

Keelhauler's Ka-news

 **JANUARY, 2017**



Next Club Meeting TBD

Club Membership Report By John Kobak

For the past 10 years our clubs membership has remained steady at 305 +/- 5. At the beginning of each calendar year we seem to lose about 60 members. Some rejoin, but some obviously have not found what they are looking for in a club.

We say we are interested in Whitewater, Sea Kayaking, Flat Water and Canoe Camping. But we basically just have organizers interested in WW paddling. Each year I ask our newer paddlers who are interested in other kind of trips and get-togethers to step up and try organizing just one trip. Pick a date, pick a trip and review information to make sure it is a good time of year to have the trip. Family trips used to be popular and we now have a lot of young kids in the club. Let Joe Boyd joebtravels@yahoo.com , our new trip organizer, know as soon as possible. Maybe more members will find new friends interested in the same kind of activity and we won't lose as many members each year. See Proposed 2017Trip Schedule

Many new members feel that our club members are more experienced and won't accept them. Actually the opposite is true. We sign up 60 new members every year who all need help and advice. Our experienced paddlers love sharing their paddling knowledge and are always very open to helping paddlers of all skill levels. If you meet someone that enjoys our trips, invite them to join the club. We have members from 22 states that enjoy paddling with our friendly members. Carry a business card

http://www.keelhauler.org/images/KHCC_Cards.pdf or a club application with you.

**Keelhaulers Minutes
December 14, 2016
By Marcia Karchmer**

20 members held the Christmas Pot Luck at Middleburg Hts. Recreation Center. Great company and good food! See the website for roll sessions at Lakewood H.S. and Orange H.S. in January and February, 2017, as well as trip schedules for 2017. A board meeting will be held early next year, with a tentative monthly meeting for March 14, 2017. See the monthly newsletter for updates. A good year to all in 2017!

Marcia Karchmer, Secretary

**Monthly Treasurer's Report
By Sam Reynolds**

**Keelhaulers' Canoe Club
Treasurer's Report December 18, 2016**

CD 0402	\$2, 281.84
CD 1077	\$2, 279.41
CD 7367	<u>\$ 00</u>
CD'S (3)	\$4, 561.25
 Checking	 <u>\$11504.34</u>
 Total	 <u>\$16065.59</u>

CD 7367 expired and \$2,259.13 was transferred to checking.
The Board will determine the FY17 budget at their next meeting.

Read this interesting story about Jim Snyder and Charlie Walbridge: Pioneers of the Iconic Cheat River.

How to Get a Bombproof Roll by Eric Jackson

Here is how to take your roll from where it is to, 100% effective.

Everyone learns to roll, then goes through some kind of regression, forgets their roll, then gets it pretty good again giving them 90% confidence in it, then oops, what happened. At this point, where you are, you will either rise up, or go down forever. There is no medium ground here. You know you have the skills to roll, it is a head game, here is what you do. (I have taught thousands of people to roll, and they never swim!)

1. You must be confident and proficient in your basic technique. So start at the beginning. Go to the side of the pool, practice the hip snap. You must pay attention when doing it (no going through the motions). Keep your head in the water until the cockpit hits you in the side (you have done a complete hip snap) then bring your head out. Remember, your body is weightless in the water, 1" out of the water and you weigh 150 pounds (or whatever you weigh) So, upright the boat while weightless, then bring your body out.
2. Do the same exercise, but with your paddle on the side of the pool, drop in the water, hip snap up. Open your eyes and look at the bottom of the pool, don't take your eyes off the bottom until your boat is upright.
3. Do the entire roll a couple of times having someone watch for proper technique. If you can roll again, with 75% proper technique or better, you are ready for the next step, becoming a roller for life.

ROLLING VS. SWIMMING IS A NOCOMPROMISE MENTAL DECISION!

When you are underwater, your ability to make quality decisions is limited. In fact, I wouldn't want to rely on any decisions I make underwater. So it is critical to make all important decisions in advance of getting in your kayak.

#1 Decision- When I flip over, I roll up. This is an easy one. If you are walking across the street and you fall down, you just stand up and walk to the other side. You don't lie there and wait for someone to help you. Why? Because you know how to stand up. If you try to get up and fall again, what do you do? You stand up and walk across the street before you get run over by a truck. If you tip over, you roll up, if you miss a roll, you set up and do it right the next time.

Rolling is easy- you know how to do it on both sides. The only time you don't roll is when you aren't focused on the task at hand- SET UP, COCK UP, HIP SNAP, HEAD DOWN. That is all you can do when underwater.

IMPORTANT FACTS-

1. All you can do underwater is roll up.

2. If you think about anything but rolling up, you will have more trouble rolling.

Scenarios- You tip over and your paddle hits a rock underwater--- *Set up and roll*

You are set up but your head bounces on a rock--- *Roll up*

You feel a huge boil and swirly water and you are having trouble setting up— *Set up and roll (it may take another 5 seconds)*

You are up against rocks on one side--- *Set up and roll on the other side.*

Get the point: Every time you are upside down, you focus on the roll and roll up.

The option- Swim (It takes at least 5 more seconds to get air then rolling, you bang your legs, waste 5 minutes, get cold, endanger yourself and everyone with you) So swimming is not an option.

HOW DO I PRACTICE MY ROLL TO HAVE TOTAL CONFIDENCE IT WILL ALWAYS WORK?

1. Once you are confident in a pool that you will get back up if you tip over (you can roll) you can begin your real roll practice.

NEVER, NEVER, NEVER TIP OVER WITH YOUR PADDLE SET UP IN ROLL POSITION!!!!

This will never happen in a river, so practicing this way means every time you tip in a river it will feel different to you then in practice.

Your goal is to get comfortable with every conceivable position to start your roll from underwater.

Examples: Tip with your paddle behind your back, over your head, holding with one hand, backwards, bad grip, etc. Tip with your paddle off to the side of the boat, look for it and swim to it, grab it set up and roll.

Time yourself underwater- practice extending your time underwater with a reasonable comfort level. (The average person is comfortable for 10-15 seconds on the first try and 15-30 seconds on the second try. This means it is possible for you to double the time you have to be comfortable underwater with a little practice (underwater is no big deal unless you feel panic, extending the time you have before panic is easy and critical)

Learn an "intuitive roll"- You can now roll any old which way but loose. You no longer roll set up. You can pass your paddle over the boat while underwater, etc. Awesome. One more step... Getting past the "learned, mechanical roll". You do a sweep roll, or a C to C roll. Fine. Rolling though is simply getting a bite on the water and hip snapping up. (you should take your roll past the beginner phase and learn to roll in all kinds of positions of paddle and body)

Here is how you do it-

1. Flip in the water with your paddle in the high brace position and roll back up (deep high brace)

2. Same thing but let the paddle go underwater to a 30-degree angle, then roll up.

3. Do it again letting the paddle go deep to 60 degrees, then roll up.

4. go to 90 degrees then roll up. (miss a roll?, no problem, set up and roll normally)

What you are trying to achieve in the above exercise is to learn what you can get away with and still roll up. It is not necessary to "set up do a C to C roll" every time. In fact, most of

the time you should be able to turn a flip into a quick hip snap back up. Why? Because you generally tip over with the paddle in a position that is similar to one that you are practicing above (60 degrees into the water for example)

You can always set up and do the "proper roll technique" if you miss a quick roll up. However, if you don't learn that you can roll from any position, you won't ever have an intuitive roll.

Summary:

1. Decide that you NEVER swim. (The only time swimming is safer than staying in the boat is when the boat is pinned solid to something)

2. Practice "combat rolls" only- that is the only kind you will ever have to do.

3. Extend the amount of time you are comfortable underwater (a bath tub is good for this too)

4. Learn an "Intuitive roll"- rolling any which way, (it is all about getting a bite on the water with your paddle and doing a good hip snap, keeping the head down.)

5. Imagine every possible situation that could possibly occur in the river and try to simulate it in the pool (use the sides, use other kayakers, use a broken paddle, etc)

6. Learn a hand roll after the intuitive roll.

ONE MORE THING. TIME TO PUT AN OLD WIVES TALE TO REST ONCE AND FOR ALL!!!!

It is not better to roll leaning forward vs. leaning back!

The last three years there has been some kind of underground cult that has ruined the rolls of thousands of boaters, Page 7 endangering them in the river, ruining their confidence, and their on the water enjoyment. This cult has been teaching that you should ALWAYS roll up leaning forward. BS, NO GOOD!

Their theory is by rolling up leaning forward you protect your face from hitting rocks. Wrong!! By the time you have done your hip snap and are coming up, if you are leaning back your face is pointed at the sky, not the bottom of the river.

Leaning forward during hip snap hinders your hip snap by 50%. This means you will be missing many more rolls than if you lean back. It also raises your center of gravity on the roll by 50% taking more energy to roll up.

You want to nail your first roll every time! This means good hip snap (leaning back a little or all of the way), keep your center of gravity low (leaning back) and finish every roll in bracing position (leaning back, paddle out to the side)

Leaning forward means missing rolls, slamming rocks on your way back in, coming up out of position for a good brace to keep you up, etc. SAY NO TO THE CULT!

With all of this said remember.... You will see me, and all of the best boaters breaking all of the rules mentioned about (except the swimming part) because our rolls are so intuitive that we just "roll up" with no regard to technique or a consistent approach. (I rarely ever set up

and roll, I often lean forward so I am in position to take my next stroke, I will lean back if it is important that I stay up) etc. You too can get there, but a breaking out of the "mechanical roll" mold is the first step.

Indoor Pool Sessions for 2016-2017

We will have four pool locations near Cleveland, OH - East ([Orange](#)), West ([Lakewood](#)) & South ([Canton](#) or , [Akron](#))

Roll Instruction: Please use [KHCC Message Board](#) to find persons willing to provide instruction. The forum is also a good place to find folks with loaner kayaks and gear

Sea kayak rescue practice: Clean Sea Kayaks are welcome at both Lakewood and Orange High School pools

For more information contact John Banach j_banacka@hotmail.com 330-606-5032

Orange High School Pool Roll Sessions - 2016-17

Four sessions are scheduled for this Winter, Saturday afternoons 1/21, 2/4, 2/18, 3/11 - 4 PM to 6 PM

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 \$7 per person per session (\$6 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 Josiah Colvin karmannghia_68@hotmail.com 330-671-0910

Lakewood High School Pool Roll Sessions - 2016-17

Six sessions are scheduled this Winter, 12/17, 1/28, 2/11, 2/25, 3/4 - 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**.

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 Lakewood Pool information contact Matt Demaline - Aquatics Manager
Matt.Demaline@lakewoodcityschools.org - - 216-529-4081

Meyers Lake YMCA Pool Roll Sessions - 2016-17

Sessions are now scheduled for **every Sunday starting 11/27 to 2/26** for Meyers Lake YMCA Pool in Canton, OH. 11/27, 12/4, 12/11, 12/18, 1/8, 1/15, 1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26. Possible 3/5 and 3/12 if winter is still strong and rivers are frozen.

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 John Banach j_banacka@hotmail.com 330-606-5032

Akron University Pool Roll Sessions

Open kayaking sessions to learn basic kayaking skills on Tuesday nights from 8:00-10:00 pm beginning Every Tuesday from 9/22/15 to 12/08/15 and 2016 not announced
All boats, PFDs (life jackets), and paddles are provided. No experience is required. But you may bring your own, see below.

Cost is free for students, faculty/staff and rec members, and \$10 per session for non members.

Please arrive on the ONAT pool deck at the start time.

See [Akron U Pool Information](#)

Directions to Pool

Pool is near E. Buchtel Ave Exit off of SR 8.

[Map to Akron U Pool](#)

For more information contact Manager of Outdoor Adventure
outdooradventure@uakron.edu 330-972-7357

General Pool Rules

The sessions are unstructured, providing plenty of time to practice at your own pace. There is no formal instruction. However, there are always club members on hand who are happy to demonstrate and provide assistance to other club members. If you want help with your roll, just ask a club member.

Hand paddles will be available for learning hand rolls.

To maintain a good relationship with the Orange & Lakewood, Canton or Akron, there are a few rules to observe.

1. **All boats must be clean.** Remove the air bags and wash the boat, inside and out. Do this at home. Dirty boats are not allowed in the pool.
2. Sessions are open to the general public. For those interested, club membership forms will be available at the door. Annual club dues are only \$20 per family. Click to [Join Our Club](#)
3. The roll session at Orange High School is preceded by an Open Swim session. If you arrive early, please wait outside the building with your boats until the Open Swim session ends at 4:10 PM. Please bring in boats through the back emergency exit, which will open at 4:10 PM.
4. Please sign in and pay the lifeguard/manager upon entering the pool. **Please bring exact change.**
5. We must avoid damage to the facilities and especially the pools' tiled surfaces. Remove metal rudders from sea kayaks. Do not bring aluminum canoes. **Do not launch off the deck of the pool** -- enter your boat while it is sitting in the water.
6. The pool becomes crowded. In the interest of safety, neither free swimming nor diving is allowed. All children under the age of 18 must be supervised at all times by a paying adult.
7. **Helmets will be required**, whether you are in a boat or standing in the water helping someone. This is for your own safety.

**Swiftwater Rescue Clinic
Taught by Charlie Walbridge
June ??, 2017**

For the 9th year in a row Charlie Walbridge will be conducting a Swiftwater Rescue Clinic exclusively for our Club members. This Clinic has trained nearly 120 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 \$90 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. Contact Joe Marksz to sign up joemarksz@gmail.com 216-533-0604

THE RULES OF KAYAKING

- RULE #1 DO NOT DIE.**
- RULE #2 SEE RULE #1.**
- RULE #3 PEOPLE ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN BOATS.**
- RULE #4 WHEN IN DOUBT, DON'T.**
- RULE #5 STRAINERS ARE NOT YOUR FRIENDS.**
- RULE #6 UNDERCUTS ARE BAD.**
- RULE #7 SMILE FOR THE CAMERA.**
- RULE #8 THE RIVER IS STRONGER THAN YOU ARE.**
- RULE #9 BRING A HOT THERMOS BETWEEN LABOR DAY AND MEMORIAL DAY**
- RULE #10 IF YOU SCOUT, BRING A THROW ROPE AND CAMERA.**
- RULE #11 DON'T PADDLE WITH PEOPLE THAT DON'T CARRY THROW ROPES.**
- RULE #12 HAVE YOUR KEYS AT THE TAKEOUT.**
- RULE #13 IF IT'S NOT FUN, DON'T DO IT!**
- RULE #14 HANDROLLS ARE A LAST RESORT, NOT FIRST.**
- RULE #15 MAKE SURE SOMEONE HAS A WATCH.**
- RULE #16 NEVER LET A NEW PADDLER GO FIRST OR LAST.**
- RULE #17 NO RIVER IS "TOO EASY" UNLESS YOU CATCH EVERY EDDY AND SURF EVERY WAVE.**
- RULE #18 CHERISH EVERY RIVER TRIP, NO TWO ARE THE SAME.**
- RULE #19 SAVE THE PERSON WITH THE KEYS OR THE COFFEE FIRST.**
- RULE #20 SCREAMING IN TERROR IS A WASTE OF GOOD OXYGEN.**
- RULE #21 NO MATTER HOW FRIENDLY THE RIVER IS, YOU ARE NOT THE RIVER'S FRIEND.**
- RULE #22 RIVERS DON'T CARE!**
- RULE #23 ALWAYS HAVE AIRBAGS!**
- RULE #24 WHEN IN DOUBT, PADDLE, PADDLE, PADDLE!**
- RULE #25 THANK THE POOR SOULS WHO RETRIEVE ALL YOUR LOST GEAR.**

**Start to plan to be a 2017 trip organizer -
Pick a trip from last year.**

**Contact: Joe Boyd, 330-858-6270 or
joebtravels@yahoo.com**

Proposed 2017 Schedule

Date	Trip/Event	RR	Organizer	Phone #
January				
1/2	New Year paddle on the (4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
1/8,15,22,29	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 8:45 - 10:45 AM		John Banach	330-606-5032
1/28	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3:00-5:00 pm		John Banach	330-606-5032
1/21	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4:00-6:00 PM		Josiah Colvin	330-671-0910
February				
2/4	Ohiopyle Winterfest & Paddle the (4) Loop (PA)	23	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
2/4,18	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4:00-6:00 PM		Josiah Colvin	330-671-0910
2/5,12,19,26	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 8:45 - 10:45 AM		John Banach	330-606-5032
2/11,25	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3:00-5:00 pm		John Banach	330-606-5032
2/18	Club Get-Together at the Fox & Hound Restaurant in Mayfield Hts after roll session at 6:30 PM, everyone welcome.		John Banach	330-606-5032
March				
For More Trips - Check our Message Board				
3/4	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3:00-5:00 pm		John Banach	330-606-5032
3/11	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4:00-6:00 PM		Josiah Colvin	330-671-0910
3/11,12	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
3/14	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		John Banach	330-606-5032
3/18-26	Southern Rivers - TN, NC	22-32	Needs organizer	
3/19	(1) Vermilion River Cleanup (OH)	SK/FW	Jon Reising	440-967-9507
3/19	(3) Cuyahoga River, Upper or Lower Gorge (OH) Water Level dependent	20-28	Needs organizer	
3/26	(1) Vermilion Race (OH) 	SK/FW	Jon Reising	440-967-9507

Alternate Date 4/2

2017 Club Officers

President	John Banach	330-606-5032
VP:	Don Howdyshell	330-671-0825
Secretary:	Marcia Karchmer	440-773-4132
Treasurer:	Sam Reynolds	330-962-5501

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, 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 1/23/17. Please send articles to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.
Geneva, IL 60134
peetzaguy@aol.com

January, 2017



Keelhauler's Ka-news



FEBRUARY, 2017



Next Club Get-together is To be determined...

after the Pool sessions

Program: No meetings or programs until the March 14th meeting
in Middleburg Heights.

Roll Session or Meeting questions?

For more Pool information contact Josiah Colvin

karmanngia_68@hotmail.com 330-671-0910

For more Meeting information contact John Banach

j_banacka@hotmail.com 330-606-5032

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

**New Keelhauler Facebook Page
From John Kobak**

[Join - Try - Comment](#)

It is a closed group and anyone has to ask permission to join.

President's Message By John Banach



Hello and Happy New Year my fellow Keel Haulers.

I hope that you all had a wonderful and happy holiday season. Who would have thought Mother Nature would be so forgiving this year. Hopefully you have been able to get out and enjoy the unseasonably warm weather. Whether boating, hiking, sightseeing, or what have you, enjoy it while it lasts.

It's looking to be a very promising year for the club. As of today, we have over 250 active members. And growing. That is the most active members to start a new year in over ten years. So congratulations to all of us. I can't wait until we get to 300. But it's a group effort. Spread the word that at 50 years young, the Keel Haulers are stronger than ever. There are lots of good events going on this winter and lots to look forward to this spring. The indoor roll practice sessions have been well attended hits so far. At the Sunday Canton sessions, we've averaged 16 people each day. A few days we hit or almost hit 20. The roll practice has been great but the soccer sessions have been epic as usual. And we all have the lumps and bruises to prove it.

At the Saturday Orange session, we had about 15 show, ages 5 to 75. Short boats and long. Beginners and experts all sharing the pool. Working together and having fun. And that's what it's all about.

Having missed the first Lakewood Saturday, I am looking forward to seeing many new and old faces this Saturday. If you live in NE Ohio, and don't have Saturday plans, come get in your boat and join us. You won't regret it.

The winter will be over soon (I hope) and spring will bless us with warmer weather and bigger river flows. But I'm sure it will also bring some late season snow storms too. So I won't put away my shovel.

But, before we know it, we'll all need to prepare for not one, but two races. The Vermilion and the Cuyahoga Falls kayak races. Two completely different races, yet so much fun to participate in or volunteer. Please keep a look out for posts on the website for upcoming race information from Jon Reising on the Vermilion and Don Howdysell for the Cuyahoga Falls kayak race. I'm so excited for both and I am hoping for great turnouts to each.

Finally, I would like to say Happy Birthday to John Kobak who turned 80 this month. I still cannot believe it. This is the guy who helped lead me down the Upper Yough a few months ago. The guy who still has more energy than most folks I know. And the guy who continues to put his blood, sweat, and tears into this club. Always hoping and trying to make it the best it can be for each and every member.

Thank you John for paving the way for so many of us. Most of us would not be reading this if you had not spent so many countless years putting in the work to keep so a club fun, fresh, and valuable to its members. So thank you John. You definitely deserve to be highly recognized.

Till we talk again next month, enjoy yourselves. I hope to see you whether on the river, in a pool, or over a pint. Enjoy yourselves and enjoy the new and fresh start in 2017. And let's all not worry so much. We're Keel Hauler's.. We can handle anything and still have smiles on our faces.

Thank you.

**Keelhaulers Minutes
January, 2017
By Marcia Karchmer**

No meeting, no minutes. Roll sessions are scheduled. See the Keelhauler website. Happy New Year!

Marcia Karchmer, Secretary

**Monthly Treasurer's Report
2016 Year End Report and
the 2017 Approved Budget
By Sam Reynolds**

Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Treasurer's Report January 23, 2017

CD 0402	\$2, 283.18
CD 1077	\$2, 280.75
CD 7367	\$ <u>00</u>
CD'S (3)	\$4, 563.93
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Total	<u>\$16,627.68</u>

CD 7367 expired and \$2,259.13 was transferred to checking.

On January 19,2017, the Board decided to renew CD's 0402 and 1077 in 2017.

FY 2016 Year End Report

10/1/2015-9/30/2016

INCOME

Membership Contributions	
Conservation	260.00
Dues	5,458.32
TOTAL Membership Contributions	5,718.32
NEO Paddlers Network Income	491.90
Vermilion Race Income	
Refreshment Stand	38.10
Registration Fees	649.04
TOTAL Vermilion Race Income	687.14
Yough Reservations Income	0
TOTAL INCOME	6,897.36

EXPENSES

Club Meeting Expense	
Facility Fees	620.00
Multimedia Rental	100.00
Refreshments	262.07
Special Reservations	190.00
TOTAL Club Meeting Expense	1,172.07
Conservation Expense	2,250.00
Spec. Donation/Portage Park Dist.	100.00
Internet	
Network Website and Domain	374.61
Paddlers' Network	349.80
TOTAL Internet	724.41
Postage and Filing Fees	36.05
Vermilion Race Expense	
Awards	0
Donation*	100.00
Insurance	142.50
Membership	30.00
Miscellaneous	74.33
Postage	2.30
Refreshments	38.65
TOTAL Vermilion Race Expense	387.78
Yearbook Expense	
Bulk Mailing Permit & Handling	290.93
Postage and Software	98.36
Printing	1582.01
TOTAL Yearbook Expense	1971.30
TOTAL EXPENSES	6641.61

OVERALL TOTAL	255.75
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CD (3) value as of 9/30/16 6816.94

*Contains donation to Lorain Metro Park for 2016 Race

**FY 2017 Year End Report
Final Approved Budget**

Category Description	FY 2014 Actuals	FY 2015 Actuals	FY 2016 Budget	FY 2016 Actuals	FY 2017 Budget
ASSETS					
CHECKING balance at start of FY	\$5,312.46	\$5,906.02	\$5,401.67	\$5,733.46	\$5,733.46
CD (3) balance at start of FY	\$6,763.61	\$6,771.33	\$6,774.00	\$6,816.94	\$6,816.94
INCOME					
Conservation	\$40.00	\$60.00	\$60.00	\$260.00	\$260.00
Dues	\$5,024.00	\$5,659.00	\$5,762.06	\$5,458.32	\$5,458.00
Reservations*	\$68.00	\$88.00	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$80.00
Vermilion Race	\$849.00	\$612.00	\$612.00	\$687.14	\$687.00
Pool session deposit refund	\$84.00				
NEO Paddlers' Network Income		\$200.00	\$200.00	\$491.90	\$500.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$6,065.00	\$6,619.00	\$6,714.06	\$6,897.36	\$6,985.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$18,141.07	\$19,296.35	\$18,889.73	\$19,447.76	\$19,535.40
LIABILITIES					
EXPENSE					
Conservation Donations	\$2,225.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00
Internet Access	\$100.00	\$117.00	\$117.00	\$323.64	\$0.00
Internet Domain	\$48.00	\$33.00	\$33.00	\$50.97	\$51.00
Marketing					
Library			\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Meeting Hall	\$550.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$770.00	\$770.00
Paddlers' Network			\$350.00	\$349.80	\$350.00
Cuy. Falls Race					\$400.00
Postage and Supply	\$201.00		\$250.00	\$36.05	\$200.00
Refreshments		\$104.00	\$100.00	\$262.07	\$300.00
Vermillion Race	\$300.00	\$1,605.00	\$500.00	\$387.78	\$388.00
Yearbook Expense	\$1,822.00	\$1,844.00	\$1,844.00	\$1,971.30	\$1,971.00
Yough Reservations-Intro	\$240.00		\$80.00	\$40.00	\$80.00
Spec. Donation/Portage Park Dist.	\$75.00	\$75.00		\$100.00	\$100.00
Multimedia Rental		\$200.00	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$5,561.00	\$6,828.00	\$6,524.00	\$6,641.61	\$7,160.00
OVERALL TOTAL	\$12,580.07	\$12,468.35	\$12,365.73	\$12,806.15	\$12,375.40
Donations		FY 2015 Actual	FY 2016 Budget	FY 2016 Actuals	FY 2017 Budget
American Whitewater		\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00
Friends of the Cheat		\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Friends of the Crooked River		\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Grand Canyon Private Boaters Association		\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
American Rivers		\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
West Virginia Rivers Coalition		\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
River Network		\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Nature Conservancy		\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Mountain watershed Assoc.-Yough Defense Fund		\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
TOTAL		\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,250.00

1. The FY17 budget was approved by the Board on Thursday, January 19, 2017.
2. The Board also approved to renew CD's 1077 and 0402 which expire in 2017.

Vermilion River Clean Up And Vermilion River Race By Jon Reising

March 19th, Vermilion River Clean up

Please come and help clean up the river for the Vermilion River race that will take place next Sunday March 28th. Call or email me if you can help with this.

