

REVIEWS

THE COMPLETE CANOE TRIP PLANNER by Wayne Gignac and John Rudolph, published by Magnetic North Wilderness Adventures (RR 2, Ancaster, Ont., L9G 3L1; e-mail canoing@istar.ca), 1998, softcover, 150 pages, \$19.95 (incl. tax and shipping).
Reviewed by Toni Harting.

This self-published book is a handy and well-thought-out addition to the rapidly increasing paddling library. To copy from their promotional blurb: "This indispensable workbook for canoeists has over 50 forms and will guide you through the risk-management process of canoe trip planning, be your daily log while on the canoe trip, evaluate your canoe trip when you are finished, and provide crisis management forms to help you deal with an emergency. It is vital for novice trippers learning the ropes, and a time-saver for veteran canoe trippers and leaders in developing trip plans." Indeed, the authors, both canoeists with decades of experience between the gunwales, have managed to produce a most useful tool to make tripping even more enjoyable for paddlers of all skill levels. A nice touch is the use of spiral-binding to make the book lie flat when photocopying several of the forms (as advised by the authors). Highly recommended to anyone eager to learn from the pros.

OTTAWA RIVER WHITEWATER by Jim Hargreaves, distributed by Cascade Press (840 Cité des Jeunes, Suite

5, Hull, PQ, J8Z 2E5; e-mail team@canada-outdoors.com), 1998, softcover, 206 pages, \$25.00 (incl. shipping and handling).

Reviewed by Toni Harting.

Another self-published book that hits the nail on the head, and how. The popular and beautiful Middle and Main Channels of the Ottawa River offer the adventurous paddler a wealth of opportunities to play in some wild and woolly water or just enjoy a very scenic waterway. And now Hargreaves has produced a comprehensive and unique book to help the daring souls find their way to and on these internationally famous channels. I am quite impressed by the amount of information the author has researched and collected in the book, such as detailed descriptions of the various rapids, places to stay, boat and equipment preparation, info on water levels, and much more. Many of the black-and-white photographs are excellent and vividly convey the rush of excitement one feels when running the rapids. A minor criticism that unfortunately applies to too many self-published books: the use of a strict and knowledgeable editor might have avoided several unfortunate shortcomings, such as the rather awkward punctuation sometimes marring the text. But that does not really diminish the value of the book as a marvelous guide to one of Ontario's great stretches of whitewater.

GET-TOGETHERS

CANADIAN CANOE SYMPOSIUM

On 14, 15, and 16 August 1998, the Canadian Recreational Canoeing Association presents for the first time this family event, which focusses on paddling safety, camp craft, and historical interpretation. Experience the love of canoeing, attend seminars, listen to guest speakers, participate in Voyageur canoe events, make your own paddle, watch cedar canvas canoe-building displays, see on-water canoe demonstrations by paddling experts, and trade stories about your canoe trips. Hosted by the CRCA in Merrickville on the Rideau River, 45 minutes south of Ottawa. Open to the public, camping available. Info hotline for this and other special events: (613) 269-2910 or toll-free 1-888-252-6292. Website: www.crca.ca

WINTER CAMPING/TRAVEL CONFERENCE

The focus is on travel by snowshoe and toboggan, utilizing wall tents and wood stoves for camping. Dates: 23 and 24 October 1998. Cost: \$85 (\$65 for students), covering registration and meals (Friday supper, three meals Saturday, and snacks). Application deadline is 2 October. Accommodation is free if you wish to sleep in a tent in our gym; otherwise, you're on your own. Featured speakers are Garrett and Alexandra Conover, authors of *Snow Walkers Companion*. Other noted speakers: Craig Macdonald, Bob Henderson, and others. Location: Redeemer College, Ancaster, Ontario (just outside of Hamilton). Contact: Allan Brown, Redeemer College, (905) 648-2131 ext. 221; or Betty or Frances at ext. 267.

NIKON CANADIAN CANOE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST is again waiting for your entries. Ten categories, many fine prizes, winners to be published in *Kanawa*. Contact Canadian Recreational Canoeing Association, PO Box 398, 446 Main Street, Merrickville, Ontario, K0G 1N0.

