

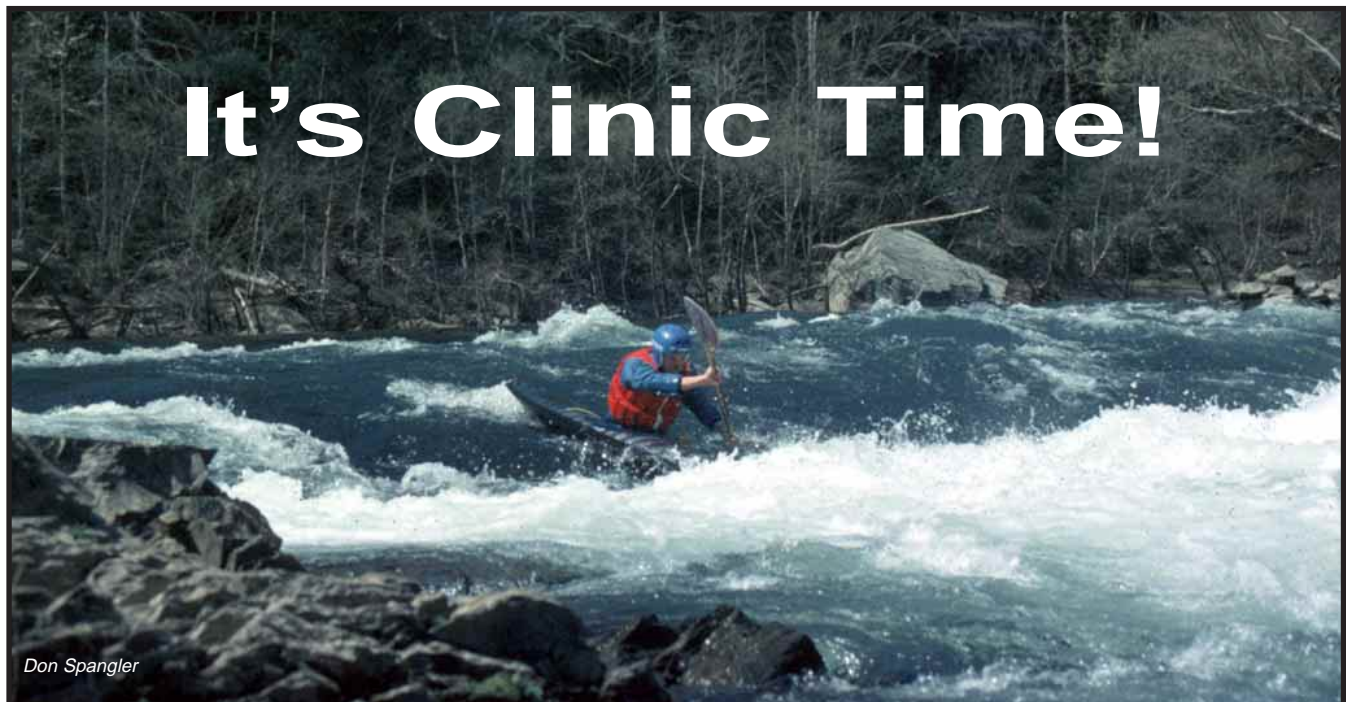
# BOWLINES

Newsletter of The Bluegrass Wildwater Association March/April 1998

## Spring Paddling Clinic Edition!

### In This Issue:

A Pictorial look at the BWA Clinic  
In Defense of: Pick your Boat!  
Film Festival Winners  
A Look to the Future of the Film Festival  
How about a Paddling School Vacation?



## It's Clinic Time!

Don Spangler

*Nemo Rapid on the Emory...sure to make clinic students beat a little faster...a fun introduction to Whitewater Paddling*

Well, Dandy Don, our newsletter guru has asked me to say a few words about the spring clinic. We will be having it once again at the Emory/Obed and it will be held on April 25 and 26. The spring clinic has been around for years and has been the introduction to paddling for lots of folks.

Why it was just a few years ago that Sockeye, Butch and Robert Hebble talked me into trying white-water paddling. I, like many others, had my first boating experience at the BWA spring clinic. Tim Kraznanski (have no idea how to spell that) was my instructor and I'm still alive! I do recall that he suggested maybe I might want to take up mountain biking instead.. We had a blast and I can remember being very impressed with the instruction and the camaraderie. That was the year we had a pig roast and set

the pig's head on fire and sent it down the river on a make-shift raft. But that's another story...

Well, we're going to try this clinic thing again this year and we hope it will be as successful as the ones in the past. All of our key staff positions have been filled by some really hard working folks and I think this is going to be a good one.

Ben Newman is the head kayak instructor and Don Spangler is the head canoe instructor. We expect to have about 50 students and at least that many helpers and teachers. The clinic student orientation meeting is set for 7:00pm, Sunday, April 19 at the Cross Keys YWCA.

