

PSC Paddler

Newsletter of the
Prairie State Canoeists

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Secretary (2004-2005)

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Newsletter

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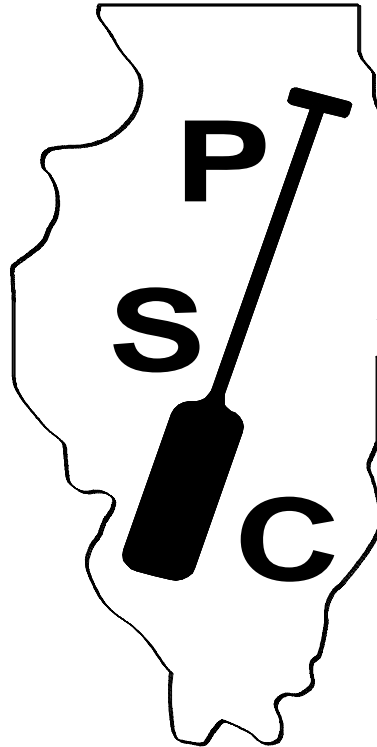
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Visit our website at: <http://www.prairiestatecanoeists.org>

Year End Report for 2003

Trip Leaders Meeting Information

In this Issue:

It's hard to miss the new 'layout' of the newsletter...the change to using legal size paper will add 25% more printable space to the newsletter with negligible costs difference. Everytime I go to put this together, I struggle to make it all fit....this will make it easier but still keep costs in line. I welcome your comments. Please contact me via e-mail, phone, or snail mail at the info provided at the bottom of this page.

This issue contains the the wrap up from the year including: **2002 Year End Statistics** (page 6). The newly elected **PSC Officers** and **Board Members** are shown on the cover and the there is a message from both the **Outgoing Chair** (page 4) and **Incoming Chair** (page 3). On page 4 you will see **For Future Planning** which includes important dates for the year. There is only one **Trip Announcement**--for the **Annual New Years Day Trip on the Chicago River** (page 5) and the **Trip Leaders Meeting** information is on page 5. The **Paddlers MarketPlace** is on page 3 and the **Announcements** are on pages 6-8. Please note the one about Wisconsin and the proposed new law that may affect paddling opportunities there. The members who have joined PSC since July are listed on pages 8-9 under **Welcome New Members**. The **Trip Reports** finish out the issue --they begin on page 10.

Happy Holidays to all and here's to a great paddling season in 2004! See you on the River!

Psc T-shirts (\$12) and sweatshirts (\$20)

are available for purchase. You may make arrangements for UPS delivery or in person at some trips by contacting:

Christina Taylor: 708-455-087 or peace4368@aol.com

Newsletter Deadlines for 2004

Vol-36#	DeadlineTrip	Announcements
1	November 15, 2003	Dec 03-Jan 04
2	January 11	February-March
3	March 1	April-May
4	May 1	June-July
5	July 1	August-September
6	September 1	October-November
Vol 37-#1	November 1	Dec 04-Jan 05

You may e-mail copy (preferred)to: newsletter@prairiestatecanoeists.org
 OR to FAX : You must call 815-634-2811 first
 OR mail to: PSC Paddler, 570 Trotter Drive, Coal City, IL 60416

From The Incoming Chair:

I am honored to be the new Chair of such a great club. If last year is any indication, this will be a fun year. In 2003, we had **349 members** paddle on **95 trips**, with **56 different trip leaders**, **4 clean-ups**, many new members, and several new River Rats. **Joan Taylor**, our **Paddler of the Year**, earned an amazing 1090 points (believed to be a club record). Thanks to the many **volunteers** who helped spread the word about the club at **Canoecopia**, **Paddle in the Park** (PIP), and other events. Thanks also to the last year's board and to those who stepped up to be on the board in 2004.

It all gets underway again soon! I hope you can come to the **Trip Leaders' Meeting on January 17th**. Even when it's cold and snowy, I have always left excited about the paddling that is only a few months away.

