

LOWCOUNTRY PADDLERS CLUB NEWSLETTER

JULY 2010



# The Yakker



**Making the Most of Our Beautiful Coast**

# Thank goodness for deadlines



**Michael  
Cadoret**

Without deadlines most of us would all be-bop through life accomplishing little. Ralph wouldn't get the club's trips sched-

uled. Dan wouldn't find a speaker. Helon wouldn't get the rosters into ACA. Carol wouldn't get the minutes into the newsletter, and Mikey wouldn't get the Pres's Page into the newsletter or the garage/workshop cleaned up!

As I write this my deadline for much on my plate is tonight at bedtime since I need to be at the Roper Outpatient tomorrow at O-Dark-Thirty. After that, some things left on my plate just ain't gonna happen for a bit.

Most of the tasks left undone

will be my own fault for procrastinating, not because I ran out of time. I often lose focus and am an admitted All-Time-Procrastinator!

And the subject of Deadlines has found priority this last day of all out mobility because the LCP Club Members are facing a deadline also. In only three weeks, at the July club meeting, the members will vote on a new slate of officers. But to date, only three members have made any nominations at all!

Y'all need to get your nominations in to me NOW so I can confirm with those nominated that they will indeed run and then finalize a slate for voting.

I will not be running for re-election to president, nor for any other board position. But rest assured those newly elected will not be thrown to the wolves without guidance.

The sitting board members are willing to meet with those finally elected to fill their positions to provide for an orderly transfer of duties and both Helon and I have created systems and informational guidelines to facilitate a turn-key operation.

I must have your nominations not later than July 12 to verify acceptance.

Assuming that by the July meeting we have accepted nominations for all positions, we will have our scheduled election.

Should we not have nominees to fill board positions the July meeting will be devoted to a frank discussion of how the membership wishes to proceed for the future of the club. The ideas, suggestions and decisions will be made that night, July 19.

This is your club and your decision to make. Attend the July meeting and vote.

## *LCP June club meeting*

Many thanks to Dave Clifford of Charleston Watersports for hosting the June monthly meeting at his new store on Ben Sawyer Boulevard.

Not only did Dave provided fish tacos, shrimp/crab dip and drinks, but he also extended

discounts on apparel and hard goods. The members enjoyed a very different "meeting experience" and got to socialize and check out gear and clothing.

Thanks again Dave!

## **Photos for new directory**

We are building a photo directory of the LCP Club which will be available electronically to all club members. We will start tak-

ing photos at the next club meeting. However, if you have a favorite picture of yourself kayaking or just enjoying life, please

submit it via e-mail to:

[lowcountrypaddlers@yahoo.com](mailto:lowcountrypaddlers@yahoo.com)

and type "LCP Directory" in the subject line.

# LCP meeting minutes for June 21, 2010

This month's meeting was held at the new Charleston Water Sport Store on Ben Sawyer Boulevard in Mount Pleasant.

President Michael Cadoret opened our meeting by welcoming the 49 attendees, including three new members, to the Charleston Water Sport store for our monthly club meeting.

Michael thanked Dave Clifford, owner of the store, for inviting us and providing the club with drinks and a delicious catered dinner of fish tacos and crab dip. Following the club meeting, members were allowed to shop, receiving a 25% discount off all clothing, and 10% off all other goods.

## OLD BUSINESS

The May LCP Club minutes were approved as published on the web and in The Yakker.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance	2639.49
Receipts	211
Disbursements	-378.91
Outstanding Checks	347.77
Bank Balance	2,829.55

Helon Everett read the treasurer's report and it was accepted and approved as read.

## **Club Picnic**

Over 50 members attended the club picnic & paddle last week at Givhan's State Park. Judging for the photo contest was held at the picnic, and Jim Miller won in two different categories. Our other winners were:

Michael Rains, Bonnie Caruso, Michael Condon and Brenda Hockensmith. Each winner received a \$25.00 Wal-Mart gift card. Congratulations to all!

Michael introduced Michael & Sue Rains as the club's newest newlyweds. Congratulations & Best Wishes!!

## NEW BUSINESS

Upcoming Club Paddles:

- Saturday, June 26, Andy Burgess will lead a trip from Garris landing to the North end of Bull Island. This is a three star paddle.
- Saturday, July 10, Ralph Earhart will lead a 14 mile loop trip on the Ashley River from Pierpont Landing to North-bridge. This is a two star paddle. Meet at the landing at 10:00 a.m.
- Saturday, July 17, Andy Burgess will lead a trip from Pitch Landing on Echaw Creek to McConnell's Landing on the Santee River. Meet at the Shell gas station on Hwy 17 & 45 in McClellanville at 8:15 a.m.

