



Journal of Paddlesport Education

A professional forum highlighting Safety Education & Instruction
for ACA Instructors, Clubs & Affiliates

February 2014

Welcome to the
**Journal of
Paddlesport
Education.**



This Issue:

Lead Article [pg 1](#)
Kokatat Instructor of February [pg 2](#)
Adaptive Paddling Summit [Pg 3](#)
SEI Department Update [Pg 5](#)
Become a Subaru VIP! [Pg 6](#)

Paddling Rescue Tools - Folding Saws

By Charlie Duffy

There are a wide range of rescue tools available for whitewater boaters. Most paddlers know about and carry important tools such as throw ropes and carabineers. Other tools are less commonly carried, but in the right situation may be invaluable. Collapsible or folding saws are one example. Many weigh only a few ounces, cost less than \$20, and can be stored inside a dry bag or PFD pocket. When selecting a folding saw, consider one with a removable stainless steel blade with very aggressive teeth and a comfortable handle that acts as the sheath.

Saws have a wide range of uses. When scouting a rapid, they can be used to prevent accidents by cutting away branches that might snag or pin paddlers. If a rescue is needed, saws can easily cut through most boats, potentially freeing entrapped paddlers. They also can cut away branches that have snagged or pinned a paddler. If a boater is pinned on a strainer, saws can be used in conjunction with rope systems to tear the strainer apart.

After the victim has been freed, saws can cut branches to create splints, walking sticks or stretchers. If necessary, saws can shorten broken paddles for easier transportation. They also can be used to clear paths to make easier trails for evacuation. Selective cutting can make a path much safer and easier to negotiate. If a group has to spend the night by the river, saws can cut firewood or other material for shelters. If the day goes great, and you never need the saw for a rescue, it still is useful back in camp for cutting firewood and at home for gardening chores.

An example of a collapsible saw is shown on page 6. This saw, made by Gerber, has a 6 inch blade, costs less than \$15, and is less than 8 inches long when collapsed. It can easily cut through branches up to 3 or more inches in diameter, and can easily cut through a plastic boat. Hopefully, you'll never need a saw for a rescue. But, if you do need a saw, in many cases nothing else will work.



The ACA National
Office has moved!

Please send mail to:
503 Sophia Street
Suite 100
Fredericksburg, VA
22401



[Become a Subaru VIP](#)

SUBARU.





Journal of Paddlesport Education

A professional forum highlighting Safety Education & Instruction
for ACA Instructors, Clubs & Affiliates

February 2014

ACA PROSCHOOL HIGHLIGHT



Coastal Kayak SUP & Sail has been teaching paddlesports for 19 years. They have an ideal teaching location on the Delaware Coast only minutes from Ocean City, Maryland. Let the professional staff of over 9 ACA certified instructors show you how much fun paddling can be while you learn at your own pace. Coastal Kayak offers everything from beginner classes and kids camps to Instructor Certification Workshops in both kayaking and stand up paddling. Coastal Kayak staff are experts in the coastal region with over 30 years of paddling the area's waters, which are convenient to Baltimore, DC & Philadelphia.

Learn more, [here](#).

Kokatat Instructor of the Month February: Don White of Charleston, SC

Kokatat[®]
made in arcata, ca

Don started paddling over 20 years ago but didn't get serious until his future wife and partner, Fern, arrived on the scene. Together they began paddling the northeast rivers, lakes, and coast line from Connecticut to Maine. Don's first introduction to instruction was assisting Fern in teaching traditional style paddling and rolling to eager students all over the northeast.



A move to the mountain biking hills of western North Carolina meant a dry spell from ocean kayaking, but the "kayak fever" never really left.

Don and his wife began their periodic migrations from western North Carolina to Charleston where they were welcomed like family by Sea Kayak Carolina. With their help and guidance, Don and Fern updated their skills and, at the same time, learned to love the little slice of heaven known as Charleston. As Don would say, "We came to Charleston five years ago, but never really left." They now live permanently in the Charleston area and continue to share their passion for kayaking and for this kayaking paradise to any and all who visit. They are devoted to coaching and instructing, both as a team, and as individuals with their own specific areas of interest and expertise.

The most challenging and rewarding course that Don and Fern offer, as a team, is a 2 ½ day ACA instructor IDW/ICE preparation series. This program was developed to aid potential instructor candidates prepare for the more formal development workshops and evaluation courses. Their goal, to take the mystery out of the process, has been met with repeated success and Don and Fern are happy to have helped more than a few kayakers become successful ACA certified instructors. They look forward to the future of swelling the ranks of the ACA with skilled kayakers and top notch instructors as they continue to improve themselves in both skill and technique.



Don has been very lucky to have learned from some of the best instructors that the ACA has to offer, and have helped shape Don's philosophy of kayak instruction. They continue to prove to him that "the best teachers never stop learning" and that "every student can teach you something if you listen."

To nominate a great instructor, please see the [Kokatat Instructor of the Month Page](#).

The ACA would like to extend a big THANKS to [Kokatat](#) for sponsoring our Instructor of the Month Program!



Become a Subaru VIP



Journal of Paddlesport Education

A professional forum highlighting Safety Education & Instruction
for ACA Instructors, Clubs & Affiliates

February 2014



Attention

Kayak Anglers!

If you are a kayaking group or organization with a fishing component, your group may be eligible to participate in the ACA Insurance program either as a Paddle America Club or an Affiliate Organization.

