

Keelhauler's Ka-news



JANUARY, 2019



Next Club Meeting to be announced.

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

President's Message From Mike Gillam



I hope everyone had a great holiday season and a wonderful upcoming new year!

Our Holiday Keel Hauler meeting was well attended, we had some lively debate, and was a great time overall. Good food, good drink, good people, and talking kayaking, that is a combination that is hard to beat! Some of the things that were discussed and decided upon were:

Budget- without getting into too much detail, the 2019 budget was approved with the following changes/amendments in the major areas; \$1000 donation was added to the Upper Yough parking lot project, a new website money was approved (but not to be spent unless voted upon

by membership) and Education/Training money was approved (but any money spent for members to get ACA certified must have membership approval).

Indoor roll sessions are in full swing, take a look at the club calendar to see specific dates and times. Also, John Banach has incorporated youth rolling times at Canton, again check the calendar, FaceBook page, or contact John directly for more information. You can't find a better way to get kids involved in boating....warm water, other kids, and fun! Kayak soccer is a great way to have some Sunday morning fun, get a little workout in, practice some rolls, and learn to be a defensive kayaker! Check out Canton kayak soccer days if you are interested. If you have any questions, check with John Banach. In addition to indoor sessions, outdoor paddling is still going strong, with warmer weather (or colder weather) and rain, local Ohio rivers as well as Pa., and WV rivers have been getting lots of action. Keep an eye on the FaceBook page for impromptu trips. For those who enjoy sliding on frozen water, a winter trip to Ohiopyle area, skiing Seven Springs one day and boating the Lower Yough one day, is a great way to enjoy a multi-sport weekend!

And lastly, for those who enjoy getting some kayak information/entertainment via electronics, The Hammer Factor podcast is a good one. Be forewarned there can be some strong language. Topics covered can range from environmental to paddle length to waterfall running to<https://hammerfactor.com/>

Have a great winter season and remember to play outside!

Mike

**Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Monthly Treasurer's Report
December 18, 2018
By Sam Reynolds**

CD 0402 \$2, 298.53

CD 1077 \$2, 296.08

CD'S (2) \$4, 594.61

Checking \$21, 817.84

Total \$26, 412.45

Happy Holidays to all! Best in paddling in 2019!

**Keelhauler Meeting and Holiday Party Minutes
December 11, 2018
From Michael Duvall**



Meeting opened by President Mike Gilliam

Mike reviewed budget corrections/revisions from last meeting.
Where money came from: dues and Cuyahoga river cleanup
Proposed spending: technology web site, marketing, and training.

Motion to vote on budget and seconded.

Motion to amend with \$1,000 donation to Friendsville parking lot (Upper Yough take out)
by John Kobak per Cliff Wire
VOTED AND PASSED

Motion to amend any money spent on web design would require membership vote.
VOTED AND PASSED

Motion to amend any money spent on training (ACA for program or instructors training) would
require membership vote.

VOTED AND PASSED

Call for vote on budget as amended

VOTED AND PASSED (Note 17 absentee votes were included in final tally.)

Mike reviewed Cuyahoga River Trail program with brochures. When appropriate he wants the club, individual members, and any other concerned individuals to submit letters of support for the program. He will follow up with mailing info when available.

Meeting adjourned.

Members and families enjoyed a potluck dinner after the business meeting.

(Editorial note: there were a number of small children in attendance which hopefully means the club will have future members.)

Ohiopyle Construction Update From Jim Hunt

Ohiopyle Construction is moving forward.

These photos are from Dec 8th.

I met with the Asst Manager of the park on the 8th. Some of what he said follows:

The relocation of Sugarloaf Rd to is well underway. The boater changing house is gone. The new private boater parking area is being worked on.

By the end of May 2019, Sugarloaf Road relocation will be done, the new boaters changing house will be in place, and the new paved! boater parking lot will be done. All work will stop from late May until early Sept on the projects.

They will also be working on sidewalks along RT381 and wider sidewalks on the bridge over the Yough by the loop takeout.

No work on the "tunnel" will be done until after the 2019 boating season.

New rest room facilities will be installed at the loop takeout parking lot and at the Brunner parking lot at the top of the hill.

The bus concession agreement has been signed on Dec 8. No details yet but likely a shorter bus season and more buses at peak times.

News to me - none of the fees we pay to use the river go to the park. They all go to the PA state general fund. Also, Ohiopyle is the only park in PA that charges a user fee. It seems we get nothing out of the \$10 or so that we pay to use the river during peak times. I hope AW works on this.



American Whitewater Presents Lower Yough Survey Results To Park Managers From Jim Hunt

American Whitewater Presents Lower Yough Survey Results To Park Managers (PA)
posted December 19, 2018 by Kevin Colburn (AW)



Earlier this month American Whitewater conducted an online survey of the paddling community regarding the management of the Lower Youghiogheny River in Western Pennsylvania. The Lower Yough is a classic whitewater river with a long season, summer dam releases, and wonderful scenery protected by Ohiopyle State Park. American Whitewater has provided the full survey results to State Park river managers to help inform their decisions. Nearly 600 paddlers completed the survey.

Due to significant recreational demand for both commercial and noncommercial boating in the past the Park caps use, charges fees, and requires a partial shuttle service be used during peak times. These measures, along with limits on running Ohiopyle Falls and various rules relating to water levels and craft, make the Lower Yough one of the most intensively managed whitewater day-trips in the United States. Big changes to boater parking and access in Ohiopyle as well as the renewal of the shuttle service permit suggested the need for enhanced public input to help inform the Park's management through this transition period.

Survey respondents indicated that they have reduced their use of the Lower Yough in recent years for a wide variety of reasons, principally personal reasons and the fees. Most respondents are generally satisfied with the shuttle service, though many offered ideas for improvement. A majority of respondents did not feel the quota system is important, and also feel that the fees are unreasonable. Respondents indicated they would paddle the Lower Yough more if there were no fees. The voluminous comments collected through the survey were shared in full with the Park, and offer a treasure trove of ideas and constructive feedback.

We would like to thank the almost 600 paddlers who took the time to fill out the survey, the volunteers that helped us craft it, and for Ohiopyle State Park for welcoming the input. American Whitewater shared the Survey Results with Park staff late last week.

Thank you to all of the Keelhaulers that took part in the survey. The survey results can be seen on the American Whitewater web page.

January	2019			
1/1	New Year's Day paddle on the (4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063

2019 Club Officers

President: Mike Gillam 440-328-5547
VP: John Banach 330-606-5032
Secretary: Michael Duvall 216-513-5921
Treasurer: Sam Reynolds 330-962-5501

Meetings: Approximately 4 meetings per year. Please check website for next meeting time and location.

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 2019** issue of the newsletter is **1/23/19**. Please send articles and/or pictures to: Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.

KeelHauler Kanews
 Kelly Miller, Editor
 701 Forrest Ave.
 Geneva, IL 60134
peetzaguy@aol.com
JANUARY 2019



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President's Message From Mike Gillam



Pool sessions are still going strong and are a great time to spend a couple of hours getting some exercise and working on important skills. Throw in a little soccer, and when spring rolls around, you will be ready to go! Take a look at the calendar or the club website for specifics.

Thanks to Jim Hunt who has done another fantastic job on the yearbook. He puts in many hours of work, getting everything organized and submitted to the printer. Also, thanks to everyone who has volunteered to lead trips this year. These trips will be listed in the yearbook, website, and as I work on it slowly this winter, will be included on the club Google calendar. A reminder that this calendar can be downloaded to your own personal electronic Although it is winter, the weather (so far) has allowed anyone who wishes, the opportunity to get as much cold weather paddling as they want. Fairly warm temps and enough snowmelt and rain has kept keep rivers running from Ohio to the Carolinas. For those who enjoy frozen water, there has been some skiing, with the northeast

states getting plenty of snow and cold. That said, I know most of you are all getting excited for another paddling season. Members are planning trips to the southeast rivers, the Grand Canyon, and the New River Dries, now that there are scheduled releases!

<https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Article/view/articleid/34159/?fbclid=IwAR0vNqtriHsrx15G5rTTr38quiQMlaSBQF6sGKnrk-9WIOFnflwZciAnMHA>

Calendar. I will keep this updated as the year progresses, and if anyone has additional or last minute trips (give me a day or two prior notice), let me know and I can include them. Also, keep up with the FaceBook page/calendar/webpage for any changes or updates to trips.

Get outside and play!

Mike

**Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Monthly Treasurer's Report
January 24, 2019
By Sam Reynolds**

CD 0402 \$2, 299.21

CD 1077 \$2, 296.77

CD'S (2) \$4, 595.98

Checking \$18, 857.89

Total \$23, 453.87

**The Keelhaulers donated \$3250.00 for River Conservation.
Best in paddling in 2019!**

**Keel-Haulers Conservation Donations
Exceed \$34,000
From Matt Fredmonsky**

The checks are in the mail for 2019, and this year the Keel-Haulers will share the love with river conservation groups across the U.S. to the tune of \$3,250.

That may not sound like a lot, but consider this. Since just 2005, the Keel-Haulers have donated more than \$34,000 to river conservation efforts. That's a lot of support for clean rivers, whitewater lobbying, facilities and access maintenance and more.

Still not impressed? Here are a few things that cost roughly \$34,000. The average cost of a new car is \$34,000. A 4-carat diamond ring will cost you about \$34,000. A little more than 8 acres of mountain land in North Carolina will set you back about \$34,000.

We could have had a lot of cool shit. Well, not really. We're not going to buy a diamond ring. But maybe we could buy 4 acres of land in North Carolina and build a clubhouse near Asheville. You get the idea. In reality, we did a couple of awesome things. We worked to protect the health of our natural world. We supported efforts to give the general public access to the beauty of nature. And we invested in the future of a sport we all love.

This year, here's how the conservation donations break down:

Recipient Organization	Amount Donated by KHCC (2019)
American Whitewater	\$1,600
Friends of the Cheat	\$500
Friends of the Crooked River	\$300
Grand Canyon Private Boaters Assoc.	\$150
American Rivers	\$150
West Virginia Rivers Coalition	\$150
River Network	\$100
Nature Conservancy	\$150
Mountain Watershed Assoc. – (Yough)	\$150
Total:	\$3,250

This year, in exchange for our donation, I've simply asked all the recipient organizations to reach out with a designated contact person to identify a contact point for potential future club collaborations. To date, only one club, the Mountain Watershed Association, has responded. I'm currently working with Eric Harder at Mountain Watershed Association to identify any potential events, paddling trips or other efforts we could collaborate on. I'm also hoping that during the annual club picnic in OhioPyle this year that Eric will be able to attend and give us a brief presentation about what the association does from a conservation perspective to inform those of us who may not know. Hopefully, more recipients of our donation dollars will respond, and we'll create more potential paddling synergies.

Got conservation ideas or suggestions? Shoot me an email. My contact info is in the yearbook.

-Matt Fredmonsky, KH Conservation Chair

P.S. Thanks to Sam for pulling the records going back to 2005. John Kobak, do you have more detailed financial records? Could you put together a total going back further? It would be interesting to see what the club has donated to conservation over the life of the group.

Yearbook Update From Jim Hunt

The Yearbook is complete and is at the printer. Thanks to all who submitted photos and other input. I expect you will see the Yearbook in your mailbox during the last two weeks of February. Please remember that the yearbook is mailed bulk rate and will not be forwarded to any other address. So, view the Yearbook Roster at this link:

<https://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/memb/yearbook19.pdf>. Username: dir and the directory password shown in the e-mail you received. If your correct address is not current with the club, please send an e-mail today to kobak@keelhauler.org.

Jim Hunt, Yearbook Editor

Friendsville, MD Update From Rob Hammond

I was at the Friendsville Council meeting last week to make a presentation on a security system design that I have been helping them with for the last couple of months. To my surprise, Charlie Walbridge was there making a presentation of a check from AWA towards their parking lot project. Charlie mentioned that he would be making another donation as soon as the \$1,000 check from the Keelhaulers came in. The mayor and town council were very happy to get the donation. The Mayor spoke for several minutes about how the paddling community is an asset to the town. A big change in attitude from the days back 90s when I first started paddling the Upper Yough, and the really old timers can recount stories of having to face angry and armed residents who viewed kayakers as a threat to their way of life. When Charlie was done, it was my turn to discuss the Request For Proposal I drafted for the Community Park security system. When I was done, I mentioned being a Keelhauler, and that I moved from Cleveland to the Friendsville area to be closer to river that I had loved so much. I think this impressed the council more than my pro bono work that I was doing for the town.

Our weekly newspaper had the following article about the meeting:

Yough River 'paddlers' give back to Friendsville

by Renée Shreve
STAFF WRITER

FRIENDSVILLE—Kayakers, canoeists and other outdoor enthusiasts who enjoy the Youghiogheny River are "giving back" to Friendsville. "They're very supportive, financially, and it's a consistent thing," Councilman Jess Whittemore said at Monday's council meeting.

During the session, Charlie Walbridge, honorary director of American Whitewater, presented town officials with a check for \$5,000 to expand the Upper Yough Access Parking Area. Located off Maple Street, the lot gives visitors a place to park their vehicles, launch their watercraft or explore the town and nearby trails.

"I'm just as pleased as I can be about the parking lot," Wal-

bridge said.

He reported members of the Keelhaulers Canoe Club in Westlake, Ohio, also donated \$1,000.

"That will be forwarded as soon as we're able to process it," Walbridge told the council. American Whitewater and the Keelhaulers also provided "seed money" for the original parking area project.

"It's a great partnership," Walbridge said about "paddlers" and the town. "I thank Jess for making us aware of the opportunity and all of you for working with us."

The Bruceton Mills, W.Va., resident said he hopes the project will become a town asset that is used for a "great many things."

Town officials recently received \$18,000 in Program Open Space funding to ex-

pand the lot. Friendsville is required to contribute \$2,000 toward the project, which will cost a little under \$30,000. R.C. Newman LLC is the contractor.

Whittemore announced that the Garrett County commissioners decided during their meeting Monday afternoon to allocate \$4,500 for the initiative. The county Roads Division has also been providing drivers and dump trucks to take soil from and bring gravel to the site.

"We're very much appreciative of their continued support of economic development in Friendsville," Mayor Spencer Schlosnagle said.

Up to 32 additional parking spaces will be available at the access area, according to the mayor. He noted the expansion will also benefit residents



Staff photo by Renée Shreve

During Friendsville's Town Council meeting Monday evening, security expert Rob Hammond, standing, reviews a request for proposals he drafted. He has been helping the town decide what type of security system to install at the community park. Seated, from left, are council President Pam Humberston, Mayor Spencer Schlosnagle and council members Julia Sines, Jess Whittemore, Sheryl MacLane, Bob Sines and Ed Kelley.

by providing additional parking for Friendsville United Methodist Church events and town activities.

