

FLOWlines



Newsletter of the Finger Lakes-Ontario Watershed Paddlers Club, Rochester NY

Volume 2 Issue 11

December 1997

1998 winter video party

Thursday, January 8 1998 at McGinnity's



For the second year, FLOW is sponsoring a winter video party. The party will be held on Thursday, January 8, 1998 at McGinnity's, located at 534 West Ridge Rd. We have reserved a large party room starting at 6:30 p.m. and will be providing snacks and beverages.

Bring paddling videos, and bring friends! Non-members are welcome.

Start planning trips for 1998

FLOW + PEOPLE = Trips and Events

If there are rivers and sea coasts you didn't see, clinics and classes you didn't attend, canoeists and kayakers you didn't meet, don't despair. Write them down and bring them to the January party on Thursday, January 8 or the FLOW club meeting on Thursday, February 12. In February, we will be having a meeting dedicated to planning the events and trips for the 1998 season. We need your help: if you are interested in flat water canoeing or kayaking, whitewater canoeing or kayaking, flat water or whitewater racing, C-1-ing or C-2-ing, please let us know

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Have a safe and happy holiday!

Love, FLOW

where you would like to go, what you would like to do, and who you would like to see in 1998. The time and location of the trip-planning meeting has not been determined yet, but if you are interested in attending, look for an announcement in the February newsletter or on the FLOW HotLine. In the meantime, have a safe and happy holiday, hope that Santa Claus is a paddler, and pray for SNOW. Even if you don't like winter, just remember . . . **snow = runoff = water**. See ya on the water? Not till April.

Noree

Logo contest extended

Due to limited response, we have extended the deadline for the FLOW logo contest and added a more enticing incentive. The prize will still include the free membership and T-shirt, as well as a hundred dollar (\$100) gift certificate. Send in as many entries as you can create. The winner's design will be used for FLOW decals and T-shirts. We'd like to see entries that include the themes of paddling, water sports, the environment, etc.

Submit entries to Mike Marini.



Pool Practice dates in 1998

Pool practices in

1998 have been scheduled at Wheatland-Chili high school. The pool will be available from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on the following evenings:

- February 26 (Thursday)
- March 5 (Thursday)
- March 12 (Thursday)
- March 19 (Thursday)
- March 26 (Thursday)
- April 7 (Tuesday)

All are invited. Cost per evening: \$3 for members, \$4 for non-members, free if you volunteer at the door for an hour (contact Steve Kittelberger to volunteer).

Please clean off your boat before bringing it, if possible. A hose will be available at the pool.

Thanks to Bob Pierson for handling the arrangements!

FLOW organization

Officers

President	Steve Kittelberger 716 442-6138
Vice President	Harry Weidman 315 524-9295
Secretary (Interim)	Dorothy Sullivan 716 359-4710
Treasurer	Mike Shafer 716 227-9291

Committee chairs

Facilities	Rick Williams 716 381-3418
Membership	Art Miller 716 334-5810
Programs and Trips	Noreen Wiatrak 716 288-5839
Communications	Heather Mummery Mike Marini 716 288-5232
Education/Instruction	Ardie Shaffer 716 334-4487

Newsletter submissions

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

If you have e-mail:

Send articles in the form of a text file to:
heather.mummery@nortel.com

Written submissions:

Preferably typed in a 10-point font or larger, double-spaced.

Hand-written submissions must be reasonably legible, or great editorial license may be invoked.

Mail to:

Heather Mummery
221 McKinley St.
Rochester, NY 14609

Contacts

FLOW Paddlers Club(716) 442-6138
 Kayaker Outfitters(315) 524-9295
 Pack, Paddle, and Ski(716) 346-5597
 Endless Adventures(315) 536-0522
 Adirondack Mountain Club (ADK) ..(716) 223-5023
 Ardie Shaffer(716) 334-4487
 Oak Orchard Canoe1-800-4-KAYAKS
 Letchworth Outfitters(716) 237-6180
e-mail: letitout@wycol.com

FLOW HotLine: 716 234-3893

To access the FLOW HotLine:

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.

Membership and Mailing List

To join FLOW, send name, address, paddling interests, and \$20 per individual membership to:

Art Miller
 Re: FLOW Paddlers Club
 264 Vollmer Pkwy
 Rochester, NY 14623

Upcoming trips/events

See insert for whitewater and flatwater trips, classes, and clinics scheduled for 1997. Contact Noreen Wiatrak (716 288-5839) with changes or additions.

Gauge numbers

Genesee River (Letchworth)716-468-2303
 Cattaraugus River716-532-5454
 Salmon River1-900-726-4243 #365123
 Keuka Outlet716-234-0090

Pennsylvania rivers:

Philadelphia (Lehigh and others)
1-800-431-4721
 Harrisburg (Loyalsock, Susquehanna, Pine Creek) .
1-800-362-0335

Pittsburgh (Yough, Slippery Rock Creek, and others)412-262-5290

West Virginia rivers:

Gauley River304-872-5809
 Southern WV rivers304-529-5127

Dagger Old Town Mr. Surf
Werner Wilderness Systems Extrasport
Stellaquist Perception New Wave

Since no two paddlers are alike, we listen and respond to each customer and their particular needs

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Old Secretary news, new FLOW Secretary

Ann Watts, former Secretary General to the Finger Lakes Ontario Watershed Paddlers Club, has resigned and moved to Fort Collins, Colorado. She has left her illustrious volunteer position with FLOW, among other things and many people, to assume a job in the Office of City Planning, effective December 1, 1997.

Ann was elected FLOW Secretary in February, 1997, during the Club's first elections. She was a founding member of FLOW in 1996, and continued to be an integral part of the Club's leadership on the steering committee. She has assured all members that she will select a new home on the bank of Colorado's Poudre River, with lots of camping space for visitors in the back yard. Her now-unofficial FLOW duties include "Colorado Correspondent to the Newsletter and First Scout of FLOW's Westward-Expansion."

