



# Northern Paddler News Flash



February/March, 2008

## *Calling all members of Cherry Capital Paddle America Club!*

### **A CALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

Margaret Fako, Membership Director

As members of the Cherry Capital Paddle America Club, we have all witnessed change and growth in our club. We would like to inspire you to step up and take on a more active role! We are looking to you, our members, to impart the wonderful stories and experiences that you have had as a member of CCPAC with your friends who may share in our love & interest in canoeing, kayaking and the conservation of our waterways. We are nothing without our members, so please encourage your friends and neighbors to join CCPAC!

We also would like to hear your feedback. Keep in touch with us, your board of directors, and let us know what we are doing that you enjoy most! More so, please let us know what you are missing. Your opinions and ideas are everything to us. If you want to see more river paddling events, email our outings director and offer a suggestion for a location – or better yet, consider leading a trip! If you want more weekday or more weekend events, send us a message and let us know. Please make sure to contact us if there is something more we can do for you!

You will notice that this brief newsflash is just that – brief. This newsflash is a call out to our members from the directors. We are asking for all of you to look within yourselves to see if you can help CCPAC by offering your suggestions and a little bit of time to help us make this club everything we all want it to be – a bigger, better, more exciting community of people who are out enjoying nature and LIFE! Please consider what you can do to help CCPAC. Lead a trip or offer services like help on the newsletter or the website. Or maybe you'd like to help on the board of directors! Please see contact information later in the newsletter or on the website. We look forward to hearing from each of you!

### **LET'S PUT *CCPAC* ON THE STATE THEATRE MARQUEE!**

Mark Beard, Publicity Director

All we need is 6-10 members to volunteer a 4-hour shift one Saturday or Sunday. You would be performing simple work around the theatre, which would help this local landmark and in the process our club would get some easy publicity! This is a good opportunity to get our club's name in the spotlight and we would all have fun in the process (and maybe even see a movie). I have been volunteering for the State Theatre and thoroughly enjoy it! Contact me for more information:

[publicity@ccpac.org](mailto:publicity@ccpac.org)

### **A NEW MEMBER/DIRECTOR PERSPECTIVE**

Katie Wibby, Secretary

I am a new paddler, having joined CCPAC two years ago when I bought my first boat. While I've only been on a handful of club outings, I have found the club to be a very friendly group of people each time I go out for a paddle. As a new paddler, I have most enjoyed others willingness to give beginners helpful pointers and tips. After just a year as a CCPAC member, I was asked if I was interested in joining the board. I had not thought about being on the board but found that it was something that I could do (even while working a very full-time job as a teacher), something that would be fun and a great opportunity to give back to the club. I've been club secretary for several months now and I have found that it is fun and doesn't require much time. We have meetings once a month and I have a few other responsibilities between meetings, like typing up and emailing the notes from our meetings. I've had a great time meeting other paddlers through CCPAC and encourage anyone interested to join the board, no matter your paddling experience.

## Upcoming Events!

- February 10 Pool session, Civic Center pool  
10a-12noon, RSVP to:  
membership@ccpac.org
- February 22 Restaurant Road Trip!  
LuLu's, Bellaire, RSVP to:  
membership@ccpac.org

Check the CCPAC website events schedule frequently for the most recent updates, [www.ccpac.org/events](http://www.ccpac.org/events). Contact Tanya Stratford, Outings Director, with your ideas and/or questions: outings@ccpac.org

### GET IN THE LOOP – CONTRIBUTE!

Marty Strand, Treasurer

It has been said, "One solution to apathy is simply more apathy." Well, this may hold true for some, but it is not the attitude that makes a Club vibrant.

Maybe we don't have a full board of directors, maybe we don't have quite as many outings on the schedule and maybe the newsletter has all but disappeared...Not to fear! CCPAC remains more than viable at 100+ members and our treasury is solidly in the black. We're surviving! But I guarantee you that the "fun factor" will skyrocket with just a little assistance from a few more of our great CCPAC friends. You be the one – take the leap! You can make a difference! Join the CCPAC board!

### BECOME A BOARD MEMBER AND GIVE BACK

Mark Beard, Publicity Director

Around three years ago I made the top of the list as the person who had participated in the most outings and came close the following year! While I haven't been able to reach those heights during this past year, I have remained very active in the club as a member of the board. I have helped to revise the *Paddle Guide* and our newest brochure. I will continue to serve as Publicity Director to give back to the club for all of benefits that I have received over the years. CCPAC needs your help and it's not a hard job! You could have the chance to help CCPAC to reach new heights and make new friends. I am sincerely looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting or on the water! Please keep in touch!

### WINTER POOL SESSIONS BEGIN

Tanya Stratford, Outings Director  
Need to brush up on those new skills you learned last summer? Maybe you'd like to learn a new rescue technique? CCPAC can help you! Please join us at the Grand Traverse County Civic Center pool for our informal kayak practice sessions. This is your opportunity for individual skill practice and to work with experienced CCPAC members. Some of the skills we will be working through are: capsizing and recovery (assisted and self-rescue techniques), capsizing avoidance (and wet-exits) and the ultimate self-rescue roll (optional).

You will need to bring your own kayak (or two people can take turns and share one boat) and kayaking gear (you may like to have nose plugs and goggles). All gear and boats must be in good condition and very clean prior to entering the pool. If you find that your boat is a bit messy, please take a trip to the car wash before your session. Otherwise, you may hose your boat and gear off on the pool deck. Please arrive 20 minutes early when others will be available to help you unload.

Informal pool sessions are open to CCPAC members and qualified public guests. A small fee will be charged to each participant to help pay for the pool expenses.