I hope you will also be able to attend the **Spring Dinner**. **Annie Aggens** will share how she paddled from her back door in Illinois to Louisiana following historical waterway routes. It is sure to be a entertaining evening! Mark your calendars now for **March 7th**. Watch this newsletter and the website for more information as we get closer to the date.

Please contact me if you have any questions, concerns, or would like to volunteer in some capacity.

Christina

Paddlers Marketplace

Due to limited space, items will only be listed here once unless you contact the editor and request that your ad continue. A new list is compiled for each issue.

For Sale: Like new, two Mad River \$83 ash folding canoe passenger seats w/cane seat and back. \$20 each Harold Hensold, 708-748-0155, hhensold@mac.com

FREE: Yakima car-top carrier for vehicle with rain channel, includes ski and bike equipment. 847-256-3013

Wanted to buy: Two 17" touring canoes, prefer royalex or kevlar. Please call Melissa at 815-932-7929 days; 815-936-9438 evenings; 815-549-9514 cell.

For Sale: Wenonah MNII great condition. Tuff weave ultralite constuction 58lbs. White with black trim. Very fast and can hold 2 weeks of gear; includes sliding bow seat and sling portage pads. Asking \$900 Call 815-356-9136 or e-mail mtbikermark59@yahoo.com

From Al & Sig Pilgrim:

We are immensely thankful to the Prairie State Canoeists for their contributions in donation, time, and participation in " **Paddling In The Park**". The **12th Paddle-In-The-Park**" will be held **July 24th & 25th** at the same location. More info to follow. Our website, www.paddlinginthepark.com is functional.

From The Outgoing Chair:

2003...the club and its members enjoyed another great year of paddling! We owe thanks to the "core" of our club who have made this possible, the **Trip Leaders**. These are the people who organized and ran the trips, answered questions, and made them enjoyable and possible.

I would personally like to thank the people who contributed and did the "hard core" work of keeping the club running smoothly. These people, **all volunteers**, made the administration of the club possible. **Sherri and Lanie Johnson** our Newsletter Editors, who kept track of the trip reports and other sundry information, organized it, and published our wonderful newsletter. **Donna Goldman** our Treasurer, who keeps the books paid the bills and kept the membership rolls organized. **Milt Levenberg** our Webmaster, who has continuously added to and improved our site. **Christina Taylor**, Co - Chair, who keeps track of all of the people that are involved in the trips, the miles paddled, and club activities so that they get credit for their activities and receive their awards at the fall dinner. And, thanks to the remainder of the **Officers and Board members**. A Special Thanks to **Sandy Bate** who is retiring as Club Training Coordinator. Sandy's long time involvement as Training Coordinator, Officer and Board Member has been great asset to the Club and its Members. Sandy.....see you on the river! Thanks to **Ruth Igyarto** who has been the Club Secretary is retiring her position. We thank her for her services.

I thank all above for making my tenure as Club Chair as easy as it was.

