HUT!

MINNESOTA CANOE ASSOCIATION INC.

1981

Newsletter of the Minnesota Canoe Association Inc.

JUNE

Calendar of Events

MAY

31 Sunday — Beginner Whitewater Course (second session). Taylors Falls at the overlook on the Minnesota side of the St. Croix River. If you have any questions, contact Jeff Good, 780-1183; Scott Sharkey, 939-5393; or Kevin Toll, 933-1455 (between 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.)

JUNE

3 Wednesday 6-10 p.m. — War Canoe Race
MCA Monthly Program - Race for Fun
West bank of Mississippi River and Broadway. (See article inside.)

5-7 Weekend — Crow Wing River
Camp at Huntersville Forest campsite, June 6; put in at 10 a.m. at Shell City Landing Sunday; we will continue on to Nimrod. Call Walt Jones, 488-4570.

6 Saturday — *Princeton, MN Race
(40 points & money)
Contact: Karl Ketter
1957 Lake
Roseville, MN 55113
Phone (612) 636-8116

6-7 Weekend — Brule River Cruise (3M Cruise)
Everyone welcome; if interested, contact Ben Fellows, 733-8770.

7 Sunday — Beginner Whitewater Course (final session). Meet at the boat landing located at the top of Hells Gate in Banning State Park on the Kettle River near Sandstone, Minnesota. If you have any questions, contact Jeff Good, 780-1183; Scott Sharkey, 929-5393; or Kevin Toll, 933-1455 (between 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.)

7 Sunday — *Straight River Days Canoe Race
(30 points; $500)
Contact: Larry Kriesel
P.O. Box 118
Owatonna, MN 55060
Phone (507) 451-0591

10 Wednesday 7 p.m. — Monthly Directors' Meeting
Maplewood Nature Center
2659 East Seventh Street
Maplewood, MN
Phone: 738-9383
Members welcome

10 Wednesday 7-8:30 p.m. — Canoe Trek pre-trip session for the American Lung Association/MCA Benefit Cruise. Equipment and other needs will be covered. All interested persons invited to attend this informative meeting.
American Lung Association
1829 Portland Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55404

13 Saturday — Zumbro River Explorer Race
Contact: Mrs. Bill Laqua
P.O. Box 273
Lake City, MN

14 Sunday — *Little Falls River Race
(30 points; $500)
Contact: Jeff Thielen
1135 Lindberg Drive
Little Falls, MN 56345
Phone (612) 632-3714

13-14 Weekend — Crow Wing River Cruise
Camp at Huntersville Forest campsite June 12; put in at 10 a.m. at Shell City Landing Sunday; we will continue on to Nimrod. Call Bill Marconiller, 789-0074.

20 Saturday — *Pine River Canoe Race
(20 points, money undetermined)
Contact: Chuck Meyer
Box 413
Pine River, MN 56474
Phone (218) 587-2980

19,20,21 Weekend — Benefit Cruise
American Lung Association/MCA cruise on the St. Croix River. Put-in will be Saturday morning (10:00) at the Hwy. 70 bridge near Grantsburg; overnight camping at Wild River State Park, and pull-out at Lions Club Park near Taylors Falls. Contact John Wexler, 722-7069, or Mike Gilman, 935-5799.

27-28 Weekend — West Twin River Canoe Race (USCA)
Contact: Shoto Conservation Club
P.O. Box 463
Manitowoc, WI 54220

28 Sunday — Main Street Marathon
Contact: Ralph Cornelius
4733 Vincent Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN
Phone (612) 926-8377

29-July 1 Mon./Wed. — Flin Flon Trout Days Canoe Race
(3 days; $4,000)
Contact: Karl Ketter
1957 Lake
Roseville, MN 55113
Phone (612) 636-8116

CALENDAR OF EVENTS (cont.)

JULY

1 Wednesday — Canoeing Equipment
MCA Monthly Program

4 Saturday — Showboat Days Canoe Race
Contact: Mike Chichanowski
P.O. Box 247
Winona, MN 55987
Phone (507) 454-5430

4 Saturday — Austin, MN Canoe Race
Contact: Ardell Gorman
810 Tenth Avenue
Austin, MN
Phone (507) 433-7465

4 Saturday — Melrose Canoe Race
Contact:
Juanita Shell
Melrose Chamber of Commerce
117 E. Main, Box 324
Melrose, MN 56352
Phone (612) 256-7174

4 Saturday — *Mississippi Classic
(50 points; $7,500)
Contact: Betty Ketter
101 - 79th Avenue North
Minneapolis, MN 55444
Phone (612) 561-2208

10-12 Weekend — Three Lakes Canoe Race (USCA)
Contact: Tom Johnson
P.O. Box 19890
Milwaukee, WI 53219
Phone (414) 541-1275

11 Saturday — *Bend of the River Days Canoe Race
(20 points; money undetermined)
Contact: Dale Hennek
Mankato, MN
Phone: (507) 625-2770

11 Saturday — Explorer Race
Contact: Viking Council
5300 Glenwood Avenue
Minneapolis, MN

11-12 Weekend — Namekegon River Cruise
This is a favorite for a lot of people; it's not real rough, but a lot of fun and has attracted a lot of boaters. Plan to rendezvous at riverside Friday night or Saturday morning before 9 a.m. Call Walt Jones for additional information.

13 Saturday 2:00 p.m. — Redwood Falls Canoe Race
Traditional canoes (17' 3 & 31); 6.6 and 12.6-mile events in several classes. Recommended event for non-racers. For more information and entry blank, contact Chamber of Commerce, 140 E. Bridge Street, Redwood Falls, MN 56283, Phone: 507-637-2828 or 637-2542.

18 Saturday — *Duluth Canoe Race (30 points; $500)
Contact: Chris Clay
MCA Twin Ports Chapter
c/o Ski Hut
1032 East Fourth Street
Duluth, MN 55805
See details inside under Twin Ports News.

18 Saturday — Aquatennial Canoe Race
See article inside.

19 Sunday — Oakwood Lakes Canoe Race
Contact: Gail Robertson
820 Sixth Avenue
Brookings, SD 57006
Phone (605) 692-1689

19 Sunday — Sinclair Lewis Days Canoe Race
Sauk Centre, MN 56378
Contact: Linus Meyer
Route 1, Box 21
Melrose, MN 56352
Phone: 612-987-3549
or
Sauk Centre Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 222
Sauk Centre, MN 56378
Phone: 612-352-6892

26 Sunday — Cold Spring Funtastic Days
Contact: Dave Vogt
Box 462
Cold Spring, MN 56320



101 - 79th Avenue North / Minneapolis, Minnesota 55444

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DEADLINE FOR EACH ISSUE

Articles should be submitted to the Editor no later than the 12th day of the month preceding publication.

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.

JUNE MCA PROGRAM
WAR CANOE RACE

RACE FOR FUN — THE LONG DISTANCE RACERS

Wednesday, June 3 - 6:00 to 10:00 p.m.
West Bank of Mississippi River and Broadway

Gather on the banks of the blue, pure waters of the Mississippi in the shadow of the IDS Tower with the group of lovable canoeists who started the MCA in 1961. You'll see the latest in canoes, paddles, and equipment thought up by these Minnesota paddlers. Remember that they're the ones who gave the world woodstrip canoes, HUT!, nylon web seats, foot braces and stirrups, bent paddles, and modern canoe designs.

But the focus of the evening will be the war canoe races. With the help of owners of multi-people craft, several hulls overloaded with brawny, sweating bodies will paddle at a furious pace between the bridge piers, barges and sand bars. Learn the answer to the age old question, "Can two people (or even one people) paddle a canoe as fast as five or six or seven or...?" This social gathering is classified as a water sport, so bring your version of a canoe for best view of the commotion and the new, improved Minneapolis skyline.

