

The Badger Paddler

Newsletter of the Wisconsin Canoe Racing Association

March, 2005

2005 Wisconsin Race Calendar

WCRA Events

- Mar 12 **Wisconsin Season Opener**, Across the River from Carl and John's Paddlin', Yahara River, Madison. Race starts at 2:00 p.m. Kevin LeRoy: (608) 712-0980 or (608)273-0476, kevin.leroy@charter.net. See www.paddlin.com for directions.
- Apr 16 **Burlington C1 Pursuit**, Fox River, Burlington. 12 Miles. Open class or seeded class. No day-of-race entry for seeded class. Fritz Hansen, (262) 878-2777, fchansen@net, <http://www.c1pursuit.com/>
- May 21 **Wausau Paddling Criterium**, Riverside Park on the Wisconsin River, 12.5 miles, Pro (\$1000 total purse) and amateur canoe and kayak races. See web site for registration deadlines. Allen Limberg (715) 845-1637, callmeal57@charter.net, www.badgerevents.com
- June 18 & 19 **Callie Rohr Memorial Canoe Race**. Headwaters of the Wisconsin River, Conover, Wisconsin, 26 miles, Rohr Wilderness Tours, Funds raised go to American Brain Tumor Association. Amateur classes (non-racing canoes and kayaks only) a two day event starting 9 am each day (12 miles Day One, 14 miles Day Two). Pro classes (C2, C1, unlimited K1) a one day race starting at 9 am Sunday. Call or email for camping and motel details. Marcia Rohr (715) 547-3639 rwcanoe@nnex.net www.RWTCanoe.com
- June 25 & 26: **Peshtigo River Canoe Race**, Peshtigo Wisconsin, C1 Saturday afternoon, 8-10 miles, C2 Sunday morning, about 17 miles. Get an early look at the 2006 USCA Nationals course! Everett Crozier (715) 735-9763, ercrcr@cybrzn.com, Joe Johnson (906) 863-8101, joe49858@yahoo.com
- Jul 4: **Rock River Regatta**, Mayville, Wisconsin, 5 & 12 Miles. Canoe and kayak recreational & expert classes offered, Entertainment, Food & Beverages, Prize Raffle, Canoe & kayak demos, see website for details and entry forms. Brad Taggett, (920) 387-3000 ext 7218, brad.taggett@apw.com, www.racetherock.com
- Jul 6, Jul 13, Jul 20 and Jul 27 (Wednesdays): **South-Eastern Wisconsin Mid-week Race Series** Rock River, Johnson Creek. Each Wednesday Evening there will be two races: The first race is a points series with champions crowned at the end of the series in each of the usual canoe and kayak classes. The second race will be some type of non-traditional format such as hat races, multi-boat teams, knock-out sprints, relays, etc. Kevin LeRoy, (608) 273-0476 or (608) 712-0980, kevin.leroy@charter.net.
- July 17 **Wisconsin River Race/The Five State Challenge aka Muscoda**. Wisconsin River, with races from Spring Green (21 miles), Lone Rock (15 miles), and Gotham (8 miles) to Muscoda. For 2005, this is also the USCA Aluminum Nationals. Beth Schluter (262) 567-6923, Brad Glass (608) 935 3324, glass@mhtc.net www.wicanoeracing.com/Muscoda/index.html.
- Sep 11: **3rd Annual WCRA Lake Michigan Beach Party and Canoe / Kayak Races**. Kohler-Andrea State Park, Sheboygan. Informal open-water canoe/kayak race followed by a fun Beach Party. Kevin LeRoy (608)273-0476, (608) 712-0980 kevin.leroy@charter.net
- Sep 17: **Sauk Prairie Canoe and Kayak Races**. Wisconsin River at Prairie du Sac and Sauk City. About 12 miles, double loop course. Ron Koenig (608) 644-9818, koenig4@chorus.net.

