

Keel-hauler's Ka-news

❄️ JANUARY, 2022



Next meeting: February. To Be Announced...

Any questions? Contact: Brian Smart at bsmart@keelhauler.org

President's Message From Brian Smart



We want to thank everyone who came to the Christmas party. There was a very short meeting. Here are some of the highlights:

Voted Topics:

*Domenic Bentz asked for the club to find a volunteer to finish his term as trustee ending in 2023, Stefan Sandelin was nominated by club membership and elected unanimously.

*The topic of Save Slippery Rock Defense Fund was discussed, it was voted and approved that the club will release the funds as soon as possible.

Announcements: *The club did order the Floating Water Polo goals for outdoor kayak soccer. We are excited to get them on a lake in early spring. If there are any members who are interested in helping establish rules or figuring out logistics. Please reach out to Brian Smart

*The club is very excited to find a new pool at Perry High School in Massillon, please check out this link here for details <https://www.keelhauler.com/events-calendar/2022/01/09/perry-pool>

*The club is also excited to introduce a zoom presentation with Charlie Duffy on what kits to carry in your Boat/PFD. <https://www.keelhauler.com/events-calendar/2022/01/13/cduffy1>

We look forward to seeing everyone at our next in person meeting in February, details coming soon. We wish everyone a Happy New Year!

Brian Smart, bsmart@keelhauler.org

**Keel-hauler Treasurer's Report
as of December 28, 2021
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402	\$2,317.97
CD 1077	<u>\$2,317.90</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4,635.87

Checking \$15,997.74

Total \$19,633.61

**The Keel-haulers will participate in the
Cleveland Boat Show
From Megan Thompson**

We are pleased to announce the KHCC will be participating in [The 65th Annual Progressive Cleveland Boat Show at the IX Center](#), the largest boating show in Ohio. This year is the first time in its 65-year history that the boat show will be dedicating a portion of the space to paddling activities.

Booth

Alongside other nonprofit organizations like the Cleveland Metroparks, the Keel-Haulers will be hosting a booth to share information about the club and paddling in Northeast Ohio. We will need volunteers who can commit to manning the booth **Thursday, March 17th - Sunday, March 20th, 2022.**

Demonstrations/Seminars

In addition to our booth, KHCC will be responsible for presenting a few on-water demonstrations. These demos will include a boater in the water as well as a presenter who can speak to the activities taking place on the water. Those demonstrating skills will be asked to drop off their gear on Wednesday, March 16th, at which time they are welcome to rehearse in the pool. They prefer you leave your gear until the end of the show, but arrangements can be made to take your gear with you at the end of your demonstration.

Displays

One idea that was discussed is displaying boats alongside images of those vessels in action. Seeing as there are a number of photographers in our club who may be interested in having their work blown up and displayed (with crediting, of course), KHCC is interested in spearheading this area. We are specifically looking for images that can be paired with the physical boat - if you can provide both, please let us know!

If you are interested in being involved in the Cleveland Boat Show, please contact Vice President Megan Thompson (MeganThompson@musician.org). Make sure to include:

1. What activity or activities in which you wish to be involved.
2. Your availability Thursday, March 17-Sunday, March 20, 2022.
3. A little about your paddling experience. (This will help Megan staff the booth in a logical way and pair KHCC members with those who have complementary knowledge to share.)
4. A little about your comfort with public speaking.

American Red Cross Adult First Aid/CPR/AED

Date: Sat, January 8, 2022, 9am – 3pm

Where: 1763 Goodyear Boulevard Akron, OH, 44305 United States ([map](#))

Description: The Keel-Haulers Club is excited to host a First Aid/CPR/AED course brought to you by The American Red Cross. The Cost of the course will be \$130. There can be 12 Participants. We will be meeting at 9am at 1763 Goodyear Blvd Akron Ohio 44305. This is a 6 -hour course that will end at 3pm with a Half Hour Lunch and two 15 minute breaks. We opted out of the written test since it is not required for the certification.

Important Information: In-person courses are available to fully vaccinated* students and teaching protocols will assume that all students are fully vaccinated*

Regardless of vaccination status, the American Red Cross requires all employees, volunteers, and class participants to wear a face mask at our offices, facilities and any training sites while attending any Red Cross delivered training courses.

Red Cross will not ask class participants to show proof of their vaccination.

American Red Cross teaching protocols are in alignment with our organizational safety approach and CDC guidelines.

All instructors delivering courses in person will be fully vaccinated.

Please Contact [Brian Smart](#) if interested.

**Check out the Keel-hauler Roll Session/
Pool Information**

[Roll Sessions, Clinics, and Practice — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club \(keelhauler.com\)](#)

Sessions this year include Akron, Cleveland, Oberlin, Kent, Lakewood, Lebanon, and the new Perry High School location in Massillon. <https://www.keelhauler.com/events-calendar/2022/01/09/perry-pool>

**Trip Organizers Needed for 2022
Calendar of Events — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club**

We need trip organizers for 2022. Please volunteer to help. Fill out an easy online form to organize a trip: Add [Event — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club](#). Go to the Calendar of Events link for more information on the trips listed below. [Calendar of Events — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club](#)

Saturday, January 8, 2022

9:00am American Red Cross Adult First Aid/CPR/AED

Saturday, January 22, 2022

3:00pm Lakewood High School Pool Roll Sessions

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

8:00pm University of Akron Pool Session

Saturday, February 5, 2022

3:00pm Lakewood High School Pool Roll Sessions

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

8:00pm University of Akron Pool Session

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

8:00pm University of Akron Pool Session

Saturday, February 19, 2022

3:00pm Lakewood High School Pool Roll Sessions

Tuesday, February 22, 2022

8:00pm University of Akron Pool Session

Happy New Year!

2022 Club Officers

President:	Brian Smart	330-809-7409
VP:	Megan Thompson	VP@keelhauler.org
Secretary:	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
Treasurer:	Kelly Miller	724-553-6816

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

Membership: \$20 per year. **Membership Chairman: John Kobak**

New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone (email is fine), should temporarily sent to: Kelly Miller, Keel-hauler Treasurer, 701 Forrest Ave., Geneva, IL 60134

Any opinions, views or recommendations expressed in the articles in this Newsletter are those of the article's author. Printing these articles in no way implies approval or advocacy of any of the opinions, views or recommendations by the Keel-Haulers Canoe Club or any of its Officers, editor, or members. Water sports are a potentially dangerous activity. Keel-Haulers Canoe Club recommends and encourages all of its members and others to abide by all laws, regulations and recommended practices when engaging in such activity. Each member is responsible for assessing her/his own abilities and for not engaging in activities which are beyond those limits. Members assume any and all risk when choosing to participate in any activity and the Keel-Haulers Canoe Club is not responsible for any damages resulting from such participation. KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.com and 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 2022** issue of the newsletter is **1/23/2022**. Please send articles and/or pictures to: Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.

Keel-Hauler Kanews,

January 2022

Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.,
Geneva, IL 60134



Keel-hauler's Ka-news

FEBRUARY, 2022



Next meeting: February 15th by Zoom

Time: Feb 15, 2022, at 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9324456233?pwd=VktxaDJFSnEydvLzNabk9sRkpOUT09>

Meeting ID: 932 445 6233, Passcode: 5vCxbN

Any questions? Contact: Brian Smart at bsmart@keelhauler.org

President's Message From Brian Smart



Keel-Haulers,

Lots happening with the club over the next month, we have signups for SWR with H2O and Duffy watch the website and Facebook for updates! We will have pool sessions at Perry High continuing into March,

watch the website and Facebook for signups for that. We will have by popular demand our next club meeting on Feb 15th via Zoom @7:30pm.

Keel-Hauler is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. Topic: Keel-Hauler's Club Zoom Meeting

Time: Feb 15, 2022 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9324456233?pwd=VktxDJFSnEydDVsLzNabk9sRkpOUT09>

Meeting ID: 932 445 6233, Passcode: 5vCxbN

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,9324456233#,,,,*520316# US (Chicago)

+16465588656,,9324456233#,,,,*520316# US (New York)

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting and in the pools!

Brian Smart, President: Keel-Hauler Canoe Club

bsmart@keelhauler.org, 330-809-7409

**Keel-hauler Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2021
From Michael Duvall**

Meeting was holiday potluck dinner with a short business meeting.

Meeting called to order by President Brian Smart at 5:30.

Approx. 15 members at start with a total of 25 by adjournment.

Brian reviewed the minutes of October 25 meeting and approved.

Brian provided the following information:

- There is a new pool in Canton area for roll practice.

- There are 2 Swift Water Rescue classes in the planning for this year.

- Nick Anderson may have some PT training.

- Library DVRs being turned into DVDs or online.

- Soccer Goals have been purchased Brian suggested formalized rules.

- Dominic Bentz asked to be replaced as Trustee. Stefan Sandelin elected as replacement.

Slip legal fund discussed and determined funds already budgeted should be released.

Boat show coming to IX center discussed, Brian had placed Vice President Megan Thompson as coordinator.

Jeremiah Richard suggested that if there is a movement to remove the Tugaloo Dam, we should support it.

Meeting adjourned 6:15 pm for social potluck.

**Keel-hauler Treasurer's Report
as of January 26, 2022
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402	\$2,318.17
CD 1077	<u>\$2,318.09</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4,636.26

Checking \$15,539.33

Total \$20,175.59

**Conservation Donations are going out!
From Kelly Miller**

Our club donates to organizations that we feel are worthy of our support. The following donations have been sent out to these conservation non-profits:

American Whitewater	https://americanwhitewater.org	\$1500.00
Friends of the Cheat	https://www.cheat.org	\$1000.00
Friends of the Crooked River	https://www.cuyahogariver.net	\$100.00
Grand Canyon Private Boaters Association	https://www.gcpba.org	\$150.00
American Rivers	https://americanrivers.org	\$300.00
West Virginia Rivers Coalition	https://www.wvivers.org	\$300.00
River Network	https://www.rivernetwork.org	\$100.00
Nature Conservancy	https://preserve.nature.org	\$100.00
Mountain Watershed Associaton – Yough Defense	https://www.mtwatershed.com	\$300.00
Friend of the New River Gorge	https://friendsofnewriver.org	\$100.00
Save Slippery Rock Defense Fund	https://saveslipperyrockcreek.weebly.com	\$400.00
Portage Park District	Headwaters Adventure Race Portage County OH (portagecounty-oh.gov)	\$100.00
Special Donation to sponsor 2 Stonycreek whitewater releases:		
Benscreek Canoe Club	Benscreek Canoe Club	\$1200.00

2021 Membership Wrap-up By John Kobak

We ended up the 2021 calendar year with **378** members, the most members for past 20 years. In 2020 we had **325** members. Our average membership for the past 15 years is **310**

A year ago, we had 270 members who had paid their 2021 dues by the end of January; today we have **312** paid-up members for 2022. But a big positive for future club membership is, we already have **80** members who have paid their dues in advance for 2023. We usually sign up 60 new members each year, last year 100 new members joined. I hope the club keeps providing reasons for all these paddlers to rejoin the club each year.

This year we offered members a way to join but not be listed on any of our on-line rosters. So if you do not want your membership information listed in our yearbook or in any of our on-line directories. Send me an e-mail to membership@keelhauler.org - [Do Not List my Name anywhere](#)
Take a look at your membership information using this link.

<https://www.keelhauler.com/s/yearbook22.pdf>

Use the New 2022 Membership Password

Our membership password **has changed for 2022**, and is shown in the e-mail sent with the newsletter. Make a note of the password; it will remain the same for all of 2022.

I usually update this roster twice a month to make it easy to find new members.

John Kobak – Membership Chairman

It's All Home Water: Cuyahoga Comeback Article sent in by Dave Roush

Did you know USA Today ranked the Cuyahoga as the #1 urban kayaking river? Read the following article posted on Patagonia.com and written by Stephanie Vermillion.

"Cleveland's actually cool!"

It's a refrain Clevelanders, like me, hear from countless out-of-staters who make the trip to visit and experience our attractions—particularly Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP). Ohio's only national park, the seventh-most-visited national park in the country, boasts a 33,000-acre mosaic of fog-draped valleys,

forested trails and diverse wildlife, from soaring bald eagles to foxes and beavers, all within 30 minutes of downtown Cleveland.

The park's crown jewel, the Cuyahoga River, weaves through dense oak forests on its journey north toward downtown Cleveland and Lake Erie. Anglers dot these tranquil waters, allured by the river's more than 40 species of fish, from smallmouth bass to lake-run rainbows. They're joined by a resurging population of blue heron and, often toward the river's upper section, busy dam-building beavers.

It's the kind of wild nature most don't expect from northeast Ohio, and that's understandable. In 1969, the heavily polluted Cuyahoga made national headlines when the river caught fire. Many wrote this river—and the city—off. Others stuck around to fight for it. Now, their work is paying off.

The Cuyahoga River is inching toward its removal from the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Areas of Concern list—a feat that could happen as soon as 2024—and it's experiencing a recreation revival few could've imagined decades ago. The nearly 100-mile Cuyahoga River Water Trail was named USA Today's best urban kayaking destination in 2021. And, for the first time since the creation of the EPA in 1970, the Ohio EPA deemed fish caught on the Cuyahoga as safe to eat.

Keep reading at:

<https://www.patagonia.com/stories/its-all-home-water-cuyahoga-comeback/story-103983.html?fbclid=IwAR0cbiMrrFVqShdZ7LIOBclpYKfjDKQgYF-8d3R0wBMu4YeqZ4OrOHfufVc>

Special Exception Hearing: Mark Your Calendar for January 31st at 10AM!

On January 31st at 10am, Slippery Rock Township Zoning Hearing Board will continue the Special Exception Public Hearing for Hei-Way Asphalt's application to build a cold asphalt plant that will directly abut Slippery Rock Creek.

Please show up in person if you can! The township will NOT be providing a zoom meeting option. We will also be live-streaming from our [Facebook Page](#). If you missed the first session, please visit our YouTube channel to watch!

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLmA0RYy_PgTXD-z_pJYVAA

Please consider donating to our [legal fund](#) to keep fighting!

To sign our Petition that will be delivered to Slippery Rock Township ZHB, please click here: secure.foodandwateraction.org/act/tell-slippery-rock-township-zoning-hearing-board-say-no-hei-way-asphalt

**The Keel-haulers will participate in the
Cleveland Boat Show
From Megan Thompson**

The Boat Show is about 6 weeks away, and we have far more details locked down! We will be presenting a number of demonstrations throughout the weekend. The highlighted sessions are KHCC! If you are a great public speaker and would like to be on the mic during one of these, let me know. We could use some help with presenting Whitewater Canoeing and Kayak Roll & Rescue Techniques (especially the Sunday session).

Thursday, March 17th (12-9)	Friday, March 18th (12-9)	Saturday, March 19th (10-9)	Sunday, March 20th (10-5)
30 min. consumer with Hobie	30 min. consumer with Hobie	30 min. consumer with Hobie	30 min. consumer with Hobie
1 Adaptive Kayaking - LoCo Yaks	1 Kayaking 101 - Kelleigh or Matt	11 Kayak Styles and Performance: How To Choose - Josh Scott	11 Kayak Styles and Performance: How To Choose - Josh Scott
2 Kayaking 101 - Kelleigh or Matt	2 Adaptive Kayaking - LoCo Yaks	12 Adaptive Kayaking - Ryan Pepper + Cory Anderson	12 Whitewater Canoeing - Mitch
3 TBD - LoCo Yaks	3 SUP Yoga - Deanna	1 Cuyahoga River & Cleveland Lakefront: Paddle Safety - Gerry Henwood	1 Kayak roll and rescue techniques - Fran and Annaleigh
4 Kayak Roll & Rescue Techniques - Mark	4 Whitewater Playboating - Brennan	2 Cold Water Kayak Safety - Chuck Earls	2 SUP Yoga - Deanna
5 Cold Water Kayak Safety - Chuck Earls	5 Cold Water Kayak Safety - Chuck Earls	3 What's SUP? Beginner to Advanced Paddleboarding - Metroparks	3 Whitewater Playboating - Brennan
6 What's SUP? Beginner to Advanced Paddleboarding - Metroparks	6 Kayak Roll - Mark (& Dale?)	4 SUP Rescue Rodeo - Metroparks	30 min. consumer with Hobie
7 SUP Rescue Rodeo - Metroparks	7 Kayak Rescues - Mark/Josh	5 Cuyahoga River & Cleveland Lakefront: Paddle Safety - Gerry Henwood	
30 min. consumer with Hobie	30 min. consumer with Hobie	6 Whitewater Playboating - Brennan	
		7 SUP Yoga - Deanna	
		30 min. consumer with Hobie	

KHCC Booth: We need to staff our booth. If you are interested in taking a shift, please sign up [in this spreadsheet](#). I made 6 shifts per date with the intention of having at least 2 people at the booth at a time. If the time is just a little off, we can shift the time for you. You'll notice that there's a half hour overlap at shift changes. That's to ensure that even with weather/parking/traffic/crowds, the booth has 2 people at it. Once everyone in this thread signs up for booth times, I'll share the sign up sheet with the rest of the club.

Unfortunately, the boat show will NOT give us free parking and admission for the booth volunteers as of right now. Brian and I are looking at the Club's budget to cover the cost for those who need. I'm also working with the Boat Show to see if they'll cover your cost if you also spend some time in the "Discovery Area" with the general public. I'm hoping to have a final answer on THAT this week!

