ISSN 0739-7445

HUT!

MINNESOTA CANOE ASSOCIATION INC. May 1984 / Volume 20, Number 5

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(FMI= for more information)

CALENDAR RIVER RATING CODE

example:**@Q,I-A (trees,cold)**

@ = code following
Q = quiet water; **W** = Whitewater
I-A = skill level required: **B**eginner, **N**ovice, **I**ntermediate, **A**dvanced
( ) = special conditions requiring rating

MAY

MONTHLY DIRECTORS MEETING
2 **Wednesday 7:00 - 10:30 P.M.**
All members welcome.
Jim Robinson's (612)588-5402
4421 36th Ave N. Minneapolis

CANOE ROUTE PLANNING
2 **Wednesday 7 P.M., $6. /members free.**
Using maps to find safe/interesting routes on area rivers & BWCAW. Woodswomen, 2550 Pillsbury Ave S, MPLS.

TWIN PORTS WHITEWATER EXPERIENCE
5 **Saturday @Q,I-A Class III**
Temperance, Kettle, or St. Louis; dependent on water level. Overnight camping and 2nd day boating for those interested. *Reservations contact Dave Spencer (218)624-3413.

KINNICKINNIC RIVER
5 **Saturday @W,B, Class I & II.**
Continuous class I & II rapids, Swift with lots of turns.
Trip Leader Ed Lantis
FMI Jon Jan Hankas (612)436-7601

SNAKE RIVER CANOE RACE
5 **contact: The Snake River Canoe Club**
PO Box 71, Mora MN 55051

RED CEDAR AND CHIPPEWA RIVERS WISC.
5-6 **Saturday-Sunday @Q,N,**
Colfax to Downsville to Durand.
Trip Leader Nels (612)781-4009.

SNAKE RIVER
6 **Sunday @W,B-I, Class I & III.**
Will paddle Upper and Lower canyon falls sections.
Can portage the Class III's.
Trip Leader Mike Pease (612)222-3191.

ROOT RIVER
6 **Sunday @Q,B,**
Leader Ardel Gorman (507)433-7467.

RAPID RIDERS BUSINESS MEETING
8 **Tuesday 7:30 P.M.**
John Wexler's (612)722-7069
2923 16th Ave.S. Minneapolis

TWIN PORTS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
10 **Thursday, 7:00 PM**
Slide Presentation, preview schedule
Godfather's Pizza, London Rd.

NORTH SHORE RIVERS
11,12,13 **Fri.-Sun. @W,I-A, Class I-IV.**
Maybe some class V's.
Leader John Wexler (612)721-8846.

BASIC CANOEING COURSE
12 **Saturday 10 A.M.**
Efficient Paddling-Basic
Showboat landing on Mississippi River.
Still time to sign up.
FMI See canoe class article inside.

MINNEHAHA CREEK
12 **Saturday @Q,N-I (water level),**
Leader Jim Robinson (612)588-5402.

TWIN PORTS ST. CROIX OVERNIGHT
12-13 **Sat - Sun @Q,B**
Interstate Park to Taylors Falls.
Meet at Gardner's 7 AM Sat, camp Sat night on river, return Sun afternoon.
*reservations Gardner (218) 728-5304

HUT!

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.

HUT! is the monthly newsletter of the Minnesota Canoe Association, Inc. Copyright 1984, all rights reserved.

HUT! STAFF

Winnie DauSchmidt, *Editor* **Jim Robinson,** *Ass't. Editor*

Deadline For Each Issue:

Articles should be submitted to the Editor no later than the 10th of the month preceding publication. Send submissions to: Winnie DauSchmidt, Editor, 1679 W. Minnehaha, St. Paul, MN 55104.

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St. Cloud, MN 56301
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Austin, MN 55912
(507) 433-7465

John Wexler
Rapid Riders & Kayak
2923 16th Avenue South
Minnepolis, MN 55407
(612) 722-7069

BLUE EARTH RIVER RUN
13 **contact: Scott Ankeny**
811 So. Galbraith, Blue Earth MN 56013

NOATUK RIVER AND BROOKS RANGE
14 **Monday 6:30-8:30 P.M.**
"FAR NORTH ADVENTURE" SERIES
at Stillwater Public Library
223 N. 4th St. Stillwater MN
Free to public
Sponsored by Wilderness Inquiry Assoc.
FMI Don Mitchell (612)433-5367

RAPID RIDER ACTIVITY MEETING
15 **Tuesday, St Paul Campus Student Union**
7 P.M. Whitewater Orientation Class
8 P.M. film by Bill Mason
PATH OF THE PADDLE: DOUBLES WHITEWATER
St.Paul Student Center, all welcome
FMI - See canoe class article inside.

KAYAK TOURING PROGRAM
16 **Wednesday, 7 - 10 PM**
Slide program by Andy Knapp
Prudential Ins Co, 3701 Wayzata Blvd.
FMI Jim Robinson (612) 588-5402.

WHITEWATER CLASS, BOIS BRULE RIVER, WI
18-20 **Fri-Sun @Q,B,**
FMI Paul Rem (612)645-3538

RIVER RESCUE TECHNIQUES
19-20 **Saturday- Sunday**
In Water/On Water practical workshop
$40. for instruction and food.
Minnesota Outdoor School
Sandstone MN (612)245-2648.

UPPER IOWA RIVER, IOWA
19-20 **Sat-Sun @Q,B,**
Family cruise; magnificent scenery.
Leader Jim Robinson (612)588-5402.

JENSEN HANDICAP
20 **Sunday 12 noon, MCA's original event.**
Held every year since 1961
River Park, 83rd Ave.N. & 252
contact: Chris Berne
5057 Ewing Ave. So.
Minneapolis, MN 55410

CROW WING RIVER
26,27,28 **Sat-Mon @Q,B,**
Nimrod to Staples.
Mike Gilman (612)428-4400.

MEMORIAL DAY/WOLF RIVER WEEKEND
26,27,28 **Sat-Mon @W,I, Twin Ports**
Midwest's finest river, craziest W'end campground camping. *reservations contact Jerry Challman (218)724-6124.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CANOEING WITH KIDS
26-28 **Sat-Mon @Q,B**
Minnesota River, St.Peter to Belle Plaine. Women/children all ages
Call Woodswomen (612)870-8291.

JUNE

GOVERNOR'S CRUISE
2 **Saturday @Q,B,**
St.Croix River
FMI Al Gustaveson (612)778-8525.

DULUTH/THUNDER BAY FRIENDSHIP GAMES
2-3 **Sat-Sun, Thunder Bay, Ontario**
Racing, seminars, activities
Bi-centennial celebration
*Reservations, Rick Luck (218)724-7992

CROW WING RIVER
2-3 **Sat-Sun @Q,B,**
Shell City to Nimrod.
Leader Bill Marcoullier (612)789-0074.

BANNING RAPIDS OF KETTLE RIVER
3 **Sunday @W, N-I,**
Beginning Whitewater Class Graduation
Survivor's party following.
FMI Paul Rem (218)645-3538.

CAMBRIDGE CANOE RACE
3 **contact: Mark Pocrnick**
531 So. Dellwood
Cambridge, MN 55008

MEDFORD STRAIGHT RIVER CANOE DERBY
3 **contact: Medford Civic Club**
PO Box 8, Medford, MN 55049

COME PADDLE A VOYAGEUR CANOE WITH US
5 **Tuesday 6:30-9:30 PM**
Lake Nokomis, Minneapolis
FMI Jim Robinson (612)588-5402.

MONTHLY DIRECTORS MEETING
6 **Wednesday 7:00 - 10:30 P.M.**
All members welcome.
Minnesota Federal Savings & Loan
1200 Silver Lake Rd.,New Brighton

HOIGAARD'S 2ND ANNUAL CANOE DERBY
7, 14, 21, 28, and July 12, 19
contact: Jerry Kassanchuk
245 Paisley Lane
Golden Valley, MN 55422

TWIN PORTS UPPER CLOQUET RIVER
9 **Saturday @Q,N, easy rapids**
Meet 8 AM Tim & Carol Sundquists
*reservations call (218) 724-4143.

EFFICIENT PADDLING-BASIC
16 **Saturday 10 A.M.**
Basic canoeing course
Showboat landing on Mississippi River.
FMI See canoe class article inside.