Other Wisconsin Races

- Apr 24: **Grafton Jaycees Downriver Canoe Run.** Milwaukee River, Fredonia to Grafton, 14 miles. Multiple classes, canoes and kayaks Lara Zwick (262) 377-3540 & (262) 377-5327, latidas@aol.com, www.graftonjaycees.org.
- Apr 24: **Sheldon Canoe Race.** Jump River, Jump River Park to Sheldon, 10 miles. Multiple classes, canoe rentals available, shuttle service, food. (715) 532-2642. russcounty.org
- Apr 30: **Pewaukee River Run.** Pewaukee River into the Fox River, 6 miles. Start: Hamel Products parking lot, Wisconsin Ave. east side of Pewaukee. Finish: Frame Park, Waukesha: At the Rotary pavilion building. Registration from 6:30am race day. Mary Krasinski (262) 691-4693. Kras42@aol.com. Call or email for advance registration forms
- May 7: **Flater's Triple-R Triathlon.** Holcombe. 3 mi run, 17mi bike, 7mi canoe. Joe Flater (715) 595-4771
- May 13: **Syttende Mai Canoe Race.** Yahara River, Stoughton. 3 miles, 17 foot canoes <http://www.stoughtonwi.com/syttendemai.shtml>
- Jun 4: **Great Wisconsin River Canoe and Kayak Race.** Wisconsin River, Portage, 8 miles. Start 2pm - arrive early. Cash prizes. Bill Austin. dollar1@charter.net. www.portagecanalsociety.com
- Jun 12: **Darlington Canoe Fest.** Pecatonica River, Darlington, 7 miles. Pursuit race: start any time between 6 am and 10am – enough time to run it twice! Darlington Fire Dept. Bill North (608) 776 4788 [evening]. wmnorth@mhtc.net.
- June 25: **Brice Prairie Canoe/Kayak Race.** Black River and Lake Onalaska, 2.5 miles. Starts at the Upper Brice Prairie Boat Landing (off County ZB in LaCrosse County Wisconsin). Advance registration required by June 11, special awards, pig roast dinner included in entry price. Tentative price \$15 per person. Must be 12 years old to race. PFDs must be worn. Sue Schultz (608) 781-1662 ssschultz@charter.net
- Jul 16): **Paddle & Portage Canoe Race.** Lakes Mendota and Monona, Madison. 10:00am start, James Madison Park. 400 boat limit. Watertrail Adventures in cooperation with Wisconsin Sports Development Corporation. www.gottapaddle.com
- Sep 25: **Hill Country Trail & River Challenge.** Run from Hillsboro (5 miles) to Union Center; canoe Union Center to Wonewoc (6 miles) Baraboo River; bike Wonewoc to Elroy (8 miles) on the "400" State bike trail. Participate in one or all events. Individual or Teams of 2 to 4. info@hillcountrywi.com. (608) 462-2245 http://www.hillcountrywi.com/baraboo_river.htm.
- Oct 1 (Sat): **The Dam Challenge** Kickapoo River, Bridge 7 to Bridge 14 and adjacent roads and trails. Last year 8 mile canoe, 14 mile road bike, 3 mile run. Revisions under consideration. Canoe requires a partner - no solo canoes. Proceeds to the Kickapoo Valley Reserve Education Program. Jonel Kiesau (608) 625-2965 jonel.kiesau@krm.state.wi.us. kvr.state.wi.us

Neighboring States

Illinois (For more information on Illinois Races, see <http://www.illinoispadding.org/>)

