

Trail Mix

The Newsletter of the Greenways Alliance of Rhode Island



Volume 8, No.4

Summer 2009

Bluewords:

GARI goes blue to offer great paddling trips in '09

The RI Blueways Alliance (RIBA) is excited to present another June and July full of paddling opportunities on the rivers and bays of the Narragansett Bay watershed. GARI is pleased to collaborate again with RIBA to provide information about the many opportunities for getting out on the water in canoes and kayaks. Aply named, blueways are the water-based version of greenways, and a perfect solution for non-motorized recreation when it's buggy on the trails or a little too warm for cycling.

Join RIBA as it celebrates the season -- from Rivers Month in June to the end of July's Governor's Bay Day. The trips described in this newsletter provide a variety of paddling experiences from rural rivers to paddling into the center of Providence. All the trips give you an opportunity to experience the wonderful waterways of our area. Familiar places are never the same once you have seen them from the water!

Please also check out RIBA's web site, ExploreRI.org, where you will find suitable places to paddle given your skill level and interests. Click on icons for each launch site for trip-planning information or search

continued on page 2

Celebrating Rhode Island's blueways with Paddle09

Paddle09 is a celebration of the Blueway network with paddling adventures throughout June and July. A list of trips and a map are featured in this edition of Trail Mix. To whet your appetite, here are some photos and information about a few of the trips from last year's PaddleRI. PaddleRI was a huge success with over 200 paddlers participating. PaddleRI was sponsored by the RI Blueways Alliance but the individual trips were organized and hosted by local organizations – watershed councils, Save the Bay and local conservation commissions.



Photo by Mark Brallinger.

Paddlers visit the Kayak Kafe on Ninigret Pond in Charlestown.

The celebration would not have been possible without their enthusiastic participation.

continued on page 2

Rhode Island State Park Centennial

By Albert Klyberg

Imagine lagoons, little bridges, festooned banners, strolling couples, and small boats in the center of Providence adjacent to the junction of the Woonasquatucket and Moshassuck Rivers. Not too far away is the bustle of trains pulling in and out of Union Station. Imagine greenways radiating out from Providence to Lincoln, Barrington, Warwick, and Johnston. Does it sound familiar?

These ideas were first discussed before any of us were born by the Public Park Association. Gathered in 1883, and the decade thereafter, the Public Park Association took on the railroad interests in the Rhode Island General Assembly to battle out how the old Cove Lands on the flats near the railroad station were going to be

continued on page 4

In this Issue:

Paddle09 events	3	Dear Captain Kayak	7
Paddle09 map	5	Join GARI	7

Bluewords

continued from page 1

for sites by criteria, such as county, town, watershed (river system), or type of water (slow-moving, estuary, saltwater, etc.). Each site description also links you to three independent mapping services and describes driving landmarks, shoreline conditions, parking and other amenities. More than 170 launch sites are listed and new sites are added regularly.

Last summer, the Aquidneck Island Planning Commission celebrated the opening of the Narragansett Bay Blue Trail along the west side of Aquidneck Island. In July, the Ten Mile River Watershed Council and the Rhode Island Blueways Alliance will open the Roger Williams Paddle Trail commemorating Roger Williams' journey from Massachusetts to Providence in the spring of 1636. It was during this journey that Williams and his companions encountered a group of Narragansett Indians who greeted them with the phrase "What cheer Netop." What Cheer was a common English greeting, short for "what cheerie news do you bring". The Narragansetts told Roger to paddle up the Great Salt River, now the Providence River, to a location inside the great Salt Cove. This is where Williams founded his new settlement, Providence. You too will be able to retrace Williams' journey, thanks to a trail map and markers being developed with funding from REI. The opening will be celebrated with a public paddle on July 11.

This year is also the 100th anniversary of parks in Rhode Island. As you enjoy the state's wonderful park system and bike the greenways and paddle the blueways, take a minute to thank the visionary leaders who came before us!

