



Newsletter of the LI Paddlers

Volume 2025, Issue 3

Summer Edition

July 2025



July 4, 2025 -
249 years and
still going
strong!

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Executive Committee 2025

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: Lorraine Montana
- Secretary: Bob Hansen
- Members at Large: JoAnne Paolino
Fran Ward
- Past President: Fred Hosage

Committee Coordinators 2025

- Membership Tom Auer
- Programs Diana Price
- Trips Chris Fleming
- 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 Prog. Bob Hansen
- Hospitality Judy Kislik
- Merchandise Gina Gruber
- Photography Alina Wilczynski

Message from the President



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.

To all members.

Our summer season is underway and is continuing to do great. I'm pleased and grateful to all the trip leaders for posting trips for the members to enjoy, thank you for your dedication and hard work. Our meetings at the West Islip Library are doing great with great guest speakers and presentations.

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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 that club trips are now managed via the Meetup service and can be accessed using the following link:

<https://www.meetup.com/meetup-group-lvwrzpdd/>

If you have any questions, please send an email to Christine Pan at duckfoot70@gmail.com or Michael Pan at m.pandemonium@gmail.com 



Hi, I'm new to your group and currently on a Waitlist for two events that are near me (Rocky Point). I wanted to share something with you so you that I thought you or group members might be interested in, if you don't already know about it. Annually, there is a Paddle for the Battle paddle event in Islip run by the Islip breast cancer coalition. They raise money to support patients going thru treatments. I've included a picture of the flier for your information. Just wanted to share. I've done this event for the past two years and it's fun and an easy paddle. It's topped off with an included lunch and drink and basket raffle at the Oakdale Yacht club. Just wanted to share. Hope to meet everyone soon.

Submitted by Linda Anne Morgan. 

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.

Pat Tauber, our Special Events coordinator, says:

SAVE THE DATE!

Our Annual Fall Picnic, also known as the Paul Giwoyna Memorial Picnic, will be held September 20, 2025 at Indian Island Park, Riverhead, NY. Details to follow at a later date. BTW - if you're new to the club, paddles and skills sessions are held on the day of the picnic.

To Meetup or not to Meetup?

It was recently brought to the attention of the Executive Council that a replacement to the Meetup social media platform is being considered. Thanks to our Membership Coordinator, Tom Auer, we're researching 'Club Express'. This is a cloud-based management tool for any association or club to customize their website. Stay tuned! 

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. 

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).

(Continued on the next page)

Long Island Paddlers Volunteer Points Program (Cont'd)

8. The maximum number 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 🗨️

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.” 🗨️

Every time you get into your kayak and paddle off...

ALWAYS ➔



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
- Fran Ward
frandworkin@gmail.com

Confidence isn't "They will like me"; It's "I'll be fine if they don't".





From the Pen of Jim Dreeben (Part 1)

Paddling season for canoers and kayakers starts about now, in mid-April. It starts around Memorial Day for stand-up paddlers and prone paddlers. The east end of Long Island has perfect waterways for the aforementioned watercraft.

The Peconic River is most popular. Start your trip in Manorville and paddle 7 miles to Riverhead. Average time: 4 hours. The water flows gently, the scenery is beautiful, fishing is good and there are many places to stop for a swim and a picnic.

Mattituck Inlet is big enough to spend a day paddling. Park at DEC Parking Lot on the west side of the inlet off Mill Road. Paddle south toward Sound Avenue while exploring creeks on both sides. Fishing is good. Or paddle north to the Long Island Sound where there are nice beaches for swimming.

Shinnecock Bay counterclockwise from Shinnecock Avenue in Hampton Bays. Stop for lunch at one of 4 waterfront restaurants that you will pass.

Red Creek and Squires Ponds off Red Creek Road in Hampton Bays are fun to explore. Plan to spend 1 or 2 hours paddling around each pond or paddle into Peconic Bay for a swim at nice beaches. Have lunch at Meschutt Beach Bar. (If you go on a Friday in summer, you can visit the Meschutt Beach Car Show.)

From Library Avenue Marina in Westhampton Beach, paddle east to Docker's for lunch or dinner. Bring dry clothes and change under the deck. Birding in the wetlands west of Docker's is outstanding. Or paddle west for lunch at John Scott's Surf Shack.

For serious paddlers who want to challenge themselves, and get real exercise, paddle from

Orient Point to Riverhead on the Peconic Bay. Check current, tides and wind before you go. Bring lots of water, nuts, raisins and apples. It should take between 6 and 10 hours. As far as we know only 3 people have done this trip.

There are dozens more put-ins on Long Island. Any street that dead-ends at a beach is a potential paddling location. Please wear a life jacket.

Call me for more information on paddling. 631-834-2525. 

Community Keeps Pattersquash Clean

Article borrowed from South Shore Press and is presented here for your reading enjoyment.

Pattersquash Creek is a vital waterway that winds through Mastic Beach as it makes its way to Narrow Bay. It is very important to the community, and they make sure it's kept clean.

