

CANOECOPIA

SHOW GUIDE

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MARCH 13-15, 2020

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Art: S. Schnell

A woman with a headband and a backpack is smiling while carrying a dark blue canoe on her shoulders. She is walking through a forest with trees and foliage in the background. The canoe is positioned horizontally across her shoulders, with its bow pointing upwards.

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CANOECOPIA SHOW GUIDE 2020

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Cool Stuff Debuts in 2020

Amazing stuff from Thule, Dagger, NRS, Level Six, MTI, Yakima, Wilderness Systems, Wenonah and more!



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Every Needful Thing

Build bridges, not walls



The Canoeecopia Show Guide is published by Rutabaga Paddlesports, LLC, Darren Bush, Owner and Publisher. Editor-in-Chief Editor: Jim Pippitt. 'Editor' editors: Connie Lane, Jon Long, Amelia Goetz, and Catherine Pippitt.

Cover designed by Sarah Schnell.

This year's show is **March 13-15, 2020**. Find last-minute updates and additional details on the web: www.canoecopia.com.

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WELCOME TO CANOECOPIA 2020

A few quick words from Darren Bush, Rutabaga's Chief Paddling Evangelist.

In March of 1991, a young man with a broken ankle sat on a folding chair, leg propped up on a box of portage packs. He was sitting in the old Dane County Forum, sticking price tags on hundreds of dry bags. It was the only job he could do, but those dry bags weren't going to tag themselves. It was his first Canoeecopia. He had hair then. Yep. That was me.

A lot of water has flowed beneath my canoe(s) in the last three decades. I went from temporary help, to weekend warrior, to full-time sales, to manager, to GM, to co-owner, to owner. To quote Brother Garcia, "Lately it occurs to me what a long, strange trip it's



been." But what a wonderful one. It has never been, for one moment, easy, but most worthwhile things aren't, right?

As we know, nothing is constant but change. This year we said farewell to Ethan, Kate, and Tadhg, who left to pursue their next adventures, but they still come in and we keep in touch. We are grateful for all their contributions to Rutabaga during their tenure.

Filling some big shoes are some amazing people! Our new accountant Pam is delightful. We rescued her from the corporate world and she's a ray of sunshine, not to mention being wicked smart. We hired Steve, a 25-year veteran buyer and manager from Erewhon, and Kris, an experienced outdoor manager. We also promoted several of our staff into management positions, and it's so rewarding to watch them grow into their new roles.

So what will happen in 2020? We're not sure of the details; but I will predict another year of friendship, community, and wet paddles. And it all starts with Canoeecopia.

With gratitude, *Darren*

CANOECOPIA SPONSORS

Canoeecopia is generously sponsored by:



The Josh Kestelman Scholarship Fund helps Rutabaga partner with local community centers to get kids out on the water. Josh was a youth and adult instructor for Rutabaga and was loved and admired for his deep commitment to teaching everyone how to be comfortable and secure out on the water. When he passed away at age 23 from cancer, we created a scholarship in his honor. The fund has helped thousands of underprivileged kids get out and learn to paddle, thanks to people like you who donate. Consider contributing at the show.

GETTING THE MOST OUT OF CANOECOPIA

Tips and tricks for maximizing your time at the show.

Come all three days. If we had one recommendation, that's it. There is so much to see.

See at least one **presentation**. Sitting down and hearing a presentation is informative (and restorative for your body). Plus, the speakers are top-notch. Our speaker schedule starts on page 22. Check the web for any last-minute changes.

Talk to everyone. The vendors, speakers, 'Baga staff, and exhibitors are glad to discuss any questions you have. We're all paddlers, which means the "Cool Factor" is absurdly high. Take advantage of that.

Sit in a lot of boats. Canoecopia offers an opportunity to sit in hundreds of models under one roof. Make sure to adjust the seat properly and take your time.

Take advantage of the **General Boat Deposit**. It is

a great option for the "sure, but not sure" customer. We take a (fully-refundable) deposit of \$500 at a Boat Register. That deposit guarantees you Canoecopia pricing on a boat at Rutabaga until June 15th. We *highly recommend* getting your accessories (lifejackets, paddles, racks, etc.) at the show, because you'll get the best prices and the best selection.

Special Orders are a way to get that special thing you wanted if it is not in stock and you can wait 6-10 weeks to get it.

Questions? Lost something? Come up to the Customer Service booth. We're amazingly good at getting answers and reuniting people with their treasures.

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POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

How does this all work?

Boats and Trailers

To purchase a boat or trailer, go to one of the two large Boat Register areas inside the main hall.

If we have your **boat in stock**, you can take it home that day. Proceed to the Boat Pick-Up booth at the back of the hall after making your purchase.

Special ordering a boat (or a boat not in stock)? A Rutabaga Staffer at a Boat Register will explain the timeline for your boat arriving at Rutabaga. Forms are at each vendor booth and need to be filled out before you check out. Boat SOs go to the Boat Registers, everything else to the Accessory Registers.

Need a **roof rack or trailer**? Racks can be installed at the show if you are taking a boat home. Start this process early. It can take a while. Pay for trailers at a Boat Register, roof racks at Accessory Registers. If you don't need the rack right away, take it home and we'll install it later at Rutabaga (a \$40 value).

General Boat Deposit is good if you're not sure which boat(s) you want. You can pay \$500 per boat, fully refundable, and get Canoecopia pricing until June 15th. This lets you test paddle before you buy.

Layaways are an option if you want to pick up your boat a week or more after Canoecopia. We ask for half of the purchase price. Deposits are fully refundable until June 15th.

Trade-ins for used boats are accepted. Please ask for details at the Boat Pick Up booth or call us at Rutabaga prior to Canoecopia.

Accessories (everything else)

Purchase accessories outside the hall. Accessory Register entrance is by the Customer Service booth.

If you don't need a rack to get your boat home from Canoecopia, we're happy to install it later at Rutabaga.

We have **shopping totes** to carry your items. If you want to go see a speaker, leave your totes at one of the Tote Checks. **Shopping totes are emptied each night.** Buy your stuff before you leave that day.



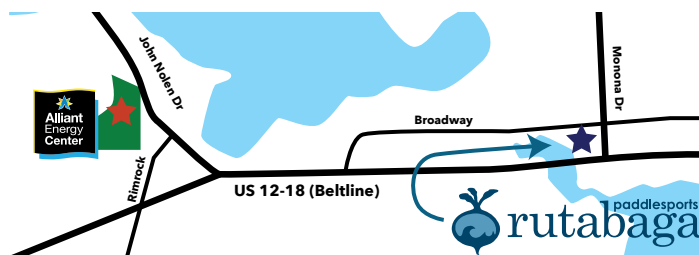
Special Orders? Your special item isn't in stock? Staff in the vendor booths will fill out a form for you (make sure your contact information is complete). Bring the completed form with all of the rest of your accessory purchases to the Accessory Registers near the Customer Service booth.

Check-out lines move fast. The line time peaks just a little during the speaker changes.

Returns need to be in "like-new, sellable condition," with its tags, packaging, and receipt. All returns must be made by May 31 at Rutabaga.

Questions? Look for anyone wearing a staff shirt. They can give you an answer or direct you to the proper place to find it.

Where is Rutabaga? During Canoecopia, we're at the Alliant Energy Center. Other than that, at 220 W Broadway.



CHECK OUT ALL THE NEW GOODIES FOR 2020

And the best thing? They're on sale at Canoeecopia!

Level Six

Freya Dry Suit

Freya in Old Norse means 'woman' and thus the name for this drysuit from Level Six. The front entry makes getting in and out easier, and the relief zipper is extra-flat and is designed to sit across the thighs and hips for more hours in your kayak seat. It comes with a cinchable belt to keep everything in place. It's naturally sized for women's bodies as well, with a shorter torso and a little more give in the hips. Nice touches also include a 'stealth waistband system' for a stylish fit and hand warming fleece-lined pockets.



Yakima

Double Haul

Ah, fishing. Now, lots of you may be focused on *catching*, but my skills are way too crude. I can still while away many an hour with the joy of *fishing*. At least I could if I could keep my father-in-law's rod away from danger. They're a pain to transport. Or *were* a pain, I should say. The new Double Haul can fit two 12 wt rods and two 10 wt rods in its adjustable 11 or 6 ft. length. The tubes are made of aluminum for durability and lined with plastic for keeping abrasion at bay. Keeping the reels on their sides also reduces wear on the rod's guides and eyelets. So get out there and fish. And catch, if that's your thing.



Wilderness Systems

Tarpon 120 & 105

WS's Tarpons have always tried to hit the sweet spot of comfort, and paddling pleasure, while being a solid fishing platform. The new Tarpons are slightly longer for better efficiency, but with a little extra rocker to maintain good maneuverability. They widened the leg/foot trough for more leg room. They reshaped the sides for better paddling. There's an increased aft storage bay to handle virtually any amount of gear. They come stock with well-thought-out tracks. One is just behind the front hatch, perfect for selfies or mounting electronic displays. On the sides you can put rods and tools. Oh, and the under-seat area is also molded to be a storage area. (They kept their super-comfy Phase 3 seat because it tested the best for all-day comfort.)



P&H**Virgo**

The Virgo packs the open water performance of a much longer (and thus heavier) sea kayak into a 14'6" package. The Virgo is a very spine-friendly 52 lbs. That means it is a lot easier to get on and off your vehicle. The V-hull with sharp chines gives solid, predictable performance in all conditions. It's beautifully outfitted with perimeter deck lines for rescues, just like the bigger boats. The flared bow delivers a drier ride while the low deck behind the cockpit allows for any number of rolling techniques. Recommended for paddlers 220 lbs. and under.

**Malone****ClipperTRX**

Praise the inventor of the wheel! No longer do loads need to be laboriously lugged from here to there. Let the wheel do the work for you. The Clipper TRX carries up to 200 lbs. of canoes or kayaks with its marine-grade, corrosion-resistant aluminum frame and its wide never-flat tires. This version is particularly suited to V-bottom hulls. It collapses quickly to a 27" x 14" x 3" bundle that stows away easily until you need it again. Hmm. Maybe we should be praising the inventor of the ClipperTRX.



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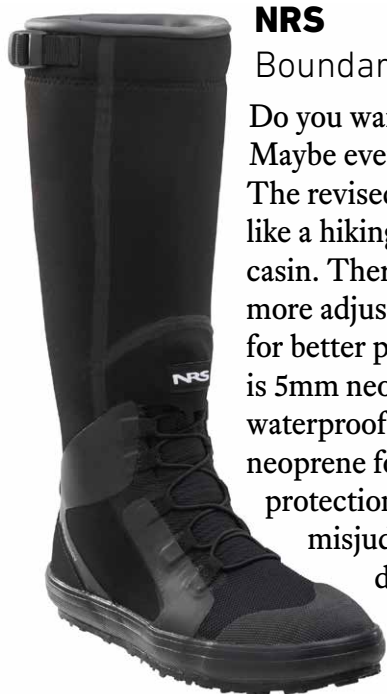
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Jackson Kayak

YuPIK

Jackson's YuPIK puts an interesting spin on the sit-on-top fishing kayak. There are three long tracks that run through the entire cockpit area for a lot of customizability. First, the seat is on a track and can be positioned anywhere. Move it all the way to the stern, add a second seat, and now you've got a tandem. Swap that second seat for a movable dog cot and now Fido can go with you. The front cargo area is curved to take a soft drybag which can be securely lashed by the slots under the forward tracks. The aft deck has four pre-molded screw points for a PowerPole Micro Anchor (or whatever else you want). Weight is 85 lbs. without seat.



NRS

Boundary Boot

Do you want to push your boundaries? Maybe even while in the Boundary Waters? The revised Boundary Boot is much more like a hiking boot than a waterproof moccasin. There's a reinforced toe section and more adjustment over the top of the foot for better performance. The upper portion is 5mm neoprene, sealed to be completely waterproof. The insole is a beefier 7mm neoprene for better support and improved protection where you need it. If you misjudge your step and find you're in deeper than the top of the boot, you can adjust the top cinch to impede water.

Werner

Adjustable Lever Lock

Consider this situation. You've made new friends and you'd like to take them paddling. Good on you. Well done. But... How do you fit your paddle to this friend, and then the next? What if rather than stocking your personal kayaking navy with a bunch of paddles, you got one that was *adjustable*. The new Lever Lock creates 20 cm of total adjustability. You can extend it and/or rotate it, clamp down, and get paddling. Most of Werner's fishing paddles will offer it in two sizes (220-240cm and 240-260cm). Whatever your size range, they've got it.

MTI

Nomad PFD

If you have to fit a lot of different bodies when you go paddling (or happen to have your own personal fleet, like Darren does), then having premium yet affordable universal life jackets like MTI's Nomad is the way to go. Featuring two large cargo pockets with stretch mesh, it is designed to offer generous secure storage for your smart phone and other essential paddling accessories. Blending a rich ripstop nylon with a durable oxford nylon, the vest is finished with a reflective trim front and back.



NRS

Hoodie Dress

Just the right thing for taking you from the river's edge to the fire pit's ring. The H2Core™ Silkweight material provides UPF 50+ protection and wicks excess moisture, enhancing the body's natural cooling process. The extra 2" dropped hemline provides a bit more coverage when you're sitting or rowing. The kangaroo pocket in front is great for holding things like cell phones, mini flashlights, etc. Could they be used to keep hands warm as well? Stay tuned for further investigations.



Yakima

GrandTour Boxes

Luggage boxes are very economical way to greatly / temporarily increase the storage of your vehicle. The new GrandTour boxes (available in 16 and 18 cu. ft. versions) are shorter and wider than other boxes so they won't get in the way of most hatchback liftgates. All of the standard premi-



um goodies are present: double-sided opening lid, universal rack mount, etc. A torque-limiting knob is included to ensure your ham-fisted teenager can't over-tighten during installation.

Astral Designs

Loyak AC

The new ACs are built from a new faster-drying mesh. They can practically be shaken dry in minutes. The lacing and tongue are tweaked to make it easier to put on wet. G-Rubber soles provide security underfoot for any watersports or outdoor activity. They can take you up the mountain, down the river, along the beach, on the boat, or maybe just to the poolside bar.



Wenonah

Voyager (Kurt Renner Edition)

Kurt has been a sales rep with Wenonah for about 40 years. The KR Edition Voyager is built just the way he wanted it. It has a carbon/Aramid hull, bulkheads, self-bailer, black aluminum gunwales and finished with a sliding race seat and foot brace. Weight? A ridiculously low 35 lbs. Of course, being a Wenonah, it has incredible carrying capacity and speed for the big lakes of the BWCA and Quetico.





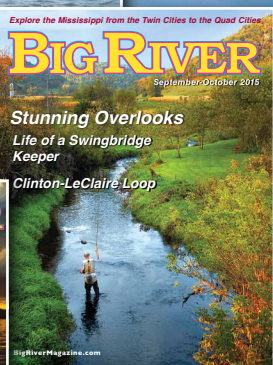
Wenonah

New IB layout and colors!

The new IB layout is a black aramid* and Innegra weave on the exterior layer that gives tremendous impact resistance for the weight. Innegra fibers also naturally have a lot of 'give' while maintaining their stiffness. It goes without saying that it looks stunning too. The pictures barely do the real thing justice. 2019's AI layout was very similar but limited to 1 bottom color (gray) and only appeared on a few boats. The tweaked IB layout is now available on all of their composite models, and you're able to use any gelcoat color that Wenonah offers. Now if you want a boat that stands out at the take-out, you can get it.

IB uses the same foam-core and inner aramid* construction they've had for years. The weights come in about the same as well.

**DuPont is getting touchy with their trademarked name that everyone has used for ages. So we'll go with the generic "aramid," ok?*



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Yakima

LockNLoad Platform

A quick PSA: do not carry heavy or sharp items inside the passenger compartment of your vehicle. See, if you're traveling 60 mph, they are too. If an unexpected violent deceleration happens, they're now speedy projectiles. That's bad.

The LockNLoad is a whole platform upon which you can attach those things *on top* of your car instead of inside it. Available in six different size combos from 55"x49" to 84"x62" with a load rating of 165 to 330 lbs. (depending on vehicle fit and roof type). The T-Slot tracks let you attach mounting loops (or most any Yakima accessory) anywhere you'd like. Suddenly the whole top of your vehicle becomes a usable storage space.

Cue the TV pitches of old often saying, "That's not all!" See, Yakima is offering extras to make a good thing even better. You can get a light bracket, a HiLift Jack holder (shown above), gas can holder, side rails, spare wheel restraints, load stoppers, and more.



Dagger

Rewind

Ok. Stop. Go back. Rewind. We need to do that one more time.. If that sounds like you after a good run on the moving water of your choice, you need to check out the Rewind. The bow's rocker and volume keep you on the wave. The stern is slicey and dicey for squirts and play. If your body build or paddling style requires it, you can move the seat fore and aft to get the Rewind's center of gravity where you need it to be—move it back and make it more playful, move it forward and you'll get enhanced stability.



Mustang Survival

20th Anniversary Belt Pack & M.I.T. 70

Mustang has been making this inflatable belt pack for 20 years for Naval operators. Its blend of compact, low-profile flotation is now available to the general public. The M.I.T. 70 is the smallest approved life jacket available on the market. Whatever your sport, you'll have a versatile, comfortable life jacket that you'll actually wear... which is always the best kind of PFD, no?



Therm-a-rest

Redesigned valves

For over 20 years, Therm-a-rest has used essentially the same simple and robust valve design. It worked, and worked well, but they wondered if they could make a good thing better. Enter the TwinLock and WingLock valves that will be on all of their sleeping pads. They made the valve larger (about the size of a top of a bottle) to increase airflow. The ports have a one-way check valve. No more losing air while you're closing the valve! The TwinLock (above) splits up the inflation/deflation tasks, which allows for 5x greater deflation speed. The WingLock is used on smaller volume pads and makes it faster to inflate and deflate than previous valves. As before, they're simple to operate and field-maintainable.



Swift Canoe

Cruiser 12.8

What if you could get the ease of entry and maneuverability of 12-foot-long recreational kayaks at half the weight? Sounds pretty awesome, no? See, there's no rule that you have to use a



single-bladed canoe paddle with a canoe. You can grab a kayak paddle & go. The gunwales have been pulled in tighter to allow for comfortable strokes with a kayak paddle. No more banging knuckles or needing to change your stroke! Tracks better than you'd expect for a 12.8, but turns beautifully with just a little lean or edge.

NRS

Eddyline & Beda Board Shorts

We think you'll love NRS' new shorts. The Eddyline (men's) and Beda Board (women's) are made from a recycled polyester/spandex blend. They have a non-stretch Supplex interior for quick-drying comfort, and lace-up closure to ensure that things stay in place. The shorts come with a small zippered back pocket so that your essentials (no, your smart-phone doesn't count) stay put. The Eddyline shorts sport an 8" inseam while the Beda Board have a slightly shorter 5" inseam.



Eddyline

Beda Board

Torqueedo

Ultralight 403A

Torqueedo really outdid themselves. The ultralight outboard (including battery) weighs in at 8.8 kg, or just over 19 lbs. You get up to 1 hp of thrust and a range of 21.75 miles. Different mounting systems allow it to fit most kayaks and sit-on-tops, and can generally be integrated with the existing steering system. An onboard computer interfaces with GPS navigation to accurately track your remaining range. Sweet!

**SealLine**

PRO Zip Duffel Bags

If you travel and will be near water, check these beauties out. These bags have a long YKK AquaSEAL waterproof zipper for easy packing (as well as finding something you put there last Tuesday). It's got handles aplenty and quick-detachable straps to make it easier to haul on and off the plane or the rubber raft. It's rated to be waterproof to one meter for 30 minutes. Get adventuring, folks. Your stuff will be dry in here.



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Yakima

TopWater

If you know someone who collects (hoards?) fishing rods, then the TopWater is their address to adventure. It can carry up to eight fully-rigged rods or 20 bare ones. There's space below the rods for low-profile tackle boxes too. Drain holes prevent water build-up. It's flexible too. Remove the rod holders and you can carry skis or other long gear. As befitting a modern box, it includes a universal clamp for attaching to most any rack.

Astral Designs

Fishing Lifejackets

We live in blessed times, folks. Lifejackets (*PFDs*, years ago) have become so comfortable that there's *no* reason not to wear 'em. The **V-Eight Fisher** is a front-zip, high-mesh-back design with pockets and attachment points aplenty. The **Sturgeon** is a thin-back, side-entry vest with a unique clam-shell front pocket 'borrowed' from their whitewater models that makes finding your stowed gear a cinch. Whatever fits you the best, wear it!



V-Eight Fisher



Sturgeon

Therm-a-Rest

Honcho Poncho

My favorite Food Network celebrity, Alton Brown, disdains 'unitaskers.' Luckily, this is *not* one of those. You want a poncho with a hand warmer? Maybe a blanket? Maybe a pillow? Yup, yup, and done. Whether you're at an outdoor concert, singing songs around the campfire, a sleepover, or just in the back of the car cruising endlessly across Nebraska, the redesigned, newly re-colored Honcho Poncho has you, well, covered.