The folks who are in charge of specific jobs at the clinic can really use your help. A contact list

*Continued on page 2*

## Clinic... *continuted from pg. 1*

will appear in this issue of the Bow Lines. Please contact these folks and let them know if you can help them out. It would be great if you could contact them instead of making them solicit your help. None of these jobs require a lot of time, so please help out where you can.

Also, please let Gerald Patrick know if you have extra boats or gear that you can lend. As always, the clinic happens because of your contributions of time and equipment. Anything you can do to help pull this thing off will be greatly appreciated.

See You On The River!

Bill Lynch, BWA Vice President, 1998 Spring Clinic Director

## Nantahala News

### NANTHALA PADDLERS '98 PASS

Attention Nantahala paddlers, there is a change for use of the the Nanny in '98. Each paddler will be required to have individual passes. They are \$1.00 a day or \$5.00 for an anual pass that will be a bracelet you wear when on the river. There will be no charges to park this year.

### New NOC Club Sore Discount

Paul Ferguson ( from CCC's "The Paddler")

Last year we distributed NOC discount cards to those requesting them. NOC has changed the procedure so clubs do not have to distribute cards to their members, Here is part of a letter I received from Mark Wiggins of NOC Retail:

"We are not sending discount cards out at this time. Club members told us they would prefer to bring a copy of their club newsletter with them as proof of membership. This saves club leaders the hassle of distributing cards among club members.

When making a purchase at NOC stores, please present your newsletter to the salesperson at the check-out register to receive Your 10% discount, Outfitter's Store staff we will be happy to give you a discount card if that is more convenient for you.

If a club member does not have proof of membership or a card, the customer will receive a receipt signed by the salesperson. The customer may return to NOC with their discount card and the signed receipt to receive a credit upon a subsequent purchase.

# BOWLINES

Bowlines is the Newsletter of the Bluegrass Wildwater Association, POB 4231, Lexington Ky, 40544

### Club Officers 1996-97

President	Bruce Rishel
Vice-President	Bill Lynch
Treasurer	Valerie Vantreese
Secretary	Jim Daniel
Safety	Dave Alnutt
Program	Paul Singleton
Newsletter	Don Spangler
Conservation	Marrea Mathews
National Paddling	
Film Festival Co-ordinator	Barry Grimes
Equipment Coordinator	Mike Molnar
At-Large Members:	Ben Newman, Mike Roberts
Past President	Bob Bryan

### Join in on the Fun!

BWA website: [www.surfbwa.org](http://www.surfbwa.org)  
Join the BWA! BWA Membership \$15/individual; \$20/Family/year entitles you to receive the newsletter, 10% discounts at many local and out of state outfitter shops, use of club kayak, discount at pool rolling sessions, a listing in the BWA Handbook, and a stream gauge guide.

Meetings are held the at 7:30, the second Tuesday of each Month at:  
Columbia's, 201 N. Limestone, Lexington, Ky.

Submission of Newsletters articles preferred on zip or floppy disk (Mac or PC) or typed. Pictures can be digital or ready to be scanned. Please include stamped envelope for return. Files can also be e-mailed to: don-spang@aol.com or to princv@sprynet.com



## BWA Classified Ads

### For Sale 2 Kid's kayaks:

2 year old Dagger Blast: Dark/light Blue swirl Paddled by a hot 11 yr.old kayaker who wants to move to an RPM. \$475.

Eurokayak plastic kids kayak. Similar to Blast in shape and volume. Includes Protec Helmet, Perception sprayskirt, Extrasport lifejacket. \$300

These boats live in Kentucky but are paddled in WV, TN, NC, VA and GA whenever possible.

Contact:  
Barry Grimes  
email: [bagrim1@pop.uky.edu](mailto:bagrim1@pop.uky.edu)  
phone: 606-623-9067

# Thoughts from the OI “Safety Dave”: Spring is here...but look out for Jim in your sleeping bag!

OK guys, spring is here and you can't use the "It's toooooo cold" excuse anymore, and it's too early for the "It's toooooo hot" excuse, so you may be forced to go out and paddle. Some thoughts from the OI 'Safety Dave' is in order here.....

1. Spring is upon us and we tend to think wonderful thoughts of warm weather and we let it fool us into thinking it is OK to dress lightly when we take to the water. Well I'm here to tell you the water is still COLD. We tend to dress as though nothing will ever happen to us but I would recommend that you re-think this, possibly dress in a way to expect the unexpected. That way if you do take a swim, you will have planned for it, you will be warm (at least not as cold), and your paddling pals will not have to haul your butt off the water and to the hospital cause you're dying of hypothermia.

Water causes heat loss 20 times faster than air so get swimmers out of the water as fast as possible to prevent problems. The Reverend Jim has volunteered to be placed in a sleeping bag with his clothes removed to provide heat to any female victims of possible potential hypothermia or even potential possible chills or even in case the heat pump fails at the house. The placing of nude bodies together so that one may warm the other has been a long established method to stave off hypothermia. Thank you Rev. Jim!

