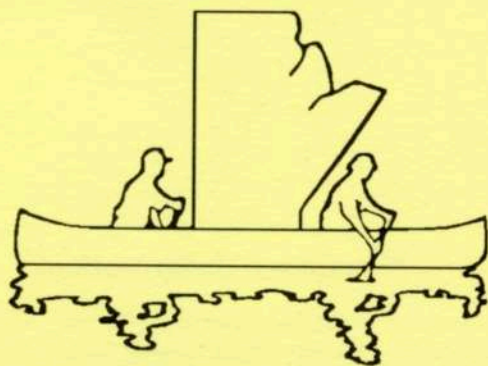


CHECK THE MAILING LABEL ON THE BACK COVER FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRY DATE



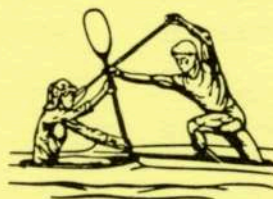
# MRCA NEWSLETTER

Volume 10 Number 4  
Fall 1997

## Manitoba Recreational Canoeing Association

### In this issue . . .

Indoor Program Series  
Kirk Wipper Lecture  
Kayak Touring News  
Fall Meets Winter at Mantario  
Environmental Indignities  
Editorial  
MRCA Membership Application and Renewal  
Canoe and Kayak Trip Survey Log



MANITOBA PADDLING ASSOCIATION



Printed by

*sports & life*  
SPORT MANITOBA

Manitoba





# MRCA 1997/98

## Executive & Committees

POSITION	EXECUTIVE	PHONE
President	Marcel Ritchot cell phone: 792-3154	256-3690
Vice-President	VACANT	
Secretary	Irene Furgale irene.furgale@mts.mb.ca	489-6907
Treasurer	Frank Penner fpenner@ilos.net	667-1513
Past-President	Steven Fletcher sflecthe@mb.synpatco.ca	284-7846

COMMITTEE	CHAIRPERSON	PHONE
Membership	Julie Gold jgold@escape.ca	475-3224
Instruction	VACANT	
Resource (Route Info)	Gerry Hirose ghirose@aircanada.ca	985-5949
Indoor Program	Eileen Smerchanski	586-5936
Newsletter	Jenny Gates jennyg@magic.mb.ca	774-5832
Trip (Outings)	Donna Kurt dkurt@mbnet.mb.ca	334-3111
Bingo	Jerry Zaste	888-2442

*Positions valid through to October 1, 1998*

### AFFILIATIONS

The MRCA is affiliated with the **Manitoba Paddling Association** and the **Canadian Recreational Canoeing Association**:

MPA Executive Director - Denis Van Laeken - (204) 925-5681  
CRCA Executive Director - Joseph Agnew - (613) 269-2910

### Newsletter Information

This Newsletter is published quarterly (February, May, August and November). One copy is sent to each MRCA Membership. Classified Ads cost 25 cents per word per issue, with a minimum of 12 words (Individual and Family Members may place up to 40 words free).

The cost for Corporate Ads are as follows:

- \$25 per eighth page (business card or 3.25 x 2 inches)
- \$35 per quarter page (3.25 x 4.25 or 7 x 2 inches)
- \$45 per half page (3.25 x 9 or 7 x 4.25 inches)
- \$75 per full page (7 x 9 inches).

Run an ad in four consecutive issues for:

- \$90 (eighth page)
- \$125 (¼ page)
- \$160 (½ page)
- \$270 (full page).

Art work is available on request for a nominal charge. Rates are subject to change.

Ad copy and payment (cheque to "MRCA") and other submissions must be received by the Newsletter Editor VIA MAIL ONLY, one month prior to issue date.

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE MRCA NEWSLETTER ARTICLES, ADVERTISEMENTS OR INSERTS DO NOT NECESSARILY REFLECT THE OPINIONS OF THE MRCA BOARD OR MRCA MEMBERSHIP.

**DEADLINE FOR THE WINTER (FEBRUARY) 1998  
NEWSLETTER IS JANUARY 20.**

Send Submissions to:

**MRCA Newsletter, P.O. Box 2663,  
Winnipeg MB R3C 4B3**

MRCA home page  
Internet URL address:

<http://130.179.24.217/mrca/mrca.html>

Check for web links to MRCA members' web pages / E-mail

**Cover photo:** Marta and Denise looking down on Lake Three from Up-n-Over Portage (see article pages 8 to 11). Photo by Donna Kurt.

# MRCA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Marcel Ritchot

The first snow has fallen, which means, of course, that this is a good time for canoeists and kayakers. We have a few short months of winter to reflect on the memories of the past summer's exciting excursions, and also to live - in our imagination, at least, and hopefully with some envy - the experiences of others. Let's talk it up, and share the enthusiasm about our own recent wilderness trips. The information that is passed on is often the first step towards the discovery of a new river for someone else.

It has been my privilege, in a career of nearly 30 years as a professional pilot, to gaze down with great yearning at all the lakes and rivers, from the High Arctic down, and from the Maritimes up to Alaska, and dream ... dream of some day paddling these lakes or maybe that river. A good number of these musings have already been relegated to the realm of fond memories. And yet, if one's group is paddling down an Arctic river, the few people you might encounter may not be Canadian. Paddlers from all over the world consider it their trip of a lifetime to finally descend one of our many wonderful rivers.

On a Black River - Thelon River floatplane camping odyssey, a friend and I met on the Baillie River. Aki, a Japanese solo kayaker, was on a 72-day trip from Yellowknife to Gyoa Haven. For Aki, this has been a yearly endeavour for the past 20 years - to travel a Canadian Arctic river. His experiences, of course, were fascinating, but he asked of us one question: "Where are the Canadians?"

In just a bit over a month, the days will already start getting longer. There is still some time to plan that next exciting trip on the water.

## INTRODUCING THE NEW MRCA EXECUTIVE FOR 1997/98

At the recent Annual General Meeting (September 24, 1997), the MRCA Executive were elected for the next 12 months. Some carried over from the last executive, and it was great to see some 'new' faces involved. The phone number and other information for each member of the Executive are listed on the inside front cover of every newsletter, and of course you can call the MRCA number - 338-6722 (338-MRCA) - anytime for information about future events, courses, meetings, or to leave a message for anyone on the Executive.

Congratulations to all those involved in the Executive for 1997/98, and we encourage all members to continue to support the Club and be a part of all that the MRCA has to offer.



# INDOOR PROGRAM

## WELCOME TO THE INDOOR PROGRAM SERIES!

We have prepared an exciting program from now until May 1998, and hope to see as many members as possible attend each of the dates. Events are generally held on the third Wednesday of each month, and are at the 2nd floor of the Sports Manitoba building, 200 Main Street. Remember that there is free underground parking available at Sports Manitoba. If you have any suggestions for future meetings, or would like to contribute in some way, please contact Eileen Smerchanski at 586-5936, or call the MRCA line (338-6722 or 338-MRCA).