Larry

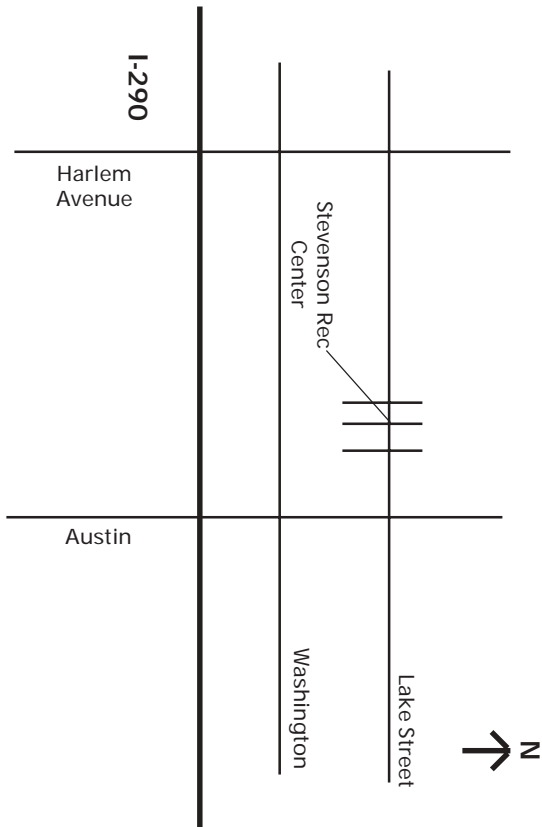
For Future Planning

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| January 17, 2004 | 11 a.m. Board Meeting— all members welcome
1 p.m. Trip Leaders' Meeting— all members welcome |
| March 7, 2004 | Double your points! Double your fun! Lead or co-lead a trip!
PSC Spring Dinner; Annie Aggens will be speaking, so mark your calendars now! |
| March 12-14, 2004 | Canoecopia |
| July 24-25, 2004 | Paddle in the Park |
| November 14, 2004 | Fall Dinner |
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PSC Board Meeting and Trip Leaders' Meeting

The meeting to plan the 2004 Paddling Season will be held Sunday, January 17, at 1:00 p.m., at Stevenson Recreation Center, 59 Lake St., Oak Park. The PSC Board meeting will be held at 11:00 in the same location. Everyone is welcome to attend!

DIRECTIONS: Stevenson Recreation Center, 59 Lake St., Oak Park: Take the Austin exit off the Eisenhower (Interstate 290) (Austin forms the western boundary of Chicago and the eastern boundary of Oak Park, the exit is left, not the conventional right exit). Go about 1 mile north, cross under the Lake Street El (the only overpass) to the stop light immediately north of the El. Turn west (left) onto Lake Street and go 1-1/2 blocks (past the tennis courts) to Stevenson Recreation Center on the south side of the street. There is street parking only. The Rec Center has a kitchen. We will meet in the upstairs room.



Trip Announcements

1-Jan North Branch Chicago River, IL

Vic Hurtowy canoedic@iwc.net 847-803-4575

Join us as we travel down the scenic North Branch of the Chicago River on New Years Day. What a great way to begin the New Year and revive yourself from the night before!!! Due to the increased popularity in recent years; we have several starting times; the first beginning at 8:30 AM and continuing till 10:15 AM. **Contact Vic the week before to let him know when you will put-in.** *(Vic still wants 200+ boats to attend this event!)*

2003 Year-End Statistics:

In 2003, we had **349 members** paddle on **95 trips**, with **56 different trip leaders**, **4 clean-ups**, many new members, and several new River Rats. **Joan Taylor**, our **Paddler of the Year**, earned an amazing 1090 points (believed to be a club record). Below is the summary report as shown on the PSC website showing the total points for any member who earned 100 points or more.

Points	Name	Points	Name	Points	Name
1080	Joan Taylor	190	Austin Fenger	120	Ken Cole
630	Bob Kane	180	Steve LaPorte		Jim Deck
360	Bill Barclay		Kim Parsons		Alice Deck
	Mike Budrys	170	Jerry Emerson		Louis Igyarto
350	Paul Clifford		Cathy Maylee		Tyler Igyarto
	Tom Lindblade	160	Charlie Fenger	110	Sandon Bate
310	Sherri Johnson		Glenn Jensen		Tom Croak
290	Alice Clifford		Glenn Rabick		Anna Croak
	Carol Klug		Rich Rothrock		Cassie Maylee
	Ed Nelson	150	Karen Wedde		Voytek Miezal
270	Peg Strobel	140	Larry Forgala		Grace Miezal
250	Fran Almquist		Terry Heckenbach		Christina Taylor
240	Anita Budrys		Joette Heckenbach		Larry Tennyson
230	Przemek Panek		David Johnson		Evelyn Tennyson
220	Carole Snowdon		Jerry Kolar	100	Brian Maylee
210	Bob Fenger		Mark Morral		John Shafran
	Bill Kessler		Mike Steele		Heidi Vilemson
	Bill O'Malley	130	Ray Ziemer		
	John Ziegler				
	Marilyn Ziegler				

Announcements

Wisconsin Assembly BILL 506 -

May limit use of Wisconsin streams.

