



Cruiser

Canoe Cruisers Association of Greater Washington, DC, Inc.

The Chair's Cockpit

By Lee Tucker, CCA Chair

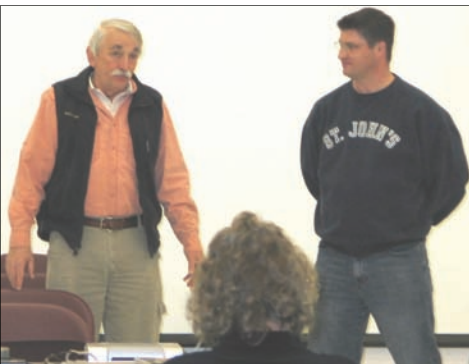
It may be cold outside now, but spring paddling season is surely on its way. This is the time, between ski trips and other winter activities, to get your boat and paddling-gear ready to hit the water. So, if your spray-skirt needs mending, or if your seat or saddle isn't up-to-snuff, or if thwarts or gunnels are beat-up, or whatever, now's the time to take care of it.

Beth Koller has assembled a really smashing trip schedule for 2008. It's on the club's Website now, and I will keep it up-to-date regularly. In addition, the first four months are included in this issue of the Cruiser, and future issues of the newsletters will extend the trip schedule throughout the year.

Lee Tucker, chair



Ed Gertler was surprised at the annual holiday party with a 360° panoramic photograph of Harpers Ferry by James O. Phelps for his 28 years of service as CCA's program chair. (Photo by Laura Breeden.)



Lee Tucker and Tim Bromelkamp gave their campaign speeches before an audience of CCA holiday party goers. Both were running for the office of CCA chair. See story on page 2. (Photo by Laura Breeden.)

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Canoe Cruisers Association
 11301 Rockville Pike
 PO Box 2523 Kensington, MD 20891
 Website: www.canoe-cruisers.org

Chair: Lee Tucker, chairman@canoe-cruisers.org
Secretary: Jeff Fox, secretary@canoe-cruisers.org
Treasurer: Brinton Bohling/Sarah Smiley, treasurer@canoe-cruisers.org
Membership: Ginny DeSeau/Susan Sherrod, membership@canoe-cruisers.org
Address Corrections: membership@canoe-cruisers.org
Conservation: Courtney Caldwell, conservation@canoe-cruisers.org
Newsletter: Laura Breeden, newsletter@canoe-cruisers.org

Instruction: Bob Kimmel, instruction@canoe-cruisers.org
Safety: Tim Bromelkamp, safety@canoe-cruisers.org

Web Site: Lee Tucker, webmaster@canoe-cruisers.org

Upcoming CCA Programs

By Ed Gertler, program chair

CCA meetings are normally held at the Clara Barton Community Center, 75th and MacArthur Blvd in Cabin John, MD, at 7:30 pm.

Wednesday, February 27

Its pornography night tonight, paddleporn* that is. In deference to February's capricious weather, we like to schedule a video rather than live entertainment. I have not settled on the exact selection, so watch the message board for updates. If there is a conflict again with Liquid Adventure Kayak School's mini filmfest at the Arlington Cinema and Drafthouse, we may just move the show over to there. Their event is a fundraiser, but the fee is minimal, the screen large, every seat a good one, and the beer is wet.

*For you dinosaurs out there, this genre consists of extreme action footage of buff young studs and studettes running what most of us would consider unrunnable stuff, usually accompanied by equally extreme rock music. Always amusing.

If you have ideas for a program or would like to host a program yourself, please contact Ed Gertler at e_gertler@yahoo.com or (301) 585-4381.

2007 CCA Election Results

By Barbara Brown

- Chairman: Lee Tucker
- Secretary: Jeff Fox
- Membership: Ginny DeSeau and Susan Sherrod
- Treasurers: Brinton Bohling and Sarah Smiley

Over 120 people attended our annual holiday party and enjoyed three groaning tables of goodies, cake, hot and cold cider, beer, wine and sodas!

CCA actually had a campaign!!!...including handshaking, speeches, alliances and especially excitement. The room was buzzing! Nearly 90 people voted—the balloting was close - 47 votes for Lee and 39 votes for Tim. Susan Sherrod was elected membership co-chair.

Kudos to all the people who worked hard to make this happen.

The nominating committee included: Barbara Brown, Ginny DeSeau, Star Mitchell, Courtney Caldwell, Michael Baummer and alternate Steve Ettinger.

