

Keelhauler's Kanews OCTOBER, 2010



**Next Club Meeting
Tuesday, October 12th at
7:30 PM**

*at Middleburg Hts Community
Center*

16000 E. Bagley Rd

Program: To be Announced

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

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

It's that time again.....

All club memberships expire on October 1st. As soon as you can, please mail a \$20 check for your 2011 membership dues.

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

Or pay \$21 using Paypal. Use this link to pay:
<http://keelhauler.org/khcc/ PaypalPay.htm>

You can review your current membership listing, using this link:
<http://keelhauler.org/khcc/members.htm>

User Name: "dir" and the current 2010 password found on pg 20 of our yearbook or see our monthly e-

mail. If you need to change any information use this form:

<http://keelhauler.org/Newregistration.htm>

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

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

Why don't you put some cardstock in your printer and print up some business card to handout to your non-member friends?

http://www.keelhauler.org/images/KHCC_Cards.pdf

John Kobak

**The slate for 2010-2011 Keelhaulers officers
is:**

**Pres: Cliff Wire
VP: Michael Duvall
Sec. Pat G.
Treasurer: Joe Marks
Terry Markoff to Trustee**

**Please show your support for your club by
showing up at the Oct. meeting and voting.**

Your Keelhauler's Board

09/14/2010 KHCC Meeting

There were about 14 people present for the meeting with 4 new members or first time attendees.

New Members:

Jeff Klecka of Mentor is a new member interested in WW Kayaking.

Bob Hunter of Fairport Harbor is a new member and experienced canoeist. Bob is new to WW Kayaking.

Virginia Ehrbar of Euclid Is a new member interested in sea kayaking, canoeing.

Welcome to these new members!

President Cliff Wire was out of town so Michael Duvall led the meeting.

The August meeting was held in the Ohiopyle (PA) area and was a great success. It was well attended and everyone enjoyed the cookout.

Trip Reports:

The first weekend of Gauley season was last weekend and was well attended by KHCC members. There were at least 34 paddlers there. Trips were run on both the Upper and Lower Gauley on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. There were 2 first timers on the Lower and 1 first timer on the Upper.

Upcoming trips are on the Gauley for the next five weekends and several trips on the Lower Yough. Upper Yough trips will be held if there are water releases. Also, October 16 on the New River with Bridge Day and Moose Fest (NY) on the October 16 weekend.

New Business:

The slate of officers for the club to vote on at the October meeting is as follows:

President - Cliff Wire

Vice President - Michael Duvall

Treasurer - Joe Marks

Secretary - Pat Guzowski

Member at Large - Terry Markoff

Old Business:

Joe Marks has discussed with TRPC the idea of having limited joint membership in 2011 between the two clubs so that TRPC members could join our trips and KHCC members could join the Turkey Bash and Slip Clinic. The two clubs already paddle together most weekends and we jointly run the Rescue Rodeo. A fair number of paddlers already belong to both clubs. The idea was supported by all present. The Board will discuss this at the October board meeting and make a decision. A vote of the membership on this is not required.

Program:

Jim Hunt presented a slide show on his sea kayak trip to Lake Nipigon (Ontario) this past summer.

SYOTR,

Pat

First Gauley Weekend

By John Kobak

I guess the warm weather and the dry rivers elsewhere brought out the paddlers for the first weekend of the Summersville Lake drawdown. Jim Hunt was the trip organizer for the Lower Gauley on Friday and Saturday. I organized the camping at Battle Run Campground and the Upper Gauley trips on Saturday and Sunday. There were so many club paddlers that we needed to get 5 campsites which were packed by the 32 paddlers. We had many old paddlers which allowed us to purchase the campsites for half price. The cost of camping per person came to only \$2/nite.

Two groups of paddlers started off on Friday.

Doug Smith

Jim Hunt

Bob Nicholson

Michael Duvall

Mark Warren

Cliff Wire

Brent Laubaugh

Brenda Benner

Dave Broer

Robert Koenen

John Greer

Jackie Blackwood

Alan Blackwood

Jim McHale

Hugh Barrow

John Kobak
Mark Poljak

Gib McGill
Pam Poljak

A few swims here and there but both groups had a great time in the 2800 cfs release. This is 4 times the flow that us Yough paddlers are used to, but we quickly got used to the big waves.

More paddlers arrived for Saturday and Sunday.

Dave Herron

Jenn & Phil Raber

Dan O'Hearn

Jill Noel

Brent Hendren

Patrick Edmonds

Jim Murtha

Deb Avallone

Carolyn Devenny

April Hollis

John Galik

Joe Marksz

Dorian Wolter

Bill Layton

Brian Kish

Annelies Layton

Matt Bernstein

On Saturday, we had 4 groups of paddlers but we combined the shuttling to make it easier. Six paddlers ran what we call the Marathon, putting in at the dam and running the Upper Gauley and the Lower Gauley. Twenty Three paddlers split into two groups running the Lower Gauley from Woods Ferry to Swiss while 5 of us ran the upper Gauley down to Woods Ferry. In spite of a lot of flips our Upper group was swimless and finished early.



Annelies Layton at Hungry Mother

The weather was warm and sunny and most of the paddlers headed out to local restaurants before coming back for a nice campfire. You could see the shore line of the lake drop about 6" each day from the drawdown.

On Sunday I decided to take a rest while 11 paddlers headed to the Lower Gauley and a small 3 man group and 9 others headed to the Upper Gauley. Both groups had some problems. Jackie Blackwood was experiencing her first Upper Gauley run and Gib McGill was back after about a 6 year hiatus. After a short swim Gib was feeling uneasy about his run but did not communicate this to the group. After successfully running one of the hardest rapids, Pillow, and making the right hand eddy he decided to watch the last three paddlers run the rapid. He got out of his boat to get a better view of Cliff, Muchael and Jackienbut never saw their run or Jackie's swim with the group helping her downstream and around the corner. He went back to his kayak and waited.

The group knew he was OK and waited downstream for him to float around the corner, but no Gib. Gib made his next error by sitting there wondering where everyone went instead of floating around the rocks to find his group. He then decided to walk out all the way up the hard climb from Pillow to Carnifex Ferry. If he wanted out, he should have told the group who ended up waiting in several places for at least an hour and a half. He spoiled their day because of his lack of communication. There is nothing wrong with walking rapids or taking out if you lack the confidence but you must communicate with the group and listen to their advise also. It turns out that if he would have told them, they could have pointed out a less steep walk out and they could have gone on their way and finished their day much earlier.



Jackie Blackwood at Hawaii 5-O

For her first run on the Upper Gauley, Jackie did great. It's big pushy water and intimidated her for a while, but she made it through OK.

An even bigger problem happened to the small three man group on the Upper. Doug Smith, John Greer and Bob Nicholson got an early start head to home early. Everything went well until Iron Ring. Bob ran last and flipped and hit his head, knocking him out. Doug and John were waiting nearby and quickly chased the upside down boat. They pulled Bob up and he came out but was breathing but a little foggy. He didn't respond to their commands to let go of his boat and paddle, so they could quickly get him to shore. The 3 drifted downstream until a raft finally pulled Bob in while they got his gear to shore. He had a cut on his forehead but remembered nothing from his experience. He was able to regain his senses and paddle the remainder of the rapids to the Panther Mountain take-out and walk up the hill. Accidents happen and the tight 3 man group took care of the mishap well, but it pointed out to never take your eyes off of anyone in the group until everyone is safely down and it is sure good to have a third boat to help in any emergencies.

Our club has similar trips coming up for the rest of the Gauley drawdown dates. Know your limitations, don't put yourself or your group at risk. Call the trip organizers before showing up, so they are aware of what you want to paddle and your skill level. Have a good time.

From The FIFO Disciplinary Committee

Hi Paula,

We're currently crying in our lactose and gluten free soy skinny lattes in the Cathedral in Fayetteville about the fact that Paula has rejected her FIFO brothers and sistas yet again.....

Uncle D (the scruffy one aka Big Foot's Retarded Cousin) said something about the fact that your membership with the FIFO sorority is under review. You have been put on probation and been cited for the following reasons (transgressions against the FIFO charter noted in brackets):

- You didn't help your brothers and sistas out in their hour of need with the shuttle yesterday (no sense of loyalty);

- You're able to do more than five push ups (overachievement and showing up your brothers and sistas);
- Using a bowel movement as an excuse to get out of talking to your brothers and sistas at the Upper G put in (concoction of lame excuses to avoid talking to yo brothers and sistas)
- Repeatedly dismissing your FIFO brothers and sistas offers to work with your schedule and requirements in order to kayak together (rejecting the FIFO flexible and highly accommodating nature)

Please submit your corrective action plan for review and we'll see if we can make these charges "go away"

Yours,

The FIFO disciplinary committee

Cleveland Reel Paddling Film Festival, Oct 8th

Cleveland Metroparks Institute of the Great Outdoors is proud to announce that the Reel Paddling Film Festival is coming to Greater Cleveland Friday, October 8, 2010 from 7:30 -- 10:30 p.m. at Rocky River Nature Center. The international Reel Paddling Film Festival tour presents the world's best whitewater kayaking, sea kayaking and canoeing films of the year. Enjoy films with action, scenic journeys and great stories.

Please see the attached flyer for more information.

Call IGO at 216-341-1704 to register and reserve your tickets now. Space is limited.

Advanced Tickets: \$10
Night of show: \$15

Laura E Trivison, Secretary

Cleveland Metroparks Institute of the Great Outdoors
11350 Broadway Avenue
Garfield Heights, OH 44125
Phone: 216-341-1704
Fax: 216-341-8528
let@clevelandmetroparks.com

Just remember - when you see a Polar Bear you only have to be faster than the slowest person in the group.....

My Needs Are Few

By H. Dee Payton

Just give me a stream
with a class III or IV,
A place to put in,
and I'll ask you no more.

Or give me a river
that's flowing and quiet,
And leave me alone,
a day and a night.

Or give me a lake
with trees near the shore,
And I'll paddle away,
to return brown & sore.

To sum it all up,
My needs are quite few,
Just water and nature,
And of course, my canoe!



October			Time to Pay Dues	
10/1, 2	Upper Yough - Last Saturday Release (MD)	32	<u>Needs organizer</u>	
10/2, 3	Upper & (5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27-33	<u>Bill Miller</u>	440-257-2970
10/9, 10	Upper & (5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27-33	<u>Dave Herron</u>	513-681-4075
10/12	Club Annual Election of Officers at <u>Middleburg Hts</u>		<u>Joe Marks</u>	216-281-1517
10/15-17	<u>Moose River Fest</u> (NY)	27-30	<u>Matt Muir</u>	585-421-9826
10/16	New River Bridge Day (WV) Paddle under the bridge and take-out at Hawk's Nest	27	<u>Phil & Jen Raber</u>	740-498-7063
10/16, 17	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	<u>Sherie Sanzenbacher</u>	440-298-1293
10/16, 17	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12	<u>Gene Baker</u>	440-320-4490
10/23,24	Russell Fork Fest paddle above Breaks (WV)	26	<u>Cecil Tickamy</u>	814-234-1062
November			Pay Dues	
11/6	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-19	<u>Pat Guzowski</u>	216-780-5734
11/6	Cheoah Release (NC)	32	<u>Needs organizer</u>	
11/9	Club Meeting at <u>Middleburg Hts Community Center</u>		<u>Joe Marks</u>	216-281-1517
11/6,13,20	<u>KH Roll Session</u> at Orange pool		<u>Judi Fordyce</u>	440-289-5511
11/6	<u>Cheoah Release (NC)</u>	32	<u>Needs organizer</u>	
11/6, 7	<u>Tallulah Release (GA)</u>	34	<u>Tim Gill</u>	706-296-1232
11/13, 14	<u>Tallulah Release (GA)</u>	34	<u>Tim Gill</u>	706-296-1232
11/20,27	<u>KH Roll Session</u> at Lakewood pool		<u>Judi Fordyce</u>	440-289-5511
11/20, 21	<u>Tallulah Release (GA)</u>	34	<u>Tim Gill</u>	706-296-1232

2010 Club Officers

President:	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
VP:	Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
Secretary:	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
Treasurer:	Terry Markoff	440-543-4969

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

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

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

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

KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

Non- Commercial advertising is free to all members. To place an ad, send the information the way you want it to appear. Call or mail before the last Saturday of each month. 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 **November** issue of the newsletter is **10/21/10**.

Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com or peetzaguy@comcast.net.

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
October, 2010



Keelhauler's Kanews

November, 2010



Next Club Meeting
Tuesday, November 9th at
7:30 PM

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

Program: TRIPS! TRIPS!
TRIPS!

I hope everyone had had a good season of paddling, I know I did. It all depends on a good trip schedule and now it is time to work on the 2011 schedule. We need trips of all levels from flat water to beginning white water and advanced. So no matter what level you are at you can organize a trip. Bring your ideas for trips to the November meeting. If you can't make the meeting call or email me your ideas.

E-Mail to [Michael Duvall](mailto:Michael.Duvall@keelhaulers.org)
216-513-5921

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

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

It's that time again.....

All club memberships expired on October 1st. As soon as you can, please mail a \$20 check for your 2011 membership dues.

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

Or pay \$21 using Paypal on-line.:
<http://keelhauler.org/khcc/PaypalPay.htm>

Take a look at your mailing label, if it says "2010 Dues are now payable", you are not paid-up and the December newsletter will be your last. If you are reading this newsletter on-line, go to this web page:

<http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/memb/khint.pdf>
User Name: "dir" and the current 2010 password found on pg 20 of our yearbook or see the monthly e-mail.

If the last column by your name says 0 and not 1 you are not recorded as paid for 2011.

Special Request- I will be out of the country starting 11/12/10 and would like to get membership wrapped up before I leave, so **send your money TODAY**, I need to wrap it up by 11/09/10.

Dues paid after 11/09 will not be recorded as paid until 12/20/10.

John Kobak - Membership Chairman

KHCC Minutes for October 12, 2010

About 15 people were in attendance.

New Members / visitors:

Mike Baruschke has been a member for about 3 years. Mike lives Downtown and boats on Lake Erie, and some local rivers in a rec boat. Mike is interested in learning whitewater in a smaller boat.

Ashley Foster lives in Akron and spent last Summer in North Carolina where she was introduced to whitewater paddling. Ashley is looking to continue her progression in ww boating.

Welcome to these and all other new members.

Slate of officers:

Cliff Wire introduced a proposed slate of officers for 2011.

Cliff Wire: President
Michael DuVall: Vice President
Joe Marks: Treasurer
Pat Guzowski: Secretary

The slate was voted on and approved by the membership.

Budget:

There was a discussion of the 2011 budget and the membership agreed to table the discussion for 1 month to allow Cliff to fine tune the proposal and publish it in the newsletter so that the membership may make an informed decision when they vote to approve.

Safety:

There was a discussion of the fatal accident on the Upper Gauley where Mark Hanna, of TRPC, lost his life. Joe Marks filled the membership in on some of the details of the accident. The accident occurred at Pillow Rapid. Our sympathies go out to the family and friends of Mark.
Library:

Pat G. gave report on the new videos in the KHCC Library.

The Great White Chauc
The kayaker's Toolbox
Dream Result
Exploring Idaho
From Here to There Canoe Basics
Kayak Fitness

Rolling a Kayak / Sea Kayak

Program:
A Kayaker's Guide to Corsica By Kayak Session

SYOTR,

Pat

2010 Keelhaulers August Picnic By Cliff Wire

Instead of having our August meeting at Huntington Beach, we tried something different this year to huge success! We moved the Tuesday meeting to the 3rd Saturday that would coincide with the August "Intro to the Yough" trip. It also coincided with the 10th annual "Over The Falls" day. There was something for everyone: Lower Y, Middle Y, Upper Y, the falls, as well as hiking & biking. Gene Baker led the Middle Y. trip. Karl Nelson led the Lower Y and Elliot Drysdale led the Upper Y. Fun was had by all.

Post paddling fun was held at Tall Oaks where Elliot arrived early to answer any questions and start the fire. Shelly Tomallo took over the grill and did a wonderful job as grill master. Elliot brought corn for the grill which was excellent! Gene did ice cream distribution to great fan fare. All others contributed to the pot luck picnic. Heads were counted to 32 and a couple more still showed up. One new member joined! We are on to a new tradition.

Indoor Pool Roll Sessions

Yes, the leaves are turning and the weather is getting cooler, so it is time to think about getting your kayak ready for the pool! That means washing out all the leaves and dirt, and removing the air bags. These are critical for us to continue to be able to use these indoor pools that we have had the good fortune of having the last several years.

Please check the listing on the KH webpage (<http://www.keelhauler.org/Instruction/#pool>) of location, date and time the week you intend to attend, as dates/times DO occasionally change. Also, please check out the pool sessions (with water soccer!) at Canton YMCA that

Dan Glomb has been so kind to arrange for the past few years.

I would like to add a couple of new twists this year for these pool sessions, so read on.

Roll Instruction: I would like to offer a more organized roll instruction for people, especially newbies, at the pool sessions this year. I will ask them to contact me at least one-two weeks in advance of a roll session they want to attend. I will then try to line up a "coach" and some spare gear/kayak for them to use. To that end, I am looking for members to volunteer to be a coach for one session at either Orange or Lakewood. I would expect your coaching session to go 1 - 1.5 hours (newbies get tired fast). Please contact me if interested in coaching AND if you have a spare kayak (with gear would be awesome) that you wouldn't mind bringing along to a session.

Hands of God: During the summer there has been an increased interest in practicing the "Hands of God" on a paddler who has flipped and appears not to be able to right themselves. I am setting up two sessions (one at each pool) to review and practice this move. So if you are interested, please plan to attend. Dec 11 at Orange and Jan 8 at Lakewood. We could do two more in the spring if there is enough interest.

Sea kayak rescue practice: I have had a few inquiries about this and would like to pursue. Bearing in mind that we have limited room in the pool for the longer sea kayaks. This would include practice of deepwater re-entry skills and T-rescues. Let me know if you are interested in this.

Week night roll sessions: I attempted to schedule a few of these but am not being very successful. The main problem is the high school pools are very booked up and the times they have available tend to be later in the evening, which is not good for a week night. However, we are going to try one Tuesday evening (8:30- 9:45pm) at Lakewood on Nov 23. If it is successful, we can schedule additional week nights. There will be a reduced cost of \$4. for this, and plan to be there a few minutes early so you can enter the pool right at 8:30.

So, here is the list (for now). Again, please check the KH webpage frequently for any changes.

Nov 13 - Orange HS 4-6pm

Nov 20 - Orange HS 4-6pm

Nov 23 - Lakewood HS - 8:30 - 9:45pm (trial Tuesday session to see if day/time slot works)

Nov 27 - Lakewood HS 3-5pm

Dec 4 - Lakewood HS 3-5pm

Dec 11 - Orange HS 4-6pm

Dec 18 - Lakewood HS 3-5pm & Orange HS 4-6pm

Jan 8 - Lakewood HS 3-5pm

Jan 15 - Orange HS 4-6pm

Jan 22 - Orange HS 4-6pm

Jan 29 - Lakewood HS 3-5pm

Feb 5 - Lakewood HS 3-5pm

Feb 12 - Orange HS 4-6pm

Feb 19 - Lakewood HS 3-5pm & Orange HS 4-6pm

Feb 26 - Lakewood HS 3-5pm

Mar 5 - Orange HS 4-6pm

Mar 12 - Lakewood HS 3-5pm

Happy Rolling!

Judi Fordyce

Lower Gauley October Weekend & Pin at Rocky Top By April Hollis

Kudos to Bill Miller for organizing a great weekend on the Gauley. Camping was very affordable (thanks to Bill's and Michael's old folks discount), the weather was good and as always the camaraderie rocked and the good times rolled.

Saturday started off pretty uneventfully for the group of paddlers: Brent H., April H., Jill N., Patrick E., Chris K., Dave H., Michael D., Bill M., Bob D. and David, a new member that Hugh signed up earlier that day who paddled a duckie.

We stopped for lunch on a big rock at diagonal ledges. Well, most of the group climbed up on the big rock with help from Dave. Some of us were too lazy, but had fun watching Michael try to go up, and an even better time watching Dave try to help him down lol.

The real excitement came later, when I attempted to follow Brent down the boof at Rocky Top. I had done it a couple weeks before, but didn't have a good memory of the rapid. As we approached, I saw two slots and thought we were heading for the one on the left. When I realized it was the right slot, I was unable to reach it in time and ended up going down the drop on the left (shown on the right side of this picture).

When I came down, I pinned bow first vertically in the rocks at the bottom of the drop. My paddle was braced on rocks to my left and I was stable and could breathe easily.

It was my first pin and I had no idea what to do so I just tried to stay still. I was only pinned for a few seconds before I looked down and was very glad to see Brent at the rocks below me, getting out of his boat.

He climbed up next to my boat, reassured me that I was OK, and began trying to unwedge the kayak while I tried to help as much as possible, although there wasn't much I could do.



Left of the pour-over on Rocky Top rapid was where April's boat was pinned on 10/2.

At first, the kayak didn't seem like it would budge and I started to get scared. I began wondering how I would ever

get out of this situation. But when I looked over, Brent seemed very calm and confident and that helped a lot.

Eventually, my boat began to move. For a few seconds, it started sliding toward the rocks on my left — where rescue would be much more difficult — but eventually Brent was able to guide the boat in his direction and down toward the water. He had gotten me unpinned in only a few minutes!

Unfortunately, he then had a decent swim back to shore, after managing to get me down without flipping me, so I was feeling kind of bad about being dry and comfy.

Downstream, Michael and Patrick had retrieved his boat and paddle and Michael drained the boat.

All in all, it was a quick and efficient rescue and I was very grateful!!

The rest of the day was pretty normal, and I did end up getting wet after all when I swam at Cliffside. I guess that's karma lol.

Sunday went more smoothly, with Brent, Jill, Patrick, April, Chris, Dave, Bill, Bob and Ralph paddling from the alternate put-in at Bucklick.

Ralph ran shuttle for the drivers in his pickup, while Patrick was nice enough to bring everyone's boats down to the water at the put-in while he waited for drivers and watched the water rise.

Dave ran probe and we paddled straight through at a "grueling pace," according to Brent — but then again Brent considers anything involving forward motion to be a grueling pace.

There were two swims Sunday — one at Koontz Flume and one at Lower Mash, which also saw some good teamwork with Patrick retrieving and emptying the boat and Ralph towing the boat a bit back upstream. Jill discovered that it can be pretty difficult to retrieve and maneuver with an extra paddle while also wearing pogies, but the paddle made it too.

We didn't stop for lunch because after the swims it seemed more appropriate to keep moving and stay warm, so we made great time on the river.

After threats that I would be forced to run the boof at Rocky Top blindfolded as the KeelHauler method of "getting back on the horse," I decided to go for it — and I remembered to boof on the right this time :)

Definitely a great weekend on the river!

Kayak History

Reprinted from the KayakJournal.com

1000-1900 -- The first kayaks were fashioned out of driftwood and animal skins by the natives of the arctic regions of Asia, North America, and Greenland. These long, narrow, covered boats were ideally suited for hunting seals and walruses across the frigid arctic waters. In fact, the name kayak means "hunter's boat."

Over time, the Inuits, Aleuts, and other natives modified the kayaks for the area of the arctic that they lived in. Lashed together with animal sinews, these early boats used seal bladders filled with air to make them buoyant and nearly unsinkable. These native hunters would fill the boats with enough supplies for extended hunting expeditions across the inhospitable arctic environment.

Eventually, word of these amazing covered canoes reached the citizens of Europe. Before long people in France and Germany began boating down rivers in kayaks for sport. These countries are filled with mountain ranges, and the rivers that plunge out of the rocky slopes offer challenging rapids.

1905 -- A German student borrows an Inuit design to build a collapsible kayak. A tailor named Hans Klepper soon buys the patent from him and launches a business selling these kayaks, which he refers to as "foldboats." The advantage of this design is that boaters can carry these wood and canvas boats in canvas bags and then assemble them quickly on the shore of a river. These were the ancestors of the modern folding kayaks of today.

1931 -- A Viennese kayaker by the name of Adolf Anderle is the first person to successfully negotiate the Salzachofen Gorge on the Salzach River. His successful run of this dangerous river raised whitewater standards in Europe and elsewhere. A short time later, kayaking organizations developed the International Scale of River Difficulty, a standard that is still in use today to classify the difficulty of river rapids.

1936 -- In time, the Europeans fell in love with these new covered boats, all but abandoning the large, open boats that they'd previously used for river navigation. Kayaking clubs began to spring up in Germany and France. Whitewater competitions followed shortly thereafter. In 1936, "flatwater" racing became an Olympic sport in the

Summer Games in Berlin, Germany (the very same Olympics in which Jessie Owens made a mockery of Hitler's "Master Race" theory).

1928 -- True story: on August 1 of this year, Captain Fran Romer is discovered asleep in his kayak in the harbor at St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands. So what's the big deal, you ask? Well it seems that Captain Romer had just sailed and paddled his kayak almost 4000 miles, all the way from Lisbon, Portugal. And he survived not one but two hurricanes along the way!

1938 -- Genevieve De Colmont becomes the first woman to pilot a kayak through the rapids of the Colorado and Green Rivers. Along with her husband Bernard and a friend, Genevieve proved that kayaks were far better suited to running wild water than the heavy wooden boats favored by outdoorsmen and explorers at the time.

1975 -- Three men: Tom McEwan, Wick Walker, and Dan Schnurenburger kayak the Great Falls of the Potomac River. This was a stretch of wild water that had been feared and avoided by boaters for centuries. In the years following their historic run, all three paddlers have refused to reveal who was the first man over the Spout, the deadliest drop in the churning Great Falls rapids.

1977 -- Three more kayakers make history this year. Jim Snyder, Mike Fentress, and Phil Coleman become the first paddlers to successfully negotiate the notorious Quarry Run, a tributary of the Cheat River in West Virginia. After one especially brutal drop, Coleman nearly died when his slalom kayak became lodged in the river's gravel bottom. Today, paddlers who descend Quarry Run use inflatable boats that won't spear the river bottom.

1994 -- Another first. Kent Wiggington becomes the first paddler to tame the Class VI rapids of the Tallulah River in northern Georgia. Wiggington's successful run helped to publicize a government decision to provide more recreational opportunities on the river by releasing water from an upriver dam.

I'm sure there's much we've left out here. Who knows, maybe you're out there making your own kayaking history right now!