TWIN PORTS GRANDMA'S GET-A-WAY
16-17 **Sat-Sun @W,N-I**
White River, Greg's cabin & sauna
*reservations, Greg (218)727-7242

FARIBAULT CANOE RACE
17 **contact: Faribault Lion's Club**
Faribault, MN

SUGARBEET DAYS CANOE RACE
17 **contact: Lanny Miller (612)329-3906**
Renville, MN 56284

CAMP-O-RAMA SALE
21-24 **Thursday-Sunday**
Mountain Camper Factory Outlets Centre
12475 Plaza Drive, Space 46,
Eden Prairie, MN (612) 944-5268

3RD ANNUAL
SNOW LAKE INTERNATIONAL CANOE REGATTA
23,24 **contact: Arlene Robinson**
International Canoe Regatta Committee
Snow Lake, Manitoba R0B IM0

ST CROIX RIVER
23-24 **Sat-Sun @Q,B,**
Taylors Falls to Stillwater,
Easy cruise;
Camp at Wm. O'Brien State Park.
Leader Mike Gilman (612)428-4400.

BIG FORK RIVER
29 **to July 4 Sat-Wed @Q,N-I**
Long distance paddling;
moderate whitewater; canoe camping.
Leader Al Gustaveson (612)778-8525.

TWIN PORTS GARDNER'S DAWN DIP
30 **Saturday, Park Point to Barkers Island**
7:30AM meet at Park Point Boat ramp.
Breakfast at Radisson/Tour Whaleback.

FLIN FLON TROUT FESTIVAL
30 **July1,2 contact: Stephanie Jarvis**
343 Queen Street
Flin Flon, Manitoba R8A 0M8

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

JULY

28 Full Moon

Ely Canoe Derby

Olympics begin

A great time

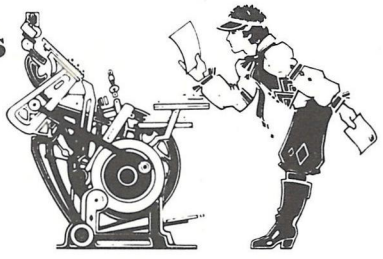
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CANOE CLASSES

Burt Levy, Education & Safety Director

The response to this years classes has been overwhelming. The Beginning Whitewater class filled a month ahead of deadline. (Apologies to those who didn't make it in, but c'mon down to the classroom sessions.) The May Basic Canoeing class will be one of the largest in recent years, Bek Craig is heading up the first River Rescue class (detailed in June HUT!), and George Skinner will be teaching Canoe Poling at Coon Rapids Dam on July 1, from 11:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M., (more details will be in the June HUT!).

We would also like to offer some informal clinics on canoe sailing, and lining and tracking. At this point, these clinics would not have a fee or any set structure. They would be established to allow people who have an interest in these skills to get together with others of like interest. Hopefully these sessions could then lead to the development of course outlines for more structured classes in the future. If you are interested call Burt Levy (612) 729-8874 so we can set up a time and meeting place.

BASIC CANOEING (Efficient Paddling)

The long debate seems to be over and the votes have been tallied on what to call this class. Basic Canoeing now becomes Efficient Paddling-Basic; and its more advanced counterpoint becomes Efficient Paddling-Intermediate.

In Efficient Paddling-Basic you will learn: various safety procedures, how to trim your boat, how to match paddle length to your body and boat, boat control, how to get the most out of your stroke, how to switch paddle (yes, there is an alternative to J-stroking), and many other tidbits of information that will make your paddling experience more enjoyable.

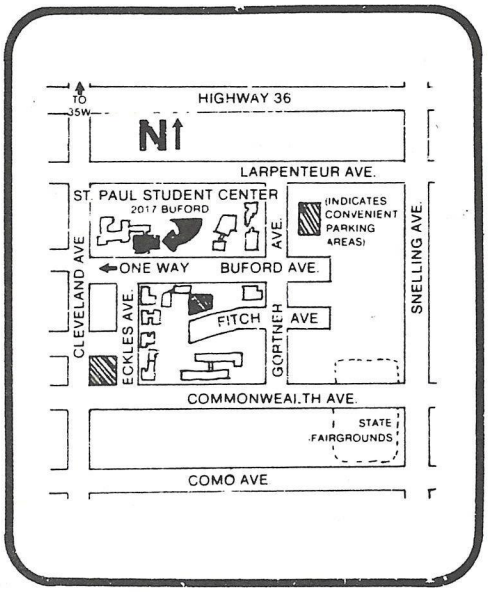
Efficient Paddling-Intermediate will take the techniques you learned in basic and help you refine them to the point where paddling becomes more of an art than a chore.

Either class costs only $5.00 for MCA members. Efficient Paddling-Basic is scheduled for May 12, June 16, and July 14. Exact dates have yet to be set for Intermediate, but we will have sessions in June and July. All sessions will be held at the U of M Showboat Landing, starting

at 10:00 A.M. and will last 5-6 hours. Sleek-lined cruising canoes will be available for rent at a minimal charge for those who don't have boats or for those who would like to try paddling a more efficient canoe. You can sign up by contacting Burt Levy, 4000 40th Ave. S. Minneapolis 55406. (612) 729-8874.

BEGINNING WHITEWATER

The Tuesday, May 15th, classroom session starts at 7 P.M. in the St. Paul Student Center auditorium (see map inset); followed by the movies at 8 P.M.; question and answer period will follow. All are welcome to come to the movies, "Path of the Paddle - Doubles Basic and Doubles Whitewater".

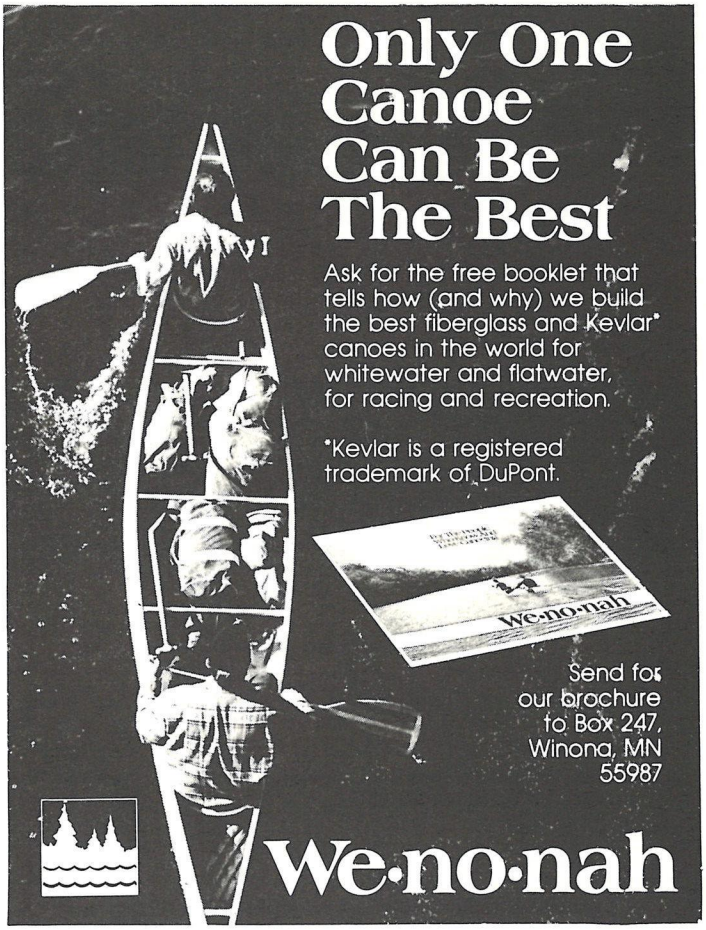


ESKIMO ROLLING

Summer sessions will be held at Lake Nokomis on July 17, 19, 24, & 26. More details in the June HUT! or contact Mike Pease (612) 222-3191.