Meg Kerr

Narragansett Bay Estuary Program and Treasurer, RI Blueways Alliance

Paddle09

continued from page 1

Participants in last year's events had many choices. They included a paddle on Ninigret Pond with the Salt Ponds Coalition (SPC). Paddlers left from Ninigret Wildlife Refuge and proceeded east towards Ocean House Marina, where they heard an informative talk about the history of Fort Ninigret and the Cross Mills area. After a quick stop at the "Kayak Kafe," participants paddled across the pond where Art Ganz, a retired marine biologist, president of Salt Ponds Coalition, and founder of the SPC kayak trips, led a short beach walk and discussed the dynamics of the barrier beach.

Another great trip was the Ten Mile River Family Day Paddle. Rain at the beginning of the trip did not keep paddlers away on this two-

Trail Mix is the quarterly newsletter of the Greenways Alliance of Rhode Island (GARI).

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Photo by Keith Gonsalves

Paddlers head down the Ten Mile River in Pawtucket.

hour down river trip. The paddlers lucked out, as the weather cleared and all enjoyed the surprising urban wilderness of Pawtucket. The trip ended with refreshments at the Kimberly Rock Sports Complex in East Providence. The Ten Mile River Watershed Council sponsored this trip.

PaddleRI events showed off some hidden treasures including the Ride the Tide on Buckeye Brook. This trip explored one of Warwick's hidden treasures – Buckeye Brook. This 2-hour paddling event was open to all levels of experience and included discussions of Buckeye Brook over 300 years of history. 40 Paddlers met at the Conimicut Point parking lot. Refreshments and food were served and sponsored by the Buckeye Brook Coalition.



Photo by Steve Insana

Exploring Buckeye Brook in Warwick.

Calendar of Events for Paddle09

The RI Blueways Alliance is celebrating paddling in the Narragansett Bay Watershed with Paddle09, a series of paddle trips throughout June and July. These trips are organized by watershed organizations, Save the Bay, RIDEM and local outfitters and are designed to introduce recreational paddlers to the varied and beautiful rivers and coastal waters in our watershed. All trips require advanced registration and some require an event registration fee. Although a few trips provide boat rentals, most ask you to bring your own boat. Read the enclosed descriptions and call the trip organizer or check ExploreRI.org for additional information.

Things to remember:

- > All events require advanced registration.
- > All participants must wear life vests (PFDs) when on the water. PFDs must be worn in the manner intended by the manufacturer.
- > It's a good idea to bring snacks, water, and sunscreen.

1 Salt Ponds Spring Paddle on Upper Point Judith Pond

Sat., May 30: Point Judith Pond runs from the mouth of the Saugatucket River to Block Island Sound. On this guided paddle of the upper section you will hear from presenters about environmental issues facing the pond, water quality monitoring, local history and aquaculture. This event is free, but donations to the Abby Auckerman Scholarship Fund are appreciated. Meet at the Marina Park launch ramp at 8:30 a.m. Sponsored by the Salt Ponds Coalition, www.saltpondscoalition.org. Contact Mark Bullinger, 401.322.3068 or mbullinger@gmail.com.

2 Great Pawtuxet Paddle

Sat., June 6: Join the Pawtuxet River Authority & Watershed Council on their inaugural trip from the new Pontiac Canoe Launch. This seven mile flat water paddle, suitable for all levels, begins at the Howard Conservation Area and ends at the Rhodes on the Pawtuxet parking lot. Meet at 9 a.m. Shuttling will be available; lunch and refreshments will follow the paddle. Bring your own boat or rent one from a nearby outfitter. Sponsored by the Pawtuxet River Authority & Watershed Council, www.pawtuxet.org. Contact Rita Holahan, 401.935.0723 or rlholahan@cox.net.