Editor note: I have received several notifications from individuals and forwarded write-ups from other paddling clubs with this information

This alert is to all paddlers about a proposed bill in the Wisconsin Legislature that would seriously affect paddling in the state.

WI Representative Scott Gunderson has introduced Assembly Bill 506 which seeks to change the definition of 'navigable waters' or 'navigable waterway' to mean any body of water capable of supporting

an occupied watercraft six months in a calendar year. The same definition would apply to lakes. Under the current definition, a 'navigable waterway' must only be capable of supporting an occupied watercraft one day a year. The bill has been criticized in committee for having the effect of removing one-third of Wisconsin's stream miles from the public

domain. The bill has already stirred up a lot of opposition.

This would be a good time to contact your Wisconsin legislator of choice and let them know how you feel about this. Illinois folks contact them too. Wisconsin is a tourism dependent state and losing access would affect you too!

The State of Wisconsin Legislature website has more information (<http://www.legis.state.wi.us>). You can then select the menu option "Folio Search" and read the entire text of the original and proposed Assembly Bill 506, along with searching other areas of interest to Rep. Gunderson. You can also contact the State at 1-800-362-9472 (this toll free number only works in Wisconsin—not available in Illinois).

Caroling in Canoes and Kayaks

This is an invitation to join the 5th Annual "Caroling in Canoes and Kayaks" on the Chicago River on Sunday, December 14th at 3:00PM.

We will put-in at a floating dock on the east end of the Ogden Slip. Drop your boat(s) on the east side of McClurg Court one half-block south of Illinois Street. We'll have a little on-the-water singing practice at 3:30PM and then head out to carol at the Michigan Ave. Bridge from (about) 4:30pm to 4:40pm and State Street Bridge from 4:50 to 5:00pm. The whole trip should take about two hours. We'll return to Ogden Slip and celebrate at Dick's Last Resort next to the take-out.

While there are parking lots nearby, they are not cheap so you may want to drop your boat by Ogden Slip and then find meter parking further away.....remember to bring enough quarters if you do.

Not only is this event a heck of a lot more fun than last minute holiday shopping, it raises public awareness of the local paddling community and the increasing non-motorized and year round recreational use of the Chicago River. And, we usually get some tape of us on that night's 10pm TV news!

Of course, SAFETY must be a concern for everyone participating in a public event, on cold water, at night. You MUST be wearing a PFD on this trip as we will be in full sight of the public and media and there are continuous vertical walls with few ladders throughout this entire section of the river.

A split red/green bow light and 360 degree white stern light are recommended for all boats. Of course, dressing to swim and/or bringing a change of clothes in a drybag is a standard safety precaution for any paddling trip.

We will have waterproof song sheets for all and the first 15 people to RSVP get free Santa hats. It is also a good idea to RSVP so that you can get a last minute (Sunday 9AM) emailed notice if the weather does not cooperate and we have to cancel or change things.

Those who decorate their boats greatly added to the color and fun of this trip. Anyone who can bring and play a musical instrument (on the water) gets extra credit! If anyone wants to come up with "paddler adapted" words or verses for traditional carols I'll re-broadcast them here and we'll add them to the song

sheets. We're also looking for a volunteer conductor to lead the "singing".

Although Ogden Slip is not a public put-in & take-out, we are being allowed to access the river for this event with the kind permission of the property owner, the MCL

Companies.

Please pass this on to your email-less paddling friends and paddling clubs, websites, listserves, etc. For more information hit reply or call Gary Mechanic at 773-267-0146.