Welcome New Members

April

William Jeronimus	Twin Ports Chapter
Christopher Clay	Twin Ports Chapter
John Halvorson	Twin Ports Chapter
Patrick Moore	Twin Ports Chapter
Adrian Rick	Twin Ports Chapter
Michael Rietz	Twin Ports Chapter
Knute Nisswandt	Twin Ports Chapter
William Howard	Twin Ports Chapter
Wes Neustel	Twin Ports Chapter
Paul Delcambre	New Iberia, LA
Jeffrey Brian Howe	St. Paul
Joseph Kriegl	Redwood Falls
Ralph Kruchten	St. Cloud
Dick Mulkern	St. Paul
Bruce Nelson	Minneapolis
Alan Sheley	Backus

May

Holace Nelson	St. Paul
Donald DeLude	Waverly
Bill Simpson	Marine on St. Croix
Richard Gerstner	Edina
Ginny Pease	St. Paul
Michael Schmitz	Sherrill, IA
Robert Trautman	St. Paul
Richard Hall	Austin
Florence Pauls	Excelsior
Larry Goerger	Lakeville
Bill Jose	Eden Prairie
Craig Johnson	Minneapolis
Douglas Vulcan	Florence, MT
Bernard Eyestone	Riceville, IA
Chuck Holst	Minneapolis
Rick Decker	Minneapolis
Mark Salisbury	Burnsville

HELLO!
FELLOW MEMBERS



by Tony Luciano

For some years I have heard of the MCA, but not until recently did I become a member. I'm glad to be the new kid on the block, but even more, I'm glad to contribute to the MCA as a staff member of HUT! (Editor's Note: Meet our new Art Director.) Minnesota and canoeing is what I think is well worth the effort to bring you and others the activities that happen year around. I love canoeing. Obviously, we have a common interest, but being easy going and a professional armchair sportsman, I'd rather go the casual canoeing route. But never put it past me if someone were to ask if I'd go on a whitewater cruise; boy, I'd be in full equipment, packed, and ready to go before you can say Minnesota Twins.

Some of you are planning to be involved in some canoe activities this summer, and a few maybe are still planning. Whatever the case, I'd like to invite you to a fun time this summer July 18 at Aquatennial '81. At the same time, I'd like to know if there are any reliable persons who would want to assist me in this year's Aquatennial canoe race. As coordinator of this event, I've done the planning, and the proposal has already been put into effect. But what I need most are persons for that day's event. This would be a learning experience, and I guarantee that you won't go home empty handed. If interested, call me at 522-6815 any time of the day. Have a good one!

CONGRATULATIONS

ELEVEN GRADUATE FROM BEGINNING CANOEING

Early this May, 11 paddlers underwent the beginning canoe class as taught by the MCA racers. All 11 not only survived but graduated with the highest of honors—Magna Cum Dry Tennis Shoe. Several plan to enroll in the whitewater course, and one immediately was taken in the senior draft by the Minnesota Rookies. An observer to the lessons commented on how quickly the students master the basics with this system of instruction. The group not only covered basics but moved onto a fast portion of the Mississippi for the challenge of several miles of upstream paddling. Some students and the instructors competed fiercely in the oral sections of the examination. Joining the ranks of the best canoers in the US of A are:

Rick Decker - 16' Forrister
Clair Fosson
Caryl Duke and her son Bret - 17' Old Town
Norton and Marge Johnson - 17' Lincoln
Chuck Holst - 17' Wenona Stocker
Mitch Gould and Barb - 18½' Wenona WW
Dave Logears and friend - 18' Grumman

If at least eight more students enroll, the next beginning canoeing will be taught in July. Call Karl Ketter, Dean, at 636-8116 if you are interested.

ATTENTION MCA'ers

The rookie racers will be meeting at 6:00 p.m. every Monday until October or until the Mississippi runs dry, whichever comes first. If you can hut and aren't afraid to breath hard, call Karl at 636-8116 or 376-4319 for a rooky reservation. All MCAers who have become "serious" about their paddling are invited to these 2-hour canoe trips. A "serious" MCAer is a paddler who is curious about what's around the next bend and has the enthusiasm to paddle over there. The racers are anxious to acquaint you with canoe motion theory on a practical level. They are aware that many MCAers haven't reached their full paddling potential. Besides, you just might be the superstar partner that an old, crusty racer is looking for. Recently, the racers were mightily impressed with the skills and speed of Penny Mielke.

On May 11, the first sunny afternoon of Daylight Savings Time, 10 MCA canoes and three canoes of young VFW paddlers filled the entire river. There's hardly any room left in the river—the barges "take numbers." Just call ahead and bring a life jacket.

SUCCESSFUL PADDLERS' RENDEZVOUS AT FORT SNELLING

by Jim Daly
(Additions by the Editor)

A small but spirited crowd of 125 greeted Verlen Kruger and Steve Landick ("The Ultimate Canoe Challenge") at Fort Snelling's Pike Island picnic grounds on May 2. The Minnesota Canoe Association and CANOE magazine co-sponsored the event, and the weatherman cooperated by delivering a beautiful Saturday and holding off on Sunday's rains until the overnight campers were safely on their way.

Over 50 canoes converged on Pike Island from three launch sites Saturday morning. (The most popular launch site was at Lyndale avenue, coming down the Minnesota River. This cruise was led by Steve Landick, Cliff Jacobson, and the Gilmans. The Harriet Island cruise up the Mississippi was led by Verlen Kruger, Clint Waddell, and Penny Mielke. Mike Vande Vyver led another cruise down from Hidden Falls.) After lunch, members and guests competed in a series of canoe races (rope throwing contests, canoe tugs-of-war, and other fun events, all officiated by Chris Berne. Shortly after all the spirited activities, the awards ceremony was held.) All the awards were courtesy of CANOE magazine. John Viehman and staff were present and actively involved in the day's competiton. A tip of the hat to John and his bunch.

After sundown, we viewed slides of the first 12,000 miles of the ongoing Kruger/Landick "challenge", then the movie "Once in a Lifetime," which is a documentary of the Kruger/Waddell 7,000-mile canoe voyage.

(A council fire was started later on, but a rain drove everyone to their tents. Local police must have noticed the fire because two firetrucks came to put it out.) A dozen families tented overnight on the island to cap off a truly memorable weekend.

(Many thanks to Roy Johnston, who spent many hours preparing and organizing this event for the MCA. Many miles were driven in checking over the put-in sites for the cruises, posting notices in stores, and attending meetings.)

MINNESOTA TREK FOR LIFE AND BREATH

Minnesota Canoe Trek is September 12-18, October 2-4 to Raise Money for Kids with Asthma

The second annual Minnesota Trek for Life and Breath is September 12-18 in the BWCA, or October 2-4 on the Upper St. Croix River.

Trekkers raise money for programs to help children with asthma by getting pledges, as done in the traditional walk-a-thons, run-a-thons, etc. Because the Trek is limited to the first 60 persons, we suggest you contact the Minnesota Lung Association (227-8014) immediately if you are interested.

Funds raised from the Minnesota Canoe Trek will go to programs of the Minnesota Lung Association and American Lung Association of Ramsey County. Since Trek expenses are paid by Mutual of New York Insurance (MONY), our trekkers can be assured that all money raised will go for the programs intended. Due to a special arrangement with the Minnesota Canoe Association, you can indicate on your application form if you would like 10 percent of your pledges to go toward the Minnesota Canoe Association or your canoe club.

We will have routes laid out, some of which will challenge the experienced canoeist, and others designed for the family.

The Trek Steering Committee selected the fall because "it's after the mosquitoes and before the cold." We provide food, set up the routes, and can make available equipment if you do not have all your gear like tents, canoes, etc. The Wilderness Inquiry Association is donating the use of equipment



MINNESOTA CANOE TREK FOR LIFE AND BREATH

Boundary Waters Canoe Area
September 12-18
100 Kilometers

Upper St. Croix River
October 2, 3, 4
75 Kilometers

Lung Associations of Minnesota

For more information

Call: 227-8014

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St. Paul, Minnesota 55102
227-8014

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION
of Ramsey County
614 Portland Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota 55102
224-4901

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TWIN PORTS NEWS

by Chris Clay

Our recently formed "Twin Ports Chapter" started out the season with a small get-together on May 6, and we were pleased to find there is a variety of interests represented among us. Those interests include whitewater canoeing and kayaking, canoe racing, touring, and general outings. We weren't able to contact very many area MCA members before this meeting but should be able to for the next meeting on June 9, 1981 at the Voyager Country Sports Building, 390 South Lake Avenue, Duluth. At that time, we will be filling club offices by (a) democratic election, (b) drawing names out of a hat, (c) popular appeal and consensus (the word "shanghai" comes to mind), or whatever. A list of area members is being circulated so we can get in touch with one another for outings.