"It'll be nice when the veterans' memorial goes in there, too," council President Pam Humberston said.

In addition to monetary contributions, paddlers are also donating their talents and time to help the town. Local resident Rob Hammond, a

freelance security consultant and principal consultant for Charles Salter Associates of San Francisco has spent numerous hours helping the council decide what type of, how many and where security cameras should be installed in Friendsville Community Park.

He also drafted a request for proposals that the town can publish to solicit bids for

the security system. Hammond presented the document immediately following Walbridge's donation.

"Thank you so much," Whittemore told Hammond. "You're an angel."

Some of the council members learned during the meeting that Hammond is also a kayaker.

See PADDLERS, B4



Staff photo by Renée Shreve

The American Whitewater organization presented a check for \$5,000 to Friendsville officials Monday evening to help expand the Upper Yough Access Parking Area. The Keelhaulers Canoe Club also donated \$1,000. From left are Councilman Jess Whittemore, Mayor Spencer Schlosnagle and Charlie Walbridge, American Whitewater board member.

PADDLERS (Continued from Page B1)

"Friendsville has always been an important part of my life," he said. "That's why I ended up here, coming down from Ohio one weekend a month to go kayaking."

Hammond noted he is a current member and former president of the Keelhaulers. "I was quite surprised when they came up with \$1,000," he said. "I've never seen a donation that big."

Whittemore pointed out that kayaker Donnie Millard, who lives near Confluence, Pa., has also been helping Friendsville out for the last five years by using his own machinery to weed east and mow nearly four acres of town property.

"That's free of charge," Councilwoman Sheryl MacLane stressed.

Whittemore indicated some residents used to consider boaters a problem because of the lack of off-street parking and other issues.

"Things have changed," the

councilman said. "It's a partnership. The town does things for the boaters, so the boaters do things for the town."

American Whitewater notes on its website that the \$5,000 donation to Friendsville "makes a strong statement of how much paddlers value the river and the town."

The next Friendsville Town Council meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. Feb. 4.

Staff writer Renée Shreve can be reached at 301-501-6394 or by email at rshreve@thepublicnews.com.

Membership Report From John Kobak

We finished 2018 with a near record number of memberships = 330. As we go into 2019 we have only 250 paid members, it seems like a lot of local paddlers dropped out of the club, but are still paddling.

Hopefully they just forgot that our membership year ends on 9/31 and will soon rejoin. These newer paddlers are what will help the club continue for years to come.

I thought it would be interesting to see what the club paid membership of **250** now looks like.

Couples = 148 Memb 296

Individual Men = 76

Individual Women = 26

Children = 89

Total members = 487

We have members located in 19 states. Most from OH, but there are 27 from PA and 10 from MD. The out-of-state members join because of our great WW trip schedule.

Take a look at our membership by location with this link:

<http://keelhauler.org/khcc/memb/khcity.pdf> which requires the USER NAME: **dir** and our new 2019 password.

2019 Trip Schedule Plea

The 2019 Yearbook has gone to print with many proposed trips still requiring trip organizers. Take a look at this year's schedule from this link: [Preliminary Keel-Hauler 2019 Trip Schedule](#) . If you want to volunteer to organize a trip it would be appreciated by everyone, let us know at trips@keelhauler.org and I will add your name to the on-line schedule, you can do this all year long.

The schedule will also be added to a [Google Calendar](#) This calendar can be added to your smartphone calendar so it will be at your fingertips. Mike Gillam will be updating this calendar.

February				
2/3	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
2/2	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3:00-5:00 pm		Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
2/3,10,17,24	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		Josiah Colvin	567-215-1390
2/21	Club Monthly Meeting at Brick House Tavern, 581 Howe Ave, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221		John Banach	330-606-5032

Are You Ready

By John Kobak

Are you ready for the 2016 paddling season? There are lots of things to check over to make sure that when the snow melts and the rivers rise that you are ready for paddling.

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

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

Second, the hard part. Are you ready? We have 17 new members who have joined since the last season has ended. Everyone needs to come to some pool sessions to make sure they can roll and are comfortable trying multiple rolls. If you are from out of the NE Ohio area and can't make any of our three different indoor pool sessions, most big cities have pools available to kayakers. Ask around; use local message boards to find some that are close to your home. Don't wait until you are out in cold water to start your roll or swim practice.

Get physically fit! Do aerobic exercise. Lift weights. Do push-ups. Go to the pool and swim laps. I can guarantee you that as you get older it gets harder and harder to stay in shape and very easy to get out of shape. WW kayaking takes bursts of power to hit

your lines. No strength, or fitness? You won't make the move.

Then evaluate your paddling and fitness skills with our [Self Rating System](#). Check out the difficulty of the rivers that you would like to paddle to see if your skills match these rivers. Try a Southern trip this spring. These intermediate trips are planned to start with easier rivers and get on more difficult ones as the week progresses. This is the fastest way to increase your paddling skills.

Watch for impromptu Slippery Rock trips on our [Message Board](#) or [KHCC Facebook Page](#). You must register for either. This river can be run as a day trip for most of our club members and has good water quality, nice scenery and great WW in order for you to learn advanced skills. Most club members will assist you and make sure you get down the river section that matches your skills successfully. Our schedule this year does not list a lot of Slippery Rock trips, but I would say someone from the club will be paddling every spring weekend when the water level is good.

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

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

2019 Club Officers

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VP: John Banach 330-606-5032
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Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the March 2019 issue of the newsletter is 2/23/19. Please send articles and/or pictures to: Kelly Miller (Laubaug) at peetzaguy@aol.com.

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.
Geneva, IL 60134
peetzaguy@aol.com
FEBRUARY 2019



Keelhauler's Ka-news

☘ **MARCH, 2019**



Next Club Meeting Tuesday March 5th

Doors open at 6:30pm, Meeting at 7:00-8:30pm
at Cuyahoga Falls Public Library, Graefe Room.

2015 3rd Street, Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Parking between 2nd and 3rd Street. Use Exit 5 from SR8

Agenda items to include: Yearbook 2020, Committee to look at website, Summer meeting - long standing member recognition.
Paying for SWR, and Beginning Boater Clinics/trips.

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

President's Message From Mike Gillam



No report this month.

**Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Monthly Treasurer's Report
February 22, 2019
By Sam Reynolds**

CD 0402 \$2, 299.89

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CD'S (2) \$4, 596.66

Checking \$16,861.98

Total \$21,458.64

Yearbook Printing = \$1685.62

Yearbook Mailing = \$310.29

Many thanks to Jim Hunt and Michael Duvall!

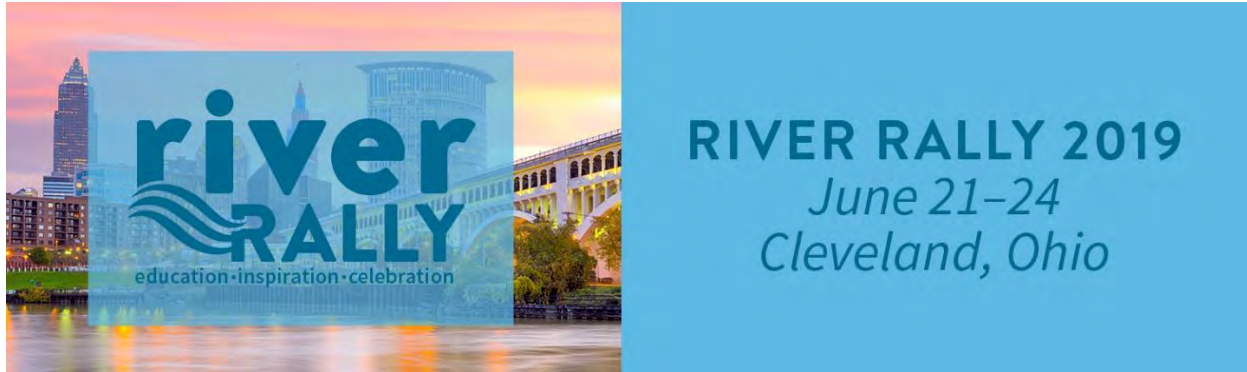
**50th Anniversary of the Cuyahoga River Fire
From Matt Fredmonsky**

Thursday, June 20th, is the Kent portion of the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Cuyahoga River fire. The Main St. bridge will be closed, and vendors, food trucks, etc., will be on the bridge. There will be a kayaker coming down the river to pass the torch (not like a real torch) to the next person who will then take it to Cuyahoga Falls. We are looking for kayakers to follow behind the "torch carrier" until they get to Kent. It is mostly a "for looks" type of thing, however having a group of kayakers all coming into the Main St bridge area is what we are after. The passing of the (fake) torch will happen and that kayaker will go down the river and take out at Summit St. (shhhh - don't tell!) Alex Bevan will be playing on the bridge from 4:30ish to 6:30ish then the Chardon Polka Band will be playing in the Plaza from 7-9.

See also: www.rockthelake.com/event/xtinguish-celebration and www.rockthelake.com

Simply wanted to give you a "heads up" we will be looking for people. Depending on rain/weather the river could be really cranking and at that point safety comes into play (wait - isn't it supposed to always be first and foremost?!) and the extra kayakers idea will be nixed. Celebrate the 50th anniversary of the 1969 Cuyahoga River fire with a boat parade at dusk. To join the parade, email Peter Bode at Peter@westcreek.org.

**River Rally in Cleveland
From Jacki Gosselin Zevenbergen**



Join us! June 21 – 24, 2019 | Cleveland, Ohio

Hosted annually by River Network, River Rally provides an inspiring and energy-infused touchpoint for nonprofit groups from across the U.S. and beyond, as well as for agency and foundation representatives, industry innovators, philanthropists, academics, students, and community leaders. It includes over 70 learning opportunities, an awards ceremony, novel social events, and access to thought leaders and change agents.

River Rally 2019 takes place along the banks of the Cuyahoga River and marks the last time that river caught fire from unregulated pollution fifty years ago, a pivotal event that sparked the environmental movement that led to the establishment of the Clean Water Act. The River Rally 2019 program features speakers who will celebrate this and other clean-water victories while illuminating today's most urgent water topics.

For registration, the program, and more information: https://www.rivernetwork.org/connect-learn/river-rally/?fbclid=IwAR0vr5FIlOMMNMI6fOKpw3Ym9phf_L_wfrFErDfbntJ1UJno4fZab8Bm1o

2019 Trip Schedule

Please review we NEED TRIP MORE ORGANIZERS PLEASE HELP

[2019 Trip Schedule](#)

Contact Mike Gillam . . . mikegillam61@gmail.com . . . 440-328-5547

March	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
3/2,16	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4:00-6:00 PM		Josiah Colvin	567-215-1390
3/3,10,17	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 8:45 -10:45 AM		John Banach	330-606-5032
3/9,10	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
3/16-24	Spring Break Trip - TN, NC OR if there is good water in WV we can go there.	22-32	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
3/23	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3:00-5:00 pm		Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
April				
4/6	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4:00-6:00 PM		Josiah Colvin	567-215-1390
4/6,7	Tallulah - Cheoah GA, NC	30-34	Dan Yusko	330-472-8535
4/6,7	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Needs organizer	
4/6,7	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
4/TBD	(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
4/13,14	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
4/13	(1) Grand River (OH)	6	Mark Spang	440-522-0520
4/19	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
4/20	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Anne Kmieck	216-536-1905
4/20,21	(5) Middle Fork & Tygart (WV)	29	Needs organizer	
4/26	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
4/27	(1) Grand River Race	SK/FW	Brian Davidson	440-358-7275
4/27,28	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
4/27	Cuyahoga Falls Kayak Race (OH) Upper Gorge Limit 600 CFS 	28	Don Howdyshell	330-671-0825
	Click Image for official website & registration			

Boater Humor

Someone asked an anonymous boater about his c/ass IV comfort level and he answered something along the lines of I'm comfortable that I can usually find an eddy to swim to." Thus, the interviewer was inspired to offer this International Scale of River Difficulty:

Class I: Easy

Fast moving water with riffles and small waves. Swimming is pleasant, shore easily reached. A nice break from paddling. Almost all gear and equipment is recovered. Boat is just slightly scratched.

Class II: Novice

Straightforward rapids with wide, clear channels which are evident without scouting. Swimming to eddies requires moderate effort. Climbing out of river may involve slippery rocks and shrub induced lacerations. Paddles travel great distance downstream requiring lengthy walk. Something unimportant is missing. Boat hits submerged rock leaving visible dent on frame or new gash in plastic.

Class III: Intermediate

Rapids with moderate, irregular waves which may be difficult to avoid. Water is swallowed. Legs are ground repeatedly against sharp, pointy rocks. Several eddies are missed while swimming. Difficult decision to stay with boat results in moment of terror when swimmer realizes they are downstream of boat. Paddle is recirculated in small hole way upstream. All personal possessions are removed from boat and floated in different directions. Paddling partners run along river bank shouting helpful instructions. Boat is munched against large boulder hard enough to leave series of deep gouges. Sunglasses fall off.

Class IV: Advanced

Water is generally lots colder than Class III. Intense, powerful but predictable rapids requiring precise swimming in turbulent water. Swimming may require 'must' moves above dangerous hazards. 'Must' moves are downgraded to 'strongly recommended' after they are missed. Sensation of disbelief experienced while about to swim large drops. Frantic swimming towards shore is alternated with frantic swimming away from shore to avoid strainers. Rocks are clung to with death grip. Paddle is completely forgotten. One shoe is removed. Hydraulic pressure permanently removes waterproof box with all the really important stuff. Paddle partners running along stream look genuinely concerned while lofting throw ropes 20 feet behind swimmer. Paddle partners stare slack-jawed and point in amazement at boat which is finally pinned by major feature. Climbing up river bank involves inverted tree. One of those spring loaded pins that attaches watch to wristband is missing. Contact lenses are moved to rear of eyeballs.

Class V: Expert

The water in this rapid is usually under 42 degrees f. Most gear is destroyed on rocks within minutes if not seconds. If the boat survives, it is in need of about three days of repair. There is no swimming, only frantic movements to keep from becoming one with the rocks and to get a breath from time to time. Terror and panic set in as you realize your paddle partners don't have a chance in hell of reaching you. You come to a true understanding of the terms maytagging and pinballing. That hole that looked like nothing when scouted has a hydraulic that holds you under the water until your lungs are close to bursting. You come out only to realize you still have 75% of the rapid left to swim. Swim to the eddy? What %~~&*## eddy!? This rapid usually lasts a mile or more. Hydraulic pressure within the first few seconds removes everything that can come off your body. This includes gloves, shoes, neoprene socks, sunglasses, hats, and clothing. The rocks take care of your fingers, toes, and ears. That \$900.00 dry suit, well it might hold up to the rocks. Your paddle is trash. If there is a strainer, well, just hope it is old and rotten so it breaks. Paddle Partners on shore are frantically trying to run and keep up with you. Their horror is reflected in their faces as they stare at how you are being tossed around! They are hoping to remember how to do CPR. They also really hope the cooler with the beer is still intact. They are going to need a cold one by the time you get out! Climbing out of this happens after the rapid is over. You will probably need the help of a backboard, cervical collar and Z-rig. Even though you have broken bones, lacerations, puncture wounds, missing digits & ears, and a concussion, you won't feel much because you will have severe hypothermia. Enjoy your time in the hospital, with the time you take recovering you won't get another vacation for 3 years.

