HUT!

MINNESOTA CANOE ASSOCIATION INC.

1981

Newsletter of the Minnesota Canoe Association Inc.

Calendar of Events

December

DECEMBER

2 Wednesday — Monthly Directors' Meeting
Arts and Crafts Room
Brooklyn Center Civic Center
6301 Shingle Creek Parkway
Brooklyn Center, MN
7:00 p.m.
All members welcome.

2 Wednesday — Beginning Ski Wax Clinic
Learn the basics of ski waxing from Midwest Mountaineering's own experienced staff.

7 Monday — A Trek to Ladakh
(Also Tuesday, Dec. 8) This special program is sponsored in conjunction with the St. Paul Student Center. Ken Storm, a local photographer, and Siddig Wahid, a Ladakh native and Doctor of Tibetan Studies, will present a slide show and lecture on the people and mountains of Ladakh. Ladakh is a province in the Himalayan mountains of India, and is culturally Tibetan. Ken and Siddig have collaborated on a book about Ladakh, to be published this fall by Norton and Norton. The photographs will be from the book, which will be available for sale at the show. FREE admission.
St. Paul Student Center Theatre
U. of M.
8:00 p.m.

9 Wednesday — Advanced X-C Ski Wax Clinic
Preparing for a race or a long tour? Learn intricacies of waxing, which will increase your performance and fun. Taught by the expert staff at Midwest Mountaineering.
7:30 p.m.

MCA Monthly Program

South American Expedition

by Mike Vande Vyver

I'm happy to say that our first slide program at the Banquet worked out quite well. The whole trip will be covered in a more complete slide program at the MCA Monthly Meeting at the American Red Cross Center, 100 South Robert Street in St. Paul on December 9, 7:00 p.m.

This will cover the journey inland from the coast, 500 miles down the Haullagua, and 500 miles more on the upper Amazon. We will have on display a wide variety of Peruvian jungle artwork. This includes things like native blowguns, paddle, and bow and arrow, plus more. I won't have my boat there because it would not fit into the place (also, it was recently sold and is now going on another expedition to South America, this time to Chile). We will explain our preparation and equipment, and show many slides. Afterwards, we will answer any questions about the trip.

(Editor's Note: I've seen some of the slides used at the banquet and know that the group has more being developed. The photography is excellent, and the scenery is just beautiful. Some of their slides are truly masterpieces, so you won't want to miss this program!)

P.S. I appreciate the fact that I was voted in as Vice President of the MCA for the 1981-82 season. I also want to thank all the members of the MCA for helping us organize the Haullagua Rio Amazon Expedition.



"The Voyageur sang when he was happy, when he was in danger, when he got up in the morning, when passing through 'whitewater,' when at his fort, and especially while he was paddling."

—Grace Lee Nute



Calendar of Events cont.

DECEMBER

9 Wednesday — MCA Monthly Program
The complete, full-blown Amazon Expedition. Jungle artifacts will be on display. Discussion of gear used, preparations, and the trip itself will be carried out during an excellent slide program. See article inside.

10 Thursday — Outdoor (Living) Survival Course
Designed to enhance your enjoyment of the outdoors. Teaches management of the human body and development of priorities for the necessities of life. 10 weeks, Thursday 7:00-10:00 p.m., $38. Advance registration advised; for information, call (612) 920-4122.
HTC Central
6300 Walker Street
St. Louis Park, MN 55416

11-13 — Snowshoeing, X-C Skiing & Dogsledding
at Superior National Forest Base Camp under full moon.
Contact Minnesota Trailbound
(612) 822-5955
3544½ Grand Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55408

13 Sunday — Cross Country Workshop at the Minnesota Zoo
Covers how to select equipment, ski waxing, clothing, and how to ski. Instruction by Helen Olson, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Call 432-9010 for cost, reservations, and more information.

15 Tuesday — Climbing Movie: "Out of the Shadow and Into the Sun"
The first filmed ascent of the infamous Eiger North Wall. This excellent film is imported from England, and will only be shown once. One of the great climbing films. This show is next door in the Coffeehouse Extempore. Refreshments will be available.
7:30 p.m.

16 Wednesday — Map and Compass Reading Course
Course will cover use of different types of compasses, reading special purpose maps, pinpointing location, determining headings, traveling safely and accurately. 3 weeks, Wednesday 7:00-10:00 p.m., $20. Advance registration advised; for information, call (612) 920-4122.
HTC Central
6300 Walker Street
St. Louis Park, MN 55416

18-20 — Winter Weekend
at Grindstone River Base Camp. Snowshoeing and cross country skiing.
Contact Minnesota Trailbound
(612) 822-5955
3544½ Grand Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55408

25-Jan. 3 — Basic 10-Day Log Cabin Building Course
Contact Minnesota Trailbound
(612) 822-5955
3544½ Grand Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55408

JANUARY

6 Wednesday — Monthly Directors' Meeting
Arts and Crafts Room
Brooklyn Center Civic Center
6301 Shingle Creek Parkway
Brooklyn Center, MN
7:00 p.m.
All members welcome.

11 Monday — Planning Meeting for MCA Canoeing and Canoe Building Classes for 1982
At Karl Ketter's house
1957 Lake Street
Roseville, MN 55113
Call 636-8116 for more information and see article inside.

13 Wednesday — MCA Monthly Program
Solo Canoe Tripping with Dave Middlecamp. See the boat designed and built for solo paddling, outfitted with the necessities. Gear will be displayed. A slide show will share Dave's recent BWCAW canoe trip. Time and place to be announced.

30 Saturday — MCA Women's Canoeing Bee
Get acquainted get-together for all MCA women. Skiing, skating, hiking, canoeing bee and lasagne. See article inside for details or call Penny Mielke at 776-1935.
Penny Mielke's
1880 E. Shore Drive, Apt. 413
St. Paul, MN 55109

FEBRUARY

20-26 — Minnesota Winter Wilderness Trek II
Cross country ski and backpack the peace, solitude and grandeur of Minnesota's most unique resource--the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Contact Tim Kneeland or Valerie Sprink at 871-7332.

