

Keelhauler's Ka-news



MARCH, 2015



Next Club Get-Together

is on March 10th at the Middleburg Heights Community Center
16000 E. Bagley Rd.

Doors open at 7:00p.m., Meeting is at 8:00p.m.

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

Program: The Big Red Dog's Most Excellent European
Adventure-Ireland
By Cliff Wire

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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT By Karl Nelson



Just because it is well below zero, does not mean there are not signs of spring. Seed catalogs have been appearing in my mailbox since well before Christmas. The Bradford pears are in bloom. The redbuds will soon be making their appearance. After the leaves start to come out, the dogwoods will be blooming in the woods and the scent of honeysuckle will be drifting across the landscape. No wait—that is spring in the south. Around here spring is heralded by the musky scent of skunks and the appearance of bags of mulch at the gas station.

The club meetings at the Middleburg Heights Community Center will resume. Cliff Wire will present "The Big Red Dog's Most Excellent European Adventure—Ireland" or at least those portions that can be talked about in mixed company.

There are a number of events this spring. There is the **Vermilion River Cleanup** [15-March] and the **Vermilion River Race** [22-March]. Check the Trip Schedule as those dates appear for updates.

Then there is the **6th Annual Lorain County Metro Parks Kayaking Symposium**. [May 17th 11:00-3:00; Lakeview Park] The Lorain County Metroparks has started planning for their Kayaking Symposium 2015! This year the event will be held on May 17th, 11am-3pm at [Lakeview Park](#), Lorain. This will their 6th annual event. There are local liveries on the beach who provide paddling opportunities for the general public (Great Lakes Kayaking, West River Paddlesports, and LoCo Yaks). The Lorain County Metro Parks also teaches Smartstart Kayaking classes on the beach. Along with the paddle opps, there will be educational displays from local organizations near the Bath House, kid's activities, food vendors, and live music. For more information, contact Jannah Wilson, Senior Naturalist, Vermilion River Reservation, Lorain County Metro Parks, 51211 North Ridge Rd., Vermilion, OH 44089 (440) 967-7310 [jwilson@metroparks.cc]

Treasurer's Report By Pam Poljak

Keelhaulers Canoe Club

Treasurer's Report, 18-Feb-2015

CDs (3)	\$6,771.33
Checking	<u>\$7,379.25</u>
Total	<u><u>\$14,150.58</u></u>

2015 Class IV/V Releases Set For Southeast Submitted by Jim Hunt, from American Whitewater

AW is pleased to share the 2015 schedule of Class IV and V scheduled dam releases for Western North Carolina and North Georgia. American Whitewater and our partners negotiated these releases over the past two decades, and the result is 34 days of outstanding paddling opportunities for advanced paddlers on the Cheoah, Tallulah, Upper Nantahala, and West Fork of the Tuckasegee.

This year a few things will be a bit different. The 2015 summer Upper Nantahala releases will mostly be on Friday evenings to pair with other weekend paddling opportunities and to make the free outfitter shuttles possible (weekends are too busy for them). Also new for 2015 will be expanded parking at the West Fork Tuck put in and a beach. Yes that's right, after your run you'll now be able to catch some rays and take a dip at a new swimming beach across the road from the put in, on Glenville Reservoir.

.April

4/4,5 - Tallulah
4/11,12 - Cheoah, Tallulah
4/18,19 - West Fork Tuck
4/25,26 - Upper Nantahala, Cheoah

May

5/16,17,30,31 - Cheoah
5/23 - West Fork Tuck

June

6/19 - Upper Nantahala
6/20 - West Fork Tuck
6/27,28 - Cheoah

July

7/2,17 - Upper Nantahala
7/4 - West Fork Tuck

August

8/1,22 - West Fork Tuck
8/14 - Upper Nantahala

September

9/12 - Cheoah
9/26,27 - Upper Nantahala

October

10/3 - Cheoah

November

11/7 - Cheoah
11/7,8,14,15,21,22 - Tallulah

Please consider writing a trip report or article for the next newsletter!
The deadline for the **April issue of the newsletter is **3/23/15**. Please**
remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at
peetzaguy@aol.com.

Padding Anyone? By Lisa Brand

On the coldest weekend of the winter, in mid February, Deb Avallone, Jim Hunt, Eric Tucker and I met up at Jim's place in Markleysburg PA. We were laden with good food and drink, hiking boots, snowshoes, hats, mittens, neck warmers, and our very warmest long johns. On Saturday early afternoon we set out for McCune Trail. As we trudged through the woods deer prints were visible cross crossing our path from every angle. We think we also saw coyote prints.



We stopped along the way to explore an old artesian well dating back to the 1800s. The stonework was crumbling higher up the hill but we explored a stone shelter that was mostly intact, protecting the underground spring-fed well where it bubbled up into three stone cisterns. The water then overflowed into a holding pond. There was enough turbulence in the constant flowing water to keep the center of the pond from freezing. Jim claimed that the source was clean enough that we could safely drink the water, and maybe he was right, but given my medical background and therefore my well-trained and deep-seated aversion to waterborne diseases, I wasn't about to hazard a slurp. However, this wasn't the case with Deb's strawberry daiquiris that she offered up later that night.