Class VI: World Class Not recommended for swimming.

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Secretary: Michael Duvall 216-513-5921
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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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 2019 issue of the newsletter is 3/23/19. Please send articles and/or pictures to: Kelly Miller (Laubaug) at peetzaguy@aol.com.

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

MARCH 2019



Keelhauler's Ka-news

APRIL, 2019



Next Club Meeting to be announced...

**President's Message
From Mike Gillam**



Spring is here! It is that time of the year: when we get a sunny 60 degree day one day, and snow the next. However, once there are more warm and sunny days than cold and snowy, EVERYONE in the boating community will be excited!

If you look at the trip list, we have many day trips available, as well as many multi-day trips. If you are interested in joining a trip, please contact the organizer. It's important to let the organizer know if you're joining, so they can review the experience of the trip members, plan shuttle, etc. Contact the trip organizer by email, phone, social media, or the message board. In addition to scheduled trips, FaceBook and/or the club webpage are the places to plan/join impromptu trips. These trips are often organized on Friday and run that weekend. Keep in mind that water temperatures are cold this time of the year, and proper clothing is important. If you're hesitant about the appropriateness of your gear, please ask an experienced paddler.

At our March meeting, we had some great discussion and ideas for a number of the following topics:

Handbook: Jim Hunt is stepping down as the chair. We discussed the need for an annual handbook. While many members enjoy this book (including myself), most of the information is duplicated year-to-year. Other than the trip schedule, contact list, and pictures, everything else is basically the same. What came out of the discussion was the need to investigate the possibility of printing a number of our current yearbook for new members. Then, instead of sending an entirely new handbook every year, we would only send an updated schedule and contact list. Every couple of years, we would print a Keelhaulers Handbook, which would basically be what we have now, minus trips & membership. This would allow people to have a resource that would include river descriptions and a rating system, and save the club the cost of printing handbooks every year. These savings would be allocated to developing/putting on paddling programs for members; SWR, instruction, etc.

Webpage: While I have received a lot of positive comments, questions still arise about the advantages of an updated (my word) webpage. What would a new platform bring to the club? How would we update the page? What time and cost would be involved? Can we add anything we want? What about spamming? In order to get some of these questions answered, and to bring more people into the discussion, we have created a committee of six people who will review a mock up website. This committee will make a recommendation as to the future of the webpage. Once this review is completed, I will send some notes to the club. The recommendation will be discussed at the July meeting at Tall Oaks.

Hall of Fame: This is a carryover from last year; a way to recognize those members who have made a significant impact to the club. After a short discussion, it was decided to form a committee to look into this topic. This committee will create a method to determine who to recognize, as well as how to recognize those members.

Cuyahoga Celebration: June 21. This is going to be a pretty big weekend for towns all along the river. Torch ceremonies, public ceremonies, etc.

Library: Cliff Wire has a large collection of DVDs and books that are not being checked out and may have run their course. Contact Cliff if you are interested in anything.

Safety Chair: John Zevenbergen has stepped up and volunteered to be safety chair. If you are interested in the Charlie Walbridge SWR class, contact John.

SWR: We currently are working with Charlie Walbridge's SWR class and may schedule an additional course more locally. Stay tuned for more information.

Beginning Paddlers Trips: These will be starting in May. These trips are not meant to be instructional courses, but relaxed, low stress, informal ways to get time on the water with others, both experienced and inexperienced. Depending on participants' experiences, locations could include the Cuyahoga River (different sections, but not the Falls), the Vermilion River, Slippery Rock Creek, and Lake Erie. The culmination of these trips will be the Lower Yough trip in July. Look for more info coming on the FB page and webpage.

Get outside and play!

**Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Monthly Treasurer's Report
March 25, 2019
By Sam Reynolds**

CD 0402	\$2, 300.51
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 298.07</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 598.58
Checking	<u>\$16, 960.55</u>
Total	<u>\$21, 559.13</u>

FY2019 Expenditures

School Donation Environmental Experience-Alison Gillam-\$650.00
Cuyahoga National Park Facility Deposit-\$90.00
Conservation Donations-\$3250.00
Reimbursement J Banach Yough Party Supplies-\$160.37
Reimbursement J Banach Christmas Party Supplies-\$320.00
Reimbursement J Hunt Adobe Rental-Yearbook-\$67.24
Direct Marketing Solutions-Yearbook Mailing-\$310.29
Acme Duplicating Co-Printing Yearbook-\$1685.62
I-Power Website Fee-\$16.99

**2019 River Rat Revelry
From Jacki Gosselin Zevenbergen**

Friends of the Crooked River invite all Keel Haulers to the 2019 River Rat Revelry. Find out where we've been and what's in store for the Cuyahoga River and its friends. Share Cuyahoga cheer with fellow river rats. Light refreshments will be served - bring a dish to share and your own table service.

When: Tuesday, April 16. Doors open at 6:00 p.m., Program begins at 7:00 pm

Where: Lions Lodge, 641 Silver Lake Avenue Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223

Program: The Burning River, A Witness' Eye View - Ed Kelly, Manager, Storm Water Control Services, LLC; The Cuyahoga Falls Kayak Race, Past and Present - Don Howdyshell, Race Organizer; 50th Anniversary, Burning River Events - Peter Bode, West Creek Conservancy

Updates: Canal Diversion Dam, BUI removals, Sewers, Dams, Water Trail, Programs and Projects

Music: The Acoustic Blues of Paul Pira

Light refreshments will be served: Bring a dish to share and your own table service

Contact:

Elaine Marsh 330-666-4026, ohgreenway@gmail.com

Jacki Zevenbergen 330-923-4374, jackizeven@gmail.com

We're also looking for any volunteers who want to help setup/staff/cleanup our booth at the Cuyahoga Falls kayak race. We don't have times yet but please let us know if you're interested. The race is on April 27th. <https://www.cfkayakrace.com>

Many of Us Paddled with Nancy and knew her well...
From Jim Hunt



From AW – Safety page.
TOW TETHER DANGER HIGHLIGHTED BY RECENT ACCIDENT
Posted: 02/25/2019 By Charlie Walbridge

Nancy Kell, a very experienced Mid-States kayaker, died on February 24th after flipping in a Class II rapid on West Virginia's Red Creek. There were a number of strainers in the vicinity above and below the water. One of them snagged her tow tether, pulled her out of her boat, and held her under water. She was with a very experienced crew, but they could not reach her quickly enough. Equipment snags are a real risk. In the light of this accident I strongly urge anyone using a cowtail, pigtail, or tow tether to recheck your setup, and to consider whether wearing a tow tether makes sense. Be certain that your tether releases cleanly at both ends. Do not attach the front carabiner to a non-releasable point, like a pocket or strap. Ms. Kell did this, and it may have been a contributing factor. Apparently, many current rescue PFD designs do not feature a front release point! Do not attach a tether to the rear of your PFD with a non-locking carabiner, as that may inadvertently clip into a rope. The tether should fit very snugly, without sagging, but as the photo shows Ms. Kell did that, and it did not protect her! The harness release should be quick and foolproof. Practice harness releases under pressure before using it on the river. Finally, remember that any additional strap is a potential snag hazard. Ask yourself if the usefulness of a tow tether is worth the risk, especially on small, strainer infested creeks. Carry it in a PFD pocket or dry bag, if necessary. (Jeff Macklin Photo)

Friends of the Cheat Highlights From Matt Fredmonsky

The Keelhaulers support the Friends of the Cheat, who work tirelessly to improve water quality within the Cheat River watershed, which suffers from the after effects of acid mine pollution. Below is an article submitted by FOC that reviews just some of the environmental conservation and remediation work they do. ~Matt



© Kent Mason

Friends of the Cheat is a non-profit organization dedicated to the protecting and promoting the Cheat River watershed. A watershed is an area of land, and everything within that area, that drains to a common point. The Cheat River watershed is long and narrow, stretching out 1,422 square miles from its headwaters near Snowshoe in Pocahontas County, West Virginia to its confluence with the Monongahela River near Point Marion, Pennsylvania, downstream of the dam at Cheat Lake. Friends of the Cheat (FOC) directs the majority of its work towards the lower, northern part of the watershed where acid mine drainage pollution is the watershed's biggest challenge and the Cheat's water quality, natural beauty, and recreational opportunities showcase the watershed's assets.

FOC formed in response to a major acid mine drainage (AMD) pollution event and has focused its resources towards restoring the river from AMD ever since. In the spring of 1994 polluted water from a large, illegally-sealed, underground coal mine poured tens of thousands of gallons of concentrated AMD into Muddy Creek. This massive release of mine water entered the main stem of the Cheat River just upstream of the Cheat Canyon, and turned the river orange for miles leaving a bathtub ring of iron sludge along the rocks. As a result, the river gained national attention for its polluted waters, not epic whitewater. Concerned citizens and stakeholders organized FOC to address the problems resulting from over a century of coal mining.



Lick Run. Photo by Ana.

FOC's Cheat River Restoration program monitors water quality throughout the lower watershed and uses this data to devise restoration strategies and plan AMD treatment systems. FOC works with private landowners and state and Federal agencies to fund and construct remediation systems that restore water quality of impaired streams. FOC also engages with agencies and advocates for river restoration and water quality protections. Through these efforts, the Cheat River main stem, once completely devoid of life, is no longer considered impaired for pH and aquatic communities have returned including pollution-sensitive walleye. Fish can be found throughout the entirety of the river and populations in Cheat Lake show continued growth. In 2016, FOC was showcased as one of the "Faces of Success" in the EPA's National Nonpoint Source Program Report.



Ellie monitoring water quality

FOC is involved in a myriad of recreation and land stewardship projects that build the river's and its community's potential to support outdoor recreation. FOC and its partners share a vision of the Cheat River watershed as an outdoor playground: the area's natural qualities spur economic development and local pride; communities grow new or enhance existing businesses to complement outdoor activities like biking, hiking, and fishing; and area residents further benefit from easy access to affordable and safe exercise options.

FOC is involved in a myriad of recreation and land stewardship projects that build the river and community's potential to support outdoor recreation and reap the benefits from its economic impacts. As West Virginia's first commercially-rafted river, the Cheat River has a legendary reputation for its whitewater. Paddlers come from around the world to participate in the annual Cheat River Massacre'ence, the largest mass start whitewater race on the East coast, which kicks off Cheat River Festival on the first weekend of May. FOC maintains five whitewater

public access points, through our Whitewater Access Campaign, which in 2018 raised over \$10,000. These funds repair critical access roads and improve usability for local and visiting recreationalists. FOC also develops local trails, including the Upper Cheat Water Trail (CRWT), which features nine public access sites along nearly 40 miles of Class I water, from Hendricks to Rowlesburg. In June of 2018, the annual Meet the Cheat events brought over 400 paddlers to the CRWT.

In December of 2018, FOC was awarded an Abandoned Mine Land (AML) Pilot Program grant of over 3 million dollars to build an 8.5 mile rail-trail along the iconic Cheat River as part of its RE-CREATE project. The Cheat River Rail-Trail will follow the Cheat River Narrows, a popular section of the river for whitewater boating, swimming, and fishing. Aimed to stimulate and diversify Preston County's economy and strengthen its communities, our RE-CREATE project, which stands for Reclaiming the Cheat River as an Economic Asset through Trail Enhancement, is a multi-year endeavor that includes the construction of the Cheat River Rail-Trail and funding to implement Trail Town initiatives in Rowlesburg, Kingwood, Albright, and Tunnelton. RE-CREATE will also fund a hiking trail spur, outdoor learning park, and acid mine drainage treatment trials at the Lick Run portals AML site - the #1 source of acid pollution to the Cheat River.

FOC also supports outdoor recreation because positive experiences build appreciation and care for nature. Educating the community and fostering young leaders is important to the watershed and to FOC as an organization seeking to achieve a mission. Through our Education and Outreach program, FOC introduces thousands of people to the Cheat River each year. FOC teaches students of all ages through informal presentations, hands-on learning, and special partnerships ranging from the local 4H camp to large music festivals. Hundreds of college students are exposed to the Cheat River community through service-learning projects such as litter clean ups, water sampling, and trail maintenance. FOC staff educate local service clubs and other lifelong learners throughout the year. FOC's annual fundraiser, the Cheat River Festival, attracts 4000 attendees to the banks of the Cheat river each year - raising nearly 40% of FOC's operating costs. FOC will host the 25th Cheat River Festival on May 4-5, 2019!



Friends of the Cheat

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4/27	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Mark Spang	440-522-0520
4/28	(5) Cheat Canyon Paddle & Race Clinic (WV)	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
May	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
5/3	Cheat Mass-Occurrence Team Race (WV) Online Preregistration-Ends 5/3/19	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
5/3,4,5	Upper Yough (MD) or Big Sandy or Tygart (WV)	32	Needs organizer	
5/3,4,5	25th Cheat Fest Weekend (WV)  Festival Camping & Parking Info Read your options carefully.	18-26	Needs organizer	
5/5	(3) Cheat Narrows (WV)	18	Phil/Jen Raber	740-498-7063
5/TBD	(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

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

APRIL 2019



Keelhauler's Ka-news MAY, 2019



Next Club Meeting - Saturday July 20th
at Tall Oaks Campground Pavilion near Ohiopyle, PA

Program: Picnic in PA

All meetings are open to guests. Invite a prospective member!
Contact Mike Gillam . . . mikegillam61@gmail.com . . . 440-328-5547

President's Message From Mike Gillam



Cheat Fest! StonyCreek Rendezvous! Cuyahoga Falls Race! Potomac Release! Savage release! It is that time of the year. While many have been paddling for 12 months, May is when things really get rolling. If you need someone to paddle with, take a look at the trip schedule or post on the website and/or FaceBook page.

Overall, kayaking is a fairly safe sport. While we can never completely eliminate the danger aspect of our sport, a couple of steps can eliminate some simple things that turn a "nothing" into

something serious (this is the same for climbing, backcountry skiing, etc). While sunny, warm days get us excited to be on the water, please keep in mind the air temperature may be warm, but water temperatures are typically cold. In addition, please make sure your gear is in good condition and functionable. In many outdoor sports, serious accidents often happen to those with experience. Years of "doing this" can lead to a laissez faire attitude, which (in some cases) can lead to making mistakes that could become serious. Read accident reports and see if there are any "takeaways" you can use. I have attached a link to an American Whitewater topic. Hope I didn't sound too much like "dad".

