

THE VOYAGEUR



www.BlueRidgeVoyageurs.org

November 2005

THE PRESIDENT'S PUT-IN

The great drought of 2005 has come and gone. Eight weeks without rainfall has passed by rather easily. Very little paddling was accomplished during that time. The great drought ended with a deluge of two days' duration. I was able to paddle two new rivers at that time. I hope everyone else was able to paddle once the rains returned. It seems to have been a Spartan year for paddling for many of us. With some luck we will get a few more opportunities to paddle before the bitter cold sets in. I am sure next year will be a better paddling season.

The next meeting is Tuesday, November 15. The Fico family will show video highlights of their Western trips over the last four years to the Yampa-Green, San Juan, Smith and Rio Grande. Please join us. The annual holiday party is Saturday, December 10. Beth Koller is working hard to make all the arrangements. Please assist her in any way possible. I hope to see you at the next two great events.

Ernie

N. Branch Potomac Bloomington Release, 1-2 October by Frank Fico

The weather cooperated fully for the 1-2 October water quality dam release from Jennings Randolph reservoir, attracting a number of BRV's on impromptu pick-up trips and a horde of boaters in general. The boater count on Saturday was well above 300, coming close to the all-time high achieved for one of the Memorial Day weekend releases. There were a number of newbie kayakers in obscenely short boats, and there were also many more commercial rafts than I had ever seen on the river. The healthy turnout for this non-recreational release bodes well for the future. Now if we could only get more companion releases on the Savage...

Jamie and Frank Fico at the surfing ledges (left); Ed Evangelidi mugs for the camera at Robin's Nest.



Eastern Shore trip report/general info by Ed Evangelidi

It was the driest September on record and a tropical storm was bearing down. So my trip sucked with free flowing streams bone dry and high winds affecting my tidal choices. But I managed to find some sheltered tidal streams to save the weekend. Not my first choice but the best choice available.

Here are some Eastern Shore streams/trips that are not in any guidebook and my notes on them. I don't have a current copy of the guidebook(s), so excuse me if I've "reinvented" below an already well written up creek.

Broad Creek/Muddy Hole Creek: These tribs. of the lower Wicomico River have a common mouth, so go down one and up the other. Suggest starting at the public ramp on Muddy Hole as you may find it easier to pin point Broad Creek than Muddy Hole creek while out in wide Allens Fresh. Note that limited parking on Muddy Hole Road at Broad Creek is tough and do not park on anything that is not firm packed sand (from experience). About a 6+ mile trip. But paddle upstream on Broad Creek too at high tide for the best scenery. Download a map from: www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/eastern/ellisbaymap.html

Cabin Branch: This Choptank River trib. in Dorchester Co. is built up but you can access it from the head at a small triangular roadside area off Rt. 16 and cross a private footbridge about a canoe length downstream or better yet ask for launch/parking permission at

the Suicide Bridge Restaurant near the bottom. The restaurant seems like a great choice whether or not you paddle the creek. About 3 miles each way.

Chicone Creek: No, Madonna is named Ciccone. Anyway, this gem is best reached from the public boat ramp in Vienna. Paddle up the Nanticoke and find this creek in about a mile, just after paddling under US 50. After going under the first bridge on the creek, the creek gets smaller and even more beautiful. The second bridge requires a steep, slick carry. But it gets even smaller and prettier here! Best at high tide though. There is even a substantial unnamed tributary just upstream from the first bridge that is well worth a visit. About 4 miles each way.

Chincoteague Bay (east side): The popular canoe trail can be started at either end (Md. or Va.) But you must acquire a canoe camping permit first to enjoy the entire 28 mile trail. Call either park for trail and camping info. Lots of big 'skeeters here in summer.

Chincoteague Bay (west side): This is a brand new canoe "trail"; hot off the press. It consists of the E.A. Vaughn Wildlife Management Area, boat ramps at Taylor Landing and George Island Landing and Mills Island to explore offshore. Plus 4 creeks in the WMA. There is even free primitive camping in the WMA. Sample distances (in miles) are: 6 between boat ramps exploring the west side of Mills Island and 6.5 exploring the east

side; 3 taking a direct route. In addition there are Scarboro Creek (2), Pikes Creek (3), Beasey Creek (1.4) and Cottman Creek (1.4), all to explore. I believe it was Scarboro Creek that had some sort of rickety wooden dam to negotiate around, but it may have been recently removed.

www.delmarvalite.org will get you all you need to know about these routes and www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/eastern/eavaughnmap.html will get you a map.

