

BMO

Blue Mountain Outfitters

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Brrrr! There's definitely a chill in the air, so...

Last year we embroidered BMO fleece jackets for our staff, and got swamped with requests from our customers to purchase them. So, here you go, just in time for Fall! Jackets \$25; Vests \$20, various colors, all with gold embroidered BMO logo (goes well with our hats!)



Doug and Mary modeling at the top of Whiteface Mountain in September -- They were actually playing hooky from the Eastern Outdoor Representative Show in Lake Placid.

Despite rumors to the contrary, Doug & Mary didn't spend the ENTIRE time at Lake Placid playing hooky! Here's a rundown on some new things coming along for 2006, as well as some other newly discovered items:

WHAT'S NEW?

Happy Seats & Thrusters

Jackson Kayak, in keeping with their "Fun" theme has introduced Happy Seats & Happy Thrusters to complement their Happy Feet and Fun Floats. The Happy Seat is an inflatable thigh riser that attaches to the seat uprights of all Jackson Boats (as well as many other brands). It supports your legs with comfort, and helps keep your thighs solidly braced; increasing control. (Hint: This works equally well in touring kayaks, and can help alleviate, or even eliminate, the backache so commonly experienced after hours on the water.) The Happy Thruster attaches to the Happy Seat to add as much volume as you can possibly use for the biggest loops possible. No more loose beach balls! Try 'em out, 'cause if your seat and your feet are happy, the rest of you is bound to be too!

Esquif Continues to Rock

We're still trying to figure out how to pronounce it (the "q" has a "w" sound...we think!) but all agree this canoe company isn't slowing down. New whitewater boats this year include the Salsa, a teeny, tiny, 6'5" decked freestyle machine to compliment last year's Taureau, their decked 8' Creeker. New in open boat whitewater is the Zephyr, a super light (try 32 lbs!), super strong, super sharp boat that puts beginners on the fast track and still has plenty of performance for more advanced paddlers. And unlike most whitewater open boats, this one's almost a joy to portage!

Guitar Bags, Triangle Sponges, & Dry Bags

Not new, but new to BMO are some great products from Pacific Outdoor Equipment. For the music lover, a guitar shaped dry bag that allows you to take your tunes to the river with confidence. A side carry handle and shoulder straps make it easy! Look in our sponge display, and you'll see a new one that looks like a wedge of cheese...makes sense because it fits into those hard to reach ends of both canoes & kayaks. Includes a shock cord tether so it won't get away from you (or "walk away"! Employee tested and approved are all sizes of super lightweight drybags from WXtex with compression valves, and sea kayak stow-float bags. And last, but not least, funky little tent pegs that have inflatable tops to keep you from tripping over them. (The flamingos and gnomes went with us to Assateague Island, and withstood some of the worst wind ever!)

Royalex® Argosy

Last year Wenonah came out with a downsized river touring solo canoe design by Dave Kruger; the Argosy, and was available only in composite layups. This year they've added Royalex® to the Argosy choices. While we still like the composite version better (as we do most boats!) this will give rock bashers a more affordable and durable alternative.

2 New Canoes from Waitsfield

Look at the new Sokoki canoe and you might find yourself wondering where you've seen it before. Once again, the folks in Waitsfield, VT have taken a Mad River classic design, the Winooski, tweaked it, and produced a stable, easy paddling canoe perfect for hunting, fishing, bird watching, and photography (appropriate, since "Sokoki" was another name for the Western Abenaki Tribe, who traveled the lakes, rivers, and trails of present day Vermont hunting and fishing). Also new this year is the Tupper, a classic Adirondack packboat design coming in at a light 25 lbs. with 550 lb. capacity. Special touches include wood trim, caned seat, and adjustable backband and footbraces.

The Tsunami Becomes a Family

New this year from Wilderness Systems are both smaller and larger versions of last year's runaway hit, the Tsunami. In addition to the original 14' (or plumper 14.5'), paddlers can now choose a compact 12' (or 12.5') or longer 16' (or 16.5'), all in a choice of lower or higher volume, in Polyethylene, Duralite, or composite construction. Talk about choices! Wilderness Systems has continued their commitment to donate a portion of all profits from Tsunami sales to Americares, earmarked to help Tsunami survivors rebuild their lives.

And More Family!

In response to repeated requests, Hobie Kayak has added a compact tandem to their Mirage line of pedal/paddle boats. The Mirage Outfitter (and Outfitter Fish...you guessed it, a fishing version) is only 12'8" long, but still provides plenty of room for two to paddle or pedal (or both!) Going the opposite direction, the Mirage Adventure (and Adventure Fish...do we need to explain?), stretched out to a sleek 16' for a boat that flies!