Jim Wheeler, Bill Jeronimus, and Chris Clay attended the paddler's rendezvous and had a general fun time highlighted by an "all you can eat shrimp dinner" on the way back to Duluth.

Duluth will be hosting the "2nd Annual Ski Hut Canoe Classic--Presented by KZIO Radio" on July 18, 1981. We decided last year to develop a yearly race in Duluth, and Ski Hut sponsored a short race down on Park Point. This year's race will be expanded to include a community race and a long distance race. The community race will be held at the picnic area on Park Point and will be for 17' maximum length canoes with the 3 and 31" rule applying to width (there seems to be a fair number of canoes with those dimensions lying around up here). The distance on this race will be slightly less than six miles. For the paddler who prefers longer distances, there is the 30-mile "Classic" which will cover selected parts of the harbor and the lower St. Louis River. Certainly this course will involve map reading on the part of the contestants, so we will be conducting some pre-race meetings to point out the highlights.

If anyone is interested in running the course this summer, please contact the Ski Hut, 1032 East Fourth Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55805, phone: 218-724-8525. They will be able to answer your questions and possibly find someone to provide lodging for you while you are in town. As this race is in the early stages of development as a yearly event, we have many items to work on prior to race time to make this event enjoyable for out-of-town as well as local racers. We will do what we can to help with travel plans and lodging arrangements. The purse will be $500 divided among 12 places, with trophies going to the place finishers in various categories and keychain medallions going to all contestants. We believe this will definitely be a good race this year and even better in years to come, so we invite you to Duluth on July 18, 1981.

St. Cloud News

by Don Stephany

Our May 3 meeting was held at Wilson Park on the Mississippi River. You could tell which members of the club had rain gear because they were the ones who showed up.

Betty and Karl Ketter gave all the club members present instructions and information on canoes, paddles, correct paddle length, and the MCA efficient paddling method. They did a very good job, and everyone benefited from what they said. Now all we have to do is get the canoes out again and put it into practice.

Our sincere thanks to Betty and Karl Ketter for a great day.

Our next meeting will be held on June 10 at the Great River Regional Library in St. Cloud.

* * *

DULUTH PACKS!

by Dale Schleppenbach

Sizes #3 and #4 Duluth packs are available at a savings in St. Cloud. G & J Tent and Awning of Sauk Rapids will custom make your Duluth packs to order. No. 8 duck canvas or heavy vinyl (the stuff truck tarps are made of) are your options. No 3's are envelope shaped with heavy vinyl straps, quick release snaps, and a map pocket on the flap--$32. No. 4's have all of the above with 6-inch sidewalls and a bungy cord closure on top. Canvas comes with vinyl liner at the bottom--$50. Reduced prices with order of two or more. It's worth checking out! Call or write:

G & J Tent and Awning
RR 1
Sauk Rapids, MN 56379
612-393-2961

3M NEWS

Cruises

Ben Fellows will be leading a weekend trip down the Brule June 6-7. If interested, give him a call at 733-8770.

During the coming months, we will be organizing ad hoc evening trips down local rivers. Arranged by several volunteers at short notice, club members will be informed of such cruises by means of VMS (Voice Message Switching, a computerized phone paging system that calls a person every 30 minutes until the call is answered). For an update on these evening trips or if you wish to announce cruises/events to 3M members at short notice, call Paul Davies at 733-4704.

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Laszlo Berty
Amazon Expeditions
307 West Ethel Avenue
Lombard, Illinois 60148

Builder's Corner

SOUL SEARCHING

by Bob Brown

Step 1 in building a canoe is to pick a plan—sounds simple; maybe not.

Ask an expert. You will get his opinion related to his particular sport. There are as many types of canoes as there are canoe-oriented sports.

If you're an old hand, you know what you think is a perfect canoe, so read no further; this article is not for you.

If you're new at canoeing, I'll try to explain the difference between plans. For starters, all canoes are not the same. Long, thin canoes are fast; short, fat canoes go better in rough water. Basic, yes, but important basic. I'll try to explain what you are seeing when you look at a plan.

Plan A is a fast, racy canoe. Notice how the form lines all come together at a common point. This indicates 0 rocker, a must for a fast canoe. On this plan, you will also notice that the form lines are spread evenly across the plan. This indicates that this plan represents a canoe with a straight side from the center to each end--this makes a fine-ended boat.

Plan B represents a cruising canoe. The form lines don't all meet at a common point; this boat has some rocker. The wider the separation where these form lines meet the centerline, the greater the rocker.

The form lines on Plan B are rather closely bunched, except for the end forms. This indicates that the boat has a full shape coming to a blunt end.

Both the rocker and the blunt end help make the boat a better load carrier, more maneuverable, and probably better in whitewater. These same features also make the boat slow.

Both A and B have an arch bottom. A is rounder; it will feel tippy. To a beginner it might be frightening. B has a shallow arch; this will draw less water and be more comfortable to a novice. B makes a wider hull, much wider at the place where the paddlers sit; this makes it more difficult to reach the water with the paddle.

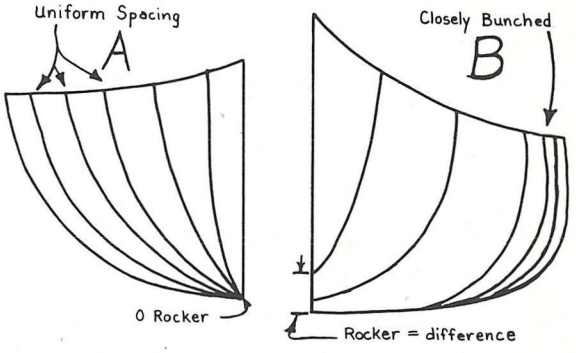
Beginning to get the point? Every canoe is a compromise. The designer built in things he felt important at the sacrifice of others.

I am opinionated (like all experts). I don't like thumblehome; it serves no function. I have no time for flat-bottomed canoes; I consider them dangerous.

Where to get a good plan? The MCA has many choices. These MCA plans are listed elsewhere in HUT!. CANOE magazine has a plan for a fast cruising canoe for sale. They will soon have a plan for a solo canoe.

Two books, "Wood Strippers Guide to Canoe Building" by David Hazen and "How to Build a Strip Canoe" by Gil Gilpatric are both good building books that include a choice of plans. Hazen's plans are quite good. You may find other plans that you like. They may be good, maybe not.

Comes the time for some soul searching. You must decide in your own mind what type of canoeing you will do. Don't overrate yourself and plan an arctic trip until you have made a few to the BWCA. Don't consider yourself a racer because you won a race at the Boy Scout camp 30 years ago.



In picking a plan, remember that much flexibility in dimensions is possible. Most plans can be lengthened or shortened to suit your needs. Rocker can be added or removed with a little ingenuity.

Many people never see a plan. They use a form that they borrowed from a friend. This method gives you the advantage of being able to try out the friend's boat to see if you like it. You also have the advantage of being able to pick your friend's mind.

The MCA has a few forms available to rent to members. We also have plans for a variety of good canoes, so think it over carefully before you invest your time and money. Analyze yourself and your abilities, and match them up to what you would like to use your canoe for. Then try to start by building the canoe that will best fill your needs.

A STATE INSECT FOR MINNESOTA?

(From the VOLUNTEER, Sept/Oct 1980)

Fifty states have named official birds —Minnesota's is the common loon — and many have also designated official mammals, trees and flowers. But how many states have official insects? Give up? Eighteen.

A new National Wildlife Federation booklet, "Official Birds, Mammals, Trees, Flowers, Insects, and Fish of the U.S., Territories, and Possessions" reveals lists of these state emblems. Some highlights:

The most honored bird is the cardinal (official bird of seven states). The most popular mammal: white-tailed deer (23 states). Connecticut chose the sperm whale. Virginia, instead of a mammal, chose a state dog, the foxhound.

