

Keelhauler's Ka-news JANUARY, 2013



**No Regular Club
Meeting
in January**
Happy New Year!

Message from the President By Michael Duvall

The December meeting was our Holiday Party Potluck Dinner. I want to thank everyone that attended and brought some great dishes. I think everyone had a good time and had an enjoyed seeing some of the people they paddled with this past year.

Jim Hunt has the yearbook ready to go to press so if you want to receive this great reference book with the trip schedule, membership list and lots of information on many of our most popular rivers you better make sure to pay your dues.

January and February we will not have regular club meetings but we usually have a social get together after roll practice. The dates in January are limited so we will only have a February meeting at Fox and Hounds after the Orange session on the Feb 23. Remember that all are welcome to attend roll practice and the get togethers, but are encouraged to join the club. Also, thank your pool organizer Marius Asipauskas.

Sundays roll practices in Canton also have kayak soccer matches thanks to organizer Doug Lyons.

Be safe and I'll see you on the river,

Michael

Club Meeting, December 11, 2012 By Donna Homberg

15 attendees

Guest and new members: Gina Richardson from North Carolina. Rock climbing, her expertise but interested now in kayaking

Minutes approved for last formal meeting as posted in the newsletter

No chair reports as we enjoyed fellowship and conversation over our pot luck dinner. Thanks to all for good food.

Old Business-roll session, 18 people attended roll sessions in Canton and had a great time playing water polo afterward. Come join.

New Business-Roll sessions begin in January at Orange pool, Lakewood Pool and later at Meyers Lake YMCA.

Next meeting and Club Get together after roll session at Fox & Hound Restaurant on 1-19-2013

WW Paddling Thought; By John Kobak

On my last Upper Yough paddling trip of the season a new member of our club asked if he and his brother could be lead down for their first time. I always enjoy taking first timers down, it actually makes me more attentive to doing my own lines with some style. I usually have better runs than when I'm too relaxed.

Of course I asked about their experience and ability to paddle at this level. Of course they assured me that they had dynamite rolls and had paddled some rivers almost as hard. Neither had been paddling for a long time, which should have been my first concern. But they were young and that makes up for some lack of skills so I thought why not.

Well, one of the brothers had a play boat without air bags. I asked why, and explained that we really can't attempt to rescue the boat until it arrives at the bottom of the rapid in an eddy. Others have been injured in attempting to rescue a boat with no flotation while it explored the bottom of a rocky river. I was assured he always rolls.

We had not yet reached the hard rapids when his first swim occurred, after several more really scary looking swims and the kayak sustaining some damage, he chose to walk out the handy right side path. The other paddlers with us that day were not too happy in having to deal with these problems on the river.

Then I read an article in our [November Newsletter](#), titled - **How long to paddle class V? by Jon McNulty**. It hit the nail on the head. I know some paddlers like to get into the sport, and paddle at a high level as soon as they can. It took me 5 years before I could come close to the skills required and learning many of these safety and rescue techniques.

Then I came across another similar article by Louis Geltman, called [Style](#). Use this link to read it. It hammered down the same points. So this winter hit those roll sessions, get comfortable being upside-down in your boat. Get on the Slippery Rock this spring and perfect your moves and river reading skills. And hopefully someday I'll see-you-on-the river.

For sale. NRS full farmer john wet suit .
Never used size XXL. \$85.00.
Call- 440 285 2371. Don

A Voice for West Virginia Rivers

Do you share our love for West Virginia Rivers? If so, we invite you to get to know the West Virginia Rivers Coalition (WVRC) – the only statewide water quality advocacy organization working toward the conservation and restoration of West Virginia's exceptional rivers and streams. WVRC believes in wild, healthy, clean and accessible West Virginia rivers. Formed by concerned paddlers in 1989, WVRC has worked on a variety of issues promoting water recreation opportunities in the Mountain State. A sampling of accomplishments includes:

- Initiated the suitability study for Wild and Scenic federal designation of certain WV rivers
- Created the WV Stream Partners Program that brings funding and assistance to watershed projects to keep our waters swimmable and drinkable

- Partnered with American Whitewater to establish public river access points, including access to the Blackwater River
- Provided shuttle service for whitewater boaters during Gauley season
- Advocated for regulations to protect WV waters from Marcellus Shale and other deep shale gas development

Looking forward to 2013, WVRC supports the "Wet the Dries" campaign for improved access and increased releases for the "Dries" section of the New River. WVRC will continue to work with the boating community on monitoring river access issues across West Virginia. Establishment and enforcement of strong water quality regulations West Virginia remains a pressing priority, especially with the ongoing and emerging threats to water posed by industrial polluters in our region. Please get to know us and let us know how we can help address your concerns. Visit www.wvivers.org, Find us on Facebook, or give us a call at 304-637-7201. On behalf of all of the staff at WVRC, "Happy New Year Keel-Haulers!"

Angie Rosser
WVRC Executive Director
www.wvivers.org

45th Annual Vermilion River Race

It's time to get the ball rolling and start planning this year's race. This race has been held in everything from near blizzard conditions to nice warm sunny days. We just never know what we're in for.

The success of this race is the fact that many people come together and share the load. It all starts with some planning, some paper work, some publicity, phone calls, etc. Then the weekend before the race a group of very helpful people run the river and remove as much of the trees and debris as possible to make for a safer event. Then we sit and watch the river gauge hoping for enough water to run the class I-II section of the river from Birmingham to Mill Hollow. Then its race day and there are several jobs that need to be done. The course has to be set, timing crew and equipment set up, safety crew, food and beverages, scoring, registration and clean-up. There is something for everyone. Oh, and the biggest job of all, getting out and paddling the river.

River cleanup day is March 17th and race day March 24th. Anyone interested in helping out should contact:
Eugene Baker
Cell: 440-320-4490 utmeangene@gmail.com

New Happenings on the Cuyahoga, Part III: Water Trail

(Note: Elaine Marsh, Conservation Director of Friends of the Crooked River (FoCR), gave a presentation on our largest and most troubled river at the October KHCC meeting. This is the third in a series of three articles on the Cuyahoga, borrowing liberally from my notes and her presentation materials.)

By Matt Muir

The 100-mile Cuyahoga, the largest river in Northeast Ohio, offers multiple opportunities for paddling recreation. There's scenic flatwater; it has gnarly whitewater; and there are all classes and types of paddling opportunities in between, affording paddlers of all types the chance to enjoy the river.

Friends of the Crooked River and other groups are advocating the formal establishment of a Water Trail, similar in concept to the Buckeye Trail and other hiking and biking trail systems in the state. In fact, Ohio already has [several state-designated water trails](#) on the Muskingum, Kokosing, Great Miami, and other rivers. As the Upper Cuyahoga is designated a State Scenic River, and the Lower Cuyahoga flows through the Cuyahoga Valley National Park, it seems a natural for a water trail.

What is needed for a water trail? Mostly, access, signage, and information. While paddlers need much less infrastructure for putins and takeouts than do larger craft, parking and convenient access to the river are necessary for full enjoyment of the river.

The vision for the Water Trail considers six sections of the Cuyahoga, each with its own unique character, attractions, and concerns:

1. Scenic River

This section, from SR87 above the West Branch confluence to Lake Rockwell, is rural and mostly natural. Camp Hi Canoe Livery rents boats in Hiram. Access points could be improved; a last access point in Ravenna, just South of Rte. 303 and about 3 miles upstream of Lake Rockwell, is planned for 2013. (Paddling is not allowed on Lake Rockwell. See "No Paddle Zone" on the map.)

2. Heritage

This is the section from Lake Rockwell to Cuyahoga Falls. It was markedly improved in the first decade of this century, as the dams in Kent and Munroe Falls were removed and now Kent State University operates a canoe and kayak livery, [Crooked River Adventures](#) in Tannery Park near the Kent dam site.

3. Gorge

Keel-haulers should need little introduction to this section, from downtown Cuyahoga Falls to Cuyahoga Street in Akron. It includes the Class-V Upper Gorge and Class-III Lower Gorge, separated by the First Energy Dam (a gross insult to the river). The removal of two dams, to be completed by 2014, will improve this section; access for paddlers is good, and there are plans to improve paddlers' access further and to extend a hiking trail along the Upper Gorge.

4. Merriman Valley

This section, roughly from Cuyahoga Street to Bath Road in Northern Akron, is scenic and offers Class-I paddling. Most access points involve parking some distance from the river and trudging your boat over boulders and down steep riverbanks. There are strainers to pay attention to, and effluent from the Akron water treatment plant adds to the river's mystique.

5. Cuyahoga Valley National Park

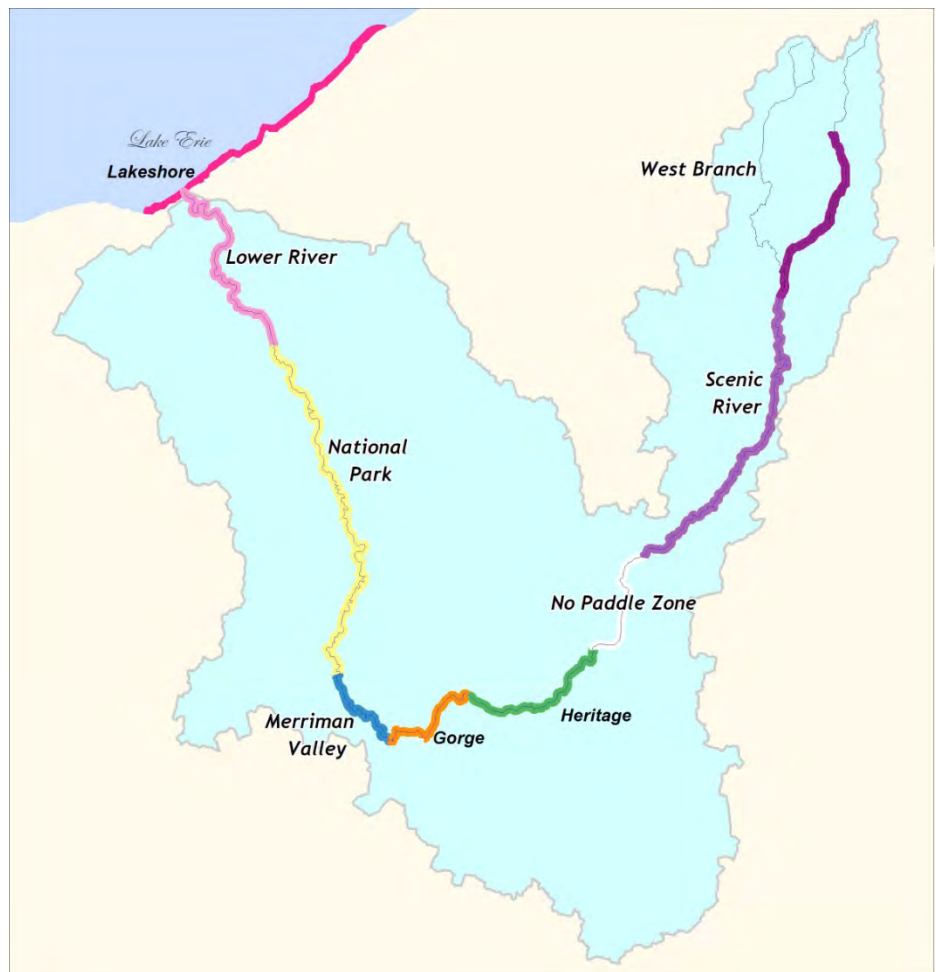
This section, roughly from Bath Road through Peninsula to Rockside Road, offers some excellent scenery and pleasant Class-I and II rapids. Access and strainers are concerns here. This section has great potential, as CVNP is updating its trail system and minimal investment would substantially improve the experience for paddlers.

6. Lower River

This is the industrial section, the part of the river with a dredged shipping channel and the section that famously caught fire on June 22, 1969. Water quality and access are issues here.

7. Lakeshore

This is a 13-mile stretch beginning at Edgewater Park and extending past the river eastward.



The Plan

Friends of the Crooked River envisions a water trail with access points no farther apart than 7-10 river miles. In sections where there are liveries, shorter distances might be appropriate, to accommodate less experienced boaters. Most proposed access points are near road crossings; currently, concrete slabs and riprap at these bridges can present problems for paddlers carrying a heavy canoe. Typically, the state of Ohio designates water trails and empowers local agencies to manage them. We may or may not formally propose a state Water Trail designation, but we will use the state's criteria (ohiodnr.com/watercraft/trails/howto/tabid/2898/Default.aspx).

Some of the agencies that could be partners in developing and maintaining the Cuyahoga Water Trail would be CVNP, Cleveland MetroParks, MetroParks Serving Summit County, and Kent State University, Geauga County Parks, the Cuyahoga and Summit County Planning Commissions, and the cities of Cuyahoga Falls, Akron, and Cleveland. Currently, these groups participate in the steering committee for the water trail. CVNP has historically discouraged paddling, citing water quality; however, FOCR argues that with improving water quality, this becomes less critical. In addition, FOCR cites the enabling legislation for the creation of CVNRA (the forerunner to CVNP):

"For the purpose of preserving and protecting for public use and enjoyment, the historic, scenic, natural, and recreational values of the Cuyahoga River and the adjacent lands of the Cuyahoga Valley..."

A fair reading of that phrase would seem to say that use of the river, i.e., paddling, is one of the express purposes of CVNP. In CVNP's plan to upgrade its trail network, paddling and access are explicitly considered in some of the options. FOCR's suggestions are in cuyahogariver.net/FOCR_Trail_Comments.pdf.

FOCR is hard at work on this proposal and anticipating a fully developed Water Trail within the next twelve months.

Those of us who live in the area might take it for granted and not fully recognize its uniqueness. Rare is the place which combines excellent whitewater and flatwater paddling with a national park, all within a half-hour's drive of a major international airport, with the cultural trappings of a big city. Especially as the river's water quality improves, the Cuyahoga Water Trail has the potential to bring greater economic activity to Northeast Ohio. And we paddlers will have more options for big fun.

Date	Trip/Event	RR	Organizer	Phone #
January	2013			
1/5	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3-5:00 PM		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
1/6,13,20,27	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 8:45-10:45 AM		Doug Lyons	330-402-6909
February	2013			
2/2	Ohiopyle Winterfest & Paddle the (4) Loop (PA)	23	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
2/2,23	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4-6:00 PM		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
2/3,10,17,24	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 8:45-10:45 AM		Doug Lyons	330-402-6909
2/16,19	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 4:30-6:30 pm -16th, 8:30-9:45 pm-19th		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
2/23	Club Get-Together at the Fox & Hound Restaurant in Mayfield Hts after the Orange Roll session at 6:30 PM, everyone welcome.		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
2/23,24	National Paddling Film Fest (KY)		Michael Duvall	216-513-5921

We need trip organizers for 2013.

Please take a look and you will see some trips listed that say "**Need; Organizer**", these are popular trips that no one has offered to organize yet.

But what we are really missing are **flatwater trips** on rivers like:

Ashtabula
Grand
Chargin
Upper Cuyahoga
Cuyahoga below Kent
Vermilion
Mohican
Kokosing
Or any where else!

If you have a trip to add or change, please E-Mail [April Hollis](#), Or Call April at 703-915-6382.

See the [NEW 2013 Trip Schedule](#). Please consider adding a new trip!!!

2013 Club Officers

President: Michael Duvall 216-521-0094
VP:
Secretary: Donna Homberg 440-236-8360
Treasurer: Joe Marks 216-281-1517

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, on the second Tuesday of each month
Doors open at 7:00 P.M., meeting starts at 7:30 P.M.

Membership: \$20 per year. New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone, send directly to

Membership Chairman: **John Kobak, 440-871-1758**
1649 Allen Dr.
Westlake, OH 44145

Any opinions, views or recommendations expressed in the articles in this Newsletter are those of the article's author. Printing these articles in no way implies approval or advocacy of any of the opinions, views or recommendations by the Keel-Haulers Canoe Club or any of its Officers, editor, or members. Water sports are a potentially dangerous activity. Keel-Haulers Canoe Club recommends and encourages all of its members and others to abide by all laws, regulations and recommended practices when engaging in such activity. Each member is responsible for assessing her/his own abilities and for not engaging in activities which are beyond those limits. Members assume any and all risk when choosing to participate in any activity and the Keel-Haulers Canoe Club is not responsible for any damages resulting from such participation.

KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

Non- Commercial advertising is free to all members. To place an ad, send the information the way you want it to appear. Please write or call when item is sold. It will appear for 2 months unless canceled. Commercial ads may be submitted by club member's owned businesses four times each year with a maximum of four lines of copy per ad.

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **February issue of the newsletter is **1/23/13**. Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com or peetzaguy@comcast.net. **

Keel Hauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor 
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
January, 2013



Keelhauler's Ka-news FEBRUARY, 2013



**Next Club Get-together is
Saturday, February 23rd at the
Fox & Hound Restaurant in
Mayfield Hts after the Orange
Roll session at 6:30 PM,
everyone is welcome.**

Program: Happy Hour, food and
shake away the winter blues with
Kayak videos.

Meeting questions, Contact Dennis
Dukeman at 330-699-2916

Roll Session questions?
Contact Marius Asipauskas
at 216-200-6321

All meetings are open to guests.
Invite a prospective member!

Message from the President By Michael Duvall

Eastsiders take notice, the February social meeting will be on your side of town.

January and February we do not have regular club meetings but we usually have social get together after a Saturday roll practice. The dates in January were limited so we will only have a February meeting at Fox and Hounds after Orange session on the Feb 23. Remember that all are welcome to attend roll practice and the get togethers but are encouraged to join the club. Also thank your pool organizer Marius Asipauskas. Sundays roll practices in Canton also have kayak soccer matches thanks to organizer Doug Lyons.

As Spring approaches keep in mind that we have two trips that are meant to go South looking for slightly warmer weather and good water levels. Look at the schedule and plan on scheduling some vacation days. Jim Murtha has one in mid march and I will be organizing one in mid April.

Be safe and I'll see you on the river,

Michael

2013 Yearbook & Roster has been mailed a month early....

Thank Jim Hunt for his hard work.
Be patient, it was sent 3rd class mail and it could take up to 2 weeks for you to receive it.
If you don't get it by February 5th, call Michael Duvall, 216-513-5921. He has some extras, but if your address was wrong you will need to pay first class postage to get a replacement book.

If you want a preview, I posted it on-line.
New Yearbook

You will need our 2013 membership directory password which was mailed with monthly newsletter password.

Club Meeting, January, 2013

There was no regular club meeting in January.

Free KHCC 2013 Photo Wall Calendar & Schedule

Have you ever wanted a Keel-Hauler wall calendar with our yearbook pictures, but in color, and our 2013 trip schedule?

All you need is a color printer and follow the instructions carefully.

You also need this year's passwords for our membership list to access it.

KHCC 2013 Calendar

E-mail John Kobak with comments or suggestions to improve it at trips@keelhauler.org

For sale.

NR\$ full farmer john wet suit.

Never used, size XXL. \$85.00.

Call Don: 440 285 2371.

donald.winton@att.net

An interesting website.....



<http://www.whitewatertroublesooter.com/>

45th Annual Vermilion River Race

44 years ago Hank Annable said "we otta have a race" and that is how the Vermilion River Race got started.

The first race was held in an area of the Sandusky Bay. The start was at Whitemans Grove and the end was at Cedar Point. The course was an estimated 25 miles of flat water and it was a hot August day. There were 50-60 boats competing and Hank and his son Tom placed 3rd in the father and son class. The second year it was decided to shorten the race to about 20 miles and the race end was moved to Lions Park.

The third year the race was moved to its current location, the Vermilion River, starting at Schoepfle's Garden in Birmingham and ending at Mill Hollow. This is the current course is about 8 miles of class I-II rapids. The race has been run in everything from a raging blizzard to a sunny t-shirt day with water warm enough to wade in. I was there to watch and picnic one year and we had to build a 3 foot high snow fort. We put our charcoal grill inside it because the wind was so strong that was the only way we could get it lit. I couldn't believe that people would actually paddle in that weather. But they did and lots of them.

Today Hank is 83 years old and he is still an active member of the race committee. Though he won't be racing Hank, along with Hayden and Philip Thorne and Jim Botamer, will be working the start and finish lines. Hank is also a regular on the River Cleanup paddle. Now days he casually paddles while watching the group which includes his sons, grandsons, and others do the bull work. But, rest assured, if need be Hank would be right there in a rescue situation or lend a hand pulling out a big log.

The 2013 Trip Schedule

The 2013 Trip Schedule is in yearbook but it changes during the year.

Trip organizers should make note of when their trips are coming up and make sure nothing has changed. If you need to change or cancel please try to get a substitute yourself before cancelling the trip.

Often times you have had no one call and it's Thursday already. Remember if the weather and water levels are changing paddlers wait until the last minute, so don't cancel but try posting on our **Message board** that you need paddlers.

There are still a few trips that could use organizers, let me know if you want to take one and I'll add it or make the changes to our **On-line Schedule**. E-mail me trips@keelhauler.org

Black River Clean-up

Attention: Boaters, Kayakers, Canoers, Jet skiers, Walkers Are you tired of seeing litter as you boat? **Then, we need you!!** There is a clean up being planned for the Black River on Sunday, May 5th. Many volunteers are needed. Most of the clean up will focus around the Black River in Lorain. Some sites that will be cleaned are the Day's Dam, French Creek put in, Monkey Island, Steel Plant, Henderson Bridge area, 14th St Landing, Black River Landing. This clean up is being organized by the Locoyaks, a kayak club based in Lorain. You can check them out on Facebook or check out the website of the clean up <http://brcu2013.webs.com/>. Contact information is included in the website.

This event involves planning, publicity, organizing, river cleanup, food prep, race course setup, refreshments, cleanup, registration, data entry and processing and post important of all racing. Without the racers there would be no event. So if you would like to get involved contact:

Eugene Baker
Cell: 440-3230-4490
Email: u1meangene@gmail.com

For race info go to Keelhaulers: <http://keelhauler.org/>
(any search using keelhauler will bring up the site).

February	2013			
2/2	Ohiopyle Winterfest & Paddle the (4) Loop (PA)	23	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
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3/9,10	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
3/12	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
3/16	(3) Cuyahoga River, Upper or Lower Gorge (OH) Water Level dependent	20-28	Matt Muir	312-943-5397
3/16	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4-6:00 PM		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
3/17	(1) Vermilion River Cleanup (OH)	SK/FW	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
3/23-30	Southern Rivers - TN, NC	22-32	Jim Murtha	614-282-3293
3/24	(1) Vermilion Race (OH) - Alternate Date 4/7	SK/FW	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
3/26	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 8:30-9:45 pm		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321

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KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor 
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
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peetzaguy@aol.com
February, 2013



Keelhauler's Ka-news



MARCH, 2013



**Next Club Meeting is
Tuesday, March 12th.**

**Doors open at 7:00 PM,
meeting is at 8:00 PM**

**at the Middleburg Hts Community
Center, 16000 E. Bagley Rd.**

Program: March 12th Club Meeting

This will be the first regular club meeting at the Middleburg Hts. Rec. Center this year. We will start with a brief business meeting and then move on the program for the night which will be "Vermilion River Race Review".

We will have some of the long time club members share their memories of the past races and talk about the race's origin.

If you have any pictures or other memorabilia and would like to share them with the club please bring them to the meeting. Hank Annable got this whole thing started 44 yrs ago and he will be our key speaker. I have yet to ask him but Hank is usually willing to do all he can to help out. Next is Chuck Singer. Oh yah Chuck, if you are reading this would you bring your box of medals and share with us?

Following and/or during the presentation refreshments will be served: sandwiches, chips, and sodas. Hope to see you there.

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

Meeting questions, Contact [Dennis Dukeman](#)
at 330-699-2916.

All meetings are open to guests.
Invite a prospective member!

Message from the President By Michael Duvall

Our February meeting after the pool practice at Orange HS was a great success with 18 members getting together at the Fox and Hounds. If you like these social meetings and have ideas for future locations, we are very interested in hearing from you. Be sure to thank your pool organizer Marius Asipauskas. Sundays roll practices in Canton also have kayak soccer matches thanks to organizer Doug Lyons.

As Spring approaches, keep in mind that we have two trips that are meant to go South looking for slightly warmer weather and good water levels. Look at the schedule and plan on scheduling some vacation days. Jim Murtha has one in mid march and I will be organizing one in mid April.

Most of us have not been on a river for a few months so we need to double check our gear. I am not just talking about your spray skirt and dry top. Take out that throw rope and test your aim with a few tosses then stuff it back in the bag and secure it in your boat. Another item to check out is your first aid kit. Be sure everything is in good shape.

Be safe and I'll see you on the river,

Michael

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[KHCC 2013 Calendar](#)

E-mail John Kobak with comments or suggestions to improve it at trips@keelhauler.org

Club Meeting, February, 2013

On Saturday Feb 23rd after the roll session at Orange High School about 15 club members gathered at the Fox and Hound restaurant. We enjoyed drinks and some huge sandwiches.



The Snow at Holimont By Michael Duvall

The snow at Holimont yesterday was fantastic. Rob and I had a great morning. We did about 25 runs all over the mountain. Twice we were on fresh corduroy that no one else had even touched yet. On our last run before lunch, Rob took a spill. I didn't see it but Dawn said he rolled over a few times. He yard saled, but got up and said he was fine other than tweaking his knee. He couldn't figure out what he had done to fall but seemed OK. He put his skis back on and beat us to the bottom. Rob and I went over to get some lunch and while we were eating and talking he started looking around and asked where his helmet was. I told him we had left it at the other building where the group was. 30 seconds later he asked me again. I jokingly asked if he had hit his head and told him where it was. A minute later he looked under his jacket and when I asked him what he was doing he said he was looking for his helmet. I went to get someone from ski patrol. They sent a nurse over and when she asked him what month it was he thought for a few

seconds and calmly stated, "We have a problem." This became the quote of the day as we realized he didn't remember anything that happened the whole day. Cynthia had gotten a concussion on our Seven Springs trip and didn't realize it until more than a week later, but this time it was obvious to everyone. They called an ambulance and I rode to the hospital with Rob.

Over the next 6 hours or so he asked me what happened approximately 86 times. After a while I realized it didn't really matter what I told him so I started to get creative. A snowboarder slammed into you and cleaned your clock. You decided to try to moguls and face planted into the third one. You went off a big jump and landed on your head. A toilet seat fell out of the sky and bounced off your helmet. You kept asking the same question over and over so I pushed you down the hill backward. He believed me when I could keep a straight face. He kept thanking me for being there telling me I didn't sign up for this. After a while I told him yes I did, it's in the waiver that Fagowees makes you sign. He thought this was hilarious every time I said it.

They did a CT scan and an x-ray and said there was definitely a brain there and they didn't see any damage. He had a minor concussion and should be OK in a day or two. They let him go about 6:30 but the bus had left Holimont at 5. I rented a car and drove us back to Cleveland. About an hour into the ride he started to remember things for more than 5 minutes and by the time we got to Cleveland he seemed almost normal. I dropped him with a friend for the night and I'm sure he will be OK, but I thought it would be a good nice to write this out because if he asks me what happened one more time I'm going to take him to the top of the biggest mountain I can find and really push him off of it.

Although his helmet didn't stop him from getting a concussion I can't imagine what would have happened if he didn't have it on. There was no visible damage to the helmet other than a broken visor, but he decided he going to buy a new one just in case. I just know I'll never ski without one again.

(The story above was taken from FAGOWEE SKI CLUB web site but it shows the importance of keeping an eye on the people you ski or boat with.) Michael Duvall

Black River Clean-up

Attention: Boaters, Kayakers, Canoers, Jet skiers, Walkers
Are you tired of seeing litter as you boat? **Then, we need you!!** There is a clean up being planned for the Black River on Sunday, May 5th. Many volunteers are needed. Most of the clean up will focus around the Black River in Lorain. Some sites that will be cleaned are the Day's Dam, French Creek put in, Monkey Island, Steel Plant, Henderson Bridge area, 14th St Landing, Black River Landing. This clean up is being organized by the Locoyaks, a kayak club based in Lorain. You can check them out on Facebook or check out the website of the clean up <http://brcu2013.webs.com/>. Contact information is included in the website.

Public Meeting for 2013 Dam Removals on the Cuyahoga River

by Dave Hill

One question that I consistently hear from everyone is “What will the river look like when the dams come down?” Sometimes this same inquiry is posed in the question, “Will we lose the waterfalls that are currently there?”

First off, the 2 downtown dams are NOT waterfalls. However dams are typically constructed ON TOP of waterfalls (or ledges) so that the total height of the drop is naturally increased (dam height + height of natural drop = total height).

