

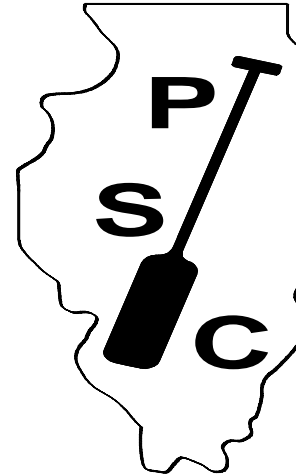
Prairie State Canoeists

c/o Ken Cole
224 Lafayette Dr
Bolingbrook, IL 60440

Send Address corrections to: Treasurer@prairiestatecanoeists.org
or Ken Cole, 224 Lafayette Dr, Bolingbrook, IL 60440

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PSC Paddler



Newsletter of the

Prairie State Canoeists

Volume 37 #4
June-July 2005

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

- Chair (2005) **Bill Kessler** Berkeley 708-547-5314 chair@prairiestatecanoeists.org
- Co-Chair (2005) **John Ziegler** Elgin 847-742-7316 co-chair@prairiestatecanoeists.org
- Secretary (2004-2005) **Margy Levenberg** Libertyville 847-680-1223 secretary@prairiestatecanoeists.org
- Treasurer (2005-2006) **Ken Cole** Bolingbrook 630-759-9137 treasurer@prairiestatecanoeists.org
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Board of Directors

- | | | | | |
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| Allen Close | Park Forest | (2004-2005) | 708-748-2102 | thecloses@yahoo.com |
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| Mark Morrall | Caledonia | (2005-2006) | 815-765-3402 | morrall@t6b.com |
| Joan Taylor | Lombard | (2005-2006) | 630-495-1565 | taylorjrs@aol.com |

From the Chair:

How often have you heard a friend or colleague at work say, "You seem to enjoy this canoeing thing a lot. I sure would like to try that." Well, the PSC picnic on August 7 is the perfect opportunity. While we are not opening the event to the general public, you can invite your friends to have a good time and see what it is all about. The announcement in this newsletter provides more details.

You may want to carpool to picnic, and to all the canoeing events this summer, considering the price of gas. If you want to share the cost, ease the burden on the environment, and do a favor for a fellow paddler, check out the PSC web site Bulletin Board for Rideshare opportunities.

Speaking of the web site, I have heard many great comments about it. If you have a question or suggestion for a feature that you would like to see on the site, post it on the Bulletin Board. Our web wizards want to hear from you.

Our next social get-together will be on Saturday, June 25, at the intriguing Thunder Bay Grille, hosted by Mark Morrall. See the announcement in this issue.

Now, with the whole summer ahead of us, let's get out there and paddle.

Bill Kessler
Chair, 2005

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: Rebecca Sells, r-sells@sbcglobal.net, or Linda Gebhart lgebhard@aurora.edu; 630-466-7093.

Newsletter Deadlines for 2005		
Vol 37#	Deadline	Trip Announcements
1	November 15	Dec 04-Jan 05
2	January 15	February-March
3	March 1	April-May
4	May 1	June-July
5	July 1	August-September
6	September 1	October-November

Contributions should be e-mailed to: newsletter@prairiestatecanoeists.org
OR mailed to: PSC Paddler, 1319 Ivy Lane, Apt 103; Naperville, IL 60563

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: **PRAIRIE STATE CANOEISTS**
Complete & SIGN then mail to: c/o Ken Cole
224 Lafayette Dr
Bolingbrook IL 60440

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 _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

CHILDREN-UNDER 21 (LIST NAMES AND AGES PLEASE)

PLEASE PRINT MY NAME/ADDRESS/PHONE IN DIRECTORY YES NO

PLEASE PRINT MY E-MAIL ADDRESS IN DIRECTORY YES NO

PLEASE NOTE: *If you do not make a selection for printing, the club policy is to use the default selection of "NO" and your information will not be printed*