A group led by Creek Defender Walter Meshenberg did a clean sweep last week with members of the Pattersquash Civic Association and the Mastic Beach Conservancy.

"These individuals deserve our heartfelt gratitude—not just for recognizing the issues our environment faces, but for stepping up and being part of the solution," said Legislator Jim Mazzarella, who joined the effort. "Their time, energy, and care make a real difference."

Working under the auspices of Save the Great South Bay, Meshenberg is on the front line of the region's water crisis. The creeks he patrols are under the constant threat of pollution and habitat destruction. Draining from the densely populated

and low-lying peninsula, the local creeks—Johns Neck, Lawrence, Pattersquash, Sheepen, Sheepshead, and Uncuthogue—are vital components of the region's ecosystem.

Monitoring the water quality of these backwaters and maintaining their health has become a passion for Meshenberg, a Marine Corps veteran and volunteer ambulance driver dedicated to protecting the area's natural resources.

"Hats off to Creek Defender Walt Meshenberg and the Pattersquash Creek Civic Association for spearheading this morning's successful creek cleanup," Mazzarella said. "Thanks to their leadership and the dedication of our incredible community volunteers, several hours were spent clearing trash and debris from the area surrounding our beautiful Pattersquash Creek in Mastic Beach. Together, we continue to build a cleaner, stronger, and more connected community."



From the Pen of Jim Dreeben (Part 2) Exciting Watercraft I have Paddled

Nordkapp HM was the first sea kayak that I ever paddled. It was 17'10" long and 21" wide. It was fast. Old style Nordcapps had 2 VCP hatches and a 16" wide round cockpit. The stern hull tapered to almost a knife edge making it track well but difficult to turn. Initial stability: Not good. Secondary stability: Not bad; it was good enough to lean and carve turns. It accelerated like a jack rabbit. New Nordcapps have an upswept stern and a drop-down skeg, and they are more stable. Nordkapp is a beautiful kayak.

Current Designs built the 18' Expedition. A nice kayak if you weigh over 200 pounds. Otherwise, you felt like you were sitting on a telephone pole. It needed weight for stability. Then CD designed the **Nomad**, one of my favorite sea kayaks. It had similar dimensions to the Expedition, but they tweaked it a little making it more stable. Current Designs built me a Nomad and a carbon Solstice with no rudders.

Tsunami X-15 is a high-performance, 16' sit on top Kevlar kayak. The X-15 is built tough with extra layers of Kevlar, a thick solid rudder and rudder cables 3X thicker than on most other kayaks. It has a round hull for speed. You need the rudder for stability and direction. The X-15 was designed by Eric Soars to paddle in the rock gardens in the Pacific Ocean. I met Eric at a symposium in South Carolina.

I paddled a down-river racing kayak on the Forge River. It was tippy at first, but once I got used to it, I had a ton of fun sprinting, leaning and carving turns. If you have the opportunity, you might like it too.

Seal Kayak, designed by Lee Moyer and built by Wenonah. Fast, straight tracking, no frills kayak. My Seal weighed 35 pounds. It had a red deck and a clear Kevlar hull. It was lots of fun, and fast, to paddle.

17' Arctic Hawk weighed 25 pounds in carbon fiber. It was hard chined and fast. A shorter version was **Sparrow Hawk**, also hard chined. It weighed 32 pounds. It was perfect for small paddlers or kids.

Necky made the 18' **Arluk 1.8** with a small cockpit and a rudder. It weighed 34 lbs. in carbon fiber. The 1.8 did not accelerate like the Nordkapp but it had better top speed. It was one of my favorite kayaks ever. The **Arluk 1.9** was the same kayak but with a standard cockpit: 16" wide X 31" long.

(Continued on the next page)

Exciting Watercraft I have Paddled (Cont'd)

Arluk 1, a Necky Racing Kayak, was very fast. It had the most comfortable seat with no back strap. It was empty inside; you needed air bags or pray you didn't swamp. A rudder was standard.

Surge Sea Kayaks (retired) but I still have one. It's 18' long, 23" wide and weighs only 39 pounds. It is fast and stable. It has a basic, no frills, seat and no rudder. It has good initial and secondary stability.

Surf Skis 17' long and longer are high performance sit on top kayaks. They are very fast. A sales rep dropped off a **surf ski** for me to try. He said they are for cruising big water like the ocean. It was so tippy that I could not get through the waves at Cooper's Beach and, when I fell off, the waves picked it up, and I almost got killed from a flying surf ski. Then I got **Valhalla Surf Skis**. They were fun to paddle, but to get them ready, you had to do some serious fiberglass work on the footrest, depending on your height. A neat feature offered was a hydrofoil on the bow to prevent pearling. It worked.

