

# Keelhauler's Ka-news AUGUST, 2016



**Next Club Meeting: Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>**  
at 6:30 PM at Tall Oaks Campground, large pavilion, near Ohiopyle, PA

## Program: Picnic in PA

**All Levels of Paddling on the weekend with a Saturday night picnic!**

This has become our most popular meeting of the year. The meeting will be Saturday, August 20. This is the same weekend as several different club Yough trips. There will be an opportunity for all types kayaking and canoeing. Yough Lake for the flatwater and sea kayakers, and the Middle, Lower & Upper Yough depending on your skill level for river paddlers. There are also beautiful biking & hiking paths for those that choose not to paddle in the area. Saturday evening at 6:30 pm will be a Potluck Picnic Dinner at Tall Oaks campground for members, family and friends. The large pavilion has been reserved. You do not have to camp here to join the picnic. Those who wish can camp around the pavilion. The club will supply hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments, tableware and soft drinks.

**Members should bring appetizers, salads, vegetables and desserts according to your last name:**

- A-F - Dessert or Fruit
- G-L - Potato/Pasta Salad
- M-S - Salad/vegetable/or baked beans
- T-Z - Chips or Appetizer

Jim Hunt: 330-335-5203 is the Skip Work Day organizer on the Lower Yough for Thursday 8/18

Debbie Avallone: 440-835-2547 is the Ladies Only Day organizer on the Lower Yough for Friday 8/19

Jim Hunt: 330-335-5203 is the Upper Yough trip organizer for Friday 8/19

Michael Duvall: 216-513-5921 is the Upper Yough trip organizer for Saturday 8/20

Dave Roush: 440-623-9035 is the Lower Yough trip organizer for Saturday & Sunday 8/20,21

Mark Spang: 440-522-0520 is the Middle Yough trip organizer for Saturday & Sunday 8/20,21

More details to follow on our Message Board. Help will be needed grilling and getting everything ready for the cookout. Please contact Dave ([rockyroush@gmail.com](mailto:rockyroush@gmail.com)) if you are willing to help. Camping/Meeting/Dinner Questions? Call 440-623-9035 or e-mail - Dave Roush

[Tall Oaks Directions via new Mon-Fayette Turnpike](#)

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

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Karl M. Nelson



This is in the vein of the Little Red Hen.

As I am sure you are all aware, we are moving to Alabama to be closer to our grandkids. Unfortunately, I have also decided to forgo the honor of being the club president. But who knows, I may be able to organize a trip with the Birmingham Canoe Club for a northern invasion [think Lower Yough instead of Gettysburg] next summer. Maybe some of y'all will come south for one of the Alabama Cup Races [<http://www.alabamacupraces.com/>].

Dave Roush will continue as VP until the end of his term. However, he is still gainfully employed. He has also been passionate about expanding the Julie Billiard School, a small Catholic K-8 school serving special needs kids exclusively. They bought a building in Akron at the end of June and hope to open for the 2017 school year. This will consume all of his volunteer hours and then some! Dave will not be able to serve as an officer with Keelhaulers.

Chuck McDowell's term as a Trustee is coming to an end. He is also coping with an elderly mother with significant health problems.

In addition to persons volunteering for these leadership positions, there are a number of issues for the Keelhauler members to think about. One is the continuation of the monthly meetings [Sept-Dec; Mar-May] at the Middleburg Heights Community Center. Do such meetings play a role in the

life of the Keelhaulers? Can personal paddling connections be maintained via social media? IMHO, campfire time is crucial.

Someone will need to organize the pool sessions at Orange, Lakewood and Canton.

The trip schedule for 2017 will need to be organized. The trips we all enjoy do not just happen as if by magic. Dennis Dukeman organized the trip schedule for 2016. But he needs people to volunteer to lead trips. The club may be able to survive without a face-to-face meeting at the Middleburg Heights Community Center, but it will not survive without face-to-face meetings at the river. I have lurked on several paddling Facebook groups and can understand their value. There is plenty of paddling (and volunteering) going on that is not on the Keelhauler trip schedule, e.g., the Cuyahoga Falls Race from earlier this year.