We'll miss you, Ann!

(Some of us do already.)

In the good news department, Dorothy Sullivan was voted Interim Secretary at the December meeting of the FLOW steering committee to fill the vacant post. Dorothy can be reached at (716) 359-4710.

Letter to the Editor

Every month I have the dubious honor of trying to come up with 16 hours of gainful and interesting employment for 32 National Guard soldiers. On rare occasions one of my troops comes up with an activity, plans it out, and executes it without a lot of input from me. I am ecstatic, and so is everyone else in the unit. You see, they get tired of my focus and point of view and long for something new and interesting. This doesn't happen very often, as most of the guys have families and 2 jobs and are rather busy. When one of them can spare the time, everyone appreciates it.

The November general meeting was a group discussion about how FLOW has done in its first year and where it should go in the future. As the discussion raged around me, I was struck by how similar the problems the club faces are to the ones I have to deal with every month. Basically, the group was in general consensus that the club as it stands now is a good start and has a lot of potential but is not fulfilling all the needs of the paddlers in the club.

Let's face it, we set a tall order for ourselves by trying to service the entire paddling community. It is a

worthy goal, but it is not going to happen overnight or even in one season. FLOW is run on volunteered time and energy, and like me with the National Guard, it tends to be the same people doing things every time because they like to. However, this has the impact that the programs tend to be a little repetitive and those doing all the work tend to get a little exhausted.

The direction of this club can only be determined by its members. If we want to see the club providing gainful and interesting activities for all of its members, then its members have to contribute to the activities sponsored by the club. So as the year draws to a close and the busy holiday season approaches, and we are thinking about doing nice things for our fellow human beings, why don't we plan on taking a little time when things slow down and doing something nice for ourselves. Start thinking of trips you'd like to lead, come to a Steering Committee meeting in 1998, or write a story, trip report, or letter to the editor. After all this is one place where you can make a difference and your effort is guaranteed to be appreciated.

Mike Marini

The direction of this club can only be determined by its members.

Reflections of a chronic boat-builder

by Mike Marini

Well, it is that time of year again, the holidays, winter, which means cold weather and no paddling and looking for any excuse there is not to go to that get-together, or what to do with all those long evenings and weekends. After all, one can only spend so much time in front of the computer. So why not build a boat? The end product is generally nicer than anything you can purchase for the MONEY you are going to spend. Yes, that capitalization was intentional, and did I mention the TIME that will be put in to the project? I should know, after building 4 boats and doing major repair work on another.

There are two ways to go about building a boat: either you can buy a kit from a builder, or you can buy the plans and build it from scratch. Having masochistic tendencies, I built my boats from scratch and modified them along the way. The result was a lot of learning (i.e. swearing) and longer build time—and in one case, a boat that didn't turn out quite right. Not to mention one or two half-panicked calls to the designer for help. Don't get me wrong, I had a lot of fun doing this. The next time I will buy a kit, I think.

In deciding to build a boat, you'll want to put a lot of thought into what you want to do with it and understand that a given design will only do one thing extremely well. So a fair amount of research is necessary, not to mention fun. Talk to different boaters and builders, try out boats at demo days or shops, and do some reading. Then go for it.

Feel free to ask people questions—it is much easier to ask questions (and builders love to talk about their projects) than it is to fix some mistakes. Here are some things I've learned:

- Measure twice, cut once
- Always consult the plans at least three times before doing anything
- Sharp tools cut better and hurt less: the sharper the better
- Expensive tools are better quality, and you will spend less money in the long run. Also:
 - You will always need another tool
 - The bow is the front; the stern is the back
 - Wood bends better when wet—soak it for several days before trying to bend it
- Don't go overboard with the epoxy, because:
 - Sanding is no fun
 - Read the directionstwice

Good luck!

Mike's boats. Immediately below: Heather holding Baidarka frame
Bottom: two bent-plywood designs from Cheseapeake Light Craft.



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Classified ads

FOR SALE:
 1997 Dagger Outburst w/float bags and paddle, ~1 month old, \$600. Lee Gassler (716 586-5677)
 TOURING PADDLE, like new, Werner SanJuan, 240 cm., \$150. Al Pietzold (716 388-1279)
 DANCER XT, yellow with flotation and spray skirt, \$350 (716 889-2753)
 OLDER COVERED C2 (fiberglass, end hole), \$75 or best offer. Ed McDonald (716 544 3467).

WANTED:
 COURAGEOUS AND ENTHUSIASTIC FLOW MEMBER to accept the title of "Pool Practice Coordinator" for a two year term (negotiable). Must be dedicated, earnest, and willing to handle communications with local Powers-That-Be in regards to our desire to put our boats in their pools. Responsibilities: co-ordinating annual pool practices, organizing volunteers, and others to be determined. Incentives: most of the work has already been done for 1998. Contact a member of the steering committee.
 POOL PRACTICE VOLUNTEERS to take money at the door, enforce standards of respectability (i.e. all debris, dead fish removed from boat-by owner-before boat enters pool), two volunteers per evening. Incentives: work an hour, practice an hour for free; you get to make other people handle dead fish. Contact the pool practice coordinator (see ad above).

To submit advertisements contact Mike Marini at 288-5232. Please notify us if your ad is no longer needed.

Deadline for next newsletter

The deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is Monday, January 19, 1997. Submit articles, trip announcements, news of recent or upcoming activities that may be of interest to FLOW members, or anything else that you want to share with our readers. Send submissions to Heather Mummery (address on page 2).



stamp

FLOW Paddlers Club
 264 Vollmer Pkwy
 Rochester, NY 14623