2011 Budget

By Cliff Wire

Following is the 2011 budget. This coming year as last, we are running a slight deficit (attributable to the overall economy), but do have the funds in the treasury to cover it. You may notice a new donation line for the Western Reserve Rowing Assoc. They are the long time rowing/crewing racing club on our local home river - the Cuyahoga. The donation was felt appropriate with the new address the WRRRA bought as one of their stated goals is improved access to the river and expansion of paddling activities to all interested parties. For those interested, one of the goals is public access, not just private.

Financial Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Category Description	Actual Expenses	Actual Expenses	Actual Expenses	Actual Expenses	Actual Expenses	Actual Expenses	Proposed Budget
INCOME							
Conservation Income	\$ 552	\$ 779	\$ 463	\$ 268	\$ 167	\$ 271	\$ 300
Dues	\$ 6,341	\$ 5,811	\$ 7,060	\$ 4,858	\$ 6,655	\$ 5,390	\$ 5,500
Interest	\$ 30	\$ 54		\$ 129	\$ 390	\$ 48	\$ 50
Rescue Weekend Income	\$ 1,545	\$ 1,815	\$ 1,041	\$ 1,632	\$ 846	\$ 474	\$ 700
Reservations	\$ 38	\$ 70	\$ 94	\$ 45	\$ 57	\$ 27	\$ 180
Vermilion Race Income	\$ 1,399	\$ 1,318	\$ 2,219	\$ 1,731	\$ 1,290	\$ 1,684	\$ 1,600
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 9,905	\$ 9,847	\$ 10,877	\$ 8,663	\$ 9,405	\$ 7,894	\$ 8,330
EXPENSES							
Club Promotion	\$ 240	\$ -	\$ 1,000		\$ 53	\$ 165	\$ 300
Conservation Donations	\$ 1,800	\$ 2,100	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,075	\$ 1,900	\$ 1,870	\$ 2,325
Internet	\$ 261	\$ 105	\$ 95	\$ 112	\$ 135	\$ 113	\$ 235
Library	\$ -	\$ 121	\$ 151	\$ 200	\$ 223	\$ 200	\$ 200
Meeting Hall	\$ 455	\$ 440	\$ 320	\$ 740	\$ 35	\$ 489	\$ 550
Misc	\$ -	\$ 99	\$ 40		\$ 25	\$ -	
News Letter	\$ 1,685	\$ 1,545	\$ 1,550	\$ 1,513	\$ 1,578	\$ 1,603	\$ 1,600
Organization Dues	\$ 255	\$ 330	\$ 300	\$ 105	\$ 75	\$ 75	\$ 75
Postage & Supply	\$ 1,131	\$ 590	\$ 884	\$ 368	\$ 466	\$ 631	\$ 500
Refreshments	\$ 307	\$ 140	\$ 215	\$ 113	\$ 187	\$ 124	\$ 150
Rescue Weekend Expense	\$ 1,261	\$ 1,489	\$ 1,038	\$ 906	\$ 939	\$ 263	\$ 500
Vermilion Race Expense	\$ 1,253	\$ 1,458	\$ 1,765	\$ 1,138	\$ 990	\$ 398	\$ 1,000
Yearbook Print	\$ 1,358	\$ 1,302	\$ 1,393	\$ 1,360	\$ 1,224	\$ 1,298	\$ 1,200
Yough Reservations	\$ 165	\$ 140	\$ 140	\$ 180	\$ 180	\$ 120	\$ 180
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 10,171	\$ 9,859	\$ 10,891	\$ 8,810	\$ 8,010	\$ 7,349	\$ 8,815
OVERALL TOTAL	\$ (266)	\$ (12)	\$ (14)	\$ (147)	\$ 1,395	\$ (542)	\$ (485)
Year end checking acct balance	\$ 3,656	\$ 1,736	\$ 2,722	\$ 2,447	\$ 3,453	\$ 3,217	
Certificates of Deposit balances		\$ 6,000	\$ 6,041	\$ 6,358	\$ 6,722	\$ 6,735	

Conservation Donations							
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	
American Whitewater	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 575	\$ 500	\$ 625	\$ 575	
Friends of Cheat	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 450	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	
Friends of Crooked River	\$ 150	\$ 150	\$ 300	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 300	
Grand Canyon Private Boaters Assoc.	\$ 175	\$ 150	\$ 100	\$ 150	\$ 150	\$ 150	
American Rivers	\$ 125	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	
West Virginia Rivers Coalition	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200	\$ 200	
River Network	\$ 150	\$ 125	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	
Nature Conservancy	\$ 150	\$ 150	\$ 150	\$ 150		\$ 150	
Grand River Partners	\$ 150	\$ 125	\$ 100	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Western Reserve Rowing Assoc.						\$ 250	
Total:	\$ 2,100	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,075	\$ 1,900	\$ 1,875	\$ 2,325	

TRIPS! TRIPS!TRIPS!

I hope everyone had had a good season of paddling, I know I did. It all depends on a good trip schedule and now it is time to work on the 2011 schedule. We need trips of all levels from flat water to beginning white water and advanced. So no mater what level you are at you can organize a trip. Bring your ideas for trips to the November meeting. If you can't make the meeting call or email me your ideas.

MichaelDuvall66@att.net 216-513-5921

November			Pay Dues	
11/6	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-19	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
11/6	Cheoah Release (NC)	32	Needs organizer	
11/9	Club Meeting at Middleburg Hts Community Center		Joe Marks	216-281-1517
11/13,20	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4-6:00PM		Judi Fordyce	440-289-5511
11/6	Cheoah Release (NC)	32	Needs organizer	
11/6, 7	Tallulah Release (GA)	34	Tim Gill	706-296-1232
11/13, 14	Tallulah Release (GA)	34	Tim Gill	706-296-1232
11/20, 21	Tallulah Release (GA)	34	Tim Gill	706-296-1232
11/23	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 8:30-9:45PM A trial to see if this day and time works for anyone		Judi Fordyce	440-289-5511
11/27	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3-5:00PM		Judi Fordyce	440-289-5511
December			Last Chance to Pay Dues	
12/4	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-19	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
12/4,18	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3-5:00PM		Judi Fordyce	440-289-5511
12/11, 18	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4-6:00PM		Judi Fordyce	440-289-5511
12/14	Club Holiday Party at Middleburg Hts Community Center		Joe Marks	216-281-1517
January	2011			
1/1	10th Annual New Year Paddle at Edgewater Beach		Stuart Warner	440-356-9550
1/8,29	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3-5:00PM		Judi Fordyce	440-289-5511
1/15,22	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4-6:00PM		Judi Fordyce	440-289-5511

Please send me any corrections or schedule updates, [John Kobak](#).

2011 Club Officers

President: Cliff Wire 440-439-6541
VP: Michael Duvall 216-521-0094
Secretary: Pat Guzowski 216-780-5734
Treasurer: Joe Marks 216-281-1517

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

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

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

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KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

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Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **December** issue of the newsletter is **11/21/10**.
Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com or peetzaguy@comcast.net.

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
November, 2010



Keelhauler's Kanews

December, 2010



Next Club Meeting
Tuesday, December 14th
Doors open at 7:00 PM,
dinner is at 8:00 PM.

*at Middleburg Hts Community
Center*

16000 E. Bagley Rd

Program: Annual Christmas Party,
Pot luck dinner

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

A-E: Dessert or Fruit

F-L: Main dish or Casserole

M-R: Salad or Vegetable

S-Z: Bread or Appetizer

The club will supply beverages,
plates and plastic ware.

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

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

Has Your Membership Expired?

All club memberships expired on October 1st.
Most members have paid their 2011 membership
dues. **Have You?** If not send \$20 today.

To:

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

Or pay \$21 using Paypal on-line.:

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

Take a look at your mailing label, if it says
"Membership Expired", you are not paid-up and
this is your last newsletter. If you are reading
this newsletter on-line, go to this web page:
<http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/memb/khint.pdf>
User Name: "dir" and the current 2010 password
found on pg 20 of our yearbook or see the
monthly e-mail.

If the last column by your name says **0** and not **1**
you are not recorded as paid for 2011.

Any checks that were sent after 11/08 will not
be recorded as paid until 12/20/10.

130 Members still have not paid.

John Kobak - Membership Chairman

KHCC Minutes for November 9, 2010

Membership: we are 50 behind from last year. 161 paid. 301 to go.

New Vermilion Race chair: Gene Baker

Nov. 18 is the Yough fundraiser party at Ohiopyle.

All I have. Cliff

Charitable Donations

Our club gave conservation donations for 2011 to the following organizations:

[American Rivers](#) \$100.

[American Whitewater](#) \$575.

[Friends of the Cheat](#) \$500.

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

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

[Nature Conservancy](#) \$150.

[River Network](#) \$100. [WV Rivers Coalition](#) \$200.

[Cleveland Rowing Foundation](#) \$250.

However we recommend that everyone support American Whitewater and get their magazine with their donation. They are the one organization that really fights for river access and eliminating old dams that only end up polluting our rivers. Your Keel-Hauler membership entitles you to a \$10 discount. [Go to on-line form:](#)

<https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Membership/join-aw/>

And select Affiliate Club Member - \$25

For those who paddle in Northern WV. The Friends of the Cheat has got us public access on the Cheat Canyon & Narrows and the Big Sandy. They are working on getting a bike trail along the Cheat from Parsons to Albright which will connect to Decker's Creek Trail, and many other projects coming up.

You can join on-line at

<http://cheat.org/membership/membership-form> or fill out a membership form

<http://cheat.org/membership/membershipform.pdf> and mail it in.

These are the Chairpersons for 2011

We still need your help, call Cliff and volunteer, please!!!

Conservation:	Dave Hill	330-922-4380
Instruction:	Position Open	216-371-8250
Library:	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
Membership:	John Kobak	440-871-1758
Newsletter Editor:	Kelly Miller	724-940-9088
Newsletter Distribution:	Ed Charlton	440-716-5489
Pool Sessions:	Judi Cleary	440-289-5511

Canton Pool:	Dan Glomb	330-268-4350
Program:	Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
Publicity:	Mike Larkin	216-486-4833
Refreshments:	Bob Bair	440-963-7008
Rescue Weekends:	Position Open	216-292-5618
Safety:	Chuck Singer	440-949-6681
Sea Kayaking & Recreational Boating:	Chuck Singer	440-949-6681
Trip Schedule:	Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
Vermilion Race:	Gene Baker	440-775-4953
Webmaster:	John Kobak	440-871-1758
Yearbook Editor	Patty Hammond	216-292-5618

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KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
December, 2010





KEELHAULER KA-NEWS

January 2010

January Newsletter is not completed yet.

Next Club Meeting is Saturday, January 9th.

at Pacers Restaurant after the
Lakewood Roll session at 5:30 PM.
14600 Detroit Ave
Lakewood, OH

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

View [Pacers Menu](#)

A few blocks North of the pool on
Detroit across from Lakewood
Hospital. [Lakewood Pool Map](#)
All meetings are open to guests.
Invite a prospective member!

Please volunteer to organize a trip or an event in 2010

Active club members need to give something
back to help others.

[2010 Proposed Trip Schedule](#)

Send an e-mail or call [Michael Duvall](#) to see
what you could help with.

Please review the Yearbook information;
<http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/memb/yearbook0.pdf>

This is the information I am sending to
Patty Hammond for the 2010 Yearbook &
Roster.

**See my monthly e-mail for our new 2010
directory password.**

If you need to correct anything please send
your changes to me.
Click here keelhauler@yahoo.com to send me
your new information so that I can correct
your record.

Membership Directories

Are updated with corrections and new
members are added each month.

All the KHCC on-line directories: are password
protected:
<http://keelhauler.org/khcc/members.htm>

Keehlhau'ler's Kanews *February, 2010*



**Next Club Meeting Saturday
February 13th at 7 PM
at [Fox and Hound Restaurant](#)
1479 Som Center RD
Mayfield Hts**

**Program: Shake away the Winter
blues**

**Have a Dinner or order Snacks and
beverages, kayak videos on the large
screen.**

Any questions? Contact [Joe Marks](#)

at 216-281-1517

All meetings are open to guests.

Invite a prospective member!

Free weekday morning kayak training in Akron

Outdoor Adventure Services invites you to learn to kayak in the ONAT (Ocasek Natatorium) pool, it's FREE. Open Kayaking is a weekly program that provides participants with no experience the opportunity to learn basic kayaking skills and provides a time for experienced kayakers an opportunity to refine their skills. No experience is required for this free program.

The 2010 spring semester schedule is 11am - 1pm on January: 1/19, 1/27. February: 2/4, 2/8, 2/16, 2/24 March: 3/4, 3/8, 3/23, 3/31. April: 4/8, 4/12, 4/20, 4/28.

Registration is not required; meet on the ONAT pool deck at 11am. For more information, contact Gretchen Haselbauer at 330-972-7443 or outdoorga@uakron.edu.

Holiday Paddling in Ohio

By David Hill

In early November, I received a message from Jon Hollis who was coming into the area for the holidays. He was living in Arcata, CA and wondered about the boating opportunities he could pursue while he stayed with family in Hudson. His paddling wish list was anything between Lake Erie to the Slip, and every boating option would be a first for him since all his paddling was done after he moved from Ohio. I knew that the winter season can serve up some nice options in the local watersheds and it would give me a chance to try out some new gear.

The previously repaired crack in the 4Fun broke on my fall trip to the Lower Gauley, and I wanted to try and milk a few more trips in it before it needs replaced. The Cuyahoga can offer up tremendous surfing opportunities all winter long if you can deal with the cold. There is something about the beauty of the snow covered banks that adds to the paddling experience for me. But in order to enjoy this element, proper gear is a must.

My dry top and paddling pants had been leaking and if the 4Fun continued to take on water, winter boating would be questionable. I had been considering a dry suit for a few years since they seemed like a really nice investment if you found a good deal. The cold doesn't really bother me but being wet in the winter is just no fun at all. I liked the idea of the rear entry models and found a good deal from a private party on an Immersion Research Double D. The suit fit good and allowed me full extensions while sitting in the boat, but I was still in the house and itching to field test it. I also made some repairs to the boat so we shall see if the glue and foam patch can get me some river surfing and hopefully some soccer time in 2010. Thanks Dan for all your efforts on this new Canton venue and twist to the pool sessions.

While we didn't get a white Christmas this year, the rain was a welcome gift from Santa. The following day the temps were in the mid 40s and Jon asked about paddling. The gage for the Cuyahoga spiked on Christmas and was around 715 when we paddled on Saturday the 26th. We met up at the Peck Road takeout in the Chuckery Area of the Metro Parks and exchange greetings before gearing up. The rear entry on the DD is easy and allows for quick suiting up for colder days to come. Closure of the suit was not too

difficult and there are no restrictions in the front. Jon and I decided to hike up to the dam put in so I could test the breathability of the new dry suit. I was wearing light capilene with thin wool socks and had no overheating or moisture issues during the hike upstream. After hiking down to the rivers edge the relief zipper is just that and allows your to air out the suit for a tight fit before getting in your boat.

We put in river left below the dam and surfed on the waves at the first ledge. There are 3 nice features to play on and a nice elevator move but no warm up. We work our way down to the 2 new rocks above Butterfly. I've decided to name them Rocky and Bullwinkle since the first is so squirrely. The second rock has a great boof at higher levels or rock spins for the daring. Rocky and Bullwinkle have really added some spice to the section above Butterfly and should be explored by boaters. There is good eddy service on both sides of Rocky and ferry practice is entertaining due to the swirly water and surging which reminds me of the conditions below the first drop at ASCII. The back side of Bullwinkle is also surging and swirly and either side is good but the right is steeper and best for boofs at higher levels. We both run the right side of Butterfly with no issues.

We continue down through the two ledges and notice that Matt's Pin Spot is still holding wood and an orange barrel.



The large eddy on the left sets us up to play on the great surf wave below the rock. Jon is starting to get into the rhythm of the short run and is enjoying the surf. About 100 yards downstream is the large pipe remnant from the former hydroelectric plant. The ledge below the pipe is fun to run right to left and set up on the next surf wave which we both catch for a ride. The exit is a hoot as the wave sits above a nice ledge drop. The 3 Bears are no longer around and boof moves near the old power house need a bit more water. The features below the Blue Suspension bridge are fun and fast and give Jon a chance for a fish count. Both waves below the CSO are surfed and we chill as we float down to the island. The left side is getting clogged with wood and the right side slide is so much more fun anyway.



My line is decent and I can still catch the river wide wave below the slide. The surf at Peck Road was very good today. We played a bit more before calling it a day and taking out on the left. Jon was all smiles as he got his first taste of Ohio whitewater.

I was happy with the performance of the suit and the change out was fast and dry. The patch also held in the boat so the season may hold promise. A Rock is toasted at the end of the trip and Jon and I make plans to paddle again while we have water.

On Sunday, Craig and Jon J. agree to get on the water so plans are made to meet at the Oxbow Area of the Metro Parks at 11 with the flow about 700 on the USGS. Unlike yesterdays hike to the putin, today will be a trip in the pimp shuttle to the top of Clifton Ave. After a minor delay to get forgotten gloves (it is nice living close by) we begin the Class V descent to the river. It is a bit colder today and around 35 but I went with the same gear set up.

At the river everyone is surfing the 3 put in waves. Being warmed up from yesterday and feeling comfortable in my dry suit I'm surfing hard from the start. At Rocky we are having fun when I catch an edge and count fish through Bullwinkle. The cold water is a shock, but I roll up just in time for the water to leave my eyes and the brain freeze to set in as I drop into Butterfly. Gotta love winter paddling when that dry suit is keeping me bone dry, warm, and most importantly comfortable paddling in the cold.

The three of us continue to surf everything this river has to offer, and for a short run, there is a bunch to enjoy. The calm water to the lower take out lets us reflect on another day enjoyed in the gorge and ponder questions like "why is the overlook still closed due to safety reasons?"

Speaking of safety issues, Jon provided an impromptu meeting at the take out where discussions of knots and rope setups were enjoyed by us and the rogue ranger who drove by.

The weather definitely took a turn at the end of 2009 and cold temperatures with blowing winds kept the freshly fallen snow on the ground. New Years Eve celebrations were kept in check and a late night text confirmed that Jon H. was up for a New Years Day paddle.



We agreed to meet at noon and the level had dropped to about 500 cfs on the USGS gage. The weather was definitely cold with temps in the low 20s. I switched my layers to light weight fleece pants and a thick skin top under the dry suit and opted to gear up at home. We also decided to hike in and the snow will allow us to effortlessly drag the boats along the trail. The looks from the other hikers we passed on the trail were priceless! The descent down to the river is getting interesting with the snow.

The features were definitely smaller today with less water and some spots are getting shallow. Jon also had some experience from his previous trip down and was able to play more today. Even with the reduced flow there was still a lot of surfing to be enjoyed which we did all the way to the take out. So far the boat patch is holding up and the dry suit is performing well so winter boating looks promising. After enjoying a 12 Dogs of Christmas Ale we loaded up to head off towards pork and sauerkraut celebrations.

Jon was surprised by the amount of surfing available on this short run and is looking forward to more paddling when he returns in March.

Remember to get your 2010 permits from Metro Parks and go get yourself some winter surfing in the gorge.

Yes it's that time again to encourage filing for a permit to support paddling interest on the Cuyahoga gorge. Filing a permit costs nothing but a stamp.

Go to KHCC conservation page:
<http://www.keelhauler.org/conservation/>
 and see more stories and videos.

Download and print a permit for 2010:
<http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/MetroPermit.pdf>

See how to fill it out:
<http://keelhauler.org/images/SpecUseKayak.jpg>

See for Park Info:
<http://www.summitmetroparks.org/Activities/Kayaking.aspx>



The 2010 **Webster Wildwater Weekend** River Festival will take place **April 10 & 11, 2010** in Webster County, WV. Events include river races and fun floats on area rivers. Camp Caesar (304-226-3888) will again be the site of the after-race party Saturday evening...where paddlers and friends can enjoy live music, race videos and more around a blazing, indoor bonfire. The downriver race features plenty of whitewater action on the class II-III Elk River and is a USA Wildwater Junior Olympics Qualifying race. This portion of the Elk River, with almost continuous rapids, is a great run for experienced paddlers, but with plenty of safety boaters on hand; novices will enjoy competing as well. Trophies are awarded in several categories and dozens of prizes are given away. For additional information call 304 847-2145 or 304 847-7653 (evenings); send us an email at wcd@websterwv.com or visit our web site: www.websterwv.com/whitewater.html

Geary Weir

Co - Director

Webster Wildwater Weekend

68 Reasons You Know You're a Paddler ... From Philadelphia Canoe Club - Katie Smalley

1. Your Mom has stopped saying "be careful this weekend".
2. "Waterproof" only means "a little damp" or "might-float".
3. Your friends or relatives are shocked when you answer the phone at home on a weekend.
4. Houseguests ask where you got the wooden paddle from.
5. You can't drive over a bridge without looking for water under it.
6. The smell of old polypro doesn't bother you.

7. Driving 800 miles for a weekend on a river or a lake doesn't seem strange to you.

8. Your idea of a complete first aid kit is a roll of duct tape.

9. You use a river trip to wash sand and seaweed from your boat.

10. You choose a new car based on whether or not your rack system will fit it.

11. A dress shirt and tie no longer bother you, because they're looser than a drysuit neck gasket.

12. The sight of a person in a tight rubber suit doesn't seem kinky.

13. You have ever gotten frostbitten and sunburned on the same day.

14. You know which leaves make good toilet paper.

15. You're all dressed up and don't notice that you're being rained on.

16. Every once in a while you touch your paddle, just to touch it.

17. You've never set up a tent when it's light out.

18. You have friends that you don't recognize without their PFD, paddling jacket, and spray skirt.

19. Your dog loves to roll in your pile of paddling clothes.

20. You can ID make and model on a car topped kayak at a quarter mile.

21. All career, personal and financial decisions are judged by the criteria of, "How will this increase my paddling time?"

22. You build a two-car garage addition and you still can't park your car inside.

23. You find yourself humming Weather Channel tunes.

24. You change oil in the campground in the evening because you haven't had a weekend home in so long and you can't afford to pay to have it done.

25. You've lost count of the number of boats you have in your garage or back yard.

26. You've gone boating in conditions where you normally wouldn't go outside.

27. You've toyed with the idea of just leaving your boat and gear loaded on your vehicle. (You've toyed with the idea?!?!?)

28. When you hear about a guy in a skirt you think nothing of it.

29. You divide your life into workdays and kayaking days.

30. You're talking paddling to non-paddlers and not realizing when they've glazed over with boredom or left the room.

31. All your rendezvous and evenings out on the town start/end by meeting with your friends at the river.

32. You start thinking seriously about building a paddle pool in your backyard.

33. After a car wreck, the first thing you check for is damage to your boat.

34. You have a huge plastic storage tub that rides in the back seat to hold your wet clothes.

35. You "pour over" streamflow readings the way a stockbroker scans the markets every day.

36. You practically salivate at the sound of rainfall.

37. There's no room on your speed-dial for anything but gauge readings and the numbers of people with nicknames like Psycho.

38. "Small craft advisories" make you praise the Ocean gods.

39. Window shade means more than keeping the sun out.

40. Pearl means more than a gem in a shell.

41. You co-workers (and non-boating friends, family and your spouse) will not ride in your vehicle between March and October because of the ode de polypro.

42. The sight of a waterfall gives you the uncontrollable urge to urinate in a nearby bush- while you search out the line...

43. You call your buddies in order of shuttle ability.

44. Your boat is worth more than your car.

45. Even in the dead of winter, you never actually lose the PFD tan lines...

46. You already have several kayaks and are trying to convince your spouse that you really need another one.

47. You build your new house as close as possible to the flood plain.

48. You always have sinus congestion on Monday morning..

49. The only thing you worry about when getting naked just about *anywhere* is whether or not you'll get a ticket!

50. You ask the clerk at Eaton's how well these dress shoes hold up to immersion.

51. You measure major purchases relative to the cost of a new boat...('Hmmm, that new computer will cost me about 2 1/2 kayak units')

52. You're the one with the Bright Sunny Smile on the Cold Rainy Day.

53. Every once in a while you let go of your paddle, just to eat something.

54. You have no trouble saying "Rotomolded Crosslink Polyethylene" ten times fast.

55. You have a bathing suit that's wet from March to October.

56. You start driving around with your PFD and helmet on because you have noticed that other drivers tend to give you the right of way.

57. You've tied up your mate using either a taught-line or trucker's hitch.

58. You can't look at water in a gutter without imagining tiny runs and miniature waves and holes.

59. "Wet, sticky hole" and "blowing a ferry" in casual conversation don't give you pause..

60. You freely discuss how much you and others weigh, and don't feel self-conscious about it (or about asking others how much they weigh).

61. Your only considerations when buying a car are ground clearance, and the size of the rain gutters.

62. You feel all mushy inside when your wife gives you a drytop for Christmas.

63. You visit Niagara Falls and think "This may be runnable."

64. You deliberately watch the whole commercial just to see the kayak on the car...

65. You maneuver your car on five-lane streets by eddying out behind trucks and making S-moves in the left turn lane. And you lean into the turns.

66. If you live in a town with a river running through it, you give street directions with descriptions like "upstream of the ..." or "two blocks down on river left ..."

67. It takes longer and longer to get your "land legs" back. Solid ground "feels funny"

68. You keep moving the car seat forward, so you can bend your knees and feel good and wedged in for pulling maneuvers on the freeway.

