

Keelhauler's Ka-news APRIL, 2015



**Next Club Get-Together
is Tuesday, April 14th
at Middleburg Hts Community Center
16000 E. Bagley Rd**

Doors open at 7:00 PM, Meeting is at 8:00 PM.

**Program: 2015 Costa Rica Kayak Trip Video
By Jim Hunt**

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

All meetings are open to guests. Invite a prospective member!

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT By Karl Nelson



Ohio is trying to load spring, but the green loading bar seems to be stuck in February. But sooner or later it will be river time and with river time we need to think of safety.

Thanks to multiple GoPro cameras, there were two videos posted on the TRPC Facebook page of a rescue at Washing Machine Rapid on the Big South Fork of the Cumberland River—one camera was

on the helmet of the "rescuer" [<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RI-LjPG7ltc&feature=youtu.be>] and the other camera was on the helmet of the swimmer who needed rescuing [<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aDDgOnDuDAE>]. It is not often you get to see two viewpoints of the same event.

Safety requires both a mind set and a skill set. The mind set involves thinking about the river in a different way—instead of what's the line on this rapid, think about what do we need to do if there is a bad experience on this rapid. A bad experience can happen to any paddler, on any rapid on any day. And sometimes you don't even need a rapid.

In the fall of 2008 I broke my leg walking along the shoreline on the beach below Railroad on the Lower Yough. Who would have thought of that. A dozen years ago, a paddler had an upside down experience at River's End. It took over four hours in order to evacuate her. There was a good outcome, but I have often wondered what would have happened if it had been late on a Sunday afternoon in October instead of a Saturday in mid-July. Last summer, Lisa had an upside down experience at the bottom of Dartmouth. We had to walk her out.

If you think your swiftwater rescue skills could use some enhancement, sign up for the Walbridge course later in June. The things you learn may save my life.

KEELHAULER MEETING MINUTES
March 10, 2015 at Middleburg Heights Recreation Center
Respectfully submitted by Donna Homberg

10 people in attendance

Unfinished Business

Budget Ratified for 2015

New Business

Vermilion Race Chairman is Jon Reising. River Cleanup on March 14. Race scheduled for March 22 and the alternative date is March 29th. Ice on the river is being watched. Water level will be monitored. Advertisement for the race is important so please spread the word. Refreshments again will be provided at the take out.

Future Southern River Trip planned.

Program is by Cliff Wire on his recent trip on the southern circuit of Ireland.

Treasurer's Report By Pam Poljak

Keelhaulers Canoe Club Treasurer's Report, 26-Mar-2015

CDs (3)	\$6,773.90
Checking	<u>\$4,393.50</u>
Total	<u><u>\$11,167.40</u></u>

Conservation donations totaling \$2250.00 were distributed as listed in the 2015 Budget.

Promote your Sport By Dave Roush

Keelhaulers has been investigating joining other organizations, schools, clubs, Meetup groups and outfitters in Northeast Ohio (NEO) to promote kayaking?

Executive Summary:

We are looking at forming a Sponsors Group: organizations, schools, clubs, Meetup groups, outfitters and others organizations to promote kayaking in NEO. We would connect (prospective) kayakers to those Sponsors providing:

- Introductory classes/instruction
- Equipment (rental and sales)
- Events
- Clubs, Meetup groups, and others that run trips (sea kayaking, paddle boarding and white water kayaking)

The Sponsors would share a Meetup website with a common calendar of events. The Sponsors website would have a description of each sponsor specifying which provide instruction, equipment, events and trips. Where ever possible there would be links to each sponsors website. In addition we would establish a Facebook page and twitter account for our shared Sponsor site. An example of this would be a similar organization formed around skiing (see <http://www.meetup.com/Cleveland-Metro-Ski-Council/>)

Each Sponsor would be expected to:

- Participate in regular monthly meetings for the Sponsors
- Provide the content describing themselves and specifically mentioning instruction, equipment provisioning if any, events, types of trips (i.e. sea kayaking, local moving water, whitewater, etc.)
- Provide links to your site (if available).
- List classes, events, trips on the shared schedule on the site
- Help defray the costs (expected to be less than \$100.00 per sponsor per year).

Sponsor invitations will be extended to the following. Please let us know if there are others that should be invited to join.

