



# FLOWlines



Finger Lakes-Ontario Watershed Paddlers' Club Newsletter  
Rochester NY

Volume 5, Issue 8

August 2000

## Fourth Annual FLOW Summer Picnic

FLOW's annual extravaganza and paddling picnic will be held on the weekend of August 4 - 6. It is a scheduled 750 cfs. release on the Salmon River, and FLOW will convene after paddling at Stoney's Campground in Pineville for a picnic and bonfire on Saturday, August 5. Stoney has been collecting pallets and other combustibles for the bonfire. Tom Congden will again preside over the picnic proceedings, and Dave Griffey has been persuaded to repeat his "Garbage Can Turkey" success of 1999. Food and refreshments are provided by FLOW, and reduced camping fees are available Friday and Saturday nights. Call Steve Kittelberger for more details.

## Gatineau Whitewater Festival Aug. 26-27

The Upper Gatineau Whitewater Festival gathers together whitewater canoers, kayakers and rafters from northeast America. Most challenge the section between Maniwaki and Bouchette.

Mainly class IV-V, those rapids are powerful and located in a beautiful and wild valley.

The Festival is held in Maniwaki, a town located 130 km north of Ottawa and 330 km northeast of Montreal. During the Festival, the headquarters and campsite is located at the Maniwaki French High School.

Vaughn Skinner is leading a FLOW excursion to the festival. See the trip list on page 3 for details.

## Get Well Soon, Ivan!

Ivan Rezanka had shoulder surgery on 7/26. We all wish him a speedy recovery and hope to see him back on the water soon.

## Rochester Kayakers Cross Lake Ontario

On Monday, July 17, Karen Meininger and Ian Komorowski paddled 51 miles across Lake Ontario. Karen and Ian left the Genessee Yacht Club in Rochester at midnight Sunday night and paddled through the early morning hours. They had a 25 foot sailboat along as a safety boat but they enjoyed "awesome" weather conditions: 5-10 knot winds from the south-southwest and 1-foot swells with occasional 2 foot waves. It took them 15½ hours of paddling to cover the 51 miles to Presque Isle, Canada, which was faster than their 18 hour estimate. They had a photographer along in the safety boat and we hope to have some photos to come in an upcoming newsletter. Both Karen and Ian work together at BayCreek Paddling Center so the next time you're there, wish them both congratulations!

## Other August Festivals

### Grasse River Canoe Race

Aug 19, Massena, NY  
JP Dumam 315-769-5080,  
jpdumas@northnet.org

### West Canada Kayak Festival

Aug 26, Middleville, NY  
Rick Short 315-853-4900  
kayak@rickshort.com  
<http://www.shazamny.com/CNY/WCreek.html>

### FLOW Organization

<b>President</b> .....	Mike Shafer.....	716 227-9291
<b>Vice Presidents</b> .....	Cathy Rague.....	315 926-7890
	..... James Hopkins ....	716 621-2721
<b>Secretary</b> .....	Dorothy Sullivan .	716 544-9725
<b>Treasurer</b> .....	Ed Boggs .....	315 926-7890
<b>Facilities Development</b> .	Rick Williams.....	716 381-3418
<b>Membership</b> .....	James Hopkins ....	716 621-2721
<b>Trips &amp; Events</b> .....	Ivan Rezanka.....	716 381-7475
<b>Newsletter</b> .....	Karen Alexander .	716-461-1513
	..... Simon Barnett.....	716 244-3557
<b>Education/Instruction</b>	Ardie Shaffer.....	716 334-4487
<b>Public Relations</b> .....	Steve Kittelberger....	716 442-6138
<b>Conservation/Access/AW</b> .	Jerry Hargrave.....	716-663-3888

### FLOW Hot Line: 716 234-3893

To access the FLOW Hot Line:

1. Dial 716 234-3893 from a touch-tone phone.
2. To listen to messages left by other paddlers, press the remote access code any time during the greeting. After entering the remote access code, listen to instructions for how to access messages.
3. To leave a message for other paddlers, listen to the greeting and leave a brief message after the tone.

