

CLUB BUSINESS AT THE PUT-IN

The President Reports from the Canoe Saddle:

Our abundance of rain has continued. The Potomac has hovered around five feet! A November trip on the Catoctin in Virginia was missing the last set of rapids because the Potomac was backed-up into the Catoctin's outflow. The North Branch had extra releases! Our Annual Picnic location had to be switched from Violet's Lock to the incredible home of Mike and Daryl Martin in Poolesville. Now that we have had a good frost and the growing season has ended, there will little plant life to utilize any extra precipitation. The rivers will be more flashy, i.e., exhibit more rapid rises. With the drop in temperatures, the season of neoprene and drysuits is upon us. Beef up your skills at Charlie Duffy's upcoming Swift Water Rescue Course.

We had a well attended September program that featured a variety of NPFF videos as well as a Team River Runner update and a review of boating accident report reports collected by American Whitewater. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, November 14. We will have a program on the role of the canoe in the Canadian ethos and another program on extreme kayaking on a previously unpaddled segment of California's Merced River in Yosemite.

We welcome several new members including John Beck, Mike Higgins, Brad Nelson of Stark Moon Kayaks (<http://www.starrkmoon.com/kayaks.asp>), and Aime Williams. We also received a call from Ed Grove, who is living in California to be closer to his younger brother. Despite a joint replacement, he is still active and rafted the South Fork of the American.

Please submit your final member roster corrections and make sure that you are current for your 2018 dues (\$10) so that you can remain on the mailing list and in the roster. The dues for 2019 are \$10 as well. (A mere pittance, and we do need to pay for things like meeting room rental.) **Dues may be sent to Ginny DeSeau (1105 Highwood Road, Rockville, MD 20851) or paid directly at the meeting or at the Saturday, December 8 Holiday Party.**

The newsletter is a bit off-schedule because our editor was on another type of boat in the Caribbean. Please keep sending in material for the upcoming newsletter.

Rick Koller



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MEETINGS

Mid-Summer Meeting

The video topics at our mid-Summer meeting ran the gamut: 1) the Burnside River, an arctic river in Canada's Northwest Territories that is renowned for its wildlife, 2) FastFred's recent series of carnage on the Ocoee, 3) the "*The Hanging Spear*" showing the steep, upper reaches of the Hudson, 4) the Secesh River, a tributary of Idaho's South Fork of the Salmon, and 5) "*Ain't Louie Fest*", an annual gathering of open boaters at the Tellico River. (The last three films were from the National Paddling Film Fest [NPFF] archives.)

September Meeting

The September meeting included an update by Lisa Weed on Team River Runner activities and opportunities. These included the October Biathlon in which paddlers could participate, sponsor participants, or volunteer for safety or other chores. Charlie Duffy gave a PowerPoint presentation on the accident reports collected by American Whitewater. The mid-Atlantic region has relatively fewer incidents than the West, especially Colorado and California. The major causes in our area are lack of a lifejacket followed by "flush drowning". "Flush drowning" far exceeds other causes in the West. Solo boating was also very deadly—so buddy up. Charlie circulated electronic copies of the presentation and has provided additional information:

Useful Rescue Videos: <https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Article/view/articleid/33940/display/full/>
 Mar/Apr AW Journal with Metrics Analysis: <https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Journal/get-journal-pdf/issue/2/year/2018/>

Court Ogilvie had a recent article about his use of a PackRaft on the Conway. This inspired the presentation of "*A Balkan Boating Roadtrip*", "*Chasing Rainbows*", and "*Inflatable People*" which showed how paddlers from Scandinavia and Eastern Europe are using this relatively new form of paddle craft.

"The "*Lord of the Fork*" dovetailed with Charlie's safety presentation and the October Russell Fork releases. The "*Lord of the Fork*" video discussed an unexpected death of a premier paddler due to unforeseen changes in the river". The Russell Fork Rendezvous featured runs on the hair section delineated in the video, but there are also some Class 3 runs, which are lots of fun.
<http://www.russellforkrendezvous.com/> and <http://www.russellforkrendezvous.com/schedule/>

The “*Wild President*” which featured President Jimmy Carter’s run on the Chattooga, reminded us that this is the 50th birthday of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. It featured the first ever tandem run of Bull Sluice Falls, <https://vimeo.com/213281194>. After making this run while Governor, Carter became an advocate of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

(The films were from the National Paddling Film Fest archives.)

November Meeting

The BRV meeting on Wednesday, November 14 at 7:15 PM will feature National Paddling Film Fest video clips. The first, “*The Canoe*”, was produced by Goh Iromoto, a Toronto based cinematographer. This award-winning film explores the role of the canoe in Canadian culture. The second, “*The Lost Valley of the Merced*”, shows extreme boating by Pat Keller and Steve Fisher though geologic features on which others are doing big wall climbing.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Swiftwater Rescue Class—Charlie Duffy

Charlie Duffy will be offering a swift water rescue class at Little Falls November 17 and 18. The class will assemble at Lock 5 at 8:00 AM each day. You will need your standard boating gear. Cold weather attire is required. A dry suit and gloves will make things more pleasant. Saturday looks nice. Sunday will be a bit more chilly.

The weather forecast: https://www.wunderground.com/forecast/us/va/vienna?cm_ven=localwx_10day

The course will be adjusted in accordance with the weather and the attendees. Participation in each of the exercises is “challenge by choice”.

Charlie ([kayakduffy \[at\] gmail.com](mailto:kayakduffy@gmail.com)) has offered this to the BRV for **FREE**, but he does need to know in advance who plans to attend.

Holiday Party

The Holiday Party is scheduled for Saturday afternoon and evening, December 8. It will be held at the usual location, the Lyon Village Community Center; <http://lyonvillage.org/community-house>. **There will be food, fun, door prizes, prizes for various contributions to the club, and an hour or more of paddling videos.** Children and teens are welcome. (We will need some help operating the “Rolling Barbie” to draw out those winning prize tickets.)

Our VP, Mark Wray (AKA party master) will need a number count for food planning. Call him (703-395-6061) or respond to his e-mail invite.

- ✓ Bring your **money**: \$10 for adults; \$5 for children ages 2-12 for the main dish and drinks.
- ✓ Bring **food for eight**. The food category is designated by the first letter of your last name.

