



Blazing Paddles

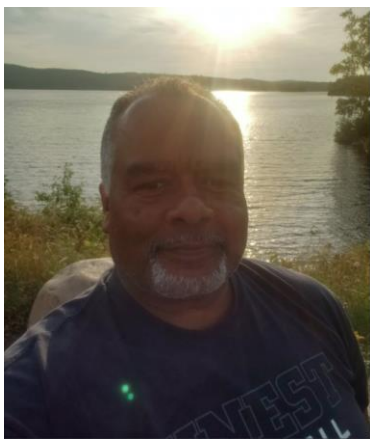
Newsletter of the LI Paddlers

Volume 2023, Issue 4

Fall Edition

October 2023

Message from the President



To all members, our season has been a very good and it's still not over. I must say that the weather has been fair, the fall is here and you can smell it in the air. Our Fall picnic was a great outing for all of us, members got to enjoy a beautiful day with great paddles and skills

training provided by our Trip Leaders and our Safety coordinator. Thanks to all that made this happen. Our membership continues to grow with approximate 200 members. I'm very pleased to hear that. Our website is taking shape every day and together with Meet up we have been doing well - I tip my hat to the website site committee and special thanks to Alina for her hard work and time. So, members, continue to enjoy your paddles and please be safe both on land and on the water.

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Executive Committee 2023


The Executive Council consists of seven members who are voted into office every November and are listed below:

President:	Ed Mangual
Vice President:	Emilio Sosa
Treasurer:	Ann Moreno
Secretary:	Bob Hansen
Members at Large	JoAnne Paolino Don Gorycki
Past President:	Fred Hosage

Did You Know?

Attending Executive Council Meetings

Any club member can attend Executive Council meetings and witness the council's activities but only as silent observers as stated in the Club's By-Laws (Section III.A.3, Board Operations/Meetings) as follows:

"All Executive Council meetings must be held in a public place and be open to all club members. While club members may attend Board meetings, they are not permitted to participate in Board meetings." 

Members-at-Large

How does anyone bring subject matters to the Executive Council's attention? That's where the Members-at-Large come into play. They are the liaison between the General Membership and the Executive Council.

So, if you have a concern, new idea, a suggested improvement, or anything that affects the Club, just track down any of the two current Members-At-Large and they will ensure the matter gets on the Executive Council's agenda:

JoAnne Paolino joannepaolino@gmail.com
Don Gorycki dgorycki6@gmail.com 

Committee Coordinators 2023

Membership	Debbie Gallucci – seeking replacement
Programs	Diana Price
Trips	Chiara Nuzzo – seeking replacement
Training & Safety	Mike Matty
Public Relations	Dan and Donna DiGiovanni
Newsletter	Don Gorycki
Website	Website Committee
Special Events	Pat Tauber
Librarian	Fred Hosage
Conservation	Liz Marcellus
Big Buddy Program	Bob Hansen
Hospitality	Lorraine Montana and Judy Kislik
Merchandise	Gina Gruber
Photography	Alina Wilczynski



Facebook Page

Did you know you can find Long Island Paddlers on Facebook? Just go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/LongIslandPaddlers> and click the "Join" button. You will then be asked to provide information to confirm your identity and to agree to the group rules. Your request will then be reviewed by a group Administrator and, if you are an active member of the club, your request will be approved.

The club's Facebook group is a wonderful place to share photos of club trips and club gatherings. Members also like to share interesting (and sometimes entertaining) articles about the sport that we all enjoy. Please note, official club trips should still be posted on the club's website and not through the Facebook group. If you have any questions, please send an email to Christine Pan at duckfoot70@gmail.com or Michael Pan at m.pandemonium@gmail.com 

LIP Announcements

Hospitality

Continues to have available a variety of goodies for our members and guests to enjoy... Kudos!

Trips

Please visit our Meetup service to see and join our latest trips.

Website

Our new club website is currently being managed by Alina Wilczynski. Our new website contains useful static (read-only) information whereas our Meetup service contains additional dynamic information.

Members of the Website committee:

Emilio Sosa, Fred Hosage, Alina Wilczynski, Mike Matty and Edwin Mangual.

Pool Sessions

The safety and Training committee is currently researching alternate places to hold our next round of pool sessions other than at St. Joseph College. More to follow.

Holiday Pary

Will be again held at Butterfields in Hauppauge. Current price is \$45.00 per person with a minimum of 30 and maximum of 70 people.

CPR First Aid and Aed Classes

Our President, Ed Mangual is scheduling a CPR First Aid and Aed class. A Meetup event has been issued so if interested, please sign up. 🗓️

Club Programs Committee

This committee is tasked with finding and scheduling guest speakers on a variety of topics of interest to our club.

Diana Price is our current committee coordinator and is asking for topics that you would like to hear. Also, if you know of a person or organization that would like to make a presentation, please contact Diana so arrangements can be made. 🗓️

Every time you get into your kayak...

ALWAYS →



Did You Know?

- Elections for the Executive Council are coming up in November. If you want to “throw your hat into the ring” please contact Vice-President Emilio Sosa.
- Senior citizens (60 and older) can enter state parks for free during week-days.
- There will be no general meeting in December, the holiday party has been scheduled for January 2024 at Butterfields

Long Island Paddlers Volunteer Points Program

The Long Island Paddlers Kayak Club supports many different activities above and beyond formal paddling trips. These activities are accomplished by volunteers who give their time and effort to make these activities successful. As a way of rewarding those who volunteer a system of 'Volunteer Points' have been established in the past and has been recently updated by the Club's executive Council under the guidance of Mike Matty. Here are the latest guidelines for this program.

The following describes the volunteer program for the Long Island Paddlers. To promote volunteerism, volunteer points will be awarded in the following

1. Leading a trip - **5 Points** (submittal of trip report required).
2. Leading a clean-up – **5 points**
3. Leading or helping out at a skill session – **5 points**
4. Submitting an article for the newsletter – **2 points**
5. Organizing / helping a club event (i.e. picnic, party etc.). – **5 points**
6. Giving a club presentation – **5 points**
7. Volunteering / participating at an outreach program or community event representing the Long Island Paddlers. *Must be present for a minimum of 3 hours* – **5 points**
8. Active participation in the Big Buddy Program - 5 points for the first face to face mentoring session for each mentee.
9. Serving on a committee - 20 points per year awarded at the beginning of each year

The Volunteer Points program will work as follows:

1. There will be a Volunteer Points Coordinator and a Backup Volunteer Points Coordinator.
2. Volunteer points will be maintained with Google Sheets on a dedicated Google Drive
3. The Volunteer Points Coordinator and a Backup Volunteer Points Coordinator will have Read/Write access to the spreadsheet
4. When a person volunteers and earns points, they shall send an email to either or both Volunteer Points Coordinator and the Backup Volunteer Points Coordinator to update the spreadsheet.
5. When a person uses volunteer points, the organizer of the event (party organizer, store coordinator) shall send an email to either or both Volunteer Points Coordinator and the Backup Volunteer Points Coordinator to update the spreadsheet.
6. One volunteer point is equal to \$1.
7. Volunteer Points may be redeemed at the Long Island Paddlers Store, any Long Island Paddlers event (i.e. picnic, party).
8. The maximum amount of points that can be redeemed by any member is **50 points** annually.
9. Points are carried over from year to year.
10. Points are not transferable.

