

Keelhauler's Ka-news JANUARY, 2012



**Next Club Get-together is
Saturday, January 21st.**

**After Roll Practice at Orange Pool at
6:30 PM**

at the [Fox & Hound Restaurant](#)
1479 Som Center Rd, Mayfield Heights, OH 44124

**Program: A Social Get-
together**

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

Roll Session questions, Contact [Marius Asipauskas](#) at
216-200-6321

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

have any duplicates or videos that they may be tired of watching and consider donating to the club.

January and February we will not have regular club meetings but we will have social get togethers after roll practice. The dates are January 21 Fox and Hounds after Orange at and February 18 Pacers after the Lakewood session. Remember that all are welcome to attend roll practice and the get togethers and encouraged to join the club. Also thank your organizer Marius Asipauskas.

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

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

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## CALL FOR PHOTOS

Attention all photographers. The Keelhaulers 2012 Yearbook is being compiled and your photos are needed. Photos of boating, club activities, and outdoor landscapes are welcome.

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

Photos can be submitted by e-mail to:  
[jhunt4115@yahoo.com](mailto:jhunt4115@yahoo.com) but please limit the each e-mail to about 5 mb in size. If you want to submit a bunch of

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT By Michael Duvall

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

I had a couple of duplicate paddling DVDs and gave them to Pat G for the club library. Pat said that he had one of them in VHS which made me think many of our tapes could be replaced with a DVD version. Everyone should go through their collection of paddling DVDs and see if they

photos, burn them on a CD and mail them to: Jim Hunt  
275 Tolbert St Wadsworth, OH 44281

Photos are needed by mid January. E-mail me at the  
above address with any questions.

*Jim Hunt, Yearbook Editor*

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**Ancient Polynesians circumnavigate the
Pacific 500 years before Columbus
in new historical novel**

Based on archeological and anthropological studies, “Voyages of Malolo: Secret of the Rongo” by Robert Bonville depicts the early exploration and dangers of the Pacific and the wild west coast of the America’s and Hawaii in 1000 AD.

GREEN VALLEY, Ariz. - “Voyages of Malolo: Secret of the Rongo” (ISBN 0615531296), a historical novel by Robert Bonville, tells the story of Polynesian navigators and their journey across the Pacific on the great seagoing canoe “Malolo”.

When young Auka’i discovers a piece of driftwood from the east containing mysterious hieroglyphics, the “Rongo”, he and his people believe it is a message from the gods directing them to discover its meaning and the secret it contains. The young adventurer and his crew of uniquely skilled men build a large, double-hulled deep sea sailing canoe and sail east across the Pacific to the coast of Ecuador, more than 8,000 kilometers (5000 miles) from their island home. Their nearly 3-year voyage of exploration, which ranges up to Mexico and California before heading west to Hawaii, finds them facing many hardships and dangers before returning for a final surprising conflict at home.

“The tale is fiction, but it is based on archaeological and anthropological evidence and widely accepted theory,” says Bonville. “It is an epic adventure that speaks to the will of ancient man to discover, learn and survive in the face of the harshest of conditions.”

The majestic Malolo and its crew of expert sailors and navigators braved the harshest of conditions including a

tsunami, a hurricane and severe temperature extremes. This mighty vessel performed as if the gods that inspired the journey, lived within her koa wood twin hulls.

Bonville was inspired to write the story of the Malolo's journey by his time living in Hawaii as a young man and his travels throughout the Pacific, as well as surprising historical evidence of the far-reaching travels of the ancient Polynesians. Written to engage and entertain as well as educate, the book is intended to appeal to readers that enjoy a good fact-based historical adventure.

“Voyages of Malolo: Secret of the Rongo” is available for sale online at **Amazon.com** and other channels.

About the Author

Robert Bonville is a native of South Florida and a United States Coast Guard veteran. He served as a radioman on deep sea weather cutters, Antarctic ice-breaking expeditions and serviced coastal navigation devices before attending college on the GI Bill. Upon graduation, Bonville worked in aerospace and defense-related projects associated with quality assurance, engineering and management, retiring after 37 years. Robert is married with four adult children and resides in Arizona with his wife, Linda.

MEDIA CONTACT:

Robert Bonville

E-mail: gsiaz@yahoo.com

Phone: (520) 777-3346

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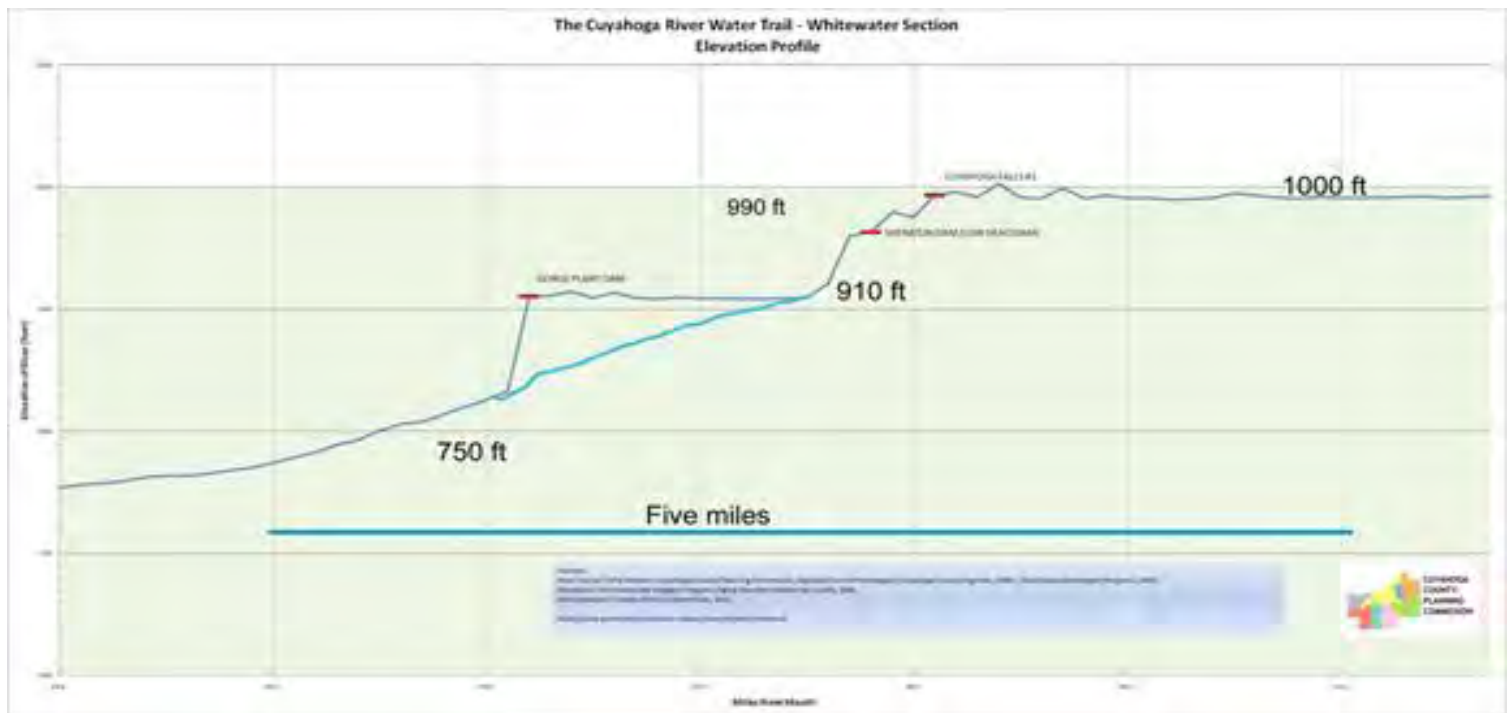
## Welcome to Ohio, the Non-Whitewater State! By Dave Hill

Everyone thinks that there's no whitewater in Ohio and the state is nothing but flat farmlands of corn and whatever else happens to be growing. It's just that stretch of land on the shuttle to paddle somewhere else. No one makes Ohio a paddling stop! But things are about to change one way or another.

The river that burned has an interesting past but a more productive future lies ahead.

We all know that the Cuyahoga flows some odd 100.7 miles through headwaters and National Park bottom lands, but it's not all flat. At that unique turning point where the river turns back north, it also has the steepest gradient. With an average drop of almost 50 feet per mile over several miles, this river definitely knows how to drop with style!

This write up is not about the Ohio Edison dam, it's about that old industrial section farther upstream. That rough and tumble section where early settlers tried to harness the river's power to product a wealth of goods for the growing economy.



The 2 lower dams in the above historic picture are no longer present and are now the location of both drops behind the Sheraton as shown in the 2 photos of paddlers.



Rookie Drop

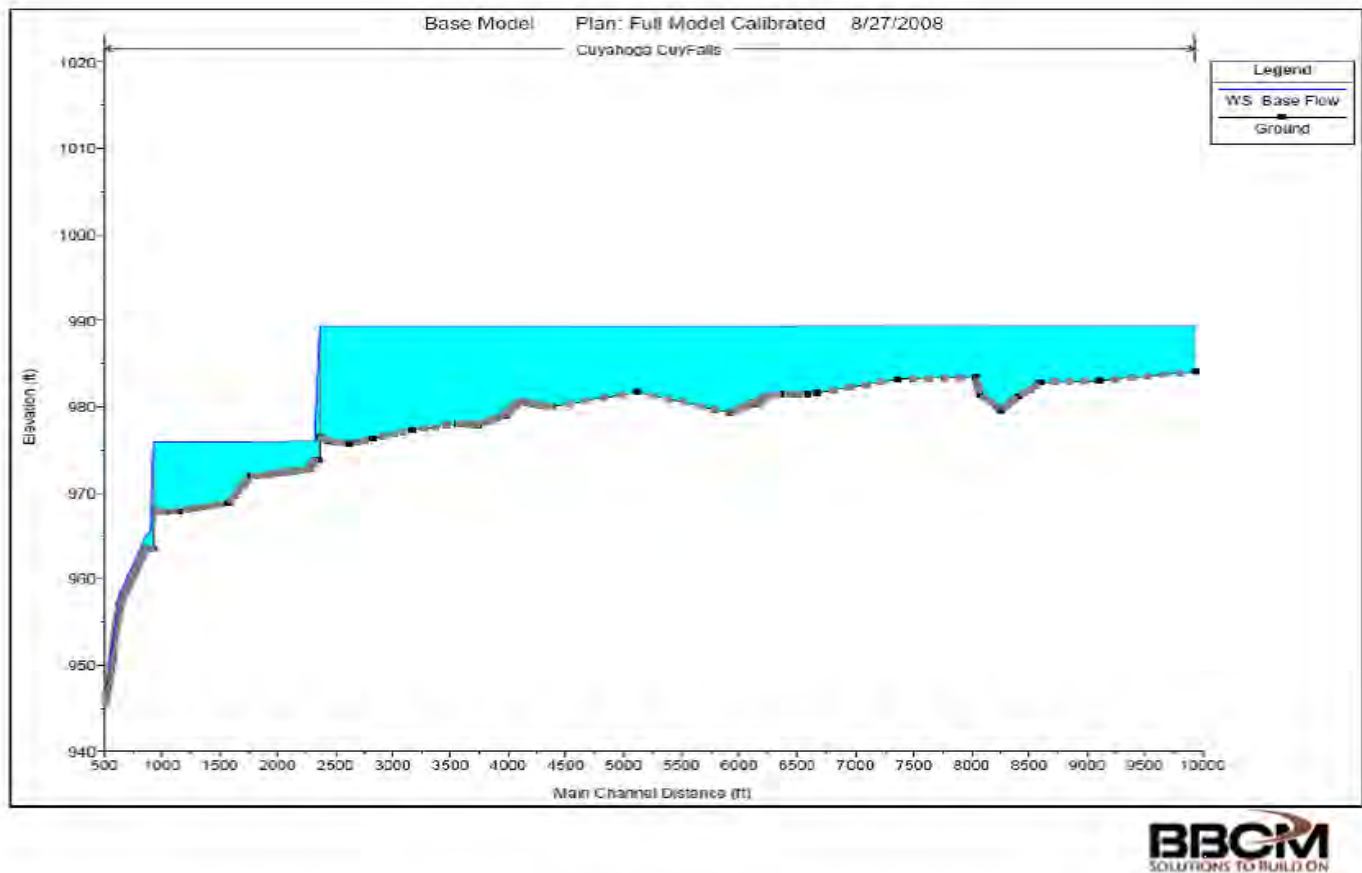
The upper 2 dams in the historic photo are the current Sheraton and LaFever dams.



**Right Boof Line on the Last Drop**

Things in the Upper Gorge are about to change for those 2 upper dams at the Sheraton and LaFever sites. In the Nov 27<sup>th</sup> article of the [Falls News Press](#) the City of Cuyahoga Falls announced that 2 low head dams will be removed in 2012. The Ohio EPA is moving forward with support of this project and information on the project scope, schedule and funding sources can be found at the EPA [website](#).

So what does this mean to paddlers, well..... That gradient shown in the first picture is about to become free flowing in those upper reaches. As shown in the BBCM figure, the removal of these 2 dams will eliminate about 35 feet of vertical structures and should open up about 1 mile of new whitewater between the old railroad bridge (near Bailey Road) and the Sheraton dam. This figure shows that gradient should increase from the Rt



**BBCM**  
SOLUTIONS TO BUILD ON

No one really knows what lies below the river surface but some research projects have presented their findings for what the riverbed features my look like. These include the [thesis paper](#) on the sediments behind the upper LaFever dam pool. This paper presented the isopleth figure on next page which outlines the riverbed surface based upon probing activities.

8 overpass (blank spot on figure) and become channelized along the right bank before dropping over a natural ledge (below the LaFever dam structure?).

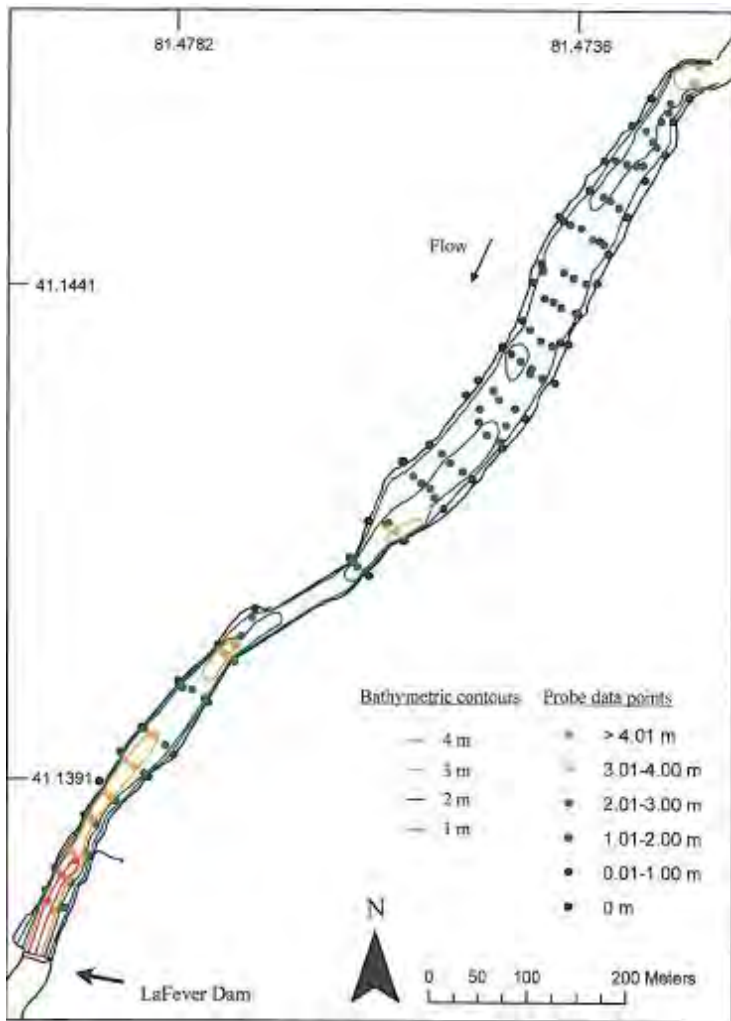


Figure 47. Bathymetry map of the LaFever dam pool. River boundaries were obtained from Summit County Geographic Information Services (SCGIS) et al. (2000).

Then there is this overlay of data from various sources which presents a similar story.



The bottom line is that there will be new whitewater opportunities in downtown Cuyahoga Falls as early as fall 2012.

Considering that the festival site ([Falls River Square](#)) is immediately adjacent to the Sheraton dam pool the potential for accidents will be elevated and public education regarding

swift water will be required. After all, whitewater is not common in Ohio and we should ensure this new access is not threatened.



Scouting the runoff below the last drop behind the Sheraton Suites.



For those of you who may not be familiar with what a boater cross event is then this is for you. Generally speaking a boater cross race is a mass start, head to head race from one point to another on a given stretch of water. In this case the race organizers are looking to run the Ohio Edison Dam to Oxbow section of the river. This particular section of the Cuyahoga River is less than a mile in length and American Whitewater gives this section of river a class III-IV rating <http://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/River/detail/id/1467/> While racing through the course, participants in mass will have to negotiate several river obstacles like waves, holes, and negotiate in an out of eddys. This event would be set up with multiple heats; the number of heats would be based on participant turn out. The winner would only be decided after running at least 2 heats.

This event would be open to anyone with a properly outfitted whitewater or canoe. Based on participant turn out there would be two divisions for men and women, three classes, whitewater canoes, whitewater kayaks 7' and under and 7'

and over. It would take at least 3 boats to make a class, so tell your friends.

This is a great opportunity to get out and experience a great local run, in a controlled setting and embrace the 2012 boating season.

## Grand River 2011

By Marty Cooperman

Fellows,

It was with no small alarm that I surveyed the group gathered before me.

8 people in 5 boats from the far corners of the earth, most looking evil, had gathered on the banks at Harpersfield for a 17 mile paddle of the Grand River.

Amongst this sinister group were:

Paul and Joann from Green, Ohio, in a tandem canoe with a cover over it. The couple seemed very guarded about what was under the cover but we suspected from the noise within that they were transporting illegal aliens from upper Ashtabula County to Painesville.

Joanne, (not to be confused with the above Joann who somehow had the trailing 'e' dropped from her name at birth by her shocked parents, and never restored) from distant Vermilion, arriving fashionably late in a gaudy, nay, ostentatiously colored purple and pink glitter kayak. But far worse was her matching outfit of pink (pink!) spray jacket and sleazy black leather pants. All that was missing was a pair of stiletto-heeled river boots to complete the package. Parents we passed along the river would clasp their hands over their offspring's eyes to prevent corruption, while Joanne stealthily scanned the banks looking to ply her trade. And this, on a Family river.

Ruth (no 'e') pretended to come from some make-believe town called 'Wellington', which, if it did exist, would be just as close to our put-in going either way around the earth. A suspicious character in a 13 foot kayak.

Heike, from Beachwood, had cleverly arranged her housing as to be equidistant from both Beachwood Mall and Legacy Village, both of which she purports to be able to reach without fully getting out of bed. She claims to do all her shopping online, but...She was in a blue kayak and cleverly affected a German accent, attempting to sound exotic.

Truly exotic was Andy from Cleveland Heights with a 9 foot kayak and a mock-Hungarian accent, claiming to be an ancestor of King Vladislaus II, who defeated the Turks in an obscure battle on the Danube in a fleet of ancient 9 foot

battle kayaks, the progenitors to Andy's boat of today. Andy would be taking out at Hidden Valley, half way into our trip, so he could go home and eat left-over Thanksgiving strudel. Joni, from downtown Cleveland, and my bow partner in our tandem canoe, the only fine and upstanding paddlers on the river that day.

The Grand was running at 'high runnable' according to the American Whitewater web site, 4.5 feet, when we set off around 11:30 after a shuttle to Mason's Landing and then back to Hidden Valley to pick up Andy.

We all cleverly avoided the only major rapid of the day by launching just downstream of it. Paul and Joann decided to come back upstream to surf the churning waves amidst squeals of either delight or horror on the part of Joann (no 'e'). They survived the ordeal and spent the rest of the day practicing eddy turns and peel outs and other fancy maneuvers in an unsuccessful attempt to impress us with their canoeing skills. We could hear the illegal aliens groaning under the spray cover at every sharp move.

Many of the river's rapids were drowned and instead we were treated to standing waves, some curling back on us and a few dumping water into our laps. Waterfalls cascaded down from the shale cliffs above.

Occasionally we'd pass a lawn chair or other unwelcome sign of civilization. Perhaps the most unwelcome was a huge bright blue plastic playground with waterslide recently erected by some camp above the banks of the river. Easily concealed had it been placed a hundred feet further back, here it was overlooking the river in full view of all the paddlers. Additionally, the grounds were contained within a chain link fence. Truly an eyesore. This playground was not here when I paddled the river last year.

Far prettier were the bridges, high and low, spanning the river, and a stone house nestled into a hillside and nearly camouflaged with a beautiful view of the river at a turn. Lastly, Paul spied an unusual stone tower high on a hillside above the river whose function puzzled us until a few minutes later we heard the tolling of a church bell announcing the hour.

Osprey flew past, a bald eagle was sighted, and the usual herons were herded down the river, flushed from one landing spot to another. One particular heron seemed to have a long, stringy thing dangling from his legs. We first thought 'snake', but that was out of character for herons who stand and fish and eat their prey on the spot. Possibly some fishing line tangled in his legs? We never could get close enough to find out.

Along the way were trees gnawed by beaver, slippery banks with leaves ploughed into windrows by the much higher river

level of several days ago, courtesy of Tuesday night's and Wednesday's rain.

Lunch was at Hidden Valley where Andy departed, and eventually we reached our takeout at Mason's Landing after a fairly brisk trip, much aided by the river's current.

All in all, a beautiful warm sunny day far better spent on the river than shopping at the mall.

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44th Annual Vermilion River Race

By Eugene Baker

It's time to get the ball rolling and start planning this year's race.

Last year we had to run the flat water section of the river because of low water. We still had a good turnout and lots of fun. Though it was quite cold the sun was shining and that made it a pretty nice day. This race has been held in everything from near blizzard conditions to nice warm sunny days. We just never know what we're in for.

The success of this race is the fact that many people come together and share the load. It all starts with some planning, some paper work, some publicity, phone calls, etc. Then the weekend before the race a group of very helpful people run the river and remove as much of the trees and debris as possible to make for a safer event. Then we sit and watch

the river gauge hoping for enough water to run the class I-II section of the river from Birmingham to Mill Hollow.

Then its race day and there are several jobs that need to be done. The course has to be set, timing crew and equipment set up, safety crew, food and beverages, scoring, registration and clean-up. There is something for everyone. Oh, and the biggest job of all, getting out and paddling the river.

The date for this year's race is April 1st and, no, this is not an April fool's joke.

Anyone interested in helping out should contact:

Eugene Baker

Cell: 440-320-4490 u1meangene@gmail.com

*Happy New Year to
All!
Please have a safe
and happy new
year!*

January	2012		
1/7	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3-5:00 PM	Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
1/8,15,22,29	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 9-11:00 AM	Doug Lyons	330-402-6909
1/17	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 8:30-9:45 PM	Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
1/21	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4-6:00 PM	Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
1/21	Club Get-Together at the Fox & Hound Restaurant in Mayfield Hts after the Orange Roll session at 6:30 PM, everyone welcome.	Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
February	2012		
2/4, 18	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3-5:00 PM	Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
2/5,12,19,26	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 9-11:00 AM	Doug Lyons	330-402-6909
2/11, 25	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4-6:00 PM	Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
2/18	Club Get-Together at Pacers Restaurant after Lakewood Roll session at 5:30 PM, everyone welcome.	Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916

2012 Club Officers

President:	Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
VP:	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
Secretary:	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
Treasurer:	Joe Marksz	216-281-1517

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

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

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

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

1649 Allen Dr.

Westlake, OH 44145

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

KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

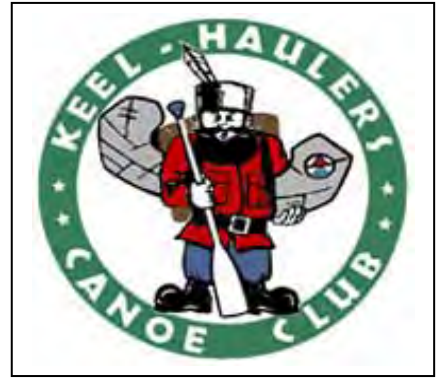
Non- Commercial advertising is free to all members. To place an ad, send the information the way you want it to appear. Please write or call when item is sold. It will appear for 2 months unless canceled. Commercial ads may be submitted by club member's owned businesses four times each year with a maximum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

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the February issue of the newsletter is 1/22/12. 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
January, 2012



Keelhauler's Ka-news FEBRUARY, 2012



Next Club Meeting: on Saturday
February 18th at **Pacers
Restaurant** 14600 Detroit Ave
Lakewood, OH after the Lakewood
Roll session at 5:30 PM.

Program: Happy Hour, food and
shake away the winter blues with
Kayak videos. [Pacers Restaurant](#) A
few blocks North of the pool on
Detroit across from Lakewood
Hospital.

For questions contact [Dennis
Dukeman](#) 330-699-2916.

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

2012 Yearbook...

is completed. On-Line Version- [2012 Yearbook](#)
[Need the NEW 2012 password? It was included in](#)
[newsletter e-mail](#). Please review. Send John
Kobak an [e-mail](#) to make a correction or for the
password.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Michael Duvall

Holidays are over and time to get back to thinking
about kayaking.

Although I was unable to go to the get together after
the orange pool practice at Orange High School I heard
that quite a few people made it to the Fox and Hounds.
Next Social meeting will be after pool practice at
Lakewood High School on Feb 18. We will be going to
Pacers Restaurant, 14600 Detroit Rd.