Baja Mexico---Sea kayaking and Swimming with Sea Lions in March 2004

Join us on an exciting sea kayaking journey to the spectacular Sea of Cortez in Baja Mexico. Imagine kayaking with sea lions, blue whales, dolphins, leaping mantas, and tropical fish along the coastal reefs. A visit to Los Islotes, a sea lion rookery, offers a thrill of a lifetime as we swim and snorkel with these curious and playful creatures. This weeklong adventure is perfect for the first time kayakers or the experienced paddlers. We will paddle about 2-4 hours each day exploring islands, inlets, hidden coves and white sandy beaches. Late afternoons are reserved for siestas, swimming, snorkeling, fishing, hiking canyons

adorn in fig trees, and watching magical sunsets.

The estimated cost of the trip is \$1675 and includes air/ground/water transportation, hotel and camping fees, local guides, group kayaking and camping gear, and most meals. Tuition is extra. No experience required.

For more information, contact Field and Interdisciplinary Studies office, Berg Instructional Center (IC), Room 3046, (630) 942-2356, or call Terri O'Donnell at (630) 942-2800 ext. 51099.

Welcome New Members

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trees@vzavenue.net

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847-639-3517
dboyle@northropgrumman.com

Carr II, Mel & Linda Carr
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Collins, Michael
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Wrobel, Chet & Mariann
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cwrobs@msn.com

Trip Reports

10-May Vermillion River Training

What a good day this turned out to be for a training lass. Twelve students trained in high water on the Vermillion. Much improvement was seen during the day. The day began cloudy and rainy with the weather calling for severe storms, hail and tornados. An hour after the trip began the sun came out and we had nice temperatures. Several people fully tested their capabilities and the limits of their boats freeboard. We had good saves. No major gear was lost, just untied/fastened non-essentials. Thanks to all of our carshifters, Dan & Frances. Thanks to all instructors and aides. **Sandon Bate**

25-July Fox River-Chain-O-Lakes

The Fox River trip in the Chain-O-Lakes State Park was canceled—no paddler interest.

23-Aug Horicon Marsh

A new and beautiful sighting in Horicon Marsh was an abundance of White Pelicans. We saw dozens resting on a mud flat and many soaring randomly above us. An Osprey was also observed. The battle to control carp goes on. Hopefully the pelicans like carp... The water was low but the birding and remoteness gave us an enjoyable trip. **Jerry Kolar**

23-Aug Kankakee River (Bird Park to State Park)

We had a very nice day on the river! There were 3 solo canoes, 4 tandem canoes and 5 kayaks on the trip making a

total of 19 paddlers. The water was low but the only place we scraped much was in the channel to the picnic area at the State Park. Local area resident an new PSC'er, Marianne Caron, offered to show us the 'Indian cave' in the early part of the trip. After lunch we stopped to hike up to see Rock Creek Canyon, one of the Park's highlights. Thanks to Bill LaVanne and the other driver (I forgot who it was) for carshift and Joann Benedetto for driver return. Several people stayed overnight at Kankakee River State Park and only Heidi and I continued on Sunday with a new group of paddlers. **Sherri Johnson**

24-Aug Kankakee River (State Line to Momence)

This was another fine day on the river! There were 15 paddlers in a variety of 11 boats (solo, tandem and kayaks). We enjoyed the river much to ourselves much of the day but later when we did encounter other boats (with large motors) it almost swamped a paddler. Luckily he was quick to respond to the boat created an enormous wake right next to him as it rapidly took off. There were complaints about the bugs at lunch (they didn't bother me) but we enjoyed our break on the sandbar.....soft as they were. I needed rescue when I stepped along shore and found that the sand was only hiding a silt hole. I might have ended up fully swimming if not for my other leg preventing me from dropping any further—there was no bottom! I was rescued and we continued down the river. Thanks to carshifters Bob Fenger and Heidi Vilemson and Jim and Alice Deck for driver return. **Sherri Johnson**

30-Aug-1-Sept Labor Day Weekend Namekagon River, WI

This annual trip is always wonderful! This year we had 4 of the group meet up with us on their way back from the Boundary Waters. I had also convinced a person to go along after paddling with him the weekend before and he was glad he came. Needless to say, I spent the week planning and packing food for 6 for a long Holiday weekend.

