

Keelhauler's Ka-news



JANUARY, 2020



Next Club Meeting: To be announced...

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

**President's Message
From Mike Gillam**



By the time you all read this, the holidays have come and gone, and we have started a new decade! I hope everyone's past year was successful and the new year will be your best yet! We had a great turnout for our holiday meeting/get together, with a short (very) meeting, some discussion, good food, and great friendship. Current members and a number of new members

attended, and it wasn't long before the "last call" was given. There was some discussion about having the night go a little longer next year...

Members will have the opportunity to attend a couple of Swift Water Rescue courses this year. We will continue working with Charlie Walbridge on the Cheat June 13/14. In addition, we will be working with H2O Dreams, and offering an SWR weekend on June 21-22 on Slippery Rock. This course will begin with a Friday evening presentation/discussion, and then full days on Saturday and Sunday. Cost for the H2O course is \$90/KH member. The participant must have been a member for at least one year. Sign up for this course will begin in January 12 at noon. Sign up will be via PayPal with John Kobak. At the time of signup, please include your name, address, email, and phone contact. This info will be posted on the webpage and FB page. We will begin a wait list once we have reached 12 participants.

Don't forget about our winter roll sessions and don't forget to play outside!

Mike

**Keelhauler Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2019
By Michael Duvall**

Location: Hines Hill Conference Center

21 members in attendance at start of meeting, 5 or 6 entered later. Also, about 6 or 7 young children i.e. future members.

President Mike Gillam opened the meeting.

Membership chair provided current number of 319 compared to 330 this time last year. Conservation chair Jackie Zevenbergen asked members to share any information they may be aware of such as the following:

- Water Quality, any new developments, strange new smells.
- Conservation projects like tree plantings or river cleanups.
- Other organizations with similar goals that we could help or promote.

Mike Gillam provided an update on the Swift Water Rescue clinic to be held in June.

Clinic to be taught by Chris Wing of H2O dreams. Class to be limited to 12 people. Only people that were members in both 2019 and 2020 will be eligible. Cost will be \$90. Location will be Slippery Rock Creek. Registration must be online and paid up front with Pay Pal. Look for more details to come.

Meeting was adjourned.

Pot luck dinner was great with a wide variety of food and beverages.

Submitted by Michael Duvall

2019 Membership Wrap-up By John Kobak

Happy New Year

We ended up the 2019 calendar year with **318** members, in 2018 we had **330**. Our average membership for the past 10 years is **313**.

A year ago, we had 247 members who had paid their 2019 dues, but today we have only 241 paid members for 2020, so potentially we could finish 2020 with less than 300 members. We usually sign up 50 new members each year. Ask your paddling buddies to join.

Also, several members asked if I could provide a way for them to pay their dues for two years so they would not forget to pay their dues. I added a 2 year membership option to Paypal and we will charge only \$39 for paying dues for 2 years at a time.

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

Use **New 2020 Membership Password**

Our membership password **has changed** for 2020

User Name: dir **Be sure to enter dir not news**

See our January 2020 e-mail for the new Password:

Note: Your information spans 2 pages. Only paid-up members will be listed in the yearbook, the cut-off date for our new yearbook is **12/28/19**.

John Kobak – Membership Chairman

Keelhaulers Treasurer's Report as of December 27, 2019 From Kelly Miller

CD 0402	\$2, 306.59
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 304.13</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 610.72

Checking	<u>\$19, 570.04</u>
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<u>Total</u>	<u>\$24, 180.76</u>
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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.
Click for Preliminary 2020 Trip Schedule**

Date	Trip/Event	RR	Organizer	Phone #
January	2020			
1/4	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3:00-5:00 pm		Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
1/5,12,19,26	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 8:45 -10:45 AM		John Banach	330-606-5032
1/18	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4:00-6:00 PM		Josiah Colvin	330-671-0910
February				
2/1	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
2/1,15	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3:00-5:00 pm		Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
2/2,9,16,23	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 8:45 -10:45 AM		John Banach	330-606-5032
2/8,29	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4:00-6:00 PM		Josiah Colvin	330-671-0910
March	Top of Page - For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
3/1,8,15	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 8:45 -10:45 AM		John Banach	330-606-5032
3/7,8	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
3/14-22	Spring Break Trip - TN, NC OR if there is good water in WV we can go there.	22-32	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
3/21	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3:00-5:00 pm		Mike Gillam	440-328-5547

Indoor Pool Roll Sessions For 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>

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

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, 2020** issue of the newsletter is **1/24/20**. 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, 2020



Keelhauler's Ka-news

FEBRUARY, 2020



Next Club Meeting: To be announced...

President's Message From Mike Gillam

No report this month.

Keelhaulers Treasurer's Report as of January 30, 2020 From Kelly Miller

CD 0402	\$2,307.27
CD 1077	<u>\$2,304.82</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4,612.09
Checking	<u>\$21,550.11</u>
Total	<u>\$26,162.20</u>

**2020 Swiftwater Rescue Course with H2O Dreams
June 19-21, 2020**

The Keelhauler's Canoe Club is sponsoring a Swift Water Rescue course with Chris Wing of H2O Dreams this June 19th to 21st on Slippery Rock Creek. The weekend will start with a Friday evening session at Cheeseman Campground. Any needed gear (outside of boat, paddle, pfd, spray skirt, and helmet) will be provided if needed. Sign-ups began January 12th. Click this link: [Keel-Hauler Rescue Registration](#). Cost is \$90 per member, and payment is due via PayPal at the time of signup. We will begin a wait list after the first twelve payments. Participants must be a member in good standing for at least one year. Members under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or have sufficient paddling experience. Camping is not included in the cost. For a more detailed description of the class, visit [Chris Wing Class Info](#).

Currently, the class is full, with one person on the waiting list. Contact Mike Gillam at mikegillam61@gmail.com or at 440-328-5547 with any questions.

**New Metropark in Akron-Canton
By News5 Cleveland and the Akron-Canton News
From John Banach**



https://www.news5cleveland.com/news/local-news/akron-canton-news/200-acre-area-transforming-into-new-metro-park-in-akron-prototype-trail-will-open-this-year?fbclid=IwAR37r1W4kazYxAlLu3H01s0TgGU1MUTZKyqBnlxJqMTLjZtPbn1XNdqSh_4

The Kayak Roll Head Game
One man's journey to swim independence!
Part 1
by Rob Hammond

Having trouble rolling that kayak in river when you need it the most? I must say that I have been there, done that, and have the humiliation to show for it! Let me introduce you to someone who we all know very well: Dr. Head Game. This good fellow is responsible for I would say 80 percent of the roll failures! Good ole Doc Head is that guy who lives in that inaccessible, dark and scary part of your brain, that likes to remind you that you can't do anything difficult and if you did try it, you would only get hurt. You will never find him telling you that you did a good job, or to GO FOR IT! However, we are getting ahead of our story; so let's start at the beginning, and we will stop back and visit with the good doctor!

In my very humble and experienced opinion there are 3 hurdles that you must surmount before you can have a bomb proof reliable river roll. The first is obviously to learn the basics of the roll. Although I prefer the C to C roll, there are several other techniques that work. But I am not going to talk about technique here; there are plenty of far better resources than I, to learn these skills from. What I am going to concentrate on is the control of the strongest muscle in your body, and the one that is most responsible for good or bad execution in most any sport. That muscle resides in the very large cavity located above your neck. In any sport, once you learn a new motor skill, you need to teach it to your body. You can't expect flawless execution if you have to think your way through a move. For instance, when you are being pummeled in a nasty hole right above a heinous and undercut drop, your brain may be a little preoccupied and likely will not have excess processing capacity to devote to recollection of proper wrist orientation and trunk rotation to properly execute a roll! No, I suspect that you would prefer a more automatic process that does not require any conscious processing capacity. And by the way, conscious processing is the most likely to be distracted by our friend, the good Dr. Head Game. Yep, when you are in that hole, and with all the important things you must devote to the top level conscious processing to, Dr. HG is in there, reminding you that you are gonna blow it, and if you were smart you would pull the rip cord and get out of Dodge as quickly as possible.

Once I learned how to roll...to my very disappointed surprise, it almost never worked on the river!

Now the psychologically and neurologically literate amongst you, may dispute my characterization of how the mind works. But let me say right up front to you self-anointed smarty pants out there... PUT A SOCK IN IT!

Yes, once your brain learns the basics of the roll, you have to teach it to your muscles, this memory that doesn't require any of the easily distracted and corrupted conscious processing power in your head. You use the subconscious all the time for things like... picking your nose while talking on the phone! Some of us even use these skills to drive to work in the morning. Ever find yourself on that long drive to the Yough, thinking about something, only to realize that you can't remember what happened for the last 5 miles, or that you passed your exit 10 minutes ago.

Allow me to relate personal experience on my long and painful road to swim independence! I learned how to roll in a pool and most of the time, had a good pool roll. Then I tried to use this new-found skill in a river, and to my very disappointed surprise, it almost never worked! It took a lot of swims and rescues by my 13 year old son to finally humiliate me into moving to the second step. That step was to commit the skills that my brain understood to the muscles in my body. The smarty pants amongst you, would undoubtedly point out that muscles have no capacity to learn, that what actually happens is the brain somehow stores the information into a subconscious region, or some such rubbish! Anyways, I knew that to commit the rolling concept in my head into a skill that did not require conscious thought, I would need a lot of repetitious training. So, several days a week, I took my kayak to the lake and practiced my rolls after work. If my roll failed, I would roll up by using my paddle to push off the sandy bottom. And yes, Virginia, you will not dislocate your healthy shoulder from pushing off the bottom in still water. However, as a recent graduate from the School of Tweaked, Abused and Dislocated Shoulders, I definitely don't recommend this bottom bracing technique in moving water.

I don't know about your muscle brains, but mine are slow learners! It took a lot of repetition to get to the point that I did not have to think about stepping through the motions of the roll. I figure it took about 1000 rolls before I felt confident that I could roll every time, in still water. I would try to do 10 sets of 10 rolls every night until I had confidence in my roll.

So, I return to the river with a new-found confidence that I could reliably roll my kayak whenever I needed to. Imagine my disappointment when again I found myself separated from my vessel and enjoying an invigorating swim! Although I was much better at hitting my rolls in the river, I still did not have a 100% reliable river roll.

The biggest reason you are not rolling in the river is what happens to your reality when we are upside down. This is where step 3 comes in. What was creating my swimming opportunities was not the improper execution of the roll maneuver. No, it was the distractions from feeling trapped upside down, under water, in a decidedly unfriendly environment. There are really two issues here. The first is that unlike a pool or calm lake, there is a lot of stuff going on that can be very distracting. You know, things like bumping

your head on rocks, the noise of the river, the currents buffeting your pathetically small plastic boat around. All of these things can be very distracting from your mission of returning your mouth to an environment friendlier to our lungs.

This is precisely where our friend, Head Game, starts doctoring the reality in our conscious mind. The first thing that the good doctor does is speed up time. Ok, any of us capable of paddling a kayak, can hold our breath for what; 30 seconds, 45 or even 60 seconds? Right, and the good doctor knows this, so what he does is speed up our perception of reality so that what we think is at least 30 seconds, is more like 3 seconds and probably 2 seconds! No wonder we are so quick to reach for the ejection button, obviously we are only seconds away from certain death! Don't believe me? Watch your buddies next time you are boating, if they can't hit their roll, how long is it before they are out of their boat? Typically, I would say it is 5 seconds or less, a really focused boater may hang out for 10 to 15 seconds! So, the first thing we need to do to control our fear, is realize that we are not in the dire straights that the good doc would have us believe.

Oh looky here, it looks like I am running out of ink, so I am going to wrap things up and will continue this journey next month with a conversation about things we can do keep Dr. Head Game under control. But let me leave you with this thought: the biggest reason you are not rolling in the river is what happens to your reality when we are upside down. The most effective thing you can do, while eagerly waiting for next month's issue, is work on your 1,000 rolls. When your confidence is high, the good doctor can't mess with your head so easily! Roll sessions start in December, and this year we have both east side and west side locations.

And oh, just showing up at the pool doesn't help; ya gotta get upside down! Most of us treat the sessions as a social hour (me included). Why don't we go to dinner afterwards for our socializing and take full advantage of these great pool resources! Work every pool session, get those 1,000 rolls in, and you will have a solid leg up for the spring season!

**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. Anything in red does not have an organizer at this time.

[Click for Preliminary 2020 Trip Schedule](#)

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3/21	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3:00-5:00 pm		Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
April	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
4/4	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4:00-6:00 PM		Josiah Colvin	567-215-1390
4/4,5	Tallulah - Cheoah GA, NC	30-34	Dan Yusko	330-472-8535
4/4,5	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Needs organizer	
4/4,5	(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
4/4,5	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
4/11	(1) Grand River (OH)	6	Mark Spang	440-522-0520
4/17	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
4/18,19	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Anne Kmieck	216-536-1905
4/18,19	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
4/18,19	(5) Middle Fork & Tygart (WV)	29	Needs organizer	
4/24	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
4/25	(1) Grand River Race	SK/FW	Brian Davidson	440-358-7275
4/25	Cuyahoga Falls Kayak Race (OH) Upper Gorge Limit 600 CFS  Click Image for official website & registration	28	Don Howdyshe	330-671-0825
4/25	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Mark Spang	440-522-0520
4/25,26	(5) Cheat Canyon Paddle (Saturday) & Race Clinic (Sunday) (WV)	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541

**Indoor Pool Roll Sessions are currently in session
From John Banach**

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

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

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

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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 **March 2020 issue of the newsletter is **2/23/2020**.**

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
FEBRUARY, 2020



Keelhauler's Ka-news



MARCH, 2020



Next Club Meeting: To be announced...

President's Message From Mike Gillam



I hope everyone has enjoyed this Carolina like winter...there has actually been some sunshine in Ohio this winter! As things start heating up, local runs will again be our weekly (or more) meeting areas for the next few months. While we are out having fun, remember that early season weather may be sunny and warm, but the water will be cold. Dress accordingly.

Our free winter roll sessions have been overwhelmingly popular! Thanks to John Banach and Jeremiah Richard for the great idea! As always, it is great to see kids in the pool. They are who will keep our sport going in the future. After evaluating, we will determine if this will be back next year, and if there will be any changes. We have two Swift Water Rescue courses this year, one on the Cheat and one on the Slip. For anyone interested, wait lists are available for both.

Trips are being updated on the website and the calendar. As always, we are looking for people to volunteer to be trip organizers. You do not have to be a class 5 boater, or even know the river that well. You only need the ability to set shuttle and have a good time. Slippery Rock trips are always popular, and for those who paddle the various sections of the Cuyahoga, I know there would be interest. Most weekends in late March - June would be great for Slip trips. When looking at the calendar, if a name is not listed with the trip, we are looking for a leader. If you want to organize a trip on a different date, send me a message and I will get it listed. If you are wanting to join a trip, please make sure you contact the organizer prior to the trip.

Have a great Spring, be safe, have fun, and play outside.

Mike Gillam

**Keelhaulers Treasurer's Report
as of February 24, 2020
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402	\$2, 307.96
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 305.50</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 613.46

Checking \$20, 874.80

Total \$25, 488.26

Audit completed. The Keelhauler accounts look great. Thanks again to Sam Reynolds for his years as the Keelhauler Treasurer.

**2020 Yearbook
By Chloe Shepherd**

The 2020 Keelhauler yearbook will be out next month. The yearbook is mailed by Third Class mail to save money, but if your address is incorrect or your mail is being forwarded for any reason you will not get a copy. To check your current address, click here.

<https://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/memb/yearbook20.pdf> If the address we have is not correct, send your correct address to John Kobak at kobak@keelhauler.org:

Keel-Hauler Traditional Chairperson's Duties By John Kobak

We have a set of bylaws but leave many details unanswered.

<https://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/KHByLaws.pdf> Our club has operated in a traditional way that has served the club well for the past 50+ years.

Basically, the board sets the direction and runs the club and meets at least 4 times a year to help the President do his job. The bylaws call for a head of the board who is usually the president but does not have to be. Also, a smaller group can meet and decide things as long as they don't commit more than \$100 that was not in the budget.

Before the summer season the club's board of directors should discuss next year's candidates who could be future officers or chairpersons and works together to announce a slate one month before the annual meeting. The entire board seeks out these candidates by speaking to them personally to ensure they understand the position and their commitment. This is not the president's responsibility.

After the new **President** is elected it is his job to pick the heads of all the volunteer committees. Almost always the past president steps into the 3 year trustee position. The **Vice-President** is selected with the can take on another job like planning programs and locations for future meetings. It is also duty of the Vice-President to keep a current inventory of all Club equipment. Our committees are important and should be filled by members wanting to do the job. Several are short term and can be finished in a few months. Some require a once a month effort, others require a big commitment and may require additional helpers.

Treasurer: must present a budget and keep good records that are audited when he leaves office, usually by the incoming treasurer. All old records are kept for future treasurers.

Secretary: should go to all meeting and take minutes and publish in newsletter. These records should be passed on to their replacement.

Membership Chairperson: should record all applications & payments by members and report and submit the funds once a month to the treasurer. All these records should be kept in a database with all member info. This info should be provided to newsletter and yearbook chairperson and properly formatted. Member information also needs to be submitted to the club's webmaster for member access.

Newsletter Editor: This is how our club communicates with its members and can include future and past trips info, club minutes and interesting articles. Also needs a helper for newsletter distribution.

Web Master: another way of communication and is important that all club information is current and correct. Announces club meetings, trip schedules, includes a forum that is monitored for misuse. It should include Conservation and Training information that is provided by those committee chairpersons. It should provide a way for members to sell used equipment and links

to river information. It should provide links to other information including a Keel-Hauler Facebook Page. It should include links to club applications & password protected membership information and a way to pay dues on-line. Should have a checker for all information posted on website.

Program Chairperson: A tough 3 month job to procure trip organizers and submit this information to webmaster & newsletter and an updated Google Calendar.

Training Chairperson: Provide and communicate ways for our members to receive instruction and training including kayak rolling in outdoor or indoor venues.

Safety Chairperson: Could be part of the training committee to provide safety information and training opportunities.

Recreational Boating Chairperson: If we want to encourage all kinds of boating, we should try to provide trips and training for flatwater paddlers, could also be part of training committee.