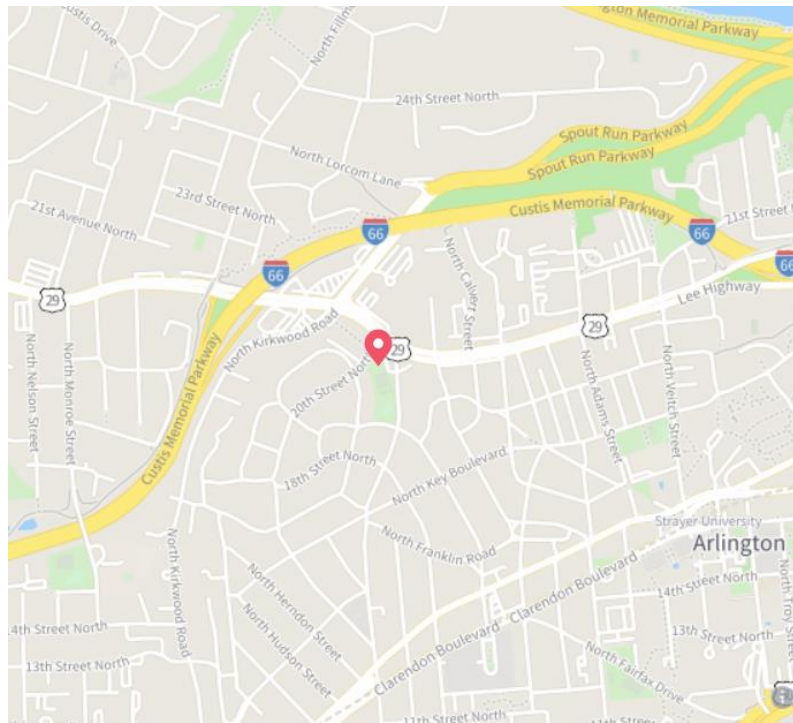
- A-G: fruit dishes, salads, and uncooked vegetables
 - H-N: desserts and snacks
 - O-Z: casseroles, cooked vegetables, pasta, rice dishes, and the like
- ✓ Bring **serving utensils** for your dish, if needed.

It is good time to **RENEW** your dues for calendar year 2019: \$10.

Start working on those trivia questions. Everyone who reaches the 200 point level will receive a prize. A question will be removed from the trivia pool once it has been answered.

More prizes. Members who have led a scheduled trip will be eligible for a drawing for prizes. Members who have prepared items for the newsletter also will be eligible for a drawing for prizes. If you led a trip and wrote an article, you will receive two lottery chances. Give the editor something with which to work.

Even more prizes. Our Rolling Barbie also needs an update. She needs some cold weather gear. She also needs a new helmet. Her half-ping-pong ball helmet disappeared, and she wore a football helmet last year. Prizes will be offered for this as well.



1920 N. Highland Street, Arlington, VA

Florida Paddling

December means Florida is calling Ed Evangelidi for lots of paddling. (See the link on BRV website calendar.)

Planning for a Paddling Adventure? Costa Rica Anyone?

Consider contacting Jason Tonioli (Co-Founder | Amazing Vacations USA & Costa Rica) at 801-389-7324. He has trips to Costa Rica this Fall and Winter. They will be running new rivers on the Pacific side of the country. Class 2 and 3 runs are available. The trips are a week long and include boats. They run about two thousand dollars.

www.AmazingVacationsCostaRica.com

<https://amazingvacationscostarica.com/why-costa-rica-should-be-on-your-whitewater-kayaking-bucket-list/>

BOATING TRIVIA



These questions draw on history and geography in our own backyard. If Doctor Google does not provide a remedy consult Steve Ettinger's guidebook. 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! If you correctly answer the questions in this issue, you are over half-way there!

WHO

1--After whom is Cabin John Creek named? **10 POINTS**

2--After whom is Violette's/Violet's Lock named? **10 POINTS**

WHAT

3--What creek was dammed to form Lake Needwood? **10 POINTS**

4--What creek takes you past Pierce Mill, the National Zoo, and the Watergate? **10 POINTS**

5-6--What creek became Tiber Creek, and how did the name change occur? **20 POINTS**

WHERE

7--Where is Tiber Creek located now? **10 POINTS**

THINGS NEVER LEARNED IN SCHOOL

8--Seneca Creek is associated with which lock on the C&O Canal? **10 POINTS**

9--The Little Monocacy flows into which river? **10 POINTS**

10--Water from Paint Branch ultimately flows into the Anacostia River, the Potomac River, or Rock Creek? **10 POINTS**

There is an **ADDITIONAL BONUS QUESTION** at the end!

ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC

The usual venue was out. The canal had been dewatered so Pennyfield Lock would be the required take-out. But first loaded canoes and kayaks would need to make the Potomac crossing from Violet's Lock.

An executive decision to cancel was made, but Mike and Daryl Martin provided a terrific alternative. They live near Poolesville, just a stone's throw from Seneca Creek. The directions were straight-forward. There was plenty of parking. There was comfortable seating. There was a place in the multi-car garage to set-up tables for the vast array of food and drink. (No need to flip over canoes, and the trompe l'oeil foliage on the floor made up for the lack of a beach!) There

were outlets to keep some of the items hot, hot, hot. There was a pool—perhaps rolling next year. Mike has his boat collection nearby.

Folks (about 40) had plenty of time to catch up on adventures. Wendy prepared a special type of alcoholic lemonade. Marilyn laid out a caprese salad. Hendrick brought his special baked beans. Mark made sure that we had plenty of chicken. Ginny was the winner of the door prize, “*Great Falls and Mather Gorge*”, a photography book by Roy Sewall. Roy was a speaker at one of our recent meetings.



Jenny & Lou discuss recent trips



Eating at a table--How civilized!



Ginny, Courtney, & Dean relax



Lori & Dean enjoy a swim of a different kind



Kay not on conservation clean-up this day



Our host, Mike, taking a bit of a breather



Hmmm! Kathleen trying to decide



Chicken—we want more fried chicken



Appetizers, going, going, gone...