National Paddling Film Festival is another way to get
motivated for kayaking . What could be better than
paddle porn and micro brew at a bourbon distillery?
If you are up for some cold weather activities contact
Brent Hendren for Ohipyle Winter Fest or the Slip on
Mar 10-11.

Remember that the Vermilion River Race is coming up
sooner than you think. Eugene Baker needs volunteers
for the pre race clean-up and the race day. So if you
don't intend to race you should come out and help.
Our next regular meeting will be Mar 13 at the
Middleburg Hts. Recreation Center.

Be Safe and I'll see you on the river,
Michael



ON THE ROAD WITH JIM

By Michael Duvall

We met at Jim Hunt's house at 10 am to start our trip out west. We had 10 days to make it to Flagstaff, AZ to hook up with the others on Grand Canyon trip. Jim had the water purification equipment so we used his truck. The plan was to drive straight through to Colorado and do some paddling.

We got to Colorado Springs at 7am for breakfast and then on to Canyon City around 10. There we joined up with Bob Nicholson who had spent much of the summer in Colorado and set shuttle for the Royal Gorge. The level was low, only about 700 cfs which turned the big water river into more like a narrow steep creek. We got through Sunshine and Sledge Hammer just fine but the Wall was another thing. Bob went through first and Jim was sweep. I looked back and saw that Jim was standing on some rocks messing with his boat. It seems that he got stuck in a channel and ran out of water and had to get out of his boat to get back in the main stream. While I was looking back I floated up against the wall and flipped. I'm not sure if the wall is undercut but I was stuck against it and couldn't roll so you guessed it, I swam. Not a good level to swim because many rocks were exposed and I hit quite a few before I got myself and boat to shore. Everything was fine from there as we paddled through the narrow canyon below the suspension bridge that was a quarter of a mile above our heads. From there we headed to Buena Vista and the Mexican restaurant and a big pitcher of margaritas.

Next day we did the Numbers section of the Arkansas River. The level was only 450 cfs so all the boulders were exposed and the holes were nonexistent. So we dogged the rocks and had a very pleasant paddle. We said so long to Bob and headed to Twin Lakes to meet up with Jim's Son Jay.

One of the reasons we started the trip early was so we could be in Leadville Colorado when Jay was going to run the Leadville 100, a 100 mile trail run at an altitude of 10,000 feet. Jay had to run the first 50 miles by himself but could have pacers to run with him for the last 50 miles. Jay's girlfriend Maddy was the team coordinator and had to drive to all the check points to supply him with water, energy snacks, and extra shoes and socks. Maddy also had to get the pacers to the

right locations to join Jay on the trail. If that wasn't enough, she also ran with Jay as a pacer for 15 of the hardest miles over an 11,000 foot pass. Of course Jim had an ulterior motive for bring me along, I ran with Jay as a pacer for 10 miles from mile 60 to mile 70. I was concerned with running at that altitude, but I was able to do my part to help Jay break the 23 hour mark and place 32 out of close to 700 runners.



"Hurricane" Jay and me



Maddy (seated) and Emma another pacer



Maddy's food company support

After the race we stayed with Jay and Maddy in Gunnison for a few days. While Jay and Maddy were at work Jim and I did some hikes and bike riding. One day we hiked up to Oh Be Joyful Creek near Crested Butte to see the class V waterfalls that I am sure neither of us will ever run. Another highlight in Gunnison was watching the US Pro Cycle Race come



"Hurricane", Jim, Jay, Maddy, me at the finish

through town. We saw them on one stage that is harder than any day in Tour D' France, 131 miles long and over two 12,000 foot passes from Gunnison to Buna Vista and on to Aspen.



When Jay was somewhat recovered from his 100 mile run he joined Jim and myself kayaking on the Taylor River. The Taylor is one of the most disputed rivers in Colorado because the people that own the land own the river and do not allow people to run the river. We paddled through some of the disputed area without any problems; however, we did not touch the shore. Another river we paddled was the Gunnison Gorge. The Gorge is very remote with very high walls on both sides of the river. The hardest part of the Gunnison is the long dirt road shuttle and mile long hike on a mountain path to the put in. We were wise to hire an outfitter to drive the shuttle. Both rivers were beautiful class 3+.

After the Gunnison Jim and I said so long to Jay and headed toward Durango Colorado.



Gunnison Gorge



Jim and his son Jay in Gunnison Gorge

The road to Durango goes over Red Mountain Pass which is the scariest pass I have ever seen. I thought we might be part of the TV series "Most dangerous roads." There was a 1,000 foot cliff at the edge of the road with no guard rails and if that was not enough there was construction which narrowed the road to one lane.

In Durango we found the Animus River and the Four Corner Outfitters Shop and asked about the shuttle for the "town run." They told us where to put in and that we should take out at the shop. We thought we would have to use the city bus for the shuttle but they said we could just borrow their bicycle. The Animus River was very low and the only good part was in the play park near the end of the run. Just to illustrate how low it was, after our run I rode the bike back to get Jim's truck there were girls in bikinis and inner tubes putting on. While I was biking the shuttle Jim was buying and outfitting a boat he bought from the outfitter. Now the Colorado portion of our trip was over and we were off to Flagstaff to join the crew for the Grand Canyon.

44th Annual Vermilion River Race

This year on April 1st Keel-Haulers will host the 44th Annual Vermilion River Race. That is only two months away and it will be here before we know it. We need a few good members to volunteer to serve on the Race Committee.

Anyone who has a sporting goods store on their area or an affiliation with a paddling group can help with publicity. Dennis D. is creating a poster for this year's event. If you know of a good place to put one please contact me and I can email the file and you can print up what you need. These should be posted around March first.

Sunday March 25th, the weekend before the race, a group of paddlers will run the river and clear as much debris as possible to make the race a bit safer. Most are in canoes because they carry chainsaws and other gear. Even if you don't have a canoe there are often seats available in another's boat. After the cleanup we will gather at Baker's home for some chili and dogs. If you can help us with that please give me a call or email. One of the critical positions is data entry. We track the race results and history using a data base program. One of the critical positions is data entry. We track the race results and history using a data base program. We need someone who is comfortable with "Access" to fill that spot. There are lots of other jobs and we can find a job for you if you want to help us. Please call or

email: Eugene u1meangene@gmail.com or call him at cell: 440-320-4490.

Where in the World is Chuck?

Our Sea Kayaking and Recreational Boating Chairperson Chuck Singer has once again taken off for a far away and cool destination..... Next newsletter, some of his trip blog/story will be printed for your entertainment!



Our **2012 Trip schedule** is almost completed. We need trips of all levels from flat water to beginning white water and advanced.

See the [Tentative 2012 Schedule](#)

Lots of our trips still need organizers.

So no matter what level you are at, you can organize a trip.

Read our [Trip Organizer's Responsibilities](#)

E-Mail [Michael Duvall](#) or call him at 216-513-5921.

February	2012		
2/4	Ohiopyle Winterfest & Paddle the Loop	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
2/4, 18	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3-5:00 PM	Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
2/5,12,19,26	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 9-11:00 AM	Doug Lyons	330-402-6909
2/11, 25	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4-6:00 PM	Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
2/18	Club Get-Together at Pacers Restaurant after Lakewood Roll session at 5:30 PM, everyone welcome.	Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
2/24,25	National Paddling Film Fest (KY)	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
March			
3/3	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4-6:00 PM	Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
3/4,11	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 9-11:00 AM	Doug Lyons	330-402-6909
3/10,17,24,31	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3-5:00 PM	Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
3/10, 11	(2) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19 Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
3/13	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts	Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
3/25	(1) Vermilion River Cleanup (OH)	SK/FW Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
3/31-4/1	WV Class V Creeking	>30 John Garcia Brent Laubaugh	216-210-7544 724-272-6944

TREASURER'S REPORT

By Joe Marks

KEELHAULERS INCOME AND EXPENSES

Category Description	2010 Actuals	2011 Actuals	2012 Budget
INCOME			
Conservation Income	\$271.00	\$35.00	\$300.00
Dues	\$5,390.00	\$5,128.00	\$5,530.00
Interest	\$48.00	\$19.00	\$20.00
Rescue Weekend Income	\$474.00	-0-	-0-
Reservations	\$27.00	\$222.00	\$200.00
Vermilion Race Income	\$1,684.00	\$1,486.00	\$1,500.00
Uncategorized/Misc.	-0-	-0-	-0-
TOTAL INCOME	\$7,894.00	\$6,890.00	\$7,550.00
EXPENSES			
Club Promotion	\$165.00	-0-	-0-
Conservation Donations	\$1,870.00	\$2,225.00	\$2,325.00
Internet	\$113.00	\$216.00	\$225.00
Library	200.00	-0-	\$200.00
Meeting Hall	\$489.00	\$75.00	\$550.00
Miscellaneous	-0-	-0-	-0-
News Letter	\$1,603.00	\$963.00	\$1,000.00
Organization Dues	\$75.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Postage & Supply	\$631.00	\$115.00	\$250.00
Refreshments	\$124.00	-0-	-0-
Rescue Weekend Expense	\$263.00	-0-	-0-
Vermilion Race Expense	\$398.00	\$1,403.00	\$1,150.00
Yearbook Print	\$1,298.00	\$1,343.00	\$1,350.00
Yearbook Postage	-0-	\$306.00	\$250.00
Yough Reservations	\$120.00	\$210.00	\$200.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$7,349.00	\$6,906.00	\$7,550.00
OVERALL TOTAL	\$(542)	\$(16)	\$(0)
Checking Balance as of Jan.2012		\$6,559.00	
C/D Balances as of Jan. 2012		\$6,760.00	

CONSERVATION DONATIONS

	2010 Actual	2011 Actual
American Whitewater	\$625.00	\$575.00
Friends of Cheat	\$500.00	\$500.00
Friends of Crooked River	\$200.00	\$300.00
Grand Canyon Private Boaters Assoc.	\$150.00	\$150.00
American Rivers	\$100.00	\$100.00
West Virginia Rivers Coalition	\$200.00	-0-
River Network	\$100.00	\$100.00
Nature Conservancy	-0-	\$150.00
Western Reserve Rowing Assoc.	-0-	\$250.00
Portage Park District		\$100.00
TOTAL:	\$1,875.00	\$2,225.00

FOOTNOTES: \$572 of 2010 meeting hall expense receipts were just recently turned in so that amount will be reflected in next year's expenses. Most of the 2011 meeting hall expenses were turned in after the end of the FY.

The Vermilion Race expenses should be lower this year due to the fact that the Club bought a bulk number of medals in 2011 to get them at a cheaper rate. The race organizers should have enough medals for this year and perhaps next year as well.

2012 Club Officers

President:	Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
VP:	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
Secretary:	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
Treasurer:	Joe Marksz	216-281-1517

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

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

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

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

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

KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

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

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the March issue of the newsletter is 2/22/12. 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, 2012



Keelhauler's Ka-news MARCH, 2012



**Next Club Meeting is
Tuesday, March 13th,**

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

**Doors open at 7:00 PM, meeting starts about 8:00PM,
followed by refreshments.**

**Program: Vermilion Race Planning,
Cold water paddling and a short video**

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

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

Your Club Dues and Conservation Donations at work in 2012!

This is the list of organizations we are supporting.
A new addition is the Upper Yough Parking Lot Fund and we are once
again helping the West Virginia River Coalition.
Please let us know of any organizations you would like the Club to
consider for future donations.

American Whitewater 625
Friends of Cheat 500
Friends of Crooked River 300
Grand Canyon Private Boaters 150
American Rivers 100
West Virginia Rivers Coalition 200
River Network 100
Nature Conservancy 150
Upper Yough Parking Fund 500
Portage Park District 100

Message from the President By Michael Duvall

I received my year book in the mail two weeks ago and it looks great. Every paid up member should have received their year book by now. As you look through it and see the great pictures, river info, charts and maps you can thank this year's editor Jim Hunt. Jim took over this year from Patty Hammond who did a great job for the last four years. When you see these people that volunteer their time be sure to say thanks.

Our first meeting of the year will be Tuesday March 13 at the Middleburgh Hts. Recreation Center. I hope to see many of the people that I haven't seen since last year. Remember everyone is encouraged to bring a guest.

This will be our only meeting before the Vermilion River race. Remember that Eugene Baker needs volunteers for the river clean-up and help on race day.

The board got together and worked on our conservation donations last week. We were happy to be able to make a donation to the Upper Yough take out fund which will have an almost instant impact providing parking in Friendsville this year. There has always been tension between some of the town's people and the kayakers over parking. This program will eliminate that tension and secure access to that great river the same way the parking area at the put in did a few years ago. See all the other donations in this newsletter or on line at the conservation web page.

Spring is right around the corner so everyone should be looking to get out on the rivers after months of only paddling indoors at the pools. For beginners and intermediates paddlers there are trips on the North Branch of the Potomac. For those that like creeks there are March and April class IV-V trips. Intermediate paddlers looking to step up there is the Southern Rivers trip starting Good Friday. Remember that you **MUST** contact the trip organizer well before hand to confirm all the details like when and where to meet.

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

Michael

Club Newsletter Update: Always A Worthwhile Read!

By Joe Marks

Now that the Club is emphasizing online access of the Newsletter, I wanted to remind everyone how that works. Each month the Newsletter is published, every current member gets an email with a link and password good for that month's issue. I'd also like to point out that all past issues can be accessed by going to the Club's website front page, clicking on the 'More Links' drop down menu on the upper right and clicking on newsletters.

Help Secure a Permanent Upper Yough Takeout

A generous land donation has put a permanent, convenient takeout for the Upper Yough within paddlers' reach. However, donations are needed to fully fund this project. American Whitewater is calling on all paddlers to make donations, big and small to secure this access point.

Donate

1. Fill out the donate form at <https://americanwhitewater.org/donate>
2. Under "Additional Comments / In Honor Of" enter "Upper Yough Parking"

More Info

The Mayor and Town Council of Friendsville stood up for Upper Yough paddlers many times over the past year. Their efforts prevented cancellation of up to 35% of summer dam releases and halted efforts by Deep Creek State Park to charge a per-head river running fee at the Sang Run access this summer. The Town of Friendsville will continue to protect and develop the river resource and is now asking for your support.

Their latest project is to improve boater parking in town. The current arrangement with paddlers parking on both sides of busy State Route 742 is a source of friction with town residents as well as a real safety concern. Recently a local citizen made a generous gift of land in the field on the upstream side of Route 742 and Councilman Jess Whittemore has spearheaded an effort to create large parking lot on these four acres.

Once the lot is in place, taking out will be easier. Paddlers can get out under the I-68 bridge and walk past the church to the field or continue down to the Wilderness Voyageurs access. There will be parking for 125 cars, with room for expansion. Although the lot will require almost \$100,000 to finish completely, we can be parking in the grass this season for much less money. **The town hopes to keep the lot open free of charge, but this will happen only if they can raise the money for this complex and expensive project from outside sources.** They are aggressively pursuing grants, but paddler donations are also vital.

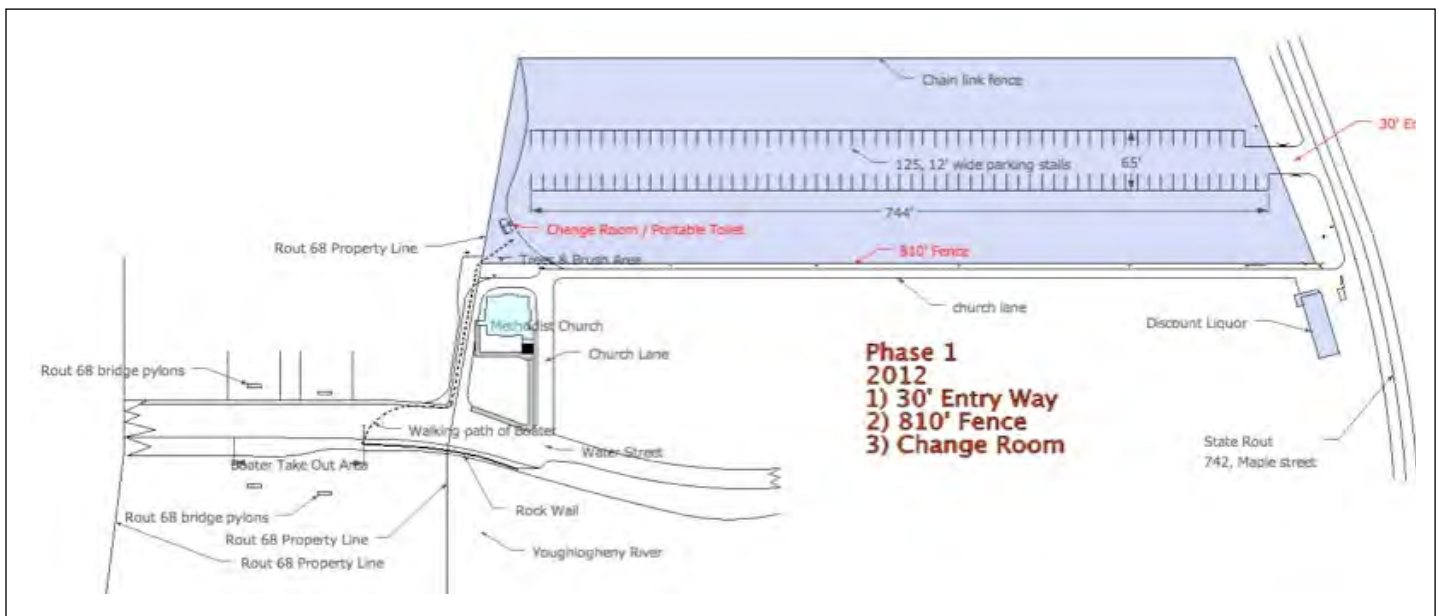
It's time for Upper Yough paddlers to support the town!

You can double the value of your donation by acting now. American Whitewater and several past and present board members have created a \$2000 fund to match the first \$2000 of individual donations. The Coastal Canoeists have put up \$1500 to match donations from paddling clubs. Our goal is \$12,000, which will pay for the culvert and entryway off Route 742, a fence at the edge of the parking lot along Church Street, and a boater change area at the far end of the parking lot.

The Keel-Haulers board has agreed to donate \$500 from the club to help get the fund rolling. Our club makes extensive use of the Upper Yough and this take-out and change room will be a welcome improvement.

However your help is also requested. If you use the put-in and now the new proposed take-out I would expect its worth as much as a Lower Yough permit every time you visit Ohioople. So send in a donation.

Site Plan



February 25th on the Vermillion River

By Eugene Baker

The morning started off rather brisk and breezy, 30 degrees and 25 mph wind. Hoping the sun would poke through, Martin Cooperman and Eugene Baker headed for the Vermilion River in Wakeman. There is a park where the river crosses Rt 20 and beside the bridge is about a class 4 put-in.

We took our time and by the time we put on it was a balmy 33 degrees. The level was 3.65' and falling slowly. At that level there is good flow which makes for a quick run. The few small features on this section of the river were flattened for the most part. We did encounter a few river-wide down trees most of which were avoidable as there were multiple streams created by small islands. One particularly large tree had to be portaged around.

By the time we reached Gore Orphanage Rd our toes were a bit frosty and our lines had begun to freeze. All in all it was a very pleasant afternoon. Sure beat sitting in the house trying to fill in the blanks of an IRS 1040. Thanks for sharing the day Marty.

Eugene Baker, 440-320-4490, u1meangene@gmail.com

Where in the World is Chuck?

Our Sea Kayaking and Recreational Boating Chairperson Chuck Singer has once again taken off for a far away and cool destination.....

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Tuguegarao

Where in the heck is that? It's in northern Luzon maybe 350 miles from Manila. I came up here for the rafting but its only on weekends. Sometimes playing it by ear doesn't work, Tug is a fairly big town and it's claim to infamy are it's motorcycle tricycles. Most of them are two cycles that are poorly muffled and burn oil. the streets reek of exhaust of oily smoke and the noise bounces off of all the walls. It's like riding next to a chain saw, a loud chainsaw!

i took one today about 30 miles to a local river where I toured a cave. The way up was 184 steps and then it got hard. The floor was unimproved, rough and muddy. \The lighting was from cave openings through the ceiling. I didn't slip but it was close. My 16 year old guide hasn't seen his



mother for 15 years. She left for Singapore then and hasn't returned but he still wants to see her.

My driver, Ricardo is separated from his wife (no divorce here but there is civil annulment) He brought me to the river, cave and hung around all day (8hrs) and returned me to Tug for \$12! I ruined the economy by tipping him \$7.

The kayak trip was up a nice calm stretch of a very clear, shallow river. The area is a karst limestone and is loaded with 300+ caves. I hung around until dusk to watch the bats fly out.



The ride on the way back was exciting since Ricardo had an aversion to using his headlight (wastes gas?) Hippydom is alive and well here. I used the bandana on the bike ride to keep the hair from my eyes.

Thursday, January 19, 2012

Apirri and Musings

Since the raft trip fell through, I had a day to fill and the tourist Bureau suggested a ride to Apirri, a town on the north coast of Luzon. It's shrimp season and there is the pier to see. Well the shrimp boats were a shrimping and the pier was a big



empty block of concrete. I went the other way from the pier to the end and then went through a squalorous shanty town. Everyone said "Hello Sir" which is the standard greeting here. The sun was baking me so I stopped for a cola and got a "Cola Pop" for about 10 cents. It was cold and not bad. I walked around town for a while, then headed back to the van ride back to Tuguegarao. A young woman got in next to me and started talking about her job. She is a Social Worker with a Masters degree. I explained Marcia and we talked social work for the two hour trip except for the Born Again part! People are very interested in you, your family, and the interaction. They are often surprised to find whole families don't live together. And Nursing Homes are unheard of.

Yesterday while waiting for the bats to wake up, I chatted with the guides. The 16 year wanted to know what flying was like. Was it hard to breathe when you are way up there? He also wanted if I knew Oprah, (I don't) did I know Bill Gates? (I don't) He seemed quite disappointed like I was a social failure so he asked me if I knew ANYONE famous. I told him I knew Bill Heuser and he

seemed satisfied. His friends had a girl hanging around and suggested that I could talk to her. She was very shy and kept her eyes down. They said she was a good worker. I asked if she were strong and had good teeth. She remained shy and demure in her womanly fashion.

I suggested that if she would consider marriage, she could get a husband and a grandfather in one deal. That idea excited her so much and she ran away, probably to pack her things for the ceremony. Unfortunately she must have had too many things to pack since she never returned.

The back of taxis here have "How am I driving" Text..... There is a real mix of vehicles in Tug and close by. There are cars, busses, vans, two types of trikes, motorbikes, horse drawn carts, water buffalo carts, sleds, riders on buffalos (real cowboys not our horseboys) There are also some tractors driven by Chinese diesel engines. They are the cheapest, most reliable thing around since there are so few moving parts. The elevator says 10 people max but you have to average 154# Maybe 8 Americans? I'm flying to Palawan tomorrow where there definitely is a beach!

Saturday, January 21, 2012

Palawan I flew from Manila to Palawan, a large island 400 miles south of Manila. The airport carousel was packed three deep with people waiting for their gear and it took two trips around until I could get close enough. I went outside to get a taxi and the skies opened up. It lessened in 10 minutes and I got a trike to take me to my preferred hotel. it was others preferred hotel too so I set out on foot to find another. I'm in a really nice one but it's only available for tonite.

I'll look for another tomorrow.

I've booked a trip to Hondo Bay which tours three islands with sight seeing and snorkeling. It's an all day trip so I will store my backpack here until I return.

The town Puerto

Princesa (PP) is a resort town and there are a lot of restaurants and bars at least on my 15 minute walk. I ate at a local hole-in-the-wall place. There was a cut up meat dish that looked like beef but the owner kept saying "lun"? I had some over rice (big surprise there), and a coke for 48 cents!! After chewing for a while, I think it was lung! I probably won't order it again

Good news! My room was not booked so I'm still here. The trip to Honda Bay was fun with a great bunch of travelers. There were Koreans, Russians, Filipinos and two Americans. There was snorkeling, swimming and a great lunch. The coral is beat up some with the number of people swimming over it but it is still OK.

This area has a strict, enforced anti-litter law and the streets and beach are very clean. We could use that in the States!

The boats are all sizes but they always have outriggers attached.



A lost native!

Tomorrow I hope to go on the Underground river trip.

Underground River

This area is famous for it's cave system. It's about 5 miles long and is a tourist mecca for the first mile.

The trip is in a 10 person wooden canoe with outriggers. The guide in the back paddles the entire way. I sat in the front so I got to use the spotlight. It was attached to a car battery at my feet.



The cave is freshwater away from the ocean and is home to bats and swallows. We were advised to keep our mouths closed when looking up. Life jackets and helmets were worn.

Getting there was difficult as I had to be picked up at 5am. There was a Fun Run in town at 5am so many of the streets were blocked off. We finally got out of town and drove an hour when we stopped for breakfast. It was a rice porridge with a hard boiled egg floating in it. Most cheaper meals have an egg in them somewhere as a protein source, I guess.



Sabang, the town by the Underground River, was filled with tourists. I foolishly stopped to buy a bracelet and started a feeding frenzy of vendors. I had 8 around me at one time. After the river trip we walked back on a trail past some Monitor lizards to where lunch was served at 10:15am. It was the usual BIG lunch with rice, three kinds of meat, and spinach? The meats are often very fatty and I became close personal friends with four orange cats who sat patiently at my feet waiting for the next fat package from Heaven!

Most everyone on the trip fell asleep on the way back. We had the same group of Koreans and Filipinos. The Russians and other American left. I'm sure I'm on everyone's camera since I posed with nearly everyone.

I ate supper at a local Vietnamese place and had Po soup, a pork sandwich and a Pepsi for \$1.10 More Animal Planet on TV and then to bed.



Sunday, January 22, 2012

Irawan and Butterfly Farm

Today I thought I would visit the Crocodile Farm near Irawan, then the Butterfly Farm on the way back. One can take the City Tour for \$25 or public transportation for \$2. Guess which one I took? The Jeepneys are like covered pickup trucks with 10 ft beds. There are bench seats along the length of the bed. If you feel the need for human contact, a jeepney is the place to find it. There were 23 people in mine but some were infants or tots so it wasn't bad although I got my share of contact.