SCOUTING FOR NEW SITES

For an enjoyable family get-away weekend at one of the country's finest privately owned campsites, why not try one of the many Boy Scout camps scattered across the country? The updated 1981 Scouting Family Camping Directory, available from your local Scout Council, lists camps participating in family camping, dates available for participating, where to make reservations, and facilities provided. Since so many of us were first introduced to nature in these woodland campsites, it's only fitting to initiate the next generation of campers here.

ANNUAL BANQUET

Surrounded by heaping mounds of food, 54 well-fed MCA members attended the Annual Banquet on November 7. For the second year in a row, the festivities were held at Bursch's in Hopkins. Following dinner there were reports from several of our outstate chapters—Mike Zapf of St. Cloud and Ardel Gorman of Austin. The Long Distance Racers awarded silver bowls to the 1981 champions of the various classes within their point system.

Mike Vande Vyver presented the cruising awards for the year. Being Cruise Director has its rewards as Mike once again drew his own name for one of the prizes (he graciously declined this year). Winners were: Mike and Sharon Gilman for leading a trip on the Upper Iowa River, while John and Kathy McCarthy won for writing an article for the newsletter about an MCA cruise (which happened to be about the same river).

Following a recognition of last year's directors and introduction of new directors, there was a ceremonial passing of the reins of power as retiring President John Wexler turned over the gavel to incoming President Venice Barsness. John's efforts while serving as President the past two years were acknowledged, and he received a plaque recognizing his tenure.

After all the official business was taken care of, the program was turned over to the MCA's resident Amazon adventurers. Mike Vande Vyver, Roy Johnston, Vern Christenson, and Jim Seward presented an interesting discussion of the many problems they encountered in organizing their trip to Peru and the various planning stages they went through. The evening was capped by a number of slides of their expedition that served as a preview for the more in-depth presentation at the December program (see separate article). Those who attended enjoyed an entertaining evening. We hope to see you all at next year's banquet. Don't miss the fun!



Welcome New Members

Winnie & Dan Schmidt	St. Paul
Paul Julsrud	Rochester
William Watrud	Maplewood
Jim Jensen	Monticello
Tom Hollenhorst	Robbinsdale
Dennis Sackreiter	Cedar
Neil Gonya	Sutton, MA
Lonnie Helgeson	Edina
Charles Cowger	Urbana, IL
Robert Gilman	Pierz
Mark Hughes	Wayzata
Elizabeth Rokala	Minneapolis
John Nystrom	Loretto

TREASURER'S NOTE

Although 54 people attended the Annual Banquet, a total of 67 had made reservations. Since 13 people did not show, the MCA had to cover the difference (approximately $160). As a result, next year no reservations will be accepted without payment. The club simply cannot afford the unnecessary expense.

NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING

As a preview to Grampa John's Chili, the Board of Directors held a meeting at Chris Berne's on November 4. This was the annual dual meeting of the old and new boards, and 19 attended. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the MCA's financial situation. With the timely and improved nature of HUT!, publishing costs are exceeding income from memberships. A number of solutions were proposed and discussed.

Karl Ketter moved, seconded by Venice Barsness, that we instigate a membership drive aimed at increasing membership by 15 every month. Motion passed. Roy Johnston moved, seconded by Karl, that dues increase to $10 beginning in April. Motion passed. A further motion to allow members to renew for up to three years at the current $8 until April also passed.

Also discussed were MCA T-shirts and bumper stickers and the Annual Banquet. Penny Mielke suggested a get-together for MCA women. Karl asked for some guidelines regarding education (what kinds of classes, how much emphasis, fees, etc). A planning meeting will be held. Also passing was a motion to authorize Jim Seward, Chris Berne, and Karl Ketter to sign checks (two signatures are necessary).

The meeting was then adjourned so the Board could get some food for thought.

Hut! Staff

Editor	Mike Gilman
Assistant Editor	Sharon Gilman
Publications	Chris Berne
Chief Typist	Kathy Cegla
Stat Camera	Christopher Stroth
Map Maker	Lonnie Helgeson
Calligraphy	Mary Sodergren
Cliff's Corner	Cliff Jacobson
Builders' Corner	Bob Brown
Advertising	Helen Olson

Send articles to:

Mike or Sharon Gilman
810 South Sixth Street, Apt. 1
Hopkins, Minnesota 55343

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.

Editorials & Letters

A BACKWARDS GLANCE

by Mike Gilman

Looking back over the past year, the Paddler's Rendezvous slips into mind as one of the bigger events for Minnesota canoeists. MCA members spent many hours in the planning and execution of the river cruises and festivities at Fort Snelling State Park. This event was co-sponsored by Canoe magazine, which advertised the upcoming Rendezvous nationally, with mention of the MCA's involvement. A week or so after the event, Canoe magazine's Editor John Viehman wrote MCA President John Wexler a letter thanking all MCA members for their help in making the Rendezvous a success.

In the next issue of Canoe magazine, though, under an update on the Ultimate Canoe Challenge (about the Rendezvous), no mention was made at all about the MCA even being present. I then wrote a letter to John Viehman explaining how we felt about being left out of the "limelight" after having participated in such a great event. The following letter is his reply. Maybe our next Rendezvous will be better yet.

Dear Mike:

To say the least, I was a little chagrined to read your letter and then to reread what actually was reported in CANOE about the Paddler's Rendezvous '81.

