

Blazing Paddles

Summer Edition

Message From the President:

Trip Leaders! Who are they? Click on Paddles and Events under the heading TRIPS on the website and you will find twenty trips posted for the remainder of the year. There were a dozen trips that already ran giving hundreds of our members a chance to paddle in spots they may have never heard of. And I'm quite sure more trips will be posted before the season is over.

Leading a trip is no easy task. First, the leader must attend a workshop where he/she learns the ins and outs of leading trips from members who have been doing it for a long time. Then they have to look at a calendar and chose a day, sometimes months in advance, and a place they want to share with others. Tides often play a part in choosing a day. Paddling in and out of tidal

creeks requires a lot of water, while crossing tidal races require careful timing to be sure the water is not moving too fast. And this is the easy part.



The week of the trip, the Trip Leader often must contact the members who have signed up for the paddle with specific directions to the put-in or requirements for the trip. As the day draws closer, he/she has to carefully

monitor the weather. The threat of thunderstorms automatically cancels a paddle. Twenty-five percent of all lightning fatalities occur on or near the water. Graphite and aluminum paddles act like lightning rods. I'm not sure about fiberglass paddles but don't want to find out. High winds can also cause a paddle to be canceled or altered, depending on the direction and intensity. Rain or extreme high temperatures are other reasons why a Trip Leader may decide to postpone a trip. While not life threatening, most of us paddle for the enjoyment of being outdoors with friends. It's not a lot of fun to paddle on a 100 degree or in a downpour.

Message From The President continued....

The day of the trip finally arrives and the real work begins - possible last minute decisions on the paddling route, making sure everyone is equipped properly, getting everyone on the water, and assigning assistant(s) places within the group. And that's before the paddle begins! Then the Trip Leader has to make sure the group stays together, gets from Point A to Point B safely, and back to the put-in without any serious mishaps.

The question should not be who are the Trip Leaders but why in the world would anyone want to be a Trip Leader. I'm not sure of the answer to that question, but I do know that we are very lucky to have a group of people who are willing to do all these things for nothing more than a smile and a thank you.

So a big THANK YOU to Don Goryki, Tom Stirnweis, James and Chi Chi Gibney, Chris Scalisi, Karen Farrell, Pat Burnside, Edwin Mangual, Helen Horton, Glenn and Mary Schafer, Ken Fink, Liz Marcellus, Alan Mindlin, and all the others who led trips in past years. You are the heroes of the club.....

Steve Berner



Members-At-Large – Who are they? Don Gorycki

The Long Island Paddlers is a club comprising people who enjoy paddling kayaks and canoes.

As with any large organization, the Club has a defined structure to ensure its smooth and successful operation. The Club has an executive Committee comprising the President, Vice-President, Past President, Treasurer, Secretary, and two Members-At-Large.

All of the officers mentioned above are elected from the general membership and must meet certain requirements as stated in the Club's By-Laws.

OK, so what about the Members-At-Large?

First of all they must have the "interest and commitment to serve the Club in a leadership position." Members-At-Large attend the monthly Executive Counsel and General Membership meetings. Anyone can attend the Executive Council meeting but only as silent observers.

So how does anyone bring subject matters 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:

Glenn Schafer glschafer@aol.com 631-779-3090

Don Gorycki dgorycki6@gmail.com 516-313-4157



Fix the Cranberry Bogs Spillway.

There is a problem at the earthen dam (by the old cranberry bogs) about 125 yards west of Edwards Ave. The wooden “hump” that you must traverse with your kayak or canoe is slippery and difficult to climb over. There are no hand-holds or rope to pull yourself over. I’m sure it is impassable for some people, and it can be dangerous. Furring strips and a rope would alleviate the situation.

A few paddlers should write to the DEC or call them and explain the problem. I have already written to them but unless they get a few more complaints nothing will be done to make it easier to cross. Ten phone calls and 10 letters should do the trick.

DEC phone number: 631-444-0200. Mailing address: NYS DEC

50 Circle Road

Stony Brook, NY, 11790-3409 The

Peconic River from Connecticut Ave., Manorville, to Riverhead is one of the most beautiful waterways on Long Island. I have paddled it over 100 times. Most people paddle the 7 mile Peconic in 4 hours by canoe or 3 hours by kayak. I have done it in 1 ½ hours especially after a hard rain which raises the water level. I’m usually in a hurry to paddle some place afterwards.