As outlined in the below photos, there were at least 2 other dams below the existing **Sheraton Dam** that confirm these observations.



The **Sheraton Dam** is the small structure located behind the angled walkway (near the center) and the historic photo shows 2 large dams downstream of the current **Sheraton Dam**. This photo also shows these 2 dams being located ON TOP of a natural ledge (or waterfall).



The lower dam appears to be a structure about 3-4 feet tall constructed ON TOP of a natural ledge (waterfall) that is about 10 feet tall. The below photo shows this same location

after the lower dam was removed where a waterfall is currently located. For reference, this is the last drop that can be observed from the deck near the pool of the Sheraton Suites.

The other dam that is no longer present is shown in the historic picture, above. This dam was located on a natural ledge of about 8 feet in height.



Now that this dam has been removed as shown in the below photo; it is obvious that a natural ledge (waterfall) is present.



So the next question is “*could these same scenarios exist for the 2 dams to be removed in 2013?*” Considering that I have yet to find similar photos for the 2 remaining dams which confirm the proposed scenarios, we have to look at what data is available.

One fact which needs to be considered is that the geology of the immediate area where the river flows through downtown is relatively consistent. If one looks at the bedrock over which the river flows between Waterworks Park and High Bridge Glen Park, it is known as the Sharon Sandstone. This formation is a thick unit of sandstone with relatively strong cement holding the grains, and therefore is more resistant to erosional forces from the river. This resistance is characterized by the narrow stream channel and relatively

straight course as the river passes through downtown. Within the Sharon Sandstone are layers/areas of less resistant material/cement which can erode more quickly and make up some of the undercut areas observed along the cliff walls in the river channel.

Another fact for consideration is that dams are located at specific points along the river which have natural features that will create a good location for dam construction. These river features can be a natural ledge as discussed earlier, or a natural constriction in the river to funnel the river energy, or both. Since at one time there were as many as 4 dams between the Route 8 overpass and the Prospect Street pedestrian bridge natural river features were present to entice so many dams to be constructed in a short section of river. Within 0.7 miles, the river drops over 60 feet!

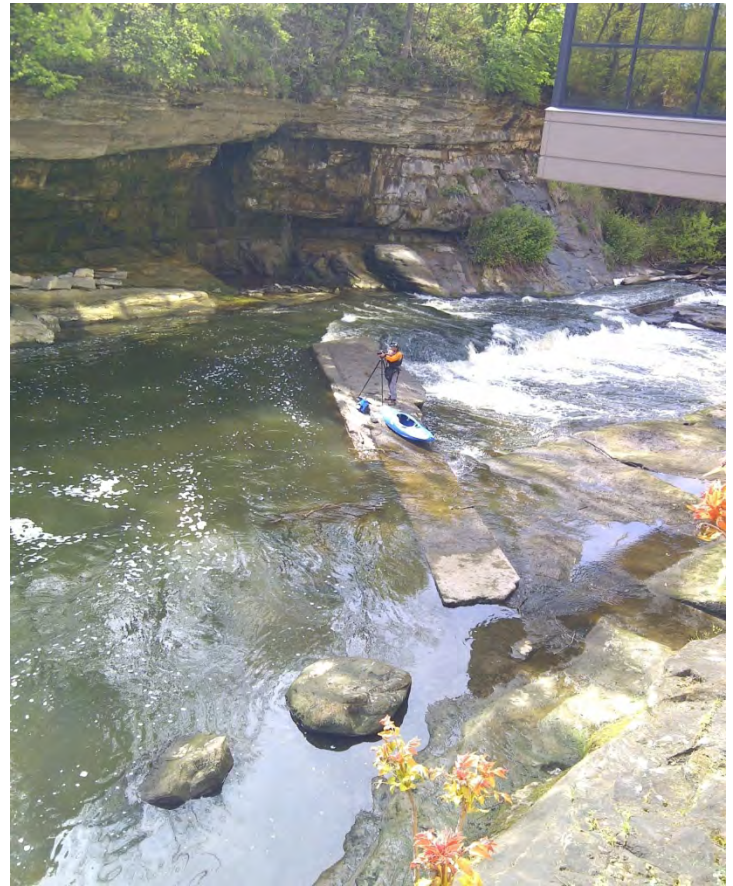
Now as we look at the 2 dams scheduled for removal in 2013 and the previous discussion, we know the following information.

1. Both dams are constructed on top of bedrock.
2. Bedrock is exposed behind the curtain of water flowing over the **LeFever Dam**.
3. Bedrock is exposed along the shore near both dams suggesting a constriction or ledge feature.
4. Water depth immediately downstream of both dams is shallow.

The photo below shows a view looking upstream at the current **Sheraton Dam**, shortly after its completion of construction. This photo confirms #1 and #3 above. It is also known that the river is channeled toward the west (left side of photo) as evident by the exposed bedrock surface sloping toward the river and the location of the dam gates on the west side.



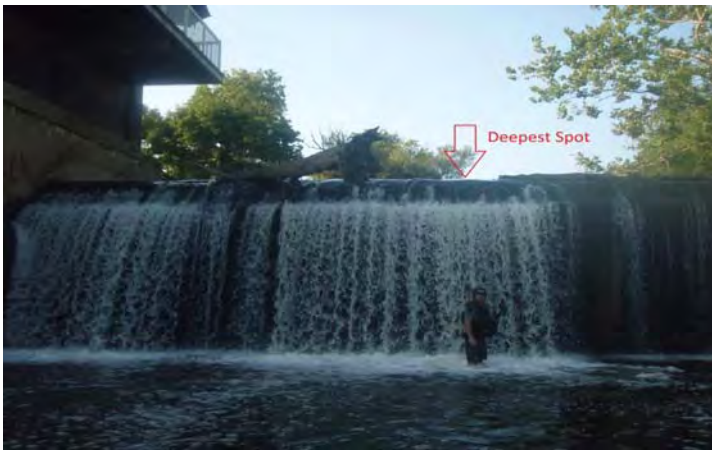
This next photo shows a small diversion dam (2-3 feet tall) that was constructed downstream of the **Sheraton Dam**. This structure was designed to direct water towards the east side in order to feed the aqueducts and provide water power needed for industries along the east side of the river. It is evident in this picture that bedrock is exposed along both sides of the diversion structure and the river is channelized and shallow (#3 and #4) immediately downstream of the structure (right of the person).



As we look at the current information for the **LeFever Dam**, we can make some similar conclusions. The below photo shows that an existing ledge is present along the east side (right) of the river and may extend under the **LeFever Dam** (#3 above).



While I do not have a photo of the bedrock exposed behind the water curtain (#2), the base of the **LeFever Dam** is a large flat surface of bedrock less than 2 feet below the water surface. As shown in the below photo this was a concern for paddlers during the landing for the Bicentennial opening ceremony. It was observed that the water depth decreased toward the east (right side of photo) and confirms #1 and #4.



Predictions

So what does all this tell us about what the river will look like once the 2 dams come down? Well, as a geologist and a regular paddler of the project area, here are my predictions.

Upstream of LeFever Dam

Some paddlers have seen the BBC&M report (October 2008) and their presentation of data to the City of CF (Part 1 and Part 2). Based upon the report, some projections of river gradient were presented, and this BBC&M graph has been overlain on a Google Earth image (see below image). The report has good info, but I would rely more on the topographic data than their aerial water-level interpretations of the river.



Kasper, in his thesis presentation, constructed a bedrock surface map (Fig 47) in the report titled "An assessment of the **LeFever Dam** pool." His thesis report can be found in http://etd.ohiolink.edu/view.cgi?acc_num=akron1279299769; the bathymetry map is presented below.

There may be rapids from Riverfront Park that will start near the stone RR bridge and increase slightly to the Route 8 bridge. There seems to be a drop below/near the Route 8 overpass, and a narrowing of the rock banks on each side just upstream of the bridge (pages 18-19 of the BCC&M report) could make this a tricky section in the river. At this point gradient and flow will increase to the **LeFever Dam** in what seems to be a channel along the west bank (river

right [RR] side). I talked in detail with John Peck (Akron U.) on the above thesis and he confirmed that the area between

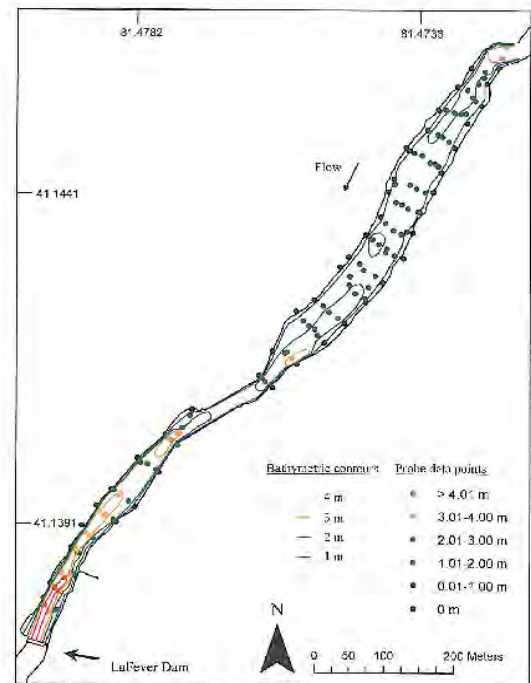


Figure 47. Bathymetry map of the LeFever dam pool. River boundaries were obtained from Summit County Geographic Information Services (SCGIS) et al. (2000).

84

Route 8 and **LeFever Dam** will be bedrock riverbed with boulders sporadically placed. This was based upon the probing that they completed for this study/thesis. It also makes sense from the geology of this river section: Erosion of massive sandstone takes more time and results in finer material being moved downstream as it rolls along the steep gradient of the bedrock surface. Only very large boulders remain (those that are not easily moved by the river) and the boulders may be more prevalent in the areas upstream of Riverfront Park where the river cross section may be wider with less gradient.

As shown in the below photo there is a natural rock ledge that is believed to extend all the way across the river and be the base of the dam construction. Page 17 of the BBC&M report seems to confirm this assumption. I've talked to an older paddler who had a mishap running the **LeFever Dam** a number of years ago. He washed behind the curtain of water. I have confirmed that the dam is constructed such that several vertical walls parallel to the river create these large spaces, and in some of them the bedrock is exposed.



Upstream of Sheraton Dam

The section between the dams is tougher to figure out. I have felt ledges with my paddle while probing during kayaking but the thalwart (center of the channel) is too deep to touch. There is some information presented in the BBC&M report (pages 15-17) that indicates the presence of a somewhat narrow channel between the Portage Trail overpass and the Sheraton Dam. Immediately downstream of the cement pylons by Portage Trail overpass on RR side is a ledge that we use to launch boats. At lower flows (~200 cfs) this ledge is about 4-6 inches above the water line. This ledge may be part of the "feature" shown in the BBC&M report (page 15) near transect 10.38. Given the elevation drop of the **Sheraton Dam** (~12') over 1400 feet of river (base of LaFever Dam) there may 1 or 2 ledges in the main channel of this section.

The only historic photos I have seen of the **Sheraton Dam** (Mill Dam) construction are presented in the [Phase I History/Evaluation of 2 Dams on the Cuyahoga River](#) by Hardlines Design Company (Aug 2011) for the City. The best photo in this report shows a view of the dam during its construction in 1914 from downstream and looking back upstream with limited water. This photo (shown below) indicates that the large rock on the RL side of the dam is actually the top of a rock ledge that the dam is built upon. This would imply that there is channeling along the RR side that is shown in the BBC&M report (page 15, Plate 8) near transect 10.23.



Summary

The bottom line is that the riverbed will consist of a bedrock surface over which the Cuyahoga River will flow very fast and create rapids through the project area. The nature of the Sharon Sandstone formation will include some layers that erode more easily than others and create small ledges or waterfalls. River features will be characterized by the amount of water flowing in the river and conditions will get more intense as river flow increases.

So while the dams will no longer be present, the waterfalls near the Sheraton Suites will remain as they are. My overall sense is that once the dams have been removed and the river finds its natural course of flow, the conditions will be similar to what is shown in the below photo and upstream of the paddler. I don't think that there will be any large drops like the one he is going over, but the likelihood of several smaller ledges/waterfalls each ~4 feet or less in height is a good possibility.



(Editor's note: See the Conservation Page in the KHCC website for full-sized copies of the photos in this article.)

Are You Ready?

By John Kobak

Are you ready for the 2013 paddling season? There are lots of things to check over to make sure that when the snow melts and the rivers rise that you are ready for paddling.

First, the easy part. Check that all your gear is still serviceable, no holes in your spray skirt, no leaks in your float bags. Be sure they are secure and can't float out. Make sure your PFD has no bad wear spots or has any straps that are not secure. How is your helmet; no cracks, padding all intact? For early spring paddling wear a beanie made out of wetsuit material or pile that fits comfortably under your helmet. If need be, you could have two sets of helmet pads that you can use with or without the beanie. Make sure you have warm synthetic clothing that you can layer to provide the thermal protection you will need. A shorty wet suit works great most of the time, providing you are layering. There is still time to purchase items at your local or mail order outfitters.

Now check all the kayak outfitting. Be sure the seat is in the correct location and the bolts are tightened so it does not move. Check your thigh pads and foot braces and make sure they are adjusted properly and your back band and straps are not about to fail.

Second, the hard part. Are you ready? We have 30 new members who have joined since the last season has ended. Everyone needs to come to some pool sessions to make sure they can roll and are comfortable trying multiple rolls. If you are from out of the NE Ohio area and can't make any of our three different indoor pool sessions, most big cities have pools available to kayakers. Ask around, use local message boards to find some that are close to your home. Don't wait until you are out in cold water to start your roll or swim practice.

Evaluate your paddling and fitness skills with our [Self Rating System](#). Check out the difficulty of the rivers that you would like to paddle to see if your skills match these rivers. There

are two Southern trips this spring. These intermediate trips are planned to start with easier rivers and get more difficult as the week progresses. This is the fastest way to increase your skills.

Want to get your paddling fitness improved and do it on easy whitewater? Come out and paddle in our [45th Annual Vermilion River Race](#). This will give you confidence to start early river paddling and compare your boat handling skills and paddling fitness with your friends. Don't worry about what place you finish, compare your race time with your previous races and with your paddling buddies.

Watch for impromptu Slippery Rock trips on our [Message Board](#). This river can be run as a day trip for most of our club members and has good water quality, nice scenery and great WW in order for you to learn advanced skills. Most club

members will assist you and make sure you get down the river section that matches your skills successfully. Our schedule this year does not list them a lot of Slippery Rock trips, but I would say someone from the club will be paddling every Spring weekend that the water level is good.

All you newer paddlers will find lots of people that are at about the same place in your learning curve and you will make friendships that will last for years. The more experienced members will be happy to watch your skills grow so that they no longer have to rescue you. Some of you will far exceed the skills of your early teachers if you stay fit and paddle often.

So it's all up to you, get out there and paddle. SYOTR

45th Annual Vermilion River Race

Well fellow paddlers, March is here and it's time to get ready for one of the oldest river races in the country. Though this race was originally held on the Sandusky Bay, it has been held on the Vermilion River for the last 42 yrs. and we are calling it the 45th Annual Vermilion River Race.

This year we have moved the race date up by one week in hopes that we have enough water to run the upper section from Schoepfle Garden in Birmingham to Mill Hollow-Bacon Woods Reservation. This is the course preferred by all but the guys with those high dollar high tech boats. One such boater was heard saying "This river is into me for \$6000". Apparently it wasn't enough to fracture one boat so he did it again. Now I've been accused of being a slow learner but, one destroyed boat would have done it for me.

For the past two years we have had near perfect conditions on the clean-up day. Then we watched in agony as by the next weekend the level slowly dropped to just not enough water and had to move downstream to the flat water section.

While this river is a class I-II the weather and water temperature can call for serious consideration of one's gear and skill set. I have seen this race run on days fit for a t-shirt and wading and other days that were not fit to be out in much less than on the water. One year this race was run in blizzard conditions. So that said, know your ability and the conditions before deciding to enter this race.

We can use a few volunteers to help out with things like safety, food service, clean-up, etc. The Sunday before the race we paddle the river and clear any obstructions that may be a hazard to the racers. If you would like to help out give me a call: Eugene cell: 440-320-4490.

Club members please download and print copies of our race poster on the following page. Then, take them to your local gym, fitness center, YMCA, sporting goods store, etc. Thank you for your help with race publicity!

45th Annual Vermilion River Race

Sunday, March 24th 2013

(High water backup date April 7, 2013)

For more information: keelhauler.org



Sponsors: Keel-Haulers Canoe Club

Keel Line Canoe and Kayak Supply
www.keelline.com

March				
3/2,9,16,23,30	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3-5:00 PM		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
3/3	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 8:45-10:45 AM		Doug Lyons	330-402-6909
3/9,10	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
3/12	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
3/16	(3) Cuyahoga River, Upper or Lower Gorge (OH) Water Level dependent	20-28	Matt Muir	312-943-5397
3/16	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4-6:00 PM		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
3/17	(1) Vermilion River Cleanup (OH)	SK/FW	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
3/23-30	Southern Rivers - TN, NC	22-32	Jim Murtha	614-282-3293
3/24	(1) Vermilion Race (OH) - Alternate Date 4/7	SK/FW	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
3/26	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 8:30-9:45 pm		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
April				
4/6	(3) Cuyahoga River, Upper or Lower Gorge (OH) Water Level dependent	20-28	Matt Muir	312-943-5397
4/6,7	WV Class V Creeking	>30	John Garcia Brent Laubaugh	440-777-6077 724-272-6944
4/9	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
4/13,14	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
4/13-19	(4) Southern Rivers Trip TN,NC,SC,GA Map - Detail map	22-32	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
4/13	(1) Grand River (OH)	SK/FW	Carl Kudrna	440-263-0451
4/13	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
4/13,14	15th annual Webster WW Weekend (WV)		Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
4/14	(1) Little Beaver (OH)	SK/FW	Doug Lyons	740-317-7007
4/20,21	(5) Middle Fork & Tygart (WV)	29	John Kobak	440-871-1758 440-554-1383
4/20	(3) Cuyahoga River, Lower Gorge (OH)	20	Chris Kiehl	330-869-6549
4/20	(1) Grand River Race - Alternate Date 4/27	SK/FW	Brian Davidson	800-669-9226
4/27	(3) Cuyahoga River, Lower Gorge & Boater-X Race (OH)	20	Corey Spoores	419-308-1625
4/27,28	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Chuck McDowell	330-447-1086
4/27,28	WV Class V Creeking	32	John Garcia Brent Laubaugh	440-777-6066 724-272-6944
4/28	(5) Cheat River Race Clinic (WV)	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541

We need trip organizers for 2013.

Please take a look and you will see some trips listed that say "**Need; Organizer**", these are popular trips that no one has offered to organize yet.

But what we are really missing are **flat water trips** on rivers like:
Ashtabula, Grand, Chargin, Upper Cuyahoga, Cuyahoga below Kent, Vermilion, Mohican, Kokosing,
Or anywhere else! **Please consider adding a new trip!!!**

If you have a trip to add or change, please E-Mail [April Hollis](#), Or Call April at 703-915-6382.

2013 Club Officers

President: Michael Duvall 216-521-0094
VP: **Needed**
Secretary: Donna Homberg 440-236-8360
Treasurer: Joe Marks 216-281-1517

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, on the second Tuesday of each month

Doors open at 7:00 P.M., meeting starts at 7:30 P.M.

Membership: \$20 per year. New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone, send directly to

Membership Chairman: **John Kobak, 440-871-1758**
1649 Allen Dr.
Westlake, OH 44145

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KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

Non- Commercial advertising is free to all members. To place an ad, send the information the way you want it to appear. Please write or call when item is sold. It will appear for 2 months unless canceled. Commercial ads may be submitted by club member's owned businesses four times each year with a maximum of four lines of copy per ad.

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **April issue of the newsletter is **3/24/13**. Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.** 🇺🇸 🇩🇪

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor 🍀
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
March, 2013



Keelhauler's Ka-news APRIL, 2013



Next Club Meeting is Tuesday, April 9th.

Doors open at 7:00 PM, followed by meeting,
refreshments & program.

at the Middleburg Hts Community Center,
16000 E. Bagley Rd.

Program: "Adventure Bhutan" produced by
the Discovery Channel. A video about the
first descent of a river in Bhutan near India.
Kobak paddled with the paraplegic safety
boater when he was in Mexico.

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

Meeting questions, Contact [Dennis Dukeman](#)
at 330-699-2916.

All meetings are open to guests.
Invite a prospective member!

Club Meeting, March 12, 2013 By Carl Homberg for Donna Homberg

10 people in attendance.

This ended up being a very enjoyable gathering and informal. Featured were memorabilia from the early years of the club compliments of Chuck Singer and John Kobak and of course Hank Annabelle. There were race medals, patches and race results to look back on. Results from races in the 70's & 80's that might be of interest along with the times and conditions of the river in those years. There were also rosters from the 70's and familiar names and their claim to fame that some remembered and reminisced. Notable was Hank saying that 1969 was the first Vermillion Race with 49 canoes and 7 kayaks. The first year they paddled the Yough was 1967.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT By Michael Duvall

Vermilion Race was postponed to April 7th so everyone has a chance to get a little practice in before the race. Hopefully we will have a warmer weather with adequate water. Be sure to say thanks to Eugene Baker and all the volunteers that make this annual event possible.

Dave Herron and some of the guys from Cincinnati had what sounds like a great trip on the Cumberland Plateau. They also hit one of my favorite rivers the Tellico. These spring trips can be really fun paddling with people that you might not have boated with before and running rivers that you have never run before. Very often this drastically improves your paddling; it really stepped up my game when I went on my first southern rivers trip.

Keep an eye on the schedule for the next two months. Spring is peak season for paddling, April showers means the creeks are running. There all kinds of trips this month; North Branch of the Potomac, Grand River, and Little Beaver are excellent for members that want class II fun. Middle Fork and Tygart WV trip with John Kobak is a unique trip starting on a small creek and finishing on a large Cheat- size river.

Cheat Fest on the first weekend in May has something for everyone; choice of great rivers, music, vendors selling equipment and lots more. The Cheat race on Friday and we are always looking for more members to sign up for the race. You don't have to be fast, just be able to finish and the after party with free beer is great fun.

Be safe and I'll see you on the river,

Michael

Friends of the Crooked River's Annual Party, April 11th by Matt Muir

The 2013 River Rat Revelry will be held in Cuyahoga Falls on Thursday, April 11 at 6:30 PM in the Lions Lodge, [641 Silver Lake Ave.](#) Join us for an evening of socializing and way-cool presentations on our Crooked River's history, the plans for dam removal, updates on CSOs, and more! (The doors will open at 6:30; the program will begin at 7.)

Mary McLure will speak on *Public Parks Celebrating and Restoring History*, and Joel Bingham (the Project Director for the removal of the two Cuyahoga Falls dams) will talk about (what else?) *Progress on Long-Awaited Dam Removals in Cuyahoga Falls*.

Check out the program at <http://www.cuyahogariver.net/RiverRatRevelry2013.pdf>. Please bring a dish to share.

Cheat Race & Fest 2013 By Cliff Wire

Come One, Come All to the 18th Annual Wild & Wonderful Cheat Fest of 2013! The fun starts on Friday, May 03 with the Cheat Canyon Massacre-ence Down River Race! One of the largest if not the largest mass start river races in the country. Place bets on your favorite Keel-Hauler to Win (as The old Paul Lang did once with his Crossfire several years ago) Place, Show or Swim (Cliff Wire, Rob Hammond, Matt 'Ratt Boy' Muir, Michael Duvall, Jim Hunt and Chuck Singer among others at one time or another – always spectacularly!). If enough folks show to do the race, we can have teams to contest against TRPC among others. One of these years we'll finish with intact teams! The race starts at 5:20pm. The pre-race meeting is at 5:00pm. If you don't want to race, come paddle the Cheat anyway as a racer, and leave early on the river taking your time to the takeout – You get a t-shirt, a ticket to the fest, beer at the take out. It's a great deal.

Saturday will be a day- long jam of music at the AW site at the stream side property along the Cheat next to our favorite camp site – Teeter's. There will also be several gear tents so you can upgrade that old helmet, paddle or other tired piece of gear! One of our favorite long time vendors - Rocky Mountain Kayak will no doubt be there as he has in the past.

M.H.C.S. Swiftwater Rescue Clinic Taught by Charlie Walbridge June 8th and 9th

For the 6th year in a row Charlie Walbridge will be conducting a Swiftwater Rescue Clinic exclusively for our Club members. This Clinic has trained nearly 100 of our members and I'm sure that has made a big difference within our boating community. Registration for this year's clinic is now open and will close when full or by the end of April. There's a limit of 10 members and the cost is \$85.00 plus \$5 ACA insurance if you are not an ACA member. If we end up with any extra proceeds we'll donate to Friends of the Cheat as we have in past years. Refer to the trip schedule for additional information.

<http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/tripschedule.htm>

The dry land training will be held at Teter's Campground and the on water portion will be held on an appropriate nearby river. The group will have reserved camping spots together at Teter's Campground.

Contact me to sign up or with any questions.

Joe Marks
joemarks@gmail.com

Camping/Kayaking Soccer Weekend

For those of you who are interested in continuing the soccer outdoors, this is for you

Join us Friday, June 21 – Sunday, June 23 at the DeGrange homestead campout.

All those just learning and wanting some instruction or to hang out in a fun environment are welcome.

June 21: Arrive any time after 3:00 pm. Set up camp and grab a meatball sub and fixings for dinner, relax, fish or go for a swim.

June 22: Breakfast, fishing, swimming, & camp time Saturday morning. For those interested, mountain biking trails are available at Walborne Reservoir, or for those seeking more challenge, head to Quail Hollow or Westbranch State Parks – a short drive for both. Kayak soccer game after lunch (to be

determined)....or play a game of corn hole, relax, whatever floats your boat.

Dinner includes sausage/peppers, chicken breast, pasta, black bean salad, roasted vegetables...and more! Bonfire to follow.

June 23: Breakfast, fishing, swimming, & camp time Sunday morning. Gear up for another soccer game if you can handle it!

Portable John and shower provided. BYOB – outside refrigerator provided but space is limited so make sure to bring coolers and ice! Some beer, water, soda, and juice will be available.

All fishing is Catch and Release. No fishing in soccer area during play.

Need to know in advance how many are coming. I am looking for volunteers to help and extra tarps and tables if you have them.

All campers/kayakers will need to chip in \$ to help cover some cost. We will have a better idea of cost once we know how many people are actually coming. Right now, cost is estimated at \$15-20/person for the full weekend (kids 16 and under free) and \$8-10/person for soccer and dinner Saturday only. Of course, if you would also like to bring a side dish or dessert, please feel free – just let us know.

Please RSVP at r_degrange@hotmail.com or lr_degrange@msn.com. Hope to see you!

Rob DeGrange

UC_David's 2013 Spring Break Paddling Trip - The Rivers **By David Herron**

The Obed/Emory River and its tributaries (Clear Creek & Crooked Fork Creek); the Big South Fork of the Cumberland River; the Tellico River.

The Paddlers

1. David Herron – from Cincinnati, OH
2. Tom Willis – from Cincinnati, OH
3. Doug Ackerman – from Fayetteville, WV
4. Jordan Taylor – from Providence, RI
5. Hugh Barrow – from Spartanburg, SC
6. John & his chihuahua – from Lexington, KY
7. Woody O'Brian – from Wilson, NC
8. Bud Chavez – from Cincinnati, OH
9. Paul Araujo – from northern Kentucky
10. Trey Barrow – from Louisville, KY

The Lodging

We stayed at Erik's Hostel on Ridge Road (close to Lilly Bridge) which is about 8 miles west of Wartburg. We had mattresses to sleep on, a kitchen to use, a wood burning stove for heat, and warm water for showering. ☺

Erik's ex-wife Linnea was a terrific host.

The Trips (March 16, 17, 18, 19, 20)

Saturday – Jett to Nemo on Clear Creek (440 cfs at Lancing) & Obed/Emory River (1650 cfs at Oakdale)

Jett to Nemo is the classic Obed/Emory trip; it's 10.5 miles of class II-III dropping through the spectacular Clear Creek canyon into the Obed. The first 2 miles, from Jett to Lilly, are a great way to shake off the winter rust. On this easy 'continuous' class II section the only rapid of consequence is The Grunch; this appears around mile 1.5 as a clear horizon line and is run left of center left, but beware the boulder garden below on the left. Just above Lilly Bridge we encounter Lilly Rapid, a nice longer easy III with great eddy opportunities and a good warm-up for what's downstream.