Chris Scalisi and Mike Matty are the Volunteer Points Coordinators. Our emails are:

Mike.matty@verizon.net
kayakchris@optimum.net

All enquires for points should be made to both of us. 

Submitted by Mike Matty

Our meeting place

Our meeting place for the Long Island Paddlers is currently at the American Legion Hall, 22 Grove Place, Babylon, has been serving us well.



Photos – top, middle, bottom

- Our meeting place, American Legion Hall, 22 Grove Place, Babylon
- Ed Mangual addressing assembly
- Hospitality table
- Merchandise with Newsletter advertisements
- More merchandise



LIP Monthly Meeting Guest Speakers

One of the main duties of the Programs Committee Coordinator is to research, contact, coordinate and schedule for each month (except December, no general meeting) a guest speaker. These guest speakers present a wealth of diverse and interesting topics.

July 2023

Our very own LIP President, Ed Mangual, hosted a presentation on drones. A series of slides were shown along with actual demonstrations of several drones. This was as informative as it was interesting.



LIP Monthly Meeting Guest Speakers (Cont'd)

August 2023

How to create a home rain garden

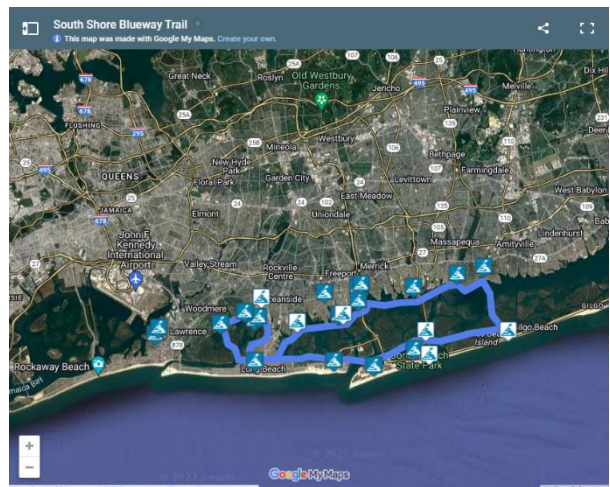
Guest Speaker Sean Rooney from the Nassau County Soil and Water Conservation District will explain what a Rain Garden is, the benefits of having one and how to create one. Recommended plants and recent Water Quality Improvement projects created by the Nassau County Soil & Water Conservation District was showcased. Xeriscaping, Green Infrastructure, Harmful Algal Blooms, and the effects of poor water quality was also be covered.

Sean Rooney, who has been working for the Nassau County Conservation District for two years preserving health soils and clean water. During his time with the Conservation District San has helped promote green infrastructure, native plantings, as well as teaching residents to become better stewards of the land.

Sorry – no photos available for this presentation.

September 2023
South Shore Blueway

Our very own Mike Matty, our Safety and Training Coordinator, presented details regarding the South Shore Blueway. Many useful tips were given as he summarized the numerous landings and put-ins of this delightful water trail.






Ahhh...this is how I relax!

Do You Recognize This?



Answer on page 18. 

PFD Questionnaire

Submitted by Helen Horton

Borrowed from the New York State Safe Boating test.

What color should your PFD be?

- a) Black
- b) Blue
- c) Orange or yellow
- d) Red

What size should your PFD be?

- a) As small as possible
- b) Extra-large to make me appear thinner
- c) Appropriate for my size, just snug
- d) The same as my clothing size

When should you wear it?

- a) Never, too uncomfortable
- b) Only when it's windy
- c) Always when I'm onboard a boat
- d) Only when it rains

What should you look for when purchasing a new PFD?

- a) A fashionable color
- b) The least number of straps possible
- c) The new US Coast Guard icon labeling inside
- d) The cheapest price

Did you answer each question with the same letter?
If yes, congratulations you are correct.
See page 15 for the correct choice.



Club Store update...



We now carry lockable cables for your kayak. It is especially important when traveling and perhaps staying overnight at a hotel to keep your kayak secure \$38
Back by popular demand, we have a new supply of floatable eyewear straps \$3
Extremely loud "sound blasters" \$7
Bow and stern lights for those evening paddles will be available at our meeting.
Safe paddles! Gina G

New Smith Point Bridge Update

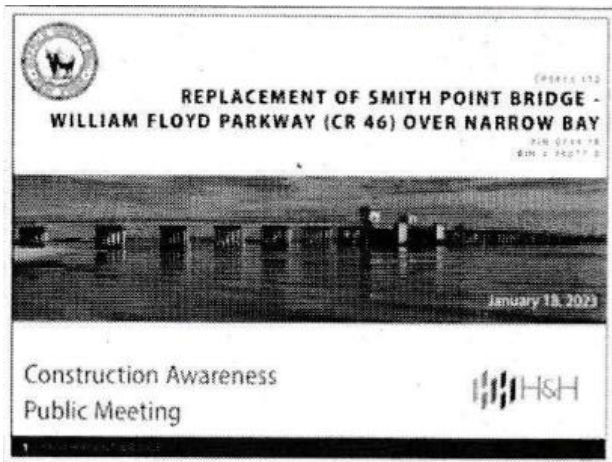
Text by Don Gorycki – article from Legislator James Mazzarella summer newsletter

In January, Suffolk County residents gathered at William Floyd High school for an update on the Smith Point Bridge Replacement. The current Smith Point bridge opened on July 4, 1959, and due to age, erosion of pilings, and an obsolete center draw bridge section, it is critical to construct a new bridge. The Federal government is funding 80 percent of the project’s cost, with the County share only being 20 percent.

“The bridge has come to the end of its useful life,” said Mazzarella. “The project is bringing jobs to the area and will ensure our beautiful waterfront communities will have access to Fire Island for generations to come.”

Here are some facts and highlights about the project:


- Construction is scheduled to begin in 2024, with an expected timeline of two years. The new structure will be built 125 feet to the west of the existing bridge which will remain in use until construction is complete.
- The new bridge will not be a drawbridge. The new span will be built with a 5-foot vertical clearance that will allow boat traffic to move freely without inhibiting traffic on the bridge.
- Wider shoulders and a designated pedestrian multiuse path, which will be protected from vehicular traffic by a barrier, will feature an observation platform (belvedere) which will look out over the bay, displaying the historical significance of the community.



- The design includes a fishing pier on the south side of the Narrows Bay which extends out 300 feet into the bay; located underneath the structure. The new bridge will be making landfall within the area of Smith Point Park which currently is occupied by a recreation area.
- A new and improved recreation area adjacent to the current main parking lot, with new amenities for the residents to enjoy, helps anchor the project. This new recreation area will be easier to access than the current one and will also include walking paths to the new fishing pier.

(Continued on the next page)

New Smith Point Bridge Update (Cont'd)

“This is one of the most significant and transformative projects planned for Long Island,” said Mazzarella. “I am proud to play a role in bringing this vision to reality.”
If you have any questions about the project, please call my office at 631-85201300. 


Paddle Battle 2023

Paddle Battle, a fund raiser for the Long Island Aquarium was here again in 2023.

Our club throughout the year has helped with this event. This event entitles Kayak races and SUP races all ages.

Every year our club provides volunteers as spotters on the water. This event is for great cause and is a great representation for our club.