At the time, I was not in any way trying to slight the efforts of the Minnesota Canoe Association. In fact, the original report on the Paddler's Rendezvous '81 and the Ultimate Canoe Challenge update did carry an acknowledgement of the MCA's contribution. Apparently, in the final squeeze to fit everything into the space being held for that event/update, the reference was lost to the layout artist. You'll note that the photos used in that report were exceptionally small, almost too small for my liking. That's a sign of underestimating editorial needs.

But that's definitely the fault of CANOE magazine, and it's understandable that those involved or observing from a distance within MCA may have felt slighted, perhaps pointing out "that some things never change." In light of the circumstances, it's pretty hard for me to defuse those feelings, particularly when they have their roots in a past generation for both our organizations.

What I can say is that I'm sorry it came out the way it did in the magazine. It was not intentional and, yes, it was inconsiderate of CANOE not to give everyone who helped out in MCA a hearty pat on the back. I hope MCA will give us the chance to make amends some time in the future, hopefully soon.

Apologetically,

John Viehman
Editor & Publisher

To the Editor:

A member of MCA shared your October 1981 HUT! with me.

I wanted to let you know that I found it to be both an interesting and informative publication. You, and the MCA, can be proud of the quality of the publication.

As Cliff Jacobson's column dealt primarily with experiences (confrontations) in the Gunflint Trail area, I found it most interesting.

I would like to request permission to make copies of that article for the purpose of using it in efforts to improve upon the items mentioned in Cliff's experiences.

The Superior National Forest just completed (October 6-8) a wilderness workshop. A common thread that kept reappearing was the need to increase our efforts and emphasis in promoting the "outdoor" or "backcountry" ethic among users of the BWCA Wilderness. The "whys" behind both the "ethic" and wilderness regulations need to be explained to the unaware user.

Gini Coyle is currently coordinating efforts within the Forest Service, through our Voyaguer Visitor Center in Ely, in developing and implementing a comprehensive user education program. I would encourage you to contact her for the details of the program and the status of on-going efforts. I'm sure she would be most willing to prepare an article for one of your future HUT! newsletters.

Sincerely,

Jim Higgins
Assistant Ranger
Gunflint Ranger District
Grand Marais, MN

MINNESOTA TRAILBOUND RECOMMENDATION

by George Skinner

In the November HUT!, I saw listings for Minnesota Trailbound's snowshoeing and X-C dates as well as the basic log cabin building course. Having been on many of these trips myself, I feel very comfortable recommending them to other MCA members.

I started going on the weekend trips a couple of years ago. The amount of fun you can have on these very inexpensive trips is hard to describe. For $45, you get transportation, cabins, use of snowshoes and any other gear except skis. And there is always, always snow. Last year when everyone was crying about no snow in Minneapolis, Duluth or anywhere else, I was snowshoeing over knee deep snow at Trailbound's Superior National Forest camp.

Also, this is a super way to get into winter camping. Over a few weekends, I tested gear I already owned to see what really worked and what didn't. Always secure with the knowledge that a warm cabin was just a short walk away, I was able to get into winter wilderness camping without spending hundreds and hundreds of dollars for special equipment.

If you think you would like seeing northern lights, moose, deer, bald eagles, beaver, lynx, and otters or hearing owls and timber wolves at night, I'll see you on the way down to the sauna.

From PUBLICATIONS

EDITOR'S NOTE

Now that the new 1981-82 MCA Directors are in office (note the new listing on the back cover), it's time to give them your support. We had planned to introduce you to these dedicated, hard-working people in this issue, but we failed to get photos to accompany the article. Maybe next time!

There has been a change in staff of our publication HUT!. Chris Berne is now the Publications Director and I have taken a volunteer Directorship and will be the Editor of HUT!. Sharon is filling in as my Assistant Editor.

Chris has already been briefed on the projects that were underway, and some new ones are now in the making. We hope that these efforts will help make things easier, such as a new renewal postcard. An artwork design usable for T-shirts, posters, and the brochure is upcoming, as is a possible MCA canoe gunwale sticker. We'll keep you informed as things develop.

We've been receiving some mail, also, which we've passed on to you. If you would like to drop us a note or write about something in particular, feel free to do so. We enjoy hearing from you.

We still need people to write equipment reviews, to send us camp cookery ideas, and especially book reviews. A good book is always enjoyable after a day of skiing or for planning next year's trips.

Let's see if this year's HUT! can be even better than the last!

The MCA newsletter HUT! welcomes letters to the Editor but reserves the right to edit and condense them to fill the space available. All efforts will be made to run letters unchanged in their original form. Send all letters to: Minnesota Canoe Association, Inc., HUT! Editor, P.O. Box 14207, University Station, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414.

Lessons & Clinics

PLANNING MEETING FOR MCA CANOEING AND CANOE BUILDING CLASSES

All those interested in classes taught through the MCA should attend this meeting. This will be the main planning session, and you can help decide what, where, and when the MCA will teach canoeing courses this year. We need to hear from past and future students, instructors, and chapters.

The MCA Board has indicated strong support for courses like Beginning Canoeing, Open Canoe Whitewater, and Efficient Canoeing taught previously. These are unique offerings not available outside the MCA. Possibilities exist for classes in canoe building, repair and patching, canoe design, expedition tripping, CPR, and others. These classes can be of great service to members and help the growth of the MCA.

If you cannot attend this meeting, call so that we know your interest. Contact Karl Ketter, 636-8116, for more information. See calendar listing on January 11 for time and place.

CANOE BEE

According to the Freshwater Society's 1982 Weatherguide Calendar, January 30, 1981 was "sunny and warm as weak winds flow out of south ahead of low pressure over Great Plains." January 31, 1981 was the "average date of peak snow depth." Based on this weather guide, on Saturday, January 30, 1982, there will be held a "canoeing bee" to which all MCA women are invited.