Related to the booth - we will have some various safety equipment, paddles, and books on display as well as brochures to pass out. Perhaps a computer/tablet to play videos and share photography. If you have any ideas on what would be helpful to have displayed, let me know. You're also welcome to bring things for your shift if you have something special that you aren't comfortable leaving for the whole weekend.

Questions, comments, concerns, requests? Send them my way!

Megan Thompson
Vice President, Keel-Haulers Canoe Club
VP@keelhauler.org

Keel-hauler Trip Planning By Ethan Kay

Now that winter is finally here and the local lakes and rivers are freezing over, it's the perfect time to start planning your kayaking adventures. Why not pick a trip you want to see happen and volunteer to be an organizer so the whole club could join? After all, we should never kayak alone, and life is better with friends.

Our [Calendar of Events on our website](#) features dam releases, festivals, trips, pool sessions, and other events that may be of interest to club members. Our goal for 2022 is to have at least one KHCC-organized trip planned every weekend May through October. These can be local or around the world, but we need YOU to make it happen! We want to populate our calendar with trips for all types and levels of paddling.

Do you see a dam release happening and no KHCC trip scheduled? How about planning one? Remember, organizing a trip doesn't mean you have to be the one leading the group down the river. It's about handling the planning and arranging the logistics - setting a meeting time and place, finding leaders & safety boaters, and maybe even planning an after party!

If you need assistance in understanding KHCC's calendar or adding an event to the calendar, please reach out to the Trip Scheduling Committee - Ethan Kay, Andrea Morgan, Brian Smart, and Megan Thompson.

See you on the river!

Ethan Kay

Trip Scheduling Committee

info@keelhauler.org

Sunday, January 30

8:45am

KH Roll Practice @ Perry High

Tuesday, February 1

8:00pm

University of Akron Pool Session

Thursday, February 3

7:00pm

Kent State University Open Kayak

Saturday, February 5

3:00pm

Lakewood High School Pool Roll Sessions

Sunday, February 6

8:45am

KH Roll Practice @ Perry High

Tuesday, February 8

8:00pm

University of Akron Pool Session

Thursday, February 10

7:00pm

Kent State University Open Kayak

Tuesday, February 15

7:30pm

Club meeting - ZOOM

8:00pm

University of Akron Pool Session

Thursday, February 17

7:00pm

Kent State University Open Kayak

Saturday, February 19

3:00pm

Lakewood High School Pool Roll Sessions

Tuesday, February 22

8:00pm

University of Akron Pool Session

Thursday, February 24

7:00pm

Kent State University Open Kayak

Tuesday, March 1

8:00pm

University of Akron Pool Session

Thursday, March 3

7:00pm

Kent State University Open Kayak

2022 Club Officers

President:	Brian Smart	330-809-7409
VP:	Megan Thompson	VP@keelhauler.org
Secretary:	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
Treasurer:	Kelly Miller	724-553-6816

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

Membership: \$20 per year. **Membership Chairman: John Kobak**

New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone (email is fine), should temporarily sent to: Kelly Miller, Keel-hauler Treasurer, 701 Forrest Ave., Geneva, IL 60134

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Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **March 2022** issue of the newsletter is **2/23/2022**. Please send articles and/or pictures to: Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.

Keel-Hauler Kanews,

February 2022

Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.,
Geneva, IL 60134



Keel-hauler's Ka-news

🍀 **MARCH, 2022**



Next meeting: Tuesday, April 12th

In Person Meeting. More details to come.

Any questions? Contact: Brian Smart at bsmart@keelhauler.org

President's Message From Brian Smart

No message this month.

Membership Report for February By John Kobak

We now have 320 paid memberships for 2022 and 85 who took advantage of the two year discount and paid for 2023 already.

So, the club is doing well. Usually by this time I start getting lots of new members that like our pool sessions, and also our support for conservation and national paddling organizations as well as our big trip schedule.

But new membership signups are dropping.

Make sure if you know a paddler who is not a paid member, find out what we need to do to get them to sign up. This will help pay for our free pool sessions and training programs.

So please help, it's not my job to get new members, **it's your job**. My job is to sign them up and make sure they are welcome to the club and get all the information they need to have more fun paddling.

John Kobak – **Membership Chairman**

**Keel-hauler Treasurer's Report
as of February 23, 2022
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402	\$2,318.37
CD 1077	<u>\$2,318.29</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4,636.66

Checking \$11,246.50

Total \$15,883.16

**From the Conservation Chair
Jacki Zevenbergen**

Save the dates:

The Friends of the Crooked River will hold their annual meeting, the River Rat Revelry, in late April. The event is open to the public and Keel-hauler members are always invited! The tentative date is **April 19** - pending being able to secure the venue. More details will be posted on the website and Facebook as they are available.

The 2022 Cuyahoga RiverDay celebration will be held on **Saturday, June 18**. If you plan on celebrating the Cuyahoga watershed, the river, a tributary or Lake Erie on that day or another day in June with a paddle, hike, demonstration, clean up, artistic endeavor or anything else, please let me know. I'll be planning some cleanups in the Tinker's Creek watershed this year. If anyone wants to organize KHCC cleanups, I can help get it registered on American Rivers and get trash bags. If anyone organizes a cleanup in Cuyahoga County, I have some incentives for volunteers. If you don't want to organize, just join in the fun!

Don't paddle in the Cuyahoga watershed? No problem! Organize a cleanup wherever you paddle. I can help get it on the national American Rivers map and give you tips to make your event a success.

**The Keel-haulers will participate in the
Cleveland Boat Show
From Megan Thompson**

We are less than 1 month away from the Cleveland Boat Show at the IX Center happening March 17-20, and we still need help staffing the Keel-Hauler Canoe Club's booth! All members should consider donating some time over the weekend to help share their experiences on the water and with the club with attendees. KHCC will cover your admission and parking as needed. To sign up, please add yourself to a shift or shifts on this [Google Sheet](#) or contact Megan Thompson directly at meganthompson@musician.org.

**Perry Natatorium Roll Sessions
From Bret Rose**

As the days get longer and warmer our pool sessions start to come to an end. We currently have 7 more days on the calendar for our free pool in Massillon at the Perry Natatorium. We allow up to 25 people. Kayaks, sea kayaks, canoes, and children are all welcome. We hope to see you!

Sunday Feb 27th	8:30-11:15
Sunday Mar 6th	8:45-11:15
Wednesday Mar 9th	time to be determined
Sunday Mar 13th	8:45-11:15
Sunday Mar 20th	8:45-11:15
Wednesday Mar 23rd	time to be determined
Sunday Mar 27th	8:45-11:15

**Scheduled Whitewater Trip on Slippery Rock
From Jacki Zevenbergen**

March 26 & 27. The plan is to paddle Slippery Rock on Saturday and Sunday. A lot will depend on what the levels are and who decides to participate. Every effort will be made to include the lower section so newer paddlers can join us. It will be cold so proper gear is important. We will probably camp at Breakneck Campground. Be sure to [register](#) so you get updates on the plans.

Swift Water Rescue Classes **By Seth Anderson, Safety and Rescue Chair**

The Club has two upcoming Swift Water Rescue Classes at Slippery Rock Creek. Mark Hanna & Carl Schneider memorial ACA SWRC with Charles Duffy on Friday June 10th at 7pm to Sunday June 12th at 7pm and H2O Dreams Common Sense SWRC on Friday June 17th at 7pm to Sunday June 19th at 6pm. Both Classes will be held at Breakneck Campground 1757 Cheeseman Rd, Portersville PA 16051. Requirement info and sign-ups are available on the event page of the club website. This is a great opportunity to acquire the skills needed in case something goes wrong on the river. What gear is needed and how and when to use it.

[Calendar of Events — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club \(keelhauler.com\)](http://keelhauler.com)

Style **By Louis Geltman (and John Kobak)**

For participants in a sport where peeling out at the top of a rapid almost inevitably results in arriving at the bottom, kayakers seem surprisingly indifferent to matters of style. Things can go pretty badly awry, and onlookers might roll their eyes at a particularly bad line, but someone would have to be radically over his head before anyone would be likely to say anything about it. In other sports, this is not the case. Compare surfing: at the world's stoutest breaks, a surfer with only a few months or even a few years of experience would have virtually no chance of catching and making a wave. Nevertheless, even a surfer with all the skills to ride waves at Hawaii's Pipeline would be blocked from catching waves, mocked, maybe beaten, if he were surfing with bad style or acting in a way that put other people at risk. For kayakers, though, bucking up to run something huge, even if it isn't done with much grace, is a lot more likely to get attention and praise than putting down a pretty line on some anonymous class III. Kayaking is not surfing, and few people, if any, would want to see aggressive, territorial behavior find its way onto the river. But is that behavior meeting some social needs in surfing that are going unmet in kayaking?

If there is a place where kayaking's collective lack of social controls is being tested, it might be the Green River in North Carolina. For how steep it is, the Green is an unbelievably forgiving run. But that forgiveness is routinely being tested by huge crowds of paddlers, some seemingly lacking the basic skills to run any river safely. In June, a **video** was posted on YouTube showing some gut wrenching lines on the Narrows: one paddler takes a header off Gorilla, another misses the eddy on the lip of Sunshine (a class III move at most) and drops off the center backwards, another paddler swims in the class III runoff. Two of the Southeast's best (and best known) paddlers, Isaac Levinson and Pat Keller, posted comments, in a discussion that meandered from Facebook to **BoaterTalk** to the YouTube **comment section**, calling out the video as an example of dangerous and unacceptable behavior. The callout was unusual, but it was the reactions that were perhaps more telling in what they reveal about attitudes in the sport, as well as the

mentality that our collective indifference to matters of style, technique, and safety have helped to bring about with regard to how a paddler progresses in the sport.

One paddler in the YouTube comments section wrote, "I don't know who died and made Pat and Isaac god, but they sure are a bunch of dumb shits!!! Tell me that they came out of the womb paddling class 5. Everyone has to start somewhere..." Much has been made about how advances in equipment and technique now enable paddlers to run whitewater in a season or so that once might have taken a career to achieve, but for paddlers who took up the sport in an earlier era, the implications of comments like that are jaw dropping: for some portion of the paddling population, the Green is now regarded as a place to start, and taking hair raising crashes as a stepping stone. That mentality has serious implications, though, for everyone's safety and for the ability of new boaters to progress in the sport.

It is often suggested that the genesis of surfing's aggressive attitude towards loose behavior in the lineup is the fight for scarce resources in an inherently dangerous environment, and it may be that changes in the sport of kayaking are pushing toward a similar dynamic. While growth in kayaking participation overall has largely plateaued, creeking is gaining in popularity, and moderately difficult runs like the Green are starting to see crowds that wouldn't have existed a decade ago. But while a crowd of marginal paddlers at your local playspot is annoying, crowds on class V whitewater are undeniably dangerous.

That danger manifests itself in a way that is perhaps unique to kayaking, and in a way that might account for some antagonism toward boaters insistent on paddling over their heads. In kayaking, there are a lot of ways that things can go wrong. Most of them, though, lead to a brief and urgent window during which another boater can step in and potentially save someone's life. A pin, a swimmer being recirculated, a long swim threatening a flush drowning... in all these situations, urgent action can be the difference between life and death. And in all these situations, too, that urgent action is likely to call on someone else to immediately put his own life at risk. In the surf, outside of the unique dynamic of tow-in surfing, someone getting beat down is basically on his own. If someone falls climbing, there's either someone standing at the end of the rope, or there isn't. But in kayaking, when someone is in trouble, someone has to act, boldly, and immediately.

One of the most admirable characteristics of the kayaking community is this: when someone is in trouble, anyone present will step up and in an instant put his or her own life at risk to save a complete stranger. On a more pedestrian level, paddlers are almost always there for each other when it comes time to help someone who's swam or unpin a boat, even if it isn't a life threatening situation. When someone is paddling over his head, he undercuts that dynamic, both by being much more likely to need help and by himself probably lacking the necessary skills to help someone else. Even when it doesn't entail undue risk, stopping for an hour to deal with unpinning a boat or helping a swimmer across the river interrupts the flow of the run and of the day; nevertheless, most kayakers value being a part of a community where helping out is the norm and wouldn't want to see the river become an environment where people callously blow by other boaters who could use a hand. If kayakers have to choose between preserving the all-for-one safety ethos on the river or preserving the everybody-come-along vibe in the parking lot, I think most people would unquestionably pick the former.

It seems at times, as well, that the community's willingness to accept a high level of carnage as normal has led to some mistaken ideas about how paddlers progress in the sport. Contrary to YouTube commenter opinion, most top kayakers did not start kayaking on the Green River Narrows. "I started kayaking when I was 10, and I started paddling more frequently when I was about 13," Rush Sturges explained to me. "I ran my first real Class V when I was 14 years old. Leading up to that run (it was Cherry Creek Proper) I was

running a LOT of Class IV. I ran the local grade IV section on the Cal Salmon many times that Spring and Summer to prepare. I was very nervous before putting on the river. I had certainly hyped up what Class V was going to be like, and when I finished the run, I walked away with a smile on my face. Rather than being at the edge of my limits on the run, I was actually super solid and didn't miss a single boof.... I personally am thankful I spent as much time and effort [as] I did on Grade III and IV before finally stepping my game up. I was super fortunate to grow up around competent kayakers, and I think that had a lot to do with it. I didn't even have a swim until I was 20 years old on Upper Cherry Creek. I'm not trying to brag by saying that, just pointing out that time spent preparing on easier stuff is time well spent when you decide to raise the bar."

The best athletes in any sport are often those that started young, but consider this possibility: maybe in addition to all the other benefits of beginning at a young age, kayakers who start early turn into better boaters because they are often forced by someone—a parent, an older mentor—to paddle easy whitewater longer than they might want to or really need to. As John Weld put it, "When you're 13 years old, you're going to the Lower Yough whether you like it or not." It truly is a common experience of the best paddlers that, whether through the influence of an older mentor, a lack of good or consistent whitewater, slalom racing, or some other factor, these paddlers have put in a lot of time working on hard moves on easy water.

More than just putting in time on easy whitewater, learning new skills requires pushing it hard on easy whitewater all the time, and it may be that this is an easier mindset to adopt for younger paddlers (**for example**). It isn't just a matter of "feeling comfortable" on easier water before taking the next step; it's about consistently pushing it on easier water—taking the hardest lines, catching the smallest eddies, boofing every rock; learning to make judgments about what moves are makeable and which aren't; and learning to deal with the repercussions of missed judgments in whitewater with less consequence than in class V. That sort of learning is hard to achieve in a setting where a paddler is basically hanging on for his life.

Pat Keller explained the steps he took to get better when he was starting in the sport this way: "[C]linics clinics clinics, slalom, clinics clinics clinics, foamies.... freestyle freestyle freestyle, clinics clinics clinics (you get the picture).... Every step on the way up that ladder is important. Take time to know with each one if you are ready to proceed. Willing is easy, knowing is what's hard." Runs like the Green are undoubtedly a key step towards becoming a solid boater, but there are surely quite a few steps to be taken before a new boater gets there. "[T]he Green has become the Mecca of honing the skills to become a solid creek boater," Pat says. "More and more paddlers are climbing that ladder of skill, and the Green is certainly a cherished step for all those who take it. But it must be climbed to with much respect for the dangers along the way."

All of this is a lot less sexy than just "firing it up," though. Your Facebook friends are going to be a lot less impressed with that attainment it took you a month to finally make on the Lower Yough than they are with a picture of you rolling over the lip on Metlako. But paddling better, not just paddling harder water, is something that takes time. And taking beatings on difficult whitewater in the hope that one day the beatings will stop is not, for most paddlers, a viable path to success.

For most paddlers who've been in the sport for a while, the advantages of encouraging new boaters to progress incrementally seem obvious: fewer incidents to deal with, better safety on the water for everyone, fewer risks to access because of events on the river leading to negative attention or calls to search & rescue, a stronger sense of community. The less obvious issue is how, as a community, to achieve that. Most paddlers are understandably (and commendably) reluctant to insert themselves into

other people's risk taking decisions. As Rush puts it, "My gut feeling is that if someone is putting on the river with you, it's his or her responsibility to know if that run is suitable for them. However, I am not afraid to tell someone that they should evaluate their skills before putting on a run, or ask them what types of similar runs they've done previous. Ultimately, kayaking is up to the individual and there is NO ego when it comes to making sure you are as safe as possible on Class V."

Kobak interjects:

Paddlers should take The Keel-Hauler Self-Test: <https://www.keelhauler.com/self-testing>

And also read and understand our **New Paddler Trip Progression**

We encourage newer paddlers who want to improve their skills in a safe organized fashion to choose trips in numerical order (1), (2), (3), (4), (5)

Pick a trip to match your current skill level, Score your own Paddler Rating Self-Test using our on-line system, tell the Trip Organizer what you rating is and whether you would like any informal training assistance. Tell them the most difficult river that you have successfully paddled.

Trip Progression Examples

(1) - Vermilion, Grand, Cuyahoga, Chagrin

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

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

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

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

It may be that the changes the community needs are as simple as recognizing your friends when they draw creative lines on the river or paddle well rather than just "going big." Inclusion in the Rider of the Year competition of a "Best Line" category, recognizing "styled lines" alongside categories like Drop of the Year could be a step in that direction. A few less high-fives for surviving sketchy lines and being willing to encourage friends to take a step back when needed probably wouldn't hurt, either.

In the end, the idea is to encourage community by cutting down on the sort of behavior that makes stronger boaters want to abandon weaker ones to fend for themselves or discourages new boaters from sticking with the sport. Hopefully we can all encourage up and coming boaters to progress in the sport safely and incrementally without resorting to slashing tires in the parking lot. Then again, maybe surf-style aggression is on the way, whether we like it or not.