The Snyder Affect

What happens when a kayak design legend joins forces with one of the most dynamic new kayak companies in the country? PA's Emotion Kayak has hired Jim Snyder (of whitewater kayak fame) to design their new 2006 boats, and the result is as expected...innovation and excitement all wrapped into one! The sit-on-top Mojo, which never quite made it to market last year, has undergone the Snyder treatment; making it more stable and user-friendly for fishermen (regular and fishing models available.) BUT, for those who got a chance to see (and/or paddle) the original Mojo and liked it (it's fast!), take heart; it's still here with a new name; the Maverick. The 9'8" Edge sit-in has gotten a big brother this year (that family thing again!) with the 12'7" Avant Edge, also showing the Snyder influence. Lots to get Emotional about!

(What's New is continued on page 5)

THE “BLOODY MARY” TRIUMPHS AGAIN!

What do you get when you put 8 Menacing Duckheads and a bottle of rum in a War Canoe?

Victory!

For the second year straight, Topher captained the “Bloody Mary” to win first place in the 8-man War Canoe division of the Wye Island Regatta in the Chesapeake Bay. There’s a possibility that they were spurred on by the colony of ants that had, unknown to BMO [honest!], taken up residence in the boat over the summer. Way to go, Duckheads, ya’ done BMO proud!



The Duckheads at the 2004 Wye Island Race...guess they were paddling too hard to take photos this year!

ASSATEAGUE RETREAT

BMO’s first (official) staff retreat at Assateague Island was a rousing success, despite rain, wind, more rain, and more wind. 24 people showed up to brave the elements, eat, drink, and be VERY merry! Looking more like a Bedouin Desert Camp than a weekend at the beach, our



The Soggy Bottom Boys & Girls enjoying Assateague, 2005!

configuration of Moss/MSR Wings kept us (reasonably) dry, and besides, we had our own Weather Goddess with us (Go Missy), who at one point raised both fists to the sky, screamed something unrepeatable, and calmed the storm. We’ve decided she goes with us everywhere from now on!

Looking forward to 2006, with, hopefully less rain and more crabs!

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER CLEANUP



Good thing these paddlers were on the small side, because their collected trash pile certainly wasn't!

On September 17th 35 volunteers from the GVP Chapter of the Sierra Club met at BMO to launch a River Cleanup that extended 8 miles to City Island. Part of the (over 1 ton) trash that was removed from the river included a crusty old anchor that has found a home decorating BMO's new Sit On Top area, and an extremely large Port-A-Jon Fixture (see photo) that we snatched from the brink of refuse, and plan to retrofit into a riverside composting toilet. Thanks to all the volunteers who's dedication and enthusiasm for protecting the Susquehanna River Basin is appreciated by us, and, hopefully, by all who are touched by the River.

SPEAKING OF PROTECTING THE SUSQUEHANNA RIVER...

We recently received an e-mail from an upstream neighbor, Don Williams, a long-time River Advocate, asking us to spread the word and muster support against a dam being proposed for construction at Wilkes Barre, on the upper Susquehanna River. Seems like we've been down this road before! We fought (and are still fighting) long and hard to prevent the same thing happening here in Harrisburg, and it's inconceivable that it could still happen anyway, in a different location.

"We all live downstream" is a phrase used to promote environmental awareness and is especially true in this case, as there is no-one connected to the River who will remain unaffected by this project. PLEASE take the time to write to the Army Corps of Engineers (address below), voice your opposition to the proposed Inflatable Dam Project on the Susquehanna River (PN #03-01240), and request a public hearing on the subject. You must include at least one reason why the dam would adversely affect your use of the Susquehanna. (Don says he can provide 444 if you're wondering!) The comment period ends 12/10/05; if you're like us, better do it now before it falls by the wayside, as our river quality is threatening to!

Write to:

District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District
State College Field Office
1631 South Atherton Street
State College, PA 16801

For more information, and a link to the project, go to Don's website at:
<http://home3.netcarrier.com/~susquehanna/>

Write today; you'll sleep better for having done so!

Men in Skirts (What's New continued)

This year at the Eastern Outdoor Rep Show, the men of the Bell Team showed confidence in their masculinity by donning kilts to celebrate their introduction of the new Rob Roy 12, a smaller, lighter version of the popular 15-foot Rob Roy. (Bagpipes and Scotch not included.)