Every state has an official tree. So fond of the magnolia is Mississippi that it chose it as both official tree and flower.

Now insects. Of 18 states that named official insects, nine chose the honeybee. Minnesota's official insect? So far the Legislature has remained silent on the question. However, an informal poll of VOLUNTEER readers revealed the mosquito would be a shoo-in (or maybe a shoo-away).

For your copy of "Official Birds, Mammals...etc.", write: National Wildlife Federation, Dept. 10, 1412-16th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20036. Single copies are free. Additional copies are five cents each.

WHITEWATER BASICS ON THE SNAKE

by Mike Gilman

The weather forecast for the day was promising until we awoke that morning—but then, canoeing in April is spontaneous. You do it when the water is high, often disregarding the weather.

After meeting Terry and Sandy Lemke early that morning, my wife, Sharon, the girls, and I followed the Lemkes up Hwy. 65 toward our put-in on the Snake River above the upper falls. As we drove north out of town, we fell in behind a total of four other vehicles loaded down with a variety of kayaks, whitewater play boats, Grumman and We-No-Nahs. In Mora, we met the fifth car, with even more kayaks on top. Most of these people were Cascaders. Mike Vande Vyver (MCA Cruise Director) and Dave Garron went ahead and ended up putting in upstream of the campground, but showed up before all drivers returned from the shuttle.

Terry had arranged the loan of a wetsuit for me since the water was still cold. After pulling the suit on, we all worked at snapping on a custom spray cover the Lemkes made for their 18' Jensen We-No-Nah. Here's where I found out that this trip was to be the maiden voyage of the spray cover. Nothing like a good field test, right Terry?

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But the first section was all fairly smooth, and the two of us had plenty of time to get the basics worked out, the communications established, and a degree of rhythm to our paddling.

We tagged along with Dudley Flamm in his 16' Jensen whitewater, and Dave Garron in his KW-16, working the smaller rapids with Mike Vande Vyver checking on us periodically.

John Krack, Charlie Walsh and Carrie Moore, Mary Enley and Pam stayed in more of a group with us while the rest of the Cascaders (in kayaks) held back to make the most of each set of rapids. That group consisted of Chip Treen, Jess Fauchier, Billy Walsh, and Dave Rolf, along with the infamous Mike V.

At the Upper Falls, we stopped to scout the area and went through without incident once we picked the route. It was a real experience slicing through some fairly big waves, but Mike said we would have to wait to see the "real" waves, meaning the wrath of the Lower Canyon. After a shore lunch (and some sunshine), we ran the canyon again, then watched as Mary and Pam lined up to come through. After having a little trouble with a wide entry, they seemed to have corrected it (meaning there would be no bouncing off the rock wall) when the upstream lean on a cross draw capsized the boat. Since the girls were not wearing wetsuits (only warm clothes), the gasps could be heard for quite some distance. The girls were pulled out, and Mike V. grabbed the boat, but it took some time to warm them up. After that, they were very cautious of the rapids and later portaged the Lower Canyon.

The "Canyon" (Lower Falls) seemed to me to be the place where the river totaled up its energy for a display of power. Here there were waves standing almost as tall as me, with rocks coming out to greet the torrent. Terry wondered how I felt, standing there looking at it, and I didn't have much to say (except a rerun of the course we hoped to follow). I was really looking forward to the challenge since Terry and I seemed to be working well up to this point.

Moving into the mainstream left us only one option—run the rapids. The first wave looked like a monster, and it almost swallowed me before moving us on to better things. It was like being hit by a large bucket of water, but the spray cover held up, and we took on the whole canyon amid our own yelling and whooping. Terry had stressed control in maneuvering the canoe, and it paid off. Soon after, an empty canoe came down and caught up on some rocks. Charlie had upset trying to come through solo and dumped it. Only slightly injured, he watched while a line was tied to the canoe and it was pulled off the rock. Terry ferried the boat across to get Charlie (who was wet and getting cooler all the time). Carrie sat in center and Terry at the bow, but somehow the teamwork skipped a beat, the position was lost, and the canoe turned sideways. Last ditch efforts couldn't prevent another capsizing. Terry pulled Carrie out from under the boat and to shore; Charlie made it out just below, and the canoe found the same rock again.

The whole team worked on it this time, but the heavy equipment was at the other end and the day was running short. Everyone pulled out, dried off, and recapped the events before leaving for the day. On the following day, a small crew managed to pull the canoe loose with the aid of a come-along and some heavy nylon rope.

Now that the Snake has been experienced, Mike V. says I'll have to taste some of the other flavors of Minnesota's whitewater! (What then? Wisconsin?)

FROM THE BOW

by John Wexler, MCA President

We have acquired two new safety throw ropes which should be taken on all whitewater trips. If you are a member and need the loan of a rescue rope for your trip, call MCA Directors Penny Mielke in St. Paul or Mike Vande Vyver prior to your trip. These ropes were acquired through the courtesy of Charlie Walbridge Enterprises.

Volunteers are needed to spread the gospel of the Minnesota Canoe Association on June 6 at Midwest Mountaineering from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. in 2-hour shifts. If you have never volunteered for anything, this is a chance to meet and work with a more experienced MCA member and to meet fellow canoers.

If you missed the Paddlers' Rendezvous at Fort Snelling State Park, you missed a fun time. Steve Landick and Verlen Kruger really hammed it up in front of the movie cameras as all the cruisers met them at the park.

Special thanks to all those who helped put this together. Roy Johnston put it together working with John Viehman of CANOE magazine. Bev Waddel helped feed some of the organizers; Jim Daly and Paul Davies of the 3M Club worked the front gate; Clint Waddel, Cliff Jacobson, Mike Vande Vyver, Mike and Sharon Gilman, Penny Mielke, and others for leading cruises; Lee Hunt for special shuttles; and Dave Novitchy, the Fort Snelling Park manager, and his DNR staff for their cooperation. The "Ultimate Canoe Challenge" filming was done by Phil Pemberton.

Thanks to Midwest Mountaineering and their carpenter, the Minnesota Canoe Association has acquired a new bulletin board that may be used by member clubs and at MCA events as it is needed.

A big MCA party is being planned for all MCA members who have either volunteered during the last couple of years or would like to volunteer. The party will be held Saturday, June 13 at Helen Olson's on Prior Lake. We will furnish food and refreshments, but we hope that you will bring your canoes. We will also be awarding prizes at this event. We would appreciate RSVP by no later than June 10, 1981 if you plan to attend.

Help! I need temporary assistants and permanent people to fill different committees. Roy Johnston and Mike Vande Vyver are going to South America, so we need more help in the cruising and publicity areas. Here's your chance to rub shoulders with other MCA members.

The world's largest and most exciting canoe race will be held September 4-7 at Shawinigan, Quebec, Canada. Plans, schemes, and provisions are being readied for non-racers and/or rookie racers who can't quite handle the grueling 3-day race. We will probably leave August 29 and return September 8. If you're a beginner, intermediate, or rookie, give me a call at 722-7069. This will be a fun trip. If you like camping and cruising, this is the trip for you.

The Duluth Canoe Club has recently started up with 11 new members and will be putting on their first canoe race in July. This race will follow a 30-mile path from Park Point across the harbor, dodging ships and yachts, and continue up the mouth of the St. Louis River until Spirit Island is rounded, at which point the racers head back the same way. According to Chris Clay, the racers will need maps and compasses. He also said that one of the lead teams will take the fake-out route to discourage the more clever Twin Cities racers who follow the Duluth race. If you wish to be a spectator of this race, there are many viewpoints from shore, and you might consider renting a yacht or cruise boat to follow the race and see the sights.

DNR News



National Governor's Association
Supports DNR Stand on Water Rights

The National Governor's Association has gone on record in support of the position taken by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources in a legal conflict with the federal government over authority to regulate the use of state waters within the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

The case has been appealed by the state to the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals after the DNR received an adverse decision from the U.S. District Court in Minnesota.

Governor Joseph E. Brennen of Maine, Chairman of the Association's Legal Affairs Committee, said the outcome of the appeal may have a significant effect on federal-state relations and the division of power between the federal and state governments.