Clear Creek canyon, which starts at Lilly Bridge, is a short 1.5 miles, but chock full of great rapids. About 500 yards downstream we encounter Jake's Rock Falls. After some straightforward maneuvering, we're in a large staging eddy, and then we peel out, paddle straight over a small wave and onto the slide dropping in between the two holes. I'm not sure how it happened, but Woody got pushed all the way left, dropped into the river left hole, flipped, and then rolled up.

Camel Rock Rapid is right around the corner – the left side is badly undercut so we avoid it and go right, which is easy at today's level. Next up is my favorite rapid on Clear Creek, Wooten's Folly. This solid III is probably the hardest rapid on this section. There's enough water today to boof off the left side of the large rock, although Hugh and Trey opt to go around the rock to the right (which means they have to work hard to get back left to avoid the bad undercut on the right at the bottom).

Now we bob along enjoying the continuous rapids, the sheer cliffs on both sides, and the sunny 75 degree weather. Focus Falls signals the end of the Canyon section and the confluence with the Obed River. We stop here for a short lunch.

The next 4.5 miles on the Obed (ending on the Emory) is bigger water and always reminds me of a tame Lower Gauley. There are a few powerful rapids – e.g., Widow Maker has a great wave train – but everything is wide open and there are no surprises. We arrive at Nemo Bridge, load boats, and head out for an excellent Mexican dinner.

All ten paddlers had a great day, but Trey had to head home to Louisville. Here is a link to Bud's video of Clear Creek...<http://youtu.be/l9vo5gVhsCg>.

Sunday – Confluence to Leatherwood on Big South Fork (1450 cfs at Leatherwood)

We'd heard that snow was coming to Cincinnati, and as we drove north to Oneida the dark clouds did appear ominous. However, by the time we left vehicles at Leatherwood and drove to the put-in – the Confluence of Clear Fork and the New River, which form the Big South Fork – the weather had turned mostly sunny and while not as warm as Saturday it certainly was not gonna snow. We lost another two paddlers, and only boaters 1-7 were along for this trip.

There are four warm up rapids before encountering the Big Three. A nice surfing wave in the middle of rapid 1, a fun creek line to the left in rapid 2, a great boof in rapid 3, and some eddy hopping in rapid 4. Around the corner we line up for Double Drop. The real danger here is at low flows (below 1200 cfs) as there is a surprisingly nasty pin spot far right directly at the second drop (and the curler will surf you right into it, so please do set safety here at low water). The top drop can be run right, middle, or left, but I have found that boofing far left works best (for me). The bottom drop comes fast, but as long as you square up and hit the diagonal curler head on, it will surf you just enough to the right so you'll miss the huge boulder waiting below.

Immediately around the corner we drop thru Washing Machine. This guy is hardest at lower levels, and today is just a drop thru a gap with some swirly water. Next in line is the Ell, certainly the hardest rapid on the BSF. This is a difficult rapid to scout, and I'm not convinced that scouting really helps any. Much of the flow, which is powerful and rather turbulent here, goes left which is good because there is a large hole to avoid at the bottom right. But, at the bottom you also want to go back right (just at/past the hole) in order to avoid the cheese grater rock on the left. Today the curler flips me right over, but my winter roll practice comes into play and I manage to hang out, wait for calm water, and then roll up. Hurray! ☺ Everybody else had great lines here and made it look easy. (OK, Woody had his second out-of-boat experience here. ☹)

We're now deep into the BSF canyon with huge boulders everywhere and emerald green water. After a short flat section, then some play waves and play holes, we turn right to enter the Kreckles. This longer rapid has a slew of great eddys, although the flow is especially turbulent here. Unfortunately, Woody gets knocked about here, flips, rolls, flips again, then....comes out of his boat, and somewhere during all this dislocates his shoulder. ☹

I am grateful to Jordan for taking such good care of Woody. Jordan towed Woody and his boat thru much flat water. Then he and one of us would raft together to float the easier rapids. This worked fine until we got to Ryan's Eddy (ask Bud C what he calls this rapid) where Woody had to get out and walk. Jordan got to paddle Woody's boat thru Ryan's Eddy. Fortunately, there is a trail at the entrance to the Narrows section. I walked Woody up to the 'road' and pointed him towards the O&W Bridge. Meanwhile, Jordan et al had attached Woody's skirt to his boat and tied it shut with Hugh's straps.

The Narrows section is, well, where the BSF gets really narrow; there are 300 foot sheer sandstone cliff walls on both sides, very continuous ledge pool drops, and just fun fun fun. Woody's boat just bopped along with us. Tom got

behind it and it flipped him once. Jordan had to enter a swirly eddy to bump it out, and he got flipped. But it all was fun! We made it to the O&W Bridge and Jordan & Tom carried Woody's boat up to him.

We ran the O&W rapid, then the 1.5 miles or so of flat water to Leatherwood. I jumped into Woody's brand new Jeep Grand Cherokee and headed off to find Woody. Everybody else drove back to the put-in to get my truck and Hugh's Jetta. We all met at the orange lumber yard barn on US 27. Hugh volunteered to get Woody to a hospital; they had to go all the way to Oak Ridge and we did not see them again until after midnight. Meanwhile, we went to Oneida for dinner at Preston's steakhouse.

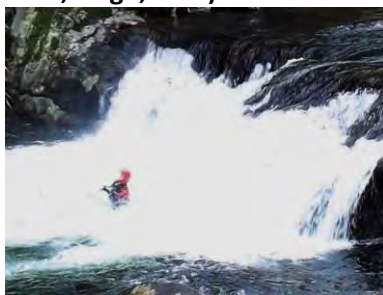
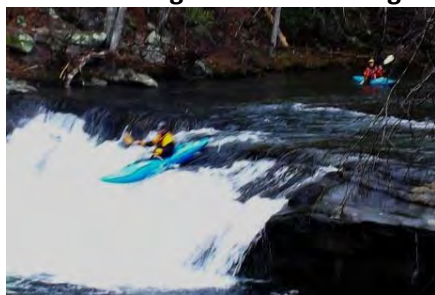
Woody reports that his doctor is optimistic and suspects minimal damage to his shoulder. He hopes to avoid surgery and start therapy this coming Wednesday (March 27).

Monday – Tellico Ledges & Lower Tellico (325 cfs at Tellico Plains)

The five of us, paddlers 1-5, packed up and headed to the Smokies today. After 2.5 hours of driving, we got to Tellico Plains, had some food, and headed up river. I always like to scout as we drive up hill. Fortunately, Jared's Knee looked just as I remembered it, as did Baby's Falls and Diaper Wiper. We got to the put-in with dark gray clouds menacing, and just as we finished suiting up the rain started. Doug opted to play camera man today, so the four of us (paddlers 1,2,4,5) headed downstream.

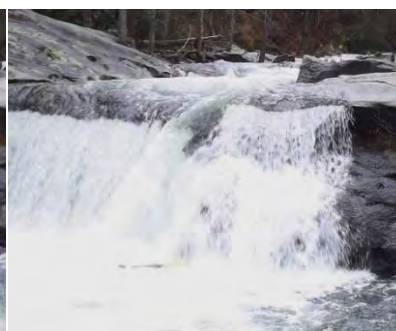
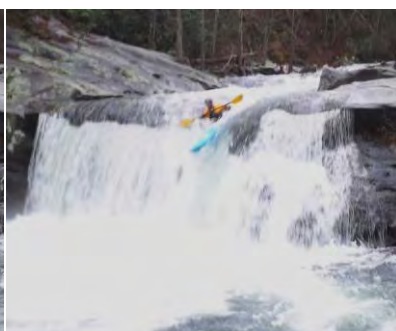
Since none of us really knew the ledge lines, we had to get out a few times and scout some of the ledges; see the pictures!

Running Some of the Ledges (Jordan, Hugh, Tom)



But all went well and eventually we were above Baby's Falls.

I could not convince anybody else to go first, so it was up to me. The initial approach had messed me up the last two times I had run Baby's, so I paid careful attention here. This meant that I was on top of the falls before I could even look at my tree marker, but I managed to hit the line I wanted and had a clean boof off the ledge. Hurray! Everybody else had good lines too, although Tom buried deep in the water.



Running Baby Falls (David, Jordan, Tom's paddle – he's below it 😊)

Both Tom and Hugh went for the eddy move at Diaper Wiper. Well, Hugh was in his green boat and could not get out of the eddy. Not being very patient, I got tired of waiting and opted for the right-hand-side slide; left a bit of plastic on the rocks there.

Hugh in eddy at Diaper Wiper



A few more easy rapids and we were above Jared's Knee. The entrance rapids here are really fun; some good technical stuff, especially at this lower flow. I managed to 'find' the last eddy just above the Knee – this was the one move I was not sure of during our scout. But I was nervous and so I rushed things....I messed up my line and ended up trying to run right of the Knee, got mostly right, but fell into a crease and got flipped, tried a roll, started hitting rocks with my elbows (which fortunately had pads on them) and ended up out of my boat. I held onto my paddle (probably due to wearing pogies) and my boat floated right to me, so all was good.

We picked up Hugh and headed down the Lower Tellico. The first couple of rapids are great fun, and it pretty much just continues. We kept paddling for another 4 or 5 miles, I guess. But the rain was starting to get serious, it was getting

really dark, and cold, and eventually we called it a day. Many thanks to Doug for shuttling us back to our vehicles, and for playing cameraman.



David below Jared's Knee



Tom about to run Jared's Knee

During dinner (at yet another Mexican restaurant) we realized that it had been raining all day on the plateau, and so we decided to head back to Wartburg. We eventually managed to contact Erik, and got back to his hostel

about 11pm. The next morning we found water everywhere, but were reluctant to jump on stuff that we did not know.

Both Tom and I had run Little Clear Creek once, but did not know it well, and were sure it would be full of wood. We both wanted a try at Island Creek, but there's no e-gauge on it and Catoosa was closed (and the put-in is in Catoosa). Clear Creek was running around 4000, so it was not an option. Daddy's Creek was a tad high, but it meant a two day commitment (since Catoosa was closed – you can paddle Daddy's and leave your boat on the bank at OBJ, then walk in the next day and paddle down to Nemo). This left Crooked Fork or Crab Orchard.

So, we drove to Crooked Fork to check the gauge; it read 5.0. After a phone call to our river level guru (Bud C), I decided that as none of us knew Crooked Fork, it was probably too high for us and we should try Crab Orchard. (None of us knew this run either, but Bud assured me that it was easier than Crooked Fork.) Anyway, we made our way to Oakdale and were sitting in the parking lot while I looked over my books and notes trying to be sure of where to go. Up comes a park ranger and I noticed that he was in boating gear with a kayak in his truck ☺ Somehow, I knew that he'd be able to help us. He had just taken off Crab Orchard and told us that it was already gone – too low. I mentioned the 5.0 reading on Crooked Fork and his eyes lit up and he said, "That's a **good** level" (emphasis on "good" ☺). According to him, 3.8 is low, 4.8 is the medium to high cut off, and 4.8 is "perfect".

To make a long story short, he threw his boat on Hugh's car, and we headed straight to the Potter Falls put-in.

Tuesday – Potter Falls to Oakdale on Crooked Fork Creek (5.0 at US 27) & Emory River Wednesday – Potter Falls to Camp Austin on Crooked Fork Creek (3.8 at US 27) & Emory River

- **Emory at Oakdale peaked at 13,300 cfs on 3/19/13 at 3:15am**
- **Tuesday we took off about 5:00pm and it was about 7700cfs**
- **Wednesday we took off about 3:30 pm and it was about 4200cfs**

Crooked Fork was a blast at this level, but without Ranger Dave's lead we would have spent a long time getting down it. With Ranger Dave's lead we just barreled down moving fast and furious in places. There was still plenty of maneuvering, but many of the rocks were covered with water and the others were well padded.

Crooked Fork starts fast with serious boulder garden drops. Then it mellows out and runs flat for about two miles thru spectacular forest land. Then there are some great play holes and then it ramps up with some great slide action. Shortly after one seriously sharp right-hand turn, we pulled off to the left to scout. Frankly, this drop was easy with all the water we had.

Immediately after this we came to Boof with Consequences. Thanks to Doug's insistence, we got out to scout this bad boy. Well, it was quite a hole today. Simply put, we all walked it; this was a very easy carry on the right.

There is one more terribly congested rapid just before the confluence. Somehow I managed to flip in the middle of it, but somehow also managed to get back up right. Jordan, who was running sweep, told us how he saw both Tom and

Doug get seriously stern squirted at one point; note that Tom and Doug paddle old school loong boats. We all got to the Emory safe and sound.

The 8000 cfs we now floated was huge compared to what we'd just come off. There were a few places with some great surfing waves, but for the most part we just sat back and floated the 4 or 5 miles down to Oakdale. The weather was brisk, but the sun was shining brightly.

Sadly, Hugh left for home after Tuesday's run. So, now we are down to just boaters 1-4. After another Mexican dinner, we retire to Erik's for a good night's rest. Wednesday morning we pack up and head off to check the Crooked Fork gauge. It's 3.8 ☺! We decide to run it again, but opt to take out further up stream at Camp Austin; this involved a much longer shuttle, but was well worth it at the end of the day.

Crooked Fork was much more sedate today, although far more technical with lotsa tight maneuvering and rock bashing. We also stopped to play a good deal more, again scouted and carried around Boof with Consequences (although, once we got below this we saw that the boof was OK; it just looked especially bad from the bank). The last rapid was even tighter at this lower flow, but Jordan picked a great line thru the maze.

With the cold weather blowing in for Thursday, and with all the "fizz in my pop" gone, we all decided to head home. Well, I think that Jordan is still out there as I type this, looking for something to play. Many many thanks to boaters 2-10 who helped make this a great adventure. I am already thinking about my Spring Break Trip for 2014 ☺.

April	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
4/6	(3) Cuyahoga River, Upper or Lower Gorge (OH) Water Level dependent	20-28	Matt Muir	312-943-5397
4/6,7	WV Class V Creeking	>30	John Garcia Brent Laubaugh	440-777-6077 724-272-6944
4/7	Vermillion River Race- Rescheduled from 3/24	SK/FW	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
4/9	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
4/13,14	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
4/13-19	(4) Southern Rivers Trip TN,NC,SC,GA Map - Detail map	22-32	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
4/13	(1) Grand River (OH)	SK/FW	Carl Kudrna	440-263-0451
4/13	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
4/13,14	15th annual Webster WW Weekend (WV)		Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
4/14	(1) Little Beaver (OH)	SK/FW	Doug Lyons	740-317-7007
4/20,21	(5) Middle Fork & Tygart (WV)	29	John Kobak	440-871-1758 440-554-1383
4/20	(3) Cuyahoga River, Lower Gorge (OH)	20	Chris Kiehl	330-869-6549
4/20	(1) Grand River Race - Alternate Date 4/27	SK/FW	Brian Davidson	800-669-9226
4/27	(3) Cuyahoga River, Lower Gorge & Boater-X Race (OH)	20	Corey Spoores	419-308-1625
4/27,28	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Chuck McDowell	330-447-1086
4/27,28	WV Class V Creeking	32	John Garcia Brent Laubaugh	440-777-6066 724-272-6944
4/28	(5) Cheat River Race Clinic (WV)	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
May	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
5/3	Cheat Mass-Occurrence Team Race (WV)	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
5/3,4	Upper Yough (MD) or Big Sandy or Tygart (WV)	32	John Kobak	440-871-1758 440-554-1383
5/4,5	Cheat Fest Weekend (WV)	18-26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
5/5	(3) Cheat Narrows or (5) Canyon(WV)	18 or 26	Phil/Jen Raber	740-498-7063

45th Annual Vermilion River Race

Now moved to the backup date of April 7th!

Well fellow paddlers, March is here and it's time to get ready for one of the oldest river races in the country. Though this race was originally held on the Sandusky Bay, it has been held on the Vermilion River for the last 42 yrs. and we are calling it the 45th Annual Vermilion River Race.

This year we have moved the race date up by one week in hopes that we have enough water to run the upper section from Schoepfle Garden in Birmingham to Mill Hollow-Bacon Woods Reservation. This is the course preferred by all but the guys with those high dollar high tech boats. One such boater was heard saying "This river is into me for \$6000". Apparently it wasn't enough to fracture one boat so he did it again. Now I've been accused of being a slow learner but, one destroyed boat would have done it for me.

For the past two years we have had near perfect conditions on the clean-up day. Then we watched in agony as by the next weekend the level slowly dropped to just not enough water and had to move downstream to the flat water section.

While this river is a class I-II the weather and water temperature can call for serious consideration of one's gear and skill set. I have seen this race run on days fit for a t-shirt and wading and other days that were not fit to be out in much less than on the water. One year this race was run in blizzard conditions. So that said, know your ability and the conditions before deciding to enter this race.

We can use a few volunteers to help out with things like safety, food service, clean-up, etc. The Sunday before the race we paddle the river and clear any obstructions that may be a hazard to the racers. If you would like to help out give me a call: Eugene cell: 440-320-4490.

Vermillion Race Rules: <http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/rules2013.pdf>

Vermillion Race Application: <http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/applic2013.pdf>

Vermillion Race Waiver: <http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/applic2013.pdf>

Vermillion Race Map: <http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/vermilion.html>

Vermillion Race Map of Low Water Location: http://www.keelhauler.org/images/Vermilion_LowLocation.jpg

Online Vermillion Race Registration: http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/Vrace_Reg3.htm

Club members please download and print copies of our race poster on the following page. Then, take them to your local gym, fitness center, YMCA, sporting goods store, etc. Thank you for your help with race publicity!

45th Annual Vermilion River Race

Sunday, **April 7th 2013**
New Race Date

For more information: keelhauler.org

Contact: Eugene Baker . u1meangene@gmail.com . 440-320-4490



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TEAM RIVER RUNNER

Health and Healing Through Whitewater Boating

Physical Healing

- Strengthen core muscles
- Improve flexibility
- Enhance coordination

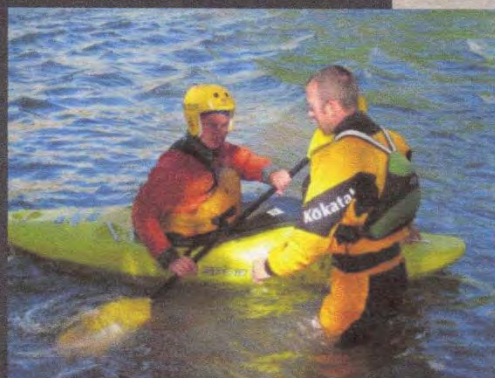
Emotional Healing

- Increase motivation through fun, challenging, and rewarding sport
- Encourage participants to set goals and build confidence
- Inspire hope and eliminate the stigma of "disabled"
- Connect with nature and wilderness

The Program

- Weekly instruction
- Regular local trips
- Weekends in PA and WV
- Trips to Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Grand Canyon, and Caribbean
- Annual Biathlon

Team River Runner (TRR), established in August 2004 in the Washington, DC area, is an all-volunteer organization run by kayakers. Through whitewater kayaking on various rivers, TRR promotes health, healing, and new challenges for wounded Veterans of the Iraq and Afghan wars. While the focus of Team River Runner's work is on soldiers recuperating at Medical Centers and VA's, TRR also provides the same programs to families supporting their wounded Vets.



"Team River Runner challenges and welcomes recently injured soldiers back into a community and fellowship that most of us thought we could never rejoin after our injuries"

Captain (P) Daniel Gade, US Army



Weekly pool sessions take place every Sunday at 4:30 at Riverfront YMCA in Cuyahoga Falls

For more information contact:

Christian DeLotell

TRR- Kent, OH Chapter Coordinator

cdelotel@kent.edu

937.416.5030

www.TeamRiverRunner.org

Team River Runner (TRR) is a partner of Disabled Sports USA's (DSUSA) Wounded Warrior Disabled Sports Project.

DSUSA is a 501(c)(3) organization; contributions are 100% tax deductible.



And Now For Something A Little Different:

Kayaking in Tropical Costa Rica!

January 18-25, 2014



Come join us for an 8 day **Week of Rivers Paddling Trip in Tropical Costa Rica** during the bitter cold of January. Instead of searching for a chlorine-infused roll session you can be running remote, pristine, tropical whitewater rivers for a week. The real cool thing about this trip is that you don't have to be a class v boater or even a boater at all. You can zipline, hike an active

volcano, rappel down waterfalls, visit archaeological sites, bike or bird watch. By the way, Costa Rica is one of the world's number one destination for birding as well as one of the top destinations for ocean surfing. This would be a great trip for paddlers to share with their non-paddling counterparts or those less experienced. Some of us will even extend our time there after the week with Costa Rica Rios to go explore other parts of the country. Costa Rica Rios can customize our days based on what individuals in the group want. On any given day, some can head to a stretch of class iv while others head to class III. At the same time others can head out for a hike/bike up to see an active volcano, zipline through Cloud Forests or enjoy Costa Rican culture. There's just an incredible array of things to see and do in Costa Rica and Costa Rica Rios is set up to make it all accessible. And the food! Don't even get me started on the food. Everything is always in season so you can leave the



American processed food diet behind. The batido con agua is worth the trip in itself.

So to summarize:

- *Beautiful tropical rivers for all skill levels flowing out of volcanic mountain ranges.

- *Endless activities other than kayaking. Rafting, Cloud Forests, Active Volcano's, Birding, Waterfall Rappelling, Canyoning, Staying in Jungle Lodge, etc..

- *All Inclusive Price \$1650. Great Lodging, all ground transportation, meals, boats, gear, guides, etc. Paddle rental an additional \$60 for the week.

- *Price could be lower depending on the total size of the group. Any savings will be passed on to group.

*Costa Rica Rios:

<http://www.costaricarios.com/costa-rica-kayaking.html> or any other of the activities.

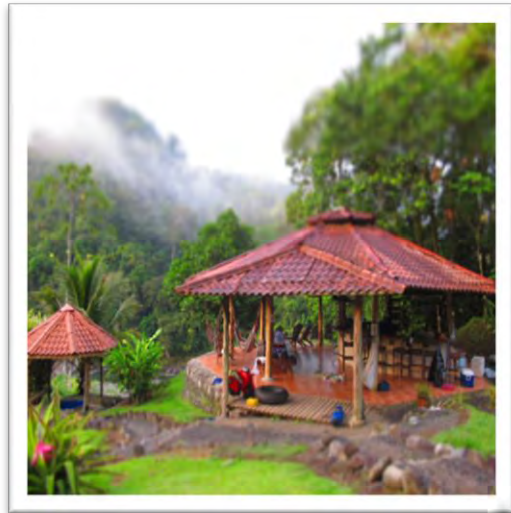
My wife and I spent some time with Costa Rica Rios this past November. I was impressed with how flexible and committed they were to ensuring we did exactly what we wanted to do so I thought it would be a great fit for our Club's Trip Schedule. A number of people have signed up but some spots are still available. I know January seems like it's a long way off but it's definitely not too early. There's a limit of 16. If you want to join us or if you have any questions about the trip contact me. If you have any questions specific to Costa Rica or Costa Rica Rios I can put you in direct contact with Fraser or Jane down in Turrialba on weekofadventures@gmail.com or free phone 1-888-434-0776.

Regards,

Joe Marks

joemarks@gmail.com

216-533-0604



2013 Club Officers

President: Michael Duvall 216-521-0094
VP: **Needed**
Secretary: Donna Homberg 440-236-8360
Treasurer: Joe Marks 216-281-1517

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, on the second Tuesday of each month

Doors open at 7:00 P.M., meeting starts at 7:30 P.M.

Membership: \$20 per year. New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone, send directly to

Membership Chairman: **John Kobak, 440-871-1758**
1649 Allen Dr.
Westlake, OH 44145

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KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

Non- Commercial advertising is free to all members. To place an ad, send the information the way you want it to appear. Please write or call when item is sold. It will appear for 2 months unless canceled. Commercial ads may be submitted by club member's owned businesses four times each year with a maximum of four lines of copy per ad.

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **May issue of the newsletter is **4/24/13**. Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.** 🇺🇸 🇩🇪

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor 🍀
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
April, 2013



Keelhauler's Ka-news MAY, 2013



Next Club Meeting is Tuesday, May 14th.

Doors open at 7:00 PM, followed by
meeting, refreshments & program.
**at Middleburg Hts Community
Center**

16000 E. Bagley Rd

Program:

Video - WildWater

When ordinary people, share a singular passion, the
extraordinary emerges.

WildWater is a journey into the mind and soul of
whitewater, into the places only river runners can go,
places of discovery, solitude and risk.

Its a visually stunning feast for the senses, and an
expedition into new ideas.

[2 Min. Preview](#)

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

All meetings are open to guests.

Invite a prospective member!

Meeting questions, Contact [Dennis Dukeman](#)
at 330-699-2916.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Michael Duvall

Vermilion Race was a big success thanks to
Eugene Baker and his great group of volunteers.
Unfortunately we had to hold the race on a flat section
of the river but it was a beautiful day to be on the
water.

The Southern Rivers trip had some great
weather and good water. We hit some of the best runs
ever including one that has been illegal for 30 years.

Cheat River Festival is coming the first weekend
in May. There will something for everyone, all levels of
paddling as well as some great music. There is a down
river race on Friday, but you can sign up for the race
and paddle in a group if you don't want to race alone.

Don't forget the North Branch trips for those
that are looking for some easier fun white water and
Slip trips for those that want something closer to home.

Instruction at all levels is available through
Three Rivers Paddling Club with their Slip Clinic in June.
If you are a member of our club or TRPC you can attend.
There is a charge but it is a fun weekend. Experienced
Keel Haulers should volunteer to help as instructors or
safety boaters. Also there is a great Swift Water Rescue
class held by Charlie Walbridge.

Be aware that in June, July and August the
monthly meetings will be at outdoor locations. During
these months we will also have our club trips on the
Lower Yough.

Be safe and I'll see you on the river,

Michael

To all Keelhauler Members!

**Consider writing an article
about your boating weekend!**

Send it to peetzaguy@aol.com

Will you help a few new boaters?

The summer paddle season is almost here and I would like to ask my fellow boaters for a favor.

I have tried to coordinate a Middle Yough trip every weekend that the club holds a Lower Yough trip. My hope is that there is something for everyone in the family to paddle and to promote family paddling and family activity in the club.

Usually we have a large turnout for the Saturday trip and sometimes the group is too big to handle. Often they get all spread out and the trip turns into an A to B paddle. When this happens there is very little skill work done. It would be nice to have a few experienced paddlers come along with us so that there is at least one for every three beginners. Sunday trips are usually smaller and better organized as most of the participants paddled the day before.

So I'm asking you to consider coming on one of the Saturday Middle trips and help our newbies learn some skills. The new paddlers are usually very grateful for the help and it is rather rewarding to see them progress. So give it some thought and give me a call and pick a Saturday. Your help is greatly needed.

Thank you.

Eugene: 440-320-4490.

M.H.C.S. Swiftwater Rescue Clinic Taught by Charlie Walbridge June 8th and 9th

For the 6th year in a row Charlie Walbridge will be conducting a Swiftwater Rescue Clinic exclusively for our Club members. This Clinic has trained nearly 100 of our members and I'm sure that has made a big difference within our boating community. Registration for this year's clinic is now open and will close when full or by the end of April. There's a limit of 10 members and the cost is \$85.00 plus \$5 ACA insurance if you are not an ACA member. If we end up with any extra proceeds we'll donate to Friends of the Cheat as we have in past years. Refer to the trip schedule for additional information.

<http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/tripschedule.htm>

The dry land training will be held at Teter's Campground and the on water portion will be held on an appropriate

nearby river. The group will have reserved camping spots together at Teter's Campground.

Contact me to sign up or with any questions.

Joe Marks
joemarks@gmail.com

Camping/Kayaking Soccer Weekend

For those of you who are interested in continuing the soccer outdoors, this is for you

Join us Friday, June 21 – Sunday, June 23 at the DeGrange homestead campout.

All those just learning and wanting some instruction or to hang out in a fun environment are welcome.

June 21: Arrive any time after 3:00 pm. Set up camp and grab a meatball sub and fixings for dinner, relax, fish or go for a swim.

June 22: Breakfast, fishing, swimming, & camp time Saturday morning. For those interested, mountain biking trails are available at Walborne Reservoir, or for those seeking more challenge, head to Quail Hollow or Westbranch State Parks – a short drive for both. Kayak soccer game after lunch (to be determined)....or play a game of corn hole, relax, whatever floats your boat.

Dinner includes sausage/peppers, chicken breast, pasta, black bean salad, roasted vegetables...and more! Bonfire to follow.