<https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Safety/view/>

While I am still trying to chase winter just a bit longer, here are some of the club happenings:

April 27-28 Cheat Canyon Paddle with Cliff Wire

May 3-5 Cheat Fest (always a great time)

May 11-12 N. Potomac release with Mark Spang. Beautiful paddle, very cold water

May 17-19 StonyCreek Rendezvous with Matt Fredmonsky. Another classic Spring festival.

May 18-19 Lower Yough with Michael Duvall. Great weekend to paddle a day on the Stony and one day on the Yough.

May 25 - StonyCreek with Ashlee/Ethan Kay

May 25-26 N. Potomac release with Cliff Wire

May 26 - Slippery Rock with Ann Corey

June includes more trips to the Yough, New, Cheat, Stonycreek, Cuyahoga River Days, and water permitting, New River Dries release!

<https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Article/view/articleid/34189/display/full/>

https://www.wvgazettemail.com/news/planned-new-river-dries-recreation-enhancements-to-be-completed-by/article_a7a73059-9729-5656-8a51-a7fd9f4d71bb.html

Club Meeting, skip work day, Ladies day, Lower Yough Intro weekend - July 18-21

Get outside and play! Mike

Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Monthly Treasurer's Report
April 25, 2019
By Sam Reynolds

CD 0402 \$2, 301.20

CD 1077 \$2, 298.75

CD'S (2) \$4, 599.95

Checking \$16, 639.55

Total \$21, 239.50

Recent expenditure: Friends of the Cheat-Bull Run Road Repair - \$500.00
approved by Trustees.

**From the Cuyahoga to the Cheakamus and back:
Four Decades of River and Creek-
running in North America
By Andy Gross**

Hello Fellow Paddlers, Hi Keelhaulers-- The most recent issue of American Whitewater journal carries my article, "From the Cuyahoga to..." and it is now available for reading, courtesy of John Kobak putting up this link. In this article I look back on my 40 years paddling, mostly with you in Ohio, PA and WV. It has been truly a fun run all these years. There are so many of you that I should thank by name, but the able AW editor, Ambrose Tuscano, had a word limit. So here is a big THANKS to all (and in the article too!) who advised, assisted, rescued, and especially encouraged me all the way, all of the time. Enjoy!

Cheers and SYOR! Andy

<https://keelhauler.org/images/FourDecadesbyAndy.pdf>



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5/3	Cheat Mass-Occurrence Team Race (WV) Online Preregistration-Ends 5/3/19	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
5/3,4,5	Upper Yough (MD) or Big Sandy or Tygart (WV)	32	Needs organizer	
5/3,4,5	25th Cheat Fest Weekend (WV)  Festival Camping & Parking Info Read your options carefully.	18-26	Needs organizer	
5/5	(3) Cheat Narrows (WV)	18	Phil/Jen Raber	740-498-7063
5/TBD	(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
5/10,17	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
5/11,12	(3) Cheat Narrows (WV) or Casselman (PA)	18	Chris Mockbee	304-914-5546
5/11,12	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Mark Spang	440-522-0520
5/11,12	(5) Intro to the Cheat Canyon (WV)	26	Needs organizer	
5/14,21	(1) Beginner Paddler - NE Ohio Rivers I/II	5-13	Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
5/17-19	(4) Stonycreek Rendezvous (PA) 	21	Matt Fredmonsky	330-289-0388
5/18	28th Annual RiverDay Events Friends of the Crooked River (OH) 		Nichole	216-241-2414 x307
5/18,19	(4) Lower Yough (PA) . Get Your Permit Here	23	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
5/25	(4) Stonycreek River Release one day (PA)	21	Ashlee/Ethan Kay	330-519-5127
5/25,26	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
5/26,27	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
5/26	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Ann Corey	330-858-4841

2019 Club Officers

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VP: John Banach 330-606-5032
Secretary: Michael Duvall 216-513-5921
Treasurer: Sam Reynolds 330-962-5501

Meetings: Approximately 4 meetings per year. Please check website for next meeting time and location.

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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 2019 issue of the newsletter is **5/23/19**. Please send articles and/or pictures to: Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.**

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.
Geneva, IL 60134
peetzaguy@aol.com
MAY 2019



Keelhauler's Ka-news

JUNE, 2019



Next Club Meeting - Saturday July 20th
at Tall Oaks Campground Pavilion near Ohiopyle, PA

Program: Picnic in PA

All meetings are open to guests. Invite a prospective member!
Contact Mike Gillam . . . mikegillam61@gmail.com . . . 440-328-5547

President's Message From Mike Gillam



Paddling season is in full force! Great weather (?), lots of rain, good river levels means that it is time for fun! From all reports, Cheat Fest was another success, with great paddling and music! Stoney Rendezvous had a contingent of Keel Haulers show to socialize and paddle. The weather was interesting (sunny, rainy, cool, warm), water levels were good thanks to Mother Nature, and lots of surfing. Our first beginning paddlers meet on the Cuyahoga was a huge success, with 14 paddlers participating!

We spent a couple of hours working on everything from getting comfortable on the water to ferrying to surfing. Afterwards, we had the obligatory post paddle meeting at the Winking Lizard, with all paddlers showing. Keep checking the website and FB page for any last minute or unscheduled trips. Also, there are TRPC intro paddling trips on Slippery Rock each Tuesday evening and Dave Roush is running Wednesday afternoon on the Slip.

<https://keelhauler.org/khcc/tripschedule.htm#6>

June includes more trips to the Yough, New, Cheat, Stonycreek, Cuyahoga River Days, and water permitting, New River Dries release!

<https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Article/view/articleid/34189/display/full/>
https://www.wvgazettemail.com/news/planned-new-river-dries-recreation-enhancements-to-be-completed-by/article_a7a73059-9729-5656-8a51-a7fd9f4d71bb.html

Club Meeting, skip work day, ladies day, Lower Yough Intro weekend - July 18-21

Also, a reminder if you use Google Calendar, you can click on the (+) on the bottom right of the KH calendar, and the trips will be copied to your personal calendar.

Get outside and play!

Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Monthly Treasurer's Report
May 29, 2019
By Sam Reynolds

CD 0402	\$2, 301.86
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 299.41</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 601.27
Checking	<u>\$16, 679.55</u>
Total	<u>\$21, 280.82</u>

Recent Board approved expenditure: Trustees approved \$269.64 for a three-year renewal of website by IPowerPro Hosting.

**Happy Mother's Day
By Dave Roush**

This is a little off the water, but related. Sam Reynolds, the Blackwoods, and I were paddling the Stony in the Johnstown area. Now, if you don't know that area is a little depressed (e.g. I bought a tuna wrap and two bananas for \$2.80). We went to breakfast on Mother's Day eve. While eating breakfast, I noticed a woman with three kids under five also eating in the restaurant. I asked the waitress to give me their bill and not tell the woman who picked up the tab. I was feeling rather good about the gesture until Sam pointed out that the woman was loading the kids into a Cadillac Escalade!

**Friends of the Crooked River
By Jacki Zevenbergen**

Dear members,

We have been invited to set up informational tables at the Kent Torch Fest and Cuyahoga River Homecoming. If you can help us set up, clean up or staff the table, please let me know.

Kent Torch Fest

Thursday, June 20th

Event time: 4pm-7pm

Set-up time: 3pm-4pm

Location: Main Street Bridge (Downtown Kent)

This event is part of the regional Xtinguish Torch Festival series <https://xtinguishcelebration.com> and is scheduled for Thursday, June 20, 2019 in downtown Kent. Beginning at 4:00pm the festival will include art installations, food trucks, and live music with musical acts such as Alex Bevan and the Chardon Polka Band. A 'Passing of the Torch' ceremony will begin at 6:00pm in Heritage Park and culminate with the unveiling and dedication of a commemorative relief as well as highlight the Cuyahoga River as a national Water Trail!

Join 30+ organizations and agencies for a fun-filled environmental event with hands-on activities, information, and giveaways! See more information below on opportunities for tabling.

The purpose of this event is to: 1) increase community awareness of the Cuyahoga River and environmental conservation 2) engage the community in educational activities and 3) inspire the community to take action to preserve the Cuyahoga River and participate in other environmental programs and movements.

**Cuyahoga River Homecoming
Friday, June 21st**

Event time: 10am-3pm

Set-up time: 9am-10am

Location: Cascade Valley Metro Park, Chuckery Area

The Cuyahoga River Homecoming showcases the environmental progress over time for the Cuyahoga River and surrounding tributaries as well as education about the waterways and environment. This is a family event and will have a special area just for kids called Eco's Enviro Party that is filled with hands-on activities and a visit from our mascot, Eco!

This year rain barrel vouchers will be handed out at the Cuyahoga River Homecoming as well as vouchers for tree giveaways! The rain barrels and trees will be on a first come, first serve basis and those receiving one must have an Akron zip code. Pick-up location of the barrels is still to be determined and updates will be posted.

Exhibits at the Cuyahoga River Homecoming include an augmented reality sandbox, fishing and kayaking demonstrations, the book mobile, and the passing of the torch which is part of the Xtinguish Torch Fest.

Parking for the event will be available at the Oxbow lot at Cascade Valley Metro Park. Community Centers will be used for bus pick-up to the event and parking. Community Centers include: North West, Patterson Park, Joy Park, Firestone Park, Ellet, and Summit Lake.

Handicap parking is available at the Chuckery Area.

Thanks!

Jacki Zevenbergen, FoCR Secretary, jackizeven@gmail.com

2019 Trip Schedule

Please review we NEED TRIP MORE ORGANIZERS. PLEASE HELP!

[2019 Trip Schedule](#)

Contact Mike Gillam . . . mikegillam61@gmail.com 440-328-5547

June	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
6/1,2	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Get Permit	23	Needs organizer	
6/1	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
6/1	(5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release	26	Needs organizer	
6/1,2	TRPC Slippery Rock Clinic Application Membership in KHCC or TRPC REQUIRED Registration ends when the classes are filled or May 20	13-21	Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
6/1,2	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Dave Roush	440-623-9035
6/4,8,15,29	(1) Beginner Paddler - NE Ohio Rivers I/II	5-13	Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
6/7 or 14	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
6/8	(1) Cuyahoga River, Peninsula to Boston Mills (OH)	SK/FW	Ann Corey	330-858-4841
6/8,9	(5) Cheat Canyon (WV)	26	Anne Kmieck	216-536-1905
6/15,16	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Get Permit	23	April Hollis	703-915-6382
6/15,16	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12	Jim Sollosi	412-496-8672
6/15,16	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Domenic Bentz	419-618-8266
6/15,16	(5) New River (WV)	27	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
6/20	50th anniv of the Cuyahoga River fire (OH) Kent portion of the commemoration with kayakers coming down the river to pass the torch	FW/SK	Matt Fredmonsky	330-289-0388
6/21,22	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Bill Warble	412-651-0112
6/22,23	Swiftwater Rescue Clinic (WV) More Information Limited to 10, Register early.		John Zevenbergen	330-923-4374
6/22,23	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
6/28,29	Upper Yough (MD) or another local IV-V run	32	Jim Murtha	614-282-3293
6/29,30	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Domenic Bentz	419-618-8266
6/29,30	(5) New River Dries Scheduled Release (WV) As long as the Thurmond Gauge is between 3,800cfs and 12,500cfs	32	Needs organizer	
6/29	Black Fork River Canoe & Kayak Race (OH) 	SK/FW	Walt Markwell	330-807-6337
6/28-7/8	(5) Week of rivers with Carolina Canoe Club	20-28	Needs organizer	

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Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the JULY 2019 issue of the newsletter is 6/23/19. Please send articles and/or pictures to: Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.
Geneva, IL 60134
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JUNE 2019



Keelhauler's

Ka-news

JULY, 2019



Next Club Meeting - Saturday July 20th

at Tall Oaks Campground Pavilion near Ohiopyle, PA

Tall Oaks is at 544 Camp Riamo Road, Farmington PA 15437

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 held on Saturday, July 20th. 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 and if water is high the Casselman 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.

- A-F - Potato/Pasta Salad
- G-L - Salad/Vegetable or Baked Beans
- M-S - Chips or Appetizer
- T-Z - Dessert or Fruit

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

- [Jim Hunt](#) 330-335-5203 is the Skip Work Day organizer on the Lower Yough Thursday 7/18
- [Debbie Avallone](#) 440-835-2547 is the Ladies Only Day organizer on the Lower Yough Friday 7/19
- [??](#) No one is listed as the Upper Yough trip organizer for Friday/Saturday 7/19,20
- [Fran Hoven](#) 216-375-3718 is the Lower Yough trip organizer for Saturday & Sunday 7/20,21
- [?? ??](#) ?? is the Middle Yough trip organizer for Saturday & Sunday 7/20,21

More details to follow on our Message Board or Facebook Page.

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

President's Message From Mike Gillam



Wait? It is July already? With June floating by (see what I did there) and the weather starting to get summer like, it is time for Annual Lower Yough Picnic/Skip Work/Ladies Only/Intro Weekend! July 18-21 are the dates for these festivities. If you plan on attending one of the paddle days, please contact the organizer of that day. For newer paddlers, this is a great weekend to get on the Yough with a number of experienced boaters. If you have any questions about the river or abilities, please contact me. I am fully expecting a great weekend full of sunshine and good water levels, as it appears the the East coast has already had our annual allotted rain. On Saturday, we will have our cookout at Tall Oaks Campground pavilion. As in past years, this is a potluck dinner, the club will provide burgers, dogs, pop. plates and utensils, and members are asked to bring a side dish following these guidelines:

A-F - Potato/Pasta Salad

G-L - Salad/Vegetable or Baked Beans

M-S - Chips or Appetizer

T-Z - Dessert or Fruit

If there are any updates/changes to this weekend, they will be posted on the website and FB page.

I would also like to thank Matt Fredmonsky who organized the paddle for the Cuyahoga Torch Ceremony for the Kent section. While water levels kept many of the paddlers out of the paddle (good decisions), it was a great event celebrating a remarkable environmental clean up and transformation of the Cuyahoga River. Part of this transformation has been increased recreation on all parts of the river. As many of you have seen over the last couple of weeks, this recreating has brought many people to kayaking, many who are not experienced on swift water. I think the Kent fire department is up to about 15 rescues this week, high, swift water and strainers mixed with innertubes, rec boats, and inexperience has led to a daily report of rescues. Education is the key to making sure people are safe. While we don't want to appear a "know it all", if you see someone who looks like they may be getting in way over their head, say something. Explaining that their rec kayak is not designed for the conditions, that a tree is across the river downstream, will hopefully

get them to think twice about paddling. It is great seeing all of the fishermen, paddlers, tubers, all using our local rivers, and the safer we all are, the more positive perception we get, which will lead to more access and being welcomed by others (insert communities, park systems, private landowners, etc..). John Kobak was interviewed by Kent State radio about the Cuyahoga and I have included a link to the article and interview <https://www.wksu.org/post/15-rescued-cuyahoga-river-last-week> Thanks John for being a great representative of the KeelHaulers!