Corkers Creek: This little Pocomoke trib. gem is a good two miles each way at high tide but from the adjoining Shad Landing state park you can also go up or down the Pocomoke, and Nassawango Creek is worth exploring not too far upstream.

Gales Creek: This small but beautiful creek is best accessed from the public swimming beach/boat ramp in Sharptown and about a mile upstream on the pleasant Nanticoke River will get you there (river right). Look for a creek-size opening near a duck blind half way between the first and second channel markers. A mile or so of perfect scenery will get you to a mill dam and you can extend your trip another mile on the mediocre mill pond. Over 3 miles each way.

Hunting Creek: This Choptank trib. looks very beautiful from the top and bottom, and access at the top on Back Landing Road near the top (outside of Preston) is good as the road is closed and access at the bot-

tom is a bit tough to park at Hunting Creek Road so try the public boat ramp in the town of Choptank, just upstream on the big river. About 4-5 miles each way.

Janes Island trails: This popular place is a state park with a small mainland part (with camping) and an island to paddle around and “through”. Trail lengths allow for many days of exploring (if it is not too windy). These are beach spots to get out and stretch your legs and primitive island camping may be arranged ahead of time. Get a great trail map for a small cost from Md. DNR or visit Janes Island State Park on the web and get much free information.

Leonard Pond Run: This nontidal creek requires some rain, so check it out carefully at US 13. The visitors center there is a good place to start unless you wish to use the hard-to-find boat ramp just across the creek from there and explore the upstream mill pond and its North and South Prongs and Andrews Branch. The scenery is only mediocre on the millpond, but how often have you paddled a “prong”? You can walk down the creek and make sure you have enough water (I have not yet figured out gauge correlations) as well as scout your first few strainers, as this is a very tiny creek. It quickly gets some elbow room with trib. coming in and soon becomes the Wicomico River. North Lake Park off Jersey Road is one convenient takeout. Use Naylor Mill Road to shuttle. This creek is in a fast growing part of Salisbury but is surprisingly protected and therefore pretty because of the numerous “greenway” parks. Just do expect strainers but the

landscape is generally agreeable for short portages. 4+ miles of paddling.

Manumsco Creek: This trib. of Rewastico Creek (in the guidebook) is protected on the south side by a state WMA and is generally pleasant. Access is on Nutters Neck Road off Cherry Walk Road and you may try to put in near the headwaters by asking a homeowner for permission or just put in further down in the WMA and paddle up and down from just above the middle. Figure about 4-5 miles each way, plus you can poke around on the lower Rewastico too.

Sassafras River: Not a great paddle, but many boaters do paddle this river and there is a lot here to see. Get lots of info on this river and nearby areas at: <http://kentcounty.com/paddling>

Tilghman Island: Another not so great paddle but the state is promoting these water trails as a new way to get in tourist “customers”. Basically a bunch of suggested routes (10 trails) to poke and prod around this island and nearby creeks or a 10 mile circumnavigation. Get your snazzy free map from Md. DNR, and if you have already seen Taylors Island and Janes Island, give this one a try. I’m sure these “water trails” will be popping up everywhere.

Watts Creek: This little creek is driven over by many boaters and paddled by some boaters who easily access it from Martinak State Park. But by adding some so-so paddling on the Choptank River to this pretty creek, you get a trip. Put in at a boat ramp in Denton or

West Denton and paddle just under 2 miles on the river and turn into the creek after passing the park boat ramps (restroom and seasonal camping facilities here). Continue another 1.8 miles upstream poking and prodding up the creek and a tributary at high tide for about 7½ mi. round trip.

Wetipquin Creek/Tyaskin Creek: This is another situation where a pretty but too short creek is made into a trip by having another creek conveniently empty into it at approximately a common mouth. With a very high tide, you can put in on Rt. 349 over the Wetipquin or Rt. 349 on the Tyaskin, or more likely Deep Branch Road on the Tyaskin and get in over 6 miles of pretty marshland paddling. At lower tides you can satisfy yourself by parking at the nice boat ramp on Wetipquin Road, near the mouth on the Wicomico River and paddle up each creek in turn.