Check one: I PREFER TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER BY **POSTAL MAIL ONLY**
 I PREFER TO DOWNLOAD THE NEWSLETTER FROM **<http://www.prairiestatecanoeists.org>**
 (PLEASE NOTIFY ME AT THE E-MAIL ADDRESS LISTED ON THIS FORM WHEN IT BECOMES AVAILABLE)

Trip Reports

Mar 30 Kishwaukee River, IL—South Branch

The Kish was flowing at 200 CFS and was at a gauge height of 2.55 feet at the Fairdale gage. While we did no scraping, any lower water level would cause such. Beautiful paddle, with lots of geese, blue herons and a small flock of Buffleheads! **Al Donaldson**

Mar 21 Des Plaines River

Nice water level, deer, hawks, kingfisher and owl. Where are all the people? **Andy Cocallas**

Apr 9 DuPage River, Moving Water 1

An extremely successful Moving Water 1 training; fifty people on the water 33 students. **Tom Lindblade**

Apr 3 West Branch of DuPage River

A beautiful day brought 18 paddlers out on the West Branch, in canoes and kayaks. It was nice to see new and old friends enjoying the river. Everyone was able to skim over the only real obstruction we faced - those old timbers from the old St.Charles Rd. bridge keep working their way downstream. Even allowing for a leisurely lunch at Lions Park in Winfield, our trip was relatively quick; the decent water level and a little current got us through to Mack Road before 3:00. Thanks to Mary, Richard, Przemek, and Sherri for car shift help and Sherri for sweep. **Ray Ziemer**

Apr 17 Fox River, IL

Nineteen people in ten kayaks and five canoes joined me on my first attempt to lead a trip on a glorious 75° April afternoon. Although quite

urban, wild life was seen. As required by PSC Bylaws, the majestic Blue Heron appeared and then proceeded to follow us all day. We also encountered two pink flamingos and the ever so elusive flock of polymer geese. I would like to give a special thanks to Dean for saving one of the runaway geese from certain peril over the Carpentersville dam.

The takeout at Trout Park in Elgin was an awe-inspiring carpet of yellow and blue wild flowers. It was quite a contrast to the I-90 bridge looming overhead. Thanks to the car shifters and everyone that made my first trip run smoothly. **Glenn Rabick**

April 23-24 Middlefork of the Vermillion

Mother Nature threw everything she had at us, including cold wind, sleet and snow. The water level was also too high for safety on the Middlefork so we chose to paddle the Salt Fork, a much wider, flatter and forgiving river. Eight paddlers in seven boats did the trip on Saturday. Everyone enjoyed a warm cozy evening at Ryan's Steakhouse and we were joined there by Clark Bullard and some of the local citizens who helped save the Middlefork from being dammed up many years ago.

By Sunday morning the water level dropped a foot on the Middlefork and the remaining 4 paddlers did a short stretch from Kinney's Ford to Bunker Hill. It was still cool but sunny and pleasant on the lunch stop gravel bar. We spent over an hour there searching for unusual rocks and shells. The red bud, white dogwood and blue bells were in full bloom. Mother geese were tending their new flocks and a few deer were spotted. It was a great weekend in spite of the weather. **Larry & Evelyn Tennyson**

Meet us in Rockford at the Thunder Bay Grille

for fun, food, and drink.

Mark on your calendar
"SOCIAL GET TOGETHER"
Saturday June 25

(after Al's Kishwaukee River trip)

Thunder Bay Grille has a wide range of menu items, all very affordable. The restaurant is decorated with a "north woods" theme, with huge stone fireplaces, moose antlers, and vintage canoes hanging everywhere.

Come out to paddle with us or just show up around 4:00.

To get there: take 90 to the State Street exit, turn west, drive a few hundred yards and you will see it on your right. You will need to drive past it, up to the light, which is Bell School Road. Turn right on Bell School, then a right on to the frontage road.

