

Keelhauler's Ka-news



NOVEMBER, 2016



**No Club Meeting Tuesday, November 8th.
It has been cancelled.**

Next Club Party:

Wednesday, December 14th

*at Middleburg Hts Community Center 16000 E.
Bagley Rd*

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

Program: Holiday Potluck Dinner

More details to follow....

All meetings are open to guests so 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 Howdysell

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?

**2017 Membership Dues are Overdue
By John Kobak**

2017 Membership Dues are Overdue

All club memberships end on October 1st each year.

Our club now has almost 300 family memberships in 22 states.

But only about half have renewed their 2017 membership so far.

So, if you haven't gotten around to it, **DO IT TODAY!**

I will be traveling and unable to receive your check after November 10th.

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

1649 Allen Dr

Westlake, OH 44145-2506

But remember if I don't get your check by 11/10/16 you may not be listed in the 2017 Yearbook & Roster.

To check whether or not I have received your renewal, 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.

John Kobak - Membership Chairman

**Keelhaulers Minutes
October 11, 2016
By Marcia Karchmer, Secretary**

Present: 12 Members

New Business:

Officer slate accepted.

Treasurer's Report: \$12,550 total funds; C.D.'s are expiring, money will be returned to bank account for decision on investment.

Mike Johnson: asks that the club consider sponsoring sending an early teen/ high school student to Keener's Wilderness Tours camp in Canada, offering contributions toward the \$3,000 fee. Mike asked by President, Dave Roush, to write up requirement suggestions,

such as GPA, activities, Passport need, and Keelhauler Club affiliation. to be presented in the next meeting.

Don Howdyshell shared his September 25 organization of a Cuyahoga River clean-up before the river race: Portage Trail, Bridge to Brentwood Tavern, up/downriver from 2 dams. This occurred after the National Public Lands clean-up. Thank you Don for all your valuable effort!

Roll sessions at Lakewood and Orange are set up. See the Keelhauler website.

Program: John Kobak

Jon gave a slide show of his and Peggy's winter trip to South Carolina and Florida in their motor home. They camped in central Florida, Jekyll Island, Ocala, Ocean Pond Reserve, the Okefenokee Swamp and the Everglades. The National and State Forests do not require reservations and are less crowded! The rivers, wildlife and terrain were beautiful. Thank you, John, for this wonderful presentation!

Next meeting: December 14th, Middleburg Hts. Community Center. Christmas Pot Luck

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Karchmer, Secretary

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

**Keelhaulers' Canoe Club
Treasurer's Report October 24, 2016**

CD 0402	\$2, 281.17
CD 1077	\$2, 278.74
CD 4709	<u>\$2, 258.35</u>
CD'S (3)	\$6, 818.26
Checking	<u>\$7, 204.81</u>
Total	<u>\$14,023.07</u>

Frank's Keen Adventure By Frank Johnson

This year was definitely life changing. I feel like the luckiest kid in the world to get the unexpected chance to attend the Keener's program. For those who don't know about the Keener program, it's a youth development and leadership program where you spend three weeks with professional white water kayakers on the mighty Ottawa river in Canada, that's home to some world class whitewater features. In fact the 2015 Freestyle Whitewater Kayaking Worlds was held on the most famous wave there called Garb.

Getting this opportunity to attend this program would have never have been financially possible for someone like me and it's kinda of a crazy story how this all came about. It all can be traced back to a post I made on a paddling page on Facebook asking if anyone had a Jackson Rockstar for sale.

At the time I was out growing my Liquidlogic playboat and was in the browsing stage for finding a used boat that would fit me. Being a kid and all, I couldn't afford to buy my dream boat which was a 2016 Jackson Rockstar, so I was at least hoping to find a 2014 model or so. After a little while there was a comment from Catherine Flemming about a boat. So I messaged her back. She said her boyfriend paddles for Jackson and has a 2016 competition Rockstar for sale and he would be willing to sell it to me to help me out.