I have other “unpublished” creeks in this area that I know about but since I don’t keep a log, I’m not thinking of them. Let me know what you might have an interest in and I may have done it or have info about it — like *why* I haven’t done it. Just remember, this area is essentially always “up” and offers up scenery that can be habit forming.

General Resources:

www.thebayguide.com/home.html for lots of general info.

www.acb-alliance.org Alliance for Chesapeake Bay, general area info.
www.chesapeakebay.net Get their free public access guide to the entire bay.

www.dnr.state.md.us Get their free

(Continued on page 7)

Rock Creek (Twice), 9 October 2005 by Ron Knipling

At my house in North Arlington it rained 8" on Friday and Saturday, October 7-8. Something had to be up on Sunday, even after the mini-drought of the previous two months. After the usual gauge checks and negotiations, a group agreed to meet to paddle Rock Creek. I had paddled Rock Creek once or twice every year in the 90s, but several times had been hassled by the Park Police there, even though it was perfectly legal to paddle the creek. So I had not run it since 1999. Anyway, our group for run #1 on this gray Sunday morning consisted of Wes Mills and Ken Cohen (K-1s), and Will Greene, Bob Kimmel, Larry Lempert, Steve Ettinger, and me (OC-1s). The level was 3.1 at the river right visual gauge at the bridge below Military Road, which translated to about 5" above minimum on the creek. We pinballed through some of the tightest and most intense of the rapids, but without any mishaps. Several partial strainers made some routes more difficult, but no rapids were completely blocked. The Park Service had apparently removed some of the rocks from the boulder ledge just above the Beach Drive stone bridge, which reduced the height of that drop considerably but added some gradient and action to the stretch just above. We took out on river right about 100 yards above Pierce Mill Dam, where there was construction to build a fish ladder. Will and Bob departed for other Sunday activities, but we were joined by Kathleen Sengstock (K-1) for the second run. The creek dropped only about an inch between the first and second runs, but it seemed easier since all the rapids and route choices could be anticipated.

BRV Moonlight Picnic, 20 August 2005 photos by Beth Koller



Clockwise from top left: Phil DiModica offers a bear hug to all comers, Carter Hearn arrives bearing dessert, the gravel bar had plenty of room for exploring and cooling off, lining up at the traditional canoe buffet



Clockwise from top right: Canyon Doors on the Gauley, Lower Keeney on the New, Keith Merkel exits a surf on the Gauley, Mike Wellman low braces off Diagonal Ledges on the Gauley.

Gauley and New Rivers, September 2005

photos by Len Rice



Taylor River (CO), June 2005

by Bob Youker

Many of you have probably read stories by Larry Rice in *Canoe* magazine. He has retired from government service and now lives in Buena Vista, Colorado on the Arkansas River where he canoes every day. He and I have communicated by E-mail over the years and we arranged to get together this summer while I was at my Crested Butte condo. We met on the Taylor River where I took this picture of him running the class 4-5 slot rapid. His canoe is a short thing and he ran the rapid with three eddy turns as neat as could be. Later we ran the class two section together below the first bridge into Almont. The water was a bit high and I had to bail several times. My condo with Blue Hole Sunburst canoe is available for rent.



Blue Ridge Voyageurs Holiday Party

WHEN: Saturday, December 10

“Cocktails” and appetizers 5:30-6:30 PM

Videos and slides 5:30-6:30 PM

Treasure hunt for children 6:00-6:30 PM

Dinner 6:30-8 PM

Chairman’s announcements 8:00-8:30 PM

Activities 8:30-11 PM

WHERE: Dominion Hills Recreation Center — 6000 Wilson Blvd., Arlington

COST: Adults \$6. Children above 2 \$3.