We encourage you to make a note of each of these dates in your diaries or on your calendars. Unfortunately, there are no more phone message reminders, and we will have to rely on your good memory, your enthusiasm to attend, and the newsletter to be your reminders from now on.

By the way, we are asking anybody with any special camping ideas or gadgets to bring them along to future meetings. We will have a table set up for you to place what you bring, and there will be an opportunity to discuss your ideas with others. We will be doing this every meeting from now on, so if you can't make it along to one meeting, get ready for the one after that. If you were at the November meeting, you would already have a sense of what we are doing regards this.

Note that the December program will be held on Thursday December 4 at the Asper Jewish Community Campus. Following are the events from December to May:

### **Paddling Towards the Year 2000 - Thursday December 4, 1997**

Join us in welcoming Kirk Wipper who will entertain and educate us with his personal canoeing experiences. The program gets underway at 7.30 pm, and will be held at the Asper Jewish Community Campus, 123 Doncaster Street (see page 5 for more information).

### **White Otter Canoe Trip - Wednesday January 21, 1998**

Join Kathy Taylor-Hallick and John Hallick on a great trip on White Otter.

### **Kayak Tripping - Wednesday February 18, 1998**

Gary Hewitt will talk to us about the joys of kayaking.

### **Hypothermia and How It Affects Our Bodies - Wednesday March 18 1998**

This very interesting and informative talk by Gordon Giesbrecht has been rescheduled from last year. Don't miss this one - you will learn more than you bargained for.

### **Nahanni River Canoe Trip - Wednesday April 15, 1998**

Ken Shykulski will take us along a wonderful trip down the Nahanni River.

### **Instruction and Safety - Wednesday May 20, 1998**

Just in time for the restart of the paddling season, Perry McGregor and Pat Barker will discuss many aspects of instruction and safety. Be sure to attend!

## PLEASE JOIN US!

Thursday December 4, 1997 - 7.30 pm

at

The Berney Theatre

located at the

Asper Jewish Community Campus

123 Doncaster Street

(access from Wellington Crescent or Tuxedo Blvd.)

the Manitoba Recreational Canoeing Association welcomes

**KIRK WIPPER**

- native of a remote part of Manitoba
- retired professor of Physical and Health Education and Outdoor Education at the University of Toronto
- skilled paddler with a lifelong passion for canoes
- founder of an outdoor camp for boys in northern Ontario
- founder of the biggest canoe museum in the world, where hundreds of canoes, kayaks and rowing crafts are housed, including dugouts from New Guinea and reed boats from South America
- founding member of the Canadian Recreational Canoeing Association
- Past President of the CRCA
- Co-Director of the first and many Canadian Canoe Instructors Schools
- keynote speaker and participant at many canoeing events and heritage festivals around the world.

Kirk will entertain and educate us with his personal canoeing experiences, and take us with him on a historical journey that will begin in the remote parts of Manitoba. We will complete this journey on a lake or river somewhere, and the bonus will be a new and strong appreciation for the canoe as a part of our Canadian heritage.

Tickets for this great night are only \$5.00! Following the journey, refreshments will be served, and we invite you to stay awhile and socialise.

**FOR TICKETS, CALL ANGUS MACIVER AT 774-6722**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL KATHY TAYLOR-HALLICK AT 338-9592**

## CRCA Annual General Meeting

The CRCA Annual General Meeting was held in Halifax on October 3-5, 1997. Eileen Smerchanski and Kathy Taylor-Hallick were both in attendance. Eileen was representing Manitoba and Kathy was there as a CRCA rep. Saturday was an all-day focusing workshop with a facilitator, and Sunday was the AGM. The acceptance of the new Canoe Standards Manual was passed by the Board. It will soon be out in print, and implementation is targetted for the spring of 1998. A committee was appointed to create a similar kayaking standards manual. At the meeting, Eileen was appointed Central VP, and Kathy was elected President of the CRCA. Congratulations to you both!

## Congratulations to Julia Fletcher!

Julia Fletcher, a keen MRCA member, was selected to be part of Team Canada to compete at the World Cup Marathon Canoe Competition in Wausau, Wisconsin, USA in July 1997. "It was very exciting racing for Canada against other countries - an unforgettable experience," Julia said on her return from Wisconsin. Julia, who was 17 years old at the time, said that she was surprised that most of the other competitors were much older (at around 30 to 40 years of age).

Julia came third in the K-1 event (one-person kayak) which was held over a 24-km course. Julia and her partner, Christy Janke from Selkirk, also came third in the K-2 event (two-person kayak), a 32-km race.

Congratulations to both Julia and Christy - a great achievement. Keep up the great paddling!



Julia Fletcher in her Team Canada outfit with her two bronze medals won at the World Cup Marathon Canoe Competition in Wisconsin, July 1997

## Bingo!

We are looking for members who are interested in volunteering at Bingo. This is a very worthwhile and lucrative venture for the Club, and we would be very grateful if you can spare a few hours on a regular or irregular basis. For more information or to register, please Jerry Zaste at 888-2442.



# KAYAK TOURING NEWS

Tony Kinal

Well, it's been quite an interesting paddling season. I received a phone call from Victoria Jason and, as it turns out, she has spent her summer in the far north, teaching the Eskimos how to kayak. Talk about things turning full circle. The first explorers that travelled to the north were so taken by these sleek and seaworthy hunting craft that they brought the first kayaks to the museums of Europe. The general population of Europe shortened and widened the original kayaks that the Eskimo people paddled, so that they could better handle the inland waterways of home. It wasn't until the late 1970s to early 1980s that sea kayaks first started to gain popularity in North America, and the first fiberglass boats began to resemble the original Eskimo kayak. So the kayak has gone from a working or hunting boat to white man's play boat, and now back to the native people who will again use it for hunting.

Speaking of traditional kayaks, Arlene Martin was busy this year building a replica of a Aleutian kayak. She built it using bent green willows for the ribs, tied to cedar stringers. Since seals are scarce around these parts, the whole thing was covered with a canvas skin. I had the opportunity to see it with the skin on, and although it was not quite finished, it looked great. This is Arlene's second boat-building project. Her first was a stitch and glue plywood kayak which also looks great and is very light as well.

Roland Amsler completed a seven-day trip from Lake of the Woods to Winnipeg, retracing part of the old fur trade route that used to start at Montreal. He paddled a sea-touring kayak with all his gear aboard, including a home-made set of portage wheels. Roland told me that during his seven-day adventure, he only saw one moose on his way to Kenora and a raccoon in Winnipeg. After the trip, he and I spent two hours kayaking on the Red and LaSalle Rivers, where we saw two great blue herons, one barred owl, six deer, 12 beavers, and a hawk.