- Apr 17: **Rook's Creek Icebreaker,** Rook's Creek, near Pontiac. Jody Runyon (815) 796-3267, runyon87@wheelweb.com
- May 7 & 8: **Current Buster Canoe and Kayak Race,** Fox River at St Charles. Tave Lamperez (630) 584 6931 lamperez@lucent.com. www.angelfire.com/sports/scccfox/
- May 15: **Voyageur Landing Canoe Race.** Fox River at Elgin. Kevin Bradley (847) 885-0836, kaab610@aol.com
- May 22: **48th Des Plaines River Canoe and Kayak Marathon** (847) 604-2445 www.canoemarathon.com
- Jun 5: **MidAmerican Canoe Race.** Fox River, from St. Charles to Aurora. Fox Valley Park District. Lorraine Beazley (630) 851-8990, lbeazley@fvpd.net www.midamcanoe.com
- Jun 12: **Vermilion River Canoe Race,** Pontiac. Cecil & Sharon Runyon (815) 796-3267, runyon87@wheelweb.com
- Jun 25: **Barton Challenge Race** Just For Boys and Girls 9-17. Morris. Joe Kowsky, (815) 942-0927, bilpsychjk@yahoo.co

Jun 26: **I&M Canal Race**, Morris. Joe Kowsky (815) 942-0927, bilpsychjk@yahoo.com
Aug 7: **Chicago River Flatwater Classic**. Tina Stubbs, (312) 939-0490, tstubbs@chicagoriver.org, Gary Mechanic, (773) 267-0146, gary@chicagopaddling.org. www.chicagoriver.org/news/classic.asp
Aug 21: **Sauk Valley Canoe Race**. Dixon. Don Mueggenborg, donmuegg@avenew.com
Sep 18: **Vic Hopp Memorial Canoe Race**. Des Plaines River, Wheeling. Jim or Ditto Peterson, (847) 395-1510, akpcpa@cs.com
Oct 2: **I&M Canal and DuPage River Race**, Channahon. Joe Kowsky (815) 942-0927, bilpsychjk@yahoo.com
Oct 8 & 9: **The Southern Sampler**, Pinckneyville. Cecil & Sharon Runyon, (815) 796-3267, runyon87@wheelweb.com

Indiana (For more information on Indiana Races, see <http://members.aol.com/keluv1992/canoe.html>)

April 9: **1st Annual Lake George Chase**. Hobart. Bill and Debbie Kanost, (219) 465-5338, dbk2001@netnitco.net
Apr 23: **43rd Annual Sugar Creek Canoe Race**, Sugar Creek, Crawfordsville. Bob Stwalley (765) 362-3875, Stwalleyfarms@wico.net, <http://members.aol.com/keluv1992/world.html>
May 7: **13th Annual Tippecanoe Marathon Race**, Lafayette, Tippecanoe River, Terry Pontius (765) 474-9877, Thepontsin@aol.com
May 29: **The Great Race**, Elkhart River, Elkhart. Bridget Lail, (574) 848-5071 www.thegreatrace.net
June 11: **Wildcat Creek Race**. Lafayette. Roger Crisp (219) 474-6387, Patt Oakley (765) 477-0970, Macoak@aol.com
June 18: **21st Annual Fort Wayne Canoe & Kayak Races**. St Joseph River, Fort Wayne. Jerry Begue (260) 489-2025 jerrybegue@yahoo.com
Jun 26: **Subaru Paddlefest**. St. Joseph River, South Bend, Nancy or Patrick Sawyer, (574) 243-1604. pnsawyer@comcast.net, <http://www.paddlefest.org>
July 9: **42nd Annual Hoosier Canoe Regatta**, Indianapolis. Frank Tinsley (317) 578-4366, FCTCanoe@aol.com
Jul 16: **29th Annual Three Rivers Festival Canoe and Kayak Races**, St Joseph River, Fort Wayne. Kurt Begue (260) 490-9182, keluv1992@aol.com. http://members.aol.com/borg3668/trf_form.html
July 30: **Wabash River Canoe and Kayak Races**. Lafayette. Patt Oakley (765) 477-0970, Macoak@aol.com
Aug 27: **2nd Annual South Bend to Mishawaka Canoe and Kayak Race**. St Joseph River. Sonja Gilman (574) 633-4978, gsgilman@earthlink.net
Sep 17: **7th Annual Bristol Bridge to Bridge Canoe and Kayak Races**. Bristol. Buzz Lail (574) 849-5361, buzzlail@hotmail.com, Brian McKibbin (574) 848-5895 bmckibbin@unxpres.com
Oct 15: **The Great Escape Adventure Race**, Bristol. Brent Ernsberger, (574) 294-7437, riverkayak420@aol.com