Plenty of dessert—with & without nuts



Larry & Al chat



Barb relaxes



The awesome patio



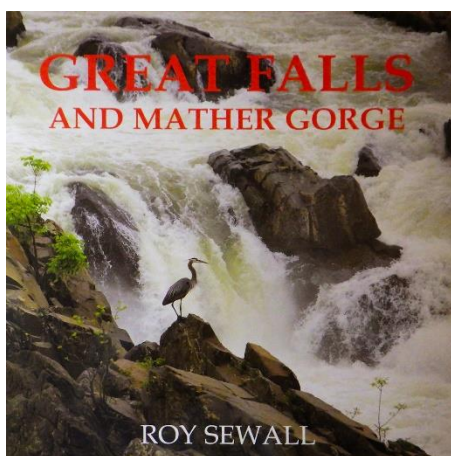
Ed with a new favorite beer



This is *my* chicken



Daryl & Lori lounge around



The door prize



Wow, I never win anything.

TRIP REPORTS: PART 1 **Sideling Hill Creek—Lisa Fallon**

It was a beautiful day on Sunday, September 30th. The weather couldn't have been better as a party of four descended Sideling Hill. George Missios led the way with Lisa Fallon, Daniel Mullins, and Ron Ray following. The group ran the lower part of the upper and then a good part of the lower. Lisa happily enjoyed her first non-vehicular descent of Sideling Hill.

Pine Barrens—Ed Evangelidi

My annual Pine Barrens trip choices are about as predictable as any of the 'noreasters that come up the coast. I had a limited number of paddlers who were willing to paddle for a week and a good number who were just there for the scheduled long weekend. Five states were represented, and we had two newbies who had never experienced the area before. The big storms that rolled through this year had me spooked about what might be more of a portage than a paddle. For that reason, I picked the predictable creeks for the advertised weekend participants and left a few exploratory runs for the smaller and more gung-ho group.

The first river that was new to me was paddling up the beautiful Oswego River from the normal put-in up to the more obscure upper-put in. I selected that approach just in case it was woody. That way we could just turn around and bail. The river, however, was well sawed-out. I don't know who maintains the area, but it was very nice to see this gem. I highly recommend it. ☺

On the other hand, we had horrible luck with a section of the Great Egg Harbor River and the North Branch Rancocas. Fortunately, the main group bailed after doing a short version of the Rancocas and departed for home at the end of the weekend. The smaller group went forth into the wild cellulose. Needless to say, the saws and pruning clippers helped. But the wood was not the worst of it! Because of the unusual warm and wet weather prior to the trip, we had many more hungry mosquitoes and biting flies than I've ever experienced there. ☹

Although this is scheduled as a paddling trip, adding the great diners in the area always attracts some repeat boaters.☺

Moorefield River Gorge and Below--Bob Maxey

The Moorefield River flows in a beautiful valley from running north from Fort Seybert to Moorefield, where it joins with the main stem of the South Branch of the Potomac. Plentiful rains in April produced runnable water levels on this river.

On April 12, Wes Mills, Alf Cooley, Ron Stanholtz, and I ran this river as a Thursday paddler's trip. The level on the Moorefield gauge was 3.31 ft, so the Monocacy Canoe Club standard of 2.5 looks accurate. Also on this date, the Springfield gauge was 2.75 ft. The very old Randy Carter standard of subtracting 1.8 feet from Springfield gauge looked reasonably good as well. We had three or four gravel bars, which we had to push over, otherwise there was a reasonable amount of water. (Previously, Wes Mills, Paul Englehart, Wes Mills, Carrie Singer, and I had run the river when the Brandywine gauge read 2.5 feet, i.e., about 8 inches of water in the river.)

We put in at Peru, where there is a country store run by John and Mary Burgess. Our takeout was six miles downstream at the Stumpf farm, "Established 1749." At both places we talked with the local landowners and received permission to use their land for our vehicles.

The traditional take-out for the Moorefield Gorge, at Milam on County Road 7, is poor because there is very limited parking space and the access from the river to the road is steep and rocky. John, Karen, Kim, and Jenny found an alternate takeout about 1.5 miles below it. This take-out is accessed via Zirk Farm Road, where there is a pedestrian suspension bridge and a parking area for half a dozen vehicles. Much to our surprise when we were loading our boats, a

local landowner drove past us, was quite friendly and told us that it was OK to park there. There are numerous posted signs in this valley, so we boaters should not abuse this privilege, and we should make certain that nudity from clothes changing not cause these access points to be closed.

An alternate put-in was discovered by the John Hitchings and Karen Egbert contingent. After going three or four miles south from Milam, take a very sharp right and follow the paved road along a small creek. After about two miles, this road leads to a point where it is very near the Moorefield River. There are a couple of possible put-ins along this road; permission to use them has not been granted by the local landowners. This particular put-in provides access to the river just below an abandoned church on the right-hand side of the river.

The principal rapids on the Moorefield follow after several miles of easy paddling.

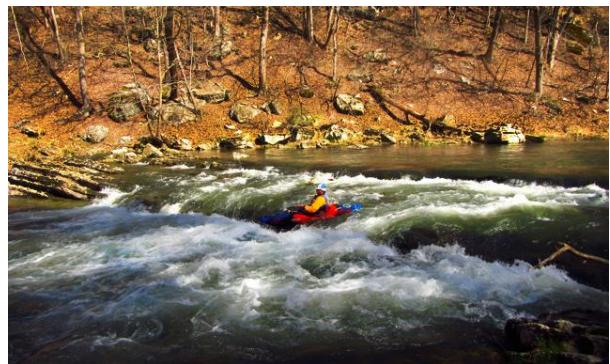
- The first Class 4 rapid can be scouted from the right bank, which shows the rapid's lines. One line is on the far right; the other is in the center of the river, but a quick move to an eddy on the left provides an easy access to the main drop.
- Shortly after this is the second Class 4 rapid, which is also scouted from the right bank. As of April, 2018, there was no major wood in this rapid, which can be run on the left. The presence of logs in this rapid greatly increases its difficulty.
- About a half mile further down the river is the last bit of significant action. The rapid can be run straight down the middle. We did not scout this rapid, but it is probably a good idea to scout--just to make certain that there are no wood obstacles.