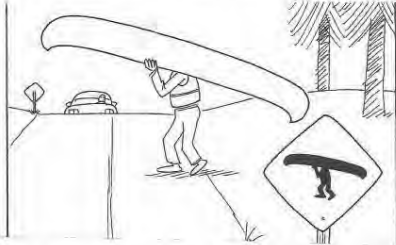
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We have 16 classes to race in so come and participate in Information is on the Keel Hauler home page. Please take a day and come and race/help with this event that the club has sponsored for the last 47 years. **Please check Rules & Application for change in classes and rules.** We have added a new class for you **Stand Up Paddle Boarders**. Be sure your Ohio boat registration is up-to-date. **Water level is critical**, the race will only be held on this section of the river if the [USGS Gauge](#) is between 2.8 to 6 feet. If it's too low, the race will be moved downstream to start and finish at the South Street Boat Launch Ramp on West River road in Vermilion. If it's too high it will be scheduled for April 2, 2017.

Jon Reising mnmsguy@yahoo.com
440 967 9507

Keelhauler website link for information, entry forms, etc.
<http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/vermil.htm>

**49th Annual Keel – Haulers
Vermilion River Canoe & Kayak Race
March 26th 2017**
(High water date is April 2nd 2017)



This is the club's 49th annual race, one of the oldest in the US. The rapids are an easy class 1. The race is appropriate for novice to expert racers as well as recreational and sea kayakers. We encourage families and small groups who want to race together. This race is a great opportunity to shake the cob webs off your muscles and get ready for the paddling season.

**Registration opens @ 9:00 a.m.
Shoepfle Gardens, Birmingham Ohio
Contact information: 440-967-9507
mnmsguy@yahoo.com**

South Carolina Legal Decision Protects Right To Float! From Jim Hunt

posted July 15, 2016 by Kevin Colburn - AW

Paddlers have successfully helped to defend the public right to float rivers and streams in South Carolina. In a decision released late last week, a South Carolina court rejected an attempt to privatize a section of the South Fork of the Saluda River known as Blythe Shoals. The Court ruled that the entire river - rapids and all - is navigable and shall remain open to recreational paddling. This is great news for South Carolina river enthusiasts!

When a landowner sued the State of South Carolina and the upstream landowner Naturaland Trust in late 2013, American Whitewater and the local Foothills Paddling Club joined the lawsuit to help defend the right to float. Nathan Galbreath served as our pro bono counsel with assistance by Jeff Harris, both of the law firm Nelson & Galbreath, LLC.

Nathan and Jeff coordinated the collection of numerous videos of people paddling Blythe Shoals at various levels and presented them to the Court as evidence with signed affidavits by the paddlers. When the landowners acquired an affidavit claiming the river was impossible to navigate in a canoe, AW's Kevin Colburn and canoeist Chris Loomis made a video of a nonchalant canoe descent. As it turned out, creating and submitting paddling videos as evidence was an effective strategy. The Court decision cited this evidence as definitive proof of navigability.

The Court also upheld and reiterated over a century of case law that ensures navigability does not depend on commercial use, vessel size, two-way travel, actual use, ease of use, safety of use, use at all water levels, or use of all reaches. Instead, the Court clearly found "the standard for navigability rests on the potential for any public use, be it commercial or recreational."

While this case may be appealed, we certainly hope it is not. Recreational use of rivers is a deeply valued and valuable tradition in South Carolina and nationwide. Responsible enjoyment of our public rivers is fully compatible with private property rights, and serves to connect countless citizens of all ages with nature in a healthy way. Our public rivers are the best, lowest cost, and biggest trail system in the United States, and it is in the public interest to maintain access to them. As always, we encourage paddlers to be extremely respectful of private property and courteous as we use public access areas, roads, and rivers.

We'd like to thank everyone who chipped in, including our pro bono legal team at Nelson & Galbreath, the State of South Carolina and Naturaland Trust who stood up for public recreational rights, all the paddlers that submitted evidence of their Blythe Shoals descents, the Foothills Paddling Club, and of course paddlers that support our work on projects like this through membership and donations.

The South Fork of the Saluda remains open to paddling!

2017 – Southern Release Dates By Jim Hunt

February

2/25: Cheoah @1000 8am-12pm, 600 12pm-5pm (note 2/26 is @ 200cfs)

March

3/25: Cheoah @ 1000 8am-4pm

3/26: Cheoah @ 600 12am-12pm, 300 12pm through 3/27

April

4/1: Tallulah

4/2: Tallulah

4/8: Tallulah, & West Fork Tuckasegee @250 10am-4pm

4/9: Tallulah, & West Fork Tuckasegee @250 10am-4pm

4/22: Cheoah @ 1000 8am-4pm

4/23: Cheoah @ 1000 8am-2pm, @850 2pm-4pm

4/28: Cheoah @ 1000 8am-4pm

4/29: Cheoah @ 1000 8am-2pm, @850 2pm-4pm (note 4/30 is @ 300cfs)

4/29: Nantahala Cascades / Upper @ 250 10am-4pm

4/30: Nantahala Cascades / Upper @ 350 10am-4pm

May

5/6: Cheoah @ 1000 8am-4pm

5/7: Cheoah @ 1000 8am-2pm, @850 2pm-4pm

5/13: Cheoah @ 1000 8am-4pm

5/14: Cheoah @ 1000 8am-2pm, @850 2pm-4pm

5/20: Cheoah @ 1000 8am-4pm

5/21: Cheoah @ 1000 8am-2pm, @850 2pm-4pm

June

6/10: West Fork Tuckasegee @250 10am-4pm

6/16: Nantahala Cascades / Upper @ 250 4pm-7pm

July

7/1: West Fork Tuckasegee @250 10am-4pm

7/7: Nantahala Cascades / Upper @ 250 4pm-7pm

7/8: Cheoah @ 1000 8am-4pm

7/9: Cheoah 1000 8am-2pm, @850 2pm-4pm

7/14: Nantahala Cascades / Upper @ 250 4pm-7pm

7/22: West Fork Tuckasegee @250 10am-4pm

August

8/11: Nantahala Cascades / Upper @ 250 4pm-7pm

8/12: West Fork Tuckasegee @250 10am-4pm

8/26: West Fork Tuckasegee @250 10am-4pm

September

9/9: Cheoah @ 1000 8am-4pm

9/23: Nantahala Cascades / Upper @ 300 10am-5pm

9/24: Nantahala Cascades / Upper @ 425 10am-3pm, @250 3pm-5pm

October

[None]

November

11/4: Tallulah, & Cheoah @ 1000 8am-4pm

11/5: Tallulah

11/11: Tallulah

11/12: Tallulah

11/18: Tallulah

11/19: Tallulah

Indoor Pool Sessions for 2017

Link to roll session information:

<http://www.keelhauler.org/Instruction/#pool>

For more Pool information contact:

Josiah Colvin karmannghia_68@hotmail.com . . . 330-671-0910

For Sale

Priojon Yukon Expedition sea kayak (german made). 14' 9". HTTP hull, watertight holds. Includes; paddles, cockpit cover, spray skirt, throw bag, deck compass and rudder. Very good condition. \$625.00.

Don Winton, Chardon, Ohio. 440 285 2371

Start to plan to be a 2017 trip organizer -
Pick a trip from last year or one in red. Contact: Joe Boyd
at 330-858-6270 or joebtravels@yahoo.com

February				
2/4,18	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4:00-6:00 PM		Josiah Colvin	330-671-0910
2/5,12,19,26	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 8:45 - 10:45 AM		John Banach	330-606-5032
2/11,25	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3:00-5:00 pm		Glen Baker	216-403-7820
2/18	Club Get-Together at the Fox & Hound Restaurant in Mayfield Hts after roll session at 6:30 PM, everyone welcome.		John Banach	330-606-5032
March				
For More Trips - Check our Message Board				
3/4	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3:00-5:00 pm		Glen Baker	216-403-7820
3/11	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4:00-6:00 PM		Josiah Colvin	330-671-0910
3/11,12	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
3/12-19	Southern Rivers - TN, NC OR if there is good water in WV we can go there.	22-32	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
3/14	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		John Banach	330-606-5032
3/19	(1) Vermilion River Cleanup (OH)	SK/FW	Jon Reising	440-967-9507
3/26	(1) Vermilion Race (OH) 	SK/FW	Jon Reising	440-967-9507
	Alternate Date 4/2			
April				
For More Trips - Check our Message Board				
4/1,2	WV Class V Creeking	>30	Needs organizer	
4/8	(1) Little Beaver (OH)	SK/FW	Doug Lyons	740-317-7007
4/8,9 4/29,30	(3) Cheat and Potomac South Branch watersheds. Be sure to contact Steve for river choice, like Potomac, Stonycreek, Casselman, Dry Fork, Upper Big Sandy or Little Sandy rivers	18	Steve Ingalls	216-371-8250
4/8,9	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Needs organizer	
4/11	Club Monthly Meeting at Brick House Tavern, 581 Howe Ave, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221		John Banach	330-606-5032
4/14-21	(4) Easter Southern Rivers Trip TN,NC,SC,GA	22-32	Needs organizer	
4/15	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Mark Spang	440-522-0520
4/15,16	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
4/16 or 4/23	(1) Grand River (OH)	SK/FW	Andy Gross	216-321-9284
4/21	Upper Yough (MD)	32	FIFO Trip	440-554-1383
4/22	Cuyahoga Falls Kayak Race (OH) Upper Gorge Limit 600 CFS 	28	Don Howdyshell	330-671-0825
	Click Image for official website & registration			
4/22,23	(5) Middle Fork & Tygart (WV)	29	Needs organizer	

2017 Club Officers

President	John Banach	330-606-5032
VP:	Don Howdyshell	330-671-0825
Secretary:	Marcia Karchmer	440-773-4132
Treasurer:	Sam Reynolds	330-962-5501

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, 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 **March issue of the newsletter is **2/23/17**. Please send articles to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.**

KeelHauler Kanews

Kelly Miller, Editor

701 Forrest Ave.

Geneva, IL 60134

peetzaguy@aol.com

February, 2017



Keelhauler's

Ka-news

MARCH, 2017



**Next Club Monthly Meeting is on 4/11.
Brick House Tavern, 581 Howe Ave,
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221**

Program: To be announced.....

For more Meeting information contact:

John Banach j_banacka@hotmail.com 330-606-5032

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

**Keelhauler's Minutes
February, 2017
By Marcia Karchmer**

February meeting minutes: Highlights of board telecon:

Old business: none

New business:

John: We have 250 active members, the most in 10 years! Attendance at roll sessions has been high!

Our new Facebook site has 122 members! Many thanks to John Kobak and Don for setting it up!

Vermilion River Race is on March 26, with low water alternate date April 2. Volunteers are needed! Contact Jon Reising.

The board voted to be a sponsor in the Cuyahoga Falls Race on April 22. Volunteers will be needed for this, too!

More sea kayak membership is needed.

Happy 80th birthday to John Kobak!!!

No March meeting. Meeting will be held April 11, location to be announced.

Marcia Karchmer, Secretary

Monthly Treasurer's Report By Sam Reynolds

Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Treasurer's Report February 17, 2017

CD 0402	\$2, 283.18
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 280.75</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 563.93
Checking	<u>\$ 8, 040.22</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$12,604.15</u>

Keel-Haulers Help To Protect U.S. Rivers

Each year, Jim Hunt, Conservation Chairperson, recommends to the Board of Trustees that the Keel-Hauler's Club support specific river conservation organizations. The following organizations were approved by the Trustees and checks were sent early in February:

American Whitewater-\$600
Friends of the Cheat-\$500
Friends of the Crooked River-\$300
Grand Canyon Private Boater Association-\$150
American Rivers-\$150
West Virginia River Coalition-\$150
River Network-\$100
Nature Conservancy-\$150
Mountain Watershed Association-Yough Defense Fund-\$150

Through our collective effort, \$2250.00 will be used to protect our rivers.

Thank you.

Sam Reynolds, Treasurer

Vermilion River Clean Up And Vermilion River Race By Jon Reising

March 19th, Vermilion River Clean up

Please come and help clean up the river for the Vermilion River race that will take place next Sunday March 28th. Call or email me if you can help with this.

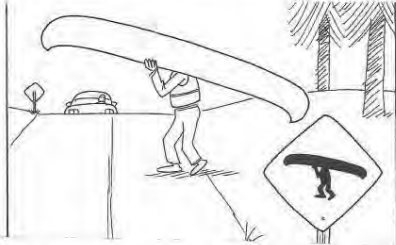
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440 967 9507

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Registration opens @ 9:00 a.m.
Shoepfle Gardens, Birmingham Ohio
Contact information: 440-967-9507
mnmsguy@yahoo.com

2nd Annual Cuyahoga Falls Race April 22 and 23, 2017

April 22, 2017

Boater Registration: 9am - 11am @ the Sheraton Hotel Lobby. Sheraton Suites: 1989 Front St, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221, Entry fee is \$20 for paddlers.

Safety briefing: TBD

Short Boat Race begins: 1pm

Long Boat Race begins: TBD

Possible Open Class Slalom Race TBD

Freestyle and Huck* session after Race: TBD

*"Huck" is a kayaking slang term for launching oneself off a waterfall.

Following are links to more information about the upcoming race.

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

Registration online form:

<http://www.cfkayakrace.com/sign-up.html>

<https://www.theodysseyonline.com/cuyahoga-falls-kayak-race>

Online video:

<https://youtu.be/6JbPsLNNQg4>

For more information or questions, contact:

Don Howdyshehl at 330-671-0825 or donh458@gmail.com.

Bruised Ribs and Egos on Stonycreek Canyon By Matt Fredmonsky

The spring of 2016 proved generous to paddlers in eastern Ohio and western Pennsylvania, as one of the region's great river-play runs ran often. I'm talking of course about the Stonycreek Canyon in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, where they must get enough rain to fill the Quemahoning Reservoir in order to get the scheduled whitewater releases to turn the Stony Canyon into a playboater's wet dream.



Punching Showers rapid on the Stonycreek Canyon. Photo credit: Matt Jackson

Typically, the reservoir runs low and stops releasing by early summer. Last year, the Stony was running into July. Every-other weekend, members of the Keelhaulers Canoe and Kayak Club became fixtures in the shuttle parking lots at the ballfields and Carpenter's Park.

On one June weekend the reservoir had enough water to release on both Saturday and Sunday, and a group of us turned the rare summer occasion into a weekend of paddling and camping. I had spent the winter and spring getting comfortable in my new down-river playboat, a banana-colored Fuse 64, and so every feature on the Stony became a challenge for surfing, spinning or just dropping into it for a beating. I had more than a dozen sessions playing in Swimmer's on the Lower Yough, surfing the various waves at 271 on the Cuyahoga and anywhere else I could find a hole or wave to do some playboating work in.

Needless to say, I was feeling especially confident - despite really not having any playboating moves - when I dropped into the surfer's right side (river left) of the Third Sister rapid on the Stony Canyon to test my mettle. The rapid is a ledge drop that creates a wicked hydraulic at all levels, with a narrow playspot. I wasn't entirely unprepared for the ride, but I wasn't expecting to get so stuck that several times the thought "I am never going to get out of here" would run through my head. I was side surfing pointing river left. Then I was rodeo-riding into a side surf pointing river right. Then I pulled a flat spin. And on, and on it went for what felt like an eternity (but was really between 2 minutes to 3 minutes max). The upstream pull of the hole made it impossible for my meager skills to get me to surfer's left, and freedom, where a break in the bedrock creates a tongue that provides the weary (and informed) paddler an escape. I managed to ride the hole, much to the entertainment of the small crowd enjoying lunch on the bank, without flipping until I muscled my way out to surfer's right. The ride was certainly uglier than a dead pig wearing lipstick, but in my mind it was a success. I survived without rolling or swimming, and I got a few spins - unintended or not - in for posterity's sake.



From left: Matt Fredmonsky, Josiah Colvin and Pete Costello at Greenhouse Park.

That day we paddled all the way down to Greenhouse Park, where we further exhausted ourselves playing in the wave for a few more hours as the last of the day's water trickled away. We all had a stellar, confidence-building day and were ready for day two.



Pulling a stern stall in the Stony play wave at Greenhouse Park. Photo credit: Jeremiah Richard

Our micro-Keelhaulers crew included Javan Robinson, Josiah Colvin, Nick Conway, Jeremiah Richard and Pete Costello. It poured down rain that night, adding extra juice to our already amped-up attitudes for the weekend.

We embarked on our second day feeling ready to conquer the Stikine. Fortunately, it was just the Stony. I'd spent the night around the campfire egging on Javan, who has shown some incredible growth in a short time paddling. I kept telling him that if he dropped into the Third Sister hole, I would aim for a repeat performance. I kept telling him it wasn't that bad, but it would be an epic ride. Javan isn't one to shy away from a challenge, and given his physical fitness level of somewhere between 1980s Arnold Schwarzenegger and Bruce Lee, he can almost always muscle his way out of a tight spot.

As we approached the hole, we were all paddling single-file. Javan was up front and dropped straight in to start surfing. His Dagger GT sliced back and forth, the bow only submerging periodically before bursting back through. But it was clearly more of a bucking Bronco than a pony ride, and he started struggling to control his direction. That's just when Josiah was lining up to drop in. Javan darted left as the hydraulic starting moving Josiah sideways, and bam! The arrowhead-shaped bow of the GT found soft flesh between the padding of Josiah's PFD.

Josiah was in pain, yet no one but him knew just how much. We took a moment to gather the group, and then we continued down the canyon. Josiah's moans grew louder, and he slowly drifted towards the back of the pack. At one point, I think I heard him mutter "My ribs are broken." As we drove home, he started complaining the force of the wind with the windows down made his sides hurt. A few days later, he learned that he'd left the canyon with bruised ribs thanks to the unintentional contact at Third Sister with Javan's bow. He had to take a brief hiatus from paddling, but in the end we all learned two valuable facts. Never drop into a playspot if Javan is already in it. And the Third Sister is the ugliest sister! So if you ever paddle with our small group and hear someone jokingly say "Go for his ribs!," now you'll know why.



Javan Robinson tries out Matt's Fuse in the Greenhouse wave.

New Keelhauler Facebook Page From John Kobak

[Join - Try - Comment](#)

It is a closed group and anyone has to ask permission to join.

Public Lands are Priceless By Matt Kerns

Reprinted from the Cheat.org blog, Jan 31, 2017



photo by Adam Webster

On the first day of the 115th Congress, the House of Representatives passed budget rules that included a provision [devaluing public lands](#). By assigning no value to federal property, Congress has potentially greased the skids for transferring public lands to state or private control — those transactions would now be considered “budget neutral.” Dolly Sods. Seneca Rocks. Cranberry Wilderness. According to the House, with support from all three West Virginia Representatives, these iconic landscapes are deemed worthless.

Really?

Our federal public lands have already been bought and paid for by the taxpayer. Look no further than our mountains and rivers for examples. The Monongahela National Forest was [created](#) from owners willing to sell logged-out property so the government could rehabilitate the land. The Land and Water Conservation Fund has supported over \$182 million in purchases, including access along the Gauley and New Rivers and wetlands in

Canaan Valley. As the result of foresighted actions like these, every American is now a shareholder in over [620 million acres](#) of public land.

These public lands are big business. Congress commissioned a study to understand the value of outdoor recreation, currently estimated at [\\$646 billion](#). Public land is at the heart of that economy; after all, who would buy new boots or boats if they have nowhere to use them? In state, the Monongahela National Forest supports 1.3 million visitors that [spend](#) approximately \$82 million dollars annually. The New River Gorge National River provides another [\\$53 million](#) to the local economy. There is likely even more tangible value in the "ecosystem services" offered by public lands: much of West Virginia's drinking water originates in the headwaters of the Monongahela National Forest — over 300,000 thousand people get their [drinking water](#) from the Elk River alone.

The return on our investment in public lands goes far beyond dollars and cents. A rafting trip with friends, a hike with a pet, a day spent hunting and fishing with our children — how can you quantify the value of those experiences and the feelings that linger long after? Or the connectedness and sense of place that public lands offer? The "Mon" serves as a common denominator among hunters, birders, boaters, fishers, campers, RV towers, bikers, hikers, and climbers. We may enjoy the land in different ways, but every Mountaineer loves and takes pride in our public lands, the most "Wild and Wonderful" part about living in West Virginia.

The new budget rule isn't the only attack on the integrity of public lands. Bills have been introduced to allow states to seize two million acres of national forests so long

as logging is the priority ([HR 3650](#) & [HR 2316](#)). Transferring control of and developing public land is the stated [platform](#) of the party that now leads all three branches of government. Congress may very well have taken the first step in a widespread public lands divestment.

Loss of federal ownership could be detrimental to public land users like you and me. Federal lands are managed with mandatory public input and "multiple use" [provisions](#) that value clean water and recreation alongside timber and minerals. States often have different priorities. Western [sportsmen](#) have found themselves shut out of [state](#) lands following profit minded [sell-offs](#). Because the West Virginia state legislature is prohibited from passing a deficit, selling or developing state land could become a quick fix for our financial woes. Mineral rights have been auctioned off beneath some of our [Wildlife Management Areas](#).

President Trump has said we need to be stewards of public lands and it's not something that should be sold. His pick for Secretary of the Interior, Rep. Ryan Zinke, is an avid sportsman who has spoken out against selling public lands — but he [voted](#) for the new budget rule. All Representatives from West Virginia voted in favor of it too. We must hold our leadership accountable. Tell them to protect our public lands from sale or transfer.

Because worthless and priceless are far from the same thing.

Matt Kearns is a veteran and avid outdoorsman. He travelled the length of the Elk River in 2015 to promote the connection between the Monongahela National Forest and our drinking water. Matt is a natural resources graduate student at WVU and works on public lands

issues for the West Virginia Rivers Coalition and the West Virginia Wilderness Coalition. the Elk River alone.

Addendum:

Just weeks after Congress passed a provision making it easier to sell off public lands, a move to do just that was put forth by US Representative Jason Chaffetz (UT). H.R. 621, Disposal of Excess Federal Lands Act, called for the disposal of [3.3 million acres of land](#) for sale to non-federal entities.

The public outcry was enormous. Thousands of people called their representatives and took to social media to express their outrage and rallied in opposition to the bill. Thanks to the huge numbers of engaged, outspoken public opponents, in less than one week Chaffetz [posted](#) on Instagram his withdrawal of H.R. 621.

This victory is just one example of what can happen when citizens rally together and speak out; our voices are heard, and we can protect what cannot protect itself. This will not be the only time we need to rally for our public lands, or for our water, etc. We must remain vigilant and alert. Here are a few ways to stay engaged.

Sign up for WV Rivers Coalition e-news (state and Federal updates, action alerts): <http://www.wvrivers.org/make-a-difference/join-us>

Sign up for WV Environmental Council e-news (WV updates, action alerts): <http://wvecouncil.org/action-alerts-signup/>

Join Friends of the Cheat and other groups for [E-Day](#) February 27th at the WV Capitol.

Join the [March for Science](#) on Earth Day, April 22. <https://marchforscience.com>

Contact your representatives:

US House: <http://www.house.gov/representatives/find/>

US Senate: <https://www.senate.gov/senators/contact/>

**Yearbooks have been mailed
on February 10th...**

Thanks to Jim Hunt for doing another great job!
They are mailed third class, so depending on your mail service, it may take a week or so for you to get your copy. If you do not get your copy by then let me know. [Send me an e-mail](#)

Cheat Canyon First Descent By Matt Fredmonsky



Matt, AKA "River Ninja," John "El Presidente," Hull's Angel Jason and DBP admin Jivin' Javan.

Blazing sun cut across the crisp, cold morning air. Sharp blue skies were punctuated by the undulating mountains of West Virginia. The put-in for the Cheat River Canyon was as deserted as the bare branches of the winter trees. But there was no snow; only four boaters and enough water for a low-runnable paddle down the Cheat Canyon on a cold Sunday morning in October.

For three of us, it was our first descent of the canyon. Our group leader was the unshakeable Jason R. A founding member of Hull's Angels, the initiation for joining his paddling group is to beat up a member of the Keelhaulers. Fortunately, we had him outnumbered at three-to-one. So he agreed to guide us down the canyon after having spent countless days on the Cheat (including the two days before our trip).

Jason has been paddling big water for a few seasons. Just weeks before our trip, he'd already had numerous marathon runs on the Gauley River (upper, middle and lower runs). The Tygart Gorge, Lower Big Sandy and New River Gorge were all old news to Jason. So it shouldn't have come as a surprise when he started calling specific named rapids on the Cheat Canyon "no-name" or "choose your own adventure." Maybe because we had him outnumbered as Keelhaulers that was how he took a shot at the club-boater rivalry. Of course, we were grateful when he would rally us before the big ones - Teardrop, Coliseum and Pete Morgan - to show us the lines gracefully and flawlessly.

We had fewer than four combat rolls and no swims. Our paddling group consisted of just John Banach, Javan Robinson, Jason and myself. We made it a day-trip, so counting the long shuttle we spent at least eight hours in a car for maybe three hours on the water. It was

beyond worth it. The Cheat Canyon is a special place where green water meets red rock, purple mountains, blue skies and of course seemingly endless frothy whitewater. The picture of the Class II approach into the Canyon from the put-in at Albright, where ghostly pillars stretch across the river without a bridge deck to give them purpose, is forever burned into my memory.

For three of us, it was another notch on our rescue belt. For me, the Cheat was my second personal first descent for 2016, and it was by far the biggest. Another epic trip that I will never forget. I can't wait to go back for Cheat Fest in 2017 and get more days on the water in this beautiful piece of Americana.



The view from the take out bridge at the Cheat River Canyon.

Indoor Pool Sessions for 2017

Link to roll session information:

<http://www.keelhauler.org/Instruction/#pool>

For more Pool information contact:

Josiah Colvin karmannghia_68@hotmail.com . . . 330-671-0910

For Sale

Priojon Yukon Expedition sea kayak (german made). 14' 9". HTTP hull, watertight holds. Includes; paddles, cockpit cover, spray skirt, throw bag, deck compass and rudder. Very good condition. \$625.00.

