

PSC Paddler

Newsletter of the Prairie State Canoeists

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chair@prairiestatecanoeists.org

312-203-8950

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co-chair@prairiestatecanoeists.org

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treasurer@prairiestatecanoeists.org

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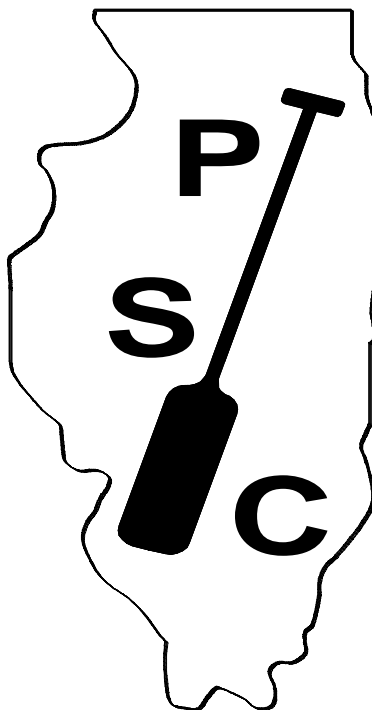
815-963-5945

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630-961-3479

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630-836-0086



Volume 36 #4

June-July 2004

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815-634-2811

815-353-2924

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

From The Chair:

Have you ever been to a small island at the north end of Friday Bay in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness? This island is covered with blueberries in early summer. For this reason, several of us refer to this island as "Blueberry Island." Last fall, four of us spent our day off there on a seven-day non-club trip (I admit it). That morning, a golden mist hung over the narrow channel between the island and the mainland. We slept in and enjoyed a leisurely breakfast. The sky was a perfect blue, the air temperature around 70 degrees and the water much cooler. It was a perfect day. Michael and I spent it skinny-dipping, exploring neighboring "Question Mark Island," and looking for a building that turned out to be the ruins of a structure surrounding a very large, rusting tank and a coffee can from the 1940s. That evening, I found myself feeling well-fed and content in front of the campfire. Michael had been gone long enough for me to wonder where he was. He suddenly stepped into the firelight, quivering with anticipation. He told me that he had discovered something very exciting that he wanted to show me. I felt intrigued and eager. He led me off through the woods toward the north side of the island, then westward along the shore. The stars were out and the water sparkled before me. Behind me, the forest was dark. The green glow of the northern lights moved in the sky in the northeast. I soon found myself standing above a large flat rock at the water's edge. Candles were lit around the perimeter of the rock. Under the green of the northern lights, with the water on one side and forest on the other and the candles flickering about us, Michael helped me down onto the rock, and proposed. As you can see by my new byline, I said yes.

Christina Collins

Newsletter Deadlines for 2004

Vol 36#	Deadline	Trip 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

Contributions should be e-mailed 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

Paddlers Marketplace

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

I have some Kevlar to make available to whoever needs it. They are irregular pieces measuring roughly 16" x 20" and would probably be suitable for repairs. Steve LaPorte
stevelaporte@earthlink.net 630-665-5707

For Sale: Yakima clips for Volvo 850 or S70. Fits Q towers; used about 12 times.
\$25(MSRP \$50) Isabell, 847-920-9023 or isabell_kyrk@yahoo.com

For Sale: Old Town Discovery 174 in excellent condition, \$850.00
Contact Michael_Klawitter@sbcglobal.net

Wanted: Kayak suitable for use on rivers by a 4'8" child who's a serious kayaker. Please call Sharon 708-524-0863