I guess what I want to say is that the Keelhaulers have been an important part of my life for the past 16 years with lots of memories and memorable swims. If the Keelhaulers are important to you, then volunteer (**especially if you aren't old enough for an AARP card**) so that the stories will continue.

Auf Wiedersehen

**Keelhauler Meeting Minutes**  
**July 12, 2016**  
**By John Kobak**

We had about 20 attendees that enjoyed the food & drink supplied by the club and brought by Bob Bair. John Kobak cooked the burgers and dogs and it was held in the nice Metro Parks pavilion overlooking the Lake Erie beach.

About half the members brought boats and enjoyed the 90-degree weather.

The other half just came for the picnic. We had one new member, Caleb Fisher, sign up and hopes to get into all types of paddling.

Everyone agreed that Silver Lake is still a nicer venue and we certainly didn't need to reserve the pavilion on a weekday night.

Distant members drove in from Garrettsville, Kent, Cleveland Heights, and Bedford.

**Monthly Treasurer's Report  
By Sam Reynolds**

**Keelhaulers' Canoe Club  
Treasurer's Report - July 23, 2016**

CD 0402	\$2, 278.51
CD 1077	\$2, 276.08
CD 4709	<u>\$2, 256.37</u>
CD'S (3)	\$6, 810.96
Checking	<u>\$5, 328.42</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$12,139.38</u></b>

**A Memorial to Chuck Singer  
By Jane Andraka**

Memorial Day weekend Mountain Streams and Trails guide staff, their families and friends gathered in Albright, WV to celebrate the life of beloved Keelhauler and MS&T guide Chuck Singer and scatter his ashes in the Cheat Canyon as requested by his family

The level was perfect (just below 3') and the rain held off as dozens of kayaks, shredders and duckies took to the river. At High Falls everyone had good lines and eddied out below the rapid. We all raised our paddles high and cheered as Chuck's dear friends videomaster Scott Patton and MS&T river manager Charlie Granigan ran center line, scattering his ashes. Just then a sunbeam broke through the clouds and we remembered one of Chuck's favorite songs 'Centerfield" by John Fogerty that he liked to sing when it was sunny on the river.

Then at Coliseum we planned to run the rapid and eddy out on river right to scatter the rest of the ashes below Recyclotron. He must have enjoyed the

show as a raft landed in the middle of Recyclotron and surfed for 15 minutes, ejecting several rafters who were finally rescued just above Pillow rapid by safety boater Luke Andraka. There were swimmers and kayaks missing eddies and people slipping on the rocks as ropes were deployed - just the kind of river chaos Chuck was so good at handling.

Finally, to much laughter and good-memory sharing his ashes were scattered and the trip continued and although there was one more dynamic shredder back ender in the holes left of Pillow, everyone made it to the take out in one piece.



Morgan Lennon and Chuck Singer

## 50 YEARS OF THE KEEL-HAULERS CONTINUED.....

Still looking for some good club stories from some of the old  
time club members!



## Conservation Issues By Jim Hunt

From American Whitewater:

AW Seeks Flow Restoration On The New River Dries (WV)  
by Kevin Colburn



Immediately downstream of the New River Gorge, a beautiful 5.5-mile section of the New River has been dewatered for generations. Paddlers call this reach the New River Dries, and know it for the huge surf waves that form at high water. The Hawks Nest hydroelectric project removes 10,000cfs from the Dries, leaving only 100cfs except when high flows overwhelm the dam. The relicensing of the dam offers a once-in a lifetime opportunity to restore flows to the New River. American Whitewater filed comments today with federal regulators outlining our vision.

The dam owner originally proposed no flows to replace the natural summer base and pulse flows that their dam eliminates. In response to comments by American Whitewater and paddlers, the dam owner then proposed one 3-day weekend of releases. The dam owner also proposed to continue extremely low base flows, and to provide no river access at either end of the Dries.