June 23: Breakfast, fishing, swimming, & camp time Sunday morning. Gear up for another soccer game if you can handle it!

Portable John and shower provided. BYOB – outside refrigerator provided but space is limited so make sure to bring coolers and ice! Some beer, water, soda, and juice will be available.

All fishing is Catch and Release. No fishing in soccer area during play.

Need to know in advance how many are coming. I am looking for volunteers to help and extra tarps and tables if you have them.

All campers/kayakers will need to chip in \$ to help cover some cost. We will have a better idea of cost once we know how many people are actually coming. Right now, cost is estimated at \$15-20/person for the full weekend (kids 16 and under free) and \$8-10/person for soccer and dinner Saturday only. Of course, if you would also like to bring a side dish or dessert, please feel free – just let us know.

Please RSVP at r_degrange@hotmail.com or lr_degrange@msn.com. Hope to see you!

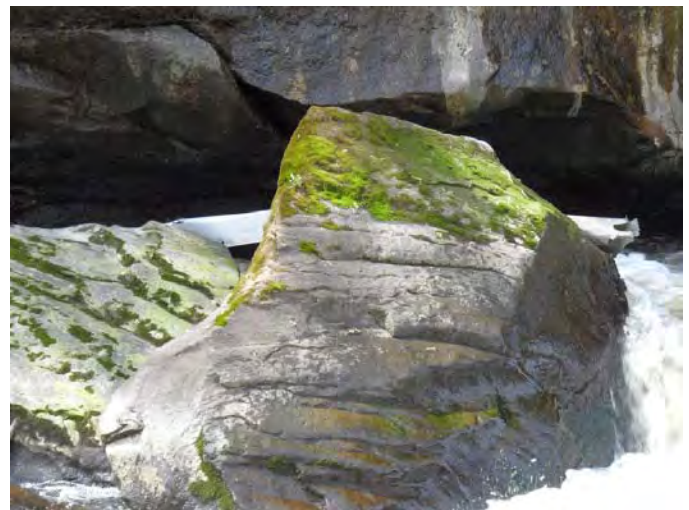
Rob DeGrange

A Day in the (Upper) Gorge
April 27, 2013
By David Hill

It is true that there could have been too many changes to the date, information portal, river section, etc. Then there was that promise about getting water which didn't materialize, AGAIN. While herding a dozen or so paddlers is never an easy task it allowed some previous unknowns to literally run up asking to paddle while others were gathered after driving through town. Paddlers are a fluid bunch and we adapted. There were personal first descents, craft first descents, and smiles both on and off the river. A word of warning though as there is a partial aluminum canoe in the right channel of the runout! Thanks to all who participated and spectated, to the others who couldn't make it; enjoy the photos.



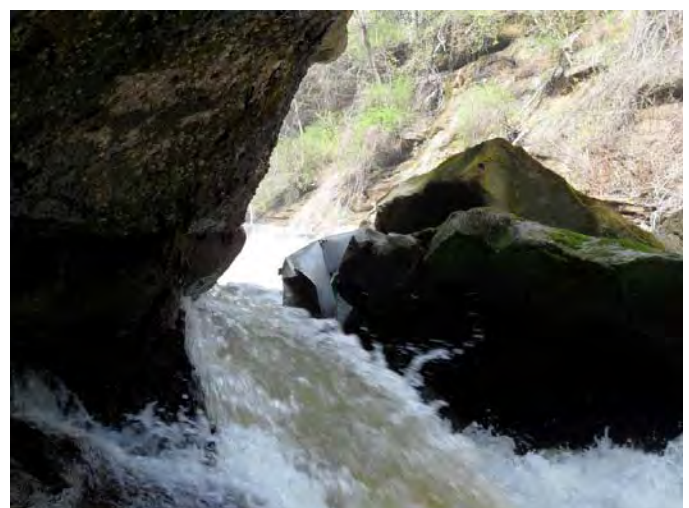
Brown



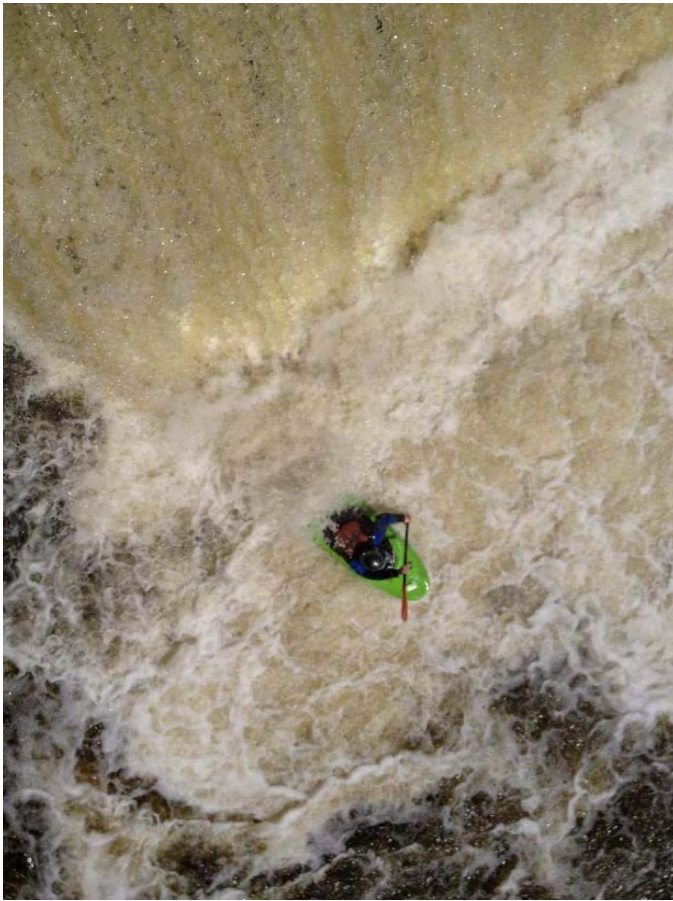
Canoe-1



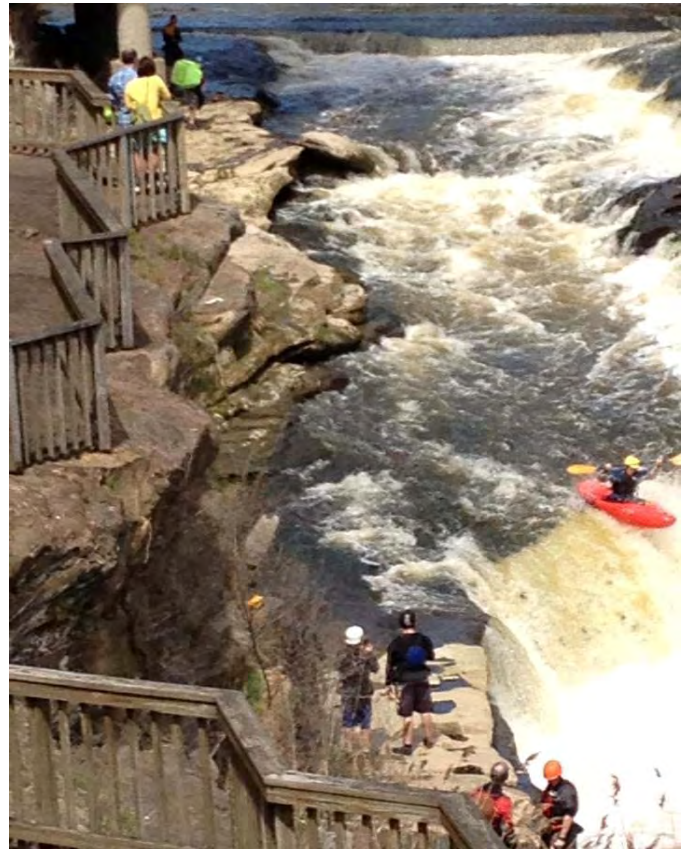
Ross



Canoe-2



Dam



Dennis-Rookie



Dam-Shredder



Group shot



Ron



Ron-Dam



Rookie



Rookie Shredder



Ragnar Race, June 7

Friends of the Cheat is having a volunteer drive, which can raise up to \$3,200 for our recreational and water quality activities! Sign up for a shift for anytime of the day, and effectively donate \$60 per 4.5 hour shift! Get your friends to come and take part in the first Ragnar trail relay race in Appalachia. Sign up at <http://my.ragnarrelay.com/registerVolunteer.php?race=ragnar-trail-2013-appalachians-wv> (Team #106)

River Day: May 18, 2013 by Matt Muir

Friends of the Crooked River has its 23rd annual River Day scheduled for Saturday, May 18. The theme, noting its history and status as a resource for eco-friendly economic development, is *"From Burning River to Earning River."*

At this time of astonishing activity on the region's greatest river, you can help celebrate our Crooked River's rebirth and revitalization. There will be over 20 events taking place all along the river, from Geauga County to the lakeshore. You can participate in cleanups, bird walks, paddling, bike hikes, dinners, and more—there really will be something for everyone! Events will begin at 7 AM and not end until 10 PM, so this is a full day of activities, with something for everyone.

Here's a brief outline of the events:

Note: Two events will take place before May 18, and one event will continue into June—so you can attend these events, *in addition to* those on RiverDay.

1. [Euclid Creek Invasive Plant Pull & Bioswale Garden Maintenance Event](#)
Saturday, May 11—Note the date!, 9 AM - Noon
2. [Migration Bird Walks at Cleveland Lakefront Nature Preserve](#)
7:30 AM, 8:30 AM, and 9:30 AM
3. [History Walk on Whiskey Island](#)
9 - 11 AM
4. [Big Creek: Historic Lower Big Creek Valley Tour](#)
1 - 2:30 PM
5. [RiverDay Concert near Cleveland's Tallest Waterfall](#)
3 – 5 PM
6. [West Creek: Storm Surge Cleanup](#)
9 AM - Noon
7. **RiverDay in CVNP**
[Cuyahoga Valley National Park Cleanup](#)
10 AM - Noon and 1-3 PM
8. [Cuyahoga Valley National Park Junior Ranger: Rambling Along the River](#)
9:30 - 11:30 AM
[Cuyahoga Valley National Park Water Quality Testing](#)
1:30 - 3:30 PM
9. **RiverDay: Art & Music In Peninsula**
[Heritage Farms: Fairies on the Farm](#)
10 AM – 4 PM
[The Log Cabin Gallery Spring Exhibit](#)
3 – 5 PM
[Peninsula Art Academy](#)
5 - 7 PM *from RiverDay through June 22*
[RiverDay's End Night Bike Ride with Century Cycle](#)
8 PM
10. [RiverDay at Cascade Village](#)
10 AM - Noon
11. [Bike Hike along The Little Cuyahoga River](#)
11 AM - Finish
12. [2013 City of Cuyahoga Falls Great American RiverDay Cleanup & Beautification Project](#)
10 AM - 2 PM
13. **Munroe Falls RiverDay Events & Festival**
[Pancake Breakfast](#)
7 AM – 11 AM
[Invasive Plant Pull](#)
9 AM – Noon
[Munroe Falls RiverDay Festival](#)
10 AM – 3 PM
14. [Kent Parks And Recreation's Watershed Celebration For Kent City Schools](#)
Friday, May 17—Note the date!, 10 AM-1 PM
[Kent Environmental Council & Kent Parks And Recreation's RiverDay Festival](#)
10 AM – 1 PM
[Kayak, Canoe, Tube & Bike Rentals](#)
7:30 AM – 7:30 PM
[Kent Community Potluck Dinner](#)
6 PM – 8 PM
[Native American-Led Celebration of River](#)
8 PM – 10 PM
15. [Camp Hi Canoe Livery Upper Cuyahoga Sampler](#)
10 AM and 2 PM

16. [Riverside Bird Walk at Eldon Russell Park](#)

9 - 11 AM

For a map, directions, and descriptions of the events, head for cuyahogariver.net/riverday.htm. Hope to see you there!

2013/45th Annual Vermilion River Race Wrap-up

By Eugene Baker

A huge thank you goes out to a great bunch of volunteers who show up year after year to give their time to the club and put on a really great semi professional race. This year Hank Annable, John Reising, Hayden and Phillip Thorne, Bob Bair, Pamela Poljak, Chuck Singer, Jim Botamer, John Kobak, Dennis and Lisa Dukeman, Chris Meluch, and Steve and Mary Hill showed up and got the job done. Also, as always, Bill McCarthy and the Vermilion Port Authority were very gracious hosts. They provided us with parking, restrooms, power, and water all at no charge. So thank you VPA. Thank you to the most important group of all, the racers.

Though the day started out quite breezy it turned out to be a nice sunny day. Unfortunately, due to low water levels, we had to run the race at the low water location. I have a few ideas about how to handle that situation. One is to have a tentative race date and if the water level is too low or the air is too cold then post pone the race one week. And keep that up until we have a water level and an air temperature is acceptable for an enjoyable race day. Yes, some folks would not be able to make the race if it was held in that manner but those who do will get to run the upper river course and it appears that that is the preferred course. The other solution is to just give up on the upper course and focus on the lower river venue and expand on the opportunities that come with that. Things like more beginner participation, classes that are primarily for fun like a crazy craft class perhaps. The low water level course passes Quaker Steak and Lube. They may want to be sponsors and we could gather there after the race. Well enough of my ramblings. If you have any ideas I would love to hear them.

This year 58 paddlers competed in 15 race classes. Joe White had the fastest time; 40 minutes and 35 seconds. In the women's classes Stephanee Moore had the best time; 1 hour, 8 minutes, and 1 second. Taylor Nadal competed in the youth class and she finished in 1 hour, 15 minutes, and 2 seconds. One paddler flipped his boat, managed to reenter his craft, and placed first in his class. Vito Cammarata stood out or should I say stood up and finished 1 hour, 20 minutes, and 16 seconds on his paddle board. He says that next year he will return with enough stand ups to have a class of their own.

I would like to note that if you wish to race in a particular type boat for which there is not a class listed on the application there is a solution. Just show up with at least three entrants the day of the race and we will create a class for you. You may wish to post your intention to do this on the message board so that others with a like craft will know that there will be a class for that craft.

Since we had a light turn out we also had a light profit:

Total Income	\$907.25
Total Expenses	<u>\$625.77</u>
Net Profit	\$281.48

If you would like to help put on next year's race please give me a call: Eugene 440-320-4490

2013/45th Annual Vermilion River Race Results
From John Kobak

Class	Bib No.	Place	Elapsed Time	Name	2nd Racer's Name
0	No Race Class				
	143		0:59:57	Spang, Mark	Hidock, Mike
	128	SUP	1:20:16	Cammarata, Vito	
1	C-2 Unrestricted Canoe				
	139	1	0:43:09	Conant, Skip	Leszek, Ed
	104	2	1:02:57	Oravec, Dave	Burt, Richard
2	C-2 Mixed or Women Canoe				
	142	1	0:47:53	Krizman, Joe	Krizman, Ann
	123	2	0:55:08	Monte-Kaser, Mary Jo	Skinner, Norman
	126	3	0:55:10	Hall, Stephen	Hall, Emily
	130	4	1:03:40	Murdoch, Scott	Adkins, Vanessa
3	C-2 Men's Standard Canoe				
	991	1	0:58:54	Parker, Jimmy G.	Parker, Jim S.
4	C-2 Senior > 49 yrs. old				Handicap
	102	1	0:56:00	Markwell, Walter	Williams, Al 0:02:50
5	C-2 Over & Under				
	995	DNF		Nadal, Mark	Nadal, Sydney
6	C-1 One Person Canoe				
	106	1	0:46:15	Conant, Skip	
7	K-1 Junior < 16 yrs. old				
	992	1	1:15:02	Nadal, Taylor	
8	K-1 Short Kayak < 11.5', Men				
	110	1	0:57:46	Stoll, Mike	
	112	2	1:03:26	Park, James E.	
	107	3	1:03:58	Moore, William	
	140	4	1:06:39	Duvall, Michael	
	119	5	1:07:15	Puckett, Allen	
	133	6	1:08:36	Schultz, Norm	
	125	7	1:10:20	Kernohan, Mark	
	997	8	1:13:06	Smith, Cody	
	998	9	1:13:17	Smith, Aaron	
	132	10	1:17:38	Schultz, Michael	

Class	Bib No.	Place	Elapsed Time	Name	2nd Racer's Name
9 K-1 Short Kayak < 11.5', Women					
	113	1	1:09:48	Morse, Chris	
	999	2	1:12:53	Czerniawski, Karen	
10 K-1 Kayak < 14.4', Men					
	996	1	0:85:19	Rabatin, Jacob	
	127	2	0:54:25	Rothig, Ken Jr.	
	120	3	0:56:17	Ulichney, Daniel	
	117	4	0:58:44	Skidmore, James	
	994	5	1:03:36	Koscho, Robb	
	121	6	1:06:59	Simmons, Jim	
11 K-1 Kayak > 11.5', Women					
	993	1	1:08:01	Moore, Stephaniee	
	122	2	1:08:47	Simmons, Karen	
	137	3	1:23:08	Auzenberg, Lisa	
12 K-1 Senior > 49 yrs. old, < 14.5'					
	103	1	0:48:21	Widman, Richard	
	116	2	0:48:29	Foley, Mike	
	129	3	0:48:56	Rabatin, Jake	
	134	4	0:54:36	Snyder, Jim	
	109	5	0:59:48	Goepfert, Doug	
	105	6	1:04:42	Wondrak, Bob	
	138	7	1:08:17	Hebert, Larry	
13 K-1 Long Kayak >14.5', Men					
	118	1	0:40:35	White, Joe	
	124	2	0:52:43	Kaser, Michael	
	108	3	0:55:12	Wallhead, Wayne	
	141	4	0:55:44	Wire, Cliff	
	136	5	1:24:06	Payerchin, Richard	
14 K-1 Senior >49 yrs. Long Kayak > 14.5'					
	135	1	0:43:35	Leszek, Ed	
	131	2	0:48:44	Mellblom, Peter	
	115	3	1:01:32	Fenoglio, Frank	
15 K-1 Senior Women >49 yrs. >11.5'					
	114	1	1:17:47	Puskas, Carla	

May	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
5/3	Cheat Mass-Occurrence Team Race (WV)	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
5/3,4	Upper Yough (MD) or Big Sandy or Tygart (WV)	32	John Kobak	440-871-1758 440-554-1383
5/4,5	Cheat Fest Weekend (WV)	18-26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
5/5	(3) Cheat Narrows or (5) Canyon(WV)	18 or 26	Phil/Jen Raber	740-498-7063
5/10-12	Black & Moose Fest , Lyons Falls (NY)		Angela Baldo	315-585-6274
5/11,12	(5) Intro to the Cheat Canyon (WV)	26	Jim Hunt	330-335-5203
5/11,12	(5) Cheat Canyon or Cranberry or Upper Meadow (WV) Be sure to contact Dave for river choice.	26	Dave Herron	513-739-5329
5/11,12	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
5/14	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
5/17-19	(4) Stonycreek Rendezvous (PA)	21	Bud Chavez	513-703-4108
5/18	RiverDay 2013 Friends of the Crooked River (OH)		Dave Hill	330-922-4380
5/18	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Ann Corey	330-869-6549
5/18,19	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
5/18,19	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
5/25,26	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
5/26,27	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Bill Warble	412-651-0112
5/31	Upper Yough (MD) and/or Big Sandy (WV) No UY release on Sat	32	Needs organizer	
June	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
6/1,2	TRPC Slippery Rock Clinic See Three Rivers Paddling Club for details Membership in KHCC or TRPC REQUIRED	13-19	Joe Marks	216-533-0604
6/1	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Sabine Iben	440-543-4969
6/2	(5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release	26	Jerry Spence	614-552-7740
6/6,13,20,27	Thursday Rolling Practice at Nimisila Reservoir (OH) 5:00-7:00PM but call Matt first	20-28	Matt Muir	312-943-5397
6/8	(1) Cuyahoga River, Peninsula to Boston Mills (OH)	SK/FW	Ann Corey	330-869-6549
6/8,9	Mark Hanna and Carl Schneider Memorial Swiftwater Clinic (WV) More Information Limited to 10, Register early only \$85/person		Joe Marks	216-533-0604
6/8,9	(5) New River (WV)	26	Dave Herron	513-739-5329
6/9	(1) Lake Erie Water Trail - Vermilion or Black portion	SK/FW	Chuck Singer	440-949-6681
6/11	Club Meeting - Wendy Park on Whiskey Island	SK/FW	Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
6/15,16	(4) Lower Yough - permits (PA)	23	April Hollis	703-915-6382 C
6/15,16	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
6/21,22	Upper Yough (MD) First Saturday Release	32	John Kobak	440-871-1758 440-554-1383
6/28,29	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	

Club Officers

President: Michael Duvall 216-521-0094
VP: **Needed**
Secretary: Donna Homberg 440-236-8360
Treasurer: Joe Marks 216-281-1517

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, on the second Tuesday of each month
Doors open at 7:00 P.M., meeting starts at 7:30 P.M.

Membership: \$20 per year. New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone, send directly to

Membership Chairman: **John Kobak, 440-871-1758**
1649 Allen Dr.
Westlake, OH 44145

Any opinions, views or recommendations expressed in the articles in this Newsletter are those of the article's author. Printing these articles in no way implies approval or advocacy of any of the opinions, views or recommendations by the Keel-Haulers Canoe Club or any of its Officers, editor, or members. Water sports are a potentially dangerous activity. Keel-Haulers Canoe Club recommends and encourages all of its members and others to abide by all laws, regulations and recommended practices when engaging in such activity. Each member is responsible for assessing her/his own abilities and for not engaging in activities which are beyond those limits. Members assume any and all risk when choosing to participate in any activity and the Keel-Haulers Canoe Club is not responsible for any damages resulting from such participation.

KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

Non- Commercial advertising is free to all members. To place an ad, send the information the way you want it to appear. Please write or call when item is sold. It will appear for 2 months unless canceled. Commercial ads may be submitted by club member's owned businesses four times each year with a maximum of four lines of copy per ad.

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **June issue of the newsletter is **5/24/13**. Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.**   

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor 
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
May, 2013



Keelhauler's Ka-news JUNE, 2013



Next Club Meeting is Tuesday, June 11th.
at Wendy Park - Near Edgewater Park on Lake Erie

Program: No Program

Bring your kayak and paddle behind the break-wall to the mouth of the Cuyahoga and upstream as far as you have time for.

Or just have a nice after work get-together

[Map to Wendy Park](#)

Showing Detour, since the West Shoreway will be closed for a movie shoot.

All meetings are open to guests.
Invite a prospective member!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT By Michael Duvall

First, I think most everyone heard of Chuck Singer's death last week. Chuck was a long time member that led many of us on our first time trips on the Lower Yough or the Cheat. He will be missed by all.

Cheat Massocurance, a down river race was the opening event for Cheat Fest. The Cheat down river race had close to 140 boaters begin with a mass start and race approximately ten miles to the finish. The river was a quite low so many of us used long boats. Weather was great for a change and I saw many club members at the festival. Everyone looked like they were having a good time.

Stonycreek Rendezvous was also well attended with Bud Chavez and Eugene Baker both organizing trips. Thanks to the new valve that was installed (with much financial support from boaters) there was an adequate water level.

June starts off with two training classes, Slipper Rock Clinic put on by TRPC and a Swiftwater Rescue Clinic with Charlie Wallbridge organized by Joe Marksz. These classes fill up early so if you didn't make the cutoff be sure to put it on your calendar for next year. There is no such thing as too much training. It looks like there will be a release on the Savage River in Maryland this month. In the past there have been problems with water levels and the dam equipment so if you have the opportunity you should take it. There are some Lower Yough trips with one being the first summer trips with

reservations made by the club. For people looking for a more relaxed trip Eugene Baker will take over Chuck Singers trip on the Vermilion or Black and Ann Corey's trip on the Cuyahoga. See the online schedule for more trips and as always contact the trip organizer for final details.

Our next club meeting will be at Wendy Park. See online details. It looks like you will have to use Detroit Rd and W. 49th to get there.

Be safe and I'll see you on the river,

Michael

Club Meeting, May 14th, 2013

By Donna Homberg

30 attendees. Some in attendance were paddling friends of Chuck Singer that came from the Funeral Home to our club meeting. His legacy to all of us was his friendship, love of nature and pristine rivers, and pictures of all the special places in the world he visited.

New Members Michael Costelol, Mary Ann Roberts, Penelope Koach, Denny Cilensek and children Amy & Charlie, Ethan Kay & Ashee Gerner, Dan & Pam Winter, Marcia Mauder. Welcome to all.

Membership reported by John Kobak now at 261. John is also the Webmaster and reported that " the Sequester (no money) stopped the rain gauges from being on-line. Since then, they changed all the links for those gauges, I updated our web page and it now works better than before. This is our link: <http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/precipdetail.htm>

No unfinished business

New Business :

Eugene Baker agreed to lead the future trips of Chuck Singer

Matt Muir is managing the website for friends of the Crooked River.

June 10th begins the mobilization of equipment for the planned removal of the Sheraton Dam the week of June 17th. In July, the work on the LeFever Dam begins. This section will be closed to boaters from Rt 8 To Prospect Bridge until the project is completed. (David Hill, conservation)

Pat Guzowski led a discussion recommending a Hall of Fame Page along with a corresponding page in our yearbook. A suggestion was made to have a meeting/gathering to tell old stories. Sue Taft agreed to write up this information.

Trip reports given

Check the newsletter and yearbook for upcoming events.

Video called Wildwater presented by Dennis Dukeman, Thank you.

Chuck Singer

By John Kobak

My friend Chuck Singer passed away on May 8th after a very short illness. He was diagnosed with Mesothelioma of the lining of the stomach. Say a prayer for him as he paddles to the big WW in heaven, Chuck was a world traveler and experienced more in his lifetime than any 10 people could ever experience. Chuck kayaked for 43 years, was a MS & T raft guide and helped many people experience WW for their first time. He will be missed by his thousands of friends.



Chuck joined the Keel-Haulers in 1968 and we met him on the Pine River in Michigan where our families paddled canoes together. Chuck & I got into whitewater and went on our first wilderness trip to Canada together in 1971. Chuck got his first kayak the same year and really took to the sport. We built kayaks together in 1972 for ourselves and our sons. We organized KHCC's first kayak trip to the southern rivers in 1973 where Chuck broke his kayak in half at Woodall Shoals. We did many southern trips every Easter together after that. We organized KHCC's first kayak trip to CO in 1976. By the mid 80's we started to do a lot of foreign travel together and separately. Chuck retired before I did and got a good head start. When I retired in 1994, I bought a small motor home and we spent the summer in Canada and Alaska leading the first KHCC Alaska paddling trip. We went to Mexico & Belize in 1995 and did an 8 day sea kayak trip, island hopping along the barrier reef. Chuck's command of Spanish helped, so the next year I asked him again to travel in our RV to Mexico for a winter vacation. We had lots of fun wherever we went and I will really miss Chuck and his adventures easy going personality.

John Kobak

Arden Section, Tygart River, May 11, 2013

By Hugh Barrow

There had been almost record rainfall, so I knew that we would have some special opportunities when I joined twelve Keelhaulers near Philippi, WV on this rainy Saturday morning. Our weekend leader, Dr. David Herron, notified us to meet here and to drive together to the put in at 2000cfs. Paddlers were John, Cliff, Jen, Phil, Tara, Mike, Bill, Sean, Tom, David, April, Brent, & myself for the first run. The shuttle was about as easy as any river I have ever paddled and was roadside allowing car scouting. The river started gently and we initially had 13 paddlers for our first run but only 7 made the second run. I especially enjoyed Deception and its offset ledge holes. Undercut was more than Bill and I bargained for and we gave a good show. At Premonition we got to practice our Heinzerling move. Then came the famous Moats Falls with its terrible sieve on the right and clean 14 foot drop in the center at the apex. Maybe the most technical rapid was the last one, Classic, which was a very fast, big water Gauley-like rapid. Seven of us made a complete second run and then we ate Mexican and camped in Summersville. It dropped into the 40's that night!



John Kobak



The Keelhaulers camping...



Moats Falls

Mother's Day May 11-12th

By Donna Homberg

Yough Weekend, temp 50's and rain is pouring in our direction. The river is often our meeting place as a family so Brian & Adam (13) joined their cousins and paddled Meadow Run. Some hiked in just for the view and to grab a couple pictures. The cascades had a tree across it so all walked around. Next was Slicky slide, and Nate smoothed it so Adam

(13) and Dan (16) ran it also. The rest of us watched this ugly run. All stayed upright but big braces were thrown out and Adam ran part of it backwards. His dad (Brian) decided against running it. Tom (14) said he was 'impressed with the



narrow shaded run on the Meadow Run and then it was as if the expanse of sky opened' as they proceeded to Entrance and paddled the loop on the Lower. River was 6'2". The next day was colder 40's brrrr and we all jumped on the Lower at 6'5". Some rafted (we had 11 in our family) plus Jim Murtha paddled with us. Everyone had good runs and the boys played hard in their play boats. Brian led the safe way for me and I snuck what I could. Great trip and Tommy (14) says he loves big water.