- 41 North Kayak Rentals
- American Red Cross
- Appalachian Outfitters
- Backpacker Shop
- CLE Kayaker Anglers Meetup
- Cleveland Metro Parks
- Cleveland State <http://www.csuohio.edu/services/recreationcenter/adventurerec/clinics.html>
- Friends of Crooked River
- Keelhaulers Canoe Club <http://keelhaulers.org/>
- Kent State <http://www.kent.edu/recservices/outdoor-rental-center>
- LoCo Yaks in Lorain
- Lorain County Metro Parks Adventure Club
- Mentor <http://cityofmentor.com/play/boating/rental/>
- Nalu Paddleboards
- North Coast Paddle Sports
- Northeast Ohio Adventures Meetup Group
- Northeast Ohio Kayakers (NEOK) Meetup Group
- Ocean Paddling Club Cleveland (formerly Cleveland Sea Kayakers Meetup).

- Orange High School
- Stark Park
- Tri-C
- University of Akron <http://www.uakron.edu/srws/outdoor-adventure-center/open-kayaking-times.dot>

Summary:

The goal is to make information on kayaking readily available to those who want to learn, and be active in the sport. If you would be interested in helping or if you have questions/suggestions please contact Dave Roush VP Keelhaulers rockyroush@gmail.com phone [440.623.9035](tel:440.623.9035) or Marcia Karchmer, seakayak chair Keelhaulers (karchmerm@yahoo.com) or by phone: [440-572-1837](tel:440-572-1837).

We expect to have a go/no go decision in March.

Water Injuries and Prevention

Hi There,

My name is Emma and I am contacting you regarding water safety. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that there are 359,000 unintentional drowning deaths worldwide, every year. As the summer approaches, it is especially important to educate children on proper behavior when playing in or near water.

I am a blogger and water sport enthusiast. I have teamed-up with a local attorney to promote water safety education. Please check out our website about [water injuries and prevention](#). If you find this information useful, please link to us from your site so we can better educate the online community on water safety.

Thanks for your time, and I hope you're having a great day!

Sincerely,

Emma Tucker, Emma@WaterAccidentInjury.com, Wateraccidentinjury.com

21st Annual Cheat River Festival



Saturday, May 2nd, 11:30 am - 11:00 pm

Albright, West Virginia

All festival proceeds benefit Friends of the Cheat

More Information at www.CheatFest.org

Time to check your PFD? Borrowed from Jennifer Brock. Coastal Ca-news Club....

On your lifejacket, check that the cloth is still strong. Pull on the straps. How is the stitching? Are the buckles still working properly? Once a good day shows up, the temptation to "make do" can be overwhelming.

While you're at it, how does it fit? What about your kids/grandkids? Do they still fit in last year's jacket? BoatUS has a good video on fitting a child's lifejacket. <http://www.boatus.org/life-jacket-loaner/fit-video.asp>, and much of it applies to adult jackets as well.

With a little searching, I found the following recommendations from the US Coast Guard:

1. Check the manufacturer's label to ensure that the life jacket is a proper fit for your size and weight.
2. Make sure the jacket is properly fastened.
3. Hold your arms straight up over your head.
4. Ask a friend to grasp the tops of the arm openings and gently pull up.
5. Make sure there is no excess room above the openings and that the jacket does not ride up over your chin or face.

REI has a good article on choosing a lifejacket. Granted they want to sell you one but the advice is still good. Check it out at <http://www.rei.com/learn/expert-advice/personal-flotation-device.html>.

Be sure to **Try It On For Size**. Remember a lifejacket only works if you have it on and a comfortable lifejacket is more likely to be worn.

47th Annual Vermilion River Race March 22, 2015 By Jon Reising

The 47th Annual Vermilion River Race was held on March 22 2015 with dry but cold weather. Once again due to low water conditions the race was moved to the alternate course in downtown Vermilion. Everyone that raced showed much gratitude for continuing the race. There were a total of 34 people racing and 28 boats.

I would like to thank all of you that volunteered to help with all the jobs that it takes to put on the race both before with John Kobak updating the race application process and Pam Poljak for doing the pre-registration and scoring the day of the race. Hank, Carl and Dave at start. Marcia, Mary and Jo Ann at registration, Jim, Steve and Mary for doing finish line, Karen for safety, and a big thank you Bob Bair for doing refreshments. Also, Steve and Mary for doing the publicity. If there is someone I forgot please accept my apology. I am old and forgetful.

