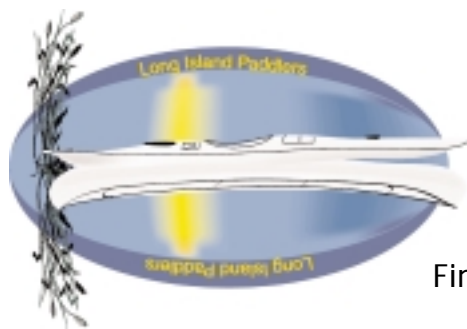


Blazing Paddles

P.O. Box 115
West Sayville, NY 11796



First Class Mail

To learn and see more of what Long Island Paddlers is all about, visit our website
www.lipaddler.org

President	Ed Luke
Vice President	Ken Fink
Treasurer	Paul Caparatta
Trip Coordinators	Christopher Watt Bruce Mulligan
Program Director	Pam and Stu Selkin
Training Directors	Thomas Skabry
Conservation Director	Elizabeth Marcellus
Membership Director	David Thaler
Librarian	Alan Mindlin
Refreshment Director	Barbara Kasa
Webmaster	Ed Luke
Newsletter Coordinator	Denise Caparatta
Special Events	Barbara Fontana Denise Caparatta Kaye Eastman
Awards Director	David Chin

Directions to Half Hollow Hills Community Library

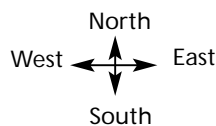
- LIE (495) to exit 51 North or Northern State Parkway to exit 42 south
- Deer Park Ave. to Vanderbilt Parkway
- West onto Vanderbilt Parkway
- The library is about a mile on the right, on Vanderbilt, opposite the High School.

Northern State Parkway

Exit 42

LIBRARY Vanderbilt Parkway

Deer Park Ave.



LIE (495)

Exit 51

Blazing Paddles

Newsletter of Long Island Paddlers

March 2004



Disclaimer

The views expressed in this newsletter are strictly those of their respective authors. Information offered on any topic should not be assumed to be authoritative or complete. On all paddling issues, it is important to base one's practices on multiple sources of information.

MONTHLY MEETINGS 2004

7-9:30 PM - Half Hollow Hills Library

DATE	REFRESHMENTS	DARK HORSE
March 18, 2004	Pete Brown	Vi Quintero and John Giuffre
<i>Due to poor attendance at the February meeting, the elections will be held and service awards presented at the March meeting.</i>		
April 2004	Pam and stu Selkin	Alan Mindlin

The **PROGRAM** for each meeting will now be coordinated by Pam and Stu Selkin.



NEWSLETTER

I am planning on getting the newsletters out two weeks before each meeting (the beginning of the month). Any info on upcoming events or items that members want to sell should be sent to me at: pcaparat@optonline.net. by the 20th of the month. Every three months we plan on running a longer newsletter. During the year please submit any articles to Stu Selkin for editing (skydoc@prodigy.net). After Stu edits them, the articles will be submitted to our webmaster and also may run in a quarterly newsletter.

Denise Caparatta

CANOE (kayak) POLO,

What is it?

By Brian Banninger

Invented in Germany in the 30s, developed in the 60s in Britain, canoe polo is used by white water paddlers to practice boat maneuvers, bracing and rolling during the winter months. Polo is now a year round sport. Governed by the ICF, International Canoe Federation, it's big in Europe & west coast of America. On the east coast developed teams exist in Annapolis Md, Boston, Ma; Lancaster Pa; Rochester NY and Manhattan NY. It's time to bring it to Long Island and I am creating a Long Island League this winter 2004.

Two teams of five, in decked canoes (kayaks), on a regulation pitch', 115 x 75 feet, out score each other by throwing a ball into the opposing team's goal 3 x 5 feet. The goal is hung at each end of the pitch, the lowest section of the goal being one paddle length 6 1/2 feet above water. All measurements have been approximated to feet and inches. Official, ICF Canoe Polo, measurements are metric.