Membership Special!
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 Save 50%. So instead of \$20/membership for 2019, they pay only \$10

Now the real bargain

If they also pay for 2020,
Instead of a \$40/membership for 2019-20 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 2020 dues now, no need for an application.

Just click to:
Pay your 2020 Dues

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

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

User Name: "**dir**" and the current 2019 password can be found on Pg. 20 of our 2019 yearbook or see the passwords sent out in our monthly e-mail.

Remember all 2019 memberships **expire on Oct 1, 2019**, and it makes it much easier for me if you pay on-time.

**Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Monthly Treasurer's Report
June 26, 2019
By Sam Reynolds**

CD 0402	\$2, 302.54
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 300.09</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 602.63
Checking	<u>\$16, 486.95</u>
Total	<u>\$21, 089.58</u>

Recent Board approved expenditure: Trustees approved \$269.64 for a three-year renewal of website by IPowerPro Hosting. Paid on 6/17/19.

**Sad News.....
By Philip Thorne and from John Kobak**

Just wanted you all to know that Long time member of the Keel Haulers canoe club passed away. Hayden Thorne died peacefully at 2:20 pm 5/29 surrounded by his family. Some of my greatest memories of my father Hayden was on the rivers in Ohio & Pennsylvania. Thank you for all the wonderful years of memories ... by the way I believe my father only missed a few years of The Vermillion river race. He was a contestant or a volunteer at almost every one of them. He was there for the 1st race and the last race.



A Hoot on the Hooch
By Sabine Iben, Beth Koller,
and Terry Markoff

BLUE RIDGE VOYAGEURS Newsletter **MAY 2019**

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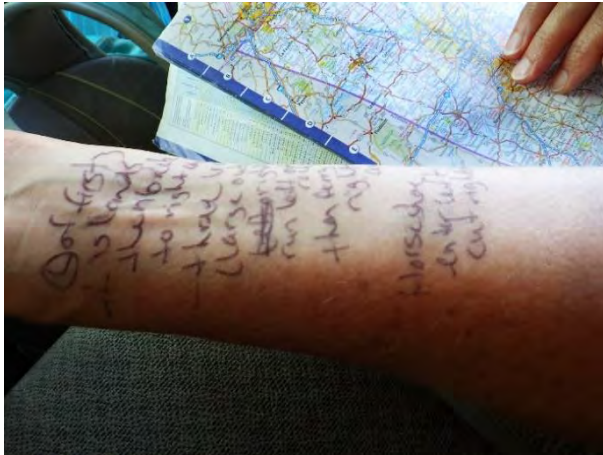
There had been a lot of rain just prior to the Carolina Week of Rivers over the Fourth of July. So much rain that water had flowed through the bath houses and the camping fields were squishy. The water opened up some new possibilities, but, as the week progressed and the water dropped, we were searching for something new. We had heard something about a run called the Chattahoochee in Georgia. If nothing else, the name sounded pretty interesting. Several of us had been hoping that someone would step up and co-ordinate a trip. No takers. Finally after a few days, Beth agreed to take on the challenge if we could get some logistical information. Soon thereafter Terry (from Keelhaulers) said that he was going to the exact same thing when Beth announced a trip. As can be seen, we implemented a new version of the "Palm Pilot". No need for paper when you have an arm. So "armed" with directions, we headed south. Only Terri Bsullak and Ronnie Tucker from the Coastals had run the river. We made our way to the put-in and arranged for a shuttle with Wildwood Outfitters, who were located at the take-out. <http://wildwoodoutfitters.com/more/upper-chattahoochee-river-water-trail/>.

It was sunny and hot when we put on so we were anxious to get on this Class 2-3 run. The run like many in the South is primarily a series of ledges-some of which traverse the entire width of the river; others which go only part way across. This required some quick boat scouting because there could be multiple routes or only a single route in any given rapids, and one might need to run the subsequent ledge on the opposite side of the river.

By the time we took a brief lunch and surfing break and did some boat switching near Buck Shoals State Park, the clouds were moving in. At first there was intermittent rain. We were already wet so we played our way down the run. Then we started hearing a droning noise. It sounded like traffic. It was actually distant thunder. Soon the skies opened up. As we approached the take-out and the very elevated highway bridge, we could see water streaming out of the run-off drains a hundred plus feet above. Lisa was brave enough to let herself be pelted by the rain and run-off. The next challenge was the take-out. The steps were made from railroad ties, but water was cascading down the steps as if they were rapids. We needed to get Terri out of her inflatable and up those stairs. A straight carry was not possible with the treacherous footing. So we transferred her to a hard boat and pulled her up. We loaded the boats in the rain. Just as we finished, the rain stopped.

The next task was dinner. Barbeque and Mexican were high on people's wish lists. Sabine had checked out a number of possibilities. Ah, the virtues of a smart phone! The nearest opportunities were disappeared-being closed or hard to find. By the time we were driving past Mountain Man Barbeque, north of Dillard, there was a chorus to stop. Finally, we arrived at the highly rated Lupita's. It did have a wide range of entrees-including mole sauce items, mmmm! It did, however,

lack a liquor license. Sabine was so sad that a margarita was not in her future that evening. Nonetheless, the run on the Upper Chattahoochee was fun, and the trip was worth the drive.



The extended "Palm Pilot", the Arm Pilot!



Terry focused on the next pitch



Terri making waves in her inflatable kayak



Ronnie relaxed in his IK



Sabine leading her daughter down



Lisa in complete control, no problem!



Some of the flowing pools between rapids



Terry in a wave train



Some play action at lunch



Precision boating by a physicist



Surf city for Sabine



Switching an IK for Terry's C-1



Terri licking her chops as she picks a line



Bill goes boldly



Pelted by the rain as we near the take-out



Water from the bridge cascades onto Lisa



Water cascading down the railroad tie stairs



Water everywhere; treacherous footing



Terri being pulled up the the stairs



Alas, no margaritas!!!!

The French Broad: A Fun Plan B—Beth Koller with input from Steve Ingalls

The plan was to do another run of the Toe, which had been run earlier in the week. After passing through Ashville, we made a stop at the local grocery store chain, Ingles, for gas, snacks, etc. During a final river level check, it was found that the Toe gauge was going up-straight up!!!. Time for plan B. Lisa Haskell (Atlanta) and Lee Belknap (Ashville) put their heads together and determined that a less commonly run section on the French Broad, Section 6 (put-in at Woodfin; Ledges Whitewater Park), was the best option for the group and circumstances. The river was wide and had plenty of ledges with varying routes and lots of water. There was some debris on the river—especially near midstream rock islands/rock piles. There were cables and plastic webbing and even a seating for what might have been a blind. We took a lunch break near some ruins. Some folks switched boats. Of course, there was more rain—especially as we approached the very high volume drop on river left as one went under a high bridge. We topped off the day with dinner at Kostas Family Restaurant in Dillsboro, NC.



Anne (Keelhauers) heads to an eddy



The queen of eddy moves & surfs



Zig-zagging wave trains



Just another ledge



Michelle hits a big wave



Lee (CCC) in his trusty Dancer



Follow the leader: 1, 2, 3,...



One of many surfs



Virginia (BRV) documents the action



Time-out at one of the rock islands



Group eddy out before the next drops



Steve (Keelhaulers) cross-strokes



Lee et al. take a break before the real rain



Virginia assesses the skies



Lisa (Atlanta) leads us rain or shine



A river right ruins



Time for river chatter



Kim & Michelle switching boats in the rain



More boat swapping. Why not? Short run.



We're already wet; let's boat!



Raindrops keep falling on my head...



Big ferry from the huge river left waves

Friends of the Crooked River Event From Jacki Zevenbergen

Dear Keelhaulers,

You're invited! Here are the major points:

- Saturday, August 10th
- Camp Hi Canoe Livery in Hiram
- "Doors" open at 2 pm so you can find a spot to set your stuff in the pavilion and/or play some yard games and visit
- The short, optional paddle starts at 3 pm
- Contact Camp Hi if you need to reserve a canoe or kayak
- Dinner between 5 and 6
- We provide hot dogs, bring a dish to share
- Bring your own table service and beverages

RSVP or questions to Jacki Zevenbergen at jackizeven@gmail.com

2019 Trip Schedule

Please review as we NEED TRIP MORE ORGANIZERS. There are a lot of trips in red. PLEASE volunteer to lead one.

[2019 Trip Schedule](#)

Contact Mike Gillam . . . mikegillam61@gmail.com . . . 440-328-5547

July	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
7/5,6	Upper Yough (MD) or another local IV-V run	32	Jim Murtha	614-282-3293
7/6,7	(5) New River Dries Scheduled Release (WV) As long as the Thurmond Gauge is between 3,800cfs and 12,500cfs	32	Needs organizer	
7/7	(5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release	26	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
7/12,13	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
7/13	(3) Intro to Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
7/13	Headwater Adventure Race in Mantua Village (OH) Run, Bike & Paddle 	SK/FW	Kristi Kato	440-231-2311
7/13,14	(5) New River Dries Scheduled Release (WV) As long as the Thurmond Gauge is between 3,800cfs and 12,500cfs	32	Needs organizer	
7/14	Canoe & Kayak Orienteering Race Mogadore Reservoir 	SK/FW	Bob Boltz	330-928-8635
7/18	(4) Lower Yough - Skip Work Day (PA) Get Permit	23	Jim Hunt	330-335-5203
7/19	(4) Lower Yough - Ladies Only Day (PA) Get Permit	23	Debbie Avallone	440-835-2547
7/19,20	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
7/20	Club Picnic at Tall Oaks (PA)		Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
7/20,21	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Intro weekend - Call Fran for Permit	23	Fran Hoven	216-375-3718
7/20,21	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12	Needs organizer	
7/20	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
7/26,27	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: Prizes and party at Wilderness Voyageurs following the event	32	Needs organizer	
7/27,28	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Get your own Permit	23	Needs organizer	
7/27,28	(5) New River (WV)	26	Needs organizer	

2019 Club Officers

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Secretary: Michael Duvall 216-513-5921
Treasurer: Sam Reynolds 330-962-5501

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Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **AUGUST 2019 issue of the newsletter is **7/23/19**. Please send articles and/or pictures to: Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com. We love pictures, but please use the following picture help: <https://www.keelhauler.org/khnews/#pics>**

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

JULY 2019



Keelhauler's Ka-news AUGUST, 2019



Next Club Meeting - To be announced...

More details to follow on our Message Board or Facebook Page.
Meeting Questions? - Call 330-606-5032 or e-mail - [Mike Gillam](#)

Special KHCC Membership Prices are Now Available From John Kobak

It's near the end of our 2019 membership year.
Tell your friends if they can join now and save 35%.
Instead of a \$40/membership for both 2019-20 they pay only **\$26**

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

User Name: "**dir**" and the current 2019 password can be found on Pg. 20 of our 2019 yearbook or see the password sent out in our monthly e-mail.

**Meeting Minutes from July 20, 2019
From Michael Duvall**

Meeting held at Tall Oaks Campground July 20, 2019

Meeting called to order by President Mike Gillam after the potluck dinner with burgers and hot dogs were provided by the club. Around 35-40 in attendance.

Mike brought up a proposal from Allison Gillam to assist her school's outdoor program with a donation.

After discussion of previous donation to local school system and that this request was for Flagstaff school, motion was defeated.

The topic of Swift Water Training by a certified instructor was discussed. The general feeling was that the club could use a course in addition to that provided by Charlie Walbridge. Cost and club subsidizing to be determined at a later date.

Meeting was adjourned.

**Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Monthly Treasurer's Report
July 24, 2019
From Sam Reynolds**

CD 0402 \$2, 303.20

CD 1077 \$2, 300.76

CD'S (2) \$4, 603.96

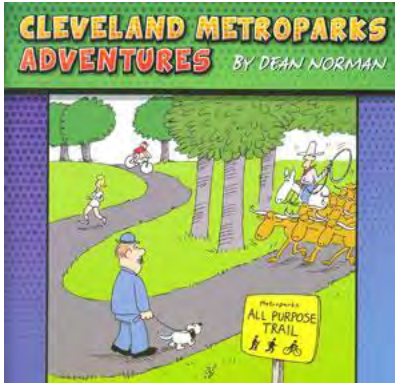
Checking \$16, 744.79

Total \$21, 348.75

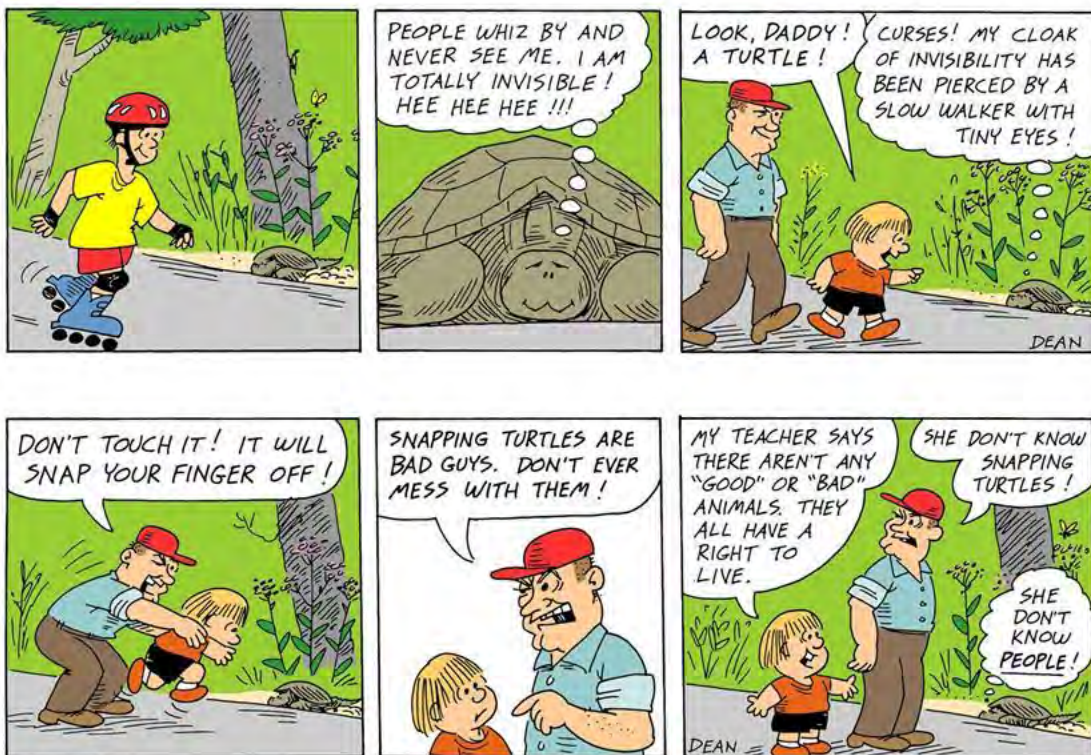
CLEVELAND METROPARKS ADVENTURES

By Dean Norman reported by John Kobak

I just saw this new book at our Metro Parks Visitor center, written and illustrated by our long time member and artist Dean Norman and it is only \$5.