When **Epic** started making **surf skis** with an "easy to adjust system", I was hooked. The V5 through V8 can be paddled by most people. They are stable, reasonably fast and top quality. The V8 Pro, V9 and V10 Sport require a little more skill. They are fast and moderately stable. For the ultimate in speed, Epic has a V10 (my favorite), V11, V12 and V14. These surf skis are for serious skilled speed demons.

I paddled a **Think Surf Ski** from Great Britain. (I mean it was made in England.) It felt like the Epic V10. It was 21' long and 17.5" narrow. It was super-fast and not very stable. Super-fast definition: It's all relative but it feels like going 100 MPH in a car. It weighs 22 pounds. It has a round bottom. It takes practice to master a 17" wide surf ski but once you do – wow! It's fast! Down waves, even faster.

Zest Two EXP is fun to paddle in all conditions. We paddled around Manhattan overnight in a Zest Two. It is fast, it tracks well, and it is stable in big waves. We saw the Empire State Building at 1 AM. I paddled a 21' long, 29-pound solo outrigger canoe and a heavy, 26' six-person model also. Just fun.

Although I prefer 18' canoes and kayaks, I really enjoy paddling the **Epic 16 Kayak** and the **Romany 16' Kayak** from NDK. I like to race them too, in the 16' and under class. The Epic has a Track Master Rudder system, and the Romany has a drop-down skeg. Both systems are well-made and efficient. (Continued on the next page)

Exciting Watercraft I have Paddled (Cont'd)

16' Chinook was the first rotomolded sea kayak. It was designed by Lee Moyer who owned Pacific Watersports. I paddled a Chinook in the alligator-infested waters in Okefenokee Swamp Park in South Georgia. Then came the **17'2" Sea Lion**, designed after the Nordkapp. It was less stable than Chinook. The Sea Lion was heavier than most kayaks, but it was outrageous in big water, like in the Carribean. Aquaterra sent me a prototype to test paddle (with my new dry suit) in December, 1987. I approved it.

Sawyer DY Special was a 17' long solo racing canoe. It was fast and not too tippy. It was difficult to turn but, it had lots of tumblehome so you could lean it. My first long distance canoe trip was in the Florida Everglades. I paddled a DY for a week. I switched paddle sides every 8 strokes. Coming across Chocoloskee Bay, the wind was so strong, I had to paddle on one side for 4 hours. I thought my arms would fall off. I was paddling with a 49" long, double-bend, HR Powerstick made by Brad Gillespie.

Summersong: 15'8" of pure fun. A solo canoe that was fast, comfortable, maneuverable, not too stable, very light, a pleasure to paddle for hours. It had tumblehome so your paddle did not hit the sides. Fast.

Sawyer Cruiser Canoe was 17'9" long. It weighed 42 pounds. The Cruiser had comfortable bucket seats; the bow seat was adjustable. It was fast and it tracked well. You had to lean it to make a turn. We used 2 lightweight Kronen Paddles. The blades were made of obechee wood (like balsa) from Fiji.

Wenonah Kevlar Canoes: I paddled the Spirit II, Minnesota II, Fisherman 14' and Voyager 17'6". They are a blast to paddle. I also like soloing the Spirit and the Minnesota with a bent shaft paddle.

Grumman 18' Canoe does everything. It's reasonably fast and it's very stable. You can stand up in it for poling or casting or you can add a row rig like in a rowing shell or you can add an outboard motor. We used a Piandosi Row Rig in this canoe. Rowing is good exercise, and a canoe is more stable than a rowing shell. I used it to teach rowing; I coached; my student rowed. Piantedosi Oars are the finest.

Mike Galt from Tampa, made solo "playing canoes". They were 13' long, lightweight, quick and very tippy. With practice, you could lean them, turn on a dime, and impress everyone on shore. Wear a PFD *.

(* See Editor's note at the end of article) (Continued on the next page)

Exciting Watercraft I have Paddled (Cont'd)

Mad River ME and Mohawk Probe 14 were highly rockered; if you sat on the ends, it was like being on a see saw. They did not track well but they were fun to lean and spin and play in surf or whitewater.

I have an Old Town **16' Guide Canoe** made of Western Red Cedar, Sitka Spruce, Ash, Honduras Mahogany and hundreds of brass tacks, cinched over. It is beautiful, it tracks well, and it is very stable.

I have 3 very cool racing stand up paddleboards with displacement hulls. My 14' M&M Board weighs 25 pounds. Jimmy Lewis built me a beautiful 12 ½' Stiletto, and I have a 12 ½' Joe Bark racing SUP. They are all fast and fun. I also have a very sweet Jimmy Lewis 11' Cruise Control for messing around.

Prone paddleboarding: In summer I “swim” a 14' Prone Board. It is light and fast, and it gives me the best upper-body workout. To train for prone paddling in winter, I “swim” a 25” exercise ball 200 strokes daily. Prone paddling is new in the Northeast US but it's big in California, Florida and Hawaii. Once you try prone you might get hooked. Island Surf in Westhampton Beach stocks prone boards.