Master Woodworker By Donna Homberg

Passing of a Legend Keith Backlund, honored in Ohio Pyle by friends that acknowledged his magnificent unmatched quality in canoe and kayak paddles. Salute. The weekend of April 27th/28th is dedicated to Keith and renewing old friendships that you have forever. Especially began a new era for the Homberg family as Carl paddled a kayak down the Lower for the first time. He switched from a C-1 this year. A couple comments he made were, "I get splashed in the face more; sitting so low, I have less visibility; this kayak seat is cushy.



Southern Rivers 2013

By Michael Duvall

“One of the best!” “Hit some real gems of Southern Appalachia”

This year’s trip started with a bang – of thunder and a huge downpour. The plan was to meet Jeff Cramer and Joe Marks at the campground at the Nolichucky Friday morning but a huge storm moved in overnight and caused the Noli to go from around 2000 cfs to near 10,000 cfs. The campground manager who is often a pain warned us that if we didn’t leave the camp in a hurry we might be stuck there because the water level was nearing the access road.

High water eliminated two of the standards of previous Southern trips, the Nolichucky and section 4 of the Chattooga. However when one door closes another one opens. Friday Hugh Barrow was going to join us on the Nolichucky but suggested the Big Laurel into Section 9 of the French Broad. We met at the take out in Hot Springs NC. When we got there Hugh was talking to some of the local raft guides that had just run a local little stream, Spring Creek. It was a lot of fun and a good warm up for me because I had not paddled much this spring. After that we went on to paddle the Big Laurel and French Broad as planned.



Big Laurel



Joe Marks- first drop of Section Zero

That night we hooked up with Bill Warble at the Tallulah Fest and camped next to Jeff Prycl, Seth Burdett and the TRPC crew. Saturday morning we joined them on Section Zero of the Chattooga. This section has been closed to kayaking for 30 years so this was a chance of a lifetime. The level was minimum but started off with some big drops then flattened out towards the end. In the flat section a ranger pulled us over and asked for out permits. He was kind enough to let us fill out permits on the spot with a warning instead of a \$50 ticket each.

Sunday we went to the Tallulah Gorge with 825 cfs which is higher than the 500 on Saturdays and the 700 for Sundays. After descending the 500+ steps you launch into the first rapid, Tanner, which calls for a wave boof to avoid a hole. Next is the largest rapid in the gorge, Oceania. I walked that one and waited for the others at the bottom. When I got there I met Joe swimming out of the eddy hole. When he got back in his boat he noticed that his paddle was broken so he was provided a breakdown to finish the run. I had a bad day myself with two swims when I got trashed in holes. I thought this was harder than the Upper Gauley at this level.

Monday it was just Bill, Jeff, and myself. Joe left because he needed to save himself for his upcoming Grand Canyon trip. We were determined to hit as many of the best runs before they got too low so we headed to the Little near Gatlinburg Tn. from the Sinks to Elbow in the morning. We had some incidents at the ledges leading to the Sinks that concluded with Bill breaking his wood paddle. Later that afternoon we ran the Tellico, Ledges to Jared’s knee. Tuesday we did two laps on the Doe.

Wednesday we got some rain and called Hugh for guidance. He said he could join us on Wilson Creek in NC. It was coming up so our first lap was at -.2 and our second lap was zero. We said thanks and good bye to Hugh and headed to Teeters in West Virginia looking for something to paddle on the way home.



Jeff at Elbow on the Doe



Bill at Body Snatcher on the Doe



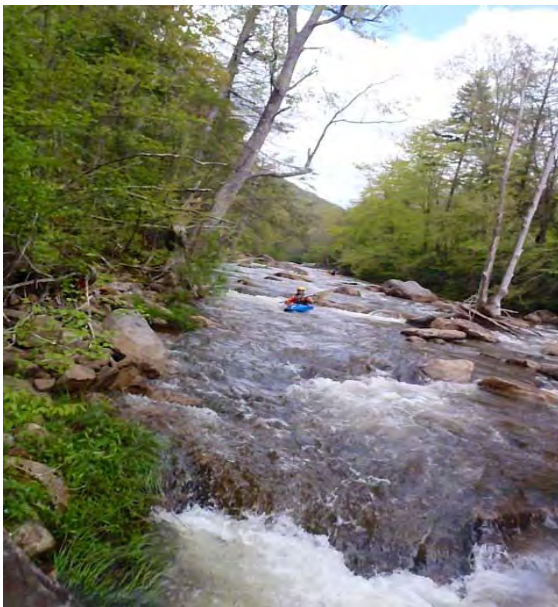
Michael on Wilson

Thursday Bill dropped of his broken paddle with Jim Snyder and picked up a new one he had on order. Then it was off to the Lower Big Sandy for a quick run at 5.6 ft. There Jeff got his first run of Big Splat and it was perfect. After that, we all headed for home with fond memories of a great Southern Rivers trip.

Williams River, WV, May 12, 2013

By Hugh Barrow

This would be the second day of our Keelhauler Canoe Club trip to West Virginia. The rain stopped during the night but the temperature was in the low 40's when we awoke and broke camp at the Summersville Lake Retreat. Our organizer Dr. David Herron had been going over river levels and we were excited to have enough water to paddle the seldom-run Williams River from Tea Creek to Three Forks of Williams. We drove along the Cranberry River and saw it was very clogged with wood from the recent floods. We put in at the bridge at the Tea Creek Camp Ground. We ran into Doug Ackerman and his group of West Virginia paddlers. We drove up slowly and scouted for wood and strainers and noticed some danger areas, then ran shuttle. It would be a misty day in the mid 40's and I wondered if I would ever get to get out of my drysuit to paddle this year. Our group was Dr. David Herron, Cliff Wire, Jen & Phil Raber, Tara & Jim Scarborough, and I. There were a lot of rapids and miles of fun boogy water. Several rapids were technical and several were pushy in fast turning slots. The last rapid was a fun boof into current from river right. We socialized and snacked at the takeout and everyone started their long drives back home. Another great weekend with the Keelhaulers.



Cliff Wire-Creeking



Dr. David after last falls



Easy at the Start



Jen and Phil

June	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
6/1,2	TRPC Slippery Rock Clinic Membership in KHCC or TRPC REQUIRED - Deadline May 18th	13-19	Joe Marks	216-533-0604
6/1	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Sabine Iben/Needs organizer	440-543-4969
6/1	(5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release	26	April Hollis	703-915-6382
6/6,13,20,27	Thursday Rolling Practice at Nimisila Reservoir (OH) 5:00-7:00PM but call Matt first	20-28	Matt Muir	312-943-5397
6/8	(1) Cuyahoga River, Peninsula to Boston Mills (OH)	SK/FW	Ann Corey	330-869-6549
6/8,9	Mark Hanna and Carl Schneider Memorial Swiftwater Clinic (WV) More Information Limited to 10, Register early only \$85/person		Joe Marks	216-533-0604
6/8,9	(5) New River (WV)	26	Dave Herron	513-739-5329
6/9	(1) Lake Erie Water Trail - Vermilion or Black portion	SK/FW	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
6/11	Club Meeting - Wendy Park on Whiskey Island	SK/FW	Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
6/15,16	(4) Lower Yough - permits (PA)	23	April Hollis	703-915-6382 C
6/15,16	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
6/21,22	Upper Yough (MD) First Saturday Release	32	John Kobak	440-871-1758 440-554-1383
6/28,29	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	

The Essence of Chuck

Like a child, I am adventurous and free. I am passionate about life. I am alive, alert and carefree. As I fully engage the spirit of joy within me, my life is uplifted and my excitement and exuberance bless the world.



When good friends walk beside us...
On the trails that we must keep...
Our burdens seem less heavy...
and the hills are not so steep...
The weary miles pass swiftly...
Taken in a joyous stride...
And all the world seems brighter...
When friends walk by your side.

Do not stand by my grave and weep
I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow.
I am the diamond glints on snow.
I am the sunlight on ripened grain.
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awake in the morning hush
I am the swift uplifting rush
Of quiet birds in circling flight.
I am the soft starlight at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry;
I am not there; I did not die.

In one of the stars
I shall be living...
In one of them
I shall be laughing...
And so it will be
as if all the stars
were laughing
when you look
at the sky at night.

2013 Club Officers

President: Michael Duvall 216-521-0094
VP: **Needed**
Secretary: Donna Homberg 440-236-8360
Treasurer: Joe Marks 216-281-1517

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, on the second Tuesday of each month

Doors open at 7:00 P.M., meeting starts at 7:30 P.M.

Membership: \$20 per year. New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone, send directly to

Membership Chairman: **John Kobak, 440-871-1758**
1649 Allen Dr.
Westlake, OH 44145

Any opinions, views or recommendations expressed in the articles in this Newsletter are those of the article's author. Printing these articles in no way implies approval or advocacy of any of the opinions, views or recommendations by the Keel-Haulers Canoe Club or any of its Officers, editor, or members. Water sports are a potentially dangerous activity. Keel-Haulers Canoe Club recommends and encourages all of its members and others to abide by all laws, regulations and recommended practices when engaging in such activity. Each member is responsible for assessing her/his own abilities and for not engaging in activities which are beyond those limits. Members assume any and all risk when choosing to participate in any activity and the Keel-Haulers Canoe Club is not responsible for any damages resulting from such participation.

KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

Non- Commercial advertising is free to all members. To place an ad, send the information the way you want it to appear. Please write or call when item is sold. It will appear for 2 months unless canceled. Commercial ads may be submitted by club member's owned businesses four times each year with a maximum of four lines of copy per ad.

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **July issue of the newsletter is **6/24/13**. Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.**   

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor 
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
June, 2013



Keelhauler's Ka-news JULY, 2013



Next Club Outing is Tuesday, July 9th at Silver Lake

Program: Outdoor Meeting: Paddling & Pot Luck Picnic

Be sure to bring your boat and paddle around in the lake, kayaks can try roll practice. Bring your kids and bathing suits for the beach. Come anytime after 5 PM. We will serve the picnic dinner from 7-7:30 pm. We can use the lake until about 8:30 pm. Additionally, there will be our annual race around the island. Try out someone else's boat or windsurfer.

Please bring a dish according to the first letter of your last name:

A-E: Salad, Vegetable or Baked beans

F-L: Chips or Appetizer

M-R: Dessert or Fruit

S-Z: Potato or Macaroni Salad

The club will supply hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments, tableware,
and soft drinks.

[Map to Silver Lake](#)

All meetings are open to guests. Invite a prospective member!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Michael Duvall

Our next meeting in July will be an outdoor pot luck picnic at Silver Lake. See the meeting notice on line to see what you can bring. The club will be providing hamburgers and hotdogs. Although our long time member and resident of Silver Lake Jim Tyree passed away a year ago we were still able to get permission to use their facilities so be sure to thank any of the residents for their hospitality.

The Slip Clinic was very successful last month with 10 club members taking instruction and at least 5 members teaching. Instructors included Joe and Eric Marks, Jen and Phil Raber, and Carl Nelson. If you missed out on this event there will be the Turkey bash at the Lower Yough in August (see TRPC web site).

If you have done the lower Slip but have not done the Lower Yough, and think you are ready, July has the Yough Intro trip organized by Fran Hoven. This is an excellent opportunity because there

will be many experienced boaters to help. Be sure to contact Fran early because there are only a limited number of permits available.

Be safe and I'll see you on the river,

Michael

Minutes from the June 11, 2013, Keelhauler Meeting
Wendy Park on Whiskey Island
By Donna Homberg

3 people attended. Weather was questionable; detour for filming Captain America was a challenge (thanks for the map). The 3 in attendance paddled the area and up the Cuyahoga River a bit. A good evening's recreation.

A Cold Day on the Savage
By April Holli

June 1 was the first Savage release of 2013, and although I didn't confirm it, a few of us thought there was a little more water than a typical release, which just added to the pleasure of this stretch. There were far fewer paddlers on the Savage than past releases (due partially to the TRPC Slip Clinic being on the same day I'm guessing), which made the shuttles fast and efficient allowing us to do three runs.

Ten boaters made up our group: April, Brent, Michael, Debbie, Eric, Lisa, Jeff, Brandon, Glenn, and Hank. One of our group forgot his paddle but fortunately someone had a spare. It was a funny "coincidence" that shortly after lending his spare paddle, this person dropped his own Seven2 paddle on the borrower's head. Fortunately no damage to head or paddle.

Without my knowledge, someone had told many of the group that I was to probe, so off we went, and things started slow but soon we experienced our first swim. Everyone worked together really well for a quick rescue ... and we were off again... oh wait our second swim occurs almost instantly. This swim was more brutal resulting in not only bumps and bruises but a strained neck that resulted in a hike back to the put in. Down a paddler, the group paddled on anxious to get back to the top to check on our injured friend. We were pleased to see her relaxed and warm. So off we go for run two.

I asked if anyone wanted to probe on the second run and Glen said he would appreciate the opportunity to lead. Since this has been the practice on our Savage trips, we were more than happy to oblige. This run saw three swims, with one being particularly long and cold, and requiring a long recovery time under a blanket. A few flips are normal but one flip resulted in a cut nose and eyebrow in spite of the fact that a full face helmet was being worn. Guess we know where the Savage got its name! With the bleeding somewhat controlled we agreed to paddle out and better dress the wound back at the put in. Again a no-wait shuttle.

On our third run (down four now as Debbie stayed to treat the injured), the river was kind and seemed to take pity on us. We had a uneventful but very fun run with boaters fully utilizing every wave, hole and rock as they played their way down the river.

One lesson learned on the trip is not to follow a playboat over a dam. On two different runs, Deb had to backpaddle above the dam as she was repeatedly signaled forward by me when the playboater appeared to wash out, only to get frantic 'stay back' signals seconds later when he was sucked back into the hydraulic.

Thanks all who came out on this trip! I look forward to our next adventure!

David's New River Trip – June 7,8,9 (Fri, Sat, Sun)

By David Herron

I cannot recall when I first met Doug Ackerman, but I do know that he was Bud Chavez' safety boater when Bud took me for my first ride down the Upper Yough. Doug has helped me on several KeelHauler trips including the Upper Gauley and my New River KH trip last June. Anyway, he's a great leader for both the Gauley and the New, and I again called on his expertise for this weekend.

My adventure began just before 3:00pm Friday afternoon. Doug and I were to meet at the New River Visitor Center. I was a bit early, and was in my truck changing into some paddling gear. Doug pulled up with a friend from Huntington. They had already left a vehicle down at Fayette Station, and we had to get going, because, Doug exclaimed, there was 20,000 cfs headed down the river. (When I had checked in the morning, about 8am, Thurmond was at 5450cfs (5.48', which corresponds to 2.69' at Fayette Station, according to Kobak's calculator). Doug said that Bluestone had started releasing at about 8 in the morning, and that Hinton was about 6-7 hours upstream of Thurmond which in turn is about one hour upstream of Cunard. So, if we hurried...

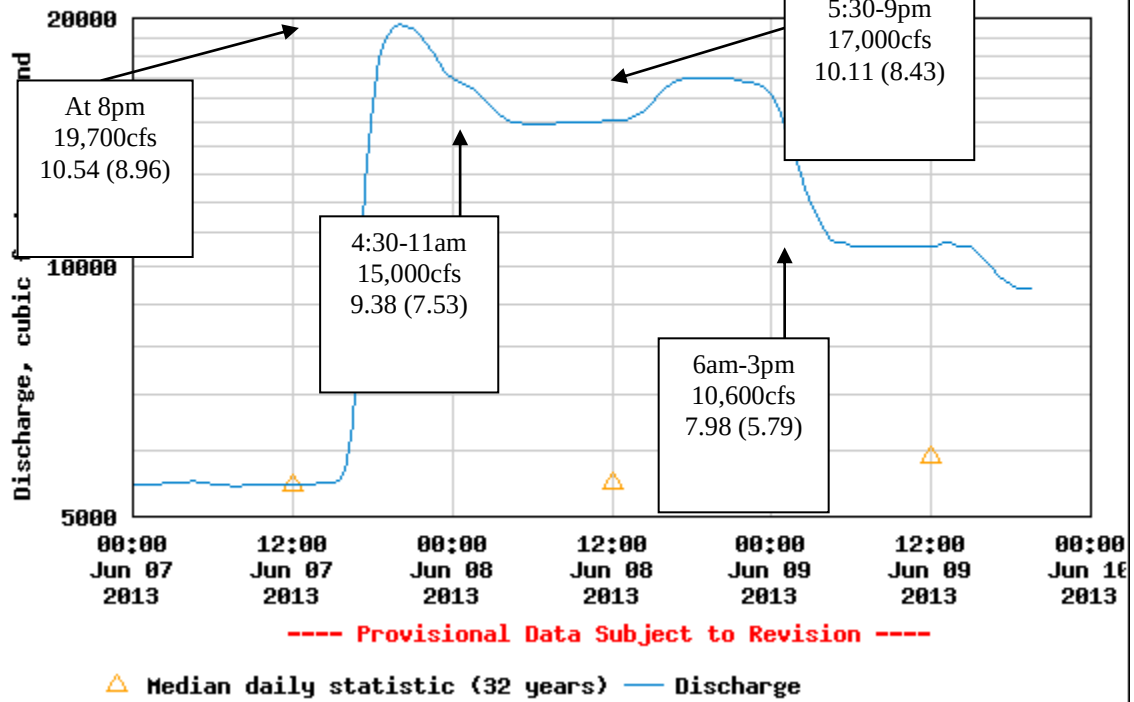
So, we dashed off to Cunard with me contemplating the possibility of something causing us to end up in the middle of that slug of water. I had to pee.

We got on the river about 4pm; saw almost nobody—maybe a few kayakers and 2 or 3 rafts—and managed to stay well ahead of the hurricane runoff. In fact, the river started to rise around 1pm at Thurmond—so around 2 at Cunard—and was probably about 5500cfs (5.52' or 2.74'FS by Kobak's calc) when we put on. As you can see on the graph, we did run just ahead of a pile of water! We read about 2.7' when we got above Fayette Station. It was gray and misty, a tad bit cool, but the water was warm. When Doug and I got dropped off back at the Visitor's Center, we stood in the parking lot and watched as the fog/mist/clouds just drifted by. Driving south on 19 the bridge was completely fogged in: it looked as if we were about to drive off the edge of the world.

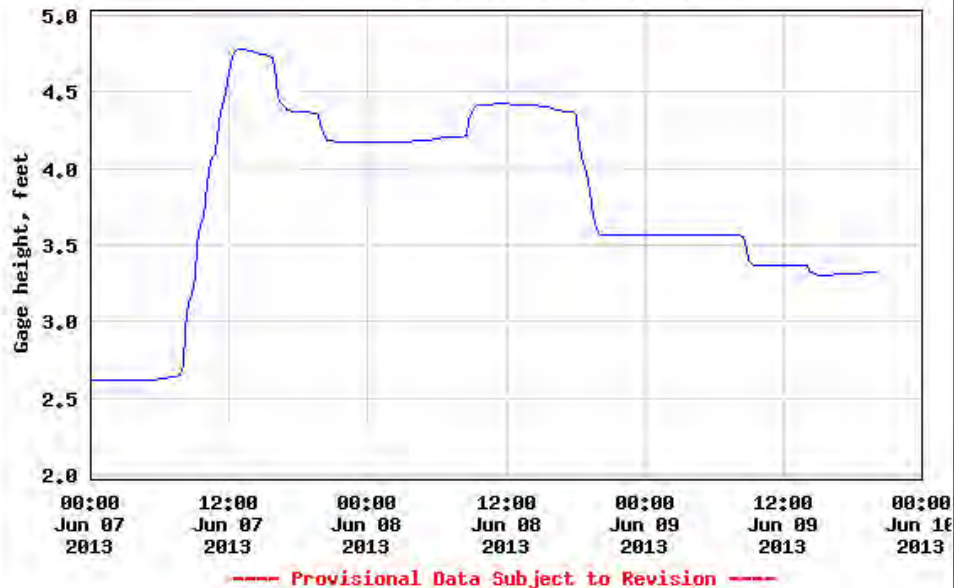
After stopping for dinner at Pies & Pints, we headed back to Cunard to pick up Doug's truck. There was a sea of brown water there! The large rock that you usually see right at the put-in was completely covered up. Doug guessed that the river was already at 7'. It eventually went up to nearly 20,000cfs. We were at Cunard about 7:30pm, which corresponds to 6:30pm at Thurmond, and the river was then at 17,900cfs (10.11' or 8.43'FS by Kobak's calculator).

I was a little concerned as to what we could run the next day. Doug was trying to tell me that 10,000cfs on the Dries was really not too high—just getting there he kept saying. We went "around the corner" to Doug's place (he lives about 1 mile from Cunard) and he got on the internet. By looking at the Hinton gauge we could see that they had already cut back the flow from Bluestone dam; see the first drop in the Hinton graph below at about 4pm. From his previous experiences, Doug guessed that the flow would be around 17,000cfs which would give us 7,000cfs on the Dries. Fortunately (for me☺) they dropped it a second time and the flow was "only" 15,000cfs, so we had 5,000cfs on the Dries.

USGS 03185400 NEW RIVER AT THURMOND, WV



USGS 03184500 NEW RIVER AT HINTON, WV



Our group (Doug & I, Phil & Jen Raber, Debbie Avallone, and Glenn Wagner) met at the Visitor's Center, agreed on running the Dries, and headed off to the put in. I was nervous, but looking forward to running the Dries. I know that I ran it once years ago, and maybe even twice, but was pretty sure that it was at a much lower level. I felt pretty comfortable with 5000cfs—heck, we had just run the Gorge at 5500cfs! Then Doug had to comment that sometimes they do not divert the full 10,000cfs thru the tunnel, so maybe we'd have a bit more than 5000. As we drove over the river, Doug seemed certain that we had about 5000.

We unloaded boats and the drivers took off for the takeout. They would leave 3 vehicles there, which would give us the option for a second run if we wanted. Meanwhile, Jen and I carried most of the boats down to the river. (Sorry Debbie and Glen!)

The first $\frac{3}{4}$ mile or so went well, although there was plenty of turbulence. Then Doug commented that things were about to pick up. It did! Somewhere along in here I misjudged and did not get left of a large rock and ended up dropping between two large boulders right into a hole; but the river favored me that day and surfed me all the way to the hole's edge where a few frantic strokes pulled me free. Whew. And nobody saw this as I was running sweep. This level was certainly higher and significantly pushier than what I remembered from my previous run(s)!

The hardest and longest rapid on the Dries is Mile Long Rapid. Just before we got there, Doug spun around on a wave and got a good long surf. Meanwhile, we all scampered into a river left eddy. After his surf, we headed to the right for the next rapid, the one just above Mile Long.



Doug surfing



The rapid above Mile Long

We eddied out above Mile Long Rapid and Doug explained the idea: center and right—back and forth—to avoid the obstacles (rocks & holes), and be sure to eddy out **right** at the bottom. Everybody did fine.

From the large eddy on river right, the last move is a strong ferry between two large holes; this reminded me a lot of Hook on the Tygart, but it's a much longer ferry across a stouter current.



Deb safe in eddy with cliffs above her

The next hard rapid is Landslide. Doug described two possible routes here, and we took the leftmost. This involved a boof across some turbulence into some more turbulence. Several of us had to work pretty hard to get into the turbulent eddy, but everybody eventually made it. (This reminded me of a similar line at BFR on the Lower Gauley, but it was considerably more difficult.) Then we still had to work thru and around a number of other boulders.

Soon enough we were past the outflow from the tunnel. Doug cautioned us that there was some funky water below the RR bridge, and he sure was right. We took out just below the campground on river right: a 15 foot carry to the parking lot ☺. We took a short lunch break; I ate my grapefruit. Then we loaded our six boats and selves onto and into Doug's truck and headed upriver for our second lap! As we all knew what to expect and understood the lines, we made good time going down river this run. There was no stopping above Mile Long, and several of us were breathing hard by the time we got to the eddy at the bottom. I heard a few comments that mirrored my own performance: getting complacent and sloppy and pushed around. We continued down to Landslide, but this time we opted for the rightmost line. This was a much more straightforward boof into an eddy.



Jen and Glen entering Landslide going for the right boof (somebody's head is just below horizon line)

I think we were off the river about 3:00. This gave us plenty of time to get home, hang gear, shower, and still be able to meet at Pies & Pints at 5:00. By the time we left the pizza joint there was a looong line of folks waiting to be seated. Everybody was hoping for another day on the Dries.

I was staying at Doug's place—my truck was loaded with “stuff” for my cabin—but we all went to Ray's Campground so that Debbie could practice her pyro skills and Jen could make smores. Doug and I helped by chopping wood. Doug also showed us his fire starting skills.



When we got back to Doug's place, and got on the internet, it became clear that there would not be enough flow for the Dries. But there would be 10,600cfs (7.98', or 5.79FS by Kobak's calc) in the Gorge! Doug has always said that the 2'-4' range is the "most fun" and that at high water, which he says starts about 5', the New is a lot more open, albeit much pushier and more turbulent. He kept saying that at 5' the only important move is to **get left after Upper Keeney**—you don't want to run Middle Keeney on the right.

Sunday we again met at the Visitor's Center; Glenn had driven home but now Brent Hendren and April Hollis joined us for our high water adventure. We might very well have been the first group on the river that day, although there were two play boaters that put on at the same time. Upper, Middle, & Lower Railroad came and went. Doug commented that this stretch was a good indication of what would be in store for us for the rest of the day; however, it would be more turbulent with much bigger waves. Yes. We eddied out on river right above Upper Keeney. Doug explained the plan. At this level, he usually runs Upper & Middle together, but he was concerned that the folks at the end of our group would not see his line at Middle, so we were going to eddy about behind—well behind—Elephant Rock (aka, Whale Rock). Doug also explained the line for Middle Keeney, just in case somebody missed the eddy. Doug peeled out with Jen close behind, then me, Debbie, April, Brent, & Phil sweeping. We cheated the huge Upper Keeney waves just a tad to the right. I was sticking my butt into a really large wave hoping to get a surf into the eddy when I saw Doug and Jen washing out the bottom of the eddy: if they weren't stopping, I sure was not going to either!

I saw the big floppy wave at the top of Middle Keeney that Doug had described. Well, I saw that I was being hurtled towards it; so, I said, David, ya gotta get to the left of that. Done. Now, ya gotta get back to the right. Done. (Well, much easier said than done!) Now I'm floating sideways, but am just to the right of some seriously huge waves! No problem, except that I have to get back into and across that wave train before getting pushed into Lower Keeney: paddle, paddle harder, breathe, breathe harder. We all did great! We were in the left side eddy above Lower Keeney. Doug's line: start center, look for the "vee", and punch hard right across a diagonal to land in very large eddy. Piece of cake! Stop to pee. Run some more large wave trains. A humungous wave in Dudley's Dip. Double Zee is supposed to be "wide open"; it is, although it sure packs a wallop at this level. There are plenty more large wave trains and large holes to dodge everywhere in the rapids below.

Some really big waves at the bottom of Lower Kaymor lie right alongside the squirrely eddy line. One of these slaps one of us over and we have our one and only rescue of the day. Doug points out that we did a great rescue job as we were directly above Teacher's Pet which is a bad sieve that only comes into play at higher flows; we could see the current pushing right into it.



Us, missing photographer Phil, above Fayette Station



Kobak's calculator looks correct

Two more big rapids: Undercut and Fayette Station. Both harbor huge crashing waves, powerful currents, and turbulent runout. A great finish for a very fun day on the New Gorge.

Doug has always told me that paddling the New—both the Gorge and the Dries—at higher flows is the best practice for running the Grand Canyon. He’s absolutely correct. The skills needed to maneuver in the New at these levels are just what one needs for the Canyon.

I am grateful to Doug for his expert lead and his hospitality, and glad to have had everybody on the trip.

