

# BMO

Blue Mountain Outfitters

## Newsletter: April 04

103 S. State Road (Rts. 11 & 15)  
Marysville, PA 17053

Phone: 717-957-2413 Fax: 717-957-0074 E-mail: [bluemountain@paonline.com](mailto:bluemountain@paonline.com) Web: [www.bluemountainoutfitters.net](http://www.bluemountainoutfitters.net)

Welcome to BMO's first newsletter - hope you enjoy it! If you received this in error or wish to not receive it in the future, please drop us a line, give us a call, or send a very strong telepathic message ... we hate unsolicited stuff as much as you do. If you received this by snail mail and would prefer to have future issues e-mailed to you, please send me your e-mail address. (We appreciate this, as it really cuts down on time and postage for us.) And rest assured, we will not pass on your contact information to anyone else! But please do feel free to pass our newsletter on to anyone you feel may be interested. Thanks!

## WHAT'S NEW AT BMO?

### All for Fun, & Fun for All!



EJ's back, and along with the rest of the gang at Jackson Kayak is rolling out a new line of whitewater boats in people friendly sizes ... even the little people! The Fun series will get kids as small as 35 lbs. ripping it up, while the rest of the family won't be left behind with 4 more sizes to choose from. Built with comfort in mind, too. Finally, whitewater boats that run rivers, play, and feel good, too! (Wow, more fun than video games!) Coming soon, cutting edge playboats, and steep creekers. The Fun's just Begun!

For those of you who can't wait for EJ's All Star, check out the new Zero Gravities from Wave Sport ... great boats for small features (like our backyard playground, the Dauphin Narrows.) Also the Diesels; roomy river runners with room to wiggle your toes! [www.jacksonkayak.com](http://www.jacksonkayak.com)

### Lightweight Square Stern Canoes

Square stern canoes you can actually load on your car top without using a back brace? That's right, Esquif has figured out how to mold square stern canoes out of Royalex® (don't ask us how, they're not saying!).

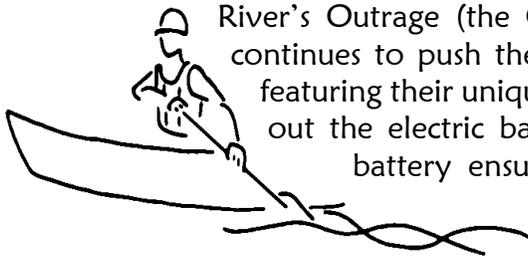
The Heron at 14½' long is weighing in at a slim, trim 69 lbs., Royalite® Mallard is positively anorexic at 45 lbs! And hunters, bird-tricking Camo! [www.esquif.com](http://www.esquif.com)



while the 12' you can get both in

### Half the Paddle, Twice the Paddler

Whitewater open boaters, don't despair, your day has come! Even though Dagger has decided there's more future in kayaks than canoes, they've agreed to turn the Ocoee rights over to Bell Canoe Works, so this tried and true WW boat is still available. Bell's also rolling out a full line of WW open boats themselves, including the Prodigy and Prodigy X solos and the tandem Nexus (from the winning design team of Bob Foote and David Yost), and a composite version of Mad



River's Outrage (the Outraged), courtesy of designer Jim Henry. And Esquif continues to push the envelope with the Zoom, 9'5" of pure whitewater fun featuring their unique Active Pry System. Hate bailing after every drop? Check out the electric bailer available for all Esquif playboats. The rechargeable battery ensures at least 50 cycles per charge, enough to douse the double-bladers with your rooster tail throughout a whole day! [www.bellcanoe.com](http://www.bellcanoe.com)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Stony Creek Rendezvous (April 23-25)**

Support a good cause, and have fun doing it! Look us up at the 2004 Stony Creek Rendezvous, back for another year, but with a new twist...whitewater releases on the Stony! Check out new boats and gear, swap stories around the campfire, and paddle some of Pennsylvania's nicest whitewater. For more information, go to: [www.benscreekcanoeclub.com/](http://www.benscreekcanoeclub.com/)

### **Practical Wilderness First Aid Course (May 2)**

Co-sponsored with EMSC, Inc., Blue Mountain Outfitters is conducting an 8-hour Practical Wilderness First Aid Course based on the National Safety Council Wilderness First Aid Curriculum at the Marysville Moose Club on May 2nd from 8 am to 5:30 pm. Ideal for anyone who spends time in the outdoors, this hands on course provides comprehensive instruction in an informative and interactive atmosphere. Cost is \$75 (\$25 for optional NSC Wilderness First Aid Text Book). Call us for a brochure and registration form, or download from our web site. Additional information on course content available from EMSC at 717 431-2010. [www.bluemountainoutfitters.net/brochures/pdf/first\\_aid.pdf](http://www.bluemountainoutfitters.net/brochures/pdf/first_aid.pdf)