There were people on this trip who had never been on this river before and claim it was worth the drive! (I think they plan to do it again.) The river TRULY is a GEM! There were many other groups out on the river but we enjoyed stretches of paddling with complete peace and no disruptions to enjoy the beauty!

We camped the first night in the 'camp-ground' with several other groups. We had to ask for a corkscrew when no one in our group had one available to open the (contraband) wine! (Our innocent contributor didn't know of 'no glass allowed' rules but we took care of the situation in the end. Boxed wines were made for the river!) The others in the camp were accomodating and pleasant to camp near and we enjoyed our feast (but alas, no Pierogies!)

On the second night we FINALLY managed to get the campsite that we have wanted to at least visit the past years. Now we know why it has always been occupied! It is a climb up the hill but worth it! We had the most beautifully HUGE site! The 'living' was area around the nice campsite (where some of us had dutch oven pizza and we all witnessed pyro-techniques by Terry) and the cooking area was around

that with tables (where we had and omelets a la Glenn for Monday morning). The 'bedroom' area that was scattered areas out into 'oblivion' where everyone was able to pick a spot with separation to set up their tent. (Last year we were a group of twice as many people and we crammed into a small site so as to not get seperated--which was a good thing since we had some severe weather hit us that afternoon.) The afternoon activities from here included a really good swim for several and a hike on the nearby logging roads for some others. Some of us just put up the hammock and took a nap!

Thanks to all who came on this trip and here's to everyone getting to enjoy a weekend like this on the river!!! **Sherrri & Dave Johnson**

30-Aug-1-Sept Labor Day Weekend Wisconsin River

I love Aldo Leopold's classic book on the Wisconsin River entitled "A Sand County Almanac." He loved this river, as I do, and described his love in a language more beautiful and precise than I can. My favorite passage is where he compares the river to a painter and the sandbars to a painting when he says: "Some paintings become famous because, being durable, they are viewed by successive generations, in each of which are likely to be found a few appreciative eyes, but I know a painting so evanescent that it is seldom viewed at all, except by some wandering deer. It is a river who wields the brush, and it is the same river who, before I can bring my friends to view his work, erases it forever from human view. After that it exists only in the mind's eye. Like other artists, my river is temperamental; there is no predicting when the mood to paint

will come upon him, or how long it will last. But in late spring and summer, when the great white fleets cruise the sky for day after flawless day, it is worth paddling among the sandbars just to see whether he has been at work."

This weekend, with the river very low, this lovely painter was very much at work, not only painting the sandbars with lovely patterns of grasses and flowers, but also sculpting them into large football field size objects of variable beauty and shape.

We camped on them as if we were nomadic royalty in the desert, with our tents, tarps, colorful beach umbrellas, tables and coolers. We fished, swam, threw Frisbees, sat and talked under the tarps in the afternoon and under the stars and before the campfire at night. We barbecued and roasted meals over the fire, as well.

It was a large group, but very amiable, a mix of many veteran regulars and six first-timers on the Wisconsin. Bob Fenger, Charles Lee, and Przemek Panek did the shift, and June Huffman and John Mundt did the return. **Ed Nelson**

13-14-Sept Kickapoo River, WI

A brave group weathered some rain to paddle on the Kickapoo on Saturday. Sunday was a glorious reward for those who had come out. Some of us got carried away with cleanup for which I apologize to those who waited for us. We did accomplish a great deal by picking up about 20 large foam blocks as well as many cans and bottles etc. **Joan Taylor**

14-Sept Upper Fox River

Ten paddlers joined Barb and I on an overcast and coolish day with the forecast calling for rain throughout the morning. As it turned out we did have one down-pour that lasted about 15-20 minutes where we all sought shelter under some trees (no lightning or thunder) which gave us the opportunity to get our raingear on and wait it out. Tom Lindblade introduced us to another piece of raingear, the umbrella! Fortunately that was all the rain we had and the rest of the trip was enjoyable. We were joined by some new paddlers and some old friends which made for a very pleasant trip. Special thanks go to new members Terry and Joette Heckenbach for volunteering to run the carshift and Tracy Hunt for the return carshift. Thanks also to Margy and Milt Levenburg for serving as the sweep boat in the afternoon. **John & Barb Shaw**