*The FLOW hotline is sponsored by FLOW Paddlers' Club for FLOW members. The FLOW hotline is hosted by Bay Creek Paddling Center.*

### Newsletter Submissions

Send us trip reports, articles, letters to the editor, photographs, ads for our classified section, or anything else that you would like to see in FLOWlines.

If you have e-mail, send articles in the form of a text file to [wave@rochester.rr.com](mailto:wave@rochester.rr.com)

If you do not have e-mail, send articles to:  
Karen Alexander  
220 Mt Vernon Ave.  
Rochester, NY 14620

For those of you still living in the dark ages (i.e. without typewriter or computer) handwritten submissions are acceptable, but they must be reasonably legible, or great editorial license may be invoked.

### Membership and Mailing List

To join FLOW, send name, address, telephone, paddling interests, and \$30 (\$35 family rate). Membership papers and updated member lists will be sent to you. Call (716) 621-2721 for more information.

James Hopkins  
Re: FLOW Paddlers' Club  
43 Whelehan Drive  
Rochester, NY 14616

### Upcoming trips/events

Contact Ivan Rezanka (716) 381-7475 for Whitewater Trips. Contact James Hopkins (716) 621-2721 for Flatwater Trips.

### Gauge numbers

Genesee River (Letchworth) .....	716-468-2303
Cattaraugus River.....	716-532-5454
Salmon River.....	1-800-452-1742 #365123
Keuka Outlet .....	716-234-0090

### Paddling Contacts

Adirondack MountainClub(ADK) ...	(716) 987-1717
Adventure Calls.....	(888) 270-2410
Ardie Shaffer.....	(716) 334-4487
BayCreek Paddling Center .....	(716) 288-2830
G.R.I.P.....	(716) 381-3418
Lock 32 Project (Art Miller) .....	377-1994
Oak Orchard Canoe.....	(800)-4-KAYAKS
Pack, Paddle, and Ski .....	(716) 346-5597
Seayaker Outfitters.....	(315) 524-9295

### Web Pages

AWA	<a href="http://www.awa.org">http://www.awa.org</a>
Bay Creek	<a href="http://www.BayCreek.com">http://www.BayCreek.com</a>
FLOW	<a href="http://flowpaddlers.org">http://flowpaddlers.org</a>
Seayaker	<a href="http://www.seayaker.com">http://www.seayaker.com</a>
Waterline	<a href="http://h2oline.com">http://h2oline.com</a>

## FLOW Flatwater Paddling Calendar

Weeknight Paddles will be on Thursdays in 2000. Sponsored and coordinated by the flatwater paddlers, open to all. A great escape from the mid week blahs and for Canoe/WW/Sea Kayak paddler interaction. The evening coordinator will structure the paddle to the interests of the participants and offer a shorter and longer paddle from the same starting point. Don't like Thursdays? Volunteer for another night...added trips are welcome. Contact Jim Hopkins 621-2721 (hoppyski@yahoo.com) with your trip.

**Note From The Editors:** Open Water Boaters - send us your pictures and articles. We want to hear more about your paddling excursions!

Date	Time	Type/Class	Trip/Event	Coordinator	Phone	E-Mail
Jun-Sept	10:00 AM	Sea & WW Kayak	Sunday Surfers Durand Beach		Hot Line	
3-Aug	6:30 PM	All	Crazy Kayak Games @ Webster Pk	Harry Weidman	315-524-9295	seayaker@seayaker.com
10-Aug	6:30 PM	Sea & WW Kayak	Roll Clinic Mendon	Ardie Shaffer	334-4487	ashafer@rochesterdandc.com
17-Aug	6:30 PM	Sea Kayak	Surf or Rescue Clinic	Harry Weidman	315-524-9295	seayaker@seayaker.com
24-Aug	6:30 PM	All	Erie Canal @ Lock 32 Park, Clover St.	Jim Hopkins	716-621-2721	hoppyski@yahoo.com
31-Aug	6:30 PM	All	TBD			
TBD		Wilderness River	Churchill River 10-14 Day	Ed McDonald	544-3467	Late Aug-Sept