Werner

Journey Paddle

Did you know that wood is not the only approved material for making paddles? It's true! Carbon & fiberglass is allowed, encouraged even. The resulting blades are quite thin, with smooth entry and recovery for efficient and quiet strokes. The handles are symmetrical for any stroke pattern you want. They're strong, as you would expect. The integrated edge guard is designed for years of use (though not abuse). They're light too, 13.25 oz. and 16.25 oz.



BEYOND LIGHTWEIGHT

Model shown: Delta 17 
Manon Ringuette 

A week in the wilderness, an afternoon at the shore or an hour on the pond. Our outstanding, lightweight kayaks are built for adventure, wherever you find it.



PROUDLY MADE IN  NORTH AMERICA



EXPERIENCE THE

DELTA 12.10

This popular light-touring kayak offers exceptional performance, comfort and versatility in an easy to handle, compact design. The Delta 12.10 makes an excellent choice for both day-tripping or overnight adventures on inland or coastal waters. The spacious cockpit comfortably fits a wide range of paddlers and its generous stowage capacity can hold days worth of gear.

KAYAK
WEIGHT

41
LBS

19
KG

KAYAK
LENGTH

12'10"
FEET

3.9
METER

MAX
CAPACITY

300
LBS

136
KG

A NEW YEAR BRINGS A NEW, VIBRANT COLOUR BACK INTO THE MIX!
INTRODUCING **SAFFRON YELLOW** NOW AVAILABLE IN SELECT MODELS.


K A Y A K S

Native Watercraft

Slayer Propel 12.5 MAX

Behold the next generation of Native's Slayer 13. Super comfortable, for all-day action, naturally. This one can take an anchor or motor on either end, along with every electronic gadget and power to spare. There's a built-in bow battery storage, designated switch panel area, and a transducer recess in the hull. The rudder was extended for increased turning & tracking efficiency. The Propel drive delivers hands-free forward and reverse motion.



Thule

XPorter Pro Shift & TracRac Base Rails

Trucks are cool, but they are a challenge to rack. Thule's solution is the XPorter Pro Shift which offers up to 600 lbs. of carrying capacity with or without the TracRac. It sits lower in the airstream for greater efficiency and still leaves your truck's bed space available. The TracRac rails add a lot of flexibility to your XPorter. They mount using the truck stake pocket (Look Ma! No drilling needed!) and don't interfere with most tonneau covers.



Level Six

Whirlpool Youth Splash Jacket

Do you equate being cold and wet with having 'fun' paddling? News flash: kids don't like it either. The Whirlpool Youth Splash Jacket uses Level Six's waterproof, breathable eXhaust fabric for comfort with adjustable wrist and neck closures for a great watersports experience. Its high-level performance with entry-level pricing is perfect for your little paddling buddies.



Bending Branches

Catalyst Paddles

Feast your eyes upon these, ye paddlers, and rejoice. Catalysts (if you remember your high school chemistry) are things that speed up reactions, or make combinations possible that weren't before.

The Catalyst here makes *paddles* possible that weren't before by using recycled wood that's been glued together, shaped, rock-guarded, and then wrapped in clear strength-boosting fiberglass. Rather than tossing or burning the small ends of wood from their other paddles, Bending Branches turned them in to the beautiful mile-shredding beauties you see here. Let these be your catalyst to more paddling.



Perception

Outlaw 11.5

This Outlaw stands out from the crowd. I suppose that's the point of the name. The moment you see it, you'll understand. The front handle is molded into the hull and is hand-friendly from any direction. The tracks on the side double as handles. The seat can be removed and a 35L heavy duty cooler will fit in perfectly and double as a sitting/standing platform. The standing area on the hull looks different, too. It comes with nice factory-installed foam traction pads. The stern is large and flat, perfect for any electric motor or anchor system. Right behind the seat are two double-barreled rod holders on each side. If you need to solo drag it down to the water, there are angled, replaceable skid plates to protect the hull. Let us know whether this makes you feel like an outlaw, dealing summary justice to unruly bass in a gritty neo-Western. Ennio Morricone soundtrack not required.



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Pyranha

Ozone

It's a play on Pyranha's Zone (InaZone, ProZone, Z.One) series of whitewater boats. This one will have you saying "Ooh!" all day long. It's the perfect combination of a downriver player and a freestyler. It is really comfortable thanks to the added volume at the front of the cockpit. (Your knees and feet will thank you.) We think this is the perfect boat for someone who wants to master the basics working toward a well-rounded experience that you can find in a sport like whitewater kayaking.



Malone

XtraLight LowMax Trailer

The LowMax is such an easy trailer to love. The 78" crossbars sit only 26" off the ground for easy loading of up to 600 lbs. of cargo. If your partner asks the incisive, sometimes uncomfortable question "Ok, but where will we *store* it?" you can point out that the tongue folds over as shown and then it stands on its end, requiring minimal space in the garage. Now instead of difficult discussions about storage, you can sell your partner on all the places you'll go.

NRS

Stratos Jacket

If you're not in conditions that demand *absolute dryness*, this is a great choice. It's relatively inexpensive while keeping you comfortable. It starts with waterproof, breathable Hypotex 2.5 and add a neoprene GlideSkin neck seal which provides all-day comfort while still keeping most water out. The self-draining, volcano-style neoprene protects latex wrist gaskets. A hook-and-loop neoprene closure cinches tight for a good custom fit. The zipper is splash-proof and should be accessible even when wearing a life jacket.



Thule

Tepui Awning

So hot, it's cool. If you want some quick, easy relief from the sun or rain, pop this awning out. Instant comfort while you watch the world move by. Available in 4- and 6- foot lengths, it deploys quickly and easily with integrated tension rafters and telescopic legs.



Malone

Foldaway 5

It's not a J-cradle world anymore. Call it an Inverted-T-cradle-world. (*Actually, it's a darn-near universal boat rack. -Ed.*) It can side-load a single recreational kayak, or stack two kayaks. The vertical support folds down for better aerodynamics and reduced garage incidents. A 2-boat module (the detached part on the right of the photo), purchased separately, allows you to carry a canoe, large sit-on-top kayak, or any size SUP with the vertical support folded down. Either side can handle up to 75lbs., limited by vehicle specs. Comes with universal mounting hardware and four 12' cam straps.



NRS

Ninja PFD

The 2020 Ninja puts even more flotation front-and-center for full range of motion. It's a great PFD for short-torsoed adults or kids who have outgrown their youth jackets. It also comes with a redesigned front clamshell pocket for easier storage of anything you need tucked away. Why 'Ninja'? NRS's uses the informal version of the word 'excelling in a particular skill or activity' rather than the 'feared assassin of so many of the Japanese movies of my youth' definition.



Vibram

V-Aqua

Is it Very Aqua (or whatever other color they chose to make it in)? Either way, it is the shoe I've been waiting to replace my old Five Fingers. They've got a super-grippy Megagrip™ sole. Splitting the sole out into individual toes helps deliver outstanding grip and feel for whatever you're standing on. When you're out boating, it feels like you're wearing almost nothing at all. Great drainage, great traction, super low-profile comfort... What's not to love?

Yakima

RoadShower

Does your idea of outdoor fun include a lot of mud & grime? Wondering how you're going to get home without totally mucking up your seats? Oh wait! A Shower! Yakima's RoadShower holds 4, 7, or 10 gallons and thanks to the black coating on the metal container will heat up your shower while you're out getting filthy. You can pressurize it up to 65 psi if you want to really blast your dishes, vehicle, bicycle, etc. It's pretty compact too, the large one measures 82" long x 7.4" wide x 5.75" high.



CANOECOPIA PRESENTATIONS FOR 2020

We proudly offer up a cornucopia of Canoecopia speakers & topics.



The Aluminum Chef Competition

*Brought to you by MSR
Sat 4:30p, Quetico*

Once again, our three Aluminum Chefs will test their camp culinary skills against each other in true outdoor style. Kevin Callan returns as our unstoppable emcee in this fast-paced event. Woods-woman, Mona Gauthier and former park ranger Marty Koch go up against local chef Luke Zahm of the Driftless Cafe in Viroqua, WI. Using MSR stoves and cook kits, and a pantry of simple ingredients you might have on your next camping trip (donated by the Driftless Cafe), our chefs will compete for the best appetizer, entree, and dessert. Come join the fun - you could be one of the judges from the audience who will determine the winner of each course!

WHERE ARE THE SPEAKER ROOMS?

Canoecopia has 12 Speaker Rooms in three areas. A Canoecopia wristband is your entrance in to all Speaker Rooms.

Main floor rooms are to the right of the Lobby from the main Canoecopia entrance doors. As you face the food concessions to your left are Sylvania, Algonquin, BWCA; to your right are Superior and Quetico.

Upstairs rooms are above the main floor speaker rooms. Two stairways lead up from the Lobby. Upstairs rooms are Atrium, Bear, Caribou, and Loon.

Clarion Hotel rooms are connected to the show by an indoor walkway that begins near the cash register check out area in the Canoecopia Lobby. Clarion rooms are Voyageur, Killarney, and the Pool.

Christopher Amidon

Paddling Isle Royale National Park

*Sat 1:30p, Quetico
Sun 2:30p, Superior*

Isle Royale National Park offers unique opportunities for paddling in and around a wilderness island in Lake Superior. The challenges facing paddlers are many, from the logistics of transporting paddling equipment to the unpredictable and cold waters of Lake Superior. Join Ranger Chris Amidon to explore the paddling options and obstacles of Isle Royale National Park.



Gregory Anderson

The Science of Waves

Fri 6:30p, Loon

Have you ever wondered why wave fronts end up parallel to the beach? How do shoals create larger waves? Why do waves bend around obstacles? Understanding waves will help you manage the surf zone and make you a better paddler, whether you want to avoid a pounding or to catch the ride of your life.



The Wild Coast: Circumnavigating Vancouver Island

Sat 3:30p, Bear

From the tide races of the inside passages to surf and swell on the outer coast, Vancouver Island is surrounded by dynamic waters. Come hear Greg share lessons learned from a 55-day, solo circumnavigation of Vancouver Island. Whether you are interested in paddling a short protected section or planning your own expedition, Vancouver Island is a place of rugged beauty and amazing wildlife. It is a wilderness adventure waiting for you.

Jeff Bach

Building Laminated Bent Shaft Paddles

Sat 1-4p, Atrium

Wood is Good. Building a wood paddle offers a venue to combine art, design, hand tools, and wood. Just about any kind of wood can be used in crafting a paddle. Add in some glue or epoxy, fiberglass, and maybe some varnish and you have a project that can deliver pleasure and watery performance for years. Consider building your own paddle. They



look better, feel better, and get the builder back in touch with hands and hand tools.

Jim Baird

Everything You Need to Know About Fishing on a Canoe Trip

Sat 11:30a, BWCA

Sun 10:30a, Superior



Canoe trips can often take you through some of the best fishing waters available. Jim will share tips and specifics you need to know to catch multiple species of fish while out on a canoe trip. This includes easy hacks for catching deep-dwelling fish from a canoe, specialized rod types, reels, tackle, and organization systems. He'll cover where to target fish in rivers, and how to clean, prepare and cook your catch with both modern and primitive methods.



Soloing the Yukon's Hess River

Sun 1:30p, Caribou

The Hess is considered to be the most challenging whitewater river in Canada's Yukon Territory. In July 2019, Jim headed out alone on a canoe trip down the Hess and Stewart Rivers. After a floatplane flight and a long bushwhack portage, he encountered numerous rapids and epic scenery. He caught fish and cooked them over open fires under the midnight sun., faced grizzly bears, and traveled through a smoldering, just-extinguished forest fire. Hear Jim share the adventurous story of the trip in an exciting and humorous way, in addition to some of the skills and gear he used to plan and complete this epic canoe trip.

Hey! What do those symbols mean?



New to Canoecopia, or returning after a number of years.



Young presenters (under age 35) leading the way.



Newbie-friendly talks appeal to those just starting out.



Camp skills: how to live the easy life when you're in the wilderness.



Water drops form a Pool. Pool is at the Clarion Hotel.



Tips and techniques to keep you safer.



Youth & family topics help adults get kids outdoors.



It's about multi-eyed snakes. Nah, it's a film. But you knew that.

Wilderness Skills

Sat 3:30p, Quetico

Sun 11:30a, Superior

Multi-day canoe trips require a multitude of outdoor skills that go well beyond paddling. It's best when a good assortment of wilderness navigation, camping, woodsmanship, and even last-ditch survival skills come along on the adventure too. Jim will share some of the tried-and-true skills he's used and learned during his accumulated years of bush time. These techniques will open more doors and possibilities for both the multi-week wilderness tripper and weekend-warrior alike. These will include primitive navigational skills, map and compass knowledge, GPS, and smartphone apps. Jim will also cover what to do in a worst-case scenario: how to signal a plane, make fire and shelter in the rain, and how to assemble the ultimate survival kit before heading out. Wilderness skills you can use regularly include: ways to cook fish over the fire without a frying pan, gear tips for season-specific paddling, and things to keep in mind while planning that dream canoe trip.

Justin Barbour Y

Man and Dog: 83 Days Canoeing the Labrador Wilderness

Sat 3:30p, Voyageur

Sun 10:30a, Voyageur

In 2018, with support from Canadian Geographic, Justin Barbour and his dog Saku left the rugged



coast of Labrador to begin a 1700km expedition through undisturbed wilderness. They would ascend difficult and dangerous rivers for over 350 kilometers, and paddle across the biggest lakes in eastern Canada. They portaged with black bears breathing down their necks and dealt with a raging early winter, the earliest to strike the region in almost 20 years. The route would pass through no communities and require the true bond of man and dog to help fuel them through the immense isolation and challenges. This talk will showcase the beauty of one of the world's last great wildernesses and inspire young and old.

John Bates

Birds of Northern Rivers and Lakes

Sat 10:30a, Superior

A host of birds regale any northern paddle trip with their songs and fly-bys. The Northwoods of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan supports the highest number of nesting bird species of any region north of Mexico. In fact, it's hard to find a better place to watch birds! The Superior National Forest, for instance, provides nesting habitat for at least 155 bird species. From marsh hawks to marsh wrens, kingbirds to kingfishers, and common loons to uncommon terns, we'll look at the



PRESENTATIONS

most notable of the birds one might see on any given paddle, get a feel for their personalities, and show you which habitats to look for them.

Keynote Species of Northern Lakes and Rivers

Fri 4:30p, Superior

Sat 1:30p, Superior

We return again and again to particular places because of their beauty, and ultimately what we feel as their spirit. While each of us experiences a place differently according to our individual perceptions, there are certain species that seem to speak to all of us, and which in many ways define the spirit of a place. Come celebrate an array of northern keynote species, from plants to animals, that seem to universally evoke our strongest connections and our deepest love.

Timothy Bauer

Adrift in the Driftless

Sat 11:30a, Quetico

Sun 10:30a, Quetico

Hidden in the middle of the Upper Midwest lies an ancient area that's home to rare species, Native American effigy mounds, sinkholes, caves, cliffs, and natural spring waterfalls. Bigger than Vermont and New Hampshire combined, it's called the Driftless Area, and is the hilly exception to the otherwise glaciated rule of relative flat. It also comprises some of the most breathtaking paddling trips in the country, including the Mississippi River, which acts as a spine connecting Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Illinois. Come join Timothy Bauer, self-confessed Driftless advocate and local author, to learn of the area's unique charisma and myriad charms.



Pete Beck

All Things Kayak Camping

Sat 11:30a, Voyageur

Pete Beck brings his years of knowledge and experience to the table for an informative and entertaining discussion on all things kayak camping. He will discuss how to plan a river adventure, what to take along, and what to avoid before the trip and on the river. Topics will include logistics, campsite selection, outfitted vs. self-supported, and more. Pete will also share stories about his funniest, scariest, and most surprising moments on the river. There will also be a time of Q&A when audience engagement is encouraged.



Mary Blaisdell

Solo Tripping, One Step at a Time

Sat 1:30p, Voyageur

Have you been thinking of taking a wilderness trip alone or with others

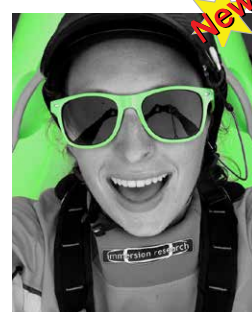
and haven't done so yet? In this presentation, Mary will take you on her personal journey of completing a 6-night solo in the Boundary Waters by taking one step at a time and planning for success. By setting small goals to achieve each trip and identifying and resolving apprehensions along the way, she upped her game a little at a time.

Kelsey Bracewell

2019 Special Report on Paddlesports & Safety

Sun 11:30a, Voyageur

The ACA & The Outdoor Foundation have partnered to bring you a comprehensive report concerning 2018 data about paddlesports participation, demographics, and accidents. This report provides a statistical view of paddlesports demographics and accident data, with the goal of facilitating effective and targeted strategies to reduce the frequency of paddlesport-related fatalities and accidents. Additionally, the report includes paddlesport participant behavioral insights and trends. The report provides data on the following activities: kayaking, canoeing, rafting, and stand-up paddleboarding (SUP).



Barry Brahier

Sea Kayaking Voyageurs National Park

Sat 2:30p, Algonquin

Voyageurs National Park in Minnesota is an amazing place for kayak camping, solo or group, especially in the fall when the power boats stay home. Think BWCAW but with bigger lakes, Taj Mahal campsites reserved just for you, and no portaging! Learn the nuts and bolts of a Voyageurs kayaking trip and understand why going solo is something you can do and probably should.



Gordon Brown

Sea Kayak Rescues

Sat 2:30p, Pool

Sun 1:00p, Pool

Sea kayak rescue techniques evolve. Come see Gordon demo recent developments in sea kayak rescues in the Clarion Hotel pool.



The Journey of a Dyslexic Author

Sat 9:30a,sylvania

As a successful coach, author, and producer of sea kayak instructional DVDs, Gordon was surprised to find out that he had dyslexia. He discovered this as he approached the end of working through a master's degree in performance coaching. This presentation is a glimpse inside his head and includes stories as well as imagery from his latest book, *Sea Kayak Safety and Rescue*. Learn about some of the challenges of writing a book when writing does not come easily and it is easy to get sidetracked.

John Browning

What Can Go Wrong?

Fri 6:30p, Caribou
Sat 11:30a, Caribou



Have you really thought about what could go wrong on your paddling trip? John will examine three categories where things go wrong. He'll discuss the management of those areas to prevent an incident from happening, and how to manage the incident when stuff does hit the fan.



Quetico Park, the focus of their vacation. Hear about their preparation, how they arrived at the portage, and the obstacles they encountered while crossing. Perhaps most interesting to any dads and daughters out there, learn what they expected to gain. Then take home some tips for your own trip across Death March, or your own version of it.

Kevin Callan

A Strange, Unusual & Amazing Canoe Trip

Sat 9:30a, Quetico
 Well-known author Kevin Callan takes on yet another weird but amazing canoe trip. He paddles 120 miles across central Ontario, Canada. It's not so remote, he dodges fancy yachts, has more than one shore lunch at a pub, but the landscape is amazing and the people he meets along the way are incredible. Never a dull moment. Don't miss this (mis)adventure.



Scott & Emilie Burditt



Dad, Daughter & Quetico's Death March Portage

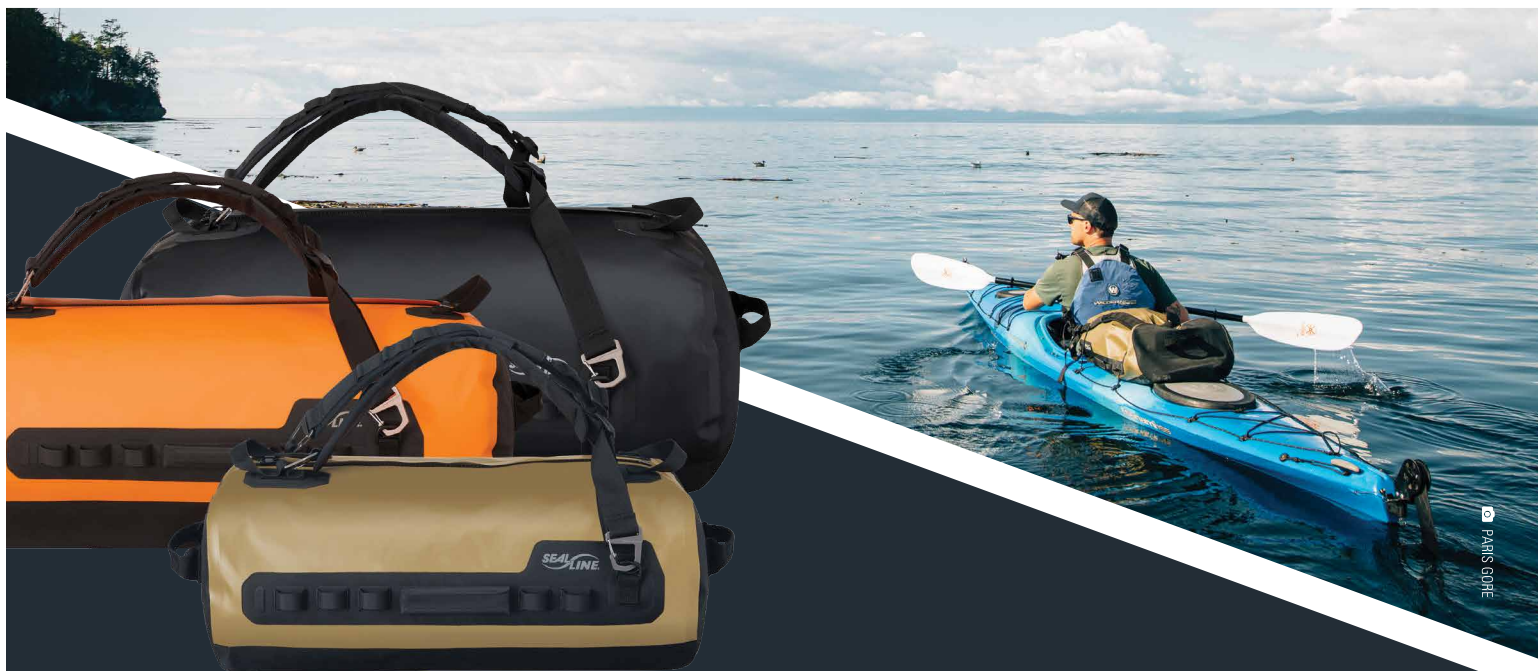
Sat 1:30p, Loon

Would you plan a canoe trip with your daughter around a 4.2-mile portage called Death March? Find out why this duo made crossing this portage, located in the middle of Ontario's 1.2M-acre



Real-World Safety: A Panel Discussion (see page 47)

Sun 10:30a, BWCA



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Our premium, comfortably portable and submersible gear hauler.