3 Blackstone River Canal Paddle

Sat., June 13: The Blackstone River was a working river and a great way to explore this piece of history is from the water. Meet at the Blackstone Bikeway River access on Albion Road, Lincoln at 10 a.m. This easy, flat water paddle is about 4 miles long – half on the Blackstone River and half on the Blackstone Canal. Learn a little about what goes into permitting a bridge project from the wetlands perspective as you paddle under it. Sponsored by RIDEM. Contact Chuck Horbert, 401.418.2838 or chorbert@juno.com

4 Hunt River/Davis Memorial Wildlife Refuge

Sat., June 13 and Sun, June 14: Friends of the Hunt River Watershed and the Audubon Society of Rhode Island welcome you to this beautiful wildlife refuge. Come explore this little known river that is in the heart of Rhode Island. Once used to power mills at several locations, the Hunt River is now the home of beaver and other wildlife. This is an easy flat water paddle for both the novice and experienced paddler. Because the number of boats during the event will be limited we are offering the same paddle on two different dates. Meet at the parking lot of the refuge on Davisville Road on Saturday morning at 9 a.m. or at 3 p.m. Sunday for an

afternoon paddle. This event is free but donations to the Friends of the Hunt River Watershed would be appreciated. Sponsored by Friends of the Hunt River Watershed. Contact Barry Martasian, 401.338.4072 or bmar1865@verizon.net.

Note: Recent construction has changed access to Davisville Road from Route 4 South at Exit 7. Use Exit 7A to Frenchtown Road. At the end of the ramp, take a right. At next light, take a right onto Davisville Road.

5 Woonasquatucket River Paddle in Downtown Providence

Thurs., June 18: Go for an after work paddle with the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council (WRWC) and see the City of Providence and the river from a new angle. This is an easy 4 mile paddle on flat water, starting and ending at South Water Street in Providence. Meet at the South Water Street Landing at 6 p.m. The WRWC has canoes and kayaks available for rent but you can also bring your own. Suggested donation: \$5/person for WRWC donors and \$10/person otherwise; boat rental: \$5/person for donors, \$10/person otherwise. Sponsored by the Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council, www.woonasquatucket.org. Contact Bruce Hooke, 401-351-5747 or bhooke@woonasquatucket.org.

6 Ten Mile River Fathers Day Family Paddle

Sun., June 21: Discover the surprising urban wilderness of Pawtucket on this easy 2 mile paddle up the Ten Mile River. We will meet at Armistice Blvd., Pawtucket at 11 a.m. and paddle upstream through the Ten Mile River Reservation. After stopping at a trailhead upriver for a little on-land exploration we will return downstream to our starting point. Good for all levels of experience. There are a limited number of boats available for rent. Bring your own snacks and drinks. Sponsored by the Ten Mile River Watershed Council, www.tenmileriver.net. Contact Keith Gonsalves, 401.474.3813 or ktggroup@aol.com.

continued on page 4

Park Centennial

continued from page 1

developed. Were they to be a public park girded by a circular promenade, or were they to be extensive railroad facilities such as terminals and train yards? The struggle and debate went on for years. In the end, the railroad interests won and the impressive new home of the Governor and the General Assembly, sited on Jefferson Plain, overlooking the Cove got the view of coal car gondolas instead of boats of the same name reminiscent of Venice.

The organizers of the Public Park Association were working off of design ideas that went back into the midst of the 19th century, ideas that came out of the rural cemetery movement, the Centennial Celebration of 1876 and the Columbian Exposition's White City and the City Beautiful Movement of the 1890s. Progressive era urban reformers seeking to create "air holes" and "lungs for the cities" by bringing parks into proximity with crowded, grimy industrial neighborhoods suddenly intersected with the new professional city planners. Bicycles, the new recreational craze of the 1890s, probably exerted greater political influence for paved roadways than the emerging technology of the automobile.