This year’s volunteers were:

- Spotters: Don Gorycki, Fred Hosage, Kim Janicek, Tony Pellot, Tom Auer and Dan DiGiovanni
- At LIP Tent: Donna DiGiovanni and Ralph Fraumeni 



Paddle Battle 2023 (Cont'd)**New Club Member Recruiting**

The Long Island Paddlers Club is always looking for ways to attract new members. Word-of-mouth, Internet access, and business-type cards are just a few.

Another way of advertising is using a flyer. Attached at the end of this newsletter is a flyer that you can print out and distribute.

So, if you would like to help spread the word, just print out the flyer and post it (with appropriate permission) where people can see it.

With your help we can spread the word about the pleasures and excitement of paddling. 🌊

Adirondack Adventure 2023

Submitted by Chris Scalisi

This year's trip to the Adirondacks was a little different than last year's. We had 30+ people signed on with four trip leaders. Ken Doxey, Chris Scalisi, Tom Stirnweis, and our very own Edwin Mangual. We usually use Sheahan's Motel, but Terry and Robin sold it since, and the new owners did some remodeling and jacked the price up more than 30% over last year. Even at the higher rate when I called in February, they only had two rooms left. So, I tried Tupper Lake Motel, and they held 10 rooms for us. I had no idea whatsoever what it would be like, but others had used it in the past and there were no complaints. Rooms cost around \$100 each, quite reasonable, no pool, one noisy bus, no breakfast, and service was OK. They did not hustle the way Terry and Robin did. I personally don't ask for much more than clean towels and firm beds, so I was OK and will use it again next year.

This year we did the trips a little differently. We had four different trips each day, and everyone got to do all four trips but the people in the group changed daily. How we accomplished this was by picking a number from a hat and starting from # one, each was allowed to pick which trip they wanted on Monday and Tuesday then we reversed the order and started with the highest number and picked Wednesday and Thursday. No one knew who the trip leader was each day so that no one would choose a particular leader. Was there confusion? Yes, but it was done, and the mission was accomplished. Next year should go more smoothly.

The trips included, Fish Creek, Chaple Island on Saranac Lake, Second Bay to Saranac Islands, and Church Pond to Jones Pond. The first day, Monday, we had a report of the chance of thunderstorms, for the local weather. It is always a choice for the trip leaders and the participants, no one must paddle any trip. If you don't want to chance the weather, it is your choice! I can only write of my day's trip which was Second Bay to Saranac Islands. All in my group fared well.

We had Irene, Bob, JoAnn, Pat T, Ed G, myself, and by chance, Mary and Gina picked my trips, every day for the week. Gina had a radio, so I picked her to be my assistant every day. We paddled out of Second pond into Saranac Lake and headed north all the way to Ampersand Bay, where we had lunch on a beach which was part of a
(Continued on the next page)

Adirondack Adventure 2023 (Cont'd)

Motel. After lunch we paddled back and heard the thunder behind us all the way home. We did get rained on a few times but never enough to get soaked. I was going to go around the tall bluff island but with the thunder so close we went straight to the takeout. We managed to load the boats before the rain came but there was one crack of lighting so close, I almost jumped out of my skin! Driving home I had my windshield wipers on all the way.

Tuesday's paddle was Church Pond to Jones Pond. Today I had a full list with Judy, Janet, Mary, Gina, Dennis, Moreen, Peter, Lenora, Ed and myself. I received word from the group who did this paddle Monday that there was a beaver dam too high to get over. Knowing this we paddled into the creek, passed the first dam but stopped at the second beaver dam and turned back into Osgood Lake. We then paddled past President Coleridge's Camp and paddle up the creek few miles, farther then I have ever gone and decided it was far enough and returned to the takeout. Going through the canals dug for the president is always a gem! The weather was perfect 80 degrees light wind and no problems for anyone. We loaded the boats, this as many know is not the easiest put-in and take-out but all helped each other, and the chore was completed. Drive home was uneventful.

Wednesday, we paddled Fish Creek, a favorite for many. Today's paddle included Peter, Lenora, Mary, Gina, Ed, & me. As it turned out Ken hurt his back and had to return home, Clemet did the driving, turned out to be a severe back problem after seeing the MRI. Ken only had two on his trip list for today, so I added Dennis and Maureen to my trip. The parking is just off route 30 and enough for about 8 cars

which could be tight. Today we had no problem with only four cars. We put in on Follensby Clear Pond, about 100 feet to the left went under the Rt 30 bridge and came up to a beaver dam which was opened up but had to be at least six feet high. We continued into Fish Creek Ponds, and again under the next Rt 30 bridge into Square Pond into Fish Creek. Up the creek to Little Square Pond, almost missed the turn into the creek again to Floodwood pond. A little breezy but not bad. Had to tell some to use their rudder or skeg all did just fine. Pulled out for lunch 100 feet to the right on Floodwood and met with another small group from western NY and had a nice chat, always nice to make new acquaintances. Some saw the Loons on the pond

(Continued on the next page)

Adirondack Adventure 2023 (Cont'd)

but somehow, I missed them, I did see lots of kingfishers and ospreys. Heading back was quicker as we now were with the current and with the wind for the return. Back to the motel.

Tonight, we had our BBQ at the waterfront at Tupper Lake. There was a large shelter like we have for our spring picnic and plenty of tables. Pat T brought all the tablecloths and plastic ware from the club and Edwin was our master chef. He cooked up everything anyone brought, chicken, sausage, hamburgers, hot dogs etc. A few announcements were made, and Edwin gave thanks to all the trip leaders, helpers for the BBQ and mentioned that the trip was started by Paul Giwoyna many years ago with Steve Brenner. Ken and I took it over from Steve three years ago. The club members after dinner presented the trip leader with beautiful Tee Shirts as a token of appreciation from the participants. As it got dark Bob and Chris tried to have a sing along, but the mosquitoes had a different plan and we yielded to the mosquitoes. All had a good time, especially the mosquitoes.

Thursday, we woke to thunderstorms as was predicted by the local weather reports. My trip for today was to do Chapel Island and Saranac Lake. I would have had a full trip with Mary, Gina, Paul, Fran, Anita, Gladys, Judy Janet and Ed. Would have been my first time paddling with some, up here in the Adirondacks. All the trip leaders canceled their trips as it was raining quite heavily in the morning. Since we did not paddle, for the first time I finally got to the restaurant in town which everyone raves as the best blueberry pancakes anywhere. I do blueberry pancakes at home all the time, so I got my usual eggs and home fries. Others at the table did get the pancakes and they did look tasty. After breakfast the weather looked clear, and some decided to maybe go out in the late afternoon. By 2pm the sun was out, and we went for a paddle. Mary, Gina, Ed, and I ended up doing Simon Pond, which Judy had asked us to do for years. We put in at the boating ramp, paddled around the corner, under the bridge and into the pond. We did 8 miles, which is what all the programmed trips were. We made it to a creek which we hoped would go to another pond but again we were stopped by a beaver dam. We returned to the takeout and the rain started again, no thunder, then it became sunny again, so it was not bad, but we were against
(Continued on the next page)

Adirondack Adventure 2023 (Cont'd)

a strong wind, and I think Ed was having a little difficulty, but he braved on to the finish. We just got on shore and the rain started again, and had to load our boats in the rain, but after all I say this is a water sport. This paddle was so nice I think we will do it as a trip next year.