CLEVELAND METROPARKS ADVENTURES is a collection of cartoon stories inspired by 52 years of visits to the park. Some true stories, some mostly true, some partly true. 40 pages plus cover, sold at all Metroparks nature shops, \$5.00.



Hand of God

By Dave Roush

Had a unique experience a few weeks ago. Several of us were paddling the Stoney including Jackie and Alan Blackwood. At pipeline, we tried to get into a very small eddy on river left, mid-rapid. Too many tried to get into the eddy. I slipped out of the back door backwards, flipped, got beat up, and eventually swam. Ultimately, I broached on a rock about 12 inches under water. I see Alan trying to paddle upstream screaming about Jackie. I turn around and see her boat upside down pinned against another rock. I dive from my rock to her boat. I see she is still in her boat and see her mouth just above water level (she looked like a guppy gulping air). I perform a hand of God rescue. She comes right up, never coming out of her boat. First Hand of God rescue I ever did as a swimmer!

Ladies Day 2019

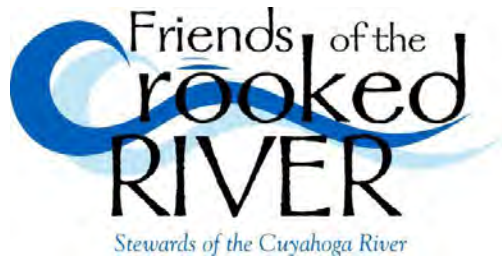
By Debbie Avallone

It was a perfect sunny day. With the temps near 90', there was no better place to be. Nine ladies paddled LY just under 3ft. We made a whole day of it. Mary Ann, our newest boater, learned that "Paddle like a girl" is the highest form of praise. Karen P. lead us in beach yoga after lunch, we played at Swimmers Rapid then had the whole bus to ourselves on the way out. Poor Jack.

There was one little 'incident'. Somebody, we suspect we know, left some light-hearted graffiti in the sand at Railroad Beach. No worries. It was easily scrapped away. The next day the password for the ride out of Cheat Canyon was "Girls Rule, Boys Drool!"

Can't wait for next year.

**Friends of the Crooked River Event
From Jacki Zevenbergen**



2019 Paddle & Picnic

Our Summer Member (and friends) Gathering

When: Saturday, August 10th at 2 p.m.

Games begin at 2 pm; Paddle begins at 3 pm; Dinner served between 5 and 6. Share Cuyahoga cheer with fellow river rats until dusk! Join us for all or any part of the day.

Where: Camp Hi Canoe & Kayak Livery

12274 Abbott Road, Hiram, Ohio 44234

Paddle: 2 mile beginner paddle with shuttle, \$15 per person for a canoe or kayak. Small children sitting between 2 paying adults will be free, shuttle only \$7.50 (ask for details).

Contact Camp Hi at 330-569-7621 to reserve and pay for canoeing or kayaking

Dinner: FoCR will provide hot dogs & a cooler of ice water. We will be in a pavilion next to the river.

Bring: Beverages (adult beverages are OK), and a side, snacks or dessert to share. Help us conserve resources - bring table service and a water bottle or travel cup. A change of clothes is recommended.

For more information contact: Jacki Zevenbergen, 330.923.4374, jackizeven@gmail.com

www.cuyahogariver.net

Go to <https://forms.gle/XC7HkpnxczE2BAx88> to RSVP

2019 Trip Schedule

Please review as we NEED TRIP MORE ORGANIZERS. There are a lot of trips in red. PLEASE volunteer to lead one.

2019 Trip Schedule

Contact Mike Gillam . . . mikegillam61@gmail.com 440-328-5547

August	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
8/2,3	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
8/2,3	(4) TRPC Turkey Bash at Lower Yough Turkey Bash 2019 Info & Forms KHCC members same as TRPC Application Deadline: July 24, 2019 Camping at Benner's Meadow Camping & Cabins	23	Bruce McClellan	412-519-7459
8/3	Black Fork River Canoe & Kayak Race (OH)  Race Flyer	SK/FW	Walt Markwell	330-807-6337
8/9,10	Upper Yough (MD) Town will be closed to traffic around 11:45 AM for parade - Early Shuttle 39th Annual Friendsville Days Fri 5:30-10:00 PM, Sat 12-10 PM.	32	Annelies Layton	412-867-9628
8/10	FOCR Picnic at Camp Hi (OH) Starts at 2 PM, Dinner between 5 & 6 PM		Jacki Zevenbergen	330-923-4374
8/10,11,24,25	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Needs organizer	
8/16,17,23,24	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
8/17,18	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Get Permit	23	Dave Roush	440-623-9035
8/17,18	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Mark Spang	440-522-0520
8/30,31,9/2	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Jim Murtha	614-282-3293

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AUGUST 2019



Keelhauler's Ka-news SEPTEMBER, 2019



**Next Club Meeting - October 8th
Cuyahoga Falls Library, 6:30-8:30pm**

More details to follow on our Message Board or Facebook Page.

Meeting Questions? - Call 440-328-5547 or e-mail - [Mike Gillam](#)

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

President's Message From Mike Gillam



As the paddling season enters the end of summer and beginning of fall, that can mean only one thing, Gauley Season! Get ready for the big water by taking advantage of trips being lead on the New River River, Lower Yough, Upper Yough and Stoney releases. Gauley Fest is one of those "off river" paddling experiences that one needs to experience at least

once...<https://vimeo.com/234488093>. The Labor Day weekend New River trip is an excellent big water warmup...

A little throwback to last month's picnic, since the date change from August to July seems to have had an effect on the attendance, we will be moving the picnic back to August next year. There have been some requests to look at other campgrounds, Benner's being one that is mentioned as an alternative. Once a decision on location and date has been made, it will be posted online and in the newsletter.

Our October meeting is scheduled for October 8, at the Cuyahoga Falls library, 6:30-8:30. If anything changes, the club website and FB will have details. The agenda will be posted as we get closer to the 8th. Speaking of October, this is a good time to start checking your dry gear, colder weather will be here before you know it!

We do have openings for the following club positions: Trustee, Treasurer, and Yearbook Editor. If you are interested, please send me an email at mikegillam61@gmail.com

<https://keelhauler.org/khcc/tripschedule.htm#9>

Get outside and play!

**Special KHCC Membership Prices are Now Available
From John Kobak**

It's near the end of our 2019 membership year. Tell your friends if they can join now and save 35%. Instead of a \$40/membership for both 2019-20 they pay only **\$26**

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User Name: "**dir**" and the current 2019 password can be found on Pg. 20 of our 2019 yearbook or see the password sent out in our monthly e-mail.

**Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Monthly Treasurer's Report
August 30, 2019
From Sam Reynolds**

CD 0402 \$2, 303.89

CD 1077 \$2, 301.44

CD'S (2) \$4, 605.33

Checking \$16, 933.05

Total \$21, 538.38

**Ladies Day Pictures 2019
From Sabine Iben**



Jen Raber



Karen Petit



Annika Markoff and Karen Petit



Yoga on the beach



Annika Markoff and Theresa Pitt



*Front: Jen Raber, Debbie Avallone, Jackie Simpson, and Karen Petit.
Back: Annika Markoff, Theresa Pitt, MaryAnn Roberts, Sabine Iben, and Pam Poljak.*

2019 Trip Schedule

Please review as we NEED TRIP MORE ORGANIZERS.

*There are a lot of trips in **red**. PLEASE volunteer to lead one.*

2019 Trip Schedule

Contact Mike Gillam . . . mikegillam61@gmail.com 440-328-5547

September	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Time to Pay Dues	
8/31,9/1,2	(5) New River Gorge (WV)	27	Phil/Jen Raber	330-827-7063
9/6,7,13,14,20,27	Upper Yough (MD)	32	<u>Needs organizer</u>	
9/7,8	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Phil & Jen Raber	330-827-7063
9/7,8	Upper Gauley (WV)	33	<u>Needs organizer</u>	
9/7,8,21,22	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	<u>Needs organizer</u>	
9/14,15	(4) Lower Yough(PA) Get Permit	23	Chuck McDowell	330-477-1086
9/15	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Steve Ingalls	216-371-8250
9/19-22	Lower & Upper Gauley (Festival Weekend) (WV)	27-33	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
9/21,22,28,29	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	<u>Needs organizer</u>	
9/21,22,28,29	(5) Upper Gauley (WV)	27-33	<u>Needs organizer</u>	
9/28	(5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release	26	<u>Needs organizer</u>	
October	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Time to Pay Dues	
10/4 - 7	(5) Lower Gauley & Upper Gauley (WV) Camping at Battle Run	27-33	Hugh Barrow	864-680-2529
10/4,5	Upper Yough (MD) Last Saturday Release	32	<u>Needs organizer</u>	
10/5,6	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Anne Kmieck	216-536-1905
10/8	Club Annual Election Meeting TBD Location		Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
10/11	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
10/12,13	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Fall Color Trip Get Permit	23	Dave Roush	440-623-9035
10/12,13	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	<u>Needs organizer</u>	
10/12,13	(5) Lower Gauley & Upper Gauley (WV)	27-33	<u>Needs organizer</u>	
10/19,20	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	John Banach	330-606-5032
November	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Pay Dues Now	
11/2	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-21	<u>Needs organizer</u>	
11/9,10	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	<u>Needs organizer</u>	
11/30	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-21	<u>Needs organizer</u>	

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Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.
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SEPTEMBER 2019



Keelhauler's

Ka-news

OCTOBER, 2019



Change of Meeting Date

Next Club Meeting: Wednesday, October 9th

Doors open at 6:00pm, Meeting at 7:00-8:30pm
at Cuyahoga Falls Public Library, Chambers room.

Annual election meeting

2015 3rd Street, Cuyahoga Falls, OH

Parking between 2nd and 3rd Street. Use Exit 5 from SR8

These are the nominations by the board that will be voted on at the October meeting, nominations from the floor will be accepted.

President - Mike Gillam
VP - John Banach
Treasurer- Kelly Miller
Secretary - Michael Duvall
Trustee 1 - Steve Ingalls 2019-2020
Trustee 2 - Matt Fredmonsky 2020-2022
Trustee 3 - Jeremiah Richard 2020-2021

All meetings are open to guests. Invite a prospective member!
Meeting Questions? - Call 440-328-5547 or e-mail - [Mike Gillam](mailto:mike.gillam@keelhaulers.com)

President's Message From Mike Gillam

Gauley Fest weekend, October is a little over a week away, and the leaves are starting to fall. Where does the time go? This paddling season has been one of good water levels (sometimes too good), great weather (rain makes for good paddling days, not so much for mountain biking), and many new paddlers! Shoulder season paddling has always been my favorite times, crowds are gone, sunny

days (sometimes), cooler temps, changing leaves, makes days on the water a completely different experience from summer days. With the proper gear, winter paddling is its own experience, and is highly recommended.

With our October club meeting the 9th, I wanted to review some of our goals from last year, and some challenges I see for next year. If you remember the survey that was sent to all members, the results showed priorities in the following areas:

Swift Water Rescue

Intermediate Paddler Instruction (creeking, slicey boat, etc)

Beginning Paddlers

Flat Water

We have scheduled a SWR for June, on the Slip. More information will be coming throughout the winter, but H2O Dreams will be conducting this 2.5 day clinic. More details to his boat based rescue program can be found at <https://www.h2odreams.com/product/common-sense-rescue/?date=2019-10-18>

Beginning paddling trips were much more popular than I could have imagined. Starting on the Cuyahoga, we had 10-15 paddlers, ranging in skills from only being in a kayak a couple of times, to "tried" the Slip. It didn't take long before many were paddling the Cuyahoga in their own groups, and their time on the water was evident when trips were taken to Slippery Rock. Many started running the evening trips with TRPC, and by the end of the year, many of these paddlers were regularly boating both sections of the Slip, the Lower Yough, and others. Intermediate paddler instruction and flatwater trips need to be more of a focus for this coming year.

Tentative Agenda October Meeting

Committees and Chairs

Discussion of priorities for 2020 - what/how should we focus on

SWR Clinic - cost discussion

New Website - (I let this fall through the cracks) schedule a time for group to review

Decision making - how and by whom are club decisions made?

Post meeting refreshments?

It is that time again...
From John Kobak

All club memberships ended on **October 1st**. As soon as you can, please pay your **2020** 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 before the end of the month. It doesn't matter when you originally paid your club dues; all memberships expired on September 30th.

You can pay \$20 using Paypal to save yourself time & postage. Use this link to pay:
<http://keelhauler.org/EZPay20.htm>

Please you Paypal if you can, or just mail your check to:

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

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 2019 password found on Pg. 20 of our 2019 yearbook or see the passwords sent out in our monthly e-mail. The monthly e-mail also shows if you have already paid for 2020. 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>
In 2019 our club had 294 paid memberships, which was 25 less than 2018. We have seen no loss in people coming on trips, please pay your dues now for 2020.

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 that you are an Affiliate Club Member. <https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Membership/join-aw>

**Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Monthly Treasurer's Report
September 22, 2019
From Sam Reynolds**

CD 0402	\$2,304.57
CD 1077	<u>\$2,302.12</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4,606.69
Checking	<u>\$17,033.05</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$21,639.74</u>

According to our By-Laws, this is my final report as Keel-Hauler Treasurer. Thank you for your support and for the support and confidence that you extended to me as Treasurer over the past four years. It was a privilege to serve and to help a little. We have an outstanding club, and over the years I have had the opportunity to meet and paddle with many of you. I am grateful. Thanks again. Sam

Rivers.run From Dave Roush

The Keelhaulers website is now linking to <https://rivers.run/> You can see it by going to <https://www.keelhauler.org/>, select tab river levels and then go to WV, MD, PA rivers today. John Kobak, the webmaster, has switched out the old link and replaced it with this one.

It would be great if someone more technology savvy than me could assemble ideas for things Keelhaulers would like and assemble it for the developer, who has offered to consider changes we suggest. I think it is a pretty nice site. [Dave Roush](#)



rivers.run

The Go-To site for Paddling and River information!

[River information](#) from paddling community experts and locals!

Rivers, Sections, Difficulty, Ratings, GPS Coordinates, Flow Information, and More!

Search and sort tools to make planning easy!

Popular [river lists](#) for areas and clubs!

Offline support for when you need it most!