Look forward to seeing an account of Roland's trip in an upcoming newsletter.

---

## MERGER OF TWO GREAT ORGANISATIONS

The Big Lake Kayak Touring Club has officially joined forces with the MRCA. The BLKTC will communicate to its members via the MRCA newsletter, and we are pleased to start up a regular column in our newsletter to that effect. The column, to be authored by Tony Kinal, should be of interest to both canoeists and kayakers alike.

**Tell MRCA advertisers and Corporate members you saw their name  
in the MRCA Newsletter or Home Page!**

# FALL MEETS WINTER AT MANTARIO

Marta Darczewska

**Mantario:** a place that I had seen depicted on posters, that I had read about in MNS newsletters, and that I had been told about by the nature-loving friends. For years I had planned to go there, but the exams and research always got in the way. Now, at last, I had a chance to go. It was the last canoe trip of the year, the annual four-day Thanksgiving trip. "Cold air, water and muddy portages were encountered the past eight Thanksgivings, and twice we were windbound at the cabin for one extra day" - read the trip announcement. No matter; I have never gone canoeing so late in the season, but I was sure it was worth trying.

**Canoe route:** Big Whiteshell Lake, Crowduck Lake, Ritchey Lake, Lake One, Lake Two, Lake Three, Mantario Lake. Paddling 16 km each way, six portages, a total of 4 km each way.

## Canoeists

Leaders: Donna Kurt and Julie Gold

Participants: Diana Borys, Marta Darczewska, Maureen Froelich, Denise Levesque, Lorne Klassen, Alan McTavish, Henry Redekop

Hikers: Ray Burns, Debbie and Albert Voth

The first day was gorgeous by any standards: cool air, golden landscape, a light wind which did not cause trouble on the lake. We started from the Big Whiteshell, from the very spot where I experienced a thunderstorm with cherry-size hail six years ago.

The first of the two white "ghost" canoes carried Donna and Alan. In the second canoe, Julie was on stern, Maureen on bow, and I kneeled in the middle, trying to paddle efficiently and not upset the balance. Still, I inadvertently scared my partners several times when I shifted posture and caused the canoe to rock ominously.

The first island we passed was a place that some time ago I had named the "Gooseberry Island". I remembered it covered with gooseberry bushes, in summer laden with purple, very sweet fruit. Unfortunately, there was no time to stop and check whether there were still some gooseberries around, or whether my favourite climbing tree was still there.

In preparation for a muddy disaster on portages, I was wearing rubber boots (Bill Mason, the canoeing guru, would not approve), but on that day the portages were tolerable. I usually carried two packs and four paddles. It was not the normal load for an autumn stroll, but it did not prevent me from watching the beauty around. The paths were covered with fallen aspen leaves, or rather, with a royal golden carpet. "The nature is treating me like a princess", I thought, "but am I worthy to walk through? Yes, if I step quietly and leave no signs of my presence." Even the famously terrible "Up-n-Over" portage between Lake Two and Lake Three was more beautiful than tiring. It was such a reward to reach the top and see the shining lake and the walls of granite on the opposite shore. If not for the two packs and slippery rocks, I would have danced my way down the path.

We reached the Mantario cabin island just before darkness fell. It took us seven hours to get in, counting the lunch break. The cabin was cosy, perfectly organized, and well stocked with food and firewood. I chose a top bunk bed in order to have access to a window. There I unpacked and then went in



search of the outhouse. What I found was a wooden structure labelled "Torture Chamber" (apparently, somebody's system didn't work well).

The next two days were spent just like in Tolkien's Rivendell Valley: we did what we liked to. In the morning, Alan was the first one up, chopping wood. I went around the island, exploring it in detail, then replaced Alan at the firewood shed when he left to prepare a brunch for everybody. Julie taught me some tricks for splitting large logs. You could tell from looking at the knots where to strike for easy splitting. Chopping wood felt quite like practising martial arts: concentration was most important. Some pieces offered no resistance; they fell apart at the first touch of the ax. Others, with knots in them, seemed to have an iron bar inside.

Around 11 am, the huge meal was ready: first scrambled eggs, then pancakes. And what better to go with it than a discussion on the environment and philosophy? Julie told us how she extracted the DNA from plant cells - I would never have imagined.

Some of us stayed in the cabin for the rest of the day, reading, sleeping, or massaging one another (a major activity that weekend). As usual, however, I could not stay inside for too long. The wilderness of Ernest Thompson Seton and Grey Owl was just out the window, and I could never tire of exploring it. Donna joined me, and we started with collecting samples of edible plants, sweetflag and cattails. The last mosquitoes appeared, the reminders of the summer, and I wasn't even angry when they bit me.

We went for a walk on the Mantario Trail, hoping to meet the three hikers coming to join us that night. Donna cleared some recent deadfall from the trail, while I looked for mushrooms. There were surprising numbers of them, considering the late season. Climbing the rocks evoked memories from the mountains and a meditative mood. "Only the Earth and Sky lasts forever", says a Native proverb, and even that is not certain. Still, these rocks were older than anything else, the primeval crust, the remains of the ancient mountains. I kneeled down and touched them with both hands. How was it then, before the dinosaurs, before any creature walked on earth?

The view from the top was amazing and exceptional for Manitoba: dense fog creeping from the lakes, wrapping around the clumps of gold and green. We took pictures of each other with the landscape in the background, which was pretty but not quite proper. A sight like that called for a Chinese artist: no human form obstructing the landscape, at most people climbing a path in the distance, tiny figures merging into the wilderness.

We returned to the cabin just before dark. The second group of canoers was already there, and the hikers arrived soon after. That night, we had a Thanksgiving feast which Julie prepared. I could see why some people would gain weight on these trips, in spite of all the paddling and portaging.

Every night there was a sauna: breathing hot cedar, cleansing oneself from the inside, then running down the dock to dip into the lake of icy daggers that pierced the body to the marrow, emerging from the dark water with a protective layer of mist on the skin, and becoming like a rock, like a tree, cool on the surface and alive inside, comfortable in the cold drizzle. The Natives were right when they included sweat lodges in their religious ceremonies; can you purify the soul without purifying the body?

Sunday was as rainy and cloudy as the day before, but the temperature held at a comfortable 16°C. Ray, Debbie and Albert departed early in the morning to continue north on the Mantario

FALL

Hiking Trail. They had 30 km to go to reach the Big Whiteshell Lake and their van waiting at the North trailhead. Right after the late breakfast, I went exploring again, this time with Donna and Diana. Donna suggested a route crossing the Mantario Lake and walking the Spider Lake portage. It felt like a rainforest: rain, fog, relatively warm weather, and streams of water running down the path. We were mushroom hunting again, and we found some amazing specimens. Unfortunately, my non-waterproof camera was safely packed in the cabin. Marking our way with orange tape, we wandered far away from the trail, scaring the deer, stopping to sit under the pines and listen to the rain.