February	Top of Page			
1/30 or 31 2/27 or 28 3/13 or 14	(4) Cuyahoga Gorge or Sheraton Section (OH) Location depends on water level, participant's skills See Cuyahoga Info for level and trip details A close to home WW training experience	16-29	Mike Larkin Dave Hill	216-486-4833 330-221-0270
2/6	Ohiopyle Winterfest		Jim Hunt	330-335-5203
2/6,13,20,27	KH Roll Session at Orange pool		Judi Fordyce	440-289-5511
2/13	Club Meeting at Fox & Hound Restaurant - 7 PM Mayfield Hts		Joe Marks	216-281-1517
2/6,20,27	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool		Judi Fordyce	440-289-5511
2/26,27	National Paddling Film Fest (KY)		Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
March	Top of Page			
3/6,13,20,27	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool		Judi Fordyce	440-289-5511
3/6,13	KH Roll Session at Orange pool		Judi Fordyce	440-289-5511
3/6, 7	(2) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Dan Glomb	330-268-4350
3/6,13,20,27	Fundamentals of Kayaking at Rocky River High School Saturdays - 12:00-3:00 PM		Ernie Anderson	216-431-3076
3/7,14,21,28	Fundamentals of Kayaking at Lakewood High School Sundays - 4:30 - 7:30PM		Ernie Anderson	216-431-3076
3/09	Club Monthly Meeting		Joe Marks	216-281-1517
3/13	(1) Rocky River or other local (OH)	8-17	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
3/13 or 14 3/27 or 28 4/2 or 5	(4) Cuyahoga Gorge or Sheraton Section (OH) Location depends on water level, participant's skills See Cuyahoga Info for level and trip details A close to home WW training experience	16-29	Mike Larkin Dave Hill	216-486-4833 330-221-0270
3/20	WV Class IV-IV+	28-32	Jeff Macklin	724-331-7873
3/21	(1) Vermilion River Cleanup (OH)	SK/FW	Hank Annable	440-775-4953
3/27, 28	WV Class V Creeking	>30	John Garcia Brent Laubaugh	216-210-7544 724-272-6944
3/28	(1) Vermilion Race (OH); Alternate Date 4/11	SK/FW	Patty Hammond - registration Cliff Wire -Chair	216-292-5618 440-439-6541

2010 Club Officers

President:	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
VP:	Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
Secretary:	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
Treasurer:	Terry Markoff	440-543-4969

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

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

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

1649 Allen Dr.

Westlake, OH 44145

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

KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

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

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the March issue of the newsletter is **2/21/10**.

Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com or peetzaguy@comcast.net.

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
February, 2010



KeeLhauler's Kanews *MARLH, 2010*



Next Club Meeting:
Tuesday, March 9th, at 7:30PM

at Middleburg Hts Community Center
16000 E. Bagley Rd

Program:

Discussion of Vermillion Race,
March & April trip discussions
Cold water Safety

2010 Graduated trip plan
Chuck Singer's Vietnam trip in Jan 2010

No Auction this year.

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

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

New Paddler Trip Progression

Our club encourages novice paddlers who want to advance their whitewater skills. Remember, classes are great and we encourage people to take Red Cross pool classes for absolute beginners, as it will you will advance more quickly. However, classes will not replace experience. You need time in the boat on moving water to advance to the level that you are comfortable with. The more you paddle the better you will get.

First, for closed boaters, **get a good roll**, we offer indoor [Pool Sessions](#) at three convenient locations until the end of March. Having a roll will give you the confidence to pursue more aggressive whitewater. After that, you need to **get on some paddling trips**. But you need to do it in a safe organized fashion.

This year our [Trip Schedule](#) recommends trips for newer WW paddlers. You can also find this in the new yearbook, on pg 72. You should **choose a trip** in the order of river difficulty. This is noted on our schedule as: (1), (2), (3), (4) or (5). Please note that **all our scheduled trips can provide training**.

Just pick a trip to match your current skill level, see [Paddler Self-Rating System](#) or on Pg 16 of the yearbook. Ask the trip organizer if they can provide informal training assistance. There will always be more skilled paddlers on our river trips. If you ask, most all of us are happy to give back to the sport that gives us so much enjoyment, by helping newer paddlers improve their paddling skills.

We tried to make it even easier to understand than our numerical river rating system by showing you exactly which rivers we recommend. But remember if you take too big a step up in difficulty, you could find yourself over your head, have a bad experience and get turned off to the sport, which will hold you back from advancing.

Trip Progression Examples - Rivers we often paddle

(1) - Vermilion, Grand, Cuyahoga, Chagrin

(2) - Lower Slippery Rock, Ashtabula, Middle Yough, Casselman

(3) - W. Br. Rocky, Slippery Rock Gorge, Cheat Narrows, N. Br Potomac, Upper New

(4) - Lower Yough, Little Sandy, Ocoee, Nolichucky, Stony Creek

(5) - Cheat Canyon, Lower Gauley, New Gorge, Savage

But all these steps are not for everybody. Once you reach a progression level that you are comfortable with, just **enjoy paddling** and have a good time. Everyone is not cut out to be an advanced expert paddler and you will not be expected to tackle any river beyond your comfort level.

Since whitewater paddling is a group sport, as you advance you will be expected to help others. So sign up for Rob Hammond's River [Rescue Weekend](#) on June 12 & 13th. It will help you **learn rescue skills** that are very important in safely paddling WW rivers.

As in most sports, the more advanced your skills are, the more fun you will have with the sport.

Land of the Condor **By Judi Cleary Fordyce**

It was two years in the making! And we missed the chief instigator (one Elliott Drysdale) who was unable to be there. However, nine intrepid adventures did travel from 41 degrees north to 41 degrees south and beyond to experience the white water playground in the Andes mountains, in Chile.

For three weeks before we arrived, it was cold and rainy - unseasonable weather for summer time in that part of the world. So by the time we arrived, the rivers were at flood stage and some portions of the fabled Futaleufu were closed! While we were there it only rained a day or two, and we did have some sunny days, but it was still cold.



Jen and Phil Raber, Holly and Casey Kaskey, Holly's sister Gail, Judi and Larry Fordyce, Wendy Atkinson and Hank Oestrike all met up in Bariloche, Argentina on Jan 9, making it across the border to Futaleufu, Chile the following day.



On the first day, the white water kayakers demonstrated rolls, ferries and eddy turns to Chris Spelius, company president and founder of Expediciones Chile. Chris spent the rest of the day showing us how to adjust those skills for big, boily water. We were on the easy class II Rio Espolon which was running at beefy Gauley levels (2500 cfs). I hardly recognized it as the nice gentle river I had seen nine years previous.

Jen, Phil, Larry and Casey were treated to a couple of runs on the beautiful Rio Agua Azul, which is usually too low to paddle. The difficulty of the Azul is increased by its river bed of sharp volcanic rock. One day on the river, two of the kayaks sustained cracks, and one person had to carry out. With river levels dropping, on the last day, Jen, Phil and Larry were able to make a couple of runs down the Macal section of the Futa, which was the trip highlight for all.



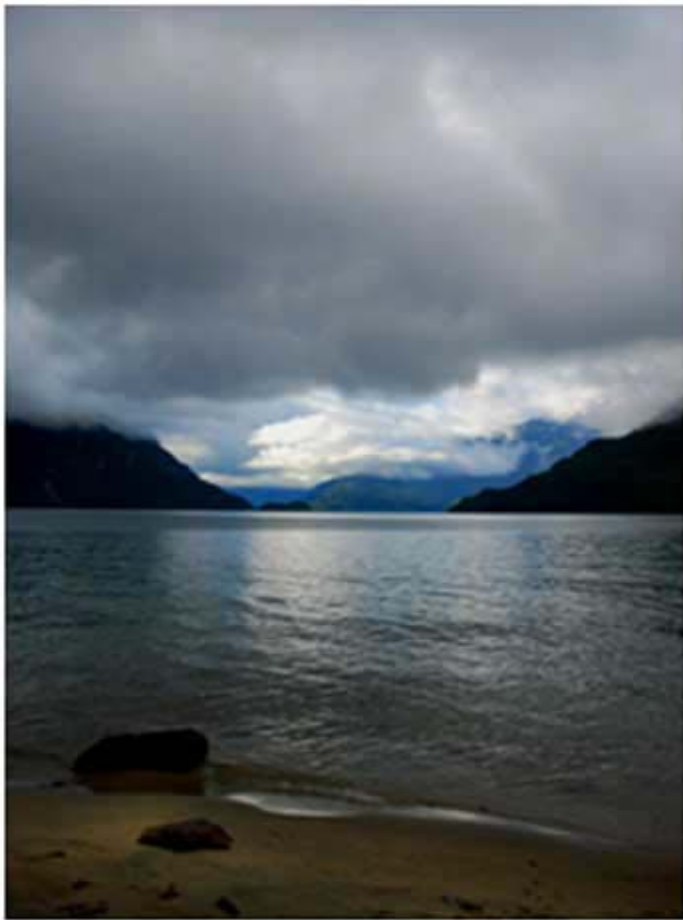
In the meantime, some of the group participated in the multi-sport option, which include rafting the Futa, hiking in the mountains (6-7 hr hikes with spectacular views), mountain biking, sea kayaking, and canyoneering. Not a single person was disappointed with their experiences. The scenery was breathtaking, the food was delicious and the campsite was magical. Camp was at an isolated location at the convergence of the Azul and the Futa. There were hot showers (outdoors), a wood-fired sauna, and on some nights an awesome view of the milky way including the Southern Cross, which can only be seen in the lower hemisphere.



Ferry over to camp(Azul coming in from right; Futa flowing on left)

After the first week, three of us stayed on to participate in a sea kayak trip billed as "Andes to the Ocean". The trip began at the end of the Macal section of the Futa, continued to a long narrow lake, Lago Yelcho. This lake frequently has white caps and a ripping wind across its surface. Paddling down it was invigorating and fun bucking the waves. It took us three days. The backdrop was jaw-dropping with snow capped mountains and hanging glaciers.

And did I mention the waterfalls! They were everywhere. At the end of the lake followed the Rio Yelcho (think more lake than river, but with a strong current). Only one class II rapid, but we did need to focus navigating it in our sea kayaks. We were on the river two days before ending our trip at Chaiten, a town devastated by a volcano in 2008. The volcano was still smoking and ash was everywhere.



I highly recommend both the white water and the sea kayaking in the Futaleufu Valley in Chile. And Expediciones Chile has the best guides to make the experience memorable and a real learning opportunity. If anyone wants more information or to hear more about the trip, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Our 2010 Yearbook & Roster

will be mailed out by bulk mail the week of February 15th.

If you don't receive it by March 1st, [e-mail Patty Hammond](#) or call at 216-292-5618.

2010 Trip Schedule

We still need organizers for 3 Lower Yough Trips.

This schedule will be continuously updated as changes occur.

Send an e-mail to [John Kobak](#) to volunteer to organize a trip, I will add to on-line schedule.

Vietnam, Chapter 1

by Chuck Singer

Hi guys,

Well it's time for another saga of hot, humid weather while others freeze. Tough job but some one has to do it! I left Cleveland at 6:30 am on Weds and spent 2 hrs to Chicago, 4 hrs to SF, 14 hrs to Hong Kong, then 2 hrs to Saigon, now called Ho Chi Minh City (COMIC). Unfortunately, my luggage got tired in SF and rested there for three days. You've heard of the Ugly American? How about the smelly American! I did buy a new T-shirt.

The traffic here is intense with thousands of motorbikes all weaving in and out, but some how not crashing. About half the women and some of the men wear dust masks or face scarfs. My room is \$12 a nite with AC and hot water. It is in the cheap, backpacker part of town as you might have guessed. Breakfasts are \$2-3 if you want traditional American or \$1-2 for Vietnamese food. Suppers are \$2-8 depending. The \$2 last night was a rice noodle soup with beef, sprouts, some leafy vegetable and some pods? There was some REAL HOT sauce I only sampled.



Most Viets dress conservatively and shorts are rare except on tourists. The largest group of tourists are Aussies followed by the French. I hardly ever see French tourists but Nam was a colony and they are common here.

Today I visited the Chi-Cu tunnel complex. This was a complex of 150 miles!!! of hand dug tunnels about 45 miles north of Saigon. The Americans bombed the crap out of it and sent in soldiers and dogs but it was never pacified. It's a little weird hearing about the "American War" from their side. We were the bad guys and I'm not used to think of us in that fashion. We used millions of gallons of Agent Orange and dropped more total tons of bombs than we did in WW2. The Vietnamese fought to get rid of the Chinese, the French, the Japanese, the French again and finally us. They succeeded in 1975 for those that don't remember the date. I can see parallels in Afghanistan but don't get me started.

Yesterday I took a motorbike taxi (death-defying!) to the Jade Emperor Pagoda. It is old and kind of run down but loaded with burning incense, hundreds actually. There were some cool, grotesque statuary inside but the most interesting to me was the two pools. One was filled with hundreds of

goldfish and one, very happy pike. The other had two hundred turtles cavorting about.

I'll probably visit a couple of War Museums tomorrow to totally feel bad.



I visited the War Remnants Museum yesterday and I'm not sure I recommend it. There are some pretty horrible pictures there and some deformed fetuses from Agent Orange. There is also the usual propaganda about how good we were and how bad you were. There were a lot of US equipment there including planes, copters and tanks as well as guns and mines. The people seem friendly and are OK with me.



I have found a way to add a few pictures so one is a really old fighter climbing out of the Cu Chi tunnel, one is a Viet woman and child and one is a typical street scene.



I've been eating typical street and it's tasty but watch out for the little red peppers. They are toxic! Pepsi is about \$0.40 an 11 oz can,

I sat at the curb or a local bar to watch people and paid more for my Pepsi there than the street food. The local beers are OK and easy to remember. Ha Noi, Sai Gon and Ba Ba Ba (333). There was Heinekin there also.

Vietnamese words are all single syllables so signs can be very long. The words dong (money) dung, phu and many others lead to interesting images in English.

I went to the Zoo today for about \$1. It's not great with animals but it is quiet and tree covered. I was invited to share some food with some teenagers which was fun. There was something about the size of a cherry, tasting a little like a cross between a tomato and an orange. It had big seeds that you spit out. The kids collected all the seeds in a trash bag and left no mess.

I'm flying to Hue tonight. It's a World Heritage site full of old temples. It's also close to the old DMZ from the war.

More later...

Chuck



Upcoming Trip Schedule....

3/6,13,20,27, KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool
Judi Fordyce 440-289-5511

3/6,13, KH Roll Session at Orange pool
Judi Fordyce 440-289-5511

3/6,7, (2) Slippery Rock Creek (PA) 13-19
Dan Glomb 330-268-4350

3/6,13,20,27, Fundamentals of Kayaking at Rocky River High School,
Saturdays - 12:00-3:00 PM
Ernie Anderson 216-431-3076

3/7,14,21,28, Fundamentals of Kayaking, Lakewood High School Sundays
- 4:30 - 7:30PM
Ernie Anderson 216-431-3076

3/9, Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts
Joe Marks 216-281-1517

3/13, (1) Rocky River or other local (OH) 8-17
Pat Guzowski 216-780-5734



Rocky River "Surfing"

3/13 or 14, 3/27 or 28, and 4/2 or 5

(4) Cuyahoga Gorge or Sheraton Section (OH)

Location depends on water level, participant's skills

See [Cuyahoga Info](#) for level and trip details

A close to home WW training experience 16-29

Mike Larkin 216-486-4833, Dave Hill 330-221-0270

3/20, WV Class IV-IV+ 28-32

Jeff Macklin 724-331-7873

3/21 (1) Vermilion River Cleanup (OH) SK/FW

Hank Annable 440-775-4953

3/27, 28 WV Class V Creeking >30

John Garcia 216-210-7544 & Brent Laubaugh 724-272-6944



Brent, North Fork of the Blackwater, and John

3/28 (1) Vermilion Race (OH); Alternate Date 4/11 SK/FW

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

This is the club's 42nd annual race, one of the oldest in the US. The rapids are an easy class I- II, and the race is appropriate for novice to expert racers. We encourage families and small groups who want to race together.

This race is a great opportunity to shake the cobs off your muscles and get ready for the paddling season. **Please check Rules & Application for change in classes and rules.** Be sure your Ohio registration is up-to-date.

Water level is critical, the race will only be held on this section of the river if the [USGS Gauge](#) is between 2.5 to 6 feet. If too low, the race will be moved downstream to start and finish at the South Street Boat Launch Ramp on West River road in Vermilion. If too high, it will be scheduled for April 4, 2010. Registration opens at 9am.

Get your early registration in by downloading at www.keelhauler.org

\$13 per person - - Pre-registration

\$17 per person - - Race-day Registration

\$6 per person - - Second Race Class

Mail it to: V. Race Registration

C/O P. Hammond

27600 Emery Road

Orange Village, Ohio 44128

Register Early & Save \$

Patty Hammond-registration only 216-292-5618,

Cliff Wire, Co-Chair, All other questions 440-439-6541



4/2 or 5, 4/11 (4) Cuyahoga Gorge or Sheraton Section (OH)

Location depends on water level, participant's skills

See Cuyahoga Info for level and trip details

A close to home WW training experience 16-29

Mike Larkin, 216-486-4833 and Dave Hill 330-221-0270

4/2 - 10 (4) Southern Rivers, Time to shake off the cobwebs and travel

South and hopefully find more Spring like weather. The goal of the

Southern Rivers trip will be to match the skills of the group with

corresponding rivers. The plan is to start at the Nolichucky on Good Friday.

There we will determine the skills of the paddlers and choose appropriate

ivers depending on water levels. Easter Sunday has traditionally been

spent paddling the Ocoee. Potential class III rivers include Pigeon TN,

Upper Green NC (not the Narrows), Natchala NC, Little near Gatlinburg TN

before the "The Sinks" and lower Tellico TN. Also some have more

challenging sections (Class IV+) Tellico "Ledges" and Little "Sinks to Elbow".

Other Class IV include the Doe TN, Wilson Creek NC, and part of the

Chattooga GA. Call if you are even thinking about going on this trip.

Michael Duvall (216) 513-5921



Put in at the Ocoee River, Tennessee

<http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/SouthernTrip2007.pdf>

Map - Detail map, TN-NC-GA 22-32



Bob at "Bull Sluice"

Treasurer's Report

by Terry Markoff

Please note that we sent no conservation donations for 2009. We sent some portion out recently and will send more near the end of out fiscal year. If anyone has suggestions or comments, they should contact David Hill or other board members.

Both the Rescue Rodeo and the Vermillon race were great contributors to boating and the budget. We are in good financial shape and we're looking fwd to supporting our new more social agenda.

Income by Year

Financial year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Proposed Budget
Category Description	Actual Income	Actual Income	Actual Income	Actual Income	Actual Income	Actual Income	Proposed Income
Conservation Income	\$332	\$552	\$779	\$463	\$268	\$167	\$300
Conservation carryover							\$2,000
Dues	\$6,607	\$6,341	\$5,811	\$7,060	\$4,858	\$6,655	\$6,000
Interes	\$34	\$30	\$54		\$179	\$111	\$100
Rescue Weekend Income	\$1,080	\$1,545	\$1,815	\$1,041	\$1,632	\$846	\$1,000
Reservations	\$240	\$38	\$70	\$94	\$45	\$57	\$180
Vermillon Race Income	\$2,010	\$1,399	\$1,318	\$2,219	\$1,731	\$1,290	\$1,290
Total Income	\$10,303	\$9,905	\$9,847	\$10,877	\$8,713	\$9,126	\$10,870

Conservation Donations by year

Financial year	2006	2007	2008	2009	Proposed Budget
American Whitewater	\$500	\$500	\$575		\$1,150
Friends of the Cheat	\$500	\$500	\$450		\$1,000
Friends of Crooked River	\$150	\$150	\$300		\$400
Grand Canyon Private Boaters Association	\$175	\$150	\$100		\$300
American Rivers	\$125	\$100	\$100		\$200
West Virginia Rivers Coalition	\$200	\$200	\$200		\$400
River Network	\$150	\$125	\$100		\$200
Nature Conservancy	\$150	\$150	\$150		\$300
Grand River Partners	\$150	\$125	\$100		\$0
Total Income	\$2,100	\$2,000	\$2,075	\$0	\$3,950

Expenses

Financial year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Proposed Budget
Category Description	Actual Expenses	Actual Expenses	Actual Expenses	Actual Expenses	Actual Expenses	Actual Expenses	Proposed Expenses
Club promotion		\$240		\$1,000		\$53	\$500
Conservation Donations	\$1,200	\$1,800	\$2,100	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,075 for 08	\$3,950
Internet	\$115	\$261	\$105	\$95	\$112	\$135	\$135
Library			\$121	\$151	\$200	\$222	\$200
Meeting Hall	\$695	\$455	\$440	\$320	\$640	\$60	\$552
Misc	\$261		\$99	\$40			\$100
Newsletter	\$2,150	\$1,685	\$1,545	\$1,550	\$1,513	\$1,589	\$1,550
Organization Dues	\$105	\$255	\$330	\$300	\$200	\$75	\$200
Postage and Supply	\$1,484	\$1,131	\$590	\$884	\$368	\$466	\$500
Refreshments	\$257	\$307	\$140	\$215	\$113	\$196	\$200
Rescue Weekend Expense	\$1,068	\$1,261	\$1,489	\$1,038	\$906	\$939	\$950
Vermillon Race Expense	\$1,654	\$1,253	\$1,458	\$1,765	\$1,138	\$990	\$1,000
Yearbook Print	\$1,296	\$1,358	\$1,302	\$1,393	\$1,360	\$1,224	\$1,300
Yough Reservations	\$175	\$165	\$140	\$140	\$180	\$180	\$180
Total Income	\$10,460	\$10,171	\$9,859	\$10,891	\$6,730	\$8,204	\$11,317

42nd Annual Vermilion River Race

Sunday, March 28th 2010
(High water backup date April 11, 2010)

Sponsors: **Keel-Haulers Canoe Club** www.keelhauler.org
 Keel Line Canoe and Kayak Supply www.keelline.com

Please Read All Information

The course is an eight mile section of the Vermilion River from the Schoepfle Gardens in Birmingham, Ohio, (Rt. 113, 14 miles west of Elyria, Ohio) to the bridge at the Vermilion River, Mill Hollow-Bacon Woods Reservation near the city of Vermilion. This very beautiful stretch of river can be challenging at different water levels.

WATER LEVEL

The race will be run over the designated course described above, if the reading on the Birmingham Bridge Gauge is 3 feet or less and the river is deemed navigable by the race officials. If not, the race will be moved downstream to start and finish at the South Street Boat Launch Ramp on West River road in Vermilion. If the water level is deemed too high, the race will be canceled and held on the high water date. Because of the inability to predict the water level in advance, you may call Hank Annable at 440-775-4953 or check <http://keelhauler.org> for a race status the day before the race.

KNOW YOUR ABILITY

At this time of year the water is 40 degrees or less, in the event of boat upset, hypothermia is a very serious risk. It is advisable to wear a wet/dry suit or have a change of clothes in a waterproof bag tied to boat. A spray cover is a good idea. This is class I/II water.

Rules of the Race

1. EQUIPMENT

Boats for all classes except as otherwise noted shall be standard stock models of aluminum, plastic, wood, wood-canvas, or fiberglass construction. No alterations to the manufacturer's original measurements will be permitted. No movable controls are allowed - steering is limited to paddles only. No powered pumps or bailers are allowed.

Canoes – C1 and C2 classes

Paddles must be single-blade, of any type. Open canoes only, no closed boats.

Unrestricted

The canoe may be of any type, length, or width, except no Pro or ICF boats.

Standard

Length shall not exceed 18' 6". Minimum width shall be 14 3/8" of the length (.14375 times the length) at the 4 inch water line, measured within 12 inches of the center of the canoe.

Kayaks - K1 classes

Any type double-blade paddle is allowed.

One person Kayaks - (Slalom or cruising type). Shall have a length as specified by the class.

2. BOAT INSPECTION

Contestants entering in any of the classes agree by entering that their boat conforms to these rules. All boats must be inspected on the day of the race. The decision of the race officials as to conformance for any boat and/or equipment proposed for entry will be final. If you have any questions on your boat's eligibility, contact **Hank Annable at 440-775-4953**.

3. AGE

In all classes which have an age restriction, the paddler's age shall be considered to be the age attained as of the day of the race. Senior class boaters must be at least 50 years old on the day of the race. Senior classes include men and women.

4. ENTRY FEE & REGISTRATION

An entry fee of \$13 (\$17 on the day of the race) per person per event is required. Keel Hauler members may take a \$2 discount. On the day of the race, all contestants (including those who pre-registered) must stop at registration to get a starting number and registration form. Numbers will be assigned in numerical order. Each boat will be identified by this racing number **worn on the chest by the bow paddler**. Registration is open from **9 to 11:30 a.m.** Cancellation or failure to participate in the event forfeits the entry fee.

5. STARTING

An instructional meeting will be held at **10 a.m.** The race will start at **10:30 a.m. sharp!** All contestants will start individually at one minute intervals and will be racing against the clock. **Race starting will end at 12 p.m.**



The finish line will close at 2 p.m. Any person not finishing within 2-hours after starting will be posted as DNF

6. CLASSES – Read carefully there are changes from previous years

<i>Class</i>	<i>Description</i>
0	nonconforming class or race for time only- no award given
1	C2 Unrestricted (no Pro or ICF boats).
2	C2 Mixed and Women's.
3	C2 Men's Standard.
4	C2S Person Senior (Both 50 years or older) a handicap of 10 seconds per year per paddler over 50 will be deducted from the finish time.
5	C2 Over and Under Standard One contestant is 15 or under, the Other is at least 18 years older than the first.
6	C1 One person open canoe, no measurements.
7	K1 Jr. Contestant must be 15 years old or younger.
8	K1 Short One Man Kayak 11.49 feet and under.
9	K1W Short One Woman Kayak: 11.49 feet and under.
10	K1 One Man Kayak: 11.5 to 14.49 feet.
11	K1W One Woman Kayak 11.5 feet and over.
12	K1S One Person Senior: 14.49 feet and under (50 years or older).
13	K1 Long One Man 14.5 feet and over and all downriver boats.
14	K1S Long One Person Senior: 14.5 feet and over and all downriver boats (50 or older).

7. SAFETY

An approved vest-type life jacket (Personal Flotation Device, PFD) must be worn properly by each contestant throughout the race. **In each closed boat, the boater is required to wear a helmet.** Each boat will be subject to inspection for sufficient flotation. Each contestant is required to render assistance, if needed, to other contestants in trouble. Failure to comply with any of the safety requirements will result in disqualification. Boats may be checked by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for a current boat license and approved life jackets.

8. MULTIPLE RUNS

Each contestant intending to race in more than one class must arrive early and be prepared to start their first race by 10:30. Contestants must have transportation available and be ready to start their second run before the starting line closes. A starting time extension may be granted for multiple run racers if river conditions warrant and approved by the race committee.

9. CREWS & PORTAGE

Each crew must remain together and not substitute members after the race has begun. Once a crew starts an event, they must stay in the river bed. No trespassing will be allowed.