2022 Portage Park Headwaters Race
Register Early for a \$5 discount

Date: Saturday, July 9, 2022, 8 AM – 12 PM

Where: Buchert Park, 4810 E High St, Mantua, Ohio 44255

Description: The Keel-Haulers Club is a sponsor of the 2022 Portage Park District Foundation's Headwaters Adventure Race. The Headwaters Adventure Race provides a fun opportunity to encourage

healthy activity while showcasing historic sites, parks, trails, nature preserves, scenic landscapes, and the beautiful Upper Cuyahoga River, a State-designated Scenic River. The race consists of a 2-mile run, and 10-mile pedal, and a 5-mile paddle. All proceeds from the race are donated to the Portage Park District to support trails and watershed conservation.

Given the long-standing partnership and continued support of the Portage Park District Foundation **Keel-hauler Members can receive \$5 off registration by using the promo code RIVERLOVE.** Registration rates will increase on April 1, so make sure to register early.

[Headwaters Adventure Race | Portage County OH \(portagecounty-oh.gov\)](https://portagecounty-oh.gov)

RUN, PEDAL, and PADDLE

Run **2 miles** on the Headwaters Trail

Pedal **10 miles** on rural roads past scenic landscapes

Paddle **5 miles** on the Upper Cuyahoga Scenic River

RACE OPTIONS

1-Person All-Phase

run, pedal, and paddle (aka solo)

2-Person All-Phase Team

both run, both pedal, and paddle together

2-Person Relay Team

one runs, one pedals, and paddle together



Keel-hauler Trip Planning
[Calendar of Events on our website](#)

Tuesday, March 1

8:00pm University of Akron Pool Session

Thursday, March 3

7:00pm Kent State University Open Kayak

Tuesday, March 8

8:00pm University of Akron Pool Session

Thursday, March 10

7:00pm Kent State University Open Kayak

Tuesday, March 15

8:00pm University of Akron Pool Session

Thursday, March 17

7:00pm Kent State University Open Kayak

Tuesday, March 22

8:00pm University of Akron Pool Session

Thursday, March 24

7:00pm Kent State University Open Kayak

Saturday, March 26

9:00am Slippery Rock Creek

Sunday, March 27

9:00am Slippery Rock Creek

Tuesday, March 29

8:00pm University of Akron Pool Session

Thursday, March 31

7:00pm Kent State University Open Kayak

Tuesday, April 5

8:00pm University of Akron Pool Session

Saturday, April 9

Spring Southern Rivers Trip

North Branch Potomac WW Release

Stonycreek Dam Release

Sunday, April 10

Spring Southern Rivers Trip

North Branch Potomac WW Release

Stonycreek Dam Release

Monday, April 11

Spring Southern Rivers Trip

Tuesday, April 12

Spring Southern Rivers Trip

5:30pm Keel-hauler's Spring In Person Meeting

8:00pm University of Akron Pool Session

Wednesday, April 13

Spring Southern Rivers Trip

Thursday, April 14

Spring Southern Rivers Trip

Friday, April 15

Spring Southern Rivers Trip

Saturday, April 16

Spring Southern Rivers Trip

Sunday, April 17

Spring Southern Rivers Trip

Tuesday, April 19

8:00pm University of Akron Pool Session

Saturday, April 23

North Branch Potomac WW Release

Stonycreek Dam Release

9:00am Grand River Canoe & Kayak Race

Sunday, April 24

North Branch Potomac WW Release

Stonycreek Dam Release

2022 Club Officers

President:	Brian Smart	330-809-7409
VP:	Megan Thompson	VP@keelhauler.org
Secretary:	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
Treasurer:	Kelly Miller	724-553-6816

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

Membership: \$20 per year. **Membership Chairman: John Kobak**

New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone (email is fine), should temporarily sent to: Kelly Miller, Keel-hauler Treasurer, 701 Forrest Ave., Geneva, IL 60134

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

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 2022 issue of the newsletter is 3/23/2022. Please send articles and/or pictures to: Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.

Keel-Hauler Kanews

March 2022

Kelly Miller, Editor



Keel-hauler's Ka-news

APRIL, 2022



Next meeting: Monday, April 11th

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM, 1763 Goodyear Boulevard Akron, OH, 44305

The Keel-Hauler's Club will be meeting in Akron for our April Meeting! Please join us all are welcome! The club will provide Pizza and Drinks, but members are welcome to Byob or food and hang out before or after the meeting. The doors will open to members at 5:00pm, and we will start the meeting promptly at 6:30pm.

Any questions? Contact: Brian Smart at bsmart@keelhauler.org

President's Message From Brian Smart



Please join us for an in-person meeting on Monday, April 11th. Details are above.

There are spots still left in the Mark Hanna & Carl Schneider Memorial ACA Swift Water Rescue with Charles Duffy in June. See details later in the newsletter with a link to register.



Megan's obituary

Megan Thompson, opera singer, marketing, and public relations professional, died Thursday, February 24, 2022, in North Carolina. She was 34 years old.

Born Megan Elizabeth Thompson in Gainesville, Florida on July 4, 1987, her earliest hobbies were synchronized swimming, theater, and opera singing. She was passionate about her education and started college courses at age 16. Megan graduated with honors from the College of Central Florida with an Associate of Arts degree in Drama, graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Music from Stetson University in 2010, and graduated with a Master of Music, Opera Performance from the Cleveland Institute of Music in 2014. Her professional life was spent working for non-profit organizations, most recently as the Director of External Relations at Eliza Bryant Village and as the Director of Marketing and Public Relations at Cleveland Opera Theater. As a trained mezzo soprano, Megan's favorite opera to perform was *Carmen*, a French opera where the mezzo soprano lead vocalist is a passionate bohemian. Throughout her career, she directed a number of productions and performances, including David Conte's *The Gift of the Magi* with Great Lakes Light Opera, *Amahl and the Night Visitors* with the Cleveland Opera Theater, *Lend Me a Tenor* with the East-Cleveland-Theater, *La Vida Breve* with Great Lakes Light Opera, and *The Medium* with the Great Lakes Light Opera. She springboarded the organization's #OperaforAll outreach initiative, adult and youth opera education programs, and pre-show and #Opera101 engagement talks.

Megan was tremendously involved in her community and regularly volunteered at many non-profit organizations. As part of the Board of Young Professionals at the **Cleveland Kids' Book Bank**, Megan helped to foster literacy and promote a love of reading by providing books to underprivileged children. She hosted numerous community book drives and book sorting events. She expressed her passion for the cause and love for Dr. Seuss in the Cleveland **Playhouse's** annual *Festival of Trees* event last year where she decorated a holiday tree in the organization's honor. She also served as Vice President of the Keel-haulers Canoe Club where she helped organize boating adventures, find gear for new members, and introduce people to the outdoors and sport of white-water river kayaking. Megan also volunteered at Neighborhood Pets Outreach & Resource Center where she spent her free time finding homes for abandoned and stray cats. Megan made it a personal mission to rescue black cats, as

they are often the least likely to find a home. She herself adopted many of these beloved fur babies.

Megan is survived by her grandmother Betty Veccia, brothers Matt and Ben Gillum, her boyfriend Kevin Davis, her longtime friend Charles Lemon, her cherished kittens, and countless friends whom she regarded as family.

Megan Thompson was one of the most amazing people I have ever meet. Such a happy person who always tried to keep a positive attitude. She was smart, pretty, strong, and she was always looking for ways to help other people and ways to better things. I thought all these things about her before she died. Then I sat there at her memorial and listened to her friends and family come up to the podium and what I heard was amazing. They all had the same kinds of stories about how she changed their lives, how they were better for knowing her, and how she inspired them.

I will miss my friend whom I only really knew for short period but changed me for life.

Brian Smart

**Keel-hauler Treasurer's Report
as of March 29, 2022
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402 \$2,318.55

CD 1077 \$2,318.47

CD'S (2) \$4,637.02

Checking \$9,685.47

Total \$14,322.49

**Keel-hauler Meeting Minutes
Zoom on February 14, 2022
By Justin Woodward**

CALL TO ORDER - by Brian Smart 7:34 PM EST

Last Meeting Review:

- Dominic stepping down as trustee
 - o Stephen taking place for remainder of term
- Sending Slip Legal Funds
 - o Work in Progress – Kelly

New Business

- Donating \$100 to Portal Park District Foundation for Headwaters Adventure Race
- Stony Fest volunteers "Mike" and "Lena" will make sure pavilions are available.
 - o Two total releases
- Slip Clinic looking for volunteers – recommended using TRPC existing recruiting method (existing website)
- Meeting regarding 82 Dam project – June 18th 2pm EST - TBD
 - Looking for Keel-hauler volunteers for cleanup that day
 - Moneen McBride was planning something
- Friends of Crooked River
 - o Open invite to annual meeting April 19th 6-9pm EST.
- Items related to Public Relations
 - o Recommend submitting items earlier
 - o Looking for volunteers for IX Center event (Progressive Boat Show)
- Discussion regarding IX Center event
 - 6 event-long passes (separate from performer passes)
 - Passes interchangeable
 - 2 "special passes" included with booth
 - Performers get special entrance / parking
 - Recommend dropping boats off early, not small items
 - Reference February Newsletter
- Discussions surrounding being more consistent with scheduling trips and having applicable trip guides

Chair Reports

- Financials
 - o \$3,800 brought in since October 1st
 - o Checking has \$9,600
 - o Waiting on Slip 501(c)(3) status to send money (charitable donation)
 - o \$4,600 in two CD
 - o \$14,400 in total
- Memberships
 - o 320 paid members
 - o 30-40 old members lost
 - o 85 paid up to 2023

Reports from Committees

- Discussions regarding pool sessions.
 - o 25 people capacities
 - o Kayak soccer
 - o George Davis & Bill attending next week
 - o \$30/hr - 2 hours per session
 - o Pool access till the end of March, can extend if needed
 - o Pool Committee – Brian, Brett, Seth
- Discussion regarding Swiftwater clinic
 - o \$1,541 in PayPal for Swiftwater rescue course

- Discussion regarding first Slip Trip
 - o Jacki will contact Breakneck regarding camping
 - o Breakneck: \$10/day, \$30/weekend
 - o Have ice and firewood on-site
 - o Very close to Slip

Motion to adjourn

Friends of the Crooked River From Jacki Zevenbergen

Dear Friends,

This has been a great year! I've attached some pictures (courtesy of Harold Marsh) of the pump installation for the Canal Diversion Dam project. This is our final part of the removal project, and the screw pump will take water from the river to the canal feeder.

Thank you for your wonderful past support of Friends of the Crooked River. In addition to the great news about the dam project, we would like to announce that FoCR will be organizing and promoting RiverDay again. This year's Cuyahoga RiverDay will be celebrated on **Saturday, June 18th**. Please let us know if you have a RiverDay event on or near that day so we can get it on our schedule.

It's time to pay your dues so you can vote in the April election. We are planning the River Rat Revelry now and will share the date as soon as we secure the venue.

Please go to <http://focr-membership.squarespace.com/> to pay your 2022 membership.









**Mark Hanna & Carl Schneider Memorial ACA
Swift Water Rescue with Charles Duffy**

SPOTS STILL OPEN!

- Friday, June 10th- Sunday, June 12th
- **Cost:** \$100.00
- **Location:** Slippery Rock Creek at Cheeseman Farm Breakneck Campground
- 1757 Cheeseman Rd, Portersville, PA 16051
- **Details:** This event is open to anyone - Club membership is encouraged but not required. The first 20 applications submitted with payment will officially be registered. All remaining applicants will be waitlisted. Refunds will be issued for those not accepted into the class.

Registered Participants will be notified of their acceptance and will receive camping & course details. Campground fees and meals are not included.

[Mark Hanna & Carl Schneider Memorial ACA Swift Water Rescue with Charles Duffy — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club \(keelhauler.com\)](http://keelhauler.com)

Spring Paddling is here!
By Seth Anderson, Safety and Rescue Chair

The Spring paddle season is here! More daylight and warmer weather mean more time on the water. If you haven't noticed, there were a lot of new faces at Indoor Pool Sessions this winter. I'm sure they are itching to try out their new skills on the river. I want to remind everyone that no question is a dumb question. We have all been there. Ask! The collected experience in the club is a resource that even long-time boaters still use. "How do I scout a rapid?", "Where do I swim if I have too while surfing this wave?", "How does this throw bag business work?", "Do you wear nose plugs on the river?", "Best place to eat after the Slip?", and many more will gladly be answered by someone who has probably asked the same question in the past. I want to challenge all of our members to be extra diligent this season regarding safety. Remember the basics, pass along what you have been taught, scout, communicate and have fun.

**Trip Participant's and an Organizer's
Responsibilities for a Club Outing**

There has been a lot of "clamoring" for some scheduled club trips. Please be aware that there are courtesies and a mutual respect to being a participant and/or an organizer.

Trip Participant's Responsibilities

[Participant's Responsibilities — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club \(keelhauler.com\)](http://keelhauler.com)

MONTHS BEFORE THE TRIP

Pick a trip to match your skills and ability. Rate yourself with the [Keel-Haulers Self-Testing System](#). Do not pick trips that are rated more than 3 points beyond you or your partner's ability.

WEEK BEFORE THE TRIP

Notify the trip organizer by phone or e-mail of your intent to join the trip. No one's paddling ability or knowledge of the river exempts them from this common courtesy. Plan your food, transportation, and rendezvous. Please become a club member, guests are welcome but encouraged to join. **Please DO NOT JUST SHOW UP!** An organizer works to be sure there are experienced paddlers to complement any new paddlers, evaluates experience in the group, helps coordinate camping, organize shuttles, etc. Please be courteous even if you are an experienced paddler!

Read the [Keel-Hauler's Safety Code](#)

Double up, help conserve fuel. Try to take as many boats and people with you as possible. Let the trip organizer know if you need transportation or if you can bring someone else with you. If you have to cancel out of the trip, let the organizer know as soon as possible, so that the other paddlers won't waste time waiting for you to arrive.

DAY OF THE TRIP

Meet promptly at the appointed time. Check to see that you have all equipment with your boat before starting on the shuttle. Plan to participate in the auto shuttle, and let the group know when you are ready. If you have a physical disability, are under a doctor's care, or may need medicine, let the group know.

DURING THE TRIP

Know and practice the Keel-Hauler's Safety Code.

AFTER THE TRIP

Leave the river and its surroundings cleaner than you found them. Drive home carefully; you will be tired.

Trip Organizer's Responsibilities

[Organizer's Responsibilities — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club \(keelhauler.com\)](#)

Organizers who are unable to fulfill their trip commitments should obtain a substitute organizer and notify the Newsletter Editor and Webmaster as soon as possible, if you have internet access, please post on the club bulletin board.

MONTHS BEFORE THE TRIP

Determine put-in and take-out points.

Determine rendezvous time.

Select an alternate trip in case of high or low water, where possible.

Select camping arrangements, if required.

List the expected level of difficulty, wet/dry suits? Closed boats?

Mail/E-Mail this information to the newsletter editor and Webmaster in time to be published just before the trip.

Organizers who are unable to fulfil their trip commitments should obtain a substitute organizer and notify the Newsletter Editor and Webmaster. If you have internet access post a notice on club bulletin board.

WEEK BEFORE THE TRIP

If conditions change choose an alternate paddling location for the trip. Maintain a roster of persons signed-up for the trip with names, phone numbers, e-mail addresses and

experience in order to notify them in case of a change before the trip. Do not just cancel the trip and then paddle somewhere else.

DAY BEFORE THE TRIP

Find out the water level, make sure it is suitable for the trip as planned. If you cannot go on the trip, please find another organizer.

Guests may join us on our trips. However, please encourage them to join our club for their own safety and enjoyment. If the participant is an active member of another club like TRPC, they are welcome on any of our scheduled trips. Club members enjoy the camaraderie, the mutual liability waiver and the satisfaction knowing that their dues are supporting the club services that they are enjoying.

Read the [Keel-Hauler's Safety Code](#)

DURING THE TRIP

Please note that "Trip Organizers" are just that, organizers. As spelled out in the Keel-Hauler's Safety Code.

All on-the-river "responsibilities" are those of the individual or the group as a whole. In fact, the "trip organizer" does not have to go on the trip. They're simply the main contact that coordinates the meeting time and place and puts interested participants in contact with each other. That is as far as their responsibility goes.

AFTER THE TRIP

Ensure that someone will write a trip report and send it to the newsletter editor as soon as possible. Pictures are also great.

DISCLAIMER

Remember that water sports are a potentially dangerous activity. Each participant is responsible for assessing his or her own ability and from refraining from activities that are beyond their limits. The club, its officers and members simply cannot and do not take responsibility for anyone when they are participating in a planned or spontaneous club activity.

Only YOU are responsible for your actions and safety. Read the [Keel-Hauler's Safety Code](#). It was adapted from the Safety Code of the American Whitewater to serve as a guideline for river trips.

As stated in the code,

"A river trip should be regarded as a common adventure by ALL participants.... Participants share the responsibility for the conduct of the trip and each participant is individually responsible for judging his or her own capabilities and for his or her own safety as the trip progresses. Participants are encouraged (but are not obligated) to offer advice and guidance for independent consideration and judgment of others."

Remember, water sports are a potentially dangerous activity. Members assume any and all risk when choosing to participate in an activity and the Keel Haulers Canoe Club, its officers and members are not responsible for any damages resulting from such participation.

