



# ***CANOE NEWS***

## ***Nationals Issue***



***2015 Nationals Results***

***Articles on the Nationals Experience***

Fall 2015 VOL. 48 NO. 3

***Builder Profile: Stellar Kayaks and Surf Skis***



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## Executive Committee

**President:** Peter Heed

581 West Street, Keene, NH 03431  
603-209-2299 pheed72@gmail.com

**Vice President:** Larry Latta

1188 Broken Bow Ct, Westerville, OH 43081-3262  
614-882-1519 latta1013@aol.com

**Secretary:** Joan Theiss

12802 Lake Jovita Blvd, Dade City, FL 33525-8265  
352-588-9877 hjtheiss@juno.com

**Treasurer:** John Edwards

1929 Arrowhead Dr NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33703-1903  
727-459-6366 canoechamp@aol.com

**Executive Director:** Bill Gardner

PO Box 6082, Beaufort, SC 29903  
904-687-9585 williamg50@aol.com

---

## Canoe News

**Editor:** Steven Horney

15806 Timberwillow Dr, Huntertown, IN 46748  
260-452-6447 soarer\_270@yahoo.com

**Advertising:** Scott Stenberg

3232 Jugg St, Moravia, NY 13118  
315-406-4692 owascolake@gmail.com

**Printing and Distribution:** Steve Rosenau

2771 Trillium Tr, Denver, NC 28037  
704-483-4130 sar4130@gmail.com

*From the Editor:*

*Welcome to our "Nationals" Fall edition of Canoe News! You'll find results from this year's Nationals, stories from the Nationals, spotlight articles on a couple of our renowned paddlers, more great racing tips, and a boat builder profile. We were blessed with two great photographers at this year's Nationals, so I've tried to include enough photos to give you some of the flavor of the event. Links are included in the articles to the photographer's websites where you can find many more images (see page 11), so enjoy!*

*And keep paddlin' strong!*

*Steve*

Cover Photo: Olaf Pippel paddling to victory in the OC1 Man class during Friday Nationals. Photo courtesy of Richard Hodgkins © 2015

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*Priscilla Reinertsen enjoying a fast run down the Allegheny River at the 2015 Nationals.  
Photo courtesy of Warren Picture Place [www.warrenpictureplace.com/usca2015](http://www.warrenpictureplace.com/usca2015)*

# VIEW FROM THE STERN

USCA PRESIDENT PETER HEED

## Good Sportsmanship on Display at Warren Nationals

Having just come back from the very successful Nationals in Warren, Pa., I want to congratulate Jim Decker and the Warren Chamber of Commerce crew along with our great USCA onsite team, especially Joan and Harold Theiss, Don and Barbara Walls, Larry Latta, Norm Ludwig, Jerry and Kitty Patton, and everyone else who contributed to the event's success.

Spirited competition and reconnecting with friends are always highlights of the Nationals. This year was no exception with paddlers and their families coming from all over the US and Canada to participate.

One of the best aspects about our sport of canoe/kayak racing is the high level of commitment to good sportsmanship exhibited by nearly all competitors. This was one of the first lessons for me early on in my canoe racing experience, and is one of the primary reasons we all appreciate our sport. Whether in a race or training, if you find yourself in trouble, you can count on the fact that any paddler nearby will stop to help. Safety and good sportsmanship come first. We as adults always hope that these lessons are learned by our younger paddlers through good example on our part.

At this year's Nationals we were reassured that the concepts of good sportsmanship are alive and well. There were many instances of good sportsmanship and fair play, and we were especially proud of the actions taken by a group of our youth paddlers when another racer was in trouble. It all happened at the very challenging Flame Rapid, which can cause problems for even the most experienced racers. During the Nationals, this rapid was the site of many spin arounds, boats filling with water, and flip overs. During the races on Friday there was an incident at the rapid that brought out the best in our young paddlers.

Ashley Diget flipped over in her racing kayak at the Flame Rapid. While she did her best trying to recover, the Junior Women racers in the C-1 class began to arrive on the scene. Upon finding Ashley in trouble, each of the five girls put aside her personal achievement in the race in order to help Ashley. These outstanding junior competitors included Briana Fitzgerald, JoAnn Olney, Ariel Sayger, Savanna Herbert, and Lindsey Stone. No one took advantage of the situation to their own gain. Once Ashley was back in her boat and out of danger, the C-1 girls restarted in the same order they were racing in before stopping to help.

When it came time to nominate people for the Bill Klebe Sportsmanship award, Ashley Digit nominated all of the C-1 girls, and each girl ended up nominating the others for their selfless

actions at Flame Rapid. The USCA decided it was appropriate to recognize all of these outstanding young paddlers for their unselfish display of good sportsmanship and fair play. They stood out as shining examples of the best qualities we hope to see in our young competitors. We thank them for making us all very proud.

Peter Heed

*In addition to congratulating **Bill Klebe Good Sportsmanship Award** winners Briana Fitzgerald, JoAnn Olney, Ariel Sayger, Savanna Herbert, and Lindsey Stone, congratulations is also extended to the following 2015 special awards recipients:*

**Paddler of the Year:** Jerry and Kitty Patton

**Youth Encouragement:** William and Lynn McDuffy

*On behalf of the USCA: great job by all!*

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## WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS COULD TAKE KAYAKER KAITLYN MCELROY ONE STEP CLOSER TO OLYMPIC DREAMS

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BY CLAY LATIMER | TEAMUSA.ORG



*Kaitlyn McElroy will compete in the women's K1 200-meter and the women's K2 500-meter with teammate Maggie Hogan at the ICF Canoe Spring World Championships from Aug. 19-23 in Milan, Italy.*

Kaitlyn McElroy's Olympic dream appeared to be just that in 2008 — a hazy goal, almost entirely unrealistic.

An NCAA cross-country skier at Bates College in Maine, she had fractured her back a year earlier in a devastating training accident, upending her career plans.

"I tried to ski for awhile, tried to make it work. Finally I just couldn't do it," she said.

But McElroy had a backup plan.

Switching from snow to water, she became a kayaker, resuscitating her Olympic dream in Oklahoma City's Boathouse District.

Her dedication and drive, not to mention her natural gifts, have taken her all the way to Milan, Italy, for the ICF Canoe Sprint World Championships from Aug. 19-23. Races will be held in men's canoe and kayak and women's kayak as well as paracanoe, which makes its debut at the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games.

Crews ranking in the top six to eight, depending on the event, will qualify the boat for their country for the Rio 2016 Olympic or Paralympic Games. There will be an opportunity to qualify additional Olympic and Paralympic quota spots next May.

In Milan, the odds are lined up against McElroy in her two specialties: the 200-meter individual sprint and 500-meter double, with teammate Maggie Hogan.

As usual, the Hungarian, German and New Zealand women are expected to parade to the podium.

But that means little to McElroy, now 30.

“I’m used to being an underdog,” she said.

The role fits her well. As a third grader, she still hadn’t learned to read. Following a series of tests, a school official told her parents to expect the worst.

“I was basically told I wasn’t going to have a future — that I’d be lucky to graduate from high school,” McElroy said.

Today McElroy has two bachelor degrees and plans on attending graduate school to study neuroscience.

Her kayaking career mirrors her academic success.

Despite a late start, she has collected a hull full of medals from competitions ranging from the Pan American Games to the U.S. championships to world cup events.

“Once you get to a certain level, everyone has the talent,” McElroy said. “It’s who has the mental talent. My favorite time in ski racing was when the weather was crazy because I knew I could handle the conditions.”

McElroy’s greatest success has come with Hogan, 36, formerly a college swimmer at University of California, Santa Barbara. The pair teamed up at the 2011 Pan Am Games, went their separate ways, reunited just weeks before 2012 Olympic qualifying and still nearly won a spot in the London Games.

“I was still really new to the sport,” McElroy said. “We missed by something like 0.7, so that was hard. But it was also encouraging.”

Hogan and McElroy seem to make ideal teammates.

Hogan, the bigger of the two, kneels in back, steering the vessel and providing long, powerful strokes. McElroy kneels in front, setting a furious pace with aggressive paddling.

“She’s a real good endurance athlete,” McElroy said. “I’m a sprinter. I can help get us off the line. She can pull us home.”

On the men’s side in Milan, Justin Staubach is the American to watch in the canoe sprints. London Olympian Tim Hornsby could contend for a medal in 200-meter kayak. Alana Nichols, a Paralympic gold medalist in both wheelchair basketball and alpine skiing, will compete in para-canoe.

Several top international paddlers are expected to compete in Milan, including Hungary’s Zoltan Kammerer, a three-time Olympic kayak champion, and Mark de Jonge of Canada, the defending 200-meter kayak world champion and world record holder.

London 2012 Olympic Games gold medalists Sebastian Brendel of Germany (200-meter canoe sprint) and Ed McKeever of Great Britain (200-meter kayak) are expected to compete.

On the women’s side, New Zealand’s Lisa Carrington has been a dominant figure since winning the world 200-meter kayak championship in 2011. She won the Olympic title in London.

***Clay Latimer is a Denver-based writer who covered four Olympic Games, in addition to other sports, over 28 years with the Rocky Mountain News. He is a freelance contributor to TeamUSA.org on behalf of Red Line Editorial, Inc.***



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# A RACE, A DAIRY FARMER, AND A LOVING WIFE: THE USCA NATIONALS 2015

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BY STEVEN HORNEY



*Battling it out for position in the Stellar SEL during the K1 Unlimited Race on Saturday.*

*Photo courtesy of Warren Picture Place [www.warrenpictureplace.com/usca2015](http://www.warrenpictureplace.com/usca2015)*

As competitive paddlers, we're blessed to have many outstanding races throughout this country, and in fact throughout the world. Few, however, can mimic the flavor of the USCA Nationals. Hosted annually, and at a different location each year, this is river racing at its finest. No matter the location, your river reading skills will be tested, and you'll likely deal with shallows, deep water, eddies, fast currents (with and against), and choppy water. There may even be a portage thrown in for grins. But even more than the river conditions, the Nationals Canoe & Kayak Races creates an environment like no other for the paddle racing enthusiast: 6 straight days of racing, with all manner of water craft, in multiple race formats. Sprint, biathlon (run/paddle), and marathon racing, with canoes, kayaks, outriggers, and SUP's, in men, women, and

various tandem combinations. Even Orienteering. It's an awesome time! The Nationals races are nearly always held near a small out-of-the-way town, so it's as though a massive long boat convention suddenly took over the community. You see kindred souls with racing boats on top of their vehicles all over the town and passing by on the roads.

For 2015 the USCA Nationals were held on the Allegheny River in Warren, PA. The scenery was stunning, the river challenging, and the weather beautiful. Other than the gnats. I would say we had an over-abundance of gnats, but I don't think there's such a thing as a "proper abundance" of gnats.

The course this year was modified into a new, extended 16 mile course. Prior years at Warren had the marathon races ending at

Betts Park, with upstream sections typically around buoys or an island for a roughly 12 – 13 mile course. This year we went all the way to Buckaloons Recreation Area; 15.2 miles straight through (OC1's ran straight through), or 16 miles with the upstream leg. The upstream leg was relatively short, adding roughly .8 miles to the course, and ran between a pair of bridges right across from a prime viewing area in front of the Warren hospital.

This section of the Allegheny River can be treacherously shallow, by which I mean that the river bottom is fairly rocky and on low water days you have a high likelihood of at least whacking a rudder, if not a bailer or worse. For the marathon races, the Army Corps of Engineers increased the water release at the dam, bringing water levels up to

a reasonable level – but you still had to take some care in your river reading to avoid shallower areas. Water levels on race days were better this year than in some years, although some rudder bumping was almost inevitable – one of those times I was very glad for the over-stern rudder on my surf ski and the custom shortened rudder on my OC1 (although I still had a few rudder bumps with it).

As per usual, there were enough shallows, rapids, currents, eddies, etc. to keep most anyone interested – and on their toes! The current was fast enough in some areas that many of us exceeded 10 mph. Flame rapids (so called because of its proximity to a flame by an oil refinery), a roughly 50 ft. long section of the course with steep standing waves and a lot of turbulences, strikes fear into the heart of many a competitor, and gives the Warren course something of a bit of notoriety. For ocean paddlers, waves 12” – 18” tall may sound like child’s play, but the waves on this patch of river are so sharp, dense, and directionally varied that they tend to toss your boat in random directions rather suddenly and disconcertingly (not to mention often flooding open boats). Many racers found themselves going through the rapids the “manly” way – i.e. outside the boat! But if you knew what you were doing, Flame Rapids could be your friend...

### **Here’s my story:**

My wife (Julie) and I started the Nationals on our best note ever: we actually arrived a day before my first race, set up our camping trailer in a very nice campground (a KOA about 10 miles east of Kinzua Dam in the Allegheny Forest), had the opportunity to check out everything the next day, got in a good night’s sleep, and got going in a timely manner for my Friday morning OC1 race. Rarely do races run that smoothly for me, but I sure love it when they do!