06/08/2013 02:00 EDT	16200P	9.69P
06/08/2013 02:30 EDT	15900P	9.61P
06/08/2013 03:00 EDT	15600P	9.53P
06/08/2013 03:30 EDT	15300P	9.47P
06/08/2013 04:00 EDT	15200P	9.43P
06/08/2013 04:30 EDT	15000P	9.39P
06/08/2013 05:00 EDT	15000P	9.38p
06/08/2013 05:30 EDT	14900P	9.37P
06/08/2013 06:00 EDT	14900P	9.37P
06/08/2013 06:30 EDT	14900P	9.37p

Road Food

By Angela Baldo

I like whitewater kayaking. Since you're reading this, you probably do too. As a sport people often joke that it involves 90% driving around looking for rivers, 25% drinking beer, and 5% actual paddling. While the ratios are usually a little better than that, it’s definitely an activity I view as a REASON to stay in shape rather than a WAY to stay in shape. In my first season I spent nearly 300 hours sitting in a boat, almost 100 days. That translates into a LOT of driving and eating on the go. As a female in her mid-40s who is trying to maintain a 186-lb weight loss, this leads to some challenging situations.

Compounded with the hours sitting on my butt driving is the fact I’m frequently with buddies who do not need to watch their calories and do not want to spend a lot of money. A typical carful of us might include several males between the ages of 19 and 34 and me. We stay in the cheapest accommodations possible (often camping next to the car along a dirt road) and eat as cheaply as possible. The beer? Well, PBR is often a favorite. I usually bring along a case of Yuenling Light so there is a lower calorie alternative available in case I want some too.

But food is the main issue. I am not going to fill up on pizza, or wings, or cheese puffs, or corned beef hash from a can. Instead I go to the grocery store. Yup, the local market in whatever Podunkville place we happen to be. As an aside, I should add that I actually LIKE out of the way places and one of the joys of kayaking has been discovering the various Podunkvilles and the people who live there. They are often friendly and kind and not what you’d expect from watching movies like Deliverance.

Back to the grocery store. First, it is fast. I can usually find what I want and get out of there within 25 minutes. Second, there is Real Food in there, unlike what is available at gas stations and convenience stores. Third, you usually can figure out what is actually IN the food because it’s labeled. This makes it possible to put it into the tracker on my iPhone.

If I’m just shopping for one meal I might pick up some baby carrots, some fresh salsa if they have it, mustard, lean deli slices of turkey or chicken (I try to find the kind with the lowest sodium) or a few envelopes of tuna and/or salmon, some oranges or apples, a bag of pre-washed lettuce, and low-carb

sandwich wraps. If they have low fat deli slices of cheese I'll get those too. It can be fun to get a bottle of Mrs. Dash or some variety of salt free seasoning to sprinkle on the sandwiches. If there is fresh basil I'll put that in sandwiches, too. If they have unsalted almonds I'll sometimes pick up some of those, too.

For camping I'll sometimes buy a carton of eggs for hard boiling. Dinners frequently include frozen salmon or shrimp or boneless skinless chicken breasts, red and green bell peppers, and a sweet onion. I roast these in a basket over the campfire while my buddies are eating canned ravioli and hot dogs. I have been accused of "eating gourmet food like a queen" by these bemused paddling buddies. Some of them have even been converted and eat with me now, instead!

Lunches on the river are assembled from the wrap ingredients, dinner leftovers (if there are any) and a hard boiled egg or two. Hot sauce packets from restaurants can be used to season the eggs. If I know I'm going to be bringing a lunch in the boat I usually buy or bring some quart-sized Ziploc freezer bags.

Sub shops and pizza places

Sometimes there isn't a grocery handy and we're just looking to satisfy the need for a single meal. In that case a sub shop or pizza place will usually have the raw ingredients suitable for making a salad. If you buy or bring a spritzer dressing, you're good to go even if they don't usually make salads. I generally ask for 2-3 times the amount of the cooked turkey or chicken they usually put on a salad, no croutons, very little cheese, and lots of different green things and tomatoes, etc. If I feel like having more protein I might add tuna from one of my packets. Almonds or flax seeds can be added for extra crunch.

Survival Food

I like to carry protein bars and miniature Clif Bars with me at all times. I keep them in the car and stuff them into the pocket of my PFD. These are necessary for those times when there is either no food available or no food that I feel comfortable eating. They are also excellent anti-bonking supplies while on the river. Miniature Clif Bars are perfect because they don't have a coating that melts (like Luna Bars), they're individually wrapped so it doesn't matter if they get wet, and they're small enough to choke down in an eddy between drops. Dixie Diner Soy Rocks protein bars are a great emergency option - they have a LOT of protein and fiber in them relative to the calories, and stop hunger in its tracks. And they're not so tasty that I'll ever be tempted to binge on them. Quest bars are somewhere in between; more palatable than the Soy Rocks (they're about as appetizing as they sound), more protein and fiber than the Clif bites.

The bottom line here is that it is possible to make relatively healthy food choices while on the road, even if you've got limited time, a limited budget, and friends along who aren't interested in nutrition. And if you take a little extra time you can even track it if you have a mobile device like a PDA, smart phone, or iPod.

Angela Baldo is half the woman she used to be and spends her time contra dancing and kayaking in Upstate NY, preferably in moving water (the kayaking is in moving water, not the dancing. That's usually on dry land). You can see her throwing the universal kayaking gang gesture on national TV, here:

<http://www.today.com/video/today/48286287>

FOR SALE!!!

After 30 years, the Red Cross boating program is liquidating the gear. It would be good (and inexpensive) for beginner boaters. Proceeds go back to the ARC disaster services.

As far as boats, there is a Pirouette, 2 Pirouett-S's, 2 Corsica-S's, 2 or 3 Pirannhas, 2 Dagger Crossfires. Airbags included They were all used as instructional boats. \$150 per piece, or \$225 if you want a paddle, helmet, PFD, and nylon spray skirt with it. There is also a 12' whitewater Dagger solo canoe which is priced at \$100. Same deal for the canoe. Another \$75 for the paddle, PFD, and helmet. Lashings are believed to be still intact.

There are also some relatively new (some never used) Lotus whitewater lifejackets. They all have ARC written in waterproof marker on the back, but are otherwise in excellent/like-new condition. Mostly L and XL, some XXL. \$20-35, depending on wear, and if they still have the purchase tags on them. There are also some neoprene skirts, a few throw bags, many Protec helmets, and an old canoe trailer (the original, all steel, rusted but solid) with an under basket. Will consider offers.

If anyone is interested in history, there is a helmet circa 1978, that is heavy as h_ll and looks like part of an old diving suit. If there were a whitewater museum somewhere, I'd donate it!

I can get stuff as far east as NewCastle (my sister lives there). I only get to the Yough 2-4 times a year anymore.

Sherie Sanzenbacher
ssanzenbacher@windstream.net

EXPLORE Water

An Essential Element for Fun

June is Pennsylvania Rivers Month, so it's the perfect time to talk about water - how we need it, how we can protect it, how we can enjoy it! Have you visited the iConservePA website lately? There's a new section there called "[H2O: Home 2 Outdoors](#)" and it's all about this most precious of resources.

This year's River of the Year (by a very close vote indeed) is the Monongahela of western Pennsylvania (and West Virginia) so a special salute goes to this long-industrial and now beautifully recovering resource. The Monongahela holds a very special place in the lives of the people who grew up along its banks - simply [read the comments](#) to the Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds & Rivers' official announcement of the win and you'll understand just how special those memories of the mighty Mon are.

In 1999, former executive vice president of the venerable [Waterways Association of Pittsburgh](#) Arthur Parker wrote a book called [Monongahela, River of Dreams, River of Sweat](#). In it, he notes that "The Mon is, and always has been, a river in transition." Can't the same be said for us all?

-Pam Metzger, Membership & Volunteer Coordinator
Pennsylvania Parks & Forests Foundation
<http://www.paparksandforests.org>

IN MEMORIAM CHUCK SINGER—FURTHER REMINISCING

By Andy Gross

When Chuck came in a room he would light it up. At the monthly meeting of our club, whenever he brought back his pictures and would recount his memorable events from faraway places we knew it would not be a dull travelogue. In particular he has taken delight in his Asian travels, the jungles and rivers, the people and places. There would be insights on the habits of the folks in the countryside and also about the flood of humanity in teeming urban neighborhoods. We learned how fearlessly he moved about, how he chose to visit memorable sites, and how he chose low-cost lodging and flavorful meals particular to the region. In short, he did what we should all do when visiting others—blend in, adopt local customs, cherish the differences and note the similarities. Chuck's trips were not just about marking off countries on the map, but much more about absorbing culture and diversity.

Some other memorable moments come to mind. In one, having gone to his house in Sheffield Lake, Chuck and his dog came out, both grinning, saying welcome. In the next minute he is working on my boat, adjusting the foam pads, wondering why I could not execute the task, just smiling when I say, "hey, am Andy, but am really not too handy, thanks for helping me, you are a real buddy." Later, that same month, as near as I recall, we are on the nearby Black river, with good company, easy boating. The talk flows, we take photos and then later I file the group picture where we are all standing and also the other one that Chuck snapped of me in my old black Perception Matrix.

And here is the third remembrance, a bit embarrassing, but what the heck; it involves the same boat as above. This happened over a decade ago on the Cuyahoga in the early days of a cold April and was my only major mishap on a river. Guess I will not be out solo on the 1st of April again when air and water temps do not add to 100F. At the put-in in Peninsula yours truly was nervous, got upended, did not roll and came out. Saved self and the paddle, but the boat was gone. The park rangers and the Peninsula police came out, comforted me and did their usual rescue questions. No, I did not need go to emergency and did not have injuries. Later that month I took large pizzas to both, thanking them, promising not to do it again.

Next day, after posting on the website, Chuck and Pat Guzowski graciously agreed to help me look for the boat from Peninsula on down to Boston Mills and even down to Vaughn road, but we did not find it. It must be by now in the bottom of the river or Lake Erie—or someone's backyard, we will never know. Chuck and Pat encouraged me to "get back in the saddle" again. In fact, found an identical Perception Matrix a few weeks later and still have two of them. But I should add here that some time ago I switched to a Savage Skream —thanks to Brent Hendren and others- and it is working out well. I have taken it out on my beloved Slip and even the Lower Yough , though as of late, am doing more nearby, Ohio rivers.

My fourth and last memory of Chuck —and many other good folks in the Club- is their constant encouragement on the river: " Hey, Andy, you are doing just fine" or "you had a great line on the rapid." They would neither push me too much but nor would they hold me back. Always appreciated that fine line and hereby confess that so far I regularly have taken the sneak route at Dimple Rock on the Lower Yough. Who knows, some day I may attempt to aim at it, hang a sharp right and go into Swimmers, whooping and hollering and eventually high-fiving on the shore.

We have been blessed with great people in our Club, but Chuck was someone special. His appearance lighted up a room, enhanced the camaraderie on the river, and made us all think about the joy of living. His spirit lives on among us who have known him. Let us recall him as we go about our daily living, on our outings and as we go through the old photos in our collection or the yearbooks of our Club.



Morgan hitching a ride with Chuck on the Lower Yough, 2005

Another story about Chuck Singer

By John Kobak

After I wrote my little piece in last month's newsletter, I thought maybe everybody had a Chuck Singer story they would like to tell. Tonight, when I was selling two of Chuck's favorite kayaks to this guy Dave, he said I have a little story about when I met Chuck last fall. So here is his story. Please write your story for our August newsletter.

I was fortunate enough to have another volunteer willing to run Rocky River with me last night at our Tuesday evening paddle. When I pulled into the parking lot, I was met by a scruffy-looking hippy type named Chuck, who shook my hand and said he was interested in accompanying me. Now, I'd originally thought a woman named Daphne was going to be my companion for the night, and although I've never met said Daphne, I'm pretty sure she'd be more enjoyable company than this guy looked to be. No insult to Daphne intended, but boy, was I wrong.

I cautiously informed Chuck that the river flow was very low, about as low as I'd ever run, and we were in for some rocks. He shrugged it off and told me it'd be no problem. His kayak sported some serious "character", supporting the claim that this guy was no stranger to rocks, so I relaxed a bit on that count.

I could try to explain the specifics of the subsequent cat-herding session, wherein we all attacked the problem of how to get everyone and their kayaks on the river and then back to their cars, but your head would explode. Every time it looked like we had a fairly simple methodology in place, Bill would offer another, much more complicated idea. When I raised an eyebrow I was informed that resistance was futile...Bill was the man, where such situations are concerned. Suffice it to say, Chuck and I ended up at the put-in with our boats and put-in we did.

As we began our adventure, Chuck gave me some hints about his kayaking background. I began to realize that I was in the presence of someone with a LOT more experience paddling than myself (understatement of Olympian proportions). And if his anecdotes weren't enough, watching him handle that boat was an education. I've watched plenty of YouTube videos about paddling technique, and come away with the attitude that people are just way overcomplicating this shit just for the sake of it.

Nobody needs more than 4 different paddle strokes to get down a river. But watching Chuck, I realized that someone who actually knows HOW to use a large menu of strokes can certainly do some amazing things with his boat.

As the trip progressed I began to let him lead through the various rapids and over the fords, and as a result, I experienced the smoothest trip down that river, ever, despite the almost nonexistent water flow. Watching Chuck size up a rapid is like watching a fat chick choose a piece of chocolate from an assortment box....he actually stops dead and examines it, then works his way through the rocks like it's a maze, stopping completely at times and rotating his boat 180 degrees, if required. Following him required a whole new level of control on my part, as I struggled to not only follow his meandering path, but avoid ramming into the back of him and pushing him through with my boat. Which I did a number of times, despite my best intentions....sorry, Chuck.

For some reason the river was inundated with fishermen who, due to the low water level, were all standing right smack in the middle of the river. Or, more specifically, right in MY WAY. Now, had I been alone, words like, "Hey, douchbag, get the hell out of the way," might have been uttered, but Chuck demonstrated his experience paddling in exotic places by being the perfect ambassador of the kayak community. He smiled, nodded, and was very pleasant to everyone, and narry a cross word was spoken. Once more, I was being schooled by this man.

Chuck replied when he read David Ryder's story; "Thanks David for the great trip report but I think of myself as "ruggedly handsome" not scruffy. I do have a large variety of paddle strokes and if all else fails, I just get out of my boat and walk ON the water. It was a wonderful paddle and you are a very good paddler who will only get better with more experience. As to fishermen, never anger ANYONE who can stick some sharp, pointy thing in your body."

July	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
7/5,6, 8	Upper Yough (MD)	32	John Kobak	440-871-1758 440-554-1383
7/7	(5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release	26	Jerry Spence	614-552-7740
7/9	Club Picnic at Silver Lake	SK/FW	Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
7/11,18,25	Thursday Rolling Practice at Nimisila Reservoir (OH) 5:00-7:00PM but call Matt first	20-28	Matt Muir	312-943-5397
7/13-21	Ottawa River (Canada) A play boat trip	27-32	Jim Murtha	614-282-3293
7/14	(1) Lake Erie Water Trail - Vermilion or Black portion	SK/FW	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
7/14	Canoe & Kayak Orienteering Race Walborn Reservoir -Alliance, OH	SK/FW	Bob Boltz	330-928-8635
7/19,20	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Bill Warble	412-651-0112
7/20,21	(4) Lower Yough (PA) - Intro weekend - permits	23	Fran Hoven	216-375-3718
7/20,21	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
7/26,27	Upper Yough (MD) - Paddle Fri, Sat Race & Festival is Saturday, 6 hr release, Race at 4pm Friendsville Days - Fri 6:00-10:00 PM, Sat 12-10 PM	32	John Kobak	440-871-1758 440-554-1383
7/27,28	(4) Lower Yough (PA) - Skill Builder Weekend	23	April Hollis Brent Hendren	703-915-6382 330-414-2063
7/27,28	(5) New River (WV)	26	Cecil Tickamyer	814-234-1062
August				
8/1,8,15,22	Thursday Rolling Practice at Nimisila Reservoir (OH) 5:00-7:00PM but call Matt first	20-28	Matt Muir	312-943-5397
8/2,3	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Doug Smith	419-823-1423
8/3,4	(4)TRPC Turkey Bash at Lower Yough Turkey Bash Latest Info & Forms KHCC members same as TRPC	23	Joe Marksz	216-281-1517 216-533-0604 C
8/15	(4) Lower Yough - Skip Work Day (PA)	23	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
8/16	(4) Lower Yough - Ladies Only Day (PA)	23	Sherie Sanzenbacher	440-298-1293

2013 Club Officers

President:	Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
VP:	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
Secretary:	Donna Homberg	440-236-8360
Treasurer:	Joe Marksz	216-281-1517

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, on the second Tuesday of each month
Doors open at 7:00 P.M., meeting starts at 7:30 P.M.

Membership: \$20 per year. New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone, send directly to

Membership Chairman: **John Kobak, 440-871-1758**

1649 Allen Dr.

Westlake, OH 44145

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Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **August issue of the newsletter is **7/24/13**. Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.** 📧 📅 📁

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor 🍀
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
July, 2013



Keelhauler's Ka-news AUGUST, 2013



**Next Club Meeting Saturday, August 17th at 6:30 PM
at Tall Oaks Campground near Ohiopyle, PA**

Program: Picnic in PA

All Levels of Paddling & Waterfall Running on the weekend with a Saturday night picnic!



We'll be doing something different this month. Instead of a Tuesday meeting, the club meeting will be Saturday, August 17. This is the same weekend as the club Yough trips. There will be an opportunity for all types kayaking, canoeing or viewing. Yough Lake for the flatwater paddlers, Middle, Lower & Upper Yough depending on your skill level for paddlers. There are also beautiful biking & hiking paths for those that choose not to paddle in the area.

Saturday evening at 6:30 pm will be a Potluck Picnic Dinner at Tall Oaks campground for members, family and friends. You do not have to camp here to join the picnic.

The club will supply hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments, tableware and soft drinks.

Members should bring appetizers, salads, vegetables and desserts according to your last name.

- ☐ A-F - Chips or Appetizer
- ☐ G-L - Dessert or Fruit
- ☐ M-S - Potato/Macaroni Salad
- ☐ T-Z - Salad/vegetable/or baked beans

[Pat Guzowski](#) 216-780-5734 is the Skip Work Day on the Lower Yough organizer for Thursday 8/15

[Debbie Avallone](#) 440-835-2547 is the Ladies Only Day on the Lower Yough organizer for Friday 8/16

[John Kobak](#) 440-554-1383 is the Upper Yough trip organizer for Friday & Saturday 8/17-18

[Karl Nelson](#) 330-497-2483 is the Lower Yough trip organizer for Saturday & Sunday 8/17-18

[Gene Baker](#) 440-320-4490 is the Middle Yough trip organizer for Saturday & Sunday 8/17-18

More details to follow on our Message Board.

Meeting/Dinner Questions? - Call 440-513-5921 or e-mail - [Michael Duvall](#)

[Tall Oaks Information](#)

[Tall Oaks Directions via new Mon-Fayette Turnpike](#)

All meetings are open to guests. Invite a prospective member!

Message from the President

By Michael Duvall

WOW! This has been the summer of high water, hope you have been paddling.

Our July meeting at Silver Lake was fairly well attended with 27 members. Although we had some rain John Kobak was able to move his grill under cover of the boat house. The food was great thanks to everyone that brought a dish to pass.

Our next meeting will be a picnic dinner at Tall Oaks on Saturday August 17 after paddling. The club will provide hamburgers and hotdogs. Members are encouraged to bring a guest. This will be a very busy weekend with "give your boss the bird day" Thursday and Ladies day on Friday.

Remember that anyone seeking more instruction there is the TRPC Turkey Bash at the Lower Yough on the first weekend in August. Advance registration is required so look at the TRPC web site for details.

Our membership and Officers terms expire on September 30 so be ready to renew your membership and volunteer to fill a role as Officer or Chair Person.

Be safe and I'll see you on the river,

Michael

Minutes from the July 9, 2013, Keelhauler Meeting

Club Picnic at Silver Lake

By Donna Homberg

We had 27 people for our paddle and picnic. Of course the rain started as we began to grill. Thanks to grill masters as they persevered in the rain and to all that contributed for the pot luck dinner. We were able to move into the pavilion. Many paddlers enjoyed the lake and the island race. Left behind was an NRS drybag. Will plan to bring it to the next meeting. Missed Hank Annable as we were told he was on Safari in Africa. We will looking to that trip report. Good to see Bob Boyce and his daughter Lydia.

Save the Date: 2013 Summer Send-Off Concert, September 7th

Call it mini-Cheat Fest, call it the Muddy Creek Festival, call it whatever you want...we are doing it again this year...the Summer Send-Off Concert! Saturday, September 7th from 4-10pm at the festival site in Albright, join Friends of the Cheat for live music, tasty food, select vendors, and foot-stomping fun! Tickets available soon, including combo concert and camping passes...stay tuned. Interested in volunteering or vending? Contact [Emma Donovan](mailto:emma.donovan@cheatfest@cheat.org) at cheatfest@cheat.org.

August	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
8/1,8,15,22	Thursday Rolling Practice at Nimisila Reservoir (OH) 5:00-7:00PM but call Matt first	20-28	Matt Muir	312-943-5397
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8/16,17	Upper Yough (MD)	32	John Kobak	440-554-1383
8/17	Club Meeting at Tall Oaks		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
8/17,18	(4) Lower Yough - permits available (PA) Call before Thursday at noon.	23	Karl Nelson	330-497-2483
8/17,18	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
8/23,24	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
8/30-9/2	Beaver River Fest (NY)	27-35	Angela Baldo	315-585-6274
8/30,31, 9/2	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
September	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
9/6	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Jim Hunt	330-335-5203
9/7,8	Upper Gauley (WV) - I will coordinate all Camping at Battle Run for Lower & Upper trips	27-33	John Kobak	440-554-1383
9/7,8	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Phil & Jen Raber	740-498-7063
9/10	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
9/14,15	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Needs organizer	
9/14,15	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
9/14,15	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Terry Markoff	440-543-4969
9/14,15	Upper Gauley (WV)	33	Needs organizer	
9/20-22	Upper Gauley (Festival Weekend) (WV)	33	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541

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1649 Allen Dr.
Westlake, OH 44145

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KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor 🍀
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
August, 2013



Keelhauler's Ka-news SEPTEMBER, 2013



Next Club Meeting Tuesday, September 10th

Doors open at 7:00 PM, Meeting is at 8:00 PM.
at Middleburg Hts Community Center
16000 E. Bagley Rd

Program: TBD

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

All meetings are open to guests.

Invite a prospective member!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Michael Duvall



The last of our summer meetings was a big success. The August meeting was held at Tall Oaks Campground after Pat G's "Give the boss the bird" Thursday trip and Fridays Ladies Day trip and Karl Nelson's monthly trip. We had burgers and hot dogs and roasted corn. The Yough Meeting had 27 participants. Of course all the picnics would not half as much fun without our volunteer cooks, Jim Hunt and Pat G. Elliott Drysdale helped with the setting up the area with tablecloths and displaying all the food, and then later surprised me with a birthday cake.

The September meeting will be back at Middleburg Hts. on the second Tuesday, Sept 10th.

Gauley season starts the first weekend after Labor Day. The Gauley has something for everyone. If you have done the Cheat at 3 feet or the New at any level, then you are ready to do the Lower Gauley. After you have done the Lower a few times and want to step up to the 5 class V rapids and many more class IV rapids, then try the Upper Gauley. Whichever section you choose to do, we have a trip for you almost every weekend. Party animals will enjoy Gauley Fest on Sept. 14. WARNING: watch your speed in Summerville and small towns like Gauley Bridge.

Be safe and I'll see you on the river,

Michael

Minutes from the August 17th, 2013, Keelhauler Meeting Club Picnic at Tall Oaks

27 attendees and no business...just fun!!!

It's that time again.....

All club memberships expire on October 1st. As soon as you can, please mail a \$20 check for your **2014** membership dues.

To:

**Keel Haulers Canoe Club
1649 Allen Dr
Westlake, OH 44145-2506**

Or pay \$21 using Paypal. Use this link to pay:

<http://keelhauler.org/khcc/thanks.htm>

You can review your current membership listing, using this link:

<http://keelhauler.org/khcc/members.htm>

User Name: "dir" and the current 2013 password found on pg 20 of our 2013 yearbook or see passwords sent out in our monthly e-mail.

If you need to change any information use this form:

http://keelhauler.com/khcc_registration.htm

To renew your membership you do not have to fill out an application, you only need to send your dues payment and any changes to your membership information.

Please encourage any of your non-member paddling friends to join/rejoin the club. The club offers a lot to paddlers of all skill levels at less than the price of a tank of gas to go paddling.

John Kobak

Skip Work Day a Great Success

by Jim Hunt

August 15th brought sun and around 18 paddlers to the Lower Yough boaters' lot for the annual Skip Work Day. Pat G. did a great job of talking to all the paddlers about the relatively high water level of 4.5 feet. After discussions with all, it was decided Skip Work Day would become three separate trips: Lower Yough, Middle Yough, and Stoneycreek. Pat would organize the Stoneycreek group and Jim would take the Lower Yough group. There were also a couple of Middle Yough interested boaters.

Ten paddlers including the return of Casey Brown and a rare Kelly Miller sighting decided to run the Lower Yough. Kelly was using a demo boat in preparation for a Grand Canyon run in late August. The group found a deserted river, and big Lower Gauley type wave trains.



Some of the Lower Yough gang

Interesting rapids at the higher level included: Entrance, Cucumber, Railroad, Dimple, and Rivers End. All had big waves and holes and some even required alternate lines. Everyone paddled well with only one swim (Mr. President) and lots of good combat rolls. After a couple hours run without much play, Jack was glad to see the only group of boaters of the day on the bus. Overall, a fun run at a great water level, empty river, sun and warm. What more could you want on Skip Work Day!



Chuck



Casey



Michael

Save the Date: 2013 Summer Send-Off Concert, September 7th

FOC's end-of-summer fundraising concert is just around the corner! Spend September 7 on the banks of the Cheat with friends, family, and a whole lot of local talent: besides amazing music, the [Send-Off](#) will feature food, art, and specialty vendors, including wine by Broken Tractor Winery. Bring a cooler, blanket or chair, and kick back for a night of great tunes-- or bring your tent and plan to camp!

Tickets only \$10!

Get them right [here](#).

Concert tickets are \$10 (kids under 12 come free) or \$18 to include camping at Teter's Campground. Buy them [online](#), at the FOC office in Kingwood (119 S. Price St. Suite 206), or at the gate. Event entrance is through [Teter's](#) off Route 26, with free parking available. All proceeds benefit Friends of the Cheat.

Help spread the word:

["Like" and "Share" our concert page on Facebook](#) -- or tell your friends the old fashioned way.

Want to help even more? **We're still looking for volunteers.** (You'll get free entry, an FOC koozie, and good karma). Interested folks should email Emma Donovan at emma@cheat.org.

Concert Lineup: Nothing But Favorites:

- Lindsey Jaquay (Meadow Run) and Jason Jaros (Halftime String Band) will bring their campfire spirit to folk and Americana as [Two Bulls in a China Shop](#)
- Singer/songwriter and guitarist [Andrew McKnight](#) will deliver his award-winning blend of rustic folk, blues, and swing Americana
- [Aurora Celtic](#) will bring to life the sounds of Scotland, Ireland and Appalachia with traditional and original arrangements featuring fiddle, flute, tenor banjo, and mandolin.
- Regional favorites [The Greens](#) will get everyone dancing with their electrifying original sound

NO GLASS RECYCLING! Pack It In, Pack It Out. Sadly, glass recycling at the fest site is a thing of the past. **Plan to bring cans-- or pack out your glass.**

Find event details and updates on our [website](#) and [Cheat Fest facebook page](#). Questions? Contact Emma Donovan at emma@cheat.org.

BACK TO ANUTA by Rick Feinberg

I haven't seen many of my Keel Haulers friends for some time, as I've spent a good part of the past two summers out in the Pacific. Last summer (summer, that is, in northern climes) I was in Samoa and Tokelau; this year I was in the Solomon Islands, visiting my old friends on Anuta. Neither expedition was conducive to river paddling, but I did get to spend time on and around moving water, much of it foamy and white.

Anuta is a small, remote Polynesian island in the Solomons where I lived for about a year in 1972-73, conducting research for my doctoral dissertation. I returned for shorter visits in 1983, 2000, and 2007; and on three additional occasions I've visited with people from Anuta in other parts of the Solomons. So I've been involved with the community for over four decades, I stay in touch as well as I can while I'm away, and I return when time and finances permit. Still, Anuta is among the least accessible spots on the planet. Ships rarely call more than once a month, and on occasion a full year goes by without a visit. In 2008 my son, Joe, waited three months for a ship and could only stay one day or risk being stranded three more months, awaiting return transport. This year Anuta was not in my plans; I expected to remain around my home in Brady Lake, OH to work on several writing projects.



Anuta at dawn, approaching from the west.