The last 1.5 miles of this journey had no significant rapids, but the flower-lined cliffs were a beautiful sight.

The Moorefield Gorge is one of the most beautiful and isolated rivers in West Virginia. We were struck by the stillness and quiet of this canyon. Bald eagles, bears, turkeys, and other wildlife are present in this valley. My ancient copy of "*Wildwater West Virginia*" refers to the possibility of a pumped storage reservoir in this gorge. What a shame if that were to ever happen!



Jo Cox



Ned Howenstine



Virginia del Rosario

Alf added that he thought that the water level was -2 inches: 56 cfs at Brandywine, 89 at Moorefield. The weather had warmed up to 80 degrees, and the 30 mph winds were mainly up in the treetops. The group thought of its friends on the very wide Staircase. This was a personal first descent (PFD) for several and the first time out for Wes and Ron. The group supped in Manassas at a Logan's Steakhouse--another first for Alf.

Lehigh: White Haven to Rock Port—Phil Dawson (trip co-ordinator)

Phil Dawson co-ordinated a Saturday, June 9 Lehigh trip for the BRV (Alan Dickerson and Beth Koller) and Baltimore boaters (Ben Jenkins and family and Mike Schedie and family). The drive up to north eastern Pennsylvania is easy being all interstate unless you take time-saving backroad short cuts like Phil. The park-and-ride just outside of town is an excellent place to congregate. Nearby there are gas stations for refueling.

We paddled the 9-mile section from White Haven to Rockport. This is the “shorter” upper section. Most of the run can be boat-scouted, but there are a few areas where bulk of the water necks down to a sluice. What is difficult is the number of boaters and rafts converging and making boat-scouting difficult. Fortunately there are alternative routes, which are interesting as well. We had a broad skill spectrum, but no major incidents. The paddlers in short boats with planing hulls played everywhere. When we arrived at the lunch rock, to our surprise, it was essentially empty. We basked in the sun after eating. Several folks did seal launches from the downstream rocks. Despite the very “urban put-in” with bridge pilings, the gorge itself is very beautiful with dense vegetation and gray cliffs. We stopped to check out an old railroad bridge constructed from stone blocks. The creek emptying into the river was many degrees colder than the Lehigh itself.

The river right take-out can be a bit of a challenge for kayakers because the wooden steps drop off abruptly, and you may end up knee deep in water. Fortunately, boaters, rafters, and guides are all attuned to the situation, and everyone helps folks exit their boats quickly. This co-ordination really helps because the take-out is also a put-in for the lower section. No extended parking is allowed. Like the Yough, vehicles are parked in lots on the top of a hill. Entry to the take-out/put-in is controlled by park staff using walkie-talkies. When you see the road, you will know why. After loading up, we de-camped to the Weatherly Inn for dinner. (See the “Boater’s Dining Guide”.)



The urban put-in



Alan getting ready for the gorge



The play boating started early



Mike--so far, so good!



Ben cruising



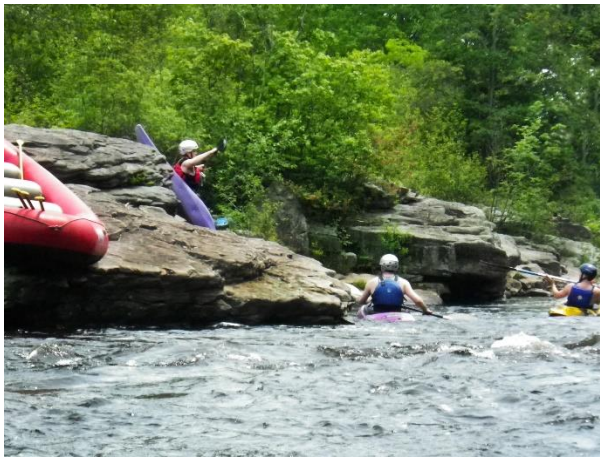
Swirly eddy river left, river bend to right, tight & congested channel=challenge for some



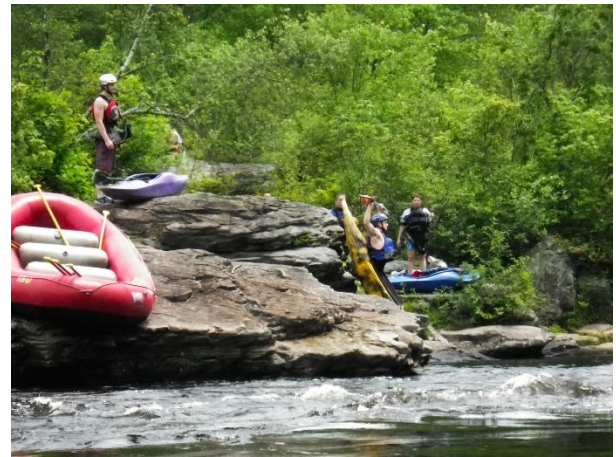
The lunch stop before the crowds



The motley crew



Lunch time to launch time



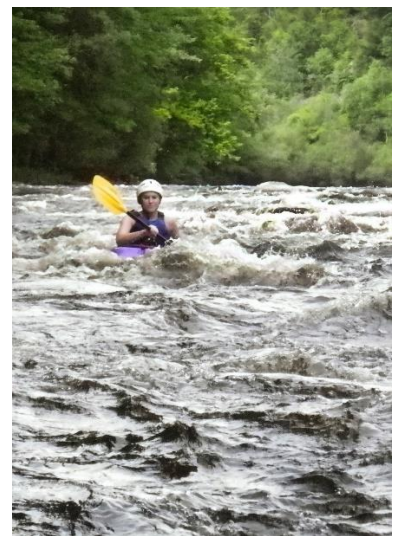
I'll second that!



Phil riding high...



Practice makes perfect



Looking good in a new boat



Homeward bound

CONSERVATION

Canaan Valley Wildlife Refuge

There has been a proposal to permit commercial timbering in the refuge: 30 to 40 acres/year (and 1600 acres total and a similar amount for non-commercial thinning. The Middle Valley trail would be closed temporarily for such cutting. Of note, Canaan Valley contains the headwaters of the Blackwater. Increased sediment run-off would degrade water quality. Also project estimates have determined that administrative costs would exceed timber receipts.

