The BLUE RIDGE VOYAGEURS Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2019

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CLUB BUSINESS AT THE PUT-IN

The President Reports from the Canoe Saddle:

In January, we had a very interesting program by Kent Mason about the Alleghenies in West Virginia, an area that is the source of the headwaters for many of the rivers we paddle. We are in the process of setting up a March meeting and program. If you have an idea, bring it on.

Several of our programs have come from the films exhibited at the National Paddling Film Fest. You can support them by donating or participating in the on-line silent auction. You can join the fun by taking a drive to the Buffalo Trace Distillery in Frankfort, KY for the festival on February 15 and 16. You can boat in the morning and watch films in the afternoon. Be the first to know the winners of the still images and the various video categories. http://npff.org/

The Ropes Clinic has been rescheduled for 10 AM, Sunday, February 17 at Great Falls (Virginia) National Park. There will be both indoor and outdoor components.

We welcome new members including Craig Wolfe. He was one of the participants on the trip to upper Sideling Hill described in a recent newsletter. Sideling Hill is one of his FAVORITE runs!

Hendrick Van Oss has a new e-mail address: hvanoss.cement [at] gmail.com.

Long-term member and mentor to many area paddlers in both kayak and canoe, Dave Brown, has moved to ManorCare Fair Oaks (12475 Lee Jackson Memorial Highway, Fairfax, VA 22033). He can be reached at 703-345-2912.

It is with some sadness that we note that Brad Reardon, who founded and ran SpringRiver Corporation in Rockville for many years, died in Silver Spring on September 9, 2018. Brad stocked both boating and exercise equipment despite the fact that the latter was much more profitable for him.

At the Holiday Party, Kathleen Sengstock received Tom Martin's "From Powell to Power" (https://www.coloradocanyonsassociation.org/events/2017/4/10/from-powell-to-power) as a prize during the drawing and is looking to swap with another prize winner. Give her a call if you are interested.

Now to some housekeeping items.

- We are looking for some trips. We have updated the list of the releases and paddling festivals to give you some ideas. American Whitewater has announced that there will be scheduled releases on the "Dries" section of the New River. This Class 3/3+ section might be an interesting addition when paddling in that region.
- We are also looking for some folks to step up and volunteer to serve on the board, wrangle trip co-ordinators, come up with meeting programs, greet new members at meetings, and collect dues at meetings.
- We also need folks to come 15 minutes early to meetings to set up chairs and AV equipment and to stick around until the room is cleaned out and the program presenter or speaker is

packed up (and on his/her way home or to post-program pizza). We thank David Newsom, who came early, and Lisa Fallon and Craig Wolfe, who stayed late at the last meeting to help Beth.

- Please submit your final member roster corrections and make sure that you are current for your dues for 2018 and 2019 (\$10/calendar year). Dues may be sent to Ginny DeSeau (1105 Highwood Road, Rockville, MD 20851) until we finalize PayPal.
- Send in your newsletter items. Our next issue will include what Richard Hopley did on his two month Summer vacation!

Rick Koller

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MEETINGS

January Meeting

The last meeting was kicked off by a short presentation by Aaron Otte, who showed the laminated four-state map that he developed with a cartographer. The up-front work has been done, and the fees paid. If you are interested in a map, the gear section and/or see Beth, who signed up early for the map and now has a copy.

Our speaker at the last meeting was local photographer, Kent Mason, who presented images from his book: "West Virginia's Allegheny Mountains: A Photographic Journey". http://wvphotographs. com/KentMasonBio.htm Kent spends over half of his year in West Virginia's Alleghenies. This means he has captured places in all sorts of weather conditions—from gentle dawn to moody fog—and that he has explored nooks and crannies that most of us never knew about. He has visited the expanses of Bear Rocks and Dolly Sods as well as the watershed of Red Creek, the Cheat River from its headwaters through the Gorge, and the area's many waterfalls. Kent is also knowledgeable about the conservation efforts that have been necessary to protect the areas.