2. Be aware that the recent snowfall has caused a few changes on some of our pretty little rivers. Recently it was discovered that the Piney in TN was virtually unrunnable because of all the trees that fell. An inquiry of the locals or a little scouting ahead of time, if possible, may prevent a problem with strainers or a really bad ugly walk out.

3. Assess your rescue skills. How loud can you scream for help? How well do you swim? Do you have a First Aid Kit (with matches)? (Hint.....Still on sale at Safety Dave's Outlet), Are your paddling buddies able to rescue you? What's the airspeed of the African Swallow? How long would YOU like to spend in a sleeping bag with a nude Rev. Jim? All this and more should be contemplated before you take to the river. An ounce of prevention is less dangerous than a pound of rolling moss from the north side of a tree. Something like that.

4. USE FLOAT BAGS!!! Those damn boats get heavy without em. It's kinda like pushing the Queen Mary around when your boat is full of water, plus it gets harder to get them off rocks if they get broached.

5. Check out your gear. Make sure everything is in good shape and ready.

6. TAKE A THROW ROPE!!!!!! The person who needs it may be me. Cough up the bucks and buy a rope. You may use it for something weird like saving a life.

7. Stay out from under rafts. If this needs explanation-stay home.

8. Stay away from undercuts. Also stay away from uppercuts. Both hurt!

9. Have common goals with your paddling group. Don't let peer pressure push you onto a river of which you are not comfortable. Assess your abilities and seek the advice of others. Although often quite entertaining (carnage!!!!!!), it can be risky taking a new boater down a difficult river. Remember you have the ultimate responsibility for you !

9.Alcohol & mind altering drugs (although quite entertaining), should be avoided as well as tobacco, poison ivy, snakes, childbirth, getting caught checking out the girls shower room for stragglers, diarrhea, and being in a sleeping bag with a nude Rev. Jim. High and dry was not meant to describe a stoned non-boater.

10. Plan ahead, and have a plan. THINK SAFETY!!!!!!!!!!

11.Wear clean underwear!!! If you need help with this one, you didn't listen to your mommy.

Well I guess that's about all for this edition of Safety Dave's keeper tips. The clinic is right around the corner (no Jim, not the Health Dept. clinic), and all the help we can get to make this a safe and enjoyable weekend will be appreciated. Safety boaters are always welcome so call Ben Newman and volunteer. Speaking of volunteers, the Rev. Jim has volunteered to give a demo of his "quick heat-em-up sleeping bag over the cold nude bodies" (hopefully live ones, but with Jim.....?), at the next club meeting.

On your next foray onto the river, think about what you're doing, lookout for others, (we ARE one big family), and Elevate your vision to look down river. Be alert, be prepared, bee hive, and always paddle safely. So keep your powder dry, always check your zipper before leaving the house, and always remember.

CYOTR  
Safety Dave

# A Pictorial Look at the BWA Spring Clinic



*The river and land is spectacular with gorges that have bluffs of 500' or more.*

For almost 20 years The Bluegrass Wildwater Association has hosted an annual weekend beginner whitewater clinic for decked and open boat paddlers. In 1998 the BWA will return to the Obed Wild and Scenic River National Park to continue the tradition.

The BWA Clinic has been held on the Obed-Emory Wild & Scenic River System near Wartburg, Tenn. for most of the clinics history. Early Clinics had been at the Cumberland River and the Big South Fork. The present location provides a safe and flexible teaching location, a beautiful river, and an opportunity for students to get a feel for all the other aspects of the sport.

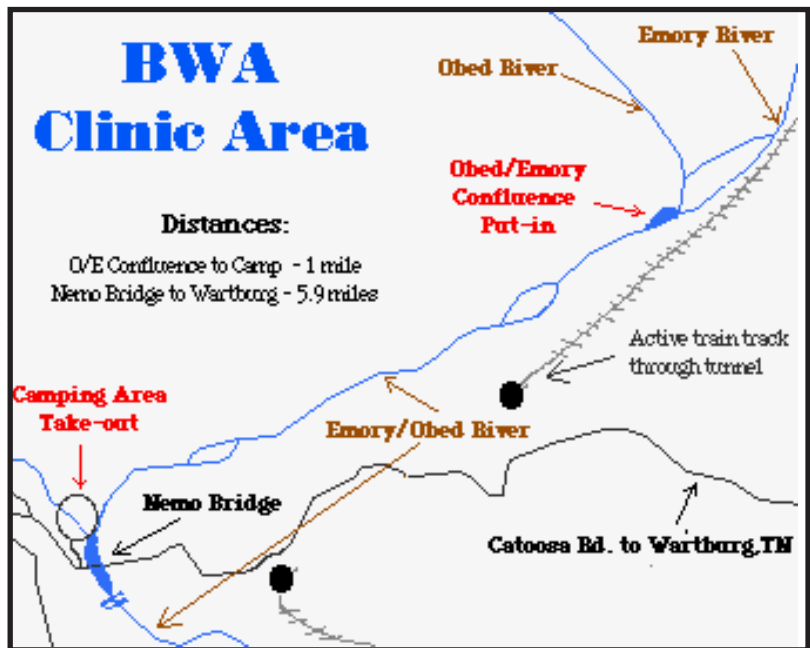
The Obed-Emory Wild & Scenic River System is truly a white-water paradise with dozens of sections that are runnable at least part of the year. Paddlers can find anything from Class I to the upper limits of what most of us would consider boating.