10. DISQUALIFICATION

Commonly accepted rules of good sportsmanship prevail. Intentional capsizing or damaging of an opponent's boat will result in disqualification. Any boat or team receiving assistance will be disqualified. If a team drops out of the race, they must report to a member of the race committee or be barred from future races. Any contestants interfering with officials at the start or finish line or at the scoring area, will be disqualified.

11. PROTESTS

Protests must be submitted in writing to the Protest Committee at the No. 2 Picnic Shelter within 30 minutes after posting time.

12. TRANSPORTATION

Each contestant must provide their own transportation between the start and finish lines.

13. PHYSICAL CONDITION

If doubt exists as to the adequacy of a contestant's physical condition, the race officials reserve the right to disqualify the contestant.

14. AMATEUR STATUS

These races are open only to amateurs, and no professional racers may compete for awards. Professionals may compete for time only.

15. AWARDS

Awards will be provided for the first three places in each class. Awards are donated by the Keel-Haulers Canoe Club, Inc. All awards will be given at 3 p.m. You should make arrangements for your award to be picked up if you're not still there. Awards will be mailed upon a request to the race chairman and receipt of proper postage.

16. FOOD

Hot food and refreshments will be available at the Picnic Shelter.

17. USCA SANCTIONING

The event is sanctioned by the United States Canoe Association (USCA).

18. FINAL DECISION

In any matter involving interpretation of these rules, acceptability of canoes and equipment, or of any dispute, the decision of the race officials will be final.



KEEL-HAULERS CANOE CLUB 42st ANNUAL VERMILION RIVER RACE APPLICATION

Sunday, March 28th, 2010, high water backup date April 11, 2010

Separate Application and Waiver of Liability forms must be filled out for each class you are racing in and then presented at registration.

Contestant (Please Print)

Classes - - Check one

Read rules for details

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____

0 _____ Non-conforming time only

1 _____ C-2 Unrestricted

2 _____ C-2 Mixed & Women

3 _____ C-2 Men's Standard

4 _____ C-2 Senior >49

5 _____ C-2 Over & Under

6 _____ C-1 One Person Canoe

7 _____ K-1 Junior < 16 Years

8 _____ K-1 Short, Men <11.5'

9 _____ K-1 Short, Women <11.5'

10 _____ K-1 Men <14.5'

11 _____ K-1 Women >11.5'

12 _____ K-1 Senior >49, <14.5'

13 _____ K-1 Long, Men >14.5'

14 _____ K-1 LongS, >49yr, >14.5'

Contestant #2 - if applicable Classes 1-5 (Please Print)

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address _____ Boat Manufacturer & Model _____

EVERY OHIO BOAT MUST CARRY A REGISTRATION STICKER READING **2010** OR LATER.

ALL ENTRANTS MUST SIGN THE WAIVER ON THE BACK OF THIS FORM.

Make checks payable to Keel-Haulers Canoe Club

Register and Pay Online at <http://keelhauler.org> or Return Registration Form, Waivers and Fee to:

Rob Hammond

27600 Emery Rd

Orange, OH 44128

Forwarding Service Requested



FIRST CLASS MAIL

_____ \$13 per person - - Pre-registration

_____ \$17 per person - - Race-day Registration

_____ \$6 per person - - Second Race Class

_____ \$-2 discount for Keel Hauler Members

Total Entry Fee \$ _____ Enclosed

MAIL TO:

Race Sponsor:

Keel Line Canoe and Kayak Supply

Located in Chesterland, Ohio the

Midwest supplier Kayak Race Gear and DB Design kayak paddles

440 488-7098

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

If Speed is Your Game, see Keelline

Bib Number _____

2010 Club Officers

President:	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
VP:	Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
Secretary:	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
Treasurer:	Terry Markoff	440-543-4969

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

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

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

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

KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

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

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the April issue of the newsletter is **3/21/10**. Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com or peetzaguy@comcast.net.

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
March, 2010



Keelhauler's Kanews *A P R I L, 2010*



**Next Club Meeting:
Tuesday, April 13th, at 7:30PM**

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

Program:

**Judi Fordyce will present slides on their
Chili trip in January**

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

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

2010 Trip Schedule

We still need organizers for 3 Lower Yough Trips.

This schedule will be continuously updated as changes occur.

Send an e-mail to [John Kobak](#) to volunteer to organize a trip, I will add to on-line schedule.

Calling all Paddlers...

by David Hill

We all have favorite tunes that fill our ears as we head off for another paddling trip. There are road songs, songs to get you pumped, and those that just sum it up best. Like maybe the Talking Heads in "take me to the river, drop me in the water". But what if the river was off limits and you couldn't drop in the water?

Poaching is not the topic of this article, but rather the river access that we all rely on to enjoy our sport of choice. Sometimes we take it for granted as we unload boats amongst friends and begin to gear up over catching up conversations or whatever the topic des jour. These river access points we so rely on can be as simple as the bridges at the Slippery Rock, or be an elaborate

arrangement between private property owners and interested parties through locked gates like the Green River, they can be a system of permits to control river traffic, or just be a permit to let you leave the trail like the Cuyahoga gorge. Like the rivers we paddle, the possible arrangements for river access are endless in type but they are important and should not be taken for granted.

These access issues will always be changing as legal interpretations are argued on both sides. Someone's interest will try to sway opinion whether it be landowners, parks, anglers, paddlers, or whatever special interest groups has the best angle. I plan to update the Conservation Page in order to provide informational links to river access discussions and issues. In the mean time here are some projects that are occurring in our backyard.

Kent OH - Cuyahoga River

The whitewater park is still a dream, but in the mean time Kent Parks & Recreation has secured funding from our boater registration. Imagine that, getting \$250,000 from our license contributions! The grant is limited to river access projects only (3 on river right) and needed to tie into the existing Heritage Park. In addition to a canoe/kayak portage around the dam, there will also be river access point ~1.3 miles upstream near the entrance to the River Bend development. This is where the potential for river access is being "discussed" by residents and other groups. This public river access point will also be the first location down stream from Lake Rockwell and be used by emergency personnel if needed, so it will most likely be more ramp-like in design. It will also open up 1.5 miles of flatwater paddling up to the Water Treatment Plant below Lake Rockwell.

Remember, this project is only about river access points and allowing users to "drop in the water". **I urge ALL paddlers to support these efforts by providing comments (before March 30th) on the project through the below link.** The following announcement is also found on the Kent City Manager blog <http://www.kent360.com/?type=cc&id=1861&53L3c73d=1861> for: March 9th. Or check out this link <http://www.kent360.com/city-projects/kent-whitewater-park>

Last week the Kent Parks and Rec Director held a public meeting in the Riverbend neighborhood to review the concept plans for improving river access by converting vacant City park land into a new boat launch area. The Parks and Rec design consultant attended the meeting, offered some initial concept images and took notes based on the feedback of the meeting attendees. As you might expect the comments ranged from concerns with parking, lighting and noise to excitement over the prospect of a new outdoor recreational opportunity.

John and his design engineer will now go to the drawing board and work to incorporate the elements of the public input into the specifications for the project as much as possible and wherever practical. With that in mind John has provided me with some of the hand out materials from the meeting and he wanted to let the public know that they can continue to submit comments through March 30th

Attached are the presentation boards describing the project and a pdf of the project overview and comment sheet. We've extended the comment period to March 30th. Please feel free to forward this info to interested persons for comments who could not attend the meeting. Comments can be mailed to the office or emailed to [idone@kent-ohio.org](mailto: idone@kent-ohio.org)

Cleveland OH - Cuyahoga River

I think that Mike Larkin can speak to this better than I and he needs to be listened to. There is an opportunity for a new river access point near downtown, IF some issues can be resolved. This one is also about \$\$ or lack thereof, but it will provide a much needed venue for all paddlers to "drop in the water".

The Cleveland Rowing Foundation is pursuing Rivergate Park and needs the support of ALL paddlers.
http://blog.cleveland.com/architecture/2010/03/cleveland_rowing_foundation_ve.html This may or may not be the venue, but I would support a club donation for this project.

Stay tuned to the Conservation Page for additional information on these local projects along with updates/links to the ongoing saga in Colorado, along the Upper Chattooga, and whatever else is up for discussion.

Cleveland Rowing Foundation and what it is doing for kayakers

by Mike Larkin

Over the past few months I have had the opportunity to meet with members and officers of the Cleveland Rowing Foundation. The Cleveland Rowing Foundation (CRF) is a nonprofit organization that promotes and shares the athletic, health, educational and social benefits of rowing throughout Greater Cleveland. CRF currently oversees the only boathouse in Northeast Ohio which is the umbrella organization to nine high schools, collegiate and adult rowing programs which serves nearly 850 rowers and dragon boat racers. CRF works in concert with community partners to enhance the recreational quality of the Cuyahoga River.

Cliff Wire (the Pres.), Mark Pecot (owner of 41 North), and myself have had discussions with the folks at CRF about their interest in getting involved with canoeing and kayaking. So why should kayakers care about what is going on at CRF? The reason is they are offering something to the paddling community that doesn't come around that often. That is what will someday be Rivergate Park.

CRF has an opportunity to establish a new rowing and recreation venue called Rivergate Park on the banks of the Cuyahoga River near Columbus Road. The site is the former Commodore Club Marina, a 6.5 acre parcel of land with 1,100 feet of Cuyahoga river access.

Rivergate Park will serve as a centerpiece for the revitalization of the Cuyahoga River. In addition to being a permanent home for rowing, the vision of Rivergate Park will include biking, kayaking and dragon boat racing, as well as hiking and bird watching, making it a multi-faceted recreation destination along the Cuyahoga. There is interest in a kayak rental facility and/or a livery. Rivergate Park facilities will complement and enhance surrounding public spaces such as Canal Basin Park, the Towpath Trail and a proposed state-of-the-art skateboard park. The Ohio City Bicycle Co-Op is considering moving there as well.

This facility has the potential to bring more awareness to paddle sports and recreational opportunities on the Cuyahoga. Rivergate Park will be the only public access to the Cuyahoga from Whiskey Island on Lake Erie to ... somewhere....downstream? Actually, where is there a public put-in on the Cuyahoga? The National Park doesn't have any.

The folks at CRF are not looking to get into the kayak business. But they would like a group to help with getting the public into boats. This is where I think the club should get involved. This is a great way to promote our sport and rivers. The more people that the public sees using the Cuyahoga the more likely the public will take interest in keeping it clean. This project will create access, promote safety and improve public awareness of paddlesports.

The CRF needs to raise a lot of money to make all this happen, we are talking millions. They have been doing numerous fundraisers and have received many grants and loans from various organizations. The one thing that helps this project the most is donations. No donation is too small. CRF has done everything from fundraisers at bars to working with large donors. I encourage all members to try and make donation if they can. I hope the club will do the same.

Here in Northeast Ohio we have an interesting opportunity on the horizon. In the next 5 to 10 years we could see a new paddle club in Downtown Cleveland, a whitewater park in Kent, and the possible removal of dams along the Cuyahoga in Cuyahoga Falls and Akron. These events could bring a whole new perspective and interest to our sport. Let's get behind these local river projects to make Northeast Ohio a better place to live and paddle!

Vietnam, Chapter 2

by Chuck Singer

Hi.

I've been in Hue for three days now. The flight from HCMC was interesting. I had an aisle seat that a young woman wanted. (She was in the middle seat) I told her No and as we pulled away from the jetway, I noticed she was opening the air sickness bag. I said "Want to switch now?" She was fine and maybe that is just a good way to get an aisle seat.

The airlines had a bus to take you to the city (Hue) for a third of the taxi fare. I got off in town to look for the cheap part of town just in front of a very nice hotel. The door man said it was cheap there and I was tired, so I checked it out. It was GREAT! AC, TV, balcony, writing alcove, a 6ft tub and shower, minibar and free breakfast and Internet all for \$20!



I took the Pagoda tour yesterday and visited three of them. These were the tombs of VN kings from the 1800 and 1900 hundreds. The guide differentiated them as the "sexy king", the Gay King and the Smallpox King. Sexy king had many wives, 500 concubines and 146 kids! Gay King had none and Smallpox King was childless too even though he had 150 wives and countless concubines. The smallpox must have caused a gonadal malfunction!. We then took a very boring river tour to a nice older house used by one of the Kings ministers (Mandarin) It had a great garden with fruit trees and many spices. The trip was good but there were a LOT of steps involved.

Yesterday I went to the Citadel, the home of Viet kings from 1780? to 1945 when the last one abdicated. The compound is enormous with a large outer wall around a moat and an inner wall surrounding all the buildings. Some are in good repair and some are rubble. The whole place is maybe a square mile.

The buildings have tiled roofs with dragons at the corners. There are also dragons at the sides of some stairs. There are huge bronze bells and a seven foot drum to get your attention. Much of the insides are colorfully decorated with Mother of Pearl and enameled bronze. You could get an elephant ride there too or have your picture taken dressed up as royalty. Remember how hot HCMC was? Hue has been cold and rainy for the last two days.



Today I went on a trip to the DMZ and saw some of the places I remember from the news like Ke Sanh and others. It was a 12 hour trip and I haven't eaten supper yet so I'll write more later.



Hi again,

The DMZ tour was OK but not great. I guess I'm getting tired of seeing piles of American bombs. Didn't we take any of them back with us? Our guide had a great sense of humor as he told us we would go on part of the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Laos. We did bring our passports? He also said Vietnam is a very young country with 55% of the population being born after 1975. He said the next war could be fought from motorbikes of which there are millions!

We did see some women smuggling cigarettes from Laos, a 25 mile walk! Khe Sanh had a museum and the usual and the usual helicopters and bombs. There was a vender selling old medals, insignia and dog tags, kind of sad.

We visited another tunnel complex which was bigger than the Cu-Chi tunnels. You could stand up in this one most of the time. I did manage to find a couple of spots that were too low to stand up in with my head. Keep in mind the average Viet male now is only 5'7" so the fit was good for them. There were SMALL 12V lights every 50ft or so but the tunnel curved so much that you often were in the dark. We walked maybe a quarter mile and 100ft under until we came out at a beach and then took another tunnel system back.

This was where the villagers lived to avoid the bombs. They would work their fields and retreat to bomb shelters when a siren howled

We also saw the Rockpile and Hamburger Hill from a distance. They are completely overgrown now. The pictures of the bases and war zones are totally different than today's reality

I took a bus from Hue to Da Nang and saw my first accident. A truck and a van both tried to occupy the same single lane bridge. It could have been exciting since there were very low guard rails. It could happen ALL the time as the traffic is chaos but almost everyone yields. Walking across a busy street requires courage and a sense of daring. There is a constant stream of motorbikes and I just wait for a slight lessening and walk steadily. The motor bikes, cars and bicycles all miss you by 5-10ft at least so far.



I went to Hoi An yesterday. It's a very old trading town that houses built by Japanese and Chinese traders. Some of the homes are 300 years old. It's a World Heritage Site and no vehicles are allowed on the main streets. It still is a shopping mecca and is loaded with tourists. Silk, wood carvings, and paintings are everywhere. In one shop I met a young woman studying English and spent an hour explaining our language to her. "I want to practice my English" is often a trick just to sell you something but she didn't want anything. I took a boat ride with a little old lady with bad teeth then headed back to Da Nang by bus. I got shorted on change but got off close to my hotel so I saved the \$1 motorbike taxi.

Today, I plan to go to China Beach if the weather holds. The beach was a big place for R&R during the war. I'll fly to Hanoi late in the afternoon,



Well, China Beach was beautiful and extends for miles. There was only a few people there and no one swimming. It was windy and 70F. I talked to the waitress there, and she has a sister studying in

Washington DC. It's very common and their system is more capitalistic than communistic. They love to make money.

I flew to Hanoi by their low cost airline. It cost \$ to check even one bag and you had to pay for food and drink. The luggage person did say I could take my backpack as carry on! Can you imagine the ruckus when my knife, scissors and baby Vise Grips showed up on XRay.

We had trouble finding my hotel so it was another upscale night (\$25). I walked around Hanoi this morning and it is even busier than HCMC if that is possible! I got a little cold last evening so I bought a light jacket which was a little small. It was XXXL! I'm 5'10" and 165# so are there enough X's for a really big American? There are a lot of pedal bikes here and a few pedal cabs if Marty wants to try a new job. I've seen two bikes for legless people also.



I'm scheduled to bus and boat to Haiphong Bay tomorrow. I stay overnight on a junk boat and kayak some that day. I'll be back in three days with updates, maybe sooner if there is Wi-Fi available. (The updates, not me!)

Chuck

The Fine Art of Paddling By The Numbers

~~ by Tim Garland

with the Canoe Club of Greater Harrisburg
(and with his permission)

- 1 - # of boats everyone starts with and claims to be happy with. Psychologists call this being in denial. Paddle shops call this a foot in the door. Politicians call this economic stimulation.
- 2 - Total # of boats you tell your spouse you really need shortly after you buy the first one
- 3 - # of months between buying the second boat and the third
- 4 - # of months between buying the third boat and when the divorce papers are filed
- 5 - # of months between the divorce paper filing and when they get rescinded after you buy your spouse his/her own boat (WHEW!)
- 13 - # of micro-seconds between when you fall out of the boat and

you decide that maybe wearing a PFD wasn't such a bad idea after all

13 - # of IQ points you have if the above thought doesn't occur to you

13 - # of bad swims needed for someone with an IQ of 13 to decide that maybe wearing a PFD wasn't such a bad idea after all
99.99% - Probability that you skipped wearing a PFD at least once

6 - # of cuss words uttered after a bad swim

8 - # of cuss words uttered after a really bad swim

0 - # of cuss words uttered after a really, really, really bad swim

10 ft - Amount of rope in a worthless rescue throw bag

110 ft - Amount of rope in a worthless rescue throw bag

<10% - Probability you have tested your rescue whistle in the last 6 months

>90% - Probability that you will stab yourself in the lip if you grab your rescue knife instead of your rescue whistle because you haven't practiced lately

33% - Probability you will be run over by a rafter on the Lehigh at least once in your paddling career

100% - Probability that after you get run over by a rafter on the Lehigh you will contemplate mayhem

50% - Probability you will stab yourself accidentally with your rescue knife while showing your paddling partners how you plan to stab the next rafter who runs over you

100% - Probability that your audience will roll their eyes at your bad acting skills

and ineptitude with a rescue knife

<10% - Probability that anyone in your unappreciative audience will actually have a first aid kit in his boat

50% - Likelihood that you will be told by some dimwit that "Duuuude! Chicks dig scars, man! So don't worry about it! It looks sooo gnarly, dude!"

<1% - Likelihood that any given chick will dig your scar.... Dude.

1 - # of times needed to paddle the Tohickon for it to terrify you if you are a marginal Class 3 paddler

2 - # of times need for you to paddle the Tohickon before you feel the urge to smirk at all those newbies to the Tohickon.

2 - # of blades on the paddles of righteously cool paddler dudes. Never more, never less.

1 - # of blades on the paddles of paddlers who actually have skill. Never more, never less.

50 - 50 - Odds about which one of the two preceding lines annoyed you.

94% - Probability that an "Open Boat - Open Mind" sticker is more likely to be on a canoe than a kayak.

24% - Probability that an "Open Boat - Open Mind" sticker on a canoe has some unauthorized graffiti written below it written in Magic Marker that says "Brain Fell Out".

100% - Probability that writing on someone else's canoe is a bad des since canoeists are better prepared and they can carry more gear such as bazookas and they know how to use them and they have no sense of humor about such things

1 - # of swims in 35 degree water needed for you to kill the evil voice in your head that says that your dry suit was too expensive

27 - # of IQ points you lose from swimming in 35 degree water due to brain freeze even if you have a dry suit

\$100 - What you are willing to pay for a cup of hot chocolate after you swim in 35 degree water

4 - # of brain cells killed for every sniff of the Codorus Creek at the put-in

444- # of brain cells killed for every sniff of unwashed river clothes

27% - The increase in price you can charge with a straight face when selling a "shuttle vehicle" as opposed to a "clapped out old junker"

2% - Probability that you can roll your sea kayak

98% - Probability that if you can't roll your sea kayak, you say "I never flip it anyway."

98% - Probability that if you say "I never flip anyway," you will flip your sea kayak within 1 month.

\$50 - Price I'd pay for a ticket to watch George Obama and Barak Bush take a tandem canoe over Niagara Falls given that they've already sent the rest of the country over. Now if I can only find a 535 seat canoe for Congress.

< 1% - Probability that anyone will email Your Humble Reporter, Tim Garland at tegarland@embarqmail.com to tell him what a clever fellow he is.....12/22/09

Upcoming Trip Schedule....

4/2 or 5, 4/11 (4) Cuyahoga Gorge or Sheraton Section (OH)

Location depends on water level, participant's skills

See Cuyahoga Info for level and trip details

A close to home WW training experience 16-29

Mike Larkin, 216-486-4833 and Dave Hill 330-221-0270

4/2 - 10 (4) Southern Rivers, Time to shake off the cobwebs and travel South and hopefully find more Spring like weather. The goal of the Southern Rivers trip will be to match the skills of the group with corresponding rivers. The plan is to start at the Nolichucky on Good Friday. There we will determine the skills of the paddlers and choose appropriate rivers depending on water levels. Easter Sunday has traditionally been spent paddling the Ocoee. Potential class III rivers include Pigeon TN, Upper Green NC (not the Narrows), Natchala NC, Little near Gatlinburg TN before the "The Sinks" and lower Tellico TN. Also some have more challenging sections (Class IV+) Tellico "Ledges" and Little "Sinks to Elbow". Other Class IV include the Doe TN, Wilson Creek NC, and part of the Chattooga GA. Call if you are even thinking about going on this trip.

Michael Duvall (216) 513-5921



Put in at the Ocoee River, Tennessee

[Tripttp://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/SouthernTrip2007.pdf](http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/SouthernTrip2007.pdf)

Map - Detail map, TN-NC-GA 22-32



Bob at "Bull Sluice"

4/10 Hike Eagle Creek State Nature Preserve,
see ponds, woodlands, mammals, reptiles and amphibians (OH)
Dennis Plank 216-939-8229

4/10, 11 (4) Lower Yough (PA)
16 Pat Guzowski 216-780-5734

4/10, 11 (3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)
Needs organizer

4/10, 11 12th Annual Webster WW Weekend (WV)
Needs organizer

4/10,17,24 & 5/1 Fundamentals of Kayaking at Orange High School
Saturdays - 3:00pm-6:00pm Ernie Anderson 216-431-3076

4/13 Club Monthly Meeting
Joe Marks 216-281-1517

4/17 (3) Cuyahoga River, Lower Gorge (OH)
20 Chris Kiehl 330-869-6549

4/17 (1) Grand River (OH)
SK/FW Carl Kudrna 440-835-5744



Middle Fork, Joe Marks

4/17, 18 (5) Middle Fork & Tygart (WV)
29 Elliott Drysdale 216-496-4182 C

4/17, 18 WV Class V Creeking
>32 John Garcia-216-210-7544 and Brent Laubaugh-724-272-6944

4/24 (1) Grand River Race
Alternate Date 5/1 SK/FW Brian Davidson 800-669-9226

4/24, 25 Cheoah Release (NC)
32 **Needs organizer**

4/24, 25
(2) Slippery Rock Creek (PA) 13-19 Mark Spang 440-892-6972

4/24, 25 (3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)
Needs organizer

4/25 (5) Cheat River Race Clinic (WV)
26 Cliff Wire 440-439-6541

4/25 (1) Little Beaver (OH)
SK/FW Doug Lyons 740-317-7007

4/30 Cheat Mass-Occurrence Team Race (WV)
26 Cliff Wire 440-439-6541



Michael Duvall starting last year's Cheat Race

4/30 & 5/1,3 Upper Yough and/or Big Sandy (MD)
32 John Kobak 440-871-1758

On Daddy's Creek

By Rob "Turkey Man" Hammond

Reprinted from May 2000

It was my first run on Daddys Creek in Tennessee, it was a great day on a great river, but now we were at the takeout, time to load up and head home to Ohio. On getting out of my boat I noticed a hand written note on the windshield of our van and two law enforcement officers out of their vehicles waiting for us. Their body language did not indicate any urgency. Although I was not too concerned, I was curious as to why they were there. Others in our party went over to talk to the officers, I chose to take off my wet gear and read the note on our van.

This was the last river and the last day of our 6-day paddling trip for Scott and me, on the Keel-Haulers Canoe club's annual Southern Rivers trip. This is a mid April trip, we and paddle various rivers in Georgia, the Carolinas, Tennessee and other states depending on river levels, and whims of the boaters on the trip. Some of the standards that we like to do every year are: the Nolichucky, Chattooga section IV, and the Ocoee. This year we also sampled

the Watauga, the Tellico, and the Little River. Our trip started out with 22 Keel-Haulers from as far a way as Michigan and one from Germany. Towards the end of our trip, the group dwindled to 11 of us. As we contemplated what river to do next, our trip leader, John Kobak, suggested something in the Obed River system. John had previously been on Daddys Creek, he described it as Class 4 version, of one of our favorite home rivers, the Upper Youghiogheny River. That was all I need to hear, I love technical boating, and I love the Upper Yough, so Daddys Creek got my vote. But John warned us "they have some sort of restriction on the weekends during hunting season, so we will have to do the River on Thursday to avoid the Friday to Sunday closing of the park". After a little discussion it was agreed to do Daddys Creek on Thursday.

John was a little unsure of the shuttle route, but he knew that the National Park Service had a visitor center that could give us directions. When we got to the center we were all impressed at helpfulness of the staff, and the tourism promotion that the office was providing. The Brochure that they gave us showed us all of the roads, a river chart rating the runs at different river levels, and lots of paddling, swimming and hiking pictures. We all concluded that the park was very supportive of paddlers.

After driving the shuttle for several miles we noticed an open gate across the road and a sign that said, "Closed for big game hunting". "Big game hunting? Like lions, tigers and bears?" I murmured to the group in the van. "Perhaps they mean deer hunting" some one volunteered. Scott said, "naw they hunt deer in the fall, it has to be turkey season" "well if they consider turkey big game, what do they consider small game, humming birds?" someone else quipped. "Well what do we do now" I asked. "the map says that only way to get to the Devils Breakfast Table takeout, is on this road". John said "they probably just put the signs up a day early". Fortunately for us, we were not going to let weak rationalizations hold us back from our appointed rounds, so when we all accepted John's explanation and drove on. During the whole shuttle we did not see any vehicles, hunters, rangers, lions, tigers, or bears! As a matter of fact the only people we saw outside of our group the whole day was the 2 rangers at the takeout.