ITEMS TO BRING: Food serving 5+: A-E appetizer

F-J salad

K-R main meal side dish

S-Z dessert

(Unless you are bringing the turkey, ham, beef, fish)

Picture from a trip (print 5x7 or larger and electronic version) with captions for party display of 2005 activities, use on website, and/or inclusion in newsletter

CONTACT: Someone from board should be calling 1-2 weeks before the party, but you could call them as well at that time to help with the head count:

Pete Dragon 703-255-3447 or dragon.va@att.net

Anderson to Di-modica

Ernie Katz 703-356-7105 or erniekatz@webtv.net

Dixon to Higgins

Lou Campagna 301-929-0136 or campagl@aol.com

Hitchcock to Mills

Wes Mills 703-866-9815 or wesmills1@cox.net

Mitchell to Rovelstad

Court Ogilvie 703-528-5185 or courtandsuzy@comcast.net or OgilvieC@usa.redcross.org

Schelp to Zetterstrom

Joe Sullivan 703-759-7174 sully_jl@yahoo.com

Those who renewed later

Note: Mike Dixon 703-451-3387 or akbounddix@excite.com will not be calling Dixon to Higgins because he is in China

WHAT ELSE WE NEED:

1—REVIEWING OLD ROSTERS FOR LAPSED MEMBERS

Star Mitchell _____

2—SET-UP CREW (8) (Need to be there by 4 PM)

Susan Claus _____

Star Mitchell _____

Kathy Mosby _____

3—CLEAN-UP CREW (8) (Need to stay until at least 11:30 PM)

Kim Buttleman _____
Ron Knipling _____
Wes Mills _____

4—SOMEONE TO DO THE BEER/SODA RUN AND ICE RUN AND BRING CIDER AND MULLED WINE

Rick Koller (1/4 keg, tub, soda ~50)
Beth Koller (ice)

5—PEOPLE TO BRING MAIN ENTREES
 TURKEY (at least 15#) (2)

Phoebe Hamill
Court Oglivie
 BEEF (1)

_____ HAM (1)
Ginny DeSeau
 FISH (1)

_____ OTHER (1)
Courtney Caldwell

6--SOMEONE TO SELL MEMBERSHIPS AND DISCOUNTED GUIDEBOOKS AND COLLECT ENTRY FEES

Frank Fico (memberships)

7—ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE ()

Bring slide projector/screen/video/monitor
 Bring materials to show
 Set-up chairs in entertainment area
 Set-up display area for pictures
Enie Katz (VCR, slide projector)
Beth Koller (tiny TV)
John Stapko (set-up)
Bob Maxey

8—SOMEONE TO HELP WITH TRIP ROSTER

Advance calling to find release dates for various events around country

Bring calendar
Pete Dragon

9—ACTIVITY COMMITTEE (GAMES/SKITS)

Lou Campagna Rick Koller
Joe Sullivan Ed Evangelidi
Ed Grove Beth Koller

10—PRIZE PATROL

Group A *Group B*
Phil Dimodica Ed Grove
Rick Koller Beth Koller
Joe Sullivan _____

11—DECORATIONS/HOLIDAY SPIRITS GUESTS

12--ETC

We also need an easel for a flip chart.

_____ We could use a device to show DVDs.

_____ We could use a larger TV.

Beth Koller 240-506-0417/ 410-786-4633 W

Winter Trips

For those interested in maintaining and improving their boating skills through the winter months we will have "trips" to the Feeder Canal. The Feeder Canal has slalom gates set up so that we can practice our skills on relatively flat water. Afterwards, we'll head to the nearby pizza parlor for pizza and hot chocolate. In addition to boating, the club is also planning on doing some cross-country ski trips once we start getting snow. Send me an email if you're interested in leading or participating in a Feeder Canal trip or cross-country trip. Peter Dragon, email: dragon.va@att.net.

EASTERN SHORE (Continued from page 3)

map of Md. boat ramps. May also tip you off as to which ramps have fees, thus making your trip a royal pain if you are there on a weekend when their fee processing office away from the river is of course closed.

www.dnrec.state.de.us for Delaware tidal and nontidal access points (info is under fishing).

The New and Improved Rappahannock River Fall Line, 16 October 2005

by Frank Fico



At Ron Knipling's suggestion, Wes and Ryan Mills (OC-2) and I (OC-1) joined Ron (OC-1) on a trip to experience the reclaimed section of the Rappahannock River where the Embrey Dam once stilled the river at the top of the fall line. It was a week after the drought-busting deluge that had brought the Rappahannock headwater streams up, and the consensus was that the fall line section would still be running (Fredericksburg 3.1). We left a vehicle at the US 1 bridge in Fredericksburg and launched at the Motts Run Landing wooden ramp (left). We had several inches of water as we floated the first 4 miles or so to I-95, spotting a pair of bald eagles in this still surprisingly-remote section. The first newly-uncovered rocks form an imposing barrier just above the I-95 spans. The half mile or so between I-95 and the dam site now contains at least two nice class II rapids, reminiscent of the Kelly's Ford section well upstream. However, they are not as complex as the downstream rapids, so novices should take out on the right along Fall Hill Ave.