At any rate, Friday’s 15.2 mile USCA Nationals OC1 race was a blast! I came in 4th out of 5 in OC1 Man, but it was a very close race and I was quite happy with my powerful start and our close run the rest of the race. The first place guy was 26 year old powerhouse Olaf Pippel who put a decent



*Steve and Julie relaxing after a paddle in their Huki V2-X OC2.*

lead on the rest of us, but from there the difference between 2nd and 3rd was 1 second. I was 12 seconds behind third, with the 5th place finisher 1 minute behind me (he bumped his longer rudder quite a bit). We worked together almost the whole race, swapping leads and helping each other figure our way down the course.

Flame Rapids in an OC1 was an awesome experience! The lead boat of our “gang of 4” (Bill Gardner) had knocked off his bailer in pre-race practice and taped over the hole, so he was trying to hold to the far left as we entered the rapids section, working to keep out of the bigger waves to minimize water in the boat. At that point I was fourth in the line, and seeing the rest of the line working towards the left I put on the brakes for a moment (my bow was overlapping the next guys stern on the left side), moved right and headed directly into the middle of the rapids. Leaning towards the ama (the float) a bit, I hammered the paddle and rocketed through the rapids and around the rest. Utterly cool! The others caught back up shortly thereafter and we stayed together until the end, but it was fun while it lasted...

Saturday started completely differently from Friday, but the end result of Saturday’s “Miracle Morning”: 1st place, K1 Unlimited Man Senior! The day started with Julie not feeling well and my alarm failing to sound, resulting in my rising 45 minutes later than planned and without my race helper. Needless to say, the morning was a scramble! Having fought a hard 15.2 mile race the prior day in OC1 Man, I was feeling pretty shot that morning. I even had the passing thought of just backing out, or taking it easy running my surf ski down the course. But I got going and made it to the start in a reasonable time, though it was kind of a bummer that Julie couldn’t make it.

After the pre-race meeting, while making last minute preparations before launching, I heard a familiar voice close by saying “GOOOO STEVE!!!” Looking up in astonishment, I beheld in front of me the lovely form of Julie! What the heck?!? Going through my mind was a combination of shock and awe, with a mental question mark of how in the world she made it to the race start, as I had the only vehicle we brought. Did she get hold of a Star Trek teleporter? A James Bond Jet Pack? Or did Almighty God

send an Angel to whisk her to the races? It turns out the latter was closest!

As Julie heard me leave, she started feeling better and felt a longing to be with me at the race, encouraging me on. This is why she came! Julie debated trying to do anything at all that day, but within her she felt the Lord urging her to get going. Getting ready and packing up rapidly, she raced to the office to see if someone could give her a ride, only to find the office closed. With that door closed (literally), Julie did the next best thing: waved down someone leaving our camping park in a motor home and asked if they could supply a ride to the dam! A nice Menonite dairy farmer and his wife, originally planning to head the opposite direction (and low on fuel), instead had compassion on Julie and delivered her to the race, getting her to the start just in time!

Now with the miraculous appearance of Julie, the race was looking up. Getting on the water, I was surprised to find my kayaking muscles were in fine form, in spite of the weariness of my canoeing muscles. As the gun sounded, I headed out with a good start, thankful to be in the Stellar SEL: the stability of this boat kept me running solidly in spite of some very choppy water. And the boat was fast! I initially thought I

would be keeping it mellow, but I kept feeling better as I went. Every stroke felt strong, solid, and planted; I kept reeling in boats until there were only two ahead of me. Super man and former Olympian Mike Herbert paddled a smoking fast race and far outran all of us, but unfortunately Mike forgot to make the upriver loop; Mike showed solid character, however, in letting the officials know immediately upon finishing and DQ'ing himself. Quite an example of a good sportsman! Hansel Lucas III, a friend from PA paddling a Stellar SEI in the new Multi-Sport layout, started ahead of me initially, then fell behind, but caught back up later and we worked the last few miles together with Hansel pulling ahead a short distance at the end. An incredible race!

The stability of the SEL really proved valuable at Flame Rapids, which took out the two boats directly ahead of me (I had to really work the rudder to miss the guy immediately in front of me, as he started to move his boat into my path). Lots of choppy water, fast currents, eddies, shallows (with rocks - glad for the over-stern kick-up rudder!) made for a fun and challenging 16 mile course. I really needed to get in some nourishment the last few miles, but couldn't take the time to eat the energy snack I brought, so I gutted it out. I think I would have been faster if I had

an energy gel pack I could have sucked down quickly. Something to work on for next time!

Meanwhile, all I can say is what an amazing day... Saturday had a rough start, a strange twist, and a beautiful ending. As a man of faith, I know it was the hand of God that got Julie to the race so remarkably, and then strengthened me for the best race of my life. I have a lot to be thankful for - and particularly for my wife and race supporter who loves me so incredibly! A great story for the grandkids...

***Superb photos of the Nationals are posted at:***

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

***And***

[kayakracer.smugmug.com/Boats](http://kayakracer.smugmug.com/Boats)

***(Richard Hodgkins)***

*Hitting it hard in the Scorpius XS during the OCI race on Friday.*

*Photo courtesy of  
Richard Hodgkins © 2015*



# RACING TIPS BY PETER HEED

## The Unwritten Rules of the Pack

In my first two articles on racing strategy and technique, we discussed how to develop a good consistent racing start and also how to best approach the early stages of any race. Now we want to focus on key strategic moments which often occur mid-race. One of these crucial situations which can develop is the formation of a "canoe pack", where two or more canoes ride each other's wakes.

In marathon canoe racing there are few moments as exciting as running with a pack of canoes. The group dynamics are complex and intriguing. Every action of one team affects all of the other teams. With canoes each taking a turn sprinting (or "pulling") while the other canoes rest on the side or back waves, the pack can move forward at a faster consistent pace than any one canoe alone. On the other hand, if it is not to the advantage of at least one of the canoes to be "pulling," the pack as a whole may slow down. Either way, the canoe racers within the pack, as they ride each other's wakes, are expending much less energy than their competitors who are out on the river alone.

When you find yourself riding in a pack, either large or small, particularly in the early stages of a race, the racing can seem so easy that you may not feel you are working as hard as you should. Don't fight it. Enjoy it while it lasts, because you're actually moving along fast and expending little energy doing it. You will know what we mean the very first time you get dropped after riding for a while with a pack.

I first learned of the energy saved in a pack during my initial try at racing the famous *Classique Internationale de Canots* in Shawinigan, Quebec. During the first day's stage, which was approximately eight hours long, my partner and I managed to come together with four other canoes and form a nice second pack. Neither of us was very experienced and it felt too easy. We kept looking behind us, expecting to be overtaken, but the canoes to our immediate rear were not getting any closer. My partner and I kept talking about "hitting it" and bringing the pace up for a while, but we felt too inexperienced to make any decisive moves.

Suddenly we encountered shallow water; the pack sprinted; and we fell two waves back. Now we had to sprint with everything we had, and we still were not able to regain the pack. We struggled in the irregular waves thrown off the back of the pack, zigging and zagging and finally, after about ten minutes of the maximum effort, were able to regain the side wave of the pack. Ahhh! It suddenly felt so easy again. That ten minute maximum effort had nearly exhausted us, but the lesson was driven home. The pack as a whole was moving fast, even though the energy expenditure of the individual pack members was far lower than would be required for a single team trying to keep the same pace. When I finally regained my breath and could talk, I asked my bow partner if he was content to sit where we were and he quickly shook his head yes. I couldn't agree more.

When the water is deep and the race is in its early stages, pack riding can almost

feel like relaxation. In these circumstances, the racers often let down their competitive fronts and chitchat with each other. During a long race, pack members will often take this opportunity to eat and drink. Even jokes are told.

You won't find any rulebooks where it tells you what to do when you get in a pack, but there are certain unwritten rules which all savvy canoe racers understand and usually obey. The penalty for violating these rules depends upon the severity of the indiscretion - either you will be shunned by the pack (everyone will avoid paddling near you), or they will simply try to drop you off the back.

Here are some of the most important of the unwritten rules of the pack:

\* Keep your canoe going straight and avoid hitting other canoes. There is nothing more aggravating than a canoe zig-zagging out of control. An occasional minor bump is bound to happen, but if you are continuously bashing into other canoes, the pack will make sure you're not around for long.

\* The lead canoe has the right of way and sets the line. Everyone in the pack must react to the direction in which the lead canoe team chooses to go. That is, if the lead canoe team chooses to turn to the left, then the canoes riding wake in the pack must also adjust to turn left. If you don't like the direction the lead canoe team is going, pull up and take the lead - then you can set the course.

\* Take your turn at the front. As long as you are not sick or "bonked" and just hanging on, it is considered good form to share the pulling chores. The pull is not a sprint; it is a strong and steady effort which will allow the other canoes in the pack to ride your wake. And a pull does not have to be particularly long – 30 seconds to a minute at the front will suffice.

\* When you're in close quarters, adjust your stroke technique so that you are not striking the canoe or the paddles of the boat next to you. This can usually be accomplished by keeping the recovery phase of your stroke close to your own canoe. The stern person can also time the "huts" to minimize conflict with the adjoining paddlers.

\* Never touch another person's canoe with your hand.

\* Warn another paddler if the bow of your canoe is in a position where he or she may strike it with his or her paddle. This situation usually occurs when the bow of the side-waking canoe is close to the bow paddler in the lead boat. Hitting somebody's bow with the flat face of a carbon racing paddle is the quickest way we know to force you to go to your spare.

\* If you are getting pulled into the side of another team's canoe which is ahead of you, it is your responsibility to draw or pry away to avoid a collision. This is especially so if your bow is getting sucked into the stern area of an opponent's canoe. A hard hit in this area can drive the other canoe sideways or even flip it over. You may gain a momentary advantage in this one particular race but you will not be welcome back in the pack.

\* If you are moving up from the stern wake to the side wake and coming between two canoes, be sure there is sufficient room for you to make your move. It gets awfully aggravating when people try to force three canoes into a two canoe-wide space. At the same time, it is generally not considered to be good form to intentionally bring your boat closer to another simply to squeeze out a canoe between you.

\* Don't intentionally splash paddlers or put water into the canoe of competitors who are properly riding your side wake.

\* Don't attack or sprint when a team is eating. In long races, all the canoe teams in a pack are going to have to periodically eat. It's bad manners to attack when teams are eating. This is one of those rules of common sense and politeness which makes a great deal of sense. You will certainly have to eat too – you don't

want other teams to sprint when you have a handful of fruit.

Rest, relax, and take advantage of your time when you are in a pack of canoes. It may not last long. The whole purpose of being in the pack in the first place is to allow you to cruise along at a high rate of speed while utilizing significantly less energy. Your ride in the pack will be the perfect time to eat, drink, and try to work out stiffness in those sore neck and shoulder muscles. So rest and enjoy your time in the pack. If you're there, you've earned it.

Peter Heed



*Peter Heed applying his racing tips at the Nationals!*

*Photo courtesy of Richard Hodges © 2015*

# TRICIA'S TRAVEL TIPS

NOT JUST ANOTHER RACE, BUT A FAMILY DESTINATION



*Lineup of canoes at the 2015 Nationals.*

*Photo courtesy of Warren Picture Place [www.warrenpictureplace.com/](http://www.warrenpictureplace.com/)*

What do zip lines, alpine slides, mountain bikes, hiking and history have to do with the USCA National Championships? Well there is more to do than canoe racing in Northfield, MA and the surrounding area. This is why we are encouraging everyone to make the 2016 Nationals a family vacation.

If your family is interested in history, then Boston is the place you should venture off to, or stay locally and visit Old Deerfield Village. If you love the ocean, you can travel from the Maine coast to Cape Cod. There is nothing more delicious than lobster cooked right at the pier! Anyone who loves hiking would not want to miss Vermont's Green Mountains or New Hampshire's White Mountains. You can even take a drive up the auto road or a cog railway ride up Mt. Washington, the highest peak in the northeast. Locally, there is Sugarloaf Mountain with short hikes or a drive to the top where there is a majestic view of the Connecticut River Valley.

At the race site you can take a river cruise, hike and mountain bike up Northfield Mountain, and road bike on the Franklin County Scenic Byway. If you love shopping, you can visit the flagship stores of Yankee Candle and Kringle Candle along with many quaint downtown shopping opportunities in nearby towns.

We guarantee something of interest for everyone. Of course, it goes without saying, the beautiful Connecticut River Valley is a great place for paddling!

The New England Canoe and Kayaking Association is looking forward to hosting paddlers from all over the U.S. and Canada.

Tricia Heed

# BUILDER PROFILE: STELLAR KAYAKS

BY STEVEN HORNEY



*David Thomas and Ed Hofmeister standing by the newly updated 2016 Stellar SEL surf ski.*

In last month's builder profile, we took a look at one of the grand old builders of racing kayaks, Doug Bushnell and his West Side Boat Shop. This month we're going to focus on one of the newest race boat builders, Stellar Kayaks and Surf Skis.