All of these influences coalesced in Rhode Island in the years just after 1900. In 1904, the same year it created the state's first highway department, the General Assembly passed a bill creating the Metropolitan Park Commission. The Commission membership included all the mayors or presidents of the town councils of the municipalities surrounding Providence, plus the presidents of Brown, RISD, the Providence Art Club, and the Chamber of Commerce. The one exception was the small group of appointees from the Public Park Association. They comprised the executive committee of the new commission, and they ran the show.

The ideas and plans that had been gathering since 1883 were quickly

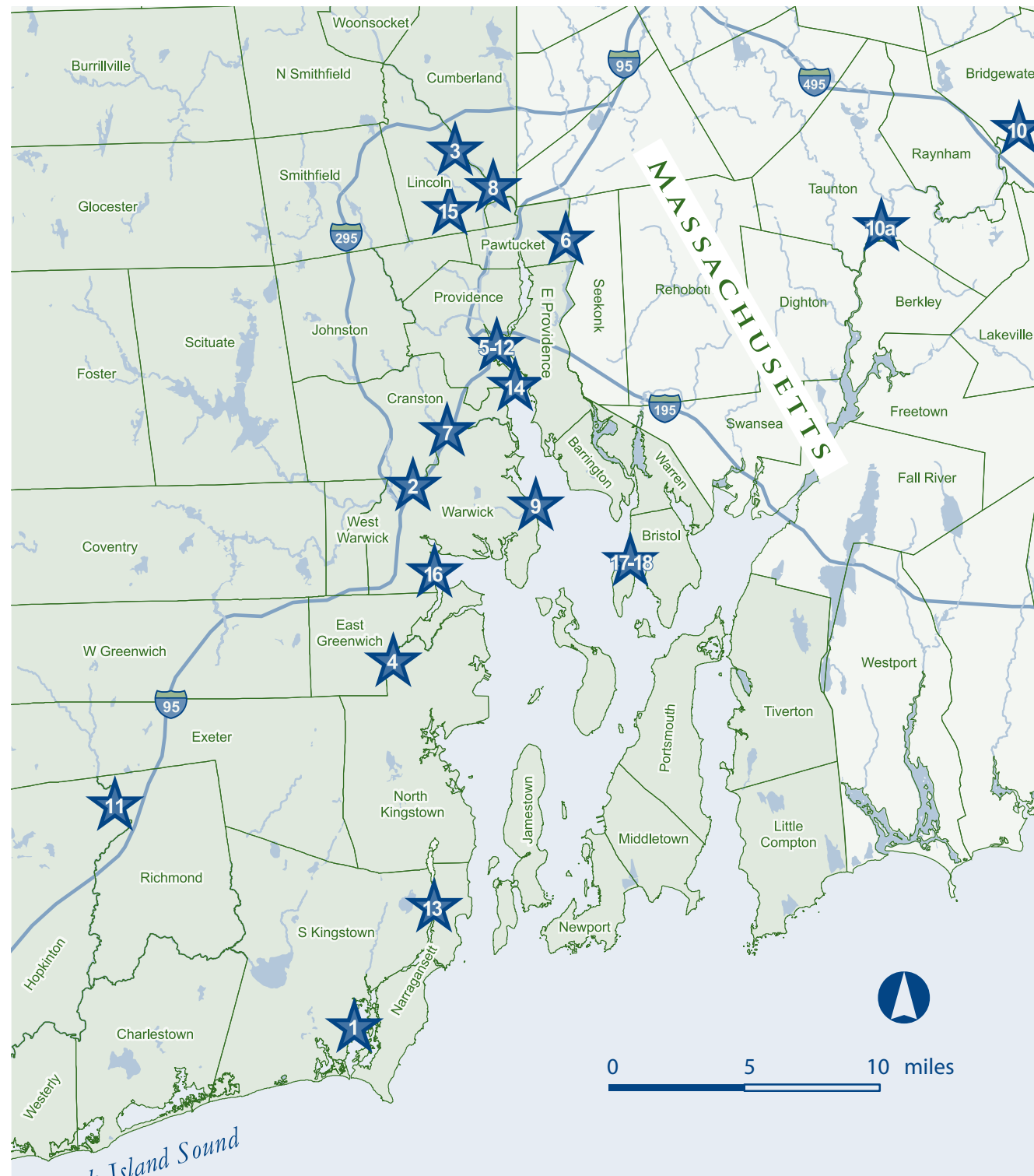
Paddle09 events, cont.