SURVEY SHOWS SOME DNR TRAILS
ARE AS POPULAR AS STATE PARKS

A survey last summer of two recreational trails built by the Department of Natural Resources shows that the trails are receiving more use than some state parks.

Chosen for the survey were the easternmost 20 miles of the 100-mile Luce Line Trail, which runs from Wayzata to Gluek in Chippewa County, and the 50-mile Heartland Trail, which begins in Park Rapids and ends two miles south of Cass Lake.

The survey was designed to estimate the number of people using each state trail during the summer months.

The survey indicated that last summer the Luce Line Trail had 53,600 visitors—or almost as many as the following state parks had the preceding summer: Savanna Portage, Buffalo River, Minneopa and Rice Lake. It received more visitors than 35 other state parks and would rank 26 in number of visitors in the 65 state park system.

The Heartland Trail had 41,600 visitors and would rank 28. By comparison, Maplewood State Park had 41,800 visitors in 1979, and Nerstrand Woods received 40,446.

HOW TO PUT ON A FROZEN WETSUIT
or
JOHNSON'S MISTAKE

by Terry Lemke

(A Report on the Pike, Peshtigo and Wolf Rivers Trip)

We pulled into Kosirs tavern parking lot at about 1:30 Saturday morning, May 9. We had left Minneapolis some six hours before and had driven the 300-plus miles to this eastern Wisconsin hamlet to canoe and kayak some of the best whitewater rivers the north country has to offer. Kosirs tavern, located on the bank of the Peshtigo River, was the meeting place for our party of five. Mike Vande Vyver, our fearless leader and instigator of this trip, from Minneapolis, and Randy Johnson, from Park Forest, Illinois, were at the bar having a beer when Dave Garron and I walked in. Dudly Flamm from Northfield, Minnesota was asleep in his car. I asked Mike what the agenda was for the weekend. He had it all planned. First we would run the Pike River Saturday morning, then we would run Section 3 on the Peshtigo River Saturday afternoon and again on Sunday morning. Sunday afternoon we would finish off our weekend on Section 3 of the Wolf River. Kosir pushed us out the door at 2:00 a.m., and we headed for Amberg, Wisconsin where we spent the night camped near the Pike River.

Saturday morning came all too quickly. After a hearty breakfast and a quick trip to Daves Falls, we headed for the put-in point. We took the temperature of the water. It was a chilly 48°F, definitely wetsuit temperature. After getting on our wetsuits and arranging a shuttle, we were off down the Pike. Mike and Randy were paddling kayaks. Dudly was paddling his 16' Jensen designed whitewater canoe, and Dave and I were in Dave's 16' canoe with a spray cover over it.

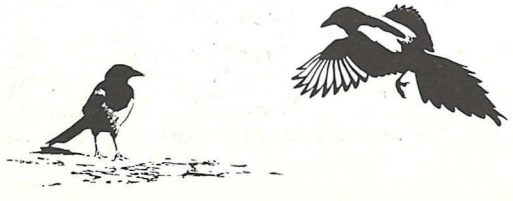
The paddle down the Pike was very pleasurable. The weather was cooperating with temperatures in the mid-60s and the sky partly cloudy. Rapids on the Pike are mostly Class I and II. The kayaks lagged behind the canoes most of the way downriver. Kayakers love to play in the eddies and holes, and the canoers can't always play the same games, so they tend to get ahead.

Yellow Bridge Rapids on the Pike is by far the toughest rapids on this section of river. It starts with two sharp drops and then continues for about 300 yards of rock garden. Dudley, Dave and I scouted this rapids from the left bank, ignoring the "No Trespassing" signs. We decided on the best route. Dudley went first. He tipped in the first drop. Fortunately, he managed to make it to an eddy before he reached the second drop. Dave and I went next—over the first drop and then the second. The second drop was much steeper than we thought, and we took on gallons of water.

— to be continued —

in July HUT!

Read how Mike and Randy go over Strong Falls with disastrous consequences.





TRIP REPORT

Mike Vande Vyver's April 11-12 Spring Whitewater Cruise of the White and Bois Brule Rivers

by Randy Johnson

It's hard to describe the beauty and serenity to be found on these rivers in early spring: snow still clings stubbornly to the most shaded parts of the river banks, and trees and shrubs are just starting to wake up from a long winter's sleep. Cool to downright cold water nips at the hands, arousing and rekindling the intensity of a paddler's spirit. There is sunshine and warmth strong enough to give the first sunburn of the season, and best of all, no pesty mosquitoes! It's as if you have snuck up on Mother Nature and surprised her in one of her most revealing moments.

And for those of you who just go out to have a good time, there is always lots of fun to be had with Mike and crew. Just ask Penny Mielke. She had a great time watching Mike Vande Vyver and Jim Stewart pitch their tent on Friday night. Mike and Jim were trying to set up an unfamiliar tent (unsuccessfully), so they made a lean-to out of the mess. In the morning when the weather and their minds were clear of "fog", they discovered the problem. Their tent floor was really the roof! "Oh...so that's why the opening zipped up to close." Nice goin', guys! (Someone suggested that there should be a "tent master" award at the MCA Annual Banquet this year.)

Everyone was also amazed at Penny's array of camp foodstuffs, which well deserved the title of "Penny's Portable Delicatessen."

And I received an unusually large amount of attention and buffoonery when I accidentally tipped over in a very calm (and very cold) stretch of water. Well, once you're wet, you might as well make the best of it and practice your kayak rolls, right?

Mike and Jim staged the first test of their South

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CANOE RENTALS

THE BALLAD OF GILMANS' PLUNGE

by Terry Lemke

Way up north, near Little Falls,
runs a river of little note --
a river few people think of,
and fewer people float.

The Little Elk is what it's called,
a name somewhat deceiving,
For the Little Elk's not seen an elk
since before the great Sioux upheaving.

A beautiful river, the Little Elk,
with scenery of great splendor,
As it snakes its way to the Mississippi
through forest, swamp, and pasture.

Wildlife abounds along its course,
with heron, deer, and wood ducks,
But the beaver is most obvious
because of the dams it constructs.

To the river one day the HUT editors came —
Mike and Sharon Gilman, their daughters, too
To try their hand on the Little Elk
in their bright yellow We-No-Nah canoe.

They put in near the cabin they own
on the bank of the Little Elk
On a sunny, cool day in April
after a breakfast of oatmeal and milk.

They set off down river
through trees very tall
With hopes of arriving in town
before the onset of nightfall.

The paddle downriver was a delight;
they paddled with care and ease.
Nothing could deter them
not rocks, nor bends, nor fallen trees.

But soon they encountered some structures
that really upset their plans.
For on the river called Little Elk
there are numerous beaver dams.

To portage the dams would be a chore,
and they didn't want to work up a sweat.
So they went over the dam with high hopes
of not getting their feet wet.

The drop over the dam was not very great,
at most, maybe a foot.
So they lined up on a point
where the dam created a chute.

Over the dam they went,
with a scream of delight.
For that day they were very fortunate
the river had not shown its might.

Beaver dam after beaver dam
they ran without debate
For shooting beaver dams to the Gilmans
was a real "piece of cake."

But as all canoers know
not all cakes turn for the better.
And those who don't do a good eddy turn
get that much wetter.

For so it was that beautiful day
they tipped in that cool little stream.
And you can bet for sure
it wasn't part of their canoeing scheme.

Rivers, it's known, can't pick any favorites
there's never a winning team.
Especially to those canoeists
that happen to be leaning upstream.

When you're leaning upstream
it's not good to lunge,
And just try to remember
the ballad of Gilmans' plunge.

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CLIFF'S CORNER



by Cliff Jacobson

There's a misconception among canoeists and backpackers alike that you "get exactly what you pay for" when you buy outdoor gear. For some items, like canoes, paddles, pack stoves, and most types of hardware, that's usually true enough. But for a lot of software—summer weight sleeping bags, foam pads, clothing, and the like—there's a point of diminishing returns—a place where more dollars spent simply means fancier tailoring and better detailing, but no improvement in function.