There was a short period for comments. Refuge staff are reviewing the comments. To remain up-to-date with the process, visit <https://saveblackwater.org> or e-mail *kate* [at] *saveblackwater.org*.

Corridor H

The Kokosing Company has been building a 7.5 mile section of highway in Tucker County. The project, however, has been complicated by failure to control sediment and impairment of water quality. The West Virginia Department of Environment has issued a cease-and-desist order. Indeed, the federal government, and the Forest Service in particular, has complained because more than half of the highway section passes through the Monongahela National Forest.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund Action Needed

Ed Evangelidi alerted us to the potential expiration of the “*The Land and Water Conservation Fund*” at the end of September. The fund helped create national wildlife refuges, expand recreation in popular national parks, provide recreation resources in all 50 states, and protect rivers. Indeed all of the public access points along the Upper and Middle sections of the Gauley River resulted from this funding as did expansion of the New River Gorge Park. Locally the Potomac River has benefited.

Although there were attempts to reauthorize the Fund ,i.e., House Bill 502--to permanently reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund, nothing was finalized before the expiration date. Convey your thoughts and concerns to your legislators.

Pipelines in West Virginia

To see the locations of pipelines proposed or under construction in West Virginia including the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and the Mountain Valley Pipeline, check <https://tagis.dep.wv.gov/majorpipelines/>. There are eight. The maps include major forest areas and waterways.

To build pipelines, the builders must control sediment run-off. To see aerial photographs of such areas along with maps, check <http://pipelineupdate.org/2018/07/29/industry-standard-noncompliance/> as presented by the Compliance Surveillance Initiative (CSI).

Atlantic Coast Pipeline

CSI has a tool for public involvement. It obtains aerial images of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline (ACP)(Dominion). These images can be matched to areas of the pipeline corridor, and serial images that reveal construction, logging, and any excess erosion can be monitored for compliance with the State agency approved construction plans. For more information on this crowdsourcing type of oversight, look for “*crowdsourcing*” at the *pipeline.org* site.

The ACP has been challenged in the federal courts on the basis that the developers did not yet have all of the proper permits addressing developers’ duties under the Endangered Species Act and where the Appalachian Trail was/would be crossed by the pipeline. Although these have now been resolved, there are still outstanding issues regarding passage through National Forests and the crossing of streams and wetlands in particular.

Mountain Valley Pipelines

The Circuit Court of Summers County has heard arguments about how West Virginia’s Natural Stream Preservation Act applies to the planned crossing of the Greenbrier River by the Mountain Valley Pipeline. While Judge Irons deliberates, there is no construction.

On the federal level, the Army Corps of Engineers had to approve stream crossings. The permits could be granted individually or as a bulk permit called Nationwide Permit 12. Certain conditions, however, need to be met for a NP12. The Huntington office had previously suspended approval. The Pittsburgh office just suspended approval.

ACCESS

American Whitewater at Work for Us

Access issues for paddlers have been on the rise. The American Whitewater Association is one of your best advocates. **When your paddling club is an affiliate member of American Whitewater** (at the cost of \$100 or more; <https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Affiliate/view/>), **you can purchase an AW membership at a discount.** The standard individual membership price is \$35, but the affiliate individual member price is \$25. (<https://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Membership/join-aw/>)

The National Stewardship Director of American Whitewater, Kevin Colburn, has submitted a letter to the National Park Service in response to an Executive Order asking for ideas on how to expand access to Park Service lands and waters. American Whitewater highlighted the Harpers Ferry Parklands. This is a direct benefit to our paddling community.

The November meeting, which features a movie about the Lost Valley of the Merced, details the role that American Whitewater played in securing access to the area.



*Barb Brown has an image of the Shenandoah in the AW 2018 Winter Steward Update brochure.
Congratulations, Barb!*

Ohiopyle on the Yough—Information from Barry Adams (Three Rivers Paddle Club)

The Construction

The Multimodal Gateway Project will begin in November 2018. The construction will be timed so as to minimize the impact on the main boating season. The winter/spring construction will end by Memorial Day (May 27, 2019). It will resume after Labor Day (Sept 2, 2019). Completion is scheduled for May 2020.

One of the first projects will be removal of the Boaters' Change House. There will be a temporary change house and rest rooms for 2019 prior to completion of the replacement building. There will be roadwork including the construction of an underpass under Route 381. The Park staff will post updates on their Facebook page.

The Parking

There are no changes to the parking location and the put-in location. Paddlers will not need to park at the Dinner Bell Road parking lot.

The Shuttle

Colburn's Bus Lines has run the take-out shuttle for many years. The contract, however, has expired. The company may require modifications to the system to even vie for a bid. Bidding for concessions go out sometime in December or January. It is possible that there will be no mid-week shuttle (Tuesday through Thursday) and that parking at the take-out will be permitted during those days. There is no information on shuttle fees for 2019.

The River Use Fees

The permit fee to use the river will stay at \$2, but the transaction fee will increase to \$7. It is not known what the Shuttle token fee will be until a new contract is finalized. It could also go up.

The Ohiopyle Falls Festival

The festival originally was put in place to facilitate access to the Falls. There have been no recent changes to the "*Ohiopyle Falls Access Guidelines*". In the absence of more favorable changes to the guidelines, the "*Ohiopyle Over the Falls Festival*" will not be brought back.

Rappahannock Access—Information from Wes Mills

This is a follow-up on the scoop originally supplied by Wes as well. Soon there could be three access points to the Rappahannock River in Fauquier County. Currently there is public canoe launch on the Rappahannock River at Kelly's Ford Bridge, five miles downstream from Remington.

The County already plans to open another public canoe launch at Remington.

Now there could be a third launch site upstream of both of the above launch sites. Charles K. MacDonald of Madison County agreed to give the Fauquier county 196.6 acres of largely forested property along Leeds Manor Road and along the Rappahannock River about five miles south of Orlean and 15 miles upstream of Remington. Mr. MacDonald, a retired investment manager for a New York firm, lived in the area, but ultimately decided to not build a home there because of the need to remove mature hardwood trees. In addition, the property came with a Virginia Outdoors Foundation easement that prohibits further subdivision of the land, permits only two, single-family dwellings, and limits the square footage and river proximity of buildings.