Many thanks to all who contributed to the party. Ed Gertler and Barb Brown organized the program and party, respectively. Special thanks to Star Mitchell, John Paul Tolson, Jan Wolfe, Dave Newson and all the others who used their paddling fitness and brawn to set chairs and tables, sweep, mop and be generally invaluable!!!

In Memoriam

Marge "Rivermom" Cline (1940-2007)

(Reprinted from obituary by Trevor Jenson, Chicago Tribune, and the Chicago Whitewater Association Website. Article submitted by Susan Sherrod.)

Kayak, canoe master

Indomitable paddling instructor who drew thousands into the water held safety in high regard, but also knew how to have a good time

A master of canoe and kayak, Marge Cline was one of the top paddling instructors in the country. A stickler for safety and proper technique in her classes, she thrived on the exhilaration of taking on a wild river. Her signature move was a headstand in the bow as her canoe shot through white water.

Known in the paddling community as "Rivermom," Mrs. Cline, 66, died Monday, Oct. 29, in Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital in Barrington of a heart attack, said her daughter, Kathy Ullrich. A longtime Palatine resident, she lived more recently in Cary, Illinois.

Marge Cline started paddling in 1949 in a dugout canoe, and didn't stop paddling or being part of the community. Marge has been an important and active member of the both the Chicago Whitewater Association and American Whitewater. She has started and trained thousands of paddlers in the Chicago area for over three decades. In 2000, Marge Cline was honored by Paddler Magazine for being one of 100 "Paddlers of the 20th Century" who've made a difference.

Marge's love of paddling was illustrated in the spring of the same year when, suffering chest pains, she drove herself to the hospital. After angioplasty surgery, she rested a day and was paddling the next afternoon. Marge had a few additional strokes/attacks and continued to come to pool sessions to help instruct through 2007. She continued as editor for the club newsletter to her very last day. She was an extremely dedicated woman and paddler. CWA owes so much to her. We all mourn the loss of a paddling icon.

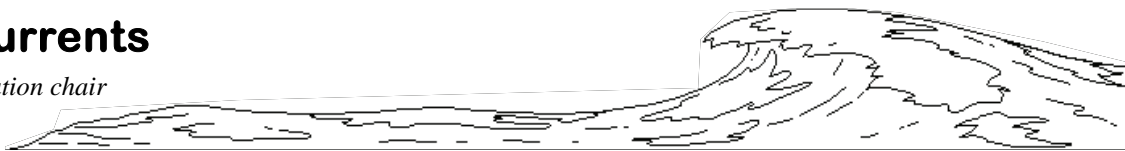
You can read the full version of the obituary at the Chicago Tribune Website: www.chicagotribune.com/news/obituaries/chi-hed_cline01nov01,0,3962308.story. The Chicago Whitewater Association also has a tribute page located at: <http://www.chicagowhitewater.org/cwa/margecline.asp>.



Marge Cline (left) and Sigrid Pilgrim at Paddle in the Park, July, 2002. (Photo by Susan Sherrod..)

Conservation Currents

By Courtney Caldwell, conservation chair



2007 Conservation Donations

The CCA board approved conservation donations this year as follows:

West Virginia Rivers Coalition	\$500
Potomac Conservancy	200
Friends of the Cheat	150
Friends of the Rappahannock	150
Western Pennsylvania Conservancy	100
Cacapon Institute	100
American Rivers	100
American Whitewater	100
Anacostia Watershed	100
Total	\$1,500

2007 CCA Conservation Grants

CCA awarded a \$1,000 conservation grant to Friends of the Cheat to build a parking area and river access facilities near the Rockville Bridge along the Big Sandy Creek.

If you or your organization would like to receive a grant to help fund a conservation project, go to the CCA Website and click on the link for Conservation Grant Proposal on the right side of the main page to view and print a copy of the application.

New Protection For Our Potomac

By Ed Gertler

The Fall/Winter edition of the Maryland/DC News from The Nature Conservancy reported "an anonymous donor gave Offutt Island to The Nature Conservancy in July." Offutt is the big island with the bold headland cliff just downstream of the Anglers Inn put-in. The island is habitat for a number of rare plant species and natural communities. Over the years, the island has had multiple owners, one of which built a rustic cabin behind the cliff. It is otherwise a pocket of wild and, once the Conservancy completes its bamboo (a non-native invasive) eradication program, it will be a refuge for the rich native flora of the river bottomlands.

