

The Badger Paddler

Official Newsletter of the Wisconsin Canoe Racing Association

March, 2009

Lots of New Races for 2009

2009 is shaping up to be a banner year for new races and major additions to existing races. You can find complete calendars online at www.wicanoeracing.com, or in next month's edition of the Badger Paddler. In the meantime, however, here is a summary of the major changes and additions:

- **April 17 and 18, Burlington C-1 & K-1.** Burlington used to be strictly a single-bladed affair. However, this year, the event is expanding to two days. Saturday will be C-1 – as usual. New this year, Sunday will be K-1. Kayakers should expect the same great course and fun handicap / pursuit format that canoe people have been enjoying for years. Contact Fritz Hansen, 262/767-9393, fritz5152@yahoo.com, www.c1pursuit.com
- **April 25, Manitowish Waters Race.** What used to be the Wausau Paddling Criterium is no longer in Wausau and it's no longer a criterium. This race is moving to Northern Wisconsin and will be a point-to-point race down the Manitowish River. The web page describes the course as "Approximately a two hour race or a three hour float. Nice steady flowing river with many turns, two sections of rapids with rocks. A mix of shallow, suck and deep water." Al Limberg, 715/845-1637, callmeal57@charter.net, www.badgerevents.com
- **June 6, Clean Lakes Festival Canoe & Kayak Race.** At Olin Park in Madison (Lake Monona), The Clean Lakes Festival is in its second year. This is the first year that a canoe / kayak race will be included as part of the program. Format is either one or three laps around a 4 mile loop. This is a nice course at a great location – within a few blocks of downtown Madison, but also very easy to get to because it's just a short distance from the Beltline Highway. info@cleanlakesfestival.com, www.cleanlakesfestival.com.
- **June 19, 20, and 21 Washington Island Canoe and Kayak Event.** This event will feature a seakayak symposium, and races. The marathon race will be a circumnavigation of Washington Island (about 22 miles), and there will also be shorter races. Obviously, this course not suitable for our normal marathon canoes and flatwater kayaks, but it should be loads of fun. Get your hands on a surfski, outrigger canoe, or seakayak. <http://www.washingtonislandcanoeandkayakevent.com/index.html>
- **July 11 and 12, Wisconsin River Race / Big Five Challenge (aka "Muscodá").** Sunday, July 12, Muscodá will be the same great format that it has always been, with 21, 15, or 8 mile point-to-point races. The new feature for 2009 is the "Saturday Night Special" race. This race will start and end at the park in Muscodá. It is for C-1s and K-1s only. The course is not yet established, but plan on about 40 minutes for the fastest paddlers. There will be no extra charge to race both days. For info on the Saturday Night Special, contact Kevin LeRoy 608/712-0476, Kevin.leroy@tds.net. For info on the Muscodá see www.wicanoeracing.com
- **August 1, Waterford Canoe and Kayak Race.** 12 mile Canoe/Kayak Race and 5 mile recreational class race beginning at Swaze Park in Big Bend and ending at the "Iron Bridge" in Tichhigan. Family friendly festival to follow. www.waterford-wi.com. 262/534-5911

**ANNOUNCEMENT
RACE / MEETING / OPEN HOUSE
March 14, 2009**

RACE

The annual Wisconsin Season Opener is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 14. The location is Tenny Park, in downtown Madison, on the Yahara River. The parking and staging area is downstream from the lock & dam, on River Left, it's the parking lot off of Sherman Avenue, where the community boat racks are located.

MEETING

WCRA will hold a business meeting beginning at approximately 5:30 on Saturday, March 14. The meeting will be at the home of Kevin LeRoy and Julie Snyder, 5605 Montadale Street, Fitchburg, Wisconsin. Agenda will include: election of new officers, Developments at Muscoda and other races, and other business.

OPEN HOUSE

In conjunction with the race and the meeting, Kevin and Julie will be hosting an open house from about 4:30 until about 9:00. Please feel free to stop in – even if you have no interest in participating in the WCRA meeting. We will provide a big pot of organic, vegetarian, tofu chili, and a sandwich platter. Please feel free to bring additional food and beverages (if you like). Also, we have a hot-tub. Bring a swimsuit and towel.

For more information regarding the race, meeting, or open house, please contact Kevin LeRoy, 608/273-0476 (home), 608/712-0980 (cell) or Kevin.leroy@tds.net if you need more information.

WCRA OFFICERS and Contact Information

- President (vacant)
- Kevin LeRoy, Vice President and Newsletter Editor, 608/273-0476, Kevin.leroy@charter.net
- Kai Hansen, Treasurer
- Fritz Hansen, Competition Director, 262/878-2777, fchansen@wi.net
- Neil Hanks, Webmaster, 262/242-1539, neil@ProDeal.net

- Official WCRA webpage: <http://www.wicanoeracing.com/>
- E-mail discussion group about canoe / kayak racing and training in Wisconsin (not officially associated with WCRA, but many common members): <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wckr>

DELIVERY OF THIS NEWSLETTER

If you are reading this, that means that this newsletter has found its way into your hands or your computer. That's good. I have e-mail addresses for most WCRA members (and people who were members a couple years ago), and have e-mailed this newsletter to as many people as possible. We are also sending a few on old-fashion paper through the old-fashion mail. If you received this the old-fashion way, but wouldn't mind switching to e-mail delivery, please contact Kevin LeRoy and provide your e-mail address.