The book costs \$40. All profits go to benefit the Nature Conservancy, which is putting together land parcels for the Allegheny Front Preserve. These books can be purchased from Mr. Mason directly (http://wvphotographs.com/). Alternatively, Beth Koller has four books, two signed and two unsigned.

Bonus: If you paid attention at the meeting or if you check out the book, you will be able to answer many of the trivia questions in this month's newsletter.



We had to change our post meeting plans from Ledo's because they were closing early at 9 PM. Quick thinking and several phone calls by Rick Koller and Ron Knipling identified the DC Boathouse (5441 MacArthur Blvd, NW, Washington, DC 20015; 202-362-2628; www.dcboathouse.com) as a reasonable alternative. It was about four miles away from the Clara Rec Center, but still on the main road and with nearby parking. The cost was more expensive than Ledo's, but the varied assortment of meal options was tasty, and the portions plentiful.

March Meeting

The date and topic are to be determined.

EVENTS

Pool Rolling Sessions

Calleva Liquid Adventures—Sessions are Saturday afternoons through April at the Madeira School in Maclean, VA. Boats must be clean, and airbags must be removed. Sessions without instruction or equipment are \$20.

Canoe Cruisers Association—Sessions on Tuesdays through April 3 (with the exception of March 19) at Piney Branch Pool in Takoma Park. \$20/session.

Chesapeake Paddlers Association—Sessions at the Fairland Aquatic Center in Laurel, MD. Other information pending.

Cub Run Recreation Center—Prices for sessions will differ as to whether one is a County resident or not: \$58 or \$73 for three of four sessions.

https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/rec/cubrun/wcrec-aquatics.htm

Greater Baltimore Canoe and Kayak Club—Eight sessions on Sundays at Goucher College. Must be club members and pay \$10/session and wear helmets.

Mason Dixon Canoe Club—Four sessions on Sunday mornings in March at the Hagerstown YMCA. Must be a club member and pay \$10/session (plus \$1 transaction fee if done by credit card).

Outdoor Excursions--1-800-77KAYAK. Other information pending.

Potomac Paddle Sports—Sessions will be offered at the Audrey Moore Recreation Center in Annandale, VA. https://www.potomacpaddlesports.com/kayak-pool-roll-rolling/courses-course-technique-tips-near-md-dc-va-pa-wwlanding.aspx?lnav=ww&lnav=ww

Potomac River Outfitters—Two remaining sessions in February and five in March on Saturday evenings at the Chinqaupin Recreation Center in Alexandria, VA. \$220 for a 1-person season pass or \$70 for a single session. Nathan Nahikian: 703-338-9790; Email: nathan [at] potomacriveroutfitters.com.

Festivals

February 15-16 National Paddling Film Fest (Frankfort, KY)

Enter your videos and still images. Go for the not-NPFF-race, the bourbon tour, the silent auction to support causes such as American Whitewater, the movies and still photographs, and the fun with fellow paddlers. There will be two guest speakers, Diane Brasuell and John Grace, to round out the program. http://npff.org/

NATIONAL PADDLING FILM FESTIVAL

April 13 Great Potomac Clean-up (likely Riley's Lock)

Circa April 13 Elk Fest/Webster Wildwater Weekend (*Webster Springs, WV***)** http://www.visitwebsterwv.com/event/webster-wildwater-weekend/

- May 3-4 Cheat Fest (*Albright, WV*) http://cheatfest.org/
- May 11 Canoe Cruisers Association-Potomac Downriver Race (*Great Falls Park-MD*) hbmoreland@aol.com

https://www.canoecruisers.org/content.aspx?page_id=4002&club_id=394800&item_id=892369&sl=11064 63973

May 17-19 Dominion Energy RiverRock (*Richmond, VA*) https://www.riverrockrva.com/

May 17-19 Ramble Weekend (Franklin County, VA)

May 17 Blackwater Blackout (float trip in the dark)