The full press release is available on The Nature Conservancy Website at: <http://www.nature.org/wherework/northamerica/states/maryland/press/press3062.html>.

Virginia to Tackle Access Woes?

Reprinted from American Whitewater

In a recent AW review of river access laws across the Nation, Virginia was among the states providing the fewest public rights to simply float down rivers and streams. After years of access conflicts and legal uncertainty, state legislators will now consider a proposal for studying this issue and possibly proposing legislation to modernize Virginia's stream access laws.

Earlier this month Virginia Delegate Matthew Lohr introduced a House Joint Resolution (#114) that would convene a joint subcommittee "to study the public's right to float, fish, and navigate the waters of the Commonwealth. This study will be completed and reported on by early 2009, including any recommendations for legislation. The resolution has been sent to the House Rules Committee, who will determine if it should continue through the process of being enacted.

This is certainly good news for regional paddlers who often avoid Virginia and instead travel to neighboring states like North Carolina where laws allow the public to responsibly float down rivers that flow through private lands.

Paddlers, anglers, and other river enthusiasts wishing to voice their opinions on House Joint Resolution No. 114, should first reach out to the Virginia House of Delegates Rules Committee. If the Rules Committee supports further consideration of the resolution, then continued involvement by the river community will benefit the process. This may well be a once in a lifetime opportunity to help Virginia become more friendly to river based recreation of all forms.

House Joint Resolution 114 can be read below, and tracked at: <http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?081+sum+HJ114>

To learn more about Virginia's stream access laws: <http://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Wiki/door/id/access:va>

The Rules Committee can be contacted through their website: <http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?081+com+H20>

Submissions to the Cruiser

Should be made via e-mail to newsletter@canoecruisers.org. No special formatting is required, but plain, block style is preferred.

Photos—are strongly encouraged and can be e-mailed. Color photos are preferred.

Advertisements

Classified Ads—The first 3 lines are free. Each additional line is 75 cents per line. Send classified ads to newsletter@canoecruisers.org.

Lost & Found—No charge. **Give-Aways**—No charge.

Display Ads—\$5 per column inch, Quarter page \$40, half page \$75, full page \$150, insert \$300-\$450. Display ads can be submitted via e-mail to chairman@canoecruisers.org.

Payment—must be received prior to publication.

Mailing Address—Lee Tucker, 11301 Rockville Pike, PO Box 2523, Kensington, MD 20891, chairman@canoecruisers.org

Potomac River: Hancock to Sideling Hill Creek and Back

By Joe Hage

This story falls under the category of my continued explorations of the towpath and Potomac River, another "hike up/paddle down" story. It's sort of a walking shuttle, if you will.

This time I started my trip in Hancock, Maryland. I've driven by Hancock many times as I'm heading west out I-70 and from the highway it doesn't look very impressive. Mostly what you see are railroad tracks and truck stops and overpasses. But once I got down into the historic part of town I found a very friendly and interesting town.

I drove down the main street through town and continued north until I was at the top of Tonoloway Ridge. Here, I turned left and followed the ridgeline through Woodmont Natural Area straight down to the river. On the way I passed the old Tonoloway Rod and Gun Club (1870) whose guests included several presidents. Soon, I found the western terminus of the Western Maryland Rail-Trail. This is a converted RR track and runs parallel to the canal and the river from Fort Frederic to this spot. Here, at this abandoned town of Woodmont, is where I'd stash my canoe. I saw a mile marker up ahead. I was now 136 miles from Georgetown and 12 miles from Hancock. It was also 10:30; I had better hurry up and start hiking.

I rushed back to Hancock and parked my van in the boat ramp parking lot. Apparently, they don't mind if you leave your car there overnight, if you don't mind risking it. The towpath at mile 125 is very similar to the towpath at mile 6. The obvious difference is that there is no water in the canal. The trees and plants are slightly different as well, a lot more hardwoods and ferns. The most striking difference is the topography and it was really cool walking along the towpath with Cacapon Mountain shooting up from the river to my left. I passed "The Devil's Eyebrow", which is an anticline or a fold in the rock that is visible from the towpath. It is this same folding that created these mountains and as I walked along I contemplated the forces that allowed this river to continue to flow east despite all these ridges trying to block its course. I also passed an old cement plant and at one time, after they discovered the limestone layered into these rocks, tons of cement was shipped from these hills.