THE BMO BAG

Just starting out paddling and not sure what to take along? Too lazy to collect all the little things you need? Not sure what to get the paddler in your life? No worries; we have the answer!

The BMO Bag is, first, a 6-pack size cooler (white, 'cause that's the "coolest" color!) with plenty of outside pockets for all the little things that DON'T have to stay cool. But wait, there's MORE! We've stocked the cooler with a BIG assortment of things you should either have with you (or will want to have with you) ON THE WATER.



BMO Bag Contents:

BMO Can Cozie

Floating Key Chain

Bottle Opener

Trash Bag

Mini-Carabiner

Eyeglass Retainer

Whistle

Duct Tape (of course!)

Waterproof Sunscreen - for you

303® Protectant - for your gear!

Ivy Block® - Poison Ivy Barrier Cream

Lip Balm

Insect Repellent

Dr. Bonners® Peppermint Soap

Biodegradable Toilet Paper

Quick-Dry, reusable Mini Towel

Badger® Healing Balm (Ahhh!)

Total value of these goodies purchased separately is over \$50, but the BMO Bag is yours for only \$34.95 - that's over a whopping 25% off! Sorry, no 3 easy installments, BUT each bag comes with a gift certificate for 10% off your (or their!) next purchase at BMO. So don't wait, get yours now! (Supplies are limited...of course!)



HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS FROM BMO



Stainless Flask & Funnel - Engrave with initials and package with a favorite liquor.

Duct Tape Book - Package with a roll of duct tape...everyone can use that!

Brass Candle Lantern - Engrave and package with candles, reflector, and fleece bag.

WD-40 Book - Package with a can of WD-40...another thing everyone uses!

Paddling Books, Videos, & DVD's - Whitewater or quiet, canoe or kayak, instructional or just plain entertaining...these are always a favorite!

"Keystone Canoeing" Guidebook - If the paddler in your life doesn't have this, make sure he or she gets it from you...they'll be eternally grateful!

Canoe/Camp Seats - Lots of Tush-Friendly styles.

Stainless Steel Insulated Mugs - The ever popular Olicamp also just happens to snugly fit your favorite beer (or soda) can. Engrave it to make it special!

Canoe or Kayak Lock - Protect your loved one's most valuable possession...their boat!

Fleece Bota Bag - New twist on an old standby, with a cozy fleece cover & removable, washable liner. Package with a chilled bottle of wine, and enjoy!

Java Press - Lexan or stainless steel, tough enough for the wilds! Package with your favorite brand of Gourmet Coffee and a backpackable coffee grinder.

Paddler's Journal - For the canoeist or kayaker in your life, a journal filled with lots of paddling trivia as well as room for individualized journal entries.

Pennsylvania Stream Maps - Laminated or uncoated, a distinctive gift for someone you only think has everything!

Delorme Atlas & Gazetteer - If that special person in your life is planning a trip, surprise them with a comprehensive atlas for the state they're planning to visit.

Lazer Engraved Paddles - For the wall, not the water; two sizes!

Paddle Hat Rack - Canoe or Kayak...package with a paddling hat or cap (or BMO Hat!)

Reproduction Tin Signs - from the Golden Age of Paddlesports!

Waterproof Cell Phone / Pager / CD Player / CPS Bag - for those who just can't leave home without it!

Hydration Bag - New models mount to canoes, kayaks, and even PFD's!

Waterproof Flashlight - make sure your loved one is Fish Commission Compliant!

Chota Mukluks - 'Cause warm, dry feet are happy feet!

Paddlesports Calendar - If you can't paddle, you can at least dream!

BMO Gift Certificate - This always works!

The BMO Bag - See Last Page!



Stocking Stuffers



Fleece or Smart Wool Socks
Paddling Charms
Carabiners
Flashlight
Knot-Tying Game
Bilge Sponge

Badger Balm
Star Chart
PFD Whistles
Noseclips
Paddlesports Tree Ornament
Floating Keychain

Headlamp
Duct Tape
Paddling Smurf
Kayak Bottle Opener



SAVE A TREE (OR TWO)!

Finally, one more plea! If you received this newsletter via Snail Mail and can receive it by e-mail instead, PLEASE let us know!!! We're a little old fashioned, but have been convinced (the hard way; this is a lot of copying, folding, taping, stamping, and mailing!) that in this particular case newer IS better. As a bonus, you get the pictures in color. Thanks!

HAPPY FALL, HAPPY HOLIDAYS, HAPPY WINTER, AND HAPPY PADDLING!

The BMO Team

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