My paddles: Sea kayak: 205 cm, carbon fiber, 1 piece, unfeathered, 8” wide blades or a 215 cm wing. Surf/whitewater: 187 cm, straight shaft, 45-degree RHC, 7 ½” wide blades. One piece. Carbon or glass.

Stand up paddleboard: 72” long, 8” wide blade, 1 piece, bent shaft, palm grip, carbon fiber.

Most canoes: Lightweight, bent shaft, 48” long, 8” to 9” wide blade. Gillespie, Kronen or Werner. Traditional wooden canoe: 60” long, wooden, beavertail paddle. 6” wide blade. Palm grip.

It is great fun to paddle a tandem canoe by yourself. Turn canoe around, sit on the back of bow seat or kneel just aft of center. Standing up in a canoe or on a sit on top kayak is fun too. Paddling a canoe or an SUP: switch sides every eight strokes. The strokes are similar when paddling a canoe or a stand-up paddleboard. Learn the forward stroke, reverse stroke, sweep stroke, “C” stroke, draw stroke, low brace and cross bow stroke. Have fun and maybe get wet. Always wear a PFD. Use a leash on an SUP.

Paddling for fitness: every minute on a prone board or an SUP is a workout because you tense many muscles just to stay upright. Paddling a canoe or a kayak: you paddle like a maniac to get a workout.

(Continued on the next page)

Exciting Watercraft I have Paddled (Cont'd)

Keeping exercise simple, experts recommend mostly bear crawl, bird dog, jogging, rowing, pushups, jumping jacks and planks. And, in summer: prone paddling, SUPing and swimming. Walking over the Ponquogue Bridge is good for your heart, legs and mind. It's even better if you walk uphill backwards.

Jim Dreeben, Retired CPO of Peconic Paddler (53 years), SUPS, Prone Paddler, C&KS, Instructor.

631-834-2525 or jim@longislandpaddling.com

Hampton Bays for fitness. It's the perfect place to live or hang out if you want to stay in shape and live longer. Go to a gym like CrossFit or Planet Fitness. Ride your bike from Shinnecock Inlet to Moriches Inlet. Park by the Hampton Bays Train Station and walk a mile around Downtown. Ride your bike or walk on trails in Red Creek Park. Walk from the train station to Ponquogue Beach.

The best for heart and mind: Walk over Ponquogue Bridge to the ocean; then do a 2-minute plank and 20 squats. During your walk, do 100 pushups and walk backwards uphill 100 steps and backwards 100 steps downhill. Walking backwards strengthens your ankles, glutes, hamstrings, legs, quads and thighs.

Many miles of waterways are perfect for kayaking and stand up paddling. There are many beaches for bodyboarding, snorkeling, surfing and swimming. It's fun to paddle to lunch at Rumba. Exercising and walking on the beach is very cool. You can run into the water to cool off after sweating from exercising.

18 miles to the west: **Riverhead/Grumman 10-mile Bike Trail** on Route 25 in Calverton. No traffic. 

*Editor's Note:

Whenever we paddle our kayaks, be it river, pond, bay, sound, sea, lake or ocean etc., Always, always, always WEAR your PFD! See bottom of page 6.

It is also a Club requirement.

No PFD...No going on trip...simple.

LIP Spring Picnic

Text and photos by Don Gorycki

Once again 2025 saw the continuation of an LIP tradition – Spring Picnic. This year’s event was again held at Centerport Park. Three paddle trips were Planned:

1. Go West “Young Man”, led by Jim Gibney, Chris Scalisi and Tom Sternweis. Their objective was to do a three-hour paddle covering 8 miles or so at a fast pace. This paddle was not recommended for beginners.
2. Centerport Beach – Bird Island Paddle, led by Ed McMulin and Mike Matty. This trip launched from the beach at 9:30 am sharp for an approximate 6-mile paddle to Bird Island and back. A stop was made at the island for a short break - snacks, stretching and enjoying the view. This leisurely trip was rated 1A/B and was planned to be a near shore paddle with a pace up to 2.5mph.
3. Spring Picnic Beginner Paddle – led by Tom Auer and Chris Fleming. This was a leisurely paddle for new or beginner paddlers. Opportunities were to learn fundamental paddle strokes and ask questions and learn how to move your kayak efficiently with less energy. The plan was to explore Centerport Harbor or head toward Bird Island at a slower pace. Direction was determined by wind conditions and will paddle about 4 to 5 miles. This was a Level 1A paddle.

As it turned out, trips 2 and 3 were combined producing a flotilla of 27 kayaks. The water conditions were unusually calm with little wind and mostly cloud coverage which reduced the glare of the sun.

The paddle trips lasted about three hours at which time we loaded our boats and gear back into our vehicles and headed to the pavilion for picnic food (variety of wraps, salads and cookies/muffins) and socializing with our fellow paddles.