@@

The St. Paul Chapter, American Red Cross is offering several kayaking and canoeing courses, (and a special 10 day instructor course), this summer. They are being taught by our own talented Bek Kragh. For information on schedule, places, and costs call **St.Paul Red Cross Safety Services at (612) 291-6789 or Bek Kragh (612)929-9454.**





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MAKING CANOE SEATS

Bob Brown, Building Director

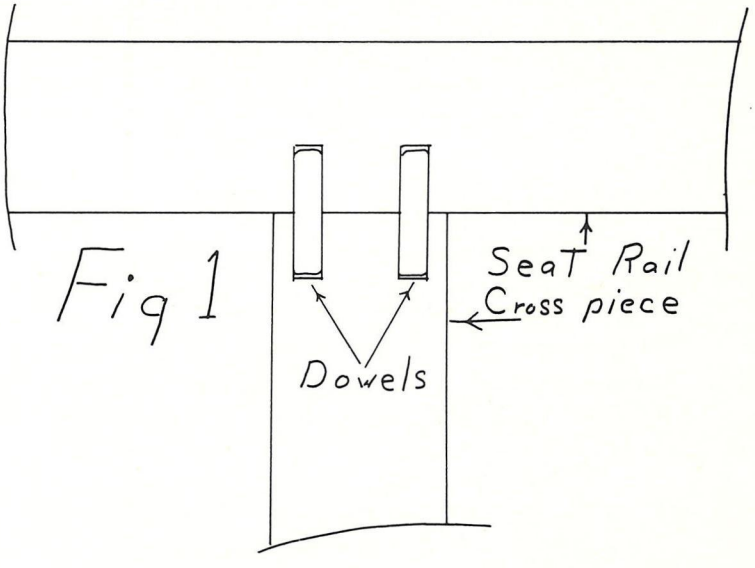
Canoe seats should be kept strong and simple. The outside dimensions need not exceed 12 inches wide by 16 inches across. The rails must be strong enough to stand up to any use they may get.

Broken seats and thwarts are the most common failure on a canoe. Build them strong and fasten them well. The front rail carries the bulk of the load and is the most likely to get broken.

Seats built of a hardwood such as ash should have rails at least 1" X 1-1/2". Using softer wood such as mahogany calls for an increase in rail size to about 1" X 2".

Keep in mind you may use a seat for years without trouble yet a teenager can break one easily by plopping down with a 3G force.

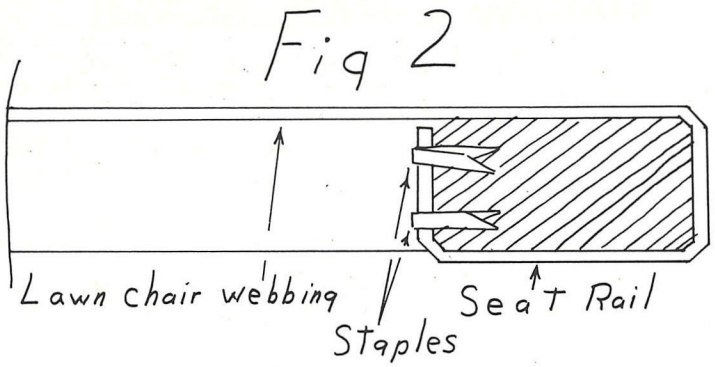
I like to build a seat frame using blind dowels (see Figure 1). This method requires some skill and a few special tools but it makes a very strong neat seat.



A similar frame can be built that looks nearly as good by drilling completely thru the rails for doweling. The extra drilling does weaken the rails.

The cross pieces can be mounted many ways. One way not to do it is by notching out the main rails. Many builders and some manufacturers do this; it weakens the seat.

I have been quite satisfied with seats laced with lawn chair webbing. Chose a nice color and you can finish your seat fast and easy. (See figure 2.)



Many builders prefer using caning on their seats. This looks very good in your boat and has become a popular method of finishing a seat.

You may choose to weave your own cane or possibly you will prefer to use factory cane and install it on your seats.

Factory cane is used by most canoe manufacturers. It is quite simple to install. (See Figure 3.) This is a cross section of a seat rail showing how the cane is installed.

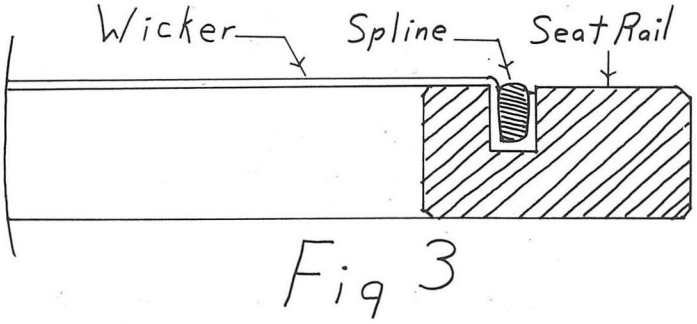


Fig 3

A router is used to make a slot in the top of the frame completely around the portion of the seat to be covered. A piece of factory woven cane is laid on top and trimmed a little larger than the routed area. A larger piece of cane called a spline is used to press the woven cane into the groove and hold it there.

If you chose to do your own caning, I'd like to recommend that you find a manual on caning. Many good manuals are available at hobby shops or your library. Caning is not difficult but it is time consuming.

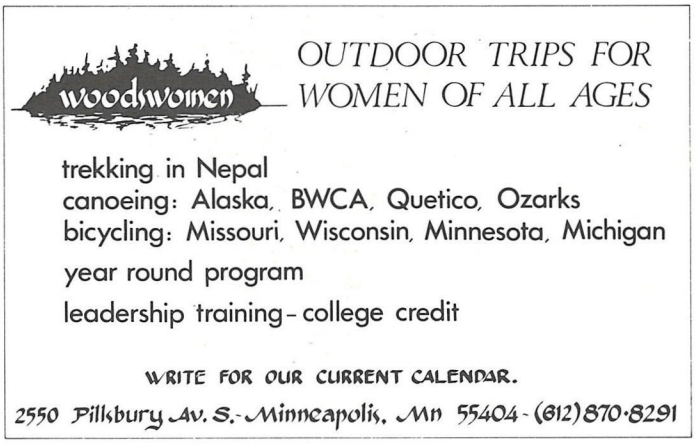
The seats must be securely installed if they are to function well. See HUT! March 1984 for positioning the seats.

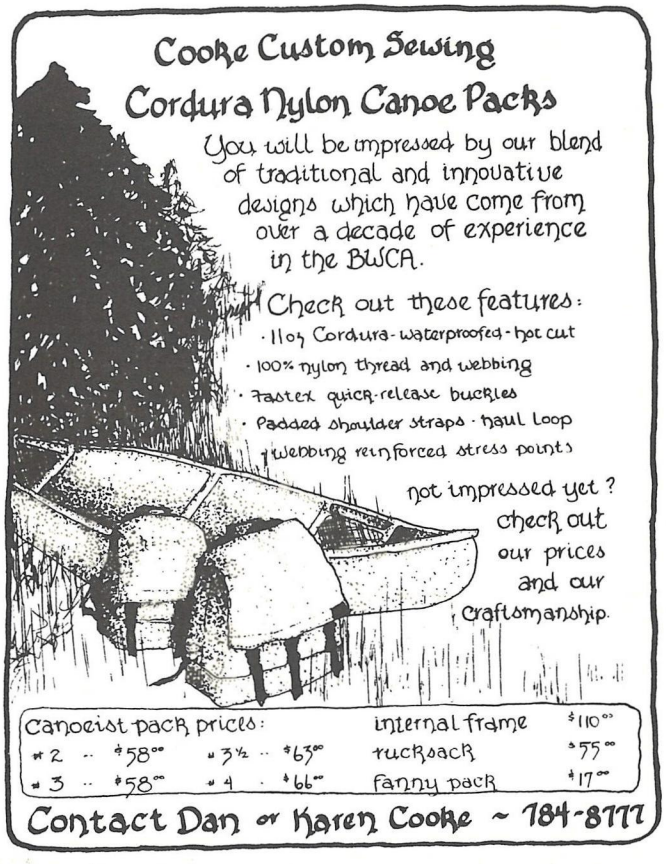
My preferred method of installing seats is to bolt them to the gunnels. Lower seats require longer bolts. Spacer blocks between the seat and the gunnel will get the seats at the height you feel they should be.

