

The Yakker

The Lowcountry Paddlers Club Newsletter

March, 2012

Message From The President,

“We all have Things to Learn”



The East Coast Canoe and Kayak Festival is just around the corner. We are lucky to have this kind of event in our area. The festival brings in many high quality instructors. If you are interested in furthering your kayaking skills I suggest you take some of the Master Classes that are offered. If you volunteer with CCPRC for 8 hours you can get your registration for free. Then all you have to do is pay for the Master Classes you want to take. One of the instructors I know and would encourage you to take classes from is my all time favorite instructor – Ben Lawry. He is an innovator and other instructors learn a lot from him. Tom Nichols once taught here. He is back for the festival and I have heard great things about his bracing class. I got my ACA instructor certification from Cathy Piffath and I thought she was great. If you are interested in learning how to surf there are 3 surfing classes being offered. One is being taught by Dale Williams and 2 by Roger Schumann. Do not pass up this opportunity to get instruction from some of the greatest kayak instructors out there.

Upcoming Events

March 10 Plantation Island in Lake Marion

March 17 Bennetts Point to Otter Island

March 19 Next Meeting

March 24 Sparkleberry Swamp



**LOWCOUNTRY
PADDLERS**

We are a socially and economically diverse organization with one common link...a love of paddling. Whether kayak or canoe, expert or beginner, we all enjoy the camaraderie and the beauty of South Carolina's waterways.

Our meetings are held on the third Monday of each month (except December), with club paddles scheduled throughout the year. Please join us and share in the fun!

Lowcountry Paddlers meet at:
Providence Baptist Church 294
Seven Farms Drive Daniel
Island

Join us at our next meeting
March 19th at 7 p.m.

LCP Club Officers

President

Helon Everett

Vice-President

Michele Powell

Treasurer

David Bearse

Secretary

Leslie Maple



Anhinga by Leslie Maple
Weeki Wackee River, Fla.

Feb 2012



Great Blue Heron By Andy Burgess
Hobcaw Creek, SC

Feb 2012

Florida Camping February 16 - 19:

A group of 12 LCP Kayakers traveled to the Weeki Wackee River and Three-Sisters Springs, Florida to paddle with Manatees. Led by Michael Struve the group was not disappointed as the photos taken by Leslie Maple show. According to Helon Everett the group saw the following on the camping trip:

