

# Southern Connecticut Small Craft Symposium

March 31, 2012 at Wilbur Cross High School, New Haven, CT  
From 10:00 am through 5:00 pm

## SCSCS Presentations – off-water lectures

*Updated March 27*

**Choosing Your Small Craft:** there are a wide variety of small craft types out there. How do you know what craft is best suited for you and the type of paddling you want to do? Join the discussion to learn about different boat types, conditions they are designed for and why. We'll touch on hull-design; different materials boats are made from; safety factors and boat fitting.

**Presenter:** Paula Riegel of Kayak Waveology. Paula is an ACA L4 Instructor, a BCU 4\* Leader and a BCU L2 Coach at [Kayak Waveology](#)

**Time:** 45 min

**Equipping Yourself and Your Craft:** what will you need, what might you need, what could you do without for a day trip on the water? We are here with answers specific to you and your craft. Learn how to perform your own paddle craft safety check.

**Presenter:** Gordon Dayton of [Changing Tides PaddleCraft](#). Gordon is an ACA L4 Coastal Kayak and L2 Canoe Instructor.

**Time:** 45 min

**Small Boaters and Cold Water Immersion (Fishermen, Hunters, Paddlers, Sailors):** Cold water can kill. Learn its threats and how to protect yourself. A stimulating and information laden lecture with detailed handouts.

**Presenter:** Charles "Chuck" Sutherland – Chuck has studied cold water boating accidents and the effects of cold water immersion for more than 20 years.

**Time:** 45 min

**Trip Planning and Safety:** Learn to prepare a safety checklist, a float plan and how to use a trip chart. We will review safety gear, provide resources for weather, conditions and tides as well as emergency links and other useful resources.

**Presenter:** Egbert Most, Instructor for [Waterbury Power Squadron](#). Egbert has been boating for 30 years and paddling for 5 years and has varied outdoor interests.

**Time:** 45 min

**Kayak Fishing:** kayak fishing is one of the fastest growing areas in the field of person-powered craft. Detail of this talk are pending.

**Presenter:** TBA - [New Haven Parks](#)

**Time:** 45 min

**Basic Small Craft Navigation:** It is easy to launch, but not always clear how to reach your destination or find your way back. Plan to return by adding basic on-water navigation to your toolbox.

**Presenters:** Walter Lewandowski and Thomas “Quint” Klinger of [Sebago Canoe Club](#). Walter and Quint are ACA L2 and L4 Coastal Kayak Instructors and experienced trip leaders.

**Time:** 45 min

**Moving Water 101:** Are you ready for moving water? Can you “read” a river? Do you have a “throw bag” and know how to use it? How about a knife? What about strainers, low-head dams? Lets get started with the basics!

**Presenter:** Dave Faber of [Connecticut Outdoors, LLC](#)

**Time:** 45 min

**Getting the Most from Your Stroke:** Does your stroke have too much splash and not enough dash? Are you down in the mouth because you are not “up in the front”? Whether its forward, reverse, draws or sculling there is one key element to help you work less as you move your craft. Join us to learn to have more fun on the water.

**Presenter:** Elizabeth O'Connor of [Changing Tides PaddleCraft](#). Elizabeth is 6-time Women’s US Marathon Champion & 2003 World Championship US Team member, an ACA L4 Coastal Kayak Instructor Trainer and SCSCS Coordinator.

**Time:** 45 min

**Weather Awareness:** the best-laid plans can be thrown off course by a sudden squall. Weather data, weather knowledge and weather awareness are key to a successful outing. Join our workshop on weather and gather some new elements for your weather toolbox.

**Presenter:** TBA - [US Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 24-03](#)

**Time:** 45 min

**Adaptive Paddling:** This is the art and science of bringing people with physical challenges to the sport of paddling. A lot of work goes into learning how to prepare the boat to fit the needs of each participant and put them on the water safely, but the rewards of this effort are enormous.

**Presenter:** TBA - [New Haven Parks](#)

**Time:** 45 min

**Water Issues in Coastal Areas:** Why is the beach closed to swimming today? Should we be concerned as small craft boaters? What might we do to make our water safer for recreation and commercial uses? Join Eric as we explore these questions and learn factors contributing to coastal water quality.