Conservation Chairperson: Seek out conservation issues of interest to club paddlers and provide to webpage & newsletter. Includes any river cleanup programs.

Yearbook Chairperson: A two month effort to gather membership and trip information and other information that may be of interest to the club. Provide in digital form for printing and webpage. When printed it requires an assistant to take care of printing and mailing to members.

Refreshment Chairperson: Provides refreshments at meetings or events.

It is not the job of the president to take on a chairperson's job, but it is his job to ensure that the chairpersons are doing their job as required. If a chairperson is unable to do the job or needs help, the president should ask the board for candidates that could take on the jobs.

Conservation Corner By Jacki Zevenbergen

This is the time of year when everything that leaks, blows out of the trash or is carelessly thrown on the ground is conveyed into our streams with every snowmelt. While it's too cold for most to be out cleaning streams and the land that drains into the streams, it's a great time to practice prevention. Make sure trash is secured so it doesn't blow away and maintain vehicles so that they don't leak on parking lots and roadways. Pick up after pets as they go to prevent fecal coliform loading into nearby streams when we get a thaw. Go easy on the salt – clear the snow first and only use what you really need.

Most of the local stream cleanups will be held in May and June before the vegetation gets too dense along the banks. There's a good chance that one or more of the streams that you like to paddle has a watershed group or municipality planning a cleanup and looking for volunteers. Canoes and kayaks can be a big help in getting to those hard to reach areas and running down

trash that is dislodged from shore during land-based efforts. Most cleanups are limited to removing trash, but occasionally woody debris removal is part of the plan. Our friends at American Rivers (AR) have a great site where lots of groups throughout the nation register their clean ups and look for volunteers. If you are planning your own cleanup, AR will send you trash bags if you register. Go to <https://www.americanrivers.org/make-an-impact/national-river-cleanup/> to learn more. I have a contact at Bridgestone if you need to get rid of tires from your cleanup. Let me know before your cleanup and I'll give you contact information.

Please let me know if you hear about a cleanup on a river or stream near you and I'll try to get the word out. Encourage friends and family to practice water friendly behaviors on the land so you can continue to enjoy your time on the water!

Jacki jackizeven@gmail.com

Grand Canyon River News From Matt Fredmonsky



GCPBA River News 2/22/2020 - Proposed Dams On The Little Colorado River

Greetings to all of you. GCPBA has two major topics to share with you, as separate emails, that we have been following and working on. The first is a proposal by a company to build two dams on the Little Colorado River for electrical power generation. The second one, regarding new docks on the river near Lees Ferry, will arrive tomorrow morning.

Pumped Hydro Storage, LLC filed five preliminary permits in May of 2019 with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for studying the feasibility of pumped storage projects. Two of the filings are for projects on the LCR – one located near the confluence, the other in Salt Trail Canyon. The latter is a tributary to the main stem of the LCR. The other three are for the Salt, Gila, and San Francisco rivers.

A preliminary permit grants the permit holder a license application during the term of the permit. It is issued for up to 4 years and guarantees first-to-file status for a license. It does not authorize performing any land-disturbing activities, either on land or waters owned by others without the owner's permission.

Pumped Hydro Storage, founded in 2017, is a company based in Sweden with 1-10 employees. They recently opened an office in Phoenix. Their focus is to develop storage facilities to rival

large lithium-ion installations and other less green technologies. A pumped back storage facility requires two dams and two reservoirs. Water is pumped back into the upper reservoir during off-peak hours, and released into the lower reservoir during the on-peak hours. Thus, the financial gain is the difference between the value of on- and off-peak electricity.

Here is what's proposed for the project near the confluence: A 200-foot-high, 3,200-foot-long upper dam and reservoir; (2) a 150-foot-high, 1,000-foot-long lower dam and reservoir; (3) eight 400-megawatt, turbine-generator units, for a total installed capacity of 3,200 megawatts; (4) two new 22-mile-long, 500-kilovolt transmission lines from the powerhouse to an existing grid interconnection point; and (5) appurtenant facilities. The proposed project would have an average annual generation of 8,500 gigawatt-hours. For a comparison, Glen Canyon Dam has a capacity of 1,320 megawatts, and produces about 4,700 gigawatt-hours annually. You can see that the proposed project has more than twice electrical capacity than Glen Canyon Dam, i.e. it is not a minor undertaking!

The Hopi Nation stated its opposition to both projects on October 29, 2019. A group of organizations, collectively called "Waterkeeper", filed a motion to intervene and oppose the requested permit. They state that "damming the Little Colorado River on the Navajo Nation at a half-mile outside the Grand Canyon National Park would be inappropriate." Their motion argues "... the preliminary permit application should be dismissed for two reasons: 1) Pumped Storage lacks the required fitness for a preliminary permit and is unlikely to diligently pursue a project it has admitted is speculative and unlikely, and 2) Even if the company files a license application it will likely be denied by the FERC."

We very much doubt that the Navajo Nation would be in favor of such a project being built on land that many consider sacred, especially since they recently voted against the Escalade project. As such, it is unlikely that they would grant access for the requisite exploratory geologic, geotechnical, and environmental studies.

GCPBA's evaluation of the project mirrors that of the applicant and Waterkeeper given just the technical/engineering aspects alone. Basically, the unfavorable hydrologic and geologic conditions would offset any cost benefit gained by an unpredictable differential of on/off-peak cost benefit. You can add your own technical considerations to the following list;

1. The cost of environmental studies alone, which could take 2 to 3+ years, would run into the \$Millions. A costly design would be required to mitigate the adverse impacts on the humpback chub.

2. Finances are typically stretched out over 50 years. It would be difficult to predict what the on/off peak power differential will be 10, 20, 50 years from now. The energy landscape is rapidly changing - predicting the financial role of coal, wind, hydro and solar energy would be uncertain to say the least.

3. Treating the sediment load of the LCR would be a challenge all by itself. The hydrologic landscape for the LCR is one of a desert environment where flash flooding carrying a large sediment load dominates as opposed to a steady year round flow with peaks and valleys of flow with a small sediment load. The abrasive action of the sediment on the impellers would require frequent maintenance. Not to mention that, over time, the reservoirs would be storing sediment as opposed to water. Removing that sediment would be highly problematic due to the high levels of accumulated toxins.

4. In-stream releases would be required - you can't just turn off the tap to the main stem of the Colorado. This would require releasing a percentage of stored water and reduce any cost benefit.

5. Construction of transmission towers and 22 mile-long lines would have to be undertaken, plus agreements to purchase power for the pump back cycle and the sale back to the grid. These agreements would have to be in place before any analyses can be made about the project's financial feasibility.

6. Any suggestion or promise that the project would create jobs for the Navajo in the long term would be misleading. During the 10+ year construction period there would be job opportunities. Once constructed, however, these projects are operated remotely. Maintenance would, in all probability, be contracted out due to the specialized nature overhauling and refurbishing hydroelectric turbines, impellers, etc.

7.on and on.....

If you want to read more about this topic, the Arizona Republic published an excellent article by Debra Krol in their September 27, 2019, issue. A similar article appeared in a February 10, 2020, edition of Newsweek. We will follow this topic and inform you and take action should the Navajo pursue this.

Best regards,
Richard Harter
GCPBA President

GCPBA RiverNews is a service of Grand Canyon Private Boaters Association.
Join and Support GCPBA. Visit our website www.gcpba.org.
We are on Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1424392787831584>

The Kayak Roll Head Game
One man's journey to swim independence!
Part 2
by Rob Hammond

Ok where was I when we ran out of ink last month? Damn... I knew I shouldn't wait until the last minute to write this part. Ok if you didn't read the last month's article, you better go find a copy right now, it is on the Internet, read it, cause this part isn't gonna make much sense, unless you read the first part. After the article ran, I received some good pointers from people who had Dr. HG problems, so next month I will talk about some things that have helped other people. And if you have some experiences that you would like to share drop me a line. (Names can be changed to protect delicate egos!).

As you remember last month, we talked about how easily it was to have our head messed with when we are upside-down in a wet and unfriendly environment. The Good Dr. Head Game likes to fool us by speeding up our sense of time, so that what we think is 30 to 60 seconds of

inhospitable upside down time is really more like 2 to 4 seconds. We also talked about “teaching our muscles” the technique. When we know any technique well enough that we do not have to consciously think about it, we are not as easily distracted when we have other entertainment competing for our attention.

So why is it that we can swim under water for 20 seconds without any panic, oh yeah... we may have a hankering for a breath of air, but we don't feel the sense of panic that we get after just a couple of seconds in an upside-down kayak? The answer is: when we are swimming, we don't have the trapped feeling, we can come to the surface anytime we want. But when you are upside down in a kayak, you feel trapped because your legs are inside the boat and you can not swim to the surface. Now the objective amongst us, would point out that exiting an upturned kayak is a simple move that you can do in under one second. We all know that, but our friend, and I use the term most loosely, Dr. Head Game somehow makes us forget how fast we can get out of the boat. And now that he has us just a little concerned, he feeds on our fear and starts turning the time acceleration dial. You may have observed this phenomenon yourself in a pool. You are upside-down and after an eternity of thrashing, you can't seem to right your boat. Your lungs feel like they are going to explode and you can't wait a moment more. Fortunately your buddy is there with a bow to rescue you. As soon as you put your hands on your buddy's boat, with your head still under water, your panic subsides, and you seem to have all of the time in the world to bring your head up for that breath of air.

It is the trapped feeling that is the first hurdle that we have to overcome to get our head game under control. This trapped feeling can have a devastating effect on some people, to the point that it affects their boating even when they are upright. These people have the experience and skills for class III rivers, but are still very tentative on easy class II rivers. When someone is consumed with the fear from feeling trapped; don't bother trying to use logic to try and talk them out of their fear. Their rational brain knows that they aren't trapped in the boat, but Dr. Head has such a grip that he does not let reason penetrate to the Fear Central Command (FCC). The FCC is that part of the brain that protects us from doing stupid things that could qualify us for the Darwin award. You know, things like playing baseball on the freeway, or unless your name is Kennedy; playing football on skis on a steep, wooded Aspen ski slope. The FCC has an important roll in the survival of our species and therefore has a direct connection to the Senior Commanding General in our head.

So, what to do if Dr. HG is blocking reality from getting to the FCC? My experience is that you have to start from the beginning and do some wet exits, just as you did, or should have done, on the first day you were in a kayak. Then slowly progress to activities that increase the hang time in an inverted boat. You can't rush this phase, and you may have to go back to it from time to time. Cause, if the FCC rules that boat inversions are the equivalent of standing in front of a speeding locomotive, then boating is not gonna be something that you can put on you're A list of fun and exciting things to do.

Main Squeezes respond much, much better to instructors that they don't sleep with.

Now this is to all of you out there who wanted your Significant Other (SO), to enjoy the sport that you have a high addiction level to. However, you just couldn't get them interested. Oh sure... they gave you all kinds of reasonable sounding rationalizations, but the real reason is very likely that their FCC, courtesy of Dr. Head Game, will not allow them to play with rattle snakes or skirt into a tippy little plastic boat and put onto water that has strange currents and obstructions that do inexplicable things to the craft. Those of us who have been in this sport for

more than a month or two have seen our buddies bring their main squeeze to the river anxiously waiting for them to catch their whitewater addiction. Now look around and count the number of boating couples that you see, I don't know about you but... I don't need both hands to keep the tally! Now why is that? The primary reason is probably that you nominated yourself to be the head instructor! That Bunkie, is a bad idea! Leave the initial instruction to the professionals! You might be very capable of teaching your buddy, but Main Squeezes respond much, much better to instructors that they don't sleep with. If I have to explain this to you any further, then let me refer you that Mars and Venus book.

Ok, so you're smart enough not to fall into instructor trap. The next challenge is way harder. That is the one where you expect them to progress twice as fast as you did. You are anxious to get on the rivers that you can have fun on, so we engage in a little harmless skill inflation. Yeah, that is where, after a month on the river, we tell our SO that they are good enough for that class V river that we love! Ok, maybe I exaggerate just a little, but you get the idea. We tend to not spend time on the basics. And the most crucial basic, is to make sure that the new boater is comfortable when they are not upright. If you blow by the wet exits, Eskimo rescues, and just feeling safe upside-down in moving water, then the FCC is going to kick in and put the brakes to any future forward progress! Now while we are on this couple message, let me point out that us guys are the biggest offender turning our SO away from whitewater boating. But I don't want you chicks to set back and think you aren't the cause of couple-less boaters as well. You have an even bigger challenge with your SO than the guys. And that is due to the Machismo factor. If you spook a guy on the river, doing a sport that you that you are already better at than he, than don't expect a second chance. A chick is far more motivated to spend quality time with her guy; and a guy is way less motivated to engage in a sport that has spooked him, and that he feels like he is a klutz at. So, the boater dud's girl will go for the full 3 strike count before she hangs up her rubber skirt, where the boater chick's guy, will very likely bail after the first intimidating inversion!

So now, for whatever reason, we find our self with Dr. HG sitting back with a big grin on his face and our FCC has put a stop to any further Whitewater fun. You all have heard your doctor say that it is easier to prevent a medical problem than it is to cure it. The same applies here, when your FCC has put you in Whitewater Fun Arrest (WFA), you will need to spend some serious time in the Intensive Boater Rehab Unit (IBRU). All kidding aside, once boat inversion fear has overtaken your rational thinking, it is hard to push that fear into the background where it belongs. My experience is to start with wet exits. Note to WFA sufferers; you will need a patient buddy to help you out here. Now you may want to write off this step as too elementary. **DON'T DO IT!!** We are not trying to teach a technique here, we are trying to break down a big reinforced concrete wall that you have built up in your mind. Once a comfort level is established with several wet exits, work on increasing the hang time underwater, start with 3 seconds upside-down before exiting, and move up to 5, 10 and 20 seconds. Also use the same technique on Eskimo rescues where your buddy moves his boat close to provide a bow for you to pull yourself up. Work up a 30 second hang time for a bow rescue. Once you establish a comfort level with these drills in still water, try them in moving water, especially waiting for the Eskimo rescue. The goal here is to keep your fear under control, while you are upside-down in moving water. Above is a treatment regime I have used for boaters in full WFA. Most of us don't need that intensive of treatment. Instead of a full blown case of WFA, we may just be suffering from Boat Inversion Anxiety (BIA). This is a whole lot easier to treat, you may want to start with doing bow rescues and gradually increasing your hang time, but don't ignore this, in extreme cases it may lead to full blown WFA, but at the very least, it will keep you out of the Bombproof Roll Club. You may scoff at BIA, but let me tell you we all have BIA to at some degree.

Here is a tip from John Kobak, who, even though he is older than dirt, still can execute a roll once in a while. "At the top of a significant rapid, one that I see some of you boaters slip on your nose-plugs, try taking at least three really deep breaths." What this does, if you find yourself upside down in the rapid, is tell you're FCC that you really don't need to breathe for a while. This actually turns off your BIA and allows you to clearly think about your roll without any distraction from little things like wanting to breathe.

I used to think that some people were exempt from BIA. Take my buddy Matt (Ratt Boy) Muir; he had a reputation of being able to roll anything, anytime, anywhere, every time. We all assumed that his super human stamina was due to the fact that, well... he wasn't really human. With his personality it was quite easy to believe that he was an alien life form that only needed air to blow off his insulting comments to us. But even the mighty Ratt succumbed to BIA. I remember the day, years ago, like it was yesterday! He and I ran the Upper Yough in the morning and in the afternoon, we entered a down river race on the Cheat Narrows. I was the only one to show up without a sleek racing boat. When I saw my competition, I thought that the only way that I would not come in dead last was to cheat, or if someone swam. To make this delicious story short, my buddy Ratt saved me from the shame and dishonor by taking a swim in his rickety and unstable race boat, and taking my rightful place as the last place contestant! So, if we all have BIA, what do we do about it - as we try to move to swim independence? I think the most important things are: Practice, Patience, Focus and Tune-out. We talked about practice last month.

PATIENCE - is needed to wait for the right time. Frequently when we flip, the conditions are not ideal for an immediate roll, so wait until your boat stabilizes, or gets out of the foamy and aerated water where you paddle can't get any purchase. And of course; forget what Dr. HG is telling you. You generally only have to wait for a few seconds for conditions to improve.

FOCUS - on proper technique, when I miss my roll, I tell myself to slow down, go through the basics and focus on using good technique. Generally, my problem is that my head comes up too soon, so a roll failure is my cue to keep my head down.

TUNE-OUT - is typically a big problem for newer boaters. They need to learn to tune out the distractions, things like bumping into rocks, turbulent water, and most importantly Dr. HG. A technique that worked for me: was to analyze what went wrong after every swim. I started cataloging things that should not have been a problem but were, things like bumping into a rock, being stuck in a hole, pinned against a rock or breaking a paddle blade. When I came across the situation again, I recognized the problem and that it was not a threat. It was sort of a "been there, done that" moment. Oh... you ask, what do I do when I break a paddle blade? I admit that it does not often happen. but the solution is simple: do an offside roll, that will put you on the good blade! pinned upside-down, and ready to bail out? DON'T! most of the time you will wash off the pin if you are patient, use a little rocking action, push or pull your way off the rock, and again, don't forget to use your offside roll, if the onside roll is not working. Raft run over you? I have seen people push their way out from under the raft. The main thing is; don't let a little adversity freak you out, there is plenty of time to pull the rip cord, so try a few things first, you may be pleasantly surprised to find that the bombproof roll club is not that hard to get into!

Remember it is almost always safer to stay in your boat and roll; than it is to bail out and swim. It really is!!! I can only remember 2 situations that I had to swim in the last 15 years. One was when my boat was caught in a sieve. I had to wait until they shut the water off at the Gauley dam to get my boat out. The second was when I dislocated my shoulder; caused by over-reaching on a high brace. Come to think of it, I should have just done an off-side roll using my

good shoulder (I violated the Tune-out rule), so make that one mandatory swim! Now trust me... I have had more than one swim, but I only had to swim once. That means I have had at least 500 needless swims!

Here is a hint, clip this article out, tape it to the fridge, and review it frequently when the boating season starts. See Ya soon at the Bombproof Club meetings!!

(This article was originally written and printed in August, 2006, in the Keelhauler Ka-news.)

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. Anything in red does not have an organizer at this time.

