



# NCSP NEWS

Upper Delaware  
River Chapter

September 2005

## From the Commodore

Another patrol season has gone by and what a season it was! NCSP members participated in the Delaware Sojourn safety team, Lehigh Sojourn safety team, as well as heading up instructional and safety team for the United Nations International School's annual canoe trip. All of this in addition to our team work with the National Park Service. It's been a productive year and I would like to thank you all for your participation in our growing organization.

This season has reinforced to me the importance of our patrols. In one day over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend, our patrols had two medical evacuations - One at staircase for a back injury and the second at Sparrowbush where, if our patrol weren't present, the victim, in all likeliness, would have just slipped under the water and become another tragic drowning. Events like these hit home for me and make a slow, rainy day at Skinners more bearable. If any of you become frustrated with the increased sight of rafts and fewer days of carnage, just remember, people still need our help.

Many NCSP members and other paddle clubs have discussed with me the possibility of our organization offering instruction in swiftwater rescue for American Canoe Association (ACA) certification. I see this as an area of potential growth and revenue for the NCSP. This would entail several of our instructors attending training and certification in the ACA swiftwater rescue course. We could then offer clubs, organizations or individuals ACA certification and workshops at current market prices. This could become an incredible source of revenue and further growth and development for the NCSP. I look to you for your input on this issue, please email, call or send by carrier pigeon, your comments.

Ken and Dick have put together a fantastic Fall dinner and I would hope to see you all there. We still need volunteers for committees, so if you would like to help with the newsletter, website, training, merchandise, or anything, please let me know.

See you on the river, Bill Walters

## From the Vice Commodore

DUMOINE RIVER CANOE CAMPING EXPEDITION  
July 17- 27, 2005

### "Introduction"

There's only one person who knows Bill Walters in a canoe camping environment and that's me! I'm Ken Bailey, Vice Commodore of the NCSP and am also an ACA Basic River Instructor who has organized and led canoe camping trips on rivers for boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 18 since 1973. Bill Walters is currently Commodore of the NCSP with extensive river rescue and guiding credentials. Bill expressed an interest in assisting me on one of my Dumoine trips. He joined me for the first time 2004 when we paddled the 90km length of the Dumoine River in Quebec. We continued our association this past summer when we flew in and paddled the lower half of the river. We started at Lac Benoit and finished the trip by paddling two miles across the Ottawa River to Pine Valley Campground. We were accompanied by six students from the Philadelphia area four of whom had two years previous experience with me on the Dumoine.

I was introduced to the Dumoine in 1985 when I was sweep for a guide from Barrie, Ontario named Bob Day. A friend of Bob's named Hap Wilson suggested the Dumoine as the ideal place for scenery and rapids. Bob and I continued our association for ten years. In that time Bob taught me many of his special paddling and campsite techniques that related to the Dumoine. One of the best bits of wisdom he passed along to me was where to find the best firewood with the least amount of effort. "See that burned tree stump? Combine a few slivers of birchbark with pieces of that stump and there's a quick, hot, cooking fire!" Most campers don't recognize what nature has provided and too often chop down live trees. Bob's ideas became a part of my canoe camping repertoire. The Dumoine plunges 500 feet down the rocky granite margin of the Laurentian Highlands, flowing 90 miles due south of Lac Dumoine and emptying into the low-lying Ottawa River Valley. The river is interspersed with picturesque lakes and is framed by steep, pine-covered hills. For most of its length the Dumoine is a classic example of a pool drop river with rapids from class one through class four. The river is not a provincial park but is kept pristine by canoe camping groups. Trailhead, an  
(continued page 2)

(Vice Commodore Continued)

outfitter in Toronto has placed “potty” boxes at most campsites and removes them when they receive word that “it’s time!” The suggested maximum size of a camping group is ten. Each group should have someone familiar with the river due to its complex nature. Our campsites were adjacent to rapids for outstanding scenery. I like Appalachian 16 foot canoes with bow and stern flotation, Teal, yokes, and knee pads. Bill was in charge of campsite organization, medical matters, and riversafety. I was in charge of river related matters. After having said all of that, Bill and I overlapped our responsibilities. Our teaching methods were inclusive with elements of fun for maximum motivation! The success of the trip is attributed to the fact that although Bill and I had different teaching styles our goal was always the same. Each night we would talk about what worked and what needed work! Trip Leaders still feel the heat and worry sometimes about nothing. It’s their nature. Bill was very good at recognizing when I was uptight and would on occasion say something like, “Ken, I know what you think of Penn State, but remember you asked me to join you on this trip to keep you in line!” I tell you, if that kind of remark doesn’t help, nothing will!

Ken Bailey

Vice Commodore Next article: Organization/Strategies that included safety and fun!

## NCSP Contact Information

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## From the Nominating Committee

The nominating Committee has recommended the following slate of officers for the 2006 Season. Elections will take place at the fall dinner. Nominations can be made from the floor.

Commodore – Bill Walters

Vice Commodore – Ken Bailey

Secretary – Joel Duffy

Treasurer – Greg Temple



In-water mobility lessons in deep water at training weekend.