P.S. About 3 years ago the DEC or Suffolk County did a beautiful job rebuilding the spillway and cross-under by Edwards Ave. Now it is a simple portage.

Call me or e-mail if you want some of the following articles:

Paddling the Peconic River.

Manhattan Skyline – paddling around Manhattan.

Hiking in NYC, Westchester, L.I.

50 little known parks and hikes on L.I.

Eating out on the East End.

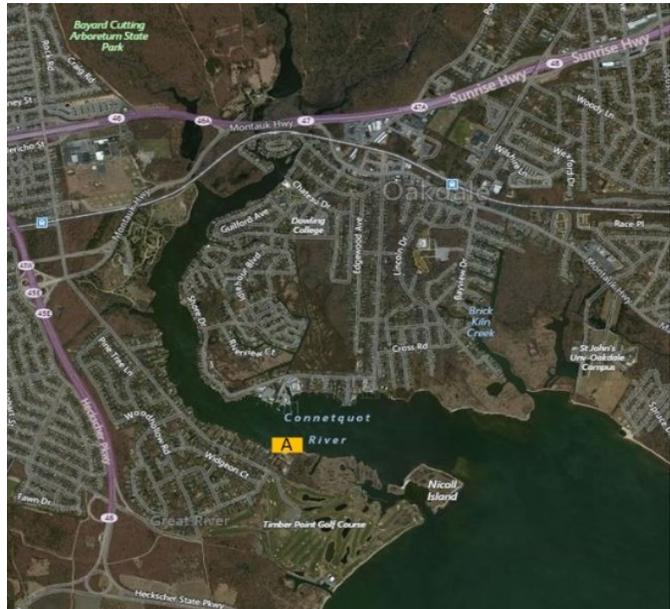
Restaurants that you can paddle to.

Jim Dreeben 631-834-2525 or jim@longislandpaddling.com

Connetquot River Excursion – 2018, Don Gorycki

Long Island is blessed by many diverse paddling locations. There's Long Island Sound, several bays, including Great South Bay, Bellport Bay, Moriches Bay, and others. Last but not least are the many rivers including Nissequogue, Carmans, Patchogue, Swan and Connetquot, all provide their own scenic personality.

Last year I led my first Club trip on the Connetquot River in Oakdale. Even though it was a bit breezy, we all had a good time. So, this year I decided to run that trip again, launch date was Saturday June 16.



The Connetquot River in Oakdale

One of the variables a trip leader has to face is the weather. Mother Nature is sometimes kind and sometimes not. That particular day turned out to be a near perfect paddling day - sunny, warm with a slight breeze and calm water.

The great weather also attracted many other water-loving people. Sit-on-tops and stand-up paddleboards were common. Little by little the parking lot was getting filled.

At launch time of 10:00 A.M., seventeen kayakers headed north on the Connetquot River. Chris Scallisi was assigned as lead and myself as sweep. As we neared the northern part of the river, we paddled around the little island and under the bridge. Hikers stopped to gaze at the many different kayakers going past.



Don Gorycki

Paddling Along the Connetquot River, Along the Grand Canal

Finally, as we could go no further, we turned around and headed back. The path we took was the so called 'Grand canal' which carved a path inland and back to the river. We paddled past multi-million dollar homes and boats of various sizes and grandeur.

As we entered the river again we stopped at the put-in for a well-deserved lunch break after paddling two wonderful hours.

During the break we shared stories and got to know each other better.

Seven people then had to leave for other commitments leaving the remaining ten boats to continue the journey. We paddled south to and around Nicoll Island and then into Great South Bay.