Though one of the newest companies on the kayak market, Stellar has been making significant inroads into the hearts – and pocketbooks – of kayakers everywhere, and into the surf ski scene in particular. Stellar Kayaks tries to beat the competition with a combination of solid build quality, high stability to speed ratios, and niche market servicing.

Founders David Thomas and Ed Hofmeister come at the boat business from different, but complimentary, backgrounds. Ed, chief engineer, is a trained composites engineer with a degree in Composites Engineering from the University of Colorado and a

background that includes working for Carter Copter. Dave received a B.A. degree in Geology and Visual Arts from Bowdoin College in Maine. He learned the trade through his work at Quantum Racing (rowing shells) from a bunch of guys that used to work at Goetz Boat Works (America's Cup Builders), Van Dusen, and Resolute boat works.

Dave always loved water and boating. Growing up, Dave initially found his niche as a competitive swimmer, while also enjoying recreational canoeing and kayaking. In college Dave turned to competitive rowing, achieving enough success that he ended up being recruited by Quantum Racing.

Ed was hired by Quantum Racing for his composites expertise. He has always been an "outdoorsy" individual, a long-time multi-sport competitor, and a summer kayaker.

Dave and Ed started working together

in 2000, initially at Quantum Racing prior to moving 4 years later to Wintech Racing, a rowing shell company with boats built in China by Flying Eagle (they've been working in China since 2004). Flying Eagle, wanting to break into the surf ski & kayak world, hired Ed and Dave to develop that end of the business. Dave and Ed came up with the Stellar brand name and began building boats in 2008, focusing on niche markets in the kayak and surf ski markets. Noted Naval Architects Klaus Filter and Graeme King had a big influence on the hull designs; Dave and Ed brought their own ideas to the interior and ergonomic designs of the boats.

Ed and Dave spend around 260 days a year overseeing the production of the boats in the Flying Eagle factory. They've made a number of improvements along the way. On the personnel side, they've equipped factory workers with up-to-date personal protection equipment, as well as outfitting

the factory with the latest smog reduction systems. Workers are paid 4 times the standard wage, and most have been there 15 – 19 years, maintaining a skilled labor force for Flying Eagle. On the boat side, Ed and Dave work diligently and employ numerous controls and high tech methods to ensure boats are built to the highest standards, including being laid up with full resin coverage to prevent debonding/delamination issues, but without any excess resin (results in excess weight). Improperly bonded layers reduce boat strength, and Stellar strives to avoid such issues. As a result, the boats have a reputation for solid construction and durability.

To keep weight down but stiffness and strength up, Stellar employs various

design features (ridges, curves, etc.) that increase stiffness remarkably without adding weight.

Key market areas for Stellar from the beginning have been in boat construction and weight, ergonomics, and stability. In recent times Stellar has focused on designing boats hydrodynamically matched to smaller, lighter paddlers. One prime example is the SES, an elite-level surf ski with a shorter length and narrower beam to match the lighter weight, reduced power, and lower-CG's of smaller paddlers. It's been an enormously successful boat. Boats from other companies had typically been standard hulls with a modified cockpit and deck, but they weren't really well matched to smaller paddlers.

Some of the unique products, in addition to the SES, have been the S14S – a revolutionary 14' surf ski with much greater efficiency, the first prepreg unidirectional carbon boats, their 3-point quick-adjustable footplate, and side handles on some of the line. Also newly introduced is their Multi-Sport layup, a ruggedized layup for those racing/paddling in rocky/log-strewn streams and rivers. Stellar now has a stunning variety of color and layup options, and they'll be adding more scaled-down boats in the future. Indeed, the future looks very bright – even “stellar” – for this relatively recent upstart.

See more at  
[www.stellarkayaksusa.com](http://www.stellarkayaksusa.com).

*Stellar kayaks and surf skis are available in a stunning array of colors: the anti-dote for the white surf ski!*





# MIKE HERBERT—NATIONALS CHAMPION

BY STEVEN HORNEY

Almost anyone who's attended the Nationals over the years will recognize Mike Herbert — if not by name, then at least by sight. A powerhouse of a man, Mike looks like a professional body builder, powering his kayak ferociously — and faster than almost anyone else in the country. And when not on the course, Mike is typically escorted by his German Shepherd,

Keylo. A distinctive individual, Mike is nevertheless a very personable individual who came into the paddle sports quite literally by accident.

Mike Herbert first started paddling at age 15. His family had just moved to Arkansas from Illinois, following years of vacationing in Arkansas. Not long after the move, Mike, who had previously been active in track and cross-country, was hit by a car breaking both legs and leaving him unable to walk or run for a year. Such an event doesn't bode well for a track future! During this time, however, his father pur-



*Mike Herbert laying down the power at the 2015 Nationals!*

*Photo courtesy of Richard Hodgkins © 2015*

chased a canoe with the thought that it might be a good way for him to obtain a good upper-body workout. Mike and his father took to canoeing with enthusiasm, setting a goal to explore all the rivers in Arkansas. Coming across an ad for a canoe race on the Elk River in 1977, Mike and his father decided to enter and see how they would fare. Paddling C2 in their rec canoe, Mike and his Dad took 2<sup>nd</sup> place to a team that actually knew what they were doing; from that point on the racing fires were stoked! Following their initial racing success, they jumped into racing with both feet (both arms?), racing at every opportunity,

and eventually finding their way to the USCA Nationals where Mike met Greg Barton.

Mike saw Greg in a kayak and became fascinated with paddling kayak. With a lot of hard practice, Mike worked his way onto the Olympic team and won the 1988 Olympic trials, going on to become part of the same Olympic team of 1988 in which

Greg Barton won two gold medals. Mike just barely missed a bronze at that game by .02 seconds! Unfortunately, the Olympics come every 4 years and Mike peaked in his performance between 1988 and 1992, but in the meantime he won bronze in the 1989 Worlds and 2 silvers in the 1990 Worlds (K1 and K2). Mike says he was faster in the 500m than in the 1000m at that time. Like other athletes, as Mike aged he lost some of his fast twitch muscles, causing Mike to turn from sprint events to marathon racing, where he continued to excel.

Mike really enjoys the Nationals; he finds the event to be a great combination of racing challenge, camaraderie, and just plain fun camping out and interacting with other paddlers. At home, Mike conducts most of his practices on a lake, making the river formats of most Nationals a different challenge. It's fun, but sometimes it works against Mike if he comes up

to miss his faithful race companion: his German Shepherd Keylo. Keylo was a rescue dog he picked up from the local animal shelter nearly starved to death. These days Keylo, his 5<sup>th</sup> German Shepherd, is thriving and loves to be with Mike and the boats. Keylo gets a free ride now and then, but traveling well for longer paddles can be a challenge for a

dog so most rides are short in duration.

Mike has a lot of fun racing, but perhaps even more rewarding lately has been watching his younger daughter Savanna (he's the father of two daughters) take up an interest in racing. Savanna has raced C2 with Mike at some other Nationals, but this year Savanna raced the course by herself in C-1 for the first time! Now she's ready to join Mike in investing in a C2 Cruiser to start racing with her father more seriously. Mike usually paddles kayaks, but he's a solid canoe paddler as well. With his daughter taking up the sport I suspect he'll be doing a lot of single-paddle workouts in the near future. Looks like another paddling dynasty in the making...



*Photos courtesy of  
Richard Hodgkins © 2015*

against a comparable competitor with lots of river running experience. Not that there are many who are comparable competitors!

Everyone who sees Mike immediately notices his formidable build. It turns out Mike started lifting weights around age 15 and just enjoys weight lifting; he's never been a competitive weight lifter. How much of the buff muscles he actually uses during a race is hard to say, but it no doubt intimidates the competition!

Even if you somehow miss seeing Mike at a Nationals, it would be hard



# STUCK RUDDER—2015 NATIONALS

BY ROBERT HAINAN

## The Boat

I had just finished unpacking my latest kayak acquisition and stepped back to take in its full glory. I let out a low whistle. In front of me lay 25 feet of gleaming white gel coat. My new Epic V10 Double looked graceful and fast just sitting there in my garage. I could only imagine what it was going to do on the water. There was a big problem, however. The V10 Double is a K2 and I was strictly a solo paddler up to this point. Who would be my partner?

My vague plan when I bought the kayak was that it would be a vehicle that could help solidify the matrimonial bonds between me and my wife, Lucy. Visions of the two of us laughing and smiling as we merrily surfed the Double was all it took for me to plunk down the money to get the boat coming to me. You all know where this is going, right?

Needless to say the maiden voyage with the two of us in the Double did not end with us laughing and smiling. My wife is a very good kayaker, but her idea of a great paddle is a meandering and methodical ride down a scenic river taking in the sights and breathing in the scent of nature. My idea of a great paddle is going as fast as possible between points A and B. I have no time for nature when I am concentrating on my heart rate monitor. Combining our conflicting paddling styles with our total inexperience paddling a demanding K2 surfski was a recipe for disaster. I will not recount the gory details of our adventure except to say that words were exchanged

in the heat of the moment that had never passed our lips before over eighteen years of marital bliss. After a few days we were able to overcome the pain and resume our friendship, but the V10 Double went back onto the rack, gathering dust. Every time I would take out one of its brother kayaks for a paddle I thought I could hear it crying. I would put my hand on it and murmur “Don't worry. Somebody will come along”.

## Enter Mike Sweeny

Late last year a new guy started paddling with our group. We noticed Mike Sweeny at a couple of our local races and invited him to join our informal, week night paddle. After becoming a pretty adept kayaker back in the 1980's, life, family and work got in the way and he had given up the sport for a long time until picking it back up in the last two years. Mike is a fast paddler with a graceful stroke and he immediately forced us to find a new gear to keep up with him. Thursday night paddles become more intense but that was balanced by the relaxed vibe Mike brought to the after-paddle cocktail hour. Mike is quick with a joke and his antics and stories had us all smiling and laughing.

Over beers after another hard training paddle in May, the topic of USCA Nationals came up. I had never been to Nationals before and was planning on making my debut in 2015 in the Sea Kayak class. Mike casually mentioned that he had paddled a K2 at Nationals in 1985 and took third place. Greatly impressed, visions of cheering crowds, national anthems, Wheaties boxes and guest appearances on talk shows

danced in my head. Mike mentioned something about there only being four boats in the race in 1985 and that his finishing time was over an hour later than winners....blah, blah, blah. The only important information I heard was that Mike could paddle a K2 and that he had been to Nationals. I asked him if he would be interested in doing the Men's K2 on my Epic at Warren, PA in August. He quickly agreed with a big smile.

Later that evening I whispered to the Epic V10 Double, “Baby, we have found our star.”

## The Race

Mike and I gently lowered ourselves in the boat just below the Kinzua dam and took in the scene. Canoes, OC-1's and kayaks danced around each other in the warm up dance above the start buoys. We had managed to practice about once a week in the months preceding the race and were pretty confident of our handling skills. What we were not so confident in was our endurance. Our longest paddle to date was a 12 mile lake race in Ohio during which we bonked severely and limped to the finish line. Despite the longer distance, this race was going to be easier because it was all down river. At least that is what we told ourselves to bolster our confidence.

There was a murmur of low water amongst the crowd of racers but we did not take much notice of it in our state of nervous anticipation. Low water paddling was not something on our radar. All of our paddling to this point was done in deep lakes or the Allegheny River in Pittsburgh, where we

would be much more likely to hit a submerged 1957 DeSoto rather than a rock.

As befitting a deep water surfski, our craft was outfitted with an under stern rudder. I had noticed that almost all of the other kayakers at the race either had kick up rudders or under stern ones shaved down to little stubs. Well, it was too late to do anything about that five minutes before the start. Besides, our rudder was the smallest one that

very spot that had flipped multiple canoes ahead of us. There was nothing to do but shut my eyes and hope for the best. Somehow, we sailed straight through the rapid without a hitch. Mike, blissfully unaware of our rudder predicament, congratulated me on my superior navigation!

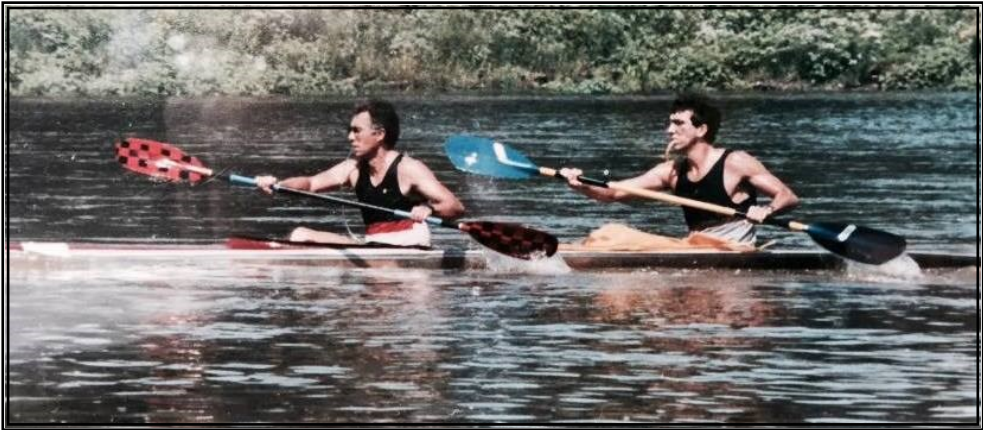
After I conveyed the bad news to my paddling partner we made it over to the shallows and flipped the kayak over to survey the damage. An ugly scar of a

neither Mike nor I had any experience paddling canoes. We did our best and began limping left and right down the remaining 10 miles of river. From time to time we would have to stop and bang the rudder straight again after knocking against more rocks. We crossed the line exhausted and a bit dejected with our poor showing.