The roads here are bad but they are working on them all the time. They concrete a 300 yard stretch every now and then. The rest of the road is stones and dirt. A lot of the riders put hankies over their nose and mouth to reduce the dust,

After 45 minutes and 60 cents, we got to the crocodile farm. CLOSED!! Chinese New Year? or Mondays? I stayed on the jeepney and got off at the butterfly farm. It is fantastic with hundreds of flowers and butterflies. They also had other insects, arthropods and a snake. The scorpions did have intact stingers! It was the best \$1 I've spent today. I walked to the end of the road to catch the jeepney and stopped for a Coke. Cold drinks hit the spot after walking in the sun. I chatted with the owners for a while and watched three cigarette sales.

(They are sold one at a time) I jumped back on a full jeepney and got back into town for a late lunch. Maybe shopping in the afternoon? I bought some raw cashews yesterday that aren't bad but I think I prefer them roasted.



Tuesday, January 24, 2012

Crocodile Farm

Well now I know where it is, it was easy to get to without worries. Like am I on the right bus? Will I see it before we pass it?

I'm still fighting a dry cough that is VERY annoying. I've tried Robitussin, Vicks Formula 44 and some fizzy powder a druggist gave me. It gave me the runs and it sort of worked on my cough; I was AFRAID to cough.

I picked up my laundry, returned it to my room and set out to the farm. If you sit behind the driver in the open bed and cab, you pass the money from the passengers in the back to the driver and the change back to the right person. The driver makes change while dodging trikes, busses and potholes. The driver went out of his route to take me to the Crocodile Farm.

There are two types of crocks here freshwater and saltwater. The freshwater ones are smaller nine feet max and not considered dangerous. Salties can get to 22 feet and are considered dangerous. The farm raises both kinds for ecological reasons and meat. They really promote that aspect of the farm. There are other animals there all in dirty cluttered cages. Down the road a little was a penitentiary that you could visit and chat with the inmates. I passed on it.



Manila Again

Leaving Puerto Princesa was exciting since my 1pm flight really was 10am. I caught my mistake at 9am and hustled to the airport. I did make it in time. We flew out on an Airbus (450 seats?) that was full. The airline still serves peanuts but only water and coffee to drink but it's only an hour flight. My cab driver again didn't know where my hotel was but with the use of a map and a lot of driving, we found it. Lunch was at SevenEleven where I tried a pork kabob, two bowls of rice and a drink for \$2. Barely worth it. The Security Guard there also bussed the table and even mopped the floor using a mop one-handed. This was in uniform and armed. All big stores have guards at the door and check packages and pat you down if necessary. Are we getting close to that yet? There are separate lines for male and female. Many banks have a guard

near the ATM, sometimes with a shotgun. I've only seen an AK-47 a couple of times but it does get your attention.

There is some begging on the street and there are homeless people sleeping on cardboard on the side streets. Venders are always hawking jewelry, coins, or Viagra pills. I'm close to the Red Light district so I must be in need, right?

I went to the local mall which would do well in the US. Clean, well-stocked, and guarded. The Supermarket part was larger than most of our Giant Eagles. The pet food aisle was smaller though. I bought some tangerines for about 50 cents each. Bananas were more expensive than at home. No pictures from yesterday so I will recycle a few.

Wednesday, January 25, 2012

Chinatown

Manila has a vibrant Chinatown and not so vibrant cemetery. The Chinese are the business people and seem to be the richest part of society. Their cemetery has magnificent mausoleums and monuments to fallen soldiers. The Chinese fought against the Japanese during WW2 and lost many fighters. I took a cab to



Chinatown and walked around. There were gold shops, fruit stands, booksellers with Feng Shui books and "good luck" stores. New Year has just past and you need to increase your luck for 2012!

After Chinatown, I got a tricycle and went to the Chinese Cemetery. We got lost again (maybe it's me?) but finally found it. My driver was a woman and the only one I've seen. She had her 5 year old daughter on the motorcycle in front of her.

NO ONE wears helmets here! Her trike was interesting since it was powered by a 6 HP lawn mower engine. She started it with a pull recoil cord and there were no gears, only a clutch and rear brake. I tipped extra since we had such a hard time finding the entrance to the cemetery. It was a warren of streets.



The cemetery is 220 acres and I was told you PROBABLY should have a guide but the first guide wanted \$12. The second, about 15 minutes later told me about the wild dogs attacking LONE

tourists. His offer was \$9. I had already seen 5 of the big 10 by myself so it was me and the wild dogs. The oldest crypt has a turtle in front since they are symbols of long life.

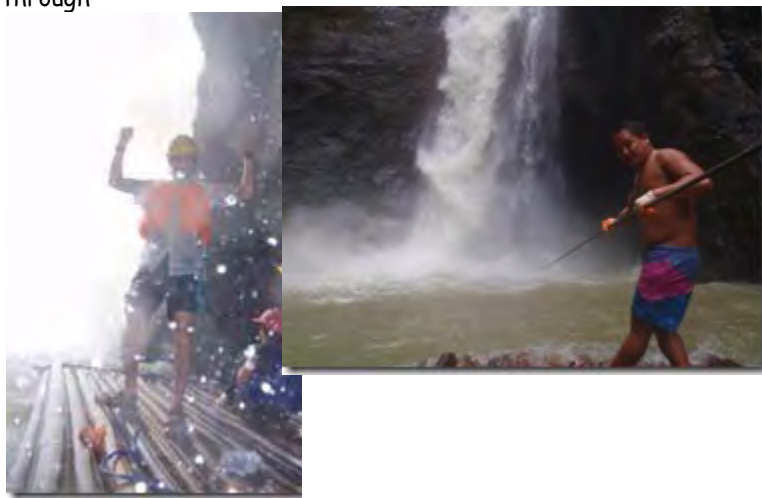
The dogs must know I'm used to big dogs so they left me alone. I found a taxi back to my hotel and treated myself to a better lunch. I discovered a Dim Sum place and had some "meatball" dim sum, soup, rice and lemonade for about \$5. Quite good! The couple next to me were at a table with a gas hot plate in the center (mine had one too). The waiter brought a 1 gallon stainless steel bowl filled halfway with water. The diners added doughballs, sliced beef, and two types of leafy veggies. There was something fried and puffy on the side and a BIG bowl of rice. They ate a long time and took some home too. Tomorrow a two hour bus ride to a bamboo raft ride under a waterfall.

Friday, January 27, 2012

Pagsanjan Gorge and Whitewater

I took a pricey day trip (\$120) for some whitewater fun. My driver showed up on time and drove me (alone!) in his A/C car for 2.5 hours to the put in at a resort. I then got in a VERY tippy 19ft, 30" wide, semi-round bottomed canoe. My two man crew paddled up river to the first of many rapids and pushed off of rocks and boulders. They had to get out and drag the boat at times. I've often said that I am comfortable in most boats in most conditions but I was uncomfortable today. The boat would lurch back and forth as each guy scootered off a rock. Water was at the gunnels often and since I didn't have a paddle, I couldn't brace! For those that have paddled the Yough, it made Eddyturn look like the Doldrums. We passed a fine waterfall and continued dragging over rocks and pipe strainers. The pipes were to allow to boat to slide more easily but they were real strainers.

We got to the second big waterfall (technical term -doozie) There was a bamboo raft in the pool below and two guys pulled a small group through the edge of the waterfall to the cave behind. needless to say, everything was soaked! The trip back downriver was the least stressful as the two boatmen did a great job of guiding the boat through



class 3 rapids using a lot of draw and cross-draw strokes. I ate lunch at the resort and my personal driver took me back to my hotel. I could get used to being rich and pampered!

This will be my last blog for a while since I'm flying home tomorrow. Marcia and I are going to Ecuador in the middle of February and I might blog if I have time. I hope you enjoyed my travels.

Chuck

March				
3/3	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4-6:00 PM		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
3/4,11,18,25	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 9-11:00 AM		Doug Lyons	330-402-6909
3/10,17,24,31	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3-5:00 PM		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
3/10, 11	(2) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
3/13	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
3/25	(1) Vermilion River Cleanup (OH)	SK/FW	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
3/31-4/1	WV Class V Creeking	>30	John Garcia Brent Laubaugh	216-210-7544 724-272-6944
April				
4/1	(1) Vermilion Race (OH) - Alternate Date 4/15	SK/FW	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
4/6 - 13	(4) Southern Rivers Trip - Map - Detail map TN-NC-GA	22-32	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
4/7, 8	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)		Mary Modesitt	540-460-4008
4/10	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
4/14,15	14th annual Webster WW Weekend (WV)		Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
4/14, 15	(5) Middle Fork & Tygart (WV)	29	John Kobak	440-871-1758 440-554-1383
4/14	(1) Grand River (OH)	SK/FW	Carl Kudrna	440-835-5744
4/14	(2) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
4/15	(1) Little Beaver (OH)	SK/FW	Doug Lyons	330-402-6909
4/21, 22	(2) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Doug Lyons	740-317-7007
4/21	(3) Cuyahoga River, Lower Gorge (OH)	20	Chris Kiehl	330-869-6549
4/21	(1) Grand River Race - Alternate Date 4/28	SK/FW	Brian Davidson	800-669-9226
4/21, 22	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)		Mary Modesitt	540-460-4008
4/28	(3) Cuyahoga River, Lower Gorge & Boater-X Race (OH)	20	Corey Spoores	419-308-1625
4/28, 29	WV Class V Creeking	>32	John Garcia Brent Laubaugh	216-210-7544 724-272-6944
4/29	(5) Cheat River Race Clinic (WV)	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541

The Medical Minute: Avoiding two winter weather-related problems

Monday, January 16, 2012

Reprinted from "Penn State Live"...

Just a reminder of the signs of frostbite and hypothermia as winter boating has started!

By Kent Harkey and Chris DeFlitch

Though it may not have felt like winter until recently, it is that time of year when environmental exposures to the cold weather will be causing many problems for people. Here are some tips for preventing and safely treating two common winter weather-related problems -- frost bite of the extremities and hypothermia.

Frost bite is a common cold-induced phenomenon caused by ice crystal formation in tissues, causing direct damage or by lack of oxygen to the cold tissue. Extremities like hands and feet are at highest risk because with exposure to cold temperatures, those extremities don't receive as much warm blood flow as the central part of your body that houses important organs like the heart and lungs. In direct damage, ice crystals form in the tissues and kill the tissue. When an area is re-warmed, returning blood encounters injured blood vessels and small clots form. This sets off a complicated chain reaction of inflammation.

Frostbite of the extremities is described in three severity levels. First degree consists of areas of redness that are painful, burning, itching, or tingling and is completely reversible with re-warming. In second degree frostbite, blisters associated with decrease skin sensation occur on the skin. Third degree represents damage to all layers of tissue. Third degree is irreversible cell tissue death and is associated with loss of sensation and black discoloration.

When treating frost bite, get to a warm environment and remove wet clothing. Rewarm the tissue gradually, avoiding high temperature water or heaters. Pain is common on rewarming and can last for days or weeks. Seek medical attention for second- and third-degree frostbite. The extent of damage is often hard to discern until rewarming is completed. Cold tissue should be rewarmed and stay warm. Any repeated cycle of freezing, rewarming, and refreezing can be more dangerous than lower degrees of the frostbite itself.

Hypothermia consists of a core body temperature less than 95 degrees Fahrenheit. Frequently related to prolonged cold environmental exposure, some brief submersions in cold water can precipitate hypothermia. Signs and symptoms of hypothermia include numbness, stiffness of extremities, clumsiness, confusion, amnesia, shivering and fatigue. In severe hypothermia, your body's protective mechanism of shivering will stop, which is a late and ominous sign.

If a person has been exposed to cold water and is exhibiting signs and symptoms of hypothermia, it is important, similar to frostbite treatment, to remove wet clothing and place the person in a warm environment, cover him with blankets and seek medical attention.

One special consideration for everyone to be aware of is being trapped inside during freezing temperatures. In this scenario, it is important to remain inside. Opening doors can cause heat loss. If trapped in a car, run your vehicle 10 minutes for every hour to provide heat and use interior material for insulation. If you are running the car, first make sure the exhaust pipe is clear at the back of the car to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning. Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless gas, and poisoning can manifest as headache, confusion and lethargy leading to death in severe cases. Similarly, using portable propane gas heaters in enclosed spaces, including homes, causes similar risk for CO exposure.

Frostbite and hypothermia can be largely avoided by wearing appropriate cold weather clothing when outside for long time periods, such as to shovel snow or engage in winter sports. Choose waterproof or water-repellant clothes and footwear: Wetness accelerates the cool down of your skin and body temperature. Limiting the amount of time you are outside during extreme cold snaps also helps reduce your risk for developing frostbite and exposure. To prepare for unexpected exposures to the cold, such as a stalled or otherwise immovable vehicle during bad weather, plan ahead by having an extra blanket or two, warm socks and gloves, and a hat stored in your vehicle.

Kent Harkey is an emergency medicine resident at Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center. Chris DeFlitch is vice chair for the Department of Emergency Medicine and Chief Medical Information Officer for Penn State Hershey.



44th Annual Vermilion River Race

Fellow club members: Race day will soon be here and we need a few more volunteers for safety, food service, and one for registration. Please let me know if you can come out and help. If several people do a small part the whole thing goes smoothly. Give me a call or email and we will find you a job.

The race poster is available and can be downloaded and/or printed from this newsletter. If you know of a good place to post one please do so and let me know the locations so I can compile a list for next year.

Thank you to all who have offered your help and to those of you who come out and support our club's event.

If the current weather trends hold we will have a nice level for the race. Also, we have the cleanup Mar 25th. We will probably meet at 9:00 at Shoeffle Garden in Birmingham, set up, run shuttle and hit the water by 10:00. Last year we had a good turnout and a good time on the river. The river level and the weather were perfect. Unfortunately by race day the water level had dropped.

The most important job of all is racing. Hope to see you there.

For race info, check the KHCC website or call/email:

Eugene Baker, 440-320-4490, u1meangene@gmail.com.

The links to the rules, application in PDF format, and map are online at:

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

You can also register online using paypal at this link.

Keelhauler members get a \$2 discount!

Please print and post this following poster!!!

Keel-Haulers 44th. Annual **VERMILION RIVER RACE**

*'One of the oldest Canoe and Kayak
races of its kind in the country.'*

Sunday, April 1st. 2012
high water backup date, April 15th.



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 boat registration is up-to-date. Water level is critical, the race will only be held on this section of the river if the USGS Gauge is between 3.0 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 15, 2012**

For the Official Rules & Regulations and Online Registration
go to: **keelhauers.org**



The event is sanctioned by the:
United States Canoe Association



2012 Club Officers

President:	Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
VP:	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
Secretary:	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
Treasurer:	Joe Marksz	216-281-1517

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

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

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

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

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

KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

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

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the April issue of the newsletter is 3/22/12. 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.
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March, 2012



Keelhauler's Ka-news APRIL, 2012



**Next Club Meeting is
Tuesday, April 10th at the
Middleburg Hts Community Center
16000 E. Bagley Rd**

Doors open at 7:00 PM, meeting starts about 8:00PM,
followed by refreshments.

Program: To be Announced

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

All meetings are open to guests.

Invite a prospective member!

Message from the President By Michael Duvall

VERMILION RACE APRIL 1ST

Yes, the Vermilion race is April 1st. Eugene Baker is the Race Chair and has been working hard to make this event one of the best ever. For all that helped with distribution of Dennis Dukeman's great poster, river clean-up and all the pre-registration, thank you very much. The next news letter will have the results. Remember Ohio State Watercraft Registration is required.

Well it is time to put the skis away until next winter and get ready for kayaking. Test the float bags and put them back in your boat. Get out the throw rope and practice a few times so will you be ready for this kayak season. How is that first aid kit, have you opened it to see in good shape or is it a soggy mess after sitting around all winter? Make sure all your equipment is in good shape before you get to the river. April has great trips for all levels of kayaking. Southern Rivers to help you step up to Class IV. Middle Fork and Tygart trip combines creeking and big water. For those kayakers that want to start the year with something easier there is the Grand River and Little Beaver trips.

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

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

KHCC Minutes for March 2012 meeting from Pat Guzowski

Visitors/Guests:

Aaron Thomas from Concord. Interested in learning about all types of paddling.

Conservation:

As part of the KHCC conservation donations for 2012, a special one time expense was used to make a donation to the new take out for the Upper Yough.

Safety:

Chuck Singer reminded the membership to be prepared for cold water even though the air temps have been so warm this spring.

Library:

Pat G. reminded the membership to return KHCC Library materials ASAP after using them. Rand McFarland donated The Canoe Movie DVD to the library.

Vermilion race:

Eugene Baker stated that he still needs volunteers to act as safety at the bridges over the course. Contact Eugene if you are able to help out. The race is April 1.

Thanks to Dennis Dukeman for his work on the promotional posters for the race.

Cuyahoga race (informal):

An informal race is being organised by Corey Spoore on the Gorge section of the Cuyahoga River. To Kayak this section of the Cuyahoga, you will need a [special use permit](#) From the Summit County Metro Parks. The race is to be held April 28th at noon. Check the KHCC trip schedule for details.

Trip Reports:

Michael Duvall reported on a Slippery Rock trip held the previous weekend which was attended by about 15 paddlers. The level was about 1.75 feet. Marie made her first run of the Upper Slip!

New Business:

We will have to find an alternate location from Middleburg for the May meeting. Decision will be finalized at the April meeting.

Program:

Dennis Dukeman presented Kadooma featuring Hendri Coetzee, Ben Stookesberry, and Chris Korbolic.

Good Night Irene and Good Bye By Don Winton

Our son Phil and I had been planning a wilderness Kayak camping trip for two months. We have great friends who own 80 acres of wilderness property in the southern Adirondacks between Lake George and Lake Champlain on the NY/VT border so what better place to go for it.

Between our schedules we chose five days around the end of August to give it a go. Our plan was to spend a day paddling Lake George using the Washington County Park as a put-in. Then the next day heading up to the Vermont side of Champlain to Button Bay and paddling the narrows over to the cliffs on the New York side, exploring the east side of Champlain and back. Then spending the last day touring over to Killington, Woodstock and Quichee for a bit of Vermont wine browsing.

We left Chardon early on Friday, August 26 at 7:30 a.m. and were at the campsite by 3:30 p.m. We knew all about Irene but said this is the only time slot we have so let's do it, hoping that the storm would head out to sea - besides we were almost 200 miles inland.

The weather was beautiful and we had camp set up in an hour complete with a 10 x 10' **GO Browns** canopy with the tent under it in case the rain got really rough. We had a dinner of steak, beans and veggies, copious drinks, great conversation and a blazing fire. I had planned four great camp meals and had a genuine mess tent set up for the works.

Our campsite was in a large meadow surrounded by a tall thick forest but as the night progressed we ended up with what was a dark skies planetarium overhead complete with at

least a dozen shooting stars. We obviously went to our tent happy campers.



Saturday we arose and had a mess of coffee, juice and bacon and eggs and got off to Lake George in beautiful weather paddling in water clear to 30' and gorgeous scenery. It was a great paddle and great company. I'm 75 and our son is 51. There are only so many more experience like that that we might hope for.

After the paddle we pitched the boats up on the Kia Sportage and decided to tour up to Ticonderoga and the Fort. We found a great bar in Ticonderoga at the Burleigh Hotel and ended up with a Reuben and a "poultry and pig" club with applewood bacon and a pair of Lake Placid UBU Ales. Not bad for a great paddling day. We headed back to the camp prepped for another great night. The meal I had planned for the night was a steal from my major kayaking adventure of 16 days paddling the Scoresbysund in Greenland in 1998 with Mountain Travel/Sobek. Simple hearty meal.

Wacky Mac Pasta
Broccoli Cheddar Soup Mix
Vienna sausage

Boil the pasta to liking then pour off about a third of the water. Add the soup mix and Vienna sausage and simmer for a while till you have a nice consistency and serve. Easy 15-20 minutes total and it's hearty. Add a glass of two of white wine while you're eating and you are there.

We stayed up late but with Irene moving in we had no stars. Phil had the latest smart phone device with all the weather graphics and he said, "Dad, I think we're in trouble - Irene is headed right over us." We hit the sack about midnight and shortly what started as a pitter-pat turned into an upturned bucket. Then at about 3 a.m. the wind started blowing out of control and we realized what a safety break the forest was. We could hear the wind blowing up on top of the mountain like a locomotive. On top it must have been 85 mph but we were sheltered at 55-60 mph - if that's what you call shelter. To make a long story short, we were hunkered in the tent for 15 hours.

Now this all sounds like just some sort of challenging adventure but hark!! Wait, there is more. While Phil and I are enjoying Saturday evening we received a call from Mom. She had been to a friend's birthday party in the afternoon for about three hours and when she arrived home, the water inlet pipe to the first floor bathroom toilet had burst and the bathroom, part of the bedroom and hallway were soaked and pouring water in to my basement workshop which had three inches of water on the floor. I am a serious woodworker and ceramicist, so you can imagine what three inches of water filled with clay dust and wood chips looks like.

Now Mom is not a real physical person but she has a quick mind like a steel trap. She got our emergency plumber out quickly to fix the burst pipe and fix the toilet. He recommended a clean-up crew that got to our house within an hour and worked till after midnight vacuuming out the water. Then they returned the next day to haul out debris and sanitize the floor and leave fans for three days to dry the floors and walls. Now, Phil and I are in the tent pinned down by what ended up to be 13" of rain in 15 hours saying, "This is ridiculous - we are getting all this rain but Mom is the one getting flooded out." There ain't no justice.

But that's not all - Phil amidst the storm got up to relieve himself and wanted to quickly grab something out of the car and he yelled, "Dad where are the keys?" and I said "there in the car." He said "sorry, the car's locked!" I yelled, "Get back in here and we'll deal with it later" (In my mind taking the ax and smashing a window.

When dawn broke, there was no change in the storm and in fact Irene was almost stalled out with the storm center directly over our heads. We had no choice but to eat power bars and drink water when I was looking forward to pancakes with bacon and eggs and steaming coffee.

Eventually the wind slackened and Phil got out checking the tent. He said, "Hey Dad, guess that," the passenger side window is open an inch and a half." I envisioned the car full of water but fortunately the open window was on the leeward side. Phil, being an avid fisherman had one pole under the camp table which he used to fish the keys off the smart stick where they hung on a lanyard - we were saved.

About 2:30 in the afternoon we realized, that although our campsite was on dead level ground and under a canopy that the earth was so saturated that we were getting totally soaked - tent, sleeping bags, ground cloth, Thermarest and all. At that point we agreed to abandon camp, pack up a few things and would return when the storm vamoosed. We headed into Vermont on route 4 to Rutland 25 miles away and found a Roadway Inn and put on dry clothes. But again another glitch - Rutland was out of power. Undaunted, we had to find some food (we had plenty in the car but the Peak stove was back at camp). We trolled downtown Rutland and found a biker bar with no lights but open. It was about 6:45 p.m. and the doll running the joint

was about to close with no power but amazingly the power came on and she stayed open, with us realizing we were in the company of some of Vermont's finest biking grits. The kitchen was closed so we feasted on Yuengling and popcorn. About 9 p.m. we called it a day, headed back to the motel and turned in.

We awoke to a cloudless sky and growling stomachs, checked out and headed for the nearest McDonalds for protein and a chance to make a plan. We decided that with the flooding, that the long haul up to Button Bay would not work so the land trip to Killington, Woodstock and Quichee was our plan. Scratch that - the Safety Director for Rutland City was at the McDonalds getting coffee and he said, "you ain't going nowhere, all roads north, south and east are washed out." A mountain man from the Killington ski area was getting his coffee too and said he couldn't get to work because the access road to the mountain was closed and the dozen or so heavy trucks they had up at the base lodge that could have been used to help folks and the highway crews were stranded.

The only road open to us was to head west back over Rt. 4 to Whitehall and camp which we did. The water over the access road to the campsite was rising so we had to make it fast. When we got to the campsite it was a complete blow-down with our **GO Browns** canopy twisted wreckage and parts of our tent in the woods. We realized we could not get the twisted canopy in the car so we broke open the tool kit and Phil took it apart while I emptied the tent and got everything laid out in the sun to dry.



After three hours of drying, salvaging and packing, the car was full and boats on top. I said, "Phil we still have another day, so let's make the best of it - we're going to Saratoga Springs and have some fun." The day was beautiful and so was Saratoga Springs. It was the last week of race season and the town was full of people having fun. The biggest race of the season "The Traverse" had taken place on Saturday and was won by "Stay Thirsty." We found a couple of wine bars and a great restaurant and we trolled the streets enjoying the activity. We found a motel right on the main drag at a great rate and the restaurant across the

street, Lillian's, served super southern cooking and there was an elderly, distinguished black gentleman by the front door picking blues tunes on a banjo. Couldn't have been better. What a day.

The next morning we arose, had a serious breakfast and headed west back to Chardon. The last obstacle was that the NY Thruway was closed to flooding all the way to almost Utica, but we enjoyed the back roads and small towns on our detour.

As a final note, Mom, with her great administrative and managerial skills had supervised the clean-up crew and when we got home the carpeting was almost dry and my workshop was cleaner than it had been in years - bless. her.

So - we did not end up with our intended kayaking expedition but rather a weather adventure and a father/son hoot to boot. So Irene, Good Night and Good Bye.

A Winter Wonderland

By Marty Cooperman

Fellows,

Saturday was the perfect winter day.

Snow squalls, strong wind gusts and cold.

Some screwball named Eugene actually posted a trip on the Vermilion River.

Can you believe that? Was this a joke?

So I said yes, and off we went.

I arrive in Vermilion. Eugene lives near the river and right in town. He knows the river intimately.

First Eugene plied me with half a dozen cups of coffee at his house. This would have dire consequences later.