[Click for Preliminary 2020 Trip Schedule](#)

March	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
3/1,8,15	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 8:45 -10:45 AM		John Banach	330-606-5032
3/14-22	Spring Break Trip - TN, NC OR if there is good water in WV we can go there.	22-32	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
3/18-21	Salt River (AZ)	22-32	Alison Gillam	440-328-5547
3/21	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3:00-5:00 pm		Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
3/21,22	(5) New River Dries (WV)	30	Needs organizer	
3/28	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
April	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
4/4	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4:00-6:00 PM		Josiah Colvin	567-215-1390
4/4	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
4/4,5	Tallulah - Cheoah GA, NC	30-34	Dan Yusko	330-472-8535
4/4,5	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Needs organizer	
4/4,5	(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
4/4,5	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
4/11	(1) Grand River (OH)	6	Mark Spang	440-522-0520
4/17,18	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
4/18	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
4/18,19	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
4/18,19	(5) Middle Fork & Tygart (WV)	29	Needs organizer	

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

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

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

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **April 2020 issue of the newsletter is **3/23/2020**.**

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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MARCH, 2020



Keelhauler's Ka-news APRIL, 2020



Next Club Meeting: To be announced...

**President's Message
From Mike Gillam**



While this is the time of year that paddling is starting to ramp up, things are a little different this year. Obviously, the COVID 19 virus has put a little different perspective on how we go about our daily lives. While getting outside is still very important to both physical and mental aspects of well being, we need to keep not only ourselves safe, but more importantly, other people, and the often small river communities where we recreate. Until things get back to normal (new normal), local park and play spots, Lake Erie, individual fitness paddles, can carry us through these times. Looking through social media, surf sessions on the Cuyahoga have certainly increased this spring. The normal shuttle of getting as many people in one car, should change to using more cars, bike shuttles and run shuttles when possible. Stopping to eat at local establishments (if they are open) would be discouraged. Remember, these local river communities often do not have the medical facilities to accommodate large numbers of sick individuals. Paddlers come

into a community, stop to eat, unknowingly pass the virus to the waitress, who takes it home to her dad....you get the point.

I have stopped updating our trip calendar until things become a little clearer. I would hope that by late summer or early Fall, things will become a little more stable. I will be getting some direction from the Board as far as our Lower Yough meeting/paddle weekend. The Slip SWR is tentatively still on, although, I would not be surprised if that date will change.

On a paddling trip note...I had the opportunity to paddle the Salt River Wilderness (Arizona) a couple of weeks ago. 52 miles of an outstanding beautiful canyon, big water class 3 & 4 rapids. While it was not the Grand Canyon, it was pretty close...Thanks to Alison Gillam for the invite and great trip! Went into the wilderness when the virus thing was gaining momentum, came out 5 days later to quite a few changes...

Be safe, be smart, have fun, and play outside! Just not very close to each other....

Mike

**Keelhaulers Treasurer's Report
as of March 29, 2020
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402	\$2, 308.60
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 306.14</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 614.74

Checking \$21, 044.53

Total \$25, 659.27

**2020 Keelhauler Conservation Donations
From Kelly Miller and Jacki Zevenbergen**

Our club donates money to conservation organizations that we feel are worthy of our support.

We donate any extra money our members send in when paying their dues plus extra funds remaining in our club treasury at the end of the year.

Club members can also consider contributing directly to these groups by clicking on the organization's name below.

[American Rivers](#) \$150.

[American Whitewater](#) \$1600. All Keelhauler Members can get \$10 off their yearly AW membership dues.

[Friends of the Cheat](#) \$1000.

[Friends of the Crooked River](#) \$300.

[Grand Canyon Private Boaters](#) \$150.

[Mountain Watershed Assoc.](#) - Yough Defense Fund \$150.

[Nature Conservancy](#) \$150.

[Portage Park District Foundation](#) \$100.

[River Network](#) \$100.

[WV Rivers Coalition](#) \$300.

If you have a question or would like to see the club donate to another worthwhile cause, send an e-mail to our [Conservation Chairman - Jackie Zevenbergen](#) . . . 330-923-4374

2020 Yearbook

2020 Keelhauler Yearbooks were shipped this week. They were shipped 3rd class mail to save on postage, and should arrive to members in about 2 to 3 weeks.

Conservation Corner By Jacki Zevenbergen

Spring Cleaning is in order.

Help us get rid of the pollution that is easy to see:

Both Casselman (April 11th, 9am) and the Yough (May 16, 9am) have spring cleanups scheduled. Info at <https://www.mtwatershed.com/>

Saturday, May 9, 2020, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon is Riversweep on the Cuyahoga River and its tributaries. There are 10 separate clean-up sites. Info at [canalwaypartners](#).

Saturday, June 20, 2020 is RiverDay and RiverNight in and around the Cuyahoga River! Watch for the event listings at [CrookedRiverDay.org](#).

June 20th is also the [Ohio River Sweep](#), an annual, volunteer cleanup that extends the entire length of the Ohio River. "Volunteers from the six states which border the Ohio River remove litter at multiple locations along the Ohio River and many of its tributaries."

Other River Cleanups:

Mar 08, 2020 at 1:00 pm- [Acacia Euclid Creek Stream Cleanup](#)

May 16, 2020 at 9:00 am- [Oakwood Stream Cleanup](#)

May 16, 2020 at 10:00 am- [Spring Wildwood Cleanup](#)

Jun 06, 2020 at 9:00 am- [Big Creek Watershed Cleanup](#)

Jun 06, 2020 at 9:00 am- [20th Annual Rocky River Cleanup](#)

Jun 20, 2020 at 10:00 am- [Euclid River Day Stream Cleanup](#)

Jun 20, 2020 at 10:00 am- [Warrensville Heights RiverDay Stream Cleanup](#)

If I missed a cleanup on your favorite river please let me know so I can share it with the members.

Advocate to reduce the pollution you can't see:

Read [Recreation in the Yough: Is Bacteria a Concern?](#) Whitewater kayakers have primary contact with the water (some of us more than others). We are extremely vulnerable to pollution that runs off the land because we paddle at times when rivers are swollen with runoff. Please support the watershed groups that work so hard to protect and improve the rivers we love.

Jacki jackizeven@gmail.com

**When the Slip Calls....
From Matt Fredmonsky**

It's that time of year when the Slip calls. And it's not a spam call you ignore – at least not yet. Many newer paddlers who spent much of the winter in the pool find themselves ready to transition to more moving water, and if you have a reliable roll, then Slippery Rock Creek is an excellent training ground thanks to its easily navigable Class II+ rapids. For proven paddlers, its healthy-ish spring flows offer a great opportunity to sharpen skills dulled by winter's inactivity.

This past Sunday, March 8, was one of those such days when a mix of paddlers commiserated at Rose Point under warm sunshine and cold green water.

The early group of four were Keelhauler President Mike Gillam, myself, and former club members Dan and Tyler. A nice group of four solid paddlers gelled into a comfortable rhythm, taking turns playing down and attaining up each rapid. A water level of about 0.8 feet at the Mill gauge (about 750 cfs) offered a nice mix of easy fun going both ways through the rapids.

The day proved fairly standard until portaging at the Mill. A thin but steady mist billowing off the dam created a seamless and invisible coat of ice on the rocks. Everyone knows why it's called

Slippery Rock Creek. The heavy shade in the river gorge means the rocks are often covered in green moss and lichens all summer long and sheer coats of ice long into the winter days even when temps climb above freezing by the afternoon. But we all remarked at just how slick the rocks were this day. We were seal launching from almost where the path down to the river ends, bouncing as far as 20 feet down the ice-coated rocks before hitting the water.

As my children have gotten older, I've found myself with fewer and fewer runs on any moving water, so I greatly appreciated the marvelous morning watching the sunlight flicker through the pines and down onto the water. Surprisingly, I had a combat roll (the first on the Slip I can recall in years) while the rest of our party enjoyed a dry hair day – except for Tyler and his playboat shenanigans. For many the Slip, except at unusually high runs of over 3 feet at the mill, is an early career run that becomes a memory as they move on to bigger and more technically challenging runs. But I found myself grateful for the chance to get on any water, and in particular can appreciate its non-technical rapids that for the moderate paddler truly lack any anxiety-inducing elements. In light of the number of fatalities whitewater boaters have experienced in recent years, a common riverside conversation topic these days, this is a run that almost never conjures such talk. No river should be taken for granted, and the Slip like any can pose deadly hazards, but this is a run that newer and younger paddlers alike should feel comfortable tackling this spring as they look to advance their skills. There are a number of trips scheduled this year, so make sure you think about trying one.

We hitched a ride from Eckert Bridge back to Rose Point all in Tyler's Dodge sprinter van, which he is outfitting as a camper. Ask him about the rear rack setup for kayaks, it's awesome. We arrived to find the second, larger, group of the day getting ready to run all the way down to Harris Bridge with Phil and Jen, Dave, Joe, Katie and others. A second lap tempted a few of us, but we departed by noon looking forward to the rest of a sunny day.

Trip Schedule Update

Many April and May Dam releases and races have been cancelled. Please see our updated schedule. We still need trip organizers for 2020. Please consider leading a trip. Contact Mike Gillam at mikegillam61@gmail.com or at 440-328-5547.

[Click for Preliminary 2020 Trip Schedule](#)

April	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
4/4	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4:00-6:00 PM		Josiah Colvin	567-215-1390
4/4	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
4/4,5	Tallulah - Cheoah GA, NC	30-34	Dan Yusko	330-472-8535
4/4,5	(4) Stonycreek River Release is cancelled (PA)	21	Needs organizer	

4/4,5	(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
4/4,5	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release is cancelled (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
4/11	(1) Grand River (OH)	6	Mark Spang	440-522-0520
4/17,18	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
4/18	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
4/18,19	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
4/18,19	(5) Middle Fork & Tygart (WV)	29	Needs organizer	
4/24,25	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
4/25	(1) Grand River Race is cancelled	SK/FW	Brian Davidson	440-358-7275
4/25	Cuyahoga Falls Kayak Race is cancelled (OH) Upper Gorge Limit 600 CFS	28	Don Howdyshell	330-671-0825
4/25,26	(5) Cheat Canyon Paddle (Saturday) & Race Clinic (Sunday) (WV)	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
May	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
5/1	Cheat Mass-Occurrence Race is cancelled (WV) Online Preregistration-Ends 4/27/20	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
5/1,2,3	Upper Yough (MD) or Big Sandy or Tygart (WV)	32	Needs organizer	
5/1,2,3	26th Cheat Fest Weekend is cancelled (WV)	18-26	Needs organizer	
5/2	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
5/3	(3) Cheat Narrows (WV)	18	Phil/Jen Raber	740-498-7063
5/2,3	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
5/8,15	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	

Mountain Watershed Events From Matt Fredmonsky

There are tons of opportunities to spend time with us this spring.

Check out our upcoming events and mark some dates in your calendar. We'd love to see you there!

To learn more information and purchase tickets for some of the events, visit our website at www.mtwatershed.com.

With the current situation, please double check that the events are going on. Some have been canceled or postponed. Questions? Email Hannah@mtwatershed.com

Invasive Plant Removal Trail Work

April 4 @ 10:30 am - 11:00 am

Indian Creek Valley Trail, Killarney Road

Mill Run, PA 15464 United States [+ Google Map](#)

INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL

Trail Work Day in the ICSV Gorge

Saturday, April 4 from 11 - 1p



Join us Saturday, April 4 in the Indian Creek Valley Gorge for a morning of plant-pulling! We will be focusing on Garlic Mustard, a non-native plant that thrives in this region. This plant spreads quickly and easily, out-competing with native... [Find out more »](#)

Springtime Trail Kick-off

April 18 @ 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Indian Creek Valley Trail, Killarney Road

Mill Run, PA 15464 United States [+ Google Map](#)



Join us for our first Springtime Trail Kick-off event! We will host a few guided walks and have information about the trail system and our area's drinking sourcewater. Stay tuned for a schedule of walks. [Find out more »](#)

(Canceled) Trivia Night at Vin de Matrix

April 18 @ 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Vin De Matrix Winery, 307 King's Mountain Road

Rockwood, PA 15557 United States [+ Google Map](#)



CANCELED Unfortunately, we have decided to cancel the Trivia night. We hope to reschedule the event for a later time. Take care and enjoy the signs of spring! ***** Join us for a night of trivia at Vin de Matrix... [Find out more »](#)

Indian Creek Valley Trail Meeting

April 20 @ 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

MWA Office, 1414-B Indian Creek Valley Road

Melcroft, PA 15462 United States [+ Google Map](#)

The Indian Creek Valley Trail Meeting will be held at Mountain Watershed Office (1414 Indian Creek Valley Road, Melcroft PA) This meeting is open to the public and we encourage new faces to join us! Sit in on the conversation,... [Find out more »](#)

(Postponed) 2020 Clean Water Banquet & Silent Auction

April 25 @ 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm

St. Raymond's Church Social Hall, 164 School House Lane

Donegal, PA 15628 United States + [Google Map](#)



Postponed Unfortunately, we have made the choice to postpone the Clean Water Banquet due to concerns of COVID-19. We want to prioritize the well-being of our friends and supporters. Stay tuned for a rescheduled date, most likely in mid-summer. [Find out more »](#)

Birds & Blooms Guided Walk

May 2 @ 9:00 am



Explore the Indian Creek Gorge with a local naturalist and bird expert for a 1.5 mile, slow paced, informative, and enjoyable interpretive walk. Come and see the natural diversity right in our backyard. This walk is for the whole family! We will be meeting at the Indian Creek Valley Trail Head near Camp Christian, Mill Run, PA off of St. Rt. 381. For more details, please contact Hannah at 724-455-4200 ext. 4# or hannah@mtwatershed.com. [Find out more »](#)

Melcroft AMD Open House and Tour

May 7 @ 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Melcroft Treatment Site

Have you ever wondered how our treatment sites work? Mountain Watershed Association is hosting a series of open house events for the abandoned mine drainage treatment sites. The open house will run from 5p to 7p with a guided tour... [Find out more »](#)

Spring Litter Cleanup on Indian Creek Valley Road

May 9 @ 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

MWA Office, 1414-B Indian Creek Valley Road

Melcroft, PA 15462 United States + [Google Map](#)



Help clean the community! Join us on Saturday, May 9 from 9am-12pm as we clean our 'Adopt a Highway' section of Indian Creek Valley Road. We will be meeting at the MWA office - 1414B Indian Creek Valley Rd, Melcroft,... [Find out more »](#)

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

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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WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

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Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **May 2020 issue of the newsletter is **4/23/2020**.**

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

APRIL 2020



Keelhauler's Ka-news MAY, 2020



**Next Club Meeting: Tentatively scheduled for
August 15th at Benners Campground, Lower Yough area.
More information to come....**

President's Message From Mike Gillam



While this certainly has been a limited boating season (so far), I am hoping that summer will offer a little more in the way of road trips and group paddling. It has been nice to see people taking advantage of local water, and doing it responsibly. I received a text from a friend (Keel Hauler) last week, just checking in to see how things are going. In this time of limited gathering, little gestures like a text or call to someone you haven't seen or talked with, is a fantastic gesture. Obviously, club trips are still on hold. Once we can get a clearer direction on where states are going with their guidelines, we can get back to

paddling. Hopefully, there will be some kind of coordination between states, which would make paddling road trips a little easier to arrange. Only time will tell. In the meantime, continue hitting local rivers and lake, biking local trails, and doing some yard work!
Some notes on events:

Trips are on hold until further notice
Stony fest - canceled
New River Gorge Fest - canceled
Green River Games moved to June 12-14

Our summer Lower Yough Paddle/Meeting weekend has been tentatively moved to August 13-16 (meeting on 15th). Location has been moved from Tall Oaks to Benners. This move is being made after multiple requests by participants and the concerns about upkeep at Tall Oaks. Benners Campground has group camping, pool, game room, which makes it more family friendly, especially for those who did not paddle or with young children. Here is a link <https://www.bennersmeadowrun.com/> There will be a cost difference and that information will be disseminated once the weekend is finalized. A final decision will be made mid May to the end of May. Obviously travel restrictions, group size restrictions, and concerns by KH members will be taken into consideration. If the decision is made to have the meeting, the board will make decisions on pot luck vs each person brings their own food, hand washing stations, is group camping available, groups size restrictions, and maybe most importantly, we need to make sure people will attend. If this weekend does not happen, we will still have a summer meeting via technology.

Keep playing outside and keep washing your hands!

Mike

**Keelhaulers Treasurer's Report
as of April 29, 2020
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402	\$2, 309.82
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 306.28</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 616.10
Checking	<u>\$15, 220.76</u>
Total	<u>\$19, 836.86</u>

**2020 Stonycreek Rendezvous Cancelled
From Benscreek Canoe Club**

It is with a heavy heart that we must officially cancel the Rendezvous. It has become apparent that social distancing restrictions will not be lifted in time to hold the event. The Rendezvous is our main generator of income for the white water releases. We will be setting up a means of making donations if you would like to help us cover those expenses this year.

Also note: April whitewater releases from Quemahoning Reservoir have been cancelled. May releases are under review, a decision will be made and announced ASAP. Greenhouse Park and the Whitewater Park are closed and gated. You cannot take-out or put-in at Greenhouse Park. The rivers are open to paddling but we encourage you to maintain social distancing during shuttling and other times.

**Need a 2020 Yearbook?
From John Kobak**

By now everyone should have received their 2020 Yearbook & Roster. Thanks to Chloe Shepard for taking over from Jim Hunt and turning out another nice looking publication.

If you did not get your copy please e-mail me and explain since I have all the extra copies that we printed for new members. Kobak@keelhauler.org

If a club member would like an extra copy I could send one by first class mail but postage is expensive so use this link to pay \$4. <https://keelhauler.org/yearbookmail.htm>

But you can just download one free and put directly on your smartphone using this link: <https://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/memb/KHCCYearbook2020.pdf> and our directory password listed in your monthly e-mail. Remember use dir not news for username.

John Kobak

Conservation Corner By Jacki Zevenbergen

Check out the article from the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District.
<https://www.cuyahogawcd.org/programs/individual-acts-of-conservation> Also, please remember that conservation organizations (example Friends of Cheat) are losing out on important fundraisers (example Cheat Fest), so please support them during this time. And, spring cleanups are getting canceled, so please pick up litter individually whenever possible so it doesn't end up in the streams.