Some of the participants went home on Thursday morning and some stayed till Saturday. I was going home on Friday. Ed and I got packed, had breakfast at McDonalds and met up with Mary, Gina, Tom S, and a paddler who was in the conner room from another club, Donald, to go and paddle Forked Lake. I always try to do a paddle on the way home as an exploratory for next year. We again paddled about 8 miles, trying to find a stream from the map, that led into another pond. We never did find it, maybe if we wanted to spend more time, we could have kept exploring. It was quite windy on the way going and we were hoping to have a good push for the return, no such luck. After stopping for lunch, the wind calmed down and had to work all the way home with only a light push from the wind.

With this year's adventure over, I am already thinking of next year. If anyone has any suggestions as for new paddles, drop us a line. This year's paddle to Cathedral Island was a suggestion from Ray Clarkson who does a lot of paddling and volunteer work in the park. We like to try to keep the paddles at about 8 miles with no portages or shuttles. This does limit our choices, but we can be flexible if a trip sounds feasible. I am thinking of a way to maybe have one more advanced trip each day and each trip leader lead one, more challenging trip in the week. Advanced would be longer, faster pace, maybe a portage, maybe a shuttle and only a few in the group. Send me your opinions and think of the future!

Thank you all for coming and reading, special thanks to all the assistant trip leaders each day, the chef, all the picnic helpers & planers, cake maker Eva, Pat & Helen for inviting some to the house and anyone I may have missed, still the best trip of the year! 🍷

PFD Questionnaire

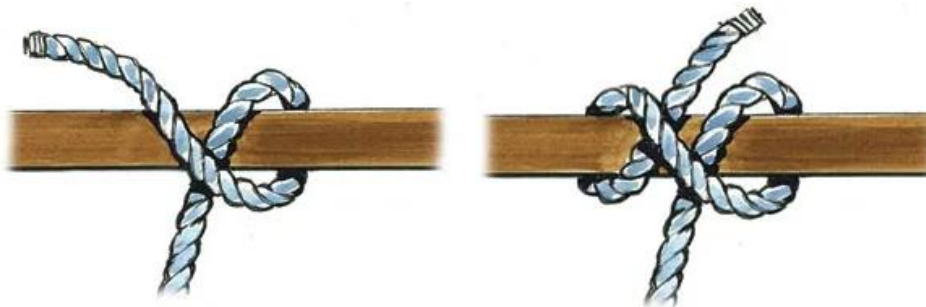
If you chose letter "C" for all of your answers,
you are correct as well as PFD savvy. 🍷


Do You Know Your Knots?

This new topic will run for the next few newsletter editions. Each newsletter edition will highlight a useful knot that we can become familiar with and perhaps will find useful as we paddle away our many trips.

This third installment of “Do You Know Your Knots” will feature the “Clove Hitch”.

This is a handy knot because it can be tied very quickly. On sailboats, its usual use is for securing fender whips to a lifeline, stanchion base or toerail. It can be easily adjusted to raise or lower a fender as needed. The clove hitch can also be used to temporarily secure a dock line to a piling, but be aware that the hitch can unexpectedly work free as the boat moves around at the dock.



Take one full turn around the object the line is being secured to. Then pass the line over itself as you take another turn. Finish the knot by tucking the working end under itself and pull tight. 



Sitting in a 3.8-metre sea kayak and watching a four-metre great white approach you is a fairly tense experience

Uh-Oh!
Do you hear the
“Jaws” theme?



New Take on Contact Tows

Article borrowed from 'KayakTom', September 18, 2016

As always, consult our LIP experts first.




I've been playing with some contact tow ideas for sea kayaks for the past few months, looking at what others have done and thinking about the times I've used one over the past 13 or so years as an instructor. I'm fan of the one designed by Ed Schiller of the Virginia Sea Kayak Center, but wanted something even simpler.

My goals are less line all around, easier/faster quick release, and unconscious competence — not having to think through what goes where. I also found that almost every option I tried involved a carabiner or clip that was fairly snug to an existing deck line, and getting those unclipped and deployed under pressure was a bit of a hassle.

Enter the rap-ring contact tow. The idea is fairly simple and cost-effective to build. There's a line across the deck parallel to the deck bungee, tied to the deck line on either side (it goes over paddles or gear on the deck). A lightweight descender ring (or rap ring, your favorite climbing gear store can hook you up) is threaded on that line.

That part stays attached to the kayak. I pushed the rap ring under the deck bungee during transport. The second piece is a short piece of line with a quick-release snap shackle on one end and a small carabiner on the other end. The total length is about 20 inches. The snap shackle gets hooked the rap ring.

Now you have a contact tow that can easily be deployed to either side of your kayak. There is only one carabiner to work with — you simply hook it to the other kayak deck line and start paddling. The ring will slide to whichever side the other kayak is on. If you need a shorter tow, you run the biner under the other kayak's deck line and back to the rap ring.

For an emergency disconnect, tug the quick release and you're disconnected. Note, the snap shackle may get hung under the other boat's line if you have doubled back under to the rap ring. However, I don't anticipate needed the shorter length — it's rare that I've needed boats that tight. Full article at <https://kayaktom.com/new-take-on-contact-tows> 

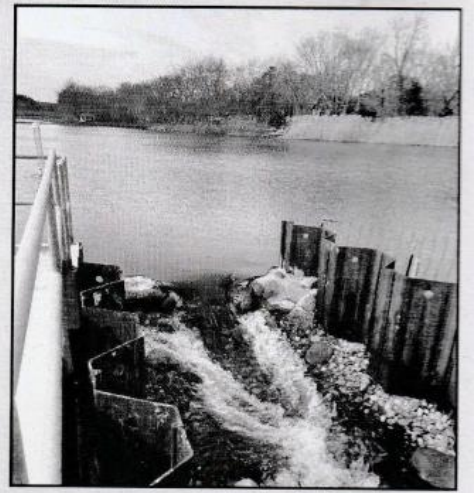
Carman River Fish Passage Completed

Article borrowed from James Mazzarella newsletter, Suffolk County Third District

Carmans River Fish Passage Completed

A great day for our environment, but more specifically our marine habitat. The official completion of the Carmans River fish passage at lower Yaphank Lake is the final link in connecting the upper lake in Yaphank with the Great South Bay. This 10 mile long passage will facilitate the migration of certain marine species to complete their life cycle. This process will help to increase their population which is important to the food chain and the overall health of this waterway.

“I would like to personally thank my colleagues in the Legislature for supporting this project, as well as Chief Environmental Analysts Frank Castelli and Jennifer McGovern and the hardworking employees of the Department of Public Works for their efforts in bringing this project to completion,” said Mazzarella. “Also, special thanks to Brookhaven Supervisor Ed Romaine and the entire Town Board for their partnership in completing other necessary connections to bring about this final link.”



Answer to “Do You Recognize This?”

“Walking Figure” sculpture is a 30-foot-tall outdoor aluminum sculpture located at the Francis S. Gabreski Airport in Suffolk County, New York. It weighs close to 5,000 pounds and took several months to construct. It was shipped almost 2,500 miles, from Arizona, via a flatbed truck. The controversial sculpture now has a permanent home inside the traffic circle at the airport’s main entrance.

Commissioned by cousins Gregg and Mitchell Rechler, the developers behind the new Hampton Business District at Gabreski Airport, “Walking Figure” is intended to reflect the types of businesses that will eventually lease space at the nine-building, 440,000-square-foot complex, which will be anchored by a three-story hotel.

