

# FLOWlines

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

Volume 4 Issue 10

October 1999



## Upcoming River Events:

### Moose River Festival

October 16, Old Forge, NY - for more information please contact Chris Koll @ 315-652-8397 or kcoll1234@aol.com

### Rushford Release River Festival

October 23-24, Letchworth State Park - for more information see page 5.

## October Steering Committee Meeting

**Time:** Thursday, October 7th - 7 P.M.

**Place:** Dan and Sarah's new Pit -o-money at 470 Rockingham St.. Call Dan for hard directions at 716-442-6634 or write him at dsbpph@rit.edu

## We are still Looking....

As of December 31st, 1999, your favorite Newsletter will be editorless. Dan and Helen have decided to step aside and let others participate in the joys of sharing... If you are interested in working on the newsletter or know of someone who would be, please contact your favorite board member. Until then, we will do our utmost to keep you abreast of the latest and greatest in our little corner of the world

*Congratulations to (pb) Ben and Melissa on their wedding. Them's gettin' hitched on Friday, September 24!*

## October General Meeting

**Time:** Thursday, October 14th, 7P.M.

**Place:** Brighton Town Hall

The October general meeting of FLOW will feature a slide show by Don Cochran entitled "Paddling the Grass River and Other Adirondack Waters". The meeting will be held at our usual winter retreat, the lower level of Brighton Town Hall. on Elmwood Avenue at 7pm, Thursday, October 14.

## I Like Hurricanes

**Jim "Hoppy" Hopkins**

When Hurricane Floyd was bearing down on the East Coast, I tried to resurrect the September 17-19 Lehigh trip which had been postponed till October, because the scheduled release was cut back to 500 cfs Saturday only.

I didn't find anyone else interested, so I went to Lehigh alone when the Core of Engineers changed the scheduled release to 1200-cfs Friday evening. The "real boaters" were at the Beaver release or their favorite creek after the Floyd induced deluge. I'm sure they had fun but they missed some great water on the Lehigh.

Saturday on Lehigh Section 3 was awesome after Floyd. It was a bright, clear autumn like day for my first trip on Section 3. I found a lone kayaker at the Lower Gorge Rockport put in at 9:30 AM. Jim Heyer was a former rafting guide and kayaked the Lehigh in the early 80's at 15,000 cfs. He is much saner now and

*-Continues on Page 3*

## FLOW organization

<b>President</b>	Steve Kittelberger 716 442-6138
<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>	Mike Shafer 716 227-9291
<b>Trips &amp; Events</b>	Ivan Rezanka 716 381-7475
<b>Communications</b>	Dan Bogaard 716 442-6634 Helen Cherniack 716 461-3233
<b>Education/Instruction</b>	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:  
Helen.Cherniack@usa.xerox.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:*

Helen Cherniack  
480 Benton St.  
Rochester, NY 14620

### Contacts

FLOW Paddlers' Club . . . . .(716) 442-6138  
Seayaker Outfitters . . . . .(315) 524-9295  
. . . . .http://www.netacc.net/~seayaker  
Pack, Paddle, and Ski . . . . .(716) 346-5597  
Endless Adventures . . . . .(315) 536-0522  
Adirondack MountainClub(ADK)(716) 223-5023  
Ardie Shaffer . . . . .(716) 334-4487  
Oak Orchard Canoe . . . . .1-800-4-KAYAKS  
BayCreek Paddling Center . . . . (716) 288-2830  
. . . . . baycreek@cwix.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:

Mike Shafer  
Re: FLOW Paddlers' Club  
89 Dorsetwood Dr  
Rochester, NY 14612

### Upcoming trips/events

Contact Ivan Rezanka (716) 381-7475 for Whitewater Trips. Contact Harry Weidman (315) 524-9295 for Flatwater Trips. Refer to insert for the latest version of the trip lists.

### 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

### Web Pages

http://www.rit.edu/~dsbpph/flow  
http://www.netacc.net/~seayaker  
http://www.awa.org

sells long term care insurance. We tagged along with his brother who was a safety boater and their rafting wives on a raft trip to Jim Thorpe.

The release was 1,200 CFS but shut down at noon Saturday. Flow was 2000+ at Rockport and was really ripping after Drake's Creeks kicked in at the first bend. We made the 15-mile trip with the rafts in 4 hours with a 45-minute lunch. We did avail ourselves of numerous surfing opportunities in the big waves and holes; but with the high water

there were not many broached rafts or swimmers, so we had as much play time as we wanted. Rapids were bodacious and long. Pipeline was the best; 1/2 mile of continuous 6-8 foot wave train with embedded holes. I towed a flipped canoeist out the bottom of the rapid. It was like towing a battleship. Flow was 3000+ at the take out. Needle's Eye was partially washed out, the smaller rock on right was pillowed. The Boulder Garden was pretty well washed out. Met Tom (OC-1), and kayakers Mike, Josie, Bob, Holly, and Jeff from Harrisburg & York clubs at Hickory Run campsite Saturday night and boated with them Sunday. There was no Sunday release and Rockport put in was down to 500 cfs.