During the game, two exhausting ten-minute halves, you can dribble by throwing the ball ahead of you, paddle to catch up, pick it up and throw again by dribbling or passing to teammates. You may only hold the ball 5 seconds before releasing it. You can't hit the ball with your paddle; catching and spooning is ok. Once you have possession, the opposing team can harass you with their boats & tackle, push you over, by hand. Maneuvering out of harms way and passing are much sought after skills or brace well, lean into the push, resist and they can't push you over.

Safety is important! Paddle blades must be 2/10 of an inch thick or have edges thickly duct taped to avoid cuts and abrasion. If your hand or body is near the ball, it is illegal for any paddle to be near the ball. Boat bumpers, closed cell foam, is 1 & 1/2" thick, 2" wide and wrap at least 8 inches around, attached with glue and or duct tape to the bow & stern of your boat to prevent broken ribs. There is a formula for roundness, circumference, suffice it to say it should be as horizontally curved as a soccer ball. Helmets with facemasks prevent broken noses. Closed cell foam stuffed inside the open sides of your PFD & prevent rib injury. You may not strike your boat against another in-between an angle of 80 & 100 degrees. Besides cracking an expensive Kevlar/carbon boat, you don't want to catapult over a cockpit and hurt someone. So, you submerge before striking. Most beginning players convert their plastic whitewater boats.

For the most part players are courteous and gentle with new-comers. Poor sportsmanship is red-carded and you are thrown out of the game. Beginning-for-fun teams play against beginning-for-fun teams. Downtownboathouse.org began playing in Dec. 2002 and organized teams. I was fortunate enough to be allowed to learn along with them. The Boston (rough and tough) and Maryland (skilled 2003 east-coast champs) teams took pity on us and played safely down to our level until we learned the game and became a threat. Then they creamed us.

Two sets of videotapes are available at the Long Island Paddlers club library and I can easily give training tapes to interested players. Beginning on Jan 11th there should be some pickup games at either the New Hyde Park or Eisenhower Park pool. Talk to Ken Fink info@kayaken-outfitters.com about pool availability or b.banninger@att.net about polo.

REMINDER!!!

Membership renewals are due. The membership period is from January 1 through December 31 of the current year. 2004 membership dues is \$25.00 per household. If you have not already done so, please make the check payable to Long Island Paddlers and mail it to:

David Thaler, Membership
14 Westchester Court
Middle Island, NY 11953

**Membership must be current in order to participate in club activities.
The deadline for renewal is April 15, 2004. Please renew today.**



FREE ADVERTISING SPACE

Long Island Paddler members can advertise products for sale at no charge.
E-mail Denise at pcaparat@optonline.net

For Sale:

Four Yakima saddles, used, in good condition, \$30.00.

Four Yakima load stops, used, in good condition, \$10.00.

John Giuffre - jagiu@webtv.net • 631.234.4625



CALEB SMITH RIVER CLEANUP PADDLE

May 27th

Our annual clean up is scheduled for March 27th this year. We will be meeting in the main parking lot of Caleb Smith State Park (on the north side of Jericho Tpk.) at 9:30 AM. Bob's canoe rentals will be helping us transport the boats to the put-in in Blydenburgh Park at 10 AM.

This is a great opportunity to paddle a stretch of the river closed to boats the rest of the year. The trip starts out narrow and winding . . . and after about 4 hours we end up in the lake by the mill. Last year we were lucky to be welcomed by the 'Friends of Caleb Smith Park' with coffee and treats at the end! Wouldn't that be nice again !

We still have some openings to join in on the fun, but the space is limited. Please call Liz at (631) 666-2952 to sign-up. PFD's and cold weather/water gear are mandatory. Bring your canoe or recreational kayak.



BAY DAY - June 6th

David Chin

Season launch is once again, BAY DAY, June 6th, with our LI Paddlers' club's involvement as the kayaking experts and exposition leaders, and our second attempt at the Guinness's World Record at man powered raft up, followed by the Row-around-the BAY. (Overnight camp might be a real option with this one time park approval.)