7 **Farm and River Day**
Sat., June 20: Support your local farmers and a local river on this multi-venue event. Friends of the Pawtuxet will offer canoe rentals from the lower Rhodes on the Pawtuxet parking lot, Cranston. They will supply canoes, paddles and life jacket and you paddle the calm river at your own pace for an hour. This is a great trip for kids. Canoes are available at 9, 10 and 11 a.m. Rental fees are \$3/adult and \$1/child. A guided bird walk along the riverbank will leave from the same spot at 8 a.m. that morning and a farmers market will be held on Rhodes Place from 9 a.m. to noon. Sponsored by Friends of the Pawtuxet. Contact Hillary, 401.784.8240 after June 1.

8 **Summer Solstice Paddle**
Sat., June 20: Welcome in summer with this evening paddle on the Blackstone River. Meet at the Blackstone Valley Outfitters store in Cumberland. Plan to leave the store at 6 p.m. and return about 9 p.m. Costs are \$30 and include boat, guide and gear; \$10 for people with their own boat. \$10 will be donated to RIBA. Sponsored by the Blackstone Valley Outfitters, <http://www.bvori.com>. Contact Don Martin, 401.312.0369 or don@bvori.com.

9 **Ride the Tide with Buckeye Brook**
Sat., June 27: Explore the wildlife and picturesque scenery of Buckeye Brook; a jewel within the urban city of Warwick. Meet at the parking lot at Conimicut Point Park, near the play ground area for registration at 9:30 a.m. During this casual paddle you will learn about 300 years of history made in this beautiful watershed, home to one of Rhode Island's only natural free flowing herring runs in the state. The trip should take only about 2 hours, and will start just prior to the incoming high tide. Sponsored by the Buckeye Brook Coalition, www.buckeyebrook.org. Contact Paul Earnshaw, 401.739.6592.

CONNECTICUT



Paddle09 Trips

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Point Judith Pond Salt Ponds Coalition | 10 Taunton River Run Taunton River Watershed All. |
| 2 Great Pawtuxet Scituate Conservation Commission | 10a Taunton Weir Ocean State Adventures |
| 3 Blackstone River RIDEM | 11 Wood River Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Assoc. |
| 4 Hunt River Friends of the Hunt/ASRI | 12 Waterplace Park Blackstone Valley Paddle Club |
| 5 Downtown Providence Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council | 13 Narrow River Narrow River Preservation Assoc. |
| 6 Ten Mile River Ten Mile River Watershed Council | 14 Pawtuxet Cove Save the Bay |
| 7 Rhodes on Pawtuxet Friends of the Pawtuxet | 15 Olney Pond EMS Kayak School |
| 8 Blackstone River Blackstone Valley Outfitters | 16 Wickford Harbor The Kayak Centre |
| 9 Buckeye Brook Buckeye Brook Coalition | 17 Colt State Park RIDEM |
| | 18 Hog Island Ocean State Adventures |

Paddle09 events, cont.

10 **Wild and Scenic Taunton River Run**
Sat., June 27 to Sun June 28: This two day event explores some of the most scenic parts of the Taunton River. Start out on the Town River in Bridgewater and paddle to the Titicut Reservation at the Bridgewater/Middleboro line for a cookout, entertainment, and camping. The next day paddlers will travel to the Weir Village take out in Taunton. Sponsored by the Taunton River Watershed Alliance, www.savethetaunton.org. Contact Carolyn LaMarre, 508.828.1101 or director@savethetaunton.org.