Questions? Check the [FAQ](#)

Questions? Check the FAQ

Under FAQs:

If you would like to add a new river, please fill out the writeup maker to the best of your ability, then press the copy output to clipboard button, and send the output in an email to support@rivers.run. If you would like access to add and edit rivers yourself, please email admin@rivers.run.

Regional paddling clubs and their experts provide a wealth of river information. This page consolidates local and regional rivers and expertise. The more expertise, the better. If you are interested in adding your local expertise to river write-ups, or adding an events and regional summary, please email contact@rivers.run

The lists are maintained using rivers.run tag capabilities. There are a number of tags already in place (CCCWOR, CCCSPRING, WVWOR), that work in conjunction with free form search the rivers. To take full advantage of any search result, you can hit the skill arrow to sort by difficulty, or the

flow arrow to get a consolidated view of what is running. Click on any river to see the river write-up and the most current river gauge information.

You can use the Feedback Form, or you can email at contact@rivers.run

Code for the rivers run app is now posted to get hub here it is.

<https://github.com/ecc521/rivers.run?>

2019 Trip Schedule

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*There are a lot of trips in **red**. PLEASE volunteer to lead one.*

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10/5,6	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Anne Kmieck	216-536-1905
10/9 Wednesday	Club Annual Election Meeting -Cuyahoga Falls Library		Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
10/11	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
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10/12,13	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Needs organizer	
10/12,13	(5) Lower Gauley & Upper Gauley (WV)	27-33	Needs organizer	
10/19,20	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	John Banach	330-606-5032
November	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Pay Dues Now	
11/2	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
11/9,10	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Needs organizer	
11/30	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
December	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Last Chance to Pay Dues	
12/10	Club Holiday Party at Hines Hill Map		Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
January	2020			
1/1	New Year's Day paddle on the (4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Needs organizer	

2019 Club Officers

President: Mike Gillam 440-328-5547
VP: John Banach 330-606-5032
Secretary: Michael Duvall 216-513-5921
Treasurer: Sam Reynolds 330-962-5501

Meetings: Approximately 4 meetings per year. Please check website for next meeting time and location.

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

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

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Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the November 2019 issue of the newsletter is 10/21/19. Please send articles and/or pictures to: Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.
Geneva, IL 60134
peetzaguy@aol.com
OCTOBER 2019



Keelhauler's Ka-news



NOVEMBER, 2019



Next Club Meeting: Tuesday, December 10th

A Holiday Potluck party at Hines Hill Conference Center

**Located at 1403 West Hines Hill Road, Peninsula, OH 44264
in Cuyahoga Valley National Park**

*More details to come... Contact John Banach about the dinner if you have any questions.
Call 330-606-5032 or e-mail [John Banach](mailto:John.Banach@keelhauler.org)*

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

**2020 Membership Dues are Overdue
From John Kobak**

All club memberships ended on October 1st for 2019. Our club now has over 300 family memberships in 22 states. But only about half have renewed their 2020 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: <https://www.keelhauler.org/EZPay20.htm>

OR

If you still want to mail a check please send a \$20 check for your **2020 Membership Dues**
To our Treasurer at:

**Keel Haulers Canoe Club
701 Forrest Ave
Geneva, IL 60134**

Remember if we don't get your check by 12/23 you may not be listed in our 2020 Yearbook & Roster. To check whether or not I have received your renewal, check this updated file: <https://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/memb/khint.pdf> This file is password protected for your security. User Name: "dir" and the current 2019 password found in each monthly newsletter e-mail. If the last column by your name says 9 and not 0, then you are not recorded as paid for 2020.

Thanks

John Kobak – Membership Chairman

President's Message From Mike Gillam



October was election time and we have a couple of new officers. I will be serving as President, Vice President John Banach, Treasurer Kelly Miller, and Michael Duvall will be taking on the responsibilities of Secretary. Trustees are: Steve Ingalls, Jeremiah Richard, and Matt Fredmonsky. I want to extend a huge thanks to Cliff Wire, Jim Hunt, Dave Roush, and Sam Reynolds for all of their dedication, time, and effort, in keeping the Keel Haulers a very strong paddling club. Chloe Shepherd will be taking over responsibilities with the yearbook, and Jackie Zevenbergen will be the new chair of conservation. A big thanks to them for stepping up and helping the club.

We have made a couple of changes for next year, one being trips and trip scheduling. I will be doing the scheduling again this year, but the process will change slightly. With our website calendar, the Google calendar that can be downloaded to your personal calendar, and FaceBook, we will not be including trips in the yearbook. This also allows us to soften our trip schedule deadline (no need to meet yearbook printing deadline). I plan on starting to line up trip leaders in mid January and February. Remember, anyone can organize a trip, it's easy, just pick a date and a river you are familiar with. You don't have to be an expert paddler, if you need help, just recruit a few more experienced paddlers to help. A quick post on the Keel Hauler FaceBook page or KH Message

Board asking for help should do the trick. If you organized a trip in the past, I will contact you to confirm your leadership again this year. Trips of all levels are needed, flatwater and whitewater. As always, Slippery Rock Creek is an extremely popular day trip/weekend paddle, so I will be looking for leaders on most weekends. For those who are interested, multi day Southern or Western trips have been hugely successful in the past. Lake Erie day paddles and overnight trips (islands) are other ideas.

We have also scheduled a Swift Water Rescue weekend, June 19-21, on Slippery Rock. This course will be conducted by H2o Dreams, and will start with a Friday evening discussion (at campground). Included will be any needed gear, SWR manual, and instruction. Cost is TBD, as we are working out details. If you want to take a closer look at H2o Dreams, you can find them here <https://www.h2odreams.com/>. One of our goals is to provide more “bang for your membership buck.” Look for more course details, costs, signup, etc...after January 1. Once this information is finalized, it will be publicized on the website and FaceBook page. At this time, the SWR is only for members in good standing.

In another “bang for your buck” step, beginning this winter, pool sessions at Canton will be free! No more running around that morning to the ATM to get some cash, just wake up, throw your boat in the car, and come on to Canton! As of now, it is open to anyone who shows up. The only concern (at this time) is how many people will show. If needed, we will make mid- winter changes. At the end of winter, we will review the successes and any needed improvements and plan for next year.

Keep in mind that our 2020 club meetings are scheduled for: Spring (optional meeting, date tbd), July, October, and December. Exact dates/place will be advertised at a later date. We have been having some really good discussions and some great ideas have been voiced. I look forward to working with members and implement these ideas. If you are in the area, please try to attend our meetings, we are looking for your thoughts. If you are not in the area, please feel free to email thoughts/ideas to me at mikegillam61@gmail.com. Along those lines, I hope to get a survey emailed to members in the beginning of November. This will help the Board prioritize our work for the next couple of years. Have a great Fall paddling season and don't forget to play outside!

**Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Treasurer's Report
as of October 24, 2019
From Sam Reynolds**

CD 0402	\$2, 305.24
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 302.79</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 608.03

Checking	<u>\$17, 196.75</u>
Total	<u>\$21, 804.78</u>

**Keelhaulers' Canoe Club 2019 Final and
the 2020 Budget Treasurer's Report
as of October 17, 2019
From Sam Reynolds**

Category Description	FY 2017 Actuals	FY 2018 Actuals	FY 2019 Budget	FY 2019 Actuals	FY 2020 Budget
ASSETS					
CHECKING balance at start of FY	\$8,893.59	\$19,191.09	\$19,191.09	\$17,956.75	\$17,956.75
CD (2) balance at start of FY	\$4,574.57	\$4,590.60	\$4,590.60	\$4,606.69	\$4,606.69
INCOME					
Conservation	\$114.70	\$192.05	\$192.00	\$257.50	\$257.50
Dues	\$6,225.44	\$6,031.83	\$6,031.00	\$6,053.74	\$6,053.74
Reserv./C.F.Cleanup/Cruise	\$0.00	\$11,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Vermilion Race	\$1,165.88	\$985.56	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pool session deposit refund					
NEO Paddlers' Network Income	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$7,806.02	\$18,209.44	\$6,223.00	\$6,311.24	\$6,311.24
TOTAL ASSETS	\$21,274.18	\$41,991.13	\$30,004.69	\$28,874.68	\$28,874.68
LIABILITIES					
EXPENSE					
Conservation Donations	\$2,750.00	\$2,750.00	\$3,250.00	\$3,250.00	**\$4,000.00
Internet Access	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$375.00	\$269.64	\$0.00
Internet Domain	\$50.97	\$50.97	\$51.00	\$50.97	\$51.00
Webpage Development			\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
Marketing		\$250.00	\$950.00	\$672.04	\$700.00
Education/Training/Outreach	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$650.00	\$1,350.00
Meeting Hall	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$90.00	\$210.00
Paddlers' Network	\$179.88	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Cuy. Falls Cleanup/Cruise/Race	\$1,038.81	\$1,706.32	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Postage and Supply	\$176.72	\$28.05	\$100.00	\$74.13	\$100.00
Refreshments	\$159.42	\$84.72	\$85.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Film Festival-20	\$493.91	\$497.54	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Yearbook Expense	\$1,947.36	\$2,044.34	\$2,050.00	\$2,063.15	\$2,064.00
Yough Reservations-Intro	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Special Donation/Portage Park Dist.	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$600.00	\$500.00	\$600.00
Canton Pool Session	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,400.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$6,897.06	\$7,811.94	\$14,261.00	\$7,619.93	\$14,275.00
OVERALL TOTAL	\$14,377.12	\$34,179.19	\$15,743.69	\$21,254.75	\$14,599.68
**Conservation Donations					
American Whitewater	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
Friends of the Cheat	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$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
Additional Conservation					\$750.00
TOTAL	\$2,750.00	\$2,250.00	\$3,250.00	\$3,250.00	\$4,000.00

October 9, 2019 Meeting Minutes From Michael Duvall

Meeting called to order 7:05 by President Mike Gillam

Financial Report presented by Sam Reynolds – Total assets \$21,639

Complete report of 2019 and proposed 2020 budget presented. There was much discussion on proposed budget.

John Kobak questioned conservation donations which became a motion to change total to \$4000. Voted and passed.

John Kobak questioned money for new web site. That was left in budget but would require research and a follow up vote.

John Banach requested support for the Canton roll sessions because others were supported by the school systems. \$1400 added to budget, vote passed.

Motion to vote on amended budget. Vote passed.

Membership Chairman John Kobak reports 301 current members and added that club dues are due with some paying at the meeting.

President Mike Gillam presented the proposed slate of officers for the coming year which was voted on and unanimously passed.

President – Mike Gillam

VP - John Banach

Treasurer – Kelly Miller

Secretary - Michael Duvall

Trustee – Steve Ingalls 2019-2020

Trustee – Matt Fredmonsky 2020 – 2022

Trustee – Jeremiah Richard 2020 - 2021

President Mike Gillam shared his goals for the coming year

Swift water rescue class, scheduled June 19-21 or 26-28

Intermediate paddler instruction (creeking, slicey boat, etc.)

Beginning Paddlers (Note everyone applauded Mike and John's trips on Cuyahoga and Slippery Rock last year)

Website investigation

Yearbook, follow up from previous meetings. Only change is schedule will only be on line.

Meeting adjourned 8:30

The Pilgrimage By Paul Lang

Tragically, unexpectedly, and undesirably single since my move to Colorado in 2016, I find myself staring - at the beginning of my seventh decade, and after half a lifetime immersed in the joys of being the husband of a great and gentle wife - at the abyss of being alone yet again. And as I search for clues from the past to use as tools for an escape from the sloshing discouragement and solitude of the present, I have at least partially re-emerged from a chrysalis of despair by way of re-devoting myself to a former love: paddling...

With the Arkansas River sporting nothing more exciting than the minimal flows typical of late summer, and memories of the fun and frolic of juicier July levels still fresh in my mind (and following the wanderings of my mid-August canoe adventure in the wilds Ontario's Woodland Caribou provincial Park) along with finding the ensuing boredom prodding a thirst for more, I set in motion a plan that entailed my fourth cross country trip of 2019. At age 60 and with long dormant skills reinvigorated through recent practice, I set off for my old eastern kayak stomping grounds, in part to escape that creeping sense of ennui, and in part to keep my Upper Gauley trip counter greater than my age in years.

So in the wee hours of Wednesday, September 11, 2019 I turn the key and bring to life my trusty steed - loaded with my 18 year old kayak - and leave behind a faulty water heater, a ruined Prius key, and a recently failed romance - in pursuit of thrills unknown for some fourteen years. Fifteen hours on the road gets me to the Motel 6 in Mt. Vernon, IL. Eight more road hours on an uncommonly hot and humid Thursday (96 degrees in Charleston, WV) gets me to the whitewater holy land near Summersville, WV - just in time to refresh hazed over memories of Gauley River access points. And to indulge in the air-conditioned comforts and Wi-Fi availability of another hotel room.

My earlier attempts to acquire paddling partners, by way of rejoining the Keel-Haulers and posting my intentions to their message board, netted me the crew of Jackie Blackwood and her two friends Hans and Bernie for a Friday run on the Lower Gauley. Jackie's phone calls are cheerful and

enthusiastic, so despite my objective to get in runs on the Upper G, I'm happy to have the company. It's been so long and my past runs so infrequent that any memories of the rapids on the Lower Gauley have long since disappeared into the nether realms of space-time, but my recollection of the character of the entire run is one of lots of flatwater interspersed with numerous read-and-run Class III-IV rapids. Jackie (a nurse from SE Michigan), Hans (the youngest, also from SE Michigan) and Bernie (from Windsor, Ontario) are all solid for this level of paddling and make for fine companions. Jackie offers to describe all of the rapids, but I put my hands over my ears, and say that I only want to know the locations of the play spots - mainly because I think it would be more fun to read and run. The play spots are all good fun: Five Boat Hole and Diagonal Ledges stand out. And the rapids themselves are fun enough. But we get off the water late, and by following my GPS instead of taking Jackie's directions, we set off on the mini adventure of navigating rugged but scenic and time-consuming Peter's Creek Road. By the time we get back to the Wood's Ferry put-in there's barely more than an hour of sun left on this Friday the 13th, but my paddling partners are graciously gleeful with the post-kayaking adventure.

Back at Battle Run Campground, I find that the chair I'd been told to leave as a place marker at my campsite has gone invisible. But at least my partners for tomorrow's run of the Upper Gauley (and my mentors in the early days of my paddling career) Mark and Pam Poljak are fully visible on the campsite next to mine. With darkness rapidly descending, I am challenged to finish my hellos, fix supper, and get my bed set. Sleep comes easily enough on this busy day, but the bright moon interrupts. And for the fourth night in a row I find myself wishing for more sleep - especially since the plan is to run a 6:30 am shuttle to the Mason Branch take-out. But it's all good because after shuttling, Mark and Pam are treating me to a cooked breakfast back at Battle Run. And we are to be joined today by a pair of fellow kayakers: John Mattox (a less seasoned Upper G dude, but strong paddling astrophysicist who we met at the campground), and Neal Dana (a Culligan franchise owner and veteran of hundreds of Gauley adventures, who we also met at Battle Run).