Only about 3 hours from

Lexington, it is a favorite paddling area for BWA members.

The best time for finding good water levels to paddle is during early spring, late fall, or after heavy rains. Caution should always be taken after heavy rains as water levels of almost 180,00 cfs has been recorded in the recent past on the Emory.

This does not mean that you are likely to find big splashy waves leading you into huge holes most of the time. The streams are tight, technical and require skill and experience. Paddlers need good water-reading abilities as well as the skills to quickly maneuver your boat in narrow situations with tricky cross currents and blind drops.



*Put-in is at camp or upstream on a big pool at the confluence of the Obed and the Emory.*





The clinic consists of a weekend of instruction, camping and meals right on the river. Camping is done in a primitive setting near Nemo rapid. At night you can hear the sounds of the rapids as you go to sleep.

Nemo Campground is both a put-in and a take out, depending on where your instruction takes place.

Space is tight, but somehow everyone finds a place for pitching a tent. The Club puts up a huge tarp in case of damp weather and that is also where the kitchen goes!

Most years we have both good weather and good water levels...but it has been known to be rainy and cool for the clinic. So students are advised to come prepared!



Facilities are limited to porta-potties. The club brings in barrels of drinking water, lots of food, and all the equipment need for the weekend of learning and fun! That is no small task...most years that means taking care of the needs of over 100 students, instructors, and support people.

The Clinic is a major event for the Club, when more experience paddlers pass on the help that they were given by others when they began boating. It's a tradition!



Photos are video captures by Barry Grimes for more photos and video links on the "Clinic Experience" go to:  
[http://www.surfbwa.org/html/97\\_clinic.html](http://www.surfbwa.org/html/97_clinic.html)

# Clinic Staff For 1998 BWA Spring Clinic

Clinic Director	Bill Lynch	(606) 252-5186 h	(606) 273-4315 w
Head Kayak Instructor	Ben Newman	(606) 278-5394 h	(606) 232-4707 w
Head Canoe Instructor	Don Spangler	(606) 277-7314 h	
Chief Cook	Duke Urch	(606) 266-3777 h	
Sous Chef	Zog	(502) 227-9558 h	
Gear Procurator	Gerald Patrick	(606) 277-0975 h	(606) 266-0469 w
Safety and Emergency Planning Coordinator	Dave Allnut	(606) 873-0251 h	(606) 276-5369 w
Student Package and Souvenirs Procurator	Zina Merkin	(606) 268-2508 h	(606) 257-5909 w
Money Maid	Valerie Vantreese	(606) 278-7038 h	(606) 257-7272 x259 w
Camp Set-Up Coordinator	Dave Merrifield	(606) 223-5943 h	(606) 232-7269 w
Chief Greeter	Jim Daniel	(502) 223-7613 h	(502) 573-3382 w
Entertainment Coordinator	Ellen Walker Harding	(606) 233-1693 h	
Shuttle Guru	Butch Quire	(502) 875-3792 h	(502) 564-7456 w
Clean-Up Coordinator	Prince Vittitow	(606) 252-5186 h	(606) 273-4315 w

**BWA Members...help is still need in many of these areas...please give the person responsible forthe area you wnat to help with a call to volunteer!**

## Did the last Stream you Paddled look this clean? If not read on.....

The importance of clean waterways is virtually self-evident. The neglect of America's waterways has, in recent years, not only become an issue of aesthetics in outdoor recreation, but a matter of clean water safety. Improperly discarded waste contributes to contaminated drinking water and affects all manner of wildlife. Entire ecosystems can be disrupted by illegal dumping which, eventually, may lead to the virtual death of a waterway. Improperly discarded trash and debris inevitability ends up in the watersheds of many rivers and streams. Unchecked, much of this trash and debris channels into the waterways and collects along the banks thus compounding the problem.

Since the first cleanup event in 1992, 127,000 volunteers have participated in over 2,000 cleanups covering 36,000 miles of waterways. Cleanups are typically organized by civic clubs, outfitters, agencies, recreation clubs or environmental groups. Each year, America Outdoors® provides cleanup kits, safety guidelines, support materials and trash bags to local cleanups registering an event during the designated week. Registration of an event for National River Cleanup Week is free of charge. Local organizers are responsible for organizing and executing their local events. In addition to locally organized clean ups, the associate national coordinators and federal agencies promote cleanups among their members and constituencies.