In late May, I was contacted by Catherine Beaudoin of the Sedna Foundation, a Canadian NGO. The Foundation was conducting a three-year international research project called “1000 Days for the Planet” in collaboration with the UN Secretariat for the Convention on Biodiversity and the provincial government of Quebec. My first reaction to Catherine’s proposal was skepticism. In my experience, anyone hoping to work on Anuta has to begin planning months, or even years, ahead of time. But with Joe and me mediating between project representatives and those community members who were accessible—either directly or indirectly—via email, we reached what seemed to be a mutually acceptable arrangement.

Project representatives asked me to join them and facilitate arrangements on Anuta. Anutans agreed that that I should take part in the expedition, and the opportunity to see my friends on such short notice was irresistible. In contrast with my previous trips, I was traveling with an organization that has its own ship, without which a quick visit is impossible. *Sedna IV* is a 150-foot-long three-masted schooner and is also powered by a diesel engine, which was particularly valuable when beating into the trade wind. It felt strange to have no islanders aboard and to make the trip in relative comfort. I’m accustomed to sleeping on the deck of a cargo ship, my body wedged among scores of fellow travelers, and subsisting on a diet of hard tack, tinned tuna, and occasionally a local “pudding.” *Sedna IV* offered comfortable cabins, a full-time cook, and Wi-Fi! The team was thoroughly international, including members from Canada, Argentina, Algeria, Belgium, and France. All are fluent in English but prefer to speak in French and currently make their homes in Quebec. I found them friendly and solicitous, but every bit as exotic as my usual traveling companions.



Sedna IV.



Boatswain Jerome raising sail.

After four days at sea, we reached Anuta, arriving on the morning of June 29th and remaining until the evening of July 4th. During those six whirlwind days, I slept ashore, sharing a small leaf house with my “brother” (*toku taina* in the Anutan language), Pu Koroatu, the island’s senior chief. The rest of the team slept on the ship, coming ashore for several hours each day to interview and film.

Not long after we arrived, a canoe came to the ship. I barely recognized my “nephew” (*toku iramutu*), Pu Penuamuri, whom I first knew in 1972 as seven-year-old Joseph Maatua. He was the son of my then-closest friend, Pu Paone, the senior chief’s primary spokesman. Pu Paone was commonly recognized as the community’s most astute leader; he passed away around 1980, at much too young an age. Joseph was his younger son and has been trying hard to fill what we might call “his father’s shoes” except for the fact that Anutans typically go barefoot. Unlike Pu Paone, Joseph has a high school education and speaks excellent English. He and I had an emotional reunion. I introduced him to team leader Jean Lemire, and they bonded right away. He guided Captain Caroline to the anchorage and continued as the team’s main guide throughout our stay.



Joseph (Pu Penuamuri) in 1972, with his older brother, and in 2013.

Communications had gotten garbled, and the Anutans were not expecting us until the following week. But they hurriedly organized themselves for a formal greeting ceremony. Once ashore, we were escorted to meet the two chiefs, who were seated near the beach in Mua Village. In 1972, I lived with Pu Tokerau, the senior chief's younger brother, who was also the island's catechist. When I returned with my family in 1983, we stayed in the chief's house, and in 2000, I shared a small secondary house with him. That is also where I stayed on this visit. The chief has aged a great deal since I last saw him. In his early 80s, he has lost most of his teeth and uses two walking sticks to get around. He rarely leaves his house, and the farthest he travels is to church, about 200 yards away. Yet, he remains a thoughtful, forceful leader.



The two chiefs and Father John Taomia (Pu Samoa) at greeting ceremony.



Senior chief Pu Koroatu in ceremonial regalia.

I soon greeted Nau Rangitavake, Joseph's sister. Her husband died many years ago, and her mother, Nau Paone, passed away last year. She maintains a residence a couple of houses away from the chief, who is her maternal uncle, and she looks after him, making sure he is well fed, and providing constant companionship.



Nau Rangitavake.



Pu Akonima.

Other fond reunions were with Pu Akonima, a few years older than the chief, and Pu Rangituteki (Reuben Pakapae, son of Pu Nukumanaia, Anuta's now-deceased master navigator). Reuben was the intellectual force behind an article that I co-authored on the island's reef map, published in *The Cartographic Journal* in 2003. Pu Samoa (Father John Taomia) I knew as a child in Honiara some decades ago. Along with Joseph, he took prime responsibility for the visitors' well-being. Ikitoru, my daughter's namesake, is now Nau Pangatau, a married woman with three daughters and a son. She is bright and empathetic, and is adept at problem solving. Zina Kataina, is a poised, attractive young woman whom I knew as a one-year-old in Honiara in 1983. She has warm memories of the Solomons' capital but happily contemplates living out her life on Anuta.

Despite these and other reconnections with old friends, I was struck by how few of the people I knew in 1972 are still alive: only about a half dozen of my generation and up. And I was overwhelmed with all the marriages, births, deaths, and name changes since my last sustained visit, making it hard to keep track of who was who. Then, just as I was starting to put the pieces together, it was time to leave.

In many ways, Anuta looks much as it did decades ago. One finds the same 212-foot hill, the same cliffs, and many of the same paths through the bush. The white-sand beach, the reefs, the surf, and passages are all virtually the same. And the gardens still produce about the same variety of crops.



Ikitoru (Nau Pangatau),
my daughter's namesake.



Zina Kataina, grating coconut.

The first change to catch my attention was the fact that many women are wearing shoulder-length hair. Even in the early 2000s, women's hair was short, and married women shaved their heads. Fewer people now wear bark cloth every day. And the coconut-leaf shade house near the older church, where island-wide feasts and ceremonies are typically still held, has been taken down. It is no longer necessary, as natural vegetation produces plenty of shade.



Expedition leader Jean Lemire sampling betel nut.



Boiling coconut cream to make ritual food for welcome ceremony.

I found several houses with sheets of corrugated iron covering doors or other critical areas. Perhaps half the houses are built as much as a yard above the ground. When I first visited, every building rested on the sand. And, strikingly, the kerosene lanterns that provided nearly all the lighting on my early visits have been entirely replaced by solar panels and fluorescent bulbs, thanks to a provincial initiative funded by foreign donors. Solar power also means a few radios and CD players.

The island has become substantially more crowded. In 1972, just over 150 people were in residence. According to island priest Pu Samoa, the resident population in 2013 stands at 227. I saw more canoes than ever waiting on the beach and out of storage. And record numbers were being sailed around outside of the reef. At one point, six or seven canoes were sailing back and forth simultaneously, almost giving the appearance of a vacation resort. They all are still equipped with outriggers and bow- and stern covers, but most are smaller than in the past. It used to be that a large canoe with three to five fishermen would return with enough fish to distribute to the entire community. That kind of haul is increasingly uncommon.

I saw one canoe with a triangular sail. Decades ago, master seaman Pu Nukumanaia replaced earlier triangular pandanus-leaf sails with rectangular pieces of canvass or cotton cloth. The theory was that this would allow mariners to maximize the amount of sail and, therefore, speed without increasing the height of the mast and compromising stability. However, the advantage came at a cost: rectangular sails do not beat well into a headwind. Most canoes still use Pu Nuku's design and sail to the fishing grounds with a tail wind, gradually working their way back with paddles. Perhaps the one triangular sail presages a new technological revolution.

Most islanders agreed that food remains plentiful but disagree about trends. Nau Rangitavake proclaimed that the reef flat has become less productive because of increased access to waterproof flashlights, which encourage overfishing. By contrast, one man said canoes return with fewer fish not as a result of overfishing, but because men now concentrate on commercial shark finning rather than subsistence production.



Welcome ceremony.



Filming canoes under sail.

People now are comfortable walking alone in the dark and say the church has purged the island of malicious spirits. At the same time, all seem to accept that chiefs wield awesome mana, a kind of spiritual power that undergirds their authority. And they are convinced that immoral behavior precipitates supernaturally-induced deprivation. The senior chief told me that people had been stealing betel nut, and that is why the trees had grown unproductive. In consequence, one now must sail to Tikopia, 75 miles away, to bring back an adequate supply. *Lapita Anuta*, a catamaran built by James Wharram and Klaus Hympendahl as a present to the Anutans, has been well used sailing both to Tikopia and to Lata, the provincial capital, 284 nautical miles distant.



Lapita Anuta in storage.



Pakamatamata ceremony at top of cliff on Anuta's north face.

One revelation that surprised the project team (although it's obvious to anthropologists) is that a visit to Anuta does **not** mean stepping back in time. Anutans are not living fossils or quaint museum specimens; rather they are very much a part of the twenty-first century's globally interconnected economic and political system. Young people attend high school in several locations around the Solomons, and a few have university degrees. Engagement with the market economy has also led to suspicion and accusations of malfeasance. While on Anuta, I became involved in heated conversations about the process for approval of external groups wishing to make films or conduct research on the island and the distribution of any resources that might accrue to the community as a result of such projects. And much

of my time since returning home has been devoted to explaining the new procedures and mediating conflicts. Joe has also been a key player in these negotiations and has demonstrated considerable diplomatic skill in helping bring the disparate parties together.

The experience of working with a film crew was, to say the least, peculiar. Despite my decades of involvement with the community, I was, in a sense, “betwixt and between”—having to explain the crew’s objectives and strategies and secure the islanders’ cooperation. Meanwhile, the Anutans have become unusually adept at entertaining guests. They were wonderful hosts, tolerating the disruption to their lives with patience and their unique sense of humor. And overall the visitors got on extraordinarily well. The ship’s women, and several of the men, bonded quickly with the children. Lode and Jerome, professional seamen with tons of saltwater experience, shared many Anutan skills. They climbed the mountain barefoot, were enthusiastic consumers of Anutan food, and related marvelously. Local folk were curious all week about our woman captain and, to their delight, Caroline made it ashore on Thursday. In the end, everyone from the ship got to spend time on the island, and most declared the visit a high point of their lives. For additional photos and more information on the expedition (particularly for those of you who read French), check out the project website: [<http://sedna.radio-canada.ca/en/home>].



Sedna IV Captain Caroline, Mike Rotu, & Scientific Communications Specialist Daphne in Solomons’ capital, Honiara.

Two dams removed from the Cuyahoga River in Cuyahoga Falls!

Two dams were removed, but the rivers are not yet open for paddling until all the river debris is removed. Dave Hill has posted an interesting time lapsed [video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=EdrCLOtpKq0) showing the demolition of both dams.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=EdrCLOtpKq0

The City of Cuyahoga Falls is also having a river clean-up scheduled for September 28th. Stay tuned for details on this event. To be announced on our message board.



The third annual Black River Kayak-A-Thon will be held on September 28th, 2013. This event will include competitive races as well as a casual float for those who want to take their time and view the restoration projects. This event is being held to encourage recreation on the Black River and celebrate the restoration efforts that are underway along the river.

[Get more info & register today!](#)

<http://www.lorainblackriver.com/2013-rules-app-waiver.pdf>

The third annual Black River Kayak-A-Thon will be held on September 28th, 2013. Registration will open at 7:30AM at the French Creek Reservation Boat Launch. This event will include competitive races as well as a casual float for those who want to take their time and view the restoration projects. This event is being held to encourage recreation on the Black River and celebrate the restoration efforts that are underway along the river. Representatives from the project team will be on hand to provide you with more information about the Black River restoration effort and to answer any questions you may have.

Please see the Registration Form, Information & Waiver links on the website link above for details:

- Registration materials (form, waiver, and fee) must be completed and brought with you the morning of the event.
- Registration fees are \$25 for competitive races and \$5 for the casual float. Make checks payable to *The Black River Kayak-A-Thon*.
- Please read the registration information thoroughly! See the Registration Form & Information link.
- T-Shirts (white) with the green Kayak-A-Thon logo will be available for purchase for \$10.
- See the Flyer and Course Map for distances, put-in and take-out locations, and other details.
- See the Kayak-A-Thon Flyer link for directions.

Competitive Races:

- 11.8-Mile Long Race (2 Classes)
- 4.6-Mile Short Race (4 Classes)
- Prizes to the Top 3 places
- Paddleboard Raffle for all Racers
- Prizes awarded at Jackalope Lakeside at 3:30PM
- Complimentary Safety Whistle
- Complimentary entry to after party at Jackalope Lakeside

Casual Float:

- 3.8-Mile course
- Five stops along course to collect "Tokens" for Prizes
- Paddleboard Raffle for all Participants
- Prizes awarded at Jackalope Lakeside at 4:30PM
- Complimentary Safety Whistle
- Complimentary entry to after party at Jackalope Lakeside



September	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
9/6	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Jim Hunt	330-335-5203
9/7,8	Upper Gauley (WV) - I will coordinate all Camping at Battle Run for Lower & Upper trips	27-33	John Kobak	440-554-1383
9/7,8	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Phil & Jen Raber	740-498-7063
9/10	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
9/14,15	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Eric Tucker	216-570-6035 647-447-1195
9/14,15	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Needs organizer	
9/14,15	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Terry Markoff	440-543-4969
9/14,15	Upper Gauley (WV)	33	Needs organizer	
9/20-22	Upper Gauley (Festival Weekend) (WV)	33	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
9/21,22	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Terry Markoff	440-543-4969
9/27	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Elliott Drysdale	216-496-4182 C
9/28	Black River Kayak-A-Thon (OH)	FW	Heather Dardinger	614-561-3503 C
9/28,29	(5) Lower Gauley (WV) Camping at Battle Run, Bill will coordinate camping for both Upper & Lower paddlers.	27-33	Bill Miller	440-257-2970
9/28,29	Upper Gauley (WV)	33	Joe Marks	216-533-0604
October	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Time to Pay Dues	
10/4,5	Upper Yough (MD) Last Saturday Release	32	Bud Chavez	513-703-4108
10/5,6	Upper & (5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27-33	Joe Marks	216-533-0604
10/8	Club Annual Election Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
10/12,13	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Fall Color Trip	23	Dave Roush	440-623-9035
10/12,13	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
10/12,13	Upper & (5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27-33	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
10/18-20	MooseFest (NY)	27-30	Angela Baldo	315-585-6274

2013 Club Officers

President:	Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
VP:	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
Secretary:	Donna Homberg	440-236-8360
Treasurer:	Joe Marksz	216-281-1517

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, on the second Tuesday of each month
Doors open at 7:00 P.M., meeting starts at 7:30 P.M.

Membership: \$20 per year. New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone, send directly to

Membership Chairman: **John Kobak, 440-871-1758**
1649 Allen Dr.
Westlake, OH 44145

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KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

Non- Commercial advertising is free to all members. To place an ad, send the information the way you want it to appear. Please write or call when item is sold. It will appear for 2 months unless canceled. Commercial ads may be submitted by club member's owned businesses four times each year with a maximum of four lines of copy per ad.

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **October issue of the newsletter is **9/24/13**. Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaquy@aol.com.** 📧 📧 📧

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor 🍀
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaquy@aol.com
September, 2013



Keelhauler's Ka-news OCTOBER, 2013



Next Club Meeting Tuesday, October 08th

Doors open at 7:00 PM, Meeting is at 8:00 PM.
at Middleburg Hts Community Center
16000 E. Bagley Rd

Program: "OUT OF PLACE"

The unlikely story of surfing in Cleveland.

This should be of interest to sea kayakers as well as white water.
See another view of Lake Erie.

Also the Club Annual Election. Please volunteer-Your club needs you!!!

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

All meetings are open to guests.
Invite a prospective member!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Michael Duvall



Gauley Season has been great this year. The first two weekends were warm and sunny with warm water. The Festival weekend was typical of the weather we have been having this year, rain and high water. The high water was great for the Lower Gauley but meant a low release for half of the upper

with high water in the second half. Of course high water means that there are other options so on the Sunday of fest weekend we went to the Cranberry for some creeking.

October is election time. The hardest part of being an officer in any volunteer organization is finding your replacement. This year we have a few positions that need filling. Eugene Baker has stepped down as Vice President so we need a replacement. Joe Marks has completed his 3rd year of doing a great job as Treasurer and according to the bylaws must relinquish his position. We also have openings for chair persons in sea kayaking, safety, and education. Let me know if you or someone you know can step up and fill some of these positions.

Be safe and I'll see you on the river,

Michael

Minutes from the, September 10, 2013, Keelhauler Meeting

10 members attending

Membership Chairman John Kobak reported that we have 283 current members and 70 have renewed.

New Business:

Marie Blatnik volunteered to take over as Vermilion Race Chair replacing Eugene Baker who has run the race for the last three years.

Cliff Wire took the library from Eugene Baker who has stepped down.

Trip Reports:

Pat Guzowski's Slacker trip was transferred to Stonycreek due to high water at the Yough. The Ladies trip coordinated by Debbie Avalon was also very successful as well as the picnic meeting.

The Hunt/Raber/Kobak trip on the first Gauley weekend had 23 people.

Marie Blatnik talked about her experiences on the Deerfield.

Rob Hammond was in town from California and ran the Cheat Narrows because everything else was too high.

Program:

Upper Yough video made by Paul Lang from Michigan.

It's that time again!

All club memberships have expired on October 1st.

As soon as you can, please pay your **2014** membership dues. I would like to thank the early dues payers, last month 1/3 of our members have already sent in their payments.

As you may know I go away for 5 months starting in November. I would ask all of you to mail your check today or pay on-line ASAP before the end of the month. This ensures that your name will be listed in our yearbook/roster.

Mail check to:

Keel Haulers Canoe Club

1649 Allen Dr

Westlake, OH 44145-2506

You can pay \$21 using Paypal to save yourself time & postage.

Use this link to pay: <http://keelhauler.org/khcc/thanks.htm>

You can review your current membership listing, using this link:

<http://keelhauler.org/khcc/members.htm>

User Name: "dir" and the current 2013 password found in our monthly e-mail

If you need to change any information use this form: http://keelhauler.com/khcc_registration.htm

To renew your membership you do not have to fill out an application, you only need to send your dues payment and any changes to your membership information. Please encourage any of your non-member paddling friends to join/rejoin the club. The club offers a lot to paddlers of all skill levels at less than the price of a tank of gas to go paddling.

John Kobak

Gauley River Weekend, Sept. 6-8, 2013 **by Hugh Barrow**

I arrived in Summersville, WV on Wednesday and set up camp for the Club's first 2013 Gauley trip. On Thursday, of the 1st Gauley River release weekend I usually paddle the 1800 CFS release of the Upper Gauley but had no Keelhaulers to paddle with this year. I went on a hike in the New River Gorge and explored the abandoned coal mining towns of Nuttallburg on the north side of the Gorge and Kaymore on the south side of the Gorge. It was a great day for a hike.



On Friday, John Kobak joined me at the campground and we reserved 2 more campsites for our 20 person group.. We then proceeded to Swiss to meet up with the Jim Hunt's Lower Gauley Trip to set up

shuttle. If you have not paddled the Lower Gauley on Friday you should make a note that the club meets at the big white church parking lot before you get to the normal NPS takeout. I made the faux pas of inviting Doug Ackerman without telling Jim. Jim had gone to great lengths to plan a great day and to plan the shuttles and I will be more considerate in the future. However when Doug offered to haul 5 boats to the put-in, everybody was very happy. We had 11 paddlers in our group² and everyone had a great run. Jim Murtha, Pam, & Mark Poljak put in at the old Bucklick Branch so that they could get in more surfing time at Diagonal Ledges. It was a personal first for Mike Nusebaum and Chuck McDowell. John Kobak had a dramatic successful hole escape at Lower Mash when he announced that he would run through the hole sideways but the hole had its way with him for a while. The weather was perfect and most of the paddlers wore shorty tops. There were several swims but overall it was a wonderful day on the river.



Many of us went out to eat at La Carreta Mexican Restaurant in Summersville. The next morning everyone decided to paddle the Lower Gauley again. Jen & Phil Raber were the trip leaders for the Lower Gauley Saturday and Sunday runs. John Kobak was the trip organizer for the Upper Gauley but could only get me and first timer Glen Wagner interested. It was a foggy morning so John decided that we should all do the Lower again on Saturday. We broke up into 3 groups. 6 did the play thing while the other groups of 7 & 8 paddlers stayed fairly close to each other and all had fun on the river.

On Saturday's Lower Gauley trip everyone else had excellent runs but I learned to appreciate the rope that Cliff Wire keeps attached to the stern of his kayak at Lower Mash. We finished an hour sooner than Friday and most of us went out for Mexican food again.

On Sunday, John pooped out and turned the Upper trip over to Michael Duvall. There were 12 of us that decided to do the Upper Gauley and 11 went again on the Lower Gauley led by Phil & Jen. We ran the usual extremely efficient Keelhauler shuttle arranged by John Kobak and Phil Raber. The shuttles use Woods Ferry as takeout for the Upper Gauley group and put in for the Lower Gauley group. These efficient shuttles are one of the great reasons to belong to the Keelhauler Canoe Club. This would be another beautiful day but a little cooler. We even dropped off a car for Murtha who only wanted to go as far as Mason Branch (Panther Mnt.)



On the Upper Gauley we passed Pillow just before 11:30 AM and the photographers got some great pictures. It would be Glen Wagner's personal first descent and to my knowledge was a dry hair run for him. On this day most people wore full dry tops but everyone felt that the water was warmer than normal.



Paddlers for the weekend included John Kobak, Glen Wagner, Joe Marks, Bill & Annelies Layton, Jim Murtha, Michael Duvall, Cliff Wire, Bill Miller, Jim Hunt, Debbie Avallone, Dave Roush, Dennis Swingley, Mark & Pam Poljak, Jen & Phil Raber, Jackie Blackwood, Bernie Dawson, Hans, Kempf, Chuck McDowell, Brenda Benner, Mike Nusebaum & Doug Ackerman. Hats off to all of the organizers! See you next weekend.



Two dams come down! **by Matt Muir**

This is a scary world, getting scarier every day. It's got trouble in Syria, a US government that can't pass a budget, and whatever it is that Miley Cyrus is doing. But there are undeniable bright spots. The Cuyahoga River, the river which embarrassed the nation in 1969, keeps getting cleaner, prettier, and better.



What you won't see any more.

Originally scheduled for 2012, the demolition of two dams on the Cuyahoga River in Cuyahoga Falls was completed this summer.



Nor will you see any of this.

The first meaningful delay was when the City's choice of a contractor was challenged in court last summer. That added months to the process. After that mess got straightened out, the US Army Corps of Engineers decided it needed to approve the project. (Apparently they hadn't *thought* of that earlier.) That-all pushed the project into 2013.



First cut! From the Cuyahoga Falls Dam Cam.

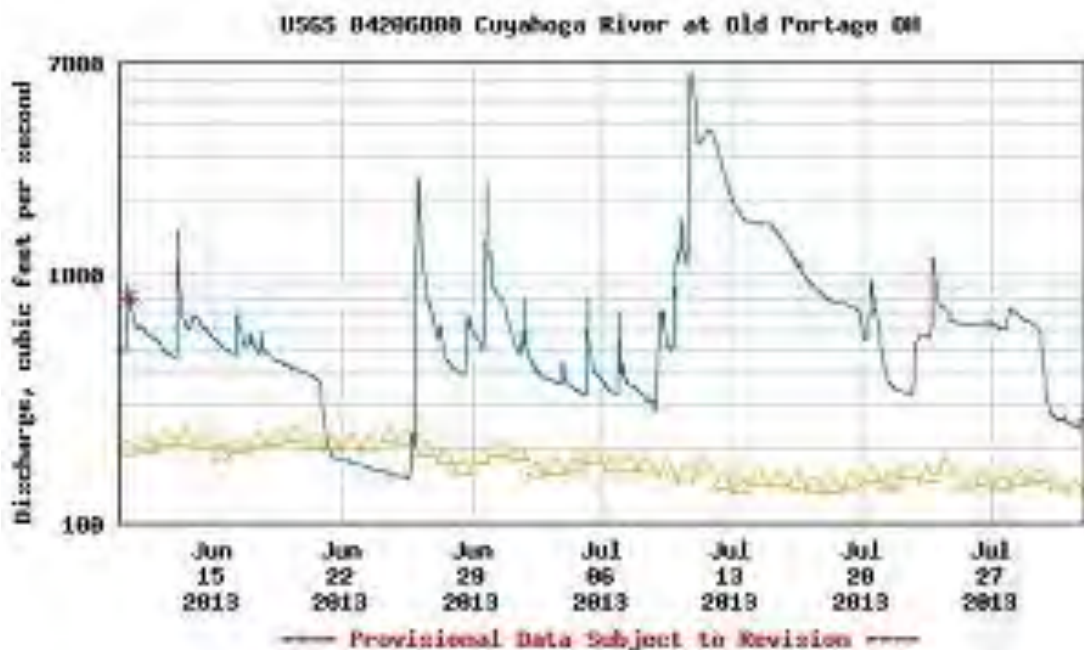
The plan was to begin taking down the Sheraton Dam in mid-June of this year, presumably taking advantage of summer's low water. In most years, that would work.

Not this year.



The dam is breached.

We boaters love a record high-water summer, but it delayed the project by more than a month. Finally, the waters receded from over 2000 cfs down to the 200-cfs level that was needed for work to commence. And commence it did!



6000 cfs on July 10? Are you kidding me???

A big-ol' machine was loaded onto a barge-like platform, floated into position just upstream of the dam, and secured in place. On July 30, the machine made its first jackhammer cuts. Those of us who watched on the real-time Dam Cam were celebrating.

The first cuts undermined the dam, so that water could flow through and the dam was no longer holding back thousands of tons of water. After that, the remaining cuts simply took concrete down. By August 8, the Sheraton Dam was completely removed; a backhoe was driven into place (on the newly exposed riverbank); it literally picked up the pieces and deposited them on river right (to shore up the Sheraton structure). Check out John Kobak's animated gif of the dam's removal at <http://keelhauler.org/images/DamAnim.gif>.



Nothing left but the cleanup.

Next, the Dam Cam moved upstream to the second part of the project: the LeFever (Powerhouse) Dam. The power equipment approached this job from downstream. The dam was taken down methodically, piece by piece. Within a week, it was gone, and there was just a bit of cleanup. The debris was piled on the downstream river-right side of the powerhouse, and soon covered with clean-looking rocks.



August 13: First cut in the LeFever Dam.

The city of Cuyahoga Falls has put together a nice time-lapse video of the removal of the two dams. Goto <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EdrClOtpKq0> or just google "Cuyahoga Falls Time Lapse Dam Removal."



Many hands make light work.

So, a month after the two dams have become history, what do we have? Well, we have quite a bit of silt, and no small load of debris. The edge of the riverbed is a confusing mass of unstable boulders and mud. It'll take a few high-water events, I figure, to rearrange this puzzle into a stable surface. The City is still prohibiting access to the river; hopefully they'll lift that ban soon. (Both times I visited the area, I saw people in waders, who'd clearly ignored the ban. But I figure paddlers cut a larger profile and might not be allowed to slide.)



A river runs free! Looking downstream toward the Sheraton remains.

More importantly, what's the paddling look like? Well, nobody was expecting a Festival of Gnar to be uncovered—not there, where the riverbed clearly didn't have a lot of gradient. It looks Class-I or -II-ish, with maybe a surfing wave or two when water's sufficiently high. *Novices and open canoeists who hit that area will have to know that the easy fun ends at the Sheraton. I'd hate to hear of inattentive boaters washing downstream into Rookie Drop and The Staircase.*



A river runs free! The view of the remains of the LeFever Dam.

Most importantly, the Crooked River is running free through Cuyahoga Falls. This should improve the water quality...though the water upstream of the Gorge Dam is likely to remain some of the skankiest slackwater I've ever had the privilege to come home smelling like. With any luck, that dam will be removed within ten years—and then we'll all be able to enjoy the rapids that gave Cuyahoga Falls its name.

Breaking News! On September 19, the Army Corps of Engineers announced that they were beginning an 18-month study on the removal of the Gorge Dam. This year's success is sure to be eclipsed by a much greater improvement, as our biggest local river completes its transition from a laughing stock to a source of recreation and civic pride.