10a **Alternative Taunton River Paddle**
Sun., June 28: Join us at the Weir put-in in Taunton and paddle upstream at a leisurely clip and get a river's-eye view of this old industrial city's once-bustling waterfront. Then paddle downstream to the Berkley Bridge and some of the best scenery and wildlife to be seen in the Southeastern MA area. Meet at Ocean State Adventures, Bristol, RI at 10 a.m. Fee is \$10, including ACA-certified guides and safety equipment. Kayak rentals at \$20 per person for tandems, \$30 for single kayaks; shuttle service \$10. Sponsored by Ocean State Adventures, www.kayakri.com. Contact Jack or Cat Radcliffe, 401.254.4000 or jack@kayakri.com.

11 **Family Paddle on the Wood River**
Sun., June 28: Watch for dragonflies and great blue herons on this lovely 3 mile section of the Wood River. We will meet at the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association campus in Hopkinton at 1 p.m. and head downstream to Wyoming Pond in Richmond. While this section has a few challenging areas, it is still suitable for new paddlers with a little experience. Children should be at least 8 years old. Fees are \$15 per person for members; \$20 for non-members and include boat rentals. Childcare and craft projects are available for younger family members for the same fee rates. Sponsored by the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Association, www.wpwa.org. Contact Denise Poyer, 401.539.9017 or denisep@wpwa.org.

Paddle09 events, continued

Providence River Paddle to Waterplace Park

12 Tues., June 30: Join the Blackstone Valley Paddle Club for this special event open to Blueways Paddle 09 participants for one night only. Meet at the boat ramp off Rt. 44 in East Providence at 5:45 p.m. This 3 mile paddle, suitable for intermediate paddlers, will take you past the hurricane barriers into downtown Providence and the Water Place Park. Bring your own boat; spray skirts are recommended. Sponsored by the Blackstone Valley Paddle Club, www.ricka-flatwater.org/bvschedule.htm (scroll down to June 30). Contact Cheryl Thompson Cameron, 401.647.5887 or stonefoxfarm@juno.com.

Second Annual Pettaquamscutt Paddle

13 Sat., July 11: This 3 hour round-trip tour will explore the lower portion of the Pettaquamscutt (Narrow) River, including John H. Chafee Wildlife Refuge, Pettaquamscutt Cove, and the beach at the mouth of the river. Paddlers will learn about some of the river's unique features, wildlife, and historical background of the watershed. Meet at Narrow River Kayaks at 8:30 a.m. Fee: \$10 per person with own equipment. Discounted kayak rentals available. Refreshments and raffle to follow. Sponsored by the Narrow River Preservation Association, www.narrowriver.org. Contact Jason Considine, 401.317.9755 or narrowriverkayaks@verizon.net.

Save The Bay Summer Paddle

14 Sat., July 11: Join Save The Bay for this saltwater paddle around Pawtuxet Cove and upper Narragansett Bay. This trip comes complete with marine educators, canoe guides, and enthusiastic paddlers. You can bring your own boat or coordinate a canoe rental with STB. Meet at the Aspray Boathouse at 9 a.m. Fees are \$20 members/\$25 non-members. Canoe rental for \$5/canoe (Canoe can hold up to three people). Sponsored by Save The Bay, www.savebay.org. Contact Rob Hancock, 401.272.3540 ext. 103 or rhancock@savebay.org.

Tour Olney Pond

15 Sun., July 19: Have you always wanted to paddle but didn't know where to start? Learn to paddle a kayak or canoe with the experts at EMS Kayak School. ACA certified instructors will help you gain confidence on the water as they take you on a two hour tour of Olney Pond. Meet at the EMS Kayak School, Lincoln Woods Park at 10 a.m. Bring a picnic lunch and enjoy this historic park after the paddle. A nature program provided by the Park may also be available. Cost: \$40 per paddler includes instruction and kayak/canoe rental. Sponsored by EMS. Contact EMS Kayak School, 866.635.2925, or emskayakschool@ems.com.

