

Chapter Events 2004

There are still some paddling opportunities scheduled for the fall, so plan to put your paddle in the water once more before the snow flies. If you are not involved in a local chapter, please contact one of the coordinators noted in the box on page 15 or use the contact information listed below. The paddling events are weather dependent, so call before you head out.

Chapter 1–October 3: Irondequoit Creek paddle Coordinator: Al Sienkiewicz.

Delaware Valley–October 9–10: Mini Assembly. Contact Richard Greene.

Norumbega–October 16: The Great Swamp in Rhode Island, a 7-mile paddle. Contact Bruce Hooke 401 421 3634 for more details.

Chapter 1–October 16: Fall and craft event and hayride at the home of Bill and Joan Hall. Coordinators: Joan and Bill Hall.

Chapter 1–November 13: At the home of Denny Brunner, Macedon, N.Y. Woodworking workshop and Sewing craft TBA.

Delaware Valley–November 14: Planning meeting at the Brattons. ✂

Canoeing in Iraq

Through e-mail correspondence this summer, Bruce Alsip learned that WCHA member Julie McCrum's son, Greg, and his best friend, Jeff Lovingood, were stationed in Iraq. Julie had recently begun "Operation Make a Difference Iraq," what she calls a "little one-town, one-girl project," within her church. In its first month, "Make a Difference" has shipped thirty-seven boxes to servicemen and women in Iraq.

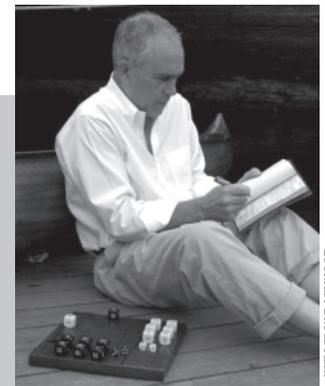
Alsip is a new WCHA member and a successful game creator. His latest game, Canoe™, was inspired by his uncle, Earl Willits, and Earl's brother, Floyd. Together the brothers built nearly a thousand canoes from 1905 to 1962 under the Willits Bros. name on Day Island outside of Tacoma, Washington.

When Alsip heard about Greg and Jeff and Julie's project, he sent two Canoe games to the men, currently based in the Sunni Triangle. The games have been a hit. "It will provide much-needed diversion," Alsip says, "connecting them to their past, their homes, and their history. They are canoeing—only this time in the desert."

Canoe is a two-player strategy game. Made of mahogany veneer, each game has a registration number hammered into the side, just as the Willits canoes did. "It's one of those addiction games," Alsip says, "like backgammon or cribbage."

To order a Canoe game, call 888-207-2580 or visit www.canoegame.com. If you want to send Canoe to a service member in Iraq, Alsip & Co. will cover all shipping and handling charges. ✂

Ali Basye, proud owner of Canoe game no. 659



COURTESY BRUCE ALSIP

Bruce Alsip and his two canoes—the new board game and his Willits.

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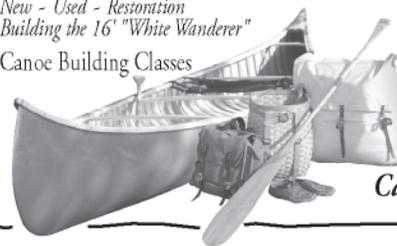


Tom Seavey
Owner - Canoe Builder
Leatherworker

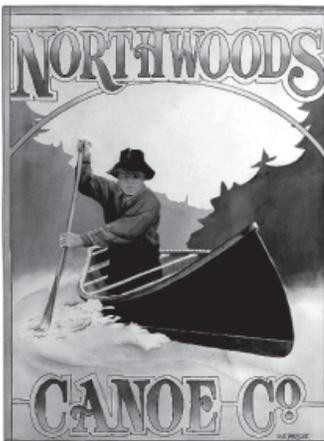
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