Welcome New Members

Alexander, William & Jane

7963 S. Kedvale, Chicago, IL 60652
773-284-6337
baalex0246@cs.com

Clarey, William & Ann

139 E. Columbia, Des Plaines, IL 60016
847-824-0349

Balkin, Steven & Barbara

Chicago, IL 60614
oikon@pobox.com

Cunningham, Darryl

River Grove, IL 60171

Bosman, David & Marie

2447 Kingsley Drive, Naperville, IL 60565
630-416-3437
david.basman@uop.com

Cusumano, Anthony

577 Rose Lane, Bartlett, IL 60103
630-540-0640
phequad@aol.com

Bowers, Daniel & Stacy

1100 N. East St., Marengo, IL 60152
815-568-5097
stacyb64@aol.com

Engelbach, Gordon & Halina

4521 Elm St., Downers Grove, IL 60515
630-968-2720

Campea, Michael

3842 N. Damon Ave. #2, Chicago, IL 60618
312-659-2988
mcampea@yahoo.com

Fisher, Jeffrey & Avis

1623 N. Court Street, McHenry, IL 60050
815-344-1286
avisfisher@hotmail.com

Welcome New Members

Handler, Bill

8338 Trumbull Ave., Skokie, IL 60076
847-366-6033
bhsnowman@comcast.net

Heller, Mark & Jenna

290 B. Whitfield Dr, Sugar Grove, IL 60554
630-466-0326

Jessen, Charles

412 S. Rex Blvd., Elmhurst, IL 60126
630-279-5360
rcjessen1@sprintpcs.com

Johnson, Lewis & Carol

424 Harbor Ter., Bartlett, IL 60103
630-289-6144
lewis_johnson@sbcglobal.net

Kardatzke, Frederick Joan Jaeger

728 Waldine, Chicago, IL 60657
773-472-7049
fjkardatzke@cps.k12.il.us

Kirkland, Robert & Linda

696 East Division Road, Valparaiso, IN 46383
219-733-2009
wildlinda@netnitco.net

Lake, Ronald & Cynthia

311 Andrea Drive, Manhattan, IL 60442
815-478-5334
lake67@msn.com

Landfear, Frances

271 Country Commons #3, Trout Valley, IL 60013
847-639-0941
frances@landfeargroup.com

Landry, Orville

5653 S. Monroe St., Hinsdale, IL 60521
630-323-8541
olandry2@comcast.net

Lawrence, Rick & Lisa

Benton, WI 53803

nlibluff@aeroinc.net

MacTavish, Krista

Inverness, IL 60067

McNeill, Robert & Rebecca

1122 Howard St., Wheaton, IL 60187
630-668-4579
R2mcneill@hotmail.com

Meth, Leah Michael Caplan

5051 Conrad, Skokie, IL 60077
847-677-5053
f1overdrive@aol.com

Nyden, Barbara

916 S. Austin Blvd. #2, Oak Park, IL 60304
708-445-8007
bnyden@att.net

Peetoom, Carl & Marilyn

2075 Zion Oaks Rd., Pekin, IL 61554
309-387-6966
mcpetom@bitwisesystems.com

Ruth, Nancy A.

302 W Maple Street, Arlington Hts, IL 60005
847-253-9842
nruth@core.com

Scheider, Tom & Mary

4778 W. Empire Rd., Freeport, IL 61032
815-868-2449

Scribner, Donald & Christine

1331 Grandview Drive, New Lenox, IL 60451
815-485-6214
cscribner0922@comcast.net

Simpson, William & Krista

1003 Bartheline Ave., Joliet, IL 60435
815-744-9511
krista.simpson@comcast.net

Stevens, Brian & Mary

3616 N. Newcastle, Chicago, IL 60634
773-777-9166

Welcome New Members

Stromberg, Bruce

38829 N. Gilbert Ave, Beach Park, IL 60099-3538
847-244-0434
bstromberg3@comcast.net

Terrell, Bernard & Jeneine

Chicago, IL 60655

Toner, Scott

Vernon Hills, IL 60061

Tury, Melinda

18 Fallbrook Drive, Glendale Heights, IL 60139
630-894-2285

Wilson, Susan

1919 Prairie Sq. Apt. 219, Schaumburg, IL 60173
224-420-0454
avian@sbcglobal.net

Wrenn, Steven & Stephanie

1974 N. 18 Av., Melrose Park, IL 60160
708-344-0763
natakuleesnipe@aol.com

Wright, Hacy & Joyce

4202 Highland Rd., Zion, IL 60099
847-731-2853
hacywj@earthlink.net

Yamada, Robert & Patricia

120 C Red Fox Lane, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
847-985-6831

Zadura, Bruno & Valerie

Chicago, IL 60630

Announcements

Christina,

I don't remember if I officially said **THANK YOU** to PSC for the wonderful donation of \$300 to help feed the hungry paddlers lunch again! Your club and leadership is absolutely wonderful, and we couldn't do it without you.