“The sculpture is bold and imaginative, with a liveliness that mirrors the modern design elements and positive, open feel of the Hamptons Business District,” said developer Mitchell Rechler, managing partner of Rechler Equity.

Mr. Baechler explained that the Rechlers hired him to create a 30-foot-tall figure made from aluminum. The final product, which was constructed at a studio in Arizona over several months, is less than 6 feet wide and depicts a smiling girl in mid-stride. 🌐

Better Than Uncle weatherby? Just look Up!

Article borrowed from "On the Sea" by Commodore Vincent Pica, South Shore Press
Presented here for your reading pleasure.

Anybody who was born prior to, say, 1970, can remember the newscaster/weatherman Tex Antoine, aka, Uncle Weatherby. While weather forecasting is far more reliable than ever before, it pales in our esteem for the mariner that can open the back door, look up, gaze knowingly for a second or two, and pronounce, "nah, we'll be coming home in a whopper. Tomorrow will be better." And, sure enough, a half day later, it is pouring...

This is all about that mariner...

Clouds are Batteries

Since this column started, we've written about the weather and seamanship many times. And, as those columns implied, clouds are batteries that store water and tremendous power. But the history of weather forecasting goes back to the dawn of time and is loaded with old wisdoms ("mare's tails and mackerel scales make tall-ship captains take in their sails") and many jokes, ("where else can you be so wrong so often and keep your job!?" So, where does the weather, and these "sayings", come from?

Part of the problem of weather forecasting was solved over a hundred years ago by British meteorologist, Luke Howard, when he devised a system of

nomenclature that the rest of the world's scientists were constantly arguing about. Every country wanted to use its own language and definitions for naming clouds and their effects. Howard came forward using - you guessed it - Latin and the fight was over. Meteorologists the world over accepted his type/sub-type system:

Cirrus ("hair") - wispy, high-level clouds that foretell a major weather system on its way (the mare's tails)

Stratus ("layer") - these cloud formations have no specific feature except that they only form at specific altitudes (see the diagram)

Cumulus ("pile") - the puffy clouds that coalesce into the thunderheads we all recognize that then presages the near immediate arrival of a major storm. BTW, the warmer the weather, the bigger they get (pile up into the sky.)

Nimbus ("precipitating") - we're all familiar with these. By this time, it's raining. And the darker they are, the more water they are carrying.

Alto ("high") - like in music, while it means high, it means the second highest (soprano or treble is higher in music) and cirrus's and, often, the cumulo's (thunderheads)

are even higher.

Look Up!

Watching the weather over hours or even days, often subconsciously by that back-door mariner, adds to your skills in predicting the weather. And it is all about the sun, the sea and the land interacting.

The sun heats the land faster than the sea. The warm air rises, taking some moisture from the sea, lakes, creeks and rivers with it, and forms cumulus (puffy) clouds. This vacuum effect then brings in cooler air from the sea to fill the gap created by the rising air over

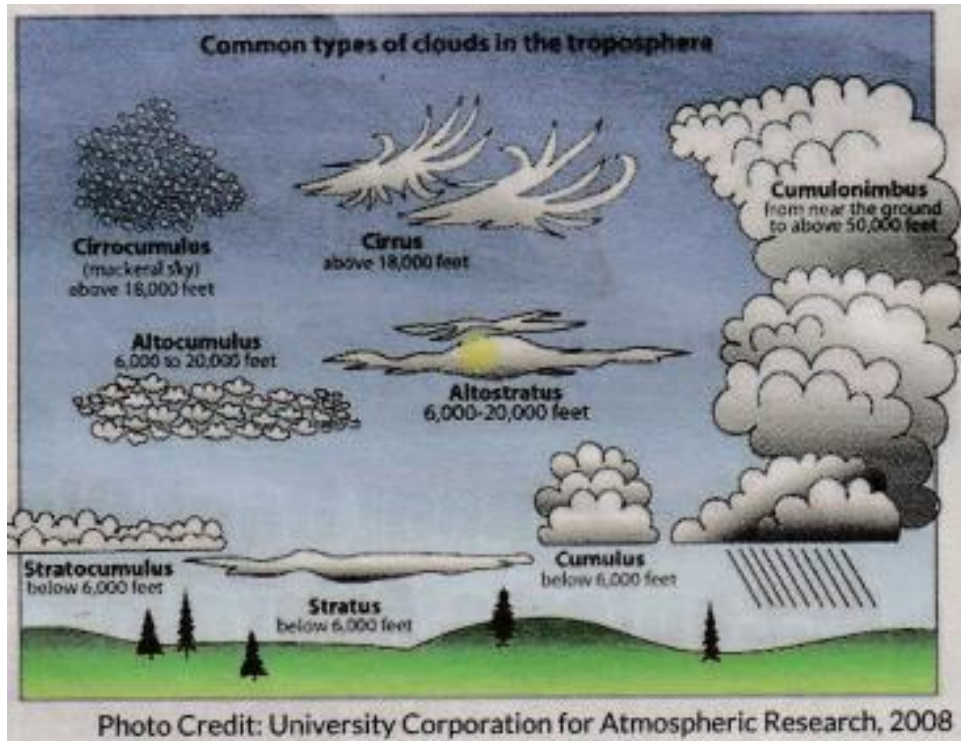
the land and we have what we call a sea-breeze ("winds are known from whence they blow, currents are known for whence they flow.") The opposite effects happen at night, as you might guess. The land cools faster and the process reverses. All this is generally called "convection." And where convection is occurring, clouds are forming - and they are batteries storing up water and power.

Blankets presage Rain

Another sign that weather is approaching is when the sky cover builds and the sea breeze stops... The cloud cover has now gotten

Continued on the next page.

Better Than Uncle weatherby? Just look Up! (Cont'd)



so thick that the sun can't heat the air underneath the clouds. That's when someone mutters, "Please, let it rain and clear out this humidity..." The cloud is acting like a blanket – and you know how much you like blankets in the summertime!

Ancient mariners looked for clouds for two reasons. They didn't know that convection was causing the wind but clouds meant wind. They also meant land. Convection first lines the shoreline with clouds. "Land Ho!" And it builds from there.

Some more proverbs? See if you can divine why they are true, based on what you now know:

"The moon with a circle brings water in her beak..."

"Rain before seven? Over by eleven."

"Red sky at morning? Sailor take warning!"

BTW, if you are interested in being part of USCG Forces, email me at joinuscgaux@aol.com or go directly to the US Coast Guard Auxiliary "Flotilla Finder" at <http://www.cgau.org/units.php> and we will help you "get in this thing..."



Photo Gallery

Fran's sunset paddle, Sept 21, 2023

Fran, Paul Aledort and Marian Plummer took a group of 10 (including ourselves) from the Dinghy Shop to view the sunset on the Great South Bay. It was the most beautiful sunset we've seen in a very long time! Not much wind or motor boats to spoil our paddle.



More Photo Gallery

LIP Fall Picnic September 9, 2023 at Indian Island Park

Our fall picnic was held once again at Indian Island Park. The sumptuous buffet was provided from Maple Tree BBQ...delicious!

There were four scheduled paddle events as described below.



Alina Wilczynski Photo



Alina Wilczynski Photo

Paddle event #1 - Rescue Skills Session at the LIP Fall Picnic, run by Mike Matty and Deborah Horne.