Because later we'd be in a borrowed canoe with half a dozen layers of neoprene and fabric covering our nether reaches.

And those nether reaches had to see daylight in order to perform their proper function. The neoprene and assorted fabrics are not like your basic 'comfort fit' blue jeans. They grip like a python. And worse, covering our hands are more neoprene in the guise of gloves. Try using neoprene to pry off neoprene and you'll have a good lesson in the art of desperate frustration.

To end the suspense, we got the job done, but it wasn't worth repeating. And we had to repeat it repeatedly...as we drifted down the Vermilion.

First we had to make a trip to Bob's house. Who is Bob, you ask? That's what I said. Apparently Bob is the fellow who owns the tandem canoe we're going to paddle. Bob also owns a house overlooking Lake Erie. It's a metal house, aluminum clad, with steel joists, a bank of solar panels on the roof and a cylindrical wind generator out his back yard, which faces

Lake Erie. Bob shows me his electronics alcove with batteries to store the energy generated by his devices, and his electrical usage meters, etc. Then he tells me that his wind generator can't pick up wind from the south, because the house blocks it. And can't pick up wind from the northwest because his tree blocks it, and can't pick up wind from the northeast because his neighbor's house blocks it. All he can use is a perfect 0-degrees on the compass north wind. So despite a fierce westerly wind, his wind generator is lazily rotating just enough to toast a slice of bread in about 3 days.

But Bob is an interesting guy, shows us all around the house, and most importantly, shows us the tandem canoe so we can finally leave and get out on the river. Our 10AM trip has now moved to noon.

After a long shuttle, we're finally at the start. As I head for the first of several bathroom breaks, Eugene deftly manages to get the canoe down a steep, muddy bank at a bridge in Wakeman. I can barely walk down without grabbing for tree branches. As Eugene put it: it's a class 4 put-in.

We're underway, with Eugene, the more experienced paddler, wisely in the stern, steering. There's not much in the way of wildlife. They're wisely hiding to keep out of the cold and wind. I've got my fancy winter hat on, the one I mentioned in a recent post denouncing Bill Heuser's callous and crass attitude towards small businesses. He's yet to atone publicly on these pages, but I sense he's gathering up a full head of remorse.

There's lots of little rapids caused both by rocks and by downed trees. Eugene deftly steers us around them.

I really like the bow position, mainly because it allows me to do a stroke I can only do from the bow: the bow crossdraw.

It's just like the ancient arrowed weapon, the crossbow.

Only different.

Eugene must be spending lots of perplexing moments in the stern wondering why the front of the canoe is suddenly swinging right or left for no apparent reason. There was a reason, Eugene. I like fooling around with that crossdraw. Be happy it wasn't a crossbow.

We go under bridges which Eugene wrongly identifies as this road or that, when in fact, we're nowhere near that road. At one point a tiny 2-lane bridge is identified as the Ohio Turnpike. My confidence in Eugene's intimate knowledge of the Vermilion is shaken. But I know we are going downstream. And if all else fails, we will at least find the end of the river, if not the shuttle vehicle, when we hit Lake Erie.

Somewhere south of Birmingham, where the April 1 Vermilion River race starts, we encounter our first tree completely blocking the river. It's a 3 foot in diameter cottonwood and

I suggest we paddle hard and break through. We portage instead. Maybe that was the better idea.

Eugene has lent me a pair of neoprene socks and booties so I can kneel in the canoe. The waterproof boots I brought are warm, but kneeling, the boot heels catch on the underside of the bow seat and would present a risk of entrapment should we capsize. The neoprene booties however are not waterproof. In the 30 degree weather my wet feet are getting cold. My knees are also hurting. Especially my left knee which has a 2-year old torn meniscus (see Google). I seem to remember my orthopedic surgeon cautioning me against bending my knee sharply back. At yet another pee and neoprene wrestling break, I swap back into my waterproof Chota boots and decide to sit on the front seat instead of kneel. I know kneeling is more stable but right now I'd like to find out if my feet are going to survive. Besides, we haven't even come close to capsizing. No doubt due to my crossdraws.

The latter part of the river has some wonderful overhanging shale cliffs with big icicles hanging down. It looks tempting to paddle right up along side the cliffs but Eugene warns me that last year a fellow was hit and hurt by falling blocks of shale. Every once in a while we do a slick turn around a boulder and I congratulate myself on my fine bow paddling skills. Then Eugene reminds me there is another 14 feet of boat behind me that also needs to make the turn. I was wondering what was back there.

At long last, the little bridge where we've parked the shuttle vehicle comes into view. And it's only a few minutes until the boat is cleared of water, the gear packed away and the canoe secured on the roof rack, ready for it's trip back home to Bob. Not so bad being out on the river in winter. I think the sun might have come out momentarily somewhere back there.

The only puzzle still to be solved is how to keep our feet warm. Other than that, it was a great way to spend a winter's day.

Boater X Outing

By Corey Spoore

Saturday April 28 at High Noon there is an organized paddle scheduled for the Cuyahoga River: Gorge section. This is a come out and play event. If we have enough paddles there will be a boater X race. Please meet for this organized paddle at the Chuckery Take Out. Once we collect everyone, Shuttle will then be set up. Please bring your Whitewater Kayak or Whitewater Canoe only **No Rec Boats**. The winner of the Boater X race gets bragging rights for next year, and quite possibly some free beer...

Please review the American Whitewater website so you know what the river has to offer.

<http://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/River/detail/id/1467/>

Please! Get a permit from the metro parks for the **season**. You can find instructions on how to fill this out under the "Conservation" tab on the Keel Haulers web page. This link will send you to the message board topic "local boating" for more discussion.

<http://keelhauler.org/phpBB/viewtopic.php?f=2&t=1465>

Look to the message board for any additional info as it gets closer and to the event on Facebook found below.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/184227171693252/>

Help Secure a Permanent Upper Yough Takeout

A generous land donation has put a permanent, convenient takeout for the Upper Yough within paddlers' reach. However, donations are needed to fully fund this project. American Whitewater is calling on all paddlers to make donations, big and small to secure this access point.

Donate

1. Fill out the donate form at <https://americanwhitewater.org/donate>
2. Under "Additional Comments / In Honor Of" enter "Upper Yough Parking"

It's time for Upper Yough paddlers to support the town!

You can double the value of your donation by acting now. American Whitewater and several past and present board members have created a \$2000 fund to match the first \$2000 of individual donations. The Coastal Canoeists have put up \$1500 to match donations from paddling clubs. Our goal is \$12,000, which will pay for the culvert and entryway off Route 742, a fence at the edge of the parking lot along Church Street, and a boater change area at the far end of the parking lot.

The Keel-Haulers board has agreed to donate \$500 from the club to help get the fund rolling. Our club makes extensive use of the Upper Yough and this take-out and change room will be a welcome improvement.

However your help is also requested. If you use the put-in and now the new proposed take-out I would expect its worth as much as a Lower Yough permit every time you visit Ohiopyle. So send in a donation.

Conservation Donations

By Joe Marks

Here's a list of the organizations that we have given financial support to so far this year. I've included their website addresses so that members can learn more about what they are doing for our community and perhaps understand why we decided to lend a hand in their efforts. If you have any comments about our current list or any suggestions for our Club's future donations please don't hesitate to let David Hill or any of us know. You can also come to any Club Meeting to present your ideas.

Regards,

Joe Marks

Treasurer

American Whitewater: \$625

<http://americanwhitewater.org/>

Friends of the Cheat: \$500

<http://cheat.org/>

UY Parking Fund: \$500 http://americanwhitewater.org/content/Wiki/aw:fundraisers:friendsville_upper_yough_parking_fund

Friends of the Crooked River: \$300

<http://www.cuyahogariver.net/>

American Rivers: \$100

<http://www.americanrivers.org/>

Grand Canyon Private Boaters: \$150

<http://www.gcpba.org/>

West Virginia Rivers Coalition: \$200

<http://www.wvrivers.org/>

River Network: \$100

<http://www.rivernetwork.org/>

Nature Conservancy: \$150

<http://www.nature.org/ourinitiatives/regions/northamerica/unitedstates/ohio/index.htm>

April				
4/1	(1) Vermilion Race (OH) - Alternate Date 4/15	SK/FW	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
4/6 - 13	(4) Southern Rivers Trip - Map - Detail map TN-NC-GA	22-32	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
4/7, 8	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)		Mary Modesitt	540-460-4008
4/10	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
4/14,15	14th annual Webster WW Weekend (WV)		Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
4/14, 15	(5) Middle Fork & Tygart (WV)	29	John Kobak	440-871-1758 440-554-1383
4/14	(1) Grand River (OH)	SK/FW	Carl Kudrna	440-835-5744
4/14	(2) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
4/15	(1) Little Beaver (OH)	SK/FW	Doug Lyons	330-402-6909
4/21, 22	(2) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Doug Lyons	740-317-7007
4/21	(3) Cuyahoga River, Lower Gorge (OH)	20	Chris Kiehl	330-869-6549
4/21	(1) Grand River Race - Alternate Date 4/28	SK/FW	Brian Davidson	800-669-9226
4/21, 22	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)		Mary Modesitt	540-460-4008
4/28	(3) Cuyahoga River, Lower Gorge & Boater-X Race (OH)	20	Corey Spoores	419-308-1625
4/28, 29	WV Class V Creeking	>32	John Garcia Brent Laubaugh	216-210-7544 724-272-6944
4/29	(5) Cheat River Race Clinic (WV)	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
May				
5/4	Cheat Mass-Occurrence Team Race (WV)	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
5/4,5	Upper Yough (MD) or Big Sandy or Tygart (WV)	32	John Kobak	440-871-1758 440-554-1383
5/5	Cheat Fest Weekend (WV)	18-26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
5/6	(3) Cheat Narrows or (5) Canyon(WV)	18	Phil/Jen Raber	740-498-7063
5/8	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
5/12,13	(5) Cheat Canyon or Cranberry or Upper Meadow (WV)	26	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
5/11-13	Black Moose Fest (NY)		Matt Muir	585-421-9826
5/19,20	(5) Intro to the Cheat Canyon (WV)	26	Jim Hunt	330-335-5203
5/19, 20	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)		Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
5/18-20	(4) Stonycreek Rendezvous (PA)	21	Bud Chavez	513-703-4108
5/19,20	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
5/19,20	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
5/19, 20	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Ann Corey	330-869-6549
5/25,26	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	



2012 Club Officers

President:	Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
VP:	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
Secretary:	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
Treasurer:	Joe Marksz	216-281-1517

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

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

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

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

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

KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

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

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the May issue of the newsletter is 4/22/12. 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**](mailto:peetzaguy@aol.com)
April, 2012



Keelhauler's Ka-news MAY, 2012



Next Club Meeting is Tuesday, May 8th.

at Westlake Porter Library
27333 Center Ridge Rd

Doors open at 7:00 PM, meeting starts about 7:45 PM,
followed by refreshments.

Program: Photo Show

Chuck Singer's Winter trip to the Phillipines and to then on to Ecuador & the Galapagos. The presentation will show some WW 2 areas, exotic islands, an underground river and the weirdest boat trip he had ever experienced. The Ecuador trip is more laid back from the Andes to the Ocean. It's not National Geographic but it's not Survivorman either. Come prepared to laugh, cry or leave?

[Map to Westlake Library](#)

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

Message from the President By Michael Duvall

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

The Southern Rivers trip had some great weather and good water. We joined up with Carolina Canoe Club for runs on the Big Stony in VA, Doe in TN (see CCC trip report) and French Broad section 9 in NC. Then we joined Jeff Prycl, Jeff Maclin and TRPC for runs on the Nolichucky and Little in TN.

I hope everyone got out to paddle sometime in April because we had some awesome weather and May has lots of trips to look forward to.

Cheat River Festival is coming the first weekend in May. There will something for everyone, all levels of paddling as well as some great music. There is a down river race on Friday, but you can sign up for the race and paddle in a group if you don't want to race alone. There are also a couple of other Cheat River trips later in the month including Jim Hunt's Cheat Intro trip.

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

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

Be aware that in the summer we start having outdoor meetings. June is Wendy Park near Edgewater. July will be a pot-luck picnic at Silver Lake by Akron. In August we will have a party near the Yough on a Saturday after a day of paddling.

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

Swimfest on the Cheat

By Bill Layton

Date: April 28, 2012

Location: the mighty Cheat River

The group: me, Joe Marks, Cliff Wire, John Garcia, Dave Broer, John Kobak and thousands of extras

Operative quotation: "It was a typical day on the river." - William Nealy

[Note: Some background added for my friends far away.]

The forecast was rain and 45 degrees in Pittsburgh Saturday and sunny and 70 Sunday so naturally I decided to go do the Cheat [usually referred to as "the Mighty Cheat"] with friends Saturday. The Cheat is in Northern West Virginia. In comparison to the Lower Yough, the LY has 7 rapids of significance; the Cheat has 37. The typical rapid is 3x the length of a LY rapid. The Cheat is also long and committing-walking out involves bushwhacking thru Rhododendron thickets.

I left early and found one road washed out causing a long detour. Finally at Little Sandy's truckstop, I stopped to grab a cup of coffee and ran into some kayakers I knew. They asked me if I had come from the Cheat because there was, they heard, a rave going on all weekend at the Cheat takeout and there was no way to get in, park or get out once in. That's right they said a Rave- complete with dance party and ecstasy.

To those who don't know the Cheat. The take out is at the bottom of some of a long drive down some very bad, unpaved WV roads. It takes a 4WD [if rainy] with high ground clearance [generally always] to get in and out. Cheat fest is next weekend so the powers that be did some minor maintenance on the road-filling in the bigger holes- and the word got out fast apparently.

At the put in it was 40 and raining and the campers were just waking up. I got a call from Joe- he was at the takeout; there was a rave there and he had the last parking place there. While waiting for him to drop his van and get back, it started sleeting. [I had to think of Annelies and Astrid who were on the Ocoee that day and worried about sunburn.] I was thinking that I wish I'd brought my creekboat [like Annette suggested]. We put on and THE SUN CAME OUT!!! 45 and sunny is totally different from 45, overcast and sleeting. It was a good start.

We kept moving because it was too cold to stop. I had the honor of the first swim of the day. Maybe because I'm boating with a strained lower back [my excuse] I've gotten in

the [bad] habit of leaning my body to edge the boat instead of keeping centered and picking up a boat edge with my lower back muscles. The problem is if one leans one's body, sticks out a paddle to grab water for support and there is no water there. That's how I went over-upside down against the back deck, bonking rocks [thank goodness for a good helmet]. It seemed like I was under long, tried setting up and kept bonking rocks, tried rolling from whatever position I was in, tried waiting out the rapid and ended up swimming. After cleaning up the yard sale it was back in the boat and I was focused more on basic technique.

Everyone was having a good run - except for the swims but we were all old enough to have long ago abandoned the goal of perfection and were able to laugh about them at least. The second was at cue ball. It's a great surfing wave with 100' of funky, boily water below it. There it's best to roll right away or settle in to wait and wait and wait. Dave flipped in cue ball and tried rolling in the intermediate zone. He tried and tried and tried... and swam. Of course, when he swam, everyone else was on the rocks eating so by the time someone got into their boat and caught up with him.....

The one rapid where no one wants to flip or go in a hole, cyclotron, particle accelerator, recyclotron ... was almost a cluster%^&* for Joe and me. We entered 20' or so apart but I was after Joe who was in a creekboat. In a playboat I was hammering from the entrance and soon caught up with Joe who got stuck sideways on a small FU rock 5' above something really nasty. He got off an instant before I was about to hit him and there was a micro eddy in the stream we could both use to move across.

John G. had the honor of the third swim and it came in the funky eddyline runout and after at least 6 roll attempts. The usual followed clean-up of the yard sale, get back in the boat and start paddling to warm up...

The take out was rainy, muddy mess in full party mode. It turned out [to the best of my knowledge] that some genius in a Baltimore radio station heard about the take out and scheduled a Baltimore-radio-hosted rave there for the full weekend. I'm guessing that it was perhaps not a full on rave. However, it was a total zoo. The chaos and crowd was not exaggerated. It was definitely interesting. There was a mix of little, skinny club-goers with their pre-ripped jeans and tats and many fewer large kayakers with their orange drysuits and scars.

The shuttle took the usual hour and involved beer, chips, driving off the edge of the road twice, noticing a helmet left on the top of another van and so on. Actually, it was better than usual because no one threw up from carsickness.

When we parted, John Kobak said when he tells his wife there were 3 swims, she would ask if all 3 involved him. I said that my wife's first question to me always was "Did you swim?" and if my daughters are along she always follows up by asking them "Did Dad swim?"

All in all, even with 3 swims it was a great day with terrific people. The river gave me a beautiful day and a kayaking lesson. I accept both with appreciation.

2 of the Swimfest swimmers:



Dave B.



John G.

News from Your Friends at Friends of the Cheat

18th Annual Cheat River Festival Weekend, May 4th & 5th

Cheatfest is only 1 week away! Discount tickets are on sale through May 2nd at the FOC office in Kingwood, Little Sandy's Truck Stop in Bruceton Mills, and Black Bear Burritos, Blue Moose Café, and Mountain People's Co-op in Morgantown. Buy [online](#) today or stop by one of these locations to save \$5!

["Mass-Occurrence" Cheat Downriver Race, Friday, May 4th](#)

Download the early registration form or register the day of the race from 3:00-5:00pm at the Laurel Highlands Booth accessible through the main festival parking entrance off Route 26 just north of Albright. The mass start is scheduled for 5:20pm. All pre-registered racers receive a free tee and all racers receive free admission to the festival and post-race party perks.

[Cheat Fest 5K, Saturday, May 5th](#)

Early registration discount deadline is today! Register online, call FOC (304) 329-3621, or register the day of the race from 8:30-9:45am at the Preston County Club. The first 100 registered racers receive a free Cheat Fest tee and all racers receive free admission to the festival and post-race refreshments.

2012 Fest Highlights

Join FOC Friday night at 6:00pm at the festival site for a special pavilion dedication ceremony. We will celebrate the contributions of FOC benefactress Eloise Morgan Milne and officially dedicate the timber frame pavilion in her honor. Live music and refreshments to follow a short presentation.

[American Whitewater](#) will present its first "Friends of Whitewater" award to the Little Sandy Church of the Nazarene around 8pm Saturday night on the festival stage. The church has welcomed paddler access to Big Sandy Creek for many years and will be recognized for their hospitality.

The Kids' Area will once again be a happening place this year with piñata smashing every hour in the spirit of Cinco de Mayo! Kids can make a tie-dye with acid mine drainage and create puppets with recycled materials for all-night play in the Cheat River Theatre.

The Cheater's Consignment will be back again this year, "donate your wares and FOC will keep a share!" Bring your gently used outdoor goods to the fest and leave them on consignment with FOC (25% minimum donation). [Contact FOC](#) for details including early drop-off arrangements.

The music lineup is hot this year with everything from our good friends Lindsey & Ty, [Halftime String Band](#), and [Stewed Mulligan](#) to a [trio of cellos](#) and [crazy pack of brothers](#) from the flat lands of Ohio. Music starts at 1pm.

FOC is still in need of volunteers to assist with the event. If you can help, [fill out the volunteer form](#). Volunteers earn free entry to the fest, discount fest tees, and access to the popular hospitality area backstage with great food and fine beer from [Mountain State Brewery](#)!

We are counting down the days...rain or shine it will be a good time! See you there!

Easter in the Doe Gorge

Event Date: 04/07/2012

River/Location: Doe

Trip Skill: Advanced

Easter on the Doe Gorge or Revenge of the Paddle Snake or Visit to Goat Beach

On Saturday 4/7, a group of 7 paddlers took Rich Rulen's advice ("I know nothing about the Doe Gorge except the location of the takeout") and headed out to see what the Doe Gorge was all about. We had heard of its tendency to have a lot of wood, and to never trust a blind drop, which is good advice for any class IV creek. The Ohio contingent was led by Michael Duval, and included David Herron from Cincinnati and Jeff Cramer from Akron. The Carolina contingent included Brian McPherson, Jeff Dennie, Paul Scrutton, and Kent French. Michael had paddled the Doe Gorge a few years ago, but this was going to be a PFD for the other six of us.

We grabbed our first helping of river karma by shuttling another boater up to the put-in. That probably saved us 30 minutes of trying to find Bear Cage Road, which was tucked away as an almost U-turn to the left. The best way to find this road is to turn left exactly 6 miles from the Doe River bridge at the takeout.

As we began the run, the river gave us a feeling of being on the Nantahala. After $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, however, we got to a section of class III boogie water. What a great way to kick off a river. Bear Cage rapid at this level forced paddlers to pull their boats over the edge of a river-wide log on river left, drop into a small eddy, and catch the curling wave to drop into the bottom pool. Everyone that ran it came through cleanly, though the portage was not a bad idea. Getting trashed in the first rapid with an unclear line is not the way to start your day.

The AW site has 6 named rapids. Between most of these rapids, we found plenty of class III boogie water, plus some that would qualify as class IV due to the length of the rapid. I would NOT like to swim very long on this river....rapids are shallow, and the boogie water is fast-moving.

Toaster Slot at this level was kickin', but the slot itself sort of disappears with the higher water. The paddle snake managed to grab a paddle, which was quickly found in the pool below the rapid. This would be an omen for things to come. Bodysnatcher, on the other hand, has only one line (that we could figure out), and you WILL run this rapid. The portage would be epic, with cliffs on both sides of the river. Now that we've run it, we can say that its bark is worse than its bite. It's actually a fun run, including two boofs, a screaming S-turn, and a 5-foot ledge that requires a good boof to avoid the hole at the end. The best view ever was looking upriver

from the bottom, thinking "how did we get through that mess of rocks"? Overall, the rapid has about 20-30 foot of vertical drop.

Body Snatcher on the Doe River TN



After running such a great rapid, Brian decided that he would be getting out of his boat at the next beach. The beach, however, was patrolled by a goat. Though it appeared that he would just be visiting the petting zoo, Brian discovered that the goat was pretty protective of his territory. We all decided that shore leave was a BA-A-A-A-AD idea. The only damage, however, was to Brian's reputation.

Once we got through Bodysnatcher, Michael told us that the rest of the river was just run-out. I can't remember how many times David and I asked each other if we'd gotten to the run-out yet, having just run another class III rapid. In addition to the un-named rapids, Diagonal Ledges reminded me of Land of Holes on the Cheoah, Flagpole was vaguely similar to Triple Drop on Wilsons, and Schooner's Folly reminded me of CHAOS. Three people, three boats in the hole at the same time. Though it's not a bad swim (it's only 3 foot deep), you can't get out by yourself. It reminds me of a pothole. Now that we know better, you should run this river-left ledge by boofing the edge of the hole either left or right, or bouncing down the rock slide on river right to avoid the (w)hole thing. The paddle snake absconded with two paddles in this drop, which river karma allowed us to find about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile down the river. One paddle was able to be relayed back up to its owner on the shore. The other paddle was reunited to its owner after running a class III rapid with the only breakdown we had with us.

The level was around 750 cfs, which AW says is a primo level, and I think the entire group would agree with that assessment after the run. The notorious wood did not cause any problems. We had to portage a few logs, but all the rapids had clean lines. It was a great day on a great river, and we'd all go back for a second helping in the future.

Taken from Carolina Canoe Club Web Site

Additional Pictures of the Southern Rivers Trip by Michael Duvall



Dave Herron at Kayakers Ledge on the French Broad NC.



Jeff Cramer after running the Sinks of the Little River, TN



Michael Duvall running Elbow on the Little River TN.

Keelhauler's 44th Annual Vermilion River Race

By Eugene Baker

It is safe to say that while many racers prefer to paddle the traditional "White Water" course from Birmingham to Mill Hollow there are also many who prefer the low water alternate course which is deep, flat, and non hazardous to the craft. There those too who just want to race no matter where we race. The event held April 1st at the Vermilion Public Boat Ramp was a huge success. Lots of smiling faces, racers challenging and cheering each other on, helping each other with gear issues, and just good sportsmanship all the way around.

98 paddlers in 78 boats in 16 different classes competed and the competition was tough. In several classes race positions were only seconds apart. Weather was great except for a few brief sprinkles and it seemed that a good time was had by all.

There is a lot that goes into this race and the various crews worked together and did their jobs like well oiled machines. Some crew members drifted from one area to another as needed to lend a helping hand. They looked like they had been doing this together for years. In fact several of our volunteers have been part of this event for over 40 years.

At the Starting Line we had Hank Annable, John Reising, Carl Homberg, Sue Taft, and Steve and Mary Hill. Haden and Philip Thorne and Jim Botamer manned the Finish Line. Chuck Singer gave a brief talk on safety and Cliff Wire headed up boat inspection with the help of Pat Guzowski. Food service chairman Bob Bair was assisted by Cheryl, Lisa Dukeman, and Jan Baker. They fed the masses and still had 40-50 Italian Sausages left over. Come to the April meeting for Sausage Fest II. Judy Fordyce, Marie Blatnik, Chuck McDowell, and a few others handled the walk-in registrations. Dennis Dukeman paddled early and helped set the race buoys. Eric P., Mike Foley, Michael Duvall, and others which I cannot remember all the names helped out here and there as needed. And last but definitely not least Pam Poljak and John Kobak have been working for weeks on pre-registration and the associated computer program that tracks times and scores. If I forgot to mention anyone a do apologize because it was definitely a great group effort that made the setup, the race, the timing, and the awards presentation go so smoothly.