THANK YOU and the board again.

Look forward to paddling with you some day.

Sigrid

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: 312-203-8950 or peace4368@aol.com*

Announcements (con't)

I just checked the web site of PSC, and it looks like the club has a wide assortment of trips planned for this year. Our club doesn't always plan quite so far in advance, and so far we have about 50 outings scheduled for the first few months of the season. Our club website is www.ccpac.org

Last year we had 101 trips over the course of the year, and I anticipate that the number will be similar in 2004. More trips get added all the time, and our newsletters are usually out by the first of each month. I am writing to invite any members of PSC to join our club trips, but they must be ACA members, and contact the trip host in advance. We have a club policy that says that trips are open to CCPAC members only, and their guests. But many of the leaders are perfectly willing to accept out-of-town ACA people as guests on their trips. Also, if any of your leaders would like to join forces with our group, have them contact me.

Lois Goldstein
3947 Havenhill Lane, Williamsburg, MI 49690-9536
Phone: (231) 938-9655
E-mail: lgoldstein@charter.net

Spread the word, my fellow Guerilla Paddler's book is now available!

The most comprehensive guide to paddling in Northern Illinois ever written has finally been published. Bob Tyler's Book "Paddling Adventures in Northern Illinois: Apple River to Zuma Creek" is now available from iuniverse.com, Amazon.com, and soon from the Chicagoland Canoe Base at \$15.95

Bob a long time member of both Prairie State Canoeists and The Chicago Whitewater Association has attempted to paddle just about anything that will float a boat. The book details over eighty paddles. Some probably should never be paddled again! Many are among our favorites. You can now find out if that creek you drive over every day can be paddled. If it can, Bob probably has it in his book. What are the access problems, where are the little known whitewater runs, what trips are family friendly, where can you paddle when there isn't any water? All these questions are answered in the book, and all information is indexed to the DeLorme Atlas.

In addition to incredible amounts of paddling information, the book also reflects Bob's interest in local history with a wealth of river related historical information.

This book should be on your shelf, Right next to Mike Svob's Paddling Illinois. Enjoy!

Regards, Tom Lindblade

Trip Announcements (con't)

Jun 4-6, Fri-Sun Training
Intro to Whitewater: Wolf, Red, Pike
Rivers

Tom Lindblade 630-207-9500
lindbladet@sbcglobal.net

Where we paddle will depend on group experience and water levels. Learn the art of Whitewater Canoeing (Class I and II) on the best teaching rivers in the Midwest. Requires intermediate level paddling skills and whitewater equipment (can be rented). Please email for further information: lindbladet@sbcglobal.net. Please be sure to include your address and phone number. (If email is not possible, call.)

Jun 4-6, Fri-Sun Wisconsin Whitewater
(Including Wausau Course)
Intermediate/Advanced Whitewater

Bill Barclay 708-386-1371
chocolate.house@verizon.net
Larry Rice 309-246-3757
lrice@mtco.com

We will paddle Whitewater Rivers in northern WI including the Wolf and the Peshtigo. The choice of rivers will depend upon water levels and temperature. The rivers will include Wolf (Section IV if accessible) and Peshtigo (Section III). On Sun we will run (several times) the Wausau whitewater course.

Jun 5, Sat DuPage River, IL-Clean-up

Joan Taylor 630-495-1565
taylorjrs@aol.com

Dave Coulter

Carshift from Geneva Road and the river at 9:30. We will participate in the Annual DuPage Cleanup working on the section from Geneva Road to Mack Road.. This is a great opportunity to do a good deed, work on your maneuvers and have a good time. Bring a rake or grabber if you have one. Other items will be provided.