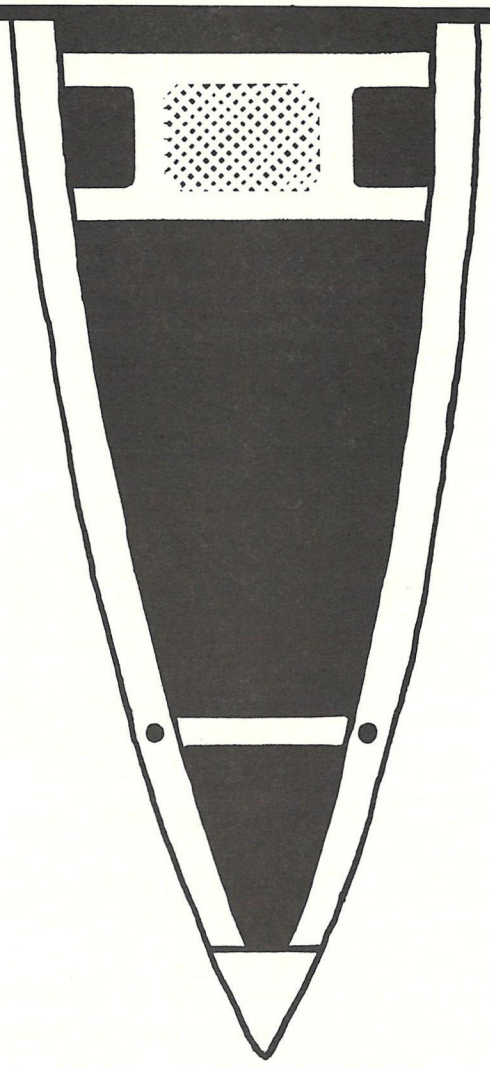
If the seats are more than about 4 inches below the gunnel I recommend mounting them on rails fastened to the side of the canoe. These pieces must be well secured. I like to use through hull screws (Horror). Seat rails cemented to the fiberglass interior of a canoe can fail. When they do they often cause a delaminated area.

Seats must be level athwartships. Leveling for and aft is a matter of preference, just as seat height is. My latest canoe is 3/4-inch lower in front. I find this very comfortable.

With the seats installed and thwarts in place a little varnish is all that's keeping you from canoeing. Good Paddling!







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LONG DISTANCE RACER'S 1984 RACE CALENDAR

MCA sanctioned races for racers points for men's and women's classes.

SNAKE RIVER CANOE RACE
May 5 contact: The Snake River Canoe Club
PO Box 71, Mora MN 55051

BLUE EARTH RIVER RUN
May 13 contact: Scott Ankeny
811 So. Galbraith, Blue Earth, MN 56013

THE JENSEN HANDICAP (MCA)
May 20 contact: Chris Berne
5057 Ewing Ave. So.
Minneapolis, MN 55410

COOPERSTOWN NY CANOE RACE
May 26 contact: Karl Ketter
1957 Lake St., Roseville, MN 55113

PRINCETON CANOE RACE
June 2 contact: Karl Ketter
1957 Lake St., Roseville, MN 55113

CAMBRIDGE CANOE RACE
June 3 contact: Mark Pocrnick
531 So. Dellwood
Cambridge, MN 55008

MEDFORD STRAIGHT RIVER CANOE DERBY
June 3 contact: Medford Civic Club
PO Box 8, Medford, MN 55049

HOIGAARD'S 2ND ANNUAL CANOE DERBY
June 7, 14, 21, 28, July 12, 19
contact: Jerry Kassanchuk
245 Paisley Lane
Golden Valley, MN 55422

SUGARBEET DAYS CANOE RACE
June 17 contact:Lanny Miller (612)329-3906
Renville, MN 56284

FARIBAULT CANOE RACE
June 17 contact: Faribault Lion's Club
Faribault, MN

3RD ANNUAL
SNOW LAKE INTERNATIONAL CANOE REGATTA
June 23,24 contact: Arlene Robinson
International Canoe Regatta Committee
Snow Lake, Manitoba R0B IM0

FLIN FLON TROUT FESTIVAL
June30,July1,2 contact: Stephanie Jarvis
343 Queen Street
Flin Flon, Manitoba R8A 0M8

MANKATO BEND OF THE RIVER DAYS
CANOE RACE (MCA)
July 7 contact: Dale Hennak
Route 7, Box 307, Mankato, MN 56001

COOK TIMBER DAYS CANOE RACE (MCA)
July 21 contact: Dave Culbert
Box 158, Cook, MN 55723

STATE VFW RACE
July 21 contact: Douglas Sumner
Rt 1 Box 129D, Telemark Road
Dundas, MN 55019

8TH ANNUAL SKI-HUT/KZ10 CANOE CLASSIC
July 22 contact: Scott Neustel
1032 East 4th St., Duluth, MN 55805
alternate contact:Jim Wheeler
1910 E. 3rd St., Duluth, MN 55805

ELY CANOE DERBY
July 28 contact: Piragis Northwoods Co.
105 N. Central Ave., Ely, MN 55731

AUSABLE MICHIGAN CANOE RACE
July 28 contact: Karl Ketter
1957 Lake St., Roseville, MN 55113

SCOUT NATIONALS
August 4 contact: Karl Ketter
1957 Lake St., Roseville, MN 55113

SOLO CHAMPIONSHIPS (MENS/WOMENS)
August 5 contact: Jerry Kassenchuk
245 Paisley Lane, Golden Valley MN55422

JUNIOR MISSISSIPPI CLASSIC
August 11 contact: Betty Ketter
101 79th Ave. No, Minneapolis, MN 55444

USCA NATIONALS
August 18 contact: Karl Ketter
1957 Lake St., Roseville, MN 55113

SHAWINIGAN
Sept 1,2,3 contact: Karl Ketter
1957 Lake St., Roseville, MN 55113

MISSISSIPPI RIVER CANOE CLASSIC (MCA)
Sept 8 contact: Betty Ketter
101 79th Ave. No, Minneapolis, MN 55444

FAIRMONT KING CORN DAYS CANOE CHALLENGE
Sept 15 contact: Scott Ankeny
811 So. Galbraith, Blue Earth, MN 56013

MINNESOTA MIXED CHAMPIONSHIPS
Sept 23 (adult/junior)
contact: Karl Ketter, 1957 Lake St.,
Roseville MN 55143

HAWAII CANOE RACES
Oct 5 contact: Karl Ketter
1957 Lake St., Roseville, MN 55113

HOIGAARD'S

CANOE & CAMPING
RESOURCE CENTER

3550 S. Highway 100, St. Louis Park
(M-F 9—9, Sat. 9—5:30) call 929-1351
Hoigaard's Charge Shoppers Charge Mastercard American Express Visa

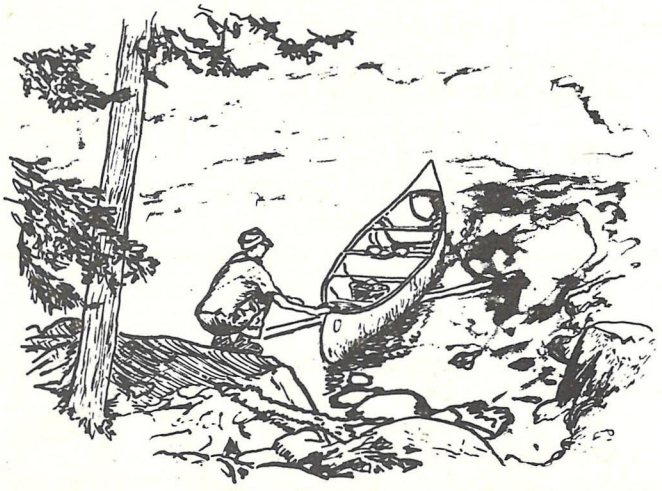
UPCOMING CRUISES

UPPER IOWA RIVER CRUISE

Jim Robinson

May 19th & 20th, we will camp both Friday and Saturday night at Bluffton. We will do a shuttle on Saturday and canoe from Kendallville to Bluffton. On this part of the river you will see: limestone palisades, chimney rocks, and bluff tops rising 280 feet above the river.

On Sunday, we will do another shuttle and canoe from Bluffton to Decorah. This part of the river has wooded bluffs rising as high as 330 feet above the river. This river surprises many people who have no idea what Iowa can offer in both rivers and scenery. For more information contact Jim Robinson (612) 588-5402.