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SEALLINE®

Paddle Routes of Ontario's Algonquin Park

Fri 4:30p, Quetico
Sat 12:30p, Superior

Author and well-known Canadian paddler, Kevin Callan, will share a number of possible paddling routes in Algonquin - one of Canada's top tripping destinations. His best-selling *A Paddler's Guide to Algonquin Park* is now in its 4th edition and has more routes to share.

Craig Charles

Afoot and Afloat along the Coastal Trail, Ontario's Pukaskwa National Park

Sat 3:30p, Killarney

Join Craig, on an 80-mile roundtrip journey "Afoot and Afloat" along Lake Superior's rugged and remote Pukaskwa National Park. He will share the logistics of hiking and paddling Ontario's Coastal Trail. Park rangers say Craig and his hiking/paddling partners were the first to hike the trail to their waiting sea kayaks and paddle back to park headquarters at Hattie Cove—all on the same trip! Hear him share the adventure, the logistics, and the allure of exploring Lake Superior's Coastal Trail "Afoot and Afloat."



John Chase

Group Leadership for Amazing Day Trips

Sun 1:30p, Loon

Learn the principles that experienced leaders follow to safely support groups for day trips on the water. John will focus on pre-trip planning, group and expectation management, risk assessment, and incident management. If you're looking for 45 minutes of war stories about how Cousin Eddie got pinned on that nasty rock, this isn't the place. Just practical stuff you can use to lead your first, fifth, or 100th trip.



Perfectly Pack your Kayak for a Multi-Day Trip

Sun 12:30p, Atrium

Loading your personal and shared group gear in your boat is part art and part science. This hands-on workshop will equip you with tips and tricks to pack your kit for a dry, safe and enjoyable multi-day journey without having to cut the handle off your toothbrush.

Power to the Paddle: Exercises to Improve Your Paddling

Sat 11:30a, Atrium
Sun 11:30a, Atrium

Join this fun, hands-on session where you'll learn and practice functional exercises to help you paddle longer, faster, and stronger. Learn simple exercises requiring little or no equipment that target crucial muscles to be a better paddler, build endurance, and prevent injury. You'll improve your outdoor experience and become the best paddler you can be.

Dale Cox

Paddle the National Parks of the Midwest

Sat 10:30a, Quetico

America's Heartland has many protected areas to paddle, camp, fish, and sight-see. A number of these special places are managed and protected by the National Park Service. From Isle Royale National Park to the Buffalo National River, and Voyageurs National Park to Cuyahoga National Park, canoeers and kayakers can choose between short floats on slow-moving rivers to week-long paddle adventures in remote areas of the Great Lakes area. This fast-paced program will share short introductions to many of these National Park waters awaiting you this summer!



The St. Croix and Namekagon Rivers

Fri 5:30p, Quetico
Sat 12:30p, Quetico

Even before they were protected as part of a unique National Park in 1968, the St. Croix and Namekagon Rivers were well-known paddling and fishing rivers. Over 50 years later, these waters continue to create memories. Whether you are a beginning kayaker looking for an easy day paddle or an experienced canoeist searching for a week long adventure, this program will introduce you to over 200 miles of protected waters. The St. Croix National Scenic Riverway awaits your discovery!

Sam Crowley

Scotland's Isle of Mists

Fri 5:30p, Bear
Sun 10:30a, Bear

Vikings, Celtic Monks, and Bonnie Princes have all found their way to the remote Isle of Skye. A world-class paddling destination, it offers strong tidal currents, variable weather, and an impressive shoreline. In 2019 Sam paddled around the isle, discovering its volcanic origins, rich sea life, and stunning views. He made trips to the nearby Small Isles, the Isle of Lewis & Harris, and the sea bird colonies at the Shiant Isles and faced the challenge of murky weather and the infamous midges.



Sea Kayak Expeditioning

Fri 4:30p, Sylvania
Sat 4:30p, Voyageur

What does it take to do a sea kayak expedition? How can one prepare to be self-supported for weeks in wild & unfamiliar places? Forward thinking, detailed preparation, and a flexible plan are essential for facing the inevitable challenges that come with undertaking an expedition. Learn how to build on the skills many paddlers already have from weekend and week-long trips, and turn those expedition dreams into reality. Come see how one experienced expedition paddler does it!

Katina Daanen

**Wisconsin River
Centennial Canoe Trail***Fri 4:30p, Voyageur
Sat 9:30a, Bear*

The 430-mile Wisconsin River is the largest river in Wisconsin that can be paddled in its entirety from its headwaters originating out of Lac Vieux Desert in the north to its mouth near Prairie du Chien, where it empties into the Mississippi River. From undeveloped reservoir shorelines through urban centers, the Wisconsin River offers an immersive paddling journey right in our own backyard. Learn about the trail's planning resources and experience the kindness of strangers when sandbar camping all but disappeared during the very wet summer of 2019.



Gary & Linda De Kock

**Five Rivers Voyage:
Rediscovering the
Midwest by Canoe***Fri 6:30p, Bear
Sun 2:30p, Sylvania*

Canoe five iconic Midwest rivers with Gary & Linda. Share their 51 days of highs and lows as they

made their way through the headwaters and portaged the 26 dams of the Wisconsin River. They negotiated 17 locks on the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers, paddled upstream on the Des Plaines River to the historic Chicago Portage, and followed the Chicago River through downtown Chicago to Navy Pier. As always, living on the river and camping on its banks introduced them to new friends as well as local law enforcement. You never know what is around the next bend!



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PRESENTATIONS

Lynn Dominguez & Paul Klonowski

The Magic of Freestyle Canoeing: How to Get Started

Sat 2:30p, Killarney

Have you seen the videos of paddlers with pinpoint control of their canoes? Do you want to find out how you can regain control of your solo or tandem canoe? Join Lynn and Paul to begin your journey of discovery for both functional and interpretive freestyle canoeing! The presentation will reveal the secrets behind freestyle canoe maneuvers. Emphasis will be placed on the functional aspects of using the maneuvers to journey over lakes and rivers. Of course, some of the magic of paddling your canoe to music will be shown!



Dubside

35 Different Kayak Rolls

Sat 12p, Pool

Watch Dubside, a veteran of the Greenland National Championship, go through the competition list of 35 rolling techniques, some of which may be extra challenging in a small pool. He will also throw in a selection of favorite tricks and stunts from doing rolling demonstrations worldwide for over 15 years. Added bonus: he'll pronounce the names of each maneuver in Greenlandic.



Modern Greenland Kayaking

Fri 6:30p, Killarney

Sun 12:30p, Killarney

Everything you always wanted to know about the skinny stick paddle, the people who fanatically espouse its use, and the country where it originated. Drawing on twenty years of experience, Dubside covers paddle strokes, rolling methods, skin-on-frame kayak building, harpoons and hunting tools, the unique Greenland language, Inuit culture, U.S. Greenland-style events, plus the noteworthy people, equipment, locations, and terminology of this centuries-old tradition that shows no sign of disappearing.



CH-CH-CHANGES...

This document is sent to the printer almost 7 weeks before the show, so it is inevitable that a few changes to what's printed here will happen. We make every effort to update the schedule at:

www.canoecopia.com

Natalie Dutack & Laura Holder

Pups & Paddlers for Conservation

Sun 1:30p, Killarney

Join experts from River Alliance of Wisconsin and Midwest Conservation Dogs to learn how pups and people are

leading the way on preventing the spread of harmful aquatic invasive species. Meet a real-life conservation canine and learn how these special dogs are trained to help advance conservation efforts with scent detection skills. River Alliance will share how paddlers (and their dogs) can also take simple actions to prevent the spread of invasives.



Andrew & Ethan Elkins

Avoiding Waltzing with Bears

Sat 4:30p, Bear

Andrew and Ethan have 60+ years of combined wilderness camping and guiding experience. In that time they have had

only one animal intrusion. They hope that after a brief session, you can share in their success in keeping unwanted woodland creatures out of your campsite. They'll have bear barrel examples and a few other systems to show as examples too. Their guest, A DNR large Carnivore Specialist, will talk about what you should do if you have a bear encounter.



Erik Elsea

Solo at Sunrise: The Mississippi Expedition

Sat 4:30p, Sylvania

In 2018, Elsea set out to solo canoe the Mississippi River and raise money for disaster relief. He shares his 90-day adventure experiencing nearly 60 communities along America's most iconic river and the hospitality and tales of 2,350 miles of solo paddling. Learn about the gear he used and the network of strangers he relied on to complete a journey that is attempted by less than a few dozen people a year. Take away tips for completing your own successful fundraising expedition and how to prepare for the impact an expedition will have on the rest of your life.



Al & Marsha Fairfield

Wisconsin Rivers Made for Paddle Camping

Fri 7:30p, Superior

Sat 2:30p, Superior

One of the best wilderness experiences in Wisconsin is to paddle and camp on one of our wild rivers. There are several rivers that have relatively easy access with established paddle only access primitive campsites. Rivers including the Manitowish, Flambeau, Namekagon, and St Croix offer a range of flatwater and whitewater any paddler can enjoy. Get the scoop on your next paddling and camping adventure.



Discover Sylvania

Fri 6:30p, Superior

Sun 11:30a, Quetico

Sylvania Wilderness is a mini version of the BWCA or Quetico right in our back yard. Old-growth forest, exquisite scenery, crystal clear lakes, abundant wildlife, and a wilderness experience make this a prime destination for paddlers. A rich history of private ownership, land stewardship, celebrity, and return to public domain makes this one of the most unique places in the area. Let us guide you to this incredible place so that you can experience all that is Sylvania for yourselves.

Vern Fish

Greenmantle River – A Wabakimi Gem

Sat 1:30p, Killarney

This wild little river may lack girth and length but it is long on adventure and isolation. Hidden in the far northwest corner of Wabakimi Provincial Park, the Greenmantle River provides access to a huge swath of protected wilderness. Perceived as too small to navigate, the paddler is challenged by long, twisting technical rapids, log jams, fallen trees, shallow wetlands, and one demanding portage. The reward is an opportunity to explore a remote boreal forest and possibly catch an elusive brook trout.



Vic Foerster

An Isle Royale Sojourn

Fri 7:30p, Caribou

Arborist & author, Vic Foerster, shares his month-long sabbatical spent paddling Isle Royale National Park. From the shores of this pristine wilderness archipelago, Vic recounts his emotional journey of finding true wildness, a wildness he seldom sees as a tree doctor. Isle Royale has remained



mostly undisturbed for over 80 years—a remarkable accomplishment. Experience the difference between tamed and wild, and why that difference moves us so deeply.

Celeste Gabai

Brought to you by NRS

Wellness for Paddlers: Taking care of our Bodies

Sat 9:30a, Atrium

Sun 10:30a, Atrium

Paddling is a low-impact way to combine fitness and the waterways of your life and is a wonderful way to enjoy the outdoors late into our lives. But it is still physical activity and to be efficient a healthy “engine” is key. Taking better care of our bodies, especially as we get along in age, will enable us to paddle longer into life with faster recovery, better performance, and reduced risk of injury. Dr. Celeste Gabai DC, ATC, uses her years of sports medicine to help you improve your paddling. This is an interactive seminar and we invite you to participate, record, photograph, and take notes.



Tim Gallaway

Competing in the Greenland Kayaking Championships

Sat 9:30a, Loon

Modern kayaking has its roots along the remote shores of Greenland where the lightweight skin-on-frame kayak (Qajaq) was used for hunting and travel. In modern times kayaking almost vanished in the Arctic as motorboats took the place of paddle-powered craft. A resurgence in traditional kayaking skills has grown in Greenland, where every summer a competition is held to help keep the ancient paddling skills and culture alive. Join Tim as he recounts his travels in Greenland where he competed in the National Kayaking Championships and gained a new understanding of the roots of kayaking and its place in the a modern world.



Greenland Style Kayak Rolling

Sun 12:30p, Pool

Learn about the history of kayaking with this demonstration of traditional rolling skills from Greenland. See how the use of traditional-style paddles, equipment, and technique can be applied to modern-day paddling.



FEEDBACK, PLEASE!

We'd love to know what you liked and what could be improved for the show overall or a specific presentation.
www.rutabaga.com/ccfeedback

Raine Gardner & Friends of the Baraboo River

Exploring the Baraboo River Water Trail

Sat 1:30p, Sylvaia

The Baraboo River in south-central Wisconsin is the longest restored free-flowing river in America. Since the last dams were removed, the river is becoming a premier water trail and a rousing model for multi-community collaboration. There are currently 10 communities, two counties, and a non-profit organization focusing on the goal of the Baraboo River becoming the first fully ADA-accessible water trail in the country. Join the adventure down this historic 120-mile water trail, complete with tips on where to park and launch, ADA accessible entry points, and river features.



in the afternoon. Just 10 miles east of the Continental Divide, the Arkansas drops 4600 feet in 120 miles through deep canyons and a National Monument! They will be discussing everything from Class II-V stretches of river to glass-smooth alpine lakes. Topics include lodging (from 4-star hotels to free, dispersed camping), equipment, high altitude sickness, and other safety precautions.

Dave & Elizabeth Goodspeed

Planning Wilderness Trips with Youth



Sun 11:30a, Loon

Hear specific and practical suggestions for parents, grandparents, and youth group leaders preparing to take

children on wilderness trips. Planning for entertainment, teachable moments, and enjoyable camping will be covered. They'll emphasize how to set and manage realistic expectations. Additionally, organizing pre-trip decisions regarding safety/emergencies, equipment/gear selections, food/cooking choices, and location/route planning will be addressed. Examples of planning surprises for kids of all ages, setting up structured learning situations, and how to be a good role model will also be articulated.



Mona Gauthier

Food Dehydration 101

Sat 10:30a, Algonquin

Sun 1:30p, Algonquin

The excitement of planning and preparing for a wilderness adventure can be enhanced by including your own dehydrated meals. Thirty-five years of BWCA food prep secrets will be shared along with basics on dehydrating food, complete meals, and types of dehydrators.



A Well-Perfected Camping Menu

Sat 11:30a, Algonquin

"Mr. Food" is a Frost River Camp Cook's Kitchen Pack made of 18 oz. waxed canvas that dutifully carries all food and food prep items on BWCA trips. Thirty-five years of tips and tricks will be unpacked as Mona shares the secrets and stories of a well-perfected wilderness camping menu. If you are looking to pack food that is delicious, lightweight, nutritious, affordable, and easy to prepare, attend this session. (Former title: Unpacking of Mr. Food)

Mark & Erin Godonis

Headwaters of the Arkansas River in Central Colorado

Sat 4:30p, Loon

Mark and Erin will outline information for your visit to the whitewater mecca that is the Arkansas River headwaters! This unique valley allows you to ski knee-deep powder in the morning and navigate whitewater play holes



Peter Grubb

Magical Paddling on Both Sides of Baja

Sat 12:30p, Caribou

Long and narrow, the Baja Peninsula is a kayaker's paradise with both Pacific Coast and Gulf of California paddling opportunities and incredible whale watching. This desert wilderness features sunny weather, towering mountains, and transparent waters on the east and mangroves and sand dunes on the west. Peter will talk about the whales, sea lions, fish, and cactus of Baja while showing images of subtle desert colors, turquoise water, magical land forms, and blue whales.



Yes! You Can Kayak in Cuba

Sat 10:30a, Voyageur

For decades Cuba's government viewed kayaks as a potential escape vehicle. In spite of today's rocky US-Cuba relations, Americans can still kayak in Cuba and paddle in the best-preserved marine ecosystems of the Caribbean. Music, a fabled history, clear-blue water, and a step back in time make Cuba one of the world's most enigmatic and fun paddling destinations. Friendly locals, healthy reef systems, and warm water make it a kayakers' delight. Peter has spent well over a year in Cuba and his stories will inspire you to experience what is sure to become one of the world's classic sea kayaking destinations.

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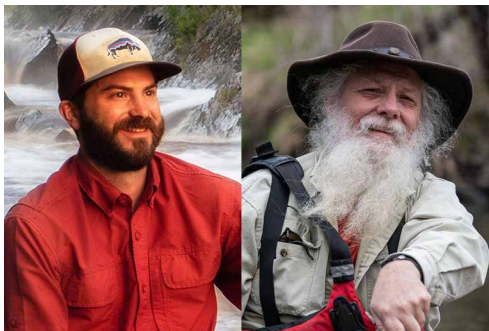
Jay Gustafson & Dan Cooke

*Brought to you by
Northstar Canoes*

Adventure on the San Juan River

*Fri 4:30p, BWCA
Sun 2:30p, BWCA*

Join Jay & Dan for an 8-day photo journey down the San Juan River in southwestern



Utah. Beginning at Montezuma Creek and traveling through a beautiful desert landscape, Dan Cooke and Waterway Jay will bring you to Puebloan ruins and petroglyph panels, through canyons and whitewater and into camp for bonfires and music. Experience the excitement through photography and storytelling and find out why the San Juan River should be your next adventure.

Mike Hammond

Florida's Great Calusa Blueway: 190 Miles of Paddling Paradise

*Fri 4:30p, Killarney
Sun 11:30a, Caribou*

Inspired by the indigenous Calusa, the Great Calusa Blueway is a 190-mile paddling trail located in Southwest Florida. Paddlers enjoy exploring backbay estuaries of the Beaches of Fort Myers & Sanibel, dotted with subtropical islands, mangrove tunnels and jungle-like creeks. Excellent wildlife viewing and fishing, as well as historic points of interest abound along the trail. Mike is Lee County's Blueway Coordinator, and will share why the Calusa Blueway is perfect for recreational day-trippers as well as serious thru-paddlers.



Bryan Hansel

Canoe & Kayak Photography Tips

*Sat 1:30p, Algonquin
Sun 11:30a, Algonquin*

Whether on a long-distance paddling expedition or a short trip to a nearby area such as the BWCAW, chances are that you're going to witness beautiful sunsets and immense landscapes that you'll want to share. Sharing stunning photos can help instill a sense of wonder and awe for the beauty of wilderness and help convey the joys and trials of the trip to your friends and family. Unfortunately, practicing photography while on the water can be hard; water and electronics don't mix. Learn how to safely pack and use your cameras and get tips for shooting effective and beautiful photos.



The Dark Skies of the Boundary Waters Region

Sat 4:30p, BWCA

The Boundary Waters region boasts some of the darkest night skies in the world. On the Bortle scale, a scale that rates the darkness of the night skies with 1 being the darkest and 9 the brightest, the BWCAW is mainly a 2, but it even contains a 1. It is dark. During the presentation, you'll see night images from the region, including Milky Way shots, star trails, and northern light images. You'll hear about the night sky and learn how to make night images of your own canoe or kayak trip.

Christina Hausman Rhode & Linda Pascoe

Explore Minnesota's Voyageurs National Park

Sun 10:30a, Algonquin

At 218,000 acres, Voyageurs National Park has places for everyone to explore. Voyageurs is known for its amazing

water-based recreation and camping experiences, pristine lakes and world-class fishing, boreal forests, calling loons, winter ice roads, and starry skies. Come hear Linda and Christina (exec. director of Voyageurs National Park Association) share ways you can make the most out of a paddling trip to Minnesota's largest national park. VPNA is the nonprofit partner of Minnesota's National Park.



Wayne Horodowich

How to Choose the Kayak that Works Best for You

*Fri 4:30p, Caribou
Sat 9:30a, Caribou*

Trying to choose a kayak can be overwhelming with the seemingly endless variety of boats available in the marketplace. Your goal is to find the boat that fits your needs and your budget. If you want a step-by-step approach to finding the kayak that works best for you, then join Wayne for a dynamic and detailed discussion. He will draw upon his 32 years of teaching kayaking and fitting paddlers into kayaks so they can have an enjoyable experience.