A hoard of Manatee

Bald Eagles

Sand Hill Cranes

Valerie Ignorantious

Tiger Shark

Monkeys – not the flying kind

Canoe pirouette that would have made Karen Knight proud

Closed Cell Foam eating vultures

Anhinga having a bad hair day

Smelly Flatulence

Big black bear

Otter

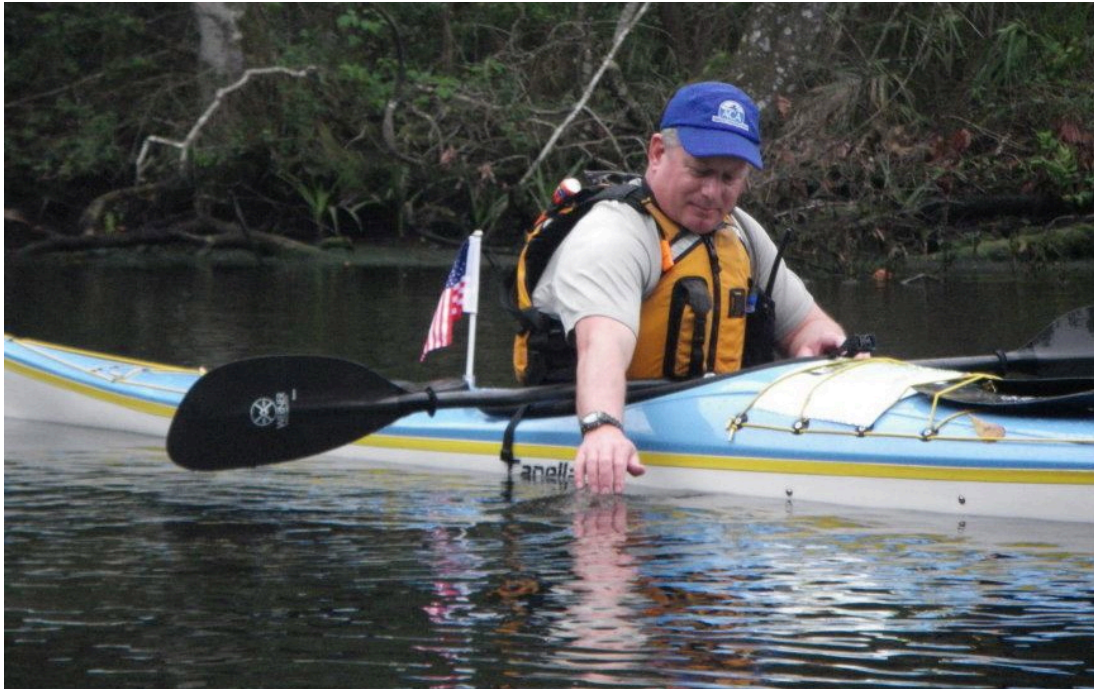
Hippo

Moped riding long hair Chihuahua

3 Sister Springs named after the 3 sisters with us - Leslie, Valerie, and Patti



The group paddling around Manatees



Michael touching a Manatee



Adult Manatee and babies

Oyster Roast February 4th

Fifty-three LCP members and guests attended a super oyster roast at the home of Bobbi and Billy Conner on Boone Hall Creek. Many thanks Bobbi and Billy.



WELCOME

NEW MEMBERS

Matt Clark
Diana Belknap

LOWCOUNTRY PADDLERS MEETING

February 20, 2012

Lowcountry Paddlers Meeting
February 20, 2012
Minutes

President Helon Everett opened the meeting by welcoming the 33 members and two guests in attendance.

SPEAKER:

Our speaker for this evening is Bill Johnson. Bill was a member of the LCP until he moved to the Edisto area about five years ago. Bill volunteers at Botany Bay Plantation on Edisto Island, where he puts his Master Naturalist status to good use. Bill is a wonderful photographer, and brought numerous slides of the resident birds, butterflies, plants, reptiles, and his favorite study...dragonflies (having sex!), to share with us. Botany Bay is approximately 4,600 acres, and runs the biggest Loggerhead preservation project in SC. There are two miles of beach, which is eroding. When compared with a map from 1850, you can see that one mile of beach has been lost. There is a \$470 fine for removing sea shells. If you go there to launch your kayak, don't bring a trailer, as they are not allowed on the property, due to the increased road maintenance that they may create. The plantation operates only on profits distributed from SC Hunting License fees. It is not supported by any state funds or taxpayer money.

OLD BUSINESS:

The minutes from the January meeting were approved as published in the Yakker and on our web-site.

NEW BUSINESS:

Treasurers Report:

Beginning Balance	\$1,942.69
Total Receipts	\$1,424.00
Disbursements	\$891.09
Balance	\$2,475.60

Dave reported that 114 members have renewed so far, and that we are "doing well" financially. There were 53 attendees at the oyster roast. \$640 was collected in admission fees, and our total expenses were \$710.

By-Law Vote:

Membership voted to approve the changes to the trip leader and participant requirements as presented. The by-laws are posted on our web-site.

Trip Leader Report:

March 10 - Julie Feeley will lead a loop-trip on Lake Marion to Plantation Island. This is a Level I trip covering about 8 miles in semi sheltered waters. As Julie was not present, she will be sending out an e-mail with more details prior to the trip. Michael Cadoret commented that this trip is well worth the drive; "lots of wildlife." On his last trip he saw approximately 60 Osprey nesting. It is an "absolutely gorgeous" trip!

March 17 - Helon Everett will lead a loop-trip from Bennetts Point to Otter Island via the Ashepoo River. This is a Level III trip-app.16 miles - semi open, fast pace. She mentioned a stop at local watering hole afterwards. Check the web-site for more details.

Ed Deal volunteered to lead the Sparkleberry Swamp trip which is scheduled for March 24.

ECC&KF:

Volunteers are needed to help out at the LCP Tent during the ECC&KF. If you can spend an hour or two helping out, please let us know which day and time you prefer. Don & Leslie will be in charge of the tent on Friday, 4/20, Michelle on Saturday, 4/21, and Dave on Sunday, 4/22. More details to follow.

Erin Guerrero, CCPRC Volunteer Coordinator, is also in need of volunteers for the Festival. If you volunteer for 8 hours you will receive a free weekend pass.

Oyster Roast:

On behalf of all club members, Helon thanked Bobbi & Billy Conner for hosting the Oyster Roast at their beautiful home. We all appreciate it very much!