Later that evening, as the disappointment faded and the soreness began to creep into our new found canoe paddling muscles, I told Mike that his rudder must have gotten stuck a little bit back in his 1985 race. He wasn't following so I elaborated:

“When the rudder gets stuck, the boat just goes around in a circle. Your rudder must have gotten stuck just enough to make your circle 30 years long”.

He laughed and said “Well, its not stuck any more. You are going to steer us straight up to Nationals in Massachusetts next year. Just promise you will bring a rudder wrench next time!” I agreed and we shook hands on it. Connecticut River beware. The rudder wreckers from Pittsburgh are coming!



*Mike Sweeny paddling K2 with partner in 1985 Nationals*

Epic offered. In a show of false bravado I assured Mike we would be fine and that we were going for gold.

For the first five miles we did pretty good. We were able to keep the lead K2 in sight and pick a decent line though the course. However, disaster struck just before the dreaded Flame rapids. I watched a K1 paddler ahead of us make a sharp yet nimble cut to the extreme left to avoid an obstacle. I tried to follow suit but nobody would use the terms “sharp” and “nimble” to describe my abilities in maneuvering a 25 foot long K2. Wham! The noise of the impact was loud enough to cause a collective groan to emit from the crowd watching the action from the bridge above. We were almost thrown from the boat as the rudder slammed against either a prehistoric boulder, the Loch Ness Monster or a 1957 DeSoto. We had a brief moment to recover before we hit the rapid and I discovered my rudder pedals were locked up. We were out of control heading for the

crack lanced out from behind the rudder which was now jammed tight against the hull. My beautiful boat was not so beautiful anymore. With no wrench to drop the rudder slightly (I'm sure experienced river runners carry tools, duct tape and epoxy with them on all paddles) our only option was to use our fists to bang the rudder straight and try to paddle it like a canoe. The major problem with that plan was that



*Robert Hainan and Mike Sweeny, 2015 Nationals*

# USCA NATIONALS: RESULTS!



Photos this page courtesy of Richard Hodgkins © 2015



## USCA National Canoe & Kayak Adult Sprint Championships Tuesday, August 11, 2015

Event Name	Last Name	First Name	State	Age	Partner Last Name	Partner First Name	State	Age	End Time	Place
<b>C1 Woman</b>	No Entries									
<b>C1 Woman Master</b>	No Entries									
<b>C1 Woman Senior</b>	Fitzgerald	Pam	NY	51					02:52.3	1
	Williams	Susan	PA	50					03:22.5	2
<b>C1 Woman Veteran</b>	Stout	Teresa	PA	61					03:05.3	1
<b>C1 Man</b>	No Entries									
<b>C1 Man Master</b>	No Entries									
<b>C1 Man Senior</b>	Gruber	Paul	PA	57					02:42.9	1
	Walls	Donald	AR	52					02:43.0	2
	Pennington	Doug	MO	58					02:56.3	3
	Jones	Ed	TX	55					03:00.1	4
<b>C1 Man Veteran</b>	Bruno	Charlie	PA	68					02:47.7	1
	Thomas	Tom	IN	70					02:50.5	2
	Allen	Robert	MA	71					02:52.5	3
	Machacek	Stan	Ont. Can	71					03:05.1	4
	Leone	Dick	PA	68					03:06.1	5
	Vandewinckel	Glen	NY	78					03:07.2	6
	MacQueen	Jon	NB. Can	74					03:07.5	7
	Spain	Bob	TX	69					DNF	DNF
<b>K1 Woman</b>	Gustafson	Carrie	PA	39					SCR	SCR
<b>K1 Woman Master</b>	Fischer	Christina	PA	47					03:21.3	1
	Good	Heidi	PA	43					05:03.6	2
<b>K1 Woman Senior</b>	Sherer	Ulrike	MI	54					02:49.8	1
	Wenrich	Kate	PA	55					03:09.6	2
	Glover	Deborah	PA	50					03:15.7	3
<b>K1 Woman Veteran</b>	Talluto	Marianne	PA	65					03:14.9	1
	Daugherty	Linda	PA	64					03:20.0	2
<b>K1 Man</b>	Herbert	Mike	AR	54					01:59.5	1
	Good	Rory	PA	21					03:22.5	2
<b>K1 Man Master</b>	Glover	Dale	PA	44					02:19.3	1
	Glover	Daniel	PA	49					02:39.7	2
	Good	Michael	PA	46					DNF	DNF
<b>K1 Man Senior</b>	Kaiser	Ron	PA	52					02:19.4	1
	Ammon	Brian	PA	57					02:35.8	2
	Parkinson	Michael	NY	58					SCR	SCR
<b>K1 Man Veteran</b>	Kyle	David	PA	64					02:00.1	1
	Mullen	Gary	PA	63					02:15.3	2
	Walton	Tom	NH	66					02:35.2	3
	Marona	John	CT	64					02:50.1	4
	Swank	Richard	NY	73					SCR	SCR
	Sherer	Myron	MI	67					SCR	SCR
<b>SUP Unlimited Woman</b>	Fischer	Christina	PA	47					05:45.1	1
	Daugherty	Linda	PA	64					05:49.7	2
<b>SUP Unlimited Man</b>	Reeves	Lloyd	FL	61					03:25.0	1
	Fischer	Jeremy	PA	16					04:09.9	2
	Walton	Tom	NH	66					04:18.3	3
	Good	Michael	PA	46					05:14.3	4
	Good	Rory	PA	21					06:36.5	5
<b>C2 Women</b>	No Entries									
<b>C2 Women Master</b>	No Entries									



## USCA National Canoe & Kayak Adult Sprint Championships Tuesday, August 11, 2015

Event Name	Last Name	First Name	State	Age	Partner Last Name	Partner First Name	State	Age	End Time	Place
<b>C2 Women Senior</b>	Fitzgerald	Pam	NY	54	Stout	Teresa	PA	60	02:50.7	1
	Weinrich	Kate	PA	55	Williams	Susan	PA	51	03:13.7	2
<b>C2 Woman Veteran</b>	No Entries									
<b>C2 Men</b>	No Entries									
<b>C2 Men Master</b>	Josefik	Ben	IL	42	Pennington	Doug	MO	58	02:50.5	1
<b>C2 Men Senior</b>	Walls	Don	AR	52	Burris	Dale	AR	60	02:35.9	1
	Gruber	Paul	PA	57	Heed	Peter	NH	65	02:36.4	2
<b>C2 Men Veteran</b>	Allen	Robert	MA	71	Thomas	Tom	IN	70	02:37.4	1
	Vandewinckel	Glen	NY	78	Bruno	Charlie	PA	68	02:42.0	2
	Leone	Richard	PA	68					SCR	SCR
<b>C2 Mixed</b>	Patton	Jerry	PA	76	Bockoras	Steph	PA	32	36:16.2	1
<b>C2 Mixed Master</b>	Fitzgerald	Pam	NY	54	Walls	Don	AR	52	02:36.7	1
	Stout	Teresa	PA	61	Gruber	Paul	PA	57	02:39.8	2
	Emshoff	Joy	TX	62	Spain	Bob	TX	69	02:49.7	3
	Glover	Daniel	PA	49	Williams	Susan	PA	52	03:02.4	4
<b>C2 Woman/Youth 5-7</b>	Williamson	Brooklyn	AR	5	Fitzgerald	Pam	NY	55	03:16.4	1
	Luk	Azriel	PA	7	Bockoras	Stephanie	PA	32	03:56.0	2
<b>C2 Woman/Youth 8-10</b>	No Entries									
<b>C2 Woman/Youth 11-12</b>	Sayger	Ariel	AR	12	Burris	Becky	AR	64	02:51.7	1
	Glover	Jordan	PA	11	Williams	Susan	PA	51	03:13.8	2
<b>C2 Woman/Youth 13-14</b>	No Entries									
<b>C2 Woman/Junior 15-17</b>	Fitzgerald	Briana	NY	15	Fitzgerald	Pamela	NY	54	02:47.4	1
<b>C2 Man/Youth 5-7</b>	Walls	Don	AR	52	Williamson	Brayden	AR	7	03:09.3	1
	Josefik	Luke	IL	5	Josefik	Ben	IL	42	03:11.7	2
	Clark	Roger	MI	63	Neff	Damien	MI	7	03:26.4	3
<b>C2 Man/Youth 8-10</b>	Clark	Roger	MI	63	Diget	Samantha	MI	9	03:05.3	1
	Patton	Jerry	PA	76	Packard	R.J.	PA	8	03:25.5	2
<b>C2 Man/Youth 11-12</b>	Clark	Roger	MI	63	Diget	Ashley	MI	12	03:06.0	1
<b>C2 Man/Youth 13-14</b>	Sayger	Matthew	AR	14	Walls	Don	AR	52	02:43.5	1
<b>C2 Man/Junior 15-17</b>	Sayger	Joshua	AR	16	Burris	Dale	AR	60	02:29.7	1
	Herbert	Mike	AR	54	Herbert	Savanna	AR	17	02:38.5	2
	Fischer	Chris	PA	47	Fischer	Jeremy	PA	16	02:46.3	3
	Vandewinckel	Glen	NY	78	Ripton	Annie	NY	15	02:55.8	4
<b>K1 Paddler with physical disabilities - Woman</b>	No Entries									
<b>K1 Paddler with physical disabilities - Man</b>	Adams	Michael	MD	33					03:48.4	1

Note: The 500 meter events were staged on the Allegheny River from Breeze Point Landing in Warren, PA. LRL 8-25-2015



## Philip H. Soule Biathlon Championships Wednesday, August 12, 2015

	Last Name	First Name	Partner Last Name	Partner First Name	Net Time	Place
<b>Solo Events (Iron Man/Woman)</b>						
<b>Iron Man Open (18-49)</b>						
	Minor	Chad			23:11:00	1
	Kopta	Frank			24:08:00	2
	Glover	Dale			26:11:00	3
<b>Iron Man Master (50-59)</b>						
	Herbert	Mike			20:43:00	1
	Beckwith	Brad			22:29:00	2
	Michaels	Judd			24:03:00	3
	Johnston	Marty			25:12:00	4
	Berghash	Steve			26:09:00	5
	Golfieri	David			27:10:00	6
	Jones	Ed			29:56:00	7
	Kopta	Mark			32:27:00	8
<b>Iron Man Senior (60+)</b>						
	Walton	Tom			26:12:00	1
	Allen	Bob			30:36:00	2
	Sharp	Ed			33:42:00	3
<b>Iron Girl (Under 18)</b>						
	Fitzgerald	Briana			26:19:00	1
	Herbert	Savanna			28:51:00	2
<b>Iron Boy (Under 18)</b>						
	Berghash	Aaron			22:47:00	1
<b>Team Events (Tin Men/Women)</b>						
<b>Tin Mens Open (18-49)</b>						
	Diller	John	Kopta	Fran	24:05:00	1
<b>Tin Mens Senior (65+)</b>						
	Theil	Ray	Heed	Peter	24:34:00	1
<b>Tin Mixed Masters (50-59)</b>						
	Kaiser	Ron	Kate	Wenrich-Kaiser	26:22:00	1
<b>Tin Adult/Youth</b>						
	Fischer	Jeremy	Glover	Daniel	22:09:00	1
	Fischer	Jeremy	Daugherty	Linda	24:17:00	2
	Fischer	Jeremy	Fischer	Tina	24:18:00	3
	McDuffie	William	McDuffie	River	25:55:00	4
	Reinertsen	Priscilla	Stone	Lindsey	27:49:00	5
	Rettinger	Paul	Rettinger	Kevin	34:58:00	6

Note: The Philip H. Soule Biathlon is not an official USCA National Championship event but has been conducted for many years by the USCA Nationals race host. The event features a 5k run, followed by a 5k paddle and finished with a 30 meter dash (portage) to the finish line at Betts Park in Warren, PA. LRL 8-29-2015





