

Nov. - Dec. Issue



East Coast Paddlers

CLUB NEWSLETTER for Canoeists and Kayakers

In This Issue...

- *Paddle Prattle
- *Close Call at the Port
- *The Gales of October???
- *Membership Renewal
- *Upcoming Paddle Trips
- *Recipe of the Month
- *Tip of the Month
- *Meeting Dates & Times
- *Gear Swap
- *Member Information

THE GALES OF OCTOBER?

Written by George Granlund
Gordon Lightfoot didn't say anything about this! Six East Coast Paddlers met with two days of gale force winds during their trip to the Les Cheneaux Islands on October 1 - 3rd. Fortunately

for them, the area is very forgiving and offers a lot of protection from winds from nearly every direction. Our first day of paddling greeted us with 41-degree temperatures and high southwest winds. We were able to wend our way from the put-in out to Government Island, the only publicly owned land in the Les Cheneaux area. Inside the protection of the islands, we never experienced more than a moderate chop. Rather than staying at one of the designated campsites which faced cottages and civilization, we opted to stay at the southern end of the island in a grove of cedar trees that

afforded us clear views of the open lake and the pounding surf. From 25 miles away we could see the towers of the Mackinac Bridge, along with passing vessels far out on the lake. The surf was irresistible to Mark, Gerge and Jeff, who ventured out into the three foot breaking waves to play. The sun was bright and we were also able to get in some dozing to round out the afternoon. We decided that if we couldn't do much paddling, the spirits would flow and we passed the rest of the day enjoying the lake and sipping a delightful



www.eastcoastpaddlers.org

...Just Add Water

chardonnay. Dinner was a taste treat with shared fettuccine alfredo a la Margie, Jeff's own chili and lovingly roasted Koegel Vienna's from Debbie and Tom. No one went away hungry. On Sunday, dawn broke with the wind still howling and the sun still bright as we carved a circuitous route back to the launch.

TIP OF THE MONTH

One way to keep your hands dry therefore keeping them warmer in cold weather paddling is to buy a \$1.00 pair of latex gloves and wear them inside your paddling gloves or mittens.

CLOSE CALL AT THE PORT

Written by Ray Denno

It was a bright sunny day as we headed for Port Austin. The group consisted of Kathy Lemmer, Linda Schneider, Barb Decker, Mark Bannan and myself. As we arrived we could see three to four foot waves outside the breaker wall. Linda had never paddled

on big water before and Kathy was trying out her new boat; a sharp blue and yellow kevlar beauty.

As we cleared the harbor the group headed for the lighthouse, paddling into the waves. Kathy was doing fine in her new boat and Linda loved the waves and could understand why I liked playing in them so much. As we neared the lighthouse I warned the group about the shallow water and rocks, as the lighthouse sits at the end of a long, shallow reef. We paddled toward shore following the edge of the reef. I knew of a way through the maze of rocks near shore. We picked our way through and headed for a spot we could land. We got a little wet when we came ashore but no one seemed to mind. We ate our lunch and explored a small cave where the girls took some pictures.

After working our way back through the rocks, we headed back for the harbor. Mark, Barb and Kathy headed for the outside opening to the harbor while Linda and I headed for the opening near shore. We had some 2 - 3 foot waves but they were not good for surfing and I gave up trying. Linda was ahead and to my right when a good wave picked me up and took off with me. I shouted at Linda and she turned around to see the nose

of my kayak coming right at her. I leaned my boat on her left side and dug in the paddle and managed to miss Linda. In a case like that, if I couldn't have kept the boat under control, I would have tipped it over to stop it. If someone is bearing down on you and is going to hit you, it is best to roll over away from them and let their boat pass over your bottom, as a person could be injured or possibly killed. As we entered shallow water a good wave broke right at Linda's side, spinning her around and facing her back toward open water. I thought my boat with more keel wouldn't spin around as much, but it also was slammed around. It was a good day for Linda's first paddle on big water and it gave her a good idea of what it can be like.

I still remember the wide-eyed look on Linda's face as she saw my kayak coming at her. I'll bet she remembers it too!

East Coast Paddlers...

Just Add Water

Meeting Dates & Times, 2004/2005

Meetings are held at 6:30 pm the first Thursday of Every Month, at Dive & Glide, 4949 Garfield Road, Auburn. Schedule for 2004/2005 is as follows:

December 2	July 7
January 6	August ?
February 3	September 1
March 3	October 6
April 7	November 3
May 5	December 1
June 2	



Recipe of the Month

Breakfast in a Bag

2 eggs, beaten

Fillings of your choice: ham, bacon, peppers, onions, cooked sausage, mushrooms, cheese...

A quart freezer bag for each person (Ziplock work the best - cheaper bags tend to pop)

A pot of boiling water big enough for the bags to float freely.

If cooking for several people at once, have everyone write their names on their bags with a permanent marker.