Don Winton, Chardon, Ohio. 440 285 2371

March	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
3/4	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3:00-5:00 pm		Glen Baker	216-403-7820
3/11	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4:00-6:00 PM		Josiah Colvin	330-671-0910
3/11,12	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
3/12-19	Southern Rivers - TN, NC OR if there is good water in WV we can go there.	22-32	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
TBD	Club Monthly Meeting Cancelled.		John Banach	330-606-5032
3/19	(1) Vermilion River Cleanup (OH)	SK/FW	Jon Reising	440-967-9507
3/26	(1) Vermilion Race (OH) 	SK/FW	Jon Reising	440-967-9507
	Alternate Date 4/2			
April	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
4/1,2	WV Class V Creeking	>30	Needs organizer	
4/8	Swiftwater Rescue Class (PA) Ramcat Rapid - Middle Yough at Paddler's Lane Campground ACA Level 3 one day course		JimJen Sollosi	412-496-8672
4/8	(1) Little Beaver (OH)	SK/FW	Doug Lyons	740-317-7007
4/8,9 4/29,30	(3) Cheat and Potomac South Branch watersheds. Be sure to contact Steve for river choice, like Potomac, Stonycreek, Casselman, Dry Fork, Upper Big Sandy or Little Sandy rivers	18	Steve Ingalls	216-371-8250
4/8,9	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Needs organizer	
4/11	Club Monthly Meeting at Brick House Tavern, 581 Howe Ave, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221		John Banach	330-606-5032
4/14-21	(4) Easter Southern Rivers Trip TN,NC,SC,GA	22-32	Needs organizer	
4/15	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Mark Spang	440-522-0520
4/15,16	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
4/16 or 4/23	(1) Grand River (OH)	SK/FW	Andy Gross	216-321-9284
4/21	Upper Yough (MD)	32	FIFO Trip	440-554-1383

Need trip organizers - Pick a trip from last year or one in red. Contact: Joe Boyd at 330-858-6270 or joeboyltravels@yahoo.com

2017 Club Officers

President	John Banach	330-606-5032
VP:	Don Howdyshell	330-671-0825
Secretary:	Marcia Karchmer	440-773-4132
Treasurer:	Sam Reynolds	330-962-5501

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, 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 April issue of the newsletter is 3/23/17. Please send articles to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.
Geneva, IL 60134
peetzaguy@aol.com

March, 2017 🍀



Keelhauler's Ka-news

APRIL, 2017



**Next Club Monthly Meeting is on 4/11 at 7pm.
Brick House Tavern, 581 Howe Ave,
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221**

Program: To be announced.....

For more meeting information contact:

John Banach j_banacka@hotmail.com 330-606-5032

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

President's Message From John Banach



Hello and Happy Spring my fellow Keel Haulers.

I do hope that you are all ready for another fabulous paddling season. The weather has been very favorable (at times) so I'm sure quite a few of us have already been out once or twice. Or more. I haven't stopped paddling all winter.

As we are now officially into Spring, I want to recap some of the highlights from the winter months. First off, thank you to everyone who came to either of the 3 KHCC roll sessions. Either Orange, Lakewood, or Canton. Although I was not able to be at every Orange and Lakewood practice, I'm told the turnouts were fantastic. And the Sunday Canton soccer carnage was in full swing. So glad to see new faces. But more importantly, to see those paddlers who couldn't roll or brace pulling hand rolls and back deck rolls by end of the season. That's why we run these practice clinics and sessions. I'm very proud of all of you who stepped outside of their comfort levels and tried something new. I'll be running Canton next year as well so see you all in the pool in November.

It's now nearing end of March and lots of exciting events going on in the next 30 days. To start, we just had the Vermilion race this weekend. This was my first experience on that river and also for the race. I'm a little late to the game as this was the 49th annual race. And it was a blast. We all did our rain dances and the water level held up at the minimum so we could have the run on the normal stretch of river. Boy oh boy, I have to hand it to you flat water paddlers. This race kick'd my butt. But it was so much fun. Over 60 boats and many more paddlers joined in on the fun. We had a great spectator presence as well helping to cheer us on. Although I wanted to win, I ended up a close 2nd place. I'm happy with that but plan on winning for the 50th.

As April approaches, don't forget to mark down April 22 on your calendar for the Cuyahoga Falls kayak race. This event is sure to please. Up to 50 racers from states all over the country. As many as 5 different race categories. A great spectator area. Fun, Fun, Fun. In addition, we will have a KHCC tent up promoting the club, signing up new members, handing out club flyers, stickers and cow bells. Yes, cow bells to cheer on the racers. And yes, I'm sure many folks are going to hate me for that. But the racers will love it. We have an April 11th club meeting in Cuyahoga Falls to cover the race, volunteers needed for the race, and volunteers needed to promote the club at the race and maybe man the tent for a while. Make sure you come to this meeting please. Very important...

Lastly, don't forget that even with the warm weather, the water is cold. So for any of you that are rusty and have not been out much this winter, make sure you go out and do it safely. We've already had several instances in the past few weeks of non-club boaters getting into big trouble on the NE Ohio rivers. So be careful out there and take your time. And dress right. And if you see some boaters not taking the proper precautions and such, speak up and tell them. Introduce yourself as a club member and tell them why you think they should change their focus or be more aware of their environmental surroundings. And why and how the club can help them achieve their paddling goals in a safe and fun manner. We have to be shepherds on the water. Because we all know there are plenty of lost sheep out there just looking to get flipped and wet.

So thank you all once again for being such a great club. I am so excited as we enter the warmer months and all start to shed our winter blues for some paddling fun. I look forward to seeing more and more of you out there on the water. And I hope to see more of you at the meeting in April.

**Keelhauler's Minutes
March, 2017
By Marcia Karchmer**

No March meeting. April meeting will be held April 11th at 7pm at the Brick House Tavern, Cuyahoga Falls.

Marcia Karchmer, Secretary

Monthly Treasurer's Report By Sam Reynolds

Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Treasurer's Report March 23, 2017

CD 0402 \$2, 284.47

CD 1077 \$2, 282.04

CD'S (2) \$4, 566.51

Checking \$8, 114.22

Total \$12,680.73

49th Annual Vermilion Race By Jon Reising

The 49th Annual Vermilion River Race was held on March 26th. We had 71 people and 59 boats participating this year. The weather was warm and the rain held off until mid-afternoon so most racers were done by then.

The results are following, and posted on the Keel-Haulers web site.

Without the many volunteers that help the race would not happen. So, my sincere thanks to those of you that take the time to help me give those that enjoy the race so much to come out and give themselves the opportunity to paddle on the Vermilion and have a little competition.

You can go to the web site listed below to see the pictures taken by the Vermilion Photo Journal photographer.

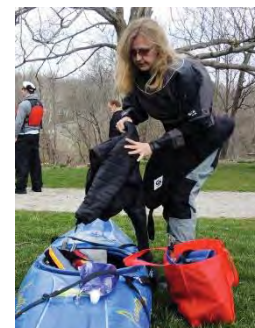
<https://vermilionphotographer.smugmug.com/Nautical/March-26-2017-the-49th-annual-Keelhaulers-Race-on-the/>

Jon Reising
Race chair

2017 Vermilion River Race Results

Class	Racer(s)	Time	Position
Class 0 - No Class Assignment			
	Hull, Thomas & Hull, Andrew	1:41:42	1
	Miller, Keith & Miller, Karen	1:58:53	2
Class 1 - C-2 Unrestricted			
	Masin, Baz & Masin, Jack	3:17:34	1
Class 2 - C-2 Mixed/Women			
	Masek, Dan & Masek-Frank, Sarah	1:36:30	1
	Taylor, Jason & Taylor, Anna	2:01:32	2
	Capwell, Kerry & Baker, Glenn	2:17:52	3
	Frank, Thomas & Frank, Madeline		dnf
Class 3 - C-2 Men's Standard			
	Bechtel, Greg & Moller, Bernie	1:25:27	1
	Fedor, Nicholas & Good, Anthony	1:49:05	2
	Schwartz, Derek & Morog, Kyle	2:03:25	3
Class 4 - C-2 Men's Senior			
	Markwell, Walter & Williams, Al	1:39:58	1
	Burney, Ken & Kermode, Scott	1:43:11	2
	Davis, Daryl & Way, Jay	1:46:15	3
Class 6 - C-1 Canoe			
	Harbeck, John	1:59:50	1
	Satran, Mike	2:35:01	2
Class 8 - K-1 Short Men <11.5'			
	Dohanos, Lee	1:35:59	1
	Banach, John	1:36:59	2
	Buscher, Zach	1:38:01	3
	Cammarata, Vito	1:40:16	4
	Nahorn, Matthew	1:42:07	5
	Duvall, Michael	1:42:19	6
	Kuhn, John	1:47:44	7
	White, Marlin	1:49:48	8
	Gaddis, Jim	1:50:02	9
	MacKay, Brian	1:51:30	10
	Zigon, Alex	1:55:55	11
	Gibbons, John	2:05:45	12
	Carrion, James	3:06:17	13
	Hauck, Jonathan	3:19:35	14

Class	Racer(s)	Time	Position
Class 9 - K-1 Short Women <11.5'			
	Piwowar, Hallie	1:43:47	1
	Ellis-Rinner, Helene	1:58:09	2
	Westrick, Karen	2:12:19	3
	Macan, Michelle	3:15:19	4
Class 10 - K-1 Men <14.5'			
	Crocker, Ross	1:21:15	1
	Morgan, Kevin	1:35:51	2
	Hoffman, Matthew	1:36:03	3
	Schultz, Norm	1:43:28	4
	Simmons, Jim	2:03:50	5
Class 11 - K-1 Women >11.5'			
	Johnson, Karen	1:31:21	1
	Simmons, Karen	1:46:18	2
	Round, Darlene	1:57:28	3
Class 12 - K-1 Senior >49, <14.5'			
	Widman, Richard	1:25:46	1
	Foley, Mike	1:26:09	2
	Hebert, Larry	1:32:00	3
	Wire, Cliff	1:36:42	4
	Whipple, James	1:41:08	5
	Moran, Ken	1:47:18	6
	White, Marlin	1:50:32	7
	Peggs, Mike	1:57:29	8
	Gross, Andy	2:42:30	9
Class 13 - K-1 Long Men >14.5'			
	White, Joe	1:17:39	1
	Glomb, Dan	1:37:26	2
Class 14 - K-1 Long Senior >49, >14.5'			
	Batizy, Arpad	1:27:24	1
	Leszek, Ed	1:33:44	2
	Albertson, Scott	1:36:46	3
Class 15 - K-1 Senior Women >49, >11.5'			
	Way, Laura	1:38:16	1
	Nemeth, Teresa	1:46:55	2
	Hornberg, Donna	2:00:51	3
	Janowicz, Janine	2:22:51	4
Class 16 - Standup Paddleboard			
	Rothig, Ryan		dnf



Conservation News From Jim Hunt

Reprinted from American Rivers – March 2017

FIVE LESSONS FROM THE OROVILLE DAM CRISIS

What the problems at the nation's tallest dam taught us about flood safety and aging water infrastructure.

Amy Souers Kober | March 10, 2017



Nearly 200,000 people downstream of California's Oroville Dam – the nation's tallest dam – were evacuated in February when problems with the dam's spillways triggered the possibility of downstream flooding.

American Rivers responded, calling out challenges posed by aging dams and water infrastructure nationwide. We pointed out the need for a new approach to water management: work with nature, not against it. Our message was amplified by national media outlets, sparking a dialogue about solutions that work for healthy rivers and public safety.

Here are five important lessons the nation learned from the crisis at Oroville Dam:

1) OROVILLE ISN'T ALONE

While the events at Oroville Dam grabbed headlines, it's not alone. As a February 13 New York Times editorial pointed out:

"Oroville is hardly an isolated case. The American Society of Civil Engineers gives the country's dams an average grade of "D" and estimates that at least \$21 billion is needed to fix aging, high-hazard dams. The

average age of the country's 84,000 dams is 52 years, and 70 percent of them will be more than a half-century old by 2020. Groups like American Rivers argue that many of these dams should be removed in the interest of public safety and to return waterways to their natural state."

2) THERE ARE LOTS OF AGING DAMS IN OUR COUNTRY, AND SOME SHOULD BE REMOVED

"It's not like an expiration date for your milk, but the components that make up that dam do have a lifespan," said Mark Ogden, a project manager with the Association of State Dam Safety Officials told the Times.

The paper noted the American Rivers report showing 72 dams removed in 21 states in 2016, to restore river health and improve public safety.

3) WE NEED TO GIVE RIVERS ROOM



Two men watch as water gushes from the Oroville Dam's main spillway in Oroville, Calif. | Marcio Jose Sanchez/Associated Press

Bob Irvin, president of American Rivers, published an opinion piece in the Washington Post titled "We trust dams and levees at our peril." When it comes to improving flood safety, the best step we can take is to widen floodways and restore floodplains. He wrote:

"Indeed, to ensure public safety, we need to give rivers more room, not less. We must ensure that rivers have the adjacent floodplains and wetlands they need to move and dissipate floodwaters naturally. Dams and levees limit such options and often incentivize development and redevelopment in places most prone to damaging floods. We not only need to think twice before building dams and levees, we also need to be removing existing dams and levees that have outlived their usefulness and are threatening public safety by aggravating flood risk."

4) WE NEED TO ADDRESS THE REALITIES OF CLIMATE CHANGE



Credit: Randy Pench/The Sacramento Bee via AP

It's time to update water management to deal with the realities of climate change, specifically more frequent and severe floods and droughts. The Christian Science Monitor's Zack Colman looked at the "rule curves" set by the Army Corps to dictate dam operations – when to fill up and release water from a reservoir.

"Not only are they for an outdated period, they are actually written on graph paper with a pencil," says John Cain, director of conservation for California flood management with American Rivers. "They weren't even digitally generated."

"My concern about the rule curves being out of date is legitimate, but a terrific mitigating factor is our ability to forecast," Cain told the Monitor. "And that is why it would be a huge disservice to cripple NOAA and the National Weather Service climate change science programs."

5) IT'S POSSIBLE TO FIND POLICIES THAT PROVIDE SOLUTIONS FOR BOTH DROUGHTS AND FLOODS

The Sacramento Bee published a great editorial showing how giving rivers room provides solutions for handling both droughts and floods.

"... climate experts say flood is only half the picture. Long-term drought punctuated with deluge is about to become California's new normal, thanks to the way global warming has amplified regular climate variations. So while they're at it, state officials should ask whether now might be the time to join nature, rather than just trying to beat it. Sure, fix the dams and levees that have shielded us from winter rains so far. But also find ways to make natural flood patterns work for us."

The editorial calls for flood easements and levee setbacks to protect people and property, and allow for groundwater recharge and healthier rivers.



The Yolo Causeway, heading west toward Davis, is surrounded by water in the Yolo Bypass. | Randy Pench

“Concrete alone won’t work forever. Where possible, maybe working with, rather than against nature, is the smarter route,” the editors write.

We couldn’t have said it better ourselves.

2nd Annual Cuyahoga Falls Race April 22 and 23, 2017

April 22, 2017

Boater Registration: 9am - 11am @ the Sheraton Hotel Lobby. Sheraton Suites: 1989 Front St, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221, Entry fee is \$20 for paddlers.

Safety briefing: TBD

Short Boat Race begins: 1pm

Long Boat Race begins: TBD

Possible Open Class Slalom Race TBD

Freestyle and Huck* session after Race: TBD

Following are links to more information about the upcoming race.

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

Registration online form:

<http://www.cfkayakrace.com/sign-up.html>

<https://www.theodysseyonline.com/cuyahoga-falls-kayak-race>

Online video:

<https://youtu.be/6JbPsLNNog4>

For more information or questions, contact:

Don Howdyshe at 330-671-0825 or donh458@gmail.com.

Gorge Dam Removal Article Copied from Cleveland.com

Posted on March 19, 2017 at 7:47 PM, updated March 20, 2017 at 1:43 PM, By Jennifer Conn, Akron reporter, cleveland.com

Gorge Dam removal pushing ahead, despite threats to Great Lakes Restoration funds



The Gorge Dam, which has served no purpose since the early 1990s, is the last in a chain of local dams stretching from Kent to Cuyahoga Falls that have been taken down over the past several years, greatly improving the water quality of the Cuyahoga River. *(Summit Metro Parks)*

AKRON, Ohio - Despite fears \$300 million in [Great Lakes Restoration Initiative](#) funding will be eliminated, officials are planning to remove the [Gorge Dam](#), even if they have to find money somewhere else.

"We're just getting started," said Mike Johnson, Summit Metro Parks chief of natural resource management.

Until recently, the federal government said it would pay about 65 percent of the \$70 million [cost to remove](#) the 57-foot-high, 440-foot-wide hunk of concrete that has served no purpose since the early 1990s.

The dam is the last in a chain of local dams stretching from Kent to Cuyahoga Falls that have been demolished over the past several years, greatly improving the water quality of the Cuyahoga River.

Situated on the border of Akron and Cuyahoga Falls, the Gorge Dam creates a nearly 1.5-mile-long pool of water that:

- turns the Cuyahoga River into a lake, drastically changing its chemistry.
- obstructs the flow of the river, inhibiting the river's natural ability to clean itself.
- enables accumulation of algae in the dam pool, which reduces oxygen and potentially kills fish.
- acts as a barrier to migratory fish, which locally include suckers - clean-water indicators - seven species of noninvasive [native lampreys](#), which are endangered and pose no threat.



Gorge Dam on Cuyahoga River could be removed in 2019

The federal government has agreed to pay much of the cost to remove the Gorge Dam on the Cuyahoga River in Cuyahoga Falls.

The search for funding

Supervising the dam's potential removal is the Gorge Dam Stakeholder Committee, which includes representatives from the [Ohio EPA](#), [the city of Akron](#), [Summit MetroParks](#), [FirstEnergy](#) and the [city of Cuyahoga Falls](#).

Plans are in the works to lobby congressional and state representatives to sign letters of support for the project, said [Cuyahoga Falls Mayor Don Walters](#). Congress has the final say over the federal budget, in which President Donald Trump proposed getting rid of money for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

"We feel it's a worthy project for whole lot of reasons and we think our representatives will agree," Walters said.



Removal of the dam would attract ecotourism to the region and contribute to the overall health of the Great Lakes, officials said. ~*Summit Metro Parks*

In Cuyahoga Falls, taking down the Powerhouse and Sheraton dams opened the river to Class II to Class V rapids, helping launch the city's annual kayak race [set this year for April 22-23](#).

Akron recently received a \$750,000 grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources toward the dam's removal, which the committee is hoping can be used as match money to fund needed studies or other aspects of the removal, said Summit Metro Parks Watershed Specialist Elaine Marsh.

A healthier community

Removing the dam is directly related to the overall health of the Great Lakes.

Since the 1970s, Northeast Ohio has spent nearly \$2 billion cleaning up the Cuyahoga River, and recently Akron has spent millions of dollars improving its sewer system, all to make the region a better place to live and work, Marsh said.

"This is restoring the river not just to its water quality but also its value to the community as an eco and tourism destination," she said. "It's a big piece of the puzzle because it has captured people's imaginations and it will make such a dramatic change."

Public input

The committee will host a series of events and presentations around Summit County this year to educate residents about the dam and what removing it would mean for the community.

A Gorge Dam Removal Public meeting titled "What's Next" will be held at the Cuyahoga Falls Natatorium June 27, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m., and include a presentation followed by a social hour for attendees to speak with the presenters.

Need trip organizers - Pick a trip from last year or one in red.

Contact: Joe Boyd at 330-858-6270 or joebravels@yahoo.com

April	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
4/1,2	WV Class V Creeking	>30	Needs organizer	
4/8	Swiftwater Rescue Class (PA) Ramcat Rapid - Middle Yough at Paddler's Lane Campground ACA Level 3 one day course		JimJen Sollosi	412-496-8672
4/8	(1) Little Beaver (OH)	SK/FW	Doug Lyons	740-317-7007
4/8,9 4/29,30	(3) Cheat and Potomac South Branch watersheds. Be sure to contact Steve for river choice, like Potomac, Stonycreek, Casselman, Dry Fork, Upper Big Sandy or Little Sandy rivers	18	Steve Ingalls	216-371-8250
4/8,9	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Needs organizer	
4/11	Club Monthly Meeting at Brick House Tavern, 581 Howe Ave, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221		John Banach	330-606-5032
4/15	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Mark Spang	440-522-0520
4/15,16	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
4/16 or 4/23	(1) Grand River (OH)	SK/FW	Andy Gross	216-321-9284
4/21	Upper Yough (MD)	32	FIFO Trip	440-554-1383
4/22	Cuyahoga Falls Kayak Race (OH) Upper Gorge Limit 600 CFS Click Image for official website & registration	28	Don Howdyshell	330-671-0825
4/22-30	(4) Southern Rivers Trip TN, NC, SC, GA Nolichucky, Watuga, Doe, Tellico, Citico creek, Chatooga IV/III, West Fork Tuckasegee, Cheach	22-32	Rich Dabal	201-414-0801
4/22,23	(5) Middle Fork & Tygart (WV)	29	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
4/22	(1) Grand River Race	SK/FW	Brian Davidson	440-358-7275
4/22,23	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Anne Kmieck	216-371-8250
4/28	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
4/29/30	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
4/29,30	(5) Cheat Canyon, Cranberry or Upper Meadow (WV) Be sure to contact Dave for river choice.	26	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
4/29	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Katie & Joe Boyd	740-632-6725
4/30	(5) Cheat Canyon Paddle & Race Clinic (WV)	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541

2017 Club Officers

President	John Banach	330-606-5032
VP:	Don Howdyshell	330-671-0825
Secretary:	Marcia Karchmer	440-773-4132
Treasurer:	Sam Reynolds	330-962-5501

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, 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

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Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **May issue of the newsletter is **4/23/17**. Please send articles to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.**

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.
Geneva, IL 60134
[**peetzaguy@aol.com**](mailto:peetzaguy@aol.com)

April, 2017



Keelhauler's Ka-news

MAY, 2017



Next Club Monthly Meeting is to be announced...

For more meeting information contact:

John Banach j_banacka@hotmail.com . . . 330-606-5032

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

President's Message From John Banach

No message this month.

Keelhauler's Minutes April 11, 2017 By Marcia Karchmer

A good turnout with many new members present!

Old business:

John Kobak reported 269 members! He encouraged current members to give back by helping new members learn kayaking skills. Mike Duvall suggested leading trips as another way to do this: we need several trip leaders. Our trips are what bring people into the club!

John B. shared that the Vermilion Race was a great success: 71 participants and \$741 earned. He encouraged whitewater kayakers to participate in the fun! Many thanks to Jon Reising and his team!!

Sam reported the club balance after donations. The group voted to give \$500 to Friends of the Cheat for repair of the main roads to the Cheat and Big Sandy. See treasurer's report on the other donations.

New business:

Don Howdyshell reported on the upcoming Cuyahoga Falls Race on April 22. Go to cfkayakrace.com for more information or look on the club Facebook page and the Keelhauler website. Don and John B encouraged club members to volunteer for safety and to cover the Keelhauler booth. 45 people have registered. There is an observation deck at the Cuyahoga Falls Sheraton. The race is drawing people from out of state and highlighting NE Ohio for kayaking! There are permits for 49 people to run the lower gorge: 4 miles of whitewater!!

Don also encouraged Keelhauler members to advise newer paddlers they meet on the water about proper equipment (helmets! & Air Bags) and learning to roll at sessions posted on our website. This will increase safety of newer paddlers and interest them in joining the club as well.

Next meeting: The board discussed a possible June meeting at Hinckley Lake for picnicking and kayaking (bring your own food) and a July meeting at Huntington Beach in Bay Village (pot luck) on the second Tuesday of each month. These will be posted when plans are finalized.

Marcia Karchmer, Secretary

Wrap up of the Vermilion Race From Jon Reising

The 49th Annual Keel Haulers Vermilion River Race was held on March 26 2017 with a warm and mostly dry day. We had 59 boats with a total of 71 participants.

I want to thank all the volunteers who helped put the race on. From the people that helped with advertising and getting the info out to the news organizations to Bob Bair who helped and has helped for many years with the refreshments.

We were able to have the race from Schoepfle Gardens in Birmingham to Mill Hollow Park. The river level was at the lowest level within the range to have the race on the section we used. Still even with the very low river level many racers came up to me and thanked the club for having the race on this section of the river.

Thank you again volunteers, those at start, finish, registration, boat inspection and scoring.

Jon Reising, Race Chair

Monthly Treasurer's Report By Sam Reynolds

Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Treasurer's Report April 23, 2017

CD 0402	\$2, 285.15
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 282.72</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 567.87
 Checking	 <u>\$8, 543.23</u>
 Total	 <u>\$13,100.10</u>

* At the April 11, 2017 meeting, the members and Board of Directors voted to donate \$500.00 to the Friends of the Cheat to repair the Bull Run Access Road. The action was requested by President John Banach.

* The Vermilion River Race was an outstanding success with 71 racers bringing a \$741.97 to the club. Thank you Jon Reising!

Whitewater Safety and Cheat River Access Campaign By Charlie Walbridge

As Safety Editor and Accident Database Manager for American Whitewater. I try to collect reports of whitewater accidents involving canoe, kayak, and raft paddlers of all skill levels. I depend on help from the paddling community to forward reports as they encounter them. If you hear of a fatal accident or near miss in fast water or rapids, please forward newspaper articles, chat room posts, or reports to me at ccwalbridge@cs.com.

Please copy and paste the text of articles rather than providing links, which often go dead after a short time. You can also post reports on the American Whitewater Accident Database found on our website

(<https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Safety/view/>) or message me on Facebook.



Friends of the Cheat has been working on maintaining and improving the Cheat Canyon and Big Sandy access roads for the past three years. Although these magnificent rivers draw paddlers from all over the country, Preston County lacks the funding to keep these roads from deteriorating. FOC has raised over \$75,000 to provide river access at Albright, Rockville, and Jenkinsburg and to maintain the access roads, much of it from whitewater paddlers. We can get the job done - with your help.

On March 27, 2016, FOC Director Amanda Pitzer, Project Manager David Petry, and Board Member Charlie Walbridge toured the roads with a local contractor. They assessed the condition of the roads and agreed on a plan. This year we have three goals: First, clear the ditches and culverts on both the Rockville and Jenkinsburg Road. They're blocked in many places, and this diverts water into the roadbed where it can do real damage. This work will cost \$4000.

Second, block off ATV "shortcuts" at the hairpin bend on Bull Run Road just above the parking area (shown as A, B, and C in the photos). The roadbed here is very narrow and this activity, if continued, will render it impassible. We're setting aside \$1500 for this work.

Third, apply gravel to the washed out sections. A truckload of gravel costs \$500. We'd like to spread ten truckloads - if we can - so the road can be easily travelled by conventional vehicles.