The area already has an entrance, a trail network, and a gravel road. Some work on the road is needed. The wooden canoe launch will be built west of the Waterloo bridge. Parking will be added. The launch itself is expected to cost \$5000. The park start-up cost is \$45,000 and annual maintenance costs are estimated to be \$12,500. Opening is planned for the Spring of 2019.

http://www.fauquiernow.com/index.php/fauquier_news/article/fauquier-big-land-donation-includes-rappahannock-river-access-2018

TRIP REPORTS: PART 2

Sleepy Creek West Virginia: No Snooze—Bob Maxey

The Run: Sleepy Creek (WV) from CR 13 near Smith Crossroads to WV 9 near Meadow Branch Confluence (AW Section 1)

The Distance: 12.3 miles.

The Flow: approximately 1,500 CFS (no stream gauge)

The Participants: Bob Maxey (leader), Barbara Brown, Virginia del Rosario, Cindy Rogers, Randy Snapp, and John Snitzer.

I was looking for a new stream to paddle because the recent rains had brought many streams up. Sleepy Creek is near Berkeley Springs and empties into the Potomac just downstream of Hancock. According to Burrell and Davidson (*"Wildwater West Virginia"*), it is the most beautiful of the four streams in the Eastern Panhandle. They describe it as a Class 1 paddle with a Class 3 ledge that most people carry. (The ledge is just below a mandatory-portage low water bridge.)

At the (flooded) level at which we ran it, the ledge drops five to ten feet over a distance of ten yards and has a giant hydraulic at the bottom.

- Paddlers running this rapid in the center are presented with a right-sided wave 15 feet longitudinal to the boater.

- To further complicate the run, the level of the route is at least a foot below this wave. It's possible to run from the center into a river right eddy whose current is upstream and would certainly flip a boater.
- And not mentioned in Burrell and Davidson is the portage, which, due to a tree obstruction, cannot be done at river level. The left-hand (Class 6) portage involves a 3/4 mile carry down a road to avoid the near vertical cliffs of the anticline, which created the rapid. The relatively easy (Class 4) right-hand portage involves a 1/4 mile carry down a road, passing over the anticline and then making one's way back to the river.

We chose the right-hand portage. After the 1.5 hours we spent on the portage (the worst in West Virginia), we got back in our boats to paddle out. Soon it started to rain, and the rain did not let up until well after we got off the river. (The flow the next day was estimated to be 5,690 cfs.)

Nevertheless, we saw some interesting things along the river, including four river otters, a bald eagle, and a beautiful waterfall on the left to which Ed Gertler had alerted us. We persevered, passed two bridges, and wondered when our take-out bridge would appear. The four shuttle drivers paddled ahead and ran the complicated shuttle in the pouring rain. Upon our return, I went down to the river and marveled that as we were finishing the shuttle, John and Barbara were just arriving. Wrong! They had arrived a half an hour before and spent their time ferrying back and forth under the bridge to avoid the rain.

Barbara, Cindy, John, and I kept on our river clothes and went to the Hancock Sheetz, which has an excellent canopy for tying down and transferring boats out of the rain. The Sheetz has only one (unisex) bathroom, so it took a while for us to change clothes. Afterwards we had a long dinner at Weavers in Hancock. John was interested in a healthy meal, but he ended it with a hot fudge sundae. Others had pies.

We then drove to the Crown station in Myersville, which also has an excellent canopy for tying down and transferring boats out of the rain...

There are 25 miles of river below the gorge that offer scenic, but not particularly challenging, paddling. The valley has smaller rock outcrops than those in the adjacent valleys where the Smokehole and Hopeville canyons lie, but it offers the advantage of being less developed. Long ago I paddled a canoe down this stretch with Ted Wood, my college friend.

Two final notes:

- The people at the take-out were very friendly to us and allowed us to take out on their property. This is not a good take-out for large groups, as parking is very limited and immediately adjoins Highway 9.
- The landowner at the Class 3 ledge is also very friendly, has a beautiful piece of property, and suggested the river right portage.

[An August Antietam Creek Run](#)

Antietam Creek usually holds its water well because of feeder springs. It also is cool because of those springs and the tree canopy. It is a relaxed run which can be followed by local excursions or dinner at any of several establishments in Sharpsburg or further afield.

Ann Hitchcock, Ben Jenkins, Ron Knipling, Beth Koller, David Newsom, and Kathleen Sengstock gathered at the Devil's Backbone parking lot. Beth had done some reconnaissance work on water levels, river wood, and a shuttle. Greg Mallet-Prevost was a great resource. The water levels were generous. (Indeed another paddler reported that the Funkstown section above the Backbone was run without difficulty.) Greg said the only problematic downstream wood was near the last bridge on the lower section before the merger with the Potomac. On the day of our run, reportedly the wood was less transverse to the current and could be avoided if paddlers remained alert. Greg generously helped us run the shuttle and get as many vehicles at the take-out as possible. (Anticipating his generosity, we came prepared with exotic brews.)

We arrived with a variety of boats (one decked canoe, one inflatable kayak, and three closed kayaks.) The put-in below the bridge was no-go for closed kayaks because of the high water levels and the steep drop-off, but the put-in under the bridge was perfect. All of the rocks and ledges were well padded with water. Indeed a few features were somewhat washed out. The lunch stop island was markedly diminished in size, and the remaining banks were very muddy. The hydraulic made by a low-head dam near the end of the run presented no problems when run on river left.

The day started out sunny. After lunch, the skies became overcast. We had a short afternoon shower near the waterfalls and then another just as we approached the take-out.

We started out with the usual boating activities, eddying and surfing. Then other opportunities emerged. We inspected a floating bench that had become unmoored. We checked out a five to six foot diameter culvert that had become overgrown with saplings. We found numerous inflatable loungers. Ron's craft proved to be very useful for wrangling them. We tied them off at a ladder near a road crossing and hauled them out at the end of the run. We wanted to check out the underwater engine block found last year near the falls, but the high flow of the falls and the rain reduced visibility. We did see a lot of wildlife including a ground hog type critter, several deer, and ducks. The bridges that had been under repair looked great. There was minimal obstructing wood.