Kayaking in New Zealand in 1/2010

We ran the shuttle without incident. The temps were in the 70's, the level was at 1.4, which turned to be a great level to enjoy Daddys Creek. John mentioned that this was the best run in the whole Obed system, and I was not going to argue with that! On the river, just as on the road there was no sign or sound of any other people, hunters or boaters.

So back to the take out; I checked out the note left on our van. The hand written note said "We each got one too" signed: Stu and Boris. Stu and Boris were the two guys in our group who went on ahead of us, to get an early start on their trip back to home in Michigan. Got one what, I thought? Well a glance over to the rangers revealed some very animated and annoyed paddlers. It seemed that the park was indeed closed, and we were all being given tickets for trespassing in a public park. The irony of trespassing, a private property crime, in a publicly owned park seemed to have been lost on the officers. We were all fined \$142, well all - of us except for two scofflaws who hid out in a van. The rangers thought there were more of us, but did not think to compare the number of boats to the number of tickets. At any rate, the rangers had made quite the haul that day; a very generous \$1,200 that we donated to Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency!

To say that we were more than a highly annoyed would be doing a great disservice to linguistic purists! We felt like the political authority having jurisdiction over this national park was exploiting us. It is very curious why whoever manages this Federally owned tract of land, ignores most of the stakeholders, and gives priority to a small group of turkey hunters. These hunters, which we outnumbered that day 11 to 0, have been given the run of these tax payer furnished lands, during the prime boating season. Do these "big game" hunters have trouble distinguishing between turkeys that fly and turkeys that boat?

Now I am not a conspiracy buff, but I think that a vast turkey-hunting lobby is the cause this injustice. So remember gentle kayaker, if you are kayaking on Daddys Creek, be sure to have a hunting license, and carry a stick. This way if Ranger Bob stops you, you can explain the stick is to bag some "big game" turkeys!



2010 Vermilion River Race Results

105 Contestants in 79 boats - Water Level - 400 CFS steady

<http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/RaceResults10.pdf>

Canoe Classes

Bib	Place	Elapsed Time	Name	2nd Racer Name	
Class 1 C-2 Unrestricted Canoe					
758	1	1:22:18	Oravec, Dave	Burt, Richard	
Class 2 C-2 Mixed or Women Canoe					
828	1	1:14:07	Masek, Dan	Masek, Sarah	
780	2	1:15:07	Boger, Rusty	Boger, Shelby	
821	3	1:17:16	Fabian, Erin	Morgan, Kevin	
801	4	1:21:49	Hall, Stephen	Hall, Emily	
761	5	1:24:13	Parker, Jim S.	Vickie James	
Class 3 C-2 Men's Standard Canoe					
822	1	1:16:06	Boger, Jim	Philips, Dean	
831	2	1:19:17	Grady, Bob	Grady, Patrick	
813	3	1:19:40	Slough, Eric	Anderson, Eric	
808	4	1:21:03	Hook, Jeffrey	Shumaker, Scott	
760	5	1:21:41	Parker, Jim S.	Parker, James L.	
832	6	1:22:04	Wood, Keith	Wood, Scott	
810	7	1:22:16	Davis, Daryl	Davis, Ben	
819	8	1:24:39	Arndt, Eric	Arndt, Ray	
804	9	1:27:52	Wohlver, Adam	Watson, Jeremy	
825	10	1:34:26	Lowstetter, John	Kory, Andrew	
776	11	1:36:52	Moretz, Damian	Shelton, Brandon	
830	12	1:32:49	Brennan, John	Brennan, Brandon	
Class 4 C-2 Senior > 49 yrs old Handicap					
791	1	1:21:15	Burney, Ken	Kermode, Scott	1:40
835	2	1:21:26	Singleton, Bill	Mariotti, Marty	1:00
829	3	1:21:39	Saltis, Tom	Saltis, Denis	0:40
751	4	2:03:41	Futch, Paul	Eakin, Lewis	2:50
Class 5 C-2 Over & Under					
803	1	1:24:24	Annable, Tom	Annable, Nate	
816	2	1:28:56	Piros, Julia	Piros, Gayle	
817	3	1:33:31	Piros, Kenny	Piros, Tom	
824	4	1:50:50	Logan, Ken	Logan, Alexandra	
Class 6 C-1 One Person Canoe					
805	1	1:25:30	Tenbusch, Richard		
777	2	1:45:12	Moyer, Micah		

Joke of the day.....

"What did one kayak say to the other kayak?"

"Canoe come over later for a rendezvous?"

~by Morgan Lennon

Kayak Classes

Bib	Place	Elapsed Time	Name	Bib	Place	Elapsed Time	Name
Class 7 K-1 Junior < 16 yrs old				Class 11 K-1 Kayak > 11.5', Women			
818	1	1:29:50	Piros, Dan	775	1	1:15:10	Monte, Mary Jo
Class 8 K-1 Short Kayak < 11.5', Men				767	2	1:30:59	Schneider, Audrey
750	1	1:22:06	Duvall, Michael	757	3	1:32:28	McFarland, Coleen
784	2	1:24:41	Kish, Rich	800	4	1:48:32	Pinchbeck, Patti
809	3	1:25:13	Lyons, Doug	Class 12 K1 Senior Kayak >49 years old <14.5'			
802	4	1:26:45	Park, James	762	1	1:12:18	Rabatin, Jacob
789	5	1:26:59	Kelley, David	786	2	1:12:45	Gary 2, Tim
834	6	1:27:34	Read, Jason	781	3	1:14:53	Mellblom, Peter
811	7	1:28:48	Wallhead, Wayne	783	4	1:18:18	Kobak, John
756	8	1:31:34	Koscho, Robb	753	5	1:18:21	Henderson, Jeff
773	9	2:13:29	Wood, Chip	759	6	1:22:21	Pauley, Robert
771	10	No Time	Sibit, Shawn	792	7	1:23:58	Whipple, James
Class 9 K-1 Short Kayak < 11.5', Women				797	8	1:24:06	Cameron, Mike
795	1	1:27:41	Morse, Chris	793	9	1:24:26	Moran, Ken
798	2	1:50:01	Snyder, Shelli	820	10	1:28:51	Hebert, Larry
Class 10 K-1 Kayak < 14.4', Men				796	11	1:29:09	Chandonnet, Jerry
859	1	1:12:12	Rabatin, Jacob	749	12	1:29:31	Czerniawski, Karen
785	2	1:13:37	Gary, Tim	Class 13 K-1 Long Kayak >14.5', Men			
778	3	1:17:19	Singer, Chuck	788	1	1:08:20	White, Joe
794	4	1:18:28	Baird, Robert	782	2	1:14:19	Boyce, John
787	5	1:19:03	Ulichney, Daniel	814	3	1:18:27	Schreiber, Karl
833	6	1:19:29	Wire, Cliff	807	4	1:24:34	Amato, Jim
763	7	1:22:21	Richardson, David	770	5	1:24:53	Shaffer, Jason
812	8	1:23:54	Kaser, Michael	Class 14 K-1 Senior > 49 yrs old, Kayak > 14.5'			
826	9	1:31:20	Anderson, Steve	772	1	1:07:41	Webber, Frank
755	10	1:33:45	Kitchen, Terry	790	2	1:09:27	Batizy, Arpad
799	11	1:46:20	Forman, Ron	806	3	1:10:19	Way, Jay
				764	4	1:57:13	Tabb, Ronald
				Class 15 K-1 Senior > 49 yrs old, > 11.5' Women			
				768	1	1:19:28	Schreiber, Joanne
				815	2	1:33:22	Homborg, Donna

16th Annual Cheat River Festival Dedicated to Keith Pitzer

Cheat River Festival: Saturday May 1st, 2010. Always the first Saturday in May, Noon-11pm. All Day: Live Music, Artist Market, Kids Area, Climbing wall, Watershed Non-Profits, Green Area, Vendors. Parking: \$1 per car. No Camping in parking area! Admission: \$15, 12 and under free. \$10 Presale Tickets available. Go to our festival page www.cheat.org/festival for the outlets or give us a call at (304) 329-3621. Setting: Park-like wooded area surrounds the festival site which lines at the confluence of Muddy Creek & the Cheat River. Rugged shoes are recommended. A lawn or camp chair is a good idea too, if you would like to sit down and enjoy the day. No Pets Allowed! Annual Attendance: 2,200+

2010 Club Officer

President: Cliff Wire 440-439-6541
VP: Michael Duvall 216-521-0094
Secretary: Pat Guzowski 216-780-5734
Treasurer: Terry Markoff 440-543-4969

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

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

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

1649 Allen Dr.

Westlake, OH 44145

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

KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

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

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the May issue of the newsletter is **4/21/10**. Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com or peetzaguy@comcast.net.

Keel Haulers Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
April, 2010



Keelhauler's Kanews *May, 2010*



Next Club Meeting:

Tuesday May 11th at 7:30 PM

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

**Program: Cliff Wire will present slides from
his England trip last Fall.**

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

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

Cheat Fest is one week away!

***Saturday, May 1st
Albright, WV***

*I am still looking for volunteers! Many shifts still available,
Friday-Sunday.

*Volunteer 4 hours of your time and you'll receive
free entrance to the festival, \$5 off the festival t-shirt,
& a visit to the hospitality tent (food/bevies)! Not to mention the
satisfaction of knowing you have helped out a wonderful
organization!

If you are interested in volunteering this year, please
e-mail me at kelligeswein@hotmail.com. Looking forward to seeing
everyone again!

From the desk of Kelli Geswein

KHCC Minutes April 13, 2010

Visitors / New Members

Dan Kellogg from Solon - new boater / member
Jerry Lawrence from Garrettsville - new boater / member looking
for help learning to roll
Tom Derr and his wife Rachel from North Olmstead - new
members
Hank Oestrike - newer boater / member who has taken some
instruction and has some experience

No new business

Jim Hunt reported on a Good Friday trip to the Slip followed up by
a trip to the Cheat on Saturday and Sunday of the same week.

Cliff Wire mentioned that the club has a busy schedule so
members are encouraged to check the schedule and watch the
message board.

Planning for the Rescue Rodeo is moving along and volunteers are
always needed.

Program

Pam Poljack showed a short film, featuring a Grand Canyon trip
from 2006, as a tribute to John Fralick who passed away recently.
This film was sent to Kathy Chapman as a remembrance of John
and their time together.

Judi Cleary Fordyce presented a slide show of the trip that she
and Larry organized to Chile. The slide show featured some
stunning photography and Judi shared their experiences as she
narrated the show.

SYOTR,

Pat

How to Become More of an Asset on the River

By Joe Marks

Want to become more of an asset on the river for your paddling buddies? For yourself? Then listen up. AW's safety 'Guru' Charlie Walbridge will be holding a full on Swiftwater Rescue Clinic the weekend of June 12/13 for Club Member's. It will cover the full gamut of skills from situational assessment and teamwork to strong swimmer rescue. And with most every necessary skill in between. Charlie calls on his many years of experience to illuminate many of the drills with stories of actual events where they were used or misused. You can check Charlie's Clinic itinerary here: http://www.charliwalbridge.com/rescue_class_outline.htm Last year, two Clinic participants came across a pinned boater on one of our favorite Class IV creeks a week or two after finishing the class. They both credited their swift, successful rescue to the fact that they had just practiced the exact same scenario during Charlie's Clinic. Here's a quote from another former student; "With luck, my rescue vest will never find itself supporting me as I'm lowered in strong current to assist a friend in trouble. But, I'm now comfortable enough to do it, unless setting up a zipline or line-assisted wade seems more prudent." Taking a clinic like this with your regular paddling buddies is a great way to enhance the teamwork of your group if a rescue scenario should arise.



For the Clinic we will camp at Teter's Campground on the Cheat. Saturday will be dry land training right there at the Campground. There's usually time for a run on one of the nearby rivers afterward. Sunday will mostly be on (or in) the water. Charlie will choose the appropriate nearby spot depending on levels at the time. Of course, you will need your boating gear and appropriate clothing for being in the water most the day on Sunday. Also, you should be at least a lower intermediate paddler. If you have any questions please contact Joe Marks. This Clinic is limited to 10 participants so reserving ahead of time is necessary. The typical cost for this kind of course can be \$150.00 or more. Based on 10 participants our group rate will make it approximately \$85 for Club members. Based on previous years demand you'll need to reserve your spot in the Clinic as soon as possible.



Date: June 12/13th

Reservation Contact: Joseph Marks joemarks@gmail.com
or 216-533-0604

Place: Teter's Campground (reservations have been made) Beech Run Road Albright, WV 26519

Time: Arrive Friday night or early Saturday morning. Clinic will start at 9:00

Directions: Take Exit 23 off of I 68 and go south on Route 26. Teter's will be on the right just before you get into Albright.

West Virginia Rivers Coalition Annual River Raffle

Dear Boaters and friends of WVRC, West Virginia Rivers Coalition Annual River Raffle is currently underway, with a ton of great prizes to win including a Wilderness Systems Pamlico from River and Trail Outfitters. Winners will be drawn **September 19th** at Gauley Festival in Summersville West Virginia, instead of in May at Cheat Fest.

Because there are too many great prizes to list we recommend checking out a complete listing of all the great prizes online at www.wvrivers.org. While you are there you can purchase tickets for \$5.00 each or 6 for \$25.00. Tickets can also be purchase by calling the office at 304-637-7201, or by visiting the WVRC booth at river festivals this summer. By purchasing raffle tickets you are supporting West Virginia Rivers Coalition and our work to protect the resources of our headwater state and to ensure clean water for all.

Amanda Hussion
West Virginia Rivers Coalition
Membership Services Manager
329 Davis Ave Suite 7
Elkins WV 26241
304-637-7201

A Good Start

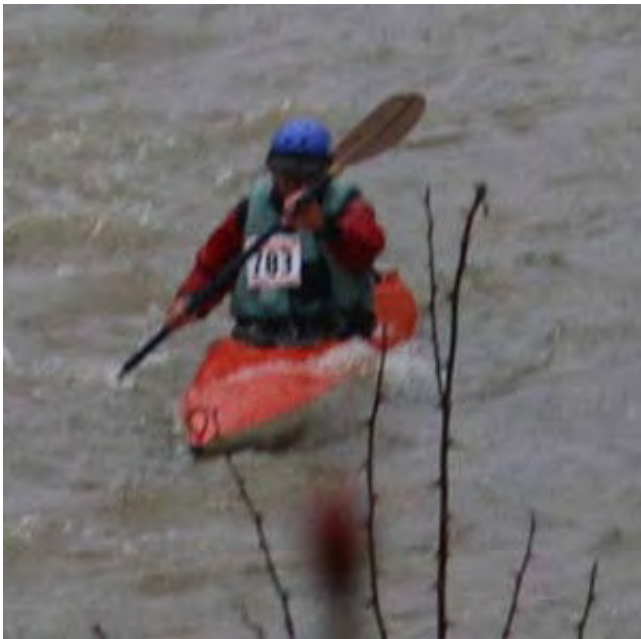
By John Kobak

As most of you know I don't care for cold weather and head south every winter, this year was no exception. Peggy and I spent most of the winter on a white sand beach south of Cancun in Mexico.



For anyone that cares to read about my trip use this link with my blog and pictures: <http://keelhauler.org/WordPress/?m=200911>

We arrived home on St. Patrick's Day when the warm weather finally returned to Cleveland. Even though the weather cooled the following weekend I decided that it was time to dust off my old fiberglass kayak and try to see whether or not I could beat Chuck Singer in the Vermilion Race. He beat me by 59 sec, must be the boat.



Easter weekend was forecast to be unbelievably warm. I had hoped Michael Duvall would get lots of paddlers for his southern trip. The club has had these trips for over 30 years and sometimes we have had as many as 30 paddlers. Guess what? Michael said I was the only one who signed up to go. Since that would not be

enough for a safe trip, he cancelled the trip. I didn't want to let the warm weekend go by without paddling somewhere. Charlie Wallbridge e-mailed me that the Big Sandy and Tygart were up and he was looking for paddlers to join him. I talked Michael into doing a two day trip so that I could be home with my family for Easter Day.

The Lower Big Sandy was falling fast but it would still be at 5.5' on Friday. Chris Kirkman, who bought a cabin near mine at Beaver Creek, said he could paddle. Charlie decided to head to the Middle Fork and Tygart but we felt that the Sandy would be a **good start to our paddling season**. Friday's high was in the low 80's and the three of us were all alone on the river. We saw a big group leaving Big Splat when we were portaging and we saw lots of paddlers coming off the Cheat, but no one paddled near us.



Wonder Falls on the LBS

What a great start to my WW paddling season. I was worried that it might be too low in spots but it was a good level for my first run. The shuttle down to Rockville is still only good for high clearance vehicles. If you don't need to drive to takeout from the put-in you can drive in though Bruceton Mills and follow a good road where Laurel Run goes under I-68. Any car can make it to the parking lot.

We had dinner at Twila's Restaurant and heard about the snowy winter in Preston County. They had over 250" of snowfall this winter and the schools were only open 4 days in February. Many houses and barns collapsed from the weight of the snow. Our cabin was OK.

On Saturday four more paddlers decided to join us; Joe Marksz, Bill and Annelies Layton along with Duncan Campbell. It looked like the best run would be the Top Yough. This short 3 mile run has a lot of action. It starts out with the spectacular **Swallow Falls**, followed by an 8' ledge called Swallow Tail.

After picking up more flow at Muddy Creek Falls, it is a continuous read and run class IV run. At the 550 cfs level, you can punch most of the hydraulics. Just watch out for Suck Hole Rapid, so named for the strainer between two large boulders. The good thing is that it's usually choked full of logs, keeping boats out, and it is not that close to the best line. Duncan got out of his kayak to act as safety in front of the Suck Hole, everyone did well and the four new paddlers did a 2nd run while Michael and I headed back to Cleveland.



the area during high water flows. A possible portage exists on river right, but high water might prevent easy exit from the river flow.

The project completion date is the fall of 2012. The hazard will remain until the bridge replacement project is completed.

Wm. E. Staiger - Area Supervisor
 Division of Watercraft
 2756 S. Arlington Rd.
 Akron, Ohio, 44312
 330-644-2265

High Water Hazard Cuyahoga River, Kent, Ohio

An access causeway has been installed on the Cuyahoga River as part of a bridge construction project. The hazard is located just downstream of the Crain Ave bridge, crossing the Cuyahoga River. It is approximately 1 mile downstream of the River Bend put in: 100 yards upstream of the historical Brady's Leap. The causeway restricts the river flow from 70 feet to a 21 foot wide sluice with a bridge crossing.



During high water periods, this causes increased flow speeds and a point for strainer debris collection. ***ALL paddlers should avoid***



The 42nd Annual Vermilion River Race - 2010 By Cliff Wire

The weekend of the 42nd Annual 2010 Vermilion Race started out wonderful. Saturday was bright & sunny with highs around 50. Of course Sunday, the day of the race wasn't so co-operative. It was rainy with highs around 45. Water level of about 3.2ft, which is a nice level. Brown water made river reading a tad difficult. Regardless - there was a strong showing of 105 racers in 15 classes.

A big thank you goes to all the volunteers who made this happen: Patty Hammond who lead the registration team of Marcia Karchmer & Pam Poljak. Hank Annabel, & Carl Homburg who ran the Start, Bill Botamer and his crew who monitored the finish line. Bob Bair who handled refreshments. We had Rick Collins & Frank Weber working safety at the bridges. And several others who filled in the many tasks of making this race happen. We also had a new source of helpers this year: New members Ron Tabb & Audrey Schneider mentor Cleveland's James Ford Rhodes high-school National Honor Society Members. 8 students helped with several tasks as a service project.

For those who placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd and did not receive their medals, you can mail \$3.00 to:

CWire
 c/o VRace 2010
 73 Berwyn Dr.
 Bedford, Ohio 44146

And your medal will be mailed to you.

Vietnam, Chapter 3

by Chuck Singer

Hi,

I have a small break waiting for my bus so I'll type. I'm on Cat Ba island in Hailong Bay. It's a big island with many tall and steep hills. I started on a guided hike to the top of one but it was about 800 vertical feet of climbing which is nearly 753 more feet than I like! I made it up all the stairs and the first three ladders, but then it got tough and the tough got going back down the hill!

I stayed on a Chinese Junk in the middle of a distant cove with only another 44 Junks around us. It still was beautiful even if it wasn't secluded. Nearly all the people from the 30 or so Junks paddled kayaks from a floating dock. There was a big disparity in skill levels and the equipment was crap!



We paddled through a natural tunnel and saw some monkeys on a near island. After watching them for a while Andy and I turned around and paddled back to where we started. Or so we thought! Another bunch of Junks anchored in front of the dock and hid it. We did manage to find it finally. It was complicated by there being a couple of kayak rental docks and the sun was fast setting.

The afternoon was spent by boating to Monkey Island where small monkeys would beg for food. They got pretty aggressive at times and there was some screaming, both simian and Sapient! We then boated through a floating fishing village. There are supposed to be about 1000 people in it. They both catch fish and farm fish. All the docks are supported by floating, plastic blue barrels. Everything is connected by 6" planks and everyone there casually strolls across them, even the dogs! A lot of the transfer of goods is done by men or women rowing small boats out to the Junks to provision them. They all row facing forward to see where they are going. The boats are maybe 12' by 3' and are made of woven bamboo coated with a tar like substance. Going back into town by bus, we did pass a couple of shops with good looking boating equipment.

This trip was for three days including a bus ride to and from Hanoi, the night on the boat and this classy hotel for \$100!

Tomorrow I bus back to Hanoi arriving at 5pm, then I am getting on an overnight train to Sapa where I guess I'll try a little easy trekking to visit the Hill tribe people. It's a three day trip too and I'll bet the hill Tribes don't have Wi-Fi! You may not hear from me for a while.

I hope the weather is good wherever you are, it was cloudy and a little sprinkly here.

Chuck



Hi, again,

Surprise, the Hill Tribes do have Wi-Fi or at least this hotel does. It is funny to see people cooking over an open fire in a wood and bamboo shack while watching TV. It's very foggy and rainy here so most of the pictures have a hazy look to them. There are four Tribes in this town and they all seem to get along selling things to tourists.

The trek today was perfect for me. We went down from the hotel, The Summit Hotel down through town on good streets, then muddy paths and stairs through the living and artisan areas. The path ended at a beautiful waterfall. I'll bet we dropped 1800 ft.



Our 4'8" Hmong girl guide said we could walk back up that 1800 ft or take a motorbike for \$1. You'll never guess what I chose.

There were 10 year old boys trudging up all those carrying firewood.

The overnight train ride was OK but I don't sleep well when moving. It was a compartment for four and the kids got the bottom.

Time for lunch!



Hi,

I spent three nights and two days in Sapa but two of the nights were on the overnight train so I only had one quiet bed. I got the lower berth back to Hanoi which was good since my legs were tired. The trek yesterday was again mostly downhill and about 8 miles. The first 3 miles were on a paved road walking through the town of Sapa, then a dirt road for a couple of miles. It then got fun; as we approached a store, twenty small children ran towards us selling bamboo hiking sticks. I carry my own so I didn't need one. After we were outfitted, we started down a muddy path with stairs cut into the mud. It would be like that for a couple of miles. Nearly everyone slipped and many fell. For those skiers, if you put snow on the path, it would be a Double Diamond, the steepest! There were Hmong women walking with us and one attached herself to me to help me through the worst spots. Many others had different women. My lady, Yah, had more calluses on her hands than I ever remember, even shaking hands with an American carpenter. And, she was strong too. She probably saved me from 4 or 5 falls and I caught her once.

We had lunch at her village nestled at the base of the mountains, along a rocky stream. the whole area was filled with rice paddys and veggie gardens. The ground is all heavy, slippery clay and the paddy's are all made from that. The rain that was falling filled the paddy's and overflowed to the next, and then to the river.

After lunch, Yah pulled out her wares and it was time to pay up. I bought a couple of pillow covers that she hand embroidered. We then ran the gauntlet of all the other Hmong and other Hill Tribe ladies and walked UP the road to our bus which took us back to the hotel. I showered to clean off all the mud and managed to slip and fall on my butt. Nothing hurt but my pride!

Do you remember Chee, our little Hmong guide. I asked about her family and she was one of 12 children and her mother died in childbirth. Her father was "very old" four years younger than me! She said she would wait until she was 25 to get married (17 now) and try to save some money. There are many babies here with very young mothers.

It was then back to Hanoi with the same three people as the trip out, two Aussies and an English girl. Later today, I'm flying to HCMC and then to the beach. I'm tired of cold and rain!

BTW, my informal survey of people with "socialized medicine" shows 100% in favor of their countries plan. Of course, maybe the failures are dead?

Chuck

Upcoming Trip Schedule....

5/1, 2

Cheat Fest Weekend (WV) 18-26 **Needs organizer**

5/2 (3) Cheat Narrows (WV) and Cheat Fest
18 Phil Raber 740-498-7063



Michael Duvall starting last year's Cheat Race

5/8, 9

(5) Intro to the Cheat Canyon (WV) 26 Jim Hunt 330-335-5203

Introduction to the Cheat Canyon Trip
May 8th and 9th

Are you looking to move up from the Lower Yough or Stoney Creek? If so, the Cheat Canyon is the next logical step. The Cheat Canyon is a remote river with over 30 named rapids. Rapids such as Big Nasty, High Falls and Pete Morgan will test your nerves and paddling skills. The Cheat is a beautiful canyon and one of the club favorites. In addition to the river, you will likely get to experience the world famous Glen Miller Shuttle and camping at Teeter's Campground.

For this trip you need a reliable roll and should be able to paddle the Lower Yough with ease up to about 4 feet. This is an intro trip so first timers are very welcome. If the water level is deemed too high for the group, the trip will be moved to another nearby river of similar difficulty.



Glen Miller Shuttle - where are we going to put the paddlers?

Contact Jim Hunt at: [jhunt4115 at yahoo.com](mailto:jhunt4115@yahoo.com) or 330 335 5203. If you are not sure of your skill level, call Jim to discuss if this trip is for you.

Final details of the trip will not be sent out until about May 6th once the water levels are known.