Jun 5-6, Sat-Sun Grant River, WI

Bob Kane 815-744-8129
paddler@cbcast.com
Jerry Emerson 219-662-1296

Jun 6, Sun- Nippersink Creek
Welcome to New Members Trip

Bill Kessler 708-547-5314
kslr@aol.com
Joan Taylor 630-495-1565
taylorjrs@aol.com

This is a special invitation to NEW MEMBERS (and veterans) of Prairie State Canoeists to meet other club members and enjoy a trip through a beautiful, wooded river trail. This is a narrow, twisty river that requires some maneuvering skills. Remember, you must have your own canoe or kayak and paddles and a PFD for each person. Bring lunch, drinking water, and a change of clothes in a dry bag. Contact the leaders and let us know that you are coming. Directions: Take Route 12 north from Fox Lake to the intersection with Route 31. Do not turn; continue straight (west) on Tryon Grove Road about 1.5 miles to Keystone Road. Turn left (south) and proceed about 2.5 miles to the park on your left. Be ready to car shift at 9:30am

Jun 9, Wed Yellow River, IN

Joan Taylor 630-495-1565
taylorjrs@aol.com
Jim Deck 217-442-2032

Car shift is 9:30. We will put in at the park ramp in Knox next to route 35 on the southwest side of the bridge. We will go to the confluence of the Kankakee River . It is approximately eleven miles. Part of the trip will be in Kankakee fish and wildlife area.

Trip Announcements (con't)

Jun 10-15, Thu-Tue

Pine/Little Manistee Rivers, MI

Joan Taylor 630-495-1565
taylorjrs@aol.com

Jun 12-13, Sat-Sun Fawn & Pigeon Rivers, IN
Beginner

Jerry Emerson 219-662-1296

Paul & Alice Clifford 815-886-2554
Pclifford38@hotmail.com

We will be camping at Riverside Campground east of Shipshewana on IN RT 120. Depending on water levels, it will be decided which rivers will be done each day. Carshift from campground on Sat will be at 9:30 sharp and on Sun at 9:00 sharp. Everyone is welcome to join us on Sat evening for Amish dinner in TopOeka, IN. Directions: Take IN 80/90 east to IN 13. Go south on IN 13 to IN 120. Go east on IN 120 for 9.25 miles to road 450 West. Go north on 450 West .25 mile, over bridge and turn left into the campground. Please bring dump clothes and lunches for both days. Please call leaders prior to the trip.

Jun 13, Sun Des Plaines (Isle de le Cache)

Bob Kane 815-744-8129
paddler@cbcast.com

Louis & Ruth Igyarto 847-587-7462
imtngl51@cs.com

Jun 13, Sun Upper Kishwaukee River

Mark & Merri Morrall 815-765-3402
morrall@t6b.com

We'll be paddling from Garden Prairie (Countyline Road) to Belvidere. Bring the usual, lunch, dry clothes, etc. Car shift at 10:00 sharp.

Jun 19, Sat Eagle Spring Lake, WI
Advanced Beginner

Jerry Kolar 847-336-1187

West of Mukuongo we'll find Eagle Spring Lake. A paddle around a part of this lake will lead us to a connection to glacially created Lulu Lake. Moving up Crooked Creek gets us up to a scenic overlook. After lunch and a hike we'll paddle back to our put-in. This trip has a minimum and maximum boat count.

Jun 19-20, Sat-Sun Little Manistee River, MI

Beginner and Intermediate

Paul & Alice Clifford 815-886-2554
Pclifford38@hotmail.com

Bill Barclay & Peg Strobel 708-386-1371
chocolate.house@verizon.net

This is a surpassingly beautiful river in lower Michigan not yet (and maybe never) in the Wild and Scenic River program (between the Pere Marquette and Pine Rivers off highway MI 37); crystal clear water, more wildlife than people. The first day is a beginner trip; the second day is an intermediate trip because of fast water (no rapids) and tight bends. Paddlers will need ability to back paddle, ferry, draw, pry and eddy to do the second day. We will camp at Pine River Paddlesports Center on the left (west) side of highway 37 just before you cross the Pine River going north.

Jun 25-27, Fri-Sun Pecatonica River, WI
(Camping)

Mark & Merri Morrall 815-765-3402
morrall@t6b.com

We'll be camping at Blackhawk County Park. Paddling about six hours on Saturday; then a shorter stretch on Sunday.