I passed the Cacapon River as it entered the Potomac on my left. It was here at this Cacapon Junction Campsite that I was supposed to be able to fill my water jug. Unfortunately, the pump was broken. I didn't panic since I had my water filter, but even with the filter I didn't like the idea of drinking the warm water from the river and since it had been so dry, all the smaller springs were dried up. I pressed on not knowing if I could make it all the way to the next pump before dark.

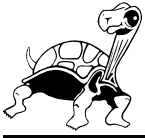
The trail was pretty quiet and except for a few cyclists I was able to explore all the abandoned lock houses and canal works in solitude. I passed locks number 53, 54, 55, 56 and dam number 5. This earthen dam no longer holds the river and has a huge breach on the West Virginia side.

I reached the spot where I hid my canoe, but then decided to keep walking. Sideling Hill Creek was just a couple of miles ahead and I thought that that would be the best place to get the water I needed. On the way to the creek, I counted 13 wild turkeys in a group as they crossed the towpath in front of me.

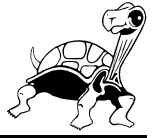
The shadows were getting pretty long as I sat under the Sideling Hill aqueduct pumping my drinking water. I decided I had better camp there for the night. I looked around for a good spot for the tent and ended up out on the rocky bars that lined the drought-level river. I wanted to camp near the water because it was breezier and less buggy outside of the trees but it was way too rocky on the bar for a bed. But then, triumphantly, I found a perfect little grassy patch and I set up my temporary home. I was too tired to fish for my dinner and I fixed my dehydrated meal and watched the sun set behind Sideling Hill before going to bed. It was a great spot to camp except that I was only yards from the West Virginia shore where an all-night stream of coal trains was passing by. (Coal is still king.) It was surreal to see the lights of the trains coming out of the complete darkness and rounding the curve around Sideling Hill.

I awoke the next morning to the sound of some local fishermen trying their luck in Sideling Hill Creek. I wasted little time in breaking camp and I headed down river to my boat. It made me smile when I heard the screeching of that same red-shouldered hawk as I dragged my canoe to the river. There is a steeper gradient on the river here and the canoe moved swiftly over the shallow water. It was a little tricky navigating through the remains of dam number 5 and I was wondering what it would be like in higher water. The town of Great Cacapon was coming up on my right and I decided to splurge and head into town for some bottled water. I parked the canoe at the mouth of Cacapon River and bush-whacked my way over the railroad tracks and up to WV Rt. 9. It was a ten minute walk to the country store where I bought some water. I also couldn't resist buying a bag of ice, a six-pack of beer, and a steak sub.

I spent the next six hours floating and fishing on a perfectly hot summer's day. There were plenty of fish to keep me from getting bored as I drifted past the all the makeshift campsites and summer homes that lined the West Virginia shore. Some of the shoreline was trashed with old school buses and such, so I diverted my eyes to the towering hillsides and their ancient rock outcroppings. Soon, I was back near Hancock and paddling under the Rt. 522 bridge that was in the process of getting painted. I was marveling at the extensive scaffolding when a worker struck his head out from behind the giant tarps high above the river. We waved to each other and I was thinking how glad I was to be the one in the canoe.



Canoe Cruisers Association Membership Form



Visit our Web Site! www.canoeclub.org

Please print legibly. Check if Renewal Check if New Member Note: Your age will not be printed in the roster. It is for demographic purposes only.

Name: _____ Age: _____ Other Adult: _____
 Address: _____ Work Phone: _____
 City: _____ E-Mail: _____
 State: _____ Zip Code: _____ - _____ Children: Please sign waiver for minors who paddle with CCA.
 Home Phone: _____ Age: _____ Age: _____
 Work Phone: _____ Age: _____ Age: _____
 E-Mail: _____ Age: _____ Age: _____

Occasionally, CCA allows a few carefully selected outfitters to use our mailing list in exchange for a discount for club members. If you wish to be removed from this distribution list please check one or more of the following: No Mail No E-Mail

If you do not wish to be listed in the club roster, which is available only to club members, please check one or more of the following: No Roster No Web Roster

1. The boats I paddle are:

- Please indicate priority: 1 = most often
- K1 (Kayak) _____
 - C1 (Decked canoe-1 person) _____
 - C2 (Decked canoe-2 person) _____
 - OC1 (Open canoe-1 person) _____
 - OC2 (Open canoe-2 person) _____
 - SK (Sea kayak) _____
 - IKR (Inflatable kayak or raft) _____