Cheat Canyon at low water - 2009

5/11 Club Monthly Meeting, Joe Marks, 216-281-1517

5/15 (3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)
13-19 Ann Corey 330-869-6549

5/15 River Day, <http://www.cuyahogariver.net/riverday.htm>
2010 Friends of the Crooked River (OH)
Dave Hill 330-221-0270

5/15, 16 (4) Stonycreek Rendezvous (PA) 21, **Needs organizer**
For 2010, the Rendezvous will be May 14, 15 and 16. The festival site will be Greenhouse Park in Tire Hill (near Johnstown), PA. This party/celebration will have something for everyone.

Please note: There may not be a Whitewater Release scheduled this year! Construction of the new Valve is planned for this month. This will be our last year without a release.

Rain or shine there will be plenty of activities, a moving-water/class I race Saturday, a down river race Friday late afternoon, a play boat X sprint race and an amateur rodeo Saturday. **Please think of yourselves as guests in someone else's community and obey speed limits, pick up litter, and be considerate.** Our whitewater park, potential whitewater releases, and this event all would not be possible without community support. A little effort will go a long way!

The Stonycreek River and its tributaries have many challenges for the beginner and novice paddler, as well as offering more difficult runs for the more experienced only. Ten rivers and creeks from class I thru V are within 20 minutes of the Stonycreek Rendezvous festival site. Lets make a bigger splash this year! ~American Whitewater

5/15, 16 (4) Lower Yough (PA) 23

Brent Hendren 330-929-5525

5/15, 16 (2) Middle Yough (PA) 12, **Needs organizer**

5/15, 16 (5) Cheat Canyon/Little & Big Sandy (WV) 26

Steve Smith, 614-561-4292 and Jim Murtha, 614-282-3293



John Garcia standing in front of Big Splat

5/16 (1) Vermilion Water Trail portion SK/FW
Chuck Singer 440-949-6681

5/22, 23 (3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD) 18
Mark Spang 440-892-6972

5/22, 23 Cheoah Release (NC) 32, **Needs organizer**

5/22, 23 (5) Cheat Canyon, Big Sandy (WV) 26
Needs organizer

5/28, 29 Upper Yough (MD) 32 Jim Hunt 330-335-5203



Brent Laubaugh hand paddling the Upper Y

2010 Club Officers

President:	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
VP:	Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
Secretary:	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
Treasurer:	Terry Markoff	440-543-4969

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

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

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

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KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

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

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the June issue of the newsletter is **5/21/10**. Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com or peetzaguy@comcast.net.

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
May, 2010



Keelhauler's Kanews *June, 2010*



Next Club Meeting Tuesday June 8th at 6:00 PM

at [Wendy Park](#)

near Edgewater Park, Cleveland, OH

**Program: Outdoor Meeting,
bring your canoe or kayak,
to the shore of Lake Erie in
downtown Cleveland, OH**

[Map to Wendy Park](#)

For those coming from the South side of Cleveland, note there is a Indian's baseball game.

I recommend not driving through downtown Cleveland to get to the West Shoreway, taking East Shoreway is OK.

From South or West take West Blvd to the W. Shoreway, avoids lots of traffic.

Get off at Edgewater Park and head East past the yacht club to Wendy Park.

See the red line on the map.

All meetings are open to guests.

Invite a prospective member!

from NOAH which he has added to the web site. Check them out.

Publicity: Michael Duvall report that the new information cards / brochures are in. They are 3.5x8.5 inches, full color, and fit in a standard card display. These are very nicely done. If anyone knows of an opportunity to display or pass out these cards, please contact Michael Duvall or Mike Larkin.

Rescue Weekend: June 12/13 Volunteers are needed for this signature KHCC event. Please consider assisting. To volunteer, please contact Cliff Wire. All new boaters should consider attending the demo/rodeo. It is a great way to learn the basics of river safety and meet a lot of wonderful members of the paddling community.

Trip reports: Cliff Wire reported on his successful NB Potomac trip and Jim Hunt reported on his Cheat trip.

The group discussed the proposal by the ODNR to designate the Vermilion River a Wild and Scenic river. That proposal was withdrawn due to local opposition.

Watch the trip schedule for upcoming KHCC trips and watch the message boards for impromptu trips.

Program: Cliff Wire gave a slide presentation featuring his trip to the United Kingdom. Thanks Cliff!

On a final note I urge all members to consider writing stories and/or trip reports for the KHCC Newsletter. This is your forum and it needs your support.

Thanks,
Pat G.

KHCC Minutes for May meeting

There was one new member in attendance. Marie Blatnik has been interested in kayaking for a while and has been studying the sport. She is a beginner and would appreciate any help learning.

Membership: John Kobak reports 9 new members this month bringing the total paid membership to 274.

Web: John Kobak spoke about some cool new weather links

North Branch of the Potomac with a Savage Kick! (Twice)

By Cliff Wire, Started in May 2009

The May 9/10/2009 NB trip was a beautiful weekend. But with all the rain leading up to the weekend, everything was cranking. The Army Corp of Eng. Wouldn't guarantee a 1000cfs release "Just in Case" even though the weather front seemed to have drained itself. Last years trip had 10-12 folks, this year had a total of 3 show for Saturday. Myself, Phil & Jen Raber. The release was 1K cfs after all. And the river was the emptiest I have ever seen it. And we weren't in a bubble. At both ends of the shuttle and talking to the ranger, it was just one big "No Show" of boaters. So we had a great time surfing the ledges and wearing our selves out not waiting in line.

Several of the water falls were running and showing off nature's beauty.

We put on at 10am Sat and finished at 2pm. It has to be one of the quickest runs I have ever made at normal flows. And we played a ton.

So then Phil is wondering about the Savage and what it is doing. He & Jen had run it twice during last years release. I ran it about 4 years ago. So off we go to check it out. We drive up to the main dam. It's looking just fine with pour over from the dam and we see 1 group in the water. So we car scout between the bridges and decide to go for it. We only have the one car, so we plan on walking back. It's not that far bridge to bridge. (3 road miles we find out afterward).

The Savage is a blast of read-n-run! No incidents. We scout the dam and decide we don't like the right side sneak and are feeling short of numbers if something happens. So we portage the dam. All in all, the Savage was One Big Yahoo at 1.3inches!

Sunday turned out a bit better for attendance. Jim Murtha had indicated he might show Sunday. He does, and brings along Jim Hunt. Judy Peascoe also shows as do Alan & Jackie Blackwood from Mich. (They ran the slip on Sunday and have never done the NB). So off we go again. It is about 10deg chillier Sunday. It starts out overcast, but does clear up. And we have a wonderful time. This time we take the left turn about ½ mile above Bear Falls. It is what I think of Class I creeking. Almost constant dodge-em's. It gives great practice of thinking 3-4 moves ahead. And if you get stuck, you can often get out of your boat, stand up in the water and fix the situation. It is just something different. You come out about ¼ mile downstream of Bear Falls. So we split into 2 groups and meet at the bottom. We finish the run, and Phil is getting Savage fever again. So off we go to check it out. This time Alan & Jackie join us and we have 2 cars so no walk back. Jim, Jim & Judy beg off and head home. The gauge is reading 1.2inches. I take point again

followed by Jackie, Alan, Jen & Phil. As we are setting up, we meet 2 gents who are re-winding their shuttle. They tell us they just ran the dam's right sneak, and that there is a huge hole that one of them just got a bit worked in. We don't even bother scouting the dam this time when we get to it. Portage time. I'm finishing this up a year later, so it was fun as I don't remember the specifics to write them down.

Paddling in the Backyard

By David Hill

Sometimes big things come in little packages. If there are lots of little packages falling from the sky that look like rain drops, then big smiles appear and text messages are sent. A sufficiently wet May allowed the local watershed to run on a consistent basis and warmer weather "forced" us to shift into summer gear. Longer days and a regular delivery of many small packages from the sky launched the idea of Wednesday night paddling.

A loose group of locals made up the nucleus but many personal first descents were enjoyed by others who were intrigued by the offer so close to home. Some of the newbies included those who were leaving the area to start careers, others who returned to the area for a visit, and those who just felt the time was right. Regardless of the paddler's experience or the rivers previously run, everyone agreed that this river was offering up some goodies to be enjoyed.

Enjoy the photos!



Jon dropping into the crack out back!



Andy boofing into the sunshine.



Jon on the river right boof line.



River right put in at 1000 cfs.



Corey popping his cherry.



Punching Mini Mash.



Jon picking his way through the rock jumble in the run out.

Summertime is just around the corner and this is a great way to get over the mid week hump. Be safe out there and go with those who know the river. Remember, sometimes the best things are close to home.

Cheat Fest 2010

by Matt Muir

I pulled up next to Barry Adams and claimed, "The good news is that there isn't any water in my boat—not a drop!"

The bad news, of course, was that I wasn't *in* my boat, which was atop Brandoon Hendren's van. I was in Chuck Singer's Mirage, sitting in a healthy 2" internal pond.

Welcome to CheatFest 2010. We were racing, somewhere before Coliseum. Barry was in an old glass Phoenix boat, and there was some other guy in a Jefe. Our Keel-hauler's team had Cliff Wire, Chuck Singer, Michael Duvall, and Your Humble Reporter. But I'm getting ahead of myself.

I got permission to head down South, and met Brad Farster in Grand Island, a skipping stone upstream of Niagara Falls. (He hasn't run it; I asked.) A long drive got us to Kobak's cabin soon after ten PM Thursday, ready to hit the Upper Yough on Friday.

Michael and Cliff had had some adventure on the way to the race: they hit a deer. For the whole weekend, they were in a vehicle with a smashed headlight held together with duct tape and bungee cords, and with bits of deer hair sticking out of the bumper.



Michael points to some deer fur in his bumper.

Friday: Old Phartz in Big Boats

The Upper saw Kobak, Brad, Elliott Drysdale, Brandoon, and Ron Whitney. Ron and Sue hadn't been boating much at all over the last couple of years. They were running shifts; one would paddle, and the other would babysit Clarissa, their two-year-old. Sue was looking for someone to Cheat with in the late afternoon. I knew that Brandoon and Brad were often up for unconventional runs, so I figured they'd be amenable to "racing" the Cheat—they'd pay their entry fee and start with everyone, but they wouldn't be trying to beat anyone. They'd simply paddle together all the way down, bringing up the rear.

Brandoon and Brad didn't have a lot of experience on the Upper Yough, so the rest of us gave them some beta on the

way down. Good and experienced boaters, they didn't need much. Brent Laubaugh, Dave Broer, John Garcia, and Alan Watson ran out ahead of us and got on the rock at National Falls. They were hoping to see Ron Whitney and me blow the boof and get chundered in the hole. I was in a demo Prijon Karnali, having recently cracked my Jackson Super Hero (good riddance—I *hate* that boat). The river was at a high-ish level (2.4'), and I hadn't been boating much. That gave me three good excuses for wussing out and running the non-boof line. Ron hadn't been paddling for two years, and he was in a playboat. So he had two good excuses. Brent's posse was disappointed, which was okay with us.

Meat Cleaver provided the best action of the day. Your Humble Reporter ran first and caught the eddy on the opposite side, so you, Loyal Reader, get the play-by-play from the Catbird's Seat. Elliott ran first, with Brandoon and Brad to follow. They all got slowed down in a squirrely eddy just upstream of the Cleaver Brothers, two pointy rocks that stick up at river level—woe to the sorry paddler who gets upside-down there. "Looks like they're getting bunched up," I thought.

That's when the *fun* started. A raft trip didn't wait and came barreling down on top of them. Two rafts and a dozen kayaks were instantly jockeying for position. One kayak speared Brandoon in the ribs and then hit him again. Everyone made it through okay, but trust me—this was one of the most impressive fusterclucks you'll ever see on the river.

Brad and I were assisted in getting quickly to Albright by Kobak's map of the back roads. For some reason, the back of Kobak's map was a hen-scratching mess of a solution of the Quadratic Equation, which many of us hadn't seen since High School. Kobak figures he was trying to figure out a river gauge correlation.

Knowing that I was out of paddling shape, I nevertheless committed to running the Cheat Race after the Upper. I'd had swims during my last two Cheat Races (2006 and '08), and I didn't want a repeat performance. A bad sign was that I was growing blisters on my hands halfway down the Upper. If you've been paddling enough, you certainly don't get blisters after four miles. I resolved to be marginally sensible: I'd run the race, in Chuck's Mirage, but I wouldn't paddle really hard, and I wouldn't fight the crowd from the starting line.

Chuck and I were talking to someone upstream of the old rusty "Wild Wonderful" bridge which is the start, just downstream of the Rte. 26 bridge, when the starting horn blew. We quickly started downstream.

I figured Chuck knows the Cheat, so I was happy to follow his line—until he perched on a rock fully six inches out of the river. Rocking and scraping off that pointy peak would be a tall order, and not too kind to Chuck's old glass boat. Half a minute later, the guy in front of me caught a glance

back and said that Chuck was off the rock. I fully expected him to catch up and motor on by me, butt it was not to be.

Somewhere after High Falls, I realized that the glass boat I was following was being piloted by none other than Barry Adams. When I caught up with him and we began talking, he told me that he was tired. I was actually feeling pretty good, so I thought that I just might beat this turkey. This felt even better when he ran down the waves at Pete Morgan. I knew that skirting just left or right of the waves was faster, so I built up a lead of a couple of boat lengths on him.



A river geek's idea of fun.

Then the sun came back out. It was in our faces, casting a blinding glare on the river. I stopped, took off my helmet and put my sunglasses back on. *Big Mistake.* Barry and Jefe Guy passed me, and it was all I could do to get into their wake and try to draft a bit. I never did catch them, and when I tried to cut the corner just a bit at the last turn, the eddy slowed me and Barry beat me by several boat lengths and 15 seconds. "You *knew* better than that!" he scolded me with a beer in his hand. True dat, butt I had to throw a Hail Mary—I wasn't going to catch him by following. Barry did give me credit, however, for sticking with him after having run the Upper Yough earlier.

Just before the finish line, Shawn Yingling blitzed past Jefe Dude and me. In a sea kayak, Shawn had had an out-of-boat experience at Big Nasty, but he did catch up with us. He missed catching Barry by 6 seconds.

(By the way, Barry: did I neglect to mention that I'd rescued two swimmers during the race? No? Well, I did. One was after Big Nasty; I don't remember where the other one was. Anyway, congrats to you for finishing fifteen big seconds ahead of me.)

The bottom line: among Keel-haulers, Cliff Wire really smoked it and came in 5 minutes and 15 places ahead of me. Chuck Singer took third, 7 minutes (21 places) behind our leader, and Michael Duvall came in only two minutes behind Chuck in a much slower boat. (TRPC's *fourth* boater came in ahead of our *first*.) Jim Hunt was also racing; in a fairly small Dagger Piedra, he came in less than a minute behind Michael.

Sue and her posse, including Brandoon, Brad, and their bud Kevin "Moore Carnage" Moore, brought up the rear, having enjoyed themselves on the river rather than stressing out a race. They'd ponied up their \$30 bucks and run the river,

thus earning a t-shirt, great micro-brew beer at the takeout, shuttle back, and entry to the Festival—a \$45-dollar value, at least. The party afterwards was loud and chaotic—just the way we like'em.

Saturday: Drama at Meat Cleaver

John Kobak had to head home for a family event, so we were missing our Team leader. Elliott went over to the Cheat, so our group had nobody available to misname and misdescribe rapids. We soldiered on: Ron and I, Brad and Brandoon, Michael and Cliff, Jim Hunt, and Kevin. Kevin was an Upper Yough Virgin, so I led him down. He did well, flipping in Heinzerling and...and...Powerful Popper? I don't remember. He and I were the only ones ballsy enough to play in Luke's Final Insult at 2.3', and he gave a windowshading clinic before it let him out.

Brad was determined to run the National Boof if I ran it; otherwise, he was going to go safely down the left. This time, my demo boat was a Fluid Solo. The boat handled really well, butt it was too small for me—I got out at least three times and I'm still limping two days later. I wasn't sure about the Boof until we hung out in the eddy for awhile. Brandoon was considering it, butt he got bored waiting and headed down the left side. With Brent's Posse of Vultures watching, I went for it. I won't say I cleaned it, butt I made it into the eddy and avoided the big hole. Brad's line looked smooth indeed. Sorry, Brent; maybe next time I'll scroo up for you.



Getting a line to Brandoon's Boat.

Ron had looked tentative on Friday, butt he was back to his old demented self on Saturday, trying to cartwheel in every hole and splat every rock.

The real excitement happened, once again, at Meat Cleaver. This time, Brandoon decided to run the race line. It's a pourover, so you need some speed. He was a little slow and got backendered. Shoved against a wall, he stepped out into the thigh-deep water. His boat lodged in a very dangerous sieve to the left. (From downstream, this looked *really* scary, as his boat was upstream and we didn't know whether or not he was still in it.) Brad, Kevin, and Michael got into position to help very quickly. Ron and I were an eddy

downstream, so we couldn't make it up to help. At least I could take pictures.

Kevin was the only one with a tethered rescue vest, so they carefully lowered him from upstream down toward Brandoon's boat. He clipped a biner onto its grab loop, and they were able to pull it to shore. Brandoon got back into the boat and ran the rapid.



At Cheat Fest, Leland Davis and his wife were selling their new book, *The River Gypsies' Guide to North America*, and giving away stickers as a promo. One of the stickers read "everybody swims." I slapped one on the back of Brandoon's vehicle; he didn't notice it until driving home the following day.

Sunday: Mop-up

Sunday was Ron's turn to babysit, as Sue joined the crowd to run the Lower Yough. We were 11: Brad, Brandoon, Kevin, Sue, Brandoon's dad Brent, Cliff, Michael, Carl Nelson, Nick Hlopik, Tim Reynolds, and Your Humble Reporter. Brad left our group at the Loop takeout to hike with his brother, who's on leave from the Marines. It was a cool, raw, rainy day. When I asked Brad how the hike had gone, he said, "Great! We hiked all the way to the Falls City Pub, and then we did several laps around the pool table." We had a good run, with no real drama. Kevin and Nick ran Jump Rock, while the rest of us watched.



Cliff Wire shows his good side at Double Hydraulic.

Brad's Pontiac Vibe is a little snug for three paddlers and a passel of gear, so we loaded lots of wet stuff into our boats and made our way home. My full boat must've weighed 80 pounds, taxing his roof rack. I got home a little before midnight, having completed four runs in four boats in three days.



Kevin Moore at Jump Rock.

Folks: Keel-haulers had, by my count, 10 people in the race. Let's get three teams together next year!

Presque Isle weekend 5-15-10 by Debbi Shields, Trip Organizer Chagrin River Canoe & Kayak Club

This is my trip log for the Presque Isle Weekend for 2010. Originally slated as a two night trip, the plan was changed to a single overnight stay near the Isle.

The group met 6:30 a.m. at the livery, travel directions handed out and we left at about 7:00. After we grouped at the ranger station and changed, we moved to the landing parking lot to find it overflowing! I have never seen it so busy. We did end up finding parking spots and were on the water by about 9:30. I led and Jack took sweep, thanks Jack!

The weather was cool, around 50 and slightly cloudy. Our landing was the boat rental area on Graveyard Pond. We set out through the lagoons to the marina then followed the rocky coast northeast to the Perry monument where we beached for lunch. Jack logged 5.83 miles for this leg.

Altogether 12 people went on the trip, 6 day trippers and 6 staying the night. There were at least 3 new members with us. After lunch 4 people left to return home. The rest of us traced the coast of Misery Bay, past Frys Landing to pass through the channel. At North Pier the group paddled north to Thompsons Bay and followed that coast to an observation point. This is where we turned back, this time doing a bee-line across the bay. Going back through the channel we found a fairly stiff wind and lively swells. Once back to Misery Bay white capping was picking up but we were heading into an area protected by the wind and had an easy paddle from Perry's monument back to the cars.

Picking off the map distance for the second leg using a spline gave an estimate of about 6 miles for the second leg, added to the first leg we covered about 13 miles in six hours, lunch and short breaks included. It was a stretch for many of us. We could have taken it a bit slower or had longer breaks.

We found the Riviera easily, checked in and got cleaned up for dinner. We set out on foot for the Colony but found the desk clerk underestimated the distance so we turned around and got a table at Syd's, literally a five minute walk from our rooms. The cuisine is surf and turf, everyone seemed to enjoy dinner and I would recommend Syd's again.

We met in the parking lot Sunday morning at 9:00 and decided on Takis. We quickly had a table for 6 and I think everyone was happy with their meal.

After breakfast one more person left to get home earlier, the rest visited the Tom Ridge Center for half an hour then

moved again to a lighthouse for a short walk in the woods and the beach. I left for home at noon.

My costs for the trip were \$12 (210 miles split two ways) for gas, \$55 for my room, I had a single. (The other three rooms were \$62 each including tax) It was left up to the room owners to settle up with the motel, which we did at check in time. My two meals cost \$25 so my total was \$92.

One of the things I really liked about this trip was many needs were met. As planned some people took advantage of the short driving distance to make it a day trip. Some stayed the night to enjoy dinner and to spend time getting more acquainted. During the paddle itself we went from wide open lagoons to a marina to a rocky coast through a channel to sandy beaches, glass flat to light chop water as well. There were even a couple of stretches for the people with longer boats to find their stride.

My sense overall is that people were happy with the trip planning and the weather helped that. Next time I would try to find a way, perhaps by splitting into two groups with different routes to accommodate the sea and touring kayakers as well as the people in recreational yaks. If there is a trip here in warmer weather check out beach camping at Sarah's Campground at the neck of the peninsula.

Vietnam, Chapter 4

by Chuck Singer

Well, I survived the 7 hour bus ride through the Mekong delta. We used a ferry to get across the biggest river and maybe 30 bridges to cross smaller waterways. I stayed in a town at the southern end of Vietnam and spent the night waiting for the ferry to Phi Quoc. My room was on the 5th floor and no elevator so my calves are really getting toned. I ate supper at a local restaurant/bar. There was only one English menu and it took a while to find it. I don't think this place was on the tour circuit as people stared at me and a couple of kids ran over, said "Hi" and ran back to their parents. Everyone was friendly which was helped by the large amount of beer being consumed.



The high speed ferry crossed the 70 miles in 2.5 hours and now I'm here on a hot, sandy beach

There's great snorkeling and diving here so I'm going out tomorrow. The seafood is great too. Sweet and Sour Kingfish was a \$3 supper. Lunch was Stir Fried Pork with pickles in the stir fry. I never guessed fried pickles could be so good.

The snorkel trip was fun but the water wasn't very clear (15ft visibility) I ate sea urchin for the first time and they were good. Of course the satay/chile sauce might have helped.

We went to a beautiful beach to tan. The sand was all white, soft coral and surrounded by palm trees. They had caged monkeys and squirrels which took away from it.

The roads here are very bad (rutted dirt) except for the ones in the cities. The subsistence fishermen live in marginal bamboo houses with chickens, dogs and kids running everywhere. There is also a cultured pearl center here. The pearls are much nicer than in Haiphong Bay but cost 100 times more. The drive back from the beach stopped there but I'm sure no one bought anything. Our trip was mostly people staying in lesser resorts (cheap).

I hope to rent a motorbike and circumnavigate the island going VERY slowly on the dirt roads. More later, Chuck.

I rented a motor bike today for \$5/ day. It was low on gas so I put in 3 qts. at \$0.60/qt. I used to ride motorcycles and it took a while to get the rhythm back. It didn't help starting on a loose gravel or sand road. There isn't much traffic outside of towns so the ride was fun. I only toured half the island since I was getting red with SPF 90 sunblock on.

I rode back to the nice beach I visited yesterday. There was a girl there trying to kayak in two foot waves. She was clueless but having fun. There was a guy "helping" her by getting her straight to the waves, then pushing. She must have been a canoeist since she only used the left blade of the kayak paddle and even did a couple bow cross draws. I was going to help but she quit in disgust!



I had the urge for a western meal so I ordered an Aussie Burger and Fries for Lunch. I wanted onion on it and I could tell it wasn't getting through. I found onion as an ingredient in an omelet and pointed to the word "onion" Well. You can eat a lot of mistakes when traveling, The burger and fries were great and so was the omelet that arrived as I was finishing the fries.

After lunch I stopped at this "temple"? which had all sorts of statues of Monkey Gods and others like in Angkor Wat.



It also had a pond with crocodiles (for unbelievers?) Then I rode out to a lonely section of the beach 8 k south of town to find a quiet spot to read and relax. I did find one but when I went to the beach, I saw a man with a windlass hauling a net out of the sea. His partner was 100yds away pulling in the other end of the net. I'm guessing they took the net out in the morning, then reeled it in the afternoon. They pulled on the top spoke of the windlass and pushed on the bottom spoke with a foot.

I read for an hour and I never saw then quit working. I went down and offered to help but was turned away. I never could have kept up anyway! It's amazing how hard people have to work here to survive.

Next month is my last chapter!!! Chuck.

Upcoming Trip Schedule.....

LOWER YOUGH CLUB TRIPS

During the busy Summer months of June, July, and August the club has made 10 reservations for the third weekends. Each person that wants to go on the trip must contact the Organizer so they can save you a permit.

Although the club pre paid for the reservations, each paddler must reimburse the club.

Each paddler must also buy their shuttle token (wrist band) at the reservation window.

June 19 10 am = April Hollis
June 20 9 am

Intro trip - Fran Hoven
First Timers Encouraged
July 17 10 am
July 18 10 am

August trip - Karl Nelson
Aug 21 10 am
Aug 22 9 am

Attention Trip Organizers: Trip organizers should collect the permit fees and send them to the KHCC Treasurer. A copy of the reservation invoice will be emailed to you before the trip to reduce confusion at the reservation window.