CANNON RIVER CRUISE

Steve Fischer

Saturday May 12th (May 19th rain alternate) we'll meet at the river in Cannon Falls on Hwy. 20 at 9 AM. The shuttle will start at 9:15 AM.

Its a scenic, intermediate skill level river with lots of woods and rocky bluffs along the way to Welch Village. We'll run the 12 mile trip in about 3-1/2 hours. Bring a lunch and for more information call Bob Brown at (612) 432-7557.

MEMORIAL WEEKEND CRUISE

Mike Gilman

If you want to plan for a long relaxing weekend on a beautiful river, read on! This trip allows for nightly camping at well managed county campgrounds, starting with Friday night. Those of you who are early birds can show up Saturday morning after we've finished cleaning up the breakfast dishes. Show up any sooner and we'll give you some coffee. The shuttle should be ready to move out by 9:30 AM. The cars will be shuttled each day, so you'll have your "outfitter on wheels" with you each night.

Once we settle in on the river, the real joy begins. This scenic trip has variety such as: historic points of interest, wildlife, opportunities to fish, and more. Since each day's travel will not be expansive, there will be plenty of time to explore, relax, and enjoy.

As you might have guessed by now, this is the Crow Wing River. The stretch we plan to paddle is between Nimrod and the take out at Hwy 10 east of Staples. The total distance covered will be 12 miles on day one (Saturday), 15 miles on day two (Sunday), and 11 miles on Memorial Day. Plan to come along; call Mike Gilman (612)428-4400.

CROW WING RIVER CRUISE

Bill Marcouiller

How about a weekend family trip on a pleasant semi-wild river in west central Minnesota. The Crow Wing River can fill the bill. An MCA outing is planned for the Crow Wing on June 2nd and 3rd. On Saturday we will paddle from Shell City Campground to Huntersville Forest Campground and from there to Nimrod on Sunday. There is no whitewater to speak of, but there will be some rock dodging on the Sunday paddle.

The Crow Wing is a forgiving river for the novice and a satisfying experience for all canoeists.

Camping is available both Friday and Saturday nights at the Huntersville Forest Campground. Shuttle will be arranged from there. If you are going or want more info call Bill Marcouiller (612)789-0074.

Belated Big Fork trip report
with apologies to Bob Service.
by Al Gustaveson

Up north aways,
Where the Jib-o-ways plays,
In the land of snow and ice.
There's a race, thru a hellava place,
On a river known as Rice.

"Taint too far, if you go by car,
"Bout nineteen miles and a ways;
but by canoe, I'm telling you,
It seems like nineteen days.

"Twas late last June,
By the first full moon,
Thet some-o-the-pals and I,
Took a little trip, and a day long dip,
Trying to keep them K-news dry.

Now that Rice she is a slippery ditch,
with many a twist and turn,
And the skeeters attack,
With a worrisome itch,
That you'll never learn to spurn.

The beavers build the dams for the views,
Their heights in fact are storied,
Like condos above the flats they rise,
Above the pines they quiver,
And overlook, by guesstimate,
At least six miles of river.

Into this vast unknown milieu,
Enter fourteen people in small canoes,
Unsuspecting, and dry of feet,
Thinking the day will be quite sweet.

But let me tell you by end of day,
Many a temper had started to fray,
And in the dark beside this ditch,
Our camp to make, our tents to pitch,
We knew we'd come one heckofa way,
On a good ol' fashioned "Rice Puddin" day!

Some would like to do this again,
But press your luck and you might not win.
So this year in June, instead of the Rice,
We're going some place just as nice.
So grab your paddles,
and your jacket of cork,
We're gonna run the old Big Fork!

(And YOU are invited! June 29 - July 4.
Trip Leader Al Gustaveson (612)778-8525.)

DESERT CHAPTER ROOT RIVER CANOE CRUISE
Ardel Gorman

This is a nice family trip. There are towering cliffs and heavily forested bluffs. Limestone walls drop nearly straight to the rivers edge. Cliff swallow nests are numerous.

On **Sunday May 6th,** from the STOP light at Chatfield, Minnesota where Hwy 52 and Hwy 30 meet, drive east on Hwy 30 for 7.6 miles to County Rd #11. Drive south on #11 to the bridge.

We plan to meet at County road #11 bridge at 8:30 AM; unload canoes and gear; shuttle cars; and try to be on the river by 9:30 AM. The trip is 16.3 miles on the river, (County Rd. #11 to Hwy. #250).

After eating dinner at one of the bluffs, there will be time to climb and later a stop at the old Hydro Dam will allow some exploring. The Hydro plant was built in 1916. There is a tunnel running from the dam site to the Hydro plant.

FMI call or write Ardel Gorman (507)433-7465, Desert Chapter of M. C. A., 810 10th Ave. S.W.,Austin MN 55912.

CRUISIN' ALONG

Jim Robinson, Cruising Director

Some items are essential to any cruise, whether it be a short one-day trip or two weeks in the BWCAW. It goes without saying that comfortable PFD's (personal flotation devices) are an absolute requirement. They should be worn, not just carried in the bottom of the canoe.

Other essential items are:

1. A complete change of clothing for everyone in the canoe. The clothing must be packed in an absolutely water-tight container to be useful.
2. Raingear for everyone in the canoe.
3. A spare paddle.
4. A small first aid kit.
5. A roll of duct tape. This is good for repairing everything from a hole in your canoe to a hole in your pants.
6. Insect repellent.

You may take many cruises without using any of these items, but needing them and not having them will take all the enjoyment out of your trip.

Does this article sound familiar? See your May 1983 HUT!, and you will see why. I feel that it is so important I am repeating the list again this year.



NEWSLETTER OF THE WHITEWATER CANOE AND KAYAK CHAPTER
President: John Wexler, (612)722-7069
Cruising: Mike Vande Vyver, (612)926-7633
Membership: Paul Rem, (612)645-3538

We finally got the chance to paddle the elusive Totogatic at a high enough water level. The river was interesting when it was moving. It had plenty of quiet water stretches interspersed with lots of class II rapids and two class IV+ drops which are easily portaged. We had not planned on walking the last mile and a half on the frozen/half frozen reservoir. Our trusty dusty backup crew only laughed at us when they saw our plight when they shuttled our car down to the end. While we were walking on the ice, a more industrious group was actually breaking through the ice on the other side of the lake.

Beginners, don't despair if you missed the beginning whitewater class. Get active in the club now and start going to monthly meetings and participating in the beginner trips. We will be paddling at all of our summer programs.

For beginners we recommend the Kinnickinnic River cruise on May 5th (FMI Jon Jan Hankes (612)436-7601) and going to the Rapid Riders June and July activities meetings which will be held on the Mississippi River at Hidden Falls Park in St. Paul. You will have the opportunity to try out different boats: June will feature tandem and solo whitewater boats; July will feature kayaks. There is a good current at this location to test maneuverability in moving water.

The May 15th program will be a good place to find out about other beginner trips and meet some of the more experienced club members.

For a more detailed listing of upcoming classes and activities read the Canoe Classes column and the Calendar of Events.

More paddlers are needed for the Lake of the Woods June or July, Baudette Minnesota to Kenora Ontario trip. Contact John Wexler (612)722-7069 if you plan to go.

Robert Schuetzler's Cascader Trip to the Grand Canyon was a seat shaker at our activity meeting. We had to hold on to our seats as we watched people get tossed around like popcorn as they paddled the Grand at 96,500 cfs(cubic feet/second).

Mike Pease will take over as Rapid Rider Cruising director while Mike VandeVyver and his new son, David Michael Jr. get to know each other better; and while Mike recovers from still another operation to heal the breaks of Jan '83.

Mike is leading the Snake River trip on May 6th. This may turn into a two day, (May 5-6), trip as the organizers of a canoe race have asked Mike to paddle up there on both days, offering free lodging in town. Call Mike Pease at (612) 222-3191. This is a good trip for advanced beginners and intermediate paddlers. Beginners will need to portage the upper and lower canyon falls.

Contact your trip leaders letting them know in advance that you are going. Don't wait till the last minute. It has happened a couple times recently and this is not considerate to the trip leaders.