2022 Portage Park Headwaters Race Register Early for a \$5 discount

Date: Saturday, July 9, 2022, 8 AM – 12 PM

Where: Buchert Park, 4810 E High St, Mantua, Ohio 44255

Description: The Keel-Haulers Club is a sponsor of the 2022 Portage Park District Foundation's Headwaters Adventure Race. The Headwaters Adventure Race provides a fun opportunity to encourage healthy activity while showcasing historic sites, parks, trails, nature preserves, scenic landscapes, and the beautiful Upper Cuyahoga River, a State-designated Scenic River. The race consists of a 2-mile run, and 10-mile pedal, and a 5-mile paddle. All proceeds from the race are donated to the Portage Park District to support trails and watershed conservation.

Given the long-standing partnership and continued support of the Portage Park District Foundation **Keel-hauler Members can receive \$5 off registration by using the promo code RIVERLOVE**. Registration rates will increase on April 1, so make sure to register early.

[Headwaters Adventure Race | Portage County OH \(portagecounty-oh.gov\)](https://portagecounty-oh.gov)

RUN, PEDAL, and PADDLE

Run **2 miles** on the Headwaters Trail

Pedal **10 miles** on rural roads past scenic landscapes

Paddle **5 miles** on the Upper Cuyahoga Scenic River

RACE OPTIONS

1-Person All-Phase

run, pedal, and paddle (aka solo)

2-Person All-Phase Team

both run, both pedal, and paddle together

2-Person Relay Team

one runs, one pedals, and paddle together



Keel-hauler Trip Planning Calendar of Events on our website

Events in GREEN are KHCC-sponsored events, classes, or trips. Events in BROWN are events we believe our members would enjoy. Want to plan a trip? Please read the Organizer's Responsibilities then use the "Add Event" button to submit a new event!

[Calendar of Events — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club \(keelhauler.com\)](http://keelhauler.com)

Tuesday, April 5

8:00pm

University of Akron Pool Session

Saturday, April 9

Spring Southern Rivers Trip

North Branch Potomac WW Release

Stonycreek Dam Release

Sunday, April 10

Spring Southern Rivers Trip

North Branch Potomac WW Release

Stonycreek Dam Release

Monday, April 11

Spring Southern Rivers Trip

Tuesday, April 12

Spring Southern Rivers Trip

5:30pm

Keel-hauler's Spring In Person Meeting

8:00pm

University of Akron Pool Session

Wednesday, April 13

Spring Southern Rivers Trip

Thursday, April 14

Spring Southern Rivers Trip

Friday, April 15

Spring Southern Rivers Trip

Saturday, April 16

Spring Southern Rivers Trip

8:30am

River-City Cleanup Series

Sunday, April 17

Spring Southern Rivers Trip

Tuesday, April 19

2022 River Rat Revelry

8:00pm

University of Akron Pool Session

Saturday, April 23

North Branch Potomac WW Release

Stonycreek Dam Release

9:00am

Grand River Canoe & Kayak Race

9:00pm

Rio Grande, NM

Sunday, April 24

North Branch Potomac WW Release

Stonycreek Dam Release

Rio Grande, Gorge

Tuesday, April 26

8:00pm

University of Akron Pool Session

Saturday, April 30

12:00pm

Cuyahoga Falls Fest 2022

2022 Club Officers

President:	Brian Smart	330-809-7409
VP:	Megan Thompson	VP@keelhauler.org
Secretary:	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
Treasurer:	Kelly Miller	724-553-6816

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

Membership: \$20 per year. **Membership Chairman: John Kobak**

New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone, send to: John Kobak, 1649 Allen Drive, 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.com.

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 2022 issue of the newsletter is **4/23/2022**. Please send articles and/or pictures to: Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.**

Keel-Hauler Kanews

April 2022

Kelly Miller, Editor



Keel-hauler's Ka-news MAY, 2022



Next meeting: To be announced.

Any questions? Contact: Brian Smart at bsmart@keelhauler.org

President's Message From Brian Smart



No message this month.

Keel-hauler Treasurer's Report as of April 28, 2022 From Kelly Miller

CD 0402	\$2,318.74
<u>CD 1077</u>	<u>\$2,318.66</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4,637.40
Checking	<u>\$9,678.03</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$14,315.43</u>

Keel-hauler Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2022
By Michael Duvall

Meeting called to order 6:42 pm by President Brian Smart.

Brian brought everyone up to date on activities since last meeting.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Brian presented John Kobak a special made wooden kayak paddle for his 55 years of service to the Keel-Haulers.

Indoor pool practice completed so time to work on outdoor practice and fun. Outdoor soccer and practice locations were discussed including a pond from a paper mill in the Rittman area. Other areas included Indigo Lake (maybe too small), Nimisila reservoir, or even Portage Lakes. Munroe Falls was also mentioned.

We still need a Conservation Chair to replace Jackie Zevenbergen and a meeting coordinator.

Save the Slip check for \$100 was held up for legal reasons, who to send it to.

Boat show at IX demonstrations were successful. A Z-drag was displayed on the table. Boaters in the pool demonstrated flips, rolls and squirt moves. Takeaway documents for visitors would be helpful.

New Business:

John Kobak pointed out that the club needs to vote on a new Vice-President at our next scheduled meeting. He then nominated Ted Moore, longtime member who recently returned to paddling for Vice President. The motion was seconded. Date of next meeting is undetermined.

Brian brought up the idea of giving a t-shirt to members that contribute large amounts of time and energy to club activities such as coordinating multiple trips. This was met with enthusiasm, but no action plan presented. And no one volunteered to do the job.

Announcements:

Tinkers Creek clean up April 24th. Note if anyone has more cleanup dates please share with Jackie Zevenbergen.

Cuyahoga Falls Fest 2022 April 30, 12pm.

Cheat Fest May 7-8, Cheat River WV.

Stoney Fest May 24-25 Greenhouse Park PA. We will have a pavilion to meet at.

Slip clinic June 4-5 Contact Christina Chain.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TRPCmembers/permalink/4914886691897957/>

needs instructors and safety boaters

Rescue class, openings exist for Charles Duffy's class June 10-12.

Meeting adjourned 7:41 pm



55 Years of Service

By John Kobak

What a surprise at the last Keel-Hauler meeting! The club officers voted to award me for my 55 years of service to our club. It really wasn't necessary but boy it was sure appreciated. They had this beautiful paddle custom made for me by Jimi Snyder.

I have known Jimi for 54 years. His family had joined the Keel-Haulers and were some of the first kayakers in our club. Jimi was only 14 years old and was already a better kayaker than I would ever become.

As most paddlers know, Jimi's paddles are so popular that he can't keep up with making them and quit taking orders. When they asked if he could make a special paddle for me he agreed and put it at the top of his production schedule.

The club has been a major part of my life. Peggy and I joined to learn how to paddle our canoe. We progressed through whitewater canoe paddling, but when she didn't want to paddle harder rivers, I moved on to kayaking. I got the club into building our own kayaks and began selling gear from our home for years. Fortunately my son Jeff took over the business which was taking too much time away from my family and paddling.

I have led paddling trips all over the America's, from Ecuador, Central America, Mexico, US, Canada and Alaska. I love helping the club and never expected to receive anything for doing what I loved. I hope that I can still paddle well enough to make Jimi's paddle look good.

So, thanks to Brian Smart, Michael Duvall, Kelly Miller, John Banach, Jeremiah Richard, Matt Fredmonsky, and Jim Murtha who I understand all had a part in my big surprise award. I hope to continue to be your membership chairman and helping with our club's large website.

Mark Hanna & Carl Schneider Memorial ACA Swift Water Rescue with Charles Duffy From Seth Anderson

The club has two upcoming Swift Water Rescue Classes in June at Slippery Rock Creek. The Mark Hanna and Carl Schneider Memorial ACA Swift Water Rescue with Charles Duffy (June 10 - June 12) and Common Sense Swift Water Rescue with H2O Dreams (June 17 - June 19). Both Classes will be held at Breakneck Campground 1757 Cheeseman Rd, Portersville, PA 16051. The June 10th class still has plenty of availability and registration is available on the event page of the website. You will receive course information and requirements after signing up. The majority of the class will be conducted in the water, I suggest bringing all that dry gear and a lunch. Last year more than a few of us comfortably wore our dry suits the entire time we were on the water.

Breakneck Campground is reasonably priced and has a few different camping options depending on what you want to spend. For most tent camping, you basically pick a spot with a picnic table, set up camp and someone from the Campground will stop by in the evening to collect your camping fee. You can also reserve a spot on their website. Make sure you lock up any food overnight or the local racoons will make off with it.

Kayaker in the Right Place at the Right Time

Mother and child rescued from Cuyahoga River in Kent by kayaker who was in the right place at the right time

Author: Isabel Lawrence

Published: 5:13 PM EDT April 25, 2022, Updated: 8:35 PM EDT April 25, 2022

Article from WKYC.com

[Kayaker speaks after saving mother and child from river in Kent | wkyc.com](https://www.wkyc.com/story/kayaker-speaks-after-saving-mother-and-child-from-river-in-kent/7588887002/)

Darren Bade was out kayaking Saturday evening when he jumped into action to help a mother and daughter who were stuck in the river.



KENT, Ohio — What started as a normal evening paddling out on the Cuyahoga River near downtown [Kent](#) turned [into a rescue mission for white water kayaker Darren Bade](#).

Bade, who is an associate professor at Kent State University, had been out kayaking the river when he got out to walk his kayak to a different location. As he was walking, he heard shouting, and realized that a mother and child were in the river and in need of help.

According to Kent Fire Chief William Myers, it appeared a little girl had slipped and fallen into the river, and her mother instinctually jumped in after to save her daughter.

"Actually, she saved her baby's life, really" he said. "She was able to grab onto the baby, they went down the river because it was swift water through there."

As a seasoned kayaker, Bade said he had just taken a swift water rescue course the year before, and was also familiar with the challenges that section of river posed.

"I'm really familiar with that and have actually assisted a number of other people who've had a little bit of trouble there, those examples were ones where I was kind of able to help people out before anything serious happened," he said.

Bade saw that the mother and child appeared to be stuck at the tip of an island in the middle of the river, surrounded by pieces of wood. He knew those pieces of wood could be dangerous, because of the risk the water could flow through and around them, potentially pushing someone underneath.

"I think someone said it was a child and maybe a mother, then I really double timed it back down to the water," Bade said. "I could see them floating downstream. It's a little bit of a blur, I do remember them sort of the getting to the head of the island, still in the water, and I then got in my boat and ferried across over to that island."

Bade was able to paddle out to the island and carefully walk across the tangle of wood and logs to help the mother and child, at points taking the child from the mother in order to get them up to land. Shortly behind him were two Kent police officers, including Officer Samantha McNulty, who jumped into the river to assist.

"I'm just very grateful that the kayaker was there first, I think he honestly made a huge difference, mom made a huge difference doing CPR, we were able to help from there," said McNulty, who was able to safely take the child from Bade as he continued to help get the mother out of the water.

Chief Myers said their water rescue team was able to get to scene quickly to get the mom and child safely back to shore. From there, they were taken to the hospital, both were conscious. Myers said his team just recently had water rescue training before this incident.

"About four years ago, we had about 26 rescues in one season there," Myers said. "This is something that is important for our department to be trained in."

Since then, Myers said they have cleared out some parts of the river, which decreased the amount of calls. Now, he said the fire department typically gets six to eight calls a year for rescue.

"We have such a beautiful resource here in Kent, Ohio, and I really want people to be able to use that resource and to have fun with it and so forth. But there also needs to be some responsibility on their behalf," he said. "Making sure you have the knowledge and the expertise when the water is running a little bit faster."

Myers recommended taking your new equipment or watercraft like kayaks and canoes out to a stagnant water source, like a pond, to practice before heading out to faster moving water like the river.

He also suggested that people should be careful when next to the water and suggested people watch their footing, watch where they're walking, and watch out for little ones, in addition to making sure people are not going out to spend time by the water by themselves in case they do end up in a situation where they need help.

"Be sure that you're aware of your surroundings," he said. "Make sure you're wearing a life jacket, too. I don't care your level of expertise; I think it's very important when you're in rapid water that you have a life jacket on."

Bade suggested that other boaters and paddlers be aware of what's going on in the water, and said he was happy to be able to help.

"I feel like in some ways, I think some of the things I've seen down there was some of my impetus for wanting to take this rescue training," he said. "I feel like it paid off, I'm glad I was able to be there."

Darren added a few more comments about the incident to John Kobak:

I learned last night that it was much more critical than I understood at first. I could tell that the child was definitely in trouble, and the mom wasn't looking all that great either. At some point as I was trying to figure out what injuries they might have I asked them where they fell in, and I came to understand that they had just fallen in above the dam in Kent. But that wouldn't have been a very long swim and its mostly smooth bedrock - nothing to really get bumped and bruised on. But I spoke with the mother last night and they actually fell in about a quarter mile upstream. The mother didn't know how to swim. So, I suspect she was just trying to stand up through that section which is just too deep or fast to stand up, unless you could swim into an eddy. I'm not sure where she caught up with her daughter. But as she was standing in the water above the strainers on the island, she tried giving her daughter rescue breaths that didn't work. She said she pounded her on the back which got her breathing again.

Very thankful that Darren was there and that he took the **2021 Keel-Hauler Common Sense Swift Water Rescue Clinic, a Class by Chris Wing**, last June on the Slippery Rock, that the club offered at a big discount to club members.

**From June 2001 Keel-Hauler News
A story of Rob Hammond's Carpflop on the Tallulah**

By Robyn Reporterwanabe - Staff reporter for the Eastside Solicitor on leave during an ethics investigation.

This is a story about one of North East Ohio's most under-appreciated and finest river Kayakers. The setting is on the 2001 Southern Rivers Trip with a group of Keel Haulers Canoe Club members on a daring decent of the Tallulah Gorge. This river has been kept under impoundment by Engineers who created a massive dam across one of Georgia's most picturesque places in the state. Back in the late 1800s this was a place where Atlanta's Elite came to play.

***Those damn nightmares -
they just won't go away.***

Today there is a huge dam and a reservoir where a free flowing river once thrived. In recent years, negotiations between the American Whitewater, and the Georgia Power Corporation, created an agreement to have a fall and spring water release into the otherwise dry gorge. These releases make for some of the best class 5 whitewater in the East. I will be following this group as they descend this treacherous, beautiful, and wondrous river. Since there is no access to this river other than by boat, I will rappel down and climb back up the steep 750 foot high canyon walls, at significant places on the river. You may ask why so much work just to get one story of some otherwise boring guys? Well I need the one big story to land my dream job on the National

Enquirer, and I was promised a good story here by Matt Muir, he could not make the trip due to some obligations to Chicky-Poo, but he told me if you want to see some magnificent boating, follow Rob Hammond, so here goes!

Robyn: Rob, it is good of you to agree to this interview of your team's daring decent.

Rob: Well thanks Robyn, I will be going down this river with Ron Whitney and Wayne Carey, they are both fine boaters with previous experience on this river. But this river is not exactly what I would call a big deal. I mean hundreds of people go down this river every year with nothing worse to show than a few stitches, and oh yea, those damn nightmares, they just won't go away.

Robyn: I admire your modesty Rob, but this is really a big story! But first I want to know what exactly is your name? I mean you introduce yourself as Rob, but your email and voice mail message from your office call you Bob, what gives here?

Rob: Yea well that is a really long story, but to make it short, my family calls me Rob, but when I got to grade school, my teachers looked at their Class Roster and saw a Robert, they thought my nick name was Bob. I didn't think it was a good thing to repeatedly challenge an authority figure (until I got older), so after a couple of attempts to correct them, I gave up and accepted that I would become a Bob. Things went well until I was about to be married, on meeting my future father in law, he told me that he was a Bob and there was already a Bob Jr. in the family, and he was not going to allow any more Bob's. I didn't understand that he was just trying to scare off a suitor to his only daughter, so when I agreed to be a Rob, I guess I threw him a curve that he didn't know how to deal with, so he grudgingly agreed to let me in the family. Basically Bob is my "stage" name for work, and Rob is for friends and family.

Robyn: Gee, thanks for the short version! Anyway, let's talk about your upcoming adventure. This is a really scary river huh?

Rob: Well I wouldn't say that, I was on this river 2 years ago, at that time it was one of the first few releases that they had. It was a little disconcerting going down a serious river with people who had no idea of what the lines were. But that was after I got nailed a rapid called Oceana.

Robyn: Oceana, yes my research tells me that this is the signature rapid on this river, and is one butt kicking rapid. I am told that this rapid is about a 150 foot drop down a slanting incline where boats can get up to speeds of 40 miles per hour. And two thirds of the way down is this ledge that sticks up, and when the water hits it, it shoots water up into the air like a geyser for maybe 20 feet high. And at the bottom of the drop is this big boat hungry hole that likes to catch boaters who do not hit it just right, and trash them around a while, before spiting them out. Isn't that right?

Rob: Yeeaa - well umm - I think that is about right, but I don't know about boats getting up to legal highway speeds. I mean you get going very fast, and it sure seems like you are going 40. Now there are 2 lines down this rapid. The left line is the most popular and is the simplest to run. The right line takes you down about two thirds of the drop, you pickup a lot of speed, then you crash into this big wave sideways, it stops with a bone crunching halt. From there, you ferry across just above the leading edge of the geyser, which we call the Thing, and then you go down the left side with as much speed as you can get up to punch the hole at the bottom. I am told that the right line is way easier then it looks, but generally this comes from people whom I either could not, or would not follow their lines down a river. The left line is the least challenging, but you can't get too far right, cause if you do, you will go right into the Thing, smash into the ledge that is causing the geyser, and then spend the next 18 months in surgery and therapy to fix your two broken ankles.