During the 1997 effort, a record-breaking 38,265 volunteers participated in over 501 cleanups of shorelines and rivers. Federal partners, including the USDA Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, and the Bureau of Reclamation, joined forces with outfitters, local clubs, service organizations and other groups during National River Cleanup Week '97 to clean over 8,506 total miles of shoreline. Since its inception in 1992, over 215,000 volunteers have participated in 3,156 cleanups covering 55,306 miles of American waterways. (Taken from America Outdoors Website. <http://www.americaoutdoors.org/> )



*Don Spangler*

# The 15th NPFF-East Experience And Look to the Future of the NPFF

The 15th annual NPFF-East event continued the tradition of providing the latest paddling images, great gear deals and an outstanding party. There were about 250 paddlers and 10 judges (5-professional/5-amateur) in attendance from all over the Northeast, Southeast, Midwest and Southern U.S.

In addition to the 21 River Safety Posters located in the gallery outside the main theater, the projection of the 14 motion entries (videos) and the 25 still images ran basically non-stop from 10am to 5:30pm. This year we were able to employ 2 back to back theaters with the ability to project huge video images simultaneously. The main theater, which holds 350, was a traditional very large format RGB TV projection system, darkened, sit down, popcorn munching experience. The adjoining theater was left lit, open, and filled with all kinds of paddling gear and boats. While folks pondered the incredible deals available, the videos continued to be shown on the 15' X 15' screen on stage.

So no one would have to miss any of the presentations, we also served a box lunch in rooms located above the theaters where "quiet" and "talking" rooms were designated. You could watch every moment sitting in the main theater or be free to wander, shop or eat without missing a drop of the action. The facility at the University of Kentucky is first quality and is fully networked for digital display as well. During the short breaks between videos we ran a Powerpoint slide show, running on a Mac, that employed a countdown clock to announce the start and title of next video as well as give up to date silent auction bids.

This digital projection capacity the NPFF now has is paving the way to an exciting future. This year we continued to see more and better video entries from new and very creative paddling minds. We initiated a wonderful and potentially very useful new River Safety Poster Contest that will help us spread the word of safety in these times of rising river fatalities. The volunteers of the NPFF envision 1999 as a watershed year for the NPFF and paddlesport imagery.

With the explosion of cheaper, faster, and easier to use computer image software and the proliferation of inexpensive computers we can expect to see many more entrants in 1999. The theaters and digital projection capability of the UK Health Science building will allow us to accept virtual paddling images from an ever widening variety of creative paddlers. Just as film was replaced by video, We predict video will be replaced by digital images. Suddenly anyone with a creative urge is able to produce a stunning paddling image, or movie or animation and send in their entry to the NPFF via the internet. What fun it will be to see what turns up.

The Film Festival was a great success and with thanks to the image artists, our volunteers and contributors we were able to raise about \$8,000 for the American Canoe Association, American Whitewater, and river conservation. Hopefully this offering pleases the River Gods and we can all look forward to great paddling in 1998 and an even bigger party in their honor in 1999!

Be sure to join us in 1999 - please contact us at:

[www.surfbwa.org/npff](http://www.surfbwa.org/npff)  
NPFF @ 124 Hilltop Dr., Richmond, KY 40475  
[bagrim1@pop.uky.edu](mailto:bagrim1@pop.uky.edu)



Let's See...Pool Roll Sessions, Spring Clinic, Novices Trips..how can I be ready to paddle the Ocoee by this fall?

## How about a Paddling School Vacation!

Join BWA Members for a vacation at an old favorite this summer



Looking for a whitewater vacation that'll make you a better paddler and let you visit an exotic country? Join a bunch of BWA members this summer for a trip to the Madawaska Kanu Centre (MKC) in Ontario, Canada. This is an acclaimed paddling school for beginning to advanced kayak, canoe, and C-1 paddlers. They will give you about a year's improvement in one week of instruction, and you'll have a blast, too. I went last year and learned a lot more than I would have in just 5 normal paddling days. The instruction is really first rate. I think it's better than NOC, and the cost is a lot lower.



The bulk of us are planning to visit for a 5-day course July 27 - 31, 1998. It's after bug season, but it's still warm. We'll probably leave Saturday the 25th, spend the night camping in Ontario and arrive Sunday evening in time for some shuteye. Classes start Monday and run through Friday. We'll drive back the 14 hour trip in one or two days. With several people, the drive will be a breeze.



There's also a Surf On All Rivers class run by 2 whitewater world champions that meets the same week. Bill Lynch is thinking about this. You get rodeo training on a 5-day blitz of Ontario rivers including the Madawaska, Ottawa, Gatineau, Petawawa and Coulonge.