Postponed: Cleanup on Indian Creek Valley Road (May 9, 9am) Info at <https://www.mtwatershed.com/>

Saturday, May 9, 2020, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon is Riversweep on the Cuyahoga River and its tributaries. There are 10 separate clean-up sites. Info at [canalwaypartners](https://canalwaypartners.org/).

Saturday, June 20, 2020 is RiverDay and RiverNight in and around the Cuyahoga River! Watch for the event listings at [CrookedRiverDay.org](https://crookedriverday.org).

The [Ohio River Sweep](#), an annual, volunteer cleanup that extends the entire length of the Ohio River has been rescheduled from June 20th to August 15th.

Other River Cleanups:

May 16, 2020 at 9:00 am- [Oakwood Stream Cleanup](#)

May 16, 2020 at 10:00 am- [Spring Wildwood Cleanup](#)

Jun 06, 2020 at 9:00 am- [Big Creek Watershed Cleanup](#)

Jun 06, 2020 at 9:00 am- [20th Annual Rocky River Cleanup](#)

Jun 20, 2020 at 10:00 am- [Euclid River Day Stream Cleanup](#)

Jun 20, 2020 at 10:00 am- [Warrensville Heights RiverDay Stream Cleanup](#)

Virtual Cheatfest this year:

<https://www.facebook.com/Cheatfest/videos/671653876742089/?v=671653876742089>

Cheatfest Silent Auction April 27th through May 3rd:

https://www.32auctions.com/CheatFest2020?utm_source=Master+List&utm_campaign=fc540927f9-

[EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_01_22_06_27_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_802d634d51-fc540927f9-345632193](https://www.32auctions.com/CheatFest2020?utm_source=Master+List&utm_campaign=fc540927f9-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_01_22_06_27_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_802d634d51-fc540927f9-345632193)

Click for Cheat Videos

Social Distancing at Brust Park on the Cuyahoga By Matt Fredmonsky



On April 4, with many of us in Ohio into several weeks of shelter-in-place orders already, we were itching to get outside. A nice Saturday morning full of sunshine and good water levels gave us a reason to get out and practice some social distancing on the surf waves that form at Brust Park, a Summit MetroParks park, along the Cuyahoga River in Munroe Falls. At one point there were nine paddlers taking turns in the various waves and being sure to practice safe physical distancing in the eddy line.

With all club trips canceled, this local park and play was within a 10-minute or so drive for most paddlers who stopped by. The club continues to encourage paddlers to avoid travel to paddle and to jump on your local runs when they are running. For those in the Stow, Cuyahoga Falls and Kent areas this wave is a great practice spot for beginners to learn basic boat control in a mildly retentive feature. If it's running, get on it while you can. Post on the club Facebook page if you don't know when this feature is "in." Here's to more May showers so we all can have something local to paddle.

**KHCC Has Been Going Strong for the Past 53 Years
By John Kobak**

We published stories by eleven different members and posted a link to these stories on our website. So, if you are tired of hearing about Covid-19, following friends on Facebook or watching old paddling videos why read these stories. <https://keelhauler.org/khnews/50%20Years%20of%20Keel-Haulers.pdf>

**Grand Canyon News
From the Grand Canyon Private Boaters Association
and Grand Canyon Trust**

<https://mailchi.mp/gcpba/gcpba-rivernews-4202020-an-update-to-the-throw-cushionthrow-bag-regulation-revision?e=02a4c1a20c>

<https://www.grandcanyontrust.org/new-report-details-risks-uranium-mine-near-grand-canyon?fbclid=IwAR3Hp2X3UX4ip6Hj1JC5TWUpdOWDEq17abRpcZ4mawrP1Pz4EKmlaBW H3K0>

Trip Schedule Update

Many April and May Dam releases and races have been cancelled. Please see our updated schedule. We still need trip organizers for 2020. Please consider leading a trip. Contact Mike Gillam at mikegillam61@gmail.com or at 440-328-5547.

[Click for Preliminary 2020 Trip Schedule](#)

May	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
5/1	Cheat Mass-Occurrence Race is cancelled (WV)	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
5/1,2,3	Upper Yough Release Cancelled (MD) or Big Sandy or Tygart (WV)	32		
5/1,2,3	26th Cheat Fest Weekend is cancelled (WV)	18-26		
5/2	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
5/3	(3) Cheat Narrows (WV)	18	Phil/Jen Raber	740-498-7063
5/2,3	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
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
5/8	Upper Yough Release Cancelled (MD)	32		
5/9	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
5/9,10	(3) Cheat Narrows (WV) or Casselman (PA)	18	Chris Mockbee	304-914-5546
5/9,10	(5) Intro to the Cheat Canyon (WV)	26	Needs organizer	
5/15	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
5/16,17	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
5/15-17	(4) Stonycreek Rendezvous is cancelled (PA)	21	Matt Fredmonsky	330-289-0388
5/16,17	(4) Lower Yough (PA) . Get Your Permit Here	23	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
5/16,17	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
5/23	(4) Stonycreek River Release one day (PA)	21	Ashlee/Ethan Kay	330-519-5127
5/22,23	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Bill Warble	412-651-0112
5/24	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Ann Corey	330-858-4841
5/30,31	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Dave Roush	440-623-9035
5/30,31	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Get Permit	23	Needs organizer	
June	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
6/6	(5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release	26	Needs organizer	
6/7	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
6/6,7	TRPC Slippery Rock Clinic Application Membership in KHCC or TRPC REQUIRED Registration ends when the classes are filled or May 20	13-21	John Banach	330-606-5032
6/6	(1) Cuyahoga River, Peninsula to Boston Mills (OH)	SK/FW	Ann Corey	330-858-4841
6/5,6	(5) Cheat Canyon (WV)	26	Anne Kmieck	216-536-1905
6/12	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
6/13,14	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Get Permit	23	Needs organizer	
6/13,14	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12	Jim Sollosi	412-496-8672
6/13,14	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Domenic Bentz	419-618-8266
6/19,20	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
6/19-21	(3) Slippery Rock Creek Rescue Clinic (PA)	13-21	Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
6/20	RiverDay Events Friends of the Crooked River (OH)		Information	216.241.2414x610

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Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the June 2020 issue of the newsletter is 5/23/2020. 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 2020



Keelhauler's Ka-news JUNE, 2020



**Next Club Meeting: Tentatively scheduled for
August 15th at Benners Campground, Lower Yough area.
More information to come....**

President's Message From Mike Gillam



From winter to mid-summer overnight! As states start to open and more people are starting to get outside and play, please do your part in keeping not only yourself, but those around you, safe and healthy. Many of us travel to surrounding states to paddle. Please make sure you are aware of local restrictions, many states require masks to enter businesses, and some places do not want people visiting yet. Know before you go. Make sure your group is on the same page with plans...if you are planning to bike shuttle the Lower Yough, that would be a good

thing for everyone to know (beforehand). Speaking of the Lower Yough, make sure you check out the new regulations for riding the shuttle bus (masks, limited seating, etc..).

Although we did cancel club trips until the end of May, we are going to start them up again. After some discussion with the board and some club members, we will start running club trips with a couple of caveats. I will not be seeking volunteers to organize trips (at least for June). While getting organizers is difficult enough, I want people to volunteer based on their level of comfort, without me hounding them. If you are willing to organize a trip (or many), please send me the following information:

1. Your name
2. River and section (if it applies)
3. Paddling ability (if needed)
4. Shuttle procedures. Walking, biking, back of trucks, masks required if riding in vehicles, etc. This should help people make a decision if the trip falls within their individual risk tolerance.
5. Meeting time and place

Let me know if you have any questions and/or concerns.
See you on the river!

The June SWR on Slippery Rock has been postponed until July. I am currently working with participants and H2O Dreams to solidify a date.

The Summer meeting, rescheduled for August, is still tentatively scheduled, although the group limit of 25 and some past practices are causing some concern. Look for Google survey coming in the next couple of weeks.

Thanks. Stay healthy and safe and Play Outside!

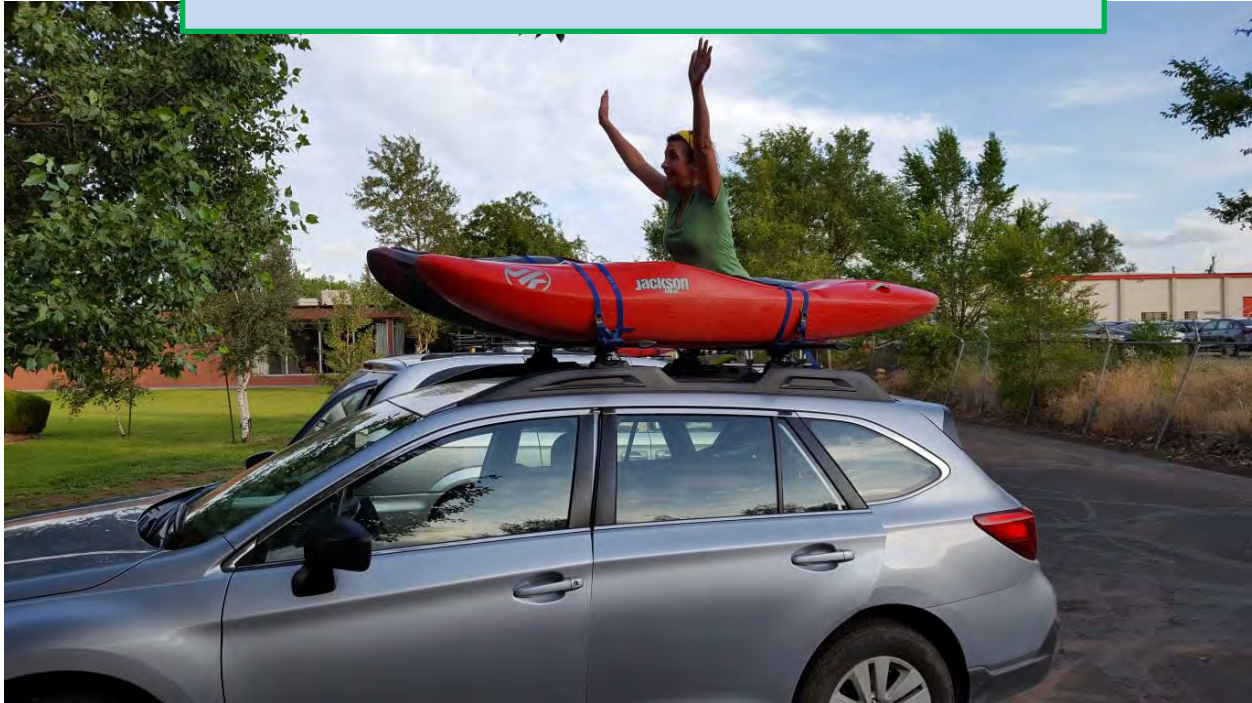
**Keelhaulers Treasurer's Report
as of May 30, 2020
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402	\$2, 309.94
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 307.49</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 617.43

Checking \$15, 204.22

Total \$19, 821.65

Social Distancing Lesson From Michael Duvall



Nurse Debbie demonstrates social distancing on shuttles. 6 ft up counts, right?

Blacklick River Run By Dave Roush

We have started to run the Blacklick at lower water levels (below 1000 cfs). It is a hoot! In my estimation it is a river with low consequences. Even so..... we had a hell of an incident. We were running this little rapid that is easy river right. There is a rock with a large pillow in front of it. We planned to run the hero line, the slot on river left. Bruce Berman, who knows the river the best, went first. Noel, the least experienced on this river, was next. Noel went sideways right before the slot, blocking the slot. Tom Omiatek was behind. Avoiding Noel, Tom hit the pillow, flipped and went completely under water, boat and all. I was running sweep, so I saw the whole thing. After what felt like an eternity Tom came out the other side of the pillow rock. It is really undercut. We spent a long time there, but never saw his boat nor paddle. With a long stick we thought we could feel the boat under

pillow rock, but couldn't get to it. After quite some time Tom walked out. He called 911 to tell them he walked off so they wouldn't mount a rescue effort if the boat surfaced later.

I have been thanking God Tom is still alive. His guardian angel really pulled a rabbit out of the hat!

Several days later, when the river was lower, two of our group went back and searched pillow rock. No boat. They did find it broached on rocks about a half mile down stream. A week later some Three Rivers boaters posted that they had found a paddle on the Blacklick. Tom is reunited with his equipment. He has since rerun that slot, successfully.

It is easy to underestimate a river.

**Canal Diversion Dam Project
Cuyahoga River-Brecksville, OH
By Jacki Zevenbergen**



At long last the Canal Diversion (AKA Route 82, Brecksville Dam) project has officially entered the construction phase. Friends of the Crooked River has been working many years to get this off the ground. It began with surveys and assessments and a whole lot of back and forth with

various agencies just to determine what additional assessments and permits were needed. This was a constantly moving target.

A lot of people have asked why this project is taking so long. The short answer - it's not just a dam removal and there are lots of stakeholders involved. It's in park areas (CVNP/Cleveland Metroparks), under a bridge (ODOT), affects a dam (ODNR), water quality (OEPA), will impact a buried historic structure (pinery dam), might have impacted wildlife (ODNR), requires a pump house (NEORS and CVNP) to get water to another historic structure (the Ohio & Erie Canal). There is no electric service to the site and access for heavy equipment was tricky. And then there is Army Corps - need I say more?

But at last things are coming together and Kokosing has begun phase one. This is where they notch the dam and beg the rain gods to give them a break. The purpose of the notching is to expose the historic pinery dam so the historian can document what has been buried in the dam pool all these years. It probably will disintegrate shortly after it is exposed to air. In phase two the dam will be totally dismantled, and we will see where the new stream bed lies. This is important for phase three. A huge challenge in this project was figuring out how to get electric service to the site and determining the best type of pump to use to water the canal. Some of these plans will need to be finalized after the dam is out and the course of the river is clear. Phase four will be the restoration of the riparian area (area adjacent to the river) impacted by the project.

The construction site was never going to be convenient for viewing but the current pandemic put a wrench in the plans for public outreach, events and conversations in the Station Road area. I'll try to share videos and pictures from the construction team as often as possible. Please respect the closure so the construction team can safely complete this important river restoration project. The end product will be worth the wait.



Notch close up



Notch far away

Watch a video of the start of the removal:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zaS-gfOn1F0&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR2Yh6plyeztVlwpbmMvjoleNeAWKjFA_PG2-_uvukRMh7FsnddRw5KLF0M

First Cheat River Run By Jeremiah Richard

There is a certain progression that paddlers go through on their kayaking journey. For some this progression is exceptionally fast, going from just learning to roll to running bigger and more technical rivers in the span of a single year. For others, this progression is a longer and more linear progression, slowly taking years as skills are learned and honed. For myself, this progression has been more erratic. Choosing which rivers and creeks to run has been based more on knowing people who were going, and less on any more natural progression. At the beginning of my progression, my brother (who also paddles) was living in Georgia, and I was making trips down to meet him relatively often. This caused me to mostly paddle a lot of the local rivers/creeks that most paddlers from Northeast Ohio paddle (Slip, Stony, Yough), and also a large amount of rivers/creeks in the Southeast (Chattooga Sections 3 and 4, Ocoee, Nantahala, French Broad, etc etc). This also caused me to largely miss a lot of the creeks/rivers in West Virginia that are very popular. Even after approximately 5 years of paddling, the only creeks/rivers I had ran in WV had been the New at varying levels (from

under 0 to 4.5'), and the Lower Gauley. However, over these years, there has always been rivers that have been on my "to do" list that I still had not paddled (I think most paddlers have a "want to run still" list to some degree). One of these rivers is the Cheat Canyon. While I had ran more challenging rivers already (or so I was told), it was just one of those rivers that I never found the time to make a trip for. However, finally, the right time presented itself, and last Memorial Day weekend I finally made it down to the Cheat.

In the lead up to running the river, I was quite nervous. Not that I didn't think I was ready, skill wise, to run the Cheat. It was more nervousness of the unknown. Any time I am getting ready to run a new river/section, I (probably like most) find myself somewhat nervous and jittery. How I have found it best to cope with this, is to mostly not think about it. I try to block my thoughts from creeping up into the front of my mind. What rapids have significant dangers? Where are the big holes? What are the lines like? These are all thoughts that race through my mind. Some of these questions I need to know the answers to (such as where the dangers are), but when they block all other thought and start to make you nervous, they can have a negative effect.

Due to CV19, my friend and I were camped out near Deep Creek Lake in Maryland, approximately 40 minutes from the put-in. This typically would be a good amount of time where I would try to not think about the river, and mostly fail. However, the drive there was only about 15 miles, but it was extremely rural and beautiful. The dirt road twisted and turned many times on the drive, usually with gorgeous views of the surrounding hills. These views and the road allowed me to stay distracted and not think much about the new river I was going to run, and the unknown rapids it would bring. However, eventually we arrived at the put-in, and it was time to start unloading. The typical herding of cats scenario ensued. Who was all going to run shuttle, did everyone have their gear unloaded, who was driving/riding with who, are there dry clothes in the vehicles being left at the take out, etc etc. Once all the cats were heard up and shuttle plans arranged, we jumped in the vehicles and started the drive to the take out.

For years I have heard of the notoriously bad quality of the road to the Cheat. On the drive there, I kept wondering if we had arrived at the bad section of road yet. After a little while, I started to believe that all the hype wasn't justified. However, as the road continued to drop further and further into the gorge, I slowly gained an understanding of the hype. This was NOT a road for my old Honda Accord that I had left at home (I had driven my old Escalade for this trip, big pimpin style). Narrow and steep, the road kept dropping and dropping, over big rocks, around steep mountain turns, needing to swerve some to avoid the worst of the rocks. On the drive down into and through the gorge, I kept imagining what it would be like when heavy rains fall. Having been to other boating festivals, I also imagined the complete disaster scene that surely ensues on Cheat Fest weekend. However, none of that was my concern that day, my biggest worry was that a sharp rock my gouge the side of my tire and slice my tire open. Thankfully, this disaster of a road kept the worst of my river thoughts away. Finally, after much swerving and minor rock crawling, we made it down to the take out parking lot. Since we were already late, I did not have the time to even go look at the river, and check out the area. After a extremely quick bathroom break, the two other drivers jumped in my ride and we started the steep ascent back up the hill. Again, since I was driving, my mind was focused on the road, and not the river.