At this point I was thinking this had to be a scam. Anyways I continued the conversation hoping that this was actually real. After asking so many questions about the boat she gave me his name Stephen Wright and told me to message him. So I did and after scrolling through his Facebook I suddenly realized this is actually happening and a professional kayaker is going to sell me his boat! I quickly called my uncle with the exciting news and he really didn't believe me, and I couldn't blame him.

At the time I had a profile picture of me going over a pretty awesome waterfall in PA. So it would have been pretty hard to tell how old I was and Catherine was kinda wondering why I had to ask my uncle about buying the boat first because she didn't realize that I was a kid. So I told her I am still a kid and that I was only 15 years old then she suddenly became more excited. They were able to give me a pretty sweet deal helping me out and within a few weeks before I knew it, I had my dream boat! Several times Catherine mentioned the Keener program and I was pretty interested but I knew my dad wouldn't pay that much for me to go on a kayaking trip. Then in the spring I had some unexpected news.

It was just a typical day but something seemed a little odd when my uncle came over. I was told to go to my room which pretty much never happens unless I am getting into major trouble. Just like any other kid my age would have done, I eavesdropped. I could only make out a few words like insurance, cards, Stephen, and Catherine. This seemed pretty odd because this was my start of my third year kayaking and my uncle is just now worried about my insurance?

Later I ended up finding out that Catherine had started a fundraiser to get me into the Keener's program. At this moment my mouth just dropped and I became speechless. Literally jumping around the house with the strongest feeling of joy I have ever felt. I couldn't help but to message Catherine right away thanking her for doing this. I am still to this day surprised how many people I know who came forward and donated to this "Go Fund Me" account that she had set up. This soon left me counting down the days until I would get a chance to leave the country for my first time and it's for a kayaking trip!

As I counted down my days I couldn't help but to Google as much as I could about this program. This left me with excitement and a little anxiety. Not just the fact that I would be paddling some enormous white water but I would be living for three weeks with approximately twenty other kids that I had never met before.

After going through the hassle of getting my passport I found myself in my uncle's car driving over ten hours up into Canada on a Sunday morning. The car ride seemed to be endless but slowly the hours passed and I couldn't stop thinking about what to expect. I probably drove my uncle nuts with my endless talking on the way up but he seemed to be ok still by the time he dropped me off.

The first day upon arriving at Keeners was a very interesting day. I received a tour around the place we call Keener Ville which is located right on the Ottawa River where I would be staying for the next three weeks. One by one and occasionally a van load of kids from twelve to eighteen started to show up. Everyone seemed pretty nice and we had people ranging all across the east coast from New York to Florida in our session. We also had several Canadians and four New Zealanders. Over the three week period it was pretty cool to hear what type of rivers everyone paddled at home and to hear their story of what got them into kayaking. Little did I know how much fun we would all end up experiencing together.



(Group shot of everyone in session 1.)

The Ottawa River splits into two sections after McCoy's Rapid. These two sections are the Main Channel and the Middle Channel. Each channel doesn't contain very many rapids but there's so much to do it never gets old. The Middle Channel is the easiest channel but does contain the rapid Dragons Tongue which is an intimidating rapid considering you can break your boat if you're one foot off your line. This rapid is typically portaged because it's

normally too dry to run but luckily for my session some of us who decided to run the Middle Channel were able to because the water level the first week was high enough.



(Me running Dragon's Tongue)

The water level was four feet and dropping which is considered high compared to the normal summer flows that are below zero. Keep in mind that the Ottawa River is a very unique river that has insanely huge waves during the spring when the water level is twenty feet plus. The best surf waves were on the Middle channel instead of the Main for our first week. In the normal summer flows you would have Garb and Push button being the two main attractions besides Baby Face. Instead those features were washed out until week two resulting in most of us paddling the Middle several times for the first week. The Main Channel at this level was mostly huge green waves with one good play spot on the entire river where we practiced as much as possible.



(Garb being washed out the first week.)

