

Keelhauler's Ka-news

APRIL, 2017



**Next Club Monthly Meeting is on 4/11 at 7pm.
Brick House Tavern, 581 Howe Ave,
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221**

Program: To be announced.....

For more meeting information contact:

John Banach j_banacka@hotmail.com 330-606-5032

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

President's Message From John Banach



Hello and Happy Spring my fellow Keel Haulers.

I do hope that you are all ready for another fabulous paddling season. The weather has been very favorable (at times) so I'm sure quite a few of us have already been out once or twice. Or more. I haven't stopped paddling all winter.

As we are now officially into Spring, I want to recap some of the highlights from the winter months. First off, thank you to everyone who came to either of the 3 KHCC roll sessions. Either Orange, Lakewood, or Canton. Although I was not able to be at every Orange and Lakewood practice, I'm told the turnouts were fantastic. And the Sunday Canton soccer carnage was in full swing. So glad to see new faces. But more importantly, to see those paddlers who couldn't roll or brace pulling hand rolls and back deck rolls by end of the season. That's why we run these practice clinics and sessions. I'm very proud of all of you who stepped outside of their comfort levels and tried something new. I'll be running Canton next year as well so see you all in the pool in November.

It's now nearing end of March and lots of exciting events going on in the next 30 days. To start, we just had the Vermilion race this weekend. This was my first experience on that river and also for the race. I'm a little late to the game as this was the 49th annual race. And it was a blast. We all did our rain dances and the water level held up at the minimum so we could have the run on the normal stretch of river. Boy oh boy, I have to hand it to you flat water paddlers. This race kick'd my butt. But it was so much fun. Over 60 boats and many more paddlers joined in on the fun. We had a great spectator presence as well helping to cheer us on. Although I wanted to win, I ended up a close 2nd place. I'm happy with that but plan on winning for the 50th.

As April approaches, don't forget to mark down April 22 on your calendar for the Cuyahoga Falls kayak race. This event is sure to please. Up to 50 racers from states all over the country. As many as 5 different race categories. A great spectator area. Fun, Fun, Fun. In addition, we will have a KHCC tent up promoting the club, signing up new members, handing out club flyers, stickers and cow bells. Yes, cow bells to cheer on the racers. And yes, I'm sure many folks are going to hate me for that. But the racers will love it. We have an April 11th club meeting in Cuyahoga Falls to cover the race, volunteers needed for the race, and volunteers needed to promote the club at the race and maybe man the tent for a while. Make sure you come to this meeting please. Very important...

Lastly, don't forget that even with the warm weather, the water is cold. So for any of you that are rusty and have not been out much this winter, make sure you go out and do it safely. We've already had several instances in the past few weeks of non-club boaters getting into big trouble on the NE Ohio rivers. So be careful out there and take your time. And dress right. And if you see some boaters not taking the proper precautions and such, speak up and tell them. Introduce yourself as a club member and tell them why you think they should change their focus or be more aware of their environmental surroundings. And why and how the club can help them achieve their paddling goals in a safe and fun manner. We have to be shepherds on the water. Because we all know there are plenty of lost sheep out there just looking to get flipped and wet.

So thank you all once again for being such a great club. I am so excited as we enter the warmer months and all start to shed our winter blues for some paddling fun. I look forward to seeing more and more of you out there on the water. And I hope to see more of you at the meeting in April.

**Keelhauler's Minutes
March, 2017
By Marcia Karchmer**

No March meeting. April meeting will be held April 11th at 7pm at the Brick House Tavern, Cuyahoga Falls.

Marcia Karchmer, Secretary

Monthly Treasurer's Report By Sam Reynolds

Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Treasurer's Report March 23, 2017

CD 0402	\$2, 284.47
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 282.04</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 566.51
Checking	<u>\$8, 114.22</u>
Total	<u>\$12,680.73</u>

49th Annual Vermilion Race By Jon Reising

The 49th Annual Vermilion River Race was held on March 26th. We had 71 people and 59 boats participating this year. The weather was warm and the rain held off until mid-afternoon so most racers were done by then.

The results are following, and posted on the Keel-Haulers web site.