Trip Announcements (con't)

Jun 26, Sat Horicon Marsh, WI
Advanced Beginner

Jerry Kolar 847-336-1187

Horicon Marsh is a site of international significance. Its pre-settlement story, degradation and restoration, is fascinating. We'll paddle the main deep channel in the state owned part of the Marsh. Expect to see uncommon birds. There is a minimum and maximum boat count.

Jun 26-27, Sat-Sun
Beginning Whitewater- WI

Bill Barclay & Peg Strobel 708-386-1371
chocolate.house@verizon.net

This trip is designed for paddlers learning the art of whitewater canoeing. We will paddle rivers in northern WI, with the choice of rivers dependent upon water levels and the groups' interest/experience. Likely candidates include the Pike (Yellow Bridge Falls at paddler's option), Oconto, Wolf, Sections I and/or II, Peshtigo Section II, etc. **There will be no rapids rated above Class II on this trip.** This is a chance to build skills and confidence with support of other paddlers. Call the leaders for details regarding camping, meeting places, etc.

Jun 26-27, Sat-Sun Dowagiac River, MI

Joan Taylor 630-495-1565

taylorjrs@aol.com

Przemek Panek 773-843-0505

romin2x@ameritech.net

Saturday, Car shift at 10 a.m. at the Dow-Wah-Jack's Canoe Rental. (There is a \$5. Charge per canoe/kayak. These folks do a great job of keeping the river clear.) Take 94 east into Michigan to exit 4A. Take US 12 east 22 miles to Busi-

ness 12/Niles turnoff. Take Business 12 into and through Niles to junction with M51 just past St. Joseph River Bridge. Go north on M51 to the Dow-Wah-Jack's Canoe Rental. (4 miles north of Dowagiac). Camping is available at Nub Lake Campground, Niles, MI, 269 687-9681.

The Sunday put in will be at Dodd Park. Contact Przemek if interested in the Sunday trip which is exploratory

Jun 27, Sun Fox River Trip (Yorkville)

Beginner

John and Barb Shaw 630-961-3479

john.shaw@gsa.gov

From I-55 take exit 261 (Rte. 126) through Plainfield all the way to Rte. 47 (Yorkville). Turn right on 47 and follow into town. Before you cross the river turn left (west) on Hydraulic St. About 50-100yards you will see a public access put-in and parking. This is the put-in. From I-88 take the exit for Rte. 47, turn left (south) and follow 47 all the way to Yorkville. Cross the river and turn right (west) on Hydraulic St. About 50-100yards you will see a public access put-in and parking. This is the put-in. Car shift is at 9:30 sharp. Bring PFD's for every paddler and a lunch. (Coast Guard regulations require children 13 and under to wear PFD'S at all times.) *Note there are no restroom facilities at the put-in or take-out so I would suggest that you visit a gas station or fast food place in Yorkville prior to arriving at the put-in. The good news is that there are facilities at the lunch stop in Silver Springs State Park.

Trip Announcements (con't)

Jul 3-16, Sat-Fri Montana Rivers—Easy Whitewater

Skill Level: Intermediate Whitewater or bring a raft

Rick Fleming 847-253-9383
rick24fleming@attbi.com

If you want to really see Montana and don't have the whitewater skills you can buy an inflatable kayak or raft and make this trip. We will be doing mostly relatively easy whitewater rivers, mostly ones that I have done before. However, we might insert a few difficult rivers or sections, especially if water levels are high. In that case, some paddlers might want to take a hiking day. And we will plan hiking days into the trip. In fact, I plan on hiking Saturday and Sunday, July 3rd and 4th. I've put the trip beginning date flexible to allow for vacation timing. Water levels are best at this time of year - not too high, levels usually going down - and down fast so that in two more weeks levels might be too low. Please call or write to express any interest at all. I'll send more information to all who have some interest but at a latter date.

Jul 3, Sat Lower Fox River, IL—Once in a Blue Moon-night trip 1,

Experienced Beginner

Larry Forgala 708-425-0733
larryfor@msn.com

This is the first of the two full moons for this month. (Hence "once in a full moon"). We will start at Sheridan this time, dine at the Rt. 52 Bridge, and continue to Ayers Landing. Last year Mother Nature gave us a grand night of paddling, hopefully she will do the same this time. The put-in is at scooters Bar on Robenson Rd. just north of downtown Sheridan. There are some fees at the put-in & Take-out, so bring some singles. Car shift at 5:30 P. M.