The Art of Staying Upright in Your Kayak

Sat 3:30p, Caribou

Staying upright is far better than risking exposure and expending energy getting upright. Having a roll and/or knowing recovery techniques are important. However, if you have good paddle support skills you minimize your chance of capsizing. When the wind picks up and the water gets rough your need for support increases. This

discussion focuses on reliable stroke techniques to give you support when paddling in rough water and skills for maneuvering against the wind.

Using Your Boat, Body, and Blade for Efficient Paddling

Fri 5:30p, Caribou

Sun 10:30a, Caribou

Paddling a kayak is more than just taking strokes with your paddle. Kayaking is a true marriage of your boat, body, and blade. All three must be working together during all aspects of kayaking to get the most out of your equipment. We will discuss body position and movements, boat positions and movements, and closely view how to properly use and manipulate your paddle to get the results you want when kayaking.

Cliff Jacobson

Bug-Proofing Your Camp



Fri 6:30p, Quetico

Sun 1:30p, Quetico

If you want to get eaten alive by bugs, go to the Canadian Arctic in June. The black flies and mosquitoes which live there weigh more than ten times as much as all the plants and animals put together! An acre of swarming



bugs could drain all your blood in about three days! We'll check out "your enemies" - and learn how to resist them with repellents, insecticides, head and body nets, specialized clothing, and "attitude." Recommendations for children and pets will be included. There are some tricks Cliff is happy to share. All updated with the latest information!

Cooking Secrets

Sat 2:30p Quetico

Here's a wealth of food ideas that will make your canoeing and camping trips more fun. Emphasis is on delicious, fast-to-fix entrees that take less than 20 minutes to make. Discover pita pizza, garlic-cheese pita, and tortilla melts, caramel roll burritos. Plus, cooking tricks for blustery weather, and large groups. Example: How to make oatmeal for eight on a one-burner trail stove without burning the porridge. And, keep hot food hot long enough for seconds and thirds!

Storm-Proofing Your Camp



Sat 9:30a, Superior

Sun 2:30p, Quetico

If rain has ever penetrated your tent, or your tent or tarp has blown down in a storm, this fast-paced session is for you! You'll learn how to choose a good tent and storm-proof a bad one, rig a rain-tarp that won't blow down in high winds, pitch twin tarps that won't smoke you out when you build a fire out front pack your gear so it won't get wet in rain

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or a capsized, build a one-match fire in places like the BWCA where all the “good wood” has been picked over, and more!

Real World Safety: A Panel Discussion (see page 47)

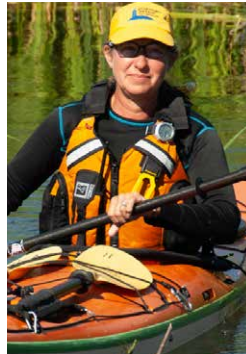
Sun 10:30a, BWCA

Andrea Knepper

Paddling from Canada to Mexico

Sat 2:30p, Bear

Over the summer of 2019, Andrea paddled the West Coast of this country from Canada to Mexico. Hear stories from the trip, how she made decisions, how she trained, what surprised her, and how the trip changed her. Join a conversation about the dreams we have and how to turn the ones we’ve decided to pursue into reality. Leave with a practical resource guide for planning your own adventure. A mix of pragmatism, reflection, and photos—this isn’t a presentation to miss.



Let’s Talk About Race (with CAT Youth)

Sat 11:30a, Loon

At Chicago Adventure Therapy, working with young paddlers in Chicago has forced us to have uncomfortable and illuminating discussions about race in paddlesports. We’ve also had to talk about gender, nationality, sexual orientation, class, and the variety of “-isms” associated with each. It’s been challenging—and we also have one of the most diverse paddling communities we’ve seen. We’ll share some of our experiences creating this community, along with some of the challenges we’ve had. We’ll leave plenty of time for questions and discussion.

Trouble Shooting Rescue Struggles (with CAT Youth)

Sun 12p, Pool

Do you struggle to re-enter a sea kayak? If so, this pool presentation is for you! This won’t be a demonstration of a picture perfect T-rescue or the latest self-rescue technique. The demo will walk you through some guidelines to help you problem-solve when your rescue just isn’t quite working. Built from real-life experience and frustration, see solutions to help you figure out how to get yourself or your paddling partner back in the boat so you can safely explore more places.



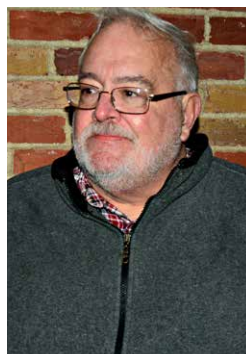
Marty Koch

Basic River Safety for the Casual Paddler

Fri 5:30p, Algonquin

Sun 2:30p, Bear

While paddle sports are a relatively safe activity, we all need to be aware of the hazards and danger inherent on river travel. Learn about sweepers and strainers, river classifications, weather-related hazards, and much more in this program aimed at the casual and novice paddler.



Mission Impossible: 30 Years A Ranger

Sat 12:30p, Algonquin

Your mission, should you accept it, is to determine fact from fiction at this hilarious recollection of outdoor misadventures as remembered by a veteran park ranger: paddling mishaps, colorful characters, frightening close calls, and much more. It is your task to determine which is real and which are fabrications. Take a break from the serious paddling seminars for 45 minutes of high comedy and belly laughs.

Paddling the Ozarks

Fri 4:30p, Algonquin

Sat 9:30a, Algonquin

The Ozark region of Missouri and Arkansas is a paddling paradise. Over 4000 miles of streams ranging from family-friendly class I to exhilarating, raging rapids rated class IV await your exploration. Learn about the famous rivers like the Current, Jack’s Fork, Buffalo, and the mighty Mulberry, as well as dozens of lesser-known streams. The Ozarks feature towering bluffs, rushing springs, caves, and amazing wildlife. Located 10–15 hours south of Madison these streams allow you to paddle earlier and later in the year.

Doris Kolodji

Power To The Pipsqueaks: Anyone can Pack, Paddle, & Portage

Sat 4:30p, Atrium

Back by popular demand. If you’ve always wanted to pick up a canoe and portage like the “big boys,” then this energetic, hands-on workshop is for you. Don’t let the idea of picking up and carrying your own canoe be a barrier! For decades Northern Lakes Girl Scout Canoe Base has been training women and girls to travel through the BWCAW and Quetico Park. They specialize in teaching novices to feel like pros regardless of size or experience. Learn tips and tricks for women and youth in the wilderness, and practice specific techniques to flip up and portage canoes.



Pete Kuhn

The Perfect Fit: Outfitting Your Kayak

Fri 7:30p, Atrium

This talk/demonstration will cover how to make adjustments to the inside of a kayak cockpit. These will cover seat and foot peg adjustments/modifications, followed by customizing thigh braces with foam, using a cut away kayak to show possible placement of modifications. Materials and shaping techniques will also be discussed.

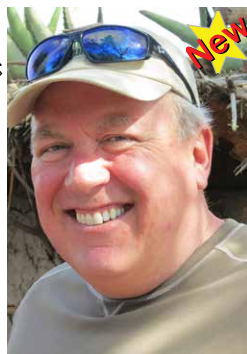


Greg Lais

Engaging Youth in Outdoors through Urban Waterways

Sat 2:30p, Loon

Traditional attempts to connect youth to the outdoors are less effective today, especially for paddlesports. Camps are going under, scout paddle activities are disappearing, and paddle clinics have low numbers of registrants. There is a growing need to bring paddlesports close to home. These new efforts include a collective impact model that get youth in boats from non-traditional partners. Hear how to collaborate and engage the under-served and to provide opportunities for all.



Mary Langlie

Prehab not Rehab: Get Ready for Summer

Sun 1:30p, Atrium

We all dream about warm, sunny days and smooth paddling on our favorite lakes and rivers. Unfortunately, inactivity during the cold winter months can lead to pain and injury when we finally get back on the water. Start now to get yourself ready for time on the water! This participatory session will help you discover ways to get your paddling muscles ready without having to spend hours or buy an expensive membership to a gym! For all ages and skill levels.



Erica LeMoine

Loons: A Symbol of Northern Waters

Fri 6:30p, Voyager

Sat 4:30p, Killarney

Many visitors and residents associate a great Northwoods experience with the haunting call of the common loon. The loon is a sentinel species - a living symbol of clean water, good fisheries, and an indicator of healthy aquatic ecosystems. Since 1978, LoonWatch has been protecting common loons and their aquatic habitats through education, monitoring, and research. Learn about the common loon - their calls, ecology, behavior, habitat, threats, what you can do to protect loons, the impacts of climate change and other fascinating loon facts.



Levi Lexvold

Understanding Current Threats to the BWCA

Sun 12:30p, Loon

The Campaign to Save the Boundary Waters inspires Americans to defend the most unique canoe-area wilderness in the country. In an



effort to raise awareness and inspire people to stand up and protect the wilderness currently under threat, they've created a new, mini-documentary. Understand the threat of sulfide-ore copper mining on the edge of the Boundary Waters. Hear from BWCAW users and business owners speaking on behalf of the Wilderness and how a toxic copper mine would not only affect paddlers but all Americans.

Bob Lindmeier

Our Changing Climate: Its Effects on Outdoor Sports and What You Can Do About It!

Sat 2:30p, Sylvania

Sun 2:30p, Killarney

Climate change is a local issue which directly impacts those of us who love to get outside and paddle, hike, fish, hunt, and more. Join meteorologist Bob Lindmeier for an in-depth look at how the climate has changed in the upper Midwest and what this means for your outdoor pursuits. Bob will present the latest science in this thought-provoking discussion. Most importantly, he will discuss actions you can take to mitigate climate change and help maintain the Midwestern outdoors we know and love.



Mark Little

Wisconsin DNR Boating Incidents & Paddle Craft Safety

Fri 7:30p, Loon

Mark is a Recreation Warden for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources who specializes in paddlesport instruction. His presentation will discuss the frequency of paddle craft incidents in Wisconsin and the proper safety equipment necessary for paddling. Be prepared to expand your gear list for all outings and learn more in particular about safety and functionality features offered in the kayaks of today.



Ellen Jo & Don Ljung

See the World from the Seat of a Kayak

Sat 10:30a, Sylvania

After decades of canoeing and white-water rafting, Don and Ellen bought their first kayaks in 1995. When their local river grew too familiar, they started traveling to paddle, first regionally and then internationally, reaching five different continents. From Seattle to the Amazon, from the Sea Caves of Wisconsin to Halong Bay in Vietnam, each adventure has enriched their lives. Come hear their 'Top Ten Reasons to Travel to Paddle' and share your own.



Matthew Magolan

Wisconsin Backyard Paddling Gems

Fri 4:30p, Bear

Sat 4:30p, Algonquin

Take a multimedia tour of Wisconsin backyard paddling gems. Explore Buckhorn State Park, Newport Wilderness State Park, Bittersweet Lakes State Natural Area, Turtle-Flambeau Flowage, and Willow Flowage. Wisconsin offers amazing areas that provide wonderful paddle camping opportunities. Canoe and kayak campers alike will enjoy this presentation & paddlers of every skill level will find a perfect place to explore. Come share Matt's adventures re-discovering Wisconsin as he introduced his young twins to paddle touring.



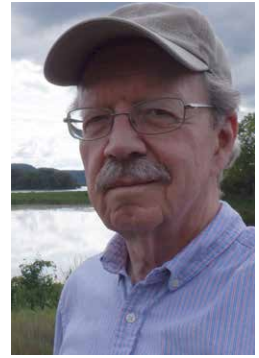
Reggie McLeod

Paddling the Upper Mississippi River

Sat 12:30p, BWCA

Sun 11:30a, BWCA

Reggie will share the joys of paddling the most interesting stretch of the biggest river in America, whether you're interested in paddling a short loop or camping out on an island. He'll also explore the recent boom in paddling the entire river, from Lake Itasca to the Gulf of Mexico. He'll explain how to join group paddles, navigating locks, river wildlife, and how to get quality maps and other useful resources for a river adventure. After the presentation he'll distribute detailed river maps, Big River Magazines, and other useful materials.



Maura & Bobby Marko

Adventuring with Kids

Sat 10:30a, Loon

Sun 2:30p, Voyageur

You're taking your kids where? You're doing what?!? If you are, or aspire to be, parents who want to live a family life full of adventure and are looking for some inspiration, come join Maura and Bobby for a discussion on the benefits of bringing kids along on adventures. The Marko children (ages 3 and 5) have traveled to dozens of states and internationally. Along the way, they are always finding adventure and excitement as a family. The Markos will give insight into how to plan, prepare for, and survive adventure trips with young children along.



Sherri Mertz

Dressing for Paddling

Sat 9:30a, Killarney

Sun 10:30a, Killarney

One of the most common questions asked by new paddlers is "What should I wear?" The short answer is that you should always dress for immersion, but what does that really mean? Long-time paddler and instructor Sherri will give you some guidelines and suggestions for how to dress in a variety of conditions.



Kayaking With Your Core

Fri 6:30p, Atrium

Most people think kayaking requires a lot of upper body strength. If that's what you think, you're probably doing it wrong and working harder than you have to. Learn how to harness the power of your core in order to paddle more efficiently and effectively.

Paddling Safety for Recreational Kayakers

(with John Browning, Dick Silberman, & Jeff Adler)

Fri 4:30p, Loon

Sat 3:30p, Sylvania

Everyone wants to return safely from every kayak trip, but sometimes what we don't know can put us at serious risk. A panel of experienced kayak instructors with over 75 years of combined paddling experience will discuss safe paddling practices for recreational kayaking. All paddlers, but especially novice kayakers, are invited to come with any and all questions.



Rec Kayak Rescue Reality

(with John Browning, Dick Silberman, & Jeff Adler)

Sat 2:00p, Pool

Your very stable recreational kayak has just capsized unexpectedly. What do you do now? See a demonstration of what happens when recreational kayaks capsize and what your realistic options are when it



Traci Lynn Martin

3,592 miles around the Great Lakes

Sun 12:30p, Caribou

Join Traci (who suffers from Rheumatoid Arthritis) as she recaps her 2017 paddling record when she became the first person in history to circumnavigate the 3 largest Great Lakes in less than one calendar year—and in the process inspire all individuals who struggle from chronic health challenges to never give up on their own personal dreams. During this exhausting 10-month expedition (March–December), discover the challenges she faced and the amazing sights she encountered paddling solo on these spectacular inland seas.

happens. Smart paddlers know that we are all just “between swims”. This is a great opportunity to be able to plan ahead to make sure all your kayak trips this summer are safe ones.

Danny Mongno

Brought to you by NRS

Essential Paddling Skills for the Kayak Angler

Sat 1:30p, Pool

Sun 1:30p, Pool

To truly enjoy the sport of kayak fishing, the angler must embrace the paddling side of it. With proper skills you can spend more time out on the water by using significantly less energy. You can also move more effectively and quietly, positioning your boat for the perfect cast. How do you avoid a flip and what to do when one occurs? Join Danny as he demonstrates how to perform at your best when fishing from your kayak.



Selecting the Perfect Kayak Paddle

Fri 5:30p, Atrium

Sat 10:30a, Atrium

We all share common goals when kayaking: to use less energy, be more comfortable, and have more fun. The first step to get there is to make sure you have a properly-fitted paddle. In this interactive class, Danny

will help you discover the best paddle design for your paddling style and then custom fit the perfect paddle for not only you and your kayak, but for your budget as well.

The Forward Stroke: Sit Down or Stand Up, Let's be Efficient

Fri 4:30p, Atrium

Sun 2:30p, Atrium

The forward stroke is at the heart of all paddling. So it makes sense that it gets so much attention from students and coaches alike. Join Danny as he breaks things down in a very easy-to-follow, step-by-step process. This is an interactive class, so be ready to participate and have fun. This presentation will address skills for kayakers, stand-up paddlers, and canoeists.

Understanding the Vast Options in Paddle Clothing

Fri 7:30p, Sylvania

Cold feet...cold hands...just plain cold? Sweaty...sun burnt? Neoprene vs. dry suit? Is it really a ladies' fit or is it just purple? This splash jacket looks a lot like my rain jacket? In this open discussion, Danny will address everything above and then some, and answer all your questions, even the weird ones. In the end you'll walk away with a better understanding of what to wear paddling for any season.

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Dan Morrison

A Kayaker's Guide to the Geology of the Apostle Island's National Lakeshore

Sat 9:30a, *Voyageur*

The Apostle Islands offer some outstanding geological features, most of which are accessible by kayak. Find out where to stand in a 1.1 billion-year-old stream bed, where to see 3-D exposures of stream channels, locate where ancient sandbars were formed, and where to see the effects of glaciers. Join Dan to learn how caves, beaches and sandspits of the Apostle Islands are formed.



Berlin Nelson Jr

Kayaking Misty Fjords Alaska

Sat 10:30a, *Caribou*

Mist, rain, fjords, bears, and lush forest are terms to describe Misty Fjords National Monument in Southeast Alaska. This wilderness, consisting of salt water, glacial valleys and the temperate Tongass National rainforest, is a sea kayaker's paradise. Berlin will talk about his nine-day trip where three sea kayakers explored roughly 80 miles through Walker Cove, Behm Canal, Rudyerd Bay, and Punchbowl Cove. Hear about the bald eagles, seals, and a pod of orcas that watched over them.



Kathy Nelson

Getting Started: Planning a BWCA Canoe Trip

Sat 11:30a, *Bear*
Sun 12:30p, *BWCA*



Is this the summer you will make the decision to canoe the BWCA? Whether you are a first-timer or seasoned traveler, join Kathy, an experienced BWCA outfitter, as she guides you through the planning process with tips & techniques for a successful canoe trip. Learn key points for reserving a permit, what route to take, when is the "best" time to travel the BWCA, what to include, and what not to pack. And much more!



Scott Oeth

Six Great Paddle and Camping Trips that Are Not the Boundary Waters

Sat 1:30p, *BWCA*
Sun 1:30p, *BWCA*

The Boundary Waters is a legendary destination for wilderness canoe camping, though it isn't always a practical option. Luckily, the Midwest is home to hundreds of rivers, lakes, and wild forest land that offer many other terrific wilderness experiences! Scott Oeth will share details and trip reports from six of his favorite wild paddle and camping adventures in our region. Fast waters and placid lake country, canoe or kayak, northwoods to hardwoods, groups large or small, for an afternoon or a week, come hear Scott describe these awesome paddling trips that will have you planning your next paddle and camp before you leave the room!



Steven Nelson

BWCA Sites You May Have Missed and Should Visit

Sat 3:30p, *Superior*
Sun 1:30p, *Superior*

The Boundary Waters is rich in historical, cultural, and geological sites. Most wilderness travelers paddle right past many of these unique sites without stopping to visit. Join Steve, an experienced BWCA outfitter, as he guides you to sites you should visit on your next BWCA trip. He provides locations, photos, stories that will spark your interest & knowledge of one of the best wilderness areas to visit... the BWCA. New sites added to this popular topic since the last time it was presented.



Justin Olson

Paddling Apostle Islands National Lakeshore

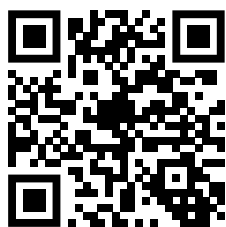
Sat 4:30p, *Superior*
Sun 12:30p, *Superior*

For 50 years, Apostle Islands National Lakeshore has drawn people from all over to experience the beauty and rugged wilderness of these islands and Lake Superior. What does it take to paddle and camp in this special place? Are you prepared to travel the waters of Lake Superior safely? With proper planning and preparation, you can paddle through sea caves, sleep under the stars, and navigate this inland sea. Join Ranger Justin Olson to celebrate 50 years of caring for our place on Gitchigami, and start planning your next trip to Apostle Islands.