## USCA National Canoe & Kayak Orienteering Championship Wednesday, August 12, 2015

			Number of Controls	Time	
<b>C1 Man</b>					
	1	Seth Miller	10	1:47:29	
<b>K1 Woman</b>					
	1	Linda Daugherty	10	1:52:48	
<b>K1 Man</b>					
	1	Dan Glover	10	1:56:47	
	2	John Marona	10	2:00:40	
<b>SUP Unlimited Woman - DEMO EVENT</b>					
	1	Cristina Fischer	10	2:21:23	
<b>SUP Unlimited Man - DEMO EVENT</b>					
	1	Jeremy Fischer	10	2:21:25	
	2	Lloyd Reeves	9	2:06:01	
<b>C2 Women</b>					
	1	Susan Williams	Kate Wenrich	10	2:15:11
<b>C2 Men</b>					
	1	Ben Josefik	Doug Pennington	10	1:27:42
	2	Ray Thiel	Tom Walton	10	1:44:17
	3	Ed Sharp	William McDuffie	10	1:53:39
<b>C2 Woman/Youth (5-14)</b>					
	1	Lynne McDuffie	River McDuffie	10	2:01:24
	2	Sahara Vaux	Dawn McCracken	8	2:49:21
<b>C2 Man/Youth (5-14)</b>					
	1	Wally Werderich	George Werderich	8	1:41:22
<b>C2 Man/Junior (15-17)</b>					
	1	Paul Rettinger	Kevin Rettinger	10	1:53:40

Note: The event was staged on the Allegheny River from Breeze Point Landing in Warren, PA.  
LRL 8-25-2015



## USCA National Canoe & Kayak Youth Sprint Championships Thursday, August 13, 2015

Event Name	Last Name	First Name	State	Age	Last Name	First Name	State	Age	End Time	Place
<b>250 METER EVENTS</b>										
<b>C1 Youth (5-7)</b>	Neff	Damien	MI	7					02:59.2	1
	Josefik	Luke	IL	5					03:15.1	2
<b>C1 Youth (8-10)</b>	Diget	Samantha	MI	9					01:52.1	1
	Richards	Kassidy	PA	9					02:07.6	2
	Werderich	George	IL	9					02:17.1	3
	Doolittle	Erika	PA	8					02:26.4	4
<b>C1 Youth (11-12)</b>	Sayger	Ariel	AR	12					01:41.2	1
	Diget	Ashley	MI	12					01:41.6	2
	Kopta	Destiny	NY	12					01:53.4	3
	Doolittle	Calvin	PA	11					01:57.5	4
<b>C2 Youth (5-7)</b>	Williamson	Brayden	AR	7	Williamson	Brooklynn	AR	5	02:46.3	1
	Neff	Damien	MI	7	Josefik	Luke	IL	5	02:51.5	2
<b>C2 Youth (8-10)</b>	Werderich	George	IL	9	Doolittle	Erika	PA	8	02:07.2	1
<b>C2 Youth (11-12)</b>	Diget	Ashley	MI	12	Glover	Jordan	PA	11	01:42.4	1
	Richards	Kassidy	PA	10	Kopta	Destiny	NY	12	01:49.2	2
<b>K1 Youth (5-7)</b>	Neff	Damien	MI	5					03:37.6	1
<b>K1 Youth (8-10)</b>	Diget	Samantha	MI	9					01:40.6	1
	Werderich	George	IL	9					01:50.7	2
	Richards	Kassidy	PA	9					02:09.1	3
	Fox	Tesla	PA	10					02:29.2	4
	Doolittle	Erika	PA	8					02:39.7	5
<b>K1 Youth (11-12)</b>	Diget	Ashley	MI	12					01:19.0	1
	Doolittle	Calvin	PA	11					02:02.0	2
<b>500 METER EVENTS</b>										
<b>C1 Girl Youth (13-14)</b>	Olney	JoAnn	NY	13					03:19.6	1
	McDuffie	River	NC	13					03:47.8	2
	Frey	Cassie	PA	14					03:49.8	3
	Stone	Lindsey	MI	14					04:00.1	4
<b>C1 Boy Youth (13-14)</b>	Doolittle	Luc	PA	13					03:58.1	1
<b>C1 Woman Junior (15-17)</b>	Fitzgerald	Briana	NY	15					03:16.5	1
	Herbert	Savanna	AR	17					03:32.9	2
	Ripton	Annie	NY	15					SCR	SCR
<b>C1 Man Junior (15-17)</b>	Sayger	Josh	AR	16					02:47.1	1
	Sayger	Matt	AR	14					03:07.8	2
<b>K1 Girl Youth (13-14)</b>	Frey	Cassie	PA	14					03:21.8	1
<b>K1 Boy Youth (13-14)</b>	Doolittle	Luc	PA	13					04:47.7	1
	Maddox	Jason	PA	14					04:59.9	2
<b>KC1 Woman Junior</b>	No Entries									
<b>K1 Man Junior (15-17)</b>	Rettinger	Kevin	OH	17					03:10.3	1



## USCA National Canoe & Kayak Youth Sprint Championships Thursday, August 13, 2015

Event Name	Last Name	First Name	State	Age	Last Name	First Name	State	Age	End Time	Place
	Fisher	Jeremy	PA	16					03:17.1	2
<b>SUP Unlimited Man Junior (15-17)</b>	Fischer	Jeremy	PA	16					04:52.9	1
	Doolittle	Calvin	PA	11					04:56.3	2
	Doolittle	Luc	PA	13					05:08.5	3
	Maddox	Jason	PA	14					05:09.6	4
<b>SUP Unlimited Woman Junior</b>	Fitzgerald	Briana	NY	15					03:32.4	1
	Diget	Ashley	MI	12					03:34.5	2
	Frey	Cassie	PA	14					04:10.4	3
	Stone	Lindsey	MI	14					05:03.1	4
	Doolittle	Erika	PA	8					05:22.2	5
	Richards	Kassidy	PA	9					05:26.8	6
	Fox	Tesla	PA	10					06:20.0	7
	Glover	Jordan	PA	11					06:40.5	8
<b>C2 Girls Youth</b>	Sayger	Ariel	AR	12	McDuffie	River	NC	13	03:04.5	1
	Stone	Lindsey	MI	14	Frey	Cassie	MI	14	03:41.0	2
<b>C2 Boys Youth</b>	No Entries									
<b>C2 Women Junior</b>	Olney	JoAnn	NY	13	Fitzgerald	Brianna	NY	15	02:53.1	1
<b>C2 Men Junior</b>	Sayger	Matt	AR	14	Sayger	Josh	AR	16	02:38.4	1
<b>C2 Mixed Open</b>	Fitzgerald	Briana	NY	15	Sayger	Joshua	AR	15	02:43.2	1
	Sayger	Ariel	AR	12	Sayger	Matt	AR	14	02:52.3	2
	Frey	Cassie	PA	14	Fisher	Jeremy	PA	16	03:14.5	3
	Doolittle	Calvin	PA	11	Olney	JoAnn	NY	14	03:19.5	4
	Diget	Ashley	MI	12	Neff	Damien	MI	7	03:48.4	5
	Stone	Lindsey	MI	14	Doolittle	Luc	PA	14	04:10.6	6
	Werderich	George	IL	9	Glover	Jordan	PA	11	04:50.3	7
	Ripton	Annie	NY	15					SCR	SCR
<b>TRIAL MARATHON (3 miles)</b>										
<b>C1 Youth 5-7</b>	No Entries									
<b>K1 Youth 5-7</b>	No Entries									
<b>C1 Youth (8-10)</b>	Werderich	George	IL	9					15:25.1	1
<b>K1 Youth (8-10)</b>	Richards	Kassidy	PA	9					17:54.2	1
<b>C1 Youth (11-12)</b>	Sayger	Ariel	AR	12					14:15.2	1
	Doolittle	Calvin	PA	11					15:04.3	2
	Kopta	Destiny	NY	12					15:31.4	3
<b>K1 Youth (11-12)</b>	Diget	Ashley	MI	12					10:51.0	1
<b>C1 Exhibition</b>	Doolittle	Luc	PA	13					14:22.8	1
	Frey	Cassie	PA	14					19:59.4	2

Note: The 500 meter events were staged on the Allegheny River from Breeze Point Landing in Warren, PA. The 3 mile trial youth marathon course also originated from Breeze Point Landing. LRL 8-26-2015



## USCA National Canoe & Kayak Marathon Championships Friday, August 14, 2015

Event Name	Last Name	First Name	State	Age	Partner Last Name	Partner First Name	State	Age	Net time	Place
K1 Unlimited Woman Open	Spang	Edna	PA	47					2:27:41.67	1
	Gustafson	Carrie	PA	39					3:08:46.99	2
K1 Unlimited Woman Master	Fischer	Cristina	PA	48					2:39:48.49	1
	Lucas	Kim	PA	51					2:52:05.41	2
K1 Unlimited Woman Veteran 1	Daugherty	Linda	PA	64					2:37:36.13	1
K1 Unlimited Woman Grand Veteran 1	Majhan	Paula	PA	71					2:54:03.55	1
K1 ICF Man Open	Herbert	Mike	AR	54					1:52:43.40	1
	Dostal	Michael	MA	36					2:02:02.71	2
K1 ICF Man Master	Beckwith	Brad	PA	52					2:04:52.81	1
	Good	Michael	PA	46					2:35:23.55	2
C1 Woman Open	Davis	Rebecca	MI	25					2:19:52.69	1
	Armstrong	Ann	MI	21					2:25:32.26	2
C1 Woman Senior	Fitzgerald	Pam	NY	54					2:24:29.18	1
	Bradley	Barbara	WI	58					2:31:23.47	2
C1 Stock Woman Open	Monte-Kaser	MaryJo	OH	50					2:44:37.10	1
OC1 Man	Pippel	Olaf	IL	26					2:04:21.51	1
	Walls	Kenneth	MA	69					2:11:08.06	2
	Gardner	Bill	SC	71					2:11:09.48	3
	Horney	Steven	IN	55					2:11:21.33	4
	Jovanovic	David	Ont, Can	58					2:12:00.37	5
C2 Men Open	Davis	Mike	MI	24	Barton	Roxanne	MI	58	2:05:10.70	1
C2 Men Master	Kostr	Bill	PA	63	Kotpa	Fran	NY	41	2:06:26.85	1
	Miller	Stephen	MA	50	Miller	Seth	MA	49	2:08:34.81	2
	Streb	Ken	NY	57	Ayscue	Quincy	VA	46	2:11:46.07	3
C2 Men Senior	Limberg	Al	WI	57	Curley	Ed	NY	53	2:00:32.34	1
	Lee	Bruce	NY	58	Yarosh	Tom	NY	59	2:02:09.63	2
	Werner	Erik	NJ	51	Edwards	John	FL	66	2:05:34.62	3
	Martin	Steve	PA	59	Gruber	Paul	PA	57	2:06:02.57	4
	Batway	Eric	MI	52	Webb	John	MI	51	2:06:46.17	5
	Kazimierczyk	John	MA	55	Ellsworth	Bill	MA	72	2:07:36.47	6
	Burris	Dale	AR	60	Walls	Don	AR	52	2:09:04.21	7
	Paul	Olney	NY	52	Fries	Mike	NY	62	DNF	DNF
C2 Men Veteran 1	Heed	Peter	NH	65	Fairchild	Michael	VT	64	2:07:26.11	1
	Reeves	Lloyd	FL	61	Frederick	Larry	FL	65	2:15:04.17	2
C2 Men Veteran 2	Sayre	Edward	PA	69	Bruno	Charlie	PA	68	2:10:00.75	1
	Warner	Thomas	NH	67	Casale	John	NH	66	2:15:33.19	2
	Pontius	Terry	IN	68	Craig	Skeet	IN	66	2:18:19.53	3
C2 Men Grand Vet 1	Rankinen	Richard	PA	73	Muhlen	Roland	OH	72	2:08:25.25	1
	Allen	Robert	MA	71	Thomas	Tom	IN	70	2:08:50.87	2
	Henry	Roger	NY	73	Lyesiuk	Nick	MA	71	2:12:21.34	3
	Tyrone	Roy	TX	70	Vincent	Bob	Ont, Can	72	2:14:53.43	4
	Vandewinckel	Glenn	NY	78	MacQueen	Jon	NB, Can	74	2:15:32.92	5
C2 Men Grand Vet 2	Young	Laverne	FL	79	Gerg	Ken	PA	79	2:25:08.93	1
C2 Standard Men Open	Pennington	Doug	MO	58	Josefik	Ben	IL	42	2:15:55.66	1
	Finnen	John	PA	56	Gustin	David	PA	52	2:17:11.39	2
C2 Standard Men Master	Krizman	Joe	OH	58	Masek	Dan	OH	63	2:13:46.32	1
	Haas	David	PA	61	Kopta	Mark	NY	58	2:14:50.94	2
	McConville	Pete	NY	61	Hindley	Nick	PA	64	2:15:39.47	3
	Leone	Richard	PA	68	Walter	Ed	PA	68	2:15:56.74	4
	Sharp	Edward	VA	75	McDuffie	William	NC	53	2:16:17.26	5
	Werderich	Wally	IL	42	Brimeyer	Earl	IA	71	2:22:01.21	6
K2 Unlimited Men	Glover	Dale	PA	44	Kaiser	Ron	PA	52	1:59:02.53	1
	Hainan	Robert	PA	44	Sweeny	Michael	PA	60	2:19:54.10	2
	Lucas II	Hansel	PA	55	Lucas III	Hansel	PA	32	2:26:44.55	3
	Rettinger	Paul	OH	51	Rettinger	Kevin	OH	17	2:51:37.53	4