Above left: approaching the first set of exposed rocks above I-95. Above right: Wes and Ryan run the final chute of the first new class II rapid. Below left: view upstream from below the second uncovered rapid. Below right: Ron surfs at the site of Embrey Dam, removed in February 2004 (see March 2004 Voyageur).



Virginia Kayaker Dies Running the Tygart River at Valley Falls State Park [from *Splashes*, newsletter of the West Virginia Wildwater Association, August 2005]

John Mullen, 37, of Arlington, VA was pronounced dead at the scene after an unsuccessful attempt at running the waterfalls in Valley Falls State Park near Fairmont, WV.

On July 24th, Mullen and paddling companion Patrick Henry arrived at the park to get some practice running drops. Henry ran the first drop on the far right successfully and then did the second drop and carried back up to the first drop to set safety for Mullen. Mullen did the first drop and was upright at the base of the falls, but was soon flipped on a boil line. He was then drawn back toward the base of the waterfall by recirculating currents. Mullen then exited his boat, but both him and the boat were almost immediately pushed underwater for several long minutes. The boat surfaced first and then Mullen appeared just thirty feet above the second falls. Henry jumped in his boat and chased an unconscious Mullen over the second falls, swam him to shore in the pool

below, and then spent half an hour in a resuscitation attempt. Mullen was wearing a pfd and helmet. Although he had never tried these falls before, he had been paddling for four years, and his nighttime job as copy editor for the *Washington Post* allowed him to spend 200+ days paddling. He had recently run the Spout on the Virginia side of the Great Falls of the Potomac River. He came to Valley Falls to hone his skills for running other parts of Great Falls. Water level at noon was 6.75' with 1540 cfs discharge from Tygart Dam upstream and 5.21' with 1400 cfs on the Colfax gauge below Valley Falls.

Mullen grew up in the Boston area and survivors include his parents of Gilford, NH and younger brother Kurt. A memorial service was held August 13 at the Great Falls overlook on the Virginia side, with the paddling contingent meeting at Fisherman's Eddy.

Rafter Dies on Gauley

[from *Splashes*, newsletter of the West Virginia Wildwater Association, October 2005]

Glenn Wendell Rodgers, 50, of Louisville, KY, died at Summersville Memorial Hospital on Monday, September 26 after suffering injuries while participating in a river trip on the Gauley River earlier that day. Rodgers was on a commercial rafting trip with North American River Runners of Hico, WV when he suffered head injuries at Iron Ring rapid while swimming through the rapid. He was apparently pulled out of the water promptly but became unresponsive. CPR was initiated as the raft continued downstream for about a mile. The raft was met by an ambulance on river left and taken to the hospital in Summersville. The cause of death was blunt force trauma to the head. Participating in the trip were his son, cousin, and members of his church. He was wearing a helmet and pfd. Summersville Dam was releasing 2770 cfs at noon.

Trade your paddle for a tool and help a fellow BRVer. Gus Anderson is doing well after his chemotherapy, but is often fatigued. I am looking for folks who would be willing to do chores, such as:

- Clean porch
- Trim front bushes
- Trim high side bush that requires an extender on the clippers (which he has)
- Prepare tomato beds on side for winter
- Cut and stack wood from large tree limbs
- Prepare tinder from smaller branches
- Rake and bag leaves
- Rake and possibly replace wood chips in back yard
- Sweep driveway
- Mow lawn, trim lawn edges

The tentative date is Saturday, November 19 at Gus's home in Mclean. The rain date will be Sunday. We have enough equipment. There will be refreshments. If you are interested and have not already contacted Beth Koller (240-506-0417), please do so to be on the call list when details become firm.

The Monongahela National Forest Needs YOU Now

The Monongahela National Forest is a cluster of important watersheds. The Forest sustains more than 90 percent of the trout streams in West Virginia.