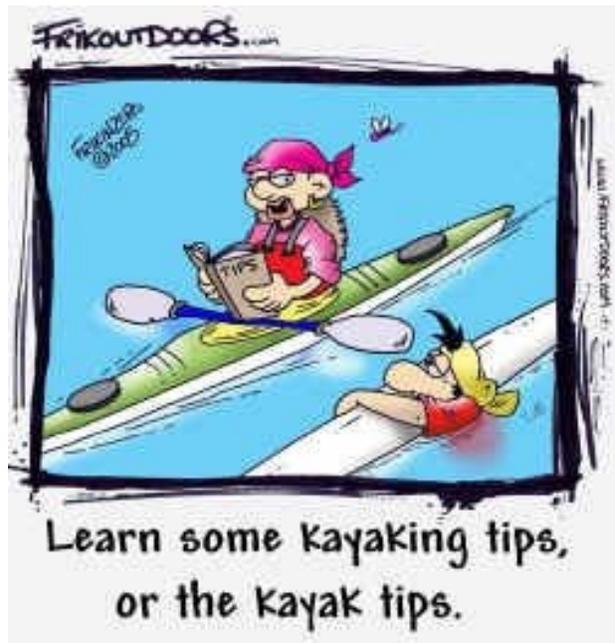
To our delight, the bay was uncommonly calm. We couldn't pass up this golden opportunity so we continued to paddle along the south shore of Hecksher State Park. It was paddling paradise with each stroke giving more enjoyment. After paddling a short distance the wind picked up and the water became 'dicey'. Not wanting to tempt fate, we turned around and paddled back to Timber Point Park after paddling a total of



Summer Picnic



More Picnic Pics



Scallop Pond



Summertime eating at casual*, affordable, on water, fun, eating establishments.**Jim Dreeben**

Shucker's, after the beach, is where I go for an **ice cold beer and clams**. They also have mojitos, delicious guacamole and chips, oysters, sangria, tuna wrap and pina coladas. 58 Foster Ave., Hampton Bays. If you are a group, call Pat to reserve and tell him Jim sent you. 631-905-8292.

Station Bar, Shinnecock Road, makes the **best New England clam chowder** north of the Chesapeake Bay. I also love their caprese platter, burgers and fish tacos. SB has "Happy Hour" 5 days a week, \$2.00 tacos on Tuesdays and a Bucket of Imports or a Pitcher of Craft for only 22 bucks. Steel drum music rocks. You can get there by kayak, SUP, car, bike, motorcycle or walk.

Turquaz Grill in Riverhead is one of our favorite, after the beach, chow down spots. Turquaz offers too many kabobs to list, but I like all of their "**kebob**" dishes, babaganoush, spinach pie and fried liver, I wash it down with **Efes Beer** or Turkish wine. Finish with Bird Netz dessert and Turkish coffee. Near the aquarium with outside dining overlooking the beautiful **Peconic River**.

Jerry and the Mermaid on East Main St. in Riverhead has unbelievably delicious Shinnecock Bay Mussels Luciano, lobster, Buffalo wings, beer on tap, raw clams, baked clams, calamari, and for dessert: Espresso Martini. Jerry and Jerry, Jr. are the chefs and Tom is the bartender.

Rumba at 43 Canoe Place Road in Hampton Bays serves amazingly good Carribean food, pina coladas, rum punch and mojitos. Try their Dominican ribs, ahi tuna salad, Rastaman's or fish tacos, soy and sugar cane salmon or jerk chicken platter. Finish up with a hot fudge Sunday or key lime pie. It is best to go there by kayak or SUP because they have limited car parking.

Canal Café, on the west side of Shinnecock Canal, has a beautiful view of the water. Try the poached shrimp cocktail, steamed PEI mussels, crab cakes, fried calamari or a grilled mahi sandwich, and a draught beer. Come by boat, car or bicycle. Closed Tuesdays. 631-723-2155

Farm Country Kitchen on West Main Street, Riverhead, makes salads, paninis and wraps at reasonable prices. You can get a "**box lunch**" to take with you on your canoe or kayak trip. The "Kitchen" is located on the north side of the Peconic River one half mile west of Downtown.

One half mile west of Farm Country Kitchen is **The Road House** with tables in an **idyllic setting** next to the beautiful Peconic River. Stan at Road House makes delicious pizza, salads, pasta dishes and monster heros. Try the "**Super Italian Hero**", it's big enough for 2. 631-208-9888.