## USCA National Canoe & Kayak Marathon Championships

Event Name	Last Name	First Name	State	Age	Partner Last Name	Partner First Name	State	Age	Net time	Place
<b>SHORT COURSE - 8 MILES</b>										
C2 Men Junior	Sayger	Joshua	AR	16	Sayger	Matthew	AR	14	1:01:35.97	1
C1 Woman Junior	Fitzgerald	Briana	NY	15					1:11:26.95	1
	Olney	JoAnn	NY	13					1:12:44.08	2
	Sayger	Ariel	AR	12					1:14:23.37	3
	Herbert	Savanna	AR	17					1:15:08.22	4
	Stone	Lindsey	MI	14					1:24:31.35	5
K1 Woman Junior	Diget	Ashley	MI	12				1:11:18.75	1	

Note: The "Long Course" events of 16.1 miles were staged on the Allegheny River from the tailwaters of Kinzua Dam to Blair Distribution property in Irvine, PA. The "Short Course" events were also staged on the Allegheny River from Point Park to Blair Distribution. LRL 8-26-2015

*Beautiful start location downstream from Kinsua Dam.*



*Thrills and Spills! Flame Rapids proved a challenge for many paddlers this year.*



*Photos this page are courtesy of Warren Picture Place [www.warrenpictureplace.com/usca2015](http://www.warrenpictureplace.com/usca2015)*



## USCA National Canoe & Kayak Marathon Championship Saturday, August 15, 2015

Event Name	Last Name	First Name	State	Age	Partner Last Name	Partner First Name	State	Age	Net Time	Place
<b>C2 Standard Women Master</b>	Kopta	Lauraellen	NY	57	Williams	Susan	PA	51	2:27:05	1
<b>C2 Women Open</b>	Barton	Roxanne	MI	58	Davis	Rebecca	MI	25	2:09:27	1
	Armstrong	Ann	MI	21	Hayman	Gwen	Ont. Can	60	2:19:23	2
	Reinersten	Priscilla	NH	72	McDuffie	River	NC	13	2:34:47	3
<b>C2 Women Master</b>	Fitzgerald	Pam	NY	54	Sutter	Becky	NY	46	2:17:29	1
<b>C2 Women Senior</b>	Faloon	Joanna	Ont. Can	60	Simpson	Karen	Ont. Can	60	2:10:04	1
	Webb	Sarah	MI	54	Bradley	Barb	WI	58	2:21:35	2
<b>C2 Women Veteran 1</b>	Stout	Teresa	PA	61	Burris	Becky	AR	62	2:25:30	1
<b>K1 Unlimited Man</b>	Lucas III	Hansel	PA	32					2:11:23	1
	Spang	Tim	PA	47					2:17:53	2
	Keiper	Doug	VA	68					2:27:46	3
	Herbert	Mike	AR	54					1:44:40	DQ
<b>K1 Unlimited Man Master</b>	Glover	Dale	PA	44					2:09:31	1
	Burnett	Bill	PA	47					2:12:45	2
	Good	Michael	PA	46					SCR	SCR
	Hainan	Robert	PA	44					SCR	SCR
<b>K1 Unlimited Man Senior</b>	Horney	Steven	IN	55					2:11:39	1
	Kinney	John	NY	52					2:14:39	2
	Ammon	Brian	PA	57					2:15:48	3
	Berghash	Stephen	NY	57					2:24:55	4
	Beckwith	Brad	PA	52					SCR	SCR
<b>K1 Unlimited Man Veteran 1</b>	Harmon	Daniel	PA	62					2:13:36	1
	Baumert	Daniel	ME	62					2:16:53	2
	Sweeny	Michael	PA	60					2:18:03	3
	Marona	John	CT	64					2:19:57	4
	Hindley	Nick	PA	64					SCR	SCR
<b>K1 Unlimited Man Veteran 2</b>	Ort	Robert	PA	66					2:09:32	1
	Walton	Tom	NH	66					2:22:04	2
	Pontius	Terry	IN	68					SCR	SCR
<b>K1 Unlimited Man Grand Vet 1</b>	Stover	John	MI	74					2:19:08	1
<b>K1 Unlimited Man Grand Vet 2</b>	Cabron	Frank	NY	77					2:21:09	1
<b>C1 Man Open</b>	Hassel	Calvin	NE	51					2:01:34	1
	Rankinen	Steve	PA	52					2:01:57	2
	Davis	Michael	MI	24					2:04:39	3
	Gillespie	Marc	NY	62					2:06:46	4
	Edwards	John	FL	66					2:11:22	5
<b>C1 Man Master</b>	Kopta	Fran	NY	41					2:11:37	1
	Miller	Seth	MA	49					2:13:47	2
	Ayscue	Quincy	VA	46					2:15:51	3
<b>C1 Man Senior</b>	Kazimierczyk	John	MA	55					2:05:40	1
	Olney	Paul	NY	52					2:07:17	2
	Limberg	Allan	WI	57					2:08:35	3
	Miller	Stephen	MA	50					2:10:29	4
	Lee	Bruce	NY	58					2:11:15	5
	Webb	Jon	MI	55					2:12:01	6
	Gruber	Paul	PA	57					2:13:35	7
	Batway	Eric	MI	52					2:13:53	8
	Olajdzija	Dragan	Ont. Can	55					2:15:23	9
	Martin	Steve	PA	59					2:16:15	10
	Walls	Donald	AR	52					2:19:34	11
	Jones	Ed	TX	55					2:27:18	12
	Pennington	Doug	MO	58					SCR	SCR
	<b>C1 Man Veteran 1</b>	Fairchild	Michael	VT	64					2:13:19
Kanost		Bill	IN	63					2:15:39	2
Kostr		Bill	PA	63					2:15:44	3
McConville		Pete	NY	61					2:17:03	4
Haas		David	PA	61					2:19:33	5
Stoneman		Don	Ont. Can	60					2:20:27	6
Hindley		Nick	PA	64					2:25:48	7



## USCA National Canoe & Kayak Marathon Championship Saturday, August 15, 2015

Event Name	Last Name	First Name	State	Age	Partner		State	Age	Net Time	Place
					Last Name	First Name				
C1 Man Veteran 2	Bruno	Charlie	PA	68					2:14:47	1
	Sayre	Edward	PA	69					2:15:28	2
	Frederick	Larry	FL	65					2:17:09	3
	Casale	John	MA	66					2:18:03	4
	Hendrich	David	IN	67					2:18:30	5
	Craig	Skeet	IN	66					2:21:30	6
	Hill	William	MI	69					2:30:27	7
	Robert	James	MA	68					2:35:49	8
	Leone	Richard	PA	68					2:44:27	9
	Spain	Bob	TX	69					SCR	SCR
Walter	Edwin	PA	68					SCR	SCR	
C1 Man Grand Vet 1	Rankinen	Richard	PA	73					2:14:14	1
	Thomas	Tom	IN	70					2:15:38	2
	Muhlen	Roland	OH	72					2:16:42	3
	Machacek	Stan	Ont. Can	71					2:16:46	4
	Allen	Robert	MA	71					2:18:39	5
	Lyesiuk	Nick	MA	71					2:22:14	6
	MacQueen	Jon	NB. Can	74					2:23:18	7
	Fisher	Robert	NY	71					2:24:14	8
	Ellsworth	William	MA	72					2:24:53	9
C1 Man Grand Vet 2	Young	Laverne	FL	79					2:26:47	1
	Vandewinckel	Glen	NY	78					2:29:00	2
	Sharp	Edward	VA	75					2:35:56	3
	Fremont	Mike	OH	93					3:25:46	4
	Gerg	Ken	PA	79					SCR	SCR
C1 Stock Man Open	Gustin	David	PA	52					2:21:34	1
	Thiel, Jr.	Ray	CT	63					2:26:50	2
	Snook	Robert	PA	69					2:38:23	3
	O'Connor	Tom	NY	56					SCR	SCR
	Finnen	John	PA	56					SCR	SCR
K2 Unlimited Women	Spang	Edna	PA	47	Lucas	Kim	PA	51	2:31:28	1

**SHORT COURSE - 8 MILES**

C2 Women Junior	Olney	JoAnn	NY	13	Fitzgerald	Briana	NY	15	1:03:00	1
	Sayger	Ariel	AR	12	Digit	Ashley	MI	12	1:09:57	2
K1 Man Junior	Berghash	Aaron	NY	16					1:00:22	1
	Rettinger	Kevin	OH	17					1:10:03	2
	Joiner	Brodie	PA	14					1:14:55	3
	Fischer	Jeremy	PA	16					1:17:04	4
	Joiner	Tyler	PA	16					1:17:20	5
C1 Man Junior	Sayger	Joshua	AR	16					0:59:44	1
	Carpenter	Sebashton	MI	15					1:07:45	2
	Sayger	Matthew	AR	14					1:08:07	3

Note: The "Long Course" events of 16.1 miles were staged on the Allegheny River from the tailwaters of Kinzua Dam to Blair Distribution property in Irvine, PA. The "Short Course" events were also staged on the Allegheny River from Point Park to Blair Distribution. LRL 8-27-2015



*Stunning scenery  
on the Allegheny  
River at the start  
of the Nationals  
Races.*

Photo courtesy of Warren Picture Place [www.warrenpictureplace.com/usca2015](http://www.warrenpictureplace.com/usca2015)



## USCA National Canoe & Kayak Marathon Championships Sunday, August 16, 2015

Event Name	Last Name	First Name	State	Age	Partner Last Name	Partner First Name	State	Age	Net Time	Place
K1 Sea Kayak Woman	Spang	Edna	PA	47					2:26:44	1
	Hainan	Lucy	PA	43					3:06:10	2
K1 Sea Kayak Woman Master	Lucas	Kim	PA	51					scr	
K1 Sea Kayak Woman Veteran 1	Daugherty	Linda	PA	64					2:37:05	1
K1 Sea Kayak Woman Veteran 2	Kelly	Stephanie	MA	67					2:51:30	1
K1 Sea Kayak Woman Grand Vet 1	Majhan	Paula	PA	71					2:52:58	1
K1 Sea Kayak Man	Lucas III	Hansel	PA	32					2:16:05	1
	Spang	Tim	PA	47					2:20:37	2
	Glover	Daniel	PA	50					2:25:36	3
K1 Sea Kayak Man Master	Glover	Dale	PA	44					2:14:31	1
	Hainan	Robert	PA	44					2:20:45	2
	Burnett	Bill	PA	47					2:22:54	3
K1 Sea Kayak Man Senior	Rosenau	Steve	NC	58					2:10:29	1
	Nugent	Bob	NY	54					2:15:10	2
	Golfieri	David	PA	54					2:15:41	3
	Lucas II	Hansel	PA	55					2:20:03	4
	Ammon	Brian	PA	57					2:26:35	5
K1 Sea Kayak Man Veteran 1	Kanost	Bill	IN	63					2:15:35	1
	Baumert	Daniel	ME	62					2:19:15	2
	Mullen	Gary	PA	63					2:19:50	3
	Marona	John	CT	64					2:20:53	4
K1 Sea Kayak Man Veteran 2	Leszek	Ed	OH	69					2:16:47	1
	Walton	Tom	NH	66					2:22:44	2
	Keiper	Doug	VA	68					2:32:47	3
K1 Sea Kayak Man Grand Vet 2	Patton	Jerry	PA	76					2:36:39	1
C2 Standard Mixed	Kopta	Laurellen	NY	57	Kopta	Mark	NY	58	2:15:59	1
	McDuffie	Lynne	NC	52	McDuffie	William	NC	53	2:16:29	2
	Thiel, Jr.	Ray	CT	63	Reinertsen	Priscilla	NH	72	2:19:47	3
	Masek	Sarah	OH	33	Masek	Dan	OH	63	2:23:19	4
	Anderson	Pat	PA	67	Leonardi	Heather	PA	32	2:28:00	5
	Miller	Hallie	MA	19	Miller	Seth	MA	49	2:28:27	6
C2 Mixed Open	Davis	Michael	MI	24	Davis	Rebecca	MI	25	2:00:47	1
	Phillips	Barrett	MA	29	Kazimierczyk	John	NH	55	2:06:47	2
	Armstrong	Ann	MI	21	Heed	Peter	NH	65	2:11:25	3
C2 Mixed Master	Hassel	Calvin	NE	51	Capen	Lynn	CO	61	2:02:31	1
	Edwards	John	FL	66	Faloon	Joanna	Ont. Can	60	2:05:08	2
	Boteler	Pam	VA	47	Werner	Erik	PA	51	2:06:19	3
	Limberg	Allen	WI	57	Bradley	Barb	WI	58	2:08:46	4
	Martin	Steve	PA	59	Flament	Toni	PA	49	2:11:38	5
	Fairchild	Michael	VT	64	Harris	Sandy	NH	62	2:11:58	6
	Stout	Teresa	PA	61	Kopta	Fran	NY	41	2:12:06	7
	Ellsworth	William	MA	72	Lipski	Cathy	NY	55	2:16:12	8
	Simpson	Karen	Ont. Can	60	Miller	Stephen	MA	50	2:17:25	9
	Hayman	Gwyn	Ont. Can	60	Vincent	Bob	Ont. Can	72	2:18:41	10
	Emshoff	Joy	TX	62	Spain	Bob	TX	69	2:20:10	11
	Gillings	Rick	MI	57	Williams	Susan	PA	51	2:23:56	12
	Barr	Betsy	PA	50	Krapf	Dale	PA	70	2:25:14	13
	Henry	Joan	NY	75	Vandewinckel	Glen	NY	78	2:29:46	14
K2 Unlimited Mixed -- TRIAL CLASS	Wenrich	Kate	PA	55	Kaiser	Ron	PA	52	2:06:31	1
	Hull	Thomas	OH	58	Hawkins	Lynn	OH	52	2:47:30	2
C2 Man/Junior	Sayger	Joshua	AR	16	Burris	Dale	AR	60	2:08:25	1
	Olney	JoAnn	NY	13	Olney	Paul	NY	52	2:11:21	2
	Herbert	Mike	AR	54	Herbert	Savanna	AR	17	2:15:48	3
C2 Mixed Junior	Carpenter	Sebashton	MI	16	Fitzgerald	Briana	NY	15	1:00:11	1
	Sayger	Matthew	AR	14	Sayger	Ariel	AR	13	1:03:33	2