We have \$3000 left over in the Access Fund from last year and a pledge from a local boater to match the first \$3000 in contributions. Anyone giving \$100 will receive a new membership in Friends of the Cheat or renew their current one. Anyone donating \$250 will get their membership renewed and receive a copy of Wildwater West Virginia signed by the author. Anyone giving \$500 will receive the membership, guidebook, and two passes to Cheatfest 2017.

The time is now! Do your car a favor! Donate today!

To donate: <http://www.cheat.org/recreation/river-access/call-for-action-bull-run-road-repairs-2016/>

Charlie Walbridge

2nd Annual Cuyahoga Falls Race
April 22, 2017
By Don Howdyshell



2nd Annual Cuyahoga Falls Kayak Race April 22nd

49 Competitors, from 15 states

Men's Short Boat

1st - Dan Piros

2nd - Bobby Miller (Team Dagger Kayaks)

3rd - Hunter Cooper (Team Dagger Kayaks)

Women's Short Boat

1st - Heather Homberg

2nd - Alison Gillam

Long Boat

1st - Bobby Miller (Team Dagger Kayaks)

2nd - Wade Harrison (Team Dagger Kayaks)

3rd - Hunter Cooper (Team Dagger Kayaks)

Open Class Slalom Race

1st - Nic Williams (Team Liquid Logic)

2nd - Zach France

3rd - Seth Chapelle (Team Jackson)

Boater X Race

1st Place - Hunter Cooper (Team Dagger Kayaks)

Freestyle Competition winners - Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department

Michael Johnson won the Jackson Antix Boat Raffle

The turnout was phenomenal. All spectating areas were packed, although I have not received an estimated count for spectator attendance.

Don Howdyshell







Total Results:

Short Boat						
4/22/2017						
	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	Gender	BIB NUMBER	Boat	RACE TIME
1	Dan	Piros	M	41	Liquid Logic	0:03:12
2	Bobby	Miller	M	44	Dagger	0:03:18
3	Hunter	Cooper	M	2	Dagger	0:03:19
4	Stephan	Wright	M	19	Jackson	0:03:21
5	Adam	Homberg	M	31	Piranha	0:03:21
6	Tommy	Piros	M	10	Jackson	0:03:22
7	Ross	Crooker	M	55	Piranha	0:03:26
8	Mike	Safran	M	48		0:03:26
9	Brian	Homberg	M	20	Piranha	0:03:27
10	Matt	Sloan	M	5	Dagger	0:03:28
11	Nic	Williams	M	6	Liquid Logic	0:03:29
12	Seth	Chapelle	M	46	Jackson	0:03:29
13	Wade	Harrison	M	1	Dagger	0:03:30
14	Dylan	Berry	M	13	Liquid Logic	0:03:35
15	Frank	Johnson	M	24	Jackson	0:03:37
16	Sean	Chapelle	M	45	Liquid Logic	0:03:37
17	Shawn	Yingling	M	54		0:03:39
18	Colton	Eversole	M	21	Liquid Logic	0:03:41
19	Matt	Huddleston	M	9	Jackson	0:03:42
20	Michael	Cardoso	M	43	Liquid Logic	0:03:43
21	Connor	Medlang	M	49	Liquid Logic	0:03:44
22	Todd	Hunter	M	39	Dagger	0:03:46
23	Ted	Evelhart	M	52	Liquid Logic	0:03:46
24	Mark	Kennell	M	27	Dagger	0:03:48
25	Brennan	Martens	M	30	Wave Sport	0:03:48
26	Jason	Rovira	M	12	Dagger	0:03:49
27	Chuck	Middlestetter	M	47	Dagger	0:03:55
28	Elliot	Bonnough	M	4	Jackson	0:03:56
29	Wes	Gilligan	M	29	Dagger	0:03:57
30	Heather	Homberg	F	23	Piranha	0:03:58
31	Jimi	Nixon	M	15	Piranha	0:04:10
32	Mark	Rodman	M	14	Jackson	0:04:28
33	Javan	Robinson	M	17	Dagger	0:04:39
34	Eric	Quigley	M	53	Piranha	0:04:43
35	Brian	Kish	M	38	Riot	0:04:51
36	Michael	Konopka	M	34	Wave Sport	0:05:06
37	Andrew	Brant	M	33	Piranha	0:06:16
38	Allison	Gillam	F	11	Jackson	0:08:12
39	Bill	Deaton	M	18	Dagger	0:09:45
40	Michael	Duwall	M	51	Wave Sport	0:12:22
41	Andy	Stuart	M	37	Piranha	0:14:06
42	Justin	Jeffers	M	40	Dagger	0:19:32
43						

Slalom					
4/22/2017					
	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	BIB NUMBER	Boat	Total
1	Nic	Williams	6	Liquid Logic	1:53:00
2	Zack	France	7	Liquid Logic	2:09:00
3	Seth	Chapelle	46	Jackson	2:13:00
4	Ross	Crocker	55		2:13:00
5	Tommy	Piros	10	Jackson	2:37:00
6	Hunter	Cooper	2		2:40:00
7	Matt	Sloan	5	Liquid Logic	3:02:00
8	Nic	Czapla	50	Dagger	3:15:00
9	Sean	Chapelle	45	Liquid Logic	3:17:00
10	Wade	Harrison	1		3:46:00
11	Nathan	Craig	42		3:46:00
12	Justin	Stephens	32		3:47:00
13	Matt	Huddleston	9	Jackson	3:52:00
14	Mike	Cardosa	43	Liquid Logic	4:05:00
15	Bobby	Miller	44	Dagger	4:08:00

Long Boat						
4/22/2017						
	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	Gender	BIB NUMBER	Boat	RACE TIME
1	Bobby	Miller	M	44	Dagger	0:03:06
2	Wade	Harrison	M	1	Dagger	0:03:11
3	Hunter	Cooper	M	2	Dagger	0:03:12
4	Matt	Sloan	M	5	Dagger	0:03:16
5	Seth	Chapelle	M	46	Jackson	0:03:16
6	Zack	France	M	7	Dagger	0:03:20
7	Nick	Czapla	M	50	Dagger	0:03:24
8	Matt	Huddleston	M	9	Jackson	0:03:25
9	Ross	Crocker	M	55	Liquid Logic	0:03:26
10	Justin	Stephens	M	32	Dagger	0:03:28
11	Nathan	Craig	M	42	?	0:03:36
12	Hayden	Boehlefeld	M	35	Liquid Logic	0:03:36
13	Anthony	Ginocchio	M	3	?	0:03:57
14	Chad	Christopher	M	8	Jackson	0:11:42

Keelhauler Race Tent



John Banach set up a tent at the Cuyahoga Falls Race. A lot of interest was shown and John signed up 8 new members bringing our total family membership to 284 members, a ten year high for this month.

Kenduskeag Stream Race By Jane Andraka

April 14-16 Jack and I headed up to Bangor, Maine to run the Kenduskeag Stream. Junior/U23 USA Wildwater Team Trails were Friday and Sunday and we also registered for the Kenduskeag race on Saturday.

The ice had melted just days earlier although huge blocks still littered the shoreline and the river was running a beefy 9.8 feet. The Sprint Race consisted of 2 runs on what is locally known as Shopping Cart Rapids, where the Kenduskeag flows through a small gorge before entering Bangor and emptying into the Penobscot River. Shopping Cart is normally littered with rocks but there were none to be seen on the 275 meter course, ending in a large breaking wave hole and had a fast current and strong eddies. Several more timid racers tried staying near the right shore to avoid the hole but were flipped by the eddies and swam. Staying out in the current and catching the shoulder of the wave hole was a better choice.



Jack Andraka

Saturday, Jack and I took the Shredder to the 51st Kenduskeag Stream Race. It is the largest paddling event in New England and one of the largest in the country. Over 900 boaters in 493 boats paddle 16.5 miles from Kenduskeag Village to Bangor. The first 10 miles is meandering flatwater. The shores were lined with spectators who enjoyed cheering

and heckling the racers who were wearing a variety of costumes including a big green Gumby boat, a Minion boat, and lots of tutus and glitter. We were objects of curiosity and many declared that we were doomed in the upcoming rapids because we sat too high in the raft! We came around a turn in the river and were greeted by the sight of hundreds of spectators watching boat carnage at the first big rapid, 6 mile falls. Boaters needed to navigate large waves and holes while skirting ledges and pour overs and surviving a large ledge hole at the bottom. We saw so many people capsize and swim here and swim either the whole rapid or survive the rapid only to swamp and sink at the bottom. Naturally the Shredder made quick work of this obstacle and we passed many of our skeptics. Although there was lots of safety, rescue focused only on people so canoes and kayaks were left to float downstream on their own. We passed many pinned along the shore or stuck on islands and those that managed to float to Bangor were picked up by a motorized police boat. People either ran down the shore in pursuit of their boat or caught a shuttle to the end to be reunited there. The next 2 rapids were mandatory portages and we decided to portage both at a quick trot rather than brave the steep extremely muddy take outs right above the drops. Some people bounced off the boats in the very crowded eddies and scrambled out of their boats to shore while their boats ran the big drops on their own. We finished in the top 20 in the open class and caught the provided shuttle back to the car.

The 1.6 Km Classic Race was held Sunday and many who paddled the 16.5 Kenduskeag Race the day before were a little sore. The course rewarded boaters who could read water well and navigate a quick path through the small islands. A few rocks were beginning to poke above the water surface which added to the difficulty. The finish line was just above a large rapid at Flour Mill dam which added excitement when some boaters swam. Jack and the other team members are headed to Austria this July to compete in the junior/U23 Wildwater World championships. At least the ice will be melted!

TRPC Slippery Rock Training Clinic

Attention Keel-Hauler Members, when you apply, you are considered a TRPC member.

It's springtime and that means getting ready for the TRPC Slippery Rock Training Clinic, June 3rd and 4th. The club has posted the details/applications for students and instructors on the TRPC website <http://www.threeriverspaddlingclub.org>. Just click on the "Forms" button on the menu bar to access the application or click here to download the form: <http://threeriverspaddlingclub.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/2017-SC-Member-Fillable-Registration.pdf>

The organizers (all volunteers) have lots to do so please get your applications in before May 13th to save them the hassle of the last minute rush. In past years, some canoe students and instructors have been mis-assigned to kayak classes so it is imperative (when you submit your application) that you print "CANOE" PROMINENTLY on the top of the form.

A great opportunity to get out on the water, perhaps for your first time this year, will be

the TRPC's annual Connequenessing trip this Saturday, April 15th. The weather forecast is promising and there will be a really good turn-out.
Check out Paul Eisner's post on the TRPC Facebook page or call him @ (412) 651-7176.

Another event that will be a GREAT opportunity to paddle with other canoeists is the upcoming Stoneycreek Rendezvous in Johnstown on May 19th, 20th and 21st. There are Class II to Class V runs in the immediate area with camping, food and entertainment going on all weekend.

Check out this link for more info: <http://benscreekcanoecub.com/rendezvous/>

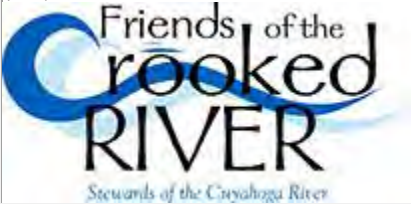
We hope to see you all soon.

Bruce McClellan
bruceinpg@yahoo.com
412-519-7459

[Home - Three Rivers Paddling Club](#)

Need trip organizers - Pick a trip from last year or one in red. Contact: Joe Boyd at 330-858-6270 or joeboyltravels@yahoo.com

May	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
5/5	Cheat Mass-Occurrence Team Race (WV)	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
5/5,6	Upper Yough (MD) or Big Sandy or Tygart (WV)	32	Needs organizer	
5/5,6,7	Cheat Fest Weekend (WV)	18-26	Needs organizer	
				
5/7	(3) Cheat Narrows (WV)	18	Phil/Jen Raber	740-498-7063

5/6	Black River Cleanup Black River Wharf Boat Launch 1355 Black River Parkway, Lorain, OH		NEO Meetup	
5/12	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
5/13,14	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
5/13	(1) Kokosing River (OH)	FW	Tom Kaylor	901-219-4236
5/13,14	(5) Intro to the Cheat Canyon (WV)	26	Anne Kmieck	216-371-8250
5/13,14	(3) Cheat Narrows (WV) or Casselman (PA)	18	Chris Mockbee	304-914-5546
5/19-21	(4) Stonycreek Rendezvous (PA) 	21	Needs organizer	
5/20	27th Annual RiverDay Events Friends of the Crooked River (OH) 		Elaine Marsh	330-328-3909
5/20,21	(4) Lower Yough (PA) . Get Your Permit Here Also in Ohiopyle on 5/20 is the 3rd Annual Spirit of the River Festival	23	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
5/20,21 5/27,28	(3) Cheat and Potomac South Branch watersheds. Be sure to contact Steve for river choice, like Potomac, Stonycreek, Casselman, Dry Fork, Upper Big Sandy or Little Sandy rivers	18	Steve Ingalls	216-371-8250
5/27	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Ann Corey	330-858-4841
5/27,28	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
5/28,29	Upper Yough (MD) Sunday is the '80 Pirate Paddle'  	32	John Kobak	440-871-1758 440-554-1383

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VP:	Don Howdyshell	330-671-0825
Secretary:	Marcia Karchmer	440-773-4132
Treasurer:	Sam Reynolds	330-962-5501

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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 **June issue of the newsletter is **5/23/17**. Please send articles to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.**

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.
Geneva, IL 60134
[**peetzaguy@aol.com**](mailto:peetzaguy@aol.com)

May, 2017



Keelhauler's

Ka-news

JUNE, 2017



Next Club Monthly Meeting is to be announced...

For more meeting information contact:

John Banach j_banacka@hotmail.com . . . 330-606-5032

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

President's Message From John Banach



Hello and Happy late Spring my fellow Keel Haulers.

I hope you have been out enjoying yourselves on the water. The weather in NE Ohio has been continued to be very favorable. I'll keep doing my rain dance in hopes the Summer flows stay more like Spring.

As we are now officially into May, I want to recap some of the highlights from the past couple months.

To Start, The club helped sponsor the Cuyahoga Falls Kayak Race in late April. Over 50 racers from 15 different states attended. Lead race chairman and KHCC VP Don Howdyshell did a fantastic job creating and organizing such a large and fantastic event. And special mention to Tommy and Nick for their effort and also racing skills. We had a fantastic crowd considering the chilly weather we had that day.

I did not participate in the race this year. In fact, I barely saw any of the race. I was busy manning our KHCC tent, signing up new members and helping to spread the good word about our sport and our club. We signed up 7 new member on that day. Not a bad day I'd say. I am super excited to have the chance to paddle with you all at some point.

We just had Cheat Fest and the Stony Creek Rendezvous. I only made it to "Stony Fest" but it was a blast. I'd say almost 1000 cars camped, kayaked, and partied Friday-Sunday. We had two groups of 13 on Saturday and again on Sunday. There certainly were a lot of Stony new-bee's but ya'all did great. Special mention to Steve, Katerina, Dan, Jimmy, Jamie, and Tyler for rocking the Stony for their first time. I can still picture all of your ear to ear smiles after the take out. And my arms still hurt from paddling your boats and gear to shore after each swim. ☺

As we enter the "busier" paddling season, I wish you all the joy and happiness in the world. Paddling is a great way to relieve stress, forget about yourself and find yourself again, build muscles you didn't know you had, and to get out and enjoy nature. Hey, always better sitting in a canoe or kayak on the water than on a couch in your living room.

Be sure to continue to check the trip schedule and also the website and FB page for impromptu paddling sessions. Whether flat water, WW, class1-2 or Class 4+. Lot's going on if you know where to look for it.

I am working on a late June Summer picnic. Possibly to be held in Silver Lake, OH. Not official yet but keep an eye out for an update.

OK fellow member, I just want to reach out and that each and every one of you for being part of this club. It was clearly proven this weekend at the Stony how much fun we can have as a club. And also how valuable a resource it can be to improve all aspects of this sport. My heart and soul are full from spending such great time. Times I'll never forget. So keep making those paddling memories my friends. And I hope to see you on the water soon.

All the best,

El Presendente John

Monthly Treasurer's Report By Sam Reynolds

Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Treasurer's Report May 23, 2017

CD 0402	\$2, 285.80
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 282.72</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 568.52
Checking	<u>\$7, 872.16</u>
Total	<u>\$12, 440.68</u>

**Keelhauler's Minutes
May, 2017
By Marcia Karchmer**

No meeting in May. Next meeting is a possible picnic.

**2017 Cuyahoga Falls Kayak Race Highlights
From Don Howdysell**

I've been holding off on giving out all the necessary thanks and praise to everyone involved with the race event until we had something to publish. As the Race Coordinator, I've been responsible for putting all the pieces into place, but the pieces are what is the most important.

I'd like to emphasize that everyone involved, including myself, did so on a volunteer basis. All the funds raised during the race will continue to go back into the event and community projects related to the river. This is our passion, and our personal time, money, and hearts go into making this happen. The kayaking community appreciates the welcoming atmosphere Cuyahoga Falls offers our sport. As kayakers, we enjoy this event for ourselves, but we also do it for the spectators! We celebrate the river's beauty and natural resource with you!

Now let's get on to all those pieces I mentioned...

[Matt Jackson](#), our video production pilot, put together this compilation of video & photos for everyone to enjoy for years to come. He traveled from Georgia to join us, and when you watch this video you'll be glad he did!

For the YouTube Version, go here:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=PrJJoeVRzDQ

Financial Sponsors:

[Cuyahoga Falls Kayak Race](#)

[Western Reserve Hospital](#)

[Akron Summit Convention & Visitors Bureau](#) (Sports Alliance of Greater Akron)

Fisher Auto Parts

[MST Adventures, LLC](#)

[Mayor Don Walters](#)

We thank you for your faith in this event and your support! Your financial contributions went towards additional safety equipment, trophies for competitors, advertising & marketing, and equipment rentals.

Event Contributors:

Jeff Lynch, and the staff at [Sheraton Suites Akron/Cuyahoga Falls](#) and [Beau's on the River](#), we thank you for your hospitality and for providing an excellent spectator and participant experience.

[World Kayak](#), provided essential insurance as well as race rewards for competitors.

[Burning River Adventures](#), the shuttle crew for the race, performed flawlessly with their staff.

Their service is crucial for the event! The kayak rental season is kicking off, be sure to check them out and get on the river!

[City of Akron](#) water supply staff, and Rockwell Reservoir, for supporting the event and being there with a water release if we need it!

The Keel-Haulers Canoe Club members, all who helped with safety, volunteer work, time keeping, and additional duties needed on race day. If you're looking for a place to get into kayaking groups, the KHCC is the place to start!

[Robert Forbes](#), with GrayHouse Media, provided additional photos and the spectacular Drone footage you'll see in the video!

[Jackson Kayak](#) provided the Jackson Kayak Antix for the boat raffle. We're extremely thankful for their support and interest in our event!

[Extreme Designs Embroidery & Screen Printing](#), did an excellent job on our event shirts! If you didn't have a chance to get one, we do have some left over!

Special thanks to [Knox A Hammack](#) at [Torryd](#) for supporting the event!

[Redi-Print](#) did an amazing job on all our materials from post cards, posters, banner, and stickers! Check them out if you ever need prints!

Ed Stewart, and the staff at the [Cuyahoga Falls Parks and Recreation](#) for helping coordinate campsites for out of town visitors. Additionally, they relocated and set up the bleachers at the Sheraton Suites.

Paul Moledor, Chris Bickett, and [Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department](#) for providing additional safety support and radios.

City of Cuyahoga Falls Police Department for providing security for the event.

Mayor [Don Walters](#) for coordinating event meetings and contacts with essential personnel. The banner was a nice surprise too!

[Ilene Shapiro](#), Summit County Executive, for partnering up with Mayor Walters on the race banner!

[HiHO Brewing Company](#), thanks for the after party!

[Watershed Drybags](#), who provided additional prizes for the competitors!

[Immersion Research](#), provided additional prizes for competitors!

[Dirt Bag Paddlers](#), more prizes and handouts for competitors!

The race bibs were provided by Barry Adams, and were sponsored by Thompson Gusic Insurance Group, [Friends of the Cheat](#), and [American Whitewater](#). These bibs are great and we were glad to have them loaned to us!

Chris Bowe and Vince Bishop, our Time Keepers, were assisted by Pete Costello, Mike Johnson, and Cliff Wire. Phenomenal Job!

Dave Hill, Corey Spoore, and [Brian Homberg](#) provided crucial insight and ideas for event logistics.

HUGE SHOUT OUT TO ALL 49 COMPETITORS WHO SHOWED UP TO RACE! Thanks to all out-of-town travelers who made the trip!

Honorable mentions:

Team Jackson Kayak: [Stephen Wright](#), [Seth Chapelle](#), [Chad Christopher](#), and [Matthew Huddleston](#). It was great having you all at the event!

Team [Dagger Kayaks](#): [Bobby Miller](#), [Wade Harrison](#), and [Hunter Cooper](#). Thanks for joining us!

Team [Pyranha Kayaks](#): [Adam Homberg](#). Thanks for jammin' on the Cuyahoga again!

Special Thanks to our Primary Safety and Safety boaters: [Jeff Cramer](#), [Sean Chapelle](#), [Brennan Martens](#), [Colton Eversole](#), Justin Jeffers, Shawn Yingling, Mark Rodman, [Danny Piros](#), Gabriel Lavery, Jim Hunt, [Jason Rovira](#), [Alison Gillam](#), and the 3 on 1 line master - [Michael Scott](#).

Special thanks to Matthew Fredmonsky for helping with PR.

Special thanks to our event volunteers: Cindy Howdyshell, Donald Howdyshell, Craig Howdyshell, Travis Howdyshell, Chris Folsom, Stephanie Furbee, Brit Wigman, & Stacey Parker and many more.

Special thanks to additional photography support: Bill Lewis, [Brian Wilson](#), and Ryan Laughlin. Thanks to Nic Williams, Mike Ran, & Ross for personally investing into the Slalom course and setting it up.

The 2016 Race Co-Founders!

[Nic Williams](#) - Team [Liquidlogic Kayaks](#)

[Tommy Piros](#) - Team Jackson Kayak

Without your dream, this may have never happened! You have both pioneered [#ohiostouts](#) and have helped push Ohio and Cuyahoga Falls into the mouths and ears of the whitewater world.

Finally, to all the spectators and supporters, we thank you wholeheartedly! Please continue to Like & Share our page and posts. We currently have only 1 yearly Race event, but we have a lot of updates throughout the year, especially for the local community.

My biggest fear in giving thanks and due credit is accidentally leaving someone out who is deserving. Furthermore, Facebook limits how many people I can Tag...so... Thanks to everyone!

Sincerely,

Don Howdyshell, Race Coordinator

**Supporting the Cause,
Fighting for Water
By Matthew Fredmonsky**

Water quality, river access, shuttle parking, lobbying on behalf of the paddling community and more - these are all tireless and thankless, yet essential, endeavors tackled by paddling and river clubs across the country.

Without this such work, we would have fewer rivers to paddle as Keelhaulers. So to support the cause, the club makes annual donations to numerous groups, including:

River Network - This non-profit supports improving water quality, water access and recreational opportunities. "Your support is more important than ever," Nicole Silk, president of River Network, wrote in a letter thanking Keelhaulers for its support. "We are entering a rapidly changing and unpredictable period for the hundreds of groups and thousands of individuals who work hard to protect and restore waters at the local, state and regional levels. Your donation will enable us to bring their voices to the attention of national audiences, to bring peer support from across the country to the aid of urgent local needs, and clarity regarding the rapidly changing policy context of water."

American Rivers - Keelhaulers supports American Rivers' mission to protect wild rivers, restore damaged rivers and conserve clean water, among its many goals. "Through this investment we will continue to remove outdated dams, protect rivers through Wild and Scenic River designations, complete important headwater restoration, host river cleanups across the country and much more," said Georgette Blanchfield, senior vice president, advancement, American Rivers.

West Virginia Rivers - This group works to ensure all people have access to clean, safe West Virginia water. "You're ongoing support enables WRVC to be the voice for West Virginia rivers and streams," said Kathleen Tyner, outreach manager, WRVC.

The Grand Canyon Private Boaters Association - Keelhaulers supports the GCPBA, which helps make it possible for many of our members to paddle the Colorado River. GCPBA is the leading advocate for the private boater who wants to boat the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon. Several Keelhaulers will be making this once-in-a-lifetime paddle this summer, including Alison and Mike Gillam (we expect a trip report, guys!)

Friends of the Cheat - A group we all know (and love), FOC works to ensure access to the Cheat River canyon. This year, Keelhaulers donated \$500 to help with the group's big project, digging drainage ditches and adding gravel to the takeout access road.

American Whitewater - The Keelhaulers are a supporting affiliate club of American Whitewater, arguably the nation's leading lobbyist group for whitewater paddling.

Conservation News Submitted by Jim Hunt

Conservation: to see links, go to AW website

<https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Article/view/articleid/33760/>

From American Whitewater

Ocoee Release Fix Proposed in TN Legislature

posted April 6, 2017

by Kevin Colburn



A bill has been introduced in the Tennessee Legislature that aims to continue treasured recreational releases on the Ocoee River after current release agreements expire in March of 2019. The [Ocoee River Recreation and Economic Development Fund Act](#), would create a fund that would be used to pay the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) for releases and to pay for other river management costs. The Fund would be funded through a 10% fee on outfitter revenue, as well as

through state appropriations, grants, and donations. The Fund would be administered by an 11-person board, including a private boating representative.

The bill is silent on the number and timing of releases that would be bought from the TVA. Both TVA and outfitters indicate that the release schedule will be very similar to the current schedule on both the Upper and Middle Ocoee. The proposed release schedule should be available within a few weeks.

If this bill passes, a number of steps would have to follow. The Fund would likely need an initial appropriation from the State legislature to make payments to TVA in 2019. The TVA will study a range of release schedules using a (NEPA) process that requires consideration of alternatives and public comment (estimated to begin in early May). Contracts will be signed based on the outcome of the study. With the Fund in place, money in the Fund, a decision from TVA in place, and a contract with TVA, recreation releases could continue for years to come.

Paddlers have a few important near-term opportunities to weigh in on this proposed path forward:

STEP 1 - First: Read the Bill. The bill's webpage [is here](#), the language itself is in [the amendment](#) (you can also download [here](#)). Note other amendments may be added to the bill's webpage (one already eliminated a proposed increase in rafting capacity).