Place: Penny Mielke's
1880 E. Shore Drive, Apt. 413
St. Paul, MN 55109

Time: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Skiing
Skating or
Hiking
1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. - Canoeing Bee
4:30 p.m. - Lasagne

Purpose: To bring together in an informal fashion all MCA women wishing to share with one another their common bond, the canoe and the world it unfolds. There is a cross section of women within the MCA--a wide range of occupations and ages—bringing with them a cross section of goals and expectations. The purpose of this "bee" is to acquaint everybody and to give each woman an opportunity to voice her particular goals and expectations. Some of us are wanting to explore more rivers or more of the BWCAW, or both; others might be wanting to find a paddling partner or information on flatwater racing, whitewater paddling, or even building a canoe. In any event, this "bee", hopefully, will provide us with an opportunity to pool our resources and talents, preparing each of us for a joyous 1982 canoeing/kayaking season.

All those interested please give Penny a call at 776-1935. (Note: All ages are invited; i.e., Anna Robinson on up!)

BEGINNING CANOEING

On October 10, six hardy, all-weather canoeists assembled at Lake of the Isles for a late season Beginning Canoeing class taught by Chris Berne. Despite threats of rain in the morning, the class got a chance to polish existing skills as well as learn new techniques. An interesting educational experience resulted when couples had to switch ends and paddle in unfamiliar positions. This gives a stern person a real appreciation of the problems of a bow person (who do you think is paddling while the stern person is ruddering?) and vice versa. Graduates are:

Jim and Verna Robinson
Harlan Nickerson and Darla
Ralph Tillma
John Nystrom

With Karl Ketter as the new full-time Education Director for 1982, the MCA should have an excellent series of classes, covering not only efficient canoeing techniques, but also canoe design and construction. Watch your HUT! for announcements of these informative classes. Nowhere else but from the Minnesota Canoe Association can you learn under the guidance of recognized masters of canoeing techniques and building!

Mississippi Mud

NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG DISTANCE CANOE RACERS

President - Steve Peterson, 753-2921
Race Calendar - Warren Thunstrom, 780-3284
Membership - Ken Boettcher, 426-0059
Rookie Racers - Karl Ketter, 636-8116

SURVIVING THE WINTER

by Warren Thunstrom

Ever wonder why HUT! is printed throughout the year, even when the water is solid as a rock? It's because you can't keep the brain from paddling. The body's lying back, languishing, storing reserves of energy (fat) while the mind is still on that portage, shooting that rapids, or winning that race. Relax; it's a normal process, but come January to March it can begin to be our own form of Midwest Water Torture. And even though we can't all run to southern climes to paddle, there are ways to trick the mind and satisfy those watery cravings.

The idea is to be like a poor doctor: you can't cure the disease, but you can treat the symptoms. For example, one of the results of paddling is wet feet. So the next time you begin to feel the need to canoe, don those old tennis shoes and run for the bathroom. Next, close your eyes and stick your foot in the toilet. If you're a whitewater enthusiast, imagine your favorite spot and intermittently flush to simulate the roar of the rapids. On the other hand, if you paddle the Mississippi in the summer, just don't bother to flush—at all, ever.

Here are a few more techniques to lull the mind. Dunk your lunch in a pail of water; sprinkle ash and sand in your mashed potatoes; wear rubber boots around the house; sit on a hard stool with your feet tucked under you—all day; carry lead weights until your arms hang to your ankles. All these tips will help to remind you of canoeing and help carry your sanity through the early crunch of spring.

If they don't help, well, then we have to get drastic. Now it's time to actually try to discourage yourself from wanting to canoe. The methods used vary widely.

If you are a voyageur, lock yourself in a small space with four or five people you hate--then tell them you hate them. Hopefully, a fear of being cloistered with people will develop.

Those of you who like to participate in whitewater, get a strong friend and a large bathtub. Fill the tub with ice cold water and jump in fully clothed. Now, pretend you are in a bad rapids and instruct your friend to dunk your head underwater for uncomfortably long periods of time. Unfortunately, some whitewater fans are among the most fanatical of paddlers, and this treatment may not dissuade them. Seeing this, the strong friend should then hold the paddler under until he gives up all signs of life. I know this sounds harsh, but believe me, the final treatment will ultimately discourage the paddler from canoeing—at all, ever.

If racing is your bag, yours is the simplest treatment of all. No help from others will be needed. Just imagine yourself in a long race, then go out and run 50 miles--on your hands. If you get back, stand upright, close your eyes and visualize the last stretch of the race and sprint! Continue doing this until your progress is impeded by something similar to a door, a window, or falling out the second story. You are cured.

Hopefully, these tips will help to make your winter endurable until the spring. If these tricks work for you, please write and let me know. I will be amazed. When all is said and done, I guess the only real cure for winter is spring.

Dear Santa,
I need a gift idea for a friend. Dear Up A Creek,
who canoes. Can you help?

Signed
Up a creek without
a paddle.



What that certain paddler needs
is a membership in the
esota Canoe Association, a
worthy gift that lasts
Whole year!

Yours Truely
Santa Claus

Builder's Corner

ONE WAY TO FIBERGLASS A CANOE PADDLE

by Al Button

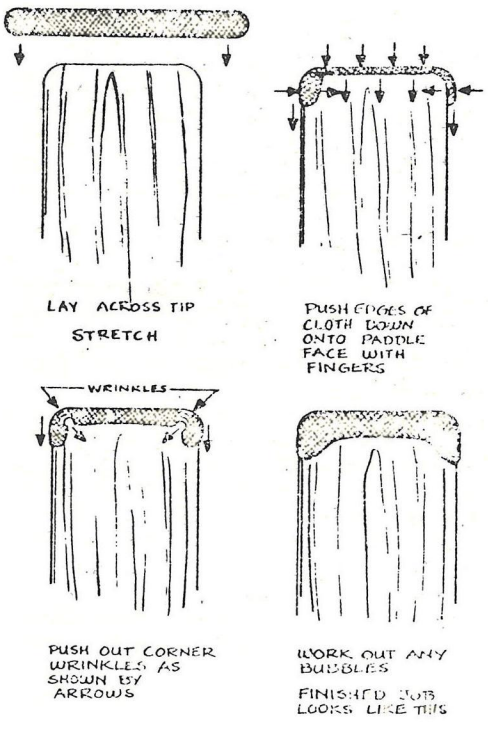
Fiberglassing a canoe paddle blade increases its life. A paddle thus processed is less likely to chip or crack, and the protection is a must in serious whitewater paddling.