At the Keener program we didn't just train to do tricks in our playboats. Every day was varied, whether it was where you surfed or what you did. Some of the certifications we had to leave the program knowing was our Standard first aid and CPR/AID and Swiftwater Rescue. We took these on the first weekend and week two's Monday and Tuesday. On the weekend we had the freedom to paddle or rest. Mondays and Tuesdays were more of a training day where we would surf features and just simply enjoy the river. Other days we would do all types of things like racing events on "Race Day Wednesday" where we raced through the rapids timing each other and "Freaky Fresh Freestyle Friday" or also known as "Competition Friday". Competition Friday was a day where we record a freestyle event among the Keeners and then at the end of the day we would watch the footage scoring each other using the ICF scoring chart. On "Big Water Bacon Beatdown Thursday" we would drop into holes at McCoy's Rapid trying to get the best beatdown, intentionally losing control.



(My first time dropping into right side Phils I went for the tuck kind of entry.)

Thursdays were mainly focused on overcoming your fears. In the McCoy's Rapid "Phil's Hole" was the main spot. This hole has granted lots of paddlers their glory by repeatedly thrashing them and providing amusement for their friends as they see their friend getting destroyed trying to ride the beast. I have taken some pretty nice beatdowns in this hole and occasionally swam out. What's really great about the Ottawa River is that it's extremely safe.

Besides the Ottawa River having some extremely huge waves and holes there's not a lot of hazards. There are a few shallow places that you wouldn't want to find yourself but there are really no undercut rocks or pinning spots to be found. If you were to swim one of the rapids there's plenty time to recover before the next. This is what makes the Ottawa such a great learning ground and the best place for a program like this.

The Keener program has definitely changed who I am as a paddler and a person. As a paddler I have progressed in expanding my comfort zone and techniques. One of the things that we did to just about every rapid was to scout it. When scouting the rapid Stephan had

us take many things into consideration so we can make it as fun and safe as possible. Things we would look for are the rocks and how they look along the shore because that would serve as an example to what's under the water. Then we would look at the potential hazards like holes, rocks, and strainers. From there, after looking at the hazards, we would come up with our various lines. You would have to be able to see it once you got back into your boat so you would have to look for key features to guide yourself down the river. These features can be certain waves that you want to key off of. A strategy like this is what all kayakers should use.

Before this program I would be nervous about choosing my own line and now I have enough confidence to do it myself. At the Gauley Fest this year I successfully used this technique choosing my own line going in and out of the Room of Doom. I know a lot of people have run that rapid but I found features that I wanted to be by and guided myself down without following anybody.

As a person I think it has made me better in several ways. I have noticed I have become more responsible, confident, thoughtful, and encouraging for others. Also one thing I definitely have taken from this program besides on the river skills is that I am not as afraid of public speaking as I use to be. This comes from speech night which is held every Monday. Speech night honestly had me worried quite a bit because sometimes you had to make up your speech on the spot and with me not being much of a social person I got pretty nervous but then I realized it wasn't so bad. In reality there's just so much that you end of taking out of this program you don't even realize it. This wouldn't have been possible without being around kids my age and the coaches who are enthusiastic about kayaking.

I could go on forever about so many things we did at Keeners. I would highly recommend the program for any parent who has a child who's really passionate about kayaking. This program is so far one of the best things that has happened to me. Thanks again to everyone who made this experience possible. You have changed my life in such a positive way that I will never forget.



50 YEARS OF THE KEEL-HAULERS

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

Indoor Pool Sessions for 2016-2017

We will have four pool locations near Cleveland, OH - East ([Orange](#)), West ([Lakewood](#)) & South ([Canton](#) or , [Akron](#))

Roll Instruction: Please use [KHCC Message Board](#) to find persons willing to provide instruction. The forum is also a good place to find folks with loaner kayaks and gear

Sea kayak rescue practice: Clean Sea Kayaks are welcome at both Lakewood and Orange High School pools

For more information contact John Banach j_banacka@hotmail.com 330-606-5032

Orange High School Pool Roll Sessions - 2016-17

Four sessions are scheduled for this Winter, Saturday afternoons 1/21, 2/4, 2/18, 3/11 - 4 PM to 6 PM

Pool time starts at 4:00pm and ends promptly at 6:00pm. We must shower and be out of the building by 6:15pm. A charge of \$7 per person per session (\$6 for Orange School District residents) covers the use of the pool. **All participants at Orange MUST complete a [registration form](#)** with emergency contact information prior to entering the pool area. So print one and fill it out before you arrive.

