternatives were developed for consideration. Participants generally favored having all permits available on a long-term 'first-come, first-served' basis. We have implemented that approach with the 1978 program." Rehfeld added, "We urge all groups considering a trip to make early reservations."

There are 2,000 developed campsites in the Boundary Waters where campers must stay. Only 442 new overnight campers will be allowed in each day. The goal is to limit campsite use to two-thirds capacity, to give one-third of the sites a rest, according to Isabel Carlson of the Forest's Service Office at Duluth.

Building

By Bob Brown

This month I've been busy in the shop trying out new items to help the strip canoe builder. From Industrial Arts Supply I bought a bottle of Poly Sol F. Their catalog makes this product sound like some kind of wonder drug. I bought some to show they claimed too much but was happy to find it does just what they say.

For the first test we mixed up a quart from the concentrate then proceeded to glass a hull. We still had cleaner left over after cleaning ourselves and our brushes.

When laying bias strips or patching I can't keep my left hand out of the resin. So I keep a rag satruated with Poly Sol handy to wipe away the stickys. Though you still need some acitone, Poly Sol reduces the amount needed at only a fraction of the price. Poly Sol doesn't burn your skin either.

Always in the past I've found it difficult cleaning the inside of a canoe. It's bugged me so I've been trying different tools for the job.

A drum rasp was total disaster. A 3M Point stripping wheel was only slightly better. A seven inch disk grinder gauged up the bottom so fast that I put it away. I also found that a five inch sanding disk failed because the paper would fold up and rear before any real work got done. A small rounded surform shaver was slow.

Lew Miller uses the three and five inch self sticking disks made by 3M. I bought some and found it worked fairly well, at least on the flat or gently curving spots.

Darrell Foss stopped by with a tool that works well. The disks are backed with a stiff fabric and with 30 grit really take the wood off. When using a flexable disk it works best to press down firmly to keep the edge from gauging.

Two problems remain. First the drill overheats fast so you need to give it a break quite often. Second, because the disk is warm it melts and smears the glue lines. So I use the small surform to remove the glue lines before I sand.

I clean glue till my arm is overheated then use the grinder till it's overheated.

At the color cruise in September there will again be a class for new designs. The Guide and Explorer canoes are both well founded boats but a few of our members are now designing new craft so we'll let them compete. If you are interested in canoe design, but don't know how, let me know and we'll get a group of learners started.

Gentlemen:

I am writing to straighten out a mix-up in my membership dues. Knowing that my membership was due for renewal in February, I sent you a check for $8 on February 6, along with a membership application form. I am quite sure that I checked "Renewal" on this form, but this month I received two copies of "Hut" and a letter reminding me that my membership was expiring. Apparently I have been enrolled as a new member by mistake. I would appreciate it if you could correct this minor snafu, so that I don't receive two of everything.

On a happier note, I'd just like to commend those responsible for the new and improved "Hut" format. I love it, especially the builder's tips. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

William Schnell

TRIP REPORT: LAKE MICHIGAN AT 7 FT.

by Les Martin

The weather report was "Winds out of the Southeast, 20 to 25 mph. waves on Lake Michigan 5 th 7 ft." Tom Smith and I decided to try a little BIG water paddling. This was my first trip to the lake with the surf really up and I was just a little apprehensive. (Please no editorial notes, everyone knows I mean scared into the nearest outhouse.) But Tom assured me that it was really fun-- of course he showed me how much fun playing in holes could be once by playing in the hole below 3rd drop on the Peshtigo at good Spring levels. That certainly was a lesson that I won't forget and if I ever need an excuse to buy a new boat I may try it myself.

"To cross a breaker zone one need only wait just inside the breaker line, pick a small wave coming in and paddle like Hell to cross the line before a big wave comes in." Well I approached the first line of breakers, waited what seemed an appropriate interval, and paddled briskly across. Very easy, the wave had been only a little higher than my head after all. On to the next line of breakers. At this point I should have been somewhat more alert since I could no longer see Tom at all on the other side of the second line of breakers but I wasn't. I paddled up to the second line of breakers and here I encountered my first honest to goodness six foot wave breaking on my head. The surprise of banging my head on my rear deck is hard to describe but the feeling was rather like doing a very horizontal entry off a three meter board. Of course I stopped to consider what had happened and to assure myself that I was still upright. By so doing, I got to surf my first wave backwards until I got rolled under. Rolling up was easy after the wave dropped me. If there is any thing more fun than surfing a wave backwards it is to surf one upside down.

Well I finally made it out and after several false starts, caught a wave. I was off with rooster tails flying from the bow. Now there are several ways off a wave before you are deposited on the beach. The easiest is a high brace broach. The second is an ender as the wave breaks. The third way, which I tried only once was to turn into the curl of the wave as it breaks. This allows you the fun of surfing the inside of a wave before the whole mess falls on your head. A couple hours of such hilarity is about as much as I could take.

THE TRADING POST

Items for The Trading Post should be mailed to: Hut Editor
Lew Miller
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Your ad will only run for one month and is free to members. HUT editors reserve the right to determine if ads are for a commercial venture and to charge the rate for space used.

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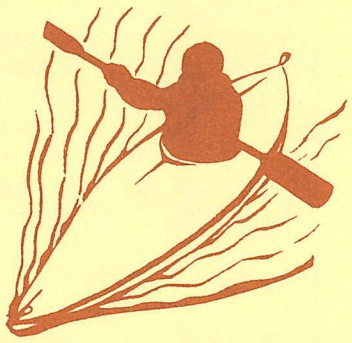
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Bob 4327557

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1820 11th Ave; S. Mpls.

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(From The WKC Bulletin, Washington Kayak Club, November 1977

Ch. 19-22
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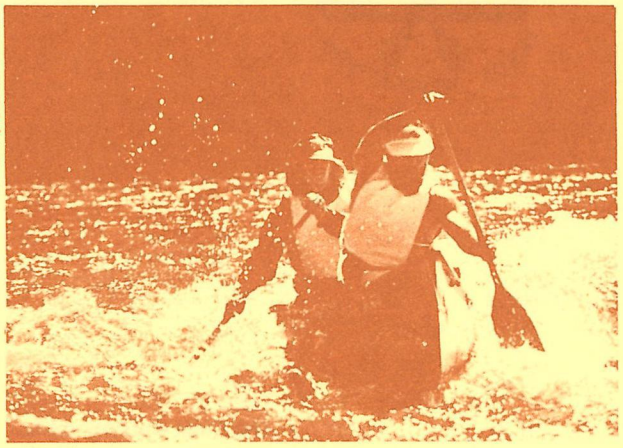
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