

# CONNAYAK

CONNECTICUT SEA KAYAKERS

April 1997



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Derek Hutchinson  
Bibliography:

*Eskimo Rolling*

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*Guide to Sea Kayaking*

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*Sea Canoeing*

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*Guide to Expedition  
Kayaking on Sea and Open  
Water*

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*The Complete Book of Sea  
Kayaking*

## Derek Hutchinson

*B.C.U. Senior Coach, Author, Kayak Designer*

“West Coast kayaking - Alaska to the Baja of Mexico”

**Lecture: 7:30 Friday, May 2 - Essex Town Hall • Workshops: May 3 & 4 - Stony Creek**

**D**erek C. Hutchinson, the father of modern sea kayaking, will be presenting a lecture for the benefit of ConnYak, at the Essex Town Hall, Friday evening, May 2nd. His illustrated lecture will be on the topic of West Coast kayaking, Alaska to the Baja of Mexico.

More than twenty five years ago, Derek lead the first successful crossing of the North Sea in single kayaks. He is the largest selling author of sea kayaking books, exceeding in sales the total volume of all other sea kayaking authors combined. His book on Eskimo Rolling is considered one of the bibles of the sport. Derek's kayak designs include the Orion, Reiver, Naiad, Baidarka, Outlander, Sirius, Icefloe, Dawn Treader, and others. Derek has also been instrumental in developing various paddles using his teaching methods and paddling experience as a guide. The recently introduced Toksook paddle is also a Derek Hutchinson design.

The British Canoe Union has bestowed upon him the title of Senior Coach, the only individual to have achieved this level. His workshops are a culmination of his more than 35 years of paddling experience, being appropriate

for intermediate through advanced instructor levels of participants. Derek will be doing workshops in Stony Creek, Saturday, May 3rd and Sunday the 4th. These classes are strictly limited to the number of participants, and interested individuals should contact Terry Harlow at 860 659-1223 for information.

*Derek is a very colorful and informative speaker. If you're up for a lot of information, experiences and humor, this is a presentation you don't want to miss.*

### **DIRECTIONS - ESSEX TOWN HALL**

Approaching from the North on Route 9, take Exit 3. At the end of the exit ramp, turn left and go under the Route 9 bridge to the light. Turn left at this light on to West Avenue. The Town Hall is about a third of a mile up the hill on the left, at the corner of West Avenue and Grove Street. Turn left onto Grove Street for parking at the rear of the building.

Approaching from the South on Route 9, take Exit 3. At the end of the exit ramp turn left and go to the light. Turn right at this light on to West Avenue. The Town Hall is about a third of a mile up the hill on the left at the corner of West Avenue and Grove Street. Turn left onto Grove Street for parking at the rear of the building.

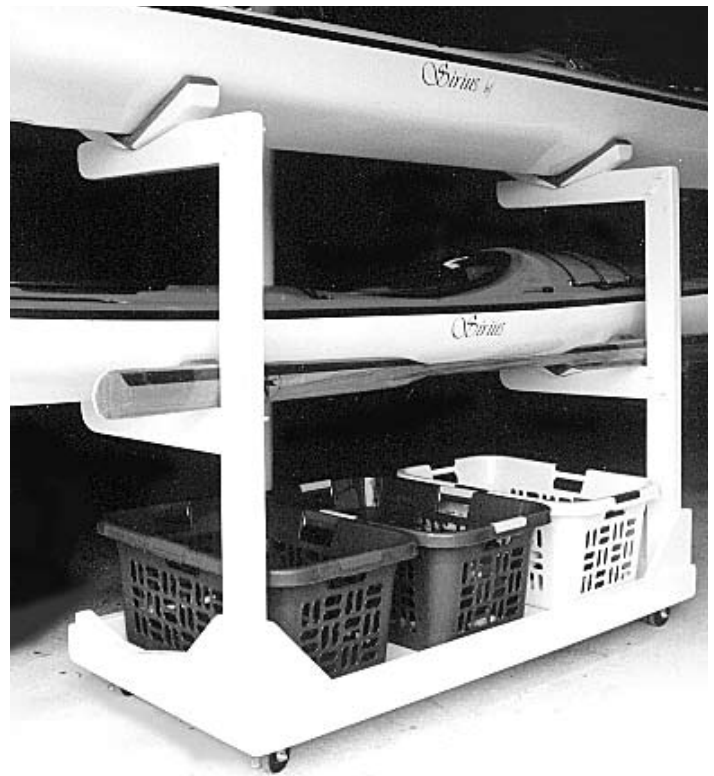
\$30.

# ROLL-AROUND KAYAK RACK

It is often said that "you can't own too many boats". However, in the case of kayaks there does seem to be a limit, unless, of course, you plan to stack them like cordwood in the back yard. Convenient storage for two or three kayaks would seem, therefore, to be a project worth pursuing in your spare time. "Who has spare time", you say, "with all that necessary, yes, even urgent kayaking to be done?" But then as my mother used to say; "Where there is a will, there is a way".

