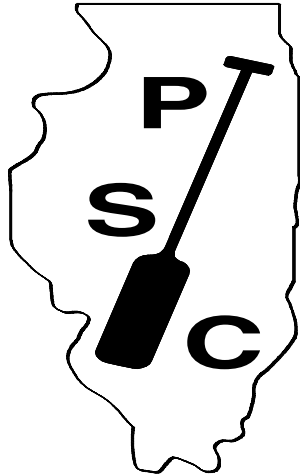


PSC Paddler



Newsletter of the
Prairie State Canoeists

Volume 38 #3
April-May 2006

Visit our website at:

<http://www.prairiestatecanoeists.org>

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Bernie Terrell	<i>Chicago</i>	(2006-2007)	773-779-9786	mstygrrndbl@cs.com

From the Chair:

The board has made some changes to the 'PSC Bylaws' and the 'Guidelines for Safe and Enjoyable Paddling' during the past year. These will be printed in the directory. Please read them so that you know what is expected from you when on a trip and what you can expect from the trip leaders.

It looks like we will have a good selection of trips again this year. If the weather cooperates, we might even have enough water to actually put a paddle in.

The best place to see the most up to date trip listing is on the website. The trip listings there might show updated info for a trip, a cancelled trip or a new trip added since the newsletter was printed.

Keep July 29th open for the 2nd annual PSC picnic. We are planning to have the Fall Banquet on November 11, 2006.

Don't forget that our ACA certified instructors are offering classes this year. Check the schedule if you are interested.

John

Earth Day Cleanup

PSC has been asked to help the **Chicago Kayak Club** in cleaning up **Skokie Lagoons** on **Earth Day** this year. The cleanup will take place on **April 22, 2006 from 9am to 1pm**. For more information contact **Cynthia Gilbert** at cynthia_gilbert@comcast.net. You can also go to www.chicagokayak.com to find more information about the cleanup. Gloves, trash bags, etc. will be provided.

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

Vol 38#	Deadline	Trip Announcements
1	November 15	Dec 05-Jan 06
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, c/o Sherri Graham, 3S564 Haylett Ave, Warrenville, IL 60555

Welcome New Members (since January 15, 2006-check Directory for details)

Beckman, Jeff & Helene	Harbeck, John	Quednau, Theodore & Marian
Bellamy, Tina M.	Horan, Marianne	Quednau, Theodore & Rachelle
Buss, Jr, Virgil	Jacobson, Paul	Robinson, Virginia & Kathleen
Cascarano, David & Terri	Jicha, Susan	Shanks
Coyle, Larry	Jonasson, Tim	Robles, Fred
Curry, Jim & Mary Ann	Leis, Alan	Rose, Ramona
Curtis, Judy	Lipinski, Marlene & Karen Simon-Leff	Rudolph, Jill
Donley, Lawrence	Maloney, Robert & Gloria	Shanks, Kathleen
Fahr, Marcelle	McAlester, Marilyn & William	Sinderson, Stephen & Susan
Ficert, David	Moseng, Norman	Sutek, Paul
Garton, Howard & Ann	Murphy, Jim & Rosa Garner	Williams, John & Sandy
Gelander, Leslie	Paul, Daniel	

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.

For Sale: OLD TOWN CANADIENNE KEVLAR-WD PERFECT CONDITION (always stored indoors). Purchased 1991 at Chicagoland Canoe Base; 17' (easily seats 4; capacity for 250 pounds of gear); Beautiful oak and mahogany gunwales and thwarts with brass trim; Cane seats (adjustable bow seat); includes 2 oak paddles (with fiberglass tips) and 2 life vests. \$1,600 Peter and Lin Von Dreele, Oak Park, IL, (708-848-3546) or petelin@mcihispeed.net

For Sale: Folbot Aleut 12' folding kayak, 40 lbs. Solo kayak, Werner Camano paddle. Includes rudder, spray skirt, deck, repair kit, deck lines. Packs into 2 packs. Excellent condition \$1,000. Contact Marie or Ken Bohnen; knunut@att.net

For Sale: Floatation vests & backpack for dogs. (1.) Ruffwear float. vest, med (#44-77), red (2.) Outward Hound float. vest, sm (#15-25), red & (3.) Wenaha dog backpack, med/lg, green. Call 708-748-2102 or e-mail thecloses@yahoo.com