After a short period, we made it back to the put-in. Most were already geared up and ready to go, and another group that was paddling with us was already on the river waiting. Within seconds of getting out of the car, I was already dragging my boat to the river, putting on my gear, and launching into the river. This was definitely not the norm, as it seems usually people linger and drag their feet for a bit at the put in. It felt like just a few seconds between parking and putting on the river, and trying to paddle up to everyone and catch up, as I was the last to be ready. Not knowing the river well (or being honest, at all), my nervousness was creeping back up, paddling into the unknown, with everyone a little bit ahead of me. Luckily, the splashy water at the beginning was just some small waves, and I caught up to everyone in no time. As we paddled on, we came upon some slightly bigger rapids, which were handled fine. However, I kept asking my friend “how far until the first big one”, as all my attention was focused on getting through the first big rapid fine. This is a common thing with myself when paddling new rivers. Always trying to compare the size of

rapids with prior rivers I had ran, and my nervousness always piques right before the first big rapid on a river, as the worry of the unknown creeps in.

After a little while, we came upon the first big rapid, Big Nasty, a nice size Class IV rapid. My friend who was leading me down gave me the scoop on the rapid as we came up to it (we were going to start river center, then drive to the left as we went through). I was towards the back of the group, and all of my focus was on my friend in front of me, making sure I followed his line well. After pounding through some big waves towards the top, I came upon the biggest wave, which was at the edge of a hole and had a good size haystack at the top. As I hit it, it pushed me to the left, and tried to flip me. However, a well-timed brace kept me upright, and I picked my way through the remainder of the rapid with no issues. Ok, one big one down I thought to myself. Almost got flipped, but held it together. My friend congratulated me on making it down fine, and I instantly started asking if the rest of the big rapids were of similar size, already trying to get an idea of what the other big rapids may be like.

The river seems to calm down some for a bit from there at first. Good size Class 3 rapids, but nothing exceptionally noteworthy. At this point some of the other boaters (who were in a mix of kayaks, rafts, and shredders) were falling behind some, and four of us broke off from the rest for a bit and slowly made our way further down to Cue Ball rapid. I was told this is a great surf and lunch spot, and we eddied out behind the big rocks in the center, climbed up on them, and started to eat lunch. The other two paddlers who were in our break-off group had time constraints, and continued on while we ate lunch. The wave wasn't at a good level, so we ate our small lunches waiting for the others. Eventually they passed us by as we were finishing up, and we packed up, got in our boats, and met up with them a little further down the river where they were having a small snack. At this point my friend informed me that from that point on, the river was going to start to pick up. I nervously got my head ready, and we made our way towards High Falls Rapid, the next big one that was coming up.

My friend explained that as we come into the rapid, there was going to be a rectangular box of calmer water that we would paddle through, and then break into the main current and waves at the bottom left of it. I allowed him to paddle a small amount in front of me, and we entered the rapid. To my surprise (and his, although I did not know this at the time), there was no box of calm water, and we just paddled into the chaos. At first it appeared to be mostly big reactionary waves and some chaos. Then as I crested one of the waves, I saw this odd seam where a lot of the water from river left was angling to the right, and water from the right was angling to the left. Only having a few moments to correct, my first thought was "this is a possible flip scenario". I see my friend go over and through the seam, bracing hard, and I prepared myself. Just as I came down the tongue, I adjusted my boat angle and blasted through the odd seam, having no issues and paddling down the rest of the rapid with a huge smile on my face. Up to that point, that was the toughest and most intimidating rapid of the day. I paddled up to my friend, and inquired about the "calm box" at the top. To this he replied that he had no idea where it was and he just read and ran it once he realized it looked different. Thankfully, we both made it through with no issues, both laughing.

After a bit more paddling, we came upon the final set of big rapids, Coliseum and Pete Morgan. For Coliseum we started far left, a few feet off the rocks on the left, and skirted two big holes. I saw my friend eddy out on the left behind the last of the rocks, and made my way to do the same. As I whip into the eddy I bump into him and look around, and two other

kayakers are on my tail, only a few feet behind and quickly approaching. To exacerbate the problem, this is a relatively small eddy. As I try to paddle back to make some space, I start to get sucked down a small chute, of which I have no clue where it leads. I frantically paddle back up into the eddy just as my friend peels back out into the main flow (which I miss seeing him do). There are now three of us in this small eddy in the middle of the rapid all bouncing around into each other. I have a very small idea of where to go from here, but thankfully I see one of the other boaters paddle out and paddle hard to river right, and without much thought, I do the same. We make it past the last big hole fine, and regroup at the bottom, all laughing about the chaos that just happened. Still though, all big smiles around.

We paddle a very small distance further down the river, and come up to the last big rapid, Pete Morgan. After a quick pre-rapid beta, we all start down, and run it just to the left of the big rock in the center of the river. After some hard repeating power strokes on the right, we have blasted through the waves, skirted the hole, and regroup at the bottom. Again, big smiles and friends congratulating me on having a dry hair day on my first trip down the Cheat. At this point we all assume the excitement is over for the day, and we all know what can happen when you assume things...

As we continue down a short distance from Pete Morgan, we approach some splashy boogie water with some rocks in the center. As we paddle through it, we all see a red boat broached up on a rock upside down, with no one around. Numerous of us eddy out behind some of the rocks and paddle back up stream some. We flag one of the paddlers towards the back of the line, and he eddies out right behind the rock with the boat on it. It was pretty shallow there (but still splashy), and he gets out of his boat (allowing it to float downstream) and climbs up on the rock. One other boater and myself paddle down and get his boat pushed to shore, while he attempts to dislodge the broached boat. After a very brief moment he gets the boat un-lodged, and it floats downstream. Thankfully there was no one in the boat. However, as we investigate the boat, we all feel very confident that it belonged to one of our friends that was with us earlier. Oddly though, neither he nor our other friend was around, and we rack our brains trying to solve the mystery of the lone boat. Where are they? If it was them, why didn't they wait? Was anyone injured? There was still a little under 2 miles of small boogie water to go, and we didn't see how they would have gotten down, if it was them. With no other option, we tossed the spare kayak in one of the rafts, and continue onward, making our way to the take out.

We get to the takeout, and start to carry up our gear to the vehicles, and low and behold here comes our friend walking down the path, a little scraped up but fine, with a big smile. We ask if he's missing his boat which he promptly replies in the affirmative, and goes on to described what happened. Apparently there was a flip on a small no name feature, and in the process of attempting to roll, he got pushed up against the rock that we found the boat on, which caused him to have to swim. As our other friend rescued him, the boat remained. After he was safely on the shore, they investigated and determined that it wasn't a good idea to try to rescue the boat since there was only one other paddler, and if something happened to him, they would be in even deeper trouble. They sat around and waited for a while, but stated that when they didn't see us after a bit, they decided to have him swim the rest of the river (at times being towed by the other friend). Some small scrapes and bruises later, they made it to the take out fine, but at that point probably won the record for the longest swim ever! Thankfully, all's well that ends well, and us all chuckle at the story over some post paddling brews in the parking lot. After some hanging out at the takeout, watching some

people jump off the bridge and tons of 4x4's go by, we make our way back to the put in again, and part ways.



The Cheat has always been one of those rivers that I have wanted to get on but a mix of apprehension and just simply not being available when other crews were going always kept it as one of the rivers I wanted to hit, but never had. Watching videos and clips of it over the years, hearing the stories of how awesome it is, and stories of the road to the take out, it always stayed it on my radar, even as I paddled other rivers more technical and more difficult over the years. However, sometimes you find there is a right time to do things that just happen naturally, and it turns out last Memorial Day weekend was that time for me. The Cheat is an amazing river, beautiful and remote, with great rapids. My first trip down it was great, and reaffirmed everything I love about kayaking, the outdoors, remoteness, being challenged to push your limits, and as cliché' as it may sound, the friends that were made on the way. Although I have now only paddled it once, I can see why it is a favorite of so many. Consistent rapids through the entire run, with very minimal down time. Some rapids that are big and make you have to focus, but not so big that you can't relax ever and just enjoy the ride. I am now finally able to mark this river off of my "to do" list, but I am already excited for the next chance I have to get on it.

Ohioypyle Tunnel Update

https://triblive.com/local/regional/completion-of-ohioypyle-penn-dot-project-delayed/?fbclid=IwAR2bAchSupJLOivNAORT__X6tY1KQWcviDiWfGcnfQL63s7j5lZGQNBQ0Dw

Grand Canyon National Park Adds More Noncommercial River Trips From Matt Fredmonsky

On May 4, 2020, GCPBA President Richard Harter mailed a letter to Grand Canyon National Park which reviewed the 134 noncommercial river trips that were suspended due to the coronavirus pandemic. They were scheduled to launch in March, April, May, and June of this year. There is a new announcement May 27 from GCNP that the suspension will not continue past the previously announced June 13 date.

Mr. Harter noted the disappointment of the more than 1600 potential participants involved in those trips after lengthy trip planning, and the impact on the Arizona economy (the private trip outfitters, shuttle service, Hualapai Nation, food & beverage stores, restaurants, and motels).

GCNP has offered the same launch dates and trip sizes in 2022 to those permit holders, or full refunds of fees paid. We applauded that, and we requested more from the Park:

1. Those permit holders of lost trips should be given first chances at all trip cancellations that will happen before their rescheduled dates, in advance of others in a normal follow-up lottery. If one of them gets a trip, their 2022 trip is then forfeited.
2. We proposed a partial replacement of these lost river trips, "adding small sized (8 or fewer people per trip) noncommercial river trips onto the March and October launch calendars, fifteen trips during each month, with none two days in a row...for the next few years"

At those times of year there is space for them per the Park's parameter of Trips At One Time on the river in the 2006 Colorado River Management Plan (we are currently far below the maximum allowed in those months), and there is little or no commercial river activity during those months. Conflicts between the two classes of trips will be nonexistent.

We felt that there should be an opportunity for them to have a river trip sooner than waiting for 2022. We were also concerned about those dates in 2022 now not being available for other potential river trip permittees. Mr. Harter wrote, "Those permit holders will be taking the place of others who would have wanted the same dates in 2022, some of whom might have been hoping specifically for a 2022 river trip, rather than any other year."

The Park responded May 18, agreeing with us. Superintendent Edward Keable wrote, "The proposal you have put forth has merit. The temporary addition of launching small...trips

every other day in March and October will honor the CRMP's goals for maximum TAOTs while at the same time allowing some compensation for the loss of private trip launches due to the river closure. These temporary additions will expire at the end of 2022." This is 75 more trips for private boaters.

Also, in a follow-up phone call, Mr. Harter received assurance from the GCNP River Permits Office that they will devise a method of offering trip cancellations to the permit holders of the lost trips, as we requested.

GCPBA thanks Supt. Keable for his quick response and acceptance of our proposals. We will continue to communicate with the River Permits Office to implement this, and as needed on this and other issues important to private boaters.

GCPBA RiverNews is a service of Grand Canyon Private Boaters Association. Join and Support GCPBA. Visit our website www.gcpba.org. We are on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1424392787831584>

Trip Schedule Update

[Click for Preliminary 2020 Trip Schedule](#)

June	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
6/6	(5) Savage River (MD) - Dam Release is cancelled	26	Needs organizer	
6/7	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
6/6,7	TRPC Slippery Rock Clinic is cancelled	13-21	John Banach	330-606-5032
6/6	(1) Cuyahoga River, Peninsula to Boston Mills (OH)	SK/FW	Ann Corey	330-858-4841
6/5,6	(5) Cheat Canyon (WV)	26	Anne Kmieck	216-536-1905
6/12	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
6/13,14	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Get Permit	23	Needs organizer	
6/13,14	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12	Jim Sollosi	412-496-8672
6/13,14	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Domenic Bentz	419-618-8266
6/19,20	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
6/19-21	(3) Slippery Rock Creek Rescue Clinic (PA)- Postponed	13-21	Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
6/20	RiverDay Events Friends of the Crooked River (OH) 		Information	216.241.2414x610

6/21	Black Fork River Canoe & Kayak Race (OH)  Race Flyer	SK/FW	Walt Markwell	330-807-6337
6/26,27	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
6/27,28	Swiftwater Rescue Clinic (WV) More Information Limited to 10, Register early.		John Zevenbergen	330-701-2832
6/27,28	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Domenic Bentz	419-618-8266
6/27,28	(5) New River Dries Scheduled Release (WV) As long as the Thurmond Gauge is between 3,800cfs and 12,500cfs	32	Needs organizer	
6/27-7/4	(5) Week of rivers with Carolina Canoe Club	20-28	Phil/Jen Raber	740-498-7063
July	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
7/3,4	Upper Yough (MD) or another local IV-V run	32	Jim Murtha	614-282-3293
7/?,?	(5) New River Dries Scheduled Release (WV) As long as the Thurmond Gauge is between 3,800cfs and 12,500cfs	32	Needs organizer	
7/5	(5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release	26	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
7/10,11	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
7/11	(3) Intro to Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
7/11	Headwater Adventure Race in Mantua Village (OH) Run, Bike & Paddle 	SK/FW	Kristi Kato	440-231-2311
7/12	Canoe & Kayak Orienteering Race Mogadore Reservoir 	SK/FW	Bob Boltz	330-928-8635
7/19,20	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
7/20,21	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Intro weekend - Call Fran for Permit Get Permit	23	Fran Hoven	216-375-3718
7/20,21	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12	Tom Nobilio	216-924-1225
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	

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

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

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

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the July 2020 issue of the newsletter is 6/23/2020. 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

June 2020



Keelhauler's Ka-news JULY, 2020



Next Club Meeting: Tentatively scheduled for
August 15th at Benners Campground, Lower Yough area.
More information to come....

**President's Message
From Mike Gillam**



No message this month.

**Keelhaulers Treasurer's Report
as of June 23, 2020
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402	\$2, 310.63
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 308.17</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 618.80

Checking \$15, 204.22

Total \$19, 823.02

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

**Special KHCC Membership Prices are now available!
It is nearing the end of our membership year.**

Tell your friends if they join now, they Save 50%. So instead of \$20/membership for 2020, they can pay only \$10.

Now the real bargain.... If they also pay for 2021, Instead of a \$40/membership cost for 2020-21, 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 2021 dues now, no need for an application. Pay your 2021 Dues Save \$4.00, pay for 2 years.

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

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

User Name: "dir" and the current 2020 password can be found on Pg. 22 of our 2020 yearbook or see the passwords sent out in our monthly e-mail.

Remember all 2020 memberships expire on Oct 1, 2020, and it makes it much easier for me if you pay on-time.

John Kobak - Membership Chairman

Two Short Stories about Mad Ralph McCarty

By Dean Norman

These are two stories about Ralph McCarty from 1967. The first members of the Keelhaulers were paddlers that split from The Mad Hatters in 1968, because they didn't like loud parties at campgrounds late at night. Anyway, Ralph is passed away 8 years ago, but many old timers will remember him....

The Mad Hatters and Mad Ralph McCarty

Members of The Mad Hatters Canoe Club liked to wear funny hats. Their first trip each year was a race on the Grand River in northeast Ohio on the first Saturday of spring. I drove to watch the race. I like to paddle slow and look at the scenery, so I didn't enter. I saw a lovely wood strip canoe with a rose attached to the bow. Ralph said the canoe had been made for Lowell Thomas and used for a TV adventure in some exotic place. It leaked like a sieve, but he had put a layer of fiberglass and resin on the hull, and hoped it wouldn't leak today.

When I introduced myself Ralph said, "I acted out the cartoon you drew for American Whitewater magazine. I was at a public hearing to protest against a dam on a river. I asked an Army Engineers officer, "Is it true that the Army Engineers dip drinking water from the bathtub, because you can't stand the sight of running water?" He said, "If you nuts had your way, your women would still be carrying in coal for the stove."

Paddlers started the race one canoe at a time. A piece of paper was handed to a bowman recording the minute his canoe would start. An official counted down "5...4...3...2...1...GO." The paddlers then lifted their canoe, ran down the bank, and threw it into the river. Some of them slipped on mud, and fell in the river before they got into their canoe.

I drove to the park at the finish. I could hardly see the road. It was the worst blizzard of the winter. As each canoe hit the bank the bowman jumped out, and ran up to a desk with his piece of paper. An official looked at a clock, and recorded the team's finish time. Some people slipped and fell in the mud here, which added some seconds to their race time.

Ralph and his son had to stop and dump water out of their pretty canoe several times. They didn't win a trophy, but hey....it was a fun race. Wouldn't the Olympics be more interesting if they did it like this?

Mad Ralph on the Cheat Narrows and the Youghiogeny

When Susan I launched our canoe on the Cheat River Narrows, I was apprehensive. Ralph, his son, and Father McGuckin wore neoprene wet suits. Me and Susan had extra clothes in a waterproof bag. If we capsized, we could change once. The river was high and cold.

Ralph knew the river, so he led. Father McGuckin followed in his kayak. He had brought the first whitewater kayak to Ohio. The Mad Hatters made him use a canoe paddle in their race. Said his double bladed paddle gave him an unfair advantage. The first rapids were a line of white capped waves. Our canoe plunged into each wave, rocked up as it climbed the wave, and down into the next. Each wave poured a few quarts or maybe gallons into our canoe. At the end of the rapids our little golden lab puppy was swimming in the canoe. Ralph had told us it was an easy trip. It was the first time our puppy, had been swimming.

We bailed out our canoe, and ran a series of rapids in the same way. "The only tough one is Calamity Rock," said Ralph. He helped Susan and me carry our canoe around Calamity Rock. He and Father McGuckin ran the rapids with no trouble. We warmed a little in the sun as we ate lunch. Then back on the river, and more rapids.

I told Ralph that Susan and I were going to take out before the next rapids. We were so tired that if we capsized or swamped we wouldn't be able to save ourselves. He would have to come back along the riverside road and get us. Well, we had just run the last rapids, so we completed the trip. Fawn (our puppy), Susan and I felt lucky to have survived. Ralph had a tendency to underestimate river challenges, which was partly why he was called Mad Ralph.

A few years later he founded one of the first white water rafting companies on Pennsylvania's Youghioghenny River. Bob Marietta, founder of another rafting company, described one of Ralph's first commercial trips.