- May 18 Pig River Ramble (Rubber duck race, four and eight mile races)
- May 19 Breakfast on the Blackwater (breakfast and float trip)

https://www.visitfranklincountyva.org/rivers/

https://www.playfranklincounty.com/ramble-weekend

May 17-19 Stonycreek Rendezvous (Hollsopple, PA)

https://benscreekcanoeclub.com/quemahoning-releases/ https://benscreekcanoeclub.com/rendezvous/ https://www.google.com/maps/place/Greenhouse+Park/@40.2768788,-78.9220717,15z/data=!4m5!3m4! 1s0x0:0x245ed68c87dc9b9c!8m2!3d40.2768788!4d-78.9220717

June 1 Great Rappahannock Canoe Race (*Fredericksburg, VA*) https://www.americancanoe.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=320924

June 28-30 Deerfield Festival (Charlemont, MA)

https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Wiki/aw:events_deerfield

August 10 (10 AM-5 PM) Smith River Fest (Smith River Sports Complex, Axton, VA and Martinsville, VA)

https://www.visitmartinsville.com/smith-river-fest

https://www.everfest.com/e/smith-river-fest-axton-va

August 23-25 Lehigh RiverFest (Whitewater Challengers, Lehigh River Adventure Center, Weatherly, PA)

https://whitewaterchallengers.com/festival/

September 19-22 Gauley Fest (Summersville, WV)

https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Wiki/view/id/aw%3Aevents_gauley/

Releases

Bloomington April 13-14 and 27-28, May 11-12 and 25-26

http://www.nab-wc.usace.army.mil/northBranch.html

Lehigh May 11, 18, 25-26, June 8-9, 22-23, July 6-7, 20-21, 27-28, August 3-4, 10-11, 17-18, 24-25*, 31*, September 1*, October ~12-13*

*Pending availability

https://www.nap.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Francis-E-Walter-Dam/Flow-Management-Plan-Schedule/

New River Dries (Class 3+)-NEW and related to American Whitewater efforts March 16-

17 (Alternative dates March 23, 24, 30, and 31), June 29-30, July 6-7, 13-14, and 20

(Alterative dates: weekends July 21-August 31)

https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Article/view/id/34159/ https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Article/view/articleid/34159/?fbclid=IwAR0vNqtriHsrx15G5 rTTr38quiQMlaSBQF6sGKnrk-9WIOFnfIwZciAnMHA

The river flow must be between 3,800 and 12,500 cfs for a release between 2000 and 2500 cfs. A release is not needed at the upper flow levels because the dam is spilling. A release at lower levels is insufficient to cover enough rock.

Savage June 2 and 7, September 28

http://www.nab-wc.usace.army.mil/northBranch.html

Stonycreek April 6-7, 20, May 4-5, 17-19 (Rendezvous), 25 (special), June 1-2, 15-16, 29-30, July 13-14, 27-28, August 10-11, 24-25, September 7-8, 21-22, October 5-6, 19-20

https://benscreekcanoeclub.com/quemahoning-releases/ https://thestonycreek.com/whitewaterreleases.shtml

The salary of the staff who operate and repair value at Quemahoning Reservoir for the Stony releases is paid for by tax deductible donations to SQI Whitewater via the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies. Click on the web link.

TRIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

Safety Training: Fun With Ropes Clinic and Trip Co-ordinator Training

Charlie Duffy (kayakduffy [at] gmail.com) was the first one to post a trip/activity on the Club calendar. Unfortunately, the free January 6 Ropes Clinic had to be cancelled because it was to be held in the C&O *National* Park. It has been rescheduled for 10 AM to 3 PM on Sunday, February 17 at the Great Falls Auditorium (9200 Old Dominion Dr, McLean, VA 22102).

Also Charlie has compiled the safety and accident information that he presented at a recent Club meeting into a PDF.)

Exploratories

John Duke (johnduke999 [at] comcast.net) has several trips in the works:

• A week near the end of March in the Southern Tennessee area doing day trips to various creeks.

- A week near the end of April doing New River tributaries each day.
- A week near the end of May doing creeks in central Pennsylvania.

All three trips will emphasize on Class 2 creeks with a little Class 3 thrown in.