2. I prefer to paddle class _____ - _____ water.

Enter A, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
(A = easiest flatwater; 5 = most difficult)

3. I paddle about _____ days per year.

4. I have been paddling for _____ years.

5. I am interested in: (check all that apply)

- (C) Canoe camping/extended trips
- (W) Weekday paddling (9-5)
- (R) Racing *(See note below.)
- (F) Flatwater paddling
- (P) Poling
- (X) Cross-country skiing
- (S) Sea kayaking
- (M) Family paddling
- (K) Cold-weather paddling

6. I volunteer to help:

- (T) Coordinate a CCA trip
- (E) Teach a CCA class
- (C) Conservation
- (S) Safety
- (A) Social activities
- (P) Publications (newsletter/roster)
- (M) Membership
- (R) Racing H(See note below.)
- (I) Certified Instructor:
 - Canoe Kayak Safety

Volunteering is a great way to make new friends!

Canoe Cruisers Association of Greater Washington, DC Member's Release and Waiver of Liability

- I declare that I fully understand and voluntarily **assume the following risks**. Boating on whitewater rivers exposes me to various life threatening dangers, known and unknown, for example: boulders or other obstacles, strainers, ledges, undercut or entrapping formations, holes and hydraulics, high water, cold conditions, and changing conditions, mostly in remote locations.
- Intending to be legally bound for all time, I hereby **release and waive**, for myself, family and heirs, **any right to sue or claim against the Canoe Cruisers Association** (the "Club"), its members, officers, trip coordinators, or any of my fellow paddlers, for any injuries to myself or my equipment which may occur during a club trip or activity. **The release and waiver applies to any negligent act or omission and to any intentional act or omission intended to promote my safety or well-being.** I understand that, generally speaking, negligence means a failure to do an act which a reasonably careful person would do, or the doing of an act which a reasonably careful person would not do, under the same or similar circumstances, to protect himself or herself, or others, from accident, injury or death.
- I agree to be solely responsible for my own safety** and to take every reasonable precaution to provide for my own safety and well-being while participating in a trip or activity sponsored or conducted by the Club. This **release and waiver** is given in the interest of permitting the Club to exist and to serve the paddling community, and to enable myself and my fellow paddlers to feel free to donate our services and help each other without fear of liability. My **release** is given in exchange for similar **wavers** to be granted on my behalf by other members of the Club. My **waiver** has no expiration date.

Signature Date Signature of other adult paddler(s) in the family Date

Parents or Guardians of Minors: I am the parent or guardian of _____, and I consent to the terms of this **release and waiver** on behalf of the named minor participants, and I further agree to **indemnify the Club**, its members, officers and trip coordinators for any claims arising from the participation of the named minor participant.

Signature of Parent or Guardian Date

Make your check payable to CCA

CCA dues: \$25 by mail, \$15 via email \$ _____
 Optional contributions: \$ _____
 Total enclosed: \$ _____

Allocation of optional contributions:

Skills Instruction: \$ _____
 Safety: \$ _____
 Conservation: \$ _____
 CCA General Fund: \$ _____

Mail to: CCA Membership
 11301 Rockville Pike
 P.O. Box 2523
 Kensington, MD 20891

membership@canoeclub.org

* CCA Members interested in racing may also wish to join the Bethesda Center of Excellence. Write to: BCE, PO Box 54, Cabin John, MD 20818

Optional Family-Members Survey

If your family members paddle different kinds of boats or run different types of rivers, we'd like to know.

We've provided these additional "paddler-profile" spaces so that families with diverse paddling interests can, if they choose, give us a better picture of themselves. Of course, we'll never release information about individuals to any outside parties.