The "law of diminishing returns" comes earlier for canoe tents than for backpacking tents (the two are not necessarily the same). For example, backpackers are concerned with extremely light weight, often at the expense of other variables. And for trips above timberline, wind stability is essential. In short, backpacking tents incorporate extra reinforcement, tighter stitching, tensioning devices, low aerodynamic profile, and more to achieve these aims. The result to the consumer is high cost. Very high cost!

But canoe tents are different. Winds of over 50 mph are rare in the canoe country. And the canoeist can afford to carry a "bit more" weight and bulk than the backpacker. The difference between two roughly equivalent performing tents—one that weighs eight pounds, the other ten—may be hundreds of dollars. Two pounds is meaningless for most types of canoe tripping. Prime considerations for a good canoe tent are spaciousness (try keeping your sanity in a five by seven doghouse when black flies or foul weather forces you to stay put), reasonable headroom for ease of dressing, and absolute bugproofing. Include also extreme resistance to the often gargantuan downpours that are typical of much of the north country. To this add ease and speed of pitching (minimal staking so the tent can be set up on the near solid rock of the Canadian Shield), excellent venting (so you won't baste in your own juices on those 90-degree nights), and a weather-protected entry. (If you've every climbed into a dome tent sans tunnel entrance in a major downpour, you know what I mean.)

Years ago, I did the research and evaluation on 2-man tents for a BACKPACKER Magazine project. I looked at about 50 different tents that ranged in cost from about 50 bucks to "I'm embarrassed to tell you." Here are some of my discoveries:

1. High cost does not necessarily indicate good design. It only indicates quality construction and detailing.

2. There's no relationship between tightness of stitching or "number of stitches per inch" and wind stability. The variable that determines good rough weather performance is GOOD DESIGN, which, as mentioned, has nothing to do with quality of construction.

   I've never seen a tent come apart at the seams in a good blow, but I've seen lots of badly design, well constructed tents destruct due to pole failure or torn fabric resultant from improper tensioning or poor aerodynamic shape.

3. I've never seen a tent with fiberglass poles that was worth a damn in a wind. Despite manufacturers' claims, glass poles don't hold up. They splinter and break. The solid ones are too heavy and snap when stressed; the hollow ones simply splinter and deform badly.

4. Dome tents (geodesic domes not included) won't make it in high winds. Even well guyed domes crush badly when the wind blows. Ask Bob Dannert about the 6-foot high rock wall he built around his fully guyed JanSport dome on the Back River so it wouldn't be flattened by a polar gale!

5. Geodesic domes are fine for winter or when you've got time to set them up. But they're hard to erect in the dark; most are badly vented; and they lack a protected awning for dry entry/exit. They're not good canoe tents even though they're great for the mountains.

6. Open tents (Baker styles) are very comfortable when pitched out of the wind. These tents go up slow and blow down easily. They're good "forest" tents, but lack privacy.

So back to basics. The most wind-stable designs are old-fashioned A-frames and Indian teepees. However, teepees (like the Sierra Design hex tent) have too many stakes to set, and their flies are a mess to keep taut. So best choice for canoeing is the A-frame. My favorite tents? I like the Cannondale tents best and consider them a cut above all others, regardless of price. Cannondales are the fastest to pitch in any weather as they have but four stakes, two poles, and an integral attached fly. They'll easily take 70 mph winds with barely a murmur and remain dry in a near hurricane. Cost? $250-$325 and really worth it.

I'd rate best tent for the money—indeed best for under $250—the "Eureka Timberline" (or comparable models designed around this configuration). Granted, construction isn't first rate, but design is. And design is what keeps you dry in a downpour and safe in a wind. Frankly, every other tent I've seen (including some that cost nearly $500) take a back seat to these and the Cannondales.

The Cannondales come with one or two built-in vestibules (depending on model). The vestibules—a place to store wet boots and gear, plus an effective way to wind and waterproof the vulnerable front end of any tent—is a $40 or so extra cost option on the Eureka. Once you've used a vestibule, you'll never trip without one. Vestibules provide the edge that spells success under really rugged conditions.

What about single-walled Gore-tex tents? Well...the jury is still out as to how well Gore-tex II works. My own experiments indicate it's a considerable improvement over Gore-tex I. But, frankly, I think you'll dislike any single-walled tent, even a breathable Gore-tex one. Why? Simply because the overlapping space between fly and inner tent at ground level provides room to set wet boots and oddities. If you don't have a vestibule, you don't want to drag wet boots into your tent. I commonly place my boots between tent wall and fly in non-vestibule equipped tents. Also, the true savings in weight (Gore-tex versus double-walled nylon) between the tents is less than you think. But the cost is sky high, and the foul weather reliability of Gore-tex hasn't been established.

Tips: Shock-cord all your poles (kits are available at camp shops) and attach loops of shock-cord to all guy and stake lines. So rigged, a tent will withstand quite a blow. My old Gerry "fireside" rigs with a single I-pole at each end and has stood up in a near hurricane outfitted this way. When a gale comes, run

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Mississippi Mud

NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG DISTANCE CANOE RACERS

President - Steve Peterson, 612-753-2921
MCA Director - Chris Berne, 612-929-5714
News Coordinator - Jim Pomroy, 612-636-9879
Race Schedule - Warren Thunstrom, 612-780-2866
Rookie Racers - Karl Ketter, 612-636-8116

THREE POINT SYSTEM RACES IN JUNE

Princeton has revised their prize money for their June 6 race. First prize is $1,500 and second is $1,000 with total pizes set at $8,000. $40 will go to each team to 42nd position. The race will be three to four hours on the small, twisting, shallow Rum River from County Road 4 to three miles below Princeton and then finish at Riverside Park in town after the 3-mile upstream leg. Race coordinator in Princeton is Kathy Nelson. Race brochures are available from racers here.

The next event is Sunday, June 7 on the Straight River from Owatonna to Medford, a 2-hour exercise. With races two days in a row, our paddlers will get the feeling of the multi-day events popular in Canada.

The following weekend on June 14 the race course will be two hours of deep water on the Mississippi River at Little Falls. This is the strongest race schedule ever in Minnesota. We can already see the increased interest in racing by more and more people. The old racers have also commented on the increased skills of the newer racers.

Racers and spectators are needed at the following events:

June 6, Saturday -
Princeton Race, $8,000, 50 points
June 7, Sunday -
Owatonna to Medford, $550, 30 points
June 14, Sunday -
Little Falls, $500, 30 points
June 28, Sunday
Anoka to Minneapolis, Main Street Race
(USCA and standard canoes, multi-classes)
June 29, 30 & July 1 -
Flin Flon, Manitoba, $4,000
July 5, Sunday -
1st Bank Classic, Minneapolis, $7,500,
60 points

In order to participate in these events, you need a canoe and paddles, a partner, and several carloads of friends and relatives to jump up and down on the bank and make lots of noise.

BUILDING A RACER?

Plans for woodstrip racing canoes are available for $5 each (a previous listing in HUT! of $15 is incorrect). Specify USCA 4 & 32 or 3 & 27 or 15' C-1. Contact Karl Ketter at 612-636-8116 or 1957 Lake, Roseville, Minnesota 55113. New designs will develop this summer if Karl can find his drawing table.

THANK YOU, MCA!

The racers want to thank the Gilmans and the MCA for publishing Mississippi Mud. We need this written contact with our far-flung racers and race sponsors. Also, we have noticed interest in our splashing about by other MCAers, chapters, and cruisers. In early May, we'll be teaching efficient canoeing at the St. Cloud Chapter. We recemmend that all chapters or clubs type up their news, announcements, and reports and send them to Mike and Sharon because your presence in HUT! helps strengthen your own group as it has done for us.

— Michigan —

MCRA has nine pro races in their '81 circuit/point system and 13 in an amateur point system. Their Big Event is July 24-25, Ausoble River Marathon. This is the 16-hour, non-stop sprint down a trout stream and is one of the oldest pro races in North American. A Michigan point race must have at least $750 in prizes.

