

Since I have been aware of photography, I have been fascinated with shooting, or I should say, trying to shoot wildlife. I have also been involved with kayaking. I have been kayaking for about 15 years. About 16 years ago, when I managed to finish up with a year of chemo therapy, and radiation treatment, I realized just how precious life is. I realized also that I was constantly reading about other people kayaking. It was then that I discovered that for about \$1,000, I didn't have to live my life vicariously through others. I purchased a kayak and for a year or two, floundered around learning where to go kayaking. I hooked up with a small kayak club in New Jersey which is no longer in existence and discovered some interesting places to kayak near Staten Island. The club was poorly run, and if I had the time and space, I can relate a horror story of a kayak trip that my wife Ellen and I went on that was a disaster because the club leader did not plan properly.

Somehow, (I forget now) I discovered a link to another group called The "PineyPaddlers". [www.pineypaddlers.com](http://www.pineypaddlers.com). I e-mailed the group leaders, Leona, & George Fluck and mentioned that I would like to join them on their next trip, which was a paddle (kayak trips are called paddles) at the Hamilton-Trenton-Bordentown (HTB) Marsh at Bordentown New Jersey. Meeting Leona for the first time is a truly remarkable experience. She is energetic, and passionately involved with the outdoors. George is wise, and sharing. He is quite knowledgeable, and also as Leona, passionately involved with the environment. They are also very much aware of the environmental issues that arise, and get themselves very much involved in the politics of saving the environment. George is also very knowledgeable on the use of GPS and can get quite technical on the subject.

Going back to the first paddle on the HTB Marsh, I was introduced to the other group members, and immediately felt welcome, & comfortable. I have learned that the trips have safety as the prime consideration, and you are not allowed to just show up without contacting the group leaders first. The leaders must insure that your equipment and skill level is suitable for the paddling conditions. Most trips are one way (downstream) and require a pre shuttle so your car is positioned at the end of the trip. Shuttle planning requires considerable planning by Leona ahead of time. I have since, gone on numerous "PineyPaddlers / Sierra paddles", and hikes, some of which my wife Ellen accompanied me.

The "PineyPaddlers" is a group which runs "**Sierra Outings**" exclusively for the Sierra Club. All of their trips are sponsored and insured by the Sierra Club. Their web-site [www.pineypaddlers.com](http://www.pineypaddlers.com) which I am including is very inclusive. There is a menu button on the left side of the home page labeled "**where to go**" where George has listed numerous places in New Jersey. George has included the GPS coordinates of places where they hike, paddle, and even recommended diners. I invite you to explore the entire web-site of the "PineyPaddlers". Look at their hikes, paddles, and other activities. I am hoping to foster some interest with our camera club members so that others may join me in some of their trips. All of their trips are posted in the New Jersey Sierra club web-site [www.snewjersey.sierraclub.org/outings.asp](http://www.snewjersey.sierraclub.org/outings.asp). Very often I do these trips by myself, and I got to thinking that there probably are some camera club members who may enjoy the kayaking, or the hiking with this group. Of course, on all of these trips, hikes, or paddles, I always take my camera. There are ways of safeguarding your camera in the kayak.

There is another site which I am including, [www.stateparks.com/nj.html](http://www.stateparks.com/nj.html) which lists all of the state run parks of New Jersey. I have visited of few of those without the "PineyPaddlers", and I include them just to make club members aware of the tremendous amount of resources available once you cross over the Outerbridge, or the Goethals.

By Herb Goldberger

House in Mustafa Pasa by  
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