Wickford Harbor Paddle

16 Sat., July 25: Take a mid-summer evening paddle to explore the historic Wickford Harbor. Meet at The Kayak Centre at 6 p.m. and launch from their facility. Cost per person is \$10. Kayak rentals are available as follows: Tandem kayaks \$20 per person. Single recreational kayak \$25 per person. Sponsored by The Kayak Centre, www.kayakcentre.com. Contact The Kayak Centre, 401.295.4400.

RI Bay Day

17 Sun., July 26: Join the RIBA and RI Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) as we celebrate the Parks Department's 100-year anniversary. This year we are at Colt State Park in Bristol from noon to 3 p.m. Enjoy a free picnic provided by RIDEM in this beautiful park on Narragansett Bay. Participants will converge on the park by paddle, boat, bike and foot. Sponsored by RIDEM. Contact Keith Gonsalves, ktggroup@aol.com.

Mid-Summer's Day Paddle

18 Sat., Aug 1: Meet at Ocean State Adventures's launch site at the head of Bristol's beautiful harbor at 10 a.m. We'll bring picnics along and paddle out to Hog Island where we'll stop and enjoy the calm waters of the lagoon and the sweeping vistas of Narragansett Bay, then return to the harbor around 2:30 p.m. Novices are welcome! Fee is \$10, including ACA-certified guides and safety equipment. Kayak rentals at \$20 per person for tandems, \$30 for single kayaks. Sponsored by Ocean State Adventures, www.kayakri.com. Contact Jack or Cat Radcliffe, 401-254-4000 or jack@kayakri.com.



Below the Albion Dam on the Blackstone River.

Photo by Bruce Hoake.

GARI is able to continue our advocacy for safe and accessible trails thanks, in part, to a grant program with the Narragansett Bay Wheelmen. We'd like to recognize and thank the following Organizational Friends: > AAA Southern New England > RI Blueways Alliance > Woonasquatucket River Watershed Council > West Warwick Friends of the Greenway.

Dear Kaptain Kayak,

Kaptain Kayak is filling in for Dr. Sprocket while the doctor takes a much needed rest. He will return to answer questions in the next issue of Trail Mix.

Q Dear Captain Kayak, With the economic downturn, we have traded in our big boat for a couple of kayaks. We are familiar with boating in Narragansett Bay, but with our new boats, we are interested in exploring smaller waterways. Do you have any suggestions for us?

Paddling in Pawtuxet

A Dear Paddling, Kayaking is great fun! And there are lots of ways for you to learn more about paddling, safety, and places to go in your boats. If you have access to the web, we recommend you visit www.ExploreRI.org. This web site links you to a wide variety of great paddling resources. First, take a virtual tour of your neighborhood and find the rivers and coastal areas near you where you can paddle. Click

on "Where to go paddling." Click on "Boat Launch Map." Zoom into your neighborhood or any area you are interested in exploring in your boat. Icons will show you where boat ramps and small boat access sites are located. When you click on the icon, you can see detailed information about each site. Second, canoe and kayak outfitters are a great source of information on paddling – click on "Outfitters" for information on outfitters in the area. Stop by the stores and talk to the knowledgeable staff about where to paddle. Many outfitters provide safety training, paddling classes and trips. Take advantage of these great services! Third, during June and July, the RI Blueways Alliance promotes a whole calendar of paddle trips throughout the Narragansett Bay watershed. The trips are organized

by watershed groups and outfitters and are led by experienced paddlers who know their local waterways. You have read all about these trips in this newsletter. Give the leaders a call and join in the fun! Finally, get yourself a paddling book so you can curl up next to a warm fire next winter to plan your summer fun. See the "Maps & Books" section of ExploreRI.org for a list of many of the canoe and kayak guidebooks that cover Rhode Island or visit your local outfitter and see which guidebooks they recommend.

Remember to wear your life jacket and stay safe out on the water.