19-21-Sept Pine River, MI

A small but hardy group paddled the beautiful Pine. Water was lowest in many years but still could be paddled. **Joan Taylor**

20-21-Sept Eagle Spring Lake, WI

On a warm sunny day we delayed our put-in waiting for a no-show. The start was on a mostly developed lake where we saw a small off-shore statue of liberty moving on through a channel, a pristine lake and finally up a creek we had lunch on a scenic overlook. Lunch was over and our 'no-show' showed up—an amazing feat. We hiked to a beautiful prairie and accidentally picked up tick trefoil seeds in our clothing. We didn't see many birds. They

might have been at home recovering from West Nile Virus. **Jerry Kolar**

21-27-Sept Michigan Rivers

Beset by rain and threats of thunderstorms two brave souls, Mike Budrys and Ed Nelson, joined me for a week of exploring some new rivers in Michigan' new at least to us. We camped five nights at the Clear Lake State Park campground which was handy for the first three rivers paddled.

The first choice was the Ocqueoc. Michigan has suffered like Illinois with a dry August. The Ocqueoc was dry. We shifted to the Black, a clear quick stream like most Michigan rivers. This was a good warm-up river with little to challenge paddling skills. The only drawback was a lack of places to pull over for a break due to steep banks and heavy forest growth. Monday rained all day so we took the opportunity to scout put-ins and take-outs on some other rivers. Ed racked up almost 300 miles driving all day.

Next we paddled the Pigeon, a faster stream than the Black with some maneuvering opportunities. A few tight bends and some small rock gardens made for a nice paddle. On Wednesday we paddled the Sturgeon. What a surprise. Fast current, nonstop turns with deadfall. Except for a 150 yard rock garden it was sort of like paddling the 9mile to 6mile section of the Little Manistee for twice the distance. We all were tired after this day on the river.

Thursday we broke camp, paddled a section of Thunder Bay River, and drove down to Sterling to finish off the week. The Thunder Bay was nice with a couple of ledges but not much of a challenge. A

lot of private homes along the way made this the least scenic of the five rivers we paddled.

Thursday through Saturday we camped at the River View Campground on the banks of the Rifle River which we canoed on Friday and Saturday. This turned out to be a great little river with a rapid on Friday's section that consisted of four ledges. The first three drops were easy to negotiate, but the third wasn't. We had each picked a different route and all three of us got hung up on the rocks. After dislodging and scouting from our boats we saw a possible route on far river right that might have worked. Clear, narrow somewhat fast, and scenic this river rates high on my list.

Mike left us on Saturday but shifted us before he left. Ed and I put-in so we could do the rapid from the day before and paddle far enough to do the other rapid described in our Mich. Rivers book. We paddled to the first rapid, through the first two ledges and pulled off to scout. Looking through binoculars we could not see a way to get to the deep water we saw the day before on the right, so we tried to find a way on the left and center and both got stuck again. But the second rapid made up for it. The nicest fast water on the trip it was a 150-200 yard rock garden reminiscent of something on section II of the Wolf River. We picked our way through and if we had more time Ed would have poled back up and run it again. **Bob Kane**

27-28-Sept Kickapoo River, WI

We had a smaller group this year and a WONDERFUL weekend! Good water levels and weather added to the scenery and

comraderie. As usual we had a feast on Saturday night around a glorious campfire. The weather was cool enough to appreciate the fire (and the Gluug Glog) but not to be uncomfortable. We awoke to the sound of acorns dropping from the tall oak trees above us each morning when the air temperature hit the 'majic' level. This was only for about 10-15 minutes but made you wonder if there were squirrels playing pranks. I heard tell that someone ended up with an unusual number on acorns in his duffle bag....who knows?