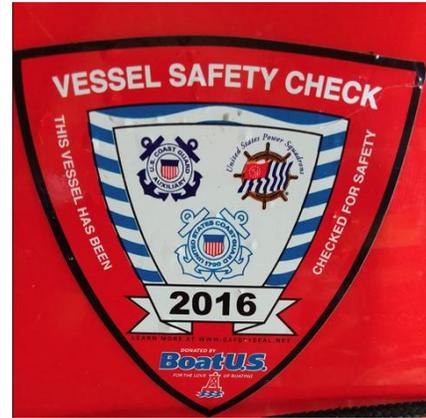
Members of the Auxiliary Coast Guard were also on hand to perform vessel safety checks.

Those kayaks that passed were awarded patches to be displayed on the kayaks.

(Continued on the next page)

LIP Spring Picnic (Cont'd)

A big shout-out to Pat Tauber, our Special Events coordinator, who took the time and effort to organize this very successful event. From coordinating with park officials to ordering and setting up the food and cleanup, a job well done!



Sample Vessel Safety Check Patch →



Parking lot full of kayaks



Preparing to Launch!

LIP Spring Picnic (Cont'd)



President Ed addressing members



Thanks Judy for our Business Cards



Thanks Pat – great picnic!



Auxiliary Coast Guard Volunteers



It's summer-time!

LIP Trip Leaders 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. (Inventory as of 6/26/2025)

- Equipment categories include but not limited to:
- 3 VHF radios
- 4 first aid kits (200 Piece SuccorWare soft pack)
- 2 waist belt tow lines (NRS Basic Kayak Tow Line)
- 2 contact tow lines (North Water Contact Tow)

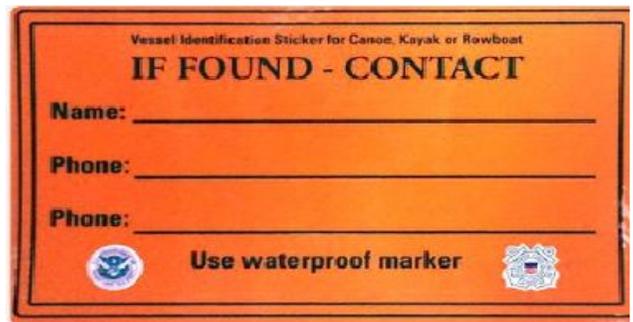
Please note the following:

- The Trips Coordinator is responsible for the purchase, storage, and tracking of all Club-owned safety equipment intended for loan to trip leaders for use on Club paddles.
- An equipment tracking document is on the Club's Google Drive and is managed by the Trips Coordinator.
- Normal wear and tear of equipment is expected.
- However, if a trip leader loses or badly damages an item borrowed from the Lending Library, they must replace it at their cost.

Please contact our trip coordinator, Chris Fleming for more information. 

Kayak ID Stickers

Have you ever beached your kayak to enjoy the great outdoors, wander about and then return to find that your kayak is no longer where you left it? Has it been stolen or has the tide captured it?



Every Vessel should be marked with an “IF FOUND – CONTACT” sticker in the event that you lose or are separated from your kayak, canoe or paddleboard. It’s important that you have one both for your safety and to aid the USCG crews or Harbor Patrol who track down unmanned kayaks. It can be placed inside the kayak on a bulkhead.

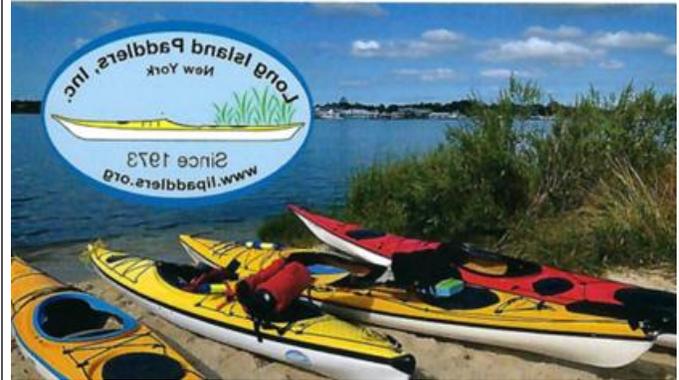
Pick up a free sticker at the Club Store. 

Our Club's New Business Cards

Submitted by Judy Kislik

Our club has beautiful new business cards. In this article, you will learn the reasons why all clubs need business cards. You will also learn who designed and suggested the format for the Long Island Paddlers beautiful new business card.

When members of our Long Island Paddlers kayak club are out paddling, at community events, or even just talking to



friends, a business card provides a quick and easy way to share information about the club. This can lead to new members, which is essential for a volunteer organization.

Our business cards were designed by our talented member, Alina Wilczynski, the cards are beautiful and well-designed. They add a touch of professionalism and legitimacy to our club. They show that the Long Island Paddlers are an organized and established group, which can build trust and encourage participation. The picture on the card is one of Alina's photographs.

Instead of having to remember a website address, email, or social media handle, a business card condenses all the key contact information into one small, tangible item. This makes it effortless for interested individuals to follow up.