This rescue class attempted to go beyond the standard assisted rescues. We started with typical assisted rescues as a warmup and progressed to some atypical "out of the box" scenarios. We also tried some ad hoc scenarios.



Paddle event #2 - Morning Skills Session at the LIP Fall Picnic, run by Chris Scalisi and John Bluek.

Gave an instructional on proper Forward Stroke along with edging and bracing. A spray skirt was required and a wet exit if needed at the start of the lesson. Count on getting wet! You will never know where that tipping point is till you go over!

Photo Gallery LIP Fall Picnic (Cont'd)



Paddle event #3 - Circumnavigation of Robins Island, led by Steve Berner and Tom Stirweis.

Plan is to paddle around Robins Island, counterclockwise, stopping on the southern tip of the island's sandbar for a snack and to stretch our legs. We planned to be at the take-out in New Suffolk by noon which gave us 30 minutes to load our boats and 30 minutes to get to Indian Island Park for the 1:00 picnic.



Continued
on the
next page.

Photo Gallery LIP Fall Picnic (Cont'd)

Paddle event #4 - Birch, Goose and Mill Creek morning paddle, led by Gina Gruber and assisted by Tom Auer, Pat Tauber, Juan Pellot and Patricia Burnside.

The put in was at the end of Birch Creek Road.

This was a relaxed paddle to build up an appetite and get to the barbecue on time. Our plan was to head West from Birch Creek to Goose Creek Point and explore the creek. Afterwards head east, passing Birch Creek and explore Mill Creek. There are 3 or 4 fingers to explore and usually many Diamondback Terrapins and Egrets to see. A quick stretch was taken before we returned to the Birch Creek put in. 🏠



Word Search Puzzle

For all of you who like puzzles, try this one.



CANOE TRIP WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

- BLADE
- BOW
- DRAW
- FLOAT
- FREEBOARD
- KEEL
- LINING
- OARS
- PADDLE
- ROCKER
- ROPE
- SAFETY
- SEAT
- SOLO
- STEER
- STEM
- STERN
- STROKES
- THWART
- TRACKING
- TRIM
- WATER
- YOKE

E V L X R D O F D H R I R F P
 H D P G Z E L L S R A C H T E
 H N R J L O E R O T A N X I K
 K S E A A I A T R S K W R T N
 Z I L T O O N A S L E E K U G
 H E D A L B C I M Y T T I B O
 Z M D F W K E E N A U R S W J
 J R A A I M P E W G L A T I A
 A E P N I O M M R Q K W E U N
 X K G R R T E E V F K H R I Z
 I C T X A T W H K B N T N C E
 O O N E S O S E K O R T S P P
 M R S T B S A F E T Y W A F P

The words appear UP, DOWN, SIDEWAYS, BACKWARDS, and DIAGONALLY.
Find and circle each word.



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Did You Know?

LIP trip Leader Equipment Lending Library

Our club has in its possession several categories of safety equipment that can be loaned (on a temporary basis) to accredited trip leaders.

Equipment categories include but not limited to first-aid kits, tow lines and VHF radios.

Currently the Trip Coordinator serves as the equipment librarian.

Please contact our acting trip coordinator, Chiara Nuzzo for more information.



Fall in love with exploring the world around you.

Captree Island

By Chris Fleming

The Long Island Paddler's did two trips in and around Captree Island this summer. In August we went in a counterclockwise direction and in September we reversed, going in a Clockwise direction.



On a lovely September 14th morning, 13 paddlers made their way to Captree State Park for a 3 ½ hour morning paddle. We met at 8:30, unloaded our boats by the official kayak beach launch at the eastern most corner of the parking lot, and were on our way by 9:00 am.

For those not familiar with the area, Captree Island is a large land mass just north of the channel separating it from Captree State Park. It is flat and featureless, consisting mostly of marsh grasses bisected by tidal pools and streams. The Robert Moses Causeway runs through and over it.



Currents along this stretch can be quite swift so timing your trip correctly to take advantage of the incoming and outgoing tides is critical.

Gina G took the lead as we headed west from the launch, catching the last of the incoming tide. We gathered up at the fishing pier, making sure to swing wide of it, while keeping an eye out for the charter boats. Once Gina said go, we sprinted across the channel, to the safety of the north side.



As we paddled west, we came to the part of Captree Island that is populated with around 30 or so homes, ranging in size from modest beach bungalows up to fancy shorefront villas. We paddled for a mile before we reached the last house on the island, then turned north and began zig zagging through the island's myriad pathways.

Emilio S took over the lead at this point, as these are his home waters.



We had been advised that shorter boats were preferable on this trip because of all the tight turns. Nonetheless, most of us struggled along with our full-length sea kayaks.



The grass was high enough so that you could barely see the paddlers in front of you. Edging was the order of the day as there was barely a section of more than 20 yards that didn't require a turn. We were amazed at Emilio's ability to find his way through the dense marsh grasses. He'd obviously been through here a few times before.



That's right – John F built this boat only weeks before and was giving it a test ride. Amazing!

Captree Island was once attached to Jones Beach Island before the dredging of the state boat channel in 1935. Apart from the residential area, the island consists of a tidal/salt marsh. Salt marshes are among the most productive ecosystems. They act as nursing grounds for microscopic plant and animal life, which in turn, supports birds, fish, and other animal species.



Captree Island supports a large number of wading birds during the breeding season, including an assortment of egrets, herons, terns, piping plovers, oystercatchers and gulls.

After several miles of trail meandering, we passed under the Robert Moses Causeway and crossed to the eastside of Captree Island. The first trestle of the causeway was completed in 1951, with one lane of traffic in each direction. It wasn't long before heavy beach traffic overwhelmed the bridge and in 1967 a new 3 lane span was built adjacent to the existing bridge.



We were ready for lunch and Emilio directed us to a nice-sheltered beach.



It was good to finally get out of the boats and stretch our legs. The sandy beach was covered with thousands of sun-bleached clam shells. Fifty years ago, the Great South Bay supplied nearly half of all the hard clams eaten in the US. Today, you can barely spot a clamming boat in the bay.



We spread out towels and opened our dry bags to get our lunch. A well-deserved rest after over two hours of paddling.

With full bellies we continued through the pools and water trails. The water trails through this section were a bit wider and straighter than the western section. We each settled into our own paddling rhythms and quietly paddled on.




As we made our way back towards the boat channel, we had the tide at our backs. The north wind pushed us back to the launch site.



It's always nice to have Mike M on a paddle.



Captree Island is a great place to paddle. Let's do it again! 

Questionnaire on types of boats

Submitted by Helen Horton

In the two columns below under Types of Boats, what is used to propel each?
Match the following answers with each type of boat.

- A: Oars only
- B: Paddles only
- C: Oars or Paddles
- D: Motor
- E: Wind
- F: Another boat

Types of Boats

Rowboat?

Kayak?

Canoe?

Boat that kicks up a huge wake?

Sailboat?

Barge?

Disabled Boat?

American's Cup sailboat?

Tugboat?

Rafts for Pleasure Trips on Rivers?

White Water Kayaking?

Rowing Shell?

- Your alphabetic answers are in ascending or descending order?

- Now in what order are your answers?