"He had everybody in inflatable kayaks called rubber duckies. Ralph talked to a scoutmaster and about ten boy scouts to tell them how to run the first rapids. He said, "You go a little right of center through some big waves toward a big rock. The rock is underwater so you can't see it. You want to turn sharp left before the rock, then turn right, and go left of another rock, and then....well it's complicated. Just follow me." Ralph tipped over in the first wave, and swam the whole rapids. All the rest of them paddled though without tipping over."

Dam Project/River Cleanup Days By Jacki Zevenbergen

Things are coming along nicely on the [Route 82 dam removal](#). We thought the pinery dam would fall apart after the water levels dropped but the 1827 structure turned out to be much more sturdy than expected. The historic team was able to thoroughly inspect and document it so the construction crew could remove it. The old dam was notched on Tuesday, June 16th and is being removed. See the video [here](#). Also that week, Kokosing continued to work on removing the remaining 1'x40' section of the Canal Diversion Dam on the West Bank and pulling out the temporary material used to build the causeway to access the canal.

The next step in this phase of the project is approval of a bank stabilization plan and completion of the restoration. This couldn't be finalized until the dams were out and the new character of the river is clear. This is still an active construction site, but I hope to have an update soon on when we expect this phase of the project to be completed. The pump station phase of the project will probably be under construction next year. I should know soon if the river will be open between the restoration phase and the pump construction phase. I'll keep everyone posted.



Historic photo of the Pinery Dam before the modern dam was installed.

Saturday, June 20th was Cuyahoga RiverDay. Many of the cleanups and festivities were cancelled or converted to virtual events. There is a great virtual art show and virtual tour of Big Creek. Learn more at <http://www.crookedriverday.org/>. You may have missed your regular RiverDay cleanup, but we can all do our part wherever we paddle to keep the rivers clean of trash. Please take the American Rivers pledge at <https://www.americanrivers.org/river-cleanup-map/>. Many of the river and creeks have a friends' group that could use your help with water quality improvements. Please support these groups with funds or help wherever you can.

Stay safe and enjoy the river!

Trip Schedule Update

[Click for 2020 Trip Schedule](#)

July	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
7/3,4	Upper Yough (MD) or another local IV-V run	32	Jim Murtha	614-282-3293
7/4,5	(5) New River Dries Scheduled Release (WV) As long as the Thurmond Gauge is between 3,800cfs and 12,500cfs	32	Needs organizer	
7/5	(5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release	26	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
7/10,11	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
7/11,12	(5) New River Dries Scheduled Release (WV) As long as the Thurmond Gauge is between 3,800cfs and 12,500cfs	32	Needs organizer	
7/11	(3) Intro to Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-21	Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
7/11	Headwater Adventure Race in Mantua Village (OH) Run, Bike & Paddle is cancelled	SK/FW	Kristi Kato	440-231-2311
7/17,18	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
7/18,19	(5) New River Dries Scheduled Release (WV) As long as the Thurmond Gauge is between 3,800cfs and 12,500cfs	32	Needs organizer	
7/18,19	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Intro weekend - Call Fran for Permit Get Permit	23	Fran Hoven	216-375-3718
7/18,19	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12	Tom Nobilio	216-924-1225
7/24-26	(3) Slippery Rock Creek Rescue Clinic (PA)	13-21	Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
7/24,25	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	
7/25,26	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Get your own Permit	23	Needs organizer	
7/25,26	(5) New River (WV)	26	Needs organizer	
7/26	Canoe & Kayak Orienteering Race Change in location for 2020 	SK/FW	Bob Boltz	330-928-8635

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.

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

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Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the August 2020 issue of the newsletter is 7/23/2020. 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

July 2020



Keelhauler's Ka-news AUGUST, 2020



Next Club Meeting: After talking with trustees, with the very low interest (as per FB and webpage post) and rising Covid concerns, the August Club Picnic has been cancelled. There is a possibility the Ladies Day and Skip Work Paddle may continue. I do anticipate someone leading a LOYO trip that Saturday. Future updates will address those items. Please check the Google Trip Calendar (on club webpage/can be copied to your G calendar) for updates.

Mike Gillam

President's Message From Mike Gillam



Wow, August sure seemed to sneak up on me! Maybe it has been my relatively lack of social gatherings, or possibly the new puppy that has reset my wake up alarm and reminded me of puppy energy and sharp teeth! While Covid has certainly reduced the activities of many people,

it appears to have increased interest and activity in outdoor activities. Hiking, biking, rafting, kayaking, paddleboarding, etc...all seem to be enjoying a resurgence during these times. A local outdoor shop owner told me this has been his best year in selling kayaks/boards, that many people who typically take trips out of Ohio have decided to recreate locally. That appears to be happening in many places. Maybe a positive spin to the virus closings and mandates.

A couple of club matters that continue to be on the front burner(s), include next year's KH president, future meetings including our December meeting Get Together, and our extremely popular river trips. Anyone interested in the position of president, or any position, should contact me ASAP. I will be scheduling a Zoom meeting with the board in August and an agenda will be posted on the web page and FB page ahead of time. Our river trips are what keeps this club alive and with Covid, we are struggling to find trip leaders. While we cancelled earlier trips, we are now actively looking for trip organizers, if you feel comfortable doing so. I have sent a confirmation email to organizers we had scheduled for upcoming trips, and will update the google calendar, located on the club webpage. I did see today that the New River Dries will be running much of September and October, so if you are looking to organize a trip...

Our summer meeting/picnic/paddling weekend that was moved from July to August has officially been cancelled. However, there still are a few trips running that weekend, check the Google calendar. Don't forget you can sync that calendar with your personal G calendar.

This is the Slippery Rock SWR weekend with Chris Wing and H2ODreams. I met with Chris this morning, and I am pretty sure the participants will have a fun, educational, and tiring weekend! Thanks to the Keel Haulers for sponsoring this weekend course. I am hopeful we can continue using membership fees to offer programs to members at reduced costs in the future. The winter roll sessions the club sponsored was an overwhelming success and this SWR course filled in a couple of days.

Be safe, healthy, have fun and play outside!

Mike

**Keelhaulers Treasurer's Report
as of July 26, 2020
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402	\$2, 311.29
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 308.83</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 620.12
Checking	<u>\$15, 299.84</u>
Total	<u><u>\$19, 919.96</u></u>

Special KHCC Prices Now Available From John Kobak

It's near the end of our 2020 membership year.
Tell your friends that they can join now and save 35%.
Instead of a \$40/membership for both 2020-21 they can pay only **\$26** & get our 2020 yearbook.

On-Line Registration Form

All their payment options will be displayed.

All existing 2020 members should start paying their 2021 dues now, no application required.

A new option is available for **two years dues for only \$36**

Just click to: **Pay 2021 Dues**

Remember all 2020 memberships **expire on Oct 1, 2020.**

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

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

User Name: "**dir**" and the current 2020 password can be found on Pg. 22 of our 2020 yearbook or see the password sent out in our monthly e-mail.

Hard Time on the Lower Yough By Chris Brunjes

I had a kayaking accident on the LY on 5/27/2020. I was so psyched to be back on the river. I have not paddled since early last June when I paddled the LY twice, ASCI once and the Potomac several times. I was a solid paddler over 20 years ago and am trying to get back on the river. The gauge at Ohiopyle read 2.8 feet.

Something didn't feel right driving to the river. Maybe it was my close call with a semi-truck when I made a left onto 40 from 281. My feeling increased when I failed at my first roll attempt. After a successful roll, the 4 of us headed down the river, Pat O'Hammy from Garrett County Outdoors and 2 other paddlers. I was very tentative at Entrance, caught some eddies, but didn't play anywhere.

Everything changed at Cucumber. I never had a problem at Cucumber. I flipped a few times, but easily roll back up. As I approached the drop, I drifted a bit too far right and dropped into the hole below. I was quickly flipped. As I was setting up my roll, my entire face slams into a big, sharp rock. It didn't knock me out, but it did knock me out of the boat. I swam and when I came up, I knew I had taken a big hit. I knocked my front tooth out and felt a bit dazed but with all things considered, I felt OK. There was a lot of blood, but I thought it was coming from my mouth. Pat O'Hammy took care of my boat while I swam to shore. I emptied out my boat and

then we assessed the situation. At first, I said I was OK and could paddle the rest of the way to the takeout at Brunner's Run. Reality, I was hurt and needed help ASAP. Options, I could either climbed up the steep hill to the path or paddle the remaining 6 rapids to the Loop takeout. I decided to paddle. The Pat said to follow him closely as we took the easy routes through the rapids. I made the paddle and climbed up the rocks to the first flat area and the other 2 guys in my group carried my gear. Pat walked ahead.

I was surprised to find a Park Ranger and an EMT waiting. I later learned our Pat had called the Park Ranger when I was getting back in my boat after the accident. They quickly sat me down and asked many questions. I was happy to say "no" when they asked if I blacked out during the accident and when they asked me if I was in a lot of pain. Surprisingly, pain was not an issue. I felt dazed but still felt OK. I tried to convince them to take me to the takeout so I could retrieve my car and then head somewhere for attention to my injuries. That was out of the question. I heard sirens in the distance and asked, "was that for me?" and they replied "yes", "you get to ride in the back of an ambulance to the Uniontown Hospital". It was at that time I learned about the severity of my cut. The cut was long and deep. They said they could see my skull. I didn't believe them until they showed me a picture.



So now I have a dilemma. I am alone at my Deep Creek home and the only person I knew was Pat O'Hammy who lives in Friendsville and he needed to go straight from the takeout to work. The other 2, I had just met at the put-in. My car is at the takeout, my boat is at the loop takeout, and I am being transported 30 miles west. Pat said he would take my boat and deliver it to me the next day. The other 2 paddlers were kind enough to go out of their way to drop off my car at the hospital. I love kayakers.

The rest of the day was uneventful. Received a Cat Scan (clear), was stitched up and sent on my way. As I walked out of the hospital, someone gave me my keys, and my car was out front waiting for me. I safely made it back to my Deep Creek house.

Everyone I encountered that day acted professionally, prepared, and sincere.

To add insult to injury, 10 days later I had a hard fall down our hardwood staircase. This resulted in surgery to repair a detached bicep.

No paddling for me for a while.

Great American Outdoors Act Passes From Outdoor Alliance

Read more here:

<https://www.outdooralliance.org/blog/2020/7/22/breaking-house-passes-great-american-outdoors-act>

We are thrilled to share that the House just passed the Great American Outdoors Act by 310 to 107. Outdoor Alliance and the outdoor community made this victory possible.

You can read our full policy letter on the bill [here](#), but it has two main pieces:

Permanent funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund: The Land and Water Conservation Fund provides crucial funding to create parks, trails, and recreation infrastructure around the country. Although LWCF is authorized to get \$900 million each year, none of that funding is guaranteed, so in practice it gets about half that, and the rest of the funds are diverted for other purposes. Now, LWCF will be guaranteed full funding every year, without needing Congressional appropriation.

Restore Our Parks and Public Lands Act: Years of inadequate funding by Congress have led to a maintenance backlog on National Parks, but also on National Forests and other public lands that Americans enjoy. ROPA will provide funding of up to \$1.9 billion every year for deferred maintenance on National Parks and other public lands for up to five years. Outdoor Alliance advocated to have additional funding added to the bill for maintenance on National Forests, BLM lands, and other public lands.

One key piece of the Great American Outdoors Act is that it will help fund more equitable access to the outdoors. LWCF is a key mechanism for cities, counties, and states to fund the creation of new parks, trails, green spaces, baseball fields, and more. As we work to ensure that everyone has access to the outdoors, this funding will help create green spaces where they are most needed. In addition, it will help restore our National Parks, National Forests, and other public lands and waters, which are under pressure because of increased visitation in the last few years.

83 for 38
By John Kobak



**Click picture for animation. If you liked the Gun Barrel animation,
Click here for my run at [Lost & Found](#)**

I have been WW kayaking for 50 years now and I still love it. I never got to be an expert paddler but have led trips all over the SE US and on rivers out west, including the Grand Canyon, some of the stories are posted on our website here: <https://keelhauler.org/khnews/index.htm#2>
I have also led Class IV adventure trips from South America to Canada, some of the stories are posted on our website here: <https://keelhauler.org/khnews/index.htm#3>

I've posted some of my paddling pictures over the past 40 years on this site:
<https://keelhauler.org/khcc/webmasphoto2.htm>

We have paddled in all sorts of conditions from snow storms, flooded rivers and ELF (Extra Low Flow) trips. I loved them all and the people that accompanied me. Most that continued in the sport have become true expert paddlers and paddle even more advanced rivers than I ever can. I never reached expert status but paddlers continue to follow my easy lines through difficult rapids like the Upper Yough in Western MD. For the past 38 years I led hundreds of paddlers

down the UY for their very first time. I'm probably the sole reason that there are so many paddlers on this beautiful river. I fell in love with the river and the area. So, 19 years ago I bought a small cabin in a private development called Beaver Creek. It is near the UY, LY and Cheat and now Peggy can comfortably stay in, while I'm out paddling.

<https://keelhauler.org/cabin.htm> All my paddling friends used to stop by to camp with us and to enjoy the river along with the area. Many decided to follow my example and buy or build cabins. We now have 13 paddler's cabins on our little street. It is a true paddler enclave and has provided lots of fun and memories for all.

As I age, I try to stay in shape so I can keep paddling with my friends who now watch over me as I keep testing my paddling skills. I find it hard to carry my kayak very far and have a hard time putting it on the car roof, but my friends have been there for me, and help me carry & lift it up. Of course, I am now a fair weather paddler and if conditions are not perfect I skip that trip and paddle when they are. I like the fast rivers with not many other paddlers and skip paddling when it is too packed with paddlers.

This past holiday weekend I was able start my 38th year on the Upper Yough and that's not too bad for an 83 year old paddler. I had nice smooth lines on a 2 hour special release day. We had a 5 person group and never saw any other paddlers until we were most of the way through the run.



Brent, Smoltz, Kobak, Casey, Cramer

Trip Schedule Update

[Click for Preliminary 2020 Trip Schedule](#)

August	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
7/31,8/1	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
8/1,2	(4) TRPC Turkey Bash at Lower Yough is cancelled	23	Bruce McClellan	412-519-7459
8/7,8	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Annelies Layton	412-867-9628
8/8,9,22,23	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Needs organizer	
8/13	(4) Lower Yough - Skip Work Day (PA)	23	Jim Hunt	330-335-5203
8/14,15	Upper Yough (MD) 40th Annual Friendsville Days Festival is cancelled	32	Jim Murtha	614-282-3293
8/15	Club Picnic is cancelled		Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
8/15,16	(4) Lower Yough (PA) How to Get Permit	23	Dave Roush	440-623-9035
8/15	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Mark Spang	440-522-0520
8/21,22	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
8/28,29	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
September	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Time to Pay Dues	
Postponed 9/??	Swiftwater Rescue Clinic (WV) More Information Limited to 10, Register early.		John Zevenbergen	330-701-2832
9/5-7	(5) New River Gorge (WV)	27	Phil/Jen Raber	330-827-7063
9/4,5,11,12 14-18,25	Upper Yough (MD) Special Release Week 14 to 18th	32	Needs organizer	
9/12,13	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Phil & Jen Raber	330-827-7063
9/12,13	Upper Gauley (WV)	33	Needs organizer	
9/5,6,19,20	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Needs organizer	
9/12,13	(4) Lower Yough(PA) How to Get Permit	23	Chuck McDowell	330-477-1086
9/12	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Steve Ingalls	216-371-8250
9/17	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541

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



Keelhauler's Ka-news

SEPTEMBER, 2020



Next Club Meeting:

To be announced, probably in October via Zoom

Mike Gillam...440-328-5547

President's Message From Mike Gillam



As summer starts to wind down, school begins to ramp up (new kind of ramping!), the temperature will eventually start to cool, leaves will change, and Gauley season will begin! Beginning September 11, there will be twenty two days of releases. Because of inspection work, the New River dries will flow most of September and October! Looks like a great way to put a positive spin on paddling 2020!

The board met via Zoom in August and discussed a number of topics bulleted below:

- Membership is currently 291, which is a fairly constant number for the last couple of years

- SWR - this class, held on the Slip was a great success. Look for this to happen again next year, possibly two dates, depending on interest. There is interest in more advanced classes, and I will be talking with H2ODreams about offerings. Advanced courses may be held locally or in North Carolina.
- Our October and December meetings will be via Zoom and announced once scheduled.
- Roll Sessions - last year's Canton (free) roll session were very well received. Look for more information on roll sessions as they get closer. There have been some impromptu roll sessions at Indigo Lake. Brian Smart has been organizing these sessions each Tuesday. Follow our FB page for details. Thanks to Brian for organizing these!
- Yearbook - We again discussed the idea of printing yearbooks for new members only. Since the only information that changes is the membership (for the most part), sending new books each year seems redundant. Eventually, we will get to the point of only emailing a PDF of the yearbook. Membership PDFs would be emailed each year.
- Club Officers - due to the overwhelming number of interested people and the summer of Covid, John Banach and I have agreed to stay in our positions for next year, contingent upon approval at October meeting. We will have one new Trustee, as Steve Ingalls term has been completed. I want to thank Steve for his ideas and commitment to the club. The full board will be posted prior to the October meeting on the website and FB.
- Trips - because of Covid, most of our club lead trip organizers have decided to not lead trips for the next couple of months. If you are planning a trip and would be open to other members joining, please contact me so I can put it on the calendar. Or, you could post your trip on FB and/or club webpage.

Stay healthy, have fun, and play outside!

Mike

**Keelhaulers Treasurer's Report
as of August 25, 2020
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402	\$2, 311.98
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 309.52</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 621.50

Checking	<u>\$15, 710.62</u>
Total	<u>\$20, 332.12</u>

2021 KHCC Membership Dues are Now Payable From John Kobak

It's near the end of our 2020 membership year.

All existing 2020 members should pay their 2021 dues now, no application required.

A new option is available Pay for **two years dues for only \$36**

Just click to: [Pay 2021 Dues](#)

Remember all 2020 memberships **expire on Oct 1, 2020.**

I would like to thank members for telling their friends & paddlers you meet on the river about KHCC.

Our membership for 2020 just past 300 paid memberships.