This trip always leaves me feeling ready to endure the 'non-paddling season' because it is always so GREAT!! It has the best of experiences which exemplify the reason why we like paddling so much! The river is beautiful and serene and the group of paddlers is always a good mix as well. The feast around the campfire just adds to the whole mix. We left the take-out on Sunday ready to enjoy the scenery on the drive back into civilization.

Our daughter Jackie joined us for the weekend which meant she spent almost 20 hours of traveling to get to and from the river from school but she said it was definitely worth it! **Sherri & Dave Johnson**

27-28-Sept Pigeon River, IN

We spent 2 days paddling the Pigeon River in Indiana. The sections that we paddled were as different as night and day. Saturday we paddled through an Indiana Wildlife area with very little development. Sunday the section we paddled had houses along most of the river. Saturday we had some sun with a

very short shower. Sunday we had no sun with constant rain. All of us gorged ourselves at an Amish Buffet in Topeka. The stories around the campfire were great. Thanks to all. **Paul & Alice Clifford**

9-12-Oct Pine & Boardman Rivers, MI

Fourteen folks experienced the Pine in its most colorful. Tom Lindblade offered moving water training which was so successful that five boats dumped while trying out new maneuvers, (a true sign of success.) We enjoyed a rousing Hootenanny with the leadership of our friend, Bill O'Malley of Michigan. Three other Michigan folks joined us for various days of the adventure. One day most of the group paddled the Boardman. **Joan Taylor & Tom Lindblade**

12-Oct Rock River, IL

Fall colors were out in abundance and there was a chill in the air. Fifteen boats took to the water on a ten mile paddle down the Rock past historic Castle Rock formation and the State Park. The water level was very low. The current varied but was generally slow! The first half of the trip was calm and every paddle stroke broke the stillness of the water. Oh, but when the river widened and turned westward, that last two miles to the lunch stop was a battle against a strong headwind! As the day warmed, the second half of the trip flowed easily. We never did see the eagles but we heard that they were on the Rock River by the Wisconsin state line. Everyone had a good time. Thanks to Ray Ziemer for paddling sweep and Dan Benthall for the carshift. **Rich Rothrock**

PRAIRIE STATE CANOEISTS APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL

DUES: \$15.00

(Dues paid after Sept 1, applied to next year.)

___NEW MEMBER

___RENEWAL

___NEW ADDRESS/PHONE

Please make checks payable to:

PRAIRIE STATE CANOEISTS

Complete & SIGN then mail to:

c/o Donna Goldman

1118 Monroe St

Evanston, IL 60202

READ AND SIGN BELOW:

I AGREE THAT I WILL TAKE PART IN PRAIRIE STATE CANOEISTS ACTIVITIES AT MY OWN RISK. I WILL NOT HOLD PRAIRIE STATE CANOEISTS, ITS OFFICERS, TRIP LEADERS AND/OR MEMBERS RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY INJURIES OR PROPERTY LOSS I MAY INCUR WHILE TAKING PART IN CLUB ACTIVITIES. I UNDERSTAND PADDLING IS AN ASSUMED RISK SPORT THAT PRAIRIE STATE CANOEISTS IS A VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATION WITHOUT PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP, AND I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR MY SELF/FAMILY. BY SIGNING MY NAME HERE I INDICATE THAT I HAVE READ THIS WAIVER AND THAT NEITHER I NOR ANY MEMBERS OF MY FAMILY WILL SUE THE CLUB OR ANYONE ASSOCIATED WITH IT. I AM 21 YEARS OR OLDER.

ALL ADULTS MUST SIGN

SIGNED

DATE

PRINT NAME

SIGNED

DATE

PRINT NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

PHONE NUMBER

E-MAIL ADDRESS

CHILDREN-UNDER 21 (LIST NAMES AND AGES PLEASE)

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It's **TIME** to renew your membership!

Renewals are due by March

Prairie State Canoeists
c/o Donna Goldman
1118 Monroe St
Evanston, IL 60202