Materials required are: Paddle, sandpaper or varnish remover, newspapers or plastic drop cloth, scraps of 4-oz. or 6- or 7-oz. fiberglass cloth, scissors, paper cup, small amount of epoxy resin, waxed paper, 1- to 2-inch brush, one to three pieces (bundles) of roving (18 1/2-oz.), rubber or plastic gloves, rag, and acetone cleaner.

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

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

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



Use a piece of roving 1 to 1-1/2 inches shorter than strips of fiberglass cloth. (Two or three bundles are recommended for heavy paddle use.) Using rubber or plastic gloves, dip one end into the resin, then the other. Lay soaked-out roving on top of cloth stack. Gently lift stack by ends and flip over the end of the paddle lengthwise. Fan corner crease until it disappears. Make sure roving stays on tip of paddle. Keep working, if necessary, to remove bubbles and creases for half an hour or longer, until resin gets tacky. However, as soon as possible, turn paddle blade downward to keep resin at tip and avoid further dripping, continuing to work strip.

Note that only roving strands are used, not the roving itself. The roving strands prevent the resin from chipping and cracking as unreinforced resin would do under brutal pounding.

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



ANOTHER WAY TO FIBERGLASS A PADDLE

by Karl Ketter

Remove old finish from paddle with sandpaper.

Fill cracks, splits, or gouges with thickened polyester resin or epoxy—whichever is more convenient.

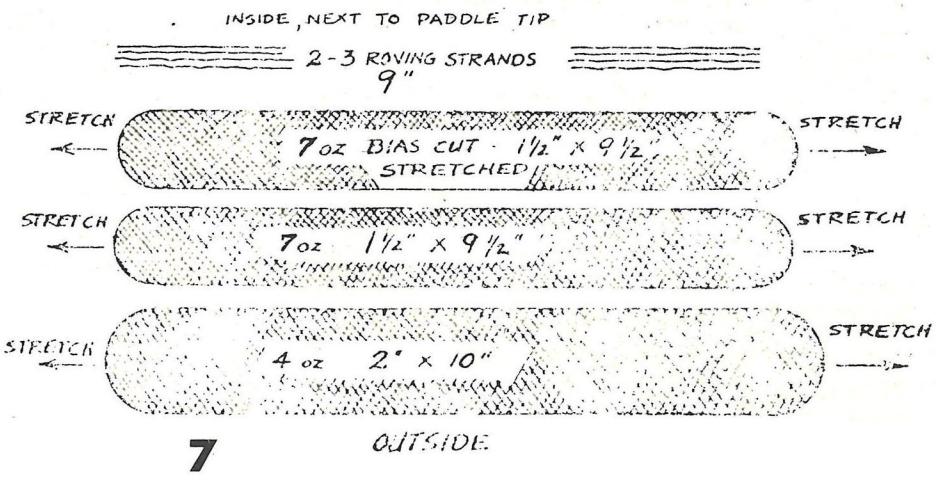
Fix blade into a horizontal position. Lay on a full layer or strips of 4-oz. fiberglass across the blade. Apply polyester resin. Do not attempt to fold cloth around edges, but wet cloth to and slightly beyond wood. Let resin set.

Turn paddle over and repeat on other side of blade. Let resin set.

Trim the glass that extends past the blade edges with metal snips, coarse sandpaper, or coarse metal file.

Sand surface of blade to remove runs.

Apply second layer of resin to fill cloth weaves and the gap that appears at the edges between the two layers of cloth. Option: Place a graphite fiber or two into the groove around the edge of the blade. If using graphite, also use epoxy for this groove.



The Duluth Traveler



Twin Ports Chapter News

President - Chris Clay, 120 Greenwood Lane, Duluth, MN 55803 (218) 728-3416
Treasurer - Rick Luck, 18 W. Owatonna, Duluth, MN 55803 (218) 724-7992
Cruise Coordinator - Susan Marsh, 27 Fifth Street, Cloquet, MN (218) 879-7738

by Chris Clay

This seems like the right HUT! issue to have the spectacular year-end review of what our newly-formed chapter has been up to. Since last spring, we have organized outings and events representing the various interests, and with limited time for preparation, they went quite well. The whitewater season was a long one, and the rivers stayed high during much of the summer for our paddling enjoyment. Recreational outings were few in number, but good in quality, and there is an expectation that next year will bring many more.

Canoe racing is still in its infancy in Duluth, which means those of us who raced always finished but didn't bring home much in the way of trophies. This year's Duluth canoe race has been termed a success, which pretty much makes this a yearly event.

Boat builders have been busy with God knows what this fall, and everyone can hardly wait to see the finished products surface next spring. So far, we have successfully operated with no treasury and instead have requested only self-addressed, stamped envelopes to send out notices.

Next year's agenda is being planned at this time, and the first item on the list is election of chapter officers. Even now as you are reading this article, there are MCA members out beating the bushes looking for highly-qualified, well-motivated, viable candidates for several unknown offices. The campaigns should be hard fought, but we expect that this will once again demonstrate that democracy is a good idea.

The second item to be addressed is our upcoming activities. For each area of interest, we will develop a calendar of events, and so far it looks like racing and whitewater activities are the best organized. We will need to develop general outings for the season. As our chapter grows, we will need to offer instruction to members who are beginning canoeists or would like to gain experience in areas they are unfamiliar with. There is much to be discussed, and we will be mailing out notices for a January meeting.