**Mushrooms collected and eaten:** *Armillariella mellea* - Honey mushroom; *Lactarius helidonium* - excellent, although some books label it "edibility not known"; *Leccinum scabrum* - one of the Scaberstalks, the last one in the season; *Suillus americanus*, *S. brevipes* and *S. granulatus* - the "battered mushrooms", good after removing their slimy skin; *Lycoperdon perlatum* - a Gem-studded puffball (what a beautiful name); *Tricholoma florovirens* - called a "Gosling" in Poland, maybe due to its yellow colour with a tinge of brown and green.

**Mushrooms identified but not eaten:** *Amanita*, probably *A. virosa* - the Destroying Angel, beautiful and deadly; *Amanita muscaria* - Fly Agaric; more poisonous than it is hallucinogenic; *Russula* spp. in all possible colours; some edible, but generally not recommended; *Mycena* spp. - the ones that look like tiny umbrellas, some edible, but not worth collecting; *Omphalotus illudens* - Jack O'Lantern, poisonous; *Suillus luteus* - Slippery Jack, edible according to some books, not edible according to others. We have not eaten it; *Trametes* spp. - Turkey Tails, pretty on fallen logs; *Ramaria* sp. - the coral fungi of fantastic shapes and colours; *Sarcodon imbricatus* - with reptile-like scales on top and furry projections under the cap; *Hypomyces lactifluorum* - Lobster mushroom, a very interesting case of a bright red and fish-smelling fungus parasitizing other fungus, changing the host's appearance. It is edible if the host is edible, which may be impossible to identify; *Ischnoderma resinosum* (?) - a huge fungus growing on a tree trunk, looking like a big slice of chocolate-covered cheesecake. Donna photographed me and Diana trying to take a bite.

**Mushrooms eagerly searched for but not found:** *Cantharellus cibarius* - the famous and delicious Chanterelle; apparently, the Shield is not a good habitat for them.

We were back after three hours. I hadn't had enough, though, so I went to practice solo paddling. It was a rare occasion that I had a graceful Kevlar canoe and a state-of-art cherry paddle all to myself. When finally a heavy rain drove me back to the cabin, there awaited a sweet reward: cinnamon bread, freshly baked by Julie.

That night the temperature plummeted down from 16°C to somewhere between 0° and 3°C, and Monday morning greeted us with the first sign of winter: big snowflakes. The canoes looked fantastic covered in snow, and the whole landscape had a fairy-tale appearance. I took pictures of the lake, of the canoes in snow, and of Diana and Henry playing baseball with snowballs and paddles. Lorne, Denise, Donna and Maureen stayed for an extra day; as I heard later, they did some maintenance work at the cabin and left on Tuesday, which was a little warmer and less windy than Monday. It was so tempting to forget schoolwork, stay with them, and give oneself one more day of wonders. I tried to make a deal with the Mantario committee: I would stay there permanently to maintain the cabin, lead trips and interpret the nature in exchange for food and books. They promised to think about it; for now I had to return to Winnipeg with Julie, Diana, Henry and Alan.

It was still snowing when we paddled away. Since then, and since taking my level II exam on an ice-bound river a week after the trip, I got used to the idea of canoeing as long as there was open water. I learned to protect my hands from icy water and wind by wearing rubber gloves on top of a woollen pair, which was a cheaper and more effective alternative to fancy paddling gloves.



The last few days of rain had changed all the lower portages into streams and bogs. If not for the snow, I would feel like somewhere in Vietnam or Malaysia. Now my rubber boots were a salvation. The "Up-n-Over" portage was even more beautiful and murderous than before: a lesson in rock-climbing while wearing rubber boots and carrying two packs. I didn't know what was more breathtaking, the climb or the view from the top. I took several pictures, hoping to capture the freshness and subtle colours of the landscape.

We modified the route back, skipping Crowduck Lake and going directly to the Big Whiteshell via the longer Ritchie portage. We stopped for lunch "on the bench", one-third of the way through. Following the example of others, I put on an extra sweater, as well as a woollen cap and a scarf. Still, my hands were freezing and I dreamed of a hot drink. Julie saved me with some hot tea from her thermos (I should have taken my own instead of a second water bottle). The lunch: two big bagels, one with cheese, the other with peanut butter and a chocolate spread, was double the size of my regular lunch, but it disappeared in no time.

Big Whiteshell Lake looked ominous, with white-capped waves appearing with each stronger gust of wind. The wind came from the wrong direction - north-west - while we preferred south-east, if any. Not as bad as last year's weather, claimed Henry. We paddled close to the shore, stopping twice for a break. After 45 minutes kneeling in water, even my so-reliable goretex pants gave up and got soaking wet.

On our way back to the city I requested a tropical climate in the car. Drying slowly and warming up, I was already planning my next visit to Mantario.

#### ANIMALS ENCOUNTERED

**Birds:** spruce grouse, double-crested cormorant, blue jay, grey jay, mergansers (too far to see which ones), hairy woodpecker, common loon (parents with a juvenile), kingfisher, gulls (ring-billed?), black-capped chickadee, common crow, raven, bald eagle, golden eagle or a juvenile bald, white-throated sparrow, merlin.

**Mammals:** red fox, otter, white-tailed deer, muskrat, beaver, chipmunk. Attention mammalogists: we identified a new species, the outhouse mouse, *Peromyscus privii*.

**Some of the plants identified** (most of them wilted): Indian Pipe, sweetflag, cattail, spotted Joe-Pye weed, common harebell, wild sarsaparilla, bunchberry.

## ARTICLES WELCOME

Members of the MRCA are heartily invited to submit articles for inclusion in future issues of the newsletter. If you are a good writer, like Marta (pages 8 to 11) and Wayne (pages 12 to 13), then feel free to submit finished articles. If you would like some help writing up any trips you had, contact me (Jenny - 774-5832) and we will polish the article up for you. Photos and illustrations are encouraged, so get writing and call me as soon as you are ready. If you don't have photos to support your article, let me know, and we'll see if anyone else has any in the MRCA that we can use.

# ENVIRONMENTAL INDIGNITIES

Wayne Purvis

As custom has it, Donna and I wrapped up the '97 canoe season with our annual R 'n R paddle, defined by a clear mandate to find a little solitude, eat gluttonous meals, torment a few fish, and otherwise indulge ourselves in our last hurrah of the year. It is a glorious event.