Please email, or call Mark Morrall if you plan on attending, so he can alert the restaurant.

Thunder Bay Grill
7652 Potawatami Trail
Rockford, IL 61107
815-397-4800

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.

Wanted: Good solo used canoe between 12' and 15" in length. Prefer Bell, Wenonah, Mohawk or Mad River models. **Richard Tekulve 812-346-7921**

PSC Picnic

Silver Springs State Park

August 7, 2005

You are invited to be a part of our first-ever PSC picnic. Here are some of the activities planned for the day. Check the PSC web site in July and look in the August-September newsletter for more details.

Fox River Float*: Gather at Silver Springs at 9:30 AM. We will car shuttle up to Yorkville, shuttle cars back to SSSP. About 6 miles, 2 - ½ hours.

Raffle*: Some good stuff for a worthy cause - our picnic.

Gear Bazaar: One person's junk is another person's treasure. This is a chance to sell or barter that gear that you have no more use for but is still in good shape. Bring your own table, or a blanket or sheet, to lay out your wares. PLEASE, CANOEING AND CAMPING GEAR ONLY.

Test Paddle Canoes and Kayaks*: Bring your boats for others to try out, and test paddle a few that you would like to try.

Skills Tune-Up: Instructors* will demonstrate strokes and maneuvers, then help you practice them.

Safety and Rescue Skills: Instructors will demonstrate canoe and kayak safety and rescue techniques.

Directions: Take I-88 west to the Rte 56 exit. Go west about 2 miles, then south on Rte 47 for 8 miles. Drive west on Rte 34 about 6 miles and follow the signs to the park.

* HELP! If you can help organize any of these activities, please contact Tracy Hunt, 630.665.5707, tjhunt@netzero.net, or Bill Kessler, 708.547.5314, kslr@aol.com.

Free-Style Demonstration: Demonstrations of free-style canoeing then give some pointers to those who would like to try it.

Water Games*: Fun on the water, these games also build your paddling skills.

Food: Bring your own food and beverages (no alcohol allowed in park). Arrange potluck with friends. Consider bringing enough for two meals. No picnic tables, fire pits or grates available, so bring your own cooking source. Please bring a tarp or dining canopy in case of rain; someone* will be in charge of rigging these for maximum effectiveness.

Supper: Bring your own, do it yourself, Share with friends, but all in the congenial, social setting that makes canoeing - and our club - so enjoyable.

Things to Bring: Food and drink for the entire day; chair for each person; tarps and dining canopies; stove or other cooking source; your boat(s); PFDs, paddles, etc;

Trip Announcements

Details here are complete as of publication time but due to the nature of our sport, things can change. It is suggested that you contact the trip leader if you plan to attend a trip. That way if there are last minute changes, they can let you know.

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.

Tue-Thu, Jul 26-Aug 3

Michigan Rivers

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

Camping and canoeing in Michigan is beautiful in the summer. These rivers have clean spring fed challenging but usually forgiving rapids. Join us for part or all of these adventures.

We will meet the evening of July 26 for the Jordon, Pigeon, Sturgeon part of the trip. We will be in either a primitive or state campground depending on the wishes of the group. We will paddle on the Boardman on July 29, the Little Manistee on July 30, the Pine on July 31-August 2 and the Pere Marquette on August 3 depending on weather, water and whims of the group.

The Pine River part of the trip is Friday night July 29-Tuesday, Aug. 2. To get to the Paddlesports Campground, take 94 east to 196 to 131 to Highway 10 at Reeds City and go west to Baldwin where you take 37 north, about 20 miles, to the Paddlesports campground, on the west side just before the Pine River bridge. Please do not bring firewood. It will be available at the campground.

Call or email for more info and to let me know you are coming.