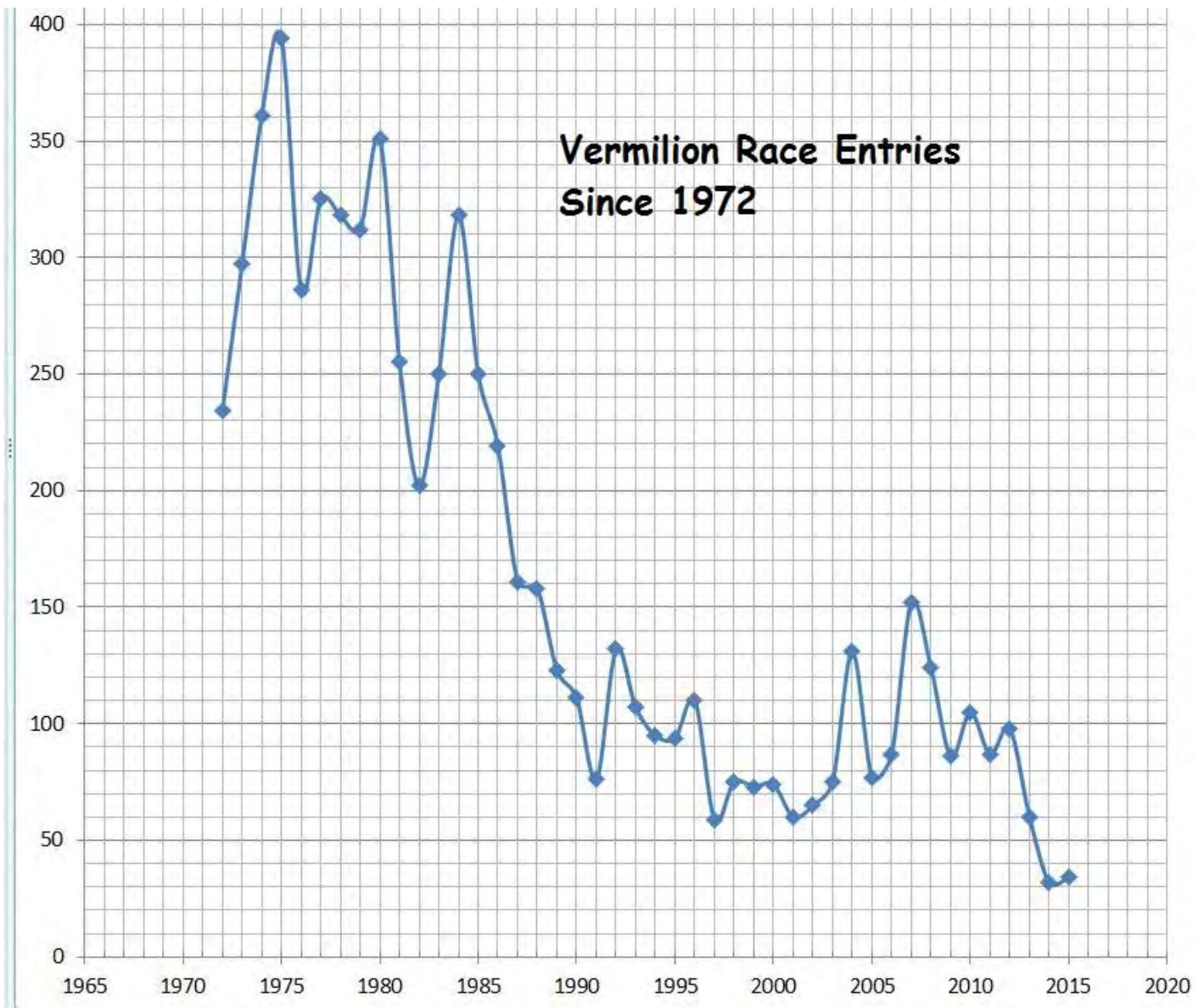
I hope to continue having the race with your help up though the 50th Annual Race.

See you next year if not before. Hopefully on the traditional section of the river.