Thank you everyone!
Eugene

2012 Vermillion River Race Results

98 persons raced in the Lagoon rather than river in 78 boats

Bib	Pl	Elapsed Time	Name	Name2ndRacer	
Class 0			No Race Class		
968	1	0:52:09	Spang, Mark	Hidock, Mike	
964	2	1:05:10	Warchol, Ronald	Warchol, Matthew	
969	3	1:06:36	Rothig, Braden		
Class 1			C-2 Unrestricted Canoe		
936	1	0:47:49	Square, Phil	James, Tom	
981	2	0:47:50	Masek, Dan	Masek, Sarah	
922	3	0:55:12	Roberts, Ian	Hudak, Andy	
939	4	1:05:49	Oravec, Dave	Burt, Richard	
Class 2			C-2 Mixed or Women Canoe		
919	1	0:48:07	Fabian, Erin	Morgan, Kevin	
945	2	0:55:06	Hall, Stephen	Hall, Emily	
970	3	1:48:31	Nadal, Mark	Nadal, Rachel	
Class 3			C-2 Men's Standard Canoe		
975	1	0:41:30	Hansen, Will	Conant, Skip	
976	2	0:46:06	Way, Jay	Way, Timo	
940	3	0:54:44	Wood, Scott	Wood, Keith	
947	4	0:55:07	Ulichney, Daniel	Tramontana, Alan	
915	5	0:55:20	Hull, Robert Jr.	Hull, Jeff	
986	6	0:56:46	Annable, Chuck	Annable, Sam	
Class 4			C-2 Senior > 49 yrs. old		
943	1	0:41:07	Myers, Gary	Skinner, Norm	08:20
921	2	0:52:37	Markwell, Walter	Williams, Al	02:40
983	3	0:53:56	Saltis, Tom	Saltis, Denis	01:20
Class 5			C-2 Over & Under		
909	1	0:53:48	Parker, Jim S.	Parker, Jimmy G.	
979	2	0:59:28	Peschke, Pete	Peschke, Preston	
Class 6			C-1 One Person Canoe		
974	1	0:41:30	Conant, Skip		

Bib	Pl	Elapsed Time	Name		
		Class 7	K-1 Junior < 16 yrs. old		
971	1	1:49:25	Nadal, Taylor		
		Class 8	K-1 Short Kayak < 11.5', Men		
948	1	0:56:35	Yakunovich, Darren		
954	2	1:02:24	Park, James E.		
944	3	1:02:54	Stoll, Mike		
941	4	1:03:18	Duvall, Michael		
930	5	1:05:40	Kernohan, Mark		
962	6	1:06:55	New, Willie		
929	7	1:08:07	Notley, Josh		
956	8	1:08:34	Koscho, Robb		
931	9	1:14:39	Schultz, Norm		
967	10	1:17:23	Johnson, Kurt		
		Class 9	K-1 Short Kayak < 11.5', Women		
951	1	0:58:52	Morse, Chris		
973	2	1:14:01	Homberg, Donna		
912	3	1:14:16	Czerniawski, Karen		
955	4	1:14:37	Moore, Stephanie		
908	5	1:21:24	Deveraux, Ruth		
		Class 10	K-1 Kayak < 14.4', Men		
925	1	0:48:30	Rabatin, Jacob		
958	2	0:52:03	Jones, Josh		
959	3	0:52:56	Gary, Tim		
946	4	0:52:58	Rothig, Ken Jr.		
933	5	0:54:56	Fisher, Michael		
917	6	0:56:30	Singer, Chuck		
966	7	0:59:20	Kaser, Michael		
949	8	1:21:20	Czerniawski, David		
		Class 11	K-1 Kayak > 11.5', Women		
965	1	0:51:51	Monte, Mary Jo		
977	2	0:55:06	Johnson, Karen		
935	3	1:11:32	Milarcik, April		
938	4	1:12:59	McFarland, Coleen		

Bib	Pl	Elapsed Time	Name		
		Class 12	K-1 Senior > 49 yrs. old, < 14.5'		
978	1	0:50:12	Rabatin, Jacob 1		

934	2	0:51:02	Baird, Robert		
960	3	0:51:55	Gary, Tim 1		
950	4	0:53:05	Dohanos, Lee		
932	5	0:57:07	Kobak, John		
957	6	1:01:57	Yakunovich, John		

		Class 13	K-1 Long Kayak >14.5', Men		
913	1	0:41:46	White, Joe		
987	2	0:47:27	Batizy, Arpad		
937	3	0:49:32	Moran, Tim		
926	4	0:59:13	Richardson, David		
984	5	1:13:58	Payerchin, Richard		

		Class 14	K-1 Senior > 49 yrs. old Long Kayak > 14.5'		
914	1	0:42:51	Mellblom, Peter		
980	2	0:42:55	Leszek, Ed		
961	3	0:46:18	Elia, Vince		
985	4	0:47:12	Kemp, Jim		
923	5	0:47:27	Widman, Richard		
942	6	0:48:50	Foley, Mike		
924	7	0:49:48	Wallhead, Wayne		
910	8	0:50:57	Kaylor, Tom		
972	9	0:52:41	Fenoglio, Frank		
928	10	1:12:37	Tabb, Ronald		

		Class 15	K-1 Senior Women >49 yrs. old, >11.5'		
916	1	0:53:39	Witowski, Debra		
982	2	0:57:06	Baxter, Laura		
963	3	0:57:15	Schreiber, Joanne		
920	4	1:00:18	Farago, Karen		
927	5	1:02:20	Schneider, Audrey		
952	6	1:06:55	Puskas, Carla		
953	7	1:08:52	Hritsko, Mary Jo		

2012 Keel Haulers Vermilion River Race

Race Accounting

Expense

Misc. Supplies	\$312.75
Insurance	\$360.00
Food expense - income	\$143.94
Total Expenses	\$816.69

Income

Sponsor	\$120.00
Registration Walk-In	\$1,059.00
Pre-Reg.	\$426.71
Total Income	\$1,605.71

Total Profit

\$789.02

May				
5/4	Cheat Mass-Occurrence Team Race (WV)	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
5/4,5	Upper Yough (MD) or Big Sandy or Tygart (WV)	32	John Kobak	440-871-1758 440-554-1383
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5/11-13	Black Moose Fest (NY)		Matt Muir	585-421-9826
5/19	RiverDay 2012 Friends of the Crooked River (OH)		Dave Hill	330-221-0270
5/19,20	(5) Intro to the Cheat Canyon (WV)	26	Jim Hunt	330-335-5203
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5/19,20	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
5/19, 20	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Ann Corey	330-869-6549
5/25,26	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	

KAYAKERS



What my friends think I do



What my parents think I do



What society thinks I do



What my clients think I do



What I think I do



What I actually do

Compliments of Chuck Singer...

2012 Club Officers

President:	Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
VP:	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
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 June issue of the newsletter is 5/22/12. 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, 2012



Keelhauler's Ka-news JUNE, 2012



Next Club Meeting is Tuesday, June 12th

at Wendy Park near Edgewater Park, Cleveland,
OH

Program: Outdoor Meeting, bring your canoe or
kayak.

Chuck Singer will lead a short paddle around
the Cuyahoga River or out into the lake,
weather permitting at about 6:30PM.

The club business meeting starts about
8:00PM, followed by refreshments. Arrive any
time you like.

[Map to Wendy Park](#)

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

Message from the President By Michael Duvall

May was a very busy month for paddling opportunities. To begin with we had two types of racing to choose from. The first annual Cuyahoga River Boater X was held April 28th, and from all accounts it was a very fun event thanks to Corey Spoores. Low water meant that it was held on the Sheridan Section with paddlers racing 4 at a time over waterfalls. The other race was the Cheat Massocurance as the opening event for Cheat Fest. The Cheat down river race had close to 140 boaters begin with a mass start and race approximately ten miles to the finish. The river was a little high for racing through rapids so some of us used short boats rather than long boats.

Cheat Fest weekend saw rising water levels so many paddlers went to a wide variety of rivers including Lower Big

Sandy, Upper Yough, and the Dry Fork of the Cheat. Others avoided the crowds of the festival and went to the Casselman.

Stonycreek Rendezvous was also well attended with Bud Chavez organizing the Saturday trip. Thanks to the new valve that was installed (with much financial support from boaters) there was a perfect water level. I did not make it on this trip but I did see many club members returning on the turnpike.

June starts off with two training classes, Slipper Rock Clinic put on by TRPC and a Swiftwater Rescue Clinic with Charlie Wallbridge organized by Joe Marksz. These classes fill up early so if you didn't make the cutoff be sure to put it on your calendar for next year. There is no such thing as too much training. It looks like there will be a release on the Savage River in Maryland this month. In the past there have been problems with water levels and the dam equipment so if you have the opportunity you should take it. There are some Lower Yough trips with one being the first summer trips with reservations made by the club. For people looking for a more relaxed trip look at Chuck Singers trip on the Vermilion or Black and Ann Corey's trip on the Cuyahoga. See the online schedule for more trips and as always contact the trip organizer for final details.

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

KHCC Minutes for May, 8, 2012 meeting

New location for May only, Westlake Porter Library.
Meeting began at 7:45. Welcome to first meeting Ryan McCafferty and Mark Laisy.

Treasurer Report:

Joe Marksz sent the following: \$2650 Checking and \$6760 CD, Total \$9410.

Membership :

John Kobak reported 268 members, slightly better than last year.

Race Chair:

Eugene Baker brought up the fact that we may need to change date for Vermilion Race to 3rd Sunday in March.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

None

Trip Reports:

John Kobak reported that on May 4,5&6 Keelhaulers were on 6 rivers with a total of 77 runs.

Don Case reported that there were additional boaters on the Casselman.

Homborgs reported that their grandsons had a great time at Corey Spores's Cuyahoga Boater X.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:00

Program:

Chuck Singer presented a slide show of his recent travels to the Philippines, Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands.

June Meeting will be at Wendy Park by Edgewater.

Report submitted by Michael Duvall.

BOATER X Trip Report

By Corey Spoores

Last spring some time during Wednesday Night Paddle Session an idea was hatched, brought back to life after several great paddle sessions on the local water scene in and around Cleveland Ohio. How do we share this experience, this river, and all this fun with others? We toyed with the idea of a play date in the Keel Haulers Manifesto, but the stigma surrounding the "dirty" Cuyahoga was ingrained in the old timer's brains like salmon smelling their home river. So alas we could never collect any more than the young guns. After a great conversation with Michael Duvall on the just as dirty Rocky River I was encouraged to carry out my plan come the spring 2012.

The plotting and scheming between Dave Hill, Doug Lyons, Ron Shasteen, and I began to take hold. We decided to hold the race on the Gorge Section based on historic water levels, with a fall back plan of the Sheraton Section in the event of low water.

Fast forward to the spring of 2012, winter had essentially skipped Ohio, along with the early season rains. Water levels plummeted, the Sheraton was coming in and we were two months ahead of our typical schedule on the loss of paddling water. This was supposed to be an epic spring with Cuyahoga Falls celebrating their Centennial Anniversary with plans to remove the Sheraton and LeFever dams. We

anticipated maybe one run at best this season until the demolition of the dams was completed in late July.



-Chris Wing, H2O Dreams-

It looked like the Fat Cats had stalled a good dam removal project so we used that to our advantage and moved the race to the Sheraton Section.



-Brandon Conrad-

So on Saturday the 28th of April, the 1st Boater X was held on the Cuyahoga River, Sheraton Section. The event attracted paddlers as far away as the Charlotte White Water Center to Erie, Pa.

Once the course was set up and the racers were briefed on the lines, we set off down the flat water section at the put in to the Sheraton Dam. With 15 boaters strong we hucked the dam and hung out in the starting eddy for the race to begin. Once there we were met up by about 5 other boaters that were already on the course running laps after setting safety.

The race course for the first 5 heats led from the starting eddy down 25 yards of "flat" water into a river right ferry. Once back into the flow racers had to boof a small

hole and then it was off to the first 8' drop; Rookie Drop. Once in the pool below racers paddled downstream a short distance and eddied on river left behind the rock pile and sprinted into the finishing eddy touching the wall in the caldron eddy.



-Sam Fulbright, Pilot Collective Media-

The final race that both long and short boaters qualified for during the previous heats took them past the rock pile eddy for a 20 yard sprint downstream to the final drop at Staircase, a 12 footer or so. Once racers landed in the eddy pool they had a few choices on the lines through the Jumble into the finishing eddy on river left touching shore to earn their final place ranking.

At the sound of a safety whistle the first heat was off and running, and the rest fell into place shortly thereafter. Spectators lined the shored on River Right, and the hotel restaurant. Five heats strong, led into the final for a long boat and small boat grand finally.



-Nathan Craig-

Racers winning titles at the 1st Ohio Boater X

Race were:

Long Boat Division

Nathan Craig- who brought sexy back in an old school Lazer from WaveSport

Short Boat Division

Doug Lyons-with a Jackson

Tommy Highberg- with a Riot

Prizes were rather grass roots. The race winners received a few bottles of home brew and nose plugs (don't worry Doug yours is coming). This event could not have been pulled off without the help of several people. I would like to list a few of them that made it possible, if you're not on the list I have not forgotten you and I want to say THANK YOU a few more times.

Dave Hill, Andy Heidenreich, Ron Shasteen, Doug Lyons, Tommy Highberg, Michael Duvall for all the help in the pre-planning and a super big thanks to Pat Emmonds, and Pat Guzowski for helping with safety, Really that was huge! Karen Hawley who has probably heard "Boater X" 200,235,000 times in the last week alone, thanks babe. Dennis Dukeman thanks for the youtube video. The God Father at the Keel Haulers, and Rob Hammond, for without your correspondence I would have been way more confused, and maybe turned into a C-1 boater....Thanks to the Sheraton Hotel, and The Fire House Bar and Grill, for being able to dominate your bar with our after party!

So next season where will you be, catching a beatdown in Big Nasty 3 hours from home, or running the Boater X 20 minutes from home? Hope to see you there!

<http://youtu.be/F4vCb8koSIc>

Thanks Chris and Sam for bringing attention to our river, for the pictures, and bringing some extra class to the race. Good Luck on your project.

Pilot Collective Media-Sam Fulbright, Team Blisstick
<http://pilotcollective.com/>

H2O Dreams-Chris Wing, Team Wavesport
<http://www.whitewaterdreams.com/>



-Corey Spoores-



-Pat Emmonds-



-Shawn Yingling-



-Dave Hill-

May 12 & 13, 2012

By Dave Herron

This was a great weekend of boating: good water, good weather, great company. We had participating paddlers from all across Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia, South Carolina, and even Wyoming. There was no entertaining carnage to

describe, just good fun solid class III (and some class IV) boating.

Saturday (8 boaters)

The rivers: Middle Fork River at 3.38 (392cfs)
Tygart Valley River at 4.25 (850cfs) at
Belington, so 1240cfs after MF confluence

Paddlers from Cleveland area

Michael Duval (our intrepid probe)

Cliff Wire (carrier of the breakdown)

Jeff Cramer

Joe Marks

Paddlers from Pittsburg area

Bill Warble

Eric Marks

Paddler from Jackson, WY

Austin Irby

After scouting the first rapid that runs underneath the bridge, and noting the wood still present from last year, two of us opted to put in below while the rest made the necessary wood avoidance moves look easy. Two or three easy rapids followed, and then we came to what Elliott calls 'Lost Spectacles'. I was told of a pin that occurred here, although I did not see it. I managed to do an upper body splat against the rock at the bottom that the current pushes you straight into. This entailed me slamming my hands against said rock and smashing my thumb, which prompted me to let go of my paddle. While I hand walked myself around and off the rock, and away from the undercut, my paddle took a swim under said undercut. After numerous attempts—by several of us—to locate the paddle, we all gave up (but not without much whining on my part) and waited for Cliff to assemble his breakdown. I had the breakdown in my hands and Cliff was putting his gear bag away, when Joe Marks let out a yell and there was one of my paddle blades just poking out from a crack in the boulder. I paddled over to it, thinking that for sure it was stuck in the crack, but it was just floating free ☺

That was the big adventure for the day.

Michael led the way with the rest of us taking turns as his backup. Generally either he or I knew which rapid we were coming upon, and often we even knew a good line. When in doubt Michael employed his naively optimistic approach and it all worked well, especially for those of us watching from above. There was some wood in several places, but only one rapid where it blocked what we think was the best route. At this low level, there were plenty of screw up rocks and the like, but very little push. The sun was shining and we had a long lunch stop at 'The Ledges' where Eric entertained us. After lunch, Cliff had a fun adventure at 'Screaming Jane', but there was no carnage and no verbalization. The remaining big rapids, that I call 'On the Rocks', 'Boof Right', and last but not least, 'The Wall', were all fun and straightforward.

Somehow, the Tygart Valley River always surprises me. The low water level was still squirrely, and there was more vertical to the drops. We ran the traditional line at 'S Turn', and it was still a powerful rapid. All went well at 'Shoulder Snapper', even for those who ran the meat of the hole. Michael's lead at 'Hook' was again especially informative as everybody saw where the eddy was not located. ☺ Some of us managed to paddle a bit further up the Buchannon before taking out, but I think the added effort to climb to the RR tracks was not worth the total effort. We ended the day with a good dinner at Monroes back in Albright.

Sunday (11 boaters)

The river: the mighty Cheat River Canyon 2.55 at Albright (2200cfs)

Paddlers from Cleveland area

Michael Duval

Cliff Wire

Jeff Cramer

Brent Hendren

Paddlers from Cambridge area

Phil and Jen Raber

Paddler from Pittsburg area:

Barry Adams

Paddler from DC area (Virginia)

April Hollis

Paddler from Jackson, WY

Austin Irby

Paddler from Charlotte, SC

Leigh Hobbs

At our meeting at Valley Point I was told it was going to rain all day. It did not ☺

This was an especially nice level for the Cheat; nowhere near as pushy as 3 foot, but the extra water (as compared to 2 foot) was nice to have in the pools and even elsewhere too. Several rapids—'Fist', 'High Falls', 'Maze'—are noticeably easier are 2.6 versus 2; the added flow pads out some of the rocks and steals some of the vertical. I managed to find my line again at 'Big Nasty'; not a big deal at 2.6, but I had trouble here on my last run (well, it was 4'). Our guests, Leigh and Austin, chose the middle route through the hole and made it without any trouble.

Several different lines were tried at 'Fist', including one good rock thumper heard all the way upstream by me and the intrepid paddler's wife. Everybody ran the left line at 'Tear Drop' (or is it 'Tier Drop?'). April led the way at 'High Falls', although some of us opted for the left route. April again led the way at 'Coliseum'. After waiting for everybody to pass by—she was in the middle eddy—she then entertained us with a flip and roll right at 'Recyclotron' (I mean the second large hole on the left), and then a second flip and roll in the oh-so-squirrely run out at the bottom left.

Michael warned us about the changes in 'Pete Morgans' and he was right on. Austin stayed too close to the big boulder and got several seconds of surf time in the large hole just below it. It seems that one or more of the large boulders must have shifted. This could be more trouble at lower water.

We saw one raft on the river with four guys in it. Not one single other person out there. Oh yeah, we passed about 50 yards from a bald eagle; got to watch it leap out of a tree and fly away—very kewl.

Many thanks to my paddling buddies for such a great birthday weekend of boating.

June				
6/1	Upper Yough (MD) and/or Big Sandy (WV) No UY release on Sat	32	Needs organizer	
6/2,3	TRPC Slippery Rock Clinic- More Information & Application Registration Ends 5/22. Breakneck Campground Information	13-19	Ralph Minto	
6/2,3	Mark Hanna and Carl Schneider Memorial Swiftwater Clinic (WV) More Information Limited to 10, Register early @ ~\$80/person		Joe Marks	216-533-0604
6/2	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Sabine Iben	440-543-4969
6/3	(5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release	26	Jerry Spence	614-561-3198
6/9,10	(4) New River (WV)	26	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
6/9	(1) Cuyahoga River, Peninsula to Boston Mills (OH)	SK/FW	Ann Corey	330-869-6549
6/9	(1) Lake Erie Water Trail -Vermilion or Black portion	SK/FW	Chuck Singer	440-949-6681
6/12	Club Meeting - Wendy Park on Whiskey Island	SK/FW	Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
6/16, 17	(4) Lower Yough – permits (PA)	23	April Hollis	703-915-6382 C
6/16, 17	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12	Needs organizer	
6/22, 23	Upper Yough (MD) First Saturday Release	32	Needs organizer	
6/29, 30	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Jim Hunt	330-335-5203

2012 Club Officers

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KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
June, 2012



Keelhauler's Ka-news JULY, 2012



**Next Club Meeting is
Tuesday, July 10th.
at Silver Lake near Stow, OH**

**Program: Outdoor Meeting: 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 Chips or Appetizer
- G-L Dessert or Fruit
- M-S Potato or Macaroni Salad
- T-Z Salad, Vegetable or Baked Beans

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!

Message from the President By Michael Duval

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

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

If you have done the lower Slip but have not done the Lower Yough, and think you are ready, July has the Yough Intro trip organized by Fran Hoven. This is an excellent opportunity because there will be many experienced boaters to help. Be sure to contact Fran early because there are only a limited number of permits available.

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

Big Water Adventure, The New River, June 8-11, 2012 By David Herron

The list of paddlers included:

Tim Reynolds, Joe & Eric Marks, Debbie Avallone, Eric Tucker, April Hollis, Brent Hendren, Michael Duval, Racer Jill, Jim Murtha,

Larry, Matt Bowles & his family/team (Saturday), Brandon Conrad (Saturday), Jen Raber (Sunday), and our veteran river guide Doug Ackerman. Doug told me that he first paddled the New in 1970!

The river levels (obtained from the Thurmond gauge) were
Friday 4,760 cfs (5.04') (or 2.14' at Fayette Station)
Sat 5,700 cfs (5.64') (or 2.89' at Fayette Station)
Sun 5,400 cfs (5.45') (or 2.65' at Fayette Station)

Friday I met Doug at noon at the New River Gorge Visitors Center. We waited a half-hour for Matt, and then dropped down to the river to leave Doug's truck. When we got to Cunard (the put-in), I parked right next to what I thought was Matt's truck. They had put on some time before us. So, it was just me and Doug. We had a great day on the river, just leisurely paddling along with Doug providing a brief description at the top of each major rapid. We saw almost nobody else on the river, until just above Fayette Station where we passed two young ladies in a shredder. We finished our run in just under two hours. Thankfully, Matt's truck was gone when we returned to Cunard to get my truck. (We were concerned that we had passed them on the river, and that maybe they needed help. I guess they had no problems though.)

From Cunard we went to Doug's house (or should I call it his castle?) which is just upstream. He has quite a place! Then back to Pies & Pints for some great pizza.

Friday night everybody found their way to Ray's Place for camping. Then Saturday morning we all met at the Visitor's Station. Michael had an adventure on the way to Fayette Station: his vehicle got stuck between the RR tracks and the downed bar, this was while a train was zooming by. Fortunately he has a short vehicle!

The first rapid, Upper Railroad, opened a few eyes. A number of folks underestimated the effort required to skirt the big hole. We had some creek boat stern squirts, a flip and swim, and one loooong surf in the hole (followed by an OBE). Lower Railroad went much smoother. Soon enough we arrived at the Keeneys.

The waves in Upper Keeney encouraged one to move right, but that just made it more interesting to get to the left behind Whale Rock. Those of us who listened to and followed Doug's advice had a smooth (well, smoother anyway) ride through Middle Keeney; those going further left encountered some rather large waves :-). But we all made it to the bottom in fine shape, and then we squared up for Lower Keeney. Again, Doug's advice was useful, but not universally followed.

One young lad---in an orange and blue boat---found himself far left at the bottom, flipping and rolling, and then surfing in a whirlpool hole; soon enough the river let him go and he found a safe eddy to catch his breath. Speaking of breathing....one of our crew can apparently hold her breath for an extended period of time, and so she chose to run

Upper Keeney in a novel way, namely, upside down for the bottom 7/8 of the rapid. Yes, she did roll up once at the bottom, just in time to punch thru Lolly Gag.

For the most part, I was in front of our pack (we had 14 kayaks, the raft with Matt having moved on after the Keeneys) and so I did not see all of the roll, roll, rolling that was going on behind me. However, when we got to the bottom of Double Z we had four out of boat kayakers. I think there was some confusion as to what line we were trying to follow.

We gathered up people, boats, and gear and continued down river. I'm not sure what exactly happened, but somehow in the ledge right above Greyhound Bus Stopper Joe Marks managed to lose his paddle. He said that he lost it while performing a "hand-of-god" rescue, but that's just his story. All I know is that when I saw him floating towards me, he did not have his paddle. Fortunately, his paddle was just 50 feet upstream, so I was able to get it and toss it to him with plenty of time for him to skirt Greyhound.

I guess we had another swim at Lower Kaymoor, but it might have been at Undercut (Miller's Folly). Then I made the mistake of being behind our play boaters at the top of Fayette Station. I had to wait while Eric did some surfing and Jim did some rolling. But soon enough we were off the river and on our way, again, to Pies & Pints.

Sunday was pretty much a repeat. Several of the crew opted for the far far left route at Upper Railroad, so there was no entertainment here. Lower Keeney was also less eventful and we had a nice lunch break there. When we got to Double Z, I decided to run back with the end of our crew (we again had 14 kayaks) to ensure that everybody better understood the desired line. I foolishly said something about how Double Z is my favorite rapid because it requires more manouvering than the others. Well, we got to the bottom this time with only one swimmer, but I sure wish that I had been able to roll there. :-)

Not wanting me to have the only OBE, one of our crew found herself out of her boat in one of the next rapids. I think it was Lower Kaymoor, but really cannot remember. This intrepid young lady attempted the rock splat at the Tweenies, having been told that an off-side roll would work fine; silly lady.

Again I made the mistake of being behind our play boaters at the top of Fayette Station. This time I had to wait while Eric did multiple loops and Jim did some rolling. (Ok, maybe Murtha landed a loop or two too.) I got to the bottom and turned around in time to see Michael's flip and roll in the big wave train. Then we were all done, I thought.

Little did we know that our ride back to Cunard would be such an adventure. Be aware that when Jim Murtha is in a hurry, he seems to think that the entire road is available for his vehicle. He did get us there in record time, and we were even back at the Visitor Center in time to say "GoodBye" to our friends who had brought our boats and gear up from the river.

