



Blue Mountain Outfitters

Newsletter: May 2005

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Happy 2005, hopefully the start of a year of normal water levels and lots of sunshine! (Sorry WW boaters, but some of us have had enough flooding for the past 2 years!)

WHAT'S NEW AT BMO?

Boats for Small Spaces

Don't have a big SUV? Apartment on the fifth floor, and no garage? Lots of travel plans on the agenda? We're bringing in a couple lines this year that just might solve these problems, and more!

Wildwasser Sport (USA's Prijon distributor) introduced for 2005 solo and tandem inflatable kayaks that don't break the bank. We've avoided this category up to now because there seemed to be a gap between the vinyl boats you could get by saving up enough cigarette box tops, and the top-of-the-line inflatables that were out of most folk's budget. The new Airheads (yup, that's what they're called) look like winners.

Another category we've held back on was folding boats, again due to cost and the fact that you almost needed an engineering degree to assemble them. PakBoats, on the other hand, are well made, light, stiff enough to cartop if desired, and not too hard to assemble (with a little practice!) Easy on the budget, too, which these days counts for quite a bit. www.pakboats.com

Get Emotional

We've noticed a trend lately of would-be paddlers coming to the shop mentioning that they're interested in "those kayaks that you sit on top of...what do you call them?" It's hard to answer "Sit on tops" without sounding sarcastic! Anyway, with a growing interest in SOT's, we've added Pennsylvania's Emotion Kayaks to compliment the Wilderness Systems and Hobies we already offer. Emotion also offers a 9-1/2' Rec kayak that will swallow the largest paddler going, something that's been needed badly since Wilderness Systems dropped the Coupe Del Rio. www.emotionkayaks.com

Jackson Kayak

Jackson Fun continues to grow, with the new Rocker Creekboat coming any day, and the Heros (River/Creek) right behind them. And of course the Funs, which along with the Happy Feet Footbag and Fun Floats gives you an idea of where EJ's (Eric Jackson's) priorities are! www.jacksonkayak.com

Evergreen

Miss your old Blue Hole OCA, and wish you could get another one? Now you can! Our neighbors to the North in Maple Leaf Country have acquired the rights to Blue Hole, and are producing the line, as well as (hopefully soon) supplying parts for existing Blue Holes that may be feeling their age. BMO became their first official US dealer this Spring. Also from Evergreen, the Envy, a 12' vacuum bagged fiberglass recreational kayak with both bow & stern hatches & bulkheads, two tone hull & deck, and coming in at a nice, light 37 lbs. This one's an eye stopper! www.evergreencanoe.com

Vermont Canoe

Look at the new Vermont Canoe Encore, and you might find yourself scratching your head, wondering why it looks more than vaguely familiar. That's because this new manufacturer has vowed to return Waitsfield, VT to the map as the center of high end, time tested canoe design. It isn't the Explorer (exactly), and there's an Otter instead of a Rabbit, but the Encore just might be the new standard for a whole group of canoe lovers who lamented Mad River's exodus from Vermont. Other designs to follow.

Achey, Breaky, Back?

Thule's worked out an answer to the kayak that somehow gets heavier every year (kinda like those paddling clothes that keep shrinking!) with the Hullavator, a lift-assist kayak carrier that allows you to load your boat at waist level (or thereabouts, depending on how tall you are!), strap it down easily, then, with the help of gas assist shocks, raise it to the cartop as easily as Arnold Swartzinager throws the bad guys around! Comes in at a pretty hefty price tag, but they're cheaper than a trailer and orders are being placed faster than Thule can build them. Look for the Hullavator, along with the rest of Thule's paddlesports line, at our Demo Day, where Thule will partner with BMO, Cumberland Valley Motors, and Subaru to present our first cartopping workshop.

Although not new, another great back saver is the Storage Pulley Hoist System. Thule has a 4-point attachment lift that's designed for their Cargo Boxes, but works equally well for boats, and BAC Industries makes a more affordable 2-point hoist rated up to 80 lbs. (that's more than sufficient for most canoes & kayaks). Drive your car into the garage, lower the boat onto the cartop, secure, and drive away! (Now if we could figure out how to have these babies rigged up at the lake or river, we'd be all set!)

Not-So-Disposable Camera

For years we've been selling a waterproof "disposable" camera here at the shop so folks who forgot their camera or didn't want to sacrifice it to the Dauphin Narrows on one of our trips still had a way to go home with a record of their day on the water. BUT, the idea of "disposing" a big chunk of plastic with every camera was less than appealing. Now we've sourced a waterproof camera in a plastic housing, that can be opened, refilled, and used several times. Admittedly not the high quality most of our "regular" cameras are, but more than makes up for it by the many shots you wouldn't have gotten otherwise, worrying about your SLR or new Digital.

In the Buff

Sorry to get you all excited there! We're talking about Buff Headwear, a stretchy, breathable, moisture wicking microfiber headpiece that looks like a bandana, and can be stretched, twisted, and folded into a multitude of styles, including neck gaiter, cap, balaclava, scarf, headband, mask, etc., etc., etc. Feeling like a pirate? Want to rob a bank (just kidding!)? Heading to the Sahara? No problem! Just remember to save the directions, 'cause it's hard to remember all the things you can do with it otherwise!

CONGRATULATIONS, TODD!