If you are a practicing woodworker you could just take a look at the photograph of the finished product, apply whatever innovations you might imagine, and whip up your own version. Others may prefer using the plans drawn up suggesting appropriate materials, dimensions and procedures. Feel free to alter the design in any way you wish, but be sure that you do nothing to weaken the structure. The plan as shown is capable of holding two or three loaded kayaks safely and without noticeable flexing. In any case, you will be glad you took the time to make this very useful "roll-around kayak rack".

Go to your favorite lumber company and buy five 2 x 4 x 8ft. studs, one 1x8 x 8ft. pine board, some yellow carpenter's glue, twelve 5/16" carriage bolts 2 1/2" length, with nuts and washers, four 3" diameter castoring wheels (industrial strength), sixteen 1/4" stove bolts 1 1/2" length, with nuts and washers, a couple of square feet of 3/4" closed-cell foam and you will need some 1 1/2" and 2" drywall screws that you no

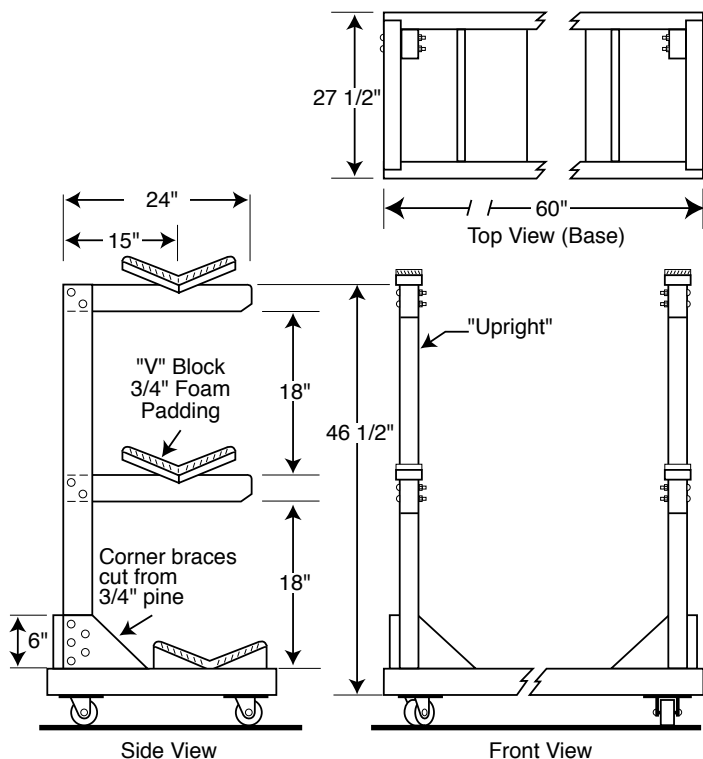


doubt have in that catch-all bucket in the basement. That should do it, unless you want to paint it, which is a good idea, especially if you intend to have this handy rack double as a wash rack.

Starting with the base assembly (or "storage tray" as I call it): cut 2 pieces of 2x4 to 60" length and 2 pieces of 2x4 to 26" length. With a dado or regular table saw blade cut a 3/4" x 1 1/2" dado notch at both ends of the 60" pieces. On your bench, temporarily assemble the 4 pieces as shown and mark the bottom inside edge for cutting a 3/4" x 3/4" groove all around that bottom inside edge. After these cuts have been made, apply glue and fasten the 4 pieces together securely with 2" drywall screws at each corner. With the assembled base lying on your bench with the 3/4" groove up, cut 2 pieces of 1x8 (as you know, it's really 3/4" x 7 1/2") to 26" length and fasten them at each end of the base flush into the grooves with 1 1/2" drywall screws every 3" or so to provide corner bracing and a mounting surface for the casters. Although it is not necessary for structural reasons, additional boards can be cut and installed if you wish to fill in the floor of the tray for storage.

For the two uprights, cut 2 pieces of 2x4 to 45 3/4" length. Being careful to orient the 2 uprights as they will be when assembled, cut a 3/4" deep x 3 1/2" wide dado notch at the bottom outside end and 2 dado grooves on the inside at the locations shown on the drawing. Be sure to make the width of the groove equal to the mating 2x4 for a tight fit.

For the support arms, cut 4 pieces of 2x4 to 24" length and cut a 3/4" deep x 3 1/2" dado notch at one end of each piece. For mounting the "V" Blocks as shown on the drawing, measure 15" from the end with the notch cut and mark it. Be sure to orient the mark so that 2 pieces will have the mark on top for assembling to the left upright and two pieces will have the





mark on top for assembling to the right upright. Take some time to think about this to avoid making scrap. At that mark, make a "V" cut 1 1/2" deep and with the angle (measured 30" aft and 30" forward of the kayak middle) matching the kayak that you plan to store on this rack. For example: with my two P&H Sirius kayaks, this angle is 24 degrees from the horizontal. You may pad this "V" cut and use "as is" or, preferably, you can fasten wood pieces 3/4" x 3" x 8" with 1 1/2" screws as shown to spread the load. I found that 3/4" closed cell foam attached using contact cement made an excellent padding material, but you could use carpeting as an alternate.

