

Keelhauler's Ka-news

DECEMBER, 2016



Next Club Meeting:

Wednesday, December 14th

at Middleburg Hts Community Center, 16000 E. Bagley Rd

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

Program: Holiday Potluck Dinner

Please bring a dish according to the first letter of your last name.

A-E: Salad or Vegetable

F-L: Bread or Appetizer

M-R: Dessert or Fruit

S-Z: Main dish or Casserole

The club will supply beverages, plates and plastic ware.

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

**Congratulations to our new slate of Officers,
and thank you to all who have served in the past!**

President - - - - - John Banach

Vice President - - - - Don Howdyshell

Treasurer - - - - - Sam Reynolds

Secretary - - - - - Marcia Karchmer

Trustee 2015-2017 - - Michael Duvall

Trustee 2016-2018 - - Cliff Wire

Trustee 2017-2019 - - Dave Roush

Who were the [Club Officers](#) in the past 50 years?

Message from the New President By John Banach



Greeting to all members of the Keel Haulers. I'd like to introduce myself as the newly inducted President of our Club. I am honored to hold this position and lead our club into 2017. Since 1967, our club has grown, adapted, and persevered. I feel that one of the greatest values of the Keel Haulers is the broad spectrum our members. From canoeing, SUP, lake, sea, and river kayaking, we all have a zest for life, paddling, and all types of outdoor activities. There really is something for everyone.

A little about me... I was born in New Jersey 39 years ago. Having two parents who were avid canoers, they would take my family on day trips to the Delaware River or local lakes in NJ, PA, and NY. I was hooked on paddling from a very young age. When I was about 9 or 10 years old, I was on vacation up in NY State visiting some family friends. We were invited to go to a whitewater slalom race on a local river. I had never seen a kayak before. I had never seen anyone boat a rapid before. In and out of the gates, ferrying back and forth in their fiberglass cruisers. I said to myself, one day I will be like those guys.

A few years later at a YMCA summer camp in PA, they offered some afternoon lake kayaking instruction. I begged my mom for the \$100 to join the 10 day class. Boy were those Perception Dancers cool. I learned all the basic strokes, learned wet exit and to roll. I even learned to hand roll. I didn't realize it but the class also offered a 2 day trip on the Delaware and Lackawaxen Rivers. A class 2+ trip with three 18 year old guides and seven 12 year old new boaters. I was hooked on my new found sport. Nothing could be cooler than what I was doing. For the next few summer's, I took the same ten day class and trip. Never knowing where that would lead me later in life.

Going to college in the White Mountains of New Hampshire opened up more doors to more rivers. Class in the morning, kayaking in the afternoon. Or vice versa. And sometimes, skipping class and kayaking all day.

After college, I found myself paddling less and less. In my search for a good job I; moved to NY, MA, CT, NJ, and finally Ohio in 2004. My first few years in Ohio my boats almost never left the garage. When they did, it was lake or flat river paddling only. Little did I know there was so much whitewater so close to me. I guess I just wasn't looking hard enough. As work and life consumed me, I paddled less and less, and then almost never at all. Fast forward a few years, I had a house, a wife, a steady and stressful job, and a new baby. I needed an outlet to relax and de-stress. I always thought about getting back into boating.

That is when I found the Keel Haulers! My first experience meeting other club members was at a Pot Luck Christmas party. I showed up and knew no one. I remember everyone looking at me strangely as I was in my suit and tie, just coming straight from work. Never one not to strike up a conversation, I sat down and started asking questions. Only understanding later that at my table was Jim Hunt, Mike Duvall, Cliff Wire, and Marcia Karchner. Listening to their paddling tales and stories over dinner, I knew then and there I was in great company.

The next few years have flown by even faster. Three years with the club and now I paddle as often as I can. I have made paddling a family affair. I get no better joy than being able to enjoy the paddling experience with others. Whether WW kayaking, river or lake canoeing, it's never enough. It has brought my family closer together and made me a better father, a better husband, and a better and more responsible person as a whole. For that I am forever grateful to the club.
Looking forward to 2017.

As your new president, I have lots to catch up on, lot's to tackle, and even more to learn. But more important to me, I have many more members to meet and spend time with. Isn't that why we join a club? One of my goals for 2017 as your president is to try and reach out and meet as many members as I can. To attend as many club functions, races, and gatherings as I possibly can. I have lots to learn and so many great people to meet. There is no manual on how to be the most effective president for the club, I can only promise that I will do my best.