Robyn: Wow, you must be very nervous?

Rob: Oh not in the least.

Robyn: Oh this is great, I finally get a chance to interview a true American hero!

Rob: Umm, Robyn, I am not scared, because I have no intention of running that rapid!

Robyn: What? I thought I was here for an adventure story?

Rob: I am not going to run that rapid, because it is the Devil Rapid! The rapid does not require any skill to run it, only luck. This is the only rapid that I know of where the American Whitewater (AW) people keep a large First Aid kit at the bottom of it. And it gets used a lot! The water going over the drop is only a few inches deep, so basically you are sliding down a well-lubricated rock, at a very fast rate of speed, trying to miss the Thing on the right, and stay lined up to punch the boat devouring hole at the bottom. The imperfections in the rock face can cause your boat to veer off to the right with no time to correct and avoid a calamitous ride! No I am defiantly passing on this rapid. It has already gotten a piece of me, kicked my butt, caused an injury to my elbow that hasn't healed in two years, and gave me a solid dose of humility. This is a Devil Rapid I tell you!

Robyn: Do you suppose there will be any "real" men or woman that will be running what you call the "Devil Rapid"?

Rob: Not to worry, Ron Whitney will be with us, and he has never seen a rapid that he would not run! And there will be no shortage of men and woman running the rapid. But there is absolutely no way, no how - will I be running that Devil Rapid! It's just too unpredictable

Robyn: Oh so there will only be one "real man" in this expedition?

Rob: You know the old saying "there are old boaters and there are bold boaters, but there are NO old bold boaters"! Wayne, will also be walking, he and I are both old boaters!

Don't be a fool ... those rocks are too slippery!

Robyn: Ok, our group is now ready to start their expedition down this very dangerous and treacherous river. The men have checked in with the authorities and signed the waivers. They are now ready to start the trek down the steps built by the AW volunteers to protect the sensitive habitat and make it safer for the boaters, who would need to lower their boats with ropes down this very steep gorge, if it were not for the stairs. These stairs go on forever! There must be 600 steps; it is like walking down from the top floor on a 30-story building with a boat on your shoulder. Today is not very crowded, usually there are so many boaters waiting to launch that there is a long backup on the stairs. What makes this odd, is that this is the first weekend ever, that boaters did not have to submit applications to a lottery run by the AW that would pick a limited number of boaters for each release weekend. It's like taking away the lottery, took away the mystique of the river, and thus the interest in running it. Well, the men are now at the bottom of the stairs and ready to go. Ron leads off. There is only room for one boat on the deck at the bottom of the stairs, so he gets into his boat pushes off the deck, and drops about 2 feet into fast moving water. Wayne and Rob follow him, once they are all in the water Ron leads off. There is no room for a warm-up, 100 feet from the stairs are 2 offset class four holes, followed by a swift current pushing you into a wall, if you don't make a fast left turn. So the team, one by one, threads the needle between the holes avoiding the rock wall, and over a 5 foot drop, all with in the first 3 minutes on the river! They are out of sight now, so I will head back up the stairs and rappel down the steep canyon at Oceana to give you my report.

Whee, this rappelling business is hard work. I sure hope this story gets me that interview at the National Enquirer! Anyway I am at the bottom of the canyon at Oceana, but it seems like my long

trip down caused me to miss our daring adventurers running the drop, lets talk to them and see what they have to say.

Robyn: Wayne, how was your decent?

Wayne: Robyn, as you know it was raining all morning and the rocks are wet and a little slippery, since I was not running the rapid, I decided to take a hike down the river right path, it's a tough hike, but much safer then the river left route, with rocks so slippery, I was not going to take a chance. Rob took the river left path, Ron and I both told him not to, that it was too slippery this morning, but he said the he would be careful and that his trusty \$10 sandals that he bought on sale would see him through. Ron said "Rob, don't be a fool, take the river right route, yea its harder, but the left is just too slippery, especially with those cheap sandals you have". Anyway, since it took me so long to hike down, I did not see Ron's run or much of anything.

Robyn: Thanks Wayne, Rob how was your hike down?

Rob: It was uneventful, just a simple climb down.

Robyn: Rob I have information from witnesses that said your hike was anything but a simple uneventful hike down.

Rob: No! it was a simple climb down I tell you!

Robyn: Boater Dude, you said that you saw Rob climb down, how would you describe his simple little uneventful hike?

Boater Dude: Dudetel! it was the most narley thing I ever seen! This dude starts walking with his boat around the top of the bowl that overlooks Oceana. He was walking along the rim of the bowl, about halfway across the top of the bowl, his feet slips out from under him, and he starts sliding down the side of the bowl. The top of the bowl, must be about 200 feet above the Thing, He picks up speed, he's on his back, he flops over and he's on his stomach, he's squirming around as he slides picking up speed as he goes. He holds on to that boat like it's his shield. And that is exactly what he needs, cause he is headed right for the Thing! Well he slides right into the Thing, and it spits him out, and he still has this death grip on to his boat and paddle! But his adventure is not over yet, the dude is headed for the smackdown hotel! He continues his slide into the hole at the bottom, when he arrives, the paddle is ripped out of the hand, and he disappears into the meat of hole. He circulates around again but the hole had its fun, and spits him out, but it was still hungry enough to keep is boat! So the dude gets his sorry ass hauled out by some boaters as they laughed their ass off! But Dudetel the story gets even better! There is a guy at the top of Oceana who is telling the boaters when its clear to go down. Well he doesn't see the Sliding Dude coming down the bowl, so he signals the next boater to start, I think you can see where this is going!

Robyn: Ron, you would be that next boater?

Ron: Yea that was me. Rob was out of site, and I had no idea of what was going on. So I take off, and about halfway down, I see this big red boat stuck in the hole. It was standing straight up like it was doing an ender, but it wasn't going anywhere! I start picking up all kinds of speed, and I think "ohmygod! I am going to crash into that boat!". Then I go past the Thing, and it's lights out, cause the Thing is throwing off water spray in all directions. By the time my eyes clear I am about 20 feet from the hole, I didn't dare look up, I was hugging my deck getting ready for the crash! When I got into the hole, somehow the red boat was gone, but now I was stuck in the hole! Fortunately I was close to the edge of the hole and was able to get out without a big trashing!

Robyn: So Rob, what do you say now about your uneventful climb?

Rob: Ok, Ok, it was eventful, but it was not a swim, no way was it a swim. I am swimless this year and I can't have my record showing this as a swim!

Robyn: Gee, I don't know, it sounds to me like you were swimming?

Rob: No way! for this to be an officially sanctioned club swim, you have to start out in your boat, you can't just fall in!

Robyn: So if this was not a swim, what would you call it?

Rob: It was an event, yea that's it, a cataclysmic event!

Robyn: Ok well let me check with other sources, I have my cell phone, lets check in with the club's Chair on Linguistics, Matt Muir.

Matt: Robyn, I simply cannot accept Rob's contention that this was a cataclysmic event, stars and planets have cataclysmic events, boaters, on the other hand have SWIMS! And this interpretation is completely lacking of any bias, even though I dearly enjoy stories of any of Rob swims!

Robyn: Boater Dude, what's your take on today's event?

Boater Dude: Hell yea it was a swim, there was water, he was flailing around in it. It was a swim and one halacious one at that!

Rob: Robyn, you need to check with someone else, some one who is clearly unbiased, and has years of boating wisdom! You need to call Chuck Singer, he will give you an unbiased, and insightful answer.

Chuck: Robyn, I think Rob is correct, he did not start out in his boat, so I can't say that it was a swim, but on the other hand, it was not a cataclysmic event. I would have to say it is something else.

Robyn: Chuck what would you call this, if it were not a swim?

Chuck: Robyn, I have given this some deep thought, and I think we need to put a label on it, so our club archives will accurately record this event. From your witness's description, I would call it a Carpflop!

Robyn: Chuck, this indeed has become a late breaking story, please give us some insight on your decision.

Chuck: Well Boater Dude's description of Rob flopping around as he was sliding down the bowl, and then the flailing about when Rob hit the water, reminds me of a fish, and a Carp in particular flopping around, so hence this event will now be known as a Carpflop!

Robyn: There you have it ladies and gentleman, what happened to day on the Tallulah was a Carpflop, nothing more, nothing less! And I am so out of here! This is no story of heroic men conquering a raging river. This is simply a story about a bunch of boaters having fun on the river, which is all well and good for them, but this story will not be considered for a Pulitzer, nor will it even get me an interview with the National Enquirer. When I see Matt, he will pay for scamming me into doing this story!

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[Calendar of Events — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club \(keelhauler.com\)](http://keelhauler.com)

Monday, May 2

Upper Yough Release

Wednesday, May 4

5:00pm Wednesday on the Water

Friday, May 6

Cheat Fest

Upper Yough Release

2022 RICK GUSIC'S CHEAT RIVER MASSACRE-ENCE

Saturday, May 7

Cheat Fest

North Branch Potomac WW Release

Stonycreek Dam Release

Upper Yough Release

Sunday, May 8

North Branch Potomac WW Release

Stonycreek Dam Release

Monday, May 9

Upper Yough Release

Wednesday, May 11

5:00pm Wednesday on the Water

Friday, May 13

Upper Yough Release

5:00pm Kayak Camping Trip

Saturday, May 14

Kayak Camping Trip

Sunday, May 15

» 3:00pm Kayak Camping Trip

Wednesday, May 18

5:00pm Wednesday on the Water

Friday, May 20

Stonycreek Rendezvous

Stonycreek Rendezvous!

Upper Yough Release

Saturday, May 21

Stonycreek Rendezvous

Stonycreek Rendezvous!

Potomac North Branch

9:00am Riverside Cleanup at Girard Dam

10:00am River-City Cleanup Series

Sunday, May 22

Stonycreek Rendezvous

Potomac North Branch

Wednesday, May 25

5:00pm Wednesday on the Water

Friday, May 27

Upper Yough Release

Saturday, May 28

Stonycreek Special Release

Upper Yough Release

Friday, June 3

East Race Whitewater Festival

Upper Yough Release

Saturday, June 4

East Race Whitewater Festival

TRPC Slip Clinic

Savage River Dam Whitewater Release

Stonycreek Dam Release

Sunday, June 5

East Race Whitewater

Festival TRPC Slip Clinic

Stonycreek Dam Release

2022 Club Officers

President:	Brian Smart	330-809-7409
VP:	Megan Thompson	VP@keelhauler.org
Secretary:	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
Treasurer:	Kelly Miller	724-553-6816

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

Membership: \$20 per year. **Membership Chairman: John Kobak**

New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone, send to: John Kobak, 1649 Allen Drive, Westlake, OH 44145

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Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **June 2022 issue of the newsletter is **5/23/2022**. Please send articles and/or pictures to: Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.**

Keel-Hauler Kanews

May 2022

Kelly Miller, Editor



Keel-hauler's Ka-news

JUNE, 2022



Next meeting: July Meeting and Kayak Soccer at Munroe Falls Lake Park

Sunday, July 10, 2022, 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Munroe Falls Lake 521 South River Rd, Munroe Falls, OH, 44262 ([map](#))

We will have our July in person meeting at Munroe Falls Lake Park in Munroe Falls. We have the Main Beach Shelter. Bring your gear we will be playing Kayak Soccer. Bring your family there is lots to do at this park. **More picnic details will be announced in our July Newsletter.**

[July Meeting and Kayak Soccer at Munroe Falls Lake Park — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club \(keelhauler.com\)](#)

Any questions? Contact: Brian Smart at bsmart@keelhauler.org

President's Message From Brian Smart



No message this month.

Reminder - An election for a new vice-president will be held in July

**Keel-hauler Treasurer's Report
as of May 31, 2022
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402 \$2,318.93

CD 1077 \$2,318.86

CD'S (2) \$4,637.79

Checking \$9,289.72

Total \$13,927.51

The Keel-hauler Self Rating System

The boating season is in full swing and there are a lot of club events coming up with numerous opportunities for new paddlers to rack up pfds. I want to remind everyone of the clubs self-rating system. It can be found under the Getting Started tab on the KH website. You won't be publicly graded so please be brutally honest with yourself. Once you receive your rating you can use that to decide which rivers are within your paddling ability. It's recommended to only move up a few points at a time. After three years of consistent paddling, I scored a 34 which puts me on the low end of paddling class V. I'm way more confident running class IV and I have a lot more fun in class III. It would be irresponsible for me to step up to a river with a kh rating of 50. Preferably I would progress to a 35-37 rated river instead. Paddling within your skill set isn't only ideal for you, it benefits your fellow paddlers as well. Swimming every rapid is dangerous and no fun, not to mention the unnecessary strain and risk you put on your paddling group. Chasing down boats and gathering gear can be a lot of work. It's all part of the sport but missing the play spots and burning energy to clean up a yard sale after constant swims makes a long chore full day for everyone.

**Friends of the Cheat
Paddler Appreciation Day**

FOC and the West Virginia Land Trust will be hosting a cookout in the Cheat Fest pavilion on Saturday, June 4th, from 4-8pm. We will have hot dogs, hamburgers, and beer- feel free to bring a food contribution but it is not necessary.

Paddlers can camp for FREE at the FOC Campground on Beech Run Road from Friday, June 3rd to Sunday, June 5th.

A big THANK YOU to Screech Owl Brewing for donating the hot dogs!

No presentation is planned, this is an informal event. We hope to see you there!

Friends of the Cheat Albright Dam Removal Open House



Friends of the Cheat will be hosting an Open House for the Albright Dam Removal Project on **Tuesday, June 14th** from 5:30pm to 7:30pm at the **Albright United Methodist Church** (2894 St Joe Rd, Albright, WV 26519)

Light refreshments will be served, and folks are welcome to come and go as they please to learn about the project. The open house is intended to inform Albright and Preston County citizens about the project, answer any questions, and gain feedback.

There will be multiple information booths including Fisheries, Recreation, Flooding & Energy, and General Project Information.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Keel-hauler Trip Planning

Calendar of Events on our website

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Friday, June 3

East Race Whitewater Festival
Upper Yough Release

Saturday, June 4

East Race Whitewater Festival
TRPC Slip Clinic - Tentative
Savage River Dam Whitewater Release
Stonycreek Dam Release

Sunday, June 5

East Race Whitewater Festival
TRPC Slip Clinic - Tentative
Stonycreek Dam Release

Monday, June 6

Upper Yough Release

Friday, June 10

Mark Hanna and Carl Schneider Memorial Swift Water Rescue with Charlie Duffy
Upper Yough Release

Saturday, June 11

Mark Hanna and Carl Schneider Memorial Swift Water Rescue with Charlie Duffy

Sunday, June 12

Mark Hanna and Carl Schneider Memorial Swift Water Rescue with Charlie Duffy

Monday, June 13

Upper Yough Release

Friday, June 17

Common Sense Swift Water Rescue with H2O Dreams
Upper Yough Release

Saturday, June 18

Common Sense Swift Water Rescue with H2O Dreams
Stonycreek Dam Release
Upper Yough Release

Sunday, June 19

Common Sense Swift Water Rescue with H2O Dreams
Stonycreek Dam Release

Monday, June 20

Upper Yough Release

Friday, June 24

Upper Yough Release
5:00pm Megan Thompson Memorial Paddle and Gear Swap

Saturday, June 25

Megan Thompson Memorial Paddle and Gear Swap
Upper Yough Release
10:00am River-City Cleanup Series

Sunday, June 26

» 6:00pm Megan Thompson Memorial Paddle and Gear Swap

Monday, June 27

Upper Yough Release

Friday, July 1

Carolina Canoe Club Week of Rivers
Upper Yough Release

2022 Club Officers

President:	Brian Smart	330-809-7409
VP:		
Secretary:	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
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Keel-Hauler Kanews

June 2022

Kelly Miller, Editor



Keel-hauler's Ka-news

JULY, 2022



Next meeting: July Meeting and Kayak Soccer at Munroe Falls Lake Park

- Sunday, July 10, 2022
- 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM
- Munroe Falls Lake, 521 South River Road, Munroe Falls, OH, 44262

We will have our July in person meeting at Munroe Falls Lake Park in Munroe Falls. We have the Main Beach Shelter. Bring your gear and we will play Kayak Soccer. The club will supply sandwiches and drinks. Bring your family as there is lots to do at this park. There are playgrounds, trails, and grills.

- This is a no swim lake unless you are swimming out of your kayak.
- It is free to enter the park and there are about 700 parking spots.
- Helpers can stand in the water waste deep to help with instruction.
- No alcohol use in the park.
- We have the Main Beach Shelter reserved.
- If members want to bring a dish to share, please do so!
- We will have the club meeting from starting at 12:30 and will end no later than 1:30.

This will be a special election meeting to elect a new Vice President. As of right now the only candidate to volunteer is Ted Moore. If anyone else is interested in running for this position, please let Brian Smart know at the email address below.

Any questions, concerns, recommendations?

Please email: clevelandkeelhaulers@gmail.com.

Hold the Date!

Next meeting will be at Tall Oaks Campground,
544 Camp Riamo Rd, Farmington, PA 15437 on August 20th, 2022.
More details to come.

Watch the website for a link to reserve camping.

President's Message From Brian Smart



No message this month.