Safe Paddling, Kaptain Kayak



GARI accomplishments

- Our members and supporters:
- > Cooperate with other bicycle and trails groups to support trail and greenway development and to promote bicycle safety.
 - > Communicate with state department directors to encourage improved bicycle and pedestrian resources.
 - > Coordinate and promote September as Rhode Island Trails and Greenways month.
 - > Participate in other state and national trails and environmental support programs.

www.rigreenways.org
Summer 2009

Join GARI today.

GARI is dedicated to improving conditions for cyclists, hikers, and pedestrians, and increasing the number of greenways statewide. Your membership makes this newsletter possible, and enables us to continue working with state and local leaders to ensure Rhode Island has an integrated, well-maintained network of alternative transportation recreation resources.

Name _____ Annual Membership enclosed
 Address _____ Individual \$15
 City _____ Family \$25
 State, Zip _____ Nonprofit \$50
 E-mail _____ Corporate \$100
 Telephone _____ Other: _____
 Fax _____
 Organization _____

Please return membership form with check payable to the Greenways Alliance of Rhode Island to: GARI, 31 Stanchion Street, Jamestown, RI 02835.

Please tell me about GARI meetings by
 E-mail Regular Mail Neither

Join the Greenways Alliance of Rhode Island Today!

Park Centennial

continued from page 4

rolled into the Commission's master plan. By June of 1905 they had a plan of action. In November 1906 they asked the voters for a bond issue of a quarter of a million dollars. It was approved, and they immediately began negotiating for sites and parcels that they had been eyeing for years. On Abraham Lincoln's birthday in 1909, at Hearthiside in Lincoln, they concluded the purchase of their first park and never looked back. One hundred years of parks began.

The first state park plan called for a ring of reservations, beginning on the Ten Mile River, near Slater Park, swinging west to Lincoln Woods, south to Meshanticut and the shore of Cowesett Bay, east along the Pawtuxet River to Pawtuxet, and then across the Bay to Barrington.

The roughly circular arc dotted with these reservations was six miles to the north of Providence and ten miles to the south. Seemingly limited

as a state-wide program, it actually encompassed three quarters of the state's population at the time. Scenic parkways were to be the spokes to these rims, and greenways along the banks of local rivers and streams connected the parks like a string of beads. An efficient system of trolley lines provided the transportation for city dwellers.

By 1935 there were some 14 major state parks and the ring had been expanded to include beaches on the south coast. In the reorganization of state government that year, parks went into the new Department of Agriculture and Conservation. Parks subsequently became part of Public Works (1952), Natural Resources (1965), and DEM (1977).

Over the 100 years two conditions have prevailed:

careful planning and the seizure of unplanned opportunities. Careful planning shows in the unfolding of the bikeways, and opportunities appeared in the disposal of former Navy lands like portions of Bay islands. Surprisingly, a good portion of the aims of the Public Park Association's vision has become reality.

Al Klyberg is a renowned local historian.

Read more about the 100th anniversary at www.riparks.com/100years.htm.

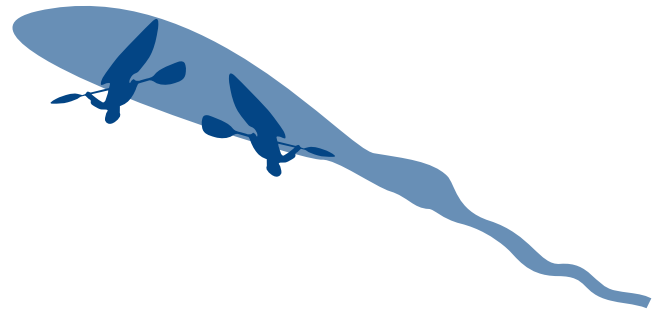


Photo from DEM.

East Bay Bike Path.

Map and Calendar of Events Paddle09

Special Edition!



www.rigreenways.org

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GARI