MCRA
218 West Bay Street
East Tawas, MI 48730

— 1981 Final Point System —

Besides the 60-point Classic, the other events for the silver bowls will be Princeton, 50 points; Medford, 30; Little Falls, 30; Mankato, 20; Duluth, 30; Grand Rapids, 30; and Pine City, 20 (no pro races for points at Watertown, Pine River, or St. Cloud). Although points are received by each partner for their position in the racing canoe division, each silver bowl is awarded in several experience levels. The levels are Junior, Rookie, Intermediate, Expert, and Master. C-1, Mixed Couples, and Women's bowls will be awarded for the one event held on August 1-2.

TRADITIONAL CANOE RACES

Late Notice for Well-Planned Event

Saturday, June 13, a traditional canoe (17' 3 & 31) race will be held in Redwood Falls. Classes are Juniors, Women, Mixed, Open, and Businessman, and all events use the recommended traditional canoe of 17' maximum length and 3 & 31 cross section. The race information brochure prepared by the Redwood Falls Travelers Club and Chamber of Commerce is the best we've seen in years. Minnesota needs more events like this. Support well-organized canoe events with your participation. Contact C of C, 140 East Bridge Street, Redwood Falls, Minnesota 56283, or call Joe Kriegl, 507-637-2542.

GOOD EXAMPLE OF A BAD RACE

Watertown once again defied logic in their annual May 3 canoe race. Four racing boats responded to the 3½-hour event in two feet of water for the advertised prizes of $100, $50, $15, $15, $15. At the finish line, the officials reconsidered because not enough teams had done enough damage to their canoes, so the prize money was "pro-rated" to $40 first place down to $6 for fourth. That fourth place team paid a $15 entry fee for the privilege of participating. The racers response: "It was a good workout."

ACA WANTS ONE RACER FOR COMMITTEE

The American Canoe Assocation is looking for one long distance canoe racer to represent the Midwest Division on the newly reformed National Marathon Committee. It seems the International Canoe Federation has chosen new specifications for an amateur marathon canoe to add to canoe and kayak specs in whitewater, flatwater sprint (Olympic), and canoe sailing. The specification adopted is suspiciously like the Olympic hulls at 21'3" long and 29½" wide with no waterline minimum.

The ACA appears to be taking the inside corner to bypass the USCA by promoting this International Racing 21' hull and not challenging again the popular strength of USCA's 18½' Cruising Hull. The world calendar lists a dozen marathon races in eastern and western Europe and Australia-New Zealand. The ACA has talked the Lafayette Canoe Club into hosting the first United States ACA Marathon Racing Nationals in C-2, K2 and K1 men, women's and junior classes on August 21. This is the day before the USCA Nationals, and is to be held over the same 16-mile course on the Wabash River in Indiana.

To make the point that cooperation can only be carried so far, racing in each "nationals" will require membership in each respective association, separate entry fees, and, of course, adherence of all ACA contestants to the official ACA Amateurism Rules.

If anyone wishes to serve on the ACA Marathon Committee, they should contact Wendy Nutter, 10401 Geneva Drive, Roscoe, Illinois 61073, Phone: 815-623-2612, who is acting committee member.

Anyone seeking more information on the new amateur international marathon canoe racing should contact the committee chairman, Chuck Tummonds, P.O. Box T, Mantua, Ohio 44255, Phone: 216-274,8092.

Anyone seeking clarification of the relationships between the above-mentioned federations, associations, committees, and clubs will need USOC and AAU approval.

INJURIES AND HEALTH

Sheila Johnson has been kept on the bank by an elbow problem this spring that has required surgery. Before the stitches were taken out, Todd and Sheila were testing them on the Saturday morning Rum River Couples Paddle and Yell-a-Thon.

Craig Caron is training and plans to have his foot out of the cast at least a week before the 1/3-mile running start at Princeton.

On Sunday, June 28, a new canoe race will be held. Called the Main Street Canoe Marathon, the race will consist of 18 miles between Main Street in Anoka to Main Street in Minneapolis. There is a shorter, 5½-mile race for Juniors. Eighteen different classes will be competing for trophies. This could be one of the largest standard canoe events of the season. Also, being only one week before the 1st Bank Minneapolis Classic and covering much of the same course, this will be a good shakedown run under race conditions for those not traveling to Flin Flon. For more information, contact:

Ralph Cornelius
4733 Vincent Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55410
Phone: 612-926-8377.

NORTH AMERICA'S BIGGEST

Word comes from René Boogemans, Canadian racer, that the "Ontario government is planning the largest canoe race in North America in northern Ontario...for this year or next." To be the largest either means over 1,000 canoes or, more likely, over $25,000 in prizes now offered at Shawinigan, Quebec. You can write to:

Voyageur 300
c/o Rainbow Country Travel Association
1769 Regent Street
South Sudbury, Ontario
P3E 3Z7 CANADA

From the name of the race, it might be 300 miles long in north canoes, or have 300 people in one canoe.

SIDEWAVES AND WAKE

Steve Landick spent an extra day (April 16) in Minneapolis just to attend the racers' pre-season spring meeting and caramel roll eating contest at Betty's. But first they took Steve for a sprint up to the dam. Steve feels they can padel the whole upstream Mississippi River to Itasca in 9-10 weeks. Between the Gulf and Minneapolis, the river dropped 6" per mile. Between Grand Rapids and Minneapolis, the river drops 2½' per mile. Half of the entire vertical drop of the 2,300-mile river takes place in the 500 miles above Minneapolis. Good luck, Steve and Verlen.

Gene Jensen is back for the racing season along with the other migratory water fowl. He has given up coffee!

Karl has spent hundreds of hours studying a big thick book of naval architecture and came to the conclusion that Gene and Buzz knew all that stuff years ago.

Roquefort (Rocky) Berne has been indicted for the first degree criminal sexual assault of Sasha Ketter. The incident took place in the room next to a rookie racers meeting in April. Sasha was tied to a radiator during the incident. This is not the first time Rocky has run afoul of the law. He was previously convicted of violating Chris' cross-country ski wax kit and received a gasoline bath. More recently, he chewed the grip off a virgin Hidde paddle.

Jim Pomroy fell out of a 17' C-1 hull on the upstream handicap course April 15. It was the first day he wasn't wearing his wool. He shriveled up like a freeze-dried pear.

Pull that paddle, punch that barge
My goodness, ain't my arms getting large.

Tim Dunnigan is back. He broke back into racing by breaking all the ribs out of Chris' canoe on the Rum above Princeton. Don't we race there soon?

After a half dozen years and at least a hundred survivors, it seems we're not sure if the coaching sessions for neophyte racers is called Rookie Racers or Rooky Racers. The new rook uniforms are almost ready as soon as the gold braid and epaulettes arrive. Sunglasses optional.

Dan Hassel is plotting to take the C-1 trophy from Mike Bohanon. Dan has just completed the first of a new line of C-1 designs. Mike doesn't have a nice new heated redwood garage to build in, so he bought a Jensen 17' C-1. It's good to see more Minnesota canoe designers at work.

Camp Cookery

THE ONLY WAY TO FRY FISH

Well, maybe not the only way, but certainly one of the tastiest.

Ingredients:

Fresh Fish Filets
1 C flour
1 C cracker meal
2 tsp. salt
1 tsp. black pepper
2 C Crisco, lard, oil, bacon fat, or a mixture

Mix flour, cracker meal, salt, and pepper in a plastic bag before you leave on an outing. Label the bag. To fry, get a good, hot fire going and put enough grease in your pan to cover the filets. Roll the filets in the above mixture while you're waiting for the grease to heat. Test the grease by throwing a couple of drops of water into it. Stand back, it may spatter. If the grease reacts violently and tries to spit the water back at you, it's probably hot enough. If not, get it hotter. This done, carefully lower the filets SKIN SIDE DOWN (keeps them from curling) into the pan. They should sizzle and boil immediately. Let them go like this for about three minutes, then turn them. They should be golden brown. Now salt the done side. After a couple more minutes, pull them out, salt and lemon to taste, and eat them. If you have more to cook, get them into the grease quickly before it burns. Remember, the grease must be plenty hot, or the fish will turn out greasy.

BWCA FOLDER NOW BEING DISTRIBUTED BY ARROWHEAD ASSOCIATION

The Tourism Bureau, in cooperation with the Forest Service USDA and the Agricultural Extension Service at the University of Minnesota, has completed a new brochure promoting the ring of communities surrounding the BWCA.