Iowa

May 7: **Canoe Orienteering & River Clean-up Event**. TENTATIVE! Dubuque. Earl Brimeyer (563) 583-6345, ebrimeyer@aol.com
June 4: **25th Annual Waterloo Jaycees Canoe Race**. Cedar River. Start in Cedar Falls, finish in Waterloo. David Hillman (319) 431-0266, ddhillma@rockwellcollins.com, Jessica Miller, JMiller@BallKirkHolm.com
Jun 25: **Timber City Adventure Race** Maquoketa, Iowa, cnissen@yousq.net, www.maquoketachamber.com

Michigan (for more information on Michigan races, see www.miracing.com)

Mar 19-20: **Klondike Canoe and Running Race**. Oscoda. Chris Rudolph, (989) 739-2946, cricket2@chartermi.net
May 7 & 8: **Roscommon**. Fred Mills, (989) 821-5707. Bill Torongo, (989) 275-4035.
May 14 & 15: **Onaway**. Black River at Onaway. Steve Watson (989) 733-8530, s_watson75@hotmail.com
TENTATIVE: Jun 11: **Bay City Canoe Challenge**, Saginaw River, Bay City. Chuck Hewitt, (989) 893 2187, csmithbrooker@ameritech.net
Jun 18 & 19: **Indian River**, Brian Trombley, (231) 238-4006
Jul 2 & 3: **Michigan Canoe Racing Association National Cherry Festival Boardman River Race**. Boardman River, Traverse City. www.cherryfestival.org, Garth Greenan (231) 228 6342, boardmanriverrace@yahoo.com
Jul 16 & 17: **Curley Memorial Canoe Race**, Oscoda, Michigan. Chris Rudolph (989) 739-2946, cricket2@chartermi.net. www.ausablecanoemarathon.org and follow link to Curley Memorial
Jul 23 & 24: **Paddler's Tribute Race**, Grayling, Michigan, AuSable River. John or Cheryl Lucey, (989) 348-1048 jlucey@i2k.com. www.ausablecanoemarathon.org
Jul 28: **C1 Express**, AuSable River, Grayling. Mark Sloan, mark.v.sloan@aexp.com, www.ausablecanoemarathon.org
Aug 7: **Cass River Race**. Vassar. Dale Newton, (989) 823-2426.
Aug 27-28: **Mio's "1st Dam" Race**, AuSable River, Mio. Linda Barnes, (989) 826 5489, lbarnes@i2k.com
Sep 17: **Paradise**. Linda Richards, (906) 492-3351

Minnesota. (For more information on Minnesota Races, see <http://www.canoe-kayak.org/>)