New Member Cost is **\$24** which includes 2020-21 and a copy of our 2020 yearbook & club stickers.

[On-Line Registration Form](#)

All their payment options will be displayed.

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

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

User Name: "**dir**" and the current 2020 password can be found on Pg. 22 of our 2020 yearbook or see the password sent out in our monthly e-mail.

Chillin' on the Middle Yough By Mark Spang

Talk to 10 different kayakers about paddling the Middle Yough from near Confluence to Ohiopyle, Pa., and you are likely to get 10 different descriptions of what a day on the river might be like.

"It's beautiful scenery." (True)

"It's all flat water." (False).

"It's boring." (If that's what you make of it.)

"It's terrifying." (Could be.)

"It's long." (Nine miles.)

"It's a great place to build skills." (Definitely.)

It can also be alternately peaceful and exhilarating, refreshing and exhausting, restorative and fatiguing. I've been organizing the mid-August Middle Yough trip for several years, but 2020 had to be the most successful even though the Club picnic scheduled for that weekend had been canceled due to Covid-19. The pandemic also forced us to mask up for shuttle and maintain distance on the water.

The weather was not promising. Though temperatures hovered in the mid-80s Friday afternoon, by the time we began to gather Saturday morning the thermometer had fallen 20 degrees bringing a light cold rain that would continue throughout the day. It was a chilling reminder to pack for the forecast, not the weather you are experiencing while packing.

Despite some adverse conditions, 16 paddlers arrived at the Ramcat Launch at Ohiopyle State Park ready to experience the river that had so scared George Washington in 1754 that he decided against boating to Pittsburgh.

This group showed no such anxiety, though for some it would be a personal first descent. They shared what cold weather gear they brought among Keelhaulers from Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Several had been working on rolls at Tuesday night lake sessions throughout the summer and were eager to test their skills on moving water. Some paddlers were getting accustomed to whitewater kayaks they had borrowed and one new boat was getting its first scratches. Paddlers ranged in age from the 20s to more than 80.

Enthusiasm prevailed. Ambivalence was absent.

We launched and gathered behind a rock in an eddy and practiced some peel-outs before starting through the Class II-III Ramcat rapid that includes a playable hole, a couple of surfable waves and rocks seemingly set up for ferry practice.

The Ohiopyle Photography shooter at Class II Drake Rapid had plenty to capture in pictures as the large group proceeded down river catching eddies and waves. A few swims raised the learning curve and kept things interesting without slowing things down.

The biggest obstacle was the cold. Don't let anyone tell you that 65 degrees is plenty warm enough when you're wet and the sun is blotted out by thick clouds. But adrenaline can go a long way to ward off the chill. So, after a long stretch of relatively flat water, the rapids resumed. The first was Class II Victoria Falls (Not to be confused with the drop on the Zambezi.) Challenges continued on the Class II-III Cable Car, Elephant Rock and Z-Rapid. Some surfing, attainments and eddy-catching continued amid talk of cranking up the heat in the car after getting off the river.

Though whitewater kayaking is not a "team sport," there is a team element to watching out for one another, learning from one another, pushing beyond personal limits and cheering each other on. This group had that kind of paddling chemistry and will undoubtedly be growing on the water together.



Photo taken by Ohiopyle Photography. The largest mid-August Middle Yough Keelhaulers contingent in several years gathers past a ledge drop on Drake Rapid at the start of their 9-mile paddle.

Conservation Updates From Jacki Zevenbergen

Both the Canal Diversion and the Pinery Narrows dams have been removed from the Cuyahoga River. The river is opened to paddlers until the next phase of construction (the pump station installation) begins. Friends of the Crooked River recently did an informal inspection from a paddler's view and found some rebar that needed to be removed. They notified their contractor and the current issues were corrected but there could still be debris hiding below the surface so please let me know if you see any other hazards in the construction area. Now is a great time to get it cleaned up.

The final dam to be removed from the Cuyahoga River is the Gorge Dam. The project has been approved for inclusion on the Cuyahoga River Area of Concern Management Plan. This means it has a high priority for Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding. Please support Summit Metroparks as they manage this project.

Sewer storage tunnels in Akron and Cleveland are doing a great job of keeping almost all the sewage from overflowing into the river at high flows. This is great news for paddlers who need those levels to paddle - they shouldn't have to make a choice between healthy or fun water.

On a less fun note, a tragedy occurred in Akron today that highlighted the connection between the water and the land that surrounds it. A fire from a tanker/car collision on Route 8 escaped into the Cuyahoga River Gorge section via the storm drain. I'm sure there will be stories that the Cuyahoga "caught" on fire again but that's really not the case. This is a reminder that only rain should go down a storm drain and we all need to do our part to control litter and pollution on the land.

I had the chance to paddle a few rivers in other states this year and I realize that the Cuyahoga is only one of many rivers that members enjoy. I'm happy to learn more about your favorite river and the conservation challenges and successes outside of the Cuyahoga Valley. Please give me a call or email to let me know what's going on in your part of the paddling world. I'm in the KHCC directory.

A Tale of Two Rescues

By Matt Fredmonsky

It seems a lot of people have been making low-water runs on the Lower Yough this August, in light of the moderate drought conditions across much of the Midwest (the mid-Atlantic stole our water?!). Here's a short story about one partial trip.

We had a mere 1.4 feet at Ohiopyle on Monday morning when three of us put on. Tom, Chuck and myself encountered over a half dozen boaters putting on at the same time. This group clearly included a few newer boaters, but they had a good support group and a friendly water level with warm temps and blue skies - optimal conditions for a first decent or some skill-building exercise.

Our group of three made its way down Entrance. We had just left the large pool in the middle of the rapid to make our way down the second series of drops when we heard whistles blasting. The swimmer managed to grab a rock mid-river, but his boat continued unabated. I grabbed an eddy and yelled to one of their paddlers if he "had it," but his meager attempt to bulldoze it left the boat spinning its way down until it got pinned one drop below the popular play holes at river left. In a blaze of yellow, Chuck grabbed the meager eddy behind the two small rocks the blue boat had swept against, and with a few jabs of his paddle the boat burst free and bobbed its way down the rest of the rapid. Clearly not to be outshined, Chuck swiftly caught up to the boat, clipped it with a lanyard and drug it to river right, where the excised boater was making his way down the river's edge. A grateful group gave three cheers for Chuck, while I just sat in my boat and laughed. Pretty standard stuff to see if you paddle with Chuck. I could have used some popcorn though.

So, on we went. Chuck talked me into grabbing the eddy on river left above the hole at Cucumber. The level was too low for the boof, so we slid in while Tom took the main line. We watched a few rafts go by and then peeled out and down to the eddy below, so we could play in the rapid's washout.

Sure enough, down came the second group of kayakers whom Chuck had just rendered riverside assistance to. And sure enough, a young boater tipped over just after the hole. Emerging suddenly from the eddy, as if out of a phone booth, Chuck's yellow 9R tore into the waves. It happened so fast I couldn't quite make it out. In one swift grab, he delivered a hand-of-god rescue and righted the poor chap's boat. The rest of us scrambled for the right to claim to be the paddle recovery hero. Clearly, Chuck took all the glory. "We should stick with you guys," one of the other

group members exclaimed. It wasn't until later I thought to suggest Chuck should rent his rescue services. Ah, a missed entrepreneurial opportunity.

Somehow, we finished the loop without any further incidents. That's where I departed, not having carved enough time in my family camping trip for a full run. Tom and Chuck soldiered on. I'm sure they had more fantastic tales to share, but you'll have to ask them for the rest of the story. **Thanks Chuck**

Membership Chairman Note: I think 3 of these new paddlers joined our club. That's how to promote our club.



Railroad Rapid, Lower Yough

Trip Schedule

Updated 2020 Trip Schedule

Contact Our Trip Organizer to add or correct any trips listed. [Mike Gillam](#) 440-328-5547

September	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Time to Pay Dues	
Postponed 9/??	Swiftwater Rescue Clinic (WV) More Information Limited to 10, Register early.		John Zevenbergen	330-701-2832
9/5-7	(5) New River Gorge (WV)	27	Phil/Jen Raber	330-827-7063
9/4,5,11,12 14-18,25	Upper Yough (MD) Special Release Week 14 to 18th	32	Needs organizer	
9/12,13	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Phil & Jen Raber	330-827-7063
9/12,13	Upper Gauley (WV)	33	Needs organizer	
9/5,6,19,20	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Needs organizer	
9/12,13	(4) Lower Yough(PA) How to Get Permit	23	Chuck McDowell	330-477-1086
9/12	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Steve Ingalls	216-371-8250
9/17	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
9/18-21	(5) Lower & Upper Gauley (Festival Weekend - Festival is cancelled) (WV)	27-33	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
9/26,27	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Phil & Jen Raber	330-827-7063
9/26,27	(5) Upper Gauley (WV)	33	Needs organizer	
9/26	(5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release	26	Needs organizer	
October	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Time to Pay Dues	
10/2-5	(5) Lower Gauley & Upper Gauley (WV) Camping at Battle Run	27-33	Paul Eisner	412-651-7176
10/2,3	Upper Yough (MD) Last Saturday Release	32	Needs organizer	
10/3,4	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Anne Kmieck	216-536-1905
10/13 Tuesday	Club Annual Election Meeting -Cuyahoga Falls Library		Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
10/9	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
10/10,11	(5) Lower Gauley & Upper Gauley (WV)	27-33	Needs organizer	

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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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 **October 2020 issue of the newsletter is **9/23/2020**. 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
September 2020



Keelhauler's Ka-news OCTOBER, 2020



Next Club Meeting:

Zoom meeting October 14th at 7:00 pm. More details below in President's Message.

Email Mike Gillam...mikegillam61@gmail.com
if you would like to participate.

President's Message From Mike Gillam



And just like that, September is in the books! Gauley season is in full swing, and while I have not been able to paddle (new puppy takes a little time), I understand there are a lot of people paddling and not many campsites. Never fear, as the weather changes, those numbers will reduce.

As planning for the 2021 paddling season begins, we will be having a Zoom meeting October 14 at 7:00 pm. Zoom time limits restrict us to 40 minutes so we will need to be efficient. We will have a reduced agenda, which will be posted on the website and FB pages before the meeting date. If you are interested in attending the meeting, please email me at mikegillam61@gmail.com. Once I get the Zoom link, I will email it to those who are interested. The major issue to be decided at this meeting will be the voting of next year's board. The recommended board is as follows;

President - Mike Gillam

Vice President - John Banach

Treasurer - Kelly Miller

Secretary- Michael Duvall

Trustees - Jeremiah Richard(2021), Matt Fredmonsky(2021-22), Domenic Bentz (2021-23 New) Committee Chairs will be named at a later date.

If you would like to vote (approve or disapprove) the above board, feel free to email me your vote. Please use **Board** in the subject line.

Enjoy the fall paddling season and think about organizing a trip or two next year. This has been a terrible year for club organized trips. Staying positive that next year will be better, we need to make a concerted effort to get trips organized, both near and far. They are the backbone of our club and I encourage everyone to try and organize at least one trip. Newer paddlers, organizing a trip does not require you to be an expert paddler, only willing to organize people, shuttles, etc...jump in with both feet.

Also, if you have not done so, get those dues paid! John Kobak has set up an easy system using PayPal and a discount for a two year membership.

Stay safe, have fun, and play outside!

Mike

**Keelhauler Treasurer's Report
as of September 28, 2020
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402 \$2,312.66

CD 1077 \$2,310.20

CD'S (2) \$4,622.86

Checking \$17,289.27

Total \$21,912.13

**It's that time again....
From John Kobak**

All club memberships ended on **October 1st**.

As soon as you can, please pay your **2021** membership dues. Sooner you pay the less work on my part. As you may know I go south for 4 months starting in Mid-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.

I have already received dues from 100 members, your e-mail indicates if you paid. You can pay \$20 using Paypal to save yourself time & postage.

Use this link to pay: <http://keelhauler.org/EZPay21.htm>

If you can't use Paypal 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. If you need to change any of your membership information, you can use this form: http://keelhauler.org/khcc_registration.htm

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

<http://keelhauler.org/khcc/members.htm> User Name: "**dir**" and the current 2020 password found on Pg. 22 of our 2020 yearbook or see the passwords sent out in our monthly e-mail. This e-mail will show if you have already paid for 2021.

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 2020 our club had 310 paid memberships, which was a few more than 2019. We have had a lot of active new members join this year, thanks to the encouragement and instruction of our more experienced members.

Also, all WW paddlers should **join AW**, the one organization that fights to remove dams and provides us with river access. Our club members can get a \$10 discount. Pick \$25.00 - Affiliate Club Member from this link:

<https://www.americanwhitewater.org/>

John Kobak - Membership Chairman

First Slippery Rock Run.... From Christopher Curley

I just wanted to thank all the guys and gals who step up as leaders and help inexperienced paddlers through the day.

I ran the slippery rock for the first time yesterday. I was confident in my skills and comfortable with the people around me...but I was in for a big surprise...

The day started great, it was still a lil chilly out, the water was a bit cold, but the sun was shining and once I hit the river, temperature was completely forgotten...

First couple rapids were just enough to let u get comfortable and let your guard down. Then u come up on the first real rapid...

Looks simple enough...lil chute "I got this"... "wait whoa I'm going fast"... "whoa I'm going toooo fast" (lol)..... "o @\$# WHAT IS THAT AT THE BOTTOM"... SPLASH... I made it through cleanly but I definitely wasn't prepared for that... at least not mentally.

Now we hit the second major rapid...at this point my confidence is a lil low. I've realized I'm pretty much blind and I know they only get bigger than the last one but there's no turning back now.

Here we go. Yet again I gained way too much speed going down through the chute (which was tons of fun don't get me wrong) but this spot is kind of an S turn with a nice little wall to slam you up against... I did hit the wall kind of hard but smooth enough where I just continued...

My confidence only grew from that point on... I stopped thinking almost entirely and just kind of did it and caught myself laughing when I made mistakes... it was a blast and at the end of the day I didn't swim at all.

The point of the story is I want to thank those who act as leaders... I was in over my head just due to lack of experience and it was taking every bit of concentration I had to navigate the obstacles let alone try to make a decision on which way to go....

Having someone directing you in the general way to go helped tremendously and allowed me to concentrate more on what I was doing.

I'm confident that I was as prepared as best as I could have been, and it showed me that I'm more capable than I think I am.



Slippery Rock, Photo from Christopher Curley

Strainers
Submitted by John Zevenbergen
Article from the Kent Fire Department

Strainers- we have talked a lot about this danger on the river. A strainer by definition is an object or clump of objects that allow water to pass but holds up any solid object (kayaks, you!). A strainer poses a significant drowning risk, trapping a person underwater with the incredible force of moving water. No better example of this danger is this kayak that was found trapped 3 foot underwater when we lifted the large tree downriver of Tannery Park.

The owner of the kayak picked up his kayak yesterday and shared his lucky story. As part of a group of 3 kayakers going down river Saturday, the tree down surprised them all. One kayak was able to get to safety on RIVER LEFT, the other able to get out on RIVER RIGHT, the strong current took the last kayaker right into the tree. As he hit the tree, the kayak quickly rolled and he was underwater, pulled under the tree. Thankfully his body cleared the branches and he came out safe on the other side!

These type of strainers are part of nature. Trees along rivers can weaken very easily and often fall. Making scouting your river route vitally important. If you come upon a

strainer suddenly and are being drawn into it, get aggressive as if your life depends upon it..because it does. You want to propel your body up onto the strainer if you can. The worst place to be is in the water or under the strainer. As always, scout your route, go with a friend, tell others your plans in case you don't return in time, only paddle in conditions you are prepared for and **ALWAYS** wear a life jacket!





Obituary for Roger J. Dennerll

Roger J. Dennerll entered the Gates of Heaven on Easter morning, April 12, 2020, after 79 years of a fully lived life. After battling cancer the past few years, his passing at his Florida home was very peaceful, with his adored wife of 55 years, Vivien, at his side, and family members Patty and Tom. In his last moments, he listened to one of his favorite songs, Amazing Grace. A memorial service and interment will be held at Sunset Memorial Park in North Olmsted, Ohio, at a

later date, with details to follow. Roger is survived by many family members and friends, including the love of his life Vivien.

One of Roger's favorite phrases, when talking about something Vivien and he had experienced, was "It was incredible!" And he truly did live an incredible life.

Roger was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. After graduating from John Marshall High School, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps, where he served with honor and distinction. In 1963, he became a member of the Cleveland Police Department, where he served in many roles. Starting in basic patrol, he was promoted to a detective in the robbery squad. He later was promoted to Officer-in-Charge of the Special Operations Strike Forces, and he served as a member of the City-Wide Vice and the Crisis Intervention Team. He served as president of the Metropolitan Crime Clinic and was a member of the FOP Cleveland Lodge 8 for 44 years, and served as delegate to the conference in Oklahoma.

Roger graduated from the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia, where he was selected to be the spokesman for the 250 U.S. and international students in that class. He completed his undergraduate studies in Public Administration and Real Estate, and his graduate studies at the University of Virginia in Criminal Justice, while attending the FBI National Academy.

Roger later became the Cleveland Police Department's Chief Hostage Negotiator. He successfully negotiated over 100 crisis situations, including the Cleveland Hopkins Airport hijacking. When Roger retired from the Police Department after 27 years of distinguished service, the Cleveland Plain Dealer wrote that the "gladiator of vice" had retired.

Roger always stayed true to his law enforcement roots, and he served in a wide range of law enforcement positions after retiring from the Cleveland Police Department. Upon his retirement in 1990, he became the Director of Public Safety and Chief of Police at Bowling Green State University, where he also served on the Directors Council and as Special Assistant to the Provost, retiring from those positions in 1997. He served as the President of the Ohio Chapter of the FBI National Academy and as an executive board member of the Ohio Chiefs of Police, as well as the Ohio Chiefs' representative to the State Human Diversity Commission. He also served as an instructor with the Ohio Association Chiefs' of Police and the Ohio Police Officer's Training Council, where he taught the course "Dealing with Suicidal Management & Ethics," and he taught classes at the Cleveland Metroparks Police Academy.