The cost? Basic plan is about \$324 US for instruction and camping. Add meals (recommended, the cook is awesome) and it goes to \$442 US. You can ditch the camping and get a cabin room along with the meals and instruction for \$505 US. It's BYO equipment you can rent for reasonable rates. Add in a few bucks for gas and road meals, and you get a terrific vacation (with some truly awesome fellow BWA paddlers) for under \$500-\$600. If we get 6 or more people to pay together, we save 10% each. If you want to go, but want to go a different week, you still get the discount if we all pay together.

We're trying to firm up plans by the first of April, but we're BWA, so if you decide to join us a little later, call anyway. We may still be milling around. For further information, call Dave Merrifield at home (606)223-5943, at work (606)232-7269, or e-mail me to [merif@lexmark.com](mailto:merif@lexmark.com).  
*Dave Merrifield*



Photos from MKC web Site

Editors Note: We have had a long history with two great outdoor schools since the early days of the BWA, Madawaska Kanu Camp and the Nantahala Outdoor Centre. I would recommend them both for a way to become a better paddler and to have a great time!

Madawaska Kanu Kamp  
<http://fox.nstn.ca/~owlmkc/index.html>

NOC <http://www.nocweb.com/noframes.htm>

How long has the BWA been going to Madawaska? Compare the size of this porch on the right with the one in the left, the Chalet with the porch "was" Madawaska in its early days. Claudia was just a young girl with eyes for the (barely teen) hot C-1 paddlers!



Don Spangler

# From: Rich Lewis..In defense of the Kayak

In response to a recent discussion on the BWA listserv regarding the relative utility of a C-1 versus a kayak, I offer this rhyme in response to the rhetoric.

There once was a boater of skill,  
One blade, he thought, was a thrill,  
But he got tired of dying  
Without even trying  
In water that was totally still.

So together two paddles he teathered,  
The blades at an angle were feathered,  
He paddled Class VI  
With those two-bladed sticks  
And the rapids he easily weathered.

The moral is simple and clear:  
Leave one-bladed sticks to the queer;  
To be a real boater  
And not just a floater  
Try kayak - the boat has no peer!

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## To: Rich Lewis: In defense of the C-1

*Editors note: Being an old C-1 paddler, I could not let the above go unchallenged. So here is a reply that was written years ago...just waiting for Rich.*

by Charlie Walbridge

*Charlie Walbridge is six feet, eight inches of opinionated paddling sinew. You name it in the East, and he's paddled it. He is also living proof that it's the boater not the boat, and that a C-1 can go anywhere a K 1 can. Charlie lives in eastern Pennsylvania from where he runs his boating accessory business, Wild Water Designs and acts as ACA's National Safety Chairman. Recently during a boat building session, Charlie declared that C-1 superiority needed a published defense. This editor saw his point the instant he released my lapels. So to all who have ever criticized the noble decked canoe, I suggest you list and take heed.*

Let me introduce myself. I'm a C-1 paddler. That's right, turkey, I kneel in one of those pregnant kayaks and paddle it like a canoe. I won't be caught praying to the Good Lord on my you know-what. Is it comfortable? Funny you should ask. Is any decked boat comfortable? Listen, I've tried kayaks. They give me a pain in the low back. The very low back, if you get my meaning. You're not a kayaker, are you? Most of the people I know who paddle kayaks are mental defectives - they don't know which end of the paddle to use! Why, if you go down to Central Pennsylvania, there are some places where they haven't even heard of kayaks except as a boat for kids to fool around in until they grow out of it. Oh yeah, kayaks exist. Around the big cities, mostly, and on the Yough in August when sensible paddlers are catching up on their reading and waiting for the fall rains.

What? You don't understand why people use a single-bladed paddle and switch? Buddy, you missed

the point! Nobody understands canoeists. I've never had a girlfriend who understood canoeists, that's why I'm not married.

Yeah, I know that all the instruction books ignore C-1's. Probably because the author wasn't tough enough to try one. No seriously, most of us learn by getting out on the water and working out an understanding with Our boats over several years. But open boat paddling helps. I tried a kayak once - just didn't feet right sitting on the water, If God had meant men to sit on the water, he would have designed a comfortable Kayak seal mold. At least after paddling a canoe. your knees hurt so much you don't have, to worry about your back, Ah, but a canoe fits me right. I weigh over 180 pounds. I need a shoehorn and a hacksaw to get into a medium volume kayak, but I can fit into the smallest hotshot C-1's easily. And those little C- boats are great for women arid kids. They're not much bigger than kayaks, arid they do turn fast, Don't give me any of that male chauvinistic piggery about women not being able to paddle C-1. That story comes only from people when they've had a hard day and they've just quit. I know one girl who weighs only 110 pounds and magnificently paddles a full size C-1. She's cute, too, but that's another story.