STEP 2 - Now: If you live in Tennessee, reach out to your state legislators and tell them what you think about the bill. We made it easy for you to [email your legislator](#) and let them know what you think about the bill.

STEP 3 - May 2017: No matter where you live, when TVA studies the fate of the Ocoee you will have opportunities to comment at least twice: once on what issues and alternatives should be studied and preferred (Likely May), and then on their draft analysis and draft decision (Likely 2018).

STEP 4 - This Summer: If the bill passes, you will be able to contact the private boating representative and other members of the fund board to advocate for your interests. Here at American Whitewater we do not believe the public should have to pay a public agency for public water to be released from public dams. With this said, the historical pay-for-water status quo is unlikely to change as long as there are willing payers, and therefore we look at this legislation pragmatically. This is the path the outfitters have chosen to take to protect Ocoee releases, at their own expense, and it stands to protect these very important releases for all paddlers. While we should remain vigilant regarding potential new fees on private boaters, this legislation does not include or envision such fees. We support this legislation as a means of funding Ocoee River management.

American Whitewater wants to see no net loss in Ocoee releases. We'll be advocating for the continuation of the historic schedule or something very close in TVA's public process. If the request from the Fund falls short of this goal, we'll ask TVA to make up the shortfall by providing releases free of compensation. Over 750 paddlers participated in our Ocoee River related survey late last year and we have a wealth of data to support the value of releases.

American Whitewater will help keep paddlers aware of all opportunities to weigh in, and make commenting easy at each step. We view this as an issue of national importance, and will be highly involved now that public processes have begun. We'd like to thank NRS for supporting our efforts to secure a good outcome on the Ocoee. The important first step: If you live in TN, [Let your legislator know what you think](#) about the Ocoee River Recreation and Economic Development Fund Act.

Pirate Paddle



Upper Yough - 5/28,29/2017

People ask, what is this, is it a birthday party? NO, I turned 80 in January. It's paddling.

The trip is on Memorial Day weekend, the scheduled releases are on Sunday and Monday and depending on the water level I hope all my friends can join me on the river to celebrate my first time, since turning 80, that I will paddle the Upper Yough.



Eye Patches will be distributed to all that want to join in the celebration; we will break up into smaller groups through the rapids.

Free camping available at our cabin at 377 Beaver Creek Dr. for the weekend. Call or text me at 440-554-1383 if you can make it. Besides being old, I'm a wimp and I won't paddle if the water level is too high.

John Kobak

New Yearbook Pages From John Kobak

Since we have gotten so many new members since the first of the year and none are in our yearbook, I have attached two pages that members could print as formatted. They are following, and can be printed back to back to save paper.

Welcome new members!

Need trip organizers - Pick a trip from last year or one in red. Contact: Joe Boyd at 330-858-6270 or joebtravels@yahoo.com

5/20,21 5/27,28	(3) Cheat and Potomac South Branch watersheds. Be sure to contact Steve for river choice, like Potomac, Stonycreek, Casselman, Dry Fork, Upper Big Sandy or Little Sandy rivers	18	Steve Ingalls	216-371-8250
5/27	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Ann Corey	330-858-4841
5/27,28	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
5/28,29	Upper Yough (MD) Sunday is the 80 Pirate Paddle  	32	John Kobak	440-554-1383
June	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
6/2,9,16,23,30	Thursday Rolling Practice at Nimisila Reservoir (OH) - 5:30-7:30PM But call Organizer first		Needs organizer	
6/3	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Get Permit	23	Sabine Iben	216-407-6575
6/3	River to Lake - Luau - Sea Kayak Trip (OH) Rocky River to Lake Erie followed by a potluck dinner	FW/SK	Mark Spang	440-522-0520
6/3	(5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release	26	Needs organizer	
6/3,4	TRPC Slippery Rock Clinic Application Membership in KHCC or TRPC REQUIRED Registration ends when the classes are filled or May 20	13-19	Joe Marks	216-533-0604
6/3,4	(5) New River (WV)	27	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
6/3,4	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Dave Roush	440-623-9035
6/10	(1) Cuyahoga River, Peninsula to Boston Mills (OH)	SK/FW	Ann Corey	330-858-4841
6/11	(1) Licking River (OH)	FW	Tom Kaylor	901-219-4236
6/10,11	Mark Hanna and Carl Schneider Memorial Swiftwater Clinic (WV) More Information Limited to 10, Register early only \$90/person		Joe Marks	216-533-0604
6/16,17	Upper Yough (MD) First Saturday Release	32	Bill Warble	412-651-0112
6/17,18	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Get Permit	23	April Hollis	703-915-6382
6/17,18	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12	Jim Sollosi	412-496-8672
6/17,18	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Needs organizer	
6/23,24	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921

2017 Club Officers

President	John Banach	330-606-5032
VP:	Don Howdyshell	330-671-0825
Secretary:	Marcia Karchmer	440-773-4132
Treasurer:	Sam Reynolds	330-962-5501

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, 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 **July issue of the newsletter is **6/23/17**. Please send articles to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.**

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.
Geneva, IL 60134
peetzaguy@aol.com

June, 2017



Keelhauler's

Ka-news

JULY, 2017



Next Club Picnic Meeting Tuesday, July 11th at Camp Hi

Program: Paddling & Pot Luck Picnic

Be sure to bring your boat and paddle around, kayaks can try roll practice. Bring your kids and bathing suits. Come any time after 4 PM. We will serve the picnic dinner from 7-7:30 pm. We can use the facility until about 9:00 pm. Try out someone else's boat.

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

- **A-E:** Chips or Appetizer
- **F-L:** Dessert or Fruit
- **M-R:** Potato or Macaroni Salad
- **S-Z:** Salad, Vegetable or Baked beans

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

[Click for map to](#) Camp Hi.

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

President's Message From John Banach



Welcome to Summer Keel Haulers.

I hope you have all been enjoying yourselves. Plenty of sunshine, rain, high flows, and pretty days to paddle. We have all been very blessed to have such great weather. I hope that you all can take time for yourselves to go out and paddle. It's like setting time aside that you know will result in a big smile you'll carry with you for days. That's all good in my book.

So now that the longest days are here, everyone will be busy bee's and not be able to check in on the website or FB page. So please remember there is a lot of club activities going on this Summer. Check the trip schedule. And please post on both the website and FB page if you can plan an impromptu paddle where other members could join you.

One upcoming event is the July Keel Hauler meeting and BBQ at Silver Lake on July 11th. I have been promised by a higher power that it will be warm and sunny. But if not, there is the boat house we can use. And it's also nice to paddle in the rain sometimes. But don't worry, it will be sunny. So please bring your friends, family, kids, etc. Just no pets or booze. It's a great venue to have a local club picnic. I really hope for a good turnout from all ages. Come meet young boaters of all styles, young and old. That is what this club is about. Meeting new folks and sharing the same passion. Let's keep that tradition alive my fellow Haulers...

Also to mention, we need to have members consider taking an active roll on the club board for next year. We have unfilled positions and will have more. Please think about it. Come and witness a meeting. Ask some questions about what positions might need to be filled for next year, what the responsibilities are, the benefits, etc. It's fun, I can promise you that.

So as we are heading into the July 4th holiday, I hope that we can all keep the club spirit alive. Let's all enjoy life as we should, get in our boats when we can, spread the great word of paddling to friends and strangers, be stewards of the rivers and lakes, and be good to ourselves.

Thank you fellow Keel Haulers. I am always honored to be your president. I hope to continue to meet each of you at some point. See you on the water soon.

John Banach

**Monthly Treasurer's Report
By Sam Reynolds**

**Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Treasurer's Report
June 19, 2017**

CD'S (2) \$4, 569.17

Checking \$7, 956.64

Total \$12, 525.81

**Keelhauler's Minutes
June, 2017
By Marcia Karchmer**

Pot luck/kayaking at Silver Lake on Tuesday, July 11. Come and share good food, good fun, and good company!!

Marcia Karchmer, Secretary

End of year Membership special.

See <http://keelhauler.org/khcc/membspcl.htm>

Tell your friends, now is the time to join our club.

**Whitewater Kayaking: A Lesson in
Acceptance, Trust and Perseverance
by Katerina Rose Barry**

Graying clouds scattered the sky above to so perfectly juxtapose the almost sickening bright colors that speckle both the green grass and the many redressing bodies around me.

My stomach and heart simultaneously feel light and heavy while I tighten the gaskets around my neck and wrists; as I close my eyes and steady my breath; as I drag my boat to the take out spot and with the help of my partner, get skirted into my boat and pushed out onto the misleadingly slow moving water.



The activities, chances and groups that life throws at us are endlessly interesting. Never before had I imagined that kayaking would be the sport that I would latch onto or that this act; of attaching my body to a piece of plastic being carried down a river, would be one to boundlessly share lessons with me every time I allowed my nerves to partake.

DISCLAIMER: Slight paranoia and discomfort may persist upon reading the story below. This is whitewater after all.

Kayaking is an intimidating activity. Like all things in life it demands devotion and much practice to relish in its vast possibilities. It demands an intuitiveness to both the ways of the water; it's levels, eddies and familiarity with the angles of crashing waves amongst boulders and rocks; as well as a trust and belief in your own body and those who share the river around you. Above all else, kayaking asks of you to relinquish your ego, find power in failure and teaches that it is only in your drive to accept those failures that you will make space for growth-

The river banks on either side of me begin to narrow, as the boaters paddle ahead of me towards, what in my mind I can only picture as an almost vertical descent. An image that quickly flashes before me as I recall my backwards paddle down it the day before; one where I flip almost immediately and swim the entirety of after a failed attempt to roll in the belly of a wave, that at that moment I can only compare with the strength of a soul crushing deity.

Knees bruised and shins aching. I swam five times that day...

I would be dishonest with myself if I said I reentered my boat and paddled away from each of those swims with a positive lesson about why it happened. Although in hindsight, I believe that those swims only made me better; in those moments I was at times overwhelmed with how much my ego resembled my bruised body.

Nonetheless, I persist.

Five swims in, two combat rolls (Successfully flipping myself back over while staying in my boat mid rapid. No swimming! I swear its harder than it sounds.) and with an extremely achy body I leave the

Stoney creek river, the longest and most difficult river I've ran yet, grinning ear to ear and proud of my exercise in beatering.



The next morning, we are geared up and back for round two. That oh so ominous rapid only feet ahead of me yet again. I slowly approach it, allowing those of my group to paddle the decent ahead of me, a determination to defeat this beast attempts to quench my fluttering nerves.

Leaning forward, paddle strong, I make it past the first large rapid ("Oh, this doesn't look so bad!"), I continue down the slope while the mantra of directions repeats in my mind; "stick left, stick left, stick le-" I'm engulfed in water. My paddle is being stolen from my grip by that same frothing beast who ate me the day before, I attempt my roll nonetheless.. Nope. Oh shit, I'm swimming...

Again, I find myself in that familiar realm of failure. Except this time, I couldn't be happier with where I am. I grasp onto an upright kayaker's boat and am brought to shores safety. Once there I shake off the cold water, paddle still in hand and laugh to myself about how completely awesome that was. I failed again... and it felt fucking great!

Although this wasn't my only swim of the day it was by far a more productive time spent in my boat as well as one of the greatest days spent on the water so far. In accepting my prior failures and acknowledging with positivity that these failures will indeed transpire again, I in turn, achieved.

When I stopped worrying so much about having to excel and be the best at everything I do, I became honest with myself and more in tune of the subtleties of success. So yes, I may have swam two times on this second day but with those two swims I felt myself transcend and grow in countless other ways, both in my paddling skills as well as in my mental game, my self-confidence and my ability to dig deep and lean forward with a smile on my face.

This is the wisdom that kayaking imparts on me in some form or fashion every time that I get into my boat. Whether it is divulged to me by the river itself, my own inner workings or through the incessant smiles and encouragement from my partner and peers who support a at times, unlikely candidate in a male dominated sport. Who too, recognize my failures as progression and remind me with their efforts and drive that I have that same power within me to beast these rivers.

Honestly, I likely wouldn't be experiencing this sport at all if it wasn't for the awesome people who support me and so patiently teach.

With these lessons and stories, I encourage you:

In whatever it is you partake in; embrace it's difficulties, seek out those who inspire you to grow and find inspiration from the wounds that are necessary in meeting your goals. If it is whitewater that spurs you, then I challenge you to the rollings, the beaterings and the swims. Become the best version of yourself, but most of all, be YOU.



**Want to get river level; by texting??
From John Kobak**

Due to limited internet connection in numerous places that I paddle I cannot always check online gauges. Often I have just enough service to get out a text message.

If you text the number "41411" then in the message put "level" then the name of the river you will get back a response. Example: "level Blackwater".

You can also save up to three of your favorite rivers by typing "f" after gauge reading reply. Then you can type "level favs", and get all 3 at once.

For more info check this link: <http://riverlevels.us/>

John Kobak

Conservation News Submitted by Jim Hunt

From American Whitewater:

WV Passes On Restoring New River Dries
posted June 5, 2017 by Kevin Colburn



The State of West Virginia today chose to pass on a major economic and environmental opportunity by issuing a water quality certificate for the Hawks Nest Hydroelectric Project that lacks vital restoration of flows to the New River Dries. The certification outlines certain mandatory conditions that must be adopted by Federal regulators for the forthcoming 30 to 50 year license. The certification requires the dam owner to release flows suitable for kayaking and rafting on an average of only 3 to 4 days each year. Without the dam in place such flows would be present on an average of 329 days each year, and such flows now occur relatively rarely and mostly in the winter months when water spills over the dam.

Earlier this year, American Whitewater proposed a solution that would have restored an annual average of 32 days of predictable flows suitable for paddling and ecological values. Under our proposal 1600cfs of flows would be reserved for generation at all times to ensure the industrial power consumer's base needs were met. An annual average of 7 of our proposed releases would have no effect on the hydropower operations because they would coincide with times when the hydropower diversion is overwhelmed by high natural flows. Our proposal would have vastly greater ecological and recreational benefits when compared with the State's certificate, would have created a new tourism product for the region, and was consistent with mitigation at other similar hydropower projects.

Stakeholders have 15 days to initiate an appeal of the State's certificate, which could lead to significant changes. Federal regulators are still gathering vital information on how the hydropower project operates, and could issue a decision that improves upon (but does not conflict with) the new State requirements. The State's decision marks a major setback and hurdle in restoring the New River Dries, but may not be the final word on how the river will be managed.

As we work with communities around the United States to restore rivers and rural economies severely impacted by hydropower dams, it is profoundly disappointing to witness a state passing up such an outstanding opportunity. The New River Dries, with its spectacular scenery, mild whitewater, and easy shuttle could become a classic and popular whitewater run, but only if there is

enough water provided during the recreation season. American Whitewater will keep working towards a healthy and accessible New River Dries.

**Reminiscing and Reporting! Aging with
an Attitude! Local Trips Are Still Fun!
By Andy Gross**

June 21, 2017 - Spring turns to Summer...

Just about 40 years ago, our family came back to Northeast Ohio from Montreal after spending 2 years in 'The True North.' I was teaching at McGill University and decided to take up sailing. After several lessons and trial runs on a cute little Sunfish sailboat, decided that it was not meant for me. But my love for being on the water was still present, so looking around joined Keelhaulers in 1977 or 1978. I remember my first boats as being long and awkward; some were fiberglass and some were too heavy. Eventually gravitated to Perception kayaks, first a Dancer and then a Matrix. But then Brent Hendren found a great whitewater boat for me, a Savage Skreem, a perky yet stable boat. Thanks!

In the 30 years or so between, during 1980-2010, I participated in several out-of-state trips to the Lower Yough, the Cheat, the New, and especially to Slippery Rock creek, our beloved Slip. At first it was the Lower Slip, but then honed my skills on the Upper and the Miracle Mile between the Mill and Eckert bridge. Lots of great people encouraged me on all these outings with good advice and friendly tips. Mr. Keelhauler, aka John Kobak, gave me two of the best hints: (1) you cannot save yourself, save the boat, and it will save you and (2) keep your paddle in the water even if it is the wrong way. While I did attend roll sessions, my roll has been just about 85% not bomb-proof. I did roll at Triple Drop on the Slip, on demand once and here is a picture of me taken at the same location in 2014—yeah, am upright! But I always knew that the Lower Yough was my upper limit!



Andy on Slippery Rock. Picture taken by at Triple Drop of the Slip by Ms. Tessa (Mrs. Luke) Ramsey

Time marches on. When I was 70 I asked the good Lord for one more decade on the Slip and it was just about granted, though am not sure that I was on the Slip in 2015 when I hit the big 80. In any case, age and external forces converged now. My right shoulder blade is a bit sore from lifting the kayak (why did I not alternate shoulders?) and my strength is a bit lower, even though am working out daily, alternating five different activities. Traffic on the freeways has become more crowded, there is construction going on at all times, drivers are less courteous. So recall the old adage: never spend more hours driving than on the river.

This spring participated in my first Vermilion race even though I have done many 'sweeps' before. But it seemed the right thing to do on March 26th as the air temp hit 55F and the water temp was estimated at 50F. Did go down after the others and came in last in my category (at around 2 hours, 42 minutes), but was proud as I wiggled off several rocks without any mishap; the level was low and scrappy, all participants were grateful that the river was 'lower runnable' and we did not have to do the lagoon.

During April, May, and June I was on the short stretch of the Cuyahoga between Peninsula and Boston Mills. What I learned is that the river is quite doable or runnable at different levels. In April, just two of us, Father Gabriel Lavery (who long ago surpassed me and now paddles big rivers) kindly agreed to join me in an ad hoc trip at a 4.2' level. He managed to nudge me off a rock toward the end and we both enjoyed the surfing in a few locations. In May, Rick Feinberg and I put on at 5.2' and while it seemed a bit high, the river was still much fun, a few mild rapids still did exist and were not washed out.

Finally, in an organized trip in early June we encountered a level of 3.2' and lo and behold, the river was still runnable. Present were the four Kiehl family members—Chris, Ann, Spencer and Travis, also Mike and Beth from Wadsworth, Renee, and myself. It was sunny and 80F or so; everyone had lots of fun, the YGers (Younger Generation) played more than yours truly in the rapids and the surf. A word of advice here: parking lots in the CVNP get filled early on by cars as many bicyclists and joggers are coming out to be on the trails.

In sum, am likely to stick to local rivers for reasons cited, but who knows, on a warm day in mid-summer, may be persuaded to return to the Slip. But am having fun now with local rivers and am hoping to do the Grand and the Chagrin as well as the Cuyahoga again when the levels are right or at least "lower runnable." Please yell at me if you do not see my paddle in the water.

Cheers and SYOR, y'all!
Andrew (Andy) Gross

More Conservation News....
Reprinted from Pennsylvania Land Trust
Association
Conserveland.org

Supreme Court Rules for Conservation and Constitution

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled yesterday, June 20, on *Pennsylvania Environmental Defense Fund v. Commonwealth*. The majority decision is a huge win for the Pennsylvania Constitution,

specifically Article 1, Section 27 (the "Environmental Rights Amendment"), and conservation. At the most basic level, the Court said that the Pennsylvania Constitution means what it says:

The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic and esthetic values of the environment. Pennsylvania's public natural resources are the common property of all the people, including generations yet to come. As trustee of these resources, the Commonwealth shall conserve and maintain them for the benefit of all the people.

This right is part of the Constitution's Article 1—Pennsylvania's "Declaration of Rights"—which is akin to the U.S. Constitution's Bill of Rights.

The immediate effect of the ruling is that the General Assembly and governor are prohibited from selling oil and gas from state forests without reinvesting the proceeds into conservation. The Commonwealth had been using much of this revenue to fund general government operations. Government will now have to clearly connect revenues generated by taking from our publicly owned natural resources to the conservation and maintenance of those natural resources, which the government does not own but rather holds in trust for the public.

The Court affirmed that the public trust provision of Section 27 is "self-executing"—that is, it needs no law passed by the General Assembly to make it operational.

To quote (without references) from the Supreme Court decision:

Pennsylvania's environmental trust thus imposes two basic duties on the Commonwealth as the trustee. First, the Commonwealth has a duty to prohibit the degradation, diminution, and depletion of our public natural resources, whether these harms might result from direct state action or from the actions of private parties. Second, the Commonwealth must act affirmatively via legislative action to protect the environment.

With this decision the Court sends a message that it is serious about upholding Article 1, Section 27, a fundamental Constitutional right that—until now—has received shamefully little respect from our governmental leaders.

See the court's [whole opinion](#).

Supreme Court Rules for Parks

A big win for parks! The Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled yesterday (June 20) on the Kardon Park case. The Court, in a unanimous decision, adopted the rock-solid, reasonable arguments the Pennsylvania Land Trust Association and others made in defense of our parks and rejected those of the developer and municipality who seek to liquidate a portion of a park for a housing development. The Court found that:

- A municipality can't grant easements and other interests in public park properties for private purposes. If it's a park, its uses must serve public purposes. (This doesn't mean that the municipality can't work in partnership with private parties to provide services to the public in parks, only that parks must be used to serve public interests, not private interests.)
- A municipality can't sell off park land just because the General Assembly lifts state Project 70 restrictions on the land. The Court recognized that Project 70 rules serve to ensure that state Project 70 grants given to local governments are used (or repurposed) appropriately; Project 70 rules have nothing to do with whether the dedication of public parkland can be undone. The question of when it is appropriate to undo a dedication of public park land is addressed instead by the Donated or Dedicated Property Act, which states that the park use must be "no longer practicable or possible and ceased to serve the public interest. The Act assigns the local Orphans' Court the

sometimes complex task of adjudicating whether this condition is met and what the municipality must do to fulfill its trustee responsibility to the public. (It's important to understand that neither the state nor the municipality own a park; rather, they hold the park in trust for the park's owners—the public.)

(The Court sent an issue regarding parkland acquired through eminent domain back to a lower court, because it found that everyone was using the wrong version of the eminent domain code in their deliberations.)

Justice Debra Todd wrote the [opinion](#), which was joined by all the Court's justices.

The Pennsylvania Land Trust Association has a lengthening track record of successfully defending Pennsylvania's parks in the General Assembly and the courts. The Association appreciates its partnership with PennFuture, which provided legal services, and the Pennsylvania Recreation and Park Society, which joined PALTA in this latest effort.

July	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
6/30,7/1,2,3	Upper Yough (MD) or another local IV-V run	32	Jim Murtha	614-282-3293
7/1,2,15,16,29,30	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Needs organizer	
7/2	(5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release	26	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
7/8	Tuscarawas River Canoe Race Registration Form - Dover (OH) Poker paddle after race. Plus food and activities for families  Click for info	SK/FW	Mary Jo Monte-Kaser	330-340-5180
7/8	Headwater Adventure Race in Mantua Village (OH) Run, Bike & Paddle * 	SK/FW	Jill Grimm	330-842-1634
7/11	Club Picnic at Silver Lake (OH) Map to Silver Lake, between Kent & Akron, OH		John Banach	330-606-5032
7/14,21,28	Thursday Rolling Practice at Nimisila Reservoir (OH)- 5:30-7:30PM But call Organizer first		Needs organizer	
7/15,16	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Intro weekend - Call Fran for Permit	23	Fran Hoven	216-375-3718
7/15	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12	Needs organizer	
7/16	Canoe & Kayak Orienteering Race Walborn Reservoir - Alliance, OH 	SK/FW	Bob Boltz	330-928-8635
7/21,22	Upper Yough (MD) - Paddle Fri, Sat Race & Festival is Saturday, 6 hr release. Race Check in: 9 AM - 12 PM at Wilderness Voyageurs in Friendsville, MD. Entry Fee : \$30 Race classes: All boats welcome! Race classes will be determined by the number of entrants Start Time: 4 PM at Gap Falls Post Race:	32	Jim Hunt	330-335-5203

	Prizes and party at Wilderness Voyageurs following the event  Friendsville Days Festival Friday July 21st & Saturday July 22nd Friday Night * Free Community Picnic at 5:30 pm * Crowning of Miss Friendsville Days Queen * Savage Road Band 6:00 pm * Corn Hole Tournament 6:00 pm Saturday PARADE at NOON Appearance by Miss Maryland * Opening Ceremony 1:00pm * Nic Of Tyne Band 2:00 pm * Subway Show Band 7:00 pm * Car, Truck, & Motorcycle Show * Volleyball, Horseshoe, & Basketball Tournaments * 6 Ring Pony Rides * Eating Contest * Bingo & Bake Sale—in Senior Center FIREWORKS at 10:15pm Hosted by Friendsville Days Committee For More Information Contact: FriendsvilleDays@hotmail.com Parade: (301.746.5524 * Car Show: (301.746.4280 * Vendors: (301.746.5993) General Information: (301.746.5884) Friendsville Days - Fri 5:30-10:00 PM, Sat 12-10 PM. Note - Town will be closed to traffic around 11:45 AM			
7/22,23	(5) New River (WV)	26	Needs organizer	
7/28,29	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Joris Kinable	412-708-2244

Need trip organizers – Pick a trip from last year or one in red. Contact: Joe Boyd at 330-858-6270 or joebtravels@yahoo.com

Friends of the Cheat News

The 19th annual West Virginia Watershed Celebration Day will be held on the Cheat River at Camp Dawson August 18-19th. The event brings together watershed groups from all across the state and is open to anyone interested in WV rivers. FOC will be hosting field trips Friday afternoon and giving the opening presentation Saturday morning.

Learn more and signup [here](#) (the event is free!)

See your favorite Cheat Fest bands at the West Virginia Cares Festival! Proceeds benefit Friends of the Cheat and the Combat Vets Association.

Learn more at wvcaresfest.com



2017 Club Officers

President	John Banach	330-606-5032
VP:	Don Howdyshell	330-671-0825
Secretary:	Marcia Karchmer	440-773-4132
Treasurer:	Sam Reynolds	330-962-5501

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, 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 **August issue of the newsletter is **7/23/17**. Please send articles to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.**

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.
Geneva, IL 60134
peetzaguy@aol.com

July, 2017



Keelhauler's

Ka-news

AUGUST, 2017



Next Club Meeting Saturday, August 19 at 6:30 PM
at Tall Oaks Campground Pavilion near Ohiopyle, PA

Program: Picnic in PA

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

This has become our most popular meeting of the year. The meeting will be Saturday, August 19. This is the same weekend as several different club Yough trips. There will be an opportunity for all types of kayaking and canoeing. Yough Lake for the flatwater and sea kayakers, and the Middle, Lower & Upper Yough depending on your skill level for our river paddlers. There are also beautiful biking & hiking trails in the area for those that choose not to paddle. Saturday evening at 6:30 pm will be our Potluck Picnic Dinner at Tall Oaks campground for members, family and friends. The large pavilion has been reserved. You do not have to camp here to join the picnic. Those who wish can camp around the pavilion.