No, this isn't a reprint from our last newsletter. Last Fall our congratulations to local paddler Todd Baker were for making the US Freestyle Kayak Team. Since that time, Todd competed in the World Championships in Australia, and came home with a Junior Division Bronze Medal. Not too bad for a 17-year old who picked up his first kayak paddle at age 12! (Not to mention competing while suffering from tonsillitis, a sinus infection and high fever!) Todd paddles for Team Wavesport in a ZG48. Way to go, Todd!

NEW, IMPROVED, WEBSITE

Check out our newly redesigned website at www.bluemountainoutfitters.net with (we hope!) easier navigation, lots more River Stories, more Fun & Games, and lots more pictures! (Yes, our album page has a few photos on it now. Just remember, you asked for it!) Let us know what you think!

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Speaking of our Webmaster, Kris Wolpert recently celebrated his 5th anniversary here at BMO. (Talk about fortitude!) We're hoping he can put up with us for many more!

TRY IT OUT

Another sign of Spring at BMO...lots of requests to demo boats. This has always been a rather gray area for us, so we've developed a boat demo policy:

Our annual Demo Day is held in mid May; details are included in the newsletter (see demo Day Brochure on page 5), and on our website.

Demos by appointment are offered as follows: Touring and Recreational Canoes & Kayaks: \$5 per person per boat, 10 minutes per boat, up to 3 boats. Whitewater Canoes & Kayaks: \$10 per person per boat, 2 hours maximum, one boat at a time, appropriate skill level and accompanied by another skilled paddler. Demo fees are refundable upon a boat purchase made within 30 days. Call ahead to make an appointment.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Okay, true confession time! Although we've got lots of ideas, we haven't come up with dates yet -- except for Demo Day. Look for a "mini newsletter" to follow in the near future.

STAFF RETREAT

Just a "heads up", plan to get your Columbus Day shopping done early, 'cause BMO will be closed that weekend from now on for our annual Staff Retreat at Assateague Island. We've been doing this for years, but always had to ask someone (or ones) to stay behind and man the shop. We've decided that we all work hard all summer, and no one deserves to miss the fun at Assateague. Thanks for understanding!

SAVE A TREE OR TWO!

Finally one more plea! If you received this newsletter by mail and are able to get it electronically, PLEASE send your e-mail address and we'll make the change. Send the request to bluemountain@paonline.com and indicate that you would like to switch your newsletter subscription from hard copy to e-mail. Include your name as it appears on the mailing label and the destination e-mail address. The e-mail version will arrive as an attached pdf file, approximately 100 to 200Kb in size. We'll make sure Kris doesn't screw-up again and send it with the e-mail distribution list showing; it will be sent using blind copies so that your confidentiality is protected.

THANK YOU; this not only saves postage, time, and paper, but a lot of extra work as well!

FROM THE BMO TEAM

Thanks for being our customers, friends, and fellow paddlers. Hope to see you soon, at our Demo Day, in the shop and on the water!

www.bluemountainoutfitters.net

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canoe & kayak

- sales
- accessories
- river trips
- trailers
- repairs
- lessons

DEMO DAY

Test Paddle Canoes and Kayaks

Factory Representatives Will Be Available to Answer Your Questions

SUNDAY MAY 22, 2005

NOON - 5:00 PM

MARYSVILLE LIONS CLUB POND

PLUS SWIMMING POOL FOR FLIP'N & SPIN'N WHITEWATER BOATS

NEW THIS YEAR:

WE'VE PARTNERED WITH CUMBERLAND VALLEY AUTO, SUBARU AND THULE TO PRESENT THEIR LATEST PRODUCTS

Our Canoe & Kayak Product Line Includes:

Aqua Fusion ▪ Bell ▪ Blue Hole ▪ Current Designs ▪ Emotion Kayak
Eskimo ▪ Esquif ▪ Evergreen ▪ Hobie ▪ Jackson Kayak ▪ Lincoln
Mad River ▪ Necky ▪ Nova Craft ▪ Pack Boats ▪ Prijon ▪ Ravenworks
Sawyer ▪ Vermont Canoe ▪ Wave Sport ▪ Wenonah ▪ Wilderness Systems

Please call ahead to request a specific model. We can't promise the availability of every model, but we'll do the best we can.

✦ **REFRESHMENTS** ✦ **PRIZE DRAWINGS** ✦ **FUN!!!** ✦

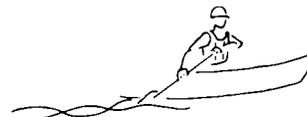
DIRECTIONS:

From I-81 take Exit 65 & follow Rts. 11&15 North into Marysville. 1.6 miles north of I-81 turn left onto Park St.; it's immediately before Specialty Bakers. From the north, follow Rts. 11&15 South to Marysville. 0.4 miles south of Blue Mountain Outfitters, turn right onto Park St.; it's immediately after Specialty Bakers.

Behind Specialty Bakers and just past the swimming pool is an unpaved road that bears off to the right at a narrow angle. Follow this road downhill to the pond. There will be signs to point the way.

**Please wear old footwear
and plan to get wet!**

Factory representatives will not be
available for every
product line.



Hope to see you there!

Questions?
Call Blue Mountain Outfitters
at (717) 957-2413
or check our web site at
www.bluemountainoutfitters.net

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