Coordinators/Trip Leaders are covered by ACA Insurance for Listed Trips

## FLOW Whitewater Trip/Event Schedule

Whitewater paddling, like all adventure sports, entails an element of risk. FLOW members assume this risk, and share the risk and responsibility for assisting others in need, as a condition of joining any of the listed trips below. Each participant will be asked to sign a release to this effect before putting onto the water. To add trips, or change existing trip listings for the monthly update, call Ivan Rezanka, 381-7475. And be sure to check FLOW's telephone Hotline for impromptu trips and events.

Date	Skill Level	Trip Description	Coordinator
August 5-6	Intermediate	FLOW Summer Picnic at the Salmon River, Pulaski, NY. A scheduled 750 cfs release. Class III	Ed Boggs 315-926-7890
August 26-27	Strong Intermediate	Gatineau River Festival - Class IV. Check website <a href="http://www.gatineau.org">www.gatineau.org</a> for details of river, festival, and directions. Call 514-252-3001 to make and pay for reservation for camping, shuttles, and two meals which are inexpensive (this is strongly recommended). River is comparable to Ottawa.	Vaughn Skinner 315-638-5379
September 3	Intermediate	Salmon River, Pulaski, NY. A scheduled 750 cfs release. Class III	Jerry Hargrave 663-3888
September 3	Advanced	Beaver River, Taylorville section. Class III - IV	Ben Bramlage 518-251-5300
October 14	Advanced	Lower Moose River. Class IV	Ben Bramlage 518-251-5300
November	Intermediate	Tohickon Creek, Pensylvania. Class III	

Coordinators/Trip Leaders are covered by ACA Insurance for Listed Trips.

## Salmon River Festival Review

Sunshine, boats, paddlers, and water were the ingredients for the Salmon Fest weekend. You could see and demo just about any boat you wanted as most of the major manufacturers (Eskimo, Wave Sport, Pyranha, Perception, Dagger, Necky) were all represented at the Fireman's field in Pulaski, NY.

The Salmon river was packed on Saturday. It was a continuous flotilla of boats all the way from the Trash Compactor to Black Hole. Fireman's Field was a convenient spot to stop, eat lunch, and hang out on the way down, but it seemed like few of the paddlers took advantage of it.

Saturday night at Stoney's campground was excellent. Even though the power went out, the band (fortunately acoustic) played long into the night, and Mike "The Pyro" Stoney provided a blazing 70 pallet bonfire to warm up the evening.

Michele Bull and the rest of the folks from the Central New York White Water Club did an excellent job organizing the festival. We're all looking forward to next year!



Simon Barnett Trying Out The Latest Riot



Lunch Break At Fireman's Field



Valerio Villa Hand Surfing Titanic



Jerry Hargrave Lookin' For Air

## Salmon Moonlight Paddle

(This Was Not A FLOW Sponsored Trip)

The names have been truncated to protect the guilty.

We were waiting for our shuttle at the take-out after a full day's paddling when M. walked up to me and said, "H. must have been drinking a lot of beer - she just tried to convince me to go on a moonlight paddle."

I didn't think much more about it until later in the evening when M., H., V. and I were at the campsite looking for Stoney, trying to pay him for our campsites. As usual, Stoney was running around trying to do 100 things. He tried to solicit our help moving 70 palettes because he set up the bonfire in the wrong place. M. said, "Sorry, we'd love to help, but we're going for a moonlight paddle."

"Quick thinking, M." I said as we were walking away from the campsite office. "I didn't really want to move those palettes either." But from the look on his face (and the beer in his hand) I was starting to wonder. "No, really, I've always wanted to do a moonlight paddle." he said. "And anyway, it's only the Salmon." So 10 minutes before sunset I bid them goodbye, and started wondering if I should be looking for an alternate ride home.