For Sale: one set of four Yakima "locking rail rider" towers for \$40. Designed to fit into existing roof track or rail system of some vans & SUVs; can also be applied to some campertop caps. I have a listing from Yakima of specific vehicles compatible w/this system if interested. Call 708-748-2102 or e-mail thecloses@yahoo.com

For Sale: Old Town Discovery 17.4 canoe. Purchased new in 2002. Great family canoe; lots of room for a week's camping trip. Garage stored, "like new" condition; \$450. Tom Kocim 630-627-8298 (Lombard)

For sale: Sawyer Oscoda 16 foot tandem canoe; well used but plenty of life left. \$350 Dick Frye 773-718-0151

Wanted: Old Town Pack canoe in good condition. Larry Seeger 847-291-0006; lgseeger@comcast.net

For Sale: Pat Moore Reverie II; Light grey, wood trim, 28 pounds, pedestal seat, \$500. Melissa 815-932-7929 days (8 am to 4:30 pm) or cell (815)549-9238 anytime.

Ralph Frese inducted into the Illinois Outdoor Hall of Fame

On Saturday, March 4, 2006 Ralph Frese was inducted into the Illinois Outdoor Hall of Fame. Ralph was one of the Charter Members of Prairie State Canoeists. He has been involved with the canoeing community and various conservation projects for many years. When you see or talk to Ralph again congratulate him on achieving this honor.

The following was taken from a press release on the Illinois Conservation Foundation web site:

Ralph Frese, Niles - Known as "Mr. Canoe," Ralph Frese is a fourth generation blacksmith, who began building canoes in his blacksmith shop for his scout troop. Frese turned his passion for canoe building and paddling the waterways of Illinois into a successful canoe-building business in Chicago. Frese is well known for his work on behalf of conservation efforts on the Fox River in northeast Illinois and is the founder of the annual Des Plaines River Canoe Marathon. In 1973, he built two 21-foot early Algonquin birch bark canoes and re-enacted the Marquette and Joliet expedition of 1673.

Frese is a renowned spokesman and lecturer on the role of the canoe in Illinois history and is one of the leading advocates for water trails and waterway protection and enhancement in the nation. Frese is a recipient of numerous conservation and environmental achievement awards including recognition by the **American Canoe Association** as its first recipient of the group's **Legends of Paddling** award.

Prairie State Canoeists
April 2006 Social
Sunday, April 9, 2006 5-7 pm
(After the Mazon River Trip)

Marie's Pizza and Restaurante
1591 Division St (Route 47)
Morris, IL

Please call or email the host Joan Taylor at 630-494-1565 taylorjrs@aol.com

Located just south of I-80 on Route 47 (Division St) go south on 47 to the restaurant which is kiddy corner from Mc Donald's on the east side of the road.

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, Apr 1 Introduction to Paddling

Oakhurst Forest Preserve (Patterson Lake) Aurora, IL

Beginner

Bill Kessler **708-547-5314**
kslr@aol.com

Join us for this skill building session with American Canoe Association certified instructors, under the supervision of Training Coordinators Tom Lindblade and Tom Richardson. No previous experience is necessary. Focus will be on safety, efficient paddling, basic strokes and maneuvers on flat water. You will have the opportunity to videotape your paddling so you can review your technique. Bring your boat (canoe or kayak), PFD, paddle, dump cloths and a lunch. (A small number of extra boats and equipment can be made available on request.) This session is sanctioned by the American Canoe Association (ACA). If you are a member, fees will include \$5.00 for materials and \$10.00 for instruction. If you are not a member of the ACA, an additional \$10.00 is required. (To join the ACA, log on to www.acanet.org). You must contact Bill Kessler, preferably by email, to reserve your place in this event and receive additional instructions. Be sure to indicate whether you paddle a canoe or a kayak. This session, or an equivalent, is required in order to take the Moving Water training.

Sun, Apr 2 West Branch DuPage River

St. Charles Rd to Mack Rd - Adv Beg

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

Mostly through forest preserves, the stream is narrow in spots with a few tight bends and usually a few log jams. Dress for the weather! Includes lunch stop in Winfield.