## USCA National Canoe & Kayak Marathon Championships Sunday, August 16, 2015

Event Name	Last Name	First Name	State	Age	Partner Last Name	Partner First Name	State	Age	Net Time	Place
<b>SHORT COURSE - 8 MILES</b>										
<b>C2 Man/Youth</b>	Frey	Cassie	PA	14	Gruber	Paul	PA	57	1:03:06	1
	Sharp	Edward	VA	75	McDuffie	River	NC	13	1:04:10	2
	Walls	Don	AR	52	Williamson	Brayden	AR	7	1:06:50	3
	Werderich	George	IL	10	Werderich	Wally	IL	42	1:07:38	4
	Barr	Doug	PA	64	Barr	Elizabeth	PA	9	1:09:05	5
<b>C2 Woman/Youth</b>	Burris	Rebecca	AR	64	Richards	Kassidy	PA	10	1:21:47	1
	McCracken	Dawn	PA	32	Spencer	Austin	PA	11	1:23:17	2
<b>SUP Unlimited Woman</b>	Fischer	Cristina	PA	48					1:24:59	1
	Ripton	Annie	NY	16					2:01:55	2
<b>SUP Unlimited Man</b>	Diller	John	MD	57					1:10:01	1
	Reeves	Lloyd	FL	61					1:10:33	2
	Stoneman	Don	Ont. Can	60					1:12:15	3
	Fischer	Jeremy	PA	16					1:52:53	4

Note: The "Long Course" events of 16.1 miles were staged on the Allegheny River from the tailwaters of Kinzua Dam to Blair Distribution property in Irvine, PA. The "Short Course" events were also staged on the Allegheny River from Point Park to Blair Distribution. LRL 8-27-2015



*Christina Fischer puts it all on the line for the sweet taste of victory in SUP Unlimited Woman!*



Photos this page courtesy of Warren Picture Place [www.warrenpictureplace.com/usca2015](http://www.warrenpictureplace.com/usca2015)

## USCA 2015 Nationals State Point Results

Points are awarded to the state of each marathon participant in the championship events down to the 10<sup>th</sup> place. Points start with 1<sup>st</sup> place = 50 points; 2<sup>nd</sup> place = 45 points; 3<sup>rd</sup> place = 40 points, continue to 10<sup>th</sup> place which receives 5 points. Each team member receives the same number of points. Non-US paddlers who participant at Nationals are not included in the state points count, but are recorded as a matter of interest.

The winning state for the second year in a row was Pennsylvania with a total number of **3550** points. New York was **2000** points behind at 1550 and Michigan had **955**. The remaining 21 states plus the non-US participants from Canada are listed below.

AR - 850

MA - 665

OH - 510

IN - 405

FL - 390

NH - 305

VA - 305

WI - 245

IL - 195

NC - 175

CT - 155

VT - 125

NE - 100

ME - 90

CO - 50

MO - 50

MD - 50

NJ - 40

SC - 40

TX - 35

IA - 25

Non-US Points totaled 435

New Brunswick - 50

Ontario - 385



*The excitement of the youth involved at the Nationals was contagious!*



*Photos this page courtesy of Warren Picture Place [www.warrenpictureplace.com/usca2015](http://www.warrenpictureplace.com/usca2015)*



# United States Canoe Association

Est 1968  
 Competition ★ Cruising ★ Conservation ★ Camping ★ Camaraderie ★

## Membership Application Form

Or Join on-line at [www.uscanoe.com](http://www.uscanoe.com)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Organization \_\_\_\_\_  
 Enter the name of organization only if you join as: (Race Sponsor, Club Affiliate, or Business Affiliate)

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ M.I. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender M  F

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country (Non US) \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Membership: Renewal  New  If new, recruited by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Member Type

Governing (18 & Over) \$20.00  Family \$25.00  Junior \$7.50

Club Affiliate \$30.00  Race Sponsor \$30.00  Business Affiliate \$30.00

Foreign (US funds only) Canada/Mexico: Add \$5.00; All others add \$10.00

For family membership – other than above member, please complete the following:

Name:	Date of Birth:	Gender
_____	_____	M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send payment and membership form to:

Make check payable to:  
**USCA**

Harold Theiss, USCA Membership Chair  
 12802 Lake Jovita Blvd.  
 Dade City, FL 33525-8265  
 Phone: (352) 588-9877  
 Email: [haretess@yahoo.com](mailto:haretess@yahoo.com)

I prefer to have Canoe News delivered digitally \_\_\_\_\_ or as a printed copy \_\_\_\_\_

USCA is a non-profit, educational, charitable and athletic organization. 501 (c) (3). Donations are accepted. USCA has a five star program of Cruising \_\_\_\_\_ Conservation \_\_\_\_\_ Camping \_\_\_\_\_ Competition \_\_\_\_\_ Camaraderie \_\_\_\_\_. Check 2 or more that most interest you.

## Important Notice -----Election Year

This is election year for the USCA Delegates. The Delegates meet two times a year to make decisions for the United States Canoe Association. They meet at the Nationals for their Semi-annual Meeting and again in January for the Annual Meeting. These two meetings are where all the decisions are made. If you would like to be part of the decision making, you need to get your name on the ballot. **Don't be a Griper but a Doer. Get Involved.** Elections are held in October and people elected take over at the Annual Meeting in January and the term of office is for two years.

**There are three groups that have delegates.**

1. State Divisions: Indiana - IN, Florida - FL, New York – NY, Ohio - OH, and Pennsylvania – New Jersey – Penn-Jersey. (The state divisions handle their own elections and number of delegates are based on their membership)
2. All the rest of the US is divided into Regional Divisions plus one Foreign Division. (Election is handled by the membership chairman and again the number of delegates are based on their membership)
3. Club Affiliates that follow the USCA guidelines and ask for delegate status. Club Affiliates only receive one delegate. The Club is responsible for selecting someone in the club to be their delegate.

However, all three groups need to have names of people to place on their ballots. So now is the time to get your name on the ballot. Get involved and then you will understand what it really takes to provide what the USCA does for you and others. Don't sit back and always rely on others. **USCA needs people dedicated to helping** or so called **VOLUNTEERING**.

How do I get involved and offer my help and get my name on the ballot? If you have questions just get in touch with me.

Just let me know. I'll take care of the rest.