North Shore rivers that we are presently looking at for the May 11 trip are the Baptism and the Manitou. Our destination could change due to water level as on any of our trips, keep in touch with the trip leaders. This trip is for advanced intermediate and expert boaters only. We will be joined by several people from the Duluth Twin Ports Canoe Club. FMI John Wexler (612) 722-7069.

Other trips that are presently scheduled are the Flambeau on June 8,9,10 and the Kettle on June 24th, see HUT! Calendar for details; and plan ahead for the St. Louis on July 20,21,22, FMI Mike Pease (612) 222-3191 and the Vermillion on August 17,18,19, FMI John Wexler (612) 722-7069. This is not a complete list of Rapid Riders cruises. We recommend you join the Rapid Riders. This can be done by mailing a $10. check, (made payable to the Minnesota Canoe Association), to Paul Rem, Rapid Riders Membership director, 1845 W. Larpenteur, #16, St.Paul MN 55113.

Two supposedly experienced boaters have drowned this spring. Apparently they were paddling alone on the Crow River in high water. They were alone, got into trouble, and no one was around to help them get out of trouble. If they had been with an organized trip or at least a group, they may have been rescued. Another good reason to join our club!

THE DULUTH TRAVELER



NEWSLETTER OF THE TWIN PORTS CHAPTER

President: Rick Luck, 18 W. Owatonna Street, Duluth, MN 55803 724-7992
Cruising: Liz & Fred Freeman, 525-6486
Whitewater: Sue Marsh, 879-5581
Racing: Jim Wheeler, 722-8010

TWIN PORTS Chapter Spring Activities are listed in the HUT! Calendar of Events. Of special importance is our **May 10th general membership meeting, 7 PM** at Godfathers pizza on London Rd. We'll be going over all the upcoming trips and activities at that meeting. You'll have a chance to ask questions, offer suggestions, or even volunteer to help with a trip. We'll also have a slide presentation, a little beer, pizza, and a lot of boating talk. Don't miss it.

The Duluth/Thunder Bay Friendship Games, June 2-3, are looking good. We'll be getting a delegation together for them. If you are interested in participating (canoe & kayak racing, seminars, barbecue, and dance) call Rick Luck.

NOTE: To help trip organizers, if you are planning on attending a trip where reservations are indicated, call the trip leader by Wednesday evening preceding the event. This will help the leader with planning and, also, make possible last minute changes.

Interested in learning more about whitewater boating? The Duluth Community Schools are now offering a class on a regular basis for learning the basics of wild river boating. For more information on the next class offering contact Byron Selbrede at (218) 392-6350 or the Duluth Community Schools.

For information on the Twin Ports Chapter, Minnesota Canoe Association, contact Rick Luck, 18 W. Owatonna Str., Duluth MN 55803, (218) 724-7992.

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The **LONG DISTANCE RACERS** have available a complete listing of the **WISCONSIN** and **MONTANA 1984 Canoe Race schedules.** If you would like to receive a copy, **contact Karl** Ketter, 1957 Lake St., Roseville, MN 55113

TRADING POST

WANTED

Used Wenonah C-1, Sawyer DY, or similar **Lon Lentsch (612)778-0988.**

Has anyone in the Twin Cities area canoed the Albany River in Ontario? If so I'd be interested in talking about the trip +. Call **Caroline Scully (612) 824-1493.**

FOR SALE

16 foot Blue Hole $190. Lotus Dandy Solo canoe. Excellent. $490. **Richard Lund, Duluth, (218) 724-8122.**

Mad River Ladyslipper in Kevlar. Brand new Model solo canoe. First $900. takes it home. **Bob Brown (612) 432-7557.**

New Blue Hole ABS Canoe - $525. New Perception Mirage kayak, white(natural), $380.. **Ed Lantis 776-4657.**

135 yds. 7# fiberglass cloth. $2.75/yd or $350/roll or offer. **Jack (612) 535-2697.**

18'6" Wenonah Jensen Whitewater II, Kevlar, set up for lake travel, like new, $750. **Duane, PO Box 944, Grand Marais, MN 55604. (218) 378-1784 after 6 P.M.**

17' wood canvas canoe, Alex Comb design. Quality and materials equal to or better than Old Town. New-Never Used-Best Offer. **Michael, H-(612)944-7217 W-(612)641-4486.**

16' Mad River Explorer, Royalex - Green wood gunnels, cane seats. **Tom 425-6641.**

Duluth Pack and Stuff bag liners. Finally, plastic liners sized right and made tough for canoeists. $.29 to $1.95. **R E I ,35W & 98th St. exit, Clover Shopping Center, Bloomington, (612)884-4315.**

Challenging canoe trips for women; Noatuk River, Alaska (in the Brooks Range and the tundra) July 23-Aug.16; White Otter Wilderness, Ontario, June 24-July 13. Call **Woodswomen (612)870-8291.**

The TRADING POST is for members. Submissions due by the 5th of the preceding month. First 20 words free, 10 cents each thereafter; make checks payable to MCA.

SPARTAN VS. HIGH-TECH

Cliff Jacobson



Note: Last month I promised you an evaluation of the gear I used on my solo trip down Ontario's Weikwabinonaw River. See April HUT! for the specifics of this trip.

One day, while browsing in my basement, my eyes fell upon the growing mass of high-tech canoeing equipment I'd accumulated over the years. There was everything one could ask for--from ultralight down sleeping bags and self-inflating foam pads, to lithium cell flashlights and neoprene wet suit mitts. It was an impressive cache, but I wondered just how much of it was really necessary to make an enjoyable canoe trip.

My thoughts wandered to the rustic Scout camp in Michigan where I first discovered the way of the canoe. The spartan outfit I had then was surprisingly adequate. Was the joy of those early days merely the result of youthful wonder? Or did it stem from a deep-rooted love of natural things--things whose value dwarfed the "implied utility" of my modern toys?

Could I duplicate the self-sufficiency of my early trips without resorting to my shedful of high-tech gear? Suppose I made a solo canoe trip based on the old spartan philosophy...and used much of the same gear I relied on as a boy. Would I survive? Would the outfit be light enough to be practical?

Re-living the early days with just the basic essentials would be a grand experiment--a challenge I was anxious to accept.

First, the parameters: of necessity, there'd be some concessions to the "new ways". Most of my old gear had long since destructed, so I'd have to select modern equipment that was "roughly equivalent". I'd paddle my old solo stripper, carry two fine wood paddles, and wear a foam-filled life vest (we never wore life jackets in "those" days).

The army combat boots I wore as a kid would be replaced by LL Bean shoe-pacs, and the military wool mummy bag would give way to a down bag and foam sleeping pad. Together, the two would have about the same weight and bulk as the sleeping system I used as a youngster.

The floorless six pound percale (light cotton) pup tent I used in 1953 had long ago been sold. A 1960's vintage, nylon A-frame tent of similar design and weight could be substituted. The tent featured double-wall construction, had a single rickity I-pole at each end, and weighed 5-1/2 pounds. Like its canvas ancestor, there was no horizontal zipper to secure the mosquito net to the tent floor. The net just "draped". No matter; I'd learned to "cope" with that problem decades ago.

Packs: An ancient, number three, canvas duluth pack was filled with food, clothing, tent, and sleeping gear. An inexpensive nylon day pack (I had a canvas one when I was young) held rain gear, lunch, stove, sweater, windshell, and fabric canoe cover. I carried the ancient M71 Primus stove I purchased for five bucks in the spring of 1952. Its case was nearly rusted through, but the tiny engine worked fine. I hoped the combined weight of all my gear would be less than 65#. *

Portages: First trip, I'd carry the duluth pack, paddles, and camera. Second time I'd tote my 45 pound canoe and day pack. To cut weight, I regretfully left behind my hand-axe--essential for splitting small logs to get dry kindling after an all day rain. I compromised with a wood-framed bucksaw and Gerber sheath knife. I took particular pleasure in wearing the Gerber on my hip, in hopes of gathering disapproving stares from "experienced" campers I met on the trail. Turned out I saw only four people on the river--fisherman who shook their heads in disbelief when they learned I wasn't carrying a fishing rod!