Paddler's Name: _____

1. The boats I paddle are:

Please indicate priority: 1 = most often

- K1 (Kayak) _____
- C1 (Decked canoe-1 person) _____
- C2 (Decked canoe-2 person) _____
- OC1 (Open canoe-1 person) _____
- OC2 (Open canoe-2 person) _____
- SK (Sea kayak) _____
- IKR (Inflatable kayak or raft) _____

2. I prefer to paddle class ____ - ____ water.

Enter A, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
(A = easiest flatwater; 5 = most difficult)

3. I paddle about _____ days per year.

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A Full Cycle of Full Moons

By Chip Walsh

In an interview just prior to his death, actor Brandon Lee quoted a passage from Paul Bowles' book *The Sheltering Sky*: "Because we do not know when we will die, we get to think of life as an inexhaustible well. And yet everything happens only a certain number of times, and a very small number really. How many more times will you remember a certain afternoon of your childhood, an afternoon that is so deeply a part of your being that you cannot conceive of your life without it? Perhaps four, or five times more? Perhaps not even that. How many more times will you watch the full moon rise? Perhaps twenty. And yet it all seems limitless..."

Lee had chosen the quote for inclusion on invitations to his wedding, the date of which was to be 18 days after he was killed in a tragic malfunction of a gun used on the movie set of *The Crow*. The quote was also used in the opening of *The Crow*, and the movie went on to be a huge success, which would have propelled him to stardom. He was only 28 at the time. It is an irony that recurs to me every time I see a full moon.

When I saw the movie, the quote resonated with me, because it expressed something I felt. I can't recall when my fascination with the full moon began, but I can tell you it is a feeling that has pulled me from my bed in the middle of the night and taken me out walking in the woods, when most rational people are resting. Few things are more resplendent than snow-filled woods under a moonlit sky. One of them might be the sight of moonlight gleaming off the water, and with that thought in mind, I'd like to invite you to join me in my quest to complete a full lunar cycle of paddling trips, which I am dubbing Full Lunacy.

Below is a listing of the moons, by their Native American names, and the dates and places where you are invited to join in full lunacy:

Wolf - Jan 19-21— Assateague Backcountry (paddle in/out)

Snow - Feb 16-18— False Cape State Park (paddle in/out)

Worm - Mar 22-23—Pine Barrens, Mullica River Wilderness Area (downriver)

Pink - Apr 19-20—TBD Janes Island or Stoneycreek Rendezvous

Flower - May 17-18—Jug Bay (car camper)

Strawberry - June 14-15—James River (downriver)

Buck - July 19-20—Potomac River Islands near Point of Rocks (downriver)

Sturgeon - August 16-17—Rocky Gap State Park (car camper)

Harvest - Sep 13-14—Wye Island Regatta, Tuckahoe State Park, Tuckahoe Creek (car camper)

Hunters - Oct 11-13—Raystown Lake (car camper)

Beaver - Nov 8-11—Virginia Barrier Islands (paddle in/out)

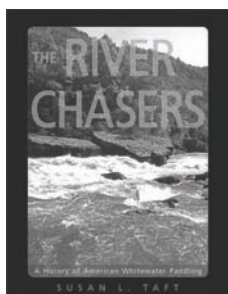
Long - Dec 13-14—TBD, Potomac near Paw Paw, Pocomoke or Assateague

Trip descriptions:

Paddle in/out - park, load, paddle, camp overnight, paddle back to launch

Downriver - set shuttle, load, paddle, camp overnight, paddle out to shuttle

Car Camper - drive to established camp site, paddle at or around site, camp, paddle some more the next day, or not, depending on your whim.



Floating Water Press is Having an Inventory Reduction Sale

For a limited time, you can purchase *The River Chasers*, a narrative history of American whitewater canoeing and kayaking, at a special sale price through www.theriverchasers.com and www.trailstuff.com.

David Weber - whitewater writer (from Boatertalk.com review) writes: It is objectively written and Taft's sources are excellent (referencing, extensive interviews, and citing numerous publications). This book, a copy of Eric Jackson's *Strokes and Concepts*, and the local guidebook should make up the basic library for anyone seriously committed to understanding and pursuing whitewater kayaking.

Bob Woodward - outdoor sports writer (from SNEWS-NET.com review) writes: Despite its relatively short history in America, whitewater kayaking and canoeing has a colorful and often tortuously convoluted history. Taft's gift of research and her love of the whitewater sport combine for a comprehensive and readable history. It's a must-read.

CCA Needs Your Help

CCA has several committees that have vacancies. They are: advertising, roster, steering, and Webmaster. These are essential responsibilities to keep the club going. We enthusiastically welcome volunteers with talents in talking with people, coordinating advertising in and printing of the roster (once/year), or maintaining/improving the Website. If you would like to volunteer, contact Lee Tucker at chairman@canoecruisers.org.