LONG ISLAND PADDLE SPORT SAFETY SYMPOSIUM

March 13th

This new symposium will be held March 13, 2004 from 2:30 PM to 6:30 PM at Suffolk County Community College Sports and Expo Complex. Michael J. Grant Campus Crookhill Rd., Brentwood, NY.

Admission is FREE.

If you ever held a paddle in your hand or thought about holding a paddle then this Symposium is for you!

For Information call: 631 563-6654

Talks on:

- Communication From Your Boat
- Choosing the Right Boat.
- Small boat Navigation
- Safety Equipment

Plus:

- In Water Rescues Demonstrations and Displays



KAYAK WEEKEND ADVENTURE

MAY 14-16

in beautiful Southern New Jersey

Organized by Alan Mindlin

Paddle the beautiful Wading River to the Lovely Mullica River with your buddies of the Long Island Paddlers. We will be staying at the **Wading Pines Camping Resort** in large roomy log cabins. Bring your own bedding. Included are breakfast at the campground, a picnic lunch during our paddle, dinner at a nice restaurant and breakfast on Sunday at the campground. The campground is on the river and we will have a put out down the scenic river, where we will have parked our cars before the paddle.

Wading Pines Camping Resort

Located in the heart of the New Jersey Pine Barrens, near the Garden State Parkway.

www.wadingpines.com

The Wading River empties into the Mullica River which empties into a bay. The group will paddle together in an organized fashion. Alan will take photos of each paddler suitable for framing. On Sunday we can explore Edwin Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge or Tuckahoe Wildlife Refuge. For the bird watchers in the group there are usually eagles and hawks in the area. This should be fun for all who go.

The cost of the trip is \$125.00 per person. A deposit of \$25.00 is due by the March 18th meeting. The balance is due by the April meeting.

If you have any questions, contact Alan at Photonut50@hotmail.com or call 516-798-7160.

JERSEY PADDLER'S 2004 PADDLESPORT SHOW

Friday, March 26 through Sunday, March 28

2004 Speaker Schedule and Synopsis (subject to change)

Ted Behne - The Adney Collection: Birchbark Canoe Treasures
Friday 5:30PM • Saturday 3:00PM • Sunday 2PM

Lena Conlan - Paddling Greece - The Dodecanese Islands
Friday 5:30PM • Sunday 12:30PM

Charlie Hamel - Your Map, Your Compass, Your GPS & You
Friday 5:30M • Saturday 4:30PM

Willie Kern - The Yunnan Great Rivers Project
Friday 7PM • Saturday 10:45AM & 4:30PM • Sunday 11AM & 2PM

Jeff Cooper - Paddling Adventures for a Lifetime
Friday 7PM

Scott Roberge • Rain-Proofing Your Adventure
Friday 7PM • Saturday 10:45AM • Sunday 12:30PM

Jerry Sparks - Light Tackle, Shallow Water Kayak Fishing
Saturday 9:30AM • Sunday 9:30AM

Jon Bowermaster - Oceans 8 Project
Saturday 9:30AM & 1:30PM

Jeff Cooper - Selecting a Sea Kayak
Saturday 9:30AM • Sunday 9:30AM

John Almquist - Boat Outfitting
Saturday 10:45AM • Sunday 12:30PM

Danny Mongno - On the Road
Saturday 12PM • Sunday 11AM

Chris Duff - Iceland Expedition 2003
Saturday 12PM & 3PM

Steve O'Meara - Dressing for Paddling in Varying Sea & Weather Conditions
Saturday 12PM & 3PM

Ryan Hanegan - How to Choose the Right Paddle
Saturday 1:30PM • Sunday 11AM

Homelands - Kayaking the Inside Passage
Saturday 1:30PM & 4:30PM • Sunday 9:30AM

More information and directions...

<http://www.jerseypaddler.com/padsport.html>