- May 7: **24th Annual Snake River Canoe Race**, Snake River, Mora. Bob Lindig, (320) 679-1081, lindiglaw@ncis.com.
www.snakerivercanoerace.org
- May 14 OR 15: **Root River Triathlon** (Not Yet Confirmed), Houston, Minnesota. www.midwestevents.com.
houstri@acegroup.cc
- May 21: **Rum River Flag Race** (Not Yet Confirmed), Rum River; Isanti, Minnesota. Norm Strike at (763) 444-5626 or Pati Midlo at (763) 444-9626, ccamping@sprintmail.com, www.country-camping.com
- Jun 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, July 7, 14, 21 and 28, August 4 and 11 (Thursday Evenings): **Hoigaard's Canoe Derby**, Lake Calhoun; Minneapolis, Minnesota. Jim Lind, (953) 929-1351, jiml@hoigaards.com, www.hoigaards.com.
- June 4: **Anton's Classic**, St. Cloud, Minnesota on the Sauk River. Tom Heck (320) 308-6691, tsheck@stcloudstate.edu
- June 4: **Fairview Triathlon**, canoe 1.5 miles, bike 11.3 miles, run 2.3 miles. Spectacle Lake, Princeton. Kim Pederson, 763-389-6305, kpeters1@fairview.org
- Jun 5: **Jensen Handicap**, Mississippi River; Brooklyn Park, Minnesota. Kenn Ketter (763) 560-3840, canoeing@comcast.net, www.kettercanoeing.com
- Jun 11: **Chippewa Triathlon**. Cass Lake in Cass Lake, Minnesota. Jack Gustafson, (218) 335-2689, www.casslake.com, www.chippewa-triathlon.com
- Jun 11: **St Francis Triathlon**. Rum River in St. Francis, Minnesota. Mike Starr, (763) 300-9110, (763) 753-7494H, mmmstarr@comcast.net
- Jun 18: **Hackensack Annual State Solo Pro Race**. Hackensack, Minnesota. Sue Larson, (218)675-5700, kslarsen@uslink.net, www.hackensackmn.net/CanoeRace.htm
- Jun 19: **9th Annual Hackensack Sweetheart Canoe Derby C2 Race**. Sue Larson, (218)675-5700, kslarsen@uslink.net, www.hackensackmn.net/CanoeRace.htm
- Jun 25: **Cohasset Black Water Barge Festival Canoe Race**, Cohasset, Minnesota. Dave LaCoe (218) 328-6225 x11, Al Rudquist (218) 326-5744, bigalrudquist@yahoo.com, davel@ci.cohasset.mn.com, www.cohasset-mn.com
- Jul 2 & 3: **Rapids Round Robin Canoe Race**. Ice Lake (Crystal Lake), Grand Rapids, Minnesota. Al Rudquist, (218) 326-5744, bigalrudquist@yahoo.com
- Jul 9: **Deux Pipe Paddle and Kayak Marathon**, Lower St. Louis River, Duluth, Minnesota. Ron Deters (218) 626-2416, paddler55@aol.com
- Jul 10: **Cloquet River Canoe Classic**, Cloquet, Duluth, Minnesota. Kjell Peterson (218) 723 0081, Littlebear@hotmail.com
- Jul 17: **4th Annual Palisade to Aitkin Canoe Race**, Mississippi River, Minnesota. Carroll Kukowski, Aitkin Area Chamber of Commerce, (218) 927-2316 or (800) 526-8342, upnorth@aitkin.com, www.aitkin.com
- Jul 26-29: **Minnesota Border to Border Triathlon**. Starts in Luverne and finishes at Crane Lake. Gaylen Morse (952) 446-9250, Gaylen@mnb2b.org, www.mnb2b.org
- Aug 7: **Two Harbors Kayak Race**, Two Harbors on Lake Superior. (218) 343-2526, www.kayakfestival.org
- Aug 21: **Mississippi River Canoe Classic**. Monticello to Dayton Marsh Jones, (651) 633-2491 or Kenn Ketter, (763) 560-3840, keneoing@comcast.net, www.kettercanoeing.com
- Sept 4 **Grand Marais Outrigger Race**, Grand Marais, John Amren (218) 387-2360, www.superiorcoastal.com
- Sep 10 **Minnesota Boat Club's Great Rivers Marathon and Half Marathon**. Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers, Shakopee (and Bloomington) to St Paul. Christina and Glen Fiebich, (651) 665-9375, info@GreatRiversMarathon.org, www.GreatRiversMarathon.org
- Sep 17 **Headwater's Classic Canoe and Kayak Race**. Lake Bemidji; Bemidji, Minnesota. Ira Batchelder (218) 444-3856, John Arenz, (218) 335-2526, zoeteka@paulbunyan.net
- Sep 24 & 25: **Women's Round Robin**, Cedar Lake, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Krista Matison, (218) 326-5735, KristaMat@direcway.com

National and International Races

- May 28 – 31: **General Clinton Canoe Regatta**, Bainbridge, New York, <http://www.canoeregatta.org/>
- July 23 – July 26: **World Masters Games**, Edmonton, Alberta, www.2005worldmasters.com
- Jul 28–31: **58th Weyerhaeuser AuSable River International Canoe Marathon**. Marathon Office (989) 348-4425 or (989) 739-2946, aricm@i-star.com. www.ausablecanoemarathon.org
- Aug 9-14: **USCA National Canoe & Kayak Championships**, Allegheny River, Warren County, Pennsylvania. Jim Decker, (814) 723 3050, info@wccbi.org, www.wccbi.org
- September 3 –5, 2005. **La Classique International de Canots, Shawinigan, QC**, <http://www.classiquedecanots.qc.ca>

USCA Nationals are Coming!