They still hadn't come back when I crawled into my tent at 11:30 - but I figured that they must have arrived home safely when I woke up the next morning and saw M.'s vehicle parked next to the

tent. "Surfing was really great - you could only see the wave a few feet away from your boat. You could really focus on where you were." said M. I dunno ... Sometimes I want to focus on that rock that's 10 feet downstream from the wave. Maybe I'll tag along next time. Or maybe not.



Amy Hargrave's Rolling Clinic



Valerio Villa Squirting On The Salmon



Are you interested in a nimble and sleek all around kayak?

Come check out the NEW Velocity, by Sun (aka Riot) Kayak! We have a 'fresh off the mold' demo model at the shop.

BayCreek Paddling Center  
1099 Empire Blvd.  
(716)288-2830

## Access Granted On Moose River

By WILLIAM F. HAMMOND Jr.

From the Albany Gazette Reporter

ALBANY - A 12-mile stretch of river that passes through a private estate in the Adirondacks has been opened to limited public access under a lawsuit settlement announced Monday by the landowners, environmental activists and state officials.

The agreement ends a dispute that began in June 1991, when five canoeists and kayakers paddled the south branch of the Moose River in defiance of "no trespassing" signs posted by the Adirondack League Club.

The boaters, who staged the trip to assert their common-law right to travel on all navigable waterways, called the settlement a precedent-setting victory.

"When we set out on this journey, we had no idea it would take nine years to complete, but we have been successful," said Tom Kligerman, the Sierra Club activist who organized the excursion by the "Moose River Five." "We have established once and for all that the public right of passage is the law on all of New York's navigable rivers."

Lawyers for the Adirondack League Club, a 53,000-acre hunting and fishing preserve in Herkimer County, called the agreement "a workable balance among the parties' different goals" - including allowing public access, protecting property rights and preserving the wild character of the river.

"The lawsuit was brought in 1991 to protect the club's property rights against those who sought to ignore them," the club said in a news release. "That goal has been achieved."

Under the settlement, the river is open to nonmotorized boats from May 1 to Oct. 15 on days when the water level at the McKeever Dam, just downstream from the club's property, is at least 2.65 feet. Paddlers must register at the state's Moose River Plains Recreation Area, sign a liability waiver, complete the trip in a single day and stay off the river banks except when necessary to portage around obstacles. No swimming, fishing, hunting or picnicking is allowed on the club's property. Club officials said they intend to enforce these terms strictly, and

warned that the trip is difficult and not necessarily safe.

"Only experienced paddlers should attempt the traverse, and only when they are confident of completing the entire trip in one day," the club said.

The club sued the five paddlers in 1991 after the state Department of Environmental Conservation refused to press trespassing charges against them. The state and several environmental groups joined the case on the side of the defendants, arguing in favor of public access to navigable streams and rivers even when they cross private lands.

The case ultimately made it to the Court of Appeals, the state's highest court, which ruled in 1998 that the common-law right of passage on navigable waterways - traditionally used for transporting cargo and floating logs downstream - should also extend to recreational boating.

But the court stopped short of declaring whether the south branch of the Moose River - a rocky, shallow stream repeatedly interrupted by falls and rapids - met the legal definition of "navigable." It left this issue to be settled at trial in state Supreme Court.

"This is the ultimate win-win situation," said Neil Woodworth, an attorney for the Adirondack Mountain Club, a lobbying group for canoeists and hikers. "We have gotten reasonable public access to the waterway in the key months. ... We could have gone to trial and, perhaps, won the case. But you would have had a hostile landowner. We've averted all of that."

Kligerman said he hoped the settlement would set a precedent, dissuading other landowners from trying to block public access to navigable

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streams across their property.