I take this new responsibility seriously. Wait, a paddling club with a serious President? Yes, and I'll tell you why. This club has been around for almost 50 years. This club is the legacy of all of the members before me. I truly value all of their years of service, time, effort, and commitment to keeping the club active. My other goal is to continue to keep the club fun, spirited, and attractive to new prospective members. With your help and support, we can continue to keep the Keel Haulers legacy going for another 50 years.

Thank you all for your support. I look forward to meeting each and every one of you.

SYOTR

John C Banach

**Keelhaulers Minutes
November, 2016**

There was no November meeting, and therefore no minutes.

Has Your Membership Expired?

Has Your Membership Expired?

Our club's 2016 membership year ended on October 1st.
There are still a few members who have not paid their 2017 dues.

Your monthly password e-mail will warn you if this is your last newsletter.

Since I will not be around to get your check until December 16th please try to pay your \$20 on-line using Paypal.

You can use any credit card or a Paypal account and renew using this link:

<http://www.keelhauler.org/EZPay.htm>

OR

If you still want to mail a check please send a \$20 check for your **2017 Membership Dues**

To:

Keel Haulers Canoe Club

1174 Karla Dr

Clinton, OH 44216

To check whether you have paid or not, check this updated file:

<http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/memb/khint.pdf>

This file is password protected for your security.

User Name: "dir" and the current 2016 password found in our monthly newsletter e-mail. If the last column by your name says 6 and not 7, then you are not recorded as paid for 2017.

Jim Hunt is completing the **2017 yearbook & Roster** and there is no reason for you to have incorrect information or not even be listed in the new yearbook. Take a look at all your membership information using this link.

http://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/memb/Members_Allfields.pdf

Note: Your information spans 2 pages.

Only paid-up members will be listed in the yearbook, the cut-off date for new yearbook is 12/26/16.

John Kobak - Membership Chairman

[Where in the World is Kobak Now](#)

50 YEARS OF THE KEEL-HAULERS

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

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

**Keelhaulers' Canoe Club
Treasurer's Report November 26, 2016**

CD 0402	\$2, 281.84
CD 1077	\$2, 279.41
CD 4709	\$ <u> 00</u>
CD'S (3)	\$4, 461.25
Checking	<u>\$11424.34</u>
Total	<u>\$15,985.59</u>

CD 7367 expired and \$2,259.13 was transferred to checking.
The Board will determine the FY17 budget at their next meeting.

**CALL FOR PHOTOS
By Jim Hunt**

Attention all photographers. The Keelhaulers 2017 Yearbook is being compiled and your photos are needed. Photos of boating, club activities, and outdoor landscapes are welcome.

Photos should have been taken at 300 dpi or greater in density and be 1 mb (or larger) or so in file size. The actual dimensions of the photos are not critical. Color or black&white are welcome. With each photo submit: what river/rapid (or landscape or event), who is in the photo, and who took the photo.

Photos can be submitted by e-mail to: jhunt4115@yahoo.com but please limit the size of each e-mail to about 5 mb in size. If you want to submit a bunch of photos, burn them on a CD and mail them to: Jim Hunt, 275 Tolbert St., Wadsworth, OH 44281

Photos are needed by mid-December. E-mail me at the above address with any questions.

Jim Hunt, Yearbook Editor

Conservation News by Jim Hunt

Reprinted from *American Rivers*: **REMOVING DAMS CAN SAVE LIVES**

American Rivers is calling on all federal dam-owning agencies to become more active in removing dams and restoring rivers.

Jessie Thomas-Blate | October 19, 2016



Spoonville Dam on the Farmington River (CT) prior to removal.

Dams fail. It's inevitable and it's happening now.

Just recently, Hurricane Matthew caused widespread flooding and more than 20 dam failures in North and South Carolina.

Rewind one year to October 2015— same place, different storm. One out of every 50 dams regulated by the State of South Carolina failed (plus hundreds of unregulated dams). This was the second most costly environmental disaster in South Carolina's history — \$12 billion. And more devastating than the financial cost is the loss of life (so far 59 people in the U.S.

between the two storms) and destruction of homes and businesses (more than 1 million structures destroyed in Hurricane Matthew).

Fast forward to early October 2016, thousands of people have been evacuated from their homes due to the threat of dam failures in North Carolina. Plugging a hole the size of a truck will require more than a little duct tape.

Part of the problem is that we aren't thinking ahead. Many dams look very formidable. Big walls. Strong. But concrete breaks down over time, especially when subject to the forces of nature. So does brick and mortar. And earthen dams? No doubt.