Currently, the Monongahela National Forest Plan is up for comments. The Forest Service has released a draft 15-year plan. The plan, alternative 2, permits more logging and road building. Alternative 2 will triple the amount of timber cuts and will increase the maximum size of clearcut areas from 25 to 40 acres. Alternative 2 will not extend protection to some of the most important wilderness areas, e.g, the Seneca Creek area, which is West Virginia's largest unprotected roadless area.

Alternative 3 is a more balanced program. Logging, roadbuilding, and clearcut size will not be increased. It protects backcountry areas (6.2 areas) from roadbuilding. It will designate nine new wilderness areas including Big Draft, East Fork of the Greenbrier, Seneca Creek, and Spice Run.

Furthermore, Alternative 3 should be amended to include an expanded Dolly Sods Wilderness and wilderness designations for Laurel Run, the Lower Laurel Fork, Little Allegheny Mountain, North Fork

Mountain, and Roaring Plains.

Why? Clearcutting and roads increase the risk of erosion and impair territorial range for species that require large areas and increase the percent of species that prefer disturbed versus climax habitat. Degraded watersheds impair water for fish, paddlers, fishermen, swimmers, and downstream water drinkers and destroy terrain for hikers. They also limit the recreational activities that benefit local economies.

What can you do? For additional information, log on to www.wvwild.org. Convey your comments to the Forest Service by November 14. Signing a petition is not sufficient. Write a letter. Indicate why you favor an amended Alternative 3. Give specific places that you want to see protected. Include personal experiences as to why you visit West Virginia and how your activities benefit the local economy. Address your comments to "Monongahela Nation Forest--Forest Plan Revision". Send them to 200 Sycamore Street, Elkins, WV 26241. FAX them to 304-637-0582. E-mail them to comments-eastern-monongahela@fs.fed.us.

The Friends of Blackwater Canyon invite you to a reception at the home of Rafe Pomerance, 2026 Allen Place NW, Washington, DC, Wednesday, November 30, 2005, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Refreshments and music by the Critton Owl Hollow String Band. Suggested donation: \$50 individuals, \$75 couples. RSVP appreciated: 1-877-WVA-LAND.

Directions: Take the Metro or a taxi as parking is limited. From the Woodley Park-Zoo Metro Stop (red line), walk south on Connecticut Avenue for one-half block. Turn left and cross the Calvert Street Bridge. At the traffic light at the end of the bridge, turn right onto 20th Street. Go straight on 20th Street. Take the first right onto Allen Place. The Pomerance residence is the first house on the left, 2026 Allen Place. For details call 1-877-WVA-LAND.

The magnificent Blackwater Canyon, in the heart of the West Virginia Highlands, is one of the most diverse and distinctive natural areas in the East. Combining a whitewater river with steep mountain habitat that supports rare and endangered species, the Blackwater Canyon is West Virginia's scenic "Crown Jewel." The campaign to protect Blackwater is leading the way for land and river protection in the West Virginia Highlands.

Host Committee: Rafe and Lenore Pomerance, Co-Chairs

Brent Blackwelder, Donna and Carroll Cook, Brock Evans, Frank and Nancy Fitzpatrick

Eric Glitzenstein, Jason Halbert, Jessie M. Harris, Bob Hurley and Heather Wicke

Destry Jarvis, Charles and Montague Kern, Florence Kate Millar and Emma Shelton

Patricia Munoz and Dorcas Adkins, Karin and Phillip Nelson, Jim Norton

Bill and Claudia Schechter, Emily Schoenbaum, Samuel Stokes, Mac Thornton

Blue Ridge Voyageurs Membership Form

Whitewater paddling is a risky outdoor sport. BRV is not responsible for any individual's decision to participate in the sport, or for his or her decision to run any river or section of river.

Annual Dues: \$15.00 **Add me to the email list for:**

Optional Contribution to BRV River Conservation/Access Fund: \$5.00 or _____ **Novice trips**
 Intermediate trips

Total Amount Enclosed: _____ **Advanced trips**

Make checks payable to BRV. Mail to BRV Membership, c/o Frank Fico,
1609 Autumnwood Drive, Reston, VA 20194-1523.