DNR News



CITIZEN VOLUNTEERS BOOST DNR PROGRAMS

Nearly 10,000 unpaid citizen volunteers assisted the Department of Natural Resources on various programs during the 12-month period ending June 30, 1981, it was announced this week.

Officials said the total cost of the services provided by volunteers, if performed by salaried staff, would be over one million dollars.

In addition to the free services performed by volunteers, the Department received the benefit of donations in money, property, and other consideration amounting to $258,256.

The figure included $157,756 donated by 21,000 readers of the DNR's official free circulation magazine "The Volunteer."

CONSERVATION

CRABS VS CONDORS

It's called "triage", a concept well-known and abhorred by medical officers on the battlefield. Casualties with the best chances for survival are given priority while others are left to live or die, as fate would have it. It seems that this concept will soon be applied to the continuing saga of endangered species. According to an article in the New York Times, triage would "channel care, funds and research to those to be preserved, not only on the basis of species, genus or family saveability, but also on the extent of its importance to the earth's biota."

The World Wildlife Fund-United States financed the project, which will deal with the question: Who will receive more help—the appealing giant panda and exotic birds, or the dull and repulsive yet more beneficial species such as crabs and wasps?

According to the coordinator of the study, Dr. Thomas E. Lovejoy, the system will "give us a conscious choice in choosing to save one species over another." But, says Dr. Norman Myers, a wildlife ecologist and conservation consultant from Kenya, we already practice triage.

"When the decision is made to spend three million dollars to save the California Condor, some other species must go by default."

CONTINUING ADVENTURES

A MERRY TIME ON THE LITTLEFORK - Part 5

by Good Ol' Nels

We have the toughest rapids of the trip just ahead of us, and I mention the need for caution. At 7:10 p.m., we come to Sellers Rapids, the roughest of the trip. It is by far the heaviest water that we have seen! It drops very fast and has big waves and a kind of uncertain outrun. The very biggest rock and other rocks are right after the main blowthrough--if indeed we really are going to blow through! We scouted it well, and I did some intense mental rehearsing. Doyle and Tom went first and manuevered and handled it quite nicely, then they circled around and waited for me. I sort of felt "annointed" having gotten the solo privilege on this great rapid. I could tell I was nervous 'cause I had some difficulty untying the simple knot that held the canoe to shore, and also I had a strong urge to wet a tree!

I headed down with a desire to hang left and maybe split out of the powerful "V" and stay out of the real big waves. Indeed, up on the Basswood River, I was successful in splitting out the side of some strong, turbulent "Vs" with my boy, Vance, making some strong, effective draws from the bow. That was not the case here. I got closer to the big waves than I wanted, but survived that part okay. Now with great speed I am heading directly for the rock that is as big as a Volkswagen Beetle! I chose my 58" Cadorette paddle for this course, and I am thrashing away violently to change my course away from that big rock, but to no avail. I am cursing my puny paddle for not grabbing any water, then I realized that I must be the puny one. I am boring down on the very center of that rock, and Tom and Doyle know I am going to crash for sure. About 12 feet from the rock, I manage to reach some denser water with my paddle, and I slowly carve left. With two more good thrusts, I improve my position some, but I strike the rock about a quarter of the way back from the starboard bow. I shear off and tilt, but miraculously I come through unscathed and without a telltale blemish on the canoe. Boy! Canoes can be very forgiving at times! The boys congratulate me and are pleased at my good fortune.

I can see why some rapids require a more full blade, such as the German Kolber or my long-handled, tall-bladed Clement. My trusty double blade would have been fine. I could have levered and high braced with that very adjustable 9-ft. shaft.

We have seven miles to go to Deadman's Rapids, and I am anxious to get there. Half way there, I go into the stern of the TW, which is a welcome change. Tom feels rewarded to be able to solo Deadman's. Doyle kind of thinks we should camp just above Deadman's and have the thrill of going through it in the morning. But I mention that we should strike it while we are hot. I admire his bravery, but mention that in my case, anyway, I would sleep much better with that worry behind us. So at about 8:32, we arrive at Deadman's Rapids.

We scout it and decide it is a reasonable blowthrough on the left side, but with the need to flair right about halfway down, and we must do some clever adlibbing near the end 'cause there are big rocks all over the place!

Doyle and I haven't canoed too much together (in the same canoe), so we didn't have that good communication that Tom and I have. We started down that fast, heavy portion and flared nicely. Soon we are in adlib country. We scrape slightly and hang very slightly and are now headed for a rock the size of a small garage. I was a little annoyed with myself that in earlier rapids I didn't back paddle and ferry more like I did so effectively in the old days. So, anyway, the light bulb has lit up now, and I am back paddling nicely and have the stern turned nicely so we are doing a nice ferry to our left and past the big rock, buy Doyle doesn't understand and sort of takes his paddle out and wonders about this. Luckily, I had muscled us back far enough from the rock to have some maneuvering space as well as some thinking time. We talked it over calmly, and I said okay, let's run for it to the right. That is my term for saying, "Let's go over there as fast, and as wide, and as half-ass direct as possible, and you clear the bow and a little more while I thrash like hell to clear the stern!" It goes well and I am pleased that we are able to play (change your mind) and get away with it so nicely!

Tom is coming through and we don't hear a scrape. He had observed the place where we scraped slightly, and flared neatly around it. He was pleased and proud and smiling. We congratulated him for his fine work. Tom says he is soon going to have a T-shirt made that says, "I Soloed Deadman's Rapids--and Lived!" It was mindful of when I told him that I had canoed most all of the St. Francis River one time on a weekend. The thing is that the St. Francis is a slow, windy sucker that is a true river for only about 45 minutes of the time, and the rest of the time just swamps and marshes its way along. I had mentioned that "I Canoed the St. Francis and Lived" and the BIG trick was to keep your sanity.