There are now at least five **craft breweries** in Riverhead: Long Ireland Beer Co., Moustache Brewing Co., Crooked Ladder Brewing Co., Jamesport Farm Brewery and North Fork Brewing Co. (which opened July 1). There are **dozens of wineries** on the North and South Forks. Try a Long Island Merlot, Malbec, Pinot Grigio, Shiraz, Cabernet Sauvignon, Riesling, Zinfandel, Pinot Noir.

*Casual - dress code: Shorts, sandals and T-shirts are fine. Tank tops, bathing suits and bikinis are OK at Shuckers and Station Bar.

Summer Fun and Food, Continued.....

I love **grilled bacon** for breakfast; it's delicious. To grill bacon: Put 4 to 8 strips of thick - cut bacon on a **cold grill** across the grates (so they don't fall through). Grill on high for 2 minutes, reduce the dial to medium for 2 minutes. Carefully, with a thin metal spatula, flip the bacon. I like to cook mine until the bacon ends are starting to burn. While the grill is hot, I toast my whole wheat bread on it (save electricity). Time your 2 eggs to coincide with the grilled bacon.

Grilling kielbasa: Cut in half lengthwise; put on hot grill. Weigh down with a brick or cast iron frying pan. Cook until well done or even burnt. Delicious with Grey Poupon on a hot dog roll.

Grilling squid: Slice open the body lengthwise and grill the same as grilling kielbasa. Tentacles: put on grill just touching the edge of the bodies so they don't fall through the grates.

Polish beer from **Wisla Deli** (125 West Main St., Riverhead) goes well with kielbasa and squid. **(My favorite: ZYWIEC 1881 Porter Beer.)** Wisla also has a large menu including Polish sausage, stuffed cabbage, kielbasa, pierogies, golonka, liverwurst, kielbasa and sauerkraut and beef tripe soup. They have fresh, delicious pastries to go with your coffee or for dessert after lunch.

More desserts: Try **Peconic River Swamp Thing** at **Snowflake Ice Cream Shop** on West Main St. in Riverhead. Snowflake has 22 flavors and 14 Sundae toppings. You can get a Sundae even on a Tuesday. If you go there by canoe or kayak, it's only a short walk from the river to Snowflake.

But, I digress: Before dessert at **Snowflake** I might have lunch at **Funcho's Fajita Grill**. (Funcho's and Snowflake are on the same property.) Funcho's makes enchiladas, quesadillas, tacos, chili, rice and beans and a delicious **dirty diva dog** with the works. You can sit inside or outside.

Jim Dreeben, 53 years at Peconic Paddler. 631-834-2525 or jim@longislandpaddling.com.



THE CLUB STORE

When you're looking to buy the following items or that money is just burning a hole in your wallet.....there's no need to make an extra trip or go traveling anywhere other than to our monthly meetings.

If there's time, these items will be on sale before the start of our General meetings, otherwise you can start shopping as soon as the meeting program is over.

For your shopping pleasure, our store is stocked with:

| | | |
|-------------------|--------|---|
| 303 Cleaner | (\$12) | Works great on more than just your kayak |
| Croakies | (\$ 5) | You won't lose another pair of glasses |
| Hats | (\$13) | Heavy weight. Logo on front & Long Island Paddlers on back |
| | (\$10) | Light weight. Long Island Paddlers embroidered on front |
| Horns | (\$6) | Don't leave shore without one...works great |
| Lights | (\$20) | A must have for night kayaking |
| Shirts | (\$25) | Long sleeved with logo..keeps you warm or keeps you cool |
| T-Shirts (Men) | (\$8) | You can't beat this price for great t-shirts. Comes in several colors and sizes with club logo. |
| T-Shirts (Ladies) | (\$8) | Special colors and v-neck shirts with club logo for the ladies. |
| Decals | (\$1) | Club logo decals – looks great on your kayak and a great advertising for the club |
| Fleece Jackets | (\$26) | Individually ordered – pick your size & color. |

AND, for your reading pleasure we have the following BOOKS

| | |
|----------------------|--------|
| Inside Passage | (\$15) |
| Canoeing the Peconic | (\$1) |
| Exploring East End | (\$12) |
| Paddling LI | (\$10) |
| Fearless | (\$12) |
| Canoeing & Kayaking | (\$10) |
| A Dip In The Ocean | (\$12) |
| More Deep Trouble | (\$10) |