I omitted my 2-1/2 pound rain tarp and instead jerry-rigged a way to disconnect the tent body from its attached rain fly. Two loops of shock cord and a pair of brass snap hooks did the trick. If it rained, I'd toss my gear inside the tent then snap the front end and push it back, out of the way. This would expose a protected patch of dry ground where I could cook a nice meal on my stove under the canopy of the rain fly.

Cooking gear consisted of a small aluminum pot, Sierra cup, and an insulated mug. A spoon and my Gerber would be all the utensils I'd need.

Lighting gear: I had a Stonebridge folding candle lantern as a boy. A tubular type purchased in 1971 could substitute.

Raingear: When I was 14, I used a poncho and got wet in every rain. So I decided to cheat profusely and carry my LAND'S END foul weather jacket and Peter Storm pants. My apologies for this obvious inequity.

Clothing: A pair of GI khaki's, a wool army shirt, hand knit sweater, two changes of undies, and a bathing suit completed my wardrobe.

Meals were simple: Home baked otmeal cookies and hard salami started the day. Lunch was a kosher bagle with sliced Velveeta and fig newtons. Supper consisted of Lipton soup with rice and Bisquick dumplings along with a granola bar for dessert. Tea and honey rounded out the meals. Food cost came to only $2.75 per day and supplied all the nutrition I needed for a restful week of drifting and dreaming.

Everything necessary for the seven day trip fit nicely into the two packs which together tipped the scales at a reasonable 61 pounds. Just for fun, I decided to assemble a similar high-tech outfit. How much weight could be saved? Was the expense of state-of-the-art equipment really worth the advantages it could offer?

The scale revealed the truth: 54#!! By substituting a 2-1/2 pound down bag for a 3-1/2 pound one; a featherweight MSR stove for the old Primus; shear raingear for the foul weather suit; lithium cell flashlight for the candle lantern; nylon duluth pack for the canvas one; a lighter weight tent, etc. I shaved seven pounds. Significant? Hardly! At least not enough to justify the approximate $1000. needed to buy it all. The expensive toys were fun, to be sure, but I doubted they were much more efficient than the traditional items.

EVALUATION

Temperatures hovered near 90 and it rained only once--a storm that began before supper and lasted 'til sunrise. Expensive polyethylene, pile, or Gore-tex would have provided no advantage over trusty woolens and coated fabrics I carried.

Tent: Just before the storm hit, I attached twin guylines to each tent pole. The plastic ground sheet I used inside my tent kept ground water which seeped through the worn floor, from entering the sleeping area. The old tent flapped and creaked with the approximately 30 mile per hour winds, but it held. I remained dry and comfortable. It was obvious sophisticated tents were unnecessary within the timberline, if you knew how to rig a simple A-frame.

Stove and cooking gear: The 30 year old Primus required perfect leveling to keep from spilling soup all over the countryside. But it functioned flawlessly. Supper required only 15 minutes to make.

My heaviest load (canoe plus day pack) on the portages was 61 pounds--hardly a fool-killer. One quarter-mile portage produced faint beads of sweat in the 95 degree midday heat, but other carries were no challenge at all. Reducing my pack weight by seven pounds (the high-tech load) would have been a silly affectation.

SUMMARY

At first, I missed my expensive "toys". But the desire for them faded as the trip wore on. In fact, I felt closer to the land by adopting my old ways. I took pride in weathering the storm with "inferior" equipment and superior skills.

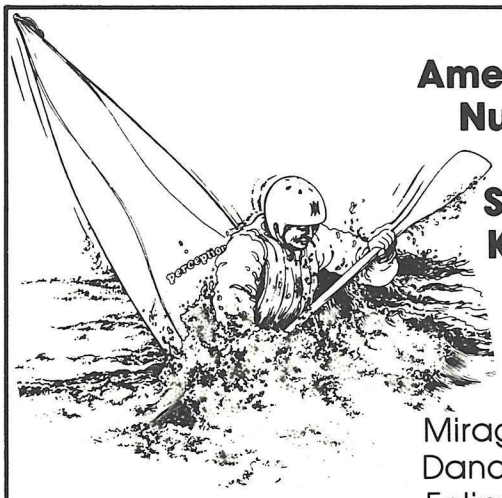
Admittedly, I derived considerable pleasure from using my memory-filled gear, for I knew every quirk and potential failure. Maybe that's why everything worked so well. All of which reinforces the premise I've made many times--that we should first learn to use effectively what we have before we run out to buy something we think will compensate for our own inadequacies.

*I guessed pretty close: The duluth pack weighed 45#; the day pack 16#.

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MINNESOTA STATE BIRD

In a full page advertisement for insect repellent spray, Cutter's writes:
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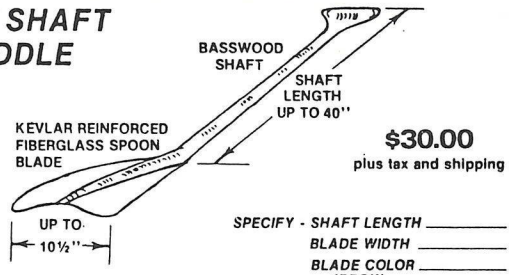
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MISSISSIPPI HEADWATERS

Jim Maves

We are interested in running the Mississippi River from Lake Itasca to Minneapolis. Granted this is no wilderness expedition and its been done many times before but it would be fun to say "I ran the Mississippi".

Plans are to paddle on weekends, not necessarily with the same people each time, not necessarily even running all segments in order. We may even end up going south of the Twin Cities in future years or on to New Orleans!

The sixty mile stretch from Itasca to Lake Bemidji will be the most difficult because of beaver dams and fallen trees in the spring, not to mention the longest drive. This section should probably be run first because of lower water levels in the summer.

We could use logistical help from MCA members and from Bemidji area canoe friends who have run this area before.

Water levels should not be a problem after reaching Lake Bemidji and we plan to do the rest of the river in 30-50 mile weekend chunks. Accommodations would be tents or motels as the weather and time permit.

Anyone with an interest in all or part of this Mississippi trip or anyone who can offer advice on shuttles, water levels, or camping areas please contact Jim Maves, 1833 Rome Ave. St. Paul MN 55116, (612)690-0716.

ATTENTION WOMEN CANOERS

Canoeing women are invited to contribute their writings about canoe trips to a collection to be published in 1985.

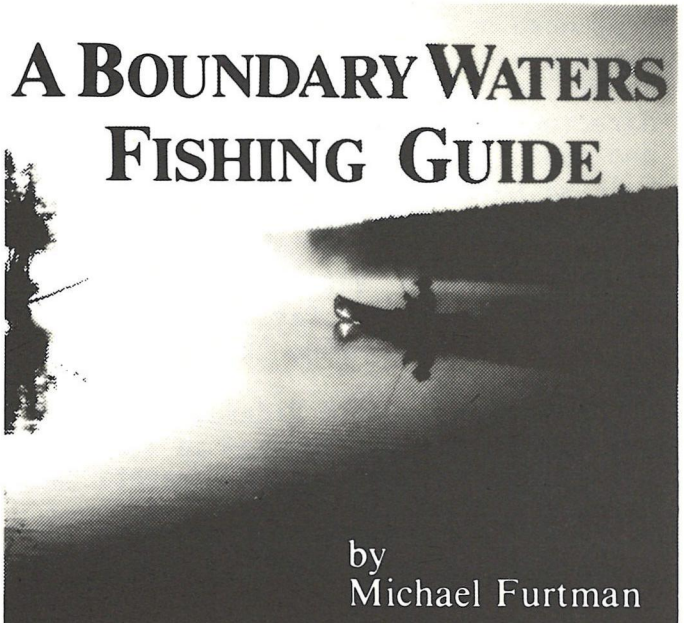
The projected book will include writings from 1900 to the present. Editors Barb Wieser and Judith Niemi are looking for stories of women who paddled 30 or 40 years ago, women who have made long wilderness trips, and women who kept a journal on their first canoe trip.

Journals, letters, stories, taped interviews, and photographs are all welcome, and should be submitted by September 1, 1984.