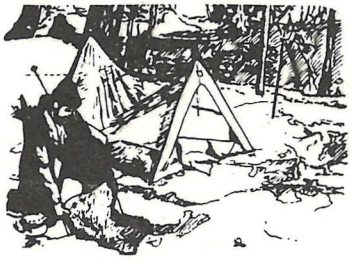
I find us a good campsite a short way down the river, which has a big white flat rock dock. It is getting dark, so we hustle. These sites aren't your choice BWCA plots, but as in this case just barely adequate because of "field expediency."

Things are compressed together because of the small space, and we don't have the sitting log. The canoes are turned over to empty the water from the rapids out. The pretty white rock has a fine dry pumice-like substance which turns out to be slippery when wet. We almost slip into the river a couple of times, and it's deep there. I am doing some organizing and setting the alarm clock for very early. Tom and Doyle both are taking turns opening up the several high grade split pea soup cans. They both are giving me a bad time 'cause my squeeze type can opener doesn't work worth a damn. I can't produce my backup GI one right away either. We boil in some of the Littlefork with our soup to make it a pleasing consistency. I give Doyle a forked stick to use as a swig, and he does a marvelous job os smoothing out the soup and generally bashing the lumps! The soup is absolutely exquisite and very soul satisfying. Tom produces another steak he had tucked away in his kit, and he cuts it into small sharing pieces. I produced a well-hoarded can of Hamms for each of them, and we are truly in the midst of some high grade dining.

We go to bed our very earliest because of the big push the next day. Tom and I sleep head to toe in the tent as he was taught in the Marines. Something to do with more shoulder room, etc. This is sort of new to me in recent times. The food pack is just

Cont. on Pg. 11

CLIFF'S CORNER



by Cliff Jacobson

Earlier this year, John Wexler correctly suggested that I have difficulty writing short columns. Presently I'm working on a new book (Canoeing the Wild Rivers of the Far North), which is taking all of my time. So I at first thought about dropping the column, but figured if I kept it short, perhaps I could still find time to share ideas with you. So here goes—the new format:

I wonder how many of you have been brainwashed by the anti-down media. You know, the Polarguard and Hollofil commercials that suggest down is unsuitable for canoeing. Usually goes like this: "If you capsize and get your down bag wet...you're in BIG trouble!" Yeah, I agree. But not because there's anything wrong with your gear. It's your skills that need improving. Frankly, if you're getting stuff wet on canoe trips, you'd best re-learn how to pack and camp. What you need is not bombproof gear, it's bombproof skills—and these you can't buy at your local camp shop.

I'm not afraid to say I like down sleeping bags. I use them on all my trips. And I've never gotten one wet. Ever! Read on...

Some canoeing writers suggest you pack your sleeping bag this way. First line your nylon stuff sack with a plastic bag, then stuff the sleeping back inside it. Seal the plastic liner with a heavy rubber band. This unit then goes into a Duluth pack that has been lined with a large leaf and lawn size plastic bag. Waterproof? Not hardly. And "not hardly for very long!"

Here's my way. First stuff the sleeping bag into its nylon stuff sack (which need not be waterproof). Then slide this unit into a waterproof plastic bag. Seal the plastic bag with a loop of shock cord, then slip the doubled combo into a second, larger nylon stuff sack. The whole outfit then goes into a Duluth pack that has been lined with two six mil thick giant plastic bags.

Why all this? By sandwiching the vulnerable plastic sleeping bag liner between two abrasion resistant nylon stuff sacks, we've eliminated any chance of puncture—from inside or out. Contrary to popular belief, holes in waterproof bags usually develop from within a waterproof bag, not from without! For example, every time you stuff your sleeping bag into a plastic bag (if you do it that way), the zipper abrades the plastic. In no time, leaks develop. But if you first stuff the sleeping bag into a nylon sack, you eliminate all sources of abrasion.

What about Duluth pack liners? Again, remember that abrasion and consequent holes usually develop from within the pack. Whenever you stuff something inside your pack--your axe, saw, tennis shoes, etc.--you stretch and abrade the plastic pack liner. Again, holes!

The answer is to use an abrasion liner inside the pack (next to the pack contents) and to nest the waterproof plastic pack liner outside it. The inner abrasion liner may be made of nylon or canvas, or heavy (at least six mil) plastic. The six mil plastic you get by the roll at lumber yards works fine. Just cut off what you need and tape up the edges with silver duct tape. You can use three or four mil thick plastic outside (next to the canvas pack) the abrasion liner if you prefer. Even a thin leaf and lawn size garbage bag will work if it's protected as I've suggested.

In summary: Holes develope from within rather than without! So pack your sleeping bag, clothes, whatever, first in a nylon abrasion liner. Then nest this in plastic and follow suit with a second nylon liner. If you follow these suggestions, you'll never get your down bag--or anything else—wet. And you won't need to pay exorbitant prices for sophisticated rubberized packs that develop leaks after a few rigorous wilderness canoe trips.

Next month: Low-down on keeping the inside of your tent dry in a rain.

KETTLE CANOEING
101 - 79th Avenue North / Minneapolis, Minnesota 55444

BOUNDARY WATERS CANOE AREA, MINNESOTA

by Robert McQuilkin

(Taken from MARIAH/OUTSIDE, December '79/January '80)

The Boundary Waters is the largest single tract of land east of the Rockies reserved for cross country skiing. More than 1,200 miles of hilly trails (canoe portages in summer) link lakes and rivers. About 120 miles north of Duluth, the BWCA can be entered through Grand Marais or Ely. Outfitters, dogsleds, cabins, equipment rentals, and USGS maps are available in both towns. (Grand Marais Chamber of Commerce, Grand Marais, MN 55640; Ely Chamber of Commerce, Ely, MN 55731)

Nearly all routes can be arranged in loops so that you won't have to backtrack. Portages between lakes are often steep and range from 20 feet to nine miles. The Grand Portage Trail, the voyageurs' original and only route into the interior, takes skiers onto Lake Superior.