Jul 11, Sun KISHWAUKEE River, IL Advanced Beginner

John & Barb Shaw 630-961-3479
john.shaw@gsa.gov

Take I-90 toward Rockford. Be alert for mile-post 61. Exit at U.S.20. Go a short distance to the Belvidere exit. Proceed east on Hwy 20 a half mile to the Cherry Valley exit. At the first stop light turn right and proceed to the first intersection (stop sign). Turn left. Cross the bridge to the first street on the right. Turn right into Bauman Park. The boat launch is located on the first road on the right after the playground. Car Shift will be at 9:30. PFD'S required; dump clothes always recommended and bring your lunch. This trip is rated advanced beginner because there will definitely be some maneuvering through certain sections and depending on water level.

Jul 11, Sun

Busse Woods-Canoe Orienteering

Michael Collins 847-222-9253
collins@chicago-orienteeing.org

Please join us for some canoe-orienteeing on July 11th at the "South Pool" of Busse Lake, south of Higgins Road, just east of I-290/Route 53. We'll be starting at 10 a.m. (registration starts at 9:30). This official event of the Chicago Area Orienteering Club will include a beginner's clinic that runs continuously until noon. We can show you how to use a map and compass to navigate to specific locations along a route. You may paddle competitively or recreationally. Expected completion time for the route will be about 90 minutes per course. After the event, we'll need folks to help retrieve controls, so we would appreciate anyone who could hang out for a while. More information is available at the club web site and at <http://www.chicago-orienteeing.org/> Michael & Christina Collins

Trip Announcements (con't)

Jul 16-19, Fri-Mon Wisconsin Whitewater (Michigan UP as backup)

Intermediate/Advanced Whitewater

Bill Barclay 708-386-1371
chocolate.house@verizon.net
Larry Rice 309-246-3757
lrice@mtco.com

Another chance to paddle rivers like the Wolf and Peshtigo but in warmer weather. Wolf III and IV, Pesh III, etc. Other rivers will be dependent upon levels and interest. If water is low in WI or the UP looks particularly attractive we will go there. Call the leaders for details. Wet/dry suits, helmets required.

Jul 17, Sat Kishwaukee River, IL—Clean up

Mark & Merri Morrall 815-765-3402
morrall@t6b.com

We will be joined by members and guests of the Boone County Conservation District. Meet at the landing on South Appleton Rd, Belvidere. Carshift at 9:00. Let me know if you plan to attend, e-mail preferred.

Jul 17-18, Sat-Sun Mekan River, WI

John & Marilyn Ziegler 847-742-7316
canucamp@ix.netcom.com
Sherri Johnson 815-634-2811
canoesew@sbcglobal.net

The Mekan is a small spring-fed river with a steady current and sandy bottom. Numerous downfalls and twists in the river can make for interesting paddling. We will be camping at

Mekan River Outfitters at the primitive group site. All campers must stop at the lodge to check in. Tell them that you are with Prairie State Canoeists. Call leaders for more info on the campground. Mekan River Outfitters (920-295-3439) is located 3 ½ miles west of Princeton on Hwy 23 or 6 ½ miles east of Montello on Hwy 23. Car shift from campground at 9:00. Please call trip leaders.

Jul 24-25, Sat-Sun Paddle-in-the-Park

Sigrid & Al Pilgrim 847-328-0145
sigpilgr@atte.com

Jul 31, Sat Lower Fox River, IL— Once in a Blue Moon—night trip 2 Experienced Beginner

Larry Forgala 708-425-0733
larryfor@msn.com

This is the second full moon this month, so we get another chance. Let us see if Mother Nature is kind and gives us a cool, clear night. DIRECTIONS: Take I-55 south to Rt. 52 (Shorewood Exit West). Continue west approx. 26 miles to the river. Put-in at the NE corner of the bridge. Put-in at 6:30 P. M.