FEEDBACK

We'd love to get your feedback on all things Canoeopia: speakers or anything about the show. Use this QR code or go to rutabaga.com/ccfeedback





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SPEAKER SCHEDULE

Changes — if any — (and there will be) will be posted at www.canoecopia.com

		Upstairs - Alliant Center			
		Atrium	Loon	Bear	Caribou
FRIDAY	4:30	D. Mongno The Forward Stroke: Sit down or stand up, let's be Efficient	S. Mertz & team Paddling Safety for Recreational Kayakers	M. Magolan Wisconsin Backcountry Paddling Gems	W. Horodowich How to Choose the Kayak that Works Best for You
	5:30	D. Mongno Selecting the Perfect Kayak Paddle	B. Smith & R. Malchow Chicago River Paddling	S. Crowley Scotland's Isle of Mists	W. Horodowich Using Your Boat, Body and Blade for Efficient Paddling
	6:30	S. Mertz Kayaking With Your Core	G. Anderson The Science of Waves	G. & L. De Kock Rediscovering the Midwest by Canoe	J. Browning What Can Go Wrong?
	7:30	P. Kuhn The Perfect Fit: Outfitting Your Kayak	M. Little Wisconsin DNR Boating Incidents & Paddle Craft Safety	N. Schroeter Wilderness Emergency Room Procedures	V. Foerster An Isle Royale Sojourn
SATURDAY	9:30	C. Gabai Wellness for Paddlers: Taking care of our Bodies	T. Gallaway Competing in the Greenland Kayaking Championships	K. Daanen Wisconsin River Centennial Canoe Trail	W. Horodowich How to Choose the Kayak that Works Best for You
	10:30	D. Mongno Selecting the Perfect Kayak Paddle	M. & B. Marko Adventuring with Kids	J. Van Den Brandt Wondrous Wildlife Photography	B. Nelson Jr Kayaking Misty Fjords Alaska
	11:30	J. Chase Power to the Paddle: Exercises to Improve Your Paddling	A. Knepper Let's Talk About Race	K. Nelson Getting Started: Planning a BWCA Canoe Trip	J. Browning What Can Go Wrong?
	12:30	Drop-In Clinics, 1-4pm J. Bach: Building Laminated Bent Shaft Paddles P. Reid: Care and Maintenance of Inflatable PFDS D. Shapiro: Knot Clinic	F. Wolf Maskwa Nanook Expedition	B. Schultz Door County: Kayak Fishing for Trophy Smallmouth Bass	P. Grubb Magical Paddling on Both Sides of Baja
	1:30		S. & E. Burditt Dad, Daughter & Quetico's Death March Portage	K. Thomas 20 Years of Paddling the Northern Forest Canoe Trail	R. & C. Pettit People, Paddling & Food
	2:30		G. Lais Engaging Youth in Outdoors through Urban Waterways	A. Knepper Paddling from Canada to Mexico	D. Peterson Paddling Missouri National Recreational River
	3:30		L. Reinebach Canoeing The Klondike Gold Rush Route	G. Anderson The Wild Coast: Circumnavigating Vancouver Island	W. Horodowich The Art of Staying Upright in Your Kayak
	4:30	D. Kolodji Power To The Pipsqueaks: Pack, Paddle, & Portage	M. & E. Godonis Headwaters of the Arkansas River in Central Colorado	A. & E. Elkins Avoiding Waltzing with Bears	P. Whitaker Middle Mississippi R.: Native Americans, Early Explorers
SUNDAY	10:30	C. Gabai Wellness for Paddlers: Taking care of our Bodies	N. Schroeter When Your Friend Dies Paddling	S. Crowley Scotland's Isle of Mists	W. Horodowich Using Your Boat, Body and Blade for Efficient Paddling
	11:30	J. Chase Power to the Paddle: Exercises to Improve Your Paddling	D. & E. Goodspeed Planning Wilderness Trips with Youth	R. Williamson Alaska River Fishing	M. Hammond Florida's Great Calusa Blueway: 190 Miles of Paddling Paradise
	12:30	J. Chase Perfectly Pack your Kayak for a Multi-Day Trip	L. Lexvold Understanding Current Threats to the BWCA	C. Ritterbusch The Fever River in Southwest Wisconsin	T. Lynn Martin 3,592 miles around the Great Lakes
	1:30	M. Langlie Prehab not Rehab: Get Ready for Summer	J. Chase Group Leadership for Amazing Day Trips	J. Van Barriger A Photography Primer: Lions, Great Whites & Bears, Oh My!	J. Baird Soloing the Yukon's Hess River
	2:30	D. Mongno The Forward Stroke: Sit down or stand up, let's be Efficient	T. Thomsen Shipwrecks! Paddle Through Door County's History	M. Koch Basic River Safety for the Casual Paddler	B. Schultz Door County: Kayak Fishing for Trophy Smallmouth Bass

Main Floor - Alliant Center					
Sylvania	Algonquin	BWCA	Superior	Quetico	
S. Crowley Sea Kayak Expeditioning	M. Koch Paddling the Ozarks	Gustafson & Cooke Adventure on the San Juan River	J. Bates Keynote Species of Northern Lakes and Rivers	K. Callan Paddle Routes of Ontario's Algonquin Park	4:30
L. Vogel & L. Buechler Adventure Forward: Women in the BWCA	M. Koch Basic River Safety for the Casual Paddler	N. Schroeter Paddling the Apostle Islands	P. Swiggum Quetico Provincial Park: The Ultimate How-to	D. Cox The St. Croix and Namekagon Rivers	5:30
J. Ringdahl Plum Island: Door County Treasure	J. Van Den Brandt Wondrous Wildlife Photography	F. Wolf <i>Lines on a Map</i>	A. & M. Fairfield Discover Sylvania	C. Jacobson Bug-Proofing Your Camp	6:30
D. Mongno Understanding Options in Paddle Clothing	J. Vandiver & Band Songs for the Heart of the Paddler	B. Smith & R. Malchow Top Ten Paddles of WI's Lk. Michigan Water Trail	A. & M. Fairfield Wisconsin Rivers Made for Paddle Camping	J. Robinet An Epic Trip in Ontario's North	7:30
G. Brown The Journey of a Dyslexic Author	M. Koch Paddling the Ozarks	C. Zarley Canoe Country Walleyes: The Fish for All Seasons	C. Jacobson Storm-Proofing Your Camp	K. Callan A Strange, Unusual & Amazing Canoe Trip	9:30
E. Jo & D. Ljung See the World from the Seat of a Kayak	M. Gauthier Food Dehydration 101	P. Swiggum Quetico Provincial Park: The Ultimate How-to	J. Bates Birds of Northern Rivers and Lakes	D. Cox Paddle the National Parks of the Midwest	10:30
R. Rolley & K. Mesmer A Kayak Mothership Adventure in Patagonia	M. Gauthier A Well-Perfected Camping Menu	J. Baird How to Fish on a Canoe Trip	J. Robinet An Epic Trip in Ontario's North	T. Bauer Adrift in the Driftless	11:30
L. Vogel & L. Buechler Adventure Forward: Women in the BWCA	M. Koch Mission Impossible: 30 Years A Ranger	R. McLeod Paddling the Upper Mississippi River	K. Callan Paddle Routes of Ontario's Algonquin Park	D. Cox The St. Croix and Namekagon Rivers	12:30
R. Gardner & Panel Exploring the Baraboo River Water Trail	B. Hansel Canoe & Kayak Photography Tips	S. Oeth Six Great Paddle & Camping Trips	J. Bates Keynote Species of Northern Lakes and Rivers	C. Amidon Paddling Isle Royale National Park	1:30
B. Lindmeier Changing Climate: What You Can Do About It!	B. Brahier Sea Kayaking Voyageurs National Park	F. Wolf <i>Lines on a Map</i>	A. & M. Fairfield Wisconsin Rivers Made for Paddle Camping	C. Jacobson Cooking Secrets	2:30
S. Mertz & team Paddling Safety for Recreational Kayakers	J. Vandiver & Band Songs for the Heart of the Paddler	B. Smith & R. Malchow Top Ten Paddles of WI's Lk. Michigan Water Trail	S. Nelson BWCA Sites You May Have Missed and Should Visit	J. Baird Wilderness Skills	3:30
E. Elsea Solo at Sunrise: The Mississippi Expedition	M. Magolan Wisconsin Backcountry Paddling Gems	B. Hansel The Dark Skies of the Boundary Waters Region	J. Olson Paddling Apostle Islands National Lakeshore	Aluminum Chef Competition (ends at 5:30)	4:30
F. Wolf Across the Barrens	Hausman Rhode & Pascoe Explore MN Voyageurs NP	J. Van Barriger & Panel Real-World Safety: A Panel Discussion	J. Baird How to Fish on a Canoe Trip	T. Bauer Adrift in the Driftless	10:30
K. Thomas 20 Yrs. Paddling the N. Forest Canoe Trail	B. Hansel Canoe & Kayak Photography Tips	R. McLeod Paddling the Upper Mississippi River	J. Baird Wilderness Skills	A. & M. Fairfield Discover Sylvania	11:30
N. Schroeter Wilderness Emergency Room Procedures	C. Zarley Canoe Country Walleyes: The Fish for All Seasons	K. Nelson Getting Started: Planning a BWCA Canoe Trip	J. Olson Paddling Apostle Islands National Lakeshore	J. Robinet An Epic Trip in Ontario's North	12:30
D. Peterson Paddling Missouri Nat. Rec. River	M. Gauthier Food Dehydration 101	S. Oeth Six Great Paddle & Camping Trips	S. Nelson BWCA Sites You May Have Missed and Should Visit	C. Jacobson Bug-Proofing Your Camp	1:30
G. & L. De Kock Rediscovering the Midwest by Canoe	J. Vandiver & Band Songs for the Heart of the Paddler	Gustafson & Cooke Adventure on the San Juan River	C. Amidon Paddling Isle Royale National Park	C. Jacobson Storm-Proofing Your Camp	2:30

SPEAKER SCHEDULE

Clarion Hotel		
FRIDAY	Killarney	Voyageur
	4:30 M. Hammond Florida's Great Calusa Blueway	K. Daanen Wisconsin River Centennial Canoe Trail
	5:30 D. York Introduction to Canoeing and Kayaking	T. Thomsen Shipwrecks! Paddle Through Door County's History
	6:30 Dubside Modern Greenland Kayaking	E. LeMoine Loons: A Symbol of Northern Waters
SATURDAY	7:30 L. Sobota Overcoming Fear One Stroke at a Time	B. Paulsen New Year's Trip to the BWCA
	9:30 S. Mertz Dressing for Paddling	D. Morrison Geology of the Apostle Island's National Lakeshore
	10:30 'Camper Christina' Scheuermann The Canadian Backcountry	P. Grubb Yes! You Can Kayak in Cuba
	11:30 R. Silberman Kayaking into the Golden Years...When is too Old?	P. Beck All Things Kayak Camping
	12:30 K. Wikle Paddle Surfing the Great Lakes	F. Sanna Wilderness Medicine for Paddlers
	1:30 V. Fish Greenmantle River - A Wabakimi Gem	M. Blaisdell Solo Tripping, One Step at a Time
	2:30 Dominguez & Klonowski Freestyle Canoeing: How to Get Started	J. Van Barriger Sweet and Spicy Texas Paddling
SUNDAY	3:30 C. Charles Ontario's Pukaskwa National Park	J. Barbour Man and Dog: 83 Days Canoeing the Labrador Wilderness
	4:30 E. LeMoine Loons: A Symbol of Northern Waters	S. Crowley Sea Kayak Expeditioning
	10:30 S. Mertz Dressing for Paddling	J. Barbour Man and Dog: 83 Days Canoeing the Labrador Wilderness
	11:30 P. Whitaker Middle MS River: Native Americans, Early Explorers	K. Bracewell 2019 Special Report on Paddle-sports & Safety
	12:30 Dubside Modern Greenland Kayaking	R. Pihlaja Circumnavigating Ontario's Phillip Edward Island
	1:30 N. Dutack & L. Holder Pups & Paddlers for Conservation	B. Paulsen Manitoba's Historic Hayes
	2:30 B. Lindmeier Changing Climate: What You Can Do About It!	M. & B. Marko Adventuring with Kids

Pool Demos — Clarion Hotel		
SATURDAY		SUNDAY
12:00	Dubside 35 Different Kayak Rolls	A. Knepper Trouble Shooting Rescue Struggles
12:30	D. York & D. Steinle Canoe Control 101: Basic Tandem Strokes	T. Gallaway Greenland Style Kayak Rolling
1:00	S. van Wijk Solo Canoeing	G. Brown Sea Kayak Rescues
1:30	D. Mongno Essential Paddling Skills for the Kayak Angler	D. Mongno Essential Paddling Skills for the Kayak Angler
2:00	S. Mertz & team Rec Kayak Rescue Reality	S. van Wijk Solo Canoeing
2:30	G. Brown Sea Kayak Rescues	D. York & D. Steinle Canoe Control 101: Basic Tandem Strokes

Pool Demonstration Notes

- Pool sessions are 20 minutes long.
- The fire code limits pool demos to 99 people.
- Since they're so popular and space is limited, we clear out the audience before each new demonstration. Line up early for those you want to see.



How can you help more kids get out on the water?

Purchase a one-of-a-kind piece created by Lissa Flemming, owner of Silverwaves Jewelry, with 100% proceeds going to Rutabaga's Josh Kestleman Scholarship Fund.

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Bear Paulsen

Brought to you by Northstar Canoes

Manitoba's Historic Hayes

Sun 1:30p, Voyageur

Bear and his wife, Claire, introduced their nine month old son, Dashwa, to the Canadian wilderness on the Hayes River. They balanced the 21-day, 385-mile trip around nap schedules and diaper changes. They paddled big lakes and ran rapids, and Dashwa learned to stand by grabbing the gunwales. The Hayes served as a liquid highway for the Hudson Bay Company. Their trip ended at York Factory, the base of HBC operations for centuries. Bear will share their adventures, some HBC history, and promises minimal cute baby pictures.



12" x 12" tent heated by a wood stove. Come on a tour of a luxurious trip resplendent with ridiculous traditions. Over the years the tent has hosted two marriage proposals, a three month old baby, an 85 year-old grandmother, and everything in between.

Daniel Peterson

Paddling Missouri National Recreational River

Sat 2:30p, Caribou

Sun 1:30p, Sylva

Paddlers to the Missouri National Recreational River, a unit of the National Park System, can experience a 100-mile section of our country's longest river much as it did 200 years ago. The presentation will include showing the Park's new 18-minute film *River of Change* with stunning views of its scenery, fish and wildlife, ecology, geology, history, and recreational characteristics that made it eligible for designation in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System in 1978. Join Ranger Dan to help prepare your trip to Missouri National Recreational River.



New Year's Trip to the BWCA

Fri 7:30p, Voyageur

What do you do for New Year's Eve? Bear has spent each of the past twenty years camped on different BWCA lakes. What began as a solo trip to escape the Y2K cacophony accidentally became an annual multi-week extravaganza. Family and friends make merry in a



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Ross & Cheryl Pettit

People, Paddling & Food

Sat 1:30p, Caribou

Steak is a reward nobody enjoys when they arrive in camp late and exhausted. Who doesn't like fresh catch? Those who know the sun is low and tomorrow's portages are going to be tough. Months spent perfecting that dehydrated meal are for naught when the friend of the friend on the trip refuses to eat it. Food is fuel, but food is also communal. Get it right, and everybody wants to trip again next year. Get it wrong, and everybody builds up resentments ranging from the petty to the pathological. Ross and Cheryl deep dive into meal planning decisions you need to make thoughtfully in the months leading up to your trip.



Roger Pihlaja

Circumnavigating Ontario's Phillip Edward Island

Sun 12:30p, Voyageur

Killarney Provincial Park in Ontario, Canada is a paddler's paradise! Hear about the loop Roger and his brother-in-law did around Phillip Edward Island in 2018, starting and ending in Killarney Provincial Park. Much of the trip was among the uninhabited red granite and white quartzite islands on this part of Georgian Bay. The grand finale was a hike to the top of "The Crack" in Killarney Provincial Park.



Peter Reid

Brought to you by Mustang Survival

Care and Maintenance of Inflatable PFDs

Sat 1-4p, Atrium

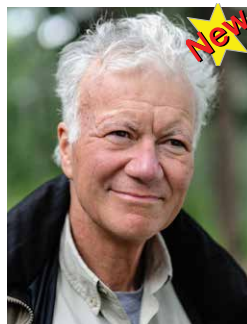
Learn how to properly care for an inflatable personal flotation device. This will be a hands on demonstration of how and when to inspect, re-arm and maintain an inflatable to help ensure proper performance and improve safety on the water.

Larry Reinebach

Canoeing The Klondike Gold Rush Route: A Yukon River Adventure

Sat 3:30p, Loon

The Yukon is one of North America's great wild rivers. The river's notoriety began in 1898 when gold-crazed stampedeers headed down the Yukon to the Klondike gold fields. Today the river is much the same as in gold



rush days, with the same stunning scenery, secluded campsites, and chance wildlife sightings. It is special because of the historical relics that still remain along its shores. This presentation will provide the basic information that a modern-day voyageur would need for a rewarding and unique wilderness experience.

Jonathan Ringdahl

Plum Island: Door County's Newest Treasure

Fri 6:30p, Sylvaia

Plum Island has a rich and heroic history. It was home to the Guardians of Death's Door, as members of the U.S. Life Saving Service stationed there were called. The station they occupied until 1990 is the last Duluth-style post left. Island access was prohibited until 2015. This Lake Michigan gem located right off of the end of the Door County peninsula is now open in the summer for kayakers. Magnificent rocks, range lights, historic buildings, and hiking trails make this special island worth a visit!



Cory Ritterbusch

The Fever River in Southwest Wisconsin

Sun 12:30p, Bear

The Fever River (aka Galena River) in Lafayette County, WI, is a wonderful paddle in the Driftless Area. Through the heart of the old lead mining region, it boasts many attributes. It is notoriously fast under most conditions and its rocky bottom makes it one of the finest smallmouth bass streams in the Midwest. It feels remote as no houses are seen on this paddle. Cool off in remnant railroad tunnels from the 1800's as you make your way towards your take-out. Several public put-ins and take-outs exist for paddlers' convenience. It's certainly a unique day trip for the bucket list.



Joe Robinet

Brought to you by Swift Canoe & Kayak

Stranded In The Wild: An Epic Trip In Ontario's North

Fri 7:30p, Quetico

Sat 11:30a, Superior

Sun 12:30p, Quetico

This seminar will take you on a wild ride through Joe's adventure in Northern Ontario's rugged Woodland Caribou Provincial Park. He will discuss the trials and tribulations of this perilous trip, including the struggles of paddling such a long route, finding enough food to eat in rough country, and using wilderness survival techniques when a wildfire left him stranded



and unable to be rescued. Always educational and full of great stories, Joe will give you lots to ponder when planning your next backcountry adventure.

Robert Rolley & Karen Mesmer

A Kayak Mothership Adventure in Patagonia

Sat 11:30a, *Sylvania*

Come join Robert and Karen on a kayak-mothership adventure to the fjords of Chilean Patagonia. With a mothership, you never have to paddle into the wind and always have a warm, dry boat to come back to. Paddle with seals, dolphins, and a multitude of seabirds along the mountainous coast. Enjoy fresh seafood and fine Chilean wine on the boat, as well as lamb roasted over an open fire while visiting an Estancia. Visit Laguna San Rafael and see icebergs and glaciers up close. An adventure not to be missed!



Fil Sanna

Wilderness Medicine for Paddlers

Sat 12:30p, *Voyageur*



Getting hurt or sick is a quick way to ruin your paddling trip. Join NOLS Wilderness Medicine as we explore the treatment and prevention of injuries and illnesses common to paddlers. In this presentation, you'll be introduced to providing simple first aid and assessing the need for evacuation. We'll discuss management for sun-related injuries, infections, shoulder dislocations, and more. Attendees will come away with new awareness and decision-making tools in order to proceed with confidence during a medical emergency in the outdoors.



'Camper Christina' Scheuermann

Exploring The Canadian Backcountry

Sat 10:30a, *Killarney*

With over 2400 miles of canoe routes, Temagami, Ontario, Canada, is an area Camper Christina has fallen in love with. Temagami holds the world's largest stand of old-growth pine forest, the biggest single exposure of Precambrian rock, countless waterways, and extraordinary places to explore. Christina has been challenged on many solo backcountry adventures in this remote area, and she is truly excited to share this incredible place with you through her eyes. Come discover Temagami with her and get inspired to see it for yourself!



Neal Schroeter

Emergency Room Procedures in the Wilderness

Fri 7:30p, *Bear*

Sun 12:30p, *Sylvania*



What do you do when calling 911 is not an option & someone is ill or hurt? Or, even if you could call 911, help is hours or even days away? What can you do about anaphylactic shock, hemorrhage, broken bones, dislocated shoulders, puncture wounds? This could serve as a great introduction and motivation to take a wilderness medicine course, or serve as a great review if you have taken one.



Paddling the Apostle Islands

Fri 5:30p, *BWCA*

The Apostle Islands are one of the best places in the world to sea kayak! Some of the history and wonderful wilderness landscape will be reviewed. Neal will focus on what the area is like and what it takes to be safe and prepared to paddle in this special National Lakeshore Park.

When Your Friend Dies Paddling

Sun 10:30a, *Loon*



In April 2016, Clint Mabie, a well-known Wisconsin paddle instructor died on the Black River. His best friend shares some perspectives on coping, preparation, risk assessment, and ambition to keep paddling.

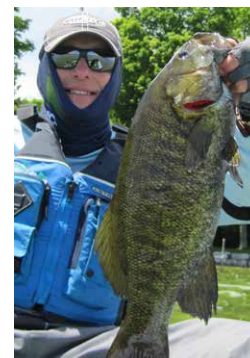
Bill Schultz

Door County: Kayak Fishing for Trophy Smallmouth Bass

Sat 12:30p, *Bear*

Sun 12:30p, *Caribou*

Door County, Wisconsin is rated a top tourist destination in the Midwest for its beauty and quaint hamlets up and down the peninsula on both Green Bay and Lake Michigan. It is also one of the top smallmouth bass destinations in the country. This presentation will look at great spots to kayak fish for smallmouth bass on both sides of the peninsula. It will cover launch sites, lure and tackle recommendations, and other tips to enjoying a kayak fishing vacation in Door County.



Dave Shapiro

Knot Clinic

Sat 1-4p, *Atrium*



The popular knot clinic is back again, this time with more help than ever. Dave Shapiro is joined this year by members of BSA Troop 218. Stop by to learn some new knots, ask a question, or just discuss the nuances of your favorite knot.