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/Pasta Salad
- T-Z - Salad/vegetable/or baked beans

Weekend Scheduled Trips-Contact the trip organizer, don't just show up.

- [Jim Hunt](#) 440-537-8713 is the Skip Work Day organizer on the Lower Yough for Thursday 8/17
- [Debbie Avallone](#) 440-835-2547 is the Ladies Only Day organizer on the Lower Yough for Friday 8/18
 - [Jim Hunt](#) 440-537-8713 is the Upper Yough trip organizer for Friday 8/18
 - [John Pratt](#) 307-871-3081 is the Upper Yough trip organizer for Saturday 8/19
- [John Banach](#) 330-606-5032 is the Lower Yough trip organizer for Saturday & Sunday 8/19,20
- [Mark Spang](#) 440-522-0520 is the Middle Yough trip organizer for Saturday & Sunday 8/19,20

Meeting/Dinner Questions? - Call 330-606-5032 or e-mail - [John Banach](#)

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

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

President's Message From John Banach



Hello to all my fellow Keelhauler's. Welcome to Midsummer. My hope is that each and every one of you have been enjoying yourself to the fullest. We've had favorable weather conditions all across the Midwest. Sun and rain, sun and rain, repeat, repeat. Even as we approach August 1 there are still swollen rivers each weekend. The lakes and meandering rivers have offered up so much beauty thanks to mother nature that we all get to enjoy. Make sure you take in every sight, every smell, and every reflection off the water as you would every breath you take. Following up with past present and future events, I am never more excited as we head into late summer and early fall.

Our club picnic was still a success even though we had a last-minute change of venue and some stubborn rain in the area. But it turned out to be absolutely wonderful and I look forward to having another picnic there next year. We could not have had better hospitality and a more beautiful venue. Although we had early heavy rain storms in the area, it cleared up just before the picnic started and we still had a great showing of all different types of boaters of all ages. In my mind, it was an absolute success. [In my opinion, my favorite and maybe the most important weekend of the summer is the August Tall Oaks picnic and club meeting.](#) Oh, and we plan on kayaking/rafting/camping all weekend too. If there's one event not to miss, it is this one. Check the website for details.

We have many more exciting weekends ahead on many different rivers of all levels. Make sure you check out the scheduled trips on the website. Also, make sure you keep an eye on our Facebook page for impromptu local paddling and surf sessions. It's a great way to coordinate with other paddlers on your smart phone and other devices.

One thing I need attention and interest in is board and club chair positions opening for next year. We have several long-standing members stepping down from their positions and I need everyone's support to keep this club functioning as the well-oiled machine it has been for over 50 years. We will be discussing what chair and board positions are open for next year at our Tall Oaks picnic next month. I really hope we get many members at the meeting during the camp-out picnic. We need your input, your ideas, and your thoughts to make the changing of the guard done with the care and devotion of all year's past. Who's ready to join me and help run our club?

On that note, I am always humbled and thankful to be in the position I am with our wonderful club.

I'm still learning on the job and trying to balance life, work, family, and paddling, just like everybody else. I'd also like to ask each one of you to take the necessary time following your interests and passions during the late summer months. Enjoy every minute you can and count every blessing your given. Breathe deeply, paddle harder, and live stronger.

Thank you again.

John Banach

**Monthly Treasurer's Report
By Sam Reynolds**

**Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Treasurer's Report
July 23, 2017**

CD 0402	\$2, 287.14
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 284.71</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 571.85
Checking	<u>\$8, 164.60</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$12, 736.45</u>

**Keelhauler's Minutes
July 11, 2017
By Marcia Karchmer**

July 11: Pot luck was held at Silver Lake (!), with 21 people attending. Bill Miller cooked—thank you, Bill! Fine food, boating and camaraderie was shared by all. No business meeting was held. Look at the newsletter for August pot luck at the Yough. Have a great summer on the water!!

Marcia Karchmer, Secretary

Special KHCC Membership Prices From John Kobak

Special KHCC Membership Prices are now available

It's nearing the end of our membership year. Tell your friends if they join now they can Save 50%
Instead of \$20/membership for 2017, they pay only **\$10**

Now the real bargain

If they also pay for next year - 2018
Instead of \$40/membership for 2017-18 they pay only **\$26**
They just fill out our

On-Line Registration Form

And their payment options will be displayed.

All existing members can start paying their 2018 dues now.

Pay your 2018 Dues

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

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

User Name: "**dir**" and the current 2017 password found on pg 20 of our 2017 yearbook or see the passwords sent out in our monthly e-mail.

Ohiopyle Over The Falls Festival 2017 Canceled From Barry Adams, Falls Festival Coordinator

The organizers of the Ohiopyle Over The Falls Festival, along with its partner, American Whitewater, have decided not to hold the event in 2017. The primary reason for the cancellation is after 17 years of holding this event, the goal of getting access to the Falls had been accomplished in 2010. The event continued hoping the initial Private Boater Ohiopyle Falls Access Guidelines would be modified after the pilot period. Unfortunately, guideline modifications to date have been limited. In 2016, event organizers were required to move the event past Labor Day, creating conflicts with other opportunities for the paddling community. In addition, the event was postponed due to high water in 2016.

On August 20, 2017 once again there will be a spectacular event at Valley Falls State Park on the Tygart River in West Virginia. There will be a clinic on how to run a waterfall and plans are on the

way to also have a race. Once again, the State Park will support this event and Corps of Engineers will adjust the water to an appropriate level for paddlers. Spectators are also welcome.

Midwest Canoe Symposium From Elaine Mravetz

Registration is now open for the Midwest Canoe Symposium!

Instruction for beginners through advanced canoeists, Instructor Updates for Canoe, also classes in Canoe Poling and SUP. Info here: <http://freestylecanoeing.com/midwest-canoe-symposium/>

Run For It Support FOC's Team at the Run For It! 5K race

Help FOC bring home the cash at the [Tucker Community Foundation's](#) annual Run for It race. This year's 5K race and 2K walk is Saturday, September 23rd in Davis, West Virginia during the Leaf Peeper Festival.

It's fun and easy. You can enjoy a walk around the scenic town or join the competitive 5K race. **No matter the pace, every step helps our cause.** FOC is looking for runners, walkers, and sponsors. More than [100 cash awards](#) - with over \$80,000 up for grabs - will benefit our organization's mission.

Help FOC Make a Big Splash!

Be a sponsor. Just Give Us 5! \$5 that is, to help us reach our sponsorship goal of \$1,500. In the fundraising world, there is no better return on investment, for every \$5 you donate we have the chance to turn it into \$15! Download the [donation form](#) below and submit to the Tucker Community Foundation.

If you are looking to add a little adrenaline rush to your donation or would like to participate in the 2K walk, you are welcome to join on our team as a true Friend of the Cheat! Download the [race registration](#) below and join the FOC squad. Before you come down, check out the course [map](#) and read Executive Director Amanda Pitzer's [interview](#) in the Tucker Community Foundation Annual Report.

For team sponsors:

For online donations: <https://racerooster.com/events/2015/4874/run-for-it/charity/donate>

For paper donation form: <http://www.tuckerfoundation.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/2015-RFI-Team-Sponsor-Request.pdf>

For racer entry:

For online registration: <https://racerooster.com/events/2015/4874>

For paper entry form: <http://www.tuckerfoundation.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/2015-RFI-Entry-Form.pdf>

Need trip organizers - Pick a trip in red.
Contact: Joe Boyd at 330-858-6270 or joebtravels@yahoo.com

August	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
8/2-8/6	Playboating on Ottawa River (Canada) A passport or card required An play boat trip-Water level dependent	27-32	Jim Murtha	614-282-3293
8/4,11,18,25	Thursday Rolling Practice at Nimisila Reservoir (OH)- 5:30-7:30PM But call Organizer first		Needs organizer	
8/4,5	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
8/5,6	(4) TRPC Turkey Bash at Lower Yough Turkey Bash 2017 Info & Forms KHCC members same as TRPC Application deadline: July 22, 2017	23	Joe Marks	216-281-1517 216-533-0604
8/11,12	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Annelies Layton	412-867-9628
8/12,13	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Get Permit	23	Josiah Colvin	330-671-0910
8/12,13,26,27	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Needs organizer	
8/17	(4) Lower Yough - Skip Work Day (PA) Get Permit	23	Jim Hunt	440-537-8713
8/18	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Jim Hunt	440-537-8713
8/18	(4) Lower Yough - Ladies Only Day (PA) Get Permit	23	Debbie Avallone	440-835-2547
8/19,20	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Get Permit Call before Thursday at noon.	23	John Banach	330-606-5032
8/19,20	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Mark Spang	440-522-0520
8/19	Upper Yough (MD)	32	John Pratt	307-871-3081
8/19	Club Picnic at Tall Oaks (PA)		John Banach	330-606-5032
8/25,26	Upper Yough (MD)	32	John Pratt	307-871-3081
September	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Time to Pay Dues	
9/1	Upper Yough (MD)	32	John Pratt	307-871-3081
9/2,4	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Jim Murtha	614-282-3293
9/2,3,4	(5) New River Gorge (WV)	27	Phil/Jen Raber	330-827-7063
9/8,9,10	MIDWEST CANOE SYMPOSIUM Camp Butler Peninsula (OH)	FW	Elaine Mravetz	330-321-4132
9/8,9,10	I will coordinate all Camping at Battle Run for Lower & Upper trips (WV)	27-33	John Kobak	440-554-1383
9/8	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Jim Hunt	440-537-8713
9/9,10	Upper Gauley (WV)	33	Needs organizer	
9/9,10	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Phil & Jen Raber	330-827-7063

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VP:	Don Howdyshell	330-671-0825
Secretary:	Marcia Karchmer	440-773-4132
Treasurer:	Sam Reynolds	330-962-5501

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

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KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.
Geneva, IL 60134
peetzaguy@aol.com

August, 2017



Keelhauler's Ka-news

SEPTEMBER, 2017



Next Club Meeting October 10th
Location to be announced.
Program: Club Election and other business...

Meeting Questions? - Call 330-606-5032 or e-mail - [John Banach](mailto:John.Banach@keelhaulersclub.com)

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

President's Message From John Banach



Hello, and happy end of August my fellow members. I hope you have been out and about enjoying the best that mother nature can offer. We have been blessed with warm dry favorable weather in Northeast Ohio and tons of rain and warm weather just south of us. Pick your poison because there have been favorable conditions for all types of paddling and outdoor activities. If you have been bored then it's your own fault because there has been so much to do. To recap the past month, we had some wonderful trips going on. The Yough

weekend was a great success. Whether the slackers or ladies' day late in the week, the Saturday lower trip led by Mark Spang. The upper trips were led by Jim and crew. Or the Lower Y led by me and by Dave on Sunday.

Several days of perfect level conditions can spoil any seasons paddler. How blessed are we? In addition, the tall Oaks picnic had almost 50 attendees. That's the most I and anyone else could remember. I'm hoping for 75 next year. We had plenty of extra space for camping and fun. Thank you so much to everyone for showing up at my favorite summer events. It was a complete success in my opinion.

Current club news and future trips worth noting:

2018 dues should be sent in no later than October 1. We also need to look at both trips schedulers for 2017-18 and needed club board members to fill open Positions. Want to get involved with the club? Reach out to me and we can talk about where we need help and what positions could match your skill set. Our next official meeting is October 10. Location to be announced in the upcoming weeks. I want to pick a spot that's as neutral as possible to everyone. Possibly Fairlawn Ohio area. The club will vote on any and all open board or officer positions as well as additional club requirements and updates needing to be discussed officially. I hope we can get a strong showing of support at the meeting.

I will advise this to everyone on Facebook as well. It might upset some but I will cancel any and all Facebook memberships by Nov 1st to all non-club members who do not pay their dues. Anyone who I excepted on Facebook page will realize whether or not they want to be in the club or not.

What's up in the near future you ask?

Lots of big trips coming up. The New, Gauley season and release trips, and hopefully late summer early fall rains for local impromptu trips. Check the trip schedule on the website for updates.

Also, I want everyone to think about how we can plan and schedule additional flat water/lake kayaking, class to water, and whitewater rescue clinics. How can we brought in our club portfolio to attract additional members who are just into white water but love other types of paddling?

That is always the question the club faces and I'm always looking for new import and those who have a desire to lead and promote our sport.

Also, as we prepare for colder weather and water paddling again, take a look at what gear you have and what gear you can shed. I'm sure there are lots of members out there who are missing something or would like to upgrade to something different. Whether a dry top, paddle, helmet, or both. Let's keep the gear swap going on both Facebook and our website page.

To close on a fantastic August, I'd like to thank the club and its board and members once again. Without you and your support and drive, the club would be anything but extraordinary. We are truly blessed to have a mix of both active older members and younger motivated new members. All with a passion to learn, experience new paddling outside their comfort level, teach and spread goodwill and comradely.

So once again I am humbled to be your club president. I will continue to do everything in my power to make everyone's club experience more interesting, inclusive, and challenging. And thanks again to all club members, trip leaders, officers and board members, and new members for making the Keelhaulers Canoe Club a top notch paddling group.

All the best,
John Banach
Club President

**Membership Renewal
By John Kobak**

It's that time again.....

All of our club memberships expire on **October 1st**. As soon as you can, please mail a \$20 check for your 2018 membership dues. To:

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

Or pay your membership dues using this Paypal link. <http://keelhauler.org/EZPay.htm>

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

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

User Name: "dir" and the current 2017 password found on Pg. 20 of our 2017 yearbook or see the passwords sent out in our monthly e-mail.

If you need to change any of your membership information, use this on-line form:

http://keelhauler.com/khcc_registration.htm

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.

**Keelhauler's Minutes
August 19, 2017
By Marcia Karchmer**

On August 19, almost 50 people attended the annual picnic at Tall Oaks in Ohiopyle, Pa. A great time was had by all and the weather was perfect!! The next meeting will be October 10th. Watch for postings on the location.

Marcia Karchmer, Secretary

**Monthly Treasurer's Report
By Sam Reynolds**

**Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Treasurer's Report
August 27, 2017**

CD 0402	\$2, 287.82
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 285.39</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 573.21
Checking	<u>\$8, 161.80</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$12, 735.01</u>

**New River Gorge First Descent
By Matt Fredmonsky**

The New River is ironically named. It's older than the Appalachian Mountains it carves through at more than 480 million years. But for every paddler at some point, it is, in fact, a new river. That's what it was in early July for three Keelhaulers, who made their personal first descents of the New River Gorge.



Class V selfie attempt under the New River Gorge bridge.

Keelhauler Vice President Don Howdyshell led Nick Conway, Javan Robinson and myself down the New for our first runs with Jeremiah Richard making his second trip down the gorge. The paddle started with a meet up at Cathedral Café, a chapel-turned restaurant in downtown Fayetteville, West Virginia, for a large, delicious breakfast before setting shuttle.

The trip was only Don's third, but as the most experienced paddler in the group he felt confident leading a small, solid crew down—spending days studying his GoPro footage from his first two runs proved useful homework.

After unsuccessfully encouraging Javan to run the staircase seal launch at the Cunard put-in, we hopped in our boats and set forth. For the uninitiated, the water of the New is amazingly warm. Its North Carolina headwaters travel north to the gorge, making the pulsing green water feel like a drawn bath. The level was 2 feet which, according to American Whitewater, "most agree (is) the optimal level ... the Keeneys, Double Z and Fayette Station are really stompin'" even though to seasoned NRG paddlers it's low-flow. In the gorge, 2 feet is about 4,500 cfs, which for those of us who regularly paddle the Stony, Lower Yough and other like runs is about four times as much water as we're used to.

Weaving through the mountains, we passed through Pinball rapid, skirted the edge of Upper Railroad and bobbed down the middle of a few warmups before coming to Upper Keeney, the first of the three Keeneys—the rapids that would offer the tallest waves of the day. Upper Keeney was simple enough, just ride the wave train down the middle and grab the eddy on the left above Middle Keeney, which is where the fun really starts. As each boat dropped into Middle Keeney, it's stern quickly disappeared. As you paddled in to the first drop, you caught a glimpse of the preceding boat's stern summitting the giant haystack wave in the middle of the rapid before they quickly disappeared again, and you started your ascent up the beast. As the river pulsed, you might find yourself climbing it as a green wave and launching off the top, or if the wave was breaking you'd find yourself trying to brace into it as you got body slammed into what felt like a brick wall. Good times.



Amidst Lower Keeney rapid on the New River Gorge.

So far, so good. We gathered ourselves, got beta from Don on Lower Keeney and started our approach. We took the mother duck, all-the-ducks-in-a-row approach with Don leading followed by Nick, Javan, myself and Jeremiah running sweep. Here's where whiplash took full effect. With all the paddlers lined up, inevitably each kayak was a little off the line of the boater ahead of them, with the final boat in the row the furthest off line. Don dropped in a little left of middle. Smooth. Nick hit the crashing curler ricocheting off the top boulder on the left, and he immediately went over.



Nick coming through Lower Keeney on his second day in the gorge.

Javan slid down in and was off moving right nicely, while I recognized I was too far left and tried to boof onto the curler and got spun backwards. Jeremiah was so far left of the tongue that he almost boofed the guard boulder itself and got flipped right at the top. Don made it through smoothly, but Nick succumbed to the power and height of the waves and swam. Javan, seeing Don successfully moving to river right, followed suit. I started my turn downstream just in time to get sideways body slammed into the third large wave, brace into

it and straighten out to line up for the next one and start working right. Jeremiah tried to time his rolls with the rising waves. Though unsuccessful, his first two attempts gave him just enough air to hold tight until things calmed down. He ended up running the nearly 100-yard rapid entirely upside down and successfully rolled somewhere near the Halls of Karma—an epic exercise in staying calm under pressure. At the end, a massive whirlpool reached up and grabbed Javan's stern, sucking it down and forcing a hard brace, but he was no worse for the wear. We gathered Nick and his Fun, took a hydration break on shore within sight of Lower Keeney to watch the rafts disappear in its waves while celebrating and enjoying the adrenaline high. It was intimidating, exhilarating, humbling and encouraging all at once.

The rest of the run was a breeze. Solid lines (thanks to Don), a few combat rolls to be had by all, some epic (and unexpected) stern squirts by Jeremiah, bluebird skies and warm breezes. After cruising through Fayette Station, the final rapid, we cheered on Nick as he dutifully drank his booty beer and set off to the Overlook restaurant, high on the gorge rim, where we watched the sun set behind the mountains and had a few rounds to mark the occasion. It was the stuff first-descent dreams are made of. A successful run that left everyone feeling empowered and accomplished, topped off with good company and tasty spirits. It left everyone asking, "When are we going back?"



Javan attempts to become one with the New River Gorge.

Conservation News From Jim Hunt

AW Secures Improved State Permit For New River Dries, Now Up To Feds (WV)

posted August 18, 2017 by Kevin Colburn - AW



American Whitewater reached an important milestone this week in our efforts to restore flows and public access to the New River Dries. Earlier this summer American Whitewater appealed a State decision to provide only 3-4 paddling releases annually, and vehicular access that required a 1.2-mile hike to the put in at the dam. On Tuesday the State issued an improved decision following over a month of negotiations, and in exchange American Whitewater withdrew our appeal. The New River Dries is a big, beautiful, ancient river with vast recreational potential, however it is virtually dewatered an average of 281 days per year by the Hawks Nest hydropower project.

The State's decision was made through issuing a water quality certificate that federal regulators (FERC) must adopt. The revised certificate includes:

- 2 releases in March, and 7 releases late June through August.
- A river access point a half-mile upstream of the Dam, with a portage trail around the dam.
- Improvements at Cotton Hill Bridge for river access
- A new public takeout
- Continuation of the new Dries USGS gage
- A website offering flow predictions
- Higher continuous base flows (250-300cfs)

While an improvement over their earlier decision, the restoration of only 3% of lost paddling days and the lack of vehicular access to the put in mark massive missed

opportunities to restore a vibrant and valuable New River. Importantly though, while the State strongly believes their certificate marks the appropriate balance of interests, the State explained that their certificate does not prohibit the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) from requiring additional releases and access. This was a critical factor in our decision to withdraw our appeal.

Late last year, FERC indicated they believed at least 15 releases where recreation takes priority and a study of vehicular access to the dam were justified. The unusual limiting factor with the Dries is that the hydropower project provides a special kind of power to a nearby alloy plant, which requires the lion's share of summer base flows (1600cfs) to operate. American Whitewater has proposed that FERC grant priority to 1600cfs for the alloy plant, while scheduling 41 release days. Of these 41 days, an average of 7 days will be provided by unplanned spills, and 9 will be cancelled because of inadequate flows. Thus, paddlers will get 32 days of generally predictable paddling and the power company only has to actively provide 25 of them. We continue to feel this proposal is a reasonable compromise.

American Whitewater will now ask FERC once again to consider our flow and access restoration plan that is sensitive to other interests. At that point, the fate of the New River will be in the hands of federal regulators at FERC.

**Gauley Season begins 9/7/2017....
From John Kobak**

On the first release weekend we usually get a big crowd so I try to organize the camping using all us old folk's Golden Eagle passes to get a big discount on the campsites, and fill them up so our camping is only about \$2.00/night/person. This is more complicated then you may think since some people make last minute decisions and still think they can still get a campsite. Those that contact me will be assured of a site and their car passes will be waiting for them, so no time is lost at the gate house. These sites cannot be reserved on-line after Labor Day.

We also need a paddler to agree to lead the Upper Gauley trips on all 3 days. I will contact any paddlers who paddled last year, but if you are new please contact me at trips@keelhauler.org and the river trip organizer.

I need to know the day you plan to arrive and the number of nights you plan to camp. Also, who you are riding with.

John Kobak 440-554-1383

What I Learned from Five Days of Paddling Costa Rica Whitewater By Katerina Barry

Families lounge in the rivers; at the put in's and take out's, to escape humidity's ceaseless smothering of skin. Mango and pineapple stain my fingers and cheeks with a rare welcomed stickiness. We shake off the winding, curving residue in our stomachs from the drive here as we tighten our helmets and drag our borrowed boats behind our guide and new friend. This is Costa Rican kayaking.

Costa Rica, for me, was the humbling reminders of life's simplicities, the willingness to accept and let go of the stresses of existence. the releasing of ego. A lesson whose vast teachers I have come to regularly seek and to crave. My perspective of Costa Rica's Pura Vida state of mind, was one that I found transpiring both on the ground as I walked the small, colorful neighborhoods as well as on the five days spent traversing the local whitewater.



Whitewater kayaking, as you may or may not know, is an extreme sport. It entails a mental and physical, fortitude and awareness that although may bear the lightness of a sort of meditation; is likewise just as capable of ensuing an adrenaline of nervousness, fear and great intensity. It is the latter that at times has the ability to get the best of you and was

a feeling that crept up on me from time to time as I experienced the unfamiliarity of the tight turns and diversity of Costa Rican whitewater.

But with all anxieties, comes a precious lesson.

The juxtaposition of inwardness and trust in your paddling group is one of the things that draws me back into my boat again and again, it is the art of allowing myself to let go of my stresses and welcome the openness of kayaking's many lessons.



Paddling the rivers in Costa Rica next to both my partner's ceaseless support and our guide, a boater whose gracefulness and ease fine-tuned the validity of this art for me, while simultaneously solidifying my desires to consciously carry this wisdom with me onto every river, new and familiar, from then on.

So many moments in my kayaking endeavors are comprised with a NEED to reach a certain position; from catching an eddy as quickly as possible, to ferrying with the most success and fighting my way into a surf wave. So often, my focus on the necessity of these moves leaves my lines and pathways stumbled with jerkiness and a lack of grace. Yes, I can make that eddy, yes I'll make it to the opposite bank, but will forcing my desires to succeed to the forefront of my mind really equate to the maximum progress attainable in these moves? Not necessarily.

It is not always about fighting your way to success, but rather, fine tuning the calmness you use to reach your goals.

I believe it to be both the unity between minute paddling techniques and a certain mental awareness, both, of course, being an exercise in time, to achieve this skill and aesthetic. Paddling the waters in Costa Rica taught me that the welcoming of these subtle teachings is a key element in learning to let go of the anxieties of the extremities and relishing in that inward meditation that kayaking and so many other physical activities can bring us.

There are many moments from our trip that I hope to hold clearly in my mind for the entirety of my paddling career as well as in my reminders of why I do the things that I love to do.

From experiencing the distinct and interactive Flora, the curling of the leaves as I reach out to touch, the imprinting of its shadow when placed upon my skin; to playing soccer with the locals and bonding with folks solely through half spoken Spanish and smiles alone.

While paddling a slower section of water one day, the question arises of why we love to paddle:

It allows me to release energy, be it of silliness, adrenaline or purely of a "fuck it" motivation.

It allows me, as an often shy and small character, to do something big, to remind myself of my power... to feel.

It completely and honestly clears my mind. I don't think of anything else but kayaking while on the water.

Affirmations like these followed us to dinner time that evening, and it is these affirmations that inspire me to practice and to continue to seek the activities that allow me to thrive.



If I could impart one thing to my readers, my fellow paddlers and my friends who strive to seek more from this life, it would be to seek that self-consciousness that imparts on us the ability to perceive explicitly, delicately and *intimately*.

Don't hesitate to learn from surprising or unlikely places and experiences. *Embrace* all that you take up, all the places you find yourself and all the folks that surround you.

Stay Humble. Dig deep. Pura Vida.