Newsletter:

Helon thanked Andy Burgess, who has volunteered to be our Newsletter Editor. Andy requested that we get articles to him by the end of the month. You can e-mail them to lowcountrypaddlers@yahoo.com.

Florida Camping Trip:

Mike Struve reported on the camping trip to Citrus County Park in Florida, where they were able to actually pet the Manatees! Mike said that they had an "absolutely awesome trip"! His next trip will be to Santee for the Sparkleberry Swamp club trip. (But he says there won't be any manatees there!) Mike has site #146 reserved at the Lakeshore Campground on March 23.

The Charleston Patriot Challenge:

Wyndy Amerson spoke on behalf of the Patriot Challenge. She asked everyone to get up on their feet, rise up on their toes, and concentrate on their feet & ten toes against the floor. Then she reminded us that some of our wounded veterans cannot perform this simple task - point taken. The Patriot Challenge Organization is a 501c3 non-profit, and the funds raised at this year's event will be used to help local disabled veterans right here in the Lowcountry. These funds will build wheelchair ramps, or could provide other adaptive home renovations to help our disabled veterans live a more independent life. Funds could also be used to purchase adaptive paddling equipment.

Wyndy thanked the LCP for all their help with last year's event, and invites us to help out again this year. Sign-up sheets for the various volunteer opportunities are on the table in the back.

The 2011 inaugural Patriot Challenge had 129 paddlers on the water, this year we are hoping to increase it to 250. Every participant is eligible to win a door prize; you don't have to win a race. They will be giving away dinners for two, SC Aquarium passes, and an Epic V8 Kayak, just to mention a few! Lunch will be served up by some local Boy Scouts, so why not support them by purchasing a hot dog, hamburger or some BBQ!

So come on out to Brittle Bank Park on April 28. The race starts at 1:00. We encourage you to decorate your boat, and even dedicate your paddle to honor a veteran. For additional information, go to our website at www.charlestonpatriotchallenge.org.

Door prizes were distributed, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol Smith for Leslie Maple, Secretary



Visit Us on the Web!
www.lowcountrypaddlers.net





Upcoming CCPRC Events!



Master Naturalist

CCPRC AND Clemson U are offering the Certified Master Naturalist program for people interested in understanding the protecting the state's valuable natural resources.

Mar 6 – Jun 5 Meets Weekly on Tuesday Course # 27271

Fee \$625/\$600 CCR Discount – No further Discount for LCP members

Master Naturalist Sampler

Would you like to take our Master Naturalist course but don't have the time. We now offer half-day sessions.

Mar 14th Naturalist Training at Future Park Site In Meggett Course # 27265

Fee \$12/\$10 CCR Discount – No further Discount for LCP members

Folly Beach Bird Walks

This walk focuses on the northeast end of Folly Island. We hope to see songbirds as well as a variety of shorebirds and seabirds such as Piping Plovers and Northern Gannets!

Mar 9th Fri 8:30am-10:30am Course # 27002

Apr 13th Fri 8:30am-10:30am Course # 27003

Meets at: Lighthouse Inlet Heritage Preserve Fee: Free

Local Sea Kayak Trips

Fort Sumter and Cummings Point

March 25 1:00pm-5:00pm Course # 27014

Meets at: HeadQuarters: \$48/\$40CCR Discount Age: 16 & up

SunSet/Moonrise Paddle from Sunrise Park

March 8th 5:30pm – 8:00pm Course #27008

Fee: \$36/\$30CCR Discount Age: 16 & up

Instructional Courses

Introduction To Kayak Rolling

Mar 5,7,9 Mon, Wed, Fri Course # 27010 Fee: \$48/\$40 CCR Discount

Intro to Kayaking

Mar 17, 12:30-4:30 Fee: \$42/35 CCR Course # 27022

Essentials of Kayak Touring

Mar 31 9:30am 3:00pm Fee \$60/\$50 CCR Discount Course # 27020

Introduction to Stand Up Paddleboard

Mar 10 12:00-1:30 Fee \$24/\$20 CCR Discount Course 27023

Mar 24 12:00-1:30 Fee \$24/\$20 CCR Discount Course 27025

Mar 25 1:30-3:00 Fee \$24/\$20 CCR Discount Course 27026

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

Please call (843) 795-4FUN or visit www.ccprc.com.