Without the many volunteers that help the race would not happen. So, my sincere thanks to those of you that take the time to help me give those that enjoy the race so much to come out and give themselves the opportunity to paddle on the Vermilion and have a little competition.

You can go to the web site listed below to see the pictures taken by the Vermilion Photo Journal photographer.

<https://vermilionphotographer.smugmug.com/Nautical/March-26-2017-the-49th-annual-Keelhaulers-Race-on-the/>

Jon Reising
Race chair

2017 Vermilion River Race Results

Class	Racer(s)	Time	Position
Class 0 - No Class Assignment			
	Hull, Thomas & Hull, Andrew	1:41:42	1
	Miller, Keith & Miller, Karen	1:58:53	2
Class 1 - C-2 Unrestricted			
	Masin, Baz & Masin, Jack	3:17:34	1
Class 2 - C-2 Mixed/Women			
	Masek, Dan & Masek-Frank, Sarah	1:36:30	1
	Taylor, Jason & Taylor, Anna	2:01:32	2
	Capwell, Kerry & Baker, Glenn	2:17:52	3
	Frank, Thomas & Frank, Madeline		dnf
Class 3 - C-2 Men's Standard			
	Bechtel, Greg & Moller, Bernie	1:25:27	1
	Fedor, Nicholas & Good, Anthony	1:49:05	2
	Schwartz, Derek & Morog, Kyle	2:03:25	3
Class 4 - C-2 Men's Senior			
	Markwell, Walter & Williams, Al	1:39:58	1
	Burney, Ken & Kermode, Scott	1:43:11	2
	Davis, Daryl & Way, Jay	1:46:15	3
Class 6 - C-1 Canoe			
	Harbeck, John	1:59:50	1
	Satran, Mike	2:35:01	2
Class 8 - K-1 Short Men <11.5'			
	Dohanos, Lee	1:35:59	1
	Banach, John	1:36:59	2
	Buscher, Zach	1:38:01	3
	Cammarata, Vito	1:40:16	4
	Nahorn, Matthew	1:42:07	5
	Duvall, Michael	1:42:19	6
	Kuhn, John	1:47:44	7
	White, Marlin	1:49:48	8
	Gaddis, Jim	1:50:02	9
	MacKay, Brian	1:51:30	10
	Zigon, Alex	1:55:55	11
	Gibbons, John	2:05:45	12
	Carrion, James	3:06:17	13
	Hauck, Jonathan	3:19:35	14

Class	Racer(s)	Time	Position
Class 9 - K-1 Short Women <11.5'			
	Piwowar, Hallie	1:43:47	1
	Ellis-Rinner, Helene	1:58:09	2
	Westrick, Karen	2:12:19	3
	Macan, Michelle	3:15:19	4
Class 10 - K-1 Men <14.5'			
	Crocker, Ross	1:21:15	1
	Morgan, Kevin	1:35:51	2
	Hoffman, Matthew	1:36:03	3
	Schultz, Norm	1:43:28	4
	Simmons, Jim	2:03:50	5
Class 11 - K-1 Women >11.5'			
	Johnson, Karen	1:31:21	1
	Simmons, Karen	1:46:18	2
	Round, Darlene	1:57:28	3
Class 12 - K-1 Senior >49, <14.5'			
	Widman, Richard	1:25:46	1
	Foley, Mike	1:26:09	2
	Hebert, Larry	1:32:00	3
	Wire, Cliff	1:36:42	4
	Whipple, James	1:41:08	5
	Moran, Ken	1:47:18	6
	White, Marlin	1:50:32	7
	Peggs, Mike	1:57:29	8
	Gross, Andy	2:42:30	9
Class 13 - K-1 Long Men >14.5'			
	White, Joe	1:17:39	1
	Glomb, Dan	1:37:26	2
Class 14 - K-1 Long Senior >49, >14.5'			
	Batizy, Arpad	1:27:24	1
	Leszek, Ed	1:33:44	2
	Albertson, Scott	1:36:46	3
Class 15 - K-1 Senior Women >49, >11.5'			
	Way, Laura	1:38:16	1
	Nemeth, Teresa	1:46:55	2
	Homberg, Donna	2:00:51	3
	Janowicz, Janine	2:22:51	4
Class 16 - Standup Paddleboard			
	Rothig, Ryan		dnf



Conservation News From Jim Hunt

Reprinted from American Rivers - March 2017

FIVE LESSONS FROM THE OROVILLE DAM CRISIS

What the problems at the nation's tallest dam taught us about flood safety and aging water infrastructure.