I don't hesitate to say that we all experienced some great big water paddling. Let's do it again!

(PS. Notice that the level Saturday corresponds to twice the standard Gauley release level. :-)

Michigan Canoe Trip Kobak's on Flat Water - 2012

I enjoy all kinds of paddling and enjoy scenic areas, clean water and small numbers of other boaters. Peggy & I just upgraded our motor home to a new model. We bought it directly from the factory in Elkhart, IN about a month ago. I had them do a lot of customized modifications and installed a solar charging system and roof racks for my canoe and/or kayaks. We primarily use the RV in Mexico every winter and really don't use it in the summer. But we did not want to get far from the factory on our shakedown cruise so we decided to head to Michigan for a week, See [Photos of new Motorhome](#) if you want to see what it looks like.

At first Peggy was not too keen on going canoeing. The last time she was in a canoe was in [Florida - 2008](#) the last time we canoed in Michigan was [Michigan - 1997](#). I read my report from 1997 and thought that sounded great maybe we should repeat that trip. We decided to go up in mid-week to avoid the weekend crowds, since the area around the [Pine River](#) is very popular like the Mohican River in Ohio. We picked Silver Creek State Forest Campground which has campsites right along the river. It has great access for put-in or take-out for two upper sections of the Pine River.



The camp is within easy driving distance to two other rivers in the Manistee National Forest; The Pere Marquette and the Little Manistee. We paddled those rivers in 1997 but this year never got around to it. When we got to the campground on Tuesday afternoon there was only one other camper there but almost filled all 19 RV sites on the weekend.

When we camp on the beach in Xpu Ha, Mexico there is a German couple, Vera and Dierck that stay there all year long and help run the campground. Last year was their first summer in the Yucatan and they found out that it was too hot, so this year they decided to tour the USA and Canada for 5 months. It just so happens that they were in the area and we asked them if they wanted to camp in a forest instead of private campgrounds. They loved it, in fact when we left they were still there enjoying the heavily wooded campsites and the \$13/night cost.

The weekend campers are almost all Recreational Kayakers and a few Sit-On-Tops. We only saw one other canoe. The river in this area is only about 15' wide and has a very fast current. There are small rocks and class I-II rapids and are really fun in any kind of watercraft. It is also a popular trout fishing stream. The biggest dangers to paddlers are the fallen trees, which are everywhere.



We decided to start at Meadow-Brook Bridge and take-out at our campsite. We drove the RV to the put-in which had enough room for a few cars. My intention was to bike back from camp after the run but our German friends gave me a ride back up. In fact they were waiting for us at camp and took this [Video](#). We saw 7 deer and a few Mergansers on this stretch. There were two places where we had to lift around fallen trees. It is an 8 mi section that took us about 3 hours at a relaxing pace. Since it was a Wednesday we saw no other paddlers. In fact even on the weekend this section gets very little use. The most popular section of the Pine River is near Peterson Bridge National Forest Campground. On Thursday we decided to paddle from the campground to Dobson Bridge. This 10 mile section has a little more water from all the springs entering along the way.



If you paddle beyond Lincoln Bridge on the weekend you better have a permit from the National Forest Ranger. To get one of their permits you need to stop at the NF office in Cadillac, MI. The permit is only \$2/day. They limit the total number of boats on any section, but you must decide which section and which day you are paddling. The permit is color coded and you hang it on your boat.

This time I drove the RV to the take-out and peddled my bike back to camp. It was an easy 40 minute bike ride. We were going past the bridge where a permit was required but since it was mid-week we didn't bother getting a permit. We had stopped at the NF office on our way up on Tuesday and got a permit for a section of the Pere Marquette River which has the same regulations but we never ended up using it. This section of the Pine River is not near as pretty as the upstream section we did yesterday. We saw very little wildlife. There were trees down everywhere. In between Lincoln Bridge and Elm Flats there was a big impassable log jam that I pictured on the first page. A novice could get in real trouble here if they didn't take out in time. We had to drag the canoe up a hill, through the forest and put-in downstream. Even with that portage this 10 mi section only took us 3 ½ hours. We never saw anyone else on the river. On Friday Peggy said she was tired of paddling and wanted to hike. There is a nice 2 mile trail from the campground downstream to Lincoln Bridge and you can return on the opposite side of the river. It was starting to get pretty hot out but it was a nice 2 hour hike. We did take the wrong trail several times on the way back as it is not as well marked on this side of the river. We saw several Recreational Kayaks paddling this section. We warned them about the log jam. There is a nice bridge right across from our campsite to get you back on the right side of the river. Fifteen years ago I mountain biked this trail and found out this bridge was missing. It took me a long detour to find my way back to the camp. We finally just hung around camp on Saturday and watched all the others paddlers go by. For all you flatwater recreational paddlers, these MI Rivers will provide you a great paddling experience.



We left early on Sunday morning to go to the [Gilmore Car Museum](#) near Kalamazoo. It was way better than I imagined with over 300 beautifully restored cars in 6 different buildings. I even found a '52 Chevy that was nearly identical to my first car when I was in High School and College.



On Monday morning we were at the [Phoenix RV factory](#) in Elkhart for a few minor adjustments to our new RV and we got home in the early afternoon.

Upper Yough Release Issues

Western Maryland has experienced a long period of unusually dry weather, and today the Deep Creek Lake level dropped .5" below the "Lower Rule Band". To comply with the agreement negotiated between lake, fishing, and paddling users all Friday and Monday Upper Yough whitewater releases have been cancelled. Brookfield Power, the dam owner, believes that it will take a very significant rain event (2"+) to bring lake levels back up to resume releases. Saturday releases are still "on" and will continue unless the lake level drops a foot below the lower rule band. Boatable "fish releases" are likely on hot, sunny days, but are typically not announced until late morning. For the latest updates call Deep Creek Hydro at 315-413-2823 or sign up for Deep Creek Hydro's twitter account and get text message updates

whenever the dam is turned on or off. These release are only 2 hours long; you will likely catch the water and have to wait.

~from John Kobak from Charlie Walbridge from Jess Whitmore from Brookfield Power.....

TO: BOATERS, ANGLERS, WADERS, SWIMMERS, &
ALL WHO USE THE STREAMS OF THE CHEAT
WATERSHED
FROM: FRIENDS OF THE CHEAT
RE: INVASIVE SPECIES (Didymosphenia geminata)
IDENTIFIED IN YOUGHIOGHENY WATERSHED @
OHIOPYLE STATE PARK

If you spend time in the water in the Appalachian Highlands paddling, wading, or even swimming, you could unknowingly transport an invasive threat that could permanently harm the Cheat River watershed. *Didymosphenia geminata*, more commonly known as Didymo or Rock Snot, has been identified in the Youghiogheny River at Ohiopyle State Park and could easily spread to our streams and river without your vigilance and care.



Didymo is a type of algae that can smother aquatic habitat, and it only takes ONE CELL or FRAGMENT to start a new colony. Didymo looks like wet tissue paper, but has a texture like that of wet cotton. Didymo is spread most commonly to new waterways by recreational equipment such as boats, fishing gear, and even clothes or shoes. Felt-soled waders are especially effective hosts for didymo cells because the felt is porous, is in direct contact with stream floor, and remains wet longer than other materials, keeping the cells alive.

Always disinfect your waders, boats, and swimming gear after using them in streams or rivers, ESPECIALLY if you will be using them in a different body of water.

July				
7/1	(5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release	26	Bud Chavez	513-703-4108
7/6, 7	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Doug Smith	419-823-1423
7/10	Club Picnic at Silver Lake	SK/FW	Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
7/14	(1) Lake Erie Water Trail -Vermilion or Black portion	SK/FW	Chuck Singer	440-949-6681
7/20,21	Upper Yough (MD) - Paddle Fri, Sat Race & Festival is Saturday, 6 hr release, Race at 4pm	32	John Kobak	440-871-1758 440-554-1383
7/21, 22	(4) Lower Yough Intro weekend - permits (PA)	23	Fran Hoven	216-375-3718
7/21, 22	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
7/21	Findley State Park, Buckeye Trail (OH) 3 miles or 3 hours		Dennis Plank	216-939-8229
7/28,29	(4) New River (WV)	26	Cecil Tickamyer	814-234-1062

The following recommendations are from a PA Fish & Boat Commission fact sheet:
CHECK -- Before you leave a river, stream, or lake, check items and leave debris at site. If you find any later, treat and put in trash. Do not wash down drains.
CLEAN -- There are several ways to kill didymo. Choose the most practical treatment for your situation which will not adversely affect your gear.
Non-absorbent items

- Detergent -- soak or spray all surfaces for at least one minute in 5% dishwashing detergent or (2 cups (16 oz.) or 500mls with water added to make 2.5 gal. or 10 litres); OR
- Hot water -- soak for at least one minute in very hot water kept above 140° F (60° C) (hotter than most tap water) or for at least 20 minutes in hot water kept above 113° F (45° C) (uncomfortable to touch).

Absorbent items -- require longer soaking times to allow thorough saturation. For example, felt-soled waders require:

- Hot water -- soak for at least 40 minutes in hot water kept above 113° F (45° C) ; OR
- Hot water plus detergent -- soak for 30 minutes in hot water kept above 113° F (45° C) containing 5% dishwashing detergent; OR
- Freezing any item until solid will also kill didymo.

DRY -- Drying will kill didymo, but slightly moist didymo can survive for months. To ensure didymo cells are dead by drying, the item must be completely dry to the touch, inside and out, then left dry for at least another 48 hours before use. If cleaning or drying is not practical, restrict equipment to a single waterway.

For Boats

- Inspect every inch of your boat, trailer, and equipment - the hull, drive unit, trim plates, props, anchor, centerboards, paddles, wheels, hitch, chassis, etc. - and remove aquatic plants, animals, and mud from the boat, trailer and equipment before leaving any body of water;
- Drain any and all water from your boat and equipment on land before leaving the area;
- Do the following when away from direct drainage areas to lakes or rivers:
-- Dump any leftover bait on land, especially if the live aquatic bait has been in contact with potentially infested waters;
-- Disinfect live wells and bait wells, bilges, cooling systems, hulls, and decks with a 1:9 solution of household bleach and water allowing at least 10 minutes contact time. Rinse well to remove all residual chlorine. An easy recipe is a half gallon of bleach into a 5 gallon bucket then fill with water (or a quart of bleach to a half bucket).
- Rinse your boat after use, preferably with hot water. If hot water is not available use tap water and then allow at least five days to become completely dry before entering a new water body.
- Do not transport any LIVE FISH, BAIT, OTHER CRITTERS, PLANTS, OR WATER from one body of water to another.

For further information, go to http://www.fish.state.pa.us/water/habitat/ans/didymo/faq_didymo.htm, the US Fish & Wildlife Service/US Coast Guard's Protect your Waters site, and the Youghiogheny River keeper 's site.

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VP:	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
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

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KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com
July, 2012



Keelhauler's Ka-news AUGUST, 2012



Next Club Meeting Saturday, August 18th at 6:30 PM
*at Tall Oaks Campground
near Ohiopyle, PA*

Program: Picnic in PA

All Levels of Paddling & and the Waterfall Running on this 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 18th. 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. There will be paddling on Yough Lake for the flat water paddlers, and the Middle, Lower & Upper Yough depending on the skill level for all other paddlers. There are also beautiful biking & hiking paths for those that choose not to paddle in the area.

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

The club will supply hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments, tableware and soft drinks.
Members should bring appetizers, salads, vegetables and desserts according to your last name.

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

[Karl Nelson](#) 330-497-2483 is the Lower Yough trip organizer for Saturday & Sunday
Contact Karl for river permits

[Gene Baker](#) 440-320-4490 is the Middle Yough trip organizer for Saturday
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 on our Message Board.

Meeting/Dinner Questions? - Call 440-669-7177 or e-mail - [Michael Duvall](#)

[Tall Oaks Information](#)

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

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

Message from the President By Michael Duvall

Boy has it been hot!!! Hope everyone has been on the water! Our July meeting at Silver Lake was fairly well attended and the food was great thanks to Robert Bair, John Kobak and everyone that brought a dish to pass. Keep in mind that our next meeting will be at Tall Oaks on Saturday August 18 which is a very busy weekend. We have "give your boss the bird day" Thursday and Ladies day on Friday. Saturday is also the "Over the Falls" race over Ohiopyle Falls. The falls will be open and there will be lots of safety for boaters that want to run the falls for the first time.

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

Attention playboaters! Jim Murtha is heading to the Ottawa River again this year to do some playboating with his son Patrick who is attending Keeners Instruction. So if you are looking up your game you should join them and share a ride. We have had some low water this Summer, so personally, I am looking forward to the Gauley releases that are only six weeks away.

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

Trip Report, July 7th 2012 By Doug Smith



Bernie, Brent and Doug

There was not a scheduled release on Friday, so I don't have to write about the 2 hour fish release and I don't have to tell

anyone that it was the hottest day on the river that we have ever seen and no one has to know that there were 5 of us paddling that day Brent L. , John G. , Allen W., John G. and myself.

However, Saturday we had a full 3 hour release and I had 7 of us on the trip...the same guys as above and we added Mark W. and Bernie from White Water Warehouse joined us in his C-1.

It was one of those days that all you did was dodge kayakers and Rafts and there were a few rapids to make it interesting. It was so hot, we all did a lot of swimming before the river started at Wait rock, again at National, and we found a nice swim spot after Cheese Burger where we had a lot of fun trying to see just how far the rock we were on was under cut. We all survived. Go FIFO's!!!

New River Gorge Challenge Extreme Triathlon August 4th 2012 - Fayetteville, West Virginia

<http://www.newrivergorgechallenge.com/home.html>

Presented By:

Hometown Subaru

Mount Hope, WV

2011 Race Results: [Individual](#) | [Overall](#) | [Raft](#) | [Relay](#)

RACE STARTS AT 11 AM THIS YEAR

The New River Gorge Challenge consists of 28.5 miles of the most extreme Mountain Biking, White Water and Running in the state and some would say the East Coast. The triathlon can be done as a Solo, Relay Team, or Raft Team. If you're looking for teammates or are concerned about the White Water leg of this race, contact us and we will try to help you get a team together.

Bike

The 15 mile bike will lead you from the Town of Fayetteville through some of the best single track trail the New River Gorge has to offer. You will have about a half mile prolog through the town until you hit the "Water Treatment" trail which leads you into the park. From there you will continue until you reach the Arrow Head Trails where you will follow Dalton trail out to an access road where you will have a screaming down hill to the Kaymore-Cunard Trail which will lead you to the Cunard access road. * This is a paved road that is VERY fast and we must implement some safety rules for this decent.

Paddle

The 7 mile paddle will run you right down the middle of the gorge passing through some of the best class white water the east coast has to offer. You will encounter 3 class 5

rapids so this race is not for your beginner boater. Make sure you have white water experience before going down this river

Run

The 6.5 mile run may seem short but trust me the elevation gain is over 1100 vertical feet with the "miners trail" right in the middle of it all. A pretty much straight up the side of the gorge trail that has you scrambling and clawing every inch to reach the top, but when you get there we will have a food / water station to take care of you. After that you retrace your steps (or pedals) of the bike leg back into town where you started.

End

There will be plenty of food, music, and fun to greet you back into town after an amazing day in the New River Gorge Challenge!

We still need trip organizers for 2012.

Please take a look at our proposed trip schedule to see if your trip information is correct.

If you have a trip to add or change, please E-Mail [John Kobak - Webmaster](#)

August				
8/1-8	Ottawa River (Canada) A play boat trip	27-32	Jim Murtha	614-282-3293
8/3,4 & 6	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Doug Smith	419-823-1423
8/4, 5	(4)TRPC Turkey Bash at Yough	23	Joe Marks	216-281-1517 216-533-0604 C
8/16	(4) Lower Yough - Skip Work Day (PA)	23	Pat Guzowski	216-780-5734
8/17	(4) Lower Yough - Ladies Only Day (PA)	23	Sherie Sanzenbacher	440-298-1293
8/18	Bike Geneva (OH) 29 miles or 3 hours See wineries, Lake Erie, Grand River, covered bridges		Dennis Plank	216-939-8229
8/18, 19	(4) Lower Yough - permits available (PA) Call before Thursday at noon.	23	Karl Nelson	330-497-2483
8/18,19	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
8/18	Club Meeting at Tall Oaks		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
8/18	Ohiopyle Falls Festival & Race (PA)		Barry Adams	412-242-4562
8/24,25	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
September				
9/1,2,3	Upper Yough (MD) Note: Releases go back to 10AM to 1PM	32	Needs organizer	
9/1, 2, 3	Raquette/Beaver (NY)	27-35	Matt Muir	585-421-9826
9/7 - 9	Upper Gauley (WV) - Camp at Battle Run	33	John Kobak	440-871-1758
9/8, 9	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Phil & Jen Raber	740-498-7063
9/11	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
9/14-16	Upper Gauley (Festival Weekend) (WV)	27-33	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
9/14-16	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Terry Markoff	440-543-4969
9/15, 16	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	16	Dave Roush	440-623-9035
9/15, 16	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12	Needs organizer	
9/22, 23	Upper & (5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27-33	Needs organizer	
9/28	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Elliott Drysdale	216-496-4182 C
9/29, 30	Upper & (5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27-33	Bill Miller	440-257-2970
9/29	(1) Upper Cuyahoga Eldon Park to Camp Hi (OH)	SK/FW	Dennis Plank	216-939-8229

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KeelHauler Kanews

Kelly Miller, Editor  

1515 Fox Chase Dr.

Sewickley, PA 15143

peetzaguy@aol.com

August, 2012



Keelhauler's Ka-news SEPTEMBER, 2012



**Next Club Meeting is
Tuesday, September 11th**

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

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

Program: TBD

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

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

Message from the President By Michael Duvall

The summer meetings were a big success. The June meeting at Wendy Park we had a few boaters out in the lake including a tandem sailing canoe. July we were able to go to silver lake and had a great picnic. The august meeting was held at Tall Oaks Campground after Pat G's "Give the boss the bird" Thursday trip and Fridays Ladies Day trip and Karl Nelson's monthly trip. We had burgers and hot dogs and tried burning corn. The Yough Meeting had 30 participants. Of course all the picnics would not half as much fun with our volunteer cooks; John Kobak, Robert Bair, Jim Hunt and Eugene Baker. September meeting will be back at Middleburg Hts on the second Tuesday, Sept 11.

Gauley season starts the first weekend after Labor Day. The Gauley has something for everyone. If you have done the Cheat at 3 feet or the New at any level then you are ready

to do the Lower Gauley. After you have done the Lower a few times and want to step up to the 5 class V rapids and many more class IV rapids then try the Upper Gauley. Whichever section you choose to do, we have a trip for you almost every weekend. Party animals will enjoy Gauley Fest on Sept. 15. WARNING: watch your speed in Summerville and small towns like Gauley Bridge.

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

Michael

It's that time again.....

All club memberships expire on October 1st. As soon as you can, please mail a \$20 check for your **2013** 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 2012 password found on pg 20 of our 2011 yearbook or see passwords sent out in 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.

John Kobak

Burning River Celebration!

By David Hill

As part of Cuyahoga Falls Bicentennial, the central theme of a flame representing the river's life and rebirth were celebrated during 10 days in August 2012. From the opening ceremony through to the closing, paddlers played a key role in giving the Burning River something to celebrate.



Even with the low flows, a solid group of paddlers were on hand to participate in a memorable running of the LeFever Dam. The roar of the crowd was an interesting twist that all paddlers experienced as they dropped over the dam. It was a first descent for some and maybe a last for many as this dam will be coming down in 2012.



After a unique passing of the flame to One Arrow (which almost reignited the Burning River!), the mayor treated the crowd to a message that paddlers heard loud and clear. Not only are both the LeFever and Sheraton Dams coming down this year <http://www.fallsnewspress.com/news/article/5207513> , the Ohio Edison Dam would be coming down in 5 years! This may be an aggressive timeframe but it is exciting news nonetheless. It also signals that changes are on the horizon for this river.



These are very interesting times for the Cuyahoga River and recreational usage opportunities which seem to be just around the bend. The river is being released from constrictions which have been in place for over 100 years and exciting moments are being captured for others to experience what we have in our collective backyards. Thanks to Chris Wing and Sam Fulbright, this message is about to be delivered like it never has in the past

<http://www.whitewaterdreams.com/archives/2475>

The Cuyahoga River is indeed a special river on many levels and it will be interesting to watch how things change as we paddle into the sunset of today and await what tomorrow will unveil. 2013 should be a great year to be paddling in NE Ohio.

September				
8/31;9/1,3	Upper Yough (MD) Note: September releases go back to 10AM to 1PM	32	Needs organizer	
9/1, 2, 3	Raquette/Beaver (NY)	27-35	Matt Muir	312-943-5397
9/7	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Jim Hunt	330-335-5203
9/8, 9	Upper Gauley (WV) - I will coordinate & Camp at Battle Run for Lower & Upper trips	33	John Kobak	440-554-1383
9/8, 9	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Phil & Jen Raber	740-498-7063
9/11	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
9/14-16	Upper Gauley (Festival Weekend) (WV)	27-33	Cliff Wine	440-439-6541
9/14-16	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	Terry Markoff	440-543-4969
9/17	A play boat learn/practice day on the Lower Gauley	27	Jim Murtha	614-282-3293
9/15, 16	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	16	Dave Roush	440-623-9035
9/15, 16	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
9/22, 23	Upper & (5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27-33	Needs organizer	
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1515 Fox Chase Dr.
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September, 2012



Keelhauler's



Ka-news

OCTOBER, 2012



**Next Club Meeting is
Tuesday, October 9th.**

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

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

**Program: Presentation by
Elaine Marsh of Friends of
the Crooked River**

She will be discussing the 100 mile
proposed Cuyahoga Water Trail, Dam
Removal and Akron's Combined Overflow
Sewers.

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

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

Message from the President By Michael Duvall

First things first, October is Election month so I invite everyone to attend this important meeting. We have a few opportunities for new officers; for one thing the office of Vice President is available. Another reason to attend this month's meeting is a presentation on the Cuyahoga River by Elaine Marsh.

We have had a lot of low water on the Lower Yough and some releases on the Upper Yough canceled, however the Gauley has lots of water. The first release weekend had over 30 boaters showing up for the Raber and Kobak trip. Also about the same number for the Terry

Markoff and Cliff Wire trip on the Festival weekend. There are more trips on the schedule and if you watch the message board there may be some unscheduled trips.

We also had a Lower Yough trip with very low water. There will be more Lower trips including some designed to take advantage of the Fall colors.

Another unique trip this month is the Russell Fork on the Virginia Kentucky border. The section run on Cecil Tickamyer's trip is Class III but there is also a Class V section.

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

Michael

It's that time again.....

All club memberships expire on October 1st. As soon as you can, please mail a \$20 check for your **2013 Membership Dues**. As many of you know I go away for 5 months starting in November. If someone would like to become an assistant membership chairman I could have all membership payments forwarded to them and you would get your checks recorded much sooner. If no one steps up, I would ask all of you to mail your check today or pay on line ASAP.

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

Or pay \$21 on-line 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 2012 password found on Pg. 20 of our yearbook or get from 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 a new application, you only need to send me your dues payment and any changes desired.

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 cost of the fuel to go paddling.

John Kobak

Club Meeting, September 11th

15 attendees.

Guests and new members: Scott Altfeld, Bob Boyce, Collin Taibi, and David Johnson.

Minutes approved for last formal meeting approved as posted in newsletter

Chair reports:

Membership John Kobak current 285 (NEW DUES ARE DUE IN SEPTEMBER)

Vermilion Race Eugene Baker Date will be March 24 this year to improve chance for better water.

No new business.

Trip Reports:

Jim Hunt showed his banged up knuckles from the Upper Yough

John Kobak reported that his trip with the Rabers had over 30 boaters.

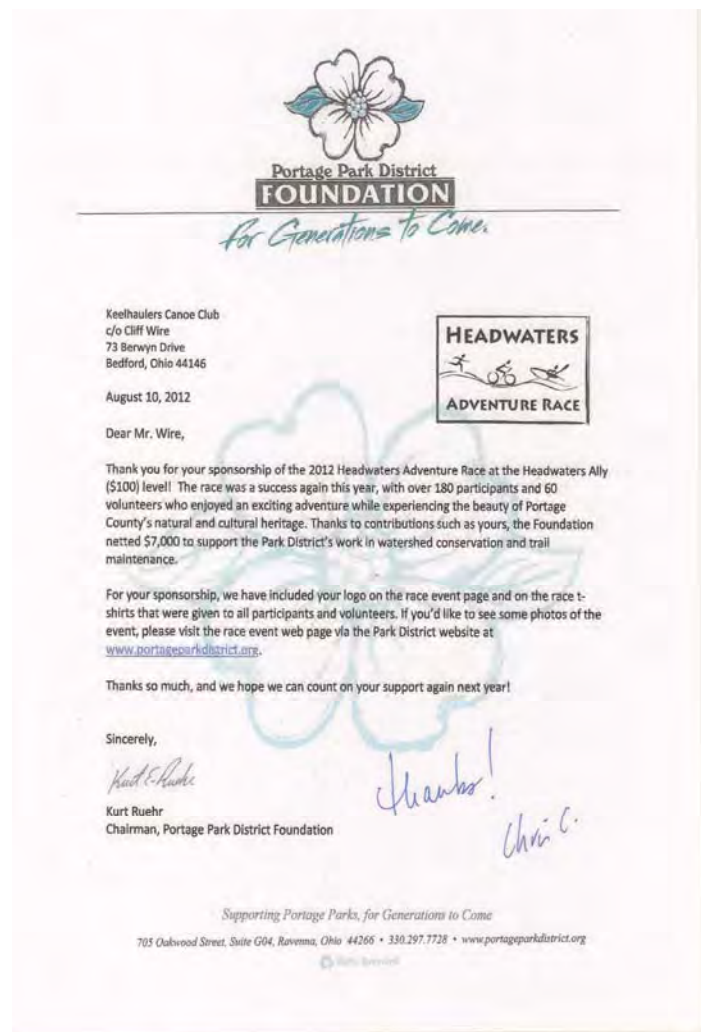
Adjourned for program "Congo" video by Steve Fisher provided by Dennis Dukeman.