Note: Many of the photos here came from the Dam Cam, which you can still see at <http://new.livestream.com/accounts/4516213/events/2204531>

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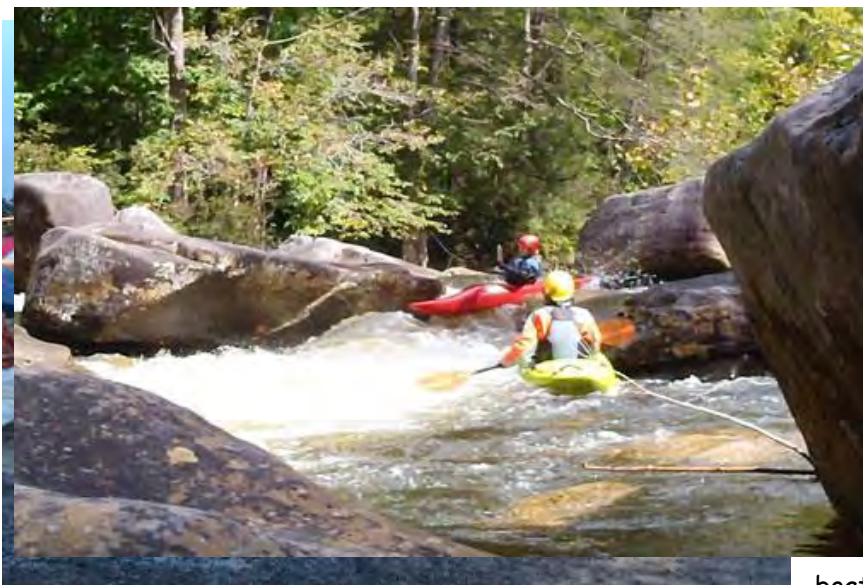
Gauley Fest Weekend, September 20, 2013
High Water Lower Gauley and Middle Cranberry
By Hugh Barrow

On Friday I was within 20 minutes of the Swiss, WV Park Service takeout and was stopped to look at the huge water flow going over the Kanawha Falls at Glen Ferris when I received a call from John Kobak that the Gauley was running 8,000 cfs at Belva. (The ordinary release is 2,800 cfs. The Corps of Engineers had been releasing 5,000cfs all Thursday and Thursday nights and the Meadow was releasing 3,000 cfs. The Meadow would go up to 5,000cfs before it got down to 3,000cfs on Sunday). I told him I was meeting Bill Miller and our trip leader for the weekend Cliff Wire and would be soon putting on the Lower Gauley. He gave me a rundown of how the rapids were at such high levels and when I got to Swiss we decided to put on the river and "see what happens." John was right. It would be a completely different river today. The chocolate-colored water formed huge waves, boils, whirlpools, and some holes to be avoided. We put on at Wood's Ferry and found Ender Wave to be huge and a much longer wave train than normal. We were worried about Backender but it was mostly washed out with just a giant wave train you could see all the way down. The last giant wave was absent to our relief. At Koontz Flume we could see none of our landmarks on the right so we all elected to stay left. Five Boat Hole was a one boat hole today. I had heard over the years that the second part of the wave train of Canyon Doors became a terminal hole at very high water so we eddied out left in the first wave train and angled left. Lower Mash was just a large wave train that went over the mid-river rock but Diagonal Ledges was a complex minefield of holes with no easy route through. We all picked our way through the holes on different lines. At Heaven Help Us we saw rafts in front of us going left and avoiding the Pearly Gates so we followed on the left line and avoided the clearly unrunable Gates. Stairstep was spectacular but fun. The long wave train above Roostertail was connected to it by huge haystack waves like I have never seen before. The entire long wave train contained many large waves that were followed more closely than usual by other equally huge waves making it hard to square up to the waves quickly enough. A large group of kayaks, canoes, and rafts had collected at the top of Pure Screaming Hell wanting someone to go first. Of course it was your fearless Keelhaulers that led the way. Purgatory hole which is the mid-river hole above Hell Hole and Devil's Hole was a wall of brown water breaking back on itself but didn't stop us. We did see many others who weren't so lucky. The fast water made for a very fast paddle out to Swiss. We all agreed that we would love to do this run any time we could get this much water. What would Saturday hold? We were hoping for a Gauley marathon. We went to Gauley Fest and found that this was the first time any of the 3 of us had been there any day besides Saturday.



On Saturday morning we awoke at Battle Run Campground and many Keelhaulers had come in during the night. There was a lot of talk about what to run but with the Meadow putting in 4,000 cfs most didn't want to hazard the Upper Gauley. We had 14 club members on our 5,000 cfs run of the Lower Gauley and the river was considerably harder at this relatively lower level. The temperature was in the low 70's and there was a light mist much of the days. Everyone had on full dry tops. The

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water temperature has been warmer than normal all Gauley season. The last wave hole in Backender was back in play but everyone negotiated this successfully. Most of us ran the left line at Koontz Flume but some did the right line. Lower Mash was terrible with a huge narrow wave hole at the bottom that was flipping people and holding some. I started down with everyone behind me when I noticed a

boat stuck in the wave hole so I

went into the eddy on the left and suddenly this undesirable eddy had enough club members for a monthly meeting. Believe me, there are eddies you don't want to be in and this was one of them.

Most of us managed the ferry from hell across behind the wave hole but there was one swim with a long stay in a hole that had me worried. I was by this time in an eddy on river right with many Park Service rangers who were bandaging several people and had been there a long time directing hurt people up the mountain to a 4-wheeler trail where people were being taken out. The Park Service actually brought down rafts to take



the abandoned boats out later in the day. Unlike on Friday, I knew at this point I would not like to run the Lower at this level again. The Pearly Gates were again unrunable and kayaks and rafts took the left line at the end. We watched the current women's raft racing world champions try to run the Gates and the boat flipped end over end multiple times. The rest of the run was just fast with normal lines being the correct ones, including Pure Screaming Hell. Again we had a fast paddle out and enjoyed the efficient shuttle Cliff had arranged with Bill Miller's assistance. Most of us spent some time at a rainy muddy Gauley Fest and camped in the rain.

On Sunday Morning there would be eleven of us wanting to paddle something but with a lot of trepidation. Jim Murtha suggested we could do a low water Middle Cranberry run although you could tell he wanted to surf the Lower Gauley. He did agree to lead us and the whole group went except Glen, April, and Brent who had already left. When we got to the Cranberry there were several cars and we ran across Jeff Macklin and Charlie Walbridge. The temperature was in the low 60's and finally the sky was mostly sunny. This was a run I wouldn't miss for the world. I did feel sorry for those who had to do this creek run in tiny playboats though. We had one close call with a log in the river but Jim Murtha, Jeff Cramer, & Annelies Layton did an efficient rescue. The S-Turn rapid was as memorable as I had been told & was followed by one technical boof turn toward the bottom.

When we got off the river there were about 25 cars parked near the takeout and more below the bridge. Seems like lots of paddlers headed to the fruit bowl area to paddle today. We talked about how every so many years on a rainy weekend the Gauley isn't the best run and it is nice to have a creek boat along since we are in some of the best creeking country. I remember a Sunday Upper Meadow run that was just as memorable with the Keelhaulers but less fun for those with only play boats.

Jackie and Bernie were staying to paddle on Monday so I helped them find someone with whom to paddle. I renewed the campsite for them and headed home to South Carolina. I called John Kobak about our weekend and he looked up the levels and said we paddled the Cranberry about 3.7ft with 3.5ft being about as low as you would want to go there. He also felt we could have paddled the Upper Gauley more easily than we had imagined at these levels and that it might have been the very best level for a marathon run. They were only releasing about 1100cfs and the Meadow River was down to 3000 cfs. John said the Upper Gauley is a good run at that level and is no harder than 2800 cfs, in fact Iron Ring gets easier.

Paddlers for the weekend include Cliff Wire, Bill Miller, Casey Brown, Bernie Dawson, Steve Smith, Glen Wagner, April Hollis, Brent Hendren, Joe Marksz, Bill Layton, Annelies Layton, Michael Duvall, Jackie Blackwood, Jeff Cramer, and me. Gauley weekends with the Keelhaulers are the very best! Come join us next week! More pictures are posted on my blog:

<http://hughbarrow.com/blog/2013/Gauley/index.php>

October	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Time to Pay Dues	
10/4,5	Upper Yough (MD) Last Saturday Release	32	Bud Chavez	513-703-4108
10/5,6	Upper & (5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27-33	Joe Marksz	216-533-0604
10/8	Club Annual Election Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
10/12,13	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Fall Color Trip	23	Dave Roush	440-623-9035
10/12,13	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
10/12,13	Upper & (5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27-33	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
10/18-20	MooseFest (NY)	27-30	Angela Baldo	315-585-6274
November	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Pay Dues	
11/2	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-19	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
11/12	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
11/09	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4-6:00 PM		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
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Secretary:	Donna Homberg	440-236-8360
Treasurer:	Joe Marksz	216-281-1517

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Membership Chairman: **John Kobak, 440-871-1758**
1649 Allen Dr.
Westlake, OH 44145

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Kelly Miller, Editor 🍀
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
October, 2013



Keelhauler's Ka-news NOVEMBER, 2013



Next Club Meeting Tuesday, November 12th

Doors open at 7:00 PM, Meeting is at 8:00 PM.
at Middleburg Hts Community Center
16000 E. Bagley Rd

Program: TBD & Annual Election of Officers

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

All meetings are open to guests.
Invite a prospective member!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Michael Duvall



Gauley season has come and gone, the Fall colors trip on the Lower Yough was a great hit, and we even had a little snow in Cleveland so that means it is time to start working on next year.

ELECTIONS were NOT held at the October meeting because we did not have enough members present. We need members to show up at the next meeting on November 12th and vote. We need to show our appreciation to all our officers and chair persons past and present for all their hard work.

TRIP SCHEDULE April Hollis has once again volunteered for the position of trip scheduler for the coming year. Let's all help her out, step up and take some trips. Don't wait to be asked, contact her

and with your ideas. We need all types of trips from sea kayaking to canoe trips on easy rivers as well as the white water trips. Our thanks to all those that organized trips over the years, that's what makes this club one of the best in the country.

POOL PRACTICE Thanks to Marius Asipauskas and Jeff Cramer we will have lots of pool sessions again this year. I know that I need to work on my roll because I had a few swims this past season and I'm not the only one, I saw a few others swim this year but I'm not and going to name names. See the schedule for pool sessions under the instructions tab on the home page.

Be safe and I'll see you on the river,

Michael

Minutes from the October 8, 2013th Keelhauler Meeting by Donna Homberg

10 people present.

Welcome Pete Costello from Twinsburg as a new member.

Main business was the election of new officers but 15 are needed for a quorum so this was postponed until next month. Future trips and trip leaders discussed. Reported a good turnout for river running this past month with 20-30 paddlers.

No one has called for what I thought was a dry bag left at the Silver Lake Meeting but now I understand it is a 'paddle float'. Please notify if you are missing this piece of gear so it can be returned.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30.

Program was a video on surfing on Lake Erie called Out of Place. Surfing starts in November throughout the coldest months. Pretty impressive footage featuring some hardy, robust, young men. Available at the Cuyahoga Library upon request.

2014 Membership Dues are Overdue

All club memberships have expired on October 1st. Most people have renewed their membership.

But if you haven't gotten around to it, **do it today**.

Since I will not be around to get your check until December 21st please pay \$21 on-line using Paypal.

<http://keelhauler.org/khcc/PaypalPay.htm>

You can use any credit card or a Paypal account.

OR

If you still want to mail a check please send a \$20 check for your **2014 Membership Dues**

To:
Keel Haulers Canoe Club
1649 Allen Dr
Westlake, OH 44145-2506

To check whether you have paid or not, check this updated file:

<http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/memb/khint.pdf>

This file is password protected for your security.

User Name: "dir" and the current 2012 password found on page 20 of our yearbook or in our monthly newsletter e-mail. If the last column by your name says 3 and not 4, then you are not recorded as paid for 2014.

John Kobak - Membership Chairman

TRIP SCHEDULE

I am about to begin work on the trip schedule for 2014 so please pitch in by volunteering to organize a trip or two in the coming year. We need all types of trips including sea kayaking, trips on easy rivers, and whitewater trips. There are Upper Yough, Middle Yough trips, and North Branch trips that could use an organizer. In addition, flatwater trips are badly needed.

Anyone interested in organizing a trip should please let me know by Dec. 15 so I can get it into the schedule in the yearbook. It's a lot of fun and our great event schedule is a benefit to our membership, and the main reason we have so many out-of-state members in the club! Thanks again to trip and pool session organizers past and present!

April Hollis
apstylehollis@gmail.com

Fall Color; Yough Trip by Dave Roush

The Fall Color Yough trip was very popular. There were 24 boaters on the Lower Yough trip both Saturday and Sunday. I believe Steve Ingalls Middle Yough trip had an additional 8 on Saturday. Certainly Ohiopyle was overrun by folks from Ohio (loving embraced as FIFOs by the locals). On Saturday we had a very experienced group and only had three newbies. While we broke into two groups, with all of the experience on the river there were very few swims and more than enough help when needed. Even the swims were entertaining, we were even treated to synchronized swimming. The memorable moments occurred off the river. Let me elaborate.

Steve and I had previously agreed to meet for dinner at Curt's. Some of our group were finishing dinner upon arrival, so the staff was a little annoyed by us taking over the back room and rearranging the furniture in a table reminiscent of the last supper paintings. As more and more people arrived, still more tables were added. The annoyance seemed to transform into mild panic as they realized that they had a lot of hungry boaters on their hands and the hope that maybe, just maybe, they would make some money. As tradition has it we ordered chocolate cake with a candle in

it for Steve Ingalls. Steve played along great turning red and acting surprised as we all sang happy birthday! We were all surprised to learn it really was close to his birthday.

Many of us camped at Tall Oaks in the field. While I didn't do a head count, Les was beaming having a good weekend closing a disappointing year. We had one campfire, literally ringed twice with boaters enjoying the ambiance. Early into the evening some anonymous boaters broke out some homemade apple pie moonshine (complete with cinnamon sticks) in Mason jars. It wasn't long until they were guzzling it and passing it around. Most of us had the good sense to taste it, and pass it along. Our newbies thought they would also guzzle. This went on late into the night.

The next morning I got up to assess the damage. One of our newbies complained about having a "migraine" all night, another said he felt much better after forcing himself to throw up at 5:00 AM. I never did see the third. When I checked on the moonshiner, he said he wasn't doing well. He said he spent the entire night on all fours just holding onto the earth!

After breakfast I went to check in with Amos and June. Amos is really laid back. It is hard to imagine anything really upsetting him. Well you can imagine my surprise seeing steam coming out of Amos's and June's ears. They were still upset Sunday from an incident that happened Saturday afternoon. Apparently some river guides had asked the rangers if they could have a wedding near the falls. Because of the construction the rangers turned down their request. Ignoring this a limo and a bunch of cars pulled into the parking lot in front of the temporary put-in, into the construction area and just took over. When told they couldn't park there by June and Amos they said "OK" then locked the doors and walked off. They just took over for about 30 minutes. They totally occupied the landings leading to the temporary put in for the ceremony and pictures. A former cop directed all the commercial boaters and kayakers to put in where the Meadows empties into the Yough. Amos and June felt TOTALLY disrespected. As they were telling the story, they were MAD.

Forgive me, but I can't let go of an opportunity like this. I have 24 boaters headed down there to buy shuttle passes. Of course I tell all 24 kayakers to ask June and Amos about the nice wedding yesterday. Later when we headed down to put on Amos is watching. He looks at me and says "you son of a bitch". Now this was their last work day. I'll probably get over it before next season.

BTW: our moonshiners did paddle Sunday, but the newbies never did make it.

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November, 2013



Keelhauler's Ka-news

DECEMBER, 2013

Happy
Holidays



Next Club Meeting Tuesday, December 10th.
Doors open at 7:00 PM, dinner is at 8:00 PM.
at Middleburg Hts Community Center
16000 E. Bagley Rd

Program: Annual Christmas Party, Pot luck dinner
Please bring a dish according to the first letter of your last name.

A-E: Dessert or Fruit

F-L: Main dish or Casserole

M-R: Salad or Vegetable

S-Z: Bread or Appetizer

The club will supply beverages, plates and plastic ware.

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

All meetings are open to guests.
Invite a prospective member!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Michael Duvall



HAPPY HOLIDAYS - I hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving. On December 10th we will have a party instead of regular meeting, and I hope everyone that is in driving range can attend. There is a

list of suggested dishes to bring to the pot-luck dinner. The club will provide beverages. Come and party with all the people you paddled with or wish to paddle with.

THANK YOU to Pam Poljak and Dave Roush for stepping into the vacated Board positions. We really appreciate it. Thanks also to Donna for hanging onto the Secretary position and to everyone else who volunteered, too.

TRIP SCHEDULE - April Hollis is taking care of scheduling our trips for the coming year and she can use your help so step up and organize a trip or two. If you didn't see the kind of trip you like on last year's schedule you should contact her and with your ideas. Remember we need all types of trips from sea kayaking to canoe trips on easy rivers as well as the white water trips. Our thanks to all those that organized trips over the years, that's what makes this club one of the best! Here is a link to our tentative 2014 trip schedule: <http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/tripschedule14.htm> Please contact April at apstylehollis@gmail.com to volunteer to lead a trip!

POOL PRACTICE - Thanks to Marius Asipauskas and Jeff Cramer we will have pool sessions again this year. See the schedule for pool sessions on line.

Be safe and I'll see you on the river,

Michael

2014 Membership Dues are Overdue

All club memberships have expired on October 1st. Most people have renewed their membership. But if you haven't gotten around to it, **do it today**. Since I will not be around to get your check until December 21st please pay \$21 on-line using Paypal.

<http://keelhauler.org/khcc/PaypalPay.htm>

You can use any credit card or a Paypal account.

OR

If you still want to mail a check please send a \$20 check for your **2014 Membership Dues**

To:

Keel Haulers Canoe Club
1649 Allen Dr
Westlake, OH 44145-2506

To check whether you have paid or not, check this updated file:

<http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/memb/khint.pdf>

This file is password protected for your security.

User Name: "dir" and the current 2012 password found on page 20 of our yearbook or in our monthly newsletter e-mail. If the last column by your name says 3 and not 4, then you are not recorded as paid for 2014.

John Kobak - Membership Chairman

Minutes from the November 12, 2013th Keelhauler Meeting by Donna Homberg

Meeting called to order at 7:45 with 13 people present. Welcome to Judy Yen, Barb Shagawat, & Ken Schneider.

October minutes approved as reported in the newsletter.

Old business was the election of officers for next year. A quorum via e-mail provided a slate of officers. The final vote was as follows:

Mike Duvall-President

Dave Roush, Vice President

Pam Poljak, Treasurer

Donna Homberg, Secretary

Jim Hunt, Trustee

Cliff Wire, Trustee

Chuck McDowell, New Trustee

New Business

Discussion about the 5 dozen VHS tapes in the library. After discussion, Cliff Wire, our new library chairman, will make selections for DVD copies and use the library allowance for this purpose. Next Meeting will be the Christmas Party with a pot luck dinner and social gathering.

Remember to check future trips and pool session options in the newsletter.

Meeting adjourned and thanks to Bob for the refreshments.

Program tonight was presented by Conservation Chairwomen for the Friends of the Crooked River, Elaine Marsh. A **Cuyahoga River Water Trail** map and vision for the future along with a present update was provided by Ms. Marsh.

Watershed = Foodshed Benefit Dinner



Friends of the Cheat

A Watershed=Foodshed benefit dinner will be hosted by Friends of the Cheat (FOC), Thursday, December 5th at 6 pm at Madeleine's Restaurant in Morgantown, WV. Serving food sourced from farmers primarily in the Cheat River watershed, the benefit highlights the relationship between watershed health

and locally-grown food. Watersheds, nearly synonymous with foodsheds, serve as the natural anchor in any ecosystem, and in efforts to build new food systems.

The event will raise funds to support the CAPABLE volunteer monitoring program, a citizen-scientist based initiative organized by the watershed group, empowering community members to be hands-on with the health of area water bodies by providing tools and technical support. The CAPABLE program is currently supported by 15 volunteers who monitor year round at select streams and tributaries at risk for degradation due to fossil fuel extraction. The site visits allow volunteers to develop a unique understanding of their streams, poising them to be early identifiers of possible pollution events. Over the past two years, CAPABLE volunteers have amassed hundreds of data records documenting conditions of over 25 sites throughout the lower Cheat River watershed.

Each monitoring kit costs approximately \$125 and contains an electronic water chemistry probe, calibration solution, pH strips, sample bottles, depth gauge stick, handbook, and forms. In case of a suspected pollution event, third-party laboratory chemical analysis runs approximately \$25 per sample. FOC support costs approximately \$100 per week, through website and database management, analysis, training, materials development, and coordination.

The dinner's menu is nearly finalized with Preston County contributions of Steve & Sunshine Vortigern's Round Right Farm grassfed beef and carrots, Susan & Don Sauter's Flying Ewe Farm blueberries and potatoes, and Tom McConnell's wheat flour and black beans. A vegetarian entrée, based on butternut squash, is also an option. Seventy tickets are available for this special benefit dinner, at a cost of \$50 each.

Tickets, on sale now, must be purchased ahead of time, [online by clicking here](#), or by phone at (304) 329-3621. If you are unable to attend, but still wish to support the program, consider sponsoring a ticket for a FOC staff member or CAPABLE volunteer, or by donating directly to the program [online at the CAPABLE web page](#).

After the dinner, attendees are encouraged to stop by the Friends of Decker's Creek holiday social, just down the street at Arts Monongahela.

For more information please call: Lauren Greco, Friends of the Cheat (304) 329-3621 or Susan Sauter, CAPABLE Volunteer (304) 288-5366

December	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Last Chance to Pay Dues	
12/7	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-19	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
12/10	Club Holiday Party at Middleburg Hts Community Center		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
12/1,8,15 22,29	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 8:45 -10:45 AM		Jeff Cramer	330-245-6252
12/14	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4-6:00 PM		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
12/28	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 4:30-6:30 pm -15th, 3:00 to 5:00 PM - 29th		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
January	2014			
1/1	New Year's Day paddle on the (4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
1/5,12,19,26	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 8:45-10:45 AM		Jeff Cramer	330-245-6252
1/18	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4-6:00 PM		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
1/18-25	Costa Rica Week of Rivers, 8 day all-inclusive \$1650 Just Reduced to \$1485 See Joe's Information For more information, see Costa Rica Rios		Joe Marks	216-533-0604

Here is a link to our tentative 2014 trip schedule:

<http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/tripschedule14.htm>. Please contact April at apstylehollis@gmail.com to volunteer to lead a trip!

Orange High School Pool Roll Sessions

Three sessions are scheduled this Fall. **Saturday afternoons on November 9, 23 & December 14;** and Four sessions for the Winter, **January 18, February 1, 22; March 1 - 4PM to 6PM**
Pool time starts at 4:00pm and ends promptly at 6:00pm. We must shower and be out of the building by 6:15pm. A charge of \$6 per person per session (\$5 for Orange School District residents) covers the use of the pool. **All participants at Orange MUST complete a [registration form](#)** with emergency contact information prior to entering the pool area. So print one and fill it out before you arrive.

Directions to Orange High School Pool

The Orange High School Pool is on the south side of Chagrin Boulevard, between Lander and SOM Center Roads. It is two miles east of the Chagrin exit off I-271 (which is just north of the I-271 and I-480 interchange). From I-271 take the Chagrin boulevard exit and head east. At the Lander Road turning circle stay on Chagrin Boulevard by taking the second road right. The school will be about one-half mile on the right side of the road. [Map to Orange HS](#)

The pool is in the west end of the building. You can see it through the two-story-high windows. Park along the west end of the building. There is a very wide concrete pad leading to a double set of glass doors on the pool deck. If you arrive early, drop your boats on the concrete pad and go inside and wait until we are permitted to bring boats into the pool area.

Kayak Roll Sessions

Work on your Eskimo roll in the comfort of our heated pool so you will be ready for the river this spring. Participants must bring their own boats (clean boats only, please) and gear. **Helmets are required** for anyone entering the pool. There are experienced boaters on hand to give pointers to new kayakers. Enter the pool area through West pool deck doors starting at 3:50pm. Participants must fill out a registration form & pay before being allowed to enter the water. Please bring exact change each day.

Cancellation Policy

If winter driving conditions are bad, the session may be canceled. When Orange Community Education and Recreation is closed, information is typically on local television and radio stations. We will also try to post closings on the Hotline at 216-556-4659 and our [Message Board](#).

For more information contact Marius Asipauskas water.marius@gmail.com email is preferred. Google Voice, and Text, 216-200-6321

Lakewood High School Pool Roll Sessions

Two sessions are scheduled this Fall. **Saturday afternoons on November 16; December 28 ;** and Three sessions for the Winter, **February 15; March 8, 15 - 3:00 to 5:00 PM**
Saturday Pool time starts at 3:00 PM and ends promptly at 5:00 PM. Cannot enter the building until 2:50 PM. All must shower and be out of the building by 5:15pm. A charge of \$6 per person per session covers the use of the pool. Please remember **helmets are required**.
Tuesday Evening- Roll Sessions at Lakewood Pool - 8:30PM to 9:45PM
A charge of only \$4 per person per session

None are scheduled yet for 2013-14 at 8:30-9:45 pm
Sessions can be scheduled for Tuesday evening if there is enough interest.

Directions to Lakewood High School Pool

Lakewood High School is at 14100 Franklin Blvd., the pool is located in the back of the High School, so entering at the Robinwood Ave. entrance is easiest, especially when coming from I-90. Exit from I-90 at the Bunts Rd./W 140th St. Exit and head north on Bunts to Madison Ave. Turn left on Madison Ave. and head one block to Robinwood Ave. Take a right on Robinwood Ave., which dead ends into the pool entrance. Kayaks should be brought through the delivery entrance/emergency exit, which is located just to the east of the Robinwood entrance. Pool staff will be stationed at the delivery entrance to assist you. Cannot enter the building until 2:50 PM. [Map to Lakewood HS](#)

Cancellation Policy

If Lakewood High School pool is closed, that information will likely be available on the pool's voicemail at (216) 529-4014 or see our [Message Board](#).

For more information contact Marius Asipauskas water.marius@gmail.com email is preferred. Google Voice, and Text, 216-200-6321

Meyers Lake YMCA Pool Roll Sessions

Sessions are now scheduled for **every Sunday starting 11/10 to 3/2** for Meyers Lake YMCA Pool in Canton, OH. (11/10, 11/17, 11/24, 12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22, 12/29, 1/5, 1/12, 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23, 3/2)

Sunday Pool Session start at 8:45am and end promptly at 10:45am. The YMCA has agreed to open the back door at 8:30am to allow us time to bring in our kayaks/gear.

A charge of \$5-\$7 per kayak/person per session should cover the use of the pool.

Directions to Canton Meyers Lake YMCA Pool

The Meyers Lake YMCA is located at 1333 North Park Ave NW in Canton. Easily located 1 mile west of I-77 using the 13th St exit. Turn Right on Park Street and you can't miss the YMCA on the building. If you see the lake on your right you have gone too far.

[Meyers Lake YMCA](#)

There are a few simple guidelines to follow. All boaters will bring their kayaks/gear through the back door. All kayaks and gear must be clean before getting to the YMCA. No seal launching. It is important that all kayaks are out of the YMCA building immediately after the session ends, take your kayak out the back door to the parking lot then proceed with showers and changing. Please pay me (or designated person) at the end of each session. Please remember **helmets are required**. Format for the Canton Roll Sessions will remain as in the past, first hour roll practice second hour kayak soccer.

Cancellation Policy

Please check the Keel-Haulers [Message Board](#) the morning of a session, a post will be there in the event the YMCA needs to cancel.

For more information contact Jeff Cramer jscramer24@neo.rr.com . . . 330-245-6252

2014 Club Officers

President:	Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
VP:	Dave Roush	440-623-9035
Secretary:	Donna Homborg	440-236-8360
Treasurer:	Pam Poljak	440-268-9194

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, on the second Tuesday of each month
Doors open at 7:00 P.M., meeting starts at 7:30 P.M.

Membership: \$20 per year. New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone, send directly to
Membership Chairman:

John Kobak, 440-871-1758
1649 Allen Dr.
Westlake, OH 44145

Any opinions, views or recommendations expressed in the articles in this Newsletter are those of the article's author. Printing these articles in no way implies approval or advocacy of any of the opinions, views or recommendations by the Keel-Haulers Canoe Club or any of its Officers, editor, or members. Water sports are a potentially dangerous activity. Keel-Haulers Canoe Club recommends and encourages all of its members and others to abide by all laws, regulations and recommended practices when engaging in such activity. Each member is responsible for assessing her/his own abilities and for not engaging in activities which are beyond those limits. Members assume any and all risk when choosing to participate in any activity and the Keel-Haulers Canoe Club is not responsible for any damages resulting from such participation.
KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

Non- Commercial advertising is free to all members. To place an ad, send the information the way you want it to appear. Please write or call when item is sold. It will appear for 2 months unless canceled. Commercial ads may be submitted by club member's owned businesses four times each year with a maximum of four lines of copy per ad.

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **January issue of the newsletter is **12/26/13**. Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.**

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor 🍀
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
December, 2013