Elk Fest/Webster Wildwater Weekend

Circa April 13-14 (Friday evening-Sunday) Mike Martin will co-ordinate activities in conjunction with the festival. There is indoor bunkhouse type shelter as well as camping at the 4-H's Camp Caeser. Sections of the Elk, Cherry, Upper Gauley, and more are available.

http://www.visitwebsterwv.com/event/webster-wildwater-weekend/ http://www.campcaesar.info/

Easter Weekend Smoke Hole Trip

April 19-21 (Fri-Sun) Tom McCloud will be able to include a few BRVers on his annual Spring trip. He will run three different sections of rivers on three days. He always plans for a run on the South Branch of the Potomac from Big Bend to Petersburg on Sunday. The level difficulty is Class 2/3—so the river runs may change with water levels. He plans to car camp at Seneca Shadows if it is open. Please contact him via e-mail: tommccld [at] gmail.com

Annual Bluebells Trip

April 20 (Saturday) Dean Geis (443-250-0864) will run a section of the Monocacy or one of its tributaries. The exact run will depend on water levels. The difficulty level will be fasting moving water and Class 1.

Scenic Springtime Pennsylvania Runs through Canyons

April 25-27 (Thursday-Saturday) Dean Geis (443-250-0864) will run rivers in the Pine Creek section of Pennsylvania. The exact run will depend on water levels. The difficulty level will require practiced novice to intermediate skills. Lodging must be reserved early.

http://pawilds.com/landscape/pine-creek-valley-pa-grand-canyon/

April Bloomington Runs

Beth Koller and John Snitzer have tentative trips on the North Branch of the Potomac on Sunday, April 28. The former will focus on skills development in a small group. The latter will be a less specialized trip. Exact details to follow.

Late Spring Smokies Trip

May 11-19 (Saturday-second Sunday) Richard Hopley (rhopley [at] earthlink.net) will coordinate a week of paddling in Southern mountains. Expect to camp. Be ready for Class 3 water. Limited to 12 participants—so contact him early.

Annual Memorial Day Weekend Camper on the Cheat

May 24-28 (Friday-Monday) Mike Martin and Courtney Caldwell will organize the camping event at Teeter's Campground in Albright, WV. Various trip co-ordinators will depart for sections on the Casselman, Cheat, Stonycreek, Tygart, Youghiogheny, etc.

PADDLING HUMOR

Musings from Brain of Ed Evangelidi

I get tired of non-boaters saying: "Now that it's Summer, it must be time for you to do a lot of

boating." I must admit, however, that Summer is one of my four favorite boating seasons."

The doctor's office staff were going on a group raft trip. The head organizer, however, was concerned about the expectant paddlers' lack of skills--so he posted a sign "Be sure to attend the stroke management course if you are going on the trip".

How could you tell that she was a sea kayaker? By the new driftwood flooring throughout her house.

Two rocks on a hillside talking:

"You know that we spent only the last two million years of our lives hanging out on this hillside and that soon we will tumble down and spend the next few million years in the river. What do you want to be when you grow up?"

"Well my mom and my dad tumbled into the river and now rest at the bottom of the river--where they lie forgotten. But I want to be famous like Dimple Rock on the Lower Yough or Pillow Rock on the Gauley River."

TRIP REPORTS

The Trough: April 2018—A Scenic Cold Weather Run

It turned cold again at the end of the West Virginia Week of Rivers. Nancy Kell had ice in the bed of her truck that final Sunday morning. Many folks had already left for home. But it's a shame to miss a paddling opportunity. We (Beth, Ken, Nancy, and Ron) knew that the Trough section of the Potomac had enough water, that it was on the way home, and that it would probably be warmer—given the drop in altitude from the Canaan Valley area. We had been hoping to get precise shuttle directions from Ed Evangelidi, but he departed early. Fortunately, several folks in West Virginia provided information that supplemented our fragmented memories, and we at the put-in by 11 AM.



Ron F. enjoying the sun.