Alex Graham, who is coordinating a paddle trip to Honduras, said that there is only one spot remaining. Currently, 10 people have signed up to go on the February, 2011 trip. Contact Alex at 324-1156 or [alexgrahamccim@gmail.com](mailto:alexgrahamccim@gmail.com)

Michael Cadoret proposed the idea of having a Pictorial Directory for LCP, like the Charles-

ton Shag Club has for its members. He said that Randy suggested that this could be done on-line at no cost. He polled those present, and no one objected to their name and picture being used in this way.

Michael said that there have been three nominations for club officers so far. There have not been any nominations for president yet. Members are welcome to nominate themselves. We will vote at our July club meeting, 7/19/10, and the new board will take over in August.

Deirdre Mays has resigned as Editor of The Yakker and Randy Smith has volunteered to take over. Loud applause was heard.

Michael extended a warm thank you to Julie Feeley for leading the locks trip, it was a great trip!

Robbie Freeman, who is the managing partner of the Charleston City Marina, was at the meeting, and told us of a new launch site. It is at Brittlebank Park, connected to the Bristol Marina. You do not have to go through the marina to get to the launch. It is a 'low profile' 100-ft dock on the Lower Ashley River. The launch closes at dark.

This concluded the business portion of our meeting, and members were able to browse around the shop at this time.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Smith



Lowcountry Paddlers are from near and far, in canoes and kayaks of all shapes and sizes, and are at all skill levels. They share the enjoyment found in joining together to appreciate the abundant natural beauty that surrounds us in South Carolina.

Our meetings are usually held on the third Monday of each month and are informal. They are open to nonmembers and guests, and provide a great way to learn about the club and meet our members. Meetings normally include a guest speaker from 7-8 p.m. followed by a short session of club business. They generally conclude by 8:30 p.m.

**Join us at our next meeting  
at 7 p.m. July 19**

at

Providence Baptist Church  
294 Seven Farms Drive  
Daniel Island.

Contact us at:  
Lowcountry Paddlers  
P.O. Box 13242  
Charleston, SC 29422

Visit our Web site:  
[www.lowcountrypaddlers.net](http://www.lowcountrypaddlers.net)

Members of the  
American Canoe Association



Please recycle



## *Riding herd in a kayak*

**By Randy Smith**

A few weeks back, I joined Helon, Bill, Allen, Michael Condon, Deb Mitchum, and a number of other kayakers from the area, as a volunteer for the 9th Annual Lowcountry Splash open water swim event.

There were over 200 swimmers registered for the 2.4 mile trek from Hobcaw Landing to the marina at Patriot's Point. Our job in the kayak was to watch the swimmers, keep them in the marked swim path, and assist any swimmer in distress.

The kayakers launched from Remley's Point and headed to Hobcaw. When the race started, I was waiting out near the first buoy.

From a distance, the swimmers arms looked like a bunch of crazy geese with their heads bobbing all over the place. I can understand why it was so important to have as many kayakers on the water as possible. With all those bodies in the water, the more eyes, the better.

I almost felt a bit like a cowboy riding the range. Every once in a while, a swimmer would stray out of the buoy lanes, and I would head out to them and steer them back onto the trail.

Unfortunately for one poor

fellow, I was blocking his lane and he never looked up to see that I was pointing for him to swim left.

He also didn't hear me yelling, and he swam into my kayak. Ouch!

It didn't seem to faze him though, and it did set him back on the right track. The way the waves and currents caused the swimmers to zigzag, I would imagine that many of them swam a little more than 2.4 miles.

It was my first time at this, and I did get better at positioning myself further ahead of the swimmers and using my arms just like a flight attendant directing 747's.

I even used the back stroke a time or two, getting out of the way of swimmers who were missing my signals. Maybe next year I'll bring a couple of those flashlights with the long orange caps from the airport.

If you are one of those who can plan far in advance (I'm more of a spur of the moment guy), mark your calendars for the 2010 Memorial Weekend for the 10th Lowcountry Splash. It's a nice paddle, and I had a great time!

You can read more about the annual event at their web-site:

[www.lowcountrysplash.com](http://www.lowcountrysplash.com).



# LCP 2010 summer picnic

By Michael Cadoret

What a great party! Thanks to all who helped Sally & I host the summer picnic at Givhans Ferry State Park. We all met at the road junction of Hwy 61 and the road to Givhans at 0830 the morning of 13 July.

Those paddling left their food contributions with me and Sally accepted and organized the entries for the Photo Contest. Then off the paddlers went!



After launching at Marsoldfield landing, the group paddled their way down the Edisto finally reaching the very crowded shores of Givhans. Yes, crowded.

It seems that the entire population of Summer-ville had decided to spend the hot and sultry day tubing this great river.