Assemble the support arms to the uprights and then the uprights to the base using clamps to facilitate drilling the bolt holes. Using carpenter's glue and carriage bolts, complete the assembly. Cut 4 corner braces as shown and fasten in place with 1 1/2" screws.

Mount the 4 castering wheels at the corners of the bottom of the base using stove bolts where possible. Where the bottom end of the upright 2X4's interferes with using a bolt, use a 1 1/2" screw instead.

Sand all surfaces and round off all corners for your own future protection against loss of skin and blood. Apply a good primer and sand when dry. With a finish coat of enamel, you are done. Congratulations! Enjoy!!

- Dick Gamble



Sometimes it's wise to check the weather report before you load.

## BARN ISLAND - MARSHES

SATURDAY, APRIL 5 - STONINGTON

Explore marshes and bays heading toward the Pawcatuc River into Watch Hill Harbor stopping to have lunch on the beach. Itinerary subject to conditions. Arriving back approx. 2:30

### DIRECTIONS -

I-95 to exit 91 in Stonington. Right at the end of the ramp - proceed to Stop sign. Take a Rt. and first left heading toward downtown Stonington. At first junction go left on Rt 1. Approx 2 miles is a light with the sign for the Barn Island Launch. Take a right and another immediate right to the launch ramp.

In the water by 10:30 a.m.

## BLUFF POINT PADDLE /PICNIC

SATURDAY, APRIL 12 - GROTON

RAIN DATE APRIL 13

There are large pond and protected bay as well as two islands right off shore in the Groton Harbor. Sometimes there can be large waves out in front of the islands for those who want it. We usually stop for a snack on the island, poke around a bit and finally head back for more lunch. Many bring food to share which adds to the communal spirit.

### DIRECTIONS -

I-95 to exit 88 in Groton. Head towards water (south) thru two lights to the junction of Rt. 1. Right on Rt. 1. Left at first light (Depot Road). Continue on to Bluff Point State Park..

In the water by 10:30 a.m.

**Note: All paddlers on ConnYak trips must wear the appropriate CG approved Personal Flotation Device and wear a spray skirt. The boat and equipment must meet CG requirements, including an appropriate signaling device. All paddlers are responsible for their own safety, including dressing for immersion. (always carry extra dry clothes)**

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## COLLINSVILLE CANOE AND KAYAK DEMO DAY AND SALE

Saturday and Sunday April 19 & 20

A good time to try boats, attend demonstrations as well as pick up needed items on sale.

Sea Kayaking rescue and rolling demos - Beginning Kayaking - Rolling Contest - Canoe Demos - Kayaking / Scuba / Sailing demos

Call for further info. (860) 693-6977

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Nigel Foster**

Lecture - Friday June 27 - Essex  
Workshops - June 28, 29 in CT

Contact Terry Harlow for  
workshops - (860) 659-1223

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Send newsletter articles and photos to:  
Jay Babina c/o Jason Design Associates  
230 East Main Street, Branford, CT 06405  
203-481-6815 Fax 203-481-0786

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## NEXT CONNYAK MEETING

WED. APRIL 17 - 7:30 PM  
NEW PARK OFFICE CENTER  
151 NEW PARK AVE. HARTFORD

### **From (Hartford, Manchester etc.)**

I-84 Westbound, Exit 44 - Prospect Ave. Right at exit signal light on to Kane St. continue 2 blocks to end. Turn left on to New Park Ave. Building is on the left.

### **From (Farmington, New Britain etc.)**

I-84 Eastbound, Exit 44 - Prospect Ave. Left at exit signal light on to Prospect St. At 1st light go right on to Kane St. continue 2 blocks to end. Turn left on to New Park Ave. Building is on the left.

**(Building is opposite Stop and Shop)**

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## TO JOIN CONNYAK...

ConnYak is a non profit club that is open to all paddlers interested in sea kayaking from any location.

Meetings are usually on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Yearly dues are \$30. Direct membership inquiries to: Stan Kegeles  
P.O. Box 2006 Branford, CT 06405

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## CLASSIFIED

Necky Tornak, lightly used for 3 mos. Kevlar, Red & White \$1600.  
203-426-8286

P & H Sirius, low volume  
Yellow / White - \$1460. 860-659-1223.

P & H Sirius HF, fiberglass, yellow / white, skeg 9 mo. old mint condition \$1600. 860-767-0610 Fax 860-767-0617

Betsey Bay Recluse - white / white  
\$1200. 860-721-1593

VCP greenland-style Anas Acuta.  
Yellow / white, Silva compass, day hatch, retractable skeg, Werner 2-pc Camino paddle. \$1750. 860-529-4612

Wilderness System Solution XL w / Werner paddle \$900. 1996 Necky Looksha, 1 mo. old \$1000. Accessories: nylon & neo spray skirts, Kayak sailing kit, kayak counsel, portage cart. Best offer on accessories 860-346-6224

ConnYak classified ads are free.

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**ConnYak**  
CONNECTICUT SEA KAYAKERS

c/o Stan Kegeles  
P.O. Box 2006  
Branford, CT 06405