[Learn more today!](#)

If you have any questions, please contact the [ACA Insurance Coordinator](#).



The ACA Adaptive Paddling Summit will be a national event that will address key topics related to paddlesports for individuals of all abilities. The ACA provides a range of recreational opportunities and has been established as one of the premier standards of paddlesports safety and education. As part of the ACA's leadership role in the paddlesports community, we have initiated this Summit to provide a resource for paddlers of all abilities.

The ACA is seeking individuals, paddling clubs, and organizations to present high quality educational sessions on a range of paddlesports topics:

- Conference Educational Sessions (classroom)
- Skills Courses (on water)
- Pre- and Post- Conference Courses

The ACA is accepting proposals for the Adaptive Paddling Summit to be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan on September 15-17, 2014.

Download proposal instructions ([PDF](#))

All questions regarding proposal submission should be directed to ACA Education & Outreach Coordinator [Joe Moore](#).

Find out more, on the [ACA Website](#).



[Become a Subaru VIP](#)



Journal of Paddlesport Education

A professional forum highlighting Safety Education & Instruction
for ACA Instructors, Clubs & Affiliates

February 2014

CFS GRANT APPLICATIONS



Since 2002, the ACA has partnered with L.L.Bean to provide the Club Fostered Stewardship (CFS) Grant Program to local paddling clubs and watershed organizations who are working to protect and preserve our nation's waterways.

By inspiring people to explore outdoors with quality products and demonstrating a corporate commitment to a sustainable future, L.L.Bean upholds the values and environmental commitments that are reflected in the paddling community. The ACA is proud to have L.L.Bean as a partner and to continue the legacy of fostering future generations of waterway stewards, as we have for over 130 years.

2014 Club Fostered Stewardship Grant is now open! Applications can be submitted to the following address:
www.americancanoe.org/cfs_application

The dead line is Friday February 21st 11:59:59 EST.

SEIC MEETING

Save the Date!

The next SEIC Meeting will be held on February 21st in Columbus, GA.

Thursday February 20th: Discipline Committee Meetings:

- River Kayak, Coastal Kayak, River Canoe, Intro to Paddling

Find more information, [here](#).

Attend the meeting and make a difference in paddlesport education!

ACA Member Benefit!

Check out Hobie Polarized sunglasses! ACA members are eligible for a 25% discount as well as free shipping!

Plus, a percentage of each purchase is donated by Hobie Polarized back to the ACA to continue our work promoting paddlesports education, stewardship, recreation and competition.

Click [here](#) to view their catalog.



ACA Instructors! Join the ACA's Promotive Team!

Promotive.com is an online marketplace for outdoor industry professionals who have significant sales influence in their personal and professional communities. Thanks to ACA's knowledge and influence in the paddling community, ACA INSTRUCTORS are invited to become a member of the ACA - Promotive.com team! The ACA team has access to discounts on over 300 outdoor brands including Yakima, Big Agnes, Marmot, Old Town, Necky Kayaks, Gregory, and so many more! Benefits include:

- Up to 70% off retail prices
- Membership to the team is free
- New products and brands are added every day

Visit our team page at www.promotive.com/aca



[Become a Subaru VIP](#)

SUBARU



Journal of Paddlesport Education

A professional forum highlighting **Safety Education & Instruction**
for ACA Instructors, Clubs & Affiliates

February 2014

SHARE YOUR PHOTOS



Become a Subaru VIP

The American Canoe Association is proud to count Subaru of America among its corporate sponsors.

[Subaru is the official vehicle of the ACA.](#)

As part of Subaru's support for the association, ACA members are eligible to participate in the Subaru VIP Partners Program. VIP Partners participants can save up to \$3,300* off the manufacturer's suggested retail price (depending on model and equipment selected) on the purchase or lease of any new Subaru from participating dealers. This discount is available to all eligible ACA members. No haggling is required.

Now that's a member benefit!

In addition to providing discounts to ACA members, Subaru is partnering with *your* ACA to support the ACA's stewardship and conservation programs. When an ACA member purchases a vehicle through the VIP Partners Program, Subaru makes a contribution to support ACA's stewardship work, providing the organization with much-needed resources for protecting our nation's waterways.

To learn more about the VIP Program visit: www.americancanoe.org/VIP



[Become a Subaru VIP](#)



February 2014

Paddling Rescue Tools - Folding Saws *Continued from page 1*





Journal of Paddlesport Education

A professional forum highlighting Safety Education & Instruction
for ACA Instructors, Clubs & Affiliates

February 2014

Submit an Article

Want to submit an article
and be featured in the
ACA Journal of Paddles-
port Education?

Learn more at
[www.americancanoe.org/
JournalofPaddles-
portEducation](http://www.americancanoe.org/JournalofPaddlesportEducation)

Submit articles to
[www.americancanoe.org/
JPE/submission](http://www.americancanoe.org/JPE/submission)



Kelsey

Kelsey Bracewell
Safety, Education & Instruction Coordinator
kbracewell@americancanoe.org
540-907-4460 x 105



Joe

Joe Moore
Education & Outreach Coordinator
jmoore@americancanoe.org
540-907-4460



TJ

TJ Turner
Paddlesports Training Grant Coordinator
tjturner@americancanoe.org
540-907-4460 x 103



[Become a Subaru VIP](#)