Sun, Jul 31 Kishwaukee River, IL

Beginner

Glenn Jensen 708-795-7995
mixinmimi@aol.com

This is one of Northern Illinois' gems. This trip, from Cherry Valley to Atwood Park, always brings out plenty of paddlers. Heavily wooded with big sweeping wide turns, the Kishwaukee is must at least once a year for anyone who has a boat that floats. Take I-90 West to I-39 South. Exit on Route 20 heading East to Mill Rd. Turn right (South) onto Mill and turn left onto State St and then left onto Genoa Rd that will bring you into Baumann Park. Car shift is at 9:30 am. Please e-mail or call if you are planning to attend.

Trip Reports

Mar 1 Des Plaines River

Cold windy (25 degrees with 15 to 25 mile winds) Ice blockage 500 yards into trip. 100 yard portage till open water. Clear till big

pond, another 100 yard portage, 3 beaver blockages between pond and rt 41. Lots of duck and geese besides the occasional deer and beaver. Winter paddling at its finest; crisp/clear air, sparkling views, great water levels, awesome start to March. **Andy Cocallas**

Trip Announcements

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Sat-Sun, Jul 16-17 Upper Iowa River, IA Scouting

Steve LaPorte 630-665-5707
stevelaporte@earthlink.net
Ken Cole 630-759-9137
rufustoo@att.net

This trip is intended to scout some sections of the Upper Iowa River for a regular trip later in the year. Since we don't know what we may encounter, I ask that anyone who comes has good boat handling skills and the ability to do a difficult portage. We will be base camping at Harvest Farms campground just north of Kendalville, Iowa. Please call or e-mail if you are coming, so I can give you directions and so I can let the campground know how many to expect.

Sat, Jul 23 Lower Fox River, IL Moonlight trip

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

This was originally planned as a "moonlite" trip, but because of a late moonrise we will do a late afternoon/twilight trip. For something different, let's make this a BBQ/cookout trip. Let's have everyone who is attending bring some charcoal and/or a bundle of firewood. We will cookout on the sand bar we usually stop at. Bring something to do on the grill, plus sides, and your libation of choice, etc. Bring extras if you want for taste testing. I'll bring a couple of campfire grills so we will have something to cook on. Any further ideas along these lines are welcome. **Directions:** Go south on I 55 to the Rt 52 West Exit. Go West approx 26 miles to the river. Put-in at the NE corner of the bridge. Carshift at 4:00 p. m.

Sat-Sun, Jul 23-24 Baraboo River, WI

Steve LaPorte 630-665-5707
stevelaporte@earthlink.net
Dan Benthall 630-208-8249
dbthall@comcast.net

Come join us for a weekend on the Baraboo River. Depending on what we found on our scouting trip, we expect to paddle a pleasant rural section of the river, as well as a more exciting section of mild rapids through the city of Baraboo. Anyone who remembers what the river was like when it was dammed will see the progress it has made, now that the dams have been removed. A visit to Circus World is also possible, for anyone so inclined. We will be base camping in a group site at Mirror Lake State Park. Please call or e-mail if you are coming.

Sat-Sun, Jul 23-24 Wisconsin River, WI River Camping

Sherri Johnson 630-527-6691
canoesew@sbcglobal.net
Dave & Mary Stjern 217-546-6474
DStjernlaw@aol.com

We will put in at Peck's Landing, in Spring Green, upstream - right from the Highway 23 Bridge. A group dinner will be held on Saturday evening. E-mail/call for details.

Sun, Jul 24 Kishwaukee River, IL Beginner

John & Barb Shaw 630-961-3479
TheshawsJB@aol.com

Take I-90 toward Rockford. Be alert for milepost 61. Exit at U.S.20. Go a short distance to the Belvidere exit. Proceed east

Trip Announcements

Details here are complete as of publication time but due to the nature of our sport, things can change. It is suggested that you contact the trip leader if you plan to attend a trip. That way if there are last minute changes, they can let you know.