We need a commonsense approach to managing our infrastructure.

WHY DO DAMS FAIL?

Dam failure can result from any number of issues, including: inadequate spillway design, spillways blocked by debris causing dam overtopping, land use change causing increased runoff, outdated technology and design, changing weather patterns that alter flow rates, defects in the dam's foundation, settlement of the dam crest, internal erosion of the dam caused by seepage (this can happen around pipes, animal burrows, plant roots, other cracks), structural failure of the materials used in dam construction, and/or inadequate maintenance of the structure.

Dams are deteriorating faster than they can be repaired. According to the Association of State Dam Safety Officials, the cost to rehabilitate our nation's dams would be more than \$70 billion (high hazard dams alone would cost \$18.2 billion to rehabilitate).

Meanwhile, state dam safety offices are historically underfunded with a limited number of staff responsible for inspecting hundreds of dams. This tends to result in a focus on only those larger structures that pose a higher risk to life and public and private property should they fail. Smaller structures may be inspected infrequently, if at all, creating a threat to public safety. While many of these dams are "low hazard," that is not the same as no hazard. Failure of small dams has been known to wreak environmental damage and cause significant downstream damage to things like driveways or roads.

There are also social behavior issues surrounding dams, which confound safety concerns. People seem to love to play on, in, and around dams. Paddling, fishing, swimming, sunbathing. It all seems fun until you get sucked into the hydraulic undertow.

THIS IS A HUGE PROBLEM. HOW CAN WE BEGIN TO TACKLE IT?

There are tens of thousands of dams around the country that no longer serve the purpose they were built to provide and whose removal could eliminate the cost and liability associated with owning a dam. Unless they are well maintained, their condition only gets worse every year. The most cost-effective and permanent way to deal with obsolete, unsafe dams is to remove them.

We support modifications to state dam safety programs that increase dam owner responsibility for dam inspections, as recommended by the Association of State Dam Safety

Officials. States that have adopted this approach have been able to ensure that more of their state's outdated and deteriorating dams have safety inspections and that dam owners follow up on the results of those inspections by repairing and maintaining their dams. Owners of dams that no longer function as intended may also find removal more beneficial than the cost of ownership.

Recently, U.S Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell highlighted the critical need to remove obsolete dams to improve the safety of our nation's rivers. In recent years, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) has expanded their technical assistance capacity in some regions, partnering with local groups like American Rivers in the Southeast to provide design and deconstruction assistance on dam removal projects. This effort has grown from a series of small demonstration projects to what is now a highly capable, trained team of demolition experts within the USFWS who are now able to take on a wider diversity of dam removal projects.

Collaborative public-private partnerships like this are incredibly important if we are ever to address the massive number of obsolete dams still clogging our nation's rivers. Increasing the capacity of federal agencies to actively engage in projects helps to reduce the ultimate cost of removal and increases our ability to address the backlog of problem dams.

Ensuring strong state and federal programs for removing outdated dam infrastructure is a commonsense approach for eliminating hazards, increasing resiliency in vulnerable areas, and restoring our rivers for the people, fish, and wildlife that rely on them.

Pictures from Beth Grafin taken Labor Day weekend on the Upper Yough





For Sale



Sale Price \$130,000
 873 BEAVER CREEK DR, BRUCETON MILLS WV 26525
 Centrally located in paddling community - 10 mins from Upper Yough, 30 minutes to Cheat, LBS and 40 mins to Lower Yough. Almost heaven is where you will be in this log cabin nestled on 4 acre lot in West Virginia. Sleeps 5 comfortably. Extensive interior renovations. Enjoy a quiet evening by the fireplace, or a quiet evening enjoying woodland views surrounding the covered front porch. [More Pictures & Information](#)

List Price:	\$130,000	Total Taxes:	\$230
Bedrooms:	2	Full Baths:	1
Year Built:	1993	Renovated:	2006

December	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Last Chance to Pay Dues	
12/3	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-19	Dennis Dukeman	330-858-6270
12/14	Club Holiday Party at Middleburg Hts Community Center		Dave Roush	440-623-9035
January	2017			
1/1	New Year's Day paddle on the (4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063

**Start to plan to be a 2017 trip organizer -
 Pick a trip from last year. Contact: [John Banach](#) 330-606-5032**

2017 Club Officers

President	John Banach	330-606-5032
VP:	Don Howdysell	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 **January issue of the newsletter is **12/20/16**. Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.**

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

December, 2016