Each person puts about 2" of toppings into the bottom of their bag. Pour in enough egg to cover the fillings. Seal and drop into the boiling water. Cook for about 10-15 minutes or until the egg doesn't look runny when you press on the bag. The more fillings and eggs you use, the longer it will take.

~~~~~

Thank you Laurie and Jack Siebert for sharing this month's recipe!

**GEAR SWAP - For Sale:**  
**Women's NRS Neoprene Black Short and Tank Top Set**, size small but more like a medium. Can look on nrsweb.com site for pictures.

**\$25.00 for set**  
**Contact Linda Schneider**

### PADDLE PRATTLE

For article in it's entirety go to: Paddler Magazine, March/April 2004

*A review of the Internet's best paddling forums* by Mike McCrea.

Whether paddlers are gloating or wasting time at work, paddling forums on the Internet have never been more popular. An array of sites offers everything from gear swaps to trip reports and river flow tables but the goods are always in the open forum, where discussions range from paddling to politics. We've picked some of the Web's best, from whitewater-specific to boat-building. Whatever your bent, log on and surf away.

#### Paddling.net

Launched in 1998, contains 5 message boards (advice & suggestions, general discussion, getting together, going paddling, wilderness tripping and fishing from kayaks/canoes), and an array of other sections. It's greatest strength, it's message board participants. Manufacturers' reps, outfitter staff and paddleshop owners mingle with a mix of open boaters, kayakers, day trippers, expedition paddlers and racers. Over 170,000 users and 20 million hits a month.

#### Boatertalk

Multiple message boards and features. Forums for general

discussion, trip planning, surf zone, raft zone and more. Resembles Paddling.net with a whitewater addiction.

#### rec.boats.paddle

The granddaddy of paddling discussion, it is part of the rec.boats newsgroup family of sites. An unmoderated forum, at times sinks beneath maturity, but, with over 150,000 posts archived, the answer to your question is probably already there. Find the site by going to: <http://groups.google.com/> and enter rec.boats.paddle.

#### Canadian Canoe Routes

Started in 1995 and has grown into the premier site for Canadian wilderness paddling, averaging 1,300 to 1,600 visitor sessions per day. It's complete with 13 route forums ranging from Nova Scotia to the Yukon. Also includes forums for general discussion, equipment, maps, meals and menus.



#### Mountainbuzz

Whitewater paddling doesn't get any better than the Colorado Rockies and Mountainbuzz covers that scene with seven different forums, including sections for general discussion, gear talk, river access/hazards and lost and found.

### **Northeast Paddler Message Board**

Multiple forums, including a main board, a for-sale section and a tripper and explorer's corner, as well as separate sections for trip reports, camp food and gear reviews. A core group of regular posters and supporting characters gives the site a small-town feel, at times complete with mischief from local delinquents and deviants.

### **Monocacy Canoe Club Paddle Prattle**

Maryland-based paddling club with one of the mid-Atlantic's most active and respected message boards. While Paddle Prattle focuses on regional whitewater, topics span the full range of paddlesports. With up to 100 new posts a day during the height of paddling season, it is akin to a hearty boater party with multiple discussions going on in every corner. Providing reliable info on East Coast Paddling since 1997, if you float your boat in the mid-Atlantic region Paddle Prattle is the place to post.

### **Missouri Whitewater Association Message Board**

The MWA Message Board is much like Paddle Prattle gone Midwest, although the MWA board occasionally descends into esoteric wit and whimsy, and occasionally into flames

and fury. Bring a sense of humor and a Nomex suit.

### **Dallas Downriver Club Bulletin Board**

This site has a message board as well as links to other Texas paddling boards, forums for boat and gear reviews, trip reports and events. A sprawling and comprehensive site, but then everything's bigger in Texas.

### **Wooden Canoe Heritage Association Discussion Forums**

This site began in 1996 and has over 20 forums dedicated to preserving, studying, building, restoring and using all manner of wood canoes: strippers, canvas, stitch and glue, model canoes, birchbards, even dugouts; as well as forums for paddles and paddle making, canoe sailing and other topics harking back to the pre-plastic days. An invaluable service is the serial number search, with WCHA maintaining an archive of over 240,000 scanned build records and serial numbers for Old Town, Carleton and Kennebec canoes dating back to 1910. Providing the serial number for a vintage canoe may turn up the build record, including make, model, original color, date built and original owner. With over 10,000 hits a day the WCHA forums have no peer when it comes to old gear.

### **Angst Message Board**

Squirt boaters have nearly disappeared from view with the rise of rodeo, creeking and other niche paddling thrills, but squirters still call the irreverent Angst kayak squirt forum their electronic home. You'll need the URL to find this one - <http://angstkayak.com/messageboard/>, or just follow the trail of metal flake gel coat.

### **Kayak Forum**

This site hosts four lively boards: kayak building, design, technique and trips. Participants include builders and designers as well as hobbyists, and the tone and content are refreshingly sincere and honest. If you've ever considered building your own boat, visit Kayak Forum before sniffing that first batch of resin.