Fri-Sun, Jun 3-5 Intro to Whitewater Training

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. Please be sure to include your address and phone number. (If email is not possible, call).

Sat, Jun 4 DuPage River, IL Beginner

Sherri Johnson 630-527-6691
canoesew@sbcglobal.net
Rosetta Kessler 815-729-0713

We will paddle from Hammel Woods in Shorewood to Channahon. From I-55 @ U.S.52 exit go west to the first light (RT59) Turn right (north) on RT59 and go approximately 1/2 mile to Hammel Woods Forrest Preserve entrance on the right. Carshift at 9:30.

Sat, Jun 4 Horicon Marsh, WI Advanced Beginner

Jerry Kolar 847-336-1187

Fifty square miles Horicon Marsh is a "Wetland of International importance". We'll paddle a part that may have a few short portages. Landings are small and scarce so there is a maximum boat number.

Sun, Jun 5 DuPage River, IL Clean-up

Ray Ziemer 630-836-0086
rgziemer@worldnet.att.net

Our clean-up of a section of the West Branch is part of a county-wide River sweep effort is sponsored by the Conservation Foundation. Bring your boat, gloves, lunch and your favorite pick-up gizmo. We'll provide garbage bags. Call leaders to confirm put-in location.

Sun, Jun 5 Nippersink Creek, IL New Members Trip

Bill Kessler 708-547-5314
Kslr@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 9:30 AM.

For more information, contact one of the trip leaders.

Trip Announcements

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Sun-Sun, Jun 5-12

Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness

David Johnson 815-634-2811
canoewoodlands@sbcglobal.net

The trip is limited by BWCA rules to nine people and four canoes. There will be a pre-trip meeting. Call for more details

Sat, Jun 11 Vermillion River

Clean-Up W/Mackinaw Canoe Club

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

This is a very exciting, enjoyable event. It gives many an opportunity to paddle a different part of the Vermillion and to meet some more great paddlers. The meeting place is the Pontiac Sportsmen's Club, 4H Road, Pontiac at 9:00 AM. For additional details, see The Mackinaw Canoe Club website: www.riversend.org/mcc/mcc.htm.

Mon, Jun 6 Des Plaines River, IL

Libertyville/Vernon Hills

Andy Cocallis 847-680-5219
acocallas@sbcglobal.net
Joan Taylor 630-495-1565
taylorjrs@aol.com

Enjoy a late evening paddling through Lake County forest preserves in Libertyville/Vernon Hills. Paddle under the stars and listen to Beaver slapping their tails, Owls hooting and watch for the many red eyes of racoons along the river banks. E-mail trip leaders for more info. Must have some comfort in a canoe since we will be paddling at night. Bring PFD and a flashlight.

Sat-Sun, Jun 11-12

Fawn & Pigeon Rivers, IN

Paul & Alice Clifford 815-886-2554
pclifford38@hotmail.com

Jerry Emerson 219-662-1296

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 am sharp. Everyone is welcome to join us for an Amish dinner in Topeka, IN. Directions: Take I-80/I-90 east to IN 13. Go south on IN 13 to IN 120. Go east on IN 120 for 9.25 miles to 450 West. GO north on 450 1/4 mile, over the bridge and turn left into the campground. Please bring dump clothes and lunches for both days. Please call leader prior to the trip.

Sun, Jun 12

Badfish Creek/Yahara River, WI

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

Half of this trip is on the Bad Fish Creek, it's narrow, and fast moving. The second half is on the Yahara, it is much wider and slower, and like the creek, it has very little shore development.

Sun, Jun 12 Des Plaines River, IL
Clean-up Wadsworth Road to Gowe Park

Paul Klonowski 847-265-0246
pmtmk@comcast.net

This section of the river has many logjams; I hope to clear some of them. Paddling skills are less important than a robust disposition, and a willingness to get wet & muddy. Bring saws, loppers, etc. Expect a long day!