This year, our destination was a pretty little island in a sheltered area on Snowshoe Lake (Man./Ont. border east of Nopiming). With despair and disgust, we landed to scenery including wads of tinfoil decorating shrubbery, a firepit filled with half burnt cans and molten plastic bottles, the remnants of a work boot, and four kilograms of potatoes and onions tossed randomly around the perimeter of the campsite.

Worse yet, an open latrine festooned with toilet paper lay within 2 metres of the shoreline. The next hour was spent burning, burying, and packing the refuse from this defilement. Evidenced by scrapings on the shore by aluminum motor boats, the type and quantity of the debris left, and the fact that there are three lodges on Snowshoe, it seemed reasonable to conclude that it was either the guests of one of the camps or individuals outfitted by them who were responsible for the mess.

My feelings verge on rage at such wilful disrespect for both the environment and others who use the site. I am perplexed by the intellectual makeup of individuals who partake in such behaviour. Surely it is the consummate display of ignorance. Sadly, this sight is becoming far too familiar within designated wilderness areas of Atikaki and Woodland Caribou Parks and the adjoining waterways. I am fed up with complacent outpost operators who enable such behaviours. It is common to see trailheads near outpost camps littered with oil and beer cans and shore lunch debris. If we are speaking of sheer environmental impact, I have witnessed many examples of fly-in guests whose scar on the landscape is far more injurious than I, as a canoeist, could effect in a lifetime of tripping. With the apparent proliferation of camps these consequences can only accelerate and intensify.

It seems that for an admission fee of \$300 to \$500 per head, visitors are welcomed to the wilderness to pollute and abuse the environment with impunity while there is little accountability on the part of licensed operators and outfitters. With gallons of gas and oil dumped into the environment, heaps of trash strewn about, and scores of fish plundered, frozen, and flown out, we call this eco tourism.

This is not to imply that canoeists are a wholly self-righteous bunch. We have our problems attested to by housekeeping disgraces on weekend paddle routes in Nopiming and Whiteshell Parks. Clearly we can do a better job educating our own in the ways of low impact, no trace camping. This should be a mandatory part of introductory canoeing and tripping courses while being reinforced by peer pressure on the waterways.

There seems to be a paradigm at play in our interaction with wilderness:

- those who invest sweat equity rather than technology and money accessing wilderness will necessarily limit their impact on the land,



- those who approach the outdoors as students will be educated in the ways of the wilds and will discover the delicate balance that lies within,
- those who spend the most time in the wilderness will end up calling it their home and treat it accordingly, and
- those who profit financially from wilderness without external controls or accountability are likely to exploit rather than protect the environment.

Despite budgetary constraints, it is long overdue for Natural Resources to lay out clear and concise policies of zero tolerance that will actually be enforced upon outpost camps, outfitters, fly-in parties, and canoeists. We should continue to lobby for such initiatives. I believe that wilderness travellers should be encouraged to document and report violations. We can assist Natural Resources in gathering data and tracking down offenders while policing ourselves and insisting that attitudes and behaviours change. In this regard, MRCA can be a valuable resource.

## PADDLING PURSUITS



PADDLING PURSUITS

### Winter Kayak Pool Courses

Location: St. James Civic Centre Pool, 2055 Ness Ave.  
 Instructor: Perry McGregor  
 Phone: 774-7222 for registration or more information

#### MRCA Fundamental I Courses

Time: 6.00 - 9.00 pm  
 Dates: 97-K4 Saturday, March 8 and 15  
 97-K5 Sunday March 9 and 16  
 Cost: \$80.00 (includes equipment and booklet)

#### MRCA Fundamental II Course

Time: 6.00 - 9.00 p.m.  
 Dates: 97-K6 Saturday, March 22 and 29  
 Cost: \$80.00 (includes equipment and booklet)

Fundamental I introduces the paddler to: kayak equipment, purchase, care, entry and wet exit, forward, reverse and turning strokes, and the Eskimo roll. Fundamental II introduces the paddler to: a review of Fundamental I, power strokes and more time is spent learning the 'roll'

#### Kayak 'Roll' Clinics

Time: 6.00 - 9.00 p.m.  
 Dates: 97-R3 Sunday March 23 and 30  
 Cost: \$80.00 (includes equipment and booklet)

*Have your cake and eat it too...  
 Light and tough in one canoe!*

**Phone Toll-Free  
 1-888-CANOE86**

Photo © John Stradiotto

**SOURIS RIVER CANOES**

# EDITORIALLY SPEAKING ...

Jenny Gates

Ah, at last - my favourite time of year is here. I am a winter buff, which is part of the reason why I moved to Winnipeg from Sydney, Australia just three years ago this month. I know that does not make much sense to canoeists and kayakers in this part of the world, who are intent on making as much out of the non-frozen times of the year with their various watercraft and exploring yearnings. I have to agree with Marcel's comment, however, about this time of year being an opportunity for you all to reflect on the past canoeing / kayaking season. If there was no winter, you might not enjoy the spring, summer and fall as much as you currently do.

In order to share the fun and adventure some of you might have experienced in the past few months, I encourage as many of you as possible to let others know what you got up to. There are three main ways to do this:

- Write an article and submit it for inclusion in a future newsletter. This is a great opportunity to get your photos into print as well, and lets others know what is out there or allow them to compare when they were last in that particular area or on that particular river
- Complete the 'Canoe and Kayak Trip Survey Log' which is located on pages 17 and 18 of this newsletter. This allows you to provide as much information as is possible so that others who might want to follow in your footsteps can be best prepared for what lies ahead. For some, this is easier than writing an article, but should be completed in any case, even if an article is forthcoming.
- Attend as many of the meetings and functions as possible, and exchange information with other members who attend. There is a great indoor program lined up for you, and if a lot of members attend, then there is ample opportunity to not only swap stories and ideas, but to meet as many other members as possible.

As a non-canoeist and non-kayaker, I am very taken by the obvious enthusiasm and adventure that members of the MRCA demonstrate about their sport. As such, I am very happy to continue as editor of this newsletter, but, as always, I call on members to be as involved in the content of this important publication as I am. Please, PLEASE submit articles, photos, stories, information, cartoons, jokes, funny stories, trip reports, ideas for articles, and suggestions to improve the content or layout of this newsletter as you feel is relevant and important.

I am considering including a regular feature, possibly titled: Member Profile. I feel it is important for each of us - even non-canoeists and non-kayakers - to know about the people who share the MRCA with us. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else to be profiled, please contact me (774-5832) and I will arrange an 'interview'

And last but not least, I sincerely apologise for the lateness of this and the last two newsletters. I will not bore you with the various reasons, but rest assured they were good ones. In future, **THE DEADLINE THAT IS CLEARLY STATED ON THE INSIDE FRONT COVER WILL BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO**, so that the newsletter can be mailed out to you at the start of the first week of February, May, August and November. I will be in contact with members of the Executive and advertisers well in advance of the deadline to find out if a report or advertisement is to be expected. Authors are encouraged to call me as soon as they have their submission ready. In order to regularly get the newsletter to you in plenty of time, there will be **NO EXCEPTIONS** to the deadline.

