

# THE VOYAGEUR



[www.BlueRidgeVoyageurs.org](http://www.BlueRidgeVoyageurs.org)

Spring 2013

## THE PRESIDENT'S PUT-IN

I finally see light at the end of the winter tunnel illuminating the Blue Ridge creeks we love to paddle. In fact as I write this column, veteran BRVer Ron Knipling is organizing trips to the club's namesake region and I hope I get to go. I recommend our members to get on our paddling email list if you aren't already to take advantage of last minute watersports.

Kudos go to the two Courts in the club. Courtney Caldwell allowed us to use his office conference room for our meeting on March 7. It was a great place to show the other Court's latest adventure videos. As usual Court presented an excellent program detailing two trips: one to the northern sub-polar region in Alaska and the other to the south polar continent. Maybe I can persuade him to do an encore presentation in the future with some of his past shows.

Our next meeting is in May on Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup>. I hope everyone gets to paddle between now and then.

Rick



### ***Endangered Wildlife?***

*Ron Knipling sent in this photo of the rare yellow-striped giant turtle, spotted in the upper North River, above Rio, WV. Wildlife biologists speculate the turtle was washed down from its native habitat in the uppermost reaches of the watershed by unusually high water late in the season from Super-storm Sandy snow-melt.*

## **BRV Supports River Conservation Groups** by Kathleen Sengstock, Conservation Chair

BRV is continuing our tradition of supporting conservation groups that work to protect the rivers we enjoy. The Board agreed to donate \$80 each to ten deserving organizations, which are described below.

**Alice Ferguson Foundation** organizes the annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup, which cleans up rivers and streams throughout the Potomac watershed. Many BRV members participate in the cleanup. The Foundation also shares the wonder and excitement of the Potomac River with thousands of students, teachers and citizens every year. [www.potomaccleanup.org](http://www.potomaccleanup.org)

**American Whitewater** works to conserve and restore America's whitewater resources and enhance opportunities to enjoy them safely. American Whitewater is the primary advocate for the protection of whitewater rivers throughout the United States and represents a diverse group of individual whitewater enthusiasts, river conservationists and local paddling clubs. [www.americanwhitewater.org](http://www.americanwhitewater.org)

**Cacapon Institute** uses science and education to protect rivers and watersheds from the Cacapon to the Potomac to the Chesapeake Bay. [www.cacaponinstitute.org](http://www.cacaponinstitute.org)

**Friends of the Cheat** restores, preserves, and promotes the outstanding natural qualities of the Cheat River. [www.cheat.org](http://www.cheat.org)

**Friends of the Rappahannock** works to maintain the water quality and scenic beauty of the Rappahannock River and its tributaries. [www.riverfriends.org](http://www.riverfriends.org)

**Friends of the Shenandoah River** is dedicated to the protection and restoration of the aquatic environment of the Shenandoah River. [www.fosr.org](http://www.fosr.org)

**Potomac Conservancy** safeguards the lands and waters of the Potomac River and its tributaries by advocating sound policy and promoting thoughtful land management. [www.potomac.org](http://www.potomac.org)

**Potomac Riverkeeper & Shenandoah Riverkeeper** work to stop pollution and restore clean water in the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers and tributaries through enforcement and community engagement. [www.potomacriverkeeper.org](http://www.potomacriverkeeper.org)

**River Network** is a national watershed protection movement that empowers local communities. River Network includes nearly 2,000 state, regional and local grassroots organizations whose primary mission is to protect rivers and watersheds. [www.rivernetwork.org](http://www.rivernetwork.org)

**West Virginia Rivers Coalition** seeks the conservation and restoration of West Virginia's rivers and streams for the benefit of all who depend upon them: wildlife; West Virginia residents; those who visit for recreation; and those who live downstream. [www.wvrivers.org](http://www.wvrivers.org)

<b>BRV TREASURER'S REPORT</b>						
<b>STATEMENTS OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS</b>						
						Budget
	2009	2010	2011	2012		2013
Cash Balance, January 1	\$ 1,993	\$ 2,174	\$ 2,390	\$ 2,940		\$ 1,925
Receipts						
Memberships	1,124	1,098	1,420	777		1,080
Disbursements						
Newsletter	421	343	282	292		300
Projector	-	-	-	-		700
Xmas Party/Picnic	308	300	400	1,262		600
Web Site	115	104	104	110		120
Other	99	135	84	128		130
	943	882	870	1,792		1,850
Cash Balance, December 31	\$ 2,174	\$ 2,390	\$ 2,940	\$ 1,925		\$ 1,155
Members	81	82	102	57		80
<b>Conservation Fund</b>						
Cash Balance, January 1	\$ 154	\$ 473	\$ 296	\$ 695		\$ (51)
Receipts:						
Conservation	319	323	399	254		360
Flood Relief Fund	-	-	-	-		500
Disbursements:						
Conservation	-	(500)	-	(1,000)		(800)
Cash Balance, December 31	\$ 473	\$ 296	\$ 695	\$ (51)		\$ 9
Flood Relief Fund	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500		\$ -

**For Sale:** Mohawk Probe 12-II (12'2") solo whitewater playboat canoe (OC-1). Fully outfitted, foam pedestal saddle with cinch-down thigh strap. Purple. Boat well-used but fully intact and functional. \$375. Ron Knipling, (703) 533-2895, [rknipling@aol.com](mailto:rknipling@aol.com).

## 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 4 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 2013: January 23, March 7, May 7, August 17 (Moonlight Picnic), September TBD, November TBD, December TBD (Holiday Party). 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 West exit and go about 0.6 miles west 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.

**2013 BRV Officers:** Rick Koller, President; Mark Wray, VP; Mike Martin & Daryl Hall, Trip Coordinators; Clark Childers, Treasurer; Frank Fico, Newsletter Editor; Kathleen Sengstock, Conservation.

**2013 Board of Directors:** Ginny DeSeau, Ed Grove, Ron Knipling, Wes Mills

### ***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](mailto: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 editor.

Address changes: contact Frank Fico, 1609 Autumnwood Dr., Reston, VA 20194-1523, (703) 318-7998, [fico1@netzero.net](mailto:fico1@netzero.net). The annual roster will be kept current via updates published in 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

### ***In this issue...***

- 2013 membership roster (insert)
- 2013 trip schedule (insert)
- BRV conservation funding (p. 2)
- BRV treasurer's report (p. 3)

**Deadline for Summer *Voyageur*:**  
Friday, June 7th

**NEW PUBLISHING SCHEDULE.** Starting this issue, *The Voyageur* will be published on a quarterly vice bi-monthly schedule.