The design of our business card reinforces the club's brand identity, including our logo, colors, and overall message. This helps to make the Long Island Paddlers more recognizable and memorable. Thank you, Emilio Sosa, for suggesting that we include the club's logo and the QR code.

Our business cards can be left at local outdoor shops, community centers, or even coffee shops (with permission, of course) to reach a wider audience of potential paddlers.

At our picnic on June 7th, we gave our active members a supply of our new business cards. If you are a club Board member or a club Kayak Leader and didn't attend the

(Continued on the next page)

Our Club's New Business Cards (Cont'd)

picnic, come to the next Board Meeting and I will have them for you. We will also have some extras. We hope to empower you, our active members, to be ambassadors for the club, encouraging you to spread the word and to continue being invested in its growth.

While digital communication is prevalent, a physical business card still holds a unique value for its tangibility and ease of distribution in many informal settings. 🌐

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.

June 2025

Let the Nissequogue Run” – a campaign to free the largest river on LI’s North Shore.

Guest Speaker: Cathy McConnell award winning writer, producer researcher for Nature on PBS .

On August 18th, 2024, a powerful thunderstorm rolled over Long Island, bringing some 10 inches of rain. It was the kind of rainstorm we can expect to see more of as our climate turns up the heat - more powerful...and more dangerous.

A dam on the Nissequogue River was breached. A wall of water rushed downstream, flooding neighborhoods and damaging homes, as it raced towards LI Sound.

The dam in Blydenburgh County Park, first built hundreds of years ago to power a long gone lumbermill, had failed. It had drained a lake, the centerpiece of the park, leaving behind a sea of mud. It was a tragedy....or was it?

The lake was gone...but the river had been reborn.

Find out why dam removals are critical to restoring the power of rivers – to protect our homes, increase biodiversity, and once again become the vital link joining the living communities of Land and Sea.

(Continued on the next page)

Submitted by Alina Wilczynski

LIP Monthly Meeting Guest Speakers (Cont'd)

Sorry, guest speakers for the months of April and May are not available.

Message from the President (Cont'd)

Our committee members do a fantastic job in meeting the needs of our club, lots of dedication. I appreciate very minute of your time and I hope the membership does as well. With temperatures reaching above 85 degree I urge members to use caution when paddling or doing any outdoor activity. Dress accordingly and make sure to hydrate before your trips and through your course of your trips. Please know your limitations and communicate with your trip leader when on the water.

The attendance at our monthly meetings is very important. Please come down, sit in and enjoy the presentations and also enjoy the company of your fellow members. Have a great summer! And enjoy your trips! Thank you, Edwin Mangual. 🌊

Chris Scalisi kicks off the Paddling Season

Each Spring, Chris Scalisi leads three Northshore paddles. These trips signal the start of the kayaking season for many Long Island Paddlers.

The three trips are: Crab Meadow Meander; West Neck to Caumsett Lagoon; and Gold Star Beach through Lloyd Harbor.



Crab Meadow

Crab Meadow, Ambrose wetlands is the icebreaker for the new season. The protected waters in and around the channels and marsh trails make it a suitable route on all but the blusteriest days.

The Crab Meadow watershed encompasses an area of over 3,500 square acres of land. The salt marshes of the watershed play a role as filters and receptor areas. Stands of dense

vegetation are essential to the stability of the coastline in trapping sediment. The wind was swirling around 20 mph on April 27, as 9 paddlers braved the chilly air, and even chillier water. The difficult conditions allowed Chris to work with the less experienced paddlers and teach new skills while on route.

Chris has been active with the Long Island Paddlers for nearly 20 years. He's our resident whitewater expert, past trips coordinator and safety coordinator, and until recently, one of our ACA-certified instructors.



West Neck to Caumsett Lagoon

The May 7th paddle was an approximately 8-mile trip up to and around the Caumsett Lagoon (Sand Hole). The Sand Hole is a water-filled sand pit on Lloyd's Neck – a favorite kayaking destination for LIP club members. The entrance is through a narrow channel whose sides slope sharply and through which the ebb or flood flows at as much as five knots. The average tide change is about seven feet.



The wind was light with temperatures in the mid 60's as we paddled north along the coast, passing magnificent, though mostly vacant, homes. 9 of us were dressed in some mixture of dry tops, dry suits, wetsuits and spring suits. This is the most difficult time of year to dress for paddling. The air can get quite warm, but the water is still in the 50's.



Chris was the trips coordinator for five years, working diligently to build a solid trip leaders training program. He suggested a program to make trips safer and more in line with ACA guidelines. Along with the help of other instructors, he came up with a basic plan for running trips and making minimum requirements for the trip leaders. Working with Mike Matty and Chiara Nuzzo, they came up with the framework that we use today to train and prepare trip leaders for the club.

All the trip leaders have to attend a class which covers how to post and report trips and how to deal with potential problems. Potential leaders also have to show they could do an assisted rescue, if needed. And occasional trip leader get together allows the paddlers to discuss how trips went and how all deal with potential problems.