Enjoy the winter!



## What Benefits do I receive as an MRCA Member?

An annual MRCA Membership Directory

A regular quarterly MRCA Newsletter full of articles of interest to Manitoba paddlers such as various paddling destinations and local activities. The MRCA Newsletter is mailed right to your home

Discounts on MRCA paddling courses and on paddling and camping products at paddling stores and businesses

Access to regular MRCA General Meetings, held every month in Winnipeg. These meetings usually include a short business report by the MRCA Executive and are typically focused on a specific topic related to canoeing or kayaking and of interest to the general Membership. They offer paddlers the opportunity to socialize with others who have similar interests in recreational canoeing and kayaking. Great paddlers continue to show their strokes!

MRCA's Affiliation with the Canadian Recreational Canoeing Association allows MRCA Members to purchase CRCA products (canoeing related books, momentos, etc.) at a discount! The CRCA provides MRCA Members with the opportunity to harmonize with other Canadian canoeing associations. Standards for instruction and safety and instructor liability insurance are other CRCA benefits

MRCA's Manitoba Paddling Association Affiliation provides MRCA Members with an opportunity to explore the sport/competitive side of paddling. The MPA provides the MRCA with support through access to Manitoba Sports Federation funding, Government grants and numerous other services (printing services, meeting rooms, etc.)

Opportunities to participate in canoeing and kayaking trips to locations in Manitoba and beyond

Various workshops related to paddling

Access to accredited canoeing and kayaking technical and safety courses and knowledge

Access to canoeing and kayaking information including route descriptions, maps, trip survey logs, contacts with people who have 'been there, done that'

MRCA Corporate and Affiliate Members are listed in the MRCA Newsletter and MRCA Internet Web site (<http://130.179.24.217/mrca/mrca.html>). MRCA provides a "link" from the MRCA Home Page to MRCA members' home pages and to other non-profit groups

A unified voice for canoeists and kayakers.

## MRCA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION and RENEWAL

\_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name or Organization Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Name and Initials

\_\_\_\_\_  
Residence/Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Residence Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Business Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fax Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Internet/E-mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Family Membership (names of persons at same place):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Is this application

\_\_\_\_\_  
New or Renewal

### Annual Membership Fees

Circle

Minor or Full-Time Student

\$10

Cash ~~MAIL~~

Individual

\$15

Cheque

Family

\$20

Money Order

Corporate (Business)

\$25

Payable to

Affiliate (Club)

\$25

"MRCA"

Provide your Student ID# \_\_\_\_\_

### Application Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
New Memberships obtained after April 1 expire on October 1 of the next Membership year

### MRCA Financial Donation \$

\_\_\_\_\_  
If you require a tax receipt, make your cheque payable to "CRCA" (\$10 minimum)

**Complete both sides of this form, cut out and mail with payment to:**  
MRCA Membership Committee,  
P.O. Box 2663, Winnipeg, MB R3C 4B3

To contact an MRCA representative, phone: (204) 925-5681

## MRCA Volunteer Positions

The Manitoba Recreational Canoeing Association relies upon Volunteer Power. You don't have to "walk on water" to help, just indicate your interests below.

The MRCA also accepts tax deductible donations (tax receipt provided through CRCA - refer to the application form on the previous page)

Please indicate how you could help the MRCA achieve its objectives.

Resource Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Safety and Instruction Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Advocacy Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Social Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Publicity Committee \_\_\_\_\_

Bingo Committee \_\_\_\_\_

President, Vice-President \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary or Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_

## Member Interests

Please circle your paddling interests  
(to be listed in the MRCA Directory)

Canoeing	Kayaking
Flatwater/Lakewater	Flatwater/Lakewater
White Water	White Water
Moving Water	Moving Water
Tripping	Touring
Instructing	Instructing
Family	Family
Competitive	Competitive
Recreational	Recreational
Experienced	Experienced
Intermediate	Intermediate
Novice	Novice
Beginner	Beginner

## ALPINE CLUB OF CANADA

The upcoming events for the Alpine Club of Canada (Manitoba Section) is as follows:

### Saturday December 6

*Christmas Party*: 21 Timmins Place, 8.00 pm till dawn, B.Y.O. shoes, nibbles and booze.

### Friday January 16

*Banff Festival of Mountain Films*: see outside back cover of this newsletter for more information.

For additional information, phone the Club at 944-2659.

## MANITOBA NATURALISTS SOCIETY

The Winter Schedule for the 1997-98 Indoor Program for the MNS is as follows:

### Sunday December 7

*Shetland and Orkney Islands*: preview the exciting tour planned for May, 1998.

*Gray Hares*: cycling, canoeing, hiking and skiing on Wednesdays - now that's what retirement should mean!

### Monday January 12

*Survival of the Woodland Caribou* - Dr. William Pruitt  
Factors encouraging the caribou also affect man's future. Learn of the importance of changes in the boreal forest that have an impact on climate

### Monday January 26

*The Park System Plan and Our Network of Protected Areas* - Roger Schroeder and Roger Turenne

Roger Schroeder from the Department of Natural Resources will explain how the provincial government plans to manage protected areas. Roger Turenne from CPAWS will present a view from a conservation perspective.

### Monday February 9

*Making Wise Natural Resource Decisions* - Dr. Jennifer Shay

Field research can help us develop sound management procedures. Recent highlights from a number of botanical studies will be presented.

### Monday February 23

*Lea Stogdale*: Falklands and Antarctica.

*TBA*. Many members have expressed interest in sharing their travels - stay tuned.