For Sale

Medium Kokatat blue drytop, faded, but still waterproof, gaskets intact, \$40, (matching pants available.); red Kokatat Goretex drytop, faded, but still waterproof, gaskets intact, \$40; Keith Backlund paddle, length ~202 cm, right fix. limited use, originally \$395; asking \$250. Beth Koller (410) 786-4633 (days).

Necky Looksha touring kayak, yellow, excellent condition—essentially new, located in Fredericksburg, VA, \$750/obo, contact Wayne Mathis at MATHISW@si.edu.

2007 CCA Trips and Events Schedule

N=Novice	HI=High Intermediate	PN=Practiced Novice
AI=Advanced Intermediate	LI=Low Intermediate	A=Advanced
I=Intermediate	E=Expert	

Check the online calendar for schedule changes and the message board for last minute trips. To coordinate a trip, contact Gus Anderson at (703) 903-9738 or boatingus@aol.com.

FEBRUARY

2—Winterfest at Ohiopyle State Park 10 AM—7 PM, See details in Nov/Dec *Cruiser* or contact Friends of Ohiopyle State Park, (724) 329-8594 or ohiopylesp@state.pa.us.

9—Small creek, Merrill Pearson, Buzzy Petukov

9—Paddling Film & Chili Fest, tentative date, 2-7PM, Barbara Brown

16-18—False Cape State Park, paddle in/out, Class I-II, Chip Walsh, (410) 562-3466 or chipwalsh@comcast.net. Trip is rated N. See story on pg. 5.

27—CCA meeting, see pg. 2.

MARCH

1—Break the Ice, Shake a Leg, Back Creek, WV, class I-II, see details Nov/Dec *Cruiser*. Ed Gertler, (301) 585-4381 or e_gertler@yahoo.com. Trip is rated N.

15—Dealer's Choice, Class II-III, Larry Lempert

15—Staircase, Merrill Pearson, Buzzy Petukov

20—Dealer's Choice, Thursday Paddlers, Class II-IV, Steve Ettinger, ettingersj@aol.com. Trip is rated I/A.

22—7th Annual End of Winter Celebration—Canoeing Antietam Creek. Celebrate end of winter and overcome cabin fever with a 12 mi., class I-II trip through Antietam Nat'l Battlefield. Canoe and life jackets req'd. Dry bags with clothing change strongly suggested. Co-sponsored with MCC, & BRV. Jim Finucane, (301) 365-3485 (before 9 pm) or jim.finucane@yahoo.com. Trip is rated PN.

22-23—Pine Barrens, Mullica River Wilderness Area, downriver, Class I-II, Chip Walsh, (410) 562-3466 or chipwalsh@comcast.net. Trip is rated N.

29—Antietam Creek, David Larch

APRIL

2—Wed. Evening Potomac Paddle, Mike Baumer

4-6—Webster Springs Festival, Elk River, Peter Bross; festival info at www.websterwv.com/whitewater.html.

5—Potomac Watershed Cleanup, Kathleen Sengstock

18-27—WV Week of Rivers, Class III-V, Ron Ray, ronaldaray@verizon.net. Reservations required. Trip is rated I/A.

19—Violette's Lock, Bill Bransom

19-20—TBD - Janes Island or Stoneycreek Rendezvous, Class I-III, Chip Walsh, (410) 562-3466 or chipwalsh@comcast.net. Trip is rated N/I.

19-20—Bloomington Release

20—Stoneycreek Rendezvous

26—Anacostia Earth Day Cleanup & Celebration, Kamweti Mutu (301) 699-6204 x108.

30—CCA meeting

Standing Trips

Wednesday Evening Potomac Paddle—Join trip leaders Mike Baumer or John Stapko every Wednesday from April through September for an evening paddle on the Potomac. First trip on April 2, 2008.

Thursday Paddlers Dealer's Choice—Join Steve Ettinger every Thursday morning from late March through October for a trip down a well-known river or an exploratory run down a obscure creek. Trips are decided at the last minute. Send an e-mail to ettingersj@aol.com to get on Steve's mailing list. First trip on March 20, 2008.

Save the Date!

The 53rd Potomac Downriver Race will be held on Saturday, May 17, 2008. Come out to race or join us as a volunteer. Details and registration form will be in the March/April edition of the newsletter.

Canoe Cruisers Association



Canoe Cruisers Association of Greater Washington, DC

11301 Rockville Pike

P.O. Box 2523

Kensington, MD 20891

First Class Time Limit