6/4 & 7 Upper Yough (MD) and/or Big Sandy (WV)
No UY release on Sat 32 John Kobak 440-871-1758
304-379-4747



John Garcia giving the signals in front of Big Splat

6/5 (1) Cuyahoga River, Peninsula to Boston Mills (OH)
SK/FW Ann Corey 330-869-6549

6/5 (4) Lower Yough (PA) 23
Sabine Iben 440-543-4969

6/5, 6 Esopus Slalom Race run by KCCNY (NY)
Igor Birbrayer 440-479-5636
6/5, 6 (5) Cheat Canyon (WV) 26
Cliff Wire 440-669-7177 C

6/7, 14, 21, 28 (1) Paddle the lakes and reservoirs SE of Cleveland among heron, eagles, cormorants. Meet at a different location each Monday evening at 6:15PM for 6/7 LaDue Reservoir (boat ramp on Rt 44 SOUTH of 422) SK/FW Judi Fordyce 440-289-5511

6/8 Club Meeting - Wendy Park SK/FW
Joe Marks 216-281-1517

6/13 (1) Vermilion Water Trail portion SK/FW
Chuck Singer 440-949-6681

6/12, 13 C. Walbridge Swift Water Rescue Class (WV)
Limited to 10 Keel-Haulers, register early @ \$80/person, 2 day Class Outline
Joe Marks 216-533-0604

6/12, 13 Rescue Weekend & Rodeo (PA)
Cliff Wire 440-669-7177 C

6/19 Bike Malabar Farm (OH)
Dennis Plank 216-939-8229

6/19, 20 (4) Lower Yough – permits (PA) 23
April Hollis 703-915-6382 C

6/19, 20 (2) Middle Yough (PA) 12 **Needs organizer**

6/26, 27 (3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA) 13-19
Needs organizer

6/26, 27 Cheoah Release (NC) 32 **Needs organizer**

July

7/3 - 11 CCC week of rivers (NC)
Participants must join Carolina Canoe Club (\$20) ??
Jen Raber 740-498-7063

7/3, 4, 6 Upper Yough (MD) 32
John Kobak 440-871-1758 or 304-379-4747



Brent Laubaugh hand paddling the Upper Y

7/3, 4 (4) Lower Yough (PA) 23
Joe Marks 216-281-1517

7/11 (1) Vermilion Water Trail portion SK/FW
Chuck Singer 440-949-6681

7/13, 15 & 20, 22 Fundamentals of Kayaking at Mentor Dept. of Recreation Pool. 6PM - 9PM
Ernie Anderson 440-974-5720

7/13 Club Picnic at Silver Lake SK/FW
Jim Tyree 330-688-4431

7/17 (1) Upper Cuyahoga Eldon Park to Camp Hi (OH) SK/FW
Needs organizer

7/17, 18 Family Weekend on the Cheat (WV) FW
Terry Markoff 440-543-4969

7/17, 18 (4) Lower Yough Intro weekend – permits (PA) 23
Fran Hoven 216-671-4931 or 216-375-3718

7/17 (2) Middle Yough (PA) 12 Carl Kudrna 440-835-5744

7/23,24,26 Upper Yough (MD) - Race & Festival Saturday, 6 hr release - Race & Festival Info 32
John Kobak 440-871-1758 or 304-379-4747

7/24,25 (4) New River (WV) 26
Cecil Tickamyer 814-234-1062



7/31 (1) Upper Cuyahoga Eldon Park to Camp Hi (OH) SK/FW
Dennis Plank 216-939-8229

2010 Club Officers

President:	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
VP:	Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
Secretary:	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
Treasurer:	Terry Markoff	440-543-4969

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

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

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

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

KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

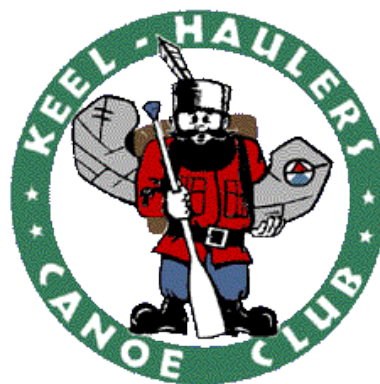
Non- Commercial advertising is free to all members. To place an ad, send the information the way you want it to appear. Call or mail before the last Saturday of each month. Please write or call when item is sold. It will appear for 2 months unless canceled. Commercial ads may be submitted by club member's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

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the July issue of the newsletter is **6/21/10**. Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com or peetzaguy@comcast.net.

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
July, 2010



Keelhauler's Kanews July, 2010



August Meeting Notice

**Keelhaulers Meeting August 21 at the Yough
All Levels of Paddling and a Picnic!**

We'll be doing something different this month, instead of a Tuesday meeting it will be Saturday, August 21. That is the same weekend as the club Yough trip. There will be an opportunity for all types kayaking or canoeing. Yough Lake for the flatwater paddlers, Middle, Lower & Upper Yough depending on your skill level. There are also beautiful biking & hiking paths for those that choose not to paddle. Saturday evening at 6:30 pm will be a Potluck picnic at Tall Oaks campground for members, family and friends.

Sunday – We'll play again before heading on home.

Contact: Cliff Wire at 440.669.7177 or
cwire64@sbcglobal.net to RSVP

More details to follow. Watch the August newsletter & message board.

Save the Date!! Mark your Calendar!!!

Next Club Meeting:

**Next Club Meeting Tuesday
July 13th at 6:00 PM**

*at Silver Lake
near Stow, OH*

**Program: Paddling & Pot Luck
Dinner**

Be sure to bring your boat and paddle around in the lake, kayaks can try roll practice. Bring your kids and bathing suits for the beach. Come anytime around 6 PM. We will serve the picnic dinner from 7-7:30pm. We can use the lake until about 8:30. The meeting will be held at dusk. Additionally, there will be our annual race around the island. Try out someone else's boat or windsurfer.

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

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

A-F - Potato/Macaroni Salad

G-L - Salad/vegetable/or baked beans

M-S - Chips or Appetizer

T-Z - Dessert or Fruit

Food Question? - Call 440-963-7008 or e-mail -

[Bob Bair](#)

[Map to Silver Lake](#)

All meetings are open to guests.

Invite a prospective member!

**Second Annual Family Weekend
Teter's Campground, Albright, WV
7/17- 7/18
By Sabine Iben**

We will have the second annual Family weekend at Teter's Campground, Albright, WV.

Paddlers and non- paddlers are welcome, we will have activities including paddling a short flatwater section appropriate for kids and others. It is an opportunity to get the kids/ spouses outdoors, paddling is optional. Some additional camping/outdoor gear is available if it helps get you there. Bring marshmallows, stay for any part of the weekend. There are nearby accommodations if you want to join us but not camp. We are planning to cook dinner together Saturday night.

We hope to see you there, call Terry or Sabine at (440) 543 4969 for more information.

Thanks
Sabine

**New River Trip August 14-15
by Joe Marks**

The drop dead beautiful steep walled New River Gorge has some of the biggest whitewater in West Virginia. A great place to get ready for Gauley Season. We will have one guided raft available on Saturday so this could be the perfect opportunity to share a paddling weekend with someone who doesn't kayak or is not yet ready for the Gorge. Many other activities are available in the area for non-paddling friends/ family. Anything from hiking, biking, rock climbing, visiting historical sites to antique shopping. Bring the Kids! You can check it out at:
<http://www.nps.gov/neri/index.htm>



Patti Hammond, Jackie Marks and others running Lower Keeney

We will meet up at Rays at 9:00 Saturday and 9:00 Sunday to organize for the Class III/IV Gorge section (Cunard to Fayette Station). Consider this if you're an advanced intermediate with a good roll and looking for a little big-water experience. If someone volunteers to lead, there could be the option for some to run the Class II Upper Section (Thurmond to Cunard) which is great for a practiced beginner/intermediate paddler. Last year, some less experienced kayakers rafted the Gorge on Saturday and then kayaked the Upper Section on Sunday. It's a beautiful stretch of river.



Waiting their turn to surf in Ender Wave

We will camp at Ray's Campground near Hico, WV, just north of the New River Gorge. (304-658-4386 or <http://www.rayscampground.com/>)

Directions to Ray's: Take the Route 60 exit off of Route 19. Go west on Route 60 for a 100 yards or so to Sunday Road. Take right on Sunday Road and look for Rays Campground a few miles down on the left. We have spots reserved.

Contact me if you plan on coming or have questions. **If you want to reserve a spot in the raft please call me as soon as possible as there will be limited space.**

joemarks@gmail.com

216-281-1517
216-533-0604c

Friends of the Cheat Information.....

Friends of the Cheat Offers Save Our Stream Workshop

Friends of the Cheat will host a Save our Streams training event on Friday, July 2nd starting at 10:00am at the Cheat River Festival Site in Albright. West Virginia Save our Streams Coordinator Tim Craddock will lead a hands-on workshop teaching techniques used to complete a stream bio-assessment. The bio-assessment consists of three basic elements: water quality analysis, physical characterizations, and an assessment of the benthic macroinvertebrate community. Benthic macroinvertebrates are the small, but visible, invertebrates that live on the bottom of streams. A majority of the day will be spent collecting and identifying benthic macroinvertebrates or "macros". Macros provide food for fish and other important freshwater dwellers. The quantity and types of macros found help determine the health of a stream.* *Two very different streams will be examined during the training: a stream polluted with acid mine drainage (AMD), Muddy Creek at its mouth, and a healthy stream, the Muddy Creek headwaters.

Anyone interested in participating should RSVP to Andrew Miller at Friends of the Cheat by phone at 329-3621 or via e-mail at amiller@cheat.org <<mailto:amiller@cheat.org>>. Participants should be prepared to get wet and bring a lunch.

Andrew Miller, OSM/VISTA - Friends of the Cheat

Please Support Tier 3 Stream Nomination *Comment Now! *

On May 12, the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection published official notification in local newspapers that it is proposing to add three streams located primarily on private land in Preston County to the Tier 3 stream list. Tier 3 designation would provide these streams on private land the highest level of protection under the antidegradation provisions of the federal Clean Water Act, and the three streams would be the first private-land streams designated since the Legislature adopted the new antidegradation provisions in 2008.

The three streams are Watkins Run, Fill Hollow Creek, and an unnamed tributary of Fill Hollow Creek, all located in Preston County. They are classic, pristine West Virginia native brook trout streams that fully deserve to be protected from future degradation.

You have until **July 12**, the end of the public comment period, to let DEP know you support adding these streams to the Tier 3 list. Here's where to send your comments:

Written comments on this proposal must be sent by U.S. mail, postmarked or hand-delivered by July 12, 2010, directed to:

Scott Mandirola

Attention: Tier 3 Nomination

WV Department of Environmental Protection

601 57th Street, S.E.

Charleston, WV 25304

Comments may also be sent by e-mail to

dep.comments@wv.gov

Background:

This proposal is based upon a nomination the DEP received on November 23, 2009, to add the entire lengths of Watkins Run, Fill Hollow Creek, and an unnamed tributary of Fill Hollow Creek to the Tier 3 list. The nomination was made by Ladd Williams on behalf of Friends of Laurel Mountain. In his nomination, Mr. Williams documents that the streams are "abundant with aquatic insects and native brook trout." The nomination also documents, among other things, excellent water quality in the streams, and includes petitions signed by an overwhelming majority of the adjacent landowners in support of the designation. The entire nomination package may be viewed by visiting the Water Quality Standards home page on the DEP's Web site:

<http://www.dep.wv.gov/wqs>.

Watkins run was previously nominated and adopted as a Tier 2.5 (Waters of Special Concern) stream by the West Virginia Legislature in May, 2005. EPA approved this nomination in September, 2006 and Watkins Run was the state's only Tier 2.5 stream from September, 2006 to September, 2009, at which time EPA approved the DEP's recommendation to eliminate the Tier 2.5 designation from its water quality standards rule and adopt the new Tier 3 provisions. Tier 3 waters are also known as "Outstanding National Resource Waters" and are afforded a higher level of protection than Tier 1 and Tier 2 waters. Most native brook trout streams on public lands automatically qualify for Tier 3 protection. But streams primarily on private lands must be nominated for protection. Any interested party may nominate a water to be listed as an Outstanding National Resource Water. */And DEP's decision to list streams as Tier 3 waters no longer requires legislative approval./ *

There are eight qualification criteria to be considered in determining whether to assign an Outstanding National Resource Water designation to a stream, as follows:

1. Impact on private property owners

2. Whether the interests of all affected parties have been adequately represented during the nomination and designation process
3. Location of the water
4. Previous special designations
5. Existing water quality
6. Factors that indicate outstanding ecological value
7. Factors that indicate outstanding recreational or aesthetic value
8. Other factors determined by the Secretary, when applicable

Generally, nominations that fail to address at least three of the qualification criteria will be considered insufficient. The DEP has determined that Mr. Williams' Tier 3 nomination satisfies the minimum criteria. Streams granted Tier 3 status are to be maintained, protected, and improved where necessary. Any proposed new or expanded regulated activity that would degrade the water quality, other than temporarily, is prohibited. This requirement only applies to point source discharges, such as sewage treatment plant and industrial discharges. It does not apply to non-point source activities, such as timbering, farming, and oil and gas drilling, */as long as best management practices are implemented and maintained./* Since our beginnings in 1989 the West Virginia Environmental Council has fought to protect the water quality of all the state's rivers and streams. In 2008 we succeeded in getting the Legislature to eliminate the ridiculous Tier 2.5 stream category, that allowed degradation of those waters. Now is your chance to support further protections of our highest quality streams.

Please send in your comments to DEP before the July 12 deadline.

Vietnam, My Final Trip Chapter

By Chuck Singer

My \$32 flight back to HCMC from Pho Quoc went well and saved 9 hours of butt time. I went to the Water Puppet show after checking in. The show is traditionally Vietnamese and is performed in a large tank filled thigh deep with muddy water. It was originally done in rice paddys for the workers entertainment. The puppets are controlled by sticks that are underwater. If you are really interested, look it up on Youtube. It was done in a small theater with kids being in the front row. They were splashed every now and then. The music and narration was supplied by two groups of musicians. They don't use the same scales we do so it's strange to listen to. Supper was a quasi-Gyro for \$0.80 and iced lemonade. My hotel area is in the low rent area and has a lot of different restaurants, bars and shops.

Just a silly observation, but do you remember the scene in the "Wizard of OZ" where the mean old lady (who became the wicked witch of the West) was peddling her bicycle? The bicycles here are all old Chinese bikes with baskets on the handlebars. They are single speed with high handlebars so they are peddled with a straight, upright posture just like in the movie. I keep waiting for someone to say "I'll take your little dog, Toto too".

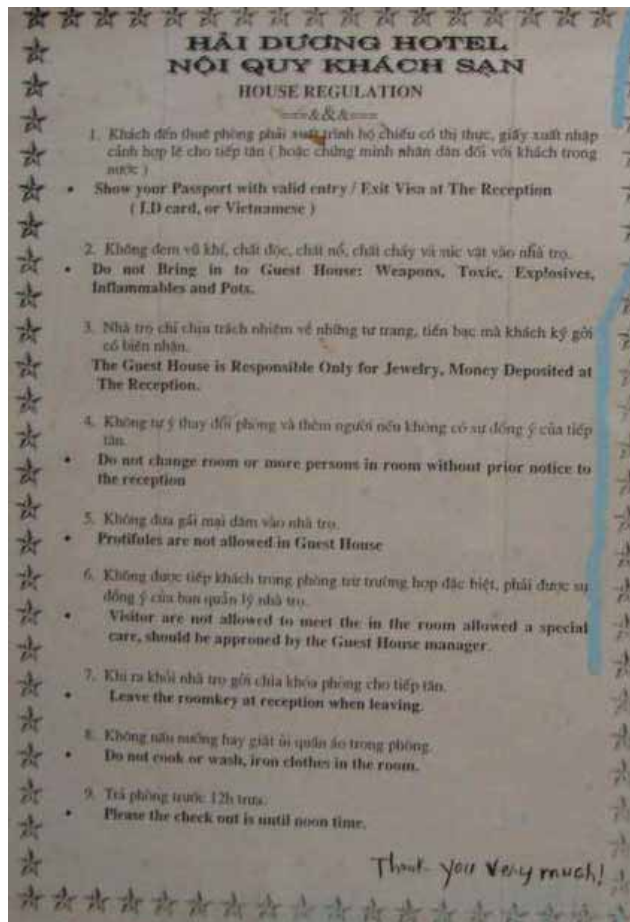
I went on a Mekong River trip today. It was more of a shopping trip as we stopped at various places to buy trinkets, honey, Royal Jelly, and embroidery. The one good thing was a small boat ride. Think of it as a wide, flat bottomed canoe paddled by two Vietnamese SQUATTING on the bow and stern decks. They let me paddle some from the last seat. (There were 4 guests) The water was filthy and you hated to splash any on yourself. The rest of the day was spent riding on a large, air conditioned bus.

You meet the most interesting people travelling. Today I met an English accountant, a NYC doctor (Indian), a roadie with some American band, and a Finnish computer techie. One more day here, then I wing my way back home.

This will be my last letter from Vietnam. I may do final one after I get back to Ohio and digest everything. Today was just a goof off and relaxing day. I invested in a one hour massage for \$8, a \$2 pedicure; a \$3 lunch and a \$10 hour long boat ride.



I've enclosed a few photos from today. The telephone pole could be titled "Saigon Online". Kids were swimming in the river, no matter the pollution level and a few restaurant shots and shots of my hotel room. Note rule #5. "Protifules are not allowed in Guest House" And note the Saigon Bookmobile.



I'll guess it's time to return, I've eaten the last piece of Hershey's Special Dark Chocolate (one square per day). I'm starting to whine about spending more than \$2 for dinner and I'm a little tired of rice. And I'm thinking I might look good in a pointy hat! Thanks for traveling with me!

Chuck

Upcoming Trip Schedule....

July

7/3 - 11 CCC week of rivers (NC)

Participants must join Carolina Canoe Club (\$20) ??

Jen Raber 740-498-7063

7/3, 4, 6 Upper Yough (MD) 32 Dave Herron 513-681-4075

7/3, 4 (4) Lower Yough (PA) 23 Chris Kiehl 330-606-5249

7/4 (5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release 26 Bud Chavez 513-703-4108

7/11 (1) Vermilion Water Trail portion SK/FW Chuck Singer 440-949-6681

7/13, 15 & 20, 22 Fundamentals of Kayaking at Mentor Dept. of Recreation Pool. 6PM - 9PM Ernie Anderson 440-974-5720

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7/24, 25 (4) New River (WV) 26 Cecil Tickamyer 814-234-1062

7/31 (1) Upper Cuyahoga Eldon Park to Camp Hi (OH) SK/FW Dennis Plank 216-939-8229

August

8/6, 7 (1) Niagara River, Buffalo Small Boat Harbor, Paddle under the Peace Bridge (NY) - Last Year Photos - Map SK/FW Mark Spang 440-892-6972

8/6,7 & 9 Upper Yough (MD) - Friendsville Days - Fri 6:00-10:00pm, Sat 12-10pm 32 Doug Smith 419-823-1423

Ladies' Day on the Lower Yough....

Didn't make the yearbook schedule this year, but looks like it is on. Planning on Friday, August 13th. Pat is tentatively making Slackers' Day on the 12th.

Sherie Sanzenbacher

2010 Club Officers

President:	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
VP:	Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
Secretary:	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
Treasurer:	Terry Markoff	440-543-4969

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

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

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

1649 Allen Dr.

Westlake, OH 44145

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Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com or peetzaguy@comcast.net.

KeelHauler Kanews

Kelly Miller, Editor

1515 Fox Chase Dr.

Sewickley, PA 15143

peetzaguy@aol.com

July, 2010



Keelhauler's Kanews AUGUST, 2010



**Next Club Meeting Saturday,
August 21 at 6:30 PM
at Tall Oaks Campground
near Ohiopyle, PA**

Program: Picnic in PA

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

We'll be doing something different this month, instead of a Tuesday club meeting the meeting will be Saturday, August 21. This is the same weekend as the club Yough trip and Ohiopyle Falls Festival. There will be an opportunity for all types kayaking, canoeing or viewing. Yough Lake for the flatwater paddlers, Middle, Lower & Upper Yough depending on your skill level for paddlers. There are also beautiful biking & hiking paths for those that choose not to paddle in the area.

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

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

Saturday - [Ohiopyle Falls Festival](#) & Race [Contact Barry Adams](#). . . 412-242-4562 for more information.

Sunday - We'll paddle again before heading home.

More details to follow. Watch our August newsletter & Message Board.

Meeting Questions? - Call 440-669-7177 or e-mail - [Cliff Wire](#)

[Tall Oaks Information](#)

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

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

2010 Rescue Clinic and Rodeo

By Cliff Wire and Rob Hammond

The weather was fine for the weekend encouraging a good turnout for the 10th annual Keel Haulers & Three Rivers Paddling Clubs Rescue Weekend sponsored by Rocky Mountain Kayak and the Gander Mountain Outdoor Store. The event was held at Slippery Rock Creek in McConnell's Mill State Park. Camping was provided by Cheeseman's campground located in the park.

There was a small but enthusiastic group of students and we started the day out with rope throwing before moving to the river and land based classes. A big thank you to all the volunteers who made the weekend possible: Dave Altman, Amy Altman, Debbie Avallone, Ted Moore, Gene Baker, Steve Ingalls, Michael Duvall, Patty Hammond, Rob Hammond, Fran Hoven, Matt Wehman, Nicole Winner, Ron Tomallo, Shelly Schmidt, Pat Guzowski, Phil Raber & Jen Raber. The event followed the American Canoe Association Swiftwater Rescue Class for level 3. All of the students are eligible for their ACA Swiftwater Rescue class participation card. If you did not get one, send a self addressed envelope to:
Rob Hammond at 3111 Parker Lane, #254, Austin TX 78741
and he will take care of it.

After the Saturday classes, some took the opportunity to run the Slip. Everyone stayed for the wonderful pot luck picnic at the campground with burgers, brauts and dogs cooked by Patty Hammond & Gene Baker and some great side dishes supplied by many!

Sunday was the rodeo. We had two teams.

The Men: Phil Raber, Dennis Dukeman, Nicholas Miller, John McGoldrick, and Dave Chapek.

The Women: Debbie Avallone, Megan, McGee, Shelly Schmidt and Jen Raber.

Pundits were giving the contest to the women who had previous Rescue Rodeo experience and most members were seasoned boaters. The men received a handicap by outnumbering the woman 5 to 4. When the dust settled the men surprised the Know-It-Alls, and gave a close contest. Final score: Women: 16, Men: 14. At the end of the day everyone won, because they all had a chance to see how hard it is under pressure, to execute the skills they

learned at the clinic. Safety clinics are great for teaching the skills, but being able to use those skills under the pressure of a competition really helps to understand what to do in a real-life situation.

Sunday was rounded out by taking a run down the lower slip - Eckerts to Harris.

New paddler Nicholas Miller on his first recreational outing! First descent Megan McGee (OC1). Gene Baker, John McGoldrick (OC1) with veterans: Dave Altman, Nichole Winner, Cliff Wire, Ron Tomallo, Shelly Schmidt and Ted Moore. Nicholas provided rescue practice with three swims. Not bad for his first recreational outing (9th day in the water). Ron provided excellent guidance giving Nicholas hands on care describing every rapid and pathway.

The weekend was a great success with the students learning a lot of skills to keep them safe on the water. We can't thank the volunteers enough. These people had plenty of opportunities to be out with their friends on their favorite rivers this weekend, but instead they choose to give back to their sport and help out some of the newer boaters become more confident and safe on the river.

We also want to thank the sponsors who are vital to the success of the Rescue Weekend. Jeff Prycl of Rocky Mountain Kayak and the Gander Mountain store stepped up, and helped make our event a success. Jeff in particular gives a lot to our sport with his clinics, many of which he does not charge for. When you have the chance, please support our sponsors with your recreational purchases. You can find these folks at www.rockymountainkayak.com and www.gandermountain.com.

If you did not make it to our event this year, please take advantage of Swiftwater Rescue classes taught by ACA certified instructors. You can contact these instructors at www.americancanoe.org or remember to signup for next year's event. I do not know of a Swiftwater Rescue class that costs less money, plus you will have a lot of fun and meet some of your fellow paddlers!

GORP

by Don Winton

I was in a quandary. Should I miss my traditional SIJ (Sunday In June) ride with the Cleveland Touring Club or should I try something new and join the Ohio River Foundation's Great Ohio River Paddle (GORP) scheduled for the same weekend. Normally the GORP weekend outing is in July but this year it was moved ahead a month. I opted to try my first GORP and am glad I did. So I signed up and packed my Prijon on top of the car with necessary overnight gear and headed south to Higgensport, Ohio on the big river.

The Ohio River Foundation is an organization headed by Executive Director Rich Cogen and has become the Ohio River's preeminent river conservation group whose main focus is to return the river's waters to conditions that can sustain a healthy ecosystem, protect sources of drinking water and provide opportunities for recreational and commercial uses. The GORP is a fundraising event whose focus is mainly to increase public

awareness of Ohio River issues and promote environmental stewardship.

So, about 80 seasoned paddlers showed up at White Oak Marina on a Saturday morning in mid-June to paddle in one of three pods - one touring pod and two eco-focused pods. The weather was dark, overcast and threatening but being experienced paddlers, we only knew one word - GO.



Gearing up/making ready

I chose the touring pod led by Tom Smith, a high school science teacher from Ripley, Ohio and full of energy. Our itinerary was to include exploration of tributaries, a stop at an old town on the Kentucky side, a check of points of interest along the way, observations of barge/commercial traffic, an overnight at a county park and the experience of rafting up and going through a lock all of which would take up about 23 miles of paddling.

We led off the trip with a paddle up White Oak creek, a beautiful stretch lined with thick forests on each side and full of blue and green herons, lots of jumping fish and turtles on deadfalls. We returned to the Ohio and pointed ourselves in the direction of Cincinnati. No sooner than we had dipped our paddles the rain started to come down in buckets and the thunder began - it was poncho time. There were about 15 paddlers in our touring pod and not one of us complained. Both the rain and the river were warm and the rain came down steadily and hard for five hours so we had the challenge of heavy rain, lightning, fog, river mist and barge traffic to contend with - it turned out to be a great adventure.

We pushed on to Augusta, Kentucky for our lunch break (nicely provided by ORF). Arrangements had been made for us to eat on the veranda of the Bee Hive Tavern which, along with the town of Augusta was a great stopping point and refuge from the rain. The tavern like the town was established in the late 1700s and the restoration of the homes, town and tavern are phenomenal. In spite of the rain we walked the town and were disappointed to see so many well restored buildings empty due to the economy.

Augusta is the setting for what was Rosemary Clooney's vacation home and she spent much time there. Because of her popularity in the town there is a museum dedicated to her.

Well, after lunch, there was still no let up in the rain and a water proof BlackBerry with weather graphics told us not to expect a break for the next few hours so we saddled up our paddles, avoided the local ferry over to the Ohio side and once again pointed downstream. If anything, the rain increased for the next two hours but lo and behold eventually we began to see

patches of blue and the mist started to lift which put us in great spirits even though we were all wet hens.