Trip Announcements

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10 a.m. Registration and Starts begin
12 p.m. Registration closes, last start time
2 p.m. Courses close
(Maximum time on course: 3 hours)

Please note that unlike most PSC trips, we will not be gathering all together at a specific time and going out as a group. Individuals or teams can start any time between 10 a.m. and noon.

Cost: (per individual or team)

CAOC members \$5
non-members \$8
canoe rental \$10
additional maps \$2
rental compass \$1

Canoe rental will be available at the start/finish. We have arranged for a dozen canoes to be guaranteed for our use. These will be available for \$10 (flat fee per team) on a first-come-first-served basis. Boat rental includes paddles and personal floatation devices (PFDs). Competitors are welcome (nay, encouraged) to bring their own sailboats, canoes, kayaks, or rowboats. Please have your current Illinois boat license already affixed.

Here are a few rules specific to Canoe-O (subject to change without notice):

1. For safety reasons (and canoe rental rules), no more than 2 adults may be in a rented boat, and every person must be wearing a personal floatation device (PFD) at all times. If you are in your own boat, you may have up to 3 adults.
2. Competitors start and finish with all crewmembers and equipment. One or all teammates may leave the boat during the event, but at the finish line the crew, boat, and all equipment must be back together again. This means that one teammate could run between controls while another paddles.

Hints:

- * There will be some legs where paddling might

not be your best option.

* Running the entire course is not allowed. Some of the controls will be on islands, and forest preserve rules prohibit swimming in the reservoir.

* Controls (especially on the long course) will probably not be visible from across the the water. However, other competitor's boats will be visible.

Directions: Take I-90 (Kennedy Expwy and Northwest Tollway) northwest of the Loop 23 miles. Exit at I-290 / Route 53 southbound. Go about 1 mile and exit at Higgins Road. Turn left and go about a quarter mile to the first forest preserve entrance on the right. Watch for the red and white orienteering signs to direct you to the registration area, which is near the boat rental.

Tues, Jul 12

Des Plaines River, IL

Beginner/Afternoon Paddle

Andy Cocallis 847-680-5219
acocallas@sbcglobal.net
Joan Taylor 630-495-1565
taylorjrs@aol.com

Des Plaines River-Gurnee to Libertyville. Shuttle 2:15 P.M. Hwy132 on the east side of river, turn south on O'Plaine Road, then west on McClure Avenue (200 feet south of HWY.132). Park in parking lot of Verne Gowe Memorial Park. Unload and we will carshift to either Adler park or Oak Spring Road in Libertyville depending on water levels. Lifevest, water, snack and any other personal items (glasses, sunscreen, ect.). Call or e-mail trip leaders if you are coming.

Sat, Jul 16

Kishwaukee River, IL

Clean-up

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

Contact leaders for details.

Trip Announcements

Details here are complete as of publication time but due to the nature of our sport, things can change. It is suggested that you contact the trip leader if you plan to attend a trip. That way if there are last minute changes, they can let you know.

Sat, Jul 2 TBD

Advanced Beginner

Jerry Kolar 630-961-3479
Thesh847-336-1187

The plan is to explore a new impoundment near the Illinois River. If this isn't worked out, the trip will change. Call for details.

Sat-Sun, Jul 2-3

Little Manistee River, MI

Paul & Alice Clifford 815-886-2554
Pclifford38@hotmail.com
Bill Barclay & Peg Strobel 708-386-1371
chocolatehouse@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.

Sat-Sun, Jul 9-10 Mecan River, WI

Beginner/Advanced beginner

John & Marilyn Ziegler 847-742-7316
canucamp@sbcglobal.net

The Mecan 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 Mecan River Outfitters Friday & Saturday in

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. Mecan 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 the campground at 9:00 AM. Please call trip leaders

Sun, Jul 10 Busse Woods Canoe

Orienteering

Michael Collins 708-642-1432
michael@canoecouple.net
Christina Collins 312-203-8950
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Please join us for the second annual Chicago Area Orienteering Club and Prairie State Canoeists Canoe Orienteering meet. This event is designed to test your navigation skills as well as your paddling skills.