The article and more pictures are posted at: <http://www.coycasket.com/what-i-learned-from-five-days-of-paddling-costa-rica-whitewater/>

Need trip organizers - Pick a trip in red.
Contact: Joe Boyd at 330-858-6270 or joebtravels@yahoo.com

September	Check our Message Board		Time to Pay Dues	
9/1	Upper Yough (MD)	32	John Pratt	307-871-3081
9/2,4	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Jim Murtha	614-282-3293
9/2,3,4	(5) New River Gorge (WV)	27	Phil/Jen Raber	330-827-7063
9/8,9,10	MIDWEST CANOE SYMPOSIUM Camp Butler Peninsula (OH)	FW	Elaine Mravetz	330-321-4132
9/8,9,10	I will coordinate all Camping at Battle Run for Lower & Upper trips (WV)	27-33	John Kobak	440-554-1383
9/8	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Jim Hunt	440-537-8713
9/9,10	Upper Gauley (WV)	33	Needs organizer	
9/9,10	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Phil & Jen Raber	330-827-7063
9/15-17	Upper Gauley (Festival Weekend) (WV)	27-33	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
9/16,17	(4) Lower Yough(PA) Get Permit	23	Chuck McDowell	330-477-1086
9/16	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Steve Ingalls	216-371-8250
9/23,24	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27-33	Katie & Joe Boyd	740-632-6725
9/23,24	(5) Upper Gauley (WV) Camping at Battle Run	27-33	Needs organizer	
9/30	(5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release	26	Needs organizer	
9/30,10/1	(5) Lower Gauley & Upper Gauley (WV) Camping at Battle Run	27-33	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
October	Check our Message Board		Time to Pay Dues	
10/6,7	Upper Yough (MD) Last Saturday Release	32	John Kobak	440-554-1383
10/7,8	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Anne Kmieck	216-371-8250
10/6,7,8,9	(5) Lower Gauley & Upper Gauley (WV) Camping at Battle Run	27-33	Hugh Barrow	864-680-2529
10/10	Club Annual Election Meeting at Middleburg Hts		John Banach	330-606-5032
10/14,15	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Fall Color Trip Get Permit	23	Dave Roush	440-623-9035
10/14,15	(5) Lower Gauley & Upper Gauley (WV)	27-33	Needs organizer	
10/21,22	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	John Banach	330-606-5032

2017 Club Officers

President	John Banach	330-606-5032
VP:	Don Howdyshell	330-671-0825
Secretary:	Marcia Karchmer	440-773-4132
Treasurer:	Sam Reynolds	330-962-5501

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, 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 **October issue of the newsletter is **9/23/17**. Please send articles to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.**

KeelHauler Kanews

Kelly Miller, Editor

701 Forrest Ave.

Geneva, IL 60134

peetzaguy@aol.com

September, 2017



Keelhauler's Ka-news

OCTOBER, 2017



Next Club Meeting October 10th
BrickHouse Tavern at 581 Howe Ave,
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221

Meet/Greet at 7:00 PM, Meeting is at 8:00 PM.

**Program: Election: Be sure to attend the meeting so
we can vote on this year's Officers.**

The Board has put together this proposed slate:

President - - - - - John Banach
Vice President - - - - Don Howdyshell
Treasurer - - - - - Sam Reynolds
Secretary - - - - - Open
Trustee 2016-2018 - - Cliff Wire
Trustee 2017-2019 - - Dave Roush
Trustee 2018-2020 - - Open

Plus, we have lots of news and events to discuss and we need as much input from you all as possible. Topics will be more lake and flat water paddle trips, overnight paddle trips, river repair and cleanups, club sponsorship, and much more.

Contact: John Banach if you have any questions . . .
Call 330-606-5032 or email [John Banach](mailto:John.Banach@keelhaulersclub.org)

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

President's Message From John Banach



Hello to all my fellow Haulers. Can you believe that October is on our doorstep? Time is flying by faster than I can handle. So, I'd better catch up...

There is a lot going on as we head into the Fall season. And our club has more than a lot going on.

To start, we have our qtr'ly meeting on Tuesday October 10th at the Brickhouse Tavern in Cuyahoga Falls. It's a great little venue where we can have our own private space to have a small bite and beverage, and conduct needed Keel-Hauler business. We have a few club positions open. And we need interest in filling them.

Marcia Karchmer has stepped down from her secretary position. Thank you so much for you all that you have done Marcia. I have been approached by a replacement. But let me know if you might have interest.

Jim Hunt will be stepping down as Conservation chair. Please contact Jim, myself, or any trustees if you might have interest in filling his spot. Jim will continue to be the yearbook editor. That is a busy enough job as it is. Thank you, Jim, for your hard work and dedication to this wonderful cause.

Also, we need organizers for the Orange and Lakewood sessions. I just received dates. But we need dedicated members to be there each session. I'll post dates on the website. As for the Canton Sunday sessions, Robby Kirby and I will co-tackle this position.

OK, it's late. Still lots to do. So, before I go I'll leave you with this... The Keel-Hauler meetings are essential to running the club properly. And we need current and longtime member input and meeting participation to accomplish that. Please try and attend the Oct 10th meeting. Mark it on your calendar. I look forward to seeing you there.

See you soon.

John Banach

**Membership Renewal
By John Kobak**

It's that time again....

All club memberships have expired on October 1st. As soon as you can, please pay your 2018 membership dues. As you may know I go south for 5 months starting in November. I would ask all of you to mail your check today or pay on-line by the end of the month. This ensures that your name will be listed in our new yearbook/roster. It doesn't matter when you pay; all memberships expire on September 30th. Mail your check to:

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

You can pay \$20 using Paypal to save yourself time & postage. Use this link to pay: <http://keelhauler.org/EZPay.htm> To renew your membership you do not have to fill out a new application, you only need to send your dues payment and any changes to your membership information.

You can review your current membership listing, using this link: <http://keelhauler.org/khcc/members.htm> User Name: "dir" and the current 2017 password found on Pg. 20 of our 2017 yearbook or see the passwords sent out in our monthly e-mail. This e-mail also shows if you have already paid for 2018.

If you need to change any of your membership information, you can use this form: http://keelhauler.com/khcc_registration.htm

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. Send them this link:
<http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/khcapp.htm> Last year our club had 315 paid memberships, the most in the past ten years.

Also, all WW paddlers should join **AW**, the one organization that fights to remove dams and provides river access. Our members can get a \$10 discount, just note you are an Affiliate Club Member. <https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Membership/join-aw>

John Kobak

**Keelhauler's Minutes
By Marcia Karchmer**

There was no meeting in September. There will be a meeting, as planned, on October 10 at 7pm at the Brickhouse Tavern, 581 Howe Ave., Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221. John would like to know who is planning to come. It is an important meeting, with several officers and board members to be elected! We hope that some of you will want to become officers. The club is expanding and growing, establishing more of a presence in NE Ohio. Come and be part of it!!

Marcia Karchmer, Secretary

**Monthly Treasurer's Report
By Sam Reynolds**

Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Treasurer's Report
September 24, 2017

CD 0402	\$2, 288.50
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 286.07</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 574.57
Checking	<u>\$8, 833.59</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$13,408.16</u>

Save the Date Reminder By Don Howdyshell

Sept 30th AND Oct 1st Riverfront Pkwy
Cuyahoga Falls ~ River Cleanup! Please Read!

Sept 30th Saturday ~ City Sponsored Cleanup for National Public Lands Day. Starts at 9am at River Front Park (Across from Acme) and ends at 12:30 with Lunch at Water Works Park. The City is dropping off a dumpster for us on Riverfront Pkwy and I ask all paddlers to join me for the river boardwalk cleanup just south of Burntwood Tavern.

Oct 1st Sunday 2PM~ additional cleanup starting at 2pm and ends whenever you need to leave. I will be conducting additional cleanup to fully utilize the dumpster the city will have placed for us on Riverfront Pkwy. Meeting place is under the Portage Trail bridge, south of Burntwood Tavern where the last river takeout is located. I will have refreshments available.

Things to bring:

- River shoes-preferably to protect your ankles
- Perishable clothes- a lot of the trash is rubber, it's black, and it stains
- Working gloves-I will have some available, but if you have your own, bring them
- Sunscreen
- Change of Dry clothes & Towel
- Positive attitude & smiles 😊

I know this is a lot to ask and it's a lot of cleaning and hard work. We're running out of nice weekends to get this type of thing handled and the city is giving us dumpsters again. 😊👍

If you can make both days, Awesome!! If you can only make one day, still awesome!! Have any questions, comment below!

If you can make it on SUNDAY, Please let me know with a quick comment so I can plan ahead with supplies and refreshments. donh458@gmail.com or 330-671-0825.

There was a phenomenal turn out last year. Support from Burning River Adventures, and the Keel-Haulers Canoe Club made sure it was a huge success! The canoe trash barges make things much easier!

Thanks for Reading and spread the word!



Still need trip organizers – Pick a trip in red. Thanks!

Contact: Joe Boyd at 330-858-6270 or joebtravels@yahoo.com

October	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Time to Pay Dues	
10/6,7	Upper Yough (MD) Last Saturday Release	32	John Kobak	440-554-1383
10/7,8	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Anne Kmieck	216-371-8250
10/6,7,8,9	(5) Lower Gauley & Upper Gauley (WV) Camping at Battle Run	27-33	Needs organizer	
10/10	Club Annual Election Meeting at Brick House Tavern		John Banach	330-606-5032
10/14,15	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Fall Color Trip Get Permit	23	Dave Roush	440-623-9035
10/14,15	(5) Lower Gauley & Upper Gauley (WV)	27-33	Needs organizer	
10/21,22	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	John Banach	330-606-5032
November	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Pay Dues Now	
11/4	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-19	Needs organizer	
11/11,12	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Katie & Joe Boyd	740-632-6725
December	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Last Chance to Pay Dues	
12/2	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-19	Needs organizer	
12/13	Club Holiday Party at TBD		John Banach	330-606-5032
January	2018			
1/1	New Year's Day paddle on the (4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063



President	John Banach	330-606-5032
VP:	Don Howdysshell	330-671-0825
Secretary:	Marcia Karchmer	440-773-4132
Treasurer:	Sam Reynolds	330-962-5501

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

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.

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.

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.
Geneva, IL 60134
peetzaguy@aol.com

Keelhauler's Ka-news



NOVEMBER, 2017



2017 KHCC Cascade Valley Cuyahoga River Cruise & Picnic - RSVP!
November 4th 10am - 4pm (Information later in this newsletter)

Email Don Howdyshell if you intend to join the Picnic, Paddle, or both! donh458@gmail.com

Our Holiday Dinner Get-Together is in December

Location and date to be announced...

Contact: [John Banach](#) about the dinner if you have any questions . . . 330-606-5032

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

President's Message From John Banach



Happy autumn my fellow club members. I hope you've been enjoying the change in fall foliage. Even with very little rain in Northeast Ohio and western Pennsylvania and low river flows, that hasn't stopped most of us from keeping busy and having fun. Just thought I'd like to thank everyone who attended the October meeting. We accomplished a heck of a lot and I'm proud to say thank you to all the club members who have stepped up. Special mention goes to Robert Kirby our new secretary, Jimmy Gaddis our

new instruction chair, Moneen McBride our new rec and sea kayak chair, and Matthew Fredmonsky as our new conservation chair. Thank you for your interest, motivation, and efforts. Honorable mention goes to our new Trustee Mike Gillam. Mike will continue to be a trusted advisor in all areas of club function.

There will be plenty of paddling in the next few months with Fall rains that will hopefully bless us all. Please check the trip schedule on the website as well as impromptu paddling dates and destinations on FB too.

Kayak roll practice dates are set for Orange and Lakewood. We still need folks to step up to help with roll instruction. The Canton Myers Lake roll and soccer sessions will start in mid-December. So, everyone start prepping. There is also some discussion about having a kayak soccer/polo session at a location closer to Cleveland. I'd love to understand the interest from members of the club who find it difficult to travel Sunday mornings to Canton.

Lastly, I would like to thank our club Vice President Don Howdyshell for all of his hard work on both the administrative and coordinated efforts on putting together not just the two day river cleanup in downtown Cuyahoga Falls, but also the strainer removal project just this month. That strainer removal project was a great financial benefit to our club. Don lead the charge and kept as many as 40 volunteers in line over several days and weekends just to complete the project. At first glance it seemed an insurmountable task. But hard work, smart and safe decisions, and many motivated and strong volunteers allowed us to complete the job.

Watching the river features change before our eyes and the clarity of the water increase 100 times made us all realize the value of our efforts. I'm sure there will be more projects like this in our future. I'm sure the request for volunteers will be just as needed. Things to think about over the next month are: Christmas holiday party in late December at a neutral location in Northeast Ohio. This is an annual event for the club and I hope to get lots of interest for this year. I'm thinking about having door prizes and or raffles. If you have any ideas I would love to share feedback please do so.

We have a club event coming up on November 4. This is a celebratory paddle along the newly navigable stretch of the Cuyahoga River that Don and his crew transformed. I know he will post more about the River restoration project success and the paddle cruise. Please make sure you join us.

As club members we must remember to be smart and safe. And to be stewards of our sport and the environment. As cold weather and waters approach, please take the time to assess your paddling ability and your cold weather paddling gear. Make sure you take out your dry suits and check your gaskets and seams. May be a good time to tech wash and re-waterproof. And, never be ashamed or feel intrusive about reaching out to other paddlers you may encounter who may seem to be over their head or unprepared for their paddling excursion. You might just offer some tips or knowledge to help them improve. You might even find possible new club members. And you could possibly save a life. Be proactive. Paddle smart. And always be aware of the potential hazards that increase in the Fall, Winter, and Spring months.

There will be plenty of paddling in the near future. I look forward to seeing you all on the

lakes, streams, and rivers. Thank you all so much for all of your continued interest and support of our amazing club. And thank you for allowing me to be your club president.

All the best,
John Banach
SYOTR

Keelhauler's Minutes By Rob Kirby

Subject	October Meeting	Date	10/10/17
Facilitator	John Banach	Time	7:00 PM
Location	Brick House-Cuyahoga falls, Oh	Scribe	Rob Kirby
Attendees	Nick Conway, Mike Gillam, Amanda Kirby, Josiah Colvin, Don Howdyshell, Ethan Kay, Jennifer Conn, Matt Burrell, Matt Fredmonsky, Vince Bishop, Jim Gaddis, Pete Costello, Cliff Wire, Dave Roush, Jacki and John Zevenbergen, Bob Jones, Jen and Phil Raber, Brad and Moneen McBride, Sam Reynolds, Don and Cheryl Mason, Mike Duvall		
Key Points Discussed			
No.	Topic	Highlights	
1.	Mike Gillam as trustee	Voted in as Trustee	
2.	Rob Kirby as Secretary	Voted in as Secretary	
3.	Matt Fredmonsky as Conservation chair	Appointed by John Banach	
4.	Reviewed 2018 Budget	Conservation Budget went up \$500.00	
5.	Strainer Clean up	Payout of \$10,000 project, budget of \$5,000 for materials, etc., River Cruise November 4 th for Keelhaulers and picnic open to the public. Budget Approved	
6.	Pool Sessions	John to handle Canton, Glenn Baker to handle Orange	
7.	Trip Schedule	Slippery Rock-November 4 th , Stoney River trip cancelled due to flows	
8.	Membership awards	Long time members to receive awards at Christmas Party	
9.	Jim Gaddis as Instruction Chair	Appointed by John Banach	

Action Items		Responsible	Due Date
1.	New trip Schedule	John Banach	TBD
2.	Awards for members	John Banach	TBD
3.	Schedule Christmas Party	John Banach	TBD
4.	Need someone for Lakewood Pool sessions	John Banach	TBD

CALL FOR PHOTOS

By Jim Hunt



Attention all photographers:

The Keelhaulers 2018 Yearbook is being compiled and your photos are needed. Photos of boating, club activities, and outdoor landscapes are welcome.

Photos should have been taken at 300 dpi or greater in density and be 1 mb (or larger) or so in file size. The actual dimensions of the photos are not critical. Color or black & white are welcome. With each photo submit: what river/rapid (or landscape or event), who is in the photo, and who took the photo.

Photos can be submitted by e-mail to: jhunt4115@yahoo.com but please limit the total photos in the e-mail to about 5 mb in size. If you want to submit a bunch of photos, burn them on a CD and mail them to: Jim Hunt 275 Tolbert St Wadsworth, OH 44281. Photos are needed by early December. E-mail me at the above address with any questions.

Jim Hunt, Yearbook Editor

Treasurer's Reports

By Sam Reynolds

Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Monthly Treasurer's Report

October 11, 2017

CD 0402 \$2, 288.50

CD 1077 \$2, 286.07

CD'S (2) \$4, 574.57

Checking \$8, 893.59

Total \$13,468.16

Keelhauler's Canoe Club
FY 2017 Year End Report
10/1/2016-9/30/2017

INCOME

Membership Contributions	
Conservation	114.70
Dues	6,225.44
TOTAL Membership Contributions	6,340.14
NEO Paddlers Network Income	300.00
Vermilion Race Income	
Refreshment Stand	68.25
Registration Fees	1,097.63
TOTAL Vermilion Race Income	1165.88
Yough Reservations Income	0
TOTAL INCOME	7,806.02

EXPENSES

Club Meeting/Donation Expense	
Facility Fees	0.00
Cuy. Falls Race Support	1,038.81
Refreshments	159.41
Special Reservations/Donation	160.00
TOTAL Club Meeting Expense	1,358.22
Conservation Expense	2,750.00
Internet	
Network Website and Domain	50.97
Paddlers' Network	179.88
TOTAL Internet	230.85
Postage and Filing Fees	176.72
Vermilion Race Expense	
Awards	0
Donation*	60.00
Insurance	266.25
Membership	30.00
Miscellaneous	36.21
Postage	31.45
Refreshments	70.00
TOTAL Vermilion Race Expense	493.91
Yearbook Expense	
Bulk Mailing Permit & Handling	280.45
Postage and Software	64.02
Printing	1602.89
TOTAL Yearbook Expense	1947.36
TOTAL EXPENSES	6957.06
OVERALL TOTAL	848.96

CD (2) value as of 9/30/17	4574.57
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*Contains donations to Metroparks for 2017

Keelhauler's Canoe Club

Proposed Budget FY 2018

Category Description	FY 2015 Actuals	FY 2016 Actuals	FY 2017 Budget	FY 2017 Actuals	FY 2018 Budget
ASSETS					
CHECKING balance at start of FY	\$5,906.02	\$5,733.46	\$5,733.46	\$8,893.59	\$8,893.59
CD (2) balance at start of FY	\$6,771.33	\$6,816.94	\$6,816.94	\$4,574.57	\$4,574.57
INCOME					
Conservation	\$60.00	\$260.00	\$260.00	\$114.70	\$115.00
Dues	\$5,659.00	\$5,458.32	\$5,458.00	\$6,225.44	\$6,225.00
Reserv./C.F.Cleanup/Cruise	\$88.00	\$0.00	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00
Vermilion Race	\$612.00	\$687.14	\$687.00	\$1,165.88	\$1,166.00
Pool session deposit refund					
NEO Paddlers' Network Income	\$200.00	\$491.90	\$500.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$6,619.00	\$6,897.36	\$6,985.00	\$7,806.02	\$17,806.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$19,296.35	\$19,447.76	\$19,535.40	\$21,274.18	\$31,274.16
LIABILITIES					
EXPENSE					
Conservation Donations	\$2,250.00	\$2,350.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,750.00	\$2,750.00
Internet Access	\$117.00	\$323.64	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Internet Domain	\$33.00	\$50.97	\$51.00	\$50.97	\$51.00
Marketing					
Library		\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Meeting Hall	\$600.00	\$770.00	\$231.19	\$0.00	\$231.00
Paddlers' Network		\$349.80	\$350.00	\$179.88	\$180.00
Cuy. Falls Cleanup/Cruise			\$1,038.81	\$1,038.81	\$5,000.00
Postage and Supply		\$36.05	\$200.00	\$176.72	\$200.00
Refreshments	\$104.00	\$262.07	\$300.00	\$159.41	\$300.00
Vermillion Race	\$1,605.00	\$387.78	\$388.00	\$493.91	\$700.00
Yearbook Expense	\$1,844.00	\$1,971.30	\$1,971.00	\$1,947.36	\$1,950.00
Yough Reservations-Intro		\$40.00	\$80.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Special Donation/Portage Park	\$75.00		\$100.00	\$160.00	\$500.00
Multimedia Rental	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$6,828.00	\$6,641.61	\$7,160.00	\$6,957.06	\$12,062.00
OVERALL TOTAL	\$12,468.35	\$12,806.15	\$12,375.40	\$14,317.12	\$19,212.16
	FY 2015 Actuals	FY 2016 Actuals	FY 2017 Budget	FY 2017 Actuals	FY 2018 Budget
American Whitewater	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$600.00

Friends of the Cheat	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Friends of the Crooked River	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Grand Canyon Private Boaters Association	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
American Rivers	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
West Virginia Rivers Coalition	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
River Network	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Nature Conservancy	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Mountain Watershed Assoc.-Yough Defense Fund	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
TOTAL	\$2,250.00	\$2,350.00	\$2,250.00	\$2,750.00	\$2,250.00

2017 KHCC Cascade Valley Cuyahoga River Cruise and Picnic – RSVP!!!

2017 KHCC Cascade Valley Cuyahoga River Cruise & Picnic - RSVP!

November 4th 10am - 4pm (See Schedule below)

Location:

Cascade Valley Metro Park - Oxbow

1061 Cuyahoga St, Akron, OH 44313

Picnic: Hilltop Shelter

Paddle Staging area: Lower Parking lot



On Nov 4th, the Keel Hauler Canoe Club will be celebrating the revival of the Cuyahoga River water trail. The River Cruise will consist of a 1.75 mile recreational paddle on Class 1 water

conditions. This section of river is unique because it's the southernmost point the river reaches before heading north towards Lake Erie, passes the confluence of the Little Cuyahoga River, and is where Native American Indians used to portage.



The goal for this event is to share awareness of the recreational opportunities the Cuyahoga River has for the local community. The Summit County Metro Parks and Cities of Akron and Cuyahoga Falls support the growing interest in paddle sports. The KHCC members are excited to facilitate beginner friendly events and help expand the exposure of recreational paddle sports in North East Ohio. The passion for enjoying this natural resource is spreading among the public, and this Cascade Valley Cuyahoga River Cruise and Picnic is a great way to bring everyone together.



Friends and Family welcome - Spread the word!

⚠Paddlers must be prepared for cold water and cold air temps! Expect ~50 degree water & air.

Join the Picnic even if you're not paddling! RSVP Required! Email Don Howdyshehl if you intend to join the Picnic, Paddle, or both! donh458@gmail.com

November 4th - Schedule of events:

10am: Paddlers meet at Cascade Valley Oxbow Park for staging equipment and gear.

11:30am: Safety meeting followed by boat launch

Paddle duration: Estimated 1 hour

1:30pm: Public access Picnic at the Metro Parks Hilltop Shelter

4pm: Picnic ends





**National Public Lands Day
September 30, 2017
From Don Howdyshell**



Keel-Hauler members joined the City of Cuyahoga Falls with the annual Cuyahoga River cleanup on National Public Lands day. This is a collaborative effort which spans from the city of Kent through downtown Cuyahoga Falls. Many volunteers scour the river banks cleaning up debris and trash, while others who specialize in paddling take to the water with canoes and kayaks to pull debris from the water. Brad and Moneen McBride, owners of Burning River Adventures, supplied "Trash Barge" canoes for volunteers in the water to fill up with trash. These trash barge canoes are crucial in moving heavy objects such as tires and metal from the river. The day ends with a lunch picnic at Waterworks Park where everyone comes together and shares their passion for the river.



Don Howdyshell coordinated a specialized cleanup further down river where heavy industrial debris spanning a hundred years continues to plague the river. For the last 2 years, the City of Cuyahoga Falls has placed dumpsters in the area to assist Don & volunteers with this specialized cleanup. The specialized cleanup covers 2 days to fully utilize the dumpsters. On Sunday, the specialized cleanup continued with the assist of Burning River Adventures' Trash Barges, Brad McBride, John Banach, and the Howdyshell Family. The dumpsters were completely filled with metal and rubber debris making it a huge success. The most unique find in the river goes to John Banach, who found and removed an old 100lbs crane hook!



**2018 Membership Dues are Overdue
By John Kobak**

All club memberships end on October 1st each year. Our club now has over 300 family memberships in 22 states. But only about half have renewed their 2018 membership so far. So, if you haven't gotten around to it, **DO IT TODAY!**

I will be traveling and unable to receive your check after November 7th.

You can use any credit card or a Paypal account and renew using this link:

<http://www.keelhauler.org/EZPay.htm> ---OR---

If you still want to mail a check, please send a \$20 check for your **2018 Membership Dues** To our Treasurer at:

**Keel Haulers Canoe Club
1174 Karla Dr
Clinton, OH 44216**

Remember if we don't get your check by 12/01, you may not be listed in the 2018 Yearbook & Roster. To check whether or not I have received your renewal, 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 2017 password found in our monthly newsletter e-mail. If the last column by your name says 7 and not 8, then you are not recorded as paid for 2018.

John Kobak - Membership Chairman

**Cascade Valley – Cuyahoga River
Strainer Removal Project
From Don Howdyshell**

The Summit Country Metro Parks is beginning to see the rise in paddle sports popularity and have been actively showing their support. They recently constructed a new put-in on the Cuyahoga River at their Cascade Valley Oxbow park. Downriver from the put-in, there were multiple strainers and a log jam that was many years old. Metro Park officials reached out to Don Howdyshell to analyze the water trail and see if anything could be done about the strainer hazards and log jams. After paddling the section of river, with two forced portages, it was determined with confidence that a navigable path could be made for recreational boaters.



Don Howdyshell coordinated the wood removal project with 24 Keel-Hauler volunteers over 3 days. With the river now navigable, the Summit County Metro Parks agreed to pay the Keel-Hauler Canoe Club **\$11,000** for their volunteer efforts and completion of the project.