Rip Tides, Rip Currents and Undertows

Borrowed from "On the Sea" by Commodore Vincent Pica, South Shore Press

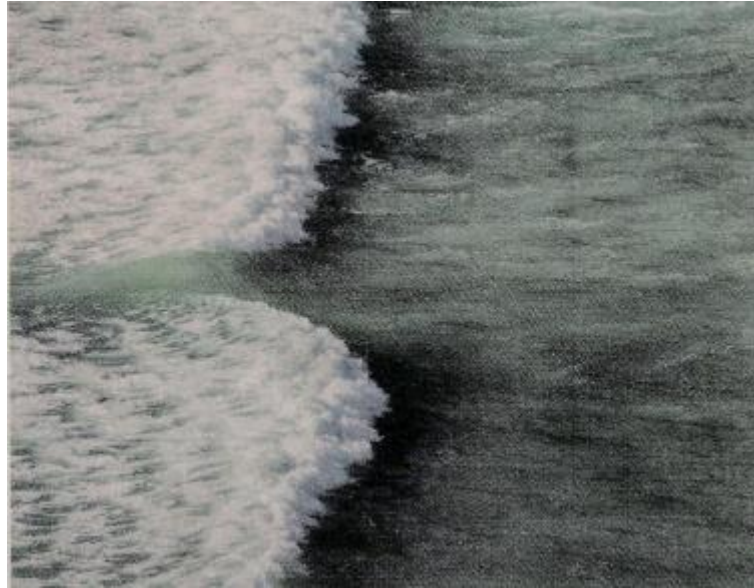
Presented here for your reading pleasure.

Former NFL quarterback Ryan Mallett died on 6/25/23 in an apparent drowning off a Florida beach, authorities said, adding to the grim toll along the Gulf Coast in recent weeks. Rip currents have killed 11 people within two weeks along the Gulf Coast, preliminary data shows, leading to warnings from officials about the dangerous water conditions.

This column is about rip tides, rip currents and undertows – which are what distant storms often leave us. Lest one of us comes to grief...

Undertow v Rip Tide v Rip Currents

Anybody that has ever been to a beach understands undertow. It is the backwash as gravity returns a breaking wave to the sea. All but small children can stand against it – and its effect ends at the leading edge of the next breaking wave. While it might knock you down and thus "suck" you under, it won't pull you out to sea. Our mothers didn't know



that because they confused the undertow with rip tides and rip currents.

A rip tide is the result of tides and the egress and ingress of large volumes of water flowing through inlets, estuaries, and bays. As the facts would have it, most people don't swim near inlets or where bays meet the sea. They swim near beaches, where sand bars often form, and where rip currents, "the killer current", form in concert.

The Anatomy of a Rip Current

Rip currents are by far the biggest killers of ocean swimmers. Rip currents form as waves disperse along the beach causing water to become trapped between the beach and a sandbar or other underwater feature. This water becomes the "feeder" that creates the deadly force of the rip current. The water converges into a narrow, river-like channel

Rip Tides, Rip Currents and Undertows (cont'd)

moving away from the shore at high speed.

Marine scientists define a rip current as having a "neck" (the river-like channel moving away from the shore) and a "head" that is often defined by an unusual disturbance or chopiness in the water and by murky discoloration caused by sand and debris. As the water, and swimmer, reaches the "head", the velocity and strength of the rip current circulation begins to weaken considerably.

Can I See a Rip Current?

Often, yes. As a result of the current's speed, sand is forced into suspension often causing a rip current to be associated with "dirty" water. It is characterized by a strong, localized current flowing seaward from the shore; visible as an agitated band of water, which is the return movement of water piled up on the shore by incoming waves.

Most Importantly, Can I Get Out of the Grip of a Rip

Current?

If you don't panic, and play the water's power to your advantage, yes. Don't try to swim back to shore against the rip current that is dragging you out. Most likely, you will tire beyond recovery and drowning, flatly put, will follow as surely as night follows day. Swim with and across the rip current. Let it give you some speed – as you "exit – stage left!" Or right – but get out of the grip of the current and into "normal" water. Then, deal with the hand you've been dealt – swim back, or just tread water while waving your arms for help, or just float and rest. This is why swimming with a "buddy system" is so critical...

BTW, if you are interested in being part of USCG Forces, email me at joinuscgaux@aol.com or go directly to the US Coast Guard Auxiliary "Flotilla Finder" at <http://www.cgaux.org/units.php> and we will help you "get in this thing . . .



Hey Newsletter Editor!

I never have contributed to the newsletter...I mean our newsletter before. I feel a bit intimidated to share anything, please help!

Dear intimidated,

Remember that we are a family of paddlers who share a common passion. You don't have to be a Pulitzer Prize winner to share your experiences. A single paragraph as if you were talking to a friend and optional photo is a good starter. I know we all interested and would like to hear about the experiences of fellow paddlers. I'm always here to help and provide any assistance.



Cape Breton Island Canada Paddle

Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia Canada

Submitted by Michael Ach



The Atlantic Ocean



Rocky Shore

So, my wife got her wish to travel to Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia Canada. And she said "you're NOT bringing your kayak, are you?" Well, of course. She made wonderful art at the AirB&B. Cape Breton has dramatic landscapes of mountains, sea cliffs, and forest.

Also, whale, seal, and bird life. Lots of hardscrabble lives and past industries like coal mining. I left from a tiny harbor that held three fishing boats. Paddling solo is not for everyone but having done it for so long I was used to it. And I entered the calm Atlantic with zero boats, only a passing seal and later the ferry to Newfoundland.

Another trip was up the Salmon River. It was supposed to be a lazy paddle up a river in July that flowed through total wilderness, but a torrential thunderstorm created a flow I could not handle.

A final destination was circumnavigating South Head Island. Finding a launch site proved very difficult and I finally resorted to a small beach beneath the bridge to the island. Paddling clockwise I realized I would be grounded with the outgoing tide in a wide shallow marsh. Reversing course, I explored the rocky shoreline instead.

Not everything I had hoped for but that is life. Enjoy what you're given.
(Continued on the next page)

Cape Breton Island Canada Paddle (Cont'd)



Cliff, New Waterford



Low Point Lighthouse



Salmon River



Salmon River



← Mira River
Mira River ↘



Cape Breton Island Canada Paddle (Cont'd)



Wild Marsh Orchid, Salmon River



Rocky shore near Round Island



Kayak For Sale!

This is an excellent boat to begin your kayak adventures.
 16' Stable, easy in and out. Has a skeg! Super clean boat. You will not be disappointed. Includes a harmony paddle, spray skirt, cockpit cover and a folding frame for storage.
 Come check it out! Located in West Islip
 Offered at \$650
 Any questions...
 Call/text Gina 516 885-1469



More photos on next page.

Kayak For Sale! (Cont'd)



Paradise is anywhere with a kayak



LIP Classified Section

Continuing a new newsletter topic – advertise your items for sale here – no charge!

Celebrating our 2023 Class of New Trip Leaders

By, Chiara Nuzzo/Trips Coordinator

For the last three years I have had the absolute honor (along with Mike Matty, Safety Coordinator) of being part of the training of new trip leaders. Trip leaders are—without exaggeration—the pumping heart of the LIP. In my final year as Trips Coordinator, I present to you the class of 2023.