Amy Souers Kober | March 10, 2017



Nearly 200,000 people downstream of California's Oroville Dam – the nation's tallest dam – were evacuated in February when problems with the dam's spillways triggered the possibility of downstream flooding.

American Rivers responded, calling out challenges posed by aging dams and water infrastructure nationwide. We pointed out the need for a new approach to water management: work with nature, not against it. Our message was amplified by national media outlets, sparking a dialogue about solutions that work for healthy rivers and public safety.

Here are five important lessons the nation learned from the crisis at Oroville Dam:

1) OROVILLE ISN'T ALONE

While the events at Oroville Dam grabbed headlines, it's not alone. As a February 13 New York Times editorial pointed out:

"Oroville is hardly an isolated case. The American Society of Civil Engineers gives the country's dams an average grade of "D" and estimates that at least \$21 billion is needed to fix aging, high-hazard dams. The

average age of the country's 84,000 dams is 52 years, and 70 percent of them will be more than a half-century old by 2020. Groups like American Rivers argue that many of these dams should be removed in the interest of public safety and to return waterways to their natural state."

2) THERE ARE LOTS OF AGING DAMS IN OUR COUNTRY, AND SOME SHOULD BE REMOVED

"It's not like an expiration date for your milk, but the components that make up that dam do have a lifespan," said Mark Ogden, a project manager with the Association of State Dam Safety Officials told the Times.

The paper noted the American Rivers report showing 72 dams removed in 21 states in 2016, to restore river health and improve public safety.

3) WE NEED TO GIVE RIVERS ROOM



Two men watch as water gushes from the Oroville Dam's main spillway in Oroville, Calif. | Marcio Jose Sanchez/Associated Press

Bob Irvin, president of American Rivers, published an opinion piece in the Washington Post titled "We trust dams and levees at our peril." When it comes to improving flood safety, the best step we can take is to widen floodways and restore floodplains. He wrote:

"Indeed, to ensure public safety, we need to give rivers more room, not less. We must ensure that rivers have the adjacent floodplains and wetlands they need to move and dissipate floodwaters naturally. Dams and levees limit such options and often incentivize development and redevelopment in places most prone to damaging floods. We not only need to think twice before building dams and levees, we also need to be removing existing dams and levees that have outlived their usefulness and are threatening public safety by aggravating flood risk."

4) WE NEED TO ADDRESS THE REALITIES OF CLIMATE CHANGE



Credit: Randy Pench/The Sacramento Bee via AP

It's time to update water management to deal with the realities of climate change, specifically more frequent and severe floods and droughts. The Christian Science Monitor's Zack Colman looked at the "rule curves" set by the Army Corps to dictate dam operations – when to fill up and release water from a reservoir.

"Not only are they for an outdated period, they are actually written on graph paper with a pencil," says John Cain, director of conservation for California flood management with American Rivers. "They weren't even digitally generated."

"My concern about the rule curves being out of date is legitimate, but a terrific mitigating factor is our ability to forecast," Cain told the Monitor. "And that is why it would be a huge disservice to cripple NOAA and the National Weather Service climate change science programs."

5) IT'S POSSIBLE TO FIND POLICIES THAT PROVIDE SOLUTIONS FOR BOTH DROUGHTS AND FLOODS

The Sacramento Bee published a great editorial showing how giving rivers room provides solutions for handling both droughts and floods.

"... climate experts say flood is only half the picture. Long-term drought punctuated with deluge is about to become California's new normal, thanks to the way global warming has amplified regular climate variations. So while they're at it, state officials should ask whether now might be the time to join nature, rather than just trying to beat it. Sure, fix the dams and levees that have shielded us from winter rains so far. But also find ways to make natural flood patterns work for us."

The editorial calls for flood easements and levee setbacks to protect people and property, and allow for groundwater recharge and healthier rivers.