Jul 31-Aug 1, Sat-Sun Wildcat Creek, IN Clean-up

Joan Taylor 630-495-1565
taylorjr@aol.com

For Future Planning

Aug 7-8, Sat-Sun	Sugar River, WI
Aug 8, Sun	Chicago River, IL-Flatwater Classic
Aug 13-15, Fri-Sun	Wisconsin Whitewater (Michigan UP as backup)
Aug 14, Sat-	Kankakee River, IL (Momence-Aroma Park)
Aug 15, Sun	Kankakee River, IL (Bird Park to Kankakee River State Park)
Aug 21, Sat	East Branch of Pecatonica
Aug 22, Sun	Kishwaukee River, IL New Members Trip
Aug 29, Sun	Lower Des Plaines River
Sep 4-6, Sat-Mon	Namekagon River, WI, Advanced Beginner/River Camping
Sep 4-6, Sat-Mon	Wisconsin River, WI
Sep 11-12, Sat-Sun	Pine River, MI
Sep 12, Sun	Lower Fox River, IL
Sep 18, Sat	Kankakee River, IL (State Line to Momence), Beginner
Sep 25-26, Sat-Sun	Kickapoo River, WI (Fall Colors Trip), Advanced Beginner
Sep 25-26, Sat-Sun	Wisconsin Whitewater (Beginner/Intermediate)
Sep 28, Tue	Des Plaines River, IL-Moonlight
Oct 2-3, Sat-Sun	Fawn & Pigeon Rivers, IN
Oct 3, Sun	Rock River
Oct 7-10, Thu-Sun	Wolf River-Whitewater (Biking & Paddling)
Oct 8-11, Fri-Mon	Pine/Little Manistee Rivers, MI
Oct 17, Sun	I & M Canal
Oct 17, Sun	Sugar River, WI
Oct ??, Sat	Raccoon Creek, IN (Covered Bridge Festival)
Oct 24, Sun	Illinois River
Nov 7, Sun	Mystery Trip
Nov 14, Sun	Fall Dinner (Tentative)
Nov 29-Dec 3	Quietwater Rivers of Apalachicola National Forest, Florida Panhandle
Mar-Apr 2005	Quietwater Rivers of Cumberland Plateau, TN

Corrections to the Directory Listings

Pilgrim, Al & Sigrid
 pilgrim@comcast.net

Fleming, Rick
 rick24fleming@attbi.com

Trip Reports

Feb 29, North Branch Chicago River

Commonly known as the soup trip, because of the huge pot of soup at lunch stop, was done in some beautiful weather for this time of year. Sunny and in the low 60's with a very light breeze made for a very comfortable paddle. Thanks to our car-shifters and return driver. We had a back-up stove at lunch- which saved the day! Probably had eight to nine different types of soup in the pot. Great day and good company. *Jerry Emerson*

Apr 17-18 Tippecanoe River, IN

We had six paddlers on Saturday and nine on Sunday. The weather was unreal for April, sunny, 80-85 both days. Four boats on Saturday and five Sunday made for a fine and easy paddle. Our lunch stop on Saturday was at the launch sit in the park and that the end of the trip on Sunday. As usual for this time of the year the geese were very active on and off their nests. A great horned owl was sighted on Saturday as well as a deer cow in the river. Many thanks to our fine car shifters and driver returns. Two great fires on both evenings. Only one minor deadfall encountered. *Gerald Emerson*

March 28, West Branch DuPage River

St.Charles Rd. to Mack Road Landing

The warm weather and low water caught some of us napping — and wading. But we enjoyed the outing on this winding stream, taking out at Mack Road before the weather changed to rain. Thanks to Dan for car shift, and to Tom Lindblade for his work with the saw.