Centre Cultural Franco-Manitobain, 340 Provencher Blvd  
(Salle Jean-Paul Aubry on the east side of the complex)  
starting promptly at 7.30 pm. For more information,  
phone the MNS at 943-9029

## CANOE AND KAYAK TRIP SURVEY LOG

Help us keep our trip and route information up to date. Please complete, cut or photocopy from newsletter, and return to:  
MANITOBA RECREATIONAL CANOEING ASSOCIATION, P.O. BOX 2663, WINNIPEG MB R3C 4B3

### ROUTE

Route name \_\_\_\_\_  
Province(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Outside Canada? \_\_\_\_\_  
Major lakes / rivers \_\_\_\_\_  
Total distance paddled (km or miles): \_\_\_\_\_ Days devoted to paddling \_\_\_\_\_  
Was trip registration required: yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_ Was permit required: yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_ Fees \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Launch location \_\_\_\_\_ Launch date (yr / mth / day) \_\_\_\_\_  
Reached by: car \_\_\_\_\_ plane \_\_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_  
Transport company used: yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ Price \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Would use again: yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_ explain \_\_\_\_\_  
Take-out location \_\_\_\_\_ Take-out date (yr / mth / day) \_\_\_\_\_  
Returned by: car \_\_\_\_\_ plane \_\_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_  
Transport company used: no \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ Price \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Would use again: yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_ explain \_\_\_\_\_  
Identify maps used (topographic or descriptive): \_\_\_\_\_  
Names of books, brochures used: \_\_\_\_\_

### PORTAGES

Number of portages: \_\_\_\_\_ Name portage(s) exceptionally difficult to locate or to follow: \_\_\_\_\_  
The most difficult portage encountered: \_\_\_\_\_

### CAMPSITES

For your requirements were campsite: adequate \_\_\_\_\_ not adequate \_\_\_\_\_ explain \_\_\_\_\_  
Crowded due to other users: no \_\_\_\_\_ yes \_\_\_\_\_ Overall cleanliness: very clean \_\_\_\_\_ clean \_\_\_\_\_ dirty \_\_\_\_\_  
Explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
Designated campsites only: yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_ Were open fires permitted: yes \_\_\_\_\_ no \_\_\_\_\_  
Was firewood: adequate \_\_\_\_\_ scarce \_\_\_\_\_  
Additional camp comments: \_\_\_\_\_

### POINTS OF INTEREST

Interesting geological features (rock outcrop, canyons, beaches, marshes, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_  
Flora, fauna, historical evidence, e.g., abandoned mines, pictographs that captured attention: \_\_\_\_\_  
Other (berry picking, canoe side trips, hiking): \_\_\_\_\_

### REMOTENESS

Number of canoe / kayak groups encountered: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number(s) of the following seen: motor boats \_\_\_\_\_ rafts \_\_\_\_\_ hunters \_\_\_\_\_ fisherman \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of adjacent highways / backroads / railways: \_\_\_\_\_  
Summer cottages: none \_\_\_\_\_ few \_\_\_\_\_ many \_\_\_\_\_ fly-in lodges \_\_\_\_\_ trappers cabins \_\_\_\_\_  
Other developments: \_\_\_\_\_



## WATER QUALITY / WHITEWATER RATING

Quality of water: drinkable \_\_\_ clear \_\_\_ cold \_\_\_ muddy \_\_\_ swampy \_\_\_ polluted \_\_\_ other \_\_\_

Whitewater rating<sup>1</sup> of river(s): River name \_\_\_\_\_ rating \_\_\_\_\_

River name \_\_\_\_\_ rating \_\_\_\_\_

Overall description of water level: low \_\_\_ normal \_\_\_ high \_\_\_ Flow rate (cms or cfs): \_\_\_\_\_

Did the water level or flow rate affect your trip: no \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ explain \_\_\_\_\_

## CONSIDERATIONS

Any litter or misuse of the Natural Resources that was of particular concern, e.g., excessive logging, all-terrain vehicles, defacing of landscape: \_\_\_\_\_

Evidence of forest fires: no \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ recent \_\_\_ partially overgrown \_\_\_ acceptable reforestation \_\_\_

Did this affect your trip in any way: \_\_\_\_\_

Fished: no \_\_\_ yes (good average poor) \_\_\_\_\_ Species caught: \_\_\_\_\_

## SAFETY

Trip completed on schedule: yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_ days behind \_\_\_ explain \_\_\_\_\_

Any changes to original planned route required: no \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ explain \_\_\_\_\_

Did the inaccuracy of any information lead to problems: no \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ explain \_\_\_\_\_

Wind bound on any lakes: \_\_\_\_\_

Were bears a problem: no \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ other species \_\_\_\_\_

Precautions required for hypothermia: no \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ giardiasis (beaver fever): no \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_

Other concerns: \_\_\_\_\_

## PARTICIPANTS

Trip leader: \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_

Total number in group: \_\_\_\_\_ Range of ages: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of canoes: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of kayaks \_\_\_\_\_

Overall experience of trip members: beginner \_\_\_ intermediate \_\_\_ advanced \_\_\_ expert \_\_\_

Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Date prepared \_\_\_\_\_

Is map or sketch of route attached: yes \_\_\_ no \_\_\_

For any additional comments, please attach a separate page

THE MANITOBA RECREATIONAL CANOEING ASSOCIATION THANKS YOU FOR YOUR  
SUPPORT PLEASE ENCOURAGE THE PRACTICE OF *NO-TRACE CAMPING*

### Class of Rapids: CRCA ratings

- Class 1 Moving water with few riffles and small waves
- Class 2 Easy rapids with waves up to 2 ft and wide clear channels, some manoeuvring is required
- Class 3 Rapids with high irregularities often capable of swamping open canoe. Narrow passages that often require complex manoeuvring
- Class 4 Long, difficult rapids with constricted passages that often require precise manoeuvring in very turbulent water. Generally not possible for open canoes
- Class 5 Extremely difficult, long and violent rapids with highly congested routes. Significant hazard to life in event of mishap. Requires absolute expertise
- Class 6 Difficulties of Class 5 but nearly impossible and very dangerous. For teams of experts only with all precaution taken. Even experts avoid if possible



## MRCA MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Updated MRCA Membership Directories will be distributed to MRCA Members in the Spring. In the meantime, let us know any changes or corrections, and please add your E-mail address.

### MRCA INDIVIDUAL / FAMILY MEMBERS

Family \$20/year (group of individuals living at one address)  
Individual \$15/year

#### MRCA Individual and Family Membership Benefits

- names, addresses, phone numbers and paddling interests listed in MRCA Membership directory issued once a year
- each individual or family member is eligible for specified discounts at participating retail outlets and for MRCA resource information, courses, product offerings and events
- one copy of each issue of the MRCA quarterly Newsletter is sent to each Membership address
- MRCA members are entitled to vote at the MRCA AGM
- MRCA members who are CRCA certified instructors and First Aid/CPR certified are eligible to teach MRCA canoeing or kayaking courses
- all members are eligible to serve as MRCA Board Members.