Harold Theiss, Membership Chairman

hapetess@yahoo.com

Photo courtesy of Richard Hodgkins © 2015



# USCA 2015 – 2016

## List of Officers, Board of Directors (Delegates), & Committee Chairs

### USCA Officers

#### Executive Committee

#### President & Chair:

Peter Heed

#### Vice President:

Larry Latta

#### Secretary:

Joan Theiss

#### Treasurer:

John Edwards

#### Executive Director

Bill Gardner

### Delegates

#### Past President

#### **Susan Williams**

509 S Bishop Ave, Secane, PA 19018.  
610-405-5008. ladyjustice@erols.com

#### Organized State & Regional Divisions

##### *Florida Division/USCA*

#### **Larry Frederick**

4896 E Spruce Dr, Dunnellon, FL 34424-4770  
352-341-0298 ; LF6978@yahoo.com

#### **Lloyd Reeves**

225 Hoffer Street, Port Charlotte, FL 33953  
805-441-7463; lloyd@fastkayak.com

##### *Indiana Division/USCA*

#### **Julie Horney**

#### **Steve Horney**

15806 Timber Willow Dr, Hometown, IN 46748  
cell: 260-452-6447; soarer\_270@yahoo.com

##### *New York Division/USCA*

#### **Dave Donner**

4883 Harlem Rd, Amherst, NY 14226  
716-839-4307; revdonner@aol.com

#### **Larry Liquori**

79 Locust Drive, Kings Park, NY 11754  
631-406-6918; lliquori@jacka-liquori.com

#### **Scott Stenberg**

3232 Jugg St, Moravia, NY 13118  
315-406-4692; owascalake@gmail.com

##### *Ohio Division/USCA*

#### **Bill Corrigan**

5888 E. Kemper Rd, Cincinnati, OH 45241

513-530-9249; wmcarrigan@fuse.net

#### **Norm Skinner**

4055 Red Bud Rd, Dresden, OH 43821  
740-754-1213; backpaddler@att.net

##### *Penn-Jersey Division/USCA*

#### **Ken Gerg**

PO Box 247, Emporium, PA 15834  
814-486-1691; joken2@zitomedia.net

#### **Judy Jeanes**

225 Bella Vista Rd, Devon, PA 19333  
215-872-7409, waterconfidence@yahoo.com

#### **Ron Kaiser**

2865 Northway Rd, Williamsport, PA 17701-8869  
570-327-8106; RKayak63@aol.com

#### **Norm Ludwig**

2006 West Side Road, Jersey Shore, PA 17740  
(570) 865-6214; ncludwig@kcnnet.org **Kate**

#### **Wenrich-Kaiser**

2865 Northway Rd, Williamsport, PA 17701-8869  
570-327-8106; kwenrich2865@gmail.com

#### Non-Organized

#### Regional Divisions

##### *East South Central Division*

#### *(AL, KY, MS, TN)*

#### **Fred Tuttle**

101 Gano Ave. Apt. 1, Georgetown, KY 40324  
270-993-3999; doctuttle@hotmail.com

##### *East North Central Division*

#### *(IL, MI, WI)*

#### **Derek Diget**

131 S Berkley St, Kalamazoo, MI 49006  
269-343-5150; usca@comp-u-port.net

#### **John Hazel**

15235 Ackerson Dr, Battle Creek, MI 49017  
269-964-8184; artsci2@yahoo.com

#### **Lynne Witte**

58 Union St, Mt Clemens, MI 48043  
586-201-5695; lynnewitte@juno.com

#### **Joe Johnson**

515 5th Ave, Menominee, MI 49858  
715-938-0362; joe49858@yahoo.com

#### **Sean Brabant**

1528 Black Bark Lane, Traverse City, MI 49696  
989-205-1369

##### *Mountain Division*

#### *(AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY)*

#### **Lynn Capen**

685 Sugarloaf Mountain Rd, Boulder, CO 80302  
303-444-0187; lynncapen@gmail.com

##### *New England Division*

#### *(CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT)*

#### **Robert Allen**

687 Montgomery Rd, Westfield, MA 01085-1074  
413-568-8832; rangerfiberglass@yahoo.com

#### **Priscilla Reinertsen**

582 E Penacook Rd, Contoocook, NH 03229  
home: 603-746-6491; prtsen1@comcast.net

#### **Paula Thiel**

487 Wylie School Road, Voluntown, CT 06384  
home: 860-564-2443; prma1@comcast.net

##### *Pacific Division*

#### *(AK, CA, HI, OR, WA)*

*Vacant*

##### *South Atlantic Division*

#### *(DC, DE, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV)*

#### **Lynne McDuffie**

llmcduffie@gmail.com

#### **William McDuffie**

410 Cockman Rd, Robbins, NC 27325  
home: 910-948-3238; wlrmcduffie@gmail.com

#### **Ed Sharp**

14 Winslow Rd, Fredericksburg, VA 22406  
540-752-5400; e.sharp@att.net

##### *West North Central Division*

#### *(IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD)*

#### **Earl Brimeyer**

2595 Rhomberg Ave, Dubuque, IA 52001-1445  
563-583-6345; ebrimeyer@aol.com

#### **Charlie Lockwood**

7700 HWY VV, Columbia, MO 65202  
573-442-7109; cnlockwood@charter.net

#### **Doug Pennington**

1735 County Rd 241, Poplar Bluff, MO 63901  
573-785-0471; penncanoe@hotmail.com

##### *West South Central Division (AR, LA, OK, TX)*

#### **Bob Spain**

803 Arroweye Tr, Austin, TX 78733  
512-263-2751; rws0987@yahoo.com

#### **Don Walls**

9 Bunker Hill Ln, Russellville, AR 72802  
479-280-1319; donwalls2@netzero.com

#### Non-US Regional Division

*Vacant*

## Affiliated Club Delegates for 2015

**Florida Competition Paddlers Association-** Kathy Edwards; St. Petersburg, FL  
727-522-3348; ktae17@aol.com

**Michigan Canoe Racing Association** – Chris Hewitt  
Lansing, MI  
989-751-4324; hewittc@gmail.com

**New England Canoe & Kayak Racing Assn** – Karen Pleasant; Greenfield, MA  
413-522-8222; karenalevitt@gmail.com

**New York Marathon Canoe Racing Assn-** Kevin Berl  
Macedon, NY  
585-733-4043; k\_berl@msn.com

**North Carolina Canoe Racing Association** – Steve Rosenau; Denver, NC  
704-483-4130; sar4130@gmail.com

**Pennsylvania Assn of Canoeing and Kayaking** – Jerry Patton; Port Allegany, PA  
704-483-4130; sar4130@gmail.com

**St Charles Canoe Club** – Ben Josefik  
Dwight, IL  
815-584-9694; b.josefik@yahoo.com

**Texas Canoe & Kayak Racing Association** – Wade Binion; College Station, TX  
979-218-0321; kswrb00@yahoo.com

## Standing Committees for 2015

*Adaptive Paddling* – Jan Whitaker

*Annual Meeting Coordinator* –

*Auditing* – Larry Latta

*Barton Cup (Sub-ctee, Youth Activities)* - Pam Fitzgerald & Teresa Stout

*Bylaws Review* - Harold Theiss

*Camaraderie* – Judy Jeanes

*Camping/Cruising* -

*Competition* – Norm Ludwig

*Competition / Dragon Boat* -

*Competition / Kayak* – Ron Kaiser & Lloyd Reeves

*Competition / Nationals Awards* – Barbara Walls

*Competition / Orienteering* – Stephen Miller

*Competition / Outrigger Canoe* – Hype Mattingly

*Competition / Adult Sprints* – John Edwards

*Competition / Youth Sprints* - Lloyd Reeves

*Competition / Standup Paddleboard* - Lloyd Reeves

*Competition / Swan Boat* - Glen Green

*Conservation –Education* - Lynne Witte

*Historian* - Joan Theiss

*Instruction Certification* –

*Insurance / Coordinator*- Joan Theiss

*Marketing* – Bill Gardner

*Membership* – Harold Theiss

*Merchandise Sales* –

*Nationals Coordinator* - Don Walls

*Nationals Timing* —

*Nominating* – Bob Spain

*Publications* – Steven Horney

*Publicity & PR* –

*Safety* – Glen Green

*Technical Inspection* – Jerry Patton

*USCA Bylaws/Rules/Regulations Review & Oversight* – Joan Theiss

*USCA/ IC F Grants* – Priscilla Reinertsen

*Youth Activities* – Pam Fitzgerald & Teresa Stout

*Webmaster-* Larry Latta

*Women's Interest* – Kate Wenrich Kaiser

## Special Appointments

*USCA Marathon Coordinator to USACK Marathon Committee* -Kaitlyn McElroy

## Business Affiliates

### **Tres Rios Sports**

Robert Hainan  
Derry, PA  
robhainan@yahoo.com

### **Echo Park Outrigger Canoe Tours**

Lloyd Reeves  
Port Charlotte, FL  
lloyd@fastkayak.com

### **Paddle Florida, Inc.**

Bill Richards  
Gainesville, FL  
bill@paddleflorida.org

## Club Affiliates

### **Outrigger Hoe Wana'ao**

Leilani de Leon  
San Diego, CA  
hoewanaaoprez@gmail.com

### **River City Paddler**

Marsha Arnold  
Sacramento, CA  
bustera@pacbell.net

### **Dayton Canoe Club**

Thomas Tweed  
Dayton, OH  
thomasjtweed@yahoo.com

### **Kent Center Athletic Club**

Bonny Brady  
Chestertown, MD  
bbrady@kentcenter.org

### **Island Paddlers 777**

David Donner  
Amherst, NY  
Revdonner@aol.com

### **Dubuque Watersport Club**

Earl Brimeyer  
Dubuque, IA  
ebrimeyer@aol.com

### **Dubuque Dragon Boat Association**

Earl Brimeyer  
Dubuque, IA  
ebrimeyer@aol.com

### **Scenic Scioto Canoe Club**

Janet E Doyle  
Portsmouth, OH  
mwhitely36@yahoo.com

### **Minnesota Canoe Association**

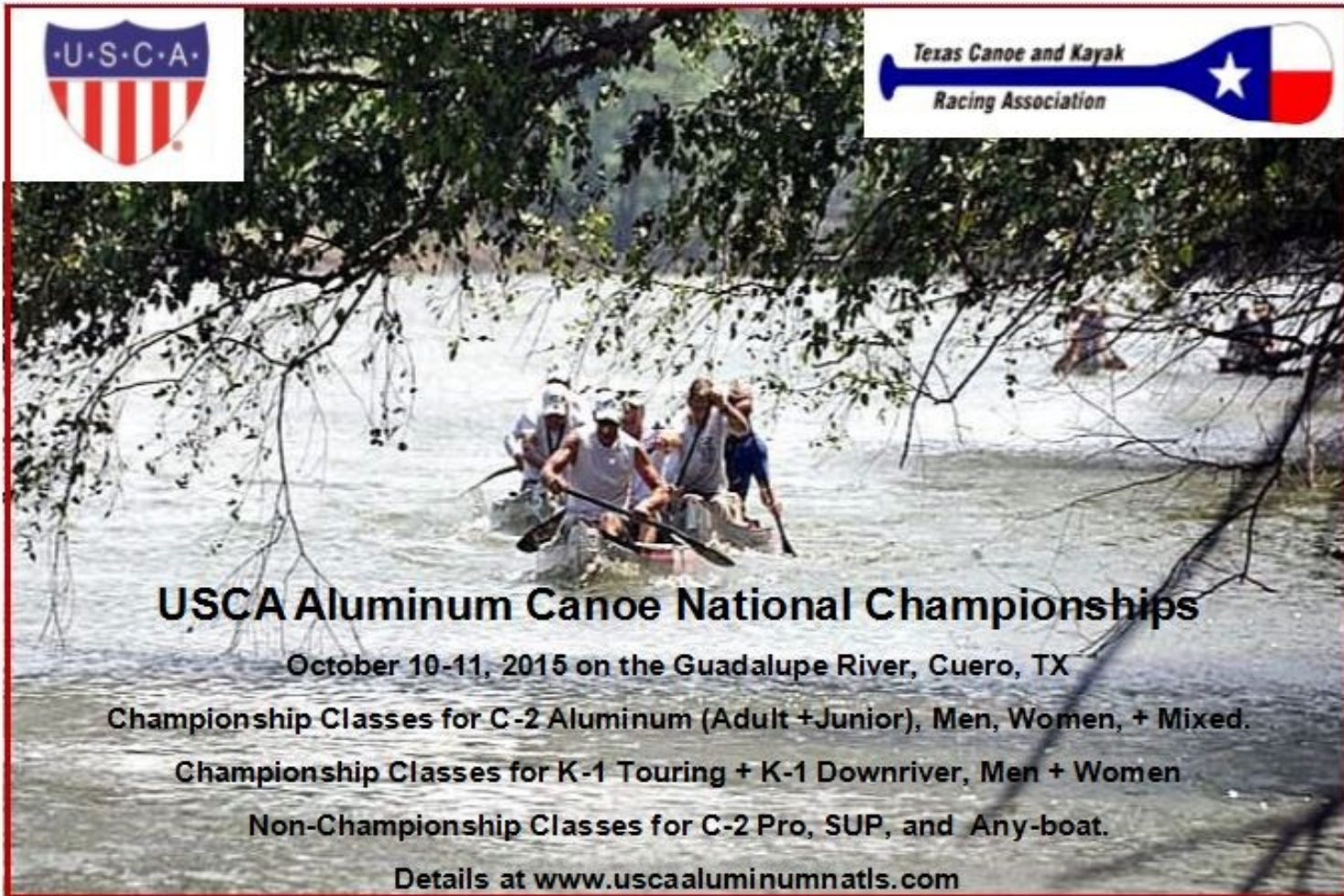
Kevin Groenveld  
Minneapolis, MN  
mcoriale@gmail.com

### **River City Rowing club**

William Naddy  
West Sacramento, CA  
rcrcpaddle@gmail.com

### **Westfield River Watershed Association**

Francis Siska  
Westfield, MA  
fsiska@comcast.net



The banner features a background image of several aluminum canoes racing down a river with white water rapids, framed by a red border. In the top left corner is the USCA logo, a shield with 'U·S·C·A' and red and white stripes. In the top right corner is the Texas Canoe and Kayak Racing Association logo, which is a blue and red paddle with a white star and the text 'Texas Canoe and Kayak Racing Association'.

**USCA Aluminum Canoe National Championships**  
**October 10-11, 2015 on the Guadalupe River, Cuero, TX**  
**Championship Classes for C-2 Aluminum (Adult +Junior), Men, Women, + Mixed.**  
**Championship Classes for K-1 Touring + K-1 Downriver, Men + Women**  
**Non-Championship Classes for C-2 Pro, SUP, and Any-boat.**  
**Details at [www.uscaaluminumnats.com](http://www.uscaaluminumnats.com)**

The 2015 stock aluminum canoe and kayak national championships will take place this year in Texas on Oct. 10th – 11th. The race will start at the Cheapside bridge (Hwy 766) on the Guadalupe river and finish 14 miles later at the Cuero bridge (Hwy 236). A little history of the area and river that will increase the allure of participating in a great event.

If you were to travel into the town of Cheapside, you would find parking easily available as it is listed as a “ghost town” in the Texas registry. Dr. E. R. Henry, who was born in Cheapside, Virginia, named the settlement. The first post office for Cheapside was established on June 5, 1882 and only one or two buildings remain today. Approximately 4 miles into the race is a washed out dam area that was quite intimidating in its day. By the mid-1920s the hydroelectric dam built on the Guadalupe River was once the largest in Texas. Near the finishing miles of the race course the river begins to enter the city of Cuero. Cuero had its start in the mid-19th century as a stopping point on the Chisholm Trail cattle route to Kansas. Cuero thrived through much of the late 19th and early 20th centuries by the introduction and practice of turkey ranching in the area. Today, agriculture is still the primary industry in the region. It is also unofficially known as

the "turkey capital of the world" (this is reflected in the Cuero High School mascot, the Gobblers). Turkey Fest is also being held on the race weekend and is a local festival during which the townsfolk compete with people at various turkey-centric events.

The Guadalupe river, from its source, runs approximately 370 km (230 mi). The river was first called after Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe. Evidence indicates that it has been home to humans for several thousand years, including the Karankawa, Tonkawa, and Huaco Indians. The river's conditions can change rapidly. Its flow is set by the dam at Canyon Lake and operated by the Army Corps of Engineers. It is highly regulated and well maintained to ensure safety.

In 1962 Frank Brown and Bill "Big Willie" George navigated from San Marcos to Corpus Christi along the Guadalupe river without a motor. In 1963 they created the Texas Water Safari which would become an annual canoe and kayak race. This tradition has endured, and although the race has been shortened, the popularity continues to increase participation. Numerous smaller races have utilized various portions of the river as the sport has grown.

Capitalizing on the enthusiasm of one of the largest and longest races in Texas, along with the beauty and challenge of a popular natural treasure, 2015 Sock Aluminum Canoe and Kayak Championships is a great opportunity to showcase our love of paddling and outdoors. Previous races held in Texas in 2002, 2008, and 2011 have been great examples of the turnout that has become expected. This year for the first time as a championship event, mixed aluminum racing will take place on Sunday. Often times this can be some of the most competitive racing of the weekend and predicts to be an exciting addition to the schedule. Any championship USCA event would not be complete without a proper “pro” race to be held on Sunday and several other classes to help promote two fun filled days of racing for everyone.

We hope to see you at this year's event. Check out the official 2015 Stock Aluminum Canoe and Kayak Nationals website or Facebook page for more details.

Wade Binion

**2015 USCA Memberships  
Expire December 31, 2015**

**---Don't Get Left Out---**

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Harold Theiss, Membership Chair,  
12802 Lake Jovita Blvd.  
Dade City, FL 33525

**Change of:**

**address, email, or phone number?**

Contact: *Harold Theiss, (above address)*

*Phone 352-588-9877*

*Email: [hapetess@yahoo.com](mailto:hapetess@yahoo.com)*

**United States Canoe Association, Inc.  
12802 Lake Jovita Blvd  
Dade City, FL 33525-8265**

*Photo courtesy of Richard Hodgkins © 2015*