There will be three courses; a long course which should take the fastest paddlers about 90 minutes to complete, a medium course which should take just under an hour, and a short course which should take the fastest paddlers about a half hour to complete. Of course, your results may vary.

We will be keeping track of the number of people on each team, as well as the type of watercraft, but there will not be separate classes for single/double/canoe/kayak, etc.

Bring shoes that you don't mind getting dirty. You will need to get out of your boat to punch at many of the controls, and you may need to wade for short distances. A change of clothes for afterward is highly recommended.

Schedule:
 9:30 a.m. Beginners' Clinic

Trip Announcements

Details here are complete as of publication time but due to the nature of our sport, things can change. It is suggested that you contact the trip leader if you plan to attend a trip. That way if there are last minute changes, they can let you know.

Sat, Jun 18 Salt Creek, IL

w/ stream monitoring

Ray Ziemer 630-836-0086
rgziemer@worldnet.att.net
Melinda Tury 630-894-2285
mtury@sbcglobal.net

Are you looking for a different kind of trip? Concerned about the health of our area streams and rivers? Come join us on Saturday, June 18th at Graue Mill in Oakbrook (corner of York and Spring Road - large parking lot on the east side of York Rd.) at 9:00 am sharp. We will be joined by DuPage Co. Forest Preserve naturalists for approx. one hour of stream monitoring at that site. You will learn how to sample (put on boots and use the nets-oh so much fun!) and identify macro invertebrates and how to calculate a stream quality rating from your findings. We will then talk about the quality of DuPage and Northern Illinois rivers and what is being done to improve them. (Who other than us, should be more concerned about the health of the rivers we all paddle on!) After the car shift we will then have a nice paddle down Salt Creek to where it joins the Des Plaines. Dr. Carl Strang from Willowbrook Wildlife center will accompany us down the river to point out any "highlights OR lowlights" to be seen on the river. Most of the trip will be through forest preserves so you will think you are way out in the country! This trip is rated advanced beginner because we might encounter strainers. Please come join us for a fun and informative day!

Sat-Sun, Jun 18-19 Baraboo Rover, WI

Scouting

Steve LaPorte 630-665-5707
stevelaporte@earthlink.net
Dan Benthall 630-208-8249
dbthall@comcast.net

This trip is intended to scout some sections of the Baraboo River for a regular trip later in the year. Since we don't know what we may encounter, I ask that anyone who comes has good boat handling skills and the ability to do a difficult portage. One of the sections we may scout is very rocky with some class I and easy class II rapids, so bring an appropriate boat. We will be base camping at Mirror Lake State Park. (I have not reserved a group camping site for this trip.) Call or e-mail for details.

Sat-Sun, Jun 18-19

Pere Marquette River, MI.

Bill Barclay & Peg Strobel 708-386-1371
chocolatehouse@sbcglobal.net

The Pere Marquette is one of the most beautiful rivers in Michigan's Lower Peninsula. It is a fairly gentle river that winds between sandy and wooded banks with one short Class I rapids. Wildlife includes deer, turkey, blue heron, beaver, etc. Directions: from Chicago take I-94/I-196 to Grand Rapids. Take MI 37 north 65 - 70 miles to North Avenue (1 mile north of Baldwin MI.) Turn right for 1 mile and then left at Putnam's. Sites will be reserved for PSC. (Alternate route: from Chicago take I-94/I-196 north to Holland; then take MI 31 north to MI 10, near Ludington. Go right (east) on MI 10 to MI 37 and then right (south) to North Avenue and left to Putnam's.) On Saturday the car shift

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from the campground will be at 9:30 AM (Chicago time). The Pere Marquette is part of the wild and scenic river program and paddlers are required to obtain permits. You must contact the leaders at least two weeks in advance to assure permit availability; there is a new \$2/day permit charge.