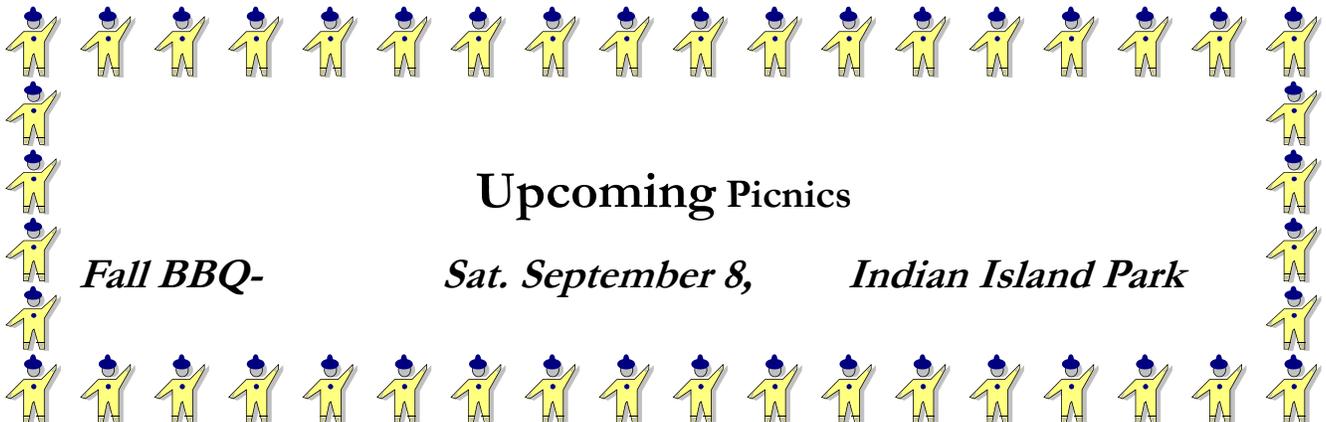


We also have a limited supply of FREE Coast Guard ID stickers for your kayak.

CLIP AND SAVE



- 7/17 Club Meeting , Kayak Dov and Rebel Kayaks
- 7/19 Lower Peconic River & Late afternoon Birdin
- 7/20 Coecles Harbor shelter Island
- 7/22 Connetquot River & Concert Cutting Arboretum
- 7/24 Moonlight Madness on Carmens
- 7/24 Full Moon Paddle Peconic River and Flanders
- 7/27 Conscience Bay
- 7/28 Cutchogue Exploration
- 8/4 Swim Across America Swim Escort
- 8/11 A Day At The Beach, Don Goorycki
- 8/11 Nissequogue River Paddle
- 8/18 Save Plum Island/ Orient Paddle (BBQ)
- 8/22 Full Moon Paddle on Peconic
- 9/10 Nissequogue River Paddle
- 9/15 Robins Island Circumnavigation (not open yet)



Upcoming Picnics

Fall BBQ-

Sat. September 8,

Indian Island Park

(631) 727-9895 (631) 834-2525



PECONIC PADDLER

Sea Kayaks • Canoes • SUPs

Jim Dreeben 89 Peconic Avenue
www.peconicpaddler.com Riverhead, New York 11901

Adventure Tourism Services

Activity holidays that last a lifetime !

Scotland - Greece - France

Brian Gibbons
Activities Director
Tel: + 44 (0) 1546 603852
Mob: + 44 (0) 7796500991



admin@adventuretourismservices.com
www.adventuretourismservices.com

HOME ABOUT US PAGES CONTACT US LOGIN

Dinghy Shop Amityville, NY
40°39'31"N 73°21'25"W

YOU CAN'T BUY
HAPPINESS
BUT YOU CAN BUY A
Kayak
AND THAT'S PRETTY CLOSE

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.

MEETINGS: Members and non-members are always welcome at our monthly meetings. We meet the third Tuesday of each month. We meet from 7 to 9 PM at: Brightwaters Public Library 1 South Country Road Brightwaters, NY