Keel-hauler Treasurer's Report as of June 28, 2022 From Kelly Miller

CD 0402	\$2,319.13
<u>CD 1077</u>	<u>\$2,319.05</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4,638.18
<u>Checking</u>	<u>\$5039.16</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$9,677.34</u>

Special KHCC Membership Prices Now Available By John Kobak

It is nearing the end of our membership year.

Tell your non-member friends & paddling buddies if they join now, they **Save 35%**. So instead of paying for a \$20 membership for 2022 they can also pay for 2023, Instead of a \$40 membership cost for 2022-23, they only pay \$26. They just fill out our [Registration Form](#), and their payment options will be displayed.

All existing members can start paying their 2023 dues now, no need to submit an application.

Pay your 2023 Dues or pay for 2023 and 2024 and save \$4.00, by using this link

<https://www.keelhauler.com/ezpay23>

105 Members have already paid for 2023, so please disregard if you are already paid for 2023

You can review your current membership listing, using this link [KH Members](#).

If the last column by your name says **2**, then you are paid for 2022. If it shows **23**, you paid for 2023 also.

The file is password protected for members only.

User Name: "**dir**" and the current 2022 password which is sent out in our monthly e-mail.

Remember all 2022 memberships expire on Oct 1, 2022.

I hope to be at the club meeting on 7/10 at Munroe Falls, so you can also pay your dues there. I'll have extra club logo stickers that are free for asking.

Tucker County Rivers Celebration July 23, 2022

On Saturday, July 23, WV Rivers will be holding a Rivers Celebration in Tucker County, WV! We're spending the day along the [Black Fork of the Cheat River](#) in Hendricks and would love to have you join us for a day of free, family friendly activities both on and off the river.

During the evening we're hosting a [ticketed after party](#) featuring live music with the Chaga Tea Project, dinner catered by White Grass Café, and libations from local brewers. Meet new people, catch up with longtime friends, and celebrate our wild & wonderful rivers and streams!

[Tucker County Rivers Celebration – WV Rivers](#)

[RSVP for activities and let us know you are coming here.](#)

Need Some Rainfall... Stonycreek Releases for the Rest of the Year

['Need some rainfall': Stonycreek River whitewater release schedule approved | News | tribdem.com](#)

As currently planned, upcoming releases are scheduled for the following dates:

July 3, 4, 17, 18 and 31; Aug. 1, 14, 15, 28 and 29; Sept. 11, 12; 25 and 26; and Oct. 9, 10, 23 and 24.

Because all releases are subject to change, visit www.benscreekcanoecub.com/quemahoning-releases to stay up-to-date on scheduled releases.

Keel-hauler Trip Planning Calendar of Events on our website

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Friday, July 1

Carolina Canoe Club Week of Rivers
Upper Yough Release

Saturday, July 2

Carolina Canoe Club Week of Rivers
Stonycreek Dam Release
Upper Yough Release
12:00pm Outdoor Rec Fest

Sunday, July 3

Carolina Canoe Club Week of Rivers
Savage River Dam Whitewater Release
Stonycreek Dam Release

Monday, July 4

Carolina Canoe Club Week of Rivers
Upper Yough Release

Tuesday, July 5

Carolina Canoe Club Week of Rivers
5:00pm Keel-Hauler's Indigo Lake Roll Practice

Wednesday, July 6

Carolina Canoe Club Week of Rivers

Thursday, July 7

Carolina Canoe Club Week of Rivers

Friday, July 8

Carolina Canoe Club Week of Rivers
Upper Yough Release

Saturday, July 9

Carolina Canoe Club Week of Rivers
2022 Headwaters Adventure Race
Upper Yough Release

Sunday, July 10

12:00pm Club Meeting

Monday, July 11

Upper Yough Release

Tuesday, July 12

5:00pm Keel-Haulers Boat Ball and Roll Practice

Friday, July 15

Upper Yough Release

Saturday, July 16

Stonycreek Dam Release

Upper Yough Release

Sunday, July 17

Stonycreek Dam Release

Monday, July 18

Upper Yough Release

Tuesday, July 19

5:00pm Keel-Haulers Indigo Lake Roll Practice

Friday, July 22

Lake Erie Island Camping

Upper Yough Release

Saturday, July 23

Lake Erie Island Camping

Upper Yough Release

Sunday, July 24

Lake Erie Island Camping

12:00pm Keel-Haulers Kayak Soccer and Roll Practice

Monday, July 25

Upper Yough Release

Tuesday, July 26

5:00pm Keel-Haulers Boat Ball and Roll Practice

Friday, July 29

Upper Yough Release

Saturday, July 30

Stonycreek Dam Release

Upper Yough Release

Sunday, July 31

Stonycreek Dam Release



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VP:		
Secretary:	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
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Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **August 2022 issue of the newsletter is **7/23/2022**. Please send articles and/or pictures to: Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.**

Keel-Hauler Kanews

July 2022

Kelly Miller, Editor



Keel-hauler's Ka-news AUGUST, 2022



Next meeting: August Meeting and Summer Picnic!

Friday, August 19th to Sunday, August 21st

Tall Oaks Campground, 544 Camp Riamo Road, Farmington, PA, 15437

The Club Reserved Pavilion 3 - Upper Large Pavilion and Tent Sites 50, 51, 52, 53, 54 @ Tall Oaks Campground. If you would like to camp with the club it is \$13 for one night and \$25 for two nights per person. Members who are not camping are still welcome to the meeting at no cost. Here is the link to sign up and pay for camping: [August Meeting and Summer Picnic! — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club \(keelhauler.com\)](https://www.keelhauler.com/2022/08/19/august-meeting-and-summer-picnic/). There is also a place to indicate your interest in paddling on different days.

Skip Work Lower Yough Thursday
Lower Yough Friday
Middle Yough Saturday
Lower Yough Saturday
Lower Yough Loop Sunday

The meeting will be on Saturday at Pavilion 3 at 6pm.

There is a map on the link above.

Potluck: Please bring a dish according to the first letter of your last name. The club will supply hamburgers/hotdogs, beverages, plates, and plastic ware.

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

President's Message From Brian Smart



No message this month.

Keel-hauler Meeting Minutes July 10, 2022 By Paul McDonald

Started at 12:45 pm.

New business:

No responses

Reports from the chairs:

Membership is booming. Training programs are effective and helping grow new membership.

B. Smart -possible wilderness first aid training opportunity. Ted to support by exploring options for training.

Consider 2023 officers for the next meeting. We need a new Secretary and Trustee.

Reports for committees:

-Safety

-Rolling (turnout is sometimes low). Consider change of schedule, location, etc. for next year?

Standard order of business:

Need a VP. Ted More has accepted nomination.

Motion made to make Ted new VP. Motion seconded.

Vote held. Overwhelming support so Ted will remain VP until the end of the current term (previously held by Megan). Bylaws discussed and will be reviewed prior to the next meeting to confirm term end, etc.

-Comments received regarding swift water rescue.

Over 30 people trained. Overwhelmingly a positive experience. Possibly rent a cabin for instructors, teachers, to make their stay more comfortable.

-New swag coming.

-Swap meet: 19 people showed up. Consider that a success with such low water at the Slip. We'll try to change the time of year for next year. Maybe add an auction, raffle, food, etc.

Open discussion:

-Posting on FB about National Park soliciting ideas. Some wanted to encourage NPS to add a play park at lock 29. B. Smart recommends putting together a subcommittee to prepare a plan if desired. Play park would be likely to have more success at another location (Kent, cuy falls, etc.) Some feel the river offers enough opportunities without constructed changes. Pros and cons of each option.

Consider adding a note in the newsletter that point out where the waves are and what levels are ideal for each.

-Consider finding a specific contact in the park to try to expedite issues or concerns.

-Some members aren't on FB so we need to keep active info in the newsletter to communicate with those not on FB

Meeting adjourned at 1:11 pm.

**Keel-hauler Treasurer's Report
as of July 27, 2022
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402 \$2,319.24

CD 1077 \$2,319.32

CD'S (2) \$4,638.56

Checking \$8,286.04

Total \$12,924.60

**2023 Dues & Special KHCC Membership Prices
By John Kobak**

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120 Members of our 365 paid members have already paid for 2023, so please disregard if you are already paid for 2023

You can review your current membership listing, using this link [KH Members](#).

The current 2022 password is the same for all of 2022 and is sent out in our monthly e-mail.

If the last column by your name says **2**, then you are paid for 2022. If it shows **32**, you paid for 2023 also. The file is password protected for paid members only.

Remember all 2022 memberships expire on Oct 1, 2022.

**Friends of the Crooked River 2022 Paddle and Picnic
By Jacki Zevenbergen**

Use the following link to access the flyer for the FoCR Paddle and Picnic. It is on Saturday, August 27th starting at 1pm. The public is welcome, but please use the link in the flyer to RSVP. [FoCR 2022 picnic \(12\).pdf](#)

**Conservation News
By Jacki Zevenbergen**

Please use the links to find the conservation organization that cares for your local river:

- [Friends of McConnell's Mill State Park](#)
- [Friends of Stony Creek](#)
- [Friends of the Crooked River](#)
- [Friends of the Cheat](#)
- [Friends of the New River Gorge](#)
- [Grand River Partners](#)
- [Lake Erie Waterkeeper](#)
- [Mountain Watershed Association](#)

- [Ohio River Foundation](#)
- [Portage Park District Foundation](#)
- [West Virginia Rivers Coalition](#)

Check out their calendars and consider attending a summer event!

Hell's Canyon of the Snake River By Jane and Steve Andraka

A friend was lucky enough to win a permit for Hell's Canyon of the Snake River in Idaho in June. It's the deepest river-carved gorge in North America. The river flows north through the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area (HCNRA) and forms the boundary between Idaho and Oregon. The maximum number of people is 24 and maximum number of boats (including rafts, duckies, stand up paddle boards and kayaks) is 8. We had a big group so opted to take oar rafts which we rented from Rubicon Outfitters. We also had them provide the food and kitchen equipment as well as the toilets. Paying an extra \$50 was well worth having them do the toilet clean out as well!

The put in is an hour and half drive from the nearest (very small) town so we shopped for beer etc. in Boise before driving to Cambridge Idaho and staying at the Frontier Motel . The drive in is very scenic on a narrow windy road and we were all glad to get out and start loading our boats. We got off well before noon and enjoyed a few warmup rapids before hitting the major 3 rapids of the trip : Wild Sheep, Granite and Waterspout. These were class IV I'd say at the water level we had which started at 27,000 cfs.

The weather was sunny, and 70 degrees and our team was full of energy despite not having rowed for a few years. Scouting took a bit of a hike, but the lines were very clear. The most surprising thing was the jet boats which run up and down the Snake River carrying tourists and fishermen. It was cool to watch them zoom up the big rapids and then turn around and run down them. A bit nerve wracking though when we were lined up to run a rapid and heard the telltale howl of the jet boat engines approaching! They were very courteous though and we never got run over.

We were feeling so good we ran all the rapids at once. The camping was good although the beaches were smaller than they would be later in season due to the high water. The fishermen on the trip were in their glory because it was more like 'catching' then 'fishing'. Almost every cast got a bite -lots of small mouth bass and some trout. We saw people fishing for sturgeon but never saw any being caught.

The rapids settled down after the first day into many class II and III wave trains which were super fun. More and more water was coming in from the tributaries like the Salmon and we ended up taking 2 layover days because the current was so fast. There were enormous whirlpools and powerful eddy lines that almost flipped a few rafts and nibbled on the passengers, but no one had any mishaps. The weather was all over the place from sunny and 80 degrees to windy 40 degrees with rain and hail. I saw several new to me birds including the indigo bunting which was awesome.

Our 6-day trip ended with a water level over 80,000 cfs which made the takeout eddy super small and hard to catch. Then it was time to say goodbye to the Snake and head home via Spokane Washington.





Welcome New Keel-hauler Paddlers!
Collected by Jacki Zevenbergen

The club has been picking up some new paddlers. Thanks to everyone who has been helping them start and progress! Here are some quotes from a few of them:

Rachel Faber:

"Starting in whitewater can be a scary and confusing endeavor. I wanted to approach whitewater safely but didn't know how to do that on my own. Luckily, I found the Keel-Haulers earlier this year.

Members of this group taught me all of the essential skills and information I needed to get started. They

are all incredibly kind and willing to answer any question and work with you individually on your skills, all with your safety in mind.

I'm incredibly lucky to have found this group of passionate people and have definitely found my community here in Ohio, and friends for life!"

Xavier Rivera:

"Everyone in the group is so helpful to new people. I really feel like I've made a lot of progress in a really short amount of time and it's because everyone with experience is so enthusiastic about giving advice and helping you improve on your skills. They also make it really accessible when you don't have the right gear right away. It seems like everyone wants newbies to enjoy the sport and will do whatever they can to make sure they do."

Week of Rivers By Jacki Zevenbergen

Week of Rivers is organized by the Carolina Canoe Club but most years someone from KHCC "organizes" for our members. This year I signed up to answer questions or direct new people to those who could, to update members as events were added, remind everyone to sign up with CCC and to take pictures at the event. It was difficult to get an exact count but about 30 KHCC/TRPC members attended the event that radiated from the event site at Smoky Mountain Meadows Campground in Bryson City, NC.

Members formed their own groups or joined groups organized by CCC during the morning meetings. Several KHCC members volunteered to lead CCC groups. The weather was HOT and afternoon showers were typical throughout the week. About half of the members camped while the other half shared large cabins next to the event site. During the week of rivers, there are regular and special releases in NC and surrounding states. The extra rain this year allowed some natural flow rivers and creeks to come into play. New and novice boaters enjoyed the Tuckaseegee and Nantahala close to the event site while some made the trek to the French Broad 9 and Pigeon. More experienced boaters paddled the Ocoee, Cheoh, Nolichucky, Chattooga, Tellico and a special release on the Upper Nantahala. Some creeks came into play during WOR and I may have missed a few rivers in this list. There were a lot of PFDs throughout the week!

In addition to the abundance of paddling opportunities there were special events throughout the week including ice cream socials, the Tuckaseegee cleanup, the Great Not a Race (GNAR), Bad Idea Theater, the Falls Clinic, Slalom clinic, a Novice Clinic, a gear swap and a great evening concert with Blue. This year 4 members - Andi Morgan, Dan Osdyke, Cody Kowalski and myself participated in the cleanup. Lynn Khalife and I ran the GNAR, Andi, Dan and I did the Falls Clinic and Linda Kuhaja and Scott Allen took the Novice Clinic. Lynn, Dan and Andi participated in Bad Idea Theater on Nantahala Falls. I tried but I couldn't get Shamu to stay upright to even get to the falls. Most of the other KHCC/TRPC members focused on running as many rivers as they could. KHCC members also contributed to the local community with donations to the food tent. Christopher Curley and Christina Chain stole the show with their own special event - their river engagement! It was a very fitting time for a proposal as they met last year at WOR.

All in all, I saw a lot of smiles throughout the week, and I think we all made a lot of new friends. If you missed WOR this year, check out our Facebook page for videos from the event. Be sure to save the date July 1-9 for next year!

Jacki Zevenbergen



Lucas Wilson, Sean Stipp, Jacki Zevenbergen, Michael Duvall, Andi Morgan, Cody Kowalski, Chris Curley, Scott, Linda Kuharja, Dan Osdyke, Mary, Dave Powell, and Lynn Khalife



Lena Meslat and Steve Anderson



Chris Curly and Christina Chain
River proposal during WOR!



Karen Petit



Phil and Jen Raber with Sabine in the background



GNAR - Lynn Khalife

Keel-hauler Trip Planning
[Calendar of Events on our website](#)

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[Calendar of Events — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club \(keelhauler.com\)](http://keelhauler.com)

Tuesday, August 2

5:00pm Keel-Hauler's Indigo Lake Roll Practice

Sunday, August 7

12:00pm Keel-Haulers Kayak Soccer and Roll Practice

Tuesday, August 9

5:00pm Keel-Haulers Boat Ball and Roll Practice

Tuesday, August 16

5:00pm Keel-Hauler's Indigo Lake Roll Practice

Thursday, August 18

11:00am Skip Work Day on the Lower Yough

Friday, August 19

10:00am August Meeting and Summer Picnic!

Saturday, August 20

August Meeting and Summer Picnic!

Middle Yough

Sunday, August 21

August Meeting and Summer Picnic!

12:00pm Keel-Haulers Kayak Soccer and Roll Practice

Tuesday, August 23

5:00pm Keel-Haulers Boat Ball and Roll Practice

Tuesday, August 30

5:00pm Keel-Hauler's Indigo Lake Roll Practice

Sunday, September 4

12:00pm Keel-Haulers Kayak Soccer and Roll Practice

2022 Club Officers

President:	Brian Smart	330-809-7409
VP:	Ted Moore	
Secretary:	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
Treasurer:	Kelly Miller	724-553-6816

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

Membership: \$20 per year. **Membership Chairman: John Kobak**

New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone, send to: John Kobak, 1649 Allen Drive, Westlake, OH 44145

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Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **September 2022** issue of the newsletter is **8/23/2022**. Please send articles and/or pictures to: Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.

Keel-Hauler Kanews

August 2022

Kelly Miller, Editor



Keel-hauler's Ka-news

SEPTEMBER, 2022



Next meeting: To be announced...

**2023 KHCC Membership Dues are Now Payable
By John Kobak – Membership Chairman**

It's nearing the end of our 2022 membership year.
Remember all 2022 memberships **expire on Oct 1, 2022.**

All 2022 members should start paying their 2023 dues now, no application is required.
Note that 135 members have already paid for 2023, so please don't pay again.