**Presenter:** Eric P. Russell of [Drinkable-Air, Inc.](#). Eric holds patents on Atmospheric Water Generation and has been involved in water quality issues for nearly 45 years. For more information on Eric and his interests click to

**Time:** 45 min.

**Expedition “Think”:** an inspirational talk on how to gather the required personal and seamanship skills and know-how for short and long journeys in our personal paddle craft. Taking it from our local shores to northern New England and the Canadian Maritimes where the sea moves with a purpose, then to the British Islands of the UK where the Irish Sea runs at up to 6 knots with no forgiveness. Explore the Bold Coast, USA, Canadian Maritimes of Grand Manan, North Wales and the Isle of Man.

**Presenter:** Greg Paquin. Greg is an ACA L5 Advanced Open Water Instructor and a BCU 5\* Sea Leader and BCU L4/A4 Coach and owner of [Kayak Waveology](#)

**Time:** 45 min

**A Female Perspective on Paddling:** A forum the female paddler. We have special issues on and off the water such as loading & carrying boats, PFD-fit, bio-breaks, etc. Join us for a frank discussion and learn some new tricks that may work for you.

**Presenter:** Elizabeth O’Connor of [Changing Tides PaddleCraft](#). Elizabeth is an ACA L4 Coastal Kayak Instructor Trainer and SCSCS Coordinator.

**Time:** 45 min

**Communicating from Your Boat:** Cell-phones, VHF Radios, flares, other signaling devices – what works best for each situation? How do you use them and who can you call? What can you do to enhance your visibility on the water and how do we handle emergency situations?

**Presenter:** TBA - [US Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 24-03](#)

**Time:** 45 min

**Care and Feeding of Dry Suits and other Immersion Wear:** though costly, dry suits provide the ultimate in cold water protection when used correctly and maintained properly. Wetsuits are more accessible and can last years with proper care. Learn how the pros do it.

**Presenter:** Frank Copren of [O S Systems](#)

**Time:** 45 min

## SCSCS 2012 Presentations – On-water Demonstrations

**Personal Flotation Devices (Life Vests) – Effective Use:** on-water fatalities are on the rise. Statistics show that most fatalities occur to boaters who do not have or properly wear a PFD. Learn the basic types of vests, which are best for your sport and how and when to wear them. Enjoy our realistic in-water demo!

*Don’t be a statistic – it won’t kill you to wear your PFD!*

**Demonstrator:** Mark Chanski, CT-DEP, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Boating Division [CT-DEP / Boating](#)

**Time:** 45 min

**Solo Canoeing Maneuvers:** the canoe a great choice for transporting a lot of equipment. Unfortunately, many are relegated permanently to the back yard when new owners realize how difficult they can be to maneuver, especially for only one paddler. See how to make this traditional and romantic craft move and maneuver gracefully where you want it to go.

**Demonstrator:** Greg Paquin. Greg is an ACA L5 Advanced Open Water Instructor and a BCU 5\* Sea Leader and BCU L4/A4 Coach and owner of Kayak Waveology.

**Time:** 45 min

**Kayaking Maneuvers and Recoveries:** discover how to make your boat do more than just move forward as this group of paddlers demonstrates basic boat handling skills and capsized recoveries.

**Demonstrators:** North Atlantic Canoe and Kayak club members - [GetTheNACK.com](http://GetTheNACK.com)

**Time:** 45 min

**The Recreational Kayak – Seaworthiness and Rescue:** this is perhaps the most common small craft on inland and coastal waters today. It is an easy craft to acquire but can be problematic to handle and recover. Learn techniques and precautions for this popular craft.

**Demonstrator:** Ron Gautreau, ACA L4 Coastal Kayak Instructor

**Time:** 45 min

**Kayak Bracing and Rolling:** bracing is an everyday skill. Rolling is the ultimate in self-rescue. These skills can be valuable to learn and captivating to watch but can be impossible to master without a certified instructor.

**Demonstrators:** John Lathrop and Kate Powers, Conn Yak Kayak Club - [ConnYak.org](http://ConnYak.org)

**Time:** 45 min

**Stand-Up Paddle Board:** this trendy craft is now seen on all types of waters from sea coast to lakes and even white water. See one up close as we demonstrate its use, show basic strokes, discuss where to paddle and review types of boards and paddles.

**Demonstrator:** Brian Cooper, Collinsville Canoe and Kayak - Instructor

**Time:** 45 min

**For more information call Elizabeth (Symposium Coordinator) at 203-903-5705 or e-mail us at [ChangingTidesPC@gmail.com](mailto:ChangingTidesPC@gmail.com)**