The Yolo Causeway, heading west toward Davis, is surrounded by water in the Yolo Bypass. | Randy Pench

“Concrete alone won’t work forever. Where possible, maybe working with, rather than against nature, is the smarter route,” the editors write.

We couldn’t have said it better ourselves.

2nd Annual Cuyahoga Falls Race April 22 and 23, 2017

April 22, 2017

Boater Registration: 9am - 11am @ the Sheraton Hotel Lobby. Sheraton Suites: 1989 Front St, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221, Entry fee is \$20 for paddlers.

Safety briefing: TBD

Short Boat Race begins: 1pm

Long Boat Race begins: TBD

Possible Open Class Slalom Race TBD

Freestyle and Huck* session after Race: TBD

Following are links to more information about the upcoming race.

<http://www.cfkayakrace.com/>

Registration online form:

<http://www.cfkayakrace.com/sign-up.html>

<https://www.theodysseyonline.com/cuyahoga-falls-kayak-race>

Online video:

<https://youtu.be/6JbPsLNN0g4>

For more information or questions, contact:

Don Howdysell at 330-671-0825 or donh458@gmail.com.

Gorge Dam Removal Article Copied from Cleveland.com

Posted on March 19, 2017 at 7:47 PM, updated March 20, 2017 at 1:43 PM, By Jennifer Conn, Akron reporter, cleveland.com

Gorge Dam removal pushing ahead, despite threats to Great Lakes Restoration funds



The Gorge Dam, which has served no purpose since the early 1990s, is the last in a chain of local dams stretching from Kent to Cuyahoga Falls that have been taken down over the past several years, greatly improving the water quality of the Cuyahoga River. (*Summit Metro Parks*)

AKRON, Ohio - Despite fears \$300 million in [Great Lakes Restoration Initiative](#) funding will be eliminated, officials are planning to remove the [Gorge Dam](#), even if they have to find money somewhere else.

"We're just getting started," said Mike Johnson, Summit Metro Parks chief of natural resource management.

Until recently, the federal government said it would pay about 65 percent of the \$70 million [cost to remove](#) the 57-foot-high, 440-foot-wide hunk of concrete that has served no purpose since the early 1990s.

The dam is the last in a chain of local dams stretching from Kent to Cuyahoga Falls that have been demolished over the past several years, greatly improving the water quality of the Cuyahoga River.

Situated on the border of Akron and Cuyahoga Falls, the Gorge Dam creates a nearly 1.5-mile-long pool of water that:

- turns the Cuyahoga River into a lake, drastically changing its chemistry.
- obstructs the flow of the river, inhibiting the river's natural ability to clean itself.
- enables accumulation of algae in the dam pool, which reduces oxygen and potentially kills fish.
- acts as a barrier to migratory fish, which locally include suckers - clean-water indicators - seven species of noninvasive [native lampreys](#), which are endangered and pose no threat.



Gorge Dam on Cuyahoga River could be removed in 2019

The federal government has agreed to pay much of the cost to remove the Gorge Dam on the Cuyahoga River in Cuyahoga Falls.

The search for funding

Supervising the dam's potential removal is the Gorge Dam Stakeholder Committee, which includes representatives from the [Ohio EPA](#), [the city of Akron](#), [Summit MetroParks](#), [FirstEnergy](#) and the [city of Cuyahoga Falls](#).

Plans are in the works to lobby congressional and state representatives to sign letters of support for the project, said [Cuyahoga Falls Mayor Don Walters](#). Congress has the final say over the federal budget, in which President Donald Trump proposed getting rid of money for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

"We feel it's a worthy project for whole lot of reasons and we think our representatives will agree," Walters said.



Removal of the dam would attract ecotourism to the region and contribute to the overall health of the Great Lakes, officials said. ~*Summit Metro Parks*

In Cuyahoga Falls, taking down the Powerhouse and Sheraton dams opened the river to Class II to Class V rapids, helping launch the city's annual kayak race [set this year for April 22-23](#).

Akron recently received a \$750,000 grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources toward the dam's removal, which the committee is hoping can be used as match money to fund needed studies or other aspects of the removal, said Summit Metro Parks Watershed Specialist Elaine Marsh.

A healthier community

Removing the dam is directly related to the overall health of the Great Lakes.