Gina Gruber



I was the lucky trip leader chosen to be Gina's mentor. And minimal mentoring did she need, as Gina has been paddling for a long time (20+ years) and is inherently responsible about safety and knowing the waters in which she paddles. As a resident of West Islip, Gina features the beautiful waters of the south shore of Long Island for many of her trips. Her first official paddle was out of Hecksher State Park into the creeks and along the shoreline just west of the park. Gina has been a consistent Club member for the last six years and decided she wanted to be more a part of bringing paddlers together by becoming a trip leader. "I love being a trip leader. Feeling supported by such a great group of people makes me happy. It's a wonderful feeling when I am approached after a paddle with such thanks and gratitude from those on my trip." Gina feels that her trip leader training gave her all the skills she needed to plan and lead a trip—and to feel secure doing so. Gina is "always looking for new paddle locations. There are usually maps spread out in front of me with my morning coffee." If any of you are thinking of becoming a trip leader, Gina offers the following: "Becoming a trip leader is a great way to share your knowledge and ability. There are many of us that would be more than willing to help anyone willing to become a trip leader. It's a great way to get involved with the member-run club."

Chris Fleming

Chris joined the LIP about seven years ago and this year he decided to be more involved by leading trips. "I'd recently retired and had a bit more time on my hands. I've been paddling about 10 years, so I knew I had enough experience to do an adequate job as a leader." Mike Matty was Chris' mentor. "I chose a tour of the South Shore Bay houses for my first paddle. I paddle in the area north of Jones Beach quite often, so I know the waters around there. Plus, many people find the bay houses interesting." Like Gina, Chris has a history of paddling the south shore of Long Island and will concentrate his trips around the Hempstead Bays, Jones Inlet, and Captree Island. "Leading a paddle is a bit different than just going on a paddle. It's sort of like hosting a party - you just want everyone to have a good time. But I think it makes you a better person by taking on a little more responsibility and letting everyone else just relax and paddle. It's a nice feeling when someone thanks you for leading a paddle. And it's also nice meeting so many new people."

Alan Schorn

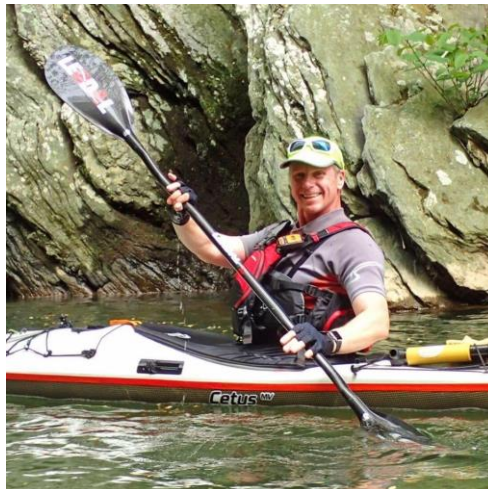
Alan Schorn became a trip leader after only two years as a member. "Seemed like the trip leaders had a few extra 'members only' activities in the LI Paddler's schedules and I was curious to have a peak through the hole in the fence. Also, it seemed like a way that I could help contribute, whether I was the main leader or an assistant." Tom Auer mentored Alan, and they did Alan's first paddle as a trip leader on the Connetquot River. Fourteen paddlers enjoyed a sunny day on a beautiful waterway. We look forward to many more paddles with Alan.

Neil Grossman



Neil joined the LIP in 2020 and decided to become a trip leader as a way to give back to the Club and support new paddlers. Chris Scalisi was Neil's mentor, and Neil chose a place new to him and one he wanted to explore. Together they planned and led a trip from West Neck Beach into the beautiful Caumsett Lagoon. Neil has led whitewater trips for many years with the AMC and KCCNY. In the future he is hoping to do "more trips with more complicated tidal features." His advice to you if you are thinking about becoming a trip leader: "Try it." (I could not agree more!)

Marshall Seddon



Marshall is an ACA-certified paddling instructor and the owner of The River Connection in Hyde Park, NY. This summer Marshall came on board as a Club member and business sponsor and worked with Mike Matty

& Chris Scalisi during our fall picnic to become an LIP trip leader. We look forward to Marshall's trips on the Hudson River in the months to come. In his past teaching and leading, Marshall has "enjoyed seeing the excitement and enthusiasm grow in others." "I have a twenty-year career of teaching kayaking and as a public-school teacher prior to that. I'm passionate about the sport and enjoy turning others onto the lifestyle." Marshall's advice to new (and old!) leaders is to "always enjoy play and encouraging fun while understanding the risks involved."



Calling All Paddlers!

There's plenty of room in our next Newsletter for your paddling adventure stories. A new paddling season is starting so why not make a resolution to support our newsletter by your article.


From personal stories (how you got involved in kayaking or what brought you to the Club) to reviews to recipes. How about a paragraph on a committee that you're serving on?

Have you been on a recent paddling trip? Have a favorite trip? Have any latest info on put-ins? Why not share some photos? Don't forget Member-Matchup and Spotlight-On.

Plus - you can gain 2 Volunteer Points for each article published.

It's so easy; just send an email to dgorycki6@gmail.com. A thank-you email is returned as a receipt acknowledgement.

The following list of topics is presented to show you the wide variety of subjects you can add to your newsletter. Questions? Just contact your friendly newsletter editor.

- ☺ Paddle trip stories
- ☺ Favorite put-ins
- ☺ Put-in news
- ☺ Recipes
- ☺ Kayak jokes
- ☺ Kayak puzzles
- ☺ Do you recognize this?
- ☺ Member match-up
- ☺ Spotlight on
- ☺ Honorable mention
- ☺ DIY projects
- ☺ Equipment reviews
- ☺ Upcoming events
- ☺ Announcements
- ☺ Classifieds 

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Next Long Island Paddlers Publication Date:

January 15, 2024
Spring Edition

Deadline for article submission is several days prior to publication date (to be announced) leaving time for final editing, review and distribution. Members are encouraged to submit articles, pictures, letters to the editor, newsworthy notes, recipes, put-in information, trip reports or future trip information etc. to the editor. Editor reserves the right to editorial privileges. Unless otherwise stated, the views expressed are those of the authors and do not represent official position statements of Long Island Paddlers Club, Inc. Please submit all newsletter articles, pictures, letters and advertising by deadline, to the Newsletter Editor at: DGorycki6@gmail.com. 📧

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 1783
Miller Place



DISCLAIMER:

The views expressed in this newsletter are strictly those of their respective authors. Information offered on any topic should not be assumed to be authoritative or complete.

Editor's Note:

The Editor wishes to thank all who contributed to this edition of the newsletter, for it is your articles and photographs that keep our newsletter afloat. 📧

You're invited to join
**Long Island's Largest Volunteer-Run
 Kayaking Club**



Photo Credits: Top Row (left to right): Alina Wilczynski, Alan Mayors, Christine & Michael Pan. Bottom Row (left to right): George Golab, Chi Chi Gibney.

We are a supportive community of
Kayaking & Outdoor Adventure Enthusiasts
 Experiencing the best of Long Island fresh water & sea kayaking

- Weekly Small-Group Day Trips Guided by Experienced Club Members
- Organized Excursions to the Adirondacks and Neighboring States
- Social Kayak Picnics & Annual Holiday Gathering
- Monthly Presentations with Guest Speakers
- Skill-Building & Safety Clinics, Buddy Program for Beginners
- Online Resource Library, Member Forum, Classifieds & much more...

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