Sun, Jun 19 Lower Fox River, IL

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

Let us paddle through the "Dells of the Fox" and enjoy a summer's day on the river. Directions: Take I - 55 south to the Rt. 52 West exit (Shorewood West). Go west on Rt. 52 approx 26 miles to the river. Put-in at the NE corner of the bridge. Carshift at 9:30 a. m.

Tue-Wed, Jun 21-29 Michigan Rivers
Experienced Paddlers/Campers only please

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

Boardman, Jordon, Little Manistee, Pere Marquette, Pigeon, Pine and Surgeon Rivers.

Camping and canoeing in Michigan is beautiful in the summer. These rivers have clean spring fed challenging but usually forgiving rapids. Join us for part or all of these adventures.

We will meet the evening of June 21 for the Jordon, Pigeon, Sturgeon part of the trip. We will be in either a primitive or state campground depending on the wishes of the group. We will paddle on the Boardman on June 24, the Little Manistee on June 25, the Pine on June 26-28 and the Pere Marquette on the 29 depending on weather, water and whims of the group.

The Pine/Little Manistee Rivers part of the trip is Friday night June 24-Tuesday, June 28. To get to the Paddlesports Campground take 94 east to 196 to 131 to Highway 10 at Reeds City and go west to Baldwin where you take 37 north, about 20 miles, to the Paddlesports Campground, on the west side just before the Pine River bridge. Please do not bring fire-wood. It will be available at the campground.

Call or email for more info and to let me know you are coming.

Sat, Jun 25 Lower Fox River, IL
Yorkville

John & Barb Shaw 630-961-3479
TheshawsJB@aol.com

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 RT 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.

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Sat, Jun 25 Hennepin Feeder, IL
Advanced Beginner

Jerry Kolar 630-961-3479
Thesh847-336-1187

The Hennepin Feeder Canal gets its water from the Rock River at Rock Falls. We'll paddle down and up this historic Feeder. A high point will be paddling above the Green River. There should be enough water for what some may consider a boring trip.

Sat-Sun, Jun 25-26 Wisconsin River, WI

Adults only

John & Mary Puskar 630-393-8821
jmpuskar@ameritech.net

Contact leaders for details.

Sat-Sun, Jun 25-26 Wisconsin Whitewater
Beginner Whitewater

Bill Barclay 708-386-1371
chocolatehouse@sbcglobal.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.

Sun, Jun 26 DuPage River, IL
Advanced Beginner

Glenn Jensen 708-795-7995
mixinmimi@aol.com

Join me for one of PSC's best trips: Dupage River from Hammel Woods down to Channahon State Park. A delightful paddle that features riffles, rapids, meandering channels, grassy wooded banks and some nice houses that sit just back from the river. Our lunch stop is primitive so bring a chair if you can. Take I-55 to route 52 and proceed west to River Road. Turn right and drive north and turn right into the Hammel Woods Forest Preserve. Follow the road to the end. The car shift will begin at 9:30 am. Please e-mail or call if you plan to attend.

Sat, Jul 2 Nippersink Creek, IL
Beginner

Glenn Jensen 708-795-7995
mixinmimi@aol.com

Turn left (south) and proceeds about 2.5 miles to the park on your left. Be ready to car shift at 9:30 AM. This is a shallow but twisting stream that will make for a good day to practice turning your craft. The Nippersink moves through two end moraines left behind by the Wisconsin Glacier. We will start at Glacial Park at the put in site next to Keystone Rd. Take Route 12 or Route 31 to the intersection of 12 and 31. Go west on Tyron Rd to Keystone Rd. Turn left (south) into Glacial Park. There are two possible take outs, thus the group can decide how far we want to go that day. Car shift is at 9:30 am. Please e-mail or call if you plan to attend.