WEB PAGE HELP REQUESTED.....

By John Kobak

I need people to provide information (Content) to keep the site updated and to find mistakes on the site and suggest corrections. The website keeps growing and is quite a burden. I spend 30 hrs. per week or more on the task. Part is because I like helping out the club, but I need more active help to keep the site up-to-date and relevant especially when I'm away in the winter and have less time or internet connectivity. Please consider giving me a hand with this project.

keelhauler@yahoo.com



OPPOSE HOUSE BILL 2224 THAT PUTS OUR PARKS AT RISK

If you enjoy state, county, and municipal parks, please contact your state senator very quickly to oppose House Bill 2224 that some refer to as the "parks for cash bill". If this bill passes, its impact could affect boaters, bicyclists, hikers, campers, fish and game enthusiasts, and family recreation not to mention wildlife and the health benefits that we all enjoy from green spaces.

HB 2224 puts public land, including our parks, at risk of being sold for short term financial gain. The legislation would remove court oversight (provided for in 1959) of the sale of some dedicated or donated parkland and public land at risk for quick sale in cash-strapped governments. The law could discourage landowners from donating or selling land under value for public purposes in the future as it shows that government cannot be trusted with such gifts.

It would also affect conservation easements - including those acquired with public funds - and other deed restrictions on publicly owned lands. Again, without court oversight.

State Rep. Bryan Cutler, R-Quarryville, who introduced HB 2224, made clear in a January letter to colleagues. HB 2224, he wrote, would make it easier for local governments to sell parks in a "challenging economy" (which opponents have dubbed "cash for parks"). And it would remove a "stealth weapon" that opponents use to block development.

The Senate reviewed the bill on September 24th and may vote on its future soon. More time is needed for proper evaluation of the bill's intended or unintended impact. For further details, please do an internet search of PA House Bill 2224 such as http://www.change.org/petitions/the-governor-of-pa-reject-house-bill-2224?utm_source=supporter_messa . A call or letter to your state senator is effective. You will find petitions to sign and sample letters such as the following one.

Dear Senator _____:

Reject House Bill 2224

Pennsylvania's Donated and Dedicated Property Act guarantees that any attempt to sell public parks, open space, recreation land, hunting and fishing areas and conservation easements, as well as buildings owned by the public must be reviewed by the Orphans Courts, acting as overseers of the trustees (officials of political subdivisions). These Court proceedings allow the Attorney General to oppose such sales in the Orphans Court in the county where the lands are situated, acting on behalf of the taxpayers/owners of the land. These Court proceedings also allow taxpayers to file lawsuits to prevent their lands and parks from being sold by local officials for short-term economic gain.

HB 2224 proposes to remove such Court review for public parks and other public lands and buildings if they were purchased, putting discretion solely in the hands of elected local officials. This would allow the sale of parks, recreation lands, etc. purely for short term economic benefit, which is not allowed by current law. It would allow local officials who may have ties to interested developers to declare the parks "under-used" or "impracticable to maintain" and sell them from public ownership, with no Court oversight. They would be sold for private development and private gain.

HB 2224 creates loopholes in the law to allow for the sale of public parks in cases where dedications and deed restrictions may be incomplete or defective, despite clear intent to dedicate to public use. In such cases, again Courts would have no jurisdiction.

HB 2224 is a thinly-veiled attempt to partially repeal the protections afforded public property by the Donated and Dedicated Property Act, and to facilitate the transfer of public parks and other public lands to private parties for private gain.

Anyone who uses public parks, public recreation, hunting or fishing areas, or believes in the preservation of open space and conservation easements should sign this petition.

Speak up now so future generations of Pennsylvanians will not be deprived of their parks and other public lands.

Sincerely,

(Your Name)

Bike & Kayak - RV Trip

By John Kobak

We thought we better do a second RV checkout trip before we go heading off to Mexico for the winter. We hate crowds of people so we decided why not leave on Labor Day when everyone else is going back home. That's when we always took our vacation trips before we had any kids old enough to go to school

Since I was the trip organizer for the first Gauley River weekend release I figured we shouldn't go too far, so we decided to do three different "Rails to Trails" bike rides in Ohio's Amish Country. The first nice paved trail starts in Fredericksburg just south of Wooster; it goes through Millersburg and ends in Killbuck. It is about a 15 mi long, called the [Holmes County Trail](#). The trail is unusual since it is a paved trail about 15' wide with half for Amish buggies and half for bikes. It makes it nicer for the bikes as it keeps the horse crap on their side of the trail. It is supposed to go another 15 miles to connect to the Mohican Valley Trail near Brinkhaven. I don't think they will ever finish that section.



There are two nice free places to RV camp right alongside the trail. The first place, Trailside Grill a nice local restaurant, is about 5mi south. The parking lot is a large field with a couple of porta-potties that the Amish seem to really make use of. We started here and had a nice 11 mi ride for Peggy to get used to pedaling again. It was in the 80's but cloudy.

We decided to bike from our camp to the Wal-Mart south of Millersburg early on Tuesday morning, since rain for forecast for the afternoon. It was about a 13 mi ride round trip. We did a little shopping and finally ended up at the Wal-Mart where we spent the night. This is the only Wal-Mart where you will see covered parking for the Amish buggies and horses. There is a McDonald's and Wendy's next to the parking lot that have free Wi-Fi which allowed me to find out who is coming down for our weekend Gauley paddling trip.

On Wednesday we drove over to Brinkhaven where there is another nice picnic, camping spot at the start of the [Mohican Valley Trail](#) and next to a 370' covered bridge called "The Bridge of Dreams" which carries the trail over the Mohican River.



There is a nice put-in right below the bridge for those with recreational kayaks or canoes. The trail is mostly dirt and with the past week's rain there were lots of muddy spots. The trail is also uphill as you go toward Danville. It's only about 5 mi long but more tiring than 10 mi of paved trail.



The trail connects to the [Kokosing Gap Trail](#) at Danville which has a nice parking and picnic pavilion. However we like the more natural area by the long bridge for overnight camping.

This 14 mi trail is paved and goes from Danville through Gambier, home of Kenyon College, and ends up in Mount Vernon's Phillips Park. We only biked to near Howard. This day's trip of 16 mi tired Peggy out because of the dirt uphill on the Mohican Trail. The KoGap trail was much nicer ride and can also be used as shuttle path for paddling sections of the Kokosing River.

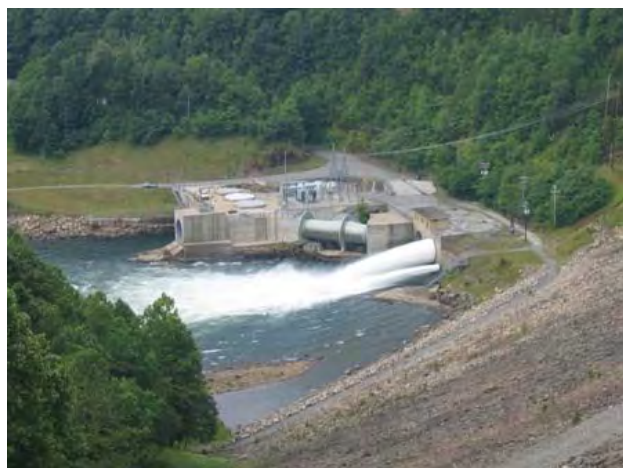


On Thursday we stopped in Coshocton to see Roscoe Village, a restored early American town. We then continued on to Battle Run Campground at the Gauley River Dam. Summersville Dam was built in the 1960's to provide flood control and good drinking water for the city of Charleston, WV. Each fall weekend they draw down the reservoir to provide room for the winter snow

melt and spring storms. They release 2800 cfs which is perfect for Kayaking and Rafting. It brings in crowds from all over the USA and Canada. The Upper is an expert only Class V run while the Lower Gauley is a slightly easier Class IV run.

Our plans were to have paddlers on both the Upper and Lower Gauley for Fri, Sat and Sun. We had 30 paddlers from OH, PA, MI, NY and SC. We fit all our members on 4 campsites. Everyone liked that it only cost \$2/nite for a beautiful class A campground.

Since the National Park bought the area around Wood's Ferry the shuttling has been much easier, especially for those choosing to run the Upper Gauley. The Lower paddlers use the Upper paddler's cars to get their drivers back to Wood's Ferry which is the take-out for the Upper paddlers. So there is no going back at end of



On Friday we had 6 paddlers on the Lower and 4 on the Upper. No swims by either group. The bulk of the paddlers arrived on Friday night. On Saturday we had 20 paddlers on the Lower and 5 on the Upper, with 2 more doing the 26 mi marathon. We had 2 young guys doing a double marathon, which required a very early start and getting off the Lower close to sunset.

Since my eyes keep getting worse I have been having trouble finding the easy lines down the river. Of course I still try to lead even though I can't really see that well. I had a really long surf at Koonst's Flume when I got into a large hydraulic. Everyone was waiting for me to swim out but I finally came out upright and managed to punch Five Boat Hole just below. There were lots of cheers, since they didn't want to go chase me anyway.

A few people left and two more came for Sunday's run. We had 9 paddlers on both the Upper & Lower. Peggy and I decided to head home. I was tired and we would have had to stay another night if I paddled, so that I could rest before our 6 hour drive back home.

Here is a list of all who came out for our first big Gauley weekend. There was a hard rain on Saturday, but the weather was still warm and we all had a great time.

Barry Adams	Bill Layton
Hugh Barrow	Annelies Layton
Matt Bernstein	Sabine Markoff
Jackie Blackwood	Joe Marks
Alan Blackwood	Jim McHale
Kathryn Byrnes	Bill Miller
Michael Duvall	Jim Murtha
Paul Eisner	Mark Poljak
Brian Hart	Pam Poljak
Brian Kish	Jen Raber
John Kobak	Phil Raber
Paul Lange	Dave Roush
Karen Frank	Eric Slough
Margaret ?	Glenn Wagner
	Cliff Wire



John Kobak in the hole above Pillow on the Upper Gauley

October			Time to Pay Dues	
10/5, 6	Upper Yough (MD) Last Saturday Release	32	John Kobak	440-871-1758 440-554-1383
10/9	Club Annual Election Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
10/12-14	MooseFest (NY)	27-30	Matt Muir	585-421-9826
10/13, 14	Upper & (5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27-33	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
10/13, 14	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Dave Roush	440-623-9035
10/13, 14	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
10/27,28	Russell Fork Fest paddle above Breaks (WV)	26	Cecil Tickamyer	814-234-1062

2012 Club Officers

President:	Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
VP:	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
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

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

KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

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

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the November issue of the newsletter is 10/23/12. 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, 2012



Keelhauler's



Ka-news

NOVEMBER, 2012



**Next Club Meeting is
Tuesday, November 13th.
Doors open at 7:00 PM,
meeting is at 8:00 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!

Message from the President By Michael Duvall

ELECTIONS were held at the October meeting. I have accepted a second year as president. Eugene Baker has stepped down as Vice President which leaves a void at that position. Eugene has taken another position as club Librarian along with continuing to be Race Chair for the Vermilion Race. Joe Marks was elected for a third term as Treasurer. Donna Homburg was elected club Secretary Jim Hunt was elected Trustee. We need to show our appreciation to all our officers and chair persons past and present for all their hard work. TRIP SCHEDULE April Hollis has volunteered for the position of trip scheduling for the coming year. Let's all help her out, step up and take some trips. Don't wait to be asked, contact her and with your ideas. We need all types of trips from sea kayaking to canoe trips on easy rivers as well as the white water trips. Our thanks to

all those that organized trips over the years, that's what makes this club one of the best in the country.

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

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

Michael

Membership Dues Overdue

All club memberships have expired on October 1st. As soon as you can, please mail a \$20 check for your **2013 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>

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

User Name: "dir" and the current 2012 password found on page

20 of our yearbook or the monthly e-mail.

If the last column by your name says 2 and not 3, you are not recorded as paid for 2013.

Dues that are paid by mail & received after 11/01/12 will not be recorded as paid until 12/21/12.

John Kobak - Membership Chairman

Club Meeting, October 2012

By Pat Guzowski

Guests:

Darren Bade of Kent is an experienced whitewater kayaker who teaches at KSU and is looking to meet some new folks to paddle with.

Elaine and Harold Marsh from the Friends Of The Crooked River.

Membership:

John Kobak reported about 95 members have paid their dues. **If you are one of the current members who has not paid, please pay as soon as possible.**

Library:

Eugene Baker has agreed to be the new KHCC Librarian.

Trips:

John Kobak reported that all of the Gauley release trips were well attended. John also reported on one serious accident which occurred on a KHCC trip. A 17 year old young man paddling with the club flipped at the second drop of lost paddle and suffered a broken nose, broken teeth, and stitches to his face.

Old Business:

Membership voted to accept the September minutes as published in the last newsletter.

Election:

President - Michael Duvall
Vice President - Vacant
Secretary - Donna Homburg
Treasurer - Joe Marks
Trustee - Cliff Wire
Terry Markoff
Jim Hunt

Slate was approved by the membership in attendance. Please note that we need someone to volunteer to fill the vacant Vice President job.

Program:

Elaine Marsh gave an impressive presentation on the state of the Crooked River Cuyahoga with emphasis on the state of dam removal efforts.

Treasurer:

Joe Marks reported:
Checking: \$4030, CDs: \$6760



Superfly launches a boof at National Falls in his Mutant

On the River with Superfly

By Uncle D

Facts are hard to dispute. It was a sunny day on the Upper Yough, it was 3:30 in the afternoon on Friday, and Superfly was about to miss his boof.

Don't blame yourself kid we've all been there before. Timing's a bit off, not much, but enough to cause you to pause at the lip and fall face first into a frothy pool of shame and regret. But missing your boof ain't the problem. No, I'll tell you what the problem is.

You've lost it kid. Oh sure, your still Fly. You'll always be Superfly, but here's the thing, your all washed up. Yeah, that's right, just another Johnny Come Lately with a bad boof and a bad attitude, showin' up at the river dressed to kill and dressed to thrill, well I ain't buyin' it cowboy and you know why? Cause facts are hard to dispute and I was in the eddy below National and let me tell you what I saw: A little boy getting tossed around in a little hole. Round and round and round and round goes the tough guy. I don't know what flushed out of the hole first, your water bottle or your guts. You might have been a legend at the top of National, but you were a "has been" at the bottom.

And another thing, what's with the Mutant? You get trashed in the playboat and suddenly the old creekboat comes out of storage. Hey Fly, say this in your best 12 year old girl voice:

"Oh no! I can't risk getting worked at National again. Once was a fluke but twice and I'm done for. Oh fellas, I'm having so much fun paddling the Mutant, just like old times..."

On and on and on with the bribble brabble, well talk is cheap, cheaper than a box of saltines and I ain't eating

crackers these days anyhow so keep that talk on the shelf cause I ain't buyin' that either.

Here's a little advice. Get up tomorrow, set the table and sit down to a healthy breakfast of juice, toast and a big bowl of toughen the f- up. And when you are through, head down to the station and turn in your sheriffs badge and gun cause you can't shoot straight anymore. After that, start the car, get out the map and head straight to a little town called Ohiopyle. Spend a season or two catching eddies, surfing waves and picking flowers at the takeout and when you are ready for the big leagues, come on back to Friendsville. And hang in there kid, you'll always be Superfly to us.

How long to paddle class V?

by Jon McNulty, from rec.boats.paddle
reprinted at Cliff's request

A number of recent threads on the Upper G., creeking close calls, how long before paddling class V?, play boat vs creekboat design, etc. have me cogitating so I thought I'd throw out some of these thoughts to be considered. Indigenous natives are commonly renowned for their survival abilities under what may be fairly forbidding or rigorous year-round conditions. Arctic natives, desert dwellers, etc., are often looked to as laudable examples of surviving in the wild successfully using only your own abilities and wits to augment minimal available technological resources. In the book "Into the Wild", Krakauer describes the end of the life of Chris McCandless, a romantic adventurer who ventured into the wilds of Alaska equipped with a small caliber rifle, little food and his own resourcefulness. After several months, McCandless died due to the culmination of the effects of a series of seemingly inconsequential and unrelated decisions. Chris McCandless, in his own way, was attempting to recreate the primitive man experience and went into the bush knowing that he was taking a calculated risk and that he may not return if things did not go well. However, the one thing that Chris McCandless did not consider and most noticeably lacked was a background of local native lore.

Native lore (as I am using it here) is the cumulative knowledge of successful and unsuccessful survival strategies passed on to the youth of an indigenous tribe in a hundred different ways. The accumulation of this lore occurs while a native in a hostile environment is growing up and is presumably protected to some degree by their sheltering elders. Direct instruction, bits and pieces of knowledge gleaned from overheard conversations around the fire, legends passed down over generations, traditions in hunting and food gathering practices, and personal experiences during the youthful

learning curve for comparison against the background knowledge gained from the successful elders of the tribe all combined to provide skills, knowledge and the instincts required to avoid the subtle missteps which killed Chris McCandless.

Hard water boating has many similarities to surviving in a hostile local environment. Once you commit to the river you are in a physical environment which is impervious to your manipulations. The river doesn't care if you are on it or not. The river is a force. Thus, a paddler must have the physical and mental skills to control their fate in this potentially hostile environment. The truly athletically gifted and motivated paddler can, particularly with today's boat designs, rapidly advance in the physical skills of boat control. However, the paddler that goes from ground zero to class V in a period of months is similar to Chris McCandless in that they lack the "native lore" that will keep them from making the many small missteps that can result in disaster.

There is another analogy to this in surgery. I teach surgery to veterinary students, and perform surgery on client animals, for a living. A skilled surgeon can make a complicated procedure appear deceptively simple. A very talented student could potentially closely mimic the moves made in a given procedure and thus give the appearance of being an advanced surgeon. However, no two procedures, similar to sequential runs on a given river, will progress the same. As the student repeats a procedure small variances in what is done will creep in. The experienced surgeon will know where the limits of the envelope are so that any variances in technique will remain within these boundaries and the procedure will be completed successfully time and time again. The talented student will not know where the boundaries of the envelope reside and will eventually blunder into these limits and cause a complication. This will occur because the student has not had sufficient time learning or being mentored enough to have acquired the necessary "native lore".

The connection to paddling hard water is obvious. No matter how many days you might paddle over a couple of months you will not run into enough variances of your runs under different conditions of water levels, fatigue, glare, type of runs, cold, altitude hypoxia and on and on to acquire the innate sense of where the boundaries of the envelope resides. In class V paddling, the boundaries are dangerous, possibly fatal. Having the physical skills to make the moves is not enough. A paddler needs to be aware of the vagaries of chance that can induce variances in their runs. They need to be able to at least try to predict the potential for these variances and be able to change plans accordingly, often in an instant. Each and every factor which can affect where you and your boat may end up is an opportunity for a small misstep which may or may not lead to a series of events

culminating in injury or tragedy. These factors include everything about the boating experience boat design choice, other equipment, repertoire of paddle strokes, special moves for various conditions, strength, ability to use the water, efficiency of motion to prevent fatigue over long paddles, nerve, etc. The list of relevant factors is long and often situation specific. Having the physical skills is mandatory. However, more subtly, having the ingrained "native lore" to make the correct judgments 100% of the time is just as necessary. In paddling, "native lore" includes the foreknowledge of how each discernible factor may affect your boating and also, whenever possible, an intimate knowledge of the hazards of a specific river. For exploratories, having a broad base of experience comprising your "native lore" will allow you to best judge the risks of a particular river or rapid while scouting. For me, it is the necessary physical skills combined with an experience-based "native lore" that makes for a long and joyous paddling lifetime. This is why my answer to "how long to paddle class V?" is 3 years, not 3 months.

October 13-14 Middle Yough Trip By Eugene Baker

I missed the first two Middle Yough weekend trips this year but they, like the other three, were a big success. The last scheduled Middle Yough trip for the 2012 season was Oct 13-14.

We had four boaters confirmed for this last trip and when we were putting on the river we met three newer paddlers who had never paddled the Middle Yough. We asked them if they would like to run with us and they gladly accepted. So, our group of seven headed down the river.

We stopped at the various rapids and worked on basic skills and it was apparent that this was new to some of our group. We had a few swims and got to practice our rescue skills. At the same time we got a somewhat tame lesson in why floatation is so important. It is really difficult to move a boat full of water. Also, if you attach yourself to such a boat it easily rolls over and becomes even more difficult to deal with. The best thing to do is for two boaters to work together and empty the boat and then get it to the side. This will probably result in the boat being significantly farther downstream than the paddler; "keep swimming"!

By the time we reached the takeout the skills of the group had improved a lot. Most of them ran the slot at Elephant Rock and then tried their hand at surfing the

wave. Then we ran Z and I gave the group a terrible line to run over the last drop. Fortunately we bounced through it upright. Looking back I could see that the correct line was about five feet to the right of our line. One fellow let me know that I had done a pretty poor job of leading that rapid. He was right about that.

Not too many of our experienced club members are willing to paddle this section of the Yough because of the "doldrums". I would like to ask that some of you consider giving it a go at least once a season. Usually the group is biggest on Saturday and it would be nice to be able to split up into two groups. When the group gets to seven or more it is difficult manage. Many of the opportunities to practice skills are missed and the group gets stretched out. The new paddlers that come to these trips are eager to learn are they are very appreciative of the help that is given to them. Often it is a bit overwhelming as there are more newbie's than oldies. So please give it some thought and if you can help out just once a year it would be greatly appreciated.

Eugene, aka: Middle Yough Master of Disaster

2013 Flatwater Trip Organizing By John Kobak

Each year the club puts together a great WW schedule. It is the prime reason we have so many out-of-state members in our club.

However we have 100 paddlers in our club interested in flatwater trips and they are all from Ohio. If you look back when the club first started we had all sorts of trips on flat water rivers in Northern Ohio. No one was an expert paddler. The organizers just looked at some maps now we can look at all sorts of river information on-line. [ODNR's NE Ohio River Information](#)
[ODNR's SE Ohio River Information](#)
This link for free [Ohio Water Trail Maps](#)

Popular trips that the club organized in the past were on the following rivers;

Black River	Huron River
Chagrin River	Kokosing River
Conneaut Creek	Little Beaver Creek
Cuyahoga - Below Peck Road	Mohican River
Cuyahoga - Kent	Rocky River
Cuyahoga - National Park	Sandusky River
Cuyahoga - Upper	Shenango River
French Creek	Tuscarawas River

Grand River
Walhonding River

Vermilion River

Now some of these are only paddable in the spring but most have sections paddable any month of the year. All the links to maps and flow information are available on Keel-Haulers web pages.

Now the rub, the WW paddlers gladly volunteer to organize WW trips but we need some of you 100 Flatwater/Sea Kayakers to step forward and offer to organize a FW trip.

There is no need for you to have ever paddled the river or organized a trip before, all it takes is for you to commit one or two days in the whole year to do it. Here are is a link to what is expected of you, [Organizer Responsibility](#).

November is trip planning month, we need to complete our schedule by 12/22 so that the trip will appear in the yearbook.

April Hollis is our Trip Schedule Chairperson this year but Chuck Singer is our Sea Kayaking chairman. Perhaps Chuck can coordinate and help put together the FW schedule. This doesn't mean he is organizing the trips, it means he is getting organizers for our FW trips.

Contact info: singerchu@yahoo.com, 440-949-6681

Keel Haulers 2013 Trips

As many of you know, I am putting together the schedule of next year's Keel Hauler's trips. We have a great schedule which is a big draw for new and long-term club members. Thank you to all who have organized trips in the past and are organizing this year! It is very much appreciated.

I ask that if you have not organized a trip before, please consider stepping up this year and offering to organize a trip. It can be any river, and any weekend of your choosing. The organizer is not required to lead on the river; they can simply serve as a point of contact and information source for those wishing to go on the trip. It's a lot of fun and a great way to give back to the club!

As I said, organizers can choose any weekend and any river they like, but we are also looking for people who can step up and take over some of the following trips

that were offered last year and are now in need of an organizer. --April Hollis, apstylehollis@gmail.com

May: 31 Upper Yough and/or Big Sandy

June: 28, 29 Upper Yough

July: 5, 6 Upper Yough

August: Aug. 30, 31, Sept. 2 Upper Yough Labor Day Weekend

September: 14-15 Lower Yough and 14-15 Upper/Lower Gauley

'Wet the Dries'

By C.V. Moore [Register-Herald Reporter](#)

Reprinted from the [The Register-Herald.com](#)
website, October 1, 2012

"Wet The Dries" — that's the goal of a coalition of groups that wants to see more water released from Hawks Nest Dam for whitewater recreation. With the dam's license coming up for review, the group is pushing for a study of the economic impact of such a project, which they say would create 5.3 new miles of Class III whitewater in Fayette County.

The "Wet The Dries Coalition" is led by West Virginia Professional River Outfitters (WVPRO), an advocacy group for the whitewater industry. They are joined by nine other groups, including the New River Clean Water Alliance, Plateau Action Network and the Hydropower Reform Coalition.

Friday, the Fayette County Commission agreed to write a letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), which oversees the licensing process for hydro dams, in support of a study. The county commission neither endorsed nor disavowed the project. The utility operating the dam says it's too early to comment on particulars of the proposal.