The amount of debris floating down the Ohio is hard to imagine including trees, logs, plastic containers of all types and other indescribable assortments. What astounded me were the folks that were water skiing in spite of the debris even though hitting a log could spell doom. I guess it takes all kinds.

As we paddled along I looked downstream in the distance and thought I saw what resembled a low head dam. But that couldn't be because a huge barge had just passed us going upstream. I stopped paddling and focused more closely and realized that whatever stretched across the river was **moving**. As we got closer we realized what we were seeing was the flush from Bullskin creek. Evidently there had been significantly more rain north of us and it was causing a massive headwall of water which was taking everything in the creek with it. The current coming out of the creek was incredible bringing with it 55 gallon drums, trees, stumps, tires, and plastic almost in a solid mass. A few days before two young boys drowned in Bullskin creek during another flash flood. The current went almost all the way across the Ohio River before the big river's current finally overpowered it and began to push the debris downstream in a muddy mass. We had to paddle almost all the way to the Kentucky side to avoid the mess.

Finally, our first days adventure ended at our overnight location, Chilo, Ohio at Lock 34 and a beautiful spot. The old lock control building has been fully restored as a museum and the surrounding grounds turned into a Clermont County Park. The take-out was easy and the location for our tents perfect. ORF provided a great evening meal of pulled pork with barbeque sauce, rice pilaf, rolls and salad with SMOREs around the campfire.



Lock 34 Lockhouse and Museum



Tent City



A Rich Cogen pep talk

After dinner Clermont County Park Director Chris Clingman gave a great power point presentation on the history of the Ohio River from its initial existence as a small stream to the development of the river primarily for navigation and commerce. Major development of the river did not begin until late in the 1800s. Until that time folks could ride their horses across the river from Ohio to Kentucky to get married. The river was only good for push-boat navigation at limited times during the year. However in 1878 a system of wooden wicket dams was developed to raise the mainstream of the Ohio River to a minimum depth of six feet. There were a total of 51 such dams which have now been replaced with 20 steel and concrete dams located from Pittsburgh, Pa to Cairo, Illinois (440' drop) where the Ohio meets the Mississippi with an average river depth of 24 feet. After Chris' very educational presentation, Rich Cogen brought us up to speed on ORF's current initiatives and activities over the Ohio's 200,000 square mile watershed including the reduction of water pollution, protection and restoration of habitats, floodplains and riverbanks, promotion of better watershed management and increased opportunities for river recreation and restoration. A major ORF initiative is the promotion of developing "rain gardens" throughout the watershed to absorb building, pavement, road and parking lot runoff before it gets into the ecosystem. It was a great evening and very informative.



A great meal

All went to bed tired, happy and thankfully dried out. We arose to sunshine and a great breakfast on Sunday morning all set for the experience of rafting through a large lock. ORF had

coordinated with the lockmaster at Lock 34 and they were expecting us. What we did not know, was that the lock crew were using the auxiliary lock (we were to run through) to catch the debris resulting from the Bullskin Creek flash flood. When we entered the lock it was like being in a dark brown ice floe. We rafted up in the lock, were lowered thirty feet and exited at the lower end all in about twenty minutes time along with the floe of debris. What added to this experience was the fact that we had two paddlers with us that know the Ohio River intimately. Mike Miller is a retired river biologist who described in detail the biology of the river, aquatic life, the problems with Asian carp and stresses on the river. Bernie Moller knows not only the technology but much of the rivers lore. It was great to have them with us. It was a beautiful day and our spirits were up as we paddled toward our take-out destination at Neville, Ohio. Along the way we explored more tributaries, creeks and eddies winding up the trip at about 2:30 p.m. with a nice packed lunch.

The GORP was a great trip with folks of the same interests. My long-term paddling friend of 30 plus years is in failing health and no longer able to make the extended trips that we used to. On the GORP I met a group of guys that hopefully will give me company on future paddling adventures. My "hats off" to the ORF, Rich Cogen, his wonderful wife and children who worked hard and sparkled during the whole trip and to the Clermont County Park District for a great overnight campsite. GORP- we'll be back next year.



At journey's end

PS: We raised \$9,000 for the ORF

from American Whitewater....

Forest Service Announces More Chattooga Delays

posted June 8, 2010 by Kevin Colburn



The USFS announced today that they will further delay reaching a new decision on how to manage recreation on the Upper Chattooga

River (NC/SC/GA). A 2009 decision was withdrawn shortly after its release, and the agency stated a new decision would be released early in the spring of 2010. The decision remains in limbo, the river remains banned to paddling, and the ban is currently being challenged in federal court. The USFS announcement reads as follows:

"In December 2009, the three forests withdrew the decisions related to recreation uses on the upper Chattooga to complete more analysis. Specifically, analysis in both the Biological Evaluation (BE) and Biological Assessment (BA) were based on an alternative that assumed a maximum of four boater groups per boatable day. However, the selected alternative did not include this limitation. The agency also will have to re-consult with federal partners for concurrence on the new BA and the new BE so their agreement is on the correct alternative.

Because the Forest Service is committed to making sound and reasoned decisions, we are not limiting our review to the BA and the BE. We are also taking this opportunity to review all of the withdrawn decision documents to ensure we have included the best available information and the most complete analysis, as well as removed all inconsistencies. Undergoing this process will ensure accuracy and reflect the quality analysis completed by our specialists.

When we are prepared to release new, sound, reasoned decisions based on the very best information and analysis, we will let stakeholders, the public and media know. Once the final decisions are made, we will ensure that the decision is implemented in a timely and efficient manner."

Kevin Colburn
 1035 Van Buren St
 Missoula, MT 59802
[Details](#)
 E-mail: kevin@americanwhitewater.org
 Phone: 406-543-1802

Send an e-mail to [John Kobak](#) to volunteer to organize or change a trip, I will add to on-line schedule.

New River Trip August 14-15 by Joe Marks

The drop dead beautiful steep walled New River Gorge has some of the biggest whitewater in West Virginia. A great place to get ready for Gauley Season. We will have one guided raft available on Saturday so this could be the perfect opportunity to share a paddling weekend with someone who doesn't kayak or is not yet ready for the Gorge. Many other activities are available in the area for non-paddling friends/family. Anything from hiking, biking, rock climbing, visiting historical sites to antique shopping. Bring the Kids! You can check it out at:

<http://www.nps.gov/neri/index.htm>



Patti Hammond, Jackie Marks and others running Lower Keeney

We will meet up at Rays at 9:00 Saturday and 9:00 Sunday to organize for the Class III/IV Gorge section (Cunard to Fayette Station). Consider this if you're an advanced intermediate with a good roll and looking for a little big-water experience. If someone volunteers to lead, there could be the option for some to run the Class II Upper Section (Thurmond to Cunard) which is great for a practiced beginner/intermediate paddler. Last year, some less experienced kayakers rafted the Gorge on Saturday and then kayaked the Upper Section on Sunday. It's a beautiful stretch of river.

We will camp at Ray's Campground near Hico, WV, just north of the New River Gorge. (304-658-4386 or

<http://www.rayscampground.com/>)

Directions to Ray's: Take the Route 60 exit off of Route 19. Go west on Route 60 for a 100 yards or so to Sunday Road. Take right on Sunday Road and look for Rays Campground a few miles down on the left. We have spots reserved.



Waiting their turn to surf in Ender Wave

Contact me if you plan on coming or have questions. **If you want to reserve a spot in the raft please call me as soon as possible as there will be limited space.**

joemarks@gmail.com or 216-281-1517 or 216-533-0604c

August				
8/6, 7	(1) Niagara River, Buffalo Small Boat Harbor, Paddle under the Peace Bridge (NY) - Last Year Photos - Map	SK/FW	Mark Spang	440-892-6972
8/6,7 & 9	Upper Yough (MD) - Friendsville Days - Fri 6:00-10:00pm, Sat 12-10pm	32	Doug Smith	419-823-1423
8/9, 11 & 16 & 18	Fundamentals of Kayaking at Mentor Dept. of Recreation Pool. 6PM - 9PM		Ernie Anderson	440-974-5720
8/12	Lower Yough - Skip Work Day (PA)	23	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
8/13	Lower Yough - Ladies Only Day (PA)	23	Sherie Sanzenbacher	440-298-1293
8/14, 15	(5) New River Gorge or Lower Gauley (WV) Here are the details	27	Joe Marks	216-281-1517
8/15	(1) Vermilion Water Trail portion	SK/FW	Chuck Singer	440-949-6681
8/21, 22	(4) Lower Yough - permits available (PA) Call before Thursday at noon.	23	Karl Nelson	330-497-2483
8/21	Club Meeting at Tall Oaks Campground		Cliff Wire	440-669-7177 C
8/21	Ohiopyle Falls Festival & Race (PA)		Barry Adams	412-242-4562
8/27,28	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Elliott Drysdale	216-496-4182 C
September				
9/3 - 5	Raquette/Beaver (NY)	27-35	Matt Muir	585-421-9826
9/11, 12	(5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release	26	Bud Chavez	513-703-4108
9/10, 11	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Jim Hunt	330-335-5203
9/11, 12	Upper Gauley (WV)	33	John Kobak	440-871-1758
9/14	Club Meeting at Middleburg Hts Community Center		Joe Marks	216-281-1517

2010 Club Officers

President:	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
VP:	Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
Secretary:	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
Treasurer:	Terry Markoff	440-543-4969

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

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

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

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

KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

Non- Commercial advertising is free to all members. To place an ad, send the information the way you want it to appear. Call or mail before the last Saturday of each month. 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 **September** issue of the newsletter is **8/21/10**.

Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com or peetzaguy@comcast.net.

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
August, 2010



Keelhauler's Kanews SEPTEMBER, 2010



Next Club Meeting Tuesday, September 14th at 7:30 PM

at Middleburg Hts Community Center
16000 E. Bagley Rd

Program: To be announced

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

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

Ask Not What Your Club Can Do For You!

By

Keel Haulers Officers and Trustees

With all due respect to John F. Kennedy, in his 1961 inaugural speech, he was talking about you! Back then he talked about the takers and the givers, the whiners and the doers and what it meant to the country and society. When it comes to a vibrant club we need the same kind of thinking. We have a great club that by many measures is one of the best in the country. It did not get that way by the will of the takers and whiners; it was the givers and doers that built our club. Over the last 40 years many have helped in big and small ways to build on the foundation that our club founders created. In October you will be asked to raise your hand and vote for the people that will be leading our club for the next year. Right now we need people to step up and offer their enthusiasm, thoughts, and energy.

So what column are you in? If you have enjoyed one of our scheduled trips, or learned some critical boating skills from a fellow club member, or maybe you periodically rely on and enjoy the wealth of information on our web site, our news letter, and message board. If any on those apply to you then you need to put an X next to your name under the Taker's column. If you are one of the people that complain to your fellow boater about this or

that about the club, then you need to put an X under the Whiner column. Now if you have given your fellow boater some boating advice, or helped run a shuttle, maybe you have volunteered to be a trip organizer, wrote an article for the newsletter, helped out at an event, offered to be an committee chair, an officer, a trustee, then you can put an X next to your name under the Giver and Doer column.

All of us have an X, maybe a few or a lot of Xs under the Taker column, the question is how many Xs do you have under the Givers column? There are several dozen people in the club that have many Xs in the givers column... but there are hundred's of people in the club. So the open question is how can this club get you to put a few more Xs in the givers column?

All of us who are reading this have enjoyed something that the club has provided us. We are now looking for new committee chairs and officers. You don't need any special skills, it does not take a lot of time, and you don't need to be an experienced boater, you do not even have to come to meetings! Some our most enthusiastic volunteers are new boaters who are anxious to give back to the people and club that have helped them succeed and shown them a new world of excitement of being on the water and the awe of what nature hides from those who live in the cocoon of suburbia or the work-a-day world..

If you are thinking that you would like to help out, give Cliff Wire a call and talk to him about ways, big and small, that you can put more Xs in the Giver column. We can't pay you, but you will be rewarded in direct proportion to your contribution. You can reach Cliff at: 440 439-6541 or email: cwire64@sbcglobal.net.

Officers and Trustees: Cliff Wire, Michael Duvall, Pat Guzowski, Terry Markoff, Rob Hammond, Jim Hunt and Ed Charlton

Upper Yough by Corey Spoores

It started on a mountain bike ride a few weeks ago, while riding with a few of the guys from the Wednesday Night Paddle Crew. Jon remarked that he was going to be moving out of the state. Within a few days an email was passed around about where his last hurrah would be, the ideas were flying the New River, Upper Yough, Upper Gulley, and the likes all made the list. Jon and the

crew ran the New earlier this season and that was out I really wanted to run the Upper Yough, but they were beginning to lean toward the Gulley as an overnigher. I began to collect info for the Gulley at 630 cfs as that was the flow, and all information came back looking like a creeky "suck fest". As the plan began to emerge further I started to send out some feelers for the Upper Yough. There was just something about running the Gulley with a boat stuffed with camping gear I did not like.

The Deep Creek Hydro Plant releases water on Friday, Saturday, and Mondays throughout the summer paddle season as long as the lake levels fall above the "rules curve". I made plans to meet some of the guys from pool session on Friday and then join the KHCC trip on Saturday.

I met Dave (Uncle D.) and Becky (Binky) in Friendsville under the highway bridge and after a short while John (Smoltz) pulled up and we hit the road to the put in off Sang road. There was a few more who met us the ride down the river at the put in. Before long we were stretching and gearing up waiting on water. The put in gauge read 2.10 ft as I paddled past it to white rock, the first two miles of the river are mostly flat water and you end up passing the flow on the way. So we pulled out at white rock so the crew could take a safety break, as the water began to rise.

I received several words of wisdom on my two days at the Upper Yough, but I think the most encouraging thing for me was the patience of the F.I.F.O. crew when I needed to let several gallons of water out of my boat which at that time was for an unknown reason. When we pealed out from white rock the gradient of the river began to pick up and the flow gathered some push, and the river tightened. I followed Smoltz and Uncle D., while Binky ran sweep for me as my river skills were still yet undetermined with the FIFO crew.



Boof at Bastard

Smoltz and Uncle D were hand paddling the river and I was following their lines that years on the river created. Uncle D told me that were going to hit some class III boogie water after the first named rapid, Gap Falls. Gap Falls came and went it was more like a power slide, with a nice wave train to finish. As we began to pick our way down the boogie water section I found myself catching some hard eddy's and tough ferry's making my way past big and little pour over rocks. I remember thinking that this "boogie water" was pretty tough and what have I got myself into? Before I knew it I was catching the eddy above Bastard. The crew took off leaving me with their only words on line choice, "Right Boof, catch the eddy and work left and back right, if you flip hurry back up and into an eddy." That seemed to be the Matura on the

whole river; too much down time is not good, besides you won't see any fish with rocks hitting you in the face.

Bastard seemed to come and go, and next up was **Charlie's Choice**.



I continued to follow like a small duck, to the right this time and back left after a nice boof. Charlie's Choice is followed by Triple Drop and then by National Falls. All went by rather uneventfully, and we pulled out at **National Falls** to watch some carnage from those who either missed their boof or tried the race line. Missing your line here means that you are going to be sucked back into the monster of a hole and chewed on and if you're lucky spit out before a second round of hydraulic beat down can begin.



It was wicked good fun! The pool from National Falls to Tommy's Hole is probably the largest on the upper section, giving you a false sense of "I think I can see this line, and it looks easy." You know there is a reason it is called dimple with an attitude. As the FIFO crew moved around to safety positions, I was left with another whisper of advice, this time from John G (Boy Genius). B.G. remarked "It looks worse than it really is, if you flip don't swim." Little did B.G. know that had been my game plan for this whole river, I nodded and I set off.

Sometimes you just know when you are going to eat shit, this was just not one of those times. I no sooner got my bow facing the exit of the shoot, and I was over taken by white water. Inundated by the roar of whirly swirly water, the washing machine effect on my whole boat; I tucked as tight to the deck as I knew how. I was

searching for the air on my knuckles or a sense of calm on my paddle blades.

From the pool below I was told afterwards it looked like a magical sight, big yellow boat sideways to the hole, surfing. I was surfing pretty good too from the way I understand it, the FIFO crew explained in all their years on the river they have never seen such magical side surf while upside down in Tommy's Hole.

I never felt the calm water on the whole boat but I did find it on my blades, and roll I did, right out of the hole and into the pool below. From Tommy's on down to Heinzerling there are a few named rapids, they were mostly a blur obscured by right boof, left boof, and hole punching. We took the right main line towards Heinzerling, This was a tight slot move into a swift pool, and up ahead was Gun Barrel. This is a tight V-slot with a slight bend at the end to catch a one boat eddy that we somehow squeezed three creek boats into for the instructions on the **Heinzerling** move.



Picture a large round rock, about the size of 15 VW Bugs, with fair amount of flow pillowing up on the front, and beat down hole to the upstream left. The trick is to ride the pillow up and off. Always lean towards the rock. This was that move I saw coming for me and my boat as soon as I started, I leaned away, with a slow motion flip and roll I was back and eddied out waiting for whatever was to come next.

Again there was some more of that great class III boogie water on down to Meat Cleaver. This drop and Cheese Burger are my favorites so far, Meat Cleaver is a nice slow straight boof into a slow moving pool. Depending on your angle when you land you can either eddy out or keep on creeping to the edge of the next hole, the Cleaver brothers. At the lip it looks like two triangle rock set in the flow 6' apart from each other. Placed in the middle of a nice wide hole, you want to paddle anywhere but into the Cleavers.

Meat Cleaver is followed by **Powerful Popper**, a hole so sweet that it will squirt a creek boat, and then on to Tombstone. Tombstone is similar to main line at Climax on the Russell Fork, in that it is a



sieved out under cut rock that wants to eat you. But it is easy enough to avoid, if you make it though the double diagonal hole that points you toward an awesome drop, without rolling hit the far right or far left with a good boof stroke and you will have avoided Fuck up falls.

Next on the list was Cheeseburger, a nice 10' falls with a pretty line to boof on river right. By this time in the trip I was smiling from ear to ear, wondering what was next. But with only a few more name drops to go we were close to the end of the road so speak. The rafts were now gaining on us. The remainder of the river passed without incident or pause. As I neared the highway bridge at the take out I was pumped and totally sold on this run, tight and technical in all the right places. If you want to paddle here have a good roll and solid skills. The river passed so quickly Friday that it felt like I was only out there an hour and the holes seemed as large as Mack trucks. Saturdays run was uneventful but it reassured my skills and the lines on the river, it seemed to shrink the holes and ledges back to reality and set the time line in its place. Saturday I was able to see the river for what it really was and to be a good paddler I would have to go there often. So who is next and when do you want to go?

Pictures by Jeff Macklin

Sea Kayaking Lake Nipigon June 2010

By Jim Hunt

In June of this year, I had the opportunity to lead a 12 day sea kayaking trip on Lake Nipigon in western Ontario (Canada). There were 7 of us and we used four sea kayaks, 3 doubles and one single.

Lake Nipigon is about 60 miles long and 36 miles wide. There is only road access in the lower third of the lake. The northern two thirds is rarely visited by anyone and the lake has never been charted so there are no marine charts of the lake. It is the largest lake in Ontario and the 36th largest freshwater lake in the world. Lake Nipigon is the starting point for water flowing into the Great Lakes and out the St Lawrence Seaway. There are many islands in Nipigon but not many campsites and very dense woods on most shorelines. Most campsites were on beaches and with the

water about 1.5 feet below normal, many beaches had opened up. At high water, campsites would be very hard to find.



Typical Beach Campsite

The route was about 160 miles in length and was in the northern two thirds of Lake Nipigon. The trip started on the east side of the lake near Beardmore and finished on the west side of the lake just south of the Gull River First Nation Reservation. There were no portages on the trip and we saw no other people on the lake. Prior to the trip, I had found a few logs from other paddlers who had paddled the lake and all talked about the lack of campsites and rapid weather changes. The map of the lake posted at the launch site in Beardmore showed a few campsites in the lake but most did not exist.

The first three days were spent paddling north along the east shore. Luckily the winds were either light/moderate or from the tail. It was here that we needed to start getting comfortable with long open water crossings on the big lake. These crossings make me nervous due to the possibility of sudden weather changes when far from shore and cold water. All the crossings went fine and we started getting use to padding in waves of up to 3 feet.

There is a large bay in the northeast corner of the lake called Ombabika Bay. On the maps it looked like a interesting place to explore and it would be somewhat sheltered from wind and waves. We spent two days exploring the bay and it was indeed pretty but there were no decent campsites. In fact, the worst campsites of the trip were in Ombabika Bay.

From here we headed out into the middle of the lake into the islands. Certainly islands would have plenty of campsites. We spent the next three day exploring the islands again with some long open water crossings but still no wind or wave problems. The islands were the home of Woodland Caribou and Moose, both of which we saw. There were a few decent campsites in the islands but not many. It was somewhat disconcerting to not be able to see the mainland from some of the islands.

Next we headed northwest with the intent of checking out some of the connected lakes up in the corner of Nipigon. It was here we got our first taste of how fast the weather can change on Nipigon. About mid morning we had been paddling in light rain and light winds. We set out on a short (two mile) crossing and about half way across, the wind shifted to the north and came way up quickly as it started raining hard. We fought the wind and waves until we found a poor beach campsite about an hour later. We were all cold

and quickly set up the tents just behind the beach in some long grass. By then we were all wet as well as cold and hypothermic. We spent the next 4 hours in the tents in sleeping bags trying to stay warm while listening to the rain, wind and pounding waves. Around dinner time the rain quit but we still had cold, wind and waves. The next day, more of the same less rain so we could not move but we did manage to dry out clothes and sleeping bags.



Drying Gear With No Trees

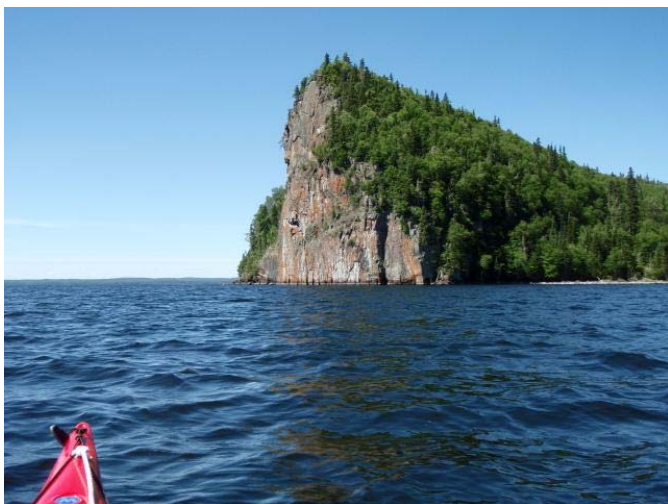
Finally after a day and a half windbound, we headed further north in great weather to check out Wabinoosh Lake. It turned out the stream going there was small and had rapids with no portage trails so we turned back. We had been planning to check out this area as a possible access point for future trips.



Stream From Lake Wabinoosh

We managed to paddle back out to a large island and found a great campsite in a sheltered cove that appeared to be an old commercial fishing camp. We had paddled in the highest wind and waves of the trip and I was certainly nervous as my boat was getting knocked around and had waves breaking on it.

The next morning there was still high winds and waves but by noon they were gone and we headed west toward our pickup point. It was here we passed some huge cliffs in the Undercliff Channel.



Undercliff Channel

After the cliffs, we had our longest open water crossing of the trip - 8 miles. The weather stayed sunny with a light side wind as we headed for our last campsite of the trip. We did manage to find the well hidden campsite we were looking for that was reported as being used by an outfitter on their kayak trips. Obviously, they had not been there this year.

The next day we woke to moderate wind and big waves with a 3 mile open water crossing waiting for us. Since our pickup was to be late, we waited. Finally in late afternoon the wind dropped and we took off with a side wind and moderate waves. This turned out to be the most dangerous crossing of the trip as the wind and waves along the way. We made it to our pickup point and checked waves came back up as we were making the crossing. We all made it but one double boat nearly flipped and I was washed by many in by sat phone to find the truck would be a day late due to a flat tire and Canada Day. So, we made camp at the end of the road along with the RV's and fisherman and spend a great night with real food

(courtesy of the fisherman), spring water, and a not-smelly outhouse.



Author At The End Of the Trip - Gear Drying

In all it was a great trip. No portages, few bugs and good weather. No flipped boats, no bear problems and seeing some wildlife. We saw no other people or boats in the 12 days on the water. The challenges I expected being on a large lake were not as bad as expected. The remoteness and size of Nipigon and well as the lack of access points assures that Lake Nipigon will remain an untouched sea kayaking area for years to come.

September				
9/3 - 5	Raquette/Beaver (NY)	27-35	Matt Muir	585-421-9826
9/10, 11	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Jim Hunt	330-335-5203
9/11, 12	Upper Gauley (WV)	33	John Kobak	440-871-1758
9/14	Club Meeting at Middleburg Hts Community Center		Joe Marks	216-281-1517
9/17-19	Upper Gauley (Festival Weekend) (WV)	27-33	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
9/17-19	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Terry Markoff	440-543-4969
9/25, 26	Upper & (5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27-33	Elliott Drysdale	216-496-4182 C
9/26	(5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release	26	Needs organizer	
October			Time to Pay Dues	
10/1, 2	Upper Yough - Last Saturday Release (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
10/2, 3	Upper & (5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27-33	Bill Miller	440-257-2970
10/9, 10	Upper & (5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27-33	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
10/12	Club Annual Election of Officers at Middleburg Hts		Joe Marks	216-281-1517
10/15-17	Moose River Fest (NY)	27-30	Matt Muir	585-421-9826
10/16	New River Bridge Day (WV) Paddle under the bridge and take-out at Hawk's Nest	27	Phil & Jen Raber	740-498-7063
10/16, 17	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Sherie Sanzenbacher	440-298-1293
10/16, 17	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12	Needs organizer	
10/23, 24	Russell Fork Fest paddle above Breaks (WV)	26	Cecil Tickamy	814-234-1062

2010 Club Officers

President: Cliff Wire 440-439-6541
VP: Michael Duvall 216-521-0094
Secretary: Pat Guzowski 216-780-5734
Treasurer: Terry Markoff 440-543-4969

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

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

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

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KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

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

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **October** issue of the newsletter is **9/21/10**.

Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com or peetzaguy@comcast.net.

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September, 2010