### Pool Schedule

**Pool sessions are always 10am-12 noon  
(unless otherwise notified)**

#### Dates

February 10

February 24

March 9

March 30

April 6

April 20

**Please RSVP to [membership@ccpac.org](mailto:membership@ccpac.org)**

### Restaurant Road Trips NOW SCHEDULED!

February 22, Lulu's, Bellaire

March 28, Fusion, Frankfort

April 25, Pearl's, Elk Rapids

For more information and to RSVP, email  
[membership@ccpac.org](mailto:membership@ccpac.org)

## BOARDMAN RIVER CLEANSWEEP! JUNE 7, 2008

The Fourth Annual Boardman River CleanSweep (BCRS) will be held on Saturday, June 7, from 9am-2pm. This exciting annual river cleanup is done in conjunction with National River Cleanup Week, a nation-wide event. The BCRS even started with just a few members of CCPAC in 1999 and has grown to become one of the biggest community sponsored river cleanup events in the state of Michigan. Many public and private organizations participate and donate to make this event a success.

This will be a sweep-type cleanup with several separate crews starting at various locations on the river in boats and along the riverbanks and trails all happening simultaneously. Then we will all meet up for an appreciation picnic, raffle and prize giveaway at the end of the event.

Local businesses sponsor this event offering stupendous prizes for the raffle, materials and supplies for the picnic, and many different services making the event possible. Many volunteers will be kindly providing canoes and equipment for the participants who include the Kingsley High School Outdoor Adventure Club who have helped out each year. Trout Unlimited works on bank restorations to help fight erosion of the riverbanks. Governmental employees do cleanups on and around the riverbanks in the downtown section of the Boardman. Hiking clubs do river trail cleanups. Last year 80 people showed up to assist. Many were our tireless members of our very own CCPAC. And many others were community members who just wanted to be involved and give back to their community. There is no way to determine exactly how much debris was removed last year, but conservative estimates from 750-1000 pounds of trash!

Come along and help us make our Boardman River the cleanest and most beautiful in the state!

To volunteer, purchase raffle tickets or for more information, contact Norm Fred at [nrfred@yahoo.com](mailto:nrfred@yahoo.com) or (231) 947-2852.

## YOU CAN HELP WITH THE 2008 BOARDMAN RIVER CLEANSWEEP!

- Buy or sell raffle tickets
- Round up more prize donations
- Help with Registration
- Take trash bags & debris to designated dumpsters
- Be a shuttle driver
- Help organize or serve at the picnic
- Be part of the on-water crew
- Pick up trash along the Conservation District Trails

### CCPAC MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

#### Types of Memberships:

- Individual - \$35
- Family = \$50

#### Benefits:

- Numerous day trips
- Weekend events
- Safety & education workshops
- ACA Membership ([www.americancanoe.org](http://www.americancanoe.org))
- Paddler Magazine – 6 issues/year
- American Paddler – ACA Newsletter
- Access to ACA-sanctioned events, e.g., Grand Marais Symposium, WMCKA Symposium (waives \$10 event fee)
- Subaru VIP Partners Purchase Program
- Rental car discounts (Alamo & Hertz)
- Discount on OS dry suits & paddling gear
- Participation in any Paddle America Club program at no additional fee

#### Sign up for the fun! (in two easy steps):

Go to [www.ccpac.org](http://www.ccpac.org):

1. Membership Application Form – Type in your information, print the page.
2. ACA Waiver and Release of Liability – Print it out, fill in your information, sign it, and send it in with your Membership Application and payment. Note: ACA issues new waivers each calendar year. If you haven't signed a 2008 waiver, please print one and mail it in! THANKS

Send all membership information and inquiries to:  
CCPAC

PO Box 803

Traverse City, MI 49685-0803

or if you have questions, please contact  
Margaret Fako, Membership Director

[membership@ccpac.org](mailto:membership@ccpac.org)



Cherry Capital  
Paddle America Club

**P.O. Box 803**  
**Traverse City, MI 49685-0803**

### **Boardman River CleanSweep ~ June 7, 2008**

Mark your calendars and get ready for this awesome event where we will all work together to clean up our beloved Boardman River! See inside for volunteer and contact information for Norm Fred, BRCS organizer.

#### **Spring Trip Leader's Potluck Tentatively set for 5/4/08**

Yes, I know it's still snowing...but it's also CCPAC's time to begin planning for the upcoming paddling season! We're currently in the process of lining up trips for this spring and summer. The trips will be posted to [www.ccpac.org](http://www.ccpac.org). Also keep an eye out for "News Flashes" to keep you up-to-date on schedule changes and any new trips. If you are interested in leading a trip, please visit the website and click on "Host a Trip!" under the Events header. Here you will find our guidelines, and links to important information and forms. Once you have a trip in mind you can post it directly through the website, or contact me and I can post it for you.

To further help beef up our trip schedule we will once again host the Spring Trip Leaders Potluck. The date is **tentatively set for May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008**. This is the perfect opportunity to view past trips and get an idea of one you might like to lead, or possibly find another member to co-lead a trip with you if you need a little help the first time around. Don't forget, our club is only as strong as its trip leaders so we need your support!

#### **WMCKA Symposium, May 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>**

Check out the West Michigan Coastal Kayakers Association (WMCKA) 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium for Beginner and Intermediate Kayakers at <http://www.wmcka.org/symposium.php>. This event is held Memorial Day Weekend, May 25<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>, at Camp Pandalouan, Big Blue Lake, Muskegon County, Michigan. Featured guest speaker is John Turk, whom *Outside* magazine has called "one of today's boldest, most inquisitive and most articulate adventurers." The Symposium offers a full range of classes including children's programs, introduction to kayaking, backcountry cooking, traditional and modern paddling techniques, assisted and self-rescue techniques, rolling, navigation, health and safety, trip planning and packing, and custom fitting your boat.