The thermometer on Sunday morning bottomed out at a bone freezing minus 5 degrees. (More about bottoms later.) Eric cooked up some blueberry banana buckwheat pancakes that we all doused with Canadian maple syrup. After a hearty breakfast and a rise in temperature by a few degrees we set out for the Yough. We hiked the Great Gorge Trail from Fernwood to Cucumber Falls to the Slides.

The trail was quiet, haunting; a stark white ice and snow covered landscape that silhouetted the bare brown branches of trees and shrubs. Again, we saw plenty of deer prints. We think we also saw some bobcat prints but the kitty never made an appearance so we leave that up to speculation. The going was tough due to sheets of ice. When I suddenly stepped through a deceptively thin spot, camouflaged with heaps of snow, I watched my boot disappear into dark ice-chunky freezing cold water. Remembering that my foot was attached to that boot, though that was a purely academic thought by then since I couldn't feel it, I hastily stepped onto thicker ice and continued hiking. It was bitter cold. We were all in high spirits.

My new wool boxers were taking their maiden voyage and I can happily report that they passed the Tush Test with flying colors. And I do mean flying. On the slipperiest slopes I geared up my butt brakes and flew down on my bum. That was the safest and most efficient way to travel; entirely first class. I believe I accumulated some well-earned frequent flyer miles.



The waterfall feeding Cucumber Rapids was startling beautiful as if in a dance en pointe, with glittering white ice gracefully gliding in frozen arcs from top to bottom and back again. By comparison, the river was a slush of brown icy water in constant hip-hop- moves-and-funky-grooves motion. Had I been in my kayak I think I would have been frozen into my seat within seconds, reduced to a veritable wall flower, unable to move a muscle, much less roll ... or dance. Just the thought made me shiver. I can't wait to think back on this day in several months when I'm happily splashing down the Yough enjoying the summer sun with friends.



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

Spring is here and so is the 47 Annual Vermilion River Canoe and Kayak Race. Below is a link to the Keel Haulers Canoe Club web site to get a race application and rules for the race.

[Vermilion Race 2015](#)



Vermilion Race 2015

Keel-Haulers 2015 Vermilion River Race
March 22nd; 47th Annual Vermilion River
Race, OH This is the club's 47th annual
race, one of the ...

View on
www.keelhauler.org

Preview by Yahoo

Hope to see you there.
Jon Reising 1-440-967-9507

Keel Haulers 47th Annual Vermilion River Canoe/Kayak Race



15 Classes

Sunday March 22, 2015

10:30 a.m. Shoepfle Gardens


Birmingham, Ohio

Extra Roll Sessions Marcia Karchmer, Seakayak Chair

Indoor roll classes are available from 41 North Coastal Kayak Adventures.
Call 1-866-529-2541. This is in Rocky River, Ohio.

<http://www.kayak41north.com/eventList.aspx?SectionID=3&CategoryId=7>

Cleveland Metroparks is offering Kayaking 1 lessons on Feb. 19: 6-9 pm and Kayaking 2 classes (advanced paddle strokes and deep water re-entry rescue techniques), Feb. 26: 6-9 pm, both at Baldwin Wallace College 136 E. Bagley Rd. Berea for \$40-\$45. Cut-off to sign up is Feb. 18. Call Outdoor Recreation: 216-341-1704 or go to www.clevelandmetroparks.com.

March	For More Trips - Check our Message Board			
3/7,8	(3) Slippery Rock Creek (PA)	13-19	Brent Hendren	330-414-2063
3/7,14	KH Roll Session at Lakewood pool - 3:00-5:00 pm		Karl Nelson	330-497-2483
3/10	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts		Karl Nelson	330-497-2483
3/14-22	Southern Rivers - TN, NC	22-32	Dave Herron	513-681-4075
3/15	(1) Vermilion River Cleanup (OH)	SK/FW	Jon Reising	440-967-9507
3/15	(3) Cuyahoga River, Upper or Lower Gorge (OH) Water Level dependent	20-28	Needs organizer	
3/21	KH Roll Session at Orange pool - 4:00-6:00 PM		Dave Roush	440-623-9035
3/22	(1) Vermilion Race (OH)  Alternate Date 3/29	SK/FW	Jon Reising	440-967-9507
3/28,29	WV Class V Creeking	>30	John Garcia Brent Laubaugh	440-777-6077 724-272-6944
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

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.

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The deadline for the April issue of the newsletter is 3/23/15. Please
remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at
peetzaguy@aol.com.

KeelHauler Kanews
Kelly Miller, Editor
1515 Fox Chase Dr.
Sewickley, PA 15143
peetzaguy@aol.com

March, 2015