At the January 2005 meeting of the United States Canoe Association, Everett Crozier presented a bid to

host the 2006 Nationals on the Peshtigo River in Peshtigo. The delegates voted to accept the bid!

The Peshtigo is an awesome river. There are long stretches of marshy pools above the dams, fast currents and tricky turns elsewhere and challenging sandbars galore. Should be a great Nationals course.

The old "Peshtigo Race" is being revised this year as part of the preparations for 2006 Nationals. See you there on June 25 and 26.

Also, WCRA is hosting the 2005 "Aluminum Nationals" as part of the Muscoda Event. This should bring some new faces to what is always a great racecourse.

WCRA OFFICERS

- Beth Schluter, President, 262/567-6923
- Kevin LeRoy, Vice President and Newsletter Editor, 608/273-0476, kevin.leroy@charter.net
- Kai Hansen, Treasurer, 262/424-6225, kshansen@mail.chorus.net
- Fritz Hansen, Competition Director, 262/878-2777, fchansen@wi.net

Membership Application

To become a member of the WCRA, clip this form, fill it out and send it with a check for the appropriate membership fee to:

Kai Hanson
WCRA Treasurer
287 Rose Street
Belleville, WI 53508.

New _____ or Renewal _____

Individual \$15 _____

Family \$25 _____

Lifetime \$150 _____

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, ZIP: _____

E-Mail: _____

SURFING THE GREAT LAKES – An Insider's Guide to the Monster Waves Along North America's Fresh Coast. By P.L. Strazz, 2nd Edition, Big Lauter Tun Books, Chicago. www.blbooks.com

Last December, I went into Rutabaga searching for some type of guide book to Western whitewater as a present for my stepson. I found a good book for him, but that not what I want to tell you about. I also stumbled across SURFING THE GREAT LAKES, and, with just a quick glance, knew I had to buy it.

P. L. Strazz does a beautiful job balancing very practical guide-book type stuff about locations, weather and equipment, with inspirational pieces -- mostly written by contributors -- describing great sessions on the lakes. The book also has many, many black and white photos taken throughout the region. Some are recent and some are glimpses into 1960s beach culture.

As a paddler, one of the most practical sections is a description of typical Great Lakes weather patterns, season by season. There is also a great table that lists expected wave heights with given wind speeds and fetch lengths. Just one example, if we have a 25kt wind with a 50 mile fetch, we should see predominately 7 foot waves with a period of 7 seconds.

While it is obvious that the book was put together by surfers, they do a nice job including information about boogie boarding, wind surfing and kayaking – all means to the common end of riding on waves.

P.L Strazz is obviously well aware of how ridiculous his subject appears to most reasonable people. After all, Sheboygan is certainly nothing like Honolulu and the Lakes are certainly not oceans. But I admire the strong underlying theme that, yes, this is a legitimate sport that can be practiced at a very high level of proficiency..

However, Mr. Stazz never takes himself and his fellow surfers too seriously. Many of the pictures show surfers wearing neoprene hoods and mittens as well as wetsuits. How serious can you take somebody who's out in November or December dogging ice flows? (I learned from the book that that is the time of year when the winds are strongest and the waves best.)

I enjoyed the book immensely and highly recommend it. It inspired me to do more paddling on Lakes Michigan and Superior this summer. Thanks to SURFING THE GREAT LAKES, I now know of some great spots that build nice waves under certain conditions.

Book Review

By Kevin LeRoy