### **BMO Annual Demo Day (May 16)**

Wondering how that new canoe or kayak you read about handles on the water? Come to our Demo Day, May 16th from Noon to 5 pm at the Marysville Lions Club Pond and find out! We'll have lots of new boats (as well as tried and true ones) to paddle, and lots of folks to talk with. We're working hard with the folks at the borough to get the pool ready in time to try out whitewater boats as well (decision pending). This is the only free demo day of the year, so take advantage of the opportunity! A flyer with more details is available on our web site: [www.bluemountainoutfitters.net/brochures/pdf/demoday.pdf](http://www.bluemountainoutfitters.net/brochures/pdf/demoday.pdf)

### **Schuylkill River Sojourn (June 5-11)**

Join the BMO crew along with the folks at the Schuylkill River National & State Heritage Area in exploring Pennsylvania's first official scenic river. (And don't worry, it's easier to paddle than it is to spell!) This is camping in its easiest form ... your gear is moved for you each day, water, food, and toilet facilities are provided, and there's even a few showers along the way. But hurry, numbers are limited for this increasingly popular river trip. Details are available at [www.schuylkillriver.org](http://www.schuylkillriver.org)

## **First Annual BMO Gear Swap (6/13, 10 am - 6 pm)**

Just opened the car trunk and found those booties you thought you'd lost (and consequently replaced) begging to be liberated, aired out, and put to use? Tried to stash your latest hi-tech gadget in the gear closet and couldn't find room? Spouse says you can't buy another boat unless you sell one? Load it all up and come on over to our Gear Swap. We'll provide the tables, you man them. No consignment fees, no set up costs, no gimmicks (well, maybe one ... we'll be trying to find a home for some of OUR stuff, too!) Just make sure everything's marked so your unwanted treasures don't mingle with others (we certainly don't want these things reproducing!) At the end of the swap, we'll be happy to pass on any leftover unwanted to a nonprofit kids outdoor program, where they can be put to good use getting kids outside and experiencing the sports we all know and love.



## **CLINICS**

### **Ropes, Slings, and Other Things (5/11, 7 pm)**

Don't get too excited here, we're not talking bondage! What we are planning is a hands on (and yes, hands free) clinic covering the most commonly used knots in boating, including which rope, webbing, and other gear is most suitable for each application. It's free, won't tie you up for long (sorry, couldn't resist), and you might just walk out knowing an "impress your friends knot" you didn't know before. All participants receive a gift certificate toward the rescue gear of their choice.

### **Tricks with Sticks (6/8, 7 pm)**

Paddles are changing faster than we can keep up with them! New materials, new shapes, new sizes ... it's confusing at best. We'll try to sort some of this out for you at our Paddle Clinic. It's free, and all participants will get a gift certificate toward the paddle of their choice.

Plans for upcoming clinics include baking outdoors, outfitting kayaks & canoes for fishing, CPR & Defibrillator training, and more. (Please feel free to send suggestions our way, we're interested in knowing what you're looking for.)