You can review your current membership listing by using this link [KH Members](#). (Password Req'd)
The current 2022 password is the same for all of 2022 and is sent out in our monthly e-mail.

If the last column by your name says **2**, then you are only paid for 2022.
If it shows **32**, then you have already paid for 2023.
If it shows **34**, then you have already paid for 2023 and 2024.

You have the option to pay for **two years (2023-24) for only \$36**
Just click to: [Pay 2023 Dues](#) (Your options will be displayed)

I would like to thank all our members for telling their friends & paddlers about the KHCC.
Our membership for 2022 is the highest we have been for the past 20 years.
We now have 375 paid family memberships

So tell any interested paddlers that they should use this application form to join the club for 2023
now.

[On-Line Registration Form](#)

**Keel-hauler Treasurer's Report
as of August 22, 2022
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402 \$2,319.52

CD 1077 \$2,319.24

CD'S (2) \$4,638.76

Checking \$8,890.12

Total \$13,528.88

**Request from Summit Metroparks
Paddlers Needed!
From Jacki Zevenbergen**

**Request from Summit Metroparks - please contact Elaine with any questions.
Paddlers Needed to Celebrate Grand Opening of Cascade Valley Park**

Thursday, September 8 10:15 AM to Noon. Cuyahoga Street and the River in Akron.

This Summit Metro Parks' opening will be grand indeed. This project transformed a golf course into a quintessential riparian restoration with natural streams, wetlands, floodplains and native species. Funding and partners came from around the Northeast Ohio neighborhood, and from state and federal agencies. Dignitaries and representatives will be in attendance to celebrate the flourishing results of this years-in-the-making achievement.

Paddlers are needed to demonstrate the expanded recreational uses of the Cuyahoga River in the area and for photo opportunities. It is a short ½ mile paddle with options for a 5-mile trip. Paddlers will need to have their own boats, paddles, and life jackets (PDF's).

Details will follow to interested paddlers.

If you are interested, please respond to:

Elaine Marsh
emarsh@summitmetroparks.org. OR ohgreenway@gmail.com
330-328-3909

A New Whitewater Park in West Carrollton?

[Whitewater Park Receives Federal Funding - West Carrollton](#)

Ohiopyle/Lower Yough Fees have Changed

Effective August 6th, a new point of sale access fee will be charged at Ohiopyle State Park's lower Yough launch window making it easier for boaters by paying only one fee and will make it fair for everyone. It will also help continue the existing services, currently being provided at a financial loss by the park.

The \$10 access fee will cover all aspects of a boater's experience on the river, such as launch authorization and river access, shuttle service from Bruner Run to Old Mitchell, improvements to the launch and take out areas, hazardous tree removal from the river, rescue equipment, emergency services by park staff, and other services.

Boaters will no longer be required to make a reservation or pay an additional transaction fee on weekend trips down the Lower Youghiogheny River.

The access fee will be assessed mid-April thru mid-October on Saturday's, Sunday's, and Holiday's.

The new fee will not cover the emergency services provided by the Ohiopyle/Stewart Volunteer Fire Department, who have been an essential part of the rescue and recovery services provided. Boaters should consider making a donation to the Fire Company for their dedication and service.

According to Park Operations Manager Ken Bisbee, this change is a reflection of feedback from boaters and staff. "We have a responsibility to manage the river as an important resource. We still need to manage access on busy weekends to protect it, but have realized that our launch system has not kept up to date with the current usage patterns or cover park costs, such as the shuttle service. Boaters and DCNR management came together to work out a solution that is fair and helps keep the generated funds in the park."

Boaters will no longer be able to make a reservation on-line, and all operations will be conducted at the launch. "We should be able to get everyone onto the river within a short period of time with the usage patterns we have experienced over the past several years" Bisbee said. "Although we still typically hit our peak numbers during the mid-day time slots, no one should have to wait too long to launch."

Bisbee also noted that construction should begin on the new Boater Change House over the next few months. The new facility will replace one demolished in 2018 to make way for a Multi-Modal improvement project completed by PennDOT last year.

[River Permit Ohio, PA — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club \(keelhauler.com\)](#)

**Friends of the Cheat
Snorkeling Event
Sunday, September 11th from 2 to 4pm**

Get your feet (and face!) wet this summer with our FOC snorkel workshops! This guide of the river will take place under the surface, as participants learn about freshwater ecology and unique Cheat River critters. To get first access to our online registration email madison@cheat.org to sign up to the snorkel email club. Any additional questions can be sent to Madison Ball at madison@cheat.org. All of our workshops are free and open to the public, and we will provide the snorkels and needed gear to participants. No prior experience necessary. Our events are open to all ages although we ask that those under 16 years old be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Join FOC staff at "Driveway" along the Cheat River Narrows on Rt. 72. [Click here for GPS.](#) near Rowlesburg. FOC staff will be hosting a free snorkel workshop, flows and weather permitting, from 2:00 – 4:00, with participants being able to come and go as they please. All ages welcome, FOC masks and snorkels available for use. Location and parking here, look for the Friends of the Cheat sign. Lifejackets will also be available for use.

If you have a group of individuals that are interested in participating in a snorkeling workshop, please reach out to me and we could potentially schedule a workshop for this summer or early Fall.

**Support Save Slippery Rock Creek
Written by Chris Coleman, Facebook**

As was expected, the SRZHB decided to grant approval to Hei-Way for their special exception (like they were going to vote against their earlier decision 🙄). We are now entering the appeal process. In the previous stage, we set the groundwork for the upcoming procedures.

After the hearing, we had an excellent meeting on upcoming strategy and ideas. We need serious fund-raising. Our process to finalize our non-profit status should be done and accepted by the end of the month. This will go to great lengths to start the donations from possible larger groups. We need a group logo and are asking the group members to please help with any ideas. We are looking for something with the group initials (SSRC), along with some symbolism towards the creek and the life it supports, physical and recreational.

With this logo, we are then going to start selling t-shirts with the logo on it, directing people to our donation network. There will be a range of colors and styles available, ranging from short sleeve to long, polos and hoodies, rainbow to tie-dye. Any ideas are welcome! We are inquiring to costs already!

Also, we are still planning on a Spring Creekfest, and serious advances are hoped to be made this week. Any help in planning would be more than welcome! We need bands, and we are still planning a locale, though we have narrowed down to 4-5.

Please leave comments. We need as much positive input as possible. Forums will be created on various topics mentioned and upcoming. Please help, we need you!

[Save Slippery Rock Creek | Facebook](#)

Keel-hauler Trip Planning **Calendar of Events on our website**

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[Calendar of Events — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club \(keelhauler.com\)](#)

Friday, September 2

Upper Yough Release

Saturday, September 3

Upper Yough Release

Sunday, September 4

10:00am Lower Yough

12:00pm Keel-Haulers Kayak Soccer and Roll Practice

Monday, September 5

Upper Yough Release

Friday, September 9

Gauley River Fall Release

Upper Yough Release

Saturday, September 10, Gauley River Fall Release, Stonycreek Dam Release

Upper Yough Release

Sunday, September 11

Gauley River Fall Release

Stonycreek Dam Release

Monday, September 12

Gauley River Fall Release

Upper Yough Release

Friday, September 16

Gauley River Fall Release

Upper Yough Release

Saturday, September 17

Gauley River Fall Release

Sunday, September 18

Gauley River Fall Release

Monday, September 19

Gauley River Fall Release

Upper Yough Release

Friday, September 23

Gauley River Fall Release

Upper Yough Release

Saturday, September 24

Gauley River Fall Release, Savage River Dam Whitewater Release, Stonycreek Dam Release

Sunday, September 25

Gauley River Fall Release

Stonycreek Dam Release

Monday, September 26

Gauley River Fall Release

Upper Yough Release

Friday, September 30

Gauley River Fall Release

Upper Yough Release

2022 Club Officers

President:	Brian Smart	330-809-7409
VP:	Ted Moore	330-608-9456
Secretary:	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
Treasurer:	Kelly Miller	724-553-6816

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Membership: \$20 per year. **Membership Chairman: John Kobak**

New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone, send to: John Kobak, 1649 Allen Drive, Westlake, OH 44145

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Keel-Hauler Kanews

September 2022

Kelly Miller, Editor



Keel-hauler's

Ka-news

OCTOBER, 2022



Next meeting: Thursday, October 20th

1763 Goodyear Blvd, Akron, OH 44305-2911

The Keel-Haulers will be meeting at Cafe Rewind at 1763 Goodyear Blvd Akron Ohio 44305

Doors will open at 5pm.

We will start our meeting promptly at 6:30pm and end no later than 7:30pm.

We will have the space until 9pm.

The club will be providing a Taco Bar for food, guests are welcome to bring any sides or BYOB.

Any questions? Please contact Brian Smart at President@keelhauler.org

The proposed slate of Officers and the budget for the 2023 year will be voted on:

Position	2022	Proposed Slate for 2023
President	Brian Smart	Brian Smart
Vice President	Ted Moore	Ted Moore
Secretary	Michael Duvall	Jennifer Hughes
Treasurer	Kelly Miller	Kelly Miller
Trustee 2019-2022	Jeremiah Richards	Stefan Sandelin 2022-2023
Trustee 2022-2023	Stefan Sandelin	John Banach 2022-2024
Trustee 2022-2024	John Banach	Mike Gillam 2023-2025
Conservation	Jacki Zevenbergen	Need a volunteer
Membership	John Kobak	John Kobak
Instruction	Mark Spang	TBA
Safety & Rescue	Seth Anderson	TBA
Pool Sessions	Bret Rose	TBA

Library	Cliff Wire	Cliff Wire
Recreational	Moneen McBride	TBA
(Erie) Sea Kayaking	Lena Bear	Lena Bear
Trip Schedule		TBA
Newsletter	Kelly Miller	Kelly Miller
Meeting Coordinator	Jeremiah Richard	Jeremiah Richard
Website Development Team	Brian Smart, Chloe Shepherd, Domenic Bentz, John Kobak, and Kelly Miller	Brian Smart, Chloe Shepherd, Domenic Bentz, John Kobak, and Kelly Miller

Category Description	Proposed 2023 Budget
ASSETS	
CHECKING balance at start of FY	\$9,294.60
CD (2) balance at start of FY	\$4,639.45
INCOME	
Conservation	\$250.00
Dues	\$7,000.00
TeeSpring, Inc.	\$100.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$7,350.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$21,284.05
LIABILITIES	
EXPENSE	
Conservation Donations	\$5,150.00
Access Donations*	\$1,200.00
Internet Domain	\$38.00
Webpage Development	\$300.00
Marketing	\$600.00
Education/Training/Outreach	\$2,000.00
Insurance	\$575.00
Meeting Hall	\$1,400.00
Postage and Supply	\$50.00
Refreshments	\$1,000.00
Yearbook Expense	\$0.00
Pool Sessions	\$1,300.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$13,613.00
OVERALL TOTAL	\$7,671.05
DONATIONS:	
American Whitewater	\$1,500.00
Friends of the Cheat	\$1,000.00

Friends of the Crooked River	\$100.00
Grand Canyon Private Boaters Association	\$150.00
American Rivers	\$300.00
West Virginia Rivers Coalition	\$300.00
River Network	\$100.00
Nature Conservancy	\$100.00
Mountain Watershed Assoc.-Yough Defense Fund	\$300.00
Portage Park Dist.	\$100.00
Special Donation/Benscreek-Stonycreek *	\$1,200.00
Friends of the New River Gorge	\$100.00
Save Slippery Rock Defense Fund (SSRC)	\$500.00
Additional Conservation	\$600.00
TOTAL	\$6,350.00

It's that time again!
All club memberships end on October 1st
By John Kobak – Membership Chairman

As soon as you can, please pay your **2023** membership dues. The sooner you pay the less work on my part. I would ask all of you to mail your check today or **pay on-line before the end of the month**. It doesn't matter when you originally paid your club dues; all memberships expired on September 30th.

All 2022 members should pay their 2023 dues now, no application is required.
Note that 160 members have already paid for 2023, so please don't pay again.
[KH Members](#) (Password protected)

Please use the directory password is listed in my monthly e-mail.

If you agreed to be listed in our yearbook you can see what years you are paid for in the last column.

2 = 2022 3 = 2023 4 = 2024
2 paid for 2022 32 paid for 2023 34 paid for 2023 & 24

Just click to: [Pay 2023 Dues](#) (Options will be displayed)
You also have the option to pay for **two years for only \$36**

If you can't use Paypal just mail your check to:
Keel Haulers Canoe Club
1649 Allen Dr
Westlake, OH 44145-2506

If you need to change any of your membership information, you can use this form:
[On-Line Registration Form](#)

Please encourage any of your non-member paddling friends to join/re-join our club. The club offers a lot to paddlers of all skill levels. Send them the link above. In 2022 our club had 380 paid memberships, which was the most in the past 20 years. We have had a lot of active new members join this year, thanks to the encouragement and instruction of our more experienced members.

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

John Kobak - Membership Chairman

**Keel-hauler Treasurer's Report
as of September 27, 2022
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402	\$2,319.71
CD 1077	<u>\$2,319.64</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4,639.35

Checking	<u>\$9294.60</u>
----------	------------------

<u>Total</u>	<u>\$13,933.95</u>
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**Slipping Into Fall
Trip Report
From Jacki Zevenbergen**



On Saturday, Dodie had an awesome combat roll and Mike Maddock had a clean run for his PFD. I wasn't surprised since he had already successfully run the Loyo. It was a pleasure as always, to paddle with Chuck, Ben, Chloe, Meredith, Doug and Anthony. Meredith reminded me of our first year on the upper slip in 2020. It was super scary back then - even when it was super low. Fran practiced what he preached about holding on to his paddle when the aforementioned pesky rocks tried to eat it. His hand suffered for his efforts but that was one less paddle gobbled up by the troll hiding in Airport. Brian suggested we should rename it Lost Paddle since so many have been grabbed there lately. Speaking of Brian, he got quite the thump on his head, but he shook it off and went on to fearlessly clear wood from a line as a public service to future paddlers. I tried running a few of the rapids backwards (on purpose) with encouragement from Patrick. Patrick had the only playboat on Sunday but there wasn't much water for playing.



Keel-hauler Trip Planning
Calendar of Events on our website

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Saturday, October 1

Gauley River Fall Release
Upper Yough Release

Sunday, October 2

Gauley River Fall Release

Monday, October 3

Gauley River Fall Release
Upper Yough Release

Friday, October 7

Gauley River Fall Release
Upper Yough Release

Saturday, October 8

Gauley River Fall Release
Stonycreek Dam Release
Upper Yough Release

Sunday, October 9

Gauley River Fall Release
Stonycreek Dam Release

Monday, October 10

Gauley River Fall Release
Upper Yough Release

Friday, October 14

Gauley River Fall Release
Upper Yough Release

Saturday, October 15

Gauley River Fall Release

Sunday, October 16

Gauley River Fall Release

Saturday, October 22

Stonycreek Dam Release

Sunday, October 23

Stonycreek Dam Release

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Keel-Hauler Kanews

October 2022

Kelly Miller, Editor



Keel-hauler's Ka-news



NOVEMBER, 2022



Next meeting: To be announced....

**2023 Membership Dues are Overdue
By John Kobak – Membership Chairman**

All club memberships have ended on October 1st for our 2022 membership year.

Our club now has over 385 family memberships in 17 states.

About 1/3 of you still haven't renewed your 2023 membership yet.

So, if you haven't gotten around to it, **DO IT TODAY!**

Don't miss out on all the club benefits like free indoor pool sessions and discounted advanced WW safety training.

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

You have an option to pay for two years (2023-24) for only \$36

Just click to: [Pay 2023 Dues](#) (Your options will be displayed)

OR

If you still want to mail a check or use your banks Bill Payer,

Please send **\$20** for your **2023 Membership Dues** or **\$36** for **2023-24 dues**

Please Mail To our Treasurer:

**Keel Haulers Canoe Club
701 Forrest Ave
Geneva, IL 60134-3039**

To check whether or not I have received your renewal, you can check this updated file:

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

This file is password protected for your security.

User Name: "dir" and the current 2022 password found in each monthly newsletter e-mail.

If the last column by your name says 2 and not 3, then you are not recorded as paid for 2023.

If it shows 34, this means you have also paid for 2024.

If you need to change any of your membership information, you can use this form:

[On-Line Registration Form](#)

Please encourage any of your non-member paddling friends to join/rejoin the club. The club offers a lot to paddlers of all skill levels. Send them the link above. We have had a lot of active new members join this year, thanks to the encouragement and instruction of our more experienced members.

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

Thanks

John Kobak – Membership Chairman

**Meeting October 20th, 2022
Slate of Officers for the 2023
Keel-hauler Calendar Year
October 2022–September 2023**

Meeting minutes:

John Banach Made a Motion and it was 2nd and voted in favor of raising the Insurance Budget to 1K so we can get 1 year of LL Insurance if that's what we choose.

Ted Moore Made a Motion and it was 2nd and voted in favor of removing the password from the newsletter until decided otherwise.

The proposed slate of Officers was voted on and approved at the meeting on October 20th. Thank you to the new volunteers. There are 2 committee positions available. Please consider volunteering. Contact Brian Smart at President@keelhauler.org.