Richard Silberman

Sea Kayaking into the Golden Years... When is too Old?

Sat 11:30a, Killarney

As the population ages, we see more senior citizens remaining active and trying new things. Dick, who is a retired cardiologist and sea kayak instructor, combines his knowledge, humor, and his 78 years of life experience to look into the challenges of kayaking as we age. Dick did not set foot in a kayak until his mid-50s and—with some precautions—urges others to do the same.



Babs Smith & Rick Malchow

Chicago River Paddling

Fri 5:30p, Loon

Chicago, Chicago, we'll show you around! The famous skyscrapers, the Riverwalk, a Chinatown park, the bridges, and cool architecture. Our visual paddle tour starts at the Lawrence Fisheries dock on the south branch of the Chicago River, then east on the main branch of the river, and through the lock to enjoy Navy Pier. Chicago, Chicago, have the time of your life—on the water!



Top Ten Paddles of Wisconsin's Lake Michigan Water Trail

Fri 7:30p, BWCA

Sat 3:30p, BWCA

Having paddled from Door County to Illinois, the brother and sister duo, Babs and Rick, will endeavor to choose their top ten Wisconsin Lake Michigan Water Trail paddles, with launch sites and take out spots for each of the top ten. Come and explore the incredible turquoise waters, bluffs, beaches, lighthouses, and skylines of Lake Michigan!

Lenore Sobota

Overcoming Fear One Stroke at a Time

Fri 7:30p, Killarney

Are fears holding you back from being the best paddler you can be? You're not alone — and you don't have to be alone in overcoming those fears. Let's talk about the fears that keep you alive and the ones that hold you back. Learn some strategies, and share any that work for you.



Pete Swiggum

Quetico Provincial Park: The Ultimate How-to

Fri 5:30p, Superior

Sat 10:30a, BWCA

Looking to do a canoe trip in Ontario's Quetico Provincial Park, but don't know how to get started? Pete has been doing canoe trips and enjoying everything Quetico has to offer since the mid-'80s. His session will cover the full gamut of trip planning - from making reservations to sharing information about entry points, route planning and destinations, as well as campsites, wonderful scenery, fishing, and special rules and regulations. His goal is to help you plan your first (or next) trip to Quetico!



Karrie Thomas

20 Years of Paddling the Northern Forest Canoe Trail

Sat 1:30p, Bear

Sun 11:30a, Sylvania

After the completion of the 740-mile Northern Forest Canoe Trail 20 years ago, it remains one of the most inspiring and challenging paddling trails in the US. Tracing historic travel routes from New York to Maine, people have thru-paddled, section-paddled, paddled the route backwards, and everything in between. More than one person has declared, "the Northern Forest Canoe Trail changed my life." Hear tales and see pictures from trips made by people of all ages and abilities and maybe discover your own next adventure.



Tamara Thomsen

Shipwrecks! Paddle Through Door County's History

Fri 5:30p, Voyager

Sun 2:30p, Loon

Discover history hidden beneath the waves with Wisconsin Historical Society's maritime archaeologist, Tamara Thomsen. Explore easily accessible shallow water shipwrecks along Door County's scenic shoreline through underwater video, historic photographs and archaeological discoveries. Hear stories of their tragic losses and learn how to visit, protect, and preserve these time capsules of our maritime past.



John Van Barriger

A Photography Primer: Lions, Great Whites, & Bears, Oh My!

Sun 1:30p, Bear

Get ready for stunning visuals and humorous stories as John presents his top 10 tips for taking better outdoor and wildlife photographs. John will share photos and (tall) tales from a lifetime of adventuring outdoors. He'll also discuss technology, the importance of shooting ethically in the natural world, and the critically important topic of how to avoid being eaten by your photographic subjects!



Real-World Safety: A Panel Discussion

(With Kevin Callan, Nick Gordon, & Cliff Jacobson)

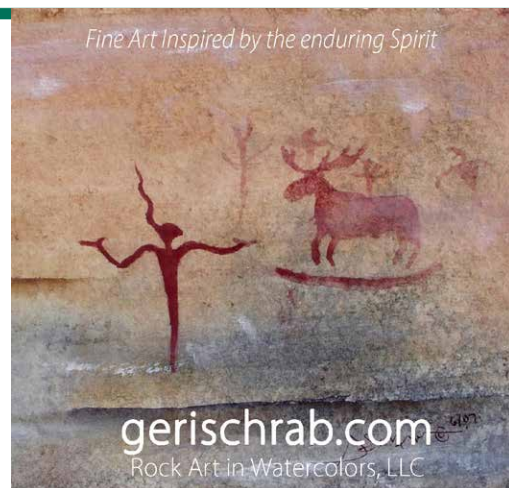
Sun 10:30a, BWCA

There's plenty of information on social media about paddling and camping. Unfortunately, a lot of it is wrong—and potentially dangerous. That's why this panel, focusing on real-world safety, is so valuable. Longtime paddlers, outdoorsmen, and panelists Cliff Jacobson, Kevin Callan, Nick Gordon, and moderator/panelist John Van Barriger will cover issues that matter to newbies and veterans alike. In addition to topics of their own suggestion, the group will field questions submitted by email to "info@theoutdoorkind.org" and from the Canoeconopia audience. Learn "just the facts" from those who know!

Sweet and Spicy Texas Paddling

Sat 2:30p, Voyageur

The Lone Star State may be better known for its chili than waterways, but writer-



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Rutabaga Paddlesports presents — 2020 Canoeconopia Show Guide

PRESENTATIONS

photographer John Van Barriger found the perfect ingredients for a spring paddling excursion. In this presentation, he'll serve up photos and Texas-sized stories of urban paddling, ranch-country floatin', and video of a spicy whitewater run between the trees of a flooded forest. Add in a dash of Texas hospitality, venomous creepy-crawlies, and the brutal Texas Water Safari, and you have all the fixin's of a tasty presentation! Jalapeños not included.

John Van Den Brandt

Wondrous Wildlife

Fri 6:30p, Algonquin
Sat 10:30a, Bear

John is a professional photographer who travels the globe to capture its most magnificent creatures. Join him as he shares fascinating animal facts and jaw-dropping images of wildlife throughout the world. Experience the beauty and drama of the animal kingdom while learning the facts behind nature's pageantry: the biggest animal migration on earth—some 1.5 million animals strong, the beast with a 25 pound heart, one whose speed puts a racehorse to shame, and much more. Discover the extreme lengths undertaken to achieve these stunning images.



Stefani van Wijk

Solo Canoeing

Sat 1p, Pool
Sun 2p, Pool

A live demonstration of solo canoeing techniques in the pool at the Clarion Hotel. Stefani will demonstrate detailed progressions of the theoretical momentum concept known as 2x4, and give an introduction to rolling.



Jerry Vandiver & One Match Band

Songs for the Heart of the Paddler

Fri 7:30p, Algonquin
Sat 3:30p, Algonquin
Sun 2:30p, Algonquin

Back to Canoeconopia for the 9th year, award-winning singer/songwriter Jerry Vandiver has song credits on over 15 million records and paddling credits on countless rivers, streams, and lakes across North America. Sharing the stage with the One Match Band, Jerry is excited to be debuting a brand new CD entitled "The Middle Of Somewhere" containing all new songs about paddling and the outdoors. Some fun special guests will also be joining the stage. Don't miss this fun and unique Canoeconopia experience!



Lori Vogel & LuAnn Buechler

Adventure Forward: Women in the BWCA

Fri 5:30p, Sylvania
Sat 12:30p, Sylvania

Do you love adventure, paddling, camping and fun with women friends? In this session you will discover wonderful opportunities in the BWCA designed to empower women to explore their strength and joy in the outdoors. Learn about some great routes through the BWCA, as well as tips and tricks that help women succeed on wilderness trips. Get pointers about transporting canoes, portaging gear, staying safe, and choosing quality food. Discover what clothing works best to stay dry, warm, and comfortable.



Perry Whitaker

Middle Mississippi River: Native Americans, Early Explorers & Steamboats

Sat 4:30p, Caribou
Sun 11:30p, Killarney

The 2,300-mile-long Mighty Mississippi has played a crucial role in the growth of the United States. The 200-mile section from the confluence of the Missouri River near St. Louis, MO, to the confluence of the Ohio River at Cairo, IL, is referred to as the "Middle Mississippi," and on that stretch you'll encounter thousands of years of history! You'll pass Civil War sites, countless steamboat wrecks, historic Native American villages, ghost towns, French forts, and encounter an extreme diversity of wildlife. We'll also discuss logistics of paddling on the Mississippi and other large rivers.



Keith Wikle

Paddle Surfing the Great Lakes

Sat 12:30p, Killarney

The Great Lakes offers some of the most dynamic challenging surfing in the world in some of the coldest weather. Our unsalted seas deliver some unparalleled opportunities to carve up some waves. While it is not an endless summer, you will be able to learn where all the great spots are, how it differs from ocean surfing, and what true solitude and beauty our Great Lakes have to offer as a world-class destination. With 20 years of experience chasing storms in the Great Lakes, this presentation is an amazing opportunity to see the Midwest in a whole new way.



Rich Williamson

Alaska River Fishing

Sun 11:30a, Bear

With over 3000 rivers, it's impossible to fish all of Alaska in a lifetime. It becomes important to focus on the few opportunities one has to fish in Alaska. Once you experience fantastic Alaskan fishing, you will return time and again. Rich will discuss which rivers to fish and when to fish them for salmon and trout, since timing is everything. Included are suggestions for appropriate tackle, methods, and tactics, along with tips on travel to and around Alaska.



portages, amazing wildlife sightings, and Inuit culture, this journey through the heart of Nunavut is the perfect yarn for those who have paddled—or ever dreamed of paddling—through the legendary barren grounds of Canada.

Lines on a Map: Unparalleled Adventures in Modern Exploration

Fri 6:30p, BWCA

Sat 2:30p, BWCA

In this fun and engaging talk, Frank shares stories from his new book *Lines on a Map*—a compilation of over 20 years of world-class paddling and other adventure stories. From being the first to canoe across Canada in a single paddling season to rowing the Northwest Passage, the audience will be enthralled and entertained by this one-of-a-kind presentation.

Frank Wolf

Across the Barrens

Sun 10:30a, Sylvania

Frank will be presenting his 2018 “Across the Barrens” expedition—a 1,750 km journey across the Arctic by canoe from Yellowknife to the Arctic Ocean, including the entire Back River. A thrilling combination of whitewater paddling, big lake traverses, grueling



Maskwa Nanook Expedition

Sat 12:30p, Loon

In 2016, Frank completed his 1,800 km Maskwa Nanook expedition, which evenly split time in the boreal forest of Saskatchewan and the tundra of Nunavut. A straight shot north from the town of La Ronge at the southern edge of the Canadian Shield, the trip followed an obscure route through the boreal forest before transitioning to a source-to-sea descent of the Kazan River, eventually finishing in Baker Lake, Nunavut. This engaging presentation will intimately take the audience inside a dynamic adventure odyssey.

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Photo_Aly Nicklas

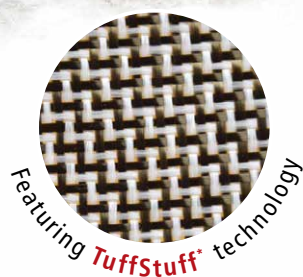
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NOVA CRAFT CANOE™

Reliable, resilient,
built for the backcountry.
That's TuffStuff!



Photo credit: Tom Wolfe



TuffStuff* is an excellent choice for an expedition, stiff for great performance, incredible impact resistance and lightweight, all in one canoe.

*TuffStuff is a cutting edge proprietary composite made of melted Basalt rock and Innegra fibres. When they are woven together into a cloth and infused with our high impact vinylester resin system, the result is simply amazing! See for yourself some of the abuse these canoes can take on our YouTube channel.



novacraft.com 866 88 CANOE



Dan York

Go Paddling! An Introduction to Canoeing and Kayaking

Fri 5:30p, Killarney

The Upper Midwest is a paddling paradise—blessed with a bounty of lakes and rivers.

Getting started paddling canoes or kayaks can be confusing—even intimidating. There are so many choices, how do you choose what's right for you? This session will introduce you to the wide, wonderful world of paddlesports.

York will cover the basics of boat selection, gear, safety, and places to paddle. The goal is to demystify paddling and get you out on the water to pursue your own paddling dreams, however mild or wild.



Canoe Control 101: Basic Tandem Strokes (with Dick Steinkle)

Sat 12:30p, Pool

Sun 2:30p, Pool



Knowing the small set of basic canoeing strokes will greatly increase your control and efficiency whenever you're on the water. Dan and Dick will demonstrate the essential strokes for moving your canoe

where you want it to go—in a straight line, turning, or sideways. If your canoe seems to have a mind of its own, this session is for you!

Craig Zarley

Canoe Country Walleyes: The Fish for All Seasons

Sat 9:30a, BWCA

Sun 12:30p, Algonquin

Long-time Canoeecopia presenter Craig Zarley will show Boundary Waters and Quetico anglers where to find and how to catch walleyes in spring, summer, and fall. He'll show walleye seasonal patterns and why where you fish for them in spring won't be where you find them in summer or fall. He'll draw on more than 50 years of canoe-country walleye-fishing experience and his simple jig and twister tail fishing techniques to help wilderness travelers consistently catch walleyes.



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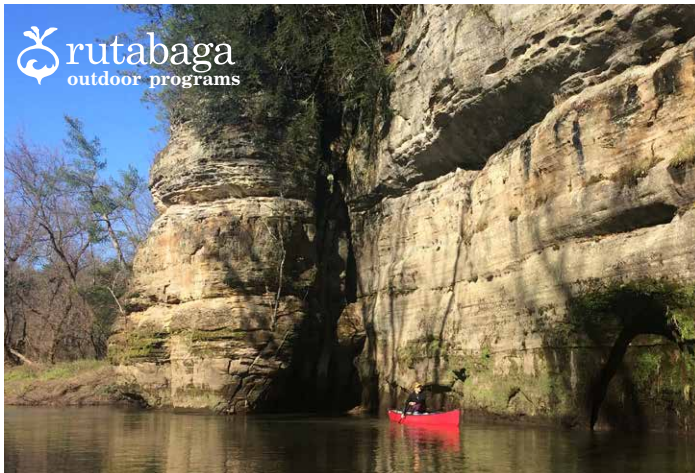
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WHY TAKE A CLASS WITH RUTABAGA?

It's the best decision you'll make this paddling season.



Do you have the skills to get you where you want to go?

Do you want to kayak the Apostle Islands, canoe the Boundary Waters, or stand-up paddle at the family cabin? Rutabaga Outdoor Programs will help you get there. Quality instruction pays dividends for the rest of your paddling life, no matter where you are in your journey. You'll learn techniques to be more in control of your craft. You'll gain confidence and efficiency. You'll be better able to manage risk. You'll learn how to avoid putting undue stress on your body. And, you'll have a good time! Whatever your skill level, whatever your reasons, take a class with Rutabaga Outdoor Programs. Then go out and explore your waterways.



At Rutabaga we want to provide opportunities to new and returning paddlers alike. Some of my most important life changing experiences happened on the water. We look forward to being a part of your paddling journey, because we believe that time on the water enhances one's well-being.

Here's what some of our students had to say...

Best. Instructors. Anywhere.

"The instructor was delightful! Great, patient, and personable, with comprehensive knowledge of kayaking."

"I really enjoyed the instructor's encouragement and demonstrations. She blended us into a team. The focus and sense of fun made for an excellent course!"

Relaxed vibe.

"Fun, non-threatening, non-judgmental learning environment. Thank you!"

"Relaxed atmosphere, simple instructions, lots of time to practice. Great time and I learned a lot!"

Small classes.

"The small class size allowed for lots of individual attention. Very helpful one-on-one feedback when needed."

Risk management.

"Great coverage of safety protocol. The instructor made me feel comfortable and unafraid. A great program!"

Great value.

"Instruction was amazing - worth the trip from Stevens Point and more!"

Classes are FUN!

"Loved the camaraderie, having new experiences, and learning lifelong skills. Fun!"



As a Madison native I couldn't be happier to be getting more young Madisonians out on the water! This will be my second year at Rutabaga and I'm excited to apply what I learned in 2019 to make this summer's classes and camps the best Madison has to offer! We can't wait to get your kids out on the water.

GETTING STARTED

Journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.

“Outstanding! Feel much more comfortable paddling. Clear instruction on all the basics and learning the proper techniques. Loved it!”

Canoeing Classes

Whether you're interested in **solo canoeing** or **tandem canoeing**, we have the class for you! Learn efficient paddling strokes, maneuvers, and safety protocol to better enjoy your time on the water!



Stand-Up Paddling Classes

Learn to SUP! **Stand-up paddling** is fun, a great workout, and easy to do. Learn about board types, basic strokes, proper technique, and board recovery.



“The course was great and the instructor was very patient. I learned a lot. I was very nervous and now I’m excited! Thank you.”



Kayaking Classes

Take a **recreational kayak** class and learn how these stable boats are easy for anyone to enjoy. Or, if you are looking for a bit more technical skill and safety protocol, sign up for a **sea kayak** class. Both are great for beginners or those wanting to improve their skills. Our popular **kayak rolling** classes return as well. Learn to roll a kayak in the warmth of a pool.



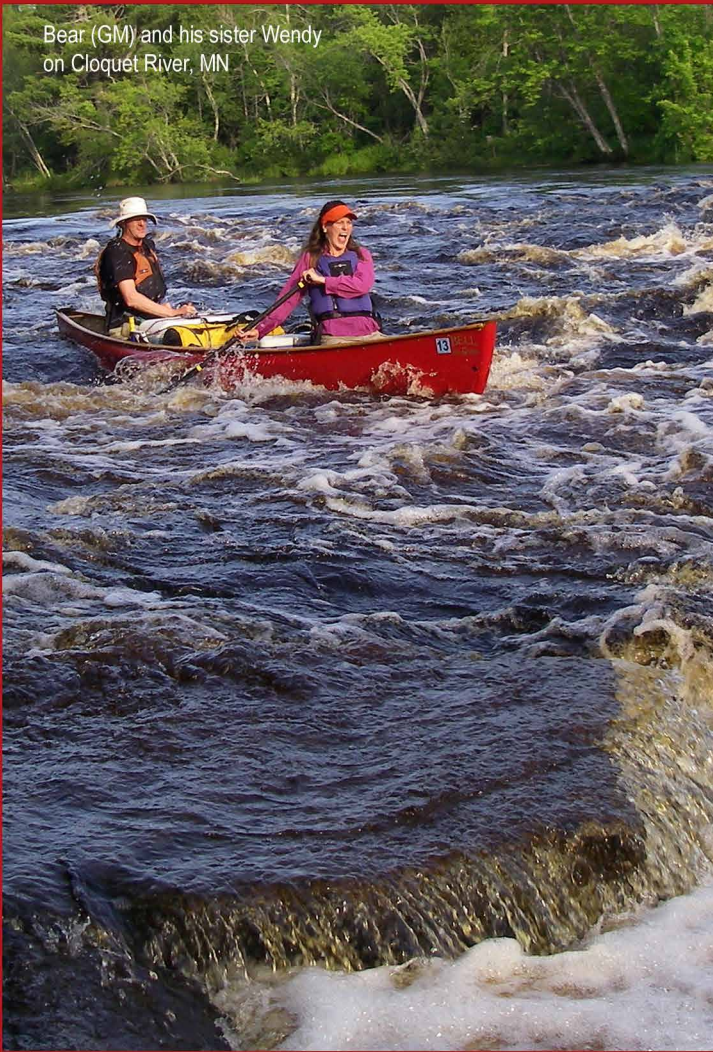
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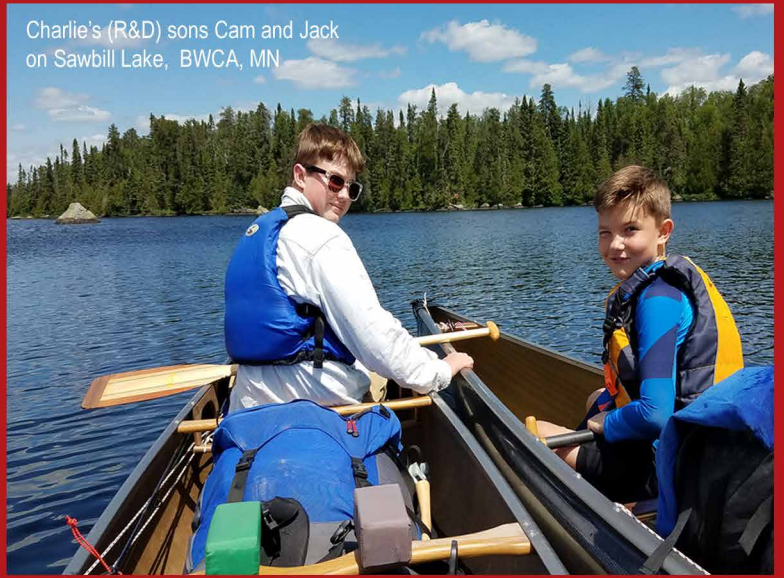
Purchase your class (or two, or even three) at Canoeopia and receive a 15% show discount.