Hey, I'll tell you, a kayak is the wettest, coldest boat in the world. You go right through waves. Water in the face, the whole bit. A C-1 is bigger, and it rides up and over waves. You get splashed in the face by a wave in a C-1, buddy, you're in some heavy stuff. And because you sit higher in a C-1, you see better, too. You ought to see the kayaks drop back at the top of a steep drop so's the C-boats can lead the way!

cont. from pg. 9

Arid you won't believe this, but a C-1 turns faster than a kayak. Something about a higher center of gravity and improved leverage on sweep strokes. It's true, you don't have a brace on one side, but a low C 1 brace is stronger than two kayak braces. If you keep your paddle side downstream, you'll do fine. After a while, you'll learn to cross-brace on a cross draw. It really works! (Mean Dean from Duquesne even will drop into Double Hydraulic on his off- side of course that dude works in the steel mills and has shoulders like you wouldn't believe! You wouldn't catch me trying that!

Yeah, I know There's nothing slower than a C-1 against the wind. So what if it's a hard boat to learn to paddle. People don't paddle rivers because they're easy, you know. they do it for the challenge. Rolling isn't any harder than a kayak. There are more strokes to learn, but they're not impossible. The hardest thing is learning to work up speed - getting the boat to track, if you will. That's what makes people think its strength arid not skill. Don't get me wrong; strength helps. But its surprising what a little coaching will do.

I was lucky enough to live in Central Pennsylvania for a while, the home of Penn State, John Sweet, and Norse Paddles, so I got a lot of coaching. But most people aren't so lucky- They have to shell Out some bread for a clinic or beat out an understanding with their boat over a few miles (make that a few years) of paddling Most of them see the kayakers learning faster and give up and buy one of those funny boats. I have one myself. I guess I'll use it when I retire: you know, get too old to paddle C-1. Except I'll never get used to having my feet under the deck. Makes me nervous. Now with a C-1, if you fit it out properly, you'll have to work like the dickens to get trapped. Fact is, the biggest problem staying in the boat long enough to roll. So do like the monkeys do and hang it there. You'll be O.K.

Hey look, gotta go. They're dumping water into the Gauley and it's ten hours of freeways and mountains to get there. But take my advice. Sell your kayak and get Yourself a C-1. Visit John Burry in Riparius, N Y. or try Perception in Liberty, N.C. They have a good selection, or find a good used pig that you can beat up, Then maybe the next lime I run a river with Fearless Fred, the King of Hair, arid Attila the Hahn you'll be able to come along too. Just don't get discouraged. Remember, kayaks ate a dime a dozen, but a C-1 is forever. SEE YOU ON A RIVER".'

*Reprinted from the AWA Journal of many years ago.*

cont. from pg. 11

Especially remember these fine folks who donated all the gear to raise the bucks to give to the ACA, AW and River Conservation:

Dagger, Wave Sport, Perception, Madawaska Kanu Kamp, Phillip Gall's, Menasha Ridge, New Wave, Prijon, Canoe KY, Performance Video, Nantahala Outdoor Center, Boof Gear, Mountain Surf, Sidewinder, TEVA, Salamander, River Sports, Vid Jewel Sports, Live Oak Tech., Lunatic Apparel, Russell Fork Trading Co., Stohlquist, Patagonia, Paddler, Waterworks Video Productions, Russell Fork Trading. Co., Enviroaction Sports, Perkins Resturant, Trout Lips Video, LCC Video

*A special Thanks to Dagger, Madawaska Kanu Centre, Paddler, Perception, and Wave Sport for thier significant support for the Festival.*

Please buy stuff from these folks and remember their good river karma in donating to this fun and unique event.

It's not too early to enter for 1999!!!  
[www.surfbwa.org/nppf](http://www.surfbwa.org/nppf)  
*Barry Grimes*

## FILM REVIEW: "DAWN BALLET"

(a three minute film by John C. Davis)

At the 15th National Paddling Film Festival unexpectedly, in among films of cutting edge steep creek runs (or were they drainage ditches replete with tree strainers?) was a beautifully composed work of art by the BWA's own John Davis.



*Video Capture from "Dawn Ballet"*

The audience was treated to observing a lovely lady with consummate grace exhibiting to the hidden camera her choreography of quietwater canoe moves at daybreak; a transcendental performance perhaps more worthy of a Mozart accompaniment than Willy Nelson.

When she did the turning maneuver (was it some variation of the high kneel thrust?) with her bare foot on the gunwale while the gunwale lay on the water surface, it was enough to bring to the fore the latent foot fetish in any red blooded canoist.