Unlike yesterday, I find myself a tad nervous while gearing up at the put-in parking lot. But now that the masses have arrived there's plenty of scenery to take my mind off of certain trepidations. While standing around talking, my eyes are involuntarily locked on to a pair of the finest breasts I've ever seen. I try to unlock, only to see a smiling face that seems to be appreciating my appreciation... I return to my conversation and surreptitiously try to steal another look - and that reflected smile reappears in even greater radiance. I've been told that I'd find someone new when I least expected it. Well maybe it could be true - if not for a certain bone-headed tunnel vision. In a man's life there are times when he looks back and wishes that he had had the presence of mind to seize the moment. This is one of those times. And for the next many days I'm kicking myself for not immediately pursuing this womanly wonder in pink shorts and purple top...!

Regardless of such fleeting foibles, there is this thing called a river to be run. A river where a degree of tunnel vision might come in handy. Especially with memories so imperfectly formed for rapids so much more formidable than yesterday's. With a gaggle of hydrological moments to seize, and not being as certain as I'd like about the order and location of some of the rapids, I'm quite relieved to have Mark and Pam and Neal give me the heads up that I need every now and then.

Nevertheless, I am fairly confident of my memory for the lines in the Big 5. That confidence is warranted enough in the first three - Insignificant, Pillow Rock, and Lost Paddle challenge my memory only slightly. And where memory lags, read-and-run skills succeed. But there's one of the Big 5 where the line is singular and narrow, with plenty of time in the penalty box awaiting those with the brazenness to presume success and "go wide". Pam asks me if I'd like for her to lead and show me the line at Iron Ring. I decline.

Memory and confidence are wondrous commodities if one sees fit to ride the knife's edge. As I pop over the hump, I'm riding a tongue, but it's too late to recover from a line that is fundamentally flawed. And I find myself gagging on the surplus of one of the aforementioned commodities - and gasping in deficit for the other. The upshot is that I now find myself racing headlong towards the whitewater equivalent of trying to put lipstick on a pig. Initial attempts to punch through the maw of the monster left side hole are rewarded in little more than a stylish looking back surf. But style is no substitute for substance in the heart of a gravity well, and thus a-riding on I go - end over end, right side up and upside down - and finding myself pulling off rodeo moves the likes of which I never previously had the mastery of.

Pam, who I *should* have been following, gets to see the better part of the s__t show. And but for my antics distracting her from her otherwise flawless line, she would not now, where I finally right myself in the churning froth down below the hydraulic, be showing me the bottom of her kayak.

The spectators to this madcap folly are, at least, appreciative of the show, with one of them ejaculating, "That was chaos!" but no swims in chaos equals no major fouls, and with my time in the penalty box expired, we paddle onward - with comments on the day's entertainment at Iron Ring still forthcoming from strangers some fair number of rapids below.

But the fourteen-year memory test of the Upper Gauley's Big 5 isn't over. Not yet. There's that boof at Sweet's Falls. And for those about to boof, we salute you. Except that this boofer forgets which eddy to stage out of, and his Plan B results in a headlong plunge into the high volume notch between the boof and Dildo Rock - thereby turning an old school yellow In-a-Zone kayak into a new school yellow submarine. And although it's still mid-September, the extended time spent on this trip into the swirling depths is more reminiscent of the hunt for red October. I am relieved to eventually emerge upwards to the boundless goodness of the surface, albeit sunny side down and in need of one of the beneficent Earth's most wonderful commodities - oxygen. A quick roll, a few deep breaths, and I'm set up for that ultimate of Sweet's Falls showboat maneuvers, the splat move. Although in my younger days I recall having done it better, today's redemption for my f____d-up line above is a splat performed well enough. And as I find myself careening, bow towards the sky, down the right upstream face of the big rock they call Postage Due, I'm thinking: yeah, this is what I came here for...

Well perhaps not all that I came for, but it's moments like this that make life worth living.

As does the smiling attention of an attractive woman.

Pam, Mark, Neal, John, and I play our way down the easier rapids to the Mason Branch take-out, grinning in the late summer West Virginia sunshine - chatting and happy for the pleasure of old friendships rekindled and new ones being formed.

And that makes life well worth living too.



Roche De Boeuf ----- AKA the Rock on the Maumee. Photo from Doug Smith who is in the picture. Taken by his friend with a drone.

November	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Pay Dues Now	
11/2	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
11/9,10	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Needs organizer	
11/30	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
December	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Last Chance to Pay Dues	
12/10	Club Holiday Party at Hines Hill Map		Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
January	2020			
1/1	New Year's Day paddle on the (4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Needs organizer	

2019 Trip Schedule Contact Mike Gillam . . . mikegillam61@gmail.com 440-328-5547

2020 Club Officers

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VP: John Banach 330-606-5032
Secretary: Michael Duvall 216-513-5921
Treasurer: Kelly Miller 724-553-6816

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Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **December 2019** issue of the newsletter is **11/21/19**. Please send articles and/or pictures to: Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.
Geneva, IL 60134
peetzaguy@aol.com
NOVEMBER 2019



Keelhauler's Ka-news



DECEMBER, 2019



Next Club Meeting: Tuesday, December 10th

A Holiday Potluck party at Hines Hill Conference Center
Located at 1403 West Hines Hill Road, Peninsula, OH 44264
in Cuyahoga Valley National Park



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

- A-E: Main dish or Casserole
- F-L: Salad or Vegetable
- M-R: Bread or Appetizer
- S-Z: Dessert or Fruit

The club will supply beverages, plates and plastic ware.

[Map to Holiday Meeting](#)

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 Mike Gillam



While the boating season is moving towards a crawl, there are still a number of members putting on their pogies and drysuits! With the right cold water gear, late fall and winter can be a fabulous time to get on the water. This is also a great time to get together with other Keel Haulers, and our December Holiday Get Together is the perfect time and place for that to happen! We will have a short meeting to begin (6:00pm) and then the official business of socializing begins. The party will take place on December 10, at [Hines Hill Conference Center](#) , 1403 W Hines Hill Road, Peninsula, Ohio. Please bring a dish according to the first letter of your last name. The club will supply beverages, plates and plasticware. If you desire, this is a BYOB affair.

A-E: Main dish or Casserole

F-L: Salad or Vegetable

M-R: Bread or Appetizer

S-Z: Dessert or Fruit

At this time, the only items on the agenda will be member cost for the SWR and donations to advocacy groups.

I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving, and I will see you on the 10th!

Play outside!

Mike

Has Your Membership Expired? From John Kobak

If this is your last newsletter the monthly e-mail will warn you. Our club's 2019 membership year ended on October 1st. There are still a few members who have not paid their 2020 dues.

Please try to pay your \$20 on-line using Paypal. You can use any credit card or a Paypal account and renew using this link: <http://www.keelhauler.org/EZPay20.htm>

OR If you still want to mail a check, please send a \$20 check to our treasurer, Kelly Miller for your **2020 Membership Dues** To: **Keel Haulers Canoe Club**
701 Forrest Ave
Geneva, IL 60134

To check whether you have paid or not, check this updated file:
<http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/memb/khint.pdf> This file is password protected for your security. User Name: "dir" and the current 2019 password found in our monthly newsletter e-mail. If the last column by your name says 9 and not 0, then you are not recorded as paid for 2020. Of course, I could have made a mistake, so let me know if you paid.

Chloe Shepherd is completing the **2020 yearbook & Roster** and there is no reason for you to have incorrect information or not even be listed in the new yearbook. Take a look at all your membership information using this link.

http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/memb/Members_Allfields.pdf

Note: Your information spans 2 pages.

Only paid-up members will be listed in the yearbook, the cut-off date for new yearbook is **12/28/19**.

John Kobak – Membership Chairman

Keelhauler Yearbook Submissions From Chloe Shepherd

It's 2020 KH Yearbook Photo Submission Time! Have an awesome beater photo you want to see featured in the yearbook? Or some sick pics of whitewater carnage? Drag and drop your photos here! <https://tinyurl.com/y44tdn66> Instructions are provided in the link including how to add a description of the photo and any photo credits needed. Submission deadline is **Dec. 15th!**

**Keelhaulers Treasurer's Report
as of November 24, 2019
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402	\$2, 305.92
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 302.47</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 609.39

Checking	<u>\$19, 470.04</u>
Total	<u>\$24, 079.43</u>

**Gates of Ladore and Westwater
By Ron Scott**

We had planned on doing the Salmon, pre-permit required time, but when my brother informed me that a friend of ours had a Gates of Ladore permit (incredibly hard to come by), and a quick web search said Utah and high desert, we ditched the Salmon and joined the new trip. We were very pleased with our choice.

Since the Gates of Ladore is only a four-day trip, we wanted to get our money's worth on our trip and started off by running Westwater Canyon. This section of the Colorado is rated Class III-IV, and nothing we saw on video concerned us too much. We were cocky enough to think that we could run it in my shredder, but when we got to the put-in and applied for the permit we saw that the water was big enough to put the frame on his Avon Pro.

Our BLM check-in ranger was intense. I think he wanted to tell us we couldn't go, but since he couldn't find a justification he settled for scaring us instead. Our biggest concern was that we were literally the only boat on this section of the Colorado; the water level is called the terrible teens by local boaters, and they stay away, so if we screwed up there was no one else to look to for help. Being not all that smart, we ran it. We took two days – the trip is only 17 miles so it is possible to bomb it in a day - and spent our only night in a beautiful, lonely canyon wondering if we had bitten off more than we could chew. Luckily, when we dropped into the Marble Canyon section (yep, it's named just like the similar section on the Grand Canyon), we were able to handle it, even though as promised the eddy lines and hydraulics were fierce and a swim would have been measured in miles. Skull Rock is the last big rapid of the section, and the prow formed by Skull Rock had a big fierce

boiling wave coming off it, with the added bonus of the eddy to the right of the prow forming a room of doom that would be deadly to a swimmer and impossible to ferry out of in a raft. We popped the diagonal coming off the left-hand boulder pile and were in the clear. The rest of the trip was two miles of beautiful desert river, as the Colorado leaves Westwater Canyon and heads to meet the Green in Canyonlands. We took out at the ghost town of Cisco, Utah, and our way out saw multiple pronghorn antelope framed by the La Sal mountains.

The Gates of Lodore is special to me because it's one of John Wesley Powell's first trips, and in my mind he's an American hero who we do not hear enough about. We made the mistake of paddling three days and forty miles of flatwater before we got to it (pro tip: no need to run this section), but the Gates themselves were unmistakable, marking another gorge into which the river, this time the Green, drops.



The canyon itself is amazing, with multiple geographic formations and seemingly a new geological era exposed with every bend. We saw osprey fishing, Dall sheep meandering their way down to the water to drink, and beaver and otter doing beaver and otter things. As with many Western high desert rivers, the beaches that we camped on are surreal mini-oases, with plentiful box elders, scrub oaks, and cottonwood trees, and I nearly always (barring mosquitoes) slept under the stars. We also met the Yampa after day two, and that confluence marked the beginning of a collection of petroglyphs that I urge you to do a web search for. All that we saw were easily viewable with either a short hike or from the boats.

The group of fifteen was nearly all composed of West Virginia raft guide types. We are all older and hopefully smarter, but everyone who either rowed or paddled has guided a combination of the New, Gauley, Cheat, and Upper Yough, so we had a lot of whitewater experience, and with the exception of me, some amazing boaters. We also had some friends along who did not row, but a couple of them served as willing victims as I paddled my shredder. I gave them a day off and duckied one ten mile section, which was mostly Class II whitewater.

The only reminder of how dangerous our sport can be happened as we landed at Triplett beach, our camp for night two. We had seen National Park Service helicopters a few minutes before, and that's rarely a good sign, so we suspected that something had happened when we saw the trip before us pulled up on the beach on river left. They were shook – they were mostly young and had arrived just in time to try to rescue someone who had body-pinned in the rapid immediately below. The person did not make it, as the commercial boat on which he was a passenger had dumped him when the guide buried an oar. His life jacket came off, and he was swept into a nasty boulder pile at the end of the rapid. The Park Service ran the rest of the trip, and the sudden presence of the power of whitewater sobered us all.





We ran that rapid and Hell's Half Mile – Powell exaggerated when he ran it, as it was probably not quite that long – without incident the next day, and finished the trip with seventeen miles of big-canyon, continuous Class II-III whitewater, courtesy of the 10,000+ cfs the Yampa had added to the Green. After a near-mishap cleaning the groover we packed up, had dinner in Vernal, Utah, and resumed our normal lives.

I grew up on West Virginia/North Carolina whitewater – granite and sandstone gorges, cut through narrow channels, with lots of greenery and awe-inspiring fun. I will always, however, love Western desert rivers, whether in Idaho, Utah, Colorado, eastern Oregon, or California, for the geology, the flora and fauna, and the ability to escape from our relentlessly plugged in lives.

November	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Pay Dues Now	
11/2	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
11/9,10	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Needs organizer	
11/30	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
December	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Last Chance to Pay Dues	
12/10	Club Holiday Party at Hines Hill Map		Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
January	2020			
1/1	New Year's Day paddle on the (4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Needs organizer	

**Indoor Pool Roll Sessions
For 2019-2020
From John Banach**

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

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

Hi everyone. So, it is almost kayak roll class and soccer Sunday season at the Meyers Lake Canton YMCA. This year, the classes will be FREE! Yes, no charge to members and non members alike. Our club voted last month to offer this club sponsored class at no charge and will cover the costs for the entire season. Sunday dates are the following:

Dec: 22, 29

Jan: 5, 12, 19, 26

Feb: 2, 9, 16, 23

March: 1,8,15

Info: 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.

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.

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. Boats must be under 11ft long. 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 remember Helmets are required.

Format for the Canton Roll Sessions as in the past, first hour roll practice second hour kayak soccer.

We have xtra gear for adults and also for kids too. So if you want to introduce a friend or kids to kayaking in a WW boat, we have you covered. Just need to know a week in advance to coordinate the gear needed. PM me on Facebook with any Q's or at other contact info below.

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

**Trip Schedule for 2020 now forming
From Mike Gillam**

We NEED Trip Organizers for 2020. Please volunteer to help. Contact Mike Gillam at: mikegillam61@gmail.com or at 440-328-5547.

**EVERYONE HAVE A VERY
HAPPY HOLIDAY!**



2020 Club Officers

President: Mike Gillam 440-328-5547
VP: John Banach 330-606-5032
Secretary: Michael Duvall 216-513-5921
Treasurer: Kelly Miller 724-553-6816

Meetings: Approximately 4 meetings per year. Please check website for next meeting time and location.

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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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 2020** issue of the newsletter is **12/19/19**. Please send articles and/or pictures to:
Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.

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