**GEAR SWAP - For Sale:**  
**Eddie Line 16' Carbon Lite Night Model Hawk.** Beautiful boat, in wonderful condition for a decent price. Paid \$2,200 new, asking \$1,300 or Best Offer. Harmony Paddles & Bilge Pump goes with it. Contact Ali at 989-781-1887 or cell at 989-326-0539.

# **Paddling Activities for 2004/2005**

The following is our Paddling Schedule as it is currently being developed for 2004/2005. Be ready to take part in our usual impromptu trips also. If you are interested in taking part in a trip listed below, be sure to contact the person listed. If you would like to suggest a trip please e-mail the plan and dates to Linda Schneider at: [lindalou82@centurytel.net](mailto:lindalou82@centurytel.net).

## **November 19 - November 21, 2004 - Boardman River and the Jordan River**

Trip Leader: Jim Ledtke. We will paddle the Boardman River on Saturday, up to 20 miles but can be shorter. Smaller boats advisable but not necessary. On Sunday we can paddle on the Jordan River, approximately 9 miles (3 hours).

We will meet at the Forks Campground at 9:00 am on Saturday for the Boardman River. Meet at Graves Crossing at 11:00 am on Sunday for the Jordan River.

I have a cabin north of Elk Rapids that could accomodate several people or you could camp outside.

Please contact Jim Ledtke if you intend to go, for directions, or if you have any questions.

## **January 1, 2005 - Au Sable River - South Branch**

Trip Leader: George Granlund. Meet on Saturday morning, start from Paddle Brave Campground in Roscommon; shorter boats are recommended. This stretch of river can be breathtakingly beautiful in the winter. Contact George if you're planning to go.

## **July 25-August 7, 2005 - Pukaskwa National Park Trip**

Trip Leader: George Granlund. If you want to explore the most beautiful and remote shoreline in all of the Great Lakes, this trip is for you. For safety, the group needs 4 - 8 people who should have at least intermediate paddling skills. 15 - 16 foot long boat recommended. While we'll try to sit out all the bad weather that Superior throws our way, you should be able to comfortably paddle in waves. Since the water is still cold at this time of year, you need either a wet or dry suit, along with self-rescue skills. The route follows the Superior coastline from the mouth of the Michipicoten River near Wawa to Hattie Cove in the Pukaskwa (puck-a-saw) National Park. This section of wilderness coast is the most remote section of coastline on Lake Superior and has recently been designated by Ontario as a signature destination, part of the Great Lakes Heritage Coast. Paddling the entire Pukaskwa coastline, we'll have the opportunity to cover over 117 miles of pure wilderness. Accessible by road only at Hattie Cove and Michipicoten Harbor, this ribbon of coastline is a sea kayaker's paradise.

We'll paddle a spectacular coastline of clear waters, rocky headlands, sandy beaches and landscape carved from 10,000 years of wind, water and time. Along with a wide variety of wildlife including moose, fox, beaver, and bear, this coast is home to Ontario's most southerly natural herd of woodland caribou. It's a great place to spot loons, bald eagles, osprey and hawks. Human history includes native Pukaskwa Pits and weathering evidence of a vibrant voyageur fur trade and an era of logging, now long gone. Especially inviting sights include



**Continue on next page ⇨**

hiking up to spectacular Denison Falls on the Dog River, taking a shower in Cascade Falls, rounding Point Isacor, exploring Otter Island Lighthouse, and hiking to the thundering gorge on the White River.

On this trip, be prepared to cover some longer distances (up to 18 miles per day), paddle in moderate wind and waves and be able to negotiate some possibly difficult landings. The lake is mostly calm in summer, but when it gets really rough we will enjoy the view from shore. Any experience paddling in surf and swells may come in handy but is not necessary. We will tend to

spend 6-8 hours per day on the water, leaving lots of time for "covering the distance" and exploring the coast. The plans right now are to drive to Naturally Superior near Wawa and camp at their place on July 25th. They will shuttle our vehicles up to Hattie Cove. Since our daily distances will be weather dependent, we'll plan on 12 days on the water, but it may be more or less. I've made it in as few as 8 days, but if we hurry, we won't see as many waterfalls and natural wonders. Once off the water, we'll drive to Marathon and enjoy a meal and motel before heading home the next day. The cost of the shuttles and gas will be divided among us and we'll each need to pay for a Crown Land permit and the camping fee at Naturally Superior. The deadline for sign-up to go is July 1st. For more information contact George.

Check out the latest Animated Wave Forecast at:  
<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/grr/marine/waveForecast.php>

#### GEAR SWAP - For Sale:

**Carolina Kayak -**  
Comes With Rudder  
14 1/2 feet long  
Color: Red  
Good Condition  
**\$600.00**  
E-mail Steve at:  
steveprince  
@chartermi.net



#### Holiday Gift Giveaway

Join us for some holiday cheer at our December 2nd Club meeting; 6:30 pm at Dive N' Glide! Cider and Donuts will be served and anyone who brings a \$5.00 his or her wrapped gift will get a number. Whoever has #1 will pick a gift from the pile and open it. #2 will have the choice of taking #1's gift (leaving #1 to draw a gift from the pile again) OR picking a gift of their choice from the pile. It's a fun game to share with friends and interesting to see who gets what in the end! There are so many choices for gifts, from kayak accessories to camping odd and ends... be creative!