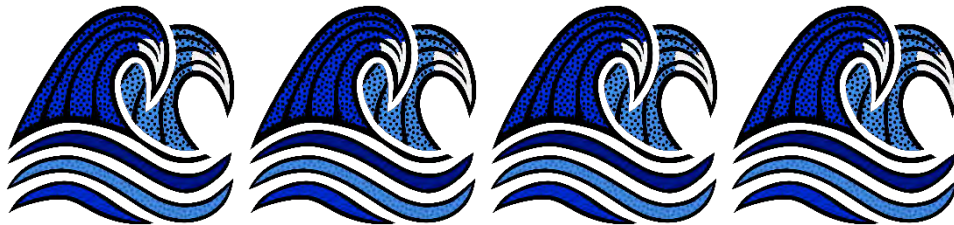
American Whitewater conducted intensive analyses of the hydrology of the New River and has proposed an alternative that will restore some of the paddling opportunities and key ecological values eliminated by the dam. Key elements of the proposal include:

28 days of roughly 2,500 cfs releases in the June-October timeframe.

Significantly higher base flows (boatable in early spring)  
Longer and year-round downramping of flows following big releases (which could help paddlers taking advantage of frequent winter and spring spill flows)  
Vehicle based river access at the put-in and take-out  
A role for paddlers in future decisions  
Flexibility to adapt flows to optimize their values in the future

At flows around 2,500cfs the New River Dries offers a highly scenic Class III whitewater run with ample play, lots of fun technical moves, and a short shuttle. Our proposal would be an outstanding improvement for the ecology of the river, and would support significant commercial and private paddling opportunities.

In our comments we also sought to address the connection between the hydropower project and an alloy plant that uses the unusual frequency of power it generates. We propose creative solutions that would help the plant modernize to reduce or eliminate its reliance on dewatering the New River to operate. We've pitched a win-win proposal, and in the coming months federal regulators will analyze our proposal in a Draft Environmental Impact Statement upon which paddlers will be invited to comment. Then a new license for the dam will be issued, and hopefully, the New River Dries will roar back to life.



From Elaine Marsh at Summit Metro Parks:

July 13, 2016

Dear Friends of the Cuyahoga River and the Gorge Restoration,

Join the City of Cuyahoga Falls, Summit County Council, Summit Metro Parks and the growing list of other partners in the effort to restore a free-flowing Cuyahoga River. Please write a letter of support for the removal of the Gorge Dam.

To date, The Ohio EPA completed several steps in the process. In 2009 and 2011, USEPA conducted studies that showed the dam pool contained 832,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment. In 2015, Ohio EPA commissioned a study on the alternatives and costs of removing the sediment and demolishing the dam. The next phase is to study the

hydrology, the geology and the engineering. In addition, we must secure the needed agreements with potential funding agencies and organizational partners.

You can help.

Our goal is to demonstrate the existing broad support to invest public and private funds into this project which will benefit the region, the state and the Great Lakes Basin. Currently, the dam has no function, supports no jobs and is one of the largest unresolved water quality problems on the Cuyahoga River. Its future is absent any real prospects. By contrast, removing the dam will:

- Restore water quality in the gorge area of the Cuyahoga River
- Improve the health of human and natural resources by removing toxic sediment from the dam pool
- Restore Gorge Metro Park to the historic natural grandeur of its location
- Exhume and restore the Great Falls of the Cuyahoga River
- Amplify land and water-based recreational opportunities related to the dramatic topography of the gorge
- Bolster Northeast Ohio as a tourism destination by linking with other major attractions, CVNP, area Metro Parks, Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail and other institutional magnets
- Showcase the cultural and natural significance of the gorge and its intriguing history
- Create a 2.5-mile white water course for expert paddlers, unique in Ohio
- Support economic development generated from expanded tourism, recreation and education

For your convenience, a template and sample letters are attached. All letters should be directed to Bill Zawski at Ohio EPA. If you have any questions, please contact me. Also, contact me if you would like to schedule a presentation on the Gorge Dam for your organization.

I look forward to working with you on restoring the Gorge of the Cuyahoga River. There are exciting times ahead related to Gorge Dam Removal. I will keep you apprised.