Since the 1970s, Northeast Ohio has spent nearly \$2 billion cleaning up the Cuyahoga River, and recently Akron has spent millions of dollars improving its sewer system, all to make the region a better place to live and work, Marsh said.

"This is restoring the river not just to its water quality but also its value to the community as an eco and tourism destination," she said. "It's a big piece of the puzzle because it has captured people's imaginations and it will make such a dramatic change."

Public input

The committee will host a series of events and presentations around Summit County this year to educate residents about the dam and what removing it would mean for the community.

A Gorge Dam Removal Public meeting titled "What's Next" will be held at the Cuyahoga Falls Natatorium June 27, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m., and include a presentation followed by a social hour for attendees to speak with the presenters.

**Need trip organizers - Pick a trip from last year or one in red.
Contact: Joe Boyd at 330-858-6270 or joeboyttravels@yahoo.com**

April	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
4/1,2	WV Class V Creeking	>30	Needs organizer	
4/8	Swiftwater Rescue Class (PA) Ramcat Rapid - Middle Yough at Paddler's Lane Campground ACA Level 3 one day course		JimJen Sollosi	412-496-8672
4/8	(1) Little Beaver (OH)	SK/FW	Doug Lyons	740-317-7007
4/8,9 4/29,30	(3) Cheat and Potomac South Branch watersheds. Be sure to contact Steve for river choice, like Potomac, Stonycreek, Casselman, Dry Fork, Upper Big Sandy or Little Sandy rivers	18	Steve Ingalls	216-371-8250
4/8,9	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Needs organizer	
4/11	Club Monthly Meeting at Brick House Tavern, 581 Howe Ave, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221		John Banach	330-606-5032
4/15	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Mark Spang	440-522-0520
4/15,16	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
4/16 or 4/23	(1) Grand River (OH)	SK/FW	Andy Gross	216-321-9284
4/21	Upper Yough (MD)	32	FIFO Trip	440-554-1383
4/22	Cuyahoga Falls Kayak Race (OH) Upper Gorge Limit 600 CFS Click Image for official website & registration	28	Don Howdyshell	330-671-0825
4/22-30	(4) Southern Rivers Trip TN, NC, SC, GA Nolichucky, Watuga, Doe, Tellico, Citico creek, Chatooga IV/III, West Fork Tuckasegee, Cheah	22-32	Rich Dabal	201-414-0801
4/22,23	(5) Middle Fork & Tygart (WV)	29	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
4/22	(1) Grand River Race	SK/FW	Brian Davidson	440-358-7275
4/22,23	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	Anne Kmieck	216-371-8250
4/28	Upper Yough (MD)	32	Needs organizer	
4/29/30	(3) N. Br. Potomac Release (MD)	18	Needs organizer	
4/29,30	(5) Cheat Canyon, Cranberry or Upper Meadow (WV) Be sure to contact Dave for river choice.	26	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
4/29	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Katie & Joe Boyd	740-632-6725
4/30	(5) Cheat Canyon Paddle & Race Clinic (WV)	26	Cliff Wire	440-439-6541

2017 Club Officers

President	John Banach	330-606-5032
VP:	Don Howdyshell	330-671-0825
Secretary:	Marcia Karchmer	440-773-4132
Treasurer:	Sam Reynolds	330-962-5501

Meeting Place: Middleburg Heights Recreation Center, 15700 Bagley Rd, 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

Any opinions, views or recommendations expressed in the articles in this Newsletter are those of the article's author. Printing these articles in no way implies approval or advocacy of any of the opinions, views or recommendations by the Keel-Haulers Canoe Club or any of its Officers, editor, or members. Water sports are a potentially dangerous activity. Keel-Haulers Canoe Club recommends and encourages all of its members and others to abide by all laws, regulations and recommended practices when engaging in such activity. Each member is responsible for assessing her/his own abilities and for not engaging in activities which are beyond those limits. Members assume any and all risk when choosing to participate in any activity and the Keel-Haulers Canoe Club is not responsible for any damages resulting from such participation.

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 **4/23/17**. Please send articles to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.**

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.
Geneva, IL 60134
peetzaguy@aol.com

April, 2017