Jon

Vermilion River Race Results

Class	Bib #	Elapsed Time	Name	2nd Racer Name	Start Time	Finish Time	Handi cap
1	C-2 Unrestricted Canoe						
	189	0:58:49	Hull, Thomas	Hawkins, Lynn	11:35:00	12:33:49	00:00:
	186	0:59:11	Oravec, Dave	Burt, Richard	10:32:00	11:31:11	00:00:
2	C-2 Mixed or Women Canoe						
	70	0:44:16	Masek, Dan	Masek, Sarah	11:19:00	12:03:16	00:00:
4	C-2 Senior > 49 yrs old						
	187	0:43:03	Streb, Ken	Brax, Debbie	10:30:00	11:14:33	01:30:
	63	0:47:56	Markwell, Walter	Williams, Al	10:48:00	11:39:26	03:30:
	191	0:50:41	Primuth, Gary	Wightman, Daniel	10:39:00	11:35:31	05:50:
6	C-1 One Person Canoe						
	67	0:41:57	Conant, Skip		10:50:00	11:31:57	00:00:
	72	0:45:36	Krizman, Joe		11:56:00	12:41:36	00:00:
8	K-1 Short Kayak < 11.5', Men						
	183	0:55:30	Stoll, Mike		10:36:00	11:31:30	00:00:
	68	1:01:11	Yakunovich, John		11:07:00	12:08:11	00:00:
10	K-1 Kayak < 14.4', Men						
	64	0:49:49	Herbert, Larry		10:42:00	11:31:49	00:00:
	184	0:53:36	Stoll, Mike		11:43:00	12:36:36	00:00:
	69	0:53:41	Anderson, James		10:58:00	11:51:41	00:00:
	196	0:58:37	Smith, Daniel		10:35:00	11:33:37	00:00:
11	K-1 Kayak > 11.5', Women						
	193	1:07:52	Keith, Joy		10:34:00	11:41:52	00:00:
	195	1:10:39	Smith, Megan		10:33:00	11:43:39	00:00:
12	K-1 Senior > 49 yrs old, < 14.5'						
	61	0:42:36	Foley, Mike		10:41:00	11:23:36	00:00:
	185	0:43:27	Widman, Richard		10:46:00	11:29:27	00:00:
	66	0:45:26	Wadsworth, Phillip		10:47:00	11:32:26	00:00:
	200	0:47:51	Kemp, Jim		10:44:00	11:31:51	00:00:
	192	0:49:31	Henwood, Gerard		10:43:00	11:32:31	00:00:
	188	1:02:25	Kaylor, Tom		10:45:00	11:47:25	00:00:
13	K-1 Long Kayak >14.5', Men						
	62	0:37:55	White, Joe		10:51:00	11:28:55	00:00:
14	K-1 Senior > 49 yrs old Long Kayak >						
	65	0:39:48	Leszek, Ed		10:49:00	11:28:48	00:00:
	198	0:45:57	McCrate, Kelley		10:38:00	11:23:57	00:00:
	194	0:52:21	Kernohan, Mark		10:40:00	11:32:21	00:00:
15	K-1 Senior Women >49 yrs old, >11.5'						
	197	0:51:45	Burkett, Jana		10:37:00	11:28:45	00:00:
	199	1:13:09	Homberg, Donna		10:31:00	11:44:09	00:00:



SWIFTWATER RESCUE CLINIC JUNE 27-28

by Joe Marksz

Swiftwater Rescue Clinic, Taught by Charlie Walbridge, June 27th & 28th 2015 :
 For the 8th year in a row Charlie Walbridge will be conducting a Swiftwater Rescue Clinic exclusively for our Club members. This Clinic has trained nearly 120 of our members and I'm sure that has made a big difference within our boating community. Registration for this year's clinic is now open and will close when full. There's a limit of 10 members and the cost is \$90 plus \$5 ACA insurance if you are not an ACA member. This Clinic has always filled quickly and last year we even

added a second class. If we end up with any extra proceeds we'll donate to Friends of the Cheat as we have in past years. Camping is at Teter's in Albright. Dry land portion is held right there at the campground and on water portion is held on one of the nearby rivers depending on levels. Typically, the Cheat Narrows takeout. You can also go on Charlie's website to get more exact details on what's covered or contact me.