* does not apply to Wilderness First Aid, ACA Instructor Certification courses, or Door County Sea Kayak Symposium

Bear (GM) and his sister Wendy
on Cloquet River, MN



Charlie's (R&D) sons Cam and Jack
on Sawbill Lake, BWCA, MN



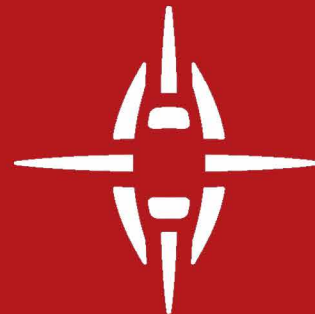
Bear's wife Claire and son Dashwa
on Hayes River, Manitoba



Ted (Pres.), his wife Karen and
Lewis on Red Cedar River, WI



Share Wonder
with those you love



NORTHSTAR
— CANOES —

Get Out and Paddle

Explore Wisconsin with us!



Evening Paddles

A no-pressure 2-hour evening paddle is a great way to relax after the work day is done. Bring your friends and make some new ones as we explore waterways near Rutabaga!

Full Moon Paddles

Paddling “by the light of the silvery moon” is a magical experience. We’ll paddle away before dark and enjoy dusk and darkness on the water. Don’t forget to bring a light!



Day Trips

Once you have a few basic skills, put them to use on a day trip! Enjoy the beauty of Southern Wisconsin’s rivers and lakes as you spend the day with folks who love the water as much as you do.

Rent a canoe, kayak, or SUP Enjoy Madison’s waterways on your own

Hourly rentals available at Olbrich Park, half- or full-day rentals available at Rutabaga. Rentals from May through September.

www.rutabaga.com/rentals

Private Lessons

Focus on your specific needs



Do you have specific skills you want to hone and refine? Or are you a little apprehensive about getting started as a paddler? Or maybe our schedule just doesn’t match yours. A private lesson is an effective way to learn what you want to learn at a time that is convenient for you. Email classes@rutabaga.com

Corporate Outings & Group Courses



Monona State Bank Lake Clean-up

Spice up a company outing, host a family reunion, or get together with some friends to try something new. Being out on the water together is an awesome way to spend time together! Let us create an adventure for you! E-mail us at classes@rutabaga.com.

RUTABAGA OUTDOOR PROGRAMS

HELP KIDS ENJOY PADDLING

Rutabaga keeps the next generation paddling.

"I loved the kayaking, all the games we played, seeing the capitol, and the instructors were really NICE! :)"



Youth Camps

Our youth programs encourage kids to learn new skills, make new friends, and explore Madison's lakes and rivers - plus have a ton of fun! We offer canoeing, kayaking, and stand-up paddling camps for kids entering 3rd to 8th grade.



Rutabaga's 2018 Junior Leaders

Junior Leadership Development Program

Have a positive influence on young people and enjoy a fun and rewarding summer as a Junior Leader. No previous leadership or paddling experience is required. For teens entering 9th-12th grade. Contact Tucker to apply - tuckerm@rutabaga.com.

"Another program very well done. We were so pleased with your instructors and the programming, along with our destinations on the trips. These programs are great for our kids." - Aldo Leopold Nature Center

Community Organizations, Scouts, School Groups, Birthday Parties

Paddling can add a whole new level of excitement and team building to your organization's spring, summer, or fall schedule. Create a unique, memorable experience for your group! Email tuckerm@rutabaga.com.



Madison Country Day School

Family Classes

Paddling is a great way to create family memories and is a lifetime activity that everyone can enjoy together. We offer family canoe, kayak, and SUP classes for adults with kids 6 years and older.



Lussier Community Education Center

Josh Kestelman Scholarship Fund

Rutabaga provides scholarships to help youth community agencies and individual kids attend our summer programs. Call us for details or to make a contribution. You can also donate at the Canoeconopia registers!

PADDLING & SAFETY CERTIFICATIONS

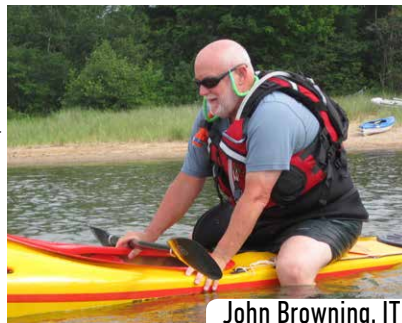
American Canoe Association (ACA) Instructor Certification

Share your passion for paddling with others by becoming an American Canoe Association instructor! In these certification courses you'll learn and demonstrate effective teaching strategies, safety and rescue techniques, and group management skills. You love to paddle - so help grow the sport by helping other paddlers develop the basic skills they need to be safe on the water!

Level 1-2 Essentials of Kayak Touring ICW

June 11-14, 2020

This course works on teaching introductory kayak skills in a variety of kayaks (sea, river, recreational, sit-on-top) in a protected and calm water location.



John Browning, IT

Level 1-2 Essentials of River Canoeing ICW

June 19-21, 2020

This certification is geared toward helping your students learn about river hazards and features, stressing strokes and basic skills such as catching a large eddy or doing a gentle ferry.



Ivan Bartha, IT

Level 1-2 Essentials of Stand Up Paddleboarding ICW

June 26-28, 2020

This course will help you teach about the differences between boards, how to launch and land in different situations, and how to maximize your stroke efficiency.



Trey Rouss, IT

Why I Take Certification Courses (even though I'm not an Instructor)

I have taken Rutabaga's courses multiple times (a few times as a student, but hundreds(?) as the staff photographer. I can't recommend them enough. They have helped me stay calm and problem solve. When I'm at the top of my game, I manage risk proactively, not reactively. The instructors are top-notch, teaching people what they need to know in the way they need to learn. It's magic. - *Jim Pippitt*

Wilderness First Aid

May 16-17, 2020

If you spend time in the backcountry, it's important to be prepared for the unexpected. This fun, hands-on NOLS course will help you be more confident in providing effective first aid treatment for injuries and illnesses common in the outdoors, managing environmental emergencies, and making appropriate evacuation decisions. Upon successful course completion students will earn NOLS Wilderness Medicine certifications: Wilderness First Aid and Epinephrine Auto-injector.



DOOR COUNTY SEA KAYAK SYMPOSIUM

IT'S LIKE SUMMER CAMP FOR ADULTS!

Rutabaga hosts the 17th annual Door County Sea Kayak Symposium.



INSTRUCTORS

You'll love our experienced, fun, and dedicated instructors who are passionate about helping you get to the next level. Come learn from the pros!



STAFF

Our staff is helpful, friendly, organized, and willing to bend over backwards for you! We want to make your weekend pleasant and easy — and of course fun.

July 10-12, 2020

Rowleys Bay Resort
Door County, WI

Space is limited. Register now!
www.everyonepaddles.com



CLASSES

Quality on-water classes and land-based workshops will help you develop and improve your sea kayaking skills. We offer a beginner track, women-only classes, and specialty courses at all levels. Work on boat control, forward stroke, rolling, Greenland paddling skills, rescue techniques, and more. Whether you're just beginning, more advanced, or somewhere in the middle, we have classes that will help you learn and grow as a kayaker.



"What a great experience! Thank you Rutabaga for making this weekend special. Whether it was honing my skills on the water, or making new friends, I was smiling the entire weekend!"



COMMUNITY

This is what makes our symposium so special! Build a community with other paddlers on and off the water. Social happenings off the water include group meals, evening campfires and programs, free beer (and root beer!) wagon, sunrise yoga, ice cream social (sponsored by Wilderness Systems), slide show, and an auction to benefit the Door County Land Trust. Make new friends and see the familiar faces of people who have been coming back for years. It's a comfortable, family-friendly environment that you are sure to enjoy. The fastest way to make new friends is to go paddle with them!



TOURS

Enjoy guided trips to the rocky coves, rugged cliffs, and sandy beaches of Door County. Whatever your skill level, we have a tour for you. Paddle with a naturalist, glimpse a sunken shipwreck, decipher pictographs, spot lighthouses, ride the waves, and more. Discover the beauty of Door County and put your skills to use!



"The staff that organizes and teaches the classes are so knowledgeable and approachable! Favorite weekend of the year!"

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REFLECTIONS FROM DCSKS

“The quality and variety of instruction was quite impressive. The ability to change my schedule on site was a huge plus for me, and the patience and knowledge of the instructors was another benefit, and they were open to all of the needs and wishes of the students.”

-first year participant

“Logistics and organization amazed us again! Coaches and instructors were excellent - able and more than willing to devote extra time and attention to helping us develop our skills. Tours were fun, interesting and fostered further skill building. Dinner and fellowship were a highlight!”

-second year participant



“The [DCSKS] is a summer highlight! Over and over it has been a well done, well thought out success. I love learning a new nuance in a paddle stroke, a new twist on a rescue and tow, and a lot of little things that make us/me better. Best part? Hanging with a group of people that GET IT!”

-third year participant

BRING THE KIDS!

Parents and Grandparents - the Door County Sea Kayak Symposium is a fun-filled, family-friendly event, so bring the kids and share the experience together! Youth classes and tours teach paddling skills and safety through play and exploration. Or bond over boats on a family tour. Create lifelong memories this summer in Door County! For kids ages 8-16.



SUPPORTING THE LAND TRUST

Each year Rutabaga's Door County Sea Kayak Symposium raises money to benefit the Door County Land Trust (DCLT). Our signature fundraiser is the always-entertaining auction on Saturday evening. Folks bid on a wide range of items and experiences donated by our paddling vendors and local Door County artists and businesses. Not only do we have a lot of laughs, this high-energy event has helped raise \$96,000 over the past 16 years!



Every dollar the DCLT receives is matched by \$4 of federal and state land acquisition grants. This means the DCSKS contributions have been matched for a total of \$480,000 that the Land Trust has used toward the purchase and protection of over 7,000 acres of critical lands in Door County. Thanks, kayakers!



THE SUNRISE RIVER RACE

Bear Paulsen writes about love, loss, and going to the river again.

“Upstream slog or downstream sprint?” asked Dan.

I considered the options. How long had we been canoeing? Twenty minutes or half an hour. In low water the total downstream trip was over two hours, but we could shorten that by paddling fast. How long would upstream take? Hard to guess, though certainly well over an hour. Downstream was predictable, upstream was not. I took a deep breath and answered, “Downstream.”

The race was on. I paddled fast. The late summer river was bony, but not too shallow for a solo canoe.

I slid over sunken logs. I ferried through the tangled branches of silver maples and under their trunks. On rare straight stretches, I switched sides to maximize speed. I paddled with a purpose I’d never felt before on the Sunrise River.

I zipped by familiar places, registering them only as markers to be raced past. I dodged and slid over partially submerged logs to enter a ten-foot-wide channel made by the river cutting off an oxbow years before. Below the narrow channel, an eagle abandoned its perch. I didn’t watch it. My focus stayed on paddling. As I approached a left bend, four wild turkeys dropped like bombs from the trees. I didn’t pause to watch them either.

Lively water announced one of the two largest rapids on the river, a low class II. My cell phone rang amid the rocks and waves. I didn’t answer. I knew who it was and what she wanted. I needed to finish the race before I could be of any value to her. I paddled faster.

Dan followed as fast as he could. Often I waited for him to catch up. I’ve paddled the Sunrise dozens of times, but Dan had never been on it. I’d also never paddled with Dan - I silently willed him not to have trouble and to hurry.



We passed the Highway 9 Bridge. I smelled smoke from a backyard fire. The smell of grilled meat wafted over the river. Thankfully, I didn’t see anyone. I felt relieved not to see happy people.

We descended the other gentle class II rapid, a left turn marked by a geodesic dome house on the inside bend. Next, the high sand bank came into view. Dead trees clung upside down high on the bank; erosion had toppled them, but their roots still tethered them to their birthplace. The sand bank marks the beginning of the last series of small rapids and signals the takeout on the Sunrise River.

I hurried up the steep stairs to the parking lot, dragging the canoe. I never drag canoes over rough surfaces, but I was heedless of such concerns. I didn’t time the race. We paddled the river as fast as we could and, for me, that constituted success. As I prepared to load both canoes on my car, Dan offered to return later for his canoe. “I’ve got plenty

of time,” he said. I felt relieved to have one less thing delaying me.

We sped off. On the narrow two-lane straightaways we reached 80 mph. With a quick goodbye, I dropped Dan off at his car. Then I phoned to let her know I was coming.

A few days before the race, Dan had called and suggested we go paddling. We had planned to meet at my house at 4:00pm. We had two options: paddle on the St. Croix River or the Sunrise.

I called Dan at 3:00pm and asked if he could delay until 5:00pm. I was waiting for my mom to wake from a nap. I’d arrived at her assisted living facility an hour before. My only sibling, Wendy, had told me to come. Wendy had broken the bed when she climbed onto it to pull Mom into a more comfortable position. Wendy

and I chatted quietly while Mom slept restlessly on a diagonal uphill slope. Her legs were finally elevated above her heart, regularly recommended by her doctor and routinely disregarded by Mom.

Mom woke, groggy and weak. We helped her into her recliner. Wendy changed the gauze covering her swollen, oozing legs. I repaired the bed. I'm fortunate Wendy broke the bed, otherwise I wouldn't have seen Mom.

I arrived home at 5:30pm to Dan waiting for me. I advocated we paddle the Sunrise, the more intimate and exciting of the two rivers. I couldn't resist trying to fit the Sunrise into the remaining daylight.

Wendy called while we were driving to the river. She urged me not to paddle. Strong traits from both parents pressed me to paddle. My dad felt a relentless desire to fit the maximum amount of outdoor activity into any available space of time. Though Dad passed away over twenty years ago, I am still his son. Mom was known throughout her family for her innate and unyielding stubbornness. Mom didn't always listen well, and sometimes I don't either.

Over the past year, Wendy had more clearly seen the signs of Mom's deteriorating health. However, on this evening there seemed to be no reason for Wendy and me to both be by Mom's side. Dan and I would only be gone a few hours.

Annie Dillard, in *Holy the Firm*, likens love to a live wire. I imagine a high-voltage wire strung between two people coursing with the current of love. When one person dies, the wire is severed. Then the wire jumps uncontrollably and sparks wildly, leaving 'grief everlasting.'

My cell phone rang amid the rocks and waves. I didn't answer. I knew who it was and what she wanted.

"COME." Wendy sadly commanded. "She stopped breathing." This sentence started the race. Every straightaway on the river I thought of Mom. The wire sparked through memories and sorrow. But, the race wasn't to reach Mom. Mom was dead. That wire

was severed. I couldn't do anything for Mom except mourn her loss. I raced to reach my only sibling. I could be

with Wendy - the only wire in my immediate family remaining uncut.

The wire connecting me with Wendy carries unknowable current. We are close. The early losses of both parents and many other shared experiences have drawn us closer. The current in our wire continues to grow stronger every year, and for that I have boundless gratitude.

Bear Paulsen is the General Manager of Northstar Canoes and is an honored friend of the shop.



Lightweight. Durable. Built Tough.
Is your canoe ready for the adventures ahead?

Reinforced with
INNEGRA
High Performance Fiber

EVERY NEEDFUL THING

Darren Bush and building bridges, not walls.

“You need this, sweetie.”

Anyone who knows me or has been reading my writing knows I married well above my station. There aren’t many wives who will argue with a husband that he needs to go paddling while he comes up with excuses to work.

The first part of 2019 was stressful for me. I was doing double-duty, trying to get a new accounting firm up to speed, while dealing with a cold and rainy spring. Between that and another side gig, I was drained.

It was a few days before Father’s Day. My wife Stephanie suggested a short overnight solo trip, and offered to help me pack and drive the shuttle. If you didn’t believe me before, here’s proof that I married up.

We pulled together my gear and I put together my camp kitchen. If it were to be a short trip, I would cram as much good eating into it as I could. I have never been one for

abbreviated meals, believing firmly that if you can cook it at home, you can cook it on a sandbar. I loaded my portable table, 30"x 30", which I modified to sit about a foot off the ground. I needed this.

The truck was loaded, and right after church we took off for the river. We ran the shuttle, Stephanie kissed me and said “Be safe and have fun.” I watched her drive away until the car disappeared around the bend. I had everything I needed in a little 15-foot canoe.

Every needful thing. It’s a wonderful feeling to look ahead of you and see two packs and a kitchen box between your gunwales. You’re self-contained. There’s a freedom knowing that no matter what happens, you’re in good shape. If the power grid in the United States shut down, I wouldn’t know it unless I tried to use my cell phone. I had everything anyone would want.

In summer of 2018, a white van pulled into the shop, looking like it was ready for a road trip. There were bikes strapped on the back, an empty rack on top, and some serious Don’t Tread On Me bumper stickers.

Nothing will change unless we change ourselves. So start there.

A gentleman with a grey mop of hair and a week of scruffy beard emerged and walked to the door. He looked a bit disheveled, like he had been sleeping in his van for a week. I sauntered up and said hello. “I wanna buy a kayak. I’ve been waiting for three years and I’m going to get one,” he said.

So I did what I always do, I took him through the same Q&A to get things narrowed down and give options. He asked a lot of questions about what boat would be best for different rivers and lakes, including ones out west. “I’m traveling for a year, I want to see everything.” I looked for a wedding ring and saw one. I asked him what his wife thought about his walkabout.

He chuckled. “She is totally cool with this. She told me to do this right before she died. ‘You go,’ she said. ‘Do those things you’ve wanted to do.’” I asked how long ago it was. He told me she had been gone for about three months, and he finally felt like he was ready to follow her instructions.

Note the present tense. She IS totally cool with this. She was still there with him.

He told me how he had taken care of his wife at home for several years as she gradually got sicker, but he was able to keep her at home until the end. “No nursing home for her,” he said, with the conviction of a man who probably hadn’t slept through the night in two years. I looked him in the eye and said, “I’m so sorry.”

Then I reached out and embraced him, a perfect stranger. He squeezed me, patted my back and whispered, “Thank you.” He needed this too.

We continued going through the whole process; assessing his rack needs and getting him all geared up. Turns out he wanted two boats, one for flatwater and one for whitewater.

As he opened his car door, I saw a huge revolver on the passenger seat (later identified as Model 29 .44 Magnum) and I just smiled and said “I see you’re a Clint Eastwood fan.” He laughed, pulled it out right there in

the parking lot, flipped open the cylinder and dumped the shells into his hand and handed it to me. It was a beast. It felt weird in my hand. It felt weird standing in the parking lot of my shop holding a Make My Day sidearm.

The table was set. My vintage Coleman 502 was hissing at full throttle as I seared two little venison butterflies with Chicago steak seasoning. The garlic mashed potatoes were already done, the pot wrapped in my fleece to keep them warm as the evening cooled down. No bottles allowed, so I had my can of alcohol-free Old Milwaukee. A good aged cheddar and a crisp apple was dessert.

The wind was calm, and though the sunset was not spectacular,

it was beautiful. Sometimes the quasi-apocalyptic sunsets that burn themselves into your retinas aren't what you need. This sunset was subtle, just blues and purples. With the stove off, the only sounds were an occasional murmur of water and the croak of a Sandhill Crane. I needed this.



As we finished up, I just looked at this sweet old widower, left alone and ready to do a trip of a lifetime, after three years of caring for his wife of over 40 years. He was tired, and looked it. He was ready for some rest.

I shook his hand again, smiled, and embraced him a second time. "Safe travels, she'll be with you." He said "I know, and thanks again." I watched him drive away with his new toys, heading for somewhere out west.

P&H
Custom Sea Kayaks

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OF EXPERIENCE
NEVER-ENDING
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This man and I probably have differences in our ideologies. I own a firearm (a small gauge shotgun for birding), but I'm not a big fan of handguns. By the likes of his bumper sticks and the hunk of metal on his passenger seat, it was clear that while I lean a little leftish, he leans a little rightish.

But when I embraced him, none of that ideology mattered. It was just two men, one comforting the other. I can't imagine, nor do I ever want to imagine losing my wife; it would probably destroy me. I saw hope in a man who could lose his wife and hit the road, finding himself again, grieving, biking, and now, paddling, guns and all.

I launched into the same quiet river the next morning, trying as hard as I could to not paddle. I wanted it to last longer, so I took an occasional stroke and mostly just ruddered down toward the landing.

There are too many things we have in common to let small things pull us apart. The world would have us think that it's a zero-sum game. No shades of grey. *We're right — they're wrong.* It has only gotten worse. Nothing

will change unless we change ourselves. So start there.

Let's put aside our petty differences, please. Let us embrace each other, because at the end of the day, we're all in this together.

In the summer of 2019, a well-groomed, grey-haired gentleman with a quick step and a bright smile bounced over the shop threshold and made a beeline for me. He stood a few feet away from me, his shoulders square to mine, head high, big grin. "Hey!" he said. "Remember me?"

It took me a moment. The transformation was complete. I laughed and we embraced again. Clearly, he was back in the saddle again, and we enjoyed a wonderful visit in the parking lot. Yes, he still missed his wife, but he was living every day, as she had asked him to. The kayaks on his van looked well-loved. He looked well-loved. He needed this, and I was blessed to be the one who helped him find it. Truth is, we all need this.