In addition to his deep law enforcement experience and accomplishments, Roger was a savvy and successful businessman. He became a licensed real estate broker and founded RJD Realty & Landscaping, which Vivien and he used as a vehicle not only for real estate brokerage services but also as a management company for their income and rental properties. Roger's intellect, leadership skills and deep experience in real estate were recognized by his many neighbors, who elected him to serve as president of the homeowners association in Marblehead, Ohio for 27 years, as president of a 113-unit condo association in a Pennsylvania ski resort, as president of a 260-unit condo association in Lake Worth, Florida, and with South Rivers' V5 Condo Association in Stuart, Florida.

Roger led an incredibly rich life, doing almost everything together with Vivien. After he retired, they travelled to over 123 countries, recently completing a three-week trip to Egypt. They thoroughly enjoyed seeing new places, meeting different people, exploring different cultures, and (of course) sampling their food and wine. They often regaled family and friends with stories of their travels.

As members of the "Keel Haulers Canoe Club," Roger and Vivien paddled some of the best rivers in the eastern United States. But not content to simply be accomplished paddlers themselves, they taught others what they had learned. They served as volunteer instructors/trainers for over 15 years for the Greater Cleveland Chapter of the American Red Cross, and they enjoyed teaching boating safety and skills for canoes, kayaks and sea kayaks. In 1998, Roger served as the Chairman of the Greater Cleveland Chapter, and Roger and Vivien were awarded the American Red Cross Vega Award for outstanding service to the National Red Cross in the Ohio Region.

Roger and Vivien also enjoyed motorized boating activities. They were active members of the Put-in-Bay Yacht Club for many years, where each of them served in many leadership roles, including (for each of them) as Commodore of the Club. Roger was most appreciative of the deep friendships that he and Vivien forged through PIBYC.

Roger's and Vivien's love for the great outdoors extended far beyond paddling and motor boating. They were avid skiers, and skied for decades in Seven Springs, Pennsylvania and Vail, Colorado. And they enjoyed hiking and birding in Florida and elsewhere. Roger, with some prodding and assistance from Vivien, also became quite accomplished in both dancing and singing. They were members of the Poinciana Players in Lake Worth, Florida, where Vivien and he enjoyed starring in plays and musicals for 17 years. Almost certainly, he was the most talented dancer and singer to ever serve as Cleveland's top hostage negotiator.

Roger was known for using humor in dealing with people and for his storytelling. He touched many lives, and he will be sorely missed.

Trip Schedule

Updated 2020 Trip Schedule

Contact Our Trip Organizer to add or correct any trips listed. [Mike Gillam](#) 440-328-5547

October	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Time to Pay Dues	
10/2-5	(5) Lower Gauley & Upper Gauley (WV) Camping at Battle Run	27-33	Paul Eisner	412-651-7176
10/2,3	Upper Yough (MD) Last Saturday Release	32	Needs organizer	
10/3,4	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Needs organizer	
10/14 Wednesday	Club Annual Election Meeting -Via Zoom. Email Mike Gillam if you would like to "attend" so that he can send you a link.		Mike Gillam	440-328-5547
10/9	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
10/10,11	(5) Lower Gauley & Upper Gauley (WV)	27-33	Needs organizer	
10/17,18	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Fall Color Trip How to Get Permit Tall Oaks is closed. One campsite has been reserved at Ohiopyle State park as of right now. May need more sites per attendance.	23	Dave Roush	440-623-9035
10/17,18	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Brian Smart	330-809-7409
10/17,18	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	John Banach	330-606-5032

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

October 2020



Keelhauler's Ka-news

NOVEMBER, 2020



Next Club Meeting:

To be announced.....

Mike Gillam, President...mikegillam61@gmail.com

President's Message From Mike Gillam



What a difference a few days make! We are now into the fall season, leaves have changed and are coming down (which means more gutter cleaning), the temperature is falling, and rains are bringing rivers back to boating level. Our last meeting (Zoom) was pretty well attended and productive. The officers for the coming year are:

President - Mike Gillam
Vice President- John Banach
Secretary - Michael Duvall Treasurer -
Kelly Miller
Trustees - Jeremiah Richard (20-21)
Matt Fredmonsky (20-22)
Domenic Bentz (20-23)

A couple notes of interest from the meeting. We approved a donation to Benscreek Club for payment of one Stoneycreek release. With their major fundraiser, Stoney Fest, cancelled because of COVID-19, and a number of our members that paddle the releases, it seemed like a natural decision. Thanks to Dave Roush for

the suggestion. We have also approved free roll sessions (Canton) again for this winter. Stayed tuned to information regarding all roll sessions and be prepared for some slight changes due to Covid protocols. We will also be scheduling at least one Swift Water Rescue course and looking into additional training opportunities.

As we begin to look at next year, the most important task will be the resumption of club organized trips. If you all remember the survey from two years ago, the number one reason people joined/maintained membership was the numerous trips that club members organize. With the cancellation of most of our trips this year, it will be even more important for members to step up and organize a trip or three. Please keep in mind (newer paddlers), that you do not need to be an advanced paddler nor be an expert at a particular river. The main responsibilities of a trip organizer is just that, organize. Know your participant list, arrange shuttle plans, meeting times, etc. .If you don't feel you are ready to do it alone, get a partner to share the responsibilities. Day trips, weekends, weeklong trips, in state, out of state, generally there will be a person or two interested. Let me know if you are interested in organizing a trip, and I will get you on the calendar. In addition, we are always looking for people to volunteer on various committees, in many cases to help share the load. Let me know if you would like to get involved.

Future meetings will be February (Zoom), April (in person), July (in person). Exact dates will be sent at a later time.

Enjoy the Fall weather, our winter snows, and remember to play outside.

Mike

Meeting Minutes from 10/14/2020 By Michael Duvall

ZOOM Meeting opened at 7:00pm

Proposed 2021 budget was reviewed, and revisions were added and approved.

- \$200 added for potential web revisions
- Conservation Budget increased to \$4850 which includes the following:
 - \$600 Benscreek Club (cost of one release on Stoney to make up for Stoney Fest Cancellation)
 - \$100 to Friends of New River
 - \$150 to American Rivers additional for a total of \$300
 - \$800 added to Training/education for Swift Water Rescue and other clinics
- Note that yearbooks will now only to be sent to new members

2021 Officer election slate with no new nominations voted and passed

- President Mike Gillam
- Vice President John Banach
- Secretary Michael Duvall
- Treasurer Kelly Miller
- Trustee Domenic Bentz 2021-2023 (added to existing Jeremiah Richard and Matt Fredmonsky)

Goals for 2021

- Need for a trip organizer (someone to plan schedule)
- Website Committee created
- Training SWR or other classes
- Pool time this winter depends on facilities operations (covid)

Future Meetings; Feb Zoom, April in person if possible

Meeting Adjourned 8:00 due to Zoom limit.

**Keelhauler Year End Budget/Actuals
For Fiscal Year 2020
From Kelly Miller**

Category Description	FY 2020 Budget	FY 2020 Actuals
ASSETS		
CHECKING balance at start of FY	\$17,956.75	\$17,956.75
CD (2) balance at start of FY	\$4,606.69	\$4,620.12
INCOME		
Conservation	\$257.50	\$184.92
Dues	\$6,053.74	\$6,107.86
Pool session deposit refund		
TOTAL INCOME	\$6,311.24	\$6,292.78
TOTAL ASSETS	\$28,874.68	\$28,869.65
LIABILITIES		
EXPENSE		
Conservation Donations	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Access Donations*	\$0.00	\$0.00
Internet Access	\$0.00	\$0.00
Internet Domain	\$51.00	\$53.97
Webpage Development	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Marketing	\$700.00	\$0.00
Education/Training/Outreach	\$1,350.00	\$533.22
Meeting Hall	\$210.00	\$210.00
Postage and Supply	\$100.00	\$0.00
Refreshments	\$800.00	\$0.00
Yearbook Expense	\$2,064.00	\$2,011.07
Yough Reservations-Intro	\$0.00	\$0.00
Canton Pool Session	\$1,400.00	\$1,152.00
Lakewood Pool Sessions	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$14,275.00	\$7,960.26
OVERALL TOTAL	\$14,599.68	\$20,909.39
American Whitewater	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
Friends of the Cheat	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
Friends of the Crooked River	\$300.00	\$300.00
Grand Canyon Private Boaters Association	\$150.00	\$150.00
American Rivers	\$150.00	\$150.00
West Virginia Rivers Coalition	\$150.00	\$300.00
River Network	\$100.00	\$100.00
Nature Conservancy	\$150.00	\$150.00

Mountain Watershed Assoc.-Yough Defense Fund	\$150.00	\$150.00
Portage Park	\$0.00	\$100.00
Friends of the New River Gorge	\$0.00	\$0.00
Additional Conservation	\$750.00	
TOTAL	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00

**Keelhauler Budget
For Fiscal Year 2021
From Kelly Miller**

Category Description	FY 2021 Budget
ASSETS	
CHECKING balance at start of FY	\$16,198.04
CD (2) balance at start of FY	\$4,622.86
INCOME	
Conservation	\$200.00
Dues	\$6,000.00
Pool session deposit refund	
TOTAL INCOME	\$6,200.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$27,020.90
LIABILITIES	
EXPENSE	
Conservation Donations	\$4,250.00
Access Donations*	\$600.00
Internet Access	\$0.00
Internet Domain	\$36.00
Webpage Development	\$200.00
Marketing	\$0.00
Education/Training/Outreach	\$1,350.00
Meeting Hall	\$210.00
Postage and Supply	\$0.00
Refreshments	\$200.00
Yearbook Expense	\$1,700.00
Yough Reservations-Intro	\$0.00
Canton Pool Session	\$1,200.00
Lakewood Pool Sessions	\$0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$9,746.00
OVERALL TOTAL	\$17,274.90
All Donations:	
American Whitewater	\$1,500.00

Friends of the Cheat	\$1,000.00
Friends of the Crooked River	\$300.00
Grand Canyon Private Boaters Association	\$150.00
American Rivers	\$300.00
West Virginia Rivers Coalition	\$300.00
River Network	\$100.00
Nature Conservancy	\$100.00
Mountain Watershed Assoc.-Yough Defense Fund	\$300.00
Portage Park Dist.	\$100.00
Special Donation/Benscreek-Stoney Creek *	\$600.00
Friends of the New River Gorge	\$100.00
Additional Conservation	
TOTAL	\$4,850.00

**Keelhauler Treasurer's Report
as of October 27, 2020
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402 \$2,313.33
CD 1077 \$2,310.87
CD'S (2) \$4,624.20

Checking \$18,569.77

Total \$23,193.97

**2021 Membership Dues are Overdue
From John Kobak**

All club memberships ended on October 1st for 2020.

Our club now has over 300 family memberships in 19 states. But only about half of you have renewed your 2021 membership so far. So, if you haven't gotten around to it, **DO IT TODAY! Don't miss out on all the club benefits like free indoor pool sessions and discounted advanced WW safety training.**

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

<https://www.keelhauler.org/EZPay21.htm>

OR

If you still want to mail a check, please send a \$20 check for your **2021 Membership Dues** to our Treasurer since I will be traveling and unable to receive your check after November 15th.

**Please Mail To:
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 2021 Roster. To check whether or not I have received your renewal, you can 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 2020 password found in each monthly newsletter e-mail. If the last column by your name says 0 and not 1, then you are not recorded as paid for 2021. If it shows 12, this means you have also paid for 2022.

Thanks

John Kobak – Membership Chairman

Conservation News From Jacki Zevenbergen

Water is a great solvent. Unfortunately, that means it easily conveys pollutants from the land into rivers and streams. Recently, I've been posting some information about efforts to prevent rezoning of properties to allow uses that may not be in the best interests of streams. I know that development has benefits but cutting down trees and increasing hard surfaces increases the quantity of water while decreasing the water quality. As much as paddlers love to see our streams full of water, flashy runoff can cause erosion and flooding that is harmful. Good vegetation along the streams filters the water and reduces erosion of the banks. Keeping industrial uses away from the streams can reduce the risk that accidental spills will end up in the streams causing fish kills, harming birds and in some cases ruining natural spaces that attract visitors and drive economies.

I'll continue to share this information as I see it but I leave it up to you to decide which battles are worthy of your attention. Currently, efforts to "Save the Slip" (Slippery Rock, PA) <https://www.facebook.com/groups/931768073990718/> and "Preserve the Valley" (Akron, Ohio) https://www.preservethevalley.com/?fbclid=IwAR1Jp_QovhRDXilF0Jf6MqJIPzNrW5n5bgWjxZrVialG0dNwsBWA0zt_Ys4 are underway. In both cases, the local government is considering rezoning requests. I'm not a fan of rezoning - I believe zoning is done in the light of day with a big picture lens while rezoning is often done for the benefit of a few. I encourage you all to stay informed about local land use issues and decide what you support. Check out the organizations that we sponsor with our conservation dollars. We choose these groups because of their advocacy for the rivers where we paddle. They have a great deal of good information about water issues.

Speaking of support, please get out and vote. We all get so focused on national politics that we sometimes forget how important it is to carefully select local government officials. In my experience, municipal, township and county officials make many of the decisions that affect paddlers. Please take the time to find out where your local candidates stand on issues that impact your watershed.

Website Updates Coming Soon! From John Kobak

For the past several years, there have been requests to update the KHCC website so that it looks more modern, works well on smartphones and is better organized.

We have formed a small team dedicated to finding a solution and are starting to make progress. We are currently testing out a few different ideas before making any changes to the existing website, but in the meantime, we would love to hear your feedback!

We need any feedback and suggestions that you would like to give. What would you like changed or different? What 3 things do you use the most?

Please respond back to Kelly Miller at peetzaguy@aol.com by **Monday, November 2nd**, or to any of the other members of the committee. Also, if you are interested in helping out, reach out as well.

Thanks ahead of time for your help!

Website Team:
Domenic Bentz domenic.bentz@gmail.com
Kelly Miller peetzaguy@aol.com
Chloe Shepherd
Brian Smart bsmartpcs@gmail.com
Megan Thompson meganthompson@musician.org
John Kobak, Webmaster john@keelhauler.org

2021 Yearbooks By Chloe Shepherd

The annual 2021 KH Yearbooks will be published and made available sometime between the last week of February and first week of March.

Returning members and new members who have already received a copy of the 2020 Yearbook will be emailed a digital copy which will also be available (as normal) on our website. Only new members who joined after October 1st, 2020, and who have NOT received a copy of the yearbook yet will be mailed a printed version.

Still want a printed copy of the 2021 Yearbook to add to your collection? Keep an eye out for upcoming future announcements!

-Chloe

West Virginia Land Trust From Charlie Walbridge

The West Virginia Land Trust asked me to thank everyone who has contributed towards the long-term protection of the Jenkinsburg River Access on the Cheat and Big Sandy Rivers! As of today, \$2850.00 has been contributed to the fund. If you've been thinking about helping out, now is the time! Go to <https://www.wvlandtrust.org/wv-land-trust.../donate-now/...> and specify "Jenkinsburg Recreation Area for your donation. Thank you!!

November	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Pay Dues Now	
11/1	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
11/7,8	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Needs organizer	
11/29	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-21	Needs organizer	
December			Last Chance to Pay Dues	
January	2021			
1/1	New Year's Day paddle on the (4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Needs organizer	

[Updated 2020 Trip Schedule](#) Contact Our Trip Organizer to add or correct any trips listed.
[Mike Gillam](#) 440-328-5547

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. **Membership Chairman: John Kobak**

New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone, send temporarily to:

Keelhauler Canoe Club
701 Forrest Ave.
Geneva, IL 60134

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 December 2020 issue of the newsletter is 11/23/2020. 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 2020



Keel-hauler's Ka-news

DECEMBER, 2020



Next Club Meeting:

To be announced.....

Mike Gillam, President...mikegillam61@gmail.com

President's Message From Mike Gillam



Happy Holidays!



**Keel-hauler Treasurer's Report
as of November 30, 2020
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402 \$2,314.01
CD 1077 \$2,311.56
CD'S (2) \$4,625.57

Checking \$20,160.77

Total \$24,786.34

**Has Your Club Membership Expired?
From John Kobak**

Has Your Club Membership Expired?

If your e-mail with this December 2020 newsletter says:

"Sorry to see you go. Your club membership expired on 9/30/20"

Then this is your last newsletter and yearbook listing. We will miss you and you will miss out on our free kayak roll sessions and discounted training classes, coming soon,

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/EZPay21.htm>

OR

If you still want to mail a check,

Please send a \$20 check to our treasurer, Kelly Miller for your **2021 Membership Dues to:**

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Only paid-up 2021 members, who have not opted out, will be listed our new yearbook and on-line directories which help you find people with similar paddling interests and locations.

Thanks

John Kobak – Membership Chairman

Conservation News From Jacki Zevenbergen

Happy holidays everyone! Many of us had to change things up this year but I still hope everyone enjoyed some big bird (or a vegetarian substitute) and the great paddling weather for Thanksgiving weekend. I'm really thankful for all the efforts that our members and the organizations we support make to protect the rivers and lakes we paddle. Please consider individually supporting a conservation organization that is working to protect the river(s) you love to paddle. I'm also thankful that Akron is giving more serious consideration to preserving the Theiss/Hardy Road property with a sale to a land conservancy. Unfortunately, they are plowing ahead with the development plans for Riverwood in much the same way that Cuyahoga Falls developed Sycamore golf course. On a more positive note, it looks like Brandywine Golf Course will be protected. Maybe they'll move Akron Peninsula Road so that the river has room to roam. I think they finally realized that dumping construction debris over the riverbank isn't fixing anything.

Why should we care about development in the Cuyahoga Valley or the other rivers we paddle? Development along waterways causes water quality problems. I hope everyone took the time to investigate their local candidates - especially their records on water protection and recreation. Many of the decisions that affect rivers and streams are made at the municipal and county level.

Look for a conservation challenge coming in the new year. Thanks to American Rivers, I have a fun idea for a competition with TRPC. Be prepared to choose a side - no border crossing necessary.

Jacki

Website Updates Coming Soon! From John Kobak

A new look for the Keel-hauler website is in progress. More details to come as they are available.

Trip Organizers Needed for 2021 From Mike Gillam

We need trip organizers for 2021. Please volunteer to help. Email Mike Gillam at mikegillam61@gmail.com or 440-328-5547. Thank you ahead of time.

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