Name: _____ **Phone w/area code: (h)** _____

Address: _____ **(w)** _____

_____ **Email:** _____

Please check if interested in: **leading trips** **providing a meeting program**
 helping with moonlight picnic **conservation/river maintenance**
 helping with holiday party

ROSTER UPDATES

Barbara Brown
10801 Admirals Way
Potomac, MD 20854-1232
301-765-9115 H

Eric & Linda Erbe
5857 Trotter Road
Clarksville, MD 21029
301-928-0427 C
301-504-8046 W

Larry Gladieux
8340 Greensboro Drive, Apt. 212
McLean, VA 22102
703- 992-0280 H
703-919-7736 C
leglad@cox.net

Katherine Mull
kkmull@verizon.net

Carla A. VanLandingham
11582 Tolson Place
Woodbridge, VA 22192

703-580-5005 H
202-278-2287 W
annvan@att.net

Beth Koller reports invalid emails
for the following members:
Jim Finucane
Ned Howenstine
Paul Possinger
William Raskin
John Stapko
Joseph Trzicak
Scott Zetterstrom

2006 Slate of BRV Officers and Board Members

President: Ernie Katz
Vice President: Beth Koller
Treasurer: Clark Childers
Newsletter Editor: Frank Fico
Trip Coordinator: Bob Maxey

Board of Directors: Lou Campagna, Ed Grove, Ron
Knipling, Wes Mills, Court Ogilvie, Joe Sullivan

About the Blue Ridge Voyageurs (BRV)

The **BRV** is a voluntary association of experienced paddlers from the Washington, DC area. Club benefits include: trips for all skill levels (most at intermediate and advanced levels); BRV website and hotline for information and pick-up trips; *The Voyageur*, published 6 times a year; club roster, published yearly in March; holiday party; conservation projects; moonlight paddles & picnics; big trips to the Smokies, Canada, Europe, and Western rivers.

Meetings: BRV will hold meetings from 7-9 pm on the following dates in early 2006: January 24, March 22, May 16. Meetings are followed by beer and pizza at a nearby pub. Location: Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library on Leesburg Pike (Rt. 7) in Falls Church, VA. The library is on the east side of Rt. 7 about 0.6 miles south of I-495. Or, from I-66, take the Rt. 7 North exit and go about 0.6 miles north on Rt. 7. It's on the right.

BRV Website: The BRV website (<http://www.BlueRidgeVoyageurs.org>) provides information on trips, meetings, and other club events.

2005 BRV Officers: Ernie Katz, President; Beth Koller, VP; Bob Maxey, Trip Coordinator; Clark Childers, Treasurer; Frank Fico, Newsletter Editor.

2005 Board of Directors: Lou Campagna, Michael Dixon, Pete Dragon, Wes Mills, Court Ogilvie, Joe Sullivan

The Voyageur: Newsletter of the Blue Ridge Voyageurs

The Voyageur publishes information on club events, conservation and safety news, the club trip schedule, and other news of interest to BRVers. Publishing **trip reports** is a particularly important newsletter function. Trip Coordinators are requested to write up all club trips - particularly trips to unusual or especially interesting rivers. Trip reports and other articles are accepted in any form - via electronic mail (preferred; send to fico1@netzero.net), on disk, typed, handwritten, faxed or over the phone. For trip reports, try to include the following information (if applicable): names of participants, relevant NWS gauge readings of nearby rivers, description of the water level on the river (e.g., minimum, moderate, maximum, or number of inches above or below "zero"), weather conditions, hazards, difficult rapids, info on put-ins or takeouts, distinctive scenery, and overall difficulty in relation to rivers well known to BRVers. New information about the river (e.g., new hazards) is particularly important. **Photos** are also published. Send prints to the webmaster or e-mail digital photos to the newsletter editors.

Address changes: contact Frank Fico, 1609 Autumnwood Dr., Reston, VA 20194-1523, (703) 318-7998,

fico1@netzero.net. The annual roster will be kept current via updates published on the back page of each issue of *The Voyageur*.

Membership applications/renewals: submit to Frank Fico. Must renew by February 15 each year to be listed on club roster and continue receiving *The Voyageur*.



The Voyageur

c/o Frank Fico
1609 Autumnwood Drive
Reston, VA 20194-1523

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- Deaths on Tygart, Gauley (p. 9)

Deadline for January *Voyageur*:
Friday, January 6, 2006

NOVEMBER MEETING
Tuesday, November 15

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY: Saturday, 10 December
(see pages 6-7 for details)

RENEW NOW for 2006: If your mailing label says 2005, use the membership form included on page 11.