After running the shuttle, we discussed dining options with Greg. We settled on "The Main Cup" because it was located in Middletown *en route* home. We topped it off with dessert at "More Ice Cream", which was across the street.



David on an early ledge



Ben on an angled ledge surf



Kathleen surfs



Ron stowing gear on his inflatable



A bench that floated free of its mooring



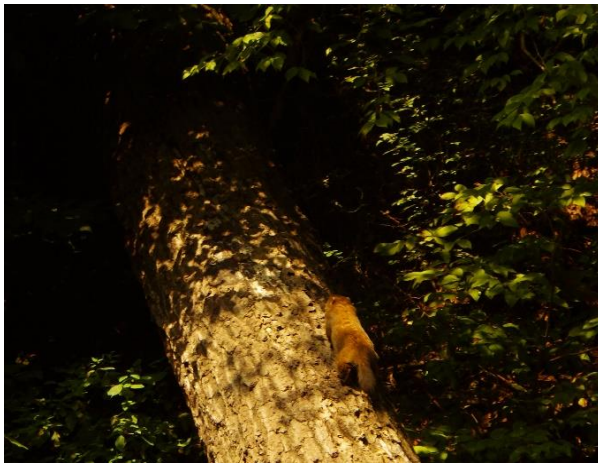
A large culvert as a planter



Eddy socializing: David, Ann, & Ron



Big leaves at the lunch spot



A critter crawls up a tree



Fearless fawns across from lunch spot



Unperturbed ducks



Heavy flow at waterfall



Ron wrangling a chair



Kathleen tied off the chairs



Kathleen & Ann at one of the historic bridges



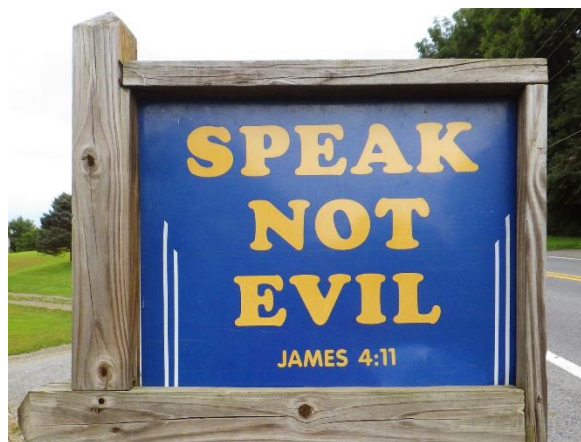
Ron plowing through the last hole



Ann smiling at the end



Ben showing the depth of the hole



Does this sign on the shuttle mean no exaggerated story telling after paddling?

GEAR

Need A Rack?

Rack Attack is having a 20% Winter sale on Thule and Yakima racks starting mid-November. (<https://www.rackattack.com>; info@rackattack.com; 1-888-777-2257)

Drysuit Repairs—Max Blackburn (Immersion Research)

Immersion Research (IR) is now officially an equal opportunity gear repair center and has opened its repair room doors to all brands of gear manufacturers. So if you have a piece of gear that needs some refurbishing or repair, feel free to send it to IR. It does not matter what brand the piece of gear is. If it's a non-IR brand of gear, you will be charged a slightly higher fee, but the prices are still very reasonable. See the repair cost chart below for the two tiers of pricing.

To start the repair process, simply go to our website, www.immersionresearch.com, find the "Repairs and Maintenance" page under the "Customer Service" tab, and fill out a new support ticket. It is extremely helpful to attach photos of your garment and/or the area that needs to be repaired when creating a ticket. This will help the response time considerably.

Our repair team will be in touch as quickly as possible and provide instructions on next steps.

Job	IR garment price	Non-IR garment price
Replace latex wrist EACH	\$25.00	\$29.00
Replace Latex Neck	\$61.25	\$73.75
Replace Neck and Both Wrists	\$110.00	\$130.00
Replace Latex Booties PAIR	\$69.50	\$84.00
Replace Latex ankle EACH	\$35.00	\$40.00
Replace Fabric socks PAIR	\$128.25	\$150.75
Convert semi dry neck to latex neck	\$92.50	\$117.50
C1 Tunnel conversion	\$40.00	\$56.00

Job	IR garment price	Non-IR garment price
Drydeck Conversion Fee	\$75.00	\$105.00
Pressure Test Suit or Jacket	\$30.00	\$42.00
Shorten Tunnel 2 inches	\$12.50	\$17.50
Skirt Waist Size Change	\$20.00	\$28.00
Shorten Pants	\$44.00	\$61.25
Shorten Arms	\$40.00	\$56.00
Lengthen Pants	\$60.00	\$84.00
Lengthen Arms	\$55.00	\$77.00

House Cleaning: Member Equipment for Swap or Sale

- MISCELLANEOUS: Rick and Wendy have moved. If you think, Rick might have some gear you might want, give him a call (brvkoller@gmail.com) ASAP.
- KAYAK: Wave Sport X playboat. Fair to Good condition. \$300. Virginia del Rosario (ginydelr@yahoo.com)
- KAYAK: Red BlissStick RAD 185 playboat. Good condition. \$350. Gus Anderson
- KAYAK: Slate River tandem Nyami Nyami kayak with bags/pillars. Limited use. Protected from UV light. \$600. Beth Koller.
- CANOE: Mohawk "12II" solo whitewater/play boat OC-1 with two airbags. ABS/Royalex. Pedestal saddle with quick-release thigh straps. Stored in shade. No major incidents. Light for carrying. \$795 firm. Ron Knipling.
- CANOE: Caption tandem with wood gunwales. More sporty than the workhorse Dimension. Stored indoors. \$1000 (or call). Dean Geis.
- RUBBER MAT with rim for the back of a Subaru Outback. \$25. Beth Koller
- PADDLE: Lightning Gradient. Right fix. 197 cm. Used 10 days. \$80. Jim Pruitt.

Boating Maps; GPS Isn't Everything: Part 1—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. He plans to visit the club in early 2019 with samples.