Fri-Sun, Apr 7-9 Jack's Fork River, MO

Advanced Beginner

Dan Benthal **630-208-8249**
DBthal@comcast.net
Ken Cole **630-759-9137**
rufustoo@att.net

We will paddle the scenic spring-fed Jack's Fork River in the Missouri Ozarks. Our base camp will be at the Alley Spring National Park Service campsite. We will car shift at 9:00am on Friday to the Buck Hollow put in on Hwy 17. It is a 12 mile paddle to the take out at Rymer's Access. On Saturday we will paddle 15 miles from Rymer's to Alley Spring. Most people will likely camp on Thursday, Friday & Saturday night and drive home on Sunday. A smaller group will likely paddle part of the day on Sunday as well. Please contact a trip leader to confirm your interest so we can reserve a group site at Alley Spring.

Sat, Apr 8 Des Plaines River Clean-Up

Bill Kessler **708 547 5314**
kslr@aol.com

An event of the Streambank Cleanup and Lakeshore Enhancement (SCALE) program of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, we will be joined by the Lake County Canoe Club, the Paddlesports Volunteers of the Lake County Forest Preserve, and volunteers from the general public; Wadsworth Road to Grand Avenue in Gurnee. Watch the PSC Website for time and other 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, Apr 8 Galena River, Galena IL
Advanced Beginner

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

I have only paddled a very small section of this river, but would like to do more. I want to start near the Wisconsin state line and paddle down to downtown Galena. The river flows through a deep valley carved out of the Galena hills; it should provide plenty of awesome scenery. The river is very narrow and twisty, and given the local topography it should have a swift current. But what do I know? I've haven't paddled it...Yet! I'm probably going to camp at Apple River Canyon State Park all weekend; you're welcome to join me. Email preferred.

Sun, Apr 9 Mazon River, IL
Advanced Beginner

Andy Cocallas 847-680-5219
acocallas@sbcglobal.net

Plan on spending all day playing among the many riffles and minor rapids.

Wed, Apr 12 Fox River, IL
South Elgin to St. Charles Beginner

Melinda Tury 630-894-2285
mtury@sbcglobal.net

Put in at Seba Park in South Elgin at 9 am - car shift at 8:30 am. This will be the first paddle for the "Mid-Week Paddle Gang" which will be held every other week throughout the paddling season. Participants will decide which river will be paddled for the next mid-week paddle. Information as to put-in and times will be posted immediately following the current days paddle. Come on all you retirees, night

workers, and flexible schedule paddlers - I know you are out there! Let's paddle!!!
Direstions: Take IL Route 31 to State Street in South Elgin - turn East on State Street, go 1/2 block to Water Street, Turn right (south) on Water Street, follow straight into the park. Take out will be at Ferson Creek Park - left turn into the park (not the Fen) which is straight south on RT.31 Lunch will be at Salernos on the Fox about 1/2 mile further south on RT 31!

Sat, Apr 15 DuPage River, IL Dammed
DuPage Warrenville - Naperville? Beginner

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

Only for the hardy, this trip will include three (Count them - 3) dams to portage: Warrenville Grove, McDowell Grove, and the notorious Fawell. Nevertheless there's some pretty woods to float through in between. Put-in at Mack Road Canoe Landing, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile east of Rte 59 and Mack Road at the north edge of Warrenville. Car-shift 9:30

Sat, Apr 15 Kishwaukee, S br-Kirkland, IL
TBD-need to scout first.

Mark and Pam Skeels 815-522-3596
mskeels@tbcnet.com

We've been invited to participate in a cleanup at the Potawatami Forest Preserve. Small-mouth Alliance has been busy and the district has done a lot of work. We're thinking about putting in at Potawatami and working our way to Oak Ridge/Shirley Bridge take out. Not a lot of garbage on this stretch, but we may have some branch cutting to do. We'll know more after we talk to the district and scout the river.

Trip Announcements

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Sat-Sun, Apr 15-16 Tippecanoe River, IN

Jerry Emerson 219-662-1296

Louis Igyarto 847-587-7462

Watch The PSC Website or contact the leader for more details.

Sat-Sun, Apr 15-23 Northeastern Iowa Rivers, Cedar Falls, IA

Al Donaldson 319-277-3194

alandonaldson@sprintmail.com

Tentative schedule with notes on the PSC website. Those considering paddling, please send comments via email.