Hawks Nest Hydro LLC, a subsidiary of Brookfield Renewable Energy, is the licensee of the dam, which diverts much of the New River through a 3.5-mile tunnel underneath Gauley Mountain to a hydroelectric plant selling power to the West Virginia Alloys Inc./Globe Metallurgical smelting facility in Alloy. "The relicensing process for the Hawks Nest hydropower facility includes many opportunities for dialogue with all stakeholders," says David Barnhart, director of operations at Brookfield Renewable Energy

Group's Mid-America Regional Operations Center. "This is just one of what we expect will be many environmental, industrial, recreational, agency, public and energy proposals from a range of stakeholders. The relicensing process is designed to provide a forum for stakeholder input and to balance competing interests." "The Dries" is a 5.3-mile stretch of low water with a minimum flow of 100 cfs between the dam and the confluence of the New and Gauley rivers at Gauley Bridge, where the water re-emerges from the tunnel.

The coalition hopes to introduce conditions into the new license that would "provide seasonal flows downstream of the Hawks Nest Dam which are adequate for commercial and private whitewater recreation," akin to controlled releases from the Summersville Dam during Gauley season. They say their initial study concluded that 3,000 CFS released seven days a week from Memorial Day to Labor Day would use 2.7 percent of the power-generating flows. They say this will be offset when a hydro plant in Glen Ferris comes back online in the near future.

A statement from the coalition given to the county commission emphasizes that "it is critical that no jobs are impacted by this project." "We support clean renewable power, local industry and a strong Fayette County. The smelting plant at Alloy is a cornerstone of the economy... It is our view that new jobs can be created and more Fayette County communities can benefit from expanding the recreational opportunities in the New River Gorge."

Bobby Bower of WVPRO says the proposed study would also look at the potential environmental impacts of leaving The Dries dry for so long. Kathleen Tyner of the West Virginia Rivers Coalition, a member group of Wet the Dries Coalition, says it would be "great for the ecosystem." Bower calls the area around The Dries "the gem of the gorge," but says access to the area is limited at the moment. "It's gorgeous from Chimney Corner to Gauley Bridge," he says. "It's a special place and it's not very often that people can enjoy it."

The whitewater wouldn't be as wild as that of the Lower New, and might be more suitable for families with younger children. But that's OK with the outfitters. "The rafting business has been dwindling," says Bower. "The areas in the country, especially in the East, that have mellower sections of Class III whitewater — their business is actually growing. "The only ones growing in the whitewater industry nationwide are those that rely on these hydro releases. So it could be huge for the area."

Already, two Facebook groups--"Wet the Dries" and

"Keep the Dries Dry"--have been created. "Wet The Dries," with 442 "likes," has posted photos of what the area looked like before the dam was built in 1930 and assures that fishing and boating on Hawks Nest Lake would not be affected. "Keep the Dries Dry," on the other hand, claims that "There's plenty of whitewater available out there. Hydroelectric power needs outweigh those of boaters and fishermen."

At least one area rock climber has expressed concerns that the water would cover up a favorite bouldering area. The Dries, near Cotton Hill, are also a fishing and recreation spot for locals.

Bower's group will meet with the governor's office soon to brief them on their proposal. "It's an interesting time and a big project to work on, so we're real excited," he says.

The FERC will hold two public scoping meetings on the project. The first, on Oct. 17 at 7 p.m. at Hawks Nest State Park Lodge, is primarily for receiving input from the public. The second, on Oct. 18 at 10 a.m. at Hawks Nest State Park Lodge, will focus on resource agency, Indian tribes and non-governmental organization concerns. "We invite all interested individuals, organizations and agencies to attend one or both of the meetings, and to assist staff in identifying particular study needs, as well as the scope of environmental issues to be addressed in the environmental document," says a statement from the FERC.

In addition to Brookfield, the U.S. Department of the Interior, the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, The West Virginia Highlands Conservancy, the West Virginia Attorney General, West Virginia Press Services and HDR Engineering are all associated with the FERC proceedings.

For more information on the "Wet The Dries" campaign, visit www.americasbestwhitewater.com/wet-the-dries//ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp.

The public can follow the dam's licensing process by e-subscribing to docket P-2512 at <http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp>: The key documents are the Pre-Application Document (PAD) and the Scoping Document (SD), which have already been filed. They can be reviewed at the eLibrary on [ferc.gov](http://www.ferc.gov). Search for the P-2512 docket and then click the "File List" link under the appropriate documents (labeled "NOI/PAD" and "Letter inviting interested agencies to participate in the meetings"). The Scoping Document will also be available at the upcoming public meetings.

— E-mail: cmoore@register-herald.com

New Happenings on the Cuyahoga, Part I: Dam Removal

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

By Matt Muir

Your Keel-haulers Conservation Fund has helped support Friends of the Crooked River for several years. FoCR continues to do great work advocating and educating for our Cuyahoga River.

Two down; four to go!

The Crooked River has endured innumerable insults over the years. In the 19th century, if a tourist in a party boat fell into the river, it was considered a dire threat to their health. A few times in the 1900's, it caught fire—most famously in 1969. This was one of the inspirations for the Clean Water Act. Since then, by fits and starts, the Cuyahoga has been getting cleaner and more healthy.

Most discharges into the river have been removed, which was the first step in cleanup. But two issues have been huge obstacles to improving the water quality: Dams and Combined Sewer Overflows. Next month will have an article about CSOs; this bit is about the dams.



The Kent Dam Restoration, with Bypass under Construction (from ODNR)

Dams are not only an impediment to navigation, or drowning machines. They're bad for the river's health. They prevent fish passage upstream. Perhaps more importantly, they create a flatwater "pool" upstream. The pool doesn't have the natural aeration that rapids have. The result is that the Dissolved Oxygen content of the water is low. Without Dissolved Oxygen, many fish and other aquatic species can't live. The river gets skanky and smelly.

So what's happening? Well, there were nine dams, as of 1992. We're talking about the Kent Dam, the Munroe Falls Dam, the Lefever and Sheraton Dams in Cuyahoga Falls, the First Energy Dam at the Cuyahoga Falls / Akron border, the Peninsula Dam just North of Rte. 303, and the Brecksville Dam, known to many Keel-haulers as the "Route 82 Dam." (Two dams, on the East Branch and Lake Rockwell, are reservoir dams; their purpose is clear, and there's no push to remove them.)

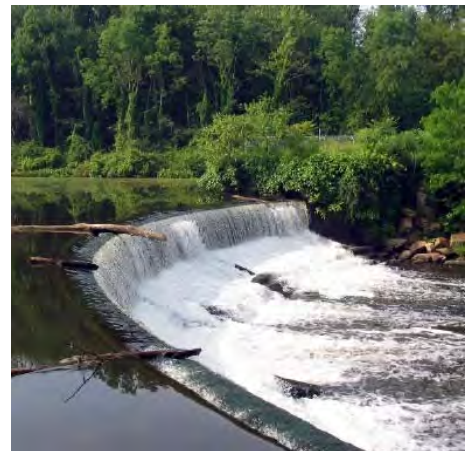
The Peninsula Dam is a small one, and it's been breached by age and weather. (Twenty years or so ago, on a high-water day when I had little control of my wildwater boat, I remember floating over it, sideways. The ensuing swim wasn't much fun.) It used to be a total drowning machine. It's still a sketchy drop, with quite a bit of rebar to snag the unwary paddler.

Two Came Down

In the 1990's, the Ohio EPA began to push for dam removal. A few Keel-haulers attended a public meeting in Kent to support the removal of that dam, in the face of some public opposition (people called it a "waterfall").

In a compromise, the Kent Dam wasn't completely removed; instead, it was bypassed, in a \$3.8-million project that included construction of a public park. The work was completed on River Day, 2005. There is now a [Class I-II "training-ground" section](#) beginning at Brady's Leap. It has a good surfing spot at some levels, [Kent State University is renting out canoes and kayaks](#), and Kent is considering constructing a whitewater park there.

The Munroe Falls Dam also encountered local resistance. After all, the Village of Munroe Falls was named after this 12-foot Dam. But removal was approved, and as it began, a small rapid was found at its foundation. So the Village can retain its name. The removal of this dam took place in 2006, removing the two-mile-long dam pool upstream; a small park was constructed and completed in 2011. ODNR's Steve Tuckerman has conducted [studies which show](#) "marked improvements of the fish community, [including northern pike and smallmouth bass](#), less than 1 year after dam modifications in Kent and improved dissolved oxygen concentrations after the Munroe Falls dam removal."



The Munroe Falls Dam (from ODNR)



After Removal of the Munroe Falls Dam (from ODNR)

Three Will Go

Removal of the Lefever and Sheraton Dams, in downtown Cuyahoga Falls, was scheduled for 2012. The City had \$1 million dollars in grant money from the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District for the removal of the dams and river restoration. It went out for bids, but was delayed by a sour-grapes protest by

a company that didn't get the bid. The city re-filed for bids, but this all cost five or six months. This meant that the dam removal would not begin prior to the August celebration of Cuyahoga Falls' 200th anniversary, as originally intended. The project was fully approved in August of 2012, but again work has been delayed, as the Army Corps of Engineers has determined that it has some authority. It's required core sampling of sediments—which has been done, and the samples are being analyzed.



Paddlers running the Lefever Dam, celebrating Cuya Falls' Bicentennial.

Despite delays, this removal will happen. The Ohio EPA wants it, as do the US EPA, Cuyahoga Falls, and various stakeholders. The contract terms are that it must be completed within two years of the granting of the contract. The removal will begin in 2013 (subject to safe water levels), and the whole project must be finished by August 2014. The first dam to come out will be the Sheraton Dam, with its infamous hydraulic that has captured a few paddlers in its day. (See [these photos](#) and [this article](#).) The project will retain the old Powerhouses at both dams for historic and structural reasons; parts of the dams will be used to restore them.



Soon, this hydraulic will be gone.

The third dam slated for removal is the Brecksville Dam. This one is a well-known lowhead, creating an insidious drowning machine, and restricting fish passage. As part of the consent decree related to removal of the CSOs (see next month's article), the City of Akron is required to donate \$900,000 to the project to remove this dam, in lieu of fines. Friends of the Crooked River has done a \$120,000 study for this project. The Cuyahoga Valley National Park needs an Environmental Impact Statement. As of October 9, moneys were available for this EIS. One

complication here is that some water at this dam is diverted for recreation—CVNP Cleveland MetroParks uses it for the Ohio & Erie Canal, both for a historical center and for beginners' paddling classes. This dam will be removed, but the timing is not yet certain.

The 100-Year-Old Monstrosity

This brings us to the Big One: the First Energy Dam in Gorge MetroPark. This dam, just upstream of the put-in for the [Lower Gorge](#), was built in 1914—drowning the impressive Class-IV or V cascade of waterfalls which the city was named for. It's 59 feet tall and 400 feet wide. Originally used for hydropower, its hydro operations ceased in 1958. The dam pool upstream was used as cooling water for an upstream fossil-burning power plant until 1992, at which *those* operations also ended. Thus, it has had no useful purpose for twenty years.



Paddlers have long viewed the dam, its skanky pool (it's some of the smelliest water I've ever paddled in), and photos of the gnarliest rapid (the "Capacow") that it's put under several feet of water, and wondered "What if?" Personally, I recall asking at a public meeting in the 1990's about removal of the dam. Akron's Engineer, a conservative old guy, told me that I "don't understand" issues of sedimentation, flood control, etc. How he could ascertain my level of understanding from one simple question, was quite beyond me.

The whole concept of this dam's removal took a huge hit in the past decade, as a company named Advanced Hydro Solutions sought approval for a project to generate a small amount of hydropower from the water impounded by the dam. It took six years for stakeholders, including FoCR and MetroParks Serving Summit County, to defeat this proposal. AHS dropped its permit application in 2009 and ended the project.

So, we were back to "What if?" Well, at the Cuya Falls Bicentennial, Mayor Robart surprised many of us by predicting that it would be removed, perhaps in as little as five years.

Awesome!

The "Capacow", before the dam.

Such removal is far more complicated than the four dams upstream. There are 832,000 cubic yards of sediment at the bottom of the dam pool. Considering the cities' industrial past, it's no surprise that these sediments include PCBs, polyaromatic hydrocarbons, and heavy metals. Several stakeholders have been identified: MetroParks Serving Summit County, First Energy, the cities of Akron and Cuyahoga Falls, and Summit County—and that's not counting FoCR, and other environmental and



Damn that Dam!

A Request for Proposals for an Engineering Study on Removal will be out this year. With the two EPAs pushing for a cleaner Cuyahoga, we can expect this project to go forward. Elaine estimates that it will take about seven years. (I'm *really* looking forward to running the Capacow Rapid; how 'bout you?)

recreational groups. Any removal project would require at least five components:

- 1) Feasibility Study
- 2) Plan for Sediment Management
- 3) Engineering Analysis
- 4) Permit and Study Requests
- 5) Funding Strategy.

November			Pay Dues	
11/3	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-19	Pat Guzowski??	216-780-5734
11/13	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
11/10	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4-6:00 PM		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
11/18, 25	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 9-11:00 AM		Doug Lyons	330-402-6909
11/17, 24	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 8:30-9:45 PM		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
December			Last Chance to Pay Dues	
12/1	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-19	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
12/11	Club Holiday Party at Middleburg Hts Community Center		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
12/2,9,16,23,30	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 9-11:00 AM		Doug Lyons	330-402-6909
12/8	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4-6:00 PM		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
12/15, 29	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3:00-5:00 PM		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
	_____		_____	



2012 Club Officers

President:	Michael Duvall	216-521-0094
VP:	Eugene Baker	440-320-4490
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

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

KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

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

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the December issue of the newsletter is 11/23/12. 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, 2012



Keelhauler's Ka-news DECEMBER, 2012



**Next Club Meeting is
Tuesday, December 11th.
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:**

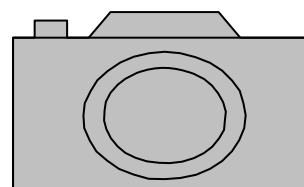
**A-E: Bread or Appetizer
F-L: Dessert or Fruit
M-R: Main dish or Casserole
S-Z: Salad or Vegetable**

**The club will supply beverages,
plates and plastic ware.**

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

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

ATTENTION PHOTOGRAPHERS



Your boating and outdoor photos are needed for the 2013 KHCC Yearbook. Digital photos are requested. They should be .jpg format and be at least 1 mb in file size. Color or black&white are just fine.

E-mail them to: jhunt4115@yahoo.com

Please attach no more than 5 photos to a single e-mail. Please include for each photo: who took the picture, who is in the picture, where the picture was taken, any other info you think I need to know.

Any questions e-mail me or call: 330.335.5203

Jim Hunt, KHCC Yearbook Editor

Message from the President By Michael Duvall

HAPPY HOLIDAYS - I hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving. December 11 we will have a party instead of regular meeting and I hope everyone that is in driving range can attend. There is a list of suggested dishes to bring to the pot-luck dinner. The club will provide beverages. Come and party with all the people you paddled with or wish to paddle with.

TRIP SCHEDULE - April Hollis is taking care of scheduling our trips for the coming year and she can

use your help so step up and organize a trip or two. If you didn't see the kind of trip you like on last year's schedule you should contact her and with your ideas. Remember we need all types of trips from sea kayaking to canoe trips on easy rivers as well as the white water trips. Our thanks to all those that organized trips over the years, that's what makes this club one of the best in the country.

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

January and February meetings will be social meetings after a pool session. After an afternoon of practicing our rolls we will regroup at a local tavern. We plan on having one get together at Lakewood and one at Orange, so stay tuned for time and place.

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

Michael

Club Meeting, November 12, 2012

By Donna Homberg

12 attendees.

Guests and new members: Liz Clingman

Minutes approved for last format meeting approved as posted in newsletter

Chair reports:

Established Vermilion River race date-
March 24th, 2013

Financial Report-none

Yearbook- Jim Hunt is looking for pics

Old Business-none

New Business-discussed new meeting place of Westlake Library or Independence. Email survey
Possibly.

Trip Reports:

Eugene Baker paddled the Middle Yough along with 10-12 on Saturday and 2 on Sunday. Good trip.
Chuck Singer paddled the Black using the new launch site. A grant was provided from the OD&R to the Metro Parks to provide this launch site
Bob Bair paddled a micro trip on the Vermilion. Good day for bird watching.

Jan & Feb will be pool sessions with meeting & refreshments after the roll sessions

Adjourned for program by Mike Duvall about his Quebec Kayak Trip paddling 3 sections of the Jacques Cartier River that leads to the St Lawrence Seaway. They also paddled sections of the Rouge River. Recommended reading before this trip was Let it Rain by Alden Bird.

Has Your Membership Expired?

Club membership year ends on October 1st.

Most members have paid their 2013 membership dues.

Have You? Your monthly password e-mail will warn you that this is your last newsletter. If not send your \$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>

Note that any checks that were sent to me after 11/01 will not be recorded as paid until 12/22/12. I do get all Paypal payments as soon as they are submitted.

John Kobak - Membership Chairman

View our Mexican Trip Blog

<http://khemexico10.blogspot.com/>

New Happenings on the Cuyahoga, Part II: Combined Sewer Overflows

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

By Matt Muir

Ever wonder about the funny smells you get when you're paddling the Cuyahoga Gorge? Well, the rapids called "Sewer Pipe Hole" and "What's That Smell?" are no act of nature. They're in part the result of Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs). Old-style municipal systems combined storm runoff with sewage collection. After heavy rains, the water collection overwhelms the municipal storage capacity, and the overflow is discharged to the nearest stream—including the human-generated "Brown Trout," with all its *e. coli* flavor.



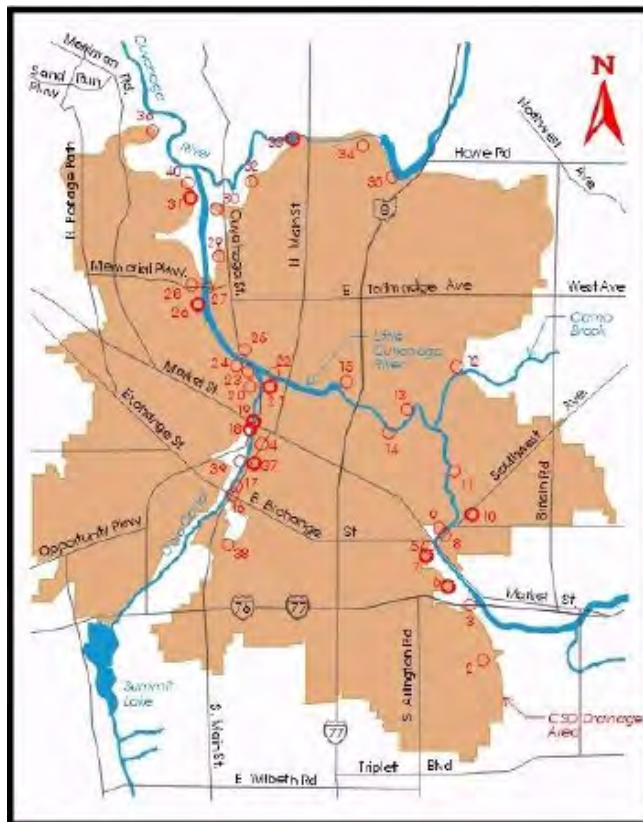
It looks white, but it's really brown.

As whitewater paddlers, of course we hit The Gorge when it's rained hard enough to give us high water. So every time you roll in there, that's what you're putting your face in.

For two decades, this has been a problem. At times the City of Akron has delayed, shucked, and jived its way to doing very little about this. It's conducted the occasional study, and decided its citizens didn't want to spend the money. The city did construct one storage facility to mitigate overflows. "Rack 40," built on Cuyahoga Street, cut the (estimated) average overflow volume in a typical year by 37%.

But the US EPA lost its patience in March, 2009, and filed a "complaint" against the City of Akron. Eight

months thereafter, Akron entered into a "Consent Decree," legalese for "All right, I'll do it, already—now will you leave me alone?"



Akron CSO map—lots of discharges!

Akron has really stepped up to the plate and taken the bull by the horns here. There is an extensive plan to improve storage capacity and remove the CSOs. Scoping and bidding began in 2011; the first actual CSO removal would take place in 2013, and the whole project will be completed by October 15, 2028.

Yeah, you heard me. 2028. It's a big, complex project (there are 40 Akron CSOs on the Cuyahoga, Little Cuyahoga, and other tribs.) It may as much as triple the monthly water bill for Akron residents. This is a major commitment that Akron's pursuing—greater than the efforts put forth by many other cities of its size. Even while the Consent Decree is yo-yo-ing from one court to another, Akron is working toward fixing its poop system.

What is the nature of the improvement? Well, in 1992, the typical year saw 50 rain events when the storm system would be overwhelmed and sewage would be

discharged. After the planned improvements, there will be no sewage discharges into waterways. None. Nada. Zilch.

In concert with this plan, Akron will spend \$900K to remove the Brecksville Dam (see last month's article) and pay \$500K in civil penalties. (Note: this is an expensive proposition, but it's not out of line with other communities.

Pittsburgh's Capital Improvement Plan is expected to come in at a cool \$3 million bucks, and Cincinnati and Columbus are planning to spend \$2 and \$2.5 million, respectively.)

It's important to note that Akron's CSO cleanup isn't final at this point. Judge John Adams has rejected Akron's plans before (because they weren't

cleaning up enough CSOs in his judgment), and he's considering the current proposal. But to its credit, Akron is moving forward with its plans anyway—apparently recognizing that it will have to clean up the CSOs, and that delay will only cost the city in the long run. The removal of the Brecksville Dam, described in last month's article, is dependent on the judge's approval of the Consent Decree.

This is Akron's plan. There are other CSOs on the river, too; the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, NEORS, has dozens of CSOs on the Cuyahoga and its tribs, for example. [NEORS has invested over \\$900 million into cleaning up its CSOs.](#) However, in 2011-12, there were 25 discharge events. NEORS is also under a Consent Decree aimed at cleaning up its CSO mess.

So, thanks to lots of activists including FoCR, as well as agencies such as the two EPAs, the river is getting cleaner. And paddlers will have to rename those rapids.

Treasurer's Report

By Joe Marks

KEELHAULERS INCOME AND EXPENSES

Category Description	2011 Actuals	2012 Actuals	2013 Budget
INCOME			
Conservation Income	\$35.00	\$54.00	\$50.00
Dues	\$5,128.00	\$5404.37	\$5,530.00
Interest	\$19.00	\$20.00	\$22.00
Rescue Weekend Income	-0-	-0-	-0-
Reservations	\$222.00	\$118.00	\$200.00
Vermilion Race Income	\$1,486.00	\$1287.84	\$1,500.00
Uncategorized/Misc.	-0-	-0-	-0-
TOTAL INCOME	\$6,890.00	\$6884.21	\$7,302.00
EXPENSES			
Club Promotion	-0-	-0-	-0-
Conservation Donations	\$2,225.00	\$2725	\$2,325.00
Website/Domain	\$216.00	\$246.37	\$250.00
Library	-0-	\$200.00	\$200.00
Meeting Hall	\$75.00	1464.11	\$650.00
Miscellaneous	-0-	-0-	-0-
News Letter	\$963.00	514.86	-0-
Organization Dues	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Postage & Supply	\$115.00	\$172.14	\$200.00
Refreshments	-0-	-0-	-0-
Rescue Weekend Expense	-0-	-0-	-0-
Vermilion Race Expense	\$1,403.00	\$500.00	\$1,150.00
Yearbook Print	\$1,343.00	\$1342.82	\$1,350.00
Yearbook Postage	\$306.00	\$319.65	\$250.00
Yough Reservations	\$210.00	\$180.00	\$200.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$6,906.00	7714.95	\$6625.00
OVERALL TOTAL	\$(16)	\$(830.74)	\$677.00
Checking Balance as of Oct .2012	\$5734.86		
C/D Balances as of Jan. 2012	\$6,760.00		

CONSERVATION DONATIONS

	2011 Actual	2012 Actual
American Whitewater	\$575.00	\$575
Friends of Cheat	\$500.00	\$500
Friends of Crooked River	\$300.00	\$300
Grand Canyon Private Boaters Assoc.	\$150.00	\$150
American Rivers	\$100.00	\$150
West Virginia Rivers Coalition	-0-	\$200
River Network	\$100.00	\$100
Nature Conservancy	\$150.00	\$150
Western Reserve Rowing Assoc.	\$250.00	0
Portage Park District	\$100.00	\$100
Upper Yough Parking Fund		\$500
TOTAL:	\$2,225.00	\$2725

FOOTNOTES:

Since much of the previous year's meeting hall expense was turned in after the end of the FY they are included in this year.

Members still tend to not pay their dues until after the end of the FY (September 30th)

Upper Yough Parking Fund expense is a 1 time donation that was added after the budget was set

The Vermillion Race expenses were lower this year because the Club did not have to purchase award medals this year.

Compared to previous years, next year's budget does not include expenses for newsletter printing/mailing.

December			Last Chance to Pay Dues	
12/1	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-19	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541
12/11	Club Holiday Party at Middleburg Hts Community Center		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916
12/2,9,16 23,30	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 9-11:00 AM		Doug Lyons	330-402-6909
12/8	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4-6:00 PM		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
12/15, 29	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3:00-5:00 PM		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
January	2013			
1/5	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3-5:00 PM		Marius Asipauskas	216-200-6321
1/6,13,20,27	KH Roll Session at Meyers Lake YMCA pool - 9-11:00 AM		Doug Lyons	330-402-6909
1/19	Club Get-Together at the Fox & Hound Restaurant < everyone PM, 6:30 at session?? Roll Orange the after Hts Mayfield in>		Dennis Dukeman	330-699-2916

We need trip organizers for 2013.

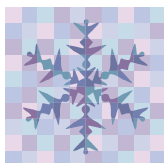
Please take a look at last year's trip schedule to see if you want to lead a similar trip in 2013.

See the [2012 Trip Schedule](#)

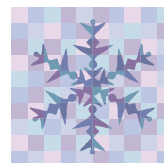
If you have a trip to add or change, please E-Mail [April Hollis](#)

Or Call April at 703-915-6382

Please consider adding a new trip!!!



Have a safe and happy holiday season!



2013 Club Officers

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

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

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

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

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

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

KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

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

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the January issue of the newsletter is 12/26/12. 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
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December, 2012