Darren Bush is the owner of Rutabaga Paddlesports.



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I THOUGHT YOU REMEMBERED THAT

Jim Pippitt proves he's not much smarter than a 3-year-old child.

For years and years growing up, my gang of friends would go north to the Bois Brule. We said we were whitewatering, but we were really just banging in to rocks and laughing about it over the campfire later. As we grew in to Real Adulthood, we'd often get together, but never back at the Brule.

So last year we all decided to relive old times. It was a good time. The gang doesn't need more than 15 minutes before we're back in the groove, laughing and storytelling as before.

You know that experiment where someone will sit with a 3-year-old kid and put a teddy bear in a box and close it shut? Then the scientist asks the kid what's in the box? The kid gets it right, of course. Then they bring in another child and ask kid #1 what kid #2 thinks is in the box. Kid #1 answers "a teddy bear."

It's that problem of "of course you know what I know."

I had taken a few whitewater courses since then, and have been the photographer for over 100 classes at Rutabaga. I've seen a lot, and heard the same thing being taught multiple ways. It's awesome. I'm not the world's best paddler, but I'm actually getting pretty good at this. Thus, I wasn't at all worried about running the river at a higher-than-normal water level. We'd done it before and I could tell it was fine for me, so what's the worry? Well, my wife had more than a few reservations that I easily brushed aside. And then reality hit. (We're all fine at the end, no worries.) It seemed like every 4th time around a bend I saw eight overturned boats and people struggling to get themselves situated. I knew exactly how to talk them back in to their boats since I had seen it done so many



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times before. After a few quick instructions the flotilla was set aright again. We continued downstream until something happened and -ohmygoshwhathaveyoudonow- there were boats overturned again. And again. And again.

Thanks to listening in on lots of classes I could see that some people were getting cold. Hypothermia was a bit away, but approaching. I got the group together, split up the problematic paddlers, left a few folks safely on the shore (rescued about an hour later!) and got us quickly to the takeout and made sure dry clothes were a priority.

I screwed up. I thought that everyone knew what I knew, or would have remembered their skills from 30 years ago. The Brule was its normal kindly self and did not punish anyone too harshly for my bad decision making, but it could have been much worse.

A few years ago I edited a piece for the Show Guide where someone talked about the difficulties in getting

new folks out paddling. The main thrust of that article was “since they’re new, you can’t assume they know anything.” I thought that was pretty self-evident, and from a distance, it was. It’s a lot different when you’re actually in the situation, wanting to relive the joys of the past with your best buds, and hoping to make three, maybe four runs on the river before the sun goes down.

First lesson: take a class (or two or five)! Paddling isn’t hard, but it’s not always obvious. There are so many little things that make it so much easier. Second lesson: don’t assume that other people know what you know, even if that might have been true some time ago. Third lesson: don’t let your desire for fulfilling a dream cloud the reality at hand. Fourth lesson: listen to wife. Hopefully I’ll remember all that next time.

Jim wanted a license for his pet bee, Eric, but the man didn’t have the right form.

To hear another perspective on this kayaking experience, read his niece’s story on page 72



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PATTERNS OF PADDLING

Darren Bush and the joys of paddling traditions.

Traditions run deep in my family, mostly driven by my children, so when my daughter asked, “Babbo, are we going for our traditional post-Christmas trip on the Sugar River from Riverside Road to Paoli on Friday or Saturday?”, it’s not really a question so much as a statement. We agreed to launch on Friday.

Whitney, who is now over 30, started paddling her own solo canoe just before her fourth birthday, in a tiny canoe scaled perfectly to fit her size, so she developed her skills rapidly. For this trip, however, we’ll dust off the Prospector.

With Big Red on the truck, we drove south-west, loaded up with clothing and safety gear, wife/mamma providing shuttle. We slid the canoe down the grassy bank and helped each

other get in like we have done a hundred times before and started drifting. It’s probably not true, and I hope a physicist can tell me, but when the water is 32 degrees, it feels thicker—like slate-colored syrup. Not sure if it’s enough to measure, but it sure feels sluggish. Luckily, we weren’t in a hurry.



We talked. Easy conversations, but not idle banter. Whitney isn’t a person who talks unless she has something to say that’s worth hearing. To be honest, I don’t recall too many of the subjects of our talk, and that’s fine. I just remember that we talked. Sometimes. Or didn’t. It didn’t really matter. What a gift.

I’m blessed to have an adult daughter who not only loves me, but likes me. She’ll always be my little girl, but at the same time she’s my



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peer in so many ways—an old soul. She gives me advice (when asked for). She tells me when I'm doing a good thing. She tells me when to quiet my thoughts (and my mouth).

Our four-mile paddle was over too soon. By the time we were tied down, the already-running truck was blowing warm, for which our fingers and toes were thankful. We took a detour to the local creamery, sampling the best cheeses in the world, taking home a few pounds of the good stuff, since we often bond over chocolate and cheese. Pleasant Ridge Reserve and canoeing on the same trip approaches Nirvana. We nibbled, driving back roads through the most beautiful place in the world.

For a guy raised in the desert, I never knew life could spring forth with such spontaneity. Over a period of three decades, Wisconsin has seeped into my bones. Now I drive backroads instead of highways, breathing in air perfumed with sweet and sour silage. I see steam rising off the backs of cows in their barnyards, and redtail hawks

perched as sentinels on fence posts waiting for a careless rabbit. Turkeys flock to eat acorns under a huge oak, and a rusted old hayrake surrounded by timothy grass provides cover for a wary pheasant.

I am in love with this place.

My soul is filled with love for my daughter, born and raised in the state I adopted as a newlywed. Wherever she lives or will live, I'm certain some part of her will always belong to Wisconsin. That thought brings me yet more joy.

Someday I will be buried in the beautiful, rich earth left behind by the violence of glaciers two miles thick. I'll become part of the soil I love so much, returning some of the nutrients that it so graciously bestowed upon me. Maybe a few molecules of me will nourish grass on a hillside, which will be eaten by a beautiful dairy cow. She'll make that into some beautiful milk, which will be turned into some beautiful cheese. And some dad will take his daughter into the creamery, and sample some of that alchemy that is Pleasant Ridge Reserve.

And that, my friends, completes the cycle.

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WHAT WATERSPORT MEANS TO ME

Sarah Schnell (age 16) on what it means to be forced to go outside.

Watersport has always been in my periphery, as far back as I can possibly recall. There were the sweltering summer days where my parents would drag toddler-me and my baby brother to a local, east-coast river, and we'd paddle into the mosquito-infested beyond, clutching our paddles and trying not to swallow bugs. When my family moved to Wisconsin, we made a point to go to the Bois Brule River every summer for some rest and relaxation. (Why is it always summer? Spring would be much more pleasant.) I used to clutch the gunwales and laugh as our canoe cut through the rapids, and hold my breath as we swung around 'S' curves.

More recently, during one of those summer-daze trips to the Brule River, I screamed as I rode down Little Joe all by myself. I wasn't screaming because I capsized. Rather, my little brother was making threats to tip me over, and I was protesting as loudly as my preteen lungs could.

When push comes to shove, I am the one shoving sports away from me and hiding in my room until it is safe to emerge. I hate football. I loathe basketball. I have zero use for soccer. Badminton and I will make eye contact on occasion, but it is a rare and tenuous link.

Watersport, on the other hand, is a unicorn among horses. The roar of the rapids or the subtle shush of waves under a paddle board is enough to coax me out of the house (or pop-up camper) to the nearest body of water.

Its siren song has brought me into harm's way more times than I can count. Take, for instance, my brother's eager jabs with his paddle, and my screeching flails as I tried to fend him off. Or take last year, when thirteen campers, myself among them, braved the Brule. Four hours later, on what should have been a forty-five minute run, everyone was back at camp. Ten of our thirteen had taken a dip into the

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rushing river. Two boats had gotten stuck under trees. My brother showed signs of hypothermia for about thirty minutes, but after a lunch under a blanket in the sun he was fine.

I know the dangers of watersport, more so after last year. A refreshing dunk in the river after bumping into a rock pales in comparison to getting stranded on shore, without a boat or a paddle.

Last year was terrifying. Boats were flipping everywhere. Uncle Jim was rescuing more than paddling. I felt a dread creeping over me. It was a new and unsettling feeling.

But all was not lost! Everyone is/ was okay! Our boats made it out, too, albeit with some new dents. We didn't

even lose a paddle, although I think someone lost their shoe briefly.

I am who I am today thanks to water-sports. For instance, I love the thrill of adventure, even if 'adventure' is the same river I see every year. I am by nature wary of anything that can hurt me. I am humbled by seeing that there are real dangers out there, but I'm comforted in knowing there are also ways to manage that risk.

I suppose this is a cautionary tale about loving water and all that it holds. It might seem fun and playful on the surface as you rip across rocky beds and feel the spray on your face, but know that all is not happy-go-lucky. Every rose has its thorn, as they say. (Do they still say that?)

In any case, be careful. Be willing to be taught. Also have fun and get out there anyway! Don't do anything stupid, and take pictures of your adventures and turn them into something to show off. That's what I've done, for the most part, and I think I turned out okay.

Happy paddling, and safe travels!

Sarah is the niece of the Show Guide's editor, Jim Pippitt. Jim's take on that run can be found on page 68. Sarah's interests (other than water-sports) include podcasts, pierogies, and painting.



Sarah Schnell



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MY FIRST WATER COLORS TRIP

Pam Ottelien reflects on her first staff paddle, and her *first paddle ever*.

To say I was nervous is an understatement because I had very little experience canoeing and it was my first Water Colors trip. Water Colors is Rutabaga's annual employee two-day canoe trip and this was the 2nd year paddling the Kickapoo River, camping at Wildcat Mountain in Ontario, WI, with dinner at the Driftless Café in Viroqua. Of course, being a new employee, I wanted to be a good sport and participate at least for one of the days.

My drive to Wildcat Mountain Camp site was amazing—it was a beautiful sunny mid-October day in Wisconsin and when I hit the Baraboo Bluffs, the fall colors were breathtaking. I remember thinking to myself on my way through the Bluffs that this drive was well worth it.



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Our plan was to meet at the Wildcat Mountain Camp site and from there situate vehicles and canoes at the beginning of our trip at Bridge One and at Bridge Five for our take-out. While waiting at the put-in, Jon, a very experienced paddler, started showing me the basics. Part of the basics was how to get in and out of the canoe... which I tried, and broke my seat. Hmmm I thought but Jon was very gracious and just called to the rest of the group to exchange the canoe. Of course, this added to my nervousness but the group returned with another canoe and off we went. Yes, I was super careful how I sat down in the boat and didn't get out until the end of our trip. I may have prayed a bit too.

I am so grateful to the expert paddlers I was with—fellow employees who made me feel very safe and comfortable. I absolutely loved the trip and am totally committed to learning more about paddling. I have always loved the outdoors which is no surprise since I grew up on a dairy farm in a small town in central Wisconsin. Since moving to the city I have enjoyed gardening, hiking and just about any land sport that lets me be outside. But, I had never ventured to water activities such as paddling. I see now that I have been missing a lot. Being on the water was not only calming, but showed me how beautiful Wisconsin is from a different vantage point. I'm so looking forward to taking classes offered at Rutabaga and want to start as early as the weather allows in the spring of 2020.

I can't end this adventure without talking about the absolutely

wonderful dinner we were treated to at the Driftless Café. It is so worth the drive—the place is charming, and the food is amazing. The owner, who is now hosting the PBS series Wisconsin Foodie, grew up in the area. His knowledge and use of the area's food resources is a great education in itself, and another example of how lucky we are in Wisconsin.

Rutabaga is so lucky to have Pam Ottelien as our new accountant. When she's not workin' the numbahz, Pam likes to search the web for cooks making traditional meals with atypical pasta shapes.

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COOLER THAN BEY?

Rutabaga's youth instructor Katya Ouchakof gets the compliment of the summer.

What was a highlight of last summer, you ask? Being told by a middle school girl that I am cooler than Beyoncé!

Let me explain. I've been an instructor with Rutabaga Outdoor Programs (ROP) since 2009. Many of our students are part of outreach programs, which means they come from community centers that bring their participants once a week all summer long. (*The Josh Kestelman Scholarship Fund dollars at work. See page 4 —Ed.*)

Outreach groups tend to bring a lot of kids who are unfamiliar with paddlesports. One of the goals of working with them is just to get them comfortable on the water. After all, Madison was built on an isthmus! We want kids who grow up here to be comfortable and safe both on and in the water.

First-time participants have often never held a paddle or been in any kind of boat before. They sometimes have questions about sharks or alligators in the water. They almost never put up a fuss when we tell them to get their lifejackets on. By the end of the first session, most of these kids are comfortable with the boats and the gear and splashing one another. By the middle

of the summer, many actually prefer to tip and swim to cool off for a while rather than stay in their boats! (ROP instructors once kept a tally of who did the most T-rescues all summer... there was no contest, the full-time person who worked primarily with outreach groups was always the runaway winner!)

Returning participants from outreach programs are old pros. Their fear has been replaced with self-confidence, and they help teach the first-timers. They know the games that we play, and they remember the destinations we paddle to when we take a trip out of the pond behind the store. Returning students know that when their boat is going in circles, there's a way to fix it—and they know whether they are the one causing the problem or not. This is where we found ourselves last summer.

One of the returning participants was in a canoe with two other people from her community center. While the rest of the group was paddling out of the pond for a day trip, this canoe couldn't figure out how to avoid bumping into the shore. I was the "sweep" boat so I was bringing up the rear. The returning student kept yelling at the other people in her boat—she was sitting

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in the middle and had no control over what was happening. Needless to say, her anger didn't help the other folks improve their paddle skills. Finally, she declared that she would not stay in that boat any longer. Could she come into my boat?

I certainly didn't want an angry middle schooler in my canoe... but I had noticed that she was right. If her paddle partners had followed her instructions, they would have been doing much better. I figured it couldn't hurt the situation to switch things up. I left my solo canoe on the lawn and this girl and I brought down a tandem for us to share.

Without the stress of someone yelling at them, her former canoe partners did much better. And our boat? This girl was a really great canoeist. She knew what she was doing, and she calmed right down once she was sitting in my bow. We talked about the community center and school, and the books she liked to read. It was a completely lovely day, after the initial tension had been relieved. She didn't even mind being the sweep boat and following the others who were zig-zagging—all she wanted was to be acknowledged as a competent paddler, by another competent paddler.

When we got to the park where we were ending our day, this girl started being sassy to the leaders from the community center in a way where you know she loves them, but is kind of annoyed with them. She told them that she didn't like any of them. They weren't cool. As the only other adult within earshot, I asked her, "Oh? What about me?" She gave me a once-over and proclaimed: "You are cooler than Beyoncé." Then she skipped over to the community center van and was gone.

I hold no illusions that I can attain anything close to Bey's level of coolness! But this girl taught me something important. Whether on the water or anywhere else, most kids just want to be seen and heard. When they feel respected and safe, they can be their best selves. Even when your interaction is limited to a couple of afternoons in a summer, you can make a difference in the life of a kid—and they can do the same to you. Maybe she's the one who's cooler than Beyoncé.

I'm looking forward to teaching with ROP again in 2020, and for as many summers as I possibly can, to keep encountering such amazing kids!



Katya has been an instructor for Rutabaga Outdoor Programs for quite a while. She also is in charge of our shipping and receiving. She de-stresses by playing in the Speed-hymno-thrasher band, "Radical Reformers"

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Small, family businesses face daily uphill battles. Half fail before five years, and only 12% make it 25 years. When a business makes it to half a century, it's a cause for celebration. This is especially true for paddlesports, since most modern canoe makers started in their garages and backyard sheds. Ken Fisher was one of them.

Fifty years ago, the Canadian entrepreneur began making canoes in a garage in Glanworth, Ontario, a few miles south of London. Ken made fiberglass canoes, most notably the venerable Prospector; the canoe that put Nova Craft on the map. From its birth as a Chestnut wood and canvas canoe, the Prospector has been the workhorse of Canadians for almost a century.



In the late 80s, Tim Miller and Pat Malloy took over the business, added innovative new materials and technologies, but they stuck with tried-and-true traditional designs. Their catalog is dominated by early 20th century Chestnut Canoe Company designs that are amazing, but too heavy for the average paddler. Their creativity solved the weight problem.

In 2014, Nova Craft did the unthinkable: they threw a canoe off a five-story building, paddled it home successfully, and Tuff Stuff was born. This was another pivotal moment: turning out canoes made from a virtually indestructible material that are lightweight. Much has changed in 50 years, but what hasn't changed is their passion. Here's to 50 more, at least.

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Camp Kooch-i-ching and Ogichi Daa Kwe	Jackson Adventures	Outreef Engineering	Umingmaq Paddle Touring Center
Camp Manito-wish YMCA	Jefferson County Parks	P&H Kayaks	Uncle Ducky Outdoors
Canadian Canine	Johnson Creek Historical Society	Packsack Canoe Trips & Log Cabins	United States Coast Guard Auxiliary
Cedar Falls Tourism & Visitors Bureau	KEEN	PackTowl	Upper Sugar River Watershed Association
Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest	Kickapoo Coffee	Pacuare Outdoor Center	Venture Kayaks
Chesapeake Light Craft	Kokopelli Outdoor	Paddle-Buddy	Vernon County & Kickapoo Valley Reserve
Chicago Adventure Therapy	La Crosse County Convention & Visitors Bureau	Paddling	Vistabule Teardrop Trailers
Chota Outdoor Gear	Lake Chippewa Flowage Resort Association	Pakayak	Voyageur North
Citizens' Climate Lobby	Level Six	Perception	Voyageur Wilderness Programme
City of Richland Center	Lightweights	Peshtigo River Outdoor Learning Center	Voyageurs Outdoor Gear
Coalition to SAVE the Menominee River	Line Cutterz	Platypus	Wabakimi Canoeing & Fishing Outfitters
Current Designs Kayaks	Liquid Logic Kayaks	Prairie State Canoeists	Waupaca Area Convention & Visitor Bureau
Dagger Kayaks	LOON Paddle Company	Pyranha	Wausau Kayak/Canoe Corporation
Delta Kayaks	Lyme Support Network	Qajaq USA	Wenonah Canoe
DNR Natural Heritage Conservation Program	Mad City Paddlers	Red Lake Outfitters	Werner Paddles
Door County Sea Kayak Symposium	Mad River Canoe	Redbudsuds	Whitecap Kayak
Eagles Nest Outfitters (ENO)	Madawaska Kanu Centre	Redman Realty Group	Wilderness Inquiry
Explore Northwest Florida	Malone Auto Racks	Remackel Trailers	Wilderness Ironworks
EZ Dock of the Midwest	Manitowoc Area Visitor & Convention Bureau	River Action	Wilderness Systems
EZ Recreational Racks	Maquoketa Area Chamber of Commerce	River Alliance of Wisconsin	Willamette Riverkeeper
Falcon Sails	Mercer Area Chamber of Commerce	Rock Art in Watercolors	Williams and Hall Outfitters
Fox Valley Performance Paddlers	Merrimack Canoe	Rockwood Lodge and Outfitters	Winneshiek County Development
FreeStyle Canoe Committee	Midwest River Expeditions	Rutabaga Outdoor Programs	Wisconsin Canoe Heritage Museum
Friends of Plum and Pilot Islands	Midwestern Solutions	Sage Marine	Wisconsin DNR
Friends of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore	Minnesota Teardrop Trailers	Sanborn Canoe	Wisconsin Historical Society
Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness	Mississippi River Network	Savage River Works	Wisconsin State Park System
Friends of Wabakimi	Missouri National Recreation River, National Park Service	Sea Kayak Adventures	Wraptor Tackle Roll
Fritz Orr Canoe	MSR	SEA-LECT Designs	WTIP Boundary Waters Podcast
Gator Guards	MTI Life Jackets	SealLine	YakAttack
	Mustang Survival	Seals Sprayskirts & Accessories	Yakima
	Myka Canoe Loaders	Seattle Sports	
		Seven Treasures	
		ShelterBox USA	
		Sierra Club	

'baga staff

Rutabaga's 2020 Hardcore Core Staff:

Back Row: Steve Schmaling, Katya Ouchakof, Pam Ottelien, Darren Bush, Dan Bowers, Joel O'Neill, Connie Lane. **Middle Row:** Drew Whitenack, Tucker Moore, Aaron Turner, Amelia Goetz, Dana Griepentrog. **Front Row:** Jim Pippitt, Jon Long, Lucas Olson. **Not Shown:** Kris Larson, Max Gietzen



CANOEKOPIA Information in Brief

What World's Largest Paddlesport Expo. Filled with canoes, kayaks, SUP, paddle gear, speakers, exhibitors, and the coolest visitors from all over the world.

When March 13: 4-9 pm
March 14: 9-6 pm
March 15: 10-5 pm

Where Exhibition Hall at the Alliant Energy Center. Map on pg. 5
1919 Alliant Energy Center Way,
Madison, WI 53713

Admission \$15/day, \$30/3-day pass
(17 & under free)
Cash or check at the door

Pre-order admission \$13/day, \$26/3-day pass
Pre-order at rutabaga.com
(before 3/1)

Parking \$7/day, \$19.50/3-day pass
Cash only

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