Forest Service permits are required to enter the BWCA; camping at will and fires are allowed, but cans and bottles are forbidden. Along the Gunflint Trail, however, there are several lodges with wine huts or bars, if you need a break from strict winter camping.

A brief caution: Lakes on the edge of the BWCA, including those bordering Ontario, are still open to snowmobiles. These include Crane, Little Vermilion, Saganaga, Big Trout, Moose, Ensign, Knife, East Bearskin, Alder, and Pine.

TRADING POST

Free personal ads to MCA members

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.

For Sale: 18'4" red cedar strip canoe with cane seats, mahogany gunnels and decking, weighing 65 lbs. Good cruising canoe with 33" beam; excellent condition. Asking $700 or reasonable offer. Call Ron Hultman, 645-9453.

For Sale: 17' wood and canvas canoe in need of restoration. Make unknown, circa 1920. Canoe needs gunwale work, some planking repair, and few ribs, etc. $75. Call Bob, 474-9588.

For Sale: Upright player piano, $150. Call Helen Olson, 447-4904, for more details.

MCA Canoe Building Supplies

For Sale: MCA resin and fiberglass cloth. Polyester resin with catalyst is $11 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

"Good Ol' Nels" Cont. from Pg. 9

outside of the tent next to Tom's head—and with this background, we go quickly off to sleep. Some time in the middle of the night, I hear a single short beller from the area of the food pack, and I wake up instantly! I think it's a bear trying to rob us, and I am determined to not let it happen no matter what. I grab the flashlight, unzip the tent, and leap outside! Tom wakes up, looks out the door and asks, "What's up?" I mention the bear but look around and see that all is tranquil and the same as it was. We realize that Tom evidently just let out a single bellowing snore! Maybe he added some hidden ventriloquistic talen to it. Anyway, we soon went back soundly to sleep. It really had been quite a full and adventerous day—and night!



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.

BOOKS FOR SALE

I have a limited number of paperback copies of "Wilderness Canoeing & Camping" by Cliff Jacobson for sale. I'll autograph each copy along with a personal note if you tell me who the book is for.

Special price to MCA members is only $5.95*. Please include 50¢ for shipping and packing.

Address:

Cliff Jacobson
928 West Seventh Street
Hastings, MN 55033

*Regular price is $6.95

MINNESOTA CANOE ASSOCIATION INC.
P.O. Box 14207, University Station, Mpls., Mn. 55414

Bulk Rate
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 615
Minneapolis, Minn.

TIME VALUED MAIL

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

To Preserve Wilderness Canoe Waterways,
To Promote a Wholesome Family Recreational Activity,
Join the Minnesota Canoe Association Today!

MINNESOTA CANOE ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____
(Last name first)

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:

( ) 3M
( ) Desert (Austin)
( ) Twin Ports
( ) St. Cloud
( ) Southern Minnesota Canoe Association (Owatonna/Faribault)
( ) Long Distance Racers
( ) Canoe Brigade du Nord (Voyageurs)
( ) Rapid Riders (Whitewater)

Please send me a Woodstrip Canoe Building Manual and the following Woodstrip canoe plans at $5 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 14207, University Station
Minneapolis, MN 55414

1981-82 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINNESOTA CANOE ASSOCIATION, INC.

Executive Committee

President	Venice Barsness 332-3549	500 East 15th Street Minneapolis 55404
Vice President	Mike Vande Vyver 922-7633	2608 West 60th Street Minneapolis 55410
Secretary	Position Open	
Treasurer	Jim Seward 377-0551	4437 Cedar Lake Road St. Louis Park 55416
Membership	Roy Johnston 542-9070	2710 Rosalyn Ct., #5 Minneapolis 55427
Publications	Chris Berne 929-5714	5057 Ewing Avenue S. Minneapolis 55410

Activities Committee

Cruising	Jim Robinson 588-5402	4421 - 36th Avenue N. Minneapolis 55422
Building	John Kopp 459-8290	8425 - 69th Street Cottage Grove 55016
Conservation	Dave Logeais 825-4040	316 W. Diamond Lake Rd. Minneapolis 55419
Education & Safety	Karl Ketter 636-8116	1957 Lake Roseville 55113
Program & News	Lonnie Helgeson 920-0494	4504 Gilford Drive Edina 53435
Volunteers (1 Year)	Mike Gilman 935-5799	810 S. Sixth St., #1 Hopkins 55343
(3 Year)	Penny Mielke 776-1935	1880 East Shore Drive St. Paul 55109

CHAPTER COMMITTEE

Liaison (2 Year)	Walt Jones 488-4570	832 West Idaho St. Paul 55117
Long Distance Racers	Warren Thunstrom 780-2866	9401 Flintwood Minneapolis 55433
Voyageurs	John Wheeler 633-6500	2690 Huron Street Roseville 55113
Desert (Austin)	Ardell Gorman (507) 433-7465	810 Tenth Avenue SW Austin 55912
3M	Paul Davies 735-6618	165 McKnight Road, #319 St. Paul 55119
Twin Ports	Chris Clay (218) 728-3416	120 Greenwood Lane Duluth 55803
St. Cloud	Mike Zapf 251-5807	1714 Woodland St. Cloud 56301
Southern MN Canoe Assoc.	Larry Kriesel (507) 451-0325	P.O. Box 629 Owatonna 55060
Rapid Riders (Whitewater)	Terry Lemke 331-2798	5 Barton Avenue SE Minneapolis 55414

Vacancies are filled by vote of the Board of Directors. If interested, call Venice Barsness, 332-3549. Except where noted, all area codes are 612.