## **TRIPS**

### **For the Birds (5/12, 5 pm)**

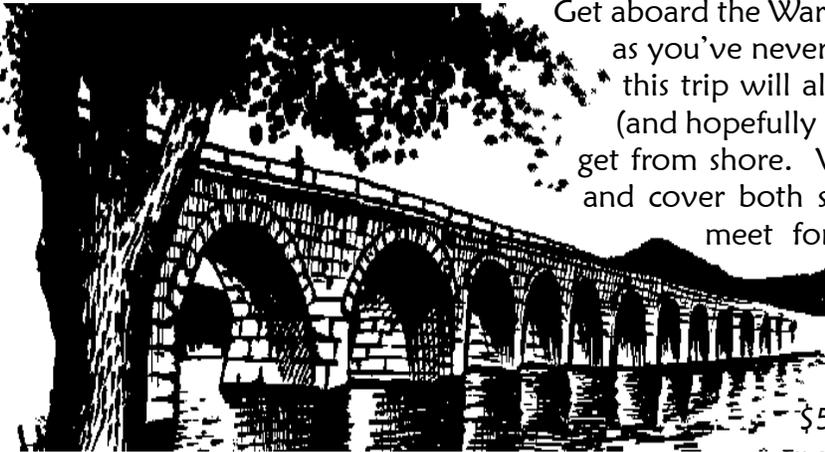


The Egrets, Cormorants and Herons are back, and it's prime time to check out the Wade Island Rookery. Bird lovers will be in heaven, and even those who aren't avid birders can't help but be fascinated by the overwhelming amount of activity at this renowned bird area. First-timers remark that it sounds like the Everglades ... we think it may be even better! We'll be taking the War Canoe, so go ahead and bring your binoculars and cameras. And don't forget a wide-brimmed hat ... we'll be really close to the birds, and looking up can get messy! \$35 per person includes shuttle, and dry boxes/bags. Maximum 6 people, so get your reservations in soon! (Additional trips may be run based on demand.)

### **Babes in Boats (5/25, 6 pm)**

Sorry, guys, you're not invited to this one! Mary and the other BMO gals will be hitting the water for an "after work float" on the Susquehanna, location to be determined by water levels, weather, and the mood we're in! Nothing difficult, this one's for relaxing. Bring your camera, a towel, change of clothes, and leave your worries behind! Anyone interested is invited to join us afterward on the deck at the Marysville Tavern to wind down the night, dutch treat. (Sounds like not cooking, to me!) Regular trip rental & shuttle rates apply (see our web site).

### **Train Buff Special (6/22, 3 pm)**



Get aboard the War Canoe and see the Rockville Bridge as you've never seen it before. Bring your camera; this trip will allow you to photograph the bridge (and hopefully several trains) from angles you can't get from shore. We'll go through the bridge arches, and cover both sides of the river. Afterward we'll meet for pizza on our deck overlooking 4 sets of tracks, the river, and another view of the Rockville Bridge. We'll even request a beautiful sunset (but no promises!) \$50 per person covers the trip, pizza, and a commemorative T-shirt featuring

the Train Stations of Perry County. Limited to 6 participants, but we'll take names for a follow-up trip if needed.

## **THE BMO TEAM**

Wow, winter went by fast! Kris is setting a new employee commuter record; going on 7 months now without a car. The ice kept him off the river for a couple months, but now he's back to paddling to and from work. (We half expected him to show up on ice skates this winter, but sanity won out!) Deep down, we think he's training for the Dauphin Narrows Attainment Race he's been talking about for years.

Doug & Mary slipped away over the holidays this year for a little R&R at Tybee Island offshore of Savannah. Palm trees, dolphins, sunshine, and sand beaches ... a perfect tonic for Pennsylvania's winter. Unfortunately Doug developed an abscessed tooth the first night out. We found that when paddling saltwater it's hard to carry enough drinking water AND alcohol in touring kayaks to deal with a medical emergency like that! Mary tried to adjust the camping diet to softer foods, but really bombed with her version of Pizza Soup. Guess we can't all be Martha Stewarts! (Whew!)

Eric's been out on the river as much as possible, teaching his little red boat to do cartwheels, mystery moves, and other things his Mom never learned. Good to have a "new schooler" on board. Now he just needs to talk Sarah into trying a "little boat" also!

Mike welcomed a new puppy into the household this year, and took Mick along with Powder to obedience school. Unfortunately Powder wasn't too obedient, and now Mike's son Seth is in a leg cast. (Some kids will do anything to get out of chores!)

Gabby's hubby is back from Kosovo safe and sound, and is anxiously waiting for his new Prodigy X to arrive. He says it was pretty tame over there, but we hear Kosovo will never be the same! We'll miss Gabby this summer, but she'll still be around to fill in now and then, and to share river time.

Topher's now an official member of the Menacing Duckheads Canoe Club; dedicated to camping, canoeing, and carousing, and is doing his best to represent BMO in those fine qualities. We hear he's doing so quite well!

Wedding bells are ringing for Mike & Missy (soon to be) Warren. In true river rat fashion he popped the question on a Susquehanna River Island last Spring, and the date is set for April 24th. Doug asked Mike to work that day at the Stony Creek Rendezvous and he didn't hesitate at all to agree. Guess we better get him a PDA for his wedding gift!

## **NEXT TIME**

If you're reading this, it means you stuck with us throughout our first newsletter. Thanks! We welcome your comments (as long as they aren't TOO brutal!), and hope to be following up with the next one soon. Happy Paddling!



**[www.bluemountainoutfitters.net](http://www.bluemountainoutfitters.net)**

Copyright© 2004 Blue Mountain Outfitters, Inc. All rights reserved.  
Prices and specifications are subject to correction and change without notice.