Gold Star Beach through Lloyd Harbor



Gold Star Battalion Beach is at the base of Huntington Harbor. It honors the 227 men of Huntington Township who joined the Gold Star Battalion in World War II. 13 paddlers signed on to the May 16th trip on a slightly unsettled day. Light rain was forecast.



We paddled north out into Lloyd Harbor and then headed west for a few miles till we reached the Lloyd Neck Causeway. Light rain began to fall.

When Chris first joined the Paddlers, he teamed up with some of the club's advanced paddlers to improve their skills together.

After much training, he became a Level Two instructor. He then took the position of Safety & Training coordinator in the club.

Chris says, "We all learn from each other and passing knowledge on to others is part of what is done in the club. If there were no trip leaders I would never have done Bannerman's Castle, Orient Point, Captree Island, New York Circumnavigation, and other great places."



We stopped for lunch at the remains of the Lloyd Neck Light. A light drizzle continued to fall. We walked around the remains and socialized. It started to get chilly.



Chris continued, “Some trips may be off Island like Assateague and the Adirondacks. As a trip leader you get to choose when and where. Does it always work out well? If you lead enough trips, you will have some problems but dealing with those make the best tales to exchange, and make you a better paddler to learn to deal with a

situation.”



“Leading a trip is rewarding to just get others out there. I can choose where, when, even who can join. Even though I am no longer a certified instructor, I still enjoy teaching and passing on the knowledge that was given to me and I offer on any trip.

Over the years Chris has received the Silver Paddle Award, the Silver Whistle Award, the Alan Midland Award (twice) and the Ken Fink Award. Thanks. 🌊

Words and photos by Chris Fleming.

An Alan Mindlin story

This years’ pictures at the Rappahannock River were really interesting and some unusual. You will notice a couple of happy ospreys catching fish, The next to the last picture has an Osprey eating a fish on a rock and not a tree. It lasted 2 minutes and then a blue heron tried to steal the fish. The cormorant did not eat the fish since it was too big to swallow. He escaped. You have the eagle -Osprey chase and finally the blue heron caught dinner. Have a good summer to all. 🌊



Alan Mindlin story (Cont'd)**What's a Trip Leader To Do???**
Submitted by Fran Cassidy

Do you believe the weatherman...do you open the paddle to the entire waitlist...these are questions you have to ask yourself when you are leading a paddle.

Wednesday, June 25th, was one of those days. Heat advisory had many paddlers change their mind about joining us. Although we opened the paddle to the waitlist and had 18 on our attending list Tuesday, we had many weather-conscious cancellations. Nine paddlers venture out into The Great South Bay to enjoy the breeze and partial sunset/beautiful red afterglow and rain clouds in the distance.

Everyone had a wonderful evening. 🌊

(Continued on the next page)

What's a Trip Leader To Do?!?! (Cont'd)



We Need a Few More Trip Leaders

Submitted by Chris Fleming – Trips Coordinator



It's a nice feeling when you're packing up after leading a trip, and a fellow paddler says, "Thanks for running the trip – it was really fun."

That's about all you get in return for your efforts as a trip leader. But somehow that makes it worthwhile.

The success of our kayaking club depends on our ability to provide a variety of paddles to match the skill levels of our members. To accomplish that goal, we need a full complement of trip leaders.

The Long Island Paddlers relies on volunteers to lead paddling trips, and thankfully, we have many dedicated members who do so.

But we need more. Make this the year you become a trip leader.

The first step in the process is to contact **Chris Fleming, Trip Coordinator** (chrisfleming212@gmail.com) or 917-968-8345. He will pair you up with an experienced trip leader who will work with you on where and when to lead your first paddle. You then attend a new trip leaders' workshop, where you will learn step by step how to plan and execute a safe and exciting paddle. You will also participate in an on-the-water skills session to learn how to assist in the rescue of a capsized paddler, and how to manage a group when out on the water.

And remember, you don't have to be the world's greatest paddler to lead trips. You just need to be a competent kayaker and have the ability to help make decisions for the group. And you just might get a thank you. 🙏



Perception Captiva (aka Carolina 16)

Original owner – purchased from Peconic Paddler in 2001.
 Stored in shed away from elements, good condition.
 Make me an offer. Contact Don Gorycki, dgorycki6@gmail.com



Technical Specs

Best Use	Sea Kayaking
Material(s)	Exolar hyper-density resin
Length	16 feet
Width	25.25 inches
Depth	12.5 inches
Weight	67 pounds
Cockpit Size	34.5 x 21 inches
Number of Paddlers	1-person
Hatch Capacity	11,050 cubic inches
Weight Capacity (lbs)	425 pounds



Wilderness Systems Piccolo light touring sea kayak for sale. Best Offer. Great condition, always garaged. 13'6" L, 20.5" W, 42 lbs. Capacity 175 lbs. Rudder, thigh braces, day hatch, flotation. Ideal for small adult or child/pre-teen. Piccolo review available on paddling.com. Contact violaquintero@gmail.com



More on the next page!