Sincerely,

Elaine Marsh  
Watershed Specialist  
Summit Metro Parks  
975 Treaty Line  
Akron, OH 44313  
emarsh@summitmetroparks.org  
(330)328-3909



**Sample Letter:**

Your Logo Letterhead

Your address

Date

Mr. William Zawiski  
Environmental Supervisor  
Division of Surface Water  
Ohio EPA  
2110 East Aurora Rd.  
Twinsburg, OH 44087

Dear Mr. Zawiski,

(Your organization's name) supports the removal of the Gorge Dam.

(Your organization's name) has fundamental interests in the Cuyahoga River, its water quality and its economic value to the community. (State those aspects of your work and mission that relate.)

We believe the removal of the dam will have very positive benefits. (Note any benefits you believe apply. You may wish to note some of those listed below.)

- Restore water quality in the gorge area of the Cuyahoga River
- Improve the health of human and natural resources by removing toxic sediment from the dam pool
- Restore Gorge Metro Park to the historic natural grandeur of its location
- Exhume the Great Falls of the Cuyahoga River
- Amplify land and water-based recreational opportunities related to the dramatic topography of the gorge
- Bolster Northeast Ohio as a tourism destination by linking with other major attractions, CVNP, area Metro Parks, Ohio & Erie Canal Towpath Trail and other institutional magnets
  - Showcase the cultural and natural significance of the gorge and its intriguing history
  - Create a 2.5-mile white water course for expert paddlers, unique in Ohio
  - Support economic development generated from expanded tourism, recreation and education)

We believe the potential value of removing the dam far exceeds the significant cost of removal and it is a cost-effective use of public and private investment. (State why if you choose.)

(The name of your organization) fully support the removal of Gorge Dam.

Sincerely,

The signature and name of your authorized officer

# FRIENDS OF THE CHEAT



WORKING TO RESTORE, PRESERVE, AND PROMOTE  
THE OUTSTANDING NATURAL QUALITIES OF THE  
CHEAT WATERSHED



Friends of the Cheat hosts the Cheat River Festival every May - and we kindly ask guests to leave their dogs at home. At Pups, Pints, & Pickin' - you can bring the WHOLE family, including the furry ones, for some sun & fun - FOC style! Come support the Cheat River and the Preston County Animal Shelter: Dog lovers! River Lovers! Music Lovers! Art Lovers! We're wrapping it all up into one fun weekend, complete with a beer garden, dog-centered workshops, and live music. Music line-up and website: <http://www.cheat.org/pups-pints-and-pickin/>

## Ticket prices/packages:

Saturday Adult Admission - \$25

Under 18 with an Adult - \$10

"Howl at the Moon" Packages:

Saturday Adult Admission + Saturday Night Camping - \$35

Saturday Adult Admission + Friday & Saturday Night Camping - \$50

Elite Group Camping Package - \$400 (\$100 per person)

4 guests enjoy Saturday Admission, Friday & Saturday Night Camping in a 30x20 reserved shaded space - complete with fire ring, access to private portajohn and sink, and private beer garden entrance. PLUS - 4 merch swag bags. Total worth - \$550.

Volunteer for Pups, Pints, and Pickin' - get free admission and Friday and Saturday night camping. Currently all volunteer positions are available. Email [ellie@cheat.org](mailto:ellie@cheat.org) to sign up!



**JOIN THE FOC RUN FOR IT! TEAM - REGISTER OR DONATE HERE**

### **Calling all runners (and walkers).**

The 2016 RUN FOR IT! race registration is now open! Join the FOC team and you have 2 options: run/walk the race, or help us energize the runners at the FOC [High-Five station](#), located in the middle of the race. Either way, you'll be helping FOC to raise \$\$! If you can't make it to the race, you can also get involved by donating.

RUN FOR IT! is a 2k (1.2M) and USATF-certified 5k (3.1M) race around the scenic mountain town of Davis, WV during the Leaf Peepers Festival. Read more about the race [here](#).