"What we would like to see is for the state to come out with a list of the rivers that meet the test of navigability", Kligerman said. "The state's in a much better position now to make a public statement about what the navigation law in New York state is."

But Jennifer Post, a spokeswoman for the DEC, said the settlement does not set a clear precedent for other rivers.

"Obviously we're very pleased with the outcome of this case, because the [settlement] gives people access to this stretch of the Moose River," Post said. "Unfortunately, however, the legal staff does not believe this can be used to generalize to activities on other streams in the state."

A spokeswoman for Attorney General Eliot Spitzer, whose office opposed the club's lawsuit on behalf of state government, agreed that the settlement itself applies only to the Moose River.

"We're not aware of any other situations in which a landowner actually put a wire across a river and said 'No trespassing,' which is what happened here," said Judith Enck, Spitzer's environmental policy adviser.

John Marwell, an attorney for the Adirondack League Club, said circumstances of the Moose River case are unique. He pointed out that the public already has access to the river on either side of the club's property, and that the 12-mile stretch through private land is short enough for experienced paddlers to travel in a single day.

"I don't see that this [settlement] is going to put any pressure on anyone, because each river is such a unique situation," Marwell said. "Is it an example of how a compromise can be achieved? . . . Yes. It's an example that's situated to this river."

Woodworth said water levels recorded over the past 25 years at McKeever Dam by the U.S. Geological Survey have usually been above 2.65 feet in May, June and early July. They tend to be lower in late July and August, and then rise again in September and October, he said.

After a wet spring, the level posted Monday on the USGS Internet site was 2.97 feet, several

inches above the level specified in the settlement, Kligerman said.

Kligerman said the Moose River Five - which also includes Jeff Jones of Albany, Lorraine Van Hatten and Carl Anderson of the Utica area and Bob Wolff of Albany - are planning to celebrate with another paddle through the club's property this summer.

## Internships Available with American Whitewater

American Whitewater has a national office internship in river conservation and recreation. This is a 6-month position located in Washington D.C., which may include a stipend. American Whitewater's mission is to "conserve and restore America's whitewater resources and to enhance opportunities to enjoy them safely". AWA represents over 80,000 whitewater paddlers across the country.

Responsibilities for the post include research of topics related to rivers, production of publications and responding to requests from activists and members

- Qualifications for this position are:
- College Degree (or working on one)
- Computer Skills
- Strong research and writing skills
- Demonstrated interest in river conservation, whitewater boating and/or outdoor recreation

For more information, check the AWA web site at <http://www.awa.org>. The specific job description page is at <http://www.awa.org/hotnews/interns.html>.

## Classified Ads

**Perception medium spray skirt** for \$40. **Norse Paddle** for \$40. Call Rick Mauser @ 473-2162

**Thule H2Go Kayak Carrier**, Still in Box, \$40, **Wavesport Kinetic**, New in Sept. 99, Great beginner kayak for a small paddler, \$550.00 Call Doug 716-734-9026 or droode@ulbi.com

**New Wave Cruise Control** (black/grey) to a good home with a larger paddler on a budget. \$200 Offers and trades considered. Jim Hopkins 621-2721Eve, 722-3982 days.

**Mohawk XL 13 Whitewater Canoe**, Perception saddle, 2 float bags, paddle, \$275. Contact Marcia at 229-4313.

Do you have extra gear sitting in your basement, garage, or under you deck? Someone may want it and just think what you can do with the extra cash! Send your adds to the newsletter editors. See page 2 for contact information.

## Lost And Found

**Helmet lost at the Salmon.** A light blue helmet with an AWA sticker on the back and another sticker with a battle ship design on the front was left at the take-out. If you know of its whereabouts, please contact kvoytac@bellatlantic.net

## New FLOW Website

Check it out and let us know what you think!  
www.flowpaddlers.org

**Next newsletter deadline is August 24**

**FLOW Paddlers Club**  
**43 Whelehan Drive**  
**Rochester, NY 14616**