BEGINNER/INTERMEDIATE KAYAK FOR SALE — HURRICANE TAMPICO 135
 Seller is Alina Wilczynski

Brand: Hurricane Kayaks / Model: Tampico 135

CONDITION: Excellent! Garage-kept and cleaned after every excursion. Deck lines, bulkheads and hatches in great shape. Hull has surface scratches from normal use, no cracks or chips. The bungee cords used for holding gear need replacing (\$20 on Amazon). MATERIAL: Trylon ABS plastic is a great in-between material. Lighter and faster than roto-molded plastic. More durable than Kevlar. FAQ about material: <https://hurricaneaquasports.com/pages/faqs>

Size: 13.5' long
 Weight: 43lbs
 Max Capacity: 250lbs
 Color: Red
 Hull Shape: Wide slope for stability
 Wide Cockpit Size: 38.2 x 20.9"
 Very comfortable adjustable seat
 No skeg or rudder

Included Extras:
 Harmony Paddle
 Cockpit Storage Cover
 Paddle Float, Bilge Pump and Sponge
 Wheelie Caddie

Reviews on Paddling.com

<https://paddling.com/gear/hurricane-kayaks-tampico-135-l-kayak>

Here's the newest version of this popular model, many of the features are the same:

<https://hurricaneaquasports.com/pages/tampico-130>

Price: \$550 OBO

Perfect starter boat for a Beginner — or — Intermediate upgrade from a sit-on-top

P.S. I might be willing to part with its exact pair :) It's yellow. Ask about price for both.

ADDITIONAL FOR SALE: YAKIMA RACK SYSTEM

1 set of Rack Cradles with tie-downs

The rack set looks like this, though my cross-bar clamps are round:

https://www.etrailer.com/Watersport-Carriers/Yakima/Y04083-04082.html?feed=npn&gad_source=1

1 set of Rack Rollers

<https://yakima.com/products/hullyrollers-1pair>

A great system if you load and unload your boat yourself, like I do!

Price: \$40 OBO

More on the HURRICANE TAMPICO 135 for sale

Let me know if you have any questions. I can send more pix and you're welcome to drop by to see it... and try it! I'm in Rocky Point with easy access to the Sound.

Alina

718.930.3170

alina@moonkissedmedia.com <mailto:alina@moonkissedmedia.com>



Boreal Designs - Alvin w/rudder 17' long 23" wide fiberglass kayak 54 lbs., Excellent condition. Includes: Accent carbon paddle, L/ExL PFD, Boreal Sprayskirt, Rack \$1,200. The Alvik is comfortable, quick, responsive and lightweight. It's designed for intermediate to advanced paddlers, but is also a good choice for the skillful beginners. The Alvik moves through the water with speed, grace minimum effort from the paddler. The Alvik is a unique kayak, certainly the most rapid in its category. Its long waterline and clean entry provide excellent tracking. A moderate rocker enhances maneuverability when making lean turns. The Alvik's low profile affords minimum resistance to wind.

Betty Mulligan: 631-744-6238 (H). 631-804-4392 (C)

Hurricane Tampico

Price: \$800

Length: 13' 2"

Width: 26"

Weight: 45 LBS (20 KG)

Capacity: 300 LBS (136 KG)

Best Use: Touring

Condition: Like new

Includes: Fiberglass paddle & PFD



The Hurricane Tampico 130 is made by thermoforming. In this method, two sides of the kayak are made separately and then welded together. This allows them to create a stiffer and lighter kayak that is not quite as cheap or durable as a rotamolded kayak. The hull is V-shaped, with a keel right down the middle of the kayak, which helps it track and cut a straight line through the water. Not only is the Tampico 130 great at traveling forwards, but it is also very easy to turn. You can easily edge this kayak around or use sweep strokes to effectively turn it. The Tampico 130 does an excellent job of combining stability, maneuverability, and forward speed. Its large cockpit (36" L x 19" W) makes it easy to get in and out of the boat.

Betty Mulligan: 631-744-6238 (H). 631-804-4392 (C)



Thule 835 Bike Rack

Brand new, still in box: \$500

Betty Mulligan: 631-744-6238 (H). 631-804-4392(C)

**WATER IS THE MOST ESSENTIAL
COMPOUND FOR LIFE**

**BECAUSE WITHOUT WATER
YOU CAN'T GO KAYAKING.**



← Who doesn't like to paddle?



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

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
- ☺ Buy/Sell classifieds 

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(845) 229-0595
www.the-river-connection.com

LIP Business Partner



Kayak Lessons
Guided Tours
Group Outings
Gear Rentals

Kevin Stiegelmaier
www.paumanoktours.com
(631) 404-6447

Next Long Island Paddlers Publication Date:

October 15, 2025

Fall 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...

Making memories & friendships for a lifetime!



www.lipaddlers.org