Sun, Apr 16 Mazon River, IL

Advanced Beginner

Sherri Graham 630-393-0383

canoen1@sbcglobal.net

Rosetta Kessler 815-729-0713

Watch The PSC Website or contact the leader for more details.

Sat, Apr 22 DuPage River, Naperville, IL

Paul & Alice Clifford 815-886-2554

Pclifford38@hotmail.com

Ray Ziemer 630-836-0086

rgziemer@worldnet.att.net

We will be canoeing the DuPage River through Naperville. Carshift will be at 9:30AM from Centennial Park in downtown Naperville. This trip has not been done for a number of years. You must have PFD, Dump Bag, and lunch. Directions: From I88 exit Winfield Road. Go south on Winfield Road to Diehl Rd. Turn Left on Diehl to Mill St(the 2nd stoplight). Turn right(south) on Mill Street to Jackson St.(the

end of Mill). Turn right on Jackson St. and the Parking lot is on the Left. Go to the south end of the parking lot where the canoe ramp is. Please contact either of the leaders.

Sat, Apr 22 Moving Water I Instruction, DuPage River, IL - Beginner

Dan Benthal 630-208-8249

DBthal@comcast.net

The workshop's purpose is to provide a good paddling foundation on moving water in line with the requirements the American Canoe Association (ACA). The more you know, the more you will enjoy the sport. We will be paddling on a section of the DuPage River, which provides a good working environment. We will meet at Hammel Woods Forest Preserve in Shorewood at 9:00 a.m. Lunch will be beside the River, around noon. We should be off of the river by 4:00pm. Prior to the workshop, students should obtain a copy of Canoeing by Gordon Grant. I recommend that you read the entire book and pay particular attention to chapters three, four, six, seven, and eight. The cost of the class will be \$10 (\$20 if you are not an ACA member). Please indicate whether you will be paddling solo canoe, tandem canoe, or kayak.

Sun, Apr 23 DuPage River Shorewood-Channahon, IL Beginner

Sherri Graham 630-393-0383

815-353-2924

canoen1@sbcglobal.net

Rosetta Kessler 815-729-0713

Watch The PSC Website or contact the leader for more 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.

Sun, Apr 23 **Illinois Paddling Council**
Kickoff **TBA**

Check out the IPC website for details: <http://www.illinoispaddling.org>

Sun, Apr 23 **Salt Creek, Oakbrook, IL**
Advanced Beginner

Glenn Jensen **708-749-6141**
zymurgyteacher@yahoo.com

We will start at Graue Mill and finish at Plank Road forest preserves. Car shift begins at 9:30 am. The county has neglected this river and thus strainers are common. This is a challenging but fun river.

Wed, Apr 26 **Mid-week Paddle Gang**
TBD - check back

Melinda Tury **630-894-2285**
mtury@sbcglobal.net

The river for this week will be posted immediately following the April 12, 2006 mid week paddle with times, etc.

Thu, Apr 27 **Des Plaines-Moonlight**
Libertyville-Advanced Beginner

Andy Cocallas **847-367-4515**
acocallas@sbcglobal.net

Paddle under a full moon and enjoy a pleasant evening along the Des Plaines river. E-mail for more info.

Sat, Apr 29 **Fox River, IL**
Algonquin to Voyager Landing Beginner

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

Join us for paddle close to home. This should be a good time to watch for migrating birds. Make sure to bring your dump bag, lunch, PFD's, and have a valid Ill. State sticker on

your canoe. Directions: From I-90 & Rt. 31 (Elgin) go north to Buffalo Park Forest Preserve at the south end of Algonquin. Turn right (east) on Arbor Lane. It is about .9 miles south of Rt. 31 & Rt. 62. carshift will be at 9:30. There is a portage around the Carpentersville dam and that is where we will stop for lunch. Takeout will be at Voyageur Landing Forest Preserve which is near the I-90 bridge. Call leaders if you will be joining us.

Sat, Apr 29 **Turtle Creek, Shopiere, WI**
Intermediate

Al Donaldson **319-277-3194**
alandonaldson@sprintmail.com

Watch The PSC Website or contact the leader for more details!