All the while, the party staff prepped for the paddlers arrival. Jill and Kenny, Sue and Michael, Brenda, Bonnie, Sue, Sally and I set up food tables, prepped charcoal, burgers, dogs and drinks.

As the Happy Paddlers munched and gulped, we raffled off door prizes (Greg and Dave were the winners), conducted the photo contest (with two categories won by Jim Miller – other winners were Michael Condon, Brenda Hockensmith, Bonnie Caruso and Michael Rains) and otherwise got them ready to get back in their boats (some now having to squeeze into their cockpits!) and finish the trip.

Then off they went, to the take out at Misservy Landing. Talk about “Making the Most of Our Beautiful Coast!”

What a day!

## CCPRC July Calendar

### Canoeing At Caw Caw

Enjoy an interpretive canoe trip back to the age of rice through canals that now are one of the richest wildlife habitats in the Lowcountry. A registered and paid chaperone is required for participants ages 15 and under. Age: 9 & up. Meets at: Caw Caw Interpretive Center. Fee: \$15/\$12 CCR Discount.

**July 10 Sat 9-11:30am Course # 22727**

### ACA Introduction to Kayaking -Level 1

ACA certified instructors help you learn a new skill comfortably and enjoyably. Using a variety of boats, this entry-level course teaches you basic strokes and skills to have fun on the water! Meets at: James Island County Park Age: 16 & up. Fee: \$36/\$30 CCR Discount.

**July 10 Sat 1-5pm Course # 22695**

### ACA Essentials of Kayak Touring -Level 2

This course is designed to teach beginners to paddle sea kayaks safely on lakes and other flatwater settings without wind, waves or current. Boats, equipment, safety, and basic strokes and rescues will be covered. Meets at: James Island County Park Age: 16 & up. Fee: \$54/\$45 CCR Discount

**July 17 Sat 9am-4pm Course # 22696**

### ACA Strokes and Maneuvers Refinement -Level 3

Using on-water practice, our ACA certified instructors will assist you in performing your strokes and maneuvers with efficiency, fluidity, and control. Meets at: James Island County Park. Age: 16 & up. Fee: \$36/\$30 CCR Discount.

**July 18 Sun 9am-1pm Course # 22694**

### Sea Kayak Rescues -Level 3

Can you recover from an unplanned capsiz in rough water? Certified instructors will cover self and assisted rescues and the strokes that make the rescues efficient. Meets at: James Island County Park. Age: 16 & up. Fee: \$36/\$30 CCR Discount.

**July 18 Sun 2-5pm Course # 22693**

### Intermediate Greenland Kayak Rolling

Greenland kayakers learn 30 different capsiz recoveries. We'll perfect our basic

traditional rolls before plunging into exciting variations. Students should already be proficient in rolls. Participants ages 13-15 can register for this course, but must be accompanied by an adult chaperone. Meets at: Splash Zone. Age: 13 & up. Fee: \$36/\$30 CCR Discount

**July 20-22 Tue, Thu 6:30-8:30pm Course # 22674**

### Long Savannah Full Moon Canoe

Paddle the old rice fields along Rantowles Creek while the full moon rises over the lowcountry forest. Navigate the old irrigation channels near one of CCPRC newest park properties. Meets at: CCPRC Headquarters. Age: 16 & up. Fee: \$36/\$30 CCR Discount.

**July 23 Fri 5:30-8:30pm Course # 22671**

### Caw Caw Sunset/Moonrise Paddle

Enjoy an interpretive paddle at dusk in Caw Caw Swamp and watch the moon rise over Tea Farm Creek. A registered and paid chaperone is required for participants ages 15 and under. Meets at: Caw Caw Interpretive Center. Age: 9 & up. Fee: \$18/\$15 CCR Discount

**July 24 Sat 6:30-9pm Course # 22729**

### Morris Island Lighthouse Inlet Heritage Preserve

Departing Folly River boat landing, we'll kayak to Lighthouse Inlet Heritage Preserve. Morris Island Lighthouse will be on our horizon as we paddle with the dolphins to this amazing historical place in the Lowcountry. Once there, we'll explore the beach and old Coast Guard Station and then catch the shuttle ride back. Meets at: CCPRC Headquarters. Age: 16 & up. Fee: \$48/\$40 CCR Discount

**July 25 Sun 11:00am-3:30pm Course # 22688**

**LCP members receive a 20% discount on all water-based programs by registering by phone with CCPRC Park and Program**

**Services. Preregistration is required for all programs and some special events. Please call (843) 795-4FUN or visit [www.ccprc.com](http://www.ccprc.com) to register.**



CHARLESTON COUNTY PARK  
& RECREATION COMMISSION