Send your writings, or for more information, to: Barb Wieser, Aunt Lute Book Company, PO Box 2723, Iowa City, IA 52244 or to Judith Niemi, Woodswomen, 2550 Pillsbury Ave. So., Minneapolis, MN 55404.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

James B. Anderson	Maple Grove MN
Kathi Antolak	Minneapolis MN
Robert Beldo	Coon Rapids MN
Kim Benson	Roseville MN
Alan Bergstrom	Eden Prairie MN
Steve & Twyla Bosch	Minneapolis MN
Bob Brock	Anoka MN
Vincent Call	Alpena MI
John C Campbell	Travis AF Base CA
Amy Cooper	Minneapolis MN
Michael Cotrone	Houston TX
Ted Cramer	Rock Rapids IA
Shari Czech	St. Cloud MN
Christopher Dargay	Golden Valley MN
Dick Dirks	Blue Earth MN
John Ditzler	Minneapolis MN
Ted Foster	Apple Valley MN
Larry Gaalaas	Anoka MN
Jon Gilbertson	Hudson WI
James Goodman	Minneapolis MN
Steven Groff	Minneapolis MN
Steve Halverson	Albert Lea MN
Jon Jan Hankes	Lakeland MN
Steve Hanson	Duluth MN
Douglas Hicks	Minneapolis MN
Daniel O Johnson	Frederic WI
Fred Jude	Maple Lake MN
Brad Karan	Minneapolis MN
Leo Klose	Bloomington MN
Franklin Knoll	Minneapolis MN
R S Knox	Burnsville MN
Dale Kramer	Mankato MN
Kevin Kujawa	Minneapolis MN
Thomas Kyle	Minneapolis MN
Jules Laliberte Jr.	Coon Rapids MN
Rex Lindberg	Minneapolis MN
Brian Liubakka	Rogers MN
Randy Manlick	St Loius Park MN
Kraig McConaughey	St Joseph WI
Richard McCullough	Coon Rapids MN
Marilyn Moore	Minneapolis MN
John & Deborah Murphy	Apple Valley MN
Douglas Nemeth	Rice MN
Larry Pellegrino	New Richmond WI
George R Pokorny Sr	West St.Paul MN
Michael Ptak	Minneapolis MN
Terry Raymond	Apple Valley MN
Thomas Salwasser	Eden Prairie MN
Don Schwake	Faribault MN
Clifford Scott	Minneapolis MN
Dick Sears	Lutsen MN
Bob Sedoff	Minneapolis MN
Randy Seidling	Chippewa Falls WI
Steven Sichender	Wyoming MN
Jerry Sicord	Eden Prairie MN
Otto L Stanislaw	Stillwater MN
Monte Steilow	Corona SD
Michael Stewart	Minneapolis MN
Henry Thomas	Menomonie WI
Ralph Vogelpohl	New Ulm MN
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MCA DIRECTORS

APRIL MEETING

Verna Robinson, Secretary

Venice called the meeting to order at 7PM, Karl mentioned that the minutes should be corrected. In the membership directors report, we should state how many are paid members on the HUT! mailing list.

Mike VandeVyver, Director at large, announced he and Joyce have a new baby boy named David Michael.

Harlan Nickerson, Public Relations director, has informed the radio stations and newspapers about the April program on Quietwater Cruising. He has an address to send activity information to an Austin radio station.

Al Gustaveson, Vice President, stated the Governor's Canoe Day is slated for either June 2nd or 9th; the river has not been chosen yet.

John Wexler, Rapid Riders, presented articles that have appeared in local papers recently about the Minnesota Canoe Association. Karl Ketter made a resolution to preserve articles written about our organization. The motion was seconded and passed. The secretary wishes anyone seeing an article to trim it to size, be sure the name and date of the publication are included, and she will be in charge of keeping the file.

Bob Brown, Building director, has a crew of 3 writers, 2 photographers, 1 typist, and 1 editor to work with him on the building book. Motion was made and passed to appropriate up to $250. for photographic material for the building book. He is planning a "Solo Night" program for May and is inviting outfitters of solo canoes.

Chris Berne, Chapter Liaison director, was contacted by Mpls-St. Paul magazine. They are developing a program called "Summer Pleasures" which features things to do in summer. The MCA is invited to participate; the date of our activity will be July 30th.

A motion was made and passed to spend up to $300. for printing up the new information brochure.

The Hoigaard's Canoe Derby sponsored by Hoigaard's and the MCA was very succesful last year and it will be run again this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M. Next meeting May 2nd 7PM at Jim Robinsons.

FROM THE BOW

Venice Barsness, President

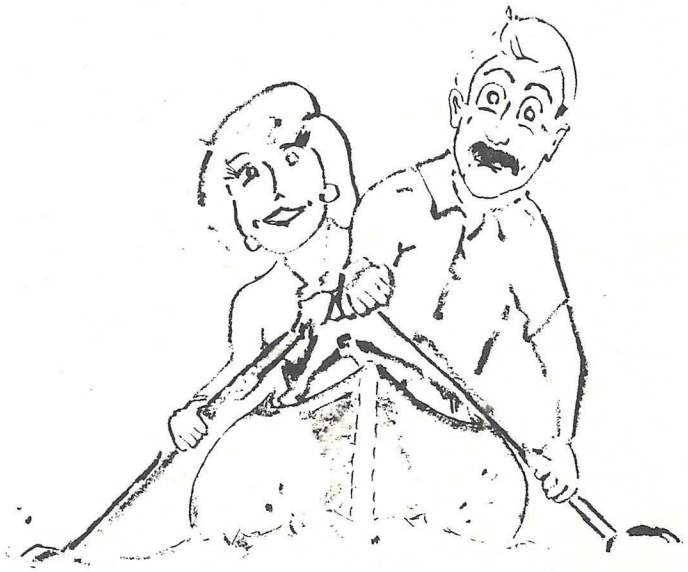
A little over one hundred times a year your canoe association presents a canoeing related program. This could be a simple flat water cruise, a pro race, a course to teach new skills, or an indoor program to entertain and enlighten. How much you get out of our efforts depends on you!

Watch the calendar of events and feature articles on upcoming events, contact the event leader, join in the activity, enjoy yourself.

During June, July, and August, we have three special "on the water" programs. These are our Paddle Nights. On June 5 from 6:30 - 9:30 PM you can try your hand at paddling a big canoe. The smallest is 26 feet long and the largest is 30 feet long and seats 15 people. This program will be at Lake Nokomis in Minneapolis.

The July program will give you the opportunity to paddle a variety of brands and models of 'regular' canoes. You can judge for yourself the difference between the various styles. In August we will provide a selection of fast canoes for your sampling. Full details of these programs will appear in future HUT!s.

If you have never been on an MCA cruise, this is the year to start. Do it early. Once you have done it, you will want to do it again and again. Contact our cruising director, tell him your abilities and interest and he'll match you up with a trip you will enjoy. Remember the MCA is here to make canoeing more enjoyable for you, **COME PADDLE WITH US!**



HUT! ADVERTISING RATES

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Light Blue shirt with navy MCA graphic, 50/50 blend. $5.00 each, plus $1.00 postage.

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Blue on a reflectorized background, great for canoe or car. $1.00 each

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WEDNESDAY MAY 16TH - KAYAK TOURING

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Be prepared to catch your breath at the sheer beauty of nature and the excitement of kayaking in **Alaska** and other wilderness areas.

Andy Knapp will show his excellent program in the auditorium of the Prudential Insurance Co. at **3701 Wayzata Boulevard** (Hwy.12) in Minneapolis. This program on kayaking touring is entertaining to quietwater and whitewater enthusiasts alike; bring a friend to watch this stunning show running from **7:00 - 10:00 P.M.**

Andy will answer your questions on planning and equipment for kayak touring. FMI Jim Robinson (612) 588-5402.

WEDNESDAY MAY 23RD - 2ND ANNUAL LAKE NOKOMIS SOLO GET-TOGETHER

Anyone interested in solo canoes is invited to come join us to paddle, picnic, and share a bonfire, **May 23rd** (24th alternate rain day) from **5 P.M. till dark** at **Lake Nokomis** in Minneapolis.

Bring paddles, life vest, and a change of clothes. Bring your own supper and beverage.

We have several solo canoes of differing models for you to try and we're hoping that anyone who has a solo will bring it along for us to all share.

We can teach you the basics of proper solo paddling, packing for solo camping, and just having fun.

For more information call **Bob Brown** (612)432-7557 or **Bruce Kunz** (612)454-7207.

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