Sat-Sun, Apr 29-30 Wisconsin Whitewater
Intermediate

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

Oconto, Wold, Pike, Red. Rivers will depend upon water levels and paddler interests, but we would sure like to get back on the Oconto. Wet/dry suits, helmet required. Call leaders for directions, put-in times, etc.

Sun, Apr 30 **Elkhorn Creek, Sterling, IL**
Intermediate

Al Donaldson **(319) 277-3194**
alandonaldson@sprintmail.com

Watch The PSC Website or contact the leader for more 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.

Sun, Apr 30 Mazon River, IL

Advanced Beginner

Sherri Graham 630-393-0383

815-353-2924

canoen1@sbcglobal.net

Rosetta Kessler 815-729-0713

Please contact leaders for details.

**Fri-Sun, May 5-7 and Sat-Sun, Jun 3-4
Canoe/Kayak Instructor Development Wkshp**

College of DuPage Intermediate

Tom Lindblade 630-207-9500

lindbladet@sbcglobal.net

Marge Cline

Over the past few years, Prairie State has accumulated a very large (12) corps of Canoe and Kayak Instructors. This has allowed us to greatly expand both the quality and quantity of our Instructional offerings, and has done a lot to raise the level of paddling and safety education in the club. We hope that more of our membership will enroll in the Instructor Certification Workshop that Marge Cline and I are offering at College of DuPage Enrollment information is below. Keep in mind that PSC has a program for reimbursing the ACA dues for Instructors: You can call the Field Studies Program at COD at 630-942-2356 Canoeing: ACA Canoe/Kayak Instr. Cert. Wrkshp NEW* Gain instructor certification at the Basic River level in either canoes or kayaks. The Instructor Development Workshop (April 7 to 9) explores ACA teaching methods, demonstrates teaching and paddling skills, and offers feedback. The certification exam (May 6 and 7) allows students to demonstrate teaching skills and model paddling skills. Candidates who achieve the highest level of certification are able to demonstrate strong

intermediate-level paddling skills prior to enrollment. Advanced beginners can build paddling and teaching skills with an eye toward certification. Field study: May 5-7 and June 3-4 Fee: \$165. Information: Tom Lindblade or call COD at 630-942-2356

**Sat, May 6 DuPage River
Plainfield - Shorewood, IL Beginner**

Ray Ziemer 630-836-0086

rgziemer@worldnet.att.net

An easy paddle through the shallow section outside Plainfield, ending up at the Hammel Woods dam in Shorewood. Car shift at 9:30 am. Call leader to confirm. From the intersection of Rtes. 59 and U.S.30 in Plainfield, go 4 blocks west on 30 to James St., then south to Vista Lane and the Electric Park put-in.

**Sat, May 6 Fox River
McHenry County, IL Advanced Beginner**

Jerry Kolar 847-336-1187

This will be a leisurely trip that starts in McHenry County. Expect to see birds, perhaps a Great Blue Heron rookery and backwater scenery. There will be human creature comforts, (tioletts). Although it's early in the season, there may be stress from a few power boats. Call the leader if you are planning to come. There is a limit to the number of boats we can take on this trip.

**Sat, May 6 Kankakee River, IL
Bird Park to KKK State Park - Adv Beg**

George Stenitzer 630-512-6751

geo4747@yahoo.com

Janice Wellborn 708-848-6026

rosjan@comcast.net

Please 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-Sun, May 6-7 Middlefork Vermillion, IL

**Larry & Evelyn Tennyson 630-497-2516
eltennyson@comcast.net**

We hope you will join us on the Middle Fork of the Vermillion River (Illinois 1st National Wild and Scenic River) for one day or two. We will meet each day at the river bridge in Kickapoo State Park at 9:30 AM. From there we will proceed, all together to the put-in that we select that morning. Take I-57 south to I-74 at Champaign-Urbana. Go East on I-74 to the exit marked Kickapoo State Park and follow signs to the park. Get there early and reserve a campsite for the night. Tell the ranger you are with PSC. We will try to camp all in one area. Allow 3 hours driving time from Chicago. Join us for dinner at a steakhouse in Danville Sat. night if you wish.