Organized by the Tucker Community Foundation, RUN FOR IT! leverages funds for area causes. The process is a bit confusing - this [chart](#) can help to explain how the race works.

## We can always use more trip organizers

Contact: [Dennis Dukeman](#) . . . . 330-858-6270 Or [John Kobak](#) . . 440-871-1758

August	For More Trips - Check our <a href="#">Message Board</a>			
8/4,11,18,25	Thursday Rolling Practice at Nimisila Reservoir (OH)- 5:30-7:30PM But call Dennis first		<a href="#">Dennis Dukeman</a>	330-858-6270
8/5,6	Upper Yough (MD)	32	<a href="#">Michael Duvall</a>	216-513-5921
8/6,7	(4) TRPC Turkey Bash at Lower Yough <a href="#">Turkey Bash 2016 Info &amp; Forms</a> KHCC members same as TRPC Application deadline: July 23, 2016	23	<a href="#">Joe Marks</a>	216-281-1517 216-533-0604
8/12,13	Upper Yough (MD)	32	<a href="#">Annelies Layton</a>	412-867-9628
8/13,14	(4) Lower Yough (PA) <a href="#">Get Permit</a>	23	<a href="#">Peter Dragon</a>	202-566-2657
8/13,14,27,28	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	<a href="#">Needs organizer</a>	
8/18	(4) Lower Yough - Skip Work Day (PA) <a href="#">Get Permit</a>	23	<a href="#">Jim Hunt</a>	330-335-5203
8/19	Upper Yough (MD)	32	<a href="#">Jim Hunt</a>	330-335-5203
8/19	(4) Lower Yough - Ladies Only Day (PA) <a href="#">Get Permit</a>	23	<a href="#">Debbie Avallone</a>	440-835-2547
8/20	Upper Yough (MD)	32	<a href="#">Michael Duvall</a>	216-513-5921
8/20,21	(4) Lower Yough (PA) <a href="#">Get Permit</a> Call before Thursday at noon.	23	<a href="#">Dave Roush</a>	440-623-9035
8/20	<a href="#">Club Picnic</a> at Tall Oaks (PA)		<a href="#">Dave Roush</a>	440-623-9035
8/20,21	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	<a href="#">Mark Spang</a>	440-522-0520
8/26,27	Upper Yough (MD)	32	<a href="#">Needs organizer</a>	
September	For More Trips - Check our <a href="#">Message Board</a>		<a href="#">Time to Pay Dues</a>	
9/2,3,5	Upper Yough (MD)	32	<a href="#">Jim Murtha</a>	614-282-3293
9/3,4,5	(5) New River Gorge (WV)	27	<a href="#">Phil/Jen Raber</a>	740-498-7063
9/9 to 11	I will coordinate all Camping at Battle Run for Lower & Upper trips (WV)	27-33	<a href="#">John Kobak</a>	440-554-1383
9/9	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	<a href="#">Jim Hunt</a>	330-335-5203
9/10,11	Upper Gauley (WV)	33	<a href="#">Needs organizer</a>	
9/10,11	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	<a href="#">Phil &amp; Jen Raber</a>	740-498-7063
9/9-11	Midwest Freestyle Canoe Symposium Camp Butler 880 W Streetsboro Road Peninsula, OH		<a href="#">Bob and Elaine Mravetz</a>	330-239-1725
9/13	Club Monthly Meeting at <a href="#">Middleburg Hts</a>		<a href="#">Dave Roush</a>	440-623-9035

## 2016 Club Officers

**President:** Karl Nelson 330-497-2483  
**VP:** Dave Roush 440-623-9035  
**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](http://www.keelhauler.org)

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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.

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**Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter! The deadline for the **September** issue of the newsletter is **8/23/16**. Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at [peetzaguy@aol.com](mailto:peetzaguy@aol.com).**

**KeelHauler Kanews**  
**Kelly Miller, Editor**  
**701 Forrest Ave.**  
**Geneva, IL 60134**  
[peetzaguy@aol.com](mailto:peetzaguy@aol.com)

**August, 2016**