Contact: [dukejohn999 \[at\]comcast.net](mailto:dukejohn999@comcast.net)

www.dukesmaps.com

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

Boating Maps; GPS Isn't Everything: Part 2--Aaron Otte

Aaron Otter ([aaronreston \[at\]comcast.net](mailto:aaronreston[at]comcast.net) [preferred route to keep track of requests] or 703-796-6060), club member, paddler and fisherman, is having a professional map maker, Kyle Bower,

put four states, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia, on a single, 3' by 4' map. The map will feature 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. The cost for a single map will be \$230. The cost per map for 10 buyers will be \$120. Contact him, ASAP!

For more information on Kyle Bower (10 First Street, Wellsboro, PA 6901; 570-724-7355; FAX 570-724-7394) and his work, see www.MarketMAPS.com or www.mapsales.com.

Guidebooks

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 book! 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/>

THE BOATER'S DINING GUIDE

Antietam Creek: The Main Cup and More Ice Cream

The Main Cup and More Ice Cream are on the way home—a plus. There is good parking off the main street, which is undergoing renovation. There are some one-way streets that do need to be negotiated.

The Main Cup is in the building in which C.F. Main started producing ice cream over 100 years ago. The building has housed the Main Cup restaurant for 10 years. The offerings are extensive. There is a bar. The menu includes casual Italian and Mexican item such pizza, quesadillas, and tacos (~\$10). There are dinner-sized sandwiches and burgers to order (~\$15). Crab is included in several of the sandwich entrees. There are a variety of dinner-sized salads (\$10-15). The dinner entrees include chicken, pasta, seafood, and steak (\$15-20). All of the dinners include a special twist. Salmon may be grilled with a balsamic reduction or served with strawberries and an orange vinaigrette.

More Ice Cream has a variety of ice cream flavors, some standards, some exotic. The peach is terrific. Whether you are having a cup or a cone, it is enjoyable to sit on the porch as you lick or spoon. Prices start at just under \$3. They will be open during the winter!

14 W Main St A, Middletown, MD 21769; 301-371-4433
www.themaincuprestaurant.com
<https://www.themaincuprestaurant.com/dinner-menu/>

13 West Main, Middletown, MD 21769; 240-490-5337
<http://www.moreicecream.net/>
<http://www.moreicecream.net/flavors>

Lehigh Gorge: Weatherly Inn

The Lehigh Gorge area has a number of good restaurants. The Weatherly Country Inn is among them. The menu includes hefty sandwiches and full dinners. Wine and beer are available. Expect to spend \$15 to \$20 for a dinner without alcoholic beverages. Parking is limited so get there early.

1634 S Lehigh Gorge Dr, Weatherly, PA 18255; 570-427-8550

www.weatherlycountryinn.com; <http://www.weatherlycountryinn.com/menu>



Steak to order



Salmon



Seafood



Excellent fries & a sandwich make a meal

HUMOR

From the Inner Workings of Ed's Brain—Ed Evangelidi

What is cold and foamy and goes down fast? If you said: “A steep creek”, congratulations, you are a true boater. If you agonized between saying a beer and a steep creek, you are in good company. But if you said: “A beer”, you are not a true boater. Hang it up, and get out of here, but pour me one before you leave.

I have a reputation for remembering rapids, but not time or distance. After being criticized a couple of times for under-estimating the distance of a particular trip, I relisted it as: “World’s

Longest 10 Mile Trip.”

Some obfuscated terminology for common boating happenings:

- Disadvantaged: Having a downriver boat on a play river or vice versa.
- Outplaced: Told that you belong on another, easier river.
- Redeployment: Moving from the creek that ain’t up to the one that actually has water.

The ballplayer announcing the day’s run so far: “Bottom of the ninth rapid; Strainers 5, Boaters 4.”

Any rumors that I flipped and swam rapids recently are FAKE NEWS.

PARTING SHOTS AT THE TAKE-OUT

Bonus Trivia Question

WHAT

11--Which creek (or run) is part of the Virginia Palisades and has a library well known to the BRV named after it? **10 POINTS**

Programs in Progress

We have several possible programs in the docket including outside speakers Kent Mason, a photographer, who has photographed the Allegheny Highlands and has a library of images from the Cheat Gorge, as well as Krista Schlyer, who has photographed the Anacostia River and its surrounding area. The river is on the rebound from the tunnels and reservoirs constructed to prevent overflow of rainwater and sewage into the water. Alan Dickerson has written about his urban boating there, a trip on which he met Ed Gertler. More NPFF videos and photography from Valley Falls are other potential programs.

But because this is a club activity, if you know someone who would be a good speaker, consider inviting them. If you are interested in a topic, it is likely that someone else is as well. The meeting dates can be adjusted to accommodate outside speakers.

As always the location will be the Clara Barton Rec Center (7425 MacArthur Blvd., #151, Cabin John, MD 20218) followed by pizza and liquid refreshments at Ledo’s (5245 River Rd., Bethesda, MD 20816; 301-656-5336).

For example, the drops at Valley Falls provided some great runs and photographic opportunities.



Launched!



Oh my!

[Rumors](#)

Rumor has it that cranberries picked during the Pine Barrens trip will make it to a Thanksgiving table. Mmmmm!

[Trip Reports in the Pipeline](#)

We are looking forward to some interesting trip reports. We have had multiple trips to the Lehigh and Stonycreek and are expecting some write-ups. An unexpected August whitewater release at Bloomington may bring some stories. A report on a late season run on the Catoctin may make its way into print.

If you have idea for a story or article, take a stab at it. The editor will work with you. Trip reports can be short or long. Pictures are welcome. Provide the biggest image files you can. If the file exceeds 10 MB, let the editor know in advance. Remember that those who lead announced trips

and those who write a trip report will be eligible for prizes! So if you led an announced trip AND have it's a twofer--two drawing chances!

Please have submissions for the next newsletter ready in the next four weeks.

The Hunt for Trips

Consider what kind of trip/event you might be able co-ordinate. There have been requests for relaxed local trips, trips suitable for children, trips that could be combined with other activities like biking, trips to cypress swamp/marshes, and urban boating with the clean-up of the Anacostia. Check out the dates of the festivals and releases.

If you have an idea, but don't quite know what to do, just ask. Several club members are tremendous sources of information.

Webpage

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

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.



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

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

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