Nancy K. in the deep section of the Trough



The geoclines and other geologic features



Redbud in its glory



The lonely blue bell patch



Ken K. & Nancy check out the Trough walls



Visiting the side coves



Nancy after extraction from her boat



The good-byes before we scattered to the winds—including Ken to Colorado

The water was actually quite high. Many of the features that had been present at the lower level a couple of years prior were gone, but there were nooks and crannies to explore on the sides of the river. The Spring had been much colder, so many trees had not leafed out. The geoclines and other geologic formations in the canyon were even more visible. Also because of the delayed Spring, redbud were still blooming, but there were very few blue bells. The huge swaths of flowers that we had previously observed on river left were nowhere to be seen. There was a single small patch on river right. (Fortunately on this day, the temperature was 20° warmer than at Canaan Valley!) We did not encounter the bear we had observed running along the bank and then crossing the river several years earlier. Without a headwind and with great current, we made it to the take-out in two hours, and Nancy did not injure her braced leg.

Lehigh: Rockport to Glen Onoko: July 21, 2018

Alan Dickerson is a fan of the Lehigh area because it offers paddling, hiking, and biking. Alan arrived early to bike with his daughter, her new husband, and Courtney Caldwell. Beth Koller, Carrie Singer, and Mike Martin joined them in camp. The ground at Hickory Run State Park is often very rocky, and we were expecting some wind. The standard tent stakes are often insufficient. Fortunately, Alan had extra steel stakes (that can be purchased at REI for about \$2 apiece) along with a mallet. People contributed appetizers, salad components, and vegetables—something made easier by the presence of a reasonably priced grocery store right near the entrance to the White Haven put-in below I-80. Courtney served up moose stew. Out came the pies—including Courtney's special chocolate pie. Of course, there was wine. We slept soundly.



Alan ready for adventure



Gary going solo



Ginny styling on her maiden solo run



Busy day on the river



Alan & his Foster Grants



Bob & his Foster Grants



Riverside memorial



Gary, Bob, & Alan stretch at lunch



Carrie & Ginny eddy out for lunch



Courtney & Bob traverse



Carrie on one of many surfs



Alan passing by beautiful stonework



Gary in the homestretch



Ginny on a long wave train



The lookout across from the take-out

We had very reasonably priced breakfasts at the White Haven Family Diner (302 Main St, White Haven, PA; 570-443-8797). At the always very crowded Rockport put-in, we joined Bob Whiting and Gary and Ginny Quam. The latter two, who usually paddled tandem open canoe, were making their maiden voyage in solo boats. This lower section is usually run on Saturday because it is longer than the upper, 12 miles versus nine miles. The rapids are somewhat more difficult, more Class 3 rapids, but also interspersed with more flatwater. Boat scouting is generally sufficient. The valley is also deeper and more scenic. There was enough difficulty to keep it interesting. We had a single swim. The day started out sunny, but, by the time we reached the take-out, it was raining. The boats need to be hauled up a short hill. The real climb is for the drivers, who need to work their way up to the main road and then walk a half-mile or more to the parking along the road. Of course, it rained even more during the shuttle. Carrie Singer was wet as a dish rag and shaking like a leaf as we loaded boats. We dashed back to camp and changed clothes to work our way to dinner at Charlie Weaver's. That southern barbeque hit the spot. Sometime during the night it began to rain. It continued to rain. We had had discussions about the Nescopeck River-and it seemed increasingly possible. The following morning, Beth, whose tent interior had remained dry, noted the passage of a new stream underneath her tent. It was also clear that some fellow campers had not secured their food in bear country. What a mess! Carrie and Beth packed up their wet gear, but were ready to paddle again. They had heard rumblings about a trip on the upper Lehigh, but were hoping to get on the Nescopeck. The rest of the group, however, had had enough of rain and headed home while Carrie and Beth joined Virginia del Rosario, Nancy Kell, and others at the diner before another river run.

