



Greenland Style Kayakers Gather at Rehoboth Bay, Delaware.

The 19th Annual Delmarva Paddler's Retreat.

For Immediate Release

BRICK, N.J./August 15, 2007 --- The 19th Annual Delmarva Paddler's Retreat will be held at Camp Arrowhead, Lewes, Del. from October 5-7, 2007. About 120 Greenland-style sea-kayakers gather to celebrate the origins of kayaking and hone traditional kayaking techniques and skills.

Activities range from on-water instruction, including the thirty some-odd types of ancient kayaking Rolls (still practiced in the frigid Greenland waters by a new generation of Greenlanders who seek to maintain a connection with their history and culture), along with rope gymnastics, seminars on traditional kayak construction and slideshow presentations and lectures.

Some of the more difficult and seemingly impossible kayak rolls, including the "Brick Roll" and the "Straight-Jacket Roll" will be demonstrated. Feature speakers will be presenting material on many aspects of Arctic skin-boats and hunting culture.

Over 100 kayaks, many of traditional design (called Skin-On-Frames or SOFs) will be on display and in use. Some of these are reproductions of museum collection surveys from all over the world.

Special guests will include: Kampe Absalonsen, Senior Competition Judge for the Annual Greenland Kayaking Championship. He is also a vice president of the Qajaq Kattuffiat; He is also the founding member of the Qajaq Illulissat. Professor Marianne Stenbaek of McGill University, Quebec, who organized the 2005 "Festival of Greenland" in Washington DC. Professor Stenbaek has research interests in mass media, communications in developing areas, and northern studies; Greg Stamer, President of QAJAQ-USA, and Freya Hoffmeister, self-styled G-Style kayaker & world traveler will share details on their recent circumnavigation of Iceland. They should have quite a tale to tell having paddled for 33 days, for an average of 66K daily through some challenging water conditions.

The event is sponsored by Qajaq USA (www.qajaqusa.org) a non-profit membership organization that is officially recognized by Qaannat Kattuffiat (The Greenland Kayaking Association). Qajaq USA is committed to supporting Qaannat Kattuffiat and its efforts to preserve, study and promote the traditions and techniques of Greenland kayaking while seeking to further the appreciation and development of Greenland-style kayaking in the United States.

For more information, visit www.delmarvapaddlersretreat.org

For more information on Qajaq-USA, visit www.qajaqusa.org

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