### MRCA CORPORATE MEMBERS (\$25/year)

Clearwater Canoe Outfitters, Box 3939, The Pas, MB R9A 1S5  
(204) 624-5467 fax (204) 624-5467

Northern Canoe Company (see under Retailer Discount Programs)

North River Outfitters, 80 Deerwood Drive, Thompson, MB

R8N 1E1 phone/fax (204) 778-6979

URL: <http://mysterynet.mb.ca/northriver>

E-mail: [northriv@mts.net](mailto:northriv@mts.net)

Paddling Pursuits, 501 Greenwood Place, Winnipeg, MB R3G 2P2  
(204) 774-7222

Raven Eye Outfitters, 584 Lipton Street, Winnipeg, MB R3G 2H6

(204) 779-8313 1-888-463-6736

URL: <http://www.wilds.mb.ca/raveneye>

Red River Canoe & Paddle, Box 78 Grp 4 RR2, Lorette, MB

R0A 0Y0 (204) 231-1872

E-mail: [redcanoe@pangea.ca](mailto:redcanoe@pangea.ca)

URL: <http://www.wilds.mb.ca/redriver>

Souris River Canoes, 104 Reid St., Box 1116, Atikokan, ON

P0T 1C0 (807) 597-1292

Totem Outfitters (see under Retailer Discount Programs)

Wave Track Canoes, 42C Speers Rd., Winnipeg, MB R2J 1M3

(204) 231-8226 fax (204) 231-8227

URL: <http://www.wilds.mb.ca/wavetrack>

E-mail: [gbrabant@infobahn.mb.ca](mailto:gbrabant@infobahn.mb.ca)

Wild Water Equipment, Box 234, St. Norbert PS., Winnipeg

MB R3V 1L6 (204) 261-1814 fax (204) 261-1460

URL: <http://home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~umwrig33/>

E-mail: [umwrig33@cc.umanitoba.ca](mailto:umwrig33@cc.umanitoba.ca)

74721.3712@compuserve.com

#### MRCA Corporate Member Benefits

- name, address, services/products, phone number listed on MRCA Internet Home Page
- name, address, phone number listed in MRCA Newsletter
- MRCA Membership Directory
- extra copies of the MRCA Newsletter if required
- link from MRCA home page to member's home page / E-mail.

### MRCA AFFILIATE MEMBERS (\$24/year)

Manitoba Pioneer Camp, 202-159 Henderson Hwy, Winnipeg MB

R2L 1L4 (204) 663-1481 fax (204) 663-1659

Selkirk Community Paddling Club, 215 Toronto Ave., Selkirk MB

R1A 0N3 (204) 482-8478

YM-YWCA Camp Stephens, 400-428 Portage Ave., Winnipeg MB

R3C 0E2 (204) 989-4180 fax (204) 947-0787

Age & Opportunity, St. Vital Senior Centre, 613 St. Mary's Rd.,

Winnipeg MB R3M 3L8 (204) 253-1842

82nd Westminster Scouts, 48 Purcell Ave., Winnipeg MB R3G 1A1

(204) 983-2531

#### Affiliate (club/organization) Member Benefits

- name, address, services/products, phone number listed on MRCA Internet Home Page
- name, address, phone number listed in MRCA Newsletter
- MRCA Membership Directory
- extra copies of the MRCA Newsletter if required
- discounts on retailers
- access to resource info and MRCA paddling instructor courses
- MSF meeting rooms booked through MRCA
- insurance on trips meeting MRCA trip requirements
- publication of affiliate events in the MRCA Newsletter
- link from MRCA home page to member's home page / E-mail.

## RETAILER DISCOUNT PROGRAMS

Some retailers have offered merchandise discounts to MRCA Members. In order for retailers to verify a customer requesting a MRCA discount is a MRCA Member, they have been given only the names of all our Members (no addresses or phone numbers). This keeps to our policy of not releasing our Membership Directory to non-Members yet allows the retailers to verify MRCA Members' names over the phone. If you are a new Member please give us time to update our Membership list and send your name to the retailers. Other retailers wishing to participate in this program may contact the MRCA at P.O. Box 2663, Winnipeg MB R3C 4B3.

#### Northern Canoe Company

Site 270 Comp. 36 RR 2, 495 Rabbit Lake Rd., Kenora ON

P9N 3W8, phone/fax (807) 548-8403 E-mail

[bonysko@voyageur.ca](mailto:bonysko@voyageur.ca)

URL: <http://www.voyageur.ca/~bonysko/canoe.htm>

*Northern Canoe Co. will give MRCA Members 7% off the regular price of canoes, kayaks, paddles, PFDs and packs.*

#### The Global Village Map & Travel Store

167 Lilac St., Winnipeg, MB R3M 2S1 (204) 475-3254

*Global Village Map & Travel offers MRCA Members a 10% discount off all merchandise related to paddling.*

#### Totem Outfitters

341 10 Ave. S.W., Calgary, Alberta T2R 0A5 (800) 420-4665

7430 - 99 St., Edmonton, Alberta T6E 3R9 (403) 432-1223

URL: <http://www.totem.advnet.com>

*Totem Outfitters offers their new Rapid Rewards program on all regular priced merchandise where MRCA members can earn points that can be used to save money on future purchases.*

#### Trailhead

1960 Scott St., Ottawa, ON K1Z 8L8 (613) 722-4229

URL: <http://www.blackfeather.com/>

E-mail: [scottst@trailheadend.com](mailto:scottst@trailheadend.com)

*Trailhead offers MRCA Members 10% off all Trailhead Expedition Canoes.*



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS ! ! !

General Meetings (GM) are held on the  
third Wednesday evenings of each month,  
except July, August, November and December

### Paddling Towards the Year 2000 - Thursday December 4, 1997

Kirk Wipper, Asper Jewish Community Campus, 123  
Doncaster Street (see page 5 for more information).

TO:

### White Otter Canoe Trip - Wednesday January 21, 1998

Kathy Taylor-Hallick and John Hallick, Sports Manitoba,  
2nd Floor, 200 Main Street, 7.30 pm (see page 4).

### Kayak Tripping - Wednesday February 18, 1998

Gary Hewitt, Sports Manitoba, 2nd Floor, 200 Main Street,  
7.30 pm (see page 4).

FROM:

(If undeliverable, return to:)

**MRCA Membership Committee**  
**P.O. Box 2663**  
**Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 4B3**

Please send any address changes as well as E-mail and  
Internet addresses for inclusion in the next MRCA directory



22nd Annual  
**Banff Festival  
of  
Mountain  
Films** Canadian  
Tour  
**In Winnipeg**  
Friday, January 16, 1998  
Convention Centre Cinema

Brought to you by:



Tickets Available Soon!

For More Information Contact  
The Alpine Club Of Canada -  
Manitoba Section At:

**284-5689**

**MANITOBA SECTION**

## BINGO

Work at a Bingo and get one-year MRCA  
membership for free ! ! !

If you are interested in working at a future bingo,  
please call:

Jerry Zaste at 888-2442

- two MRCA volunteers per Bingo
- Bingo work period is about two hours
- report to the Manitoba Paddling Association
- Bingo Coordinator at the Bingo Hall, near  
the Volunteer Cash Wickets
- you must arrive on time!

### Upcoming Dates

For upcoming dates, please phone Jerry Zaste  
for information on these dates.