**Sun, May 7 Des Plaines River, WI
Intermediate**

**Glenn Jensen 708-749-6141
zymurgyteacher@yahoo.com**

This trip will begin at Prairie Springs Park in Wisconsin. We will paddle to Wadsworth Rd in Illinois; the trip in about ten miles. Although the trip is written in Svob's book, it is relatively unknown by most PSC members. Take 94/41 north to 165 and exit east. Drive to Prairie Springs Park. Car shift begins at 9:30 am. Please email or phone if you plan to attend.

**Sun, May 7 Kishwaukee River
Belvidere-Cherry Valley, IL - Intermediate**

**Glenn Rabick 847-515-2821
630-640-5375
grabick@sbcglobal.net**

We will paddle from Stone Quarry Road Canoe Landing to Baumann Park. This section is narrower and more winding than Cherry Valley to Atwood Park. Thus the intermediate rating. Some deadfall will probably be encountered so be prepared. Directions: 90 West to Belvidere/Genoa Road and turn right. Go to US 20 and make a left. Go to Stone Quarry Road and make a right. The landing is downstream right of bridge. Car shift is at 9:30 a.m.

**Sun, May 7 Platte River, WI
Intermediate**

**Al Donaldson
alandonaldson@sprintmail.com**

More details later. This is one river we need to learn about, as it is in absolutely beautiful country.

**Wed, May 10 Mid-Week Paddle Gang
To Be Determined**

**Melinda Tury 630-894-2285
mtury@sbcglobal.net**

Location and times will be posted after the April 26 paddle.

**Sat, May 13 Grant River, WI
Intermediate**

**Al Donaldson 319-277-3194
alandonaldson@sprintmail.com**

This trip will check out the water levels and hazards for trip on Sunday the 14th. Location to be determined in April of 2006.

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, May 13 **Moving Water II**
Vermilion River - Lowell, IL - Adv Beg
Steve LaPorte **630-665-5707**
stevelaporte@earthlink.net

This is a follow-up to Moving Water I. Continue to build your moving water skills on one of the most beautiful rivers in Illinois. Major Whitewater will be portaged. The cost will be \$10.00 (\$20.00 if you are not an ACA member). Please e-mail and let me know you are coming. Be sure to include your address and phone number. My e-mail address is stevelaporte@earthlink.net. (If email is not possible, please call 630-665-5707). Detailed information will be provided to anyone interested.

Sat-Sun, May 13-14 **Sugar Creek, IN**
Wine & Cheese Fest
Paul & Alice Clifford **815-886-2554**
Pclifford38@hotmail.com
Jim & Alice Deck **217-442-2032**
jadeck77@msn.com

Once again we are going to have our annual Wine & Cheese Fest. Again this year we are having it with the Mackinaw Canoe Club. We are going to canoe the Sugar Creek through Shades and Turkey Run State Parks in Indiana. As we have in the past, we ask those to wish to take part in the Fest, to bring a dish to pass around. Paul, Jim and Alice will provide some adult beverages and soda. We will carshift from Shades State Park at 930 on Sat. and 9AM on Sunday. To get to Shades State Park take I80 to US RT 41 south. Route 41 south across I74 to Indiana RT 234 (about 120 miles and turn East to Shades State Park about 8 miles. Ask for a Campsite on the far curve in the Raccoon Run area. Please contact

one of the leaders if you are planning to attend. Don't forget your dump bag, PFD or lunches.

Sat-Tue, May 13-16 **Upper Peninsula MI**
Whitewater - Advanced

Bill Barclay **708-386-1371**
chocolatehouse@sbcglobal.net
Dale Deane **608-879-9280**

The UP has some great whitewater rivers and beautiful scenery. We haven't done this trip in a few years (and missed water last couple of years) but it is time to go back. Possible rivers include the Montreal, Black, E. Branch Ontonagon, Presque Isle and others. We will paddle all four days but plan to get off the river on the last day early enough for people to drive home. Call the leaders for details regarding camping and meeting places. Wet/dry suits, helmets required.

Sun, May 14 **Grant River, WI**
Intermediate

Al Donaldson **319-277-3194**
alandonaldson@sprintmail.com

Watch The PSC Website or contact the leader for more details!

Sun, May 14 **Rock River, IL**
Oregon to Grand Detour **Beginner**

George Stenitzer **630-215-6751**
geo4747@yahoo.com
Janice Wellborn **708-848-6026**
rosjan@comcast.net

Watch The PSC Website or contact the leader for more 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-Sun, May 20-21 Chain-O-Lakes, IN
Albion, IN**

Jerry Emerson 219-662-1296

Gregg Drufke 219-879-6241

Watch The PSC Website or contact the leader for more details.