Also, we would like to nominate Tracy Hunt for the PSC "Good Sportsmanship" award for his role as Best Supporting Paddler. *Ray Ziemer*

April 17, 2004 DuPage River

Shorewood to Channahon

In many ways it was a typical PSC trip on a local stream, as old friends and new paddled and scraped along the main stem of the river. The weather was nice, and quiet time on the water appreciated especially as road work increases, urban sprawl changes the character of small towns like Channahon, and development encroaches more and more on the river. Thanks to Eric Meyers for car shift and "inspirational" music. *Ray Ziemer*

April 25, Nippersink Creek & Chain of Lakes

Our day began at the Nippersink Canoe Base with a dead calm in a pea soup fog. But the fog quickly yielded to blustery "welcome back springtime" winds, which used the day to walk around the compass from the N/W on down to the S/W. The change brought with it the much cherished warm spring air, but, on a trip which combined river & lake paddling with multiple options as to which course we would follow, the changing directions of the wind made it difficult to pick the route that would allow us the pleasure of paddling with the wind instead of against it. Thanks to Jim Lickberg's G.P.S. device we now know that we paddled approximately 2 miles on the Nippersink Creek and about 4.7 miles through Pistakee, Nippersink, Dunns & Fox Lakes. We took advantage of the lee sides of islands and high-banked shorelines as much as possible and earned our daily ration of rum by performing a wind ferry to cross Nippersink Lake with a 50 M.P.H. headwind and two foot standing waves. The only other humans out on the lakes were fishermen in bass boats, which made for a predominately smooth and quiet day. The

Trip Reports (con't)

buds popping out on the trees and mother natures little fur balls and feathered friends all busily scurrying around preparing for the summer season to come (the author's favorites being fuzzy little goslings following mom and dad around) were like a delicious icing atop an already good cake. We all went home with our eyes full, our hearts happy and our bodies darn tired and worn out. Much thanks to God for another great PSC paddle day. *Lou & Tyler Igyarto*

May 1-2, Middle Fork of Vermillion, IL

We enjoyed a beautiful weekend on the Middlefork this year! In spite of low water and a cool damp dry Saturday, everyone seemed to enjoy the riffles, the spring flowers and some wildlife as we paddled from Higginsville Bridge to Kickapoo State Park. Indian paintbrush was more abundant than ever. Clark Bullard gave us a grand tour of the hillside prairie and the Indian ceremonial and burial grounds. The knowledge he has of this area, and shares with us, is always interesting and fascinating and grows each year. The forecast for Sunday did not sound good but turned out to be a lovely day. We paddled from Kickapoo State Park to the Danville City Park and along the way toured the interpretive site of a coal mine. We witnessed the activities of heron rookery high in the Sycamores on

the riverbank. Further down a waterfall became a backdrop for photographers and gathering bricks for garden back home became another fascination. (You have to paddle this stretch of the river to understand the allure of bricks) The old Railroad Bridge built in 1905, with its walkway under the arches was an interesting site for many that had never been on this stretch of the river.

There was much camaraderie among our paddlers as there is on most PSC trips. Lunch on a sandbar yielded many shared goodies. We wish to thank Rick Fleming for the car shuttle each day. *Larry & Evelyn Tennyson*

May 8, Bark River, WI

Those of us that decided to take a chance that the weather forecast was wrong were rewarded by a having a relaxing paddle. The day started cold and wet (42 degrees) and we had to change the put-in due to the DNR closing the one we were going to use. By the time the car shift was done, the rain had stopped. The Bark River has a different look to it north of Route 18. The water is clear and we saw a lot of mussels and fish as we paddled along. As the day went on the sun came out and it warmed up to about 70 degrees. *John & Marilyn Ziegler*

PRAIRIE STATE CANOEISTS APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL

DUES: \$15.00

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

NEW MEMBER

RENEWAL

NEW ADDRESS/PHONE

**Please make checks payable to:
Complete & SIGN then mail to:**

**PRAIRIE STATE CANOEISTS
c/o Donna Goldman
1118 Monroe St
Evanston, IL 60202**

READ AND SIGN BELOW:

I AGREE THAT I AM TAKING PART IN THE 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 (INCLUDING DEATH) OR PROPERTY LOSS I MAY INCUR WHILE TAKING PART IN CLUB ACTIVITIES. I UNDERSTAND THAT PADDLING IS AN ASSUMED RISK SPORT, THAT PRAIRIE STATE CANOEISTS IS A VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATION WITHOUT PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AND THAT I AM RESPONSIBLE FOR MYSELF/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.

ALL ADULTS MUST SIGN

SIGNED DATE

PRINT NAME

SIGNED DATE

PRINT NAME

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