The brochure was part of a grant from the Forest Service to promote areas impacted negatively by the passage of federal legislation on the use of the BWCA. The 14-page, 4-color booklet will be sent in response to an advertising campaign being run by the Minnesota Arrowhead.

The communities spotlighted in the new brochure include Crane Lake, Tower, Soudan, Cook, Ely, and Grand Marais.

The advertising campaign will also include display ads in five out-of-state Sunday newspapers plus the Minneapolis Sunday Tribune. Ads are scheduled for Home & Away magazine.

In-state persons wishing additional information about the BWCA can call toll-free 1-800-232-1311 while out-of-staters should use the 1-800-346-0742 toll-free number.

According to Hazel Peterson, project manager from the Minnesota Arrowhead Association, there will also be a short, intense sales promotion program in the fall for the BWCA.

SPONSOR LISTINGS

Business owners, people in professional practices, and individuals listed in this section are lending support to the MCA and making their products and services known to the club members by using these Sponsor Listings. Contact Helen Olson if you would like to be listed.

Members are encouraged to patronize these sponsors.

.....

Strip Canoe Supplies
Bill Knudsen & Associates
488-1932

Complete wood pre-cut for a strip canoe, gunwales, thwarts, seats, etc. About $80-$100 for sitka spruce or redwood.



Marsh hawk

Cont. from Pg. 9

American expedition kayak. Some very important information was obtained from this test run—namely that more test runs will be necessary! But, seriously, the boat handled very well and final boat preparations are probably being made right now in Mike's garage.

So for all you "flat landers" who didn't get out there this year, make sure you put this cruise on your must do list for next year. Come out and join the fun! You would really be surprised at what you've been missing. Both of these rivers are very canoeable, and a kayak is not necessary. The White River is an especially pleasant, easy run, and both rivers are nationally noted for excellent trout fishing, exceptionally beautiful scenery, and abundant wildlife. For example, on this trip I saw some nice-sized rainbow trout being caught, and I saw a deer jump into the river not more than 50 yards downstream from my boat.

The only extra preparation you must do is either acquire good wool clothing or a wetsuit. Dress appropriately for the weather. Soon you will find that for a few dollars more, you can turn a 3-month canoeing hobby in the a 6-month sport.

Thanks for another memorable cruise, Mike!

MCA Canoe Building Supplies

For Sale: MCA resin and fiberglass cloth. Polyester resin with catalyst is $10.25 per gallon. Four ounce cloth, 50 inches wide, is $2.30 per yard; 7-1/2 ounce cheesecloth, 60 inches wide, is $3.25 per yard. Rules for purchase: Call ahead and schedule pickup time. Payment by check or money order to Minnesota Canoe Association. No cash. Bring a valid membership card.

Depots:

Betty Ketter	561-2208	No. Minneapolis
Chris Berne	929-5714	So. Minneapolis
Berne Scale Co.	544-2422	West Suburbs

WEATHER REPORT

Any camper needs to be caught only once in an unforeseen thunderstorm to appreciate the weather service being offered by the U.S. Department of Commerce. It now provides continuous weather forecasts for campers, aviators, sailors and the general public. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Weather Radio broadcasts around-the-clock reports on the latest weather as well as river and marine information. Taped messages are repeated every four to six minutes and are revised every two to three hours.

NOAA broadcasts are made on the three high-band FM frequencies, 162.40, 162.475 and 162.55. However, these frequencies are not found on the average home radio now in use. They are available from certain manufacturers.

For a list of these manufacturers or more information, write to: Public Affairs, NOAA, National Weather Service, 8060 - 13th Street, Silver Springs, MD 20910.

Cont. from Pg. 11

two guylines from each pole at a roughly 30-degree angle. Again, equip each line with a shock cord loop to keep tension on the tent.

Most important, always place a large plastic ground cloth inside your tent. No tent floor is absolutely waterproof (if it is, it won't stay that way for long). Don't place the groundsheet under the tent floor (outside the tent). It'll act as a water trap (water that slides off the tent canopy in a rain will become trapped between ground sheet and tent floor and force its way into your sleeping compartment). Use of an interior ground cloth is the best tip I can give you. Try it; you'll never be wet again. Anyone who advises you against down bags because they "may get wet when it rains" better return to the drawing board and learn some foul weather tripping skills. Good campers don't ever get their down bags—or anything else—wet!

Enjoy! I'll be happy to answer specific camping/canoeing questions if you address me directly or send them to Sharon and Mike Gilman.

HUT! newsletter is published monthly by the Minnesota Canoe Association, Inc., a non-profit organization, and is distributed to more than 530 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 a family recreation.

TRADING POST

Free personal ads to MCA members

For Sale: New, beautiful 17½-foot cedar stripper canoe, epoxy resin. Call Dave Ewoldt, (612) 529-2931, evenings.

For Sale: Waterproof camera, 35mm Fuji, "All Weather", $200. Call Tom at (612) 463-8744 after 5 p.m.

For Sale: Kayak - $75. Needs seam work; good condition. Greg Stark, 293-0988

For Sale: Mad River Screamer - 16'3" solo, down river. Excellent condition. Has seat and strap thigh braces; $320. Lee Swanson, 474-8253.

For Sale: 18½' Sawyer Champ, very good condition, $400. Buck Brooten, Anoka, 427-2912.

For Sale: 18½', 3x27 Jensen woodstrip, $500. Larry Kriesel, Owatonna, 507-451-0325.

MCA Patches For Sale

$2 each, unlimited supply. Orders may be sent to Venice Barsness, MCA Vice President, 500 East 15th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55404. Please enclose a check or money order made out to the Minnesota Canoe Association. Please do not send cash.

☆ ☆

I am organizing a large-quantity discount order of Perception's Mirage kayaks. The discounts I have arranged could be in gear credits or in dollars off the original price. Either way, I have been assured that the dealership "will make it worth your while."

For those of you who may be interested, the Mirage kayak is one of the most advanced and most popular whitewater slalom kayaks now being produced.

Vital statistics are as follows:

Rotationally molded of molecular cross-linked plastic
Length: 13'1" (4 meters)
Width: 24" (61 cm)
Weight: 37 lbs (16.8 kg)
Volume: 65 gal = medium to low volume w/high comfort
15-position foot rests, adjustable seat and contoured knee braces
Available in blue, yellow, black and natural (translucent)

The original price is $485 plus $38 shipping. I have been quoted a much lower price, but the dealer asked me to please not make that price public information.

If interested, please call or write to me as soon as possible. I would like to follow through with this by June 1.

Randy Johnson
132 West 26th Street
Park Forest, IL 60466
312-747-4905

MINNESOTA CANOE ASSOCIATION. INC.
P.O. Box 14177, University Station, Mpls., Mn. 55414

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TO:
The most indispensable person in our Association –
A MEMBER

MINNESOTA CANOE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Last Name First
Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Telephone _____

I would like to join the Minnesota Canoe Association as a (check one)

- ☐ Regular member $ 8.00
- ☐ Supportive member $ 25.00
- ☐ Life member $100.00

In addition to joining the Minnesota Canoe Association I would like ( ) to join; ( ) more information on the following clubs

( ) Desert (Austin)
( ) 3M
( ) Duluth
( ) St. Cloud
( ) Minnesota Valley
( ) Hiawatha (Owatonna/Faribault)
( ) Long Distance Racers
( ) Canoe Brigade du Nord (Voyageurs)

Please send me a Woodstrip Canoe Building Manual and the following Woodstrip canoe plans at $5.00 each.

( ) Explorer and Guide plans
( ) BWCA Cruiser
( ) MCA 14' Solo
( ) Griffen II, kayak (Brown)
( ) Itty Bitty (Brown)
( ) 15'6" solo canoe (Brown)
( ) 18'6" 4 & 32 USCA racer (Burley)
( ) 18'6" 3 & 27 racer (Ketter)
( ) 15' solo (Ketter)

Send checks made payable to the
Minnesota Canoe Association
P.O. Box 14177 University Station
Minneapolis, MN. 55414

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