Project Volunteers:

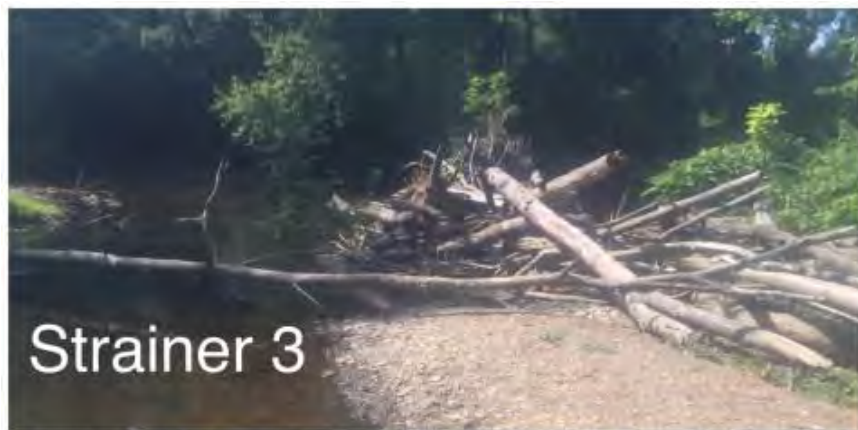
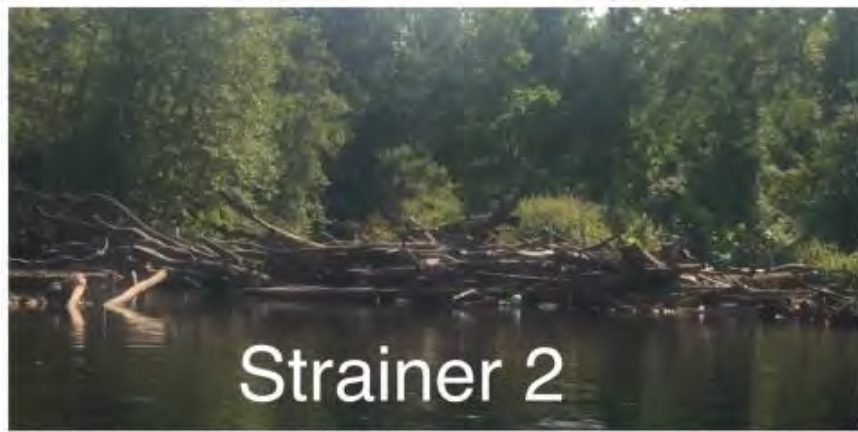
Don Howdyshell, Don Howdyshell Senior, John Banach, Jamie Lacourse, Jimi Gaddis, Michael Duvall, Cliff Wire, Cody Broadway, Vince Bishop, David Hill, Mike Beddow, Phil & Jen Raber, Tommy Piros, Pete Costello, Brian Tuthill, Robert Kirby, Mike Gillam, Brad McBride, Dan Yusko, Joe Loftus, Doug Herschman, Ron Scott, and Sam Reynolds. Lunches Provided by: Cindy Howdyshell & Suha Effendi.



Before & After Photos:

Strainer 1





Still need trip organizers - Pick a trip in red. Thanks!
Contact: Joe Boyd at 330-858-6270 or joeboyltravels@yahoo.com

November	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Pay Dues Now	
11/4	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-19	<u>Needs organizer</u>	
11/11,12	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Katie & Joe Boyd	740-632-6725
December	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Last Chance to Pay Dues	
12/2	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-19	<u>Needs organizer</u>	
12/13	Club Holiday Party at TBD		John Banach	330-606-5032
January	2018			
1/1	New Year's Day paddle on the (4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063

2017 Club Officers

President: John Banach 330-606-5032
VP: Don Howdysell 330-671-0825
Secretary: Rob Kirby 330-322-6634
Treasurer: Sam Reynolds 330-962-5501

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, second Tuesday of each month
 Doors open at 7:00 P.M., meeting starts at 7:30 P.M. Sometimes changes, so please check website.

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

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Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **DECEMBER issue of the newsletter is **11/22/17**. Please send articles to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.**

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.
Geneva, IL 60134
peetzaguy@aol.com

NOVEMBER, 2017



Keelhauler's Ka-news



DECEMBER, 2017



Our Holiday Potluck Dinner Get-Together is December 19th.

Location, time, and program to be announced...

Contact: [John Banach](#) about the dinner if you have any questions . . . 330-606-5032

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

President's Message From John Banach



Hello fellow KH's.

Time flies when you're having fun. I guess that I've been having too much fun because all of a sudden November is over. Boy do I have to get my butt in gear. So much to do and so little time. We had a fabulous past few weeks up in Northeast Ohio. Periodic rain followed by warmer weather. Then followed by typical cold dry weather. But from all the chatter online, it seems many of us have been able to get out and paddle. Although I'm sad to see the foliage no longer in the trees, there is definitely something majestic about a crisp and cold late Autumn paddle. The sounds are different. The smells are different. It's a new blessing for the senses. As long as you dress appropriately, I highly suggest getting out in your boat whenever possible. Go join a group

or start your own. Be it a slow meandering river, a beautiful and scenic Lake, where your favorite stretch of Whitewater, it's all a different experience this time of year. Make sure you get out and enjoy.

A couple of things worth mentioning to all of you. First off, Jim Hunt is working on the 2018 yearbook. So, we need to finalize any and all trips for next year. If you have any ideas for new trips that you would like to lead or would like to see take place, please let us know. There has been talk about flatwater trips, especially overnights. I think this is a fabulous new way to incorporate newer, younger paddlers and have more family-friendly excursions. But, of course I'd hope to see evened season paddlers join in as well. Be sure to email Joe Boyd If you are interested in putting a trip together.

Also, worth mentioning is make sure you pay your dues. Oh my gosh, did he really just say that? Yes, I did, it's only 20 bucks. But your dues keep the club running and allow us to donate funds to more and more worthwhile causes.

Lastly, I have been struggling to clear up my schedule for the Christmas potluck dinner and get together. Due to personal and work scheduling conflicts, the first couple Tuesdays of December are already booked for me. So, I will start planning a get together for Tuesday, December 19. Yes, better late than never. Time snuck up on me, so I do apologize again. I will have everything set up within the next few days and will post on both the website and Facebook. Please stay tuned and trying to free up your schedule if at all possible. My apologies for not having this locked up any sooner. I've been working more hours than usual with longer weekly travel, going through an ugly and messy divorce, and managing two kids at home. Oh, and trying to paddle if I ever get free time. I do appreciate your understanding. But come January 1, I'm thrilled to start the new year off right and to have much more free time to work on club events. I'm also excited knowing we have tremendous club enthusiasm from our seasoned and new members. I see 2018 as another breakout year for our club. So, stay tuned, stay active, stay involved, and paddle as much as you can.

Thank you once again for allowing me to be your club president.

John Banach

Treasurer's Report By Sam Reynolds

Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Monthly Treasurer's Report

November 24, 2017

CD 0402	\$2, 289.84
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 287.41</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 577.25

Checking \$23, 038.05

Total \$27, 615.30

Paid members for 2018=212, Total for 2017 & 2018=322.

Kudos to V.P. Don Howdyshell and volunteers for the Cuyahoga Cruise and Cleanup earning \$11,000 for the club!

Keelhauler's Minutes By Rob Kirby

There was no meeting in November.

Crooked River Discount

Friends of the Crooked River really appreciates the steady support we've received from the Keelhauler Canoe Club over many years!

Last night, the board unanimously approved a **\$10.00 discount off** of our 2018 regular membership (normally \$25) from **now until January 31st for KHCC members**. During this time, KHCC members can click "the other button" at <http://focr-membership.squarespace.com/> to join us for 2018 at the \$15 price. Another link is to click [Check the Other Button](#) and write in the \$15.00.

Please share this with all of the KHCC members! I also hope you will encourage all members to "like" our Facebook page and follow us so they see our events, news about the dam removals and other advocacy.

Thanks,

Jacki Zevenbergen, FoCR Trustee

Vermilion River Race By Jon Reising

The 50th Annual Vermilion River race is going to be advertised as the final year. If there are any club members that seriously want to take over being race chair and all the responsible of organizing, timing, scoring and so on please let either Hank Annable or Jon Reising know before January 1, 2018. We have been doing this all these years and feel it is fine to stop at 50. Otherwise, the race application and all information regarding the 2018 race will have a notice stating this will be the last year for the race. To all of the club members who have helped Hank and I for these many decades, we hope you will come and bid a fond farewell to the race even if you do not paddle one last time.

Jon Reising, 440-967-9507
Hank Annable, 440-775-4953

Putting Kayak Camping on the Agenda By Dr. William “Chip” Everland

There’s something about kayak camping ... or canoe camping, if that’s how you float.

What kind of boat, and what kind of activity, has been a moving target for me, starting with fishing boats in the brackish rivers and small ponds where I grew up on the East Coast. By the time I entered my 40s and living in Ohio I bought a canoe to try out canoe camping, something I’d always wanted to do. Canoe camping – floating or lazily paddling down a river for days on end, maybe casting a line here and there, taking a swim, and then camping on an island or the shoreline – now that sounded like the life. I had visions of Huckleberry Finn and Jim floating down the Mississippi River, having adventures.

After a few years paddling the canoe, I invested in a touring kayak, and canoe camping for me became kayak camping. Later I picked up a “crossover” kayak better suited to the rapids I was encountering on my trips. That led me to my dominant water passion right now: whitewater kayaking as main course rather than side dish.

But I don’t want to totally give up the kayak camping. I try to do one 3-4 day trip each spring or early summer, mostly traveling to West Virginia. But, I’ve also done trips on Ohio rivers. And this past summer I spent a few days paddling around South, Middle, and North Bass Islands in Lake Erie, with overnight primitive camping (by permit) on North Bass Island.

Yes, there’s still something about kayak camping. You know that, once you leave the put in, you’ll be out in nature for several days – and there’s no turning back. It’ll be a few days before you have to run shuttle again or think about traffic. Your boss can’t call and demand you get work done, or tell you to show up at the office the next day. You’re effectively unreachable – free. You can move and act more in accordance with natural rhythms than the clock. Oh, and you can fall asleep to the lullaby of the river gently babbling nearby, as I often do in my hammock camping gear.



Unlike backpacking, when kayak camping your boat will carry your load with little extra effort on your part. You don’t have to carry water or worry about finding it on the trail; it’s right under you! You can bring a few extras with you that wouldn’t come along on most backpacking trips. (I’ve come to like bringing a small chair to sit in while watching the campfire, and a couple of beers for each night that I chill in the river once I get to camp – no cooler required!) And, you can easily put miles behind you. A leisurely pace can take you 12-15 miles per day with just a modest flow. On the other hand, you do have to pay attention to waterproofing (especially down gear and clothing), and think more about volume than weight (big sleeping pads are hard to handle).

Pick the right river and you can spend your paddling time enjoying views of rolling hills or towering cliffs. Pick the right river – and time of year – and you can enjoy a calm float or miles and miles of intermittent Class I, II, or III rapids. Pick the right river and you can spend your time fishing for trout or bass or pike. Pick the right river and you can go a day or more without ever gliding under a bridge or hearing the traffic from a road. Pick the right river and you can stop most anywhere in your path and camp in National Forest property along the shoreline. Pick the right river and you can make the trip anything from a quick overnighter to a week long adventure.



I've done trips on the Mohican River in Ohio, and that's fine. I know there are some places in Western Pennsylvania (Juniata and Allegheny Rivers) and throughout Michigan. Indiana is an option too. But, I think the best river options for my style of kayak camping are in West Virginia. You can easily plan a calm moving water trip on the Cheat River from Parsons down to Rowlesburg, which is roughly 40 miles and takes a couple of days. Want to end with some more exciting whitewater and extend the trip by another day? Keep paddling through the

Cheat Narrows, taking out just above Cheat Canyon. You could also start higher up the Cheat watershed, beginning on Shaver's Fork or the Black Fork above Parsons (they merge to form the Cheat River at Parsons) if there's enough water.

You can plan out a really long trip on the Greenbrier River further south in West Virginia. A few years ago, I paddled from Durbin to Marlinton, which is close to 45 miles. That section has mild rapids – mostly Class I but a little Class II – but it is very remote and quite beautiful. And, you can keep paddling all the way down the Greenbrier for scores more miles. If you have enough time – think a full week – you can paddle it all the way down to the New River.



Or how about a trip on the South Fork of the South Branch of the Potomac River? Start in the "Smoke Hole" and paddle 25 miles down to Petersburg, WV. For most of the trip, you'll enjoy complete isolation from bridges, roads, traffic, and houses due to the 1000 foot deep gorge



you're paddling through most of the way. The only way through the Smoke Hole is by boat, traveling on the clear water through some Class I, II, and III rapids here and there (especially in the first five miles before you pass Big Bend). If 25 miles isn't far enough for you – really, that's just a two day trip if you paddle straight through – you can keep paddling past Petersburg at least

another 25 miles into Romney, trading the cliffs and seclusion for rolling hills, farmland, small towns, and fish camps while still retaining Class I and Class II- water and great smallmouth fishing.

I'm suspect that I'm not the only one in Keel Haulers who, while floating through the Doldrums on the Lower Yough, thinks "Boy, I love the whitewater, but it's also nice just floating through here and enjoying the scenery." Am I the only one who thinks, upon arrival at the takeout – almost any takeout – "Boy, I wish I could just set up my tent and stay here rather than having to drive back home or to a campground, only to drive back to the river to run shuttle again so I can start paddling tomorrow morning." You can skip that hassle with kayak camping. Spend your night on the river, instead of your mornings and afternoons driving to and from it.

Keel Haulers has been good to me in this, my first year as a member. Many kind people – a big shout out especially to Katie and Joe Boyd – have helped me build some basic whitewater skills and shared their knowledge of rivers with me. I truly appreciate that. I thought sharing some information to help folks plan their own kayak camping trips – maybe even organizing a trip next year for somewhere in West Virginia – would be a good way for me to give back.

Yes, you'll have to poop in the woods. Yes, even if you choose rivers with whitewater there will be a lot of flat water paddling. Yes, many of the trips you could do are season or rain-dependent, and so it's hard to make firm plans. You may have to do trips early in the season to find water where you want to paddle, and put up with rainy weather and cool temps. Yes, it's a long drive to get to most of the rivers I've described compared to the Slip or Yough. And, the shuttles for a 45 mile run do take a long time; often it's worth the money to pay an outfitter to shuttle you to avoid backtracking. But man, are the trips you get out of it worth it.



There's something about kayak camping ... or canoe camping, if that's the way you float.

Sea Kayaking Information By Moneen McBride

Hello Everyone! I am Moneen (Moe) McBride the club's 2018 Recreational and Sea Kayaking Chair.

It is amazing our club members have such a wide variety of skill sets and such a passion for paddling! Recreational kayaking is such a great aspect of the sport since all ages can enjoy it typically regardless of their skill set! This is a sport that we can start with our young children and they get to enjoy the outdoors while making fun family/friends memories along the way! Most people think living in Ohio sucks, but really it doesn't! Our state has many great opportunities worth exploring!

In 2017, for Flat water/Sea kayaking trips we had the Vermillion Race, Little Beaver, Grand River, Kokosing River, Cuyahoga River (Peninsula to Boston Mills), Licking River, The Headwaters Adventure Race, and Canoe & Kayaking Orienteering Race at Walborn Reservoir.

We will be definitely looking to do a handful more recreational trips in 2018 that are fun and family oriented! Here a couple that we are considering adding: The Mahoning River, Cuyahoga River (Middle Section with a picnic and sections of the Valley) and The Crooked River Commute (Cuyahoga River) to the Burning River Festival in Cleveland. Do you have some other areas you would like to paddle? Please let us know!

If you use Facebook and have not already joined the KHCC Facebook page, please do so! It is an easy way to get in touch with other club members in our private group! We have the opportunity with our recreational kayaking/canoeing opportunities to demonstrate to our local communities that kayaking is a safe, fun and family oriented sport!

Hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas & Happy New Year!! Can't wait to get on the water with you in 2018!

Moneen

**October Fall Color Lower
Yough Trip
By Dave Roush**

The hardest part of organizing a trip is arranging nice weather. Well, this year the weather was spectacular! Accordingly, the trip was well attended. We had over 20 paddlers on Saturday and almost 20 on Sunday.

It was great to see old friends on the water. Sherie Sanzenbacher paddled her kayak. Ritch Kovach was in a shredder with Kate Koskoros. Rob Hammond joined us, he has moved back into the area.

With such an experienced group there was no carnage on the river but a lot of impressive paddling. The excitement had to wait for dinner. Though Stonehouse advertised Bar-b-Que in the parking lot, they were only serving inside. All had good food and good times. Things got better when Steve Ingalls was surprised by a home-made birthday cake (thanks Sherie) and song that included the entire wait staff. The customers got into it all congratulating Steve as he exited the restaurant and patio. It was fun!

**Bridge Day
By Matt Fredmonsky**

Bridge Day on the New River is something to behold. Most experience it from the deck of the New River Gorge Bridge about 900 feet above Fayette Station rapid. The lucky few witness it from the water after finding their own adrenaline rush paddling down amongst the rapids of the gorge.

Keelhaulers Phil and Jen Raber kindly organized a trip on the gorge on the Saturday of Bridge Day 2017, helping a few other club members navigate the crowds and closed roads to enjoy a 70-degree, partly sunny day—unusual for late October but welcome all the same.



Our view on Bridge Day 2017 from Fayette Station rapid on the New River Gorge.

The trip started with some unique navigating along Keeney Creek. A brief mountain hike, some bushwhacking and a jump across a remote Amtrak line led us down to a little-used put-in just below Middle Keeney. We climbed in our boats and dropped right into Lower Keeney. The level was approaching -1 foot, but nonetheless it was still the biggest rapid of the day. Low water, but we still enjoyed all the play opportunities.

Sooner than we expected, we were at Fayette Station witnessing the impressive show. Every few seconds a new jumper would leap from the bridge, open their chute and spend the next 30 to 60 seconds floating down to Earth. The good jumpers hit the bullseye on the takeout beach. A few unlucky souls splashed down and had to be fished out by safety boaters with some impressive horsepower. We watched for a while and then made the 4-mile flat water paddle to the takeout. Fayette Station Road was closed, making it impossible to use the normal takeout below the bridge. If you can, a good option is to leave a car the night before at the alternate takeout—access to this is closed on the evening before Bridge Day—on river right below the gorge bridge.

The day ended with a trip to dinner and a stop to visit the Summersville Dam—paying homage to the source of the Gauley River release we would experience the next day—at sunset before returning to Ray's to rest up for day two. The first day definitely did NOT end somewhere around 10 p.m. with Nick, Phil and Jen expertly changing the water pump on a shuttle vehicle in the parking lot of a busy truck stop.

Day two started with breakfast at Biscuit World, a scenic trip over Gauley Mountain, courtesy our tour guide and photographer extraordinaire Jeff Macklin, before setting shuttle for the Lower Gauley. Ryan Laughlin joined the rest of the group, which included Mark and Pam, Nick Conway, Victor Kopyev and Matt Fredmonsky. Nick, Ryan and Matt were all making their first descents of the Lower Gauley, and what a group to be a part of! Phil, Jen, Mark and Pam all have countless Gauley runs and know the river well. They provided the perfect amount of guidance, support,

encouragement and of course solid lines to keep us all smiling with no issues. No one swam, and there were less than a handful of combat rolls. Props to Nick who, despite being a first-timer, was fearless. He put on a nice display with a rodeo ride in 5 boat hole, side-surfing his Mamba, rolling, coming back up in the hole, spinning around and finally carving out toward the center of the river and floating down with a big grin.



Nick battling in 5 boat hole on the Lower Gauley river.

The rest of the run was sprinkled with huge wave trains, some nice playboat moves from Mark, impressive attainments from Phil in his green boat and otherwise happy paddlers. Trying to describe the beauty of the remote gorge with mere words would be a futile effort. Canyon Walls! The best way to describe it is to say it is a river experience like few others, one every paddler should work toward. The Gauley River offers arguably the biggest whitewater east of the Mississippi, and the last release of the season—with its sunny skies and 70-degree temperatures—did not disappoint.



Thanks to Phil I had a great line going through Koontz Flume on the Lower Gauley.

What impressed me the most about this West Virginia weekend, particularly the day spent on the Lower Gauley, was the way our trip leaders so graciously took the time to introduce the first-timers to the run. What a wonderful act of kindness! Not many of these rapids can be scouted easily, if at all, and some pose quite serious hazards—including deadly undercuts and pin hazards. Without good beta, this run can yield terrifying consequences if you can't find the right line or end up swimming. We were all thankful for their input. It truly impressed upon me the fact that kayaking has a great tradition of passing on knowledge from one generation to the next. And trips like these are like a master class in navigating big water with all the challenges a river can offer. It was a privilege to paddle with and learn from some great kayakers. I think it's fair to say that myself and the others look forward to the day that we might be able to impart that kind of wisdom to more new whitewater paddlers as they ramp up their own journeys down the river.

Cascade Valley River Cruise and Picnic Photos From Moneen McBride





**2018 Membership Dues are Overdue
By John Kobak**

All club memberships end on October 1st each year. Our club now has over 300 family memberships in 22 states. But only about half have renewed their 2018 membership so far. So, if you haven't gotten around to it, **DO IT TODAY!**

I will be traveling and unable to receive your check after November 7th. You can use any credit card or a Paypal account and renew using this link: <http://www.keelhauler.org/EZPay.htm> --- OR---

If you still want to mail a check, please send a \$20 check for your **2018 Membership Dues** To our Treasurer at:

**Keel Haulers Canoe Club
1174 Karla Dr
Clinton, OH 44216**

Remember if we don't get your check by 12/01, you may not be listed in the 2018 Yearbook & Roster. To check whether or not I have received your renewal, 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 2017 password found in our monthly newsletter e-mail. If the last column by your name says 7 and not 8, then you are not recorded as paid for 2018.

John Kobak – Membership Chairman

**CALL FOR PHOTOS
By Jim Hunt**

The Keelhaulers 2018 Yearbook is being compiled and your photos are needed. Photos of boating, club activities, and outdoor landscapes are welcome.

Photos should have been taken at 300 dpi or greater in density and be 1 mb (or larger) or so in file size. The actual dimensions of the photos are not critical. Color or black & white are welcome. With each photo submit: what river/rapid (or landscape or event), who is in the photo, and who took the photo.

Photos can be submitted by e-mail to: jhunt4115@yahoo.com but please limit the total photos in the e-mail to about 5 mb in size. If you want to submit a bunch of photos, burn them on a CD and mail them to: Jim Hunt 275 Tolbert St Wadsworth, OH 44281. Photos are needed by early December. E-mail me at the above address with any questions.

Jim Hunt, Yearbook Editor

Indoor Pool Sessions for 2017-2018

We will have four pool locations near Cleveland, OH - East ([Orange](#)), West ([Lakewood](#)) & South ([Canton](#) or , [Akron](#))

Roll Instruction: Please use [KHCC Message Board](#) to find persons willing to provide instruction. The forum is also a good place to find folks with loaner kayaks and gear

Sea kayak rescue practice: Clean Sea Kayaks are welcome at both Lakewood and Orange High School pools.

For more information contact **John Banach** j_banacka@hotmail.com 330-606-5032

Orange High School Pool Roll Sessions - 2017-18

Four sessions are scheduled for this Winter, Saturday afternoons 1/27, 2/10, 3/3 & 3/17 - 4 PM to 6 PM

Enter the pool area through West pool deck doors starting at 3:50pm. 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 \$7 per person per session (\$6 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 **Josiah Colvin** karmannghia_68@hotmail.com or 330-671-0910.

Lakewood High School Pool Roll Sessions - 2017-18

Five sessions are scheduled this Winter, **12/16, 1/20, 2/3, 2/17, 3/10 - 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**.

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 Lakewood Pool information contact Matt Demaline - Aquatics Manager
Matt.Demaline@lakewoodcityschools.org - - 216-529-4081

Meyers Lake YMCA Pool Roll Sessions - 2017-18

Sessions are now scheduled for **every Sunday starting Mid December to the end of February** for Meyers Lake YMCA Pool in Canton, OH. 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 John Banach j_banacka@hotmail.com or 330-606-5032.

Akron University Pool Roll Sessions

Open kayaking sessions to learn basic kayaking skills on Tuesday nights from 8:00-10:00 pm. All boats, PFDs (life jackets), and paddles are provided. No experience is required. But you may bring your own, see below. Cost is free for students, faculty/staff and rec members, and \$10 per session for non members. Please arrive on the ONAT pool deck at the start time.

See [Akron U Pool Information](#)

Directions to Pool [Map to Akron U Pool](#) The pool is near E. Buchtel Ave Exit off of SR 8.

For more information, contact Manager of Outdoor Adventure outdooradventure@uakron.edu or 330-972-7357.

General Pool Rules

The sessions are unstructured, providing plenty of time to practice at your own pace. There is no formal instruction. However, there are always club members on hand who are happy to demonstrate and provide assistance to other club members. If you want help with your roll, just ask a club member. Hand paddles will be available for learning hand rolls.

To maintain a good relationship with the Orange & Lakewood, Canton or Akron, there are a few rules to observe.

1. **All boats must be clean.** Remove the air bags and wash the boat, inside and out. Do this at home. Dirty boats are not allowed in the pool.
2. Sessions are open to the general public. For those interested, club membership forms will be available at the door. Annual club dues are only \$20 per family. Click to [Join Our Club](#)
3. The roll session at Orange High School is preceded by an Open Swim session. If you arrive early, please wait outside the building with your boats until the Open Swim session ends at 4:10 PM. Please bring in boats through the back emergency exit, which will open at 4:10 PM.
4. Please sign in and pay the lifeguard/manager upon entering the pool. **Please bring exact change.**
5. We must avoid damage to the facilities and especially the pools' tiled surfaces. Remove metal rudders from sea kayaks. Do not bring aluminum canoes. **Do not launch off the deck of the pool** -- enter your boat while it is sitting in the water.
6. The pool becomes crowded. In the interest of safety, neither free swimming nor diving is allowed. All children under the age of 18 must be supervised at all times by a paying adult.
7. **Helmets will be required**, whether you are in a boat or standing in the water helping someone. This is for your own safety.

The tentative Keel-Hauler 2018 Trip Schedule is now online. This schedule will be continually updated.

Please contact Our Trip Organizer to add or correct any trips listed.

Joe Boyd 740-632-6725

January				
1/1	New Year paddle on the (4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
1/7,14,21,28	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 8:45 -10:45 AM		John Banach	330-606-5032
1/20	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3:00-5:00 pm		Glen Baker	216-403-7820
1/27	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4:00-6:00 PM		Jimi Gaddis	567-215-1390
February				
2/3,17	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3:00-5:00 pm		Glen Baker	216-403-7820
2/4,11,18,25	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 8:45 -10:45 AM		John Banach	330-606-5032
2/10	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4:00-6:00 PM		Jimi Gaddis	567-215-1390

2017 Club Officers

President: John Banach 330-606-5032
VP: Don Howdyshehl 330-671-0825
Secretary: Rob Kirby 330-322-6634
Treasurer: Sam Reynolds 330-962-5501

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, second Tuesday of each month
 Doors open at 7:00 P.M., meeting starts at 7:30 P.M. Sometimes changes, so please check website.

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 2018 issue of the newsletter is 12/20/17. Please send articles to
Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
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DECEMBER, 2017

