

514-6193 Jan.



SOUTHERN MAINE SEA KAYAKING NETWORK

May 2006

Mission Statement

The Southern Maine Sea Kayaking Network is an association of paddlers interested in connecting with others who enjoy the sport of sea kayaking. Our purpose is to promote safe and responsible practices, and, at the same time, to have fun.

Southern Maine Sea Kayaking Network
P.O. Box 4794
Portland, ME 04112
www.smskn.org

Officers

Ted Davis	President
David Lay	Treasurer
Jayne Leiner	Secretary
Sandra Hodge	Board Member at Large
Sarah Knock	Board Member at Large
Reed Markley	Board Member at Large
Jon Swan	Board Member at Large

Newsletter Editor

David Lay

Membership Committee

Reed Markley	Chairman, Database Mgr.
Susan Payne	
David Lay	

Librarian

Lee Bumsted

President's Notes

Ted Davis

This past Saturday, May 6, 2006, we had a great paddle under the leadership of Bob Arledge. I had a little trouble finding the boat launch for I left my Maine Atlas behind and also Bob's instruction, which were on my home computer. So I learned an important lesson. One needs more than just boat preparation.

Once underway the paddle was fun. We were able to paddle into the old wood schooner at Bremen that was scuttled in the harbor years ago. The idea was to provide a lobster pen by drilling holes in the side of the schooner. This was supposed to let the sea in, however, this bright idea was also scuttled back in the thirties. This boat is one of the last of the coastal wood schooners that were used for freight back in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

Our paddle continued down the coast past Oar Island, Hog Island and Louds Island. When we reached Round Pond Harbor we pulled our boats up on the town landing. After a good rest we set across the bay for Louds Island and an excellent sandy beach. Here we had lunch setting on logs and telling sea stories. The ospreys were a little upset at our presence for a half a dozen of them keep flying not far away.

The return trip was what we call easy. The wind and the tide were in our favor. It did begin to cloud-up and sprinkle a bit but not enough to spoil a delightful day. My GPS clocked the nautical miles at 10.6.

I would like to remind you that on Tuesday, May 23rd, will be rain date for our Coast Guard Kayaking Safety Briefing. The presentation will cover navigational rules, emergency procedures, radio procedures, VHF channels and search and rescue topics.

The briefing will be held at the South Portland Coast Guard Station. Go to our web-site for directions.



SMSKN Pool Sessions

David Lay

We once again were able to rent the pool at the YMCA in Bath, and once again it was great! We had a good turn out and many practiced their rescue skills and worked on rolls. If you have not tried the pool, remember to watch for the event next year. There is no kinder environment for practice of rescues than the warm and clear waters of the pool, and the folks at the Bath YMCA are always great.



David Lay



Network Activities

We need help with Network activities, and are looking for volunteers. If you would like to see the Network continue to organize the level of events and services all now enjoy, please pitch in. We will need several new Board volunteers to keep things going through next year, and it would be great if participants could share the effort now in order assure continuity. Pitch in!

Also, Thank you to members who contributed photos to the newsletter!

Event List

5/21/2006 Sunday

Boothbay Harbor from Five Islands

It is about 5.5 nm from Five Islands to Boothbay Harbor. We will paddle across the Sheepscoot River and through

Townsend Gut into Boothbay Harbor. We should land in the town around 12:00. We can eat picnic lunches or eat in a restaurant. After we paddle back to Five Islands if anyone is hungry we can get a bit to eat at the Five Island Lobster Company on the pier.

High Tide: 06:06 18:52 Low Tide: 12:29. Difficulty: 2 - Moderate; Category: Day Paddle; Location: Georgetown, Maine; Meet: 10:00, Five Islands; Limit: None; Organizer: Bob Arledge, (207) 415-1567, bob@arledge.cc.

5/21/2006 Sunday

Lake Nequasset

This is a little used lake in the town of Woolwich. Good parking at the boat launch which is behind the fire station/city hall. Take the second right after the TASTE OF MAINE restaurant on Route #1 in Woolwich. Difficulty: 1 - Easy; Category: Day Paddle; Location: Woolwich, Maine; Meet: 11:00 AM, Boat launch behind the Fire Station/City Hall; Limit: None; Organizer: Ted Davis, 443-1424, vagus32@gwi.net.

5/23/2006 Tuesday

Coast Guard Kayaking Safety Briefing

**** DATE CHANGED from 16 May ****

The Coast Guard has once more graciously offered to provide SMSKN with a presentation on marine safety and specifically addressing kayaking safety. Their presentation will cover navigational rules, emergency procedures, radio procedures, VHF channels, search and rescue, and other topics. One of the greatest benefits of this meeting with the Coast Guard is that it provides us with an opportunity to ask questions about the services the Coast Guard provide; where kayaks fit into the maritime scheme, and other questions. Depending on mission requirements, they will also show us how well kayaks show up on radar (basically not at all.) This year they will not be able host a flare shoot, so we will not be able to fire off our expired flares. The briefing will be held at the South Portland Coast Guard Station. (Click for directions). Please email me at bob@arledge.cc to let me know if you are planning on attending so I can let the Coast Guard know how many people will be attending. The rain date will be 23 May if required. . Difficulty: 0 - Effortless; Category: Other; Location: South Portland, Maine; Meet: 6:00 PM, South Portland Coast Guard Station; Limit: None, but please sign up; Organizer: Bob Arledge, (207) 415-1567, bob@arledge.cc.

5/24/2006 Wednesday

Wednesday Evening Paddle

A chance to get out on the water mid-week. We'll paddle around the Diamonds, around Cushing or up the Fore River, whatever people want to do. Directions to East End Beach. Just a reminder, the meet time is the time when you should be sitting in your boat ready to paddle. Difficulty: 1 - Easy; Category: Day Paddle; Location: Portland, Maine; Meet: 6:00 PM, East End Beach; Limit: None; Organizer: Bob Arledge, (207) 415-1567, bob@arledge.cc.