

HACKENSACK RIVER CANOE CLUB
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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
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DECEMBER 1985

Friends, Co-members - wherefor art thou. OK you guys, where is everybody? There is a HACKENSACK RIVER CANOE CLUB still in existence!! There are quite a few of you out there whom we never see at our monthly meetings, and most importantly, on any of our trips and outings. Come-on folks, we want and need your involvement to make this club's future possible. We realise that the weather is getting a little on the cool side and some may not enjoy canoeing at this time of year but there are other things that the club is doing as listed below. Consider The HACKENSACK RIVER CANOE CLUB as an outdoor club hiking, biking, camping, skiing, moaning, groaning, boasting and generally having a good time of it, but it can't happen if there is nobody interested. SO LETS GET WITH IT, GANG!!

Our last canoe trip on Nov. 17 was on the Millstone River near Princeton. Those in attendance were Joanne Schiller, Fearless Phil Renner, Gail (skipper) and Mike Musante, and Mad Dog Martin. BOY, WHAT A FLOOD! We couldn't even cross the road over the river. We ended up putting the boats into the water covering the hiking trails (by about 3 feet) paddling through the woods and eventually into the river. We even saw a sign that was underwater pointing to a water source for hikers. Once we entered the river we were spared the need to do much paddling. It was more of a steering situation since the river current must have been moving at least 10 mph. We spotted an opossum stranded on a small island by the flood waiting for the water to go down, a dead deer and a very alive Heron. We then stopped at a park and portaged the boats over a levee and put into the old Delaware-Raritan canal. After lunch near a canal house built in the 1830's, we paddled back to our cars on the canal. Excellent trip, Gail! Thank you.

At the Nov. 24 meeting those present discussed a proposal to get more involved in environmental issues. One way is to take stream walks to look for sources of pollution and then report it to the proper agencies. Any comments about this? Another thing was our membership drive. We would like more members in the club, so if you know of anybody who would be interested please give us their names and addresses so we can send them some club literature. Our December meeting will be a special post-Christmas, pre-New Years party. It will be held on DECEMBER 29 at 7:30 pm. Bring some goodies and a small gift for the Grab-bag and there is the probability that Santa Claus will be there so bring the kids. EVERYBODY WELCOME!

Next "River Rat" issue by Christmas.

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DECEMBER TRIPS

DECEMBER 8 - SUNDAY

DAY HIKE

Harriman state park (Bear Mtn.)

Meet at Flat Rock Brook at 9:00 am.

Sturdy shoes recommended