## What a Day (Whew!)

The Fourth of July weekend turned out to be very busy for the NCSP, and mostly one patrol. Bill Walters, Bill Potopowitz, and Gene Berliner were involved in not one but two different major rescues.

The first rescue was at Staircase Rapids. A concerned citizen caught Bill W. at the Staircase put-in. Bill then ended up in his boat, without the rest of his patrol, who were running the shuttle. Al Henry with NPS and an EMT with the Lumberland Fire Department all converged on the victim. She had re-injured her back after falling out of her raft without a PFD. A Lumberland Fire Department airboat evacuated the victim. According to the River Reporter, she was treated and released from Port Jervis Hospital.

If that wasn't enough... later that afternoon, a man jumped from the cliffs below Sparrowbush. He landed on a submerged rock, incurring compound fractures and internal injuries. (Continued on Page 3)

(What a Day continued)

According to the River Reporter "Luckily, Bill Walters, a member of the National Canoe Safety Patrol was only a few feet away in his boat, and rushed over and stopped the man from slipping below the water as he lost consciousness"

Bill then called NPS dispatch who contacted Sparrowbush EMS. Sparrowbush responded with two Air Boats. Sparrowbush EMS then took the victim down river to a waiting helicopter. As of July 11 the victim was still in the hospital in stable condition.

Joel

## From the Secretary

As a US citizen and a volunteer rescuer I have been watching the situation in New Orleans unfold. Megan and I wanted to get out on boats and help these people. Obviously, we're too far away to be of use, but please keep these desperate individuals in mind when you consider *your* present situation. There are many reputable organizations helping with the recovery and all can use your donations.

Joel

## Fall Dinner

FROM THE DINNER COMMITTEE

The National Canoe Safety Patrol fall dinner will take place Saturday, October 22nd from 3-6pm at the Marblehead Grill and Chowder House located at 4101 William Penn Highway in Easton PA.

(One mile East of Route 33)

The cost will be \$25.00 per person including tax and gratuities.

Please RSVP As soon as possible to Ken Bailey at [ncspvicecommodore@rivergod.com](mailto:ncspvicecommodore@rivergod.com) as to name and number attending.

Pay Greg Temple, Treasurer upon your arrival.

Ken Bailey

## Training Weekend

Mark your calendars! 2006 Training will take place April 28 – 30, 2006. Our Training committee will have another well-prepared weekend to improve your skills. Weather and locations are to be determined. We had hail this year, maybe snow next... Did I actually write that????



## Marketing Committee

The **NCSP** Hats will be available along with carabineers, patches, stickers, shirts and other items during the fall dinner. .

## Articles and Photos

We are always looking for articles and Photos; please submit directly to [newsletter@rivergod.com](mailto:newsletter@rivergod.com). As always, the NCSP may or may not publish a contribution based on space or content. I hope to see you at the fall dinner, Thanks in advance!  
Joel



The end of the 2005 season.... More water next year?

# National Canoe Safety Patrol Membership Application 2005

## Upper Delaware River Chapter



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Secretary-Joel Duffy NCSPSecretary@Rivergod.com 860-228-5127  
Treasurer-Greg Temple NCSPTreasurer@Rivergod.com 609-896-2116

### What is the National Canoe Safety Patrol?

The NCSP was founded more than 25 years ago for the purpose of encouraging and promoting boating safety, including but not limited to the following:

To assist river management agencies, race organizers and other safety and rescue organizations by offering river rescue training orientation to their personnel.

To provide a shore and boat based safety presence in cooperation with river management agencies, race organizers and other safety and rescue organizations.

To provide rescue and recovery assistance upon request of, and in cooperation with, river management agencies and other safety and rescue organizations.

### Where does this take place?

Mostly on the Upper Delaware River between Narrowsburg and Port Jervis, although the NCSP is chartered to serve wherever invited by race or event organizers or river management agencies.

### How do I get this 'training'?

Formal training is the last weekend of the month every April, on the Upper Delaware, with on the job training ongoing during the paddling season.

### How much does it cost?

Training is free to active members with nominal dues of \$15 per year single membership, \$30 family.

### What is my obligation after joining?

A minimum of 4 days of service, on weekends between May 1st and July 4th.

### Do I need a certain kind of boat?

Most members paddle whitewater canoes or kayaks, though a wide range of crafts are used and all are welcome.

### Can I join at any time during the year?

Yes, but it is essential to attend the formal training weekend at the earliest opportunity.

### What do I learn at the formal training weekend?

Many and varied topics including in-water mobility, boat and shore rescue, throw bag techniques, boat unpinning, foot entrapment rescues and more.

### Do I have to be an 'expert' paddler to join?

While some paddling experience is desired, some members are instructors and will be happy to assist in improving paddling skills.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

PADDLING EXPERIENCE Beg. Int. Adv.  
OWN OR HAVE USE OF A BOAT? Y N

Send Dues to:  
NCSP Dues  
C/O Greg Temple  
6 Merion Place  
Lawrenceville, N.J.08684



Training weekend in-water foot entrapment