Lehigh: White Haven to Rockport: July 22, 2018

Several groups had scheduled weekend-long trips on the Lehigh. The rain caused some to reappraise their plans. There was some talk about running the Nescopeck, a narrow and scenic stream, but without an on-line gauge. To ascertain the level of the river would require traveling at least 20 minutes out-of-the-way to assess the river. And assessment is required because at normal water levels, the run is series of Class 2-low Class 3 rapids in quick succession. The many, albeit small, eddies make it boat-scoutable. With high water, it is Class 3. The rapids run together, and there are essentially no eddies. The paddlers from various clubs who were milling about at 7 AM considered the prediction of more rain, the uncertainty of the Nescopeck, and the long drive back on a Sunday afternoon group, and settled on the more certain Lehigh run from

White Haven to Rockport. Some had breakfast in camp; others wanted a warm and dry seat in the diner. After meeting at the put-in to off-load boats, the drivers parked in the upper level parking lots at the take-out. Like the Yough, there is no parking at the immediate take-out. Unlike the Yough, there is no bus shuttle. The drivers make the half-mile walk. (Let the violins play!)

This section of river is a nine mile run with primarily Class 2 and low Class 3 rapids. The sun was out when our large group headed downstream. Initiation was followed by Tannery, Triple Drop, and Z. The group played in everything, big or small. Nancy Kell and Sheila Chapelle had just returned from a workshop in Canada, and their prowess showed. The lunch rock was a little crowded, but there was time for rest and conversation. ...And entertainment. A group with very proficient, very young children in micro-boats arrived. As we wondered what it would have been like to start paddling at age six or seven, Carrie Singer was trying their boats on for size. Then the snakes made their appearance. Although they eventually slithered into the water, one was not happy about his/her forced eviction from a warm rock. After a series of seal launches, the group headed downstream.

The skies clouded over and intermittently sprinkled on the group. The group played on. Bow surfs, boofs, eddy turns, ferries, and side surfs. No Way, Eddy Turn, and Staircase Rapids... Several times, however, the skies just darkened and opened up. Well, we were wet already. Ledges, Mud Run, and Second Chance Rapids... As we headed towards the take-out, the sun reappeared. The Three Stooges (Larry, Curley, and Mo) and Wilhoyt's closed out the day.

Now all we had to do was to get-out at the base of Buttermilk Falls, which had substantive flow with the rain. The take-out eddy can be thigh high deep. And then you need to hoist your boat up onto the stairs and "carry-on" (oh, carry up!). Fortunately, the paddlers, rafters, and raft personnel are all sensitive to the congestion and the aforementioned challenges. People help stabilize boats as you are exiting and may even help you haul up your boat to get you loaded and out of the lower parking lot. The interstate highways, 81-S/W, 83-S, and 695 W around Baltimore make for easy driving to the DC area.



Sheila takes the lead



Virginia makes a point



Chris ready to document the action



Pete ferrying



Earl making waves



Nancy, followed by Virginia, eddies out



Chris traversing rock slots



Chuck in more rock slots



Lunch recreation



Who's that down there?



Pretending not to see us



No longer pretending



Ron away from the snakes



The 1-handed method



Chris braces for the plunge



Nancy dives in



Carrie gives it a go



Sheila gets buried!



Virginia in a wave train



Chris goes for the boof



A rocky boof





Paul stroking

Earl on a wave



The clouds unzip on Sheila



Carrie getting pelted



Chris in the fog



Continuing in the rain



Ron bow surfs



John side surfs



No guts, no glory, sometimes no glory anyway...



Last chances to play

THE BOATER'S DINING GUIDE

Charlie Weaver's: Smoke House "Southern Style Specialties"—Not to be Missed

The Lehigh River Gorge area offers a variety of dining establishments, but those with a broad menu that caters to "Americana" tastes are among the best and most durable. Charlie Weaver's Restaurant (http://www.menusnepa.com/, http://www.menusnepa.com/charlieweavers1.html; 248 Tunnel Road, White Haven, PA 18661; 507-443-8513) The establishment has a wide variety of entrees including salads, many pasta dishes, steaks of every cut, seafood (cod, crab cakes, mussels, shrimp, and trout), and, of course, "Southern Style Specialties" prepared onsite in the smoker. Porkey's Delight (half rack of St. Louis ribs and pulled pork BBQ) and Monster Belly Buster Special are two of the 11 listed smoker offerings (not including the sandwiches). Alcohol is not served, but you can bring your own. There is no ambience. The walls are paneled. The tables are packed tightly together. The wall air conditioner makes it even noisier. But if you are there for the food, all is forgiven.