Thanks John, for once again submitting the unexpected, this time a work of artistic brevity to relieve the numbness of watching hours of rodeo, boofs, near-misses and hair runs.  
*Beuren Garten*

# Congratulations to the National Paddling Film Festival

## East and West overall winners:

Paddler's Choice Award  
Best of NPFF-Amateur  
Winner: Amateur Open Category

### Tales of the Paddlesnake

Amateur: Open VHS 20 minutes

"Tales of the Paddlesnake" includes top to bottom runs showing every major rapid in Alabama's Little River Canyon and Georgia's Tallulah Gorge. Rapid names and levels are superimposed. This piece also includes tape of attacks by and the subsequent capture of a vicious Paddlesnake, known for its voracious paddle biting behavior.

Milt Aitken  
715 North River Forest Court, Marietta, GA 30067

Best of NPFF - Professional  
Winner: Open Professional Category

### Thule Bheri: Himalayan Whitewater

Professional: Open VHS 48 minutes

In the Fall of 1995, an international team of 6 kayakers set off for the kingdom of Dolpo located in Northwestern Nepal to attempt a first descent of the Thule Bheri River. 2 of them had scouted the river previously but were turned back by water levels that were just too high.

This is the story of their successful return expedition which was not only an intense whitewater journey, but a journey back in time as they encounter the cultures and peoples of this remote region whose way of living has not changed significantly for thousands of years.

American Adventure Productions / Debbie Karls  
312-G AABC, Aspen, CO 81611

Winner: Instructional Category  
**Essential Boat Control**  
Professional: Safety/Instructional  
SVHS 31 minutes

A music filled instructional video pushing the foundations of good kayaking. Created for the intermediate to

expert paddler, this video is not a topical smattering of tricks to impress your friends. This is the REAL THING. (edited for the NPFF from 58 minutes)

Paul Bonesteel / Tom DeCuir  
WaterworksProductions  
PO box 190, Tipton, NC 28781

Winner: Commercial Category  
**Wave Sport 1998 Promotional Video**  
Professional: Commercial

VHS 13 minutes

This is an action packed, high adrenaline, whitewater kayaking video. The purpose of this video is to showcase Wave Sport whitewater kayaks. All of the models are depicted and various clips of each model are present. Wave Sport is bringing the reality of extreme whitewater kayaking to the general public with this fast paced, exciting video.

Chris Emerick /WaveSport  
240 Arthur Ave., Oak Creek, CO 80467

Winner: Amateur Humor:  
**Spreading The Disease**  
Amateur: Humor (PG-13)

VHS 29 minutes

Buzzellmania Productions is back and wishes to apologize ahead of time for this video's lack of plot, clean kayak lines, big "name" rodeo stars and environmental awareness. Other than that, the video is not bad! Get ready for 13 short stories that explore the sport we know as "kayaking".

Rick Gusic 96 Eastern Ave., Aspinwall, PA 15215

1998 Best Paddling Image  
**Kayaker in drop from overhead.**

Scott Harding, Marietta, GA

River Safety Poster Contest Winners:  
**16-Adult Category - Tim and Kathy Brown Hilliard,OH**

**9-15 yr. Category - Jade Vantrese, Lexington,KY**

**8yr & under Category - Rachel Moore, Lexington,KY**

Thanks to everyone who made this possible!!

*Cont. on pg.10*

## National River Cleanup Week May 9-16, 1998

Knoxville, TN — America Outdoors announced that the seventh annual National River Cleanup Week is scheduled for May 9-16, 1998.

During the 1997 effort, a record-breaking 38,265 volunteers participated in over 501 cleanups of shorelines and rivers. Federal partners, including the USDA Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, and the Bureau of Reclamation, joined forces with outfitters, local clubs, service organizations and other groups during National River Cleanup Week '97 to clean over 8,506 total miles of shoreline. Since its inception in 1992, over 215,000 volunteers have participated in 3,156 cleanups covering 55,306 miles of American waterways. "The purpose of National River Cleanup Week is to demonstrate the importance of clean waterways and to encourage constituencies to preserve a community's streams, rivers and lakes," said David Brown, Executive Director of America Outdoors and National Coordinator of the event. "A cleanup creates an alliance between public and private groups that becomes a source of positive community action for restoration of compromised waterways," according to Rebecca Wodder, President of American Rivers and Co-coordinator of the '97 event.



Anyone interested in organizing a cleanup effort in their area is encouraged to call for a registration form from America Outdoors at 423-558-3595 or register online at [www.americaoutdoors.org](http://www.americaoutdoors.org). Registering for a cleanup is free. Cleanups registered prior to April 1, and conducted during the official week, are eligible to receive free trash bags, cleanup kits and safety tips. A video, Organizing a Successful River Cleanup, is also available for \$10.95 with all proceeds benefiting National River Cleanup Week. America Outdoors is a national association of professional outfitters and serves as national coordinator of National River Cleanup Week. American Rivers is the nation's leading river conservation organization and served as the national co-coordinator of the '97 event.

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**Next Issue: Summer Paddling**

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BlueGrass Wildwater Association  
PO Box 4231  
Lexington, Ky. 40504