After much consultation we headed for Nescopeck Creek about 20 miles west of White Haven near intersection of I80 and I81, because she holds her water well. We knew we had found the right place when there were 6 vehicles at the put in. A boater at the take out on the shuttle reported no new strainers, he didn't tell us about all the old ones. We road scouted the 3 foot drop 200 yards below the iron bridge at 3 miles on the shuttle. A 15-foot high midstream rock split the flow below the drop into 2 chutes. We didn't see a potential pin if you took the drop river left instead of down the obvious center tongue. Four of the party had made the 5 mile run before so we ran it with boat scouting and "logs". The "log" took the tongue below the iron bridge and spotted the pin from the river left eddy and signaled the safe route.

The Nescopeck is a delightful ledge drop creek with numerous 2-4 foot drops, eddies, surfing waves, and holes for play spots. It required lots of maneuvering to avoid strainers and holes and run chutes. Scenery was spectacular. It is rated Class 1 to 3-, but with the maneuvering and a couple of holes that tended to "keep" some boats and a 35 foot/mile gradient for the 5 mile run (27 feet/mile for 8.4 mile) it is a pretty technical class 3. The stream is 60 feet wide and flows through farmland and a tree lined gorge

Whitewater Kayak Instruction

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with overhanging trees and rocks. Often the shoreline is a thicket of mountain laurel. A road runs along the rim of the gorge for shuttle and emergencies but is almost invisible. A camp at 4 miles on river left and the bridges are only cultural intrusions.

Overall a great trip with new boating friends. One surprise I fortunately didn't find out about until a mile from the take out was that Josie, who is a deputy Medical Examiner, had 2 body bags in her car. That was a real confidence builder!

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## More Definitions

(in case you didn't know...)

**Canoeist** -- A.K.A. "open boater." Anyone who paddles an open canoe. Tandem canoeists are known for their constant, loud repartee concerning whose fault it was that the boat got flipped. Solo canoeists are well-known for their smug attitudes regarding all decked boaters, particularly kayakers. Recognized by their total lack of fear when swimming in Class V water. Usually heard saying, "shit, that's easy with two blades." Thought of as being obnoxious and demented by most kayakers, open boaters are useful in river rescues when not being rescued themselves. Even though canoes can run anything a decked boat can (despite what they think out West), open boaters are very insecure about the capabilities of their chosen river craft. It is the scared duty of all kayakers to tease canoeists.

**C-boater** -- Possibly the most butch of all whitewater personality types, C-boaters think all other boaters are wimps, period. Kayakers are considered to be beneath contempt. When not crawling around on hands and knees at the takeout sobbing, "my ankles...my knees...." they can be observed ice-picking unattended kayaks in the parking area. Non C-boaters consider C-boaters to be a misguided and masochistic lot.

**Kayaker** -- "Yak jockey," "river maggot;" In the words of an open-boater friend of mine . . . "twice the paddle, half the man," kayakers are perceived by non-kayakers as: (1) the watery equivalent of Hell's Angels; or (2) brain-damaged river loonies, or both. Easily recognized on the river for their penchant for traveling in large, loud groups and surfing every wave or hole on the river no matter how small. Kayakers have a reputation for peeling out in front of canoes and rafts, getting run over by canoes, rafts and other kayakers while surfing holes, and/or mooning rafters and open boaters. Kayakers view all other types of river craft as slow-moving impediments to wave and hole playing. Canoeists are

occasionally tolerated by kayakers for their entertainment value when they perform canoe crash and burns in every other rapid. Decked canoeists (particularly C-1 paddlers) are tolerated by kayakers primarily for their verbal abuse value if they eat it in front of the kayakers.

-Humbly supplied by Dave Griffy

## Letter to the Editor

In response to the article "definitions" in the September FLOWlines Newsletter. I have been involved in paddle sports for 40 + years. Fifteen years ago I became a whitewater raft guide. Since that time I have met many wonderful people and made great friends in both the rafting and hard boating communities. Last year my partner and I had the opportunity to buy the rafting company and immediately started implementing plans to improve the relationships between boaters and rafters. These plans include shuttle service and a river festival to be held on October 23 and 24 at our site in Letchworth State Park for the entire water loving community.

I would like to believe that Mr. Griffy's article was an attempt at humor but I found it offensive and would like to add some definitions of my own.

1. Portage: A person carrying a boat.
2. Shuttle service: A person NOT carrying a boat.
3. Whitewater paddlers: Great people whom you can depend on for help.

Signed,  
Jerry Fitzsimmons  
Adventure Calls Rafting

*-As editors, we appreciate any comments to what has been published. Mr. Griffy's article also consisted of several definitions of canoeists, kayakers, and rafters. Due to space limitation the whole article was not published at that time with plans to use it in the future.*



## Rushford Release River Fest

- When: October 23 & 24, 9 - 6
- Where: Letchworth State Park  
Lower Falls Pool Area
- What: Activities for All Ages -  
Boat Demos, Climbing Wall, Paddle  
Clinics and Competitions, Raft  
Trips, Refreshments, and More!!!

***For More Info Call:(716)-343-4710***

**Classified Ads**

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Hey Big Guy! You need a **Dagger Vortex** for \$350. Also selling a medium spray skirt for \$40. Call Rick Mauser @ 473-2162

15-1/2 ft **Blue Hole** Whitewater canoe, 70 lbs. Roylex, \$300. In Avon until May 15th. **X Par Missile** 23' stern rudder racing boat, used twice \$1800. In Denville NJ. Contact Ben Jones @ (973) 361-2785.

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**Deadline for next newsletter**

The deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is Monday, October 18th. Send submissions to Helen Cherniack .

**FLOW Paddlers' Club**  
89 Dorsetwood Dr  
Rochester, NY 14612

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