These questions draw on history and geography in the Alleghenies and the presentation given by our recent speaker, Kent Mason. If Doctor Google \blacksquare does not provide a remedy, consult Mr. Mason's book, "West Virginia's Allegheny Mountains: A Photographic Journey". \blacksquare . You can even "phone a friend" !

Once a question has been correctly answered, it will be pulled from competition—so enter early to reach that 200 point total and earn a prize! Be like Keith Merkel, who nabbed a prize for the 2017 season and David Newsom, who received a Pennsylvania Gazetteer for the 2018 questions.

1--The collision of which land masses formed the Allegheny Front with buckling, thrusting, and warpage of the rock? **10 POINTS**

2--Did this collision extend to the New River Gorge area? 10 POINTS

3--Why is the bedrock exposed in much of the Canaan Valley/Dolly Sods area? **10 POINTS**

4--What man-made event triggered the formation of the Monongahela National Forest? 10 **POINTS**

5--What illicit activities occurred in the Smoke Hole area and its caves? **10 POINTS**

6--What cave that can be explored carefully gives rise to a river in the Canaan Valley area that we have paddled? **10 POINTS**

7--What two mountains rim Canaan Valley? 10 POINTS

8--Why is the biologic diversity of the Allegheny Front so diverse? Was it glaciated? Does it have high peaks and high valleys? **10 POINTS**

9-10--What other place has a similar level of biodiversity for the same reasons? **10 POINTS** for the country **20 POINTS for the region in the country**

GEAR

Canoes/Kayaks/Other Gear: New and Used Used OC-1

Ron Knipling has an open canoe for sale, specifically a Mohawk Probe "12II" solo whitewater canoe/playboat (OC-1). 12'2". Bright red. ABS/Royalex. Pedestal saddle with quick-release thigh straps. Includes two airbags. Paddled only lightly by both its owners. Stored in the shade. Never broached or significantly damaged. Easy to carry. One of the most popular OC-1s ever made, yet Mohawk boats are no longer in production. \$425 firm. Ron Knipling (703-304-3887, rknipling [at] aol.com) in North Arlington, VA.

<u>StarrkMoon</u>

Brad Nelson, the proprietor of the Starrk-Moon Kayak Shop (497 Cold Cabin Road, Delta, PA 17314; Phone: 717-456-7720) on Muddy Creek and near the Susquehanna River, is a club member as well. He is open seven days a week! He has long been a purveyor of Pyranha boats, but has plenty of other brands and gear as well. And if you need a shuttle for a Muddy Creek run, he can help you too!

http://www.starrkmoon.com/about_starrk_moon.asp http://www.starrkmoon.com/muddy_creek_shuttle.asp

Boating Maps--Aaron Otte

Aaron Otter (aaronreston [at] comcast.net [preferred route to keep track of requests] or 703-796-6060), club member, paddler and fisherman, had a professional map maker, Kyle Bower, put four states, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia, on a single, 3' by 4' map. The map features only state lines, highways, towns, and rivers. The focus is rivers the size of "Passage Creek" and larger and will emphasize those suitable for paddling, float trips, and fishing. As such, this is not intended for extreme creekers. Aaron brought a copy of his map to the January meeting.

Boating Maps—John Duke

John Duke is a long-time open boater and local with an extensive history in the survey business. He has started a business in map-making that is focused on paddler needs. He has a master map for Virginia (west of I-95) and West Virginia for all public lakes, all streams that drain at least 30 square miles of territory, and select, small "steep creeks. The 24" by 36" map is printed on heavy duty paper and costs \$17 with shipping. He currently accepts only cash or check payment. Contact: dukejohn999 [at]comcast.net, www.dukesmaps.com,

https://www.globuya.com/US/Myersville/574753386043015/Duke%27s-Maps

\rightarrow John plans on bringing maps to the March or May meeting.