More Information or to sign up: Contact Joe Marksz joemarksz@gmail.com 216-533-0604

Phase I of the Friendsville Boaters Parking Lot – Complete by Jim Hunt

I checked out the progress on the 25th and Phase I appears the work is done. There is a drainage ditch with numerous retention basins along the east fence and a paved entry way from the road. About a quarter to a third of the field has been graded and covered in road base. It appears that there is paved-improved parking for about a quarter to a third of the normal number of cars there on Fridays and Saturdays. Normally there are 5 rows of parked cars for at least a quarter of the length of the field - the new paved-improved area will hold 2 rows of cars for about 2/3 the length of the field.

I assume we will still be able to park the rest of the cars on the grass as we did last summer. If not, there will again be a bunch of cars on the street again.



Drainage ditch along the east fence and paved access path to the liquor store.



Entry driveway and improved area in the background. Note the new ditch down the middle of the field.

Kayaking Classes **Marcia Karchmer, Seakayak Chair**

Cleveland Metroparks: April 12: Kayaking I: Seven Hills RecCtr.; 9am-12 noon: \$45; also 4/16 at Baldwin Wallace, Lou Higgins building: 6-9pm. Call 216-341-1704 to register. Ages 14 and over with adult.

Kayaking 2: Supplemental Skills: deep water re-entry techniques and advanced paddling strokes. Prereq: Kayaking I; 4/19: 9am-12: Seven Hills Community Rec. Ctr. Call as above.

Marcia Karchmer, Seakayaking Chair

SOUTHERN RIVERS TRIP 2015 Michael Duvall

April 11, 2015 - April 17, 2015

Every Spring the club tries to head south for warmer weather in Tenn, NC and surrounding states. For many years John Kobak was the organizer and for over 10 years I went on his trip. John introduced me to rivers like Nolichucky, Tellico, and Chattooga. Last year I organized the trip and John went on my trip. So I was able to return the favor and introduce him to two rivers he had never run; Wilsons Creek and Cheoah.

This year we picked the week starting April 11 with the hope that there will be warm temps and water in all our favorite class III/IV rivers. This is a great way to start your paddling year. Contact me at MichaelDuvall66@att.net or 216-513-5921 for more information.

See pictures from last year's trip.



Carolyn DeVenney, Little River



Jeff Macklin, Wilson Creek



Michael Duvall, Wilson Creek



John Kobak, Wilson Creek

April	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
4/4,5,18,19	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Needs organizer	
4/11	(1) Grand River (OH)	SK/FW	Carl Kudrna	440-263-0451
4/11	(1) Little Beaver (OH)	SK/FW	Doug Lyons	740-317-7007
4/11,12	17th annual Webster WW Weekend (WV)		Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
4/11,12	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
4/11-19	(4) Southern Rivers Trip TN,NC,SC,GA Map - Detail map	22-32	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
4/14	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Karl Nelson	330-497-2483
4/17	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
4/18	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Mark Spang	440-522-0520
4/18	(1) Grand River Race - Alternate Date 4/25	SK/FW	Brian Davidson	800-669-9226
4/18,19	(5) Middle Fork & Tygart (WV)	29	John Kobak	440-871-1758 440-554-1383
4/24	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
4/25	(3) Cuyahoga River, Lower Gorge (OH)	20	Chris Kiehl	330-869-6549
4/25,26	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Chuck McDowell	330-447-1086
4/26	(5) Cheat River Race Clinic (WV)	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541

2015 Club Officers

President: Karl Nelson 330-497-2483
VP: Dave Roush 440-623-9035
Secretary: Donna Homberg 440-236-8360
Treasurer: Pam Poljak 440-268-9194

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, on the second Tuesday of each month
Doors open at 7:00 P.M., meeting starts at 7:30 P.M.

Membership: \$20 per year. New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone, send directly to
Membership Chairman:

John Kobak, 440-871-1758
1649 Allen Dr.
Westlake, OH 44145

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KHCC WEB PAGE URL: www.keelhauler.org

Non- Commercial advertising is free to all members. To place an ad, send the information the way you want it to appear. Please write or call when item is sold. It will appear for 2 months unless canceled. Commercial ads may be submitted by club member's owned businesses four times each year with a maximum of four lines of copy per ad.

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter!
The deadline for the **May issue of the newsletter is **4/23/15**. Please**
remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at
peetzaguy@aol.com.

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
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April, 2015