Sat-Sun, May 20-21 Mekan River:

Log Jam and Strainer Clean Up, Dakota WI

Intermediate

Al Donaldson (319) 277-3194

alandonaldson@sprintmail.com

Watch The PSC Website or contact the leader for more details!

Sat-Sun, May 20-21 Sugar River

Dave & Mary Stjern 217-546-6474

DStjernlaw@aol.com

Sherri Graham 630-393-0383

815-353-2924

canoen1@sbcglobal.net

Watch The PSC Website or contact the leader for more details!

**Sun, May 21 DesPlaines Canoe Marathon
Libertyville, IL Advanced Beginner**

Ray Ziemer 630-836-0086

rgziemer@worldnet.att.net

A great event for the casual paddler or competitive racer. You must register to participate in this marathon race from Libertyville to DesPlaines. For more information call Ray Ziemer or the DesPlaines River Association 847-604-2445 (email Info@Canoemarathon.com) See the web site: <http://www.canoemarathon.com/>

Sun, May 21 I & M Canal

McKinley Park, IL - Beginner

Larry Forgala 708-425-0733

larryfor@msn.com

This is a close and easy spring trip to enjoy spring. Directions: Take I-55 south to Rt. 6 (Channahon exit) Turn right on Rt. 6 and continue approx 3 miles to McKinley Park Rd. Turn Left and continue past the homes into the park. Continue to the lower park area. No carshift. Put-in at 9:30 a. m.

Wed, May 24 Mid-Week Paddle Gang

To Be Determined

Melinda Tury 630-894-2285

mtury@sbcglobal.net

Location and times for this paddle will be posted immediately following the Wed. May 10, 2006 paddle.

**Sat, May 27 Fox River, Illinois
Chain of Lakes State Park, IL - Adv Beg**

Jerry Kolar 847-336-1187

A scenic drive through Chain O'Lakes State Park leads to the boat launch. This is a leisurely old fashioned paddle, upstream and downstream. We'll paddle in a no-wake zone. The scenery is most natural and typical of a mid-west river. There is a minimum and maximum boat count so please call to RSVP.

Sat-Sun, May 27-28 Mekan River, WI

Dakota, WI - Intermediate

Al Donaldson 319-277-3194

alandonaldson@sprintmail.com

Linda Gebhard 630-363-6152

gebhardlinda@yahoo.com

Trip Announcements

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Two day trip, with base camping or motelling available. Watch this space for more details later!

Sat-Sun, May 27-28 White Water training, Northeast Wisconsin (depends on water levels) **Intermediate**

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

Please contact by email unless you dont have computer access

Sat-Mon, May 27-29 Wisconsin river, WI - Muscoda to Woodman

Beginner-River camping

Donna Fontana 262-835-2584
dfonme@yahoo.com

Carshift from boat launch in Muscoda at 0930. I will be out of the country until the week before, so if you call and leave a message that will be fine. Any questions may be answered by phone between 0600 and 1200 May 22nd through May 26th.

For Future Planning... (Check PSC website and next issue of the Paddler for details)

- Jun 3 Kishwaukee South Branch, Genoa, IL to Kirkland, IL
- Jun 4 Kishwaukee South Branch, Kirkland to Oak Ridge Forest Preserve
- Jun 7 Mid-Week Paddle Gang, To Be Determined
- Jun 10 Des Plaines, Willow Springs to Isle a la Cache
- Jun 10 Lower Fox River, TBA
- Jun 10-11 Fawn/Pigeon Rivers, Indiana
- Jun 11 Carrol /Elkhorn Creek, Mt.Carrol IL
- Jun 11 Kishwaukee South Branch, Oak Ridge Forest Preserve to Atwood Park
- Jun 17 Horicon Marsh, Wisconsin
- Jun 17 Kishwaukee, Upper North Branch, Garden Prairie IL
- Jun 17 Sugar River Debris/Log Jam Clean Up, Belleville to Attica, WI