<u>Guidebooks</u>—Ed Gertler

Club member Ed Gertler has three regional guidebooks for sale: "*Delaware and Maryland Canoe Trails*", "*Garden State Canoeing*", and "*Keystone Canoeing*". To remain a credible author, Ed paddles every river in his books! Expect to pay about \$20—depending on the route of purchase.

https://paddlersguides.wordpress.com/seneca-press/ https://paddlersguides.wordpress.com/purchase-locally/ https://paddlersguides.wordpress.com/purchase-online/

PARTING SHOTS AT THE TAKE-OUT AW Updates

BRV is an affiliate club member of the American Whitewater Association. As such, BRV members are eligible to join for \$25.

Thanks to AW you can add a new stretch of river to your quiver. Consider running the New River Dries.

Always wanted to run the Rogue River in southern Oregon? Now you have the chance to go with AW (board members and staff) on a four day float (June 20-23). You can bring a boat, rent a boat, or hop on a raft. The price is \$1045. Reservations should be made directly through the outfitter, Northwest Rafting Company www.nwrafting.com/rogue.

The Winter 2019 issue of AW's magazine also has section on Whitewater History and the **Gauley Pioneers** including Jimmy Holcombe, Norm Holcombe, John Sweet, Miha Tomczik Jackson "S-glass" Wright, and our own, **Barbara Brown**.

Facebook

Help Frank Fico increase participation on the Facebook page. He has structured it so that it is a good way of communicating between club members in setting up activities and reporting on trips. He has grown the Facebook membership group to 96!

Webpage

Mike Martin is looking for photos for the webpage. Vanity, vanity, boater is thy name. Dig out those digital files.

The club is about fun and camaraderie. It can't happen without YOU!!!

If you can organize a trip or a conservation activity, please consider adding it to the web calendar and the newsletter. If you want to do it, it is likely that someone would like to do it as well.

If you can put together a program or have an idea for a program, please consider contacting a club officer. We have ProShow Gold for the preparation of digital slide shows.



Dues (\$10/calendar year) and roster information may be sent to Ginny DeSeau (1105 Highwood Road, Rockville, MD 20851)

BRV MEMBERSHIP/ROSTER INFORMATION

Name/Spouse Name:

Address:

Phone: home: work: cell:

E-mail address(es) (in order of preference or marked by location work vs personal):

Preferred Boat: K-1 C-1 OC-1 K-2 C-2 OC-2 Inflatable kayak Shredder Raft Other(s):

Other boat types used: K-1 C-1 OC-1 K-2 C-2 OC-2 Inflatable kayak Shredder Raft Sea kayak Stand-up paddleboard Sit-atop kayak Other(s):

Preferred boating difficulty level(s) WW grade range: (perhaps by boat type): Flatwater (under what circumstances):

Other types of boating aspects: Cold weather paddling Canoe camping trips Extended trips Family boating Play boating Racing Removal of safety hazards-gauge painting River conservation activities Safety clinics Boating for service activities (e.g., safety support for races/ triathlons, teaching) Other(s):

Availability for weekday paddling: Yes No If yes, times/days:

Other activities that you might participate in during longer trips or with low water or cold conditions: Biking Hiking Skiing (DH) Skiing (XC) Other(s):

Willingness to lead a trip or clinic (can include limits as to type or location of trip): Other ways in which you are helping BRV (or another club): Officer/Board member Newsletter contributor Photos for web Program presentation Social activities Trip solicitation Other(s):

Ways in which you could help BRV: Officer/Board member Newsletter contributor Photos for web Program presentation Social activities Trip solicitation Other(s):

Membership in other clubs Benscreek CCA Conowingo Carolina Coastals Greater Baltimore Mason-Dixon Keelhaulers Monocacy TSRA 3-Rivers Other(s):

QUICK TRIP REPORT

Trip date(s):	 	
Trip destination(s):		
Trip participants:		

Water levels/gauge readings:______Any access or safety issues:______

Notable aspects on or off the river:

Photos available:

Can be submitted to newsletter editor electronically (brvnewsletter [at] earthlink.net) or via mail PO Box 9513 Silver Spring, MD 20916



Get your club sticker from Mike Martin (Webmaster)

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