Position	2022	Proposed Slate for 2023
President	Brian Smart	Brian Smart
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Secretary	Michael Duvall	Jennifer Hughes
Treasurer	Kelly Miller	Kelly Miller
Trustee 2019-2022	Jeremiah Richards	Stefan Sandelin 2022-2023
Trustee 2022-2023	Stefan Sandelin	John Banach 2022-2024
Trustee 2022-2024	John Banach	Mike Gillam 2023-2025
Conservation	Jacki Zevenbergen	Need a volunteer
Membership	John Kobak	John Kobak
Instruction	Mark Spang	Mark Spang

Safety & Rescue	Seth Anderson	Seth Anderson
Pool Sessions	Bret Rose	Linda Kuhajda
Library	Cliff Wire	Cliff Wire
Recreational	Moneen McBride	Dan Hardwick
(Erie) Sea Kayaking	Lena Bear	Need a volunteer
Trip Schedule	Ethan Kay/Andrew Morgan	Ethan Kay/Andrea Morgan
Newsletter	Kelly Miller	Kelly Miller
Meeting Coordinator	Jeremiah Richard	Jeremiah Richard
Refreshments Coordinator		Chris Guthrie
Website Development Team	Brian Smart, Chloe Shepherd, Domenic Bentz, John Kobak, and Kelly Miller	Brian Smart, Chloe Shepherd, Domenic Bentz, John Kobak, and Kelly Miller

Keel-hauler Trip Planning
[Calendar of Events on our website](#)

No meetings or trips on the calendar. Want to plan a trip? Please read the Organizer's Responsibilities then use the "Add Event" button to submit a new event! [Calendar of Events](#)
[— Keel-Haulers Canoe Club \(keelhauler.com\)](#)

Keel-hauler Treasurer's Report
as of October 31, 2022
From Kelly Miller

CD 0402 \$2,319.90
CD 1077 \$2,319.83
CD'S (2) \$4,639.73

Checking \$12,556.75

Total \$17,196.48

**Keel-hauler Year End Report for 2022
and Approved Budget for 2023
From Kelly Miller**

Following are the budget and actuals from October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022 and the approved budget for October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023:

	FY 2022 Budget	FY2022 Actuals	2023 Budget
ASSETS			
CHECKING balance at start of FY	\$15,221.08	\$15,221.08	\$11,248.57
CD (2) balance at start of FY	\$4,634.72	\$4,634.72	\$4,639.35
INCOME			
Conservation	\$250.00	\$138.05	\$150.00
Dues	\$7,000.00	\$7,760.69	\$7,000.00
TeeSpring, Inc.	\$100.00	\$178.88	\$100.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$7,350.00	\$8,077.62	\$7,350.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$27,205.80	\$27,933.42	\$21,284.05
LIABILITIES			
EXPENSE			
Conservation Donations	\$5,150.00	\$4,050.00	\$5,150.00
Access Donations*	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Internet Domain	\$38.00	\$20.00	\$38.00
Webpage Development	\$300.00	\$585.52	\$300.00
Marketing	\$50.00	\$560.30	\$600.00
Education/Training/Outreach	\$2,000.00	\$1,820.39	\$1,000.00
Insurance	\$0.00	\$575.00	\$1,000.00
Meeting Hall	\$400.00	\$939.75	\$900.00
Postage and Supply	\$50.00	\$36.11	\$50.00
Refreshments	\$300.00	\$1,033.03	\$500.00
Yearbook Expense	\$450.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pool Sessions	\$1,600.00	\$1,230.03	\$1,300.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$11,538.00	\$12,050.13	\$12,038.00
OVERALL TOTAL	\$15,667.80	\$15,883.29	\$9,246.05
		\$15,887.92	
		balanced with interest	
DONATIONS:			
American Whitewater	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Friends of the Cheat	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Friends of the Crooked River	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00

Grand Canyon Private Boaters Association	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
American Rivers	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
West Virginia Rivers Coalition	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
River Network	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Nature Conservancy	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Mountain Watershed Assoc.-Yough Defense Fund	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Portage Park Dist.	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Special Donation/Benscreek-Stonycreek *	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Friends of the New River Gorge	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Save Slippery Rock Defense Fund (SSRC)	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Additional Conservation	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
TOTAL	\$6,350.00	\$5,250.00	\$6,350.00

Current Roll Sessions

[Roll Sessions, Clinics, and Practice — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club](#)
(keelhauler.com)

Akron University

Tuesdays 8pm - Akron, OH

Logistics

All boats, PFDs (life jackets) and paddles are provided. You may arrive before 8pm to register and use the pool locker rooms. Passes can be purchased online or at the ONAT front desk the night of.

Personal kayaks are permitted so long as they are clean and free of debris. Boats may be transported through the side entrance of the ONAT pool (door #14). These doors will be open from 8-8:15pm and available for use throughout the duration of open kayaking. Personal boats will not be allowed into the pool area before 8pm.

Dates: August 30th - November 29th 2022

Registration

\$8 if you pay online per session, or \$10 day of in-person at the front desk. You can also buy a season pass for \$80 that is good for one semester or 15 weeks. Use this link [Click Here](#).

Location

289 S Union St, Akron, OH 44304 = [Google Map](#)

For more information, please contact Jon Dent, Manager, Outdoor Adventure at ident1@uakron.edu / 330-972-7357 = [Open Kayaking Site](#)

UPDATED 9/3/22

Kent State University – 2022

Price: Open to the public \$7.00 per person

Location: [1550 Ted Boyd Dr, Kent, OH 44240, United States](#)

Details: New kayakers can come learn kayaking skills. Participants may bring their own boats via the loading dock stairs and back entrance as long as the boats are FULLY CLEANED before entering the pool. If you don't own a boat, one can be provided for you to use. Contact Kennedy at actrips@kent.edu with any questions. Pre-registration IS REQUIRED by the Wednesday before each program

Register: [Click Here!](#)

Dates:

- Thursday, September 8, 2022 @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- Thursday, September 15, 2022 @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- Thursday, September 22, 2022 @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- Thursday, September 29, 2022 @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- Thursday, October 6, 2022 @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- Thursday, October 13, 2022 @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- Thursday, October 20, 2022 @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- Thursday, October 20, 2022 @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- Thursday, November 3, 2022 @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- Thursday, November 10, 2022 @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- Thursday, November 17, 2022 @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
- Thursday, December 1, 2022 @ 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

50 Year Anniversary of the Clean Water Act

While we celebrate the 50 Year Anniversary of the Clean Water Act, here are some articles about issues that still persist:

[West Virginia faces toxic aftermath of industrial water pollution as Clean Water Act turns 50 | Energy and Environment | wvgazettemail.com](#)

American Whitewater Opposes Legislation to Undermine Clean Water Act

On September 21, Sen. Manchin (D-WV) released the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2022, long-anticipated legislation seeking to speed up environmental review and approval of energy projects under the National Environmental Policy Act and Clean Water Act. After Gauley Fest, a team from American Whitewater sat down with Senator Manchin's staff in DC and engaged with over two dozen other offices to explain the impacts changes to the Clean Water Act would have on our interests, as well as those of all communities who depend on healthy rivers. As a result of our conversations and the efforts of our many partners, we learned that the changes to the Clean Water Act were immediately pulled from consideration.

[American Whitewater](#)

2022 Club Officers

President:	Brian Smart	330-809-7409
VP:	Ted Moore	330-608-9456
Secretary:	Jennifer Hughes	Secy@keelhauler.org
Treasurer:	Kelly Miller	724-553-6816

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

Membership: \$20 per year. **Membership Chairman: John Kobak**

New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone, send to: John Kobak, 1649 Allen Drive, 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.com.

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 2022** issue of the newsletter is **11/23/2022**. Please send articles and/or pictures to: Kelly Miller (Laubagh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.

Keel-Hauler Kanews

November 2022

Kelly Miller, Editor



Keel-hauler's Ka-news

DECEMBER, 2022



Keel-Hauler's Xmas Party and Meeting 2022!

Saturday, December 10, 2022, from 5:00 PM 9:00 PM

Hines Hill Conference Center, 1403 West Hines Hill Road, Peninsula, OH, 44264 ([map](#))

Now that we're coming to the end of another year, it is time for the club Christmas Party and December meeting. We are excited to announce we are meeting once again at the beautiful Hines Hill Conference Center in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park

Logistics:

Doors open at 5:00pm. We will start the meeting promptly at 5:30pm, then Dinner will take place after the meeting at 6:30pm. We must be finished by 9:00pm.

Potluck:

Please bring a dish according to the first letter of your last name. The club will supply beverages, plates, and plastic ware.

A-E: Main dish or Casserole

F-L: Salad or Vegetable

M-R: Dessert or Fruit

S-Z: Bread or Appetizer

Please keep in mind that adhesives, tacks, nails, or anything which may damage the historic buildings or endanger the natural resources of the park are prohibited. All setup and cleanup must be done within the contracted time period - spaces will not be available before or after the scheduled time.

Any questions or concerns please contact clevelandkeelhaulers@gmail.com

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

If the e-mail you received with our December 2022 newsletter e-mail says:

“Sorry to see you go. Your club membership expired on 9/30/22”

Then this is your **last newsletter** and member listing.

We will miss you and you will miss out on our free kayak roll sessions and discounted training classes
Signup for next year’s classes begins on 1/1/23, but it is for paid-up members only.

You can use any credit card or your Paypal account and renew using the link below.

You also have the option to pay for two years (2023-24) for only \$36

Just click to: [Pay 2023 Dues](#) (Your options will be displayed)

OR

If you still want to mail a check or use your bank’s Bill Payer,

Please send **\$20** for your **2023 Membership Dues** or **\$36** for **2023-24 dues**

Please Mail To our Treasurer:

Keel Haulers Canoe Club

701 Forrest Ave

Geneva, IL 60134-3039

**Keel-hauler Treasurer’s Report
as of November 30, 2022
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402 \$2,320.10

CD 1077 \$2,320.02

CD’S (2) \$4,639.73

Checking \$13,685.83

Total \$18,325.56

Keel-hauler Library By Cliff Wire

Did you know we have a library? We do. For you new members, this is an introduction. We have a compilation of books & DVD's.

How to request materials. Right now, the best way is to contact me via cell or email. 440.669.7177 or cwire64@sbcglobal.net.

We would do the exchange via meetup at the river or snail mail at this time. Snail mail will probably work best as the likelihood of us meeting at the same river on the same day is small.

For those members in the greater Cleveland area, we might even exchange in person. I live in Bedford, so that may work for some of you.

There are a variety of topics – Guidebooks of rivers. Instruction, Equipment, Conservation, and general Pleasure reading. Most are River related. All are Outdoor related.

The list is as follows:

Conservation Books

How To Save A River

David M. Bolling

Equipment Books

Boatbuilders Manual, 6th.

Ed. C. Walbridge

Kayaking Sourcebook,

C. Kuhne, 1998

Books

Basic River Canoeing,

R. McNair 1972

Basic Rock Craft,

R. Robbins 1971

Basic Outboard Boating,

Red Cross 1964

Basic Outboard Boating,

Red Cross 1964

Guide to Canoeing & Canoe Camping,

J. Malo 1969

How to Sit in the Woods,

K. Meyer 1989

The New Way of the Wilderness,

C. Rutstrum 1972

North American Canoe Country,

C. Rutstrum 1972

Performance Kayaking & Play Paddling

S. U'ren & B. McDougall

River Rescue

ODNR 1980

Rafting – The complete guide to Whitewater Rafting Techniques and Equipment Bennett 1992

Solo Canoeing

J.H. Fosse 1988

Kayaking on the Edge (Advanced Paddling),

Solomon 1999

White Water Rafting

W. McGinnis 1979

The Optimum Kayak – How to choose, maintain, repair, and customize the right boat for you

Andy Knapp

Guidebooks

Alaska Paddling Guide	Mosby & Dapkus, 1986
Honduras and Bay Islands Guide	J.P. Panet, 1994
Nahanni Trailhead	Joanne Moore, 1980
Paddlers Guide to OBED/EMORY Watershed	Monte Smith, 1990
Quetico Provincial Park, Paddlers Guide	R. Beymer, 1989
Robert Colwell's Guide to Snow Trails	Robert Colwell, 1973
Taking the Ocoee Challenge	Ron Clayton, 1993
Water Trails in America, Intro to	Robert Colwell, 1973
Whitewater of Nepal	P. Knowles & D. Allardice, 1992
A Paddler's Guide to Everglades National Park	Johnny Molloy
Guide to Sea Kayaking in Southern Florida	Nigel Foster

Pleasure Books

Running the Amazon	J. Kane
River's End	B. Sedivy
River Chasers	Sue Taft
Seafaring	R. Feinberg
Sacred Monkey River	C. Shaw
WW Tales of Terror	Nealy
Water's Edge Women Who Push the Limits	L. Lewis
Wired (John Belushi Story)	Woodward 1984
Youghiogheny Appalachian River	T. Palmer
Yukon Summer	E. Cantin
Riding the Dragons Back, Upper Yangtze	Bamgs & Kallen
Finding Our Way Home	P. Horowitz
Kayak Nealy	
Road Fever	Tim Cahill
Never Turn Back: The life of Whitewater Pioneer	Walt Blackadar and Ron Walters
The Emerald Mile	Kevin Fedarko

DVD's

End Game	Corran Addison and Arnd Schaeftlein
The Lost World	Hotel Charley Vol 3
In Flux	David Arnaud
Riverbone	
Kayak Fitness	Harmony
Rolling a Kayak / Sea Kayaking	Ken Whiting
Liquid Lifestyles	
Liquid Lifestyles	
Southeast Whitewater	
Code Red: Freestyle	
Retendo	
60 Degrees North	Ali Marshall and Si Tapley
Kadoma	Henri Coetzee
One World	Arden Oksanen and Trask McFarland
DoubleYouess	Wavesport

In the Surf – Performance Surf Kayaking, Kent Ford
The Basics and Beyond
Ohio Coastal Atlas
The Canoe Movie – A tribute to Whitewater Amongst Production
Canoeists

Swiftwater Rescue Classes in 2023 **By Seth Anderson**

The club will be offering 2 Swift Water Rescue Classes in June at Breakneck Campground on Slippery Rock Creek.

Common Sense Swift Water Rescue with H2O June 9th - 11th and Mark Hanna & Carl Schneider Memorial ACA Swift Water Rescue with Charles Duffy June 23rd - 25th. Information is provided under the events tab of the KH website.

Sign-ups will go live **January 1st**. You must be a Keel-hauler member for one year to qualify for H2O.

Camping at Breakneck is not included with the price of the class.

If you have any questions and/or comments, please address them to either Brian or me. Please do not reach out to the class instructors! They are busy and doing the club a huge favor, and we don't want to waste any of their much-needed free time.

First Aid Course 2023 **From Mark Spang**

Let's face it, our boats are our get-away vehicles. When we take them off the car and carry them to the put-in we are leaving behind our day-to-day worries, the traffic, crowds and the hustle and bustle. We rely on each other, the people we paddle with, to make the most of the trip and get down the river safely. The Keel-haulers have some top-notch medical professionals among our members. On one trip I recall that we had nurses, a doctor, and a veterinarian. We were ready for anything, and all stayed healthy the entire trip – not even a case of mange among us. That is the best outcome, but sometimes bad things happen. Stories of a dislocated shoulder, facial laceration or, worse yet, a broken back are often-repeated campfire stories. When we launch, we accept that we are putting some distance between us and the medical safety net we rely on.

That's why Brian Smart sought to bring a Kayaking Wilderness First Aid class to Northeast Ohio. The course offered by Campaign Pay It forward of Virginia will be April 1 and 2. Up to 12 members will learn to deal with injuries commonly related to paddling and how to treat injuries until the advanced medical attention is available. CPR/AED certifications will be offered. The course costs \$150. The Keel-haulers have reserved the Ledges Shelter in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park for the class. You can get more information about the class and sign up now at <https://campaignpayitforward.enrollware.com/enroll?id=7092574> , which can also be found at <https://Keelhauler.com/instruction>. "We immerse participants through lectures and hands-on scenarios. If you want to 'talk' about Wilderness First Aid, this class is not for you" the course description states. Meanwhile, we can continue think about ways to avoid and prevent injuries but having more trained paddlers on the river will make us all safer.

Current Roll Sessions

[Roll Sessions, Clinics, and Practice — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club](#)
(keelhauler.com)

Check out the website for current locations and times!

Keel-hauler Trip Planning [Calendar of Events on our website](#)

Want to plan a trip? Please read the Organizer's Responsibilities then use the "Add Event" button to submit a new event! [Calendar of Events — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club \(keelhauler.com\)](#)

Thursday, December 1

7:00pm Kent Pool Session

Sunday, December 4

9:00am Keel-Hauler's Free Pool Practice @ Perry High (2)

Saturday, December 10

5:00pm Keel-Haulers Christmas Meeting/Party

Sunday, December 18

9:00am Keel-Hauler's Free Pool Practice @ Perry High (3)

Sunday, January 8, 2023

9:00am Keel-Hauler's Free Pool Practice @ Perry High (4)

Sunday, January 22, 2023

9:00am Keel-Hauler's Free Pool Practice @ Perry High (5)

Happy Holidays!

2022 Club Officers

President:	Brian Smart	330-809-7409
VP:	Ted Moore	330-608-9456
Secretary:	Jennifer Hughes	Secy@keelhauler.org
Treasurer:	Kelly Miller	724-553-6816

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

Membership: \$20 per year. **Membership Chairman: John Kobak**

New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone, temporarily send to: Keel-hauler Treasurer, 701 Forrest Ave., Geneva, IL 60134

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Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **January 2023** issue of the newsletter is **12/23/2022**. Please send articles and/or pictures to: Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.

Keel-Hauler Kanews

December 2022

Kelly Miller, Editor