Trip Reports

Aug 6 Badfish Creek/Yahara River, WI

Sunflowers in bloom in a farmer's field. Goldfinches, green heron, giant blue heron, sandhill cranes and a bald eagle (which I've now sighted twice) near the confluence of the Badfish and the Yahara. **George Stenitzer**

Aug 13 Pecatonica River

There were only 6 people and 6 boats on this trip. The weather was threatening and took real courage to travel that far to paddle for 2 hours. Gas prices, regular, were very high, \$2.60 in Freeport and \$2.80 in Chicago area. Prior to the paddle waiting for the crowd to show up, I walked all over Brewster Landing picking up (a few) plastic bottles, trash, and alum cans. The West McConnell Road Bridge looked to be clean of liter. Brewster Landing is

Trip Reports

the only usable cement public boat ramp in Stephenson County.

We launched at 1:00pm. One-fourth mile downstream was our first challenge. The river turned sharply right and fast. The outside curve was shallow. You had to stay on the inside of the curve. Everyone made it thru. From there on, it was smooth paddling. There were a few ripples at the old Fisher Mill Dam about 6 miles downstream. The water depth at the ripples was 18 inches, measured with my paddle. Al and Joe retrieved a large plastic barrel from the brush and sent it free to float downstream. Al and Lee rescued a tire with rim from a snag and sent it free to float downstream. Lee said that this tire was sent free south of Browntown on the June 27 paddle! We talked, shared stories and had a good time. The river banks are mostly mud and steep. The river is 50 to 100 feet wide and 3 to 5+ feet deep. Paddling is great exercise. It's a good thing. For more info, see 'trip 1' (7 miles) at www.paddlethepec.com Browntown, WI to Brewster Landing, via the Pecatonica River, is 12 miles. Lee Butler

Aug 27 Sugar River, WI

The first 11 miles of the trip (Brodhead to Avon), in spite of quite low water (161 cfs and .47 gage height at the Brodhead gage) was clear of stream-blocking deadfall, and plenty of depth was present. This is a relatively remote section, with good wildlife viewing and relatively little "civilization."

The final 4 miles (Avon to Nelson Road), through the "Avon Bottoms," was definitely interesting, with plenty of huge strainers and log jams. Extremely remote river section: only one bridge (just before the takeout) and few signs of people after the first few tenths of a mile. This section is definitely not recommended for beginners. Al Donaldson

Sept 10 Badfish Creek

Part of our group (the early bird riser group of 5) put in at 6:45 am and did the section of the creek farther upstream and met the rest of us at 9:00 am! Car shift was completed and we took off down the creek at approx. 10 am. The put in was interesting to say the least! Our boats had to be slid down a very steep bank and then carried through waist high switch grass (my ankles got cut up pretty good - boy that smarts!). One member took a tumble in a hole but was ok! The trip itself was wonderful - lots, and lots of tight turns, riffles, boulder dodging, and even some small rapids! Lunch was on a nice sand bar and some of our group went swimming and others just waded to cool off. We didn't see much wildlife but did see the great blue heron, geese, a few turtles and a small flock of sandhill cranes that took off and flew about 20 feet over our heads! One person had something very large jump off the bank into the water creating a wave with enough force to rock her boat scaring the living daylights out of her! Barb had a leopard frog that somehow ended up in her boat and took a ride with her to the end of the trip. All in all this was a fun trip that gave everyone lots of practice in boat handling while we played with the river. Melinda Tury

Sept 17 Des Plaines River, IL

Five kayaks (where were the canoes) paddled down the Des Plaines from Gowe Park to Oak Spring Rd. The dry weather and epidemic reduced the number of birds we might normally see. The Blue Heron made its proverbial visit. We stopped for lunch at Independence Park. The group agreed that this park had the best washrooms of any trip run by PSC. The low water and strainers made for a few unusual maneuvers. Despite a handful of obstacles, we enjoyed ourselves all day. Glenn Jensen

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 George Stenitzer
1102 Westhaven Dr
Wheaton, IL 60187

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)

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c/o George Stenitzer
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Wheaton, IL 60187

In This Issue Vol 38 -#1	
From the Chair:	2
Announcements:	2-4
Welcome New Members:	3
Paddlers Marketplace:	3
Trip Announcements:	5-13
Trip Reports:	14
Membership Application:	15

Send Address corrections to:

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