Directions to Orange High School Pool

The Orange High School Pool is on the south side of Chagrin Boulevard, between Lander and SOM Center Roads. It is two miles east of the Chagrin exit off I-271 (which is just north of the I-271 and I-480 interchange). From I-271 take the Chagrin boulevard exit and head east. At the Lander Road turning circle stay on Chagrin Boulevard by taking the second road right. The school will be about one-half mile on the right side of the road. [Map to Orange HS](#)

The pool is in the west end of the building. You can see it through the two-story-high windows. Park along the west end of the building. There is a very wide concrete pad leading to a double set of glass doors on the pool deck. If you arrive early, drop your boats on the concrete pad and go inside and wait until we are permitted to bring boats into the pool area.

Kayak Roll Sessions

Work on your Eskimo roll in the comfort of our heated pool so you will be ready for the river this spring. Participants must bring their own boats (clean boats only, please) and gear. **Helmets are required** for anyone entering the pool. There are experienced boaters on hand to give pointers to new kayakers. Enter the pool area through West pool deck doors starting at 3:50pm. Participants must fill out a registration form & pay before being allowed to enter

the water. Please bring exact change each day.

Cancellation Policy

If winter driving conditions are bad, the session may be canceled. When Orange Community Education and Recreation is closed, information is typically on local television and radio stations. We will also try to post closings on the Hotline at 216-556-4659 and our [Message Board](#).

For more information contact Dave Roush rockyroush@gmail.com 440-623-9035

Lakewood High School Pool Roll Sessions - 2016-17

Six sessions are scheduled this Winter, 12/17, 1/28, 2/11, 2/25, 3/4 -3:00 to 5:00PM Saturday Pool time starts at 3:00 PM and ends promptly at 5:00 PM. Cannot enter the building until 2:50 PM. All must shower and be out of the building by 5:15pm. A charge of \$6 per person per session covers the use of the pool. Please remember **helmets are required**.

Directions to Lakewood High School Pool

Lakewood High School is at 14100 Franklin Blvd., the pool is located in the back of the High School, so entering at the Robinwood Ave. entrance is easiest, especially when coming from I-90. Exit from I-90 at the Bunts Rd./W 140th St. Exit and head north on Bunts to Madison Ave. Turn left on Madison Ave. and head one block to Robinwood Ave. Take a right on Robinwood Ave., which dead ends into the pool entrance. Kayaks should be brought through the delivery entrance/emergency exit, which is located just to the east of the Robinwood entrance. Pool staff will be stationed at the delivery entrance to assist you. Cannot enter the building until 2:50 PM. [Map to Lakewood HS](#)

Cancellation Policy

If Lakewood High School pool is closed, that information will likely be available on the pool's voicemail at (216) 529-4014 or see our [Message Board](#).

For more information contact Karl Nelson karlnelsonphdcip@gmail.com - - 330-497-2483

For Lakewood Pool information contact Matt Demaline - Aquatics Manager
Matt.Demaline@lakewoodcityschools.org - - 216-529-4081

Meyers Lake YMCA Pool Roll Sessions - 2016-17

Sessions are now scheduled for **every Sunday starting 11/27 to 2/26** for Meyers Lake YMCA Pool in Canton, OH. 11/27, 12/4, 12/11, 12/18, 1/8, 1/15, 1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12, 2/19, 2/26. Possible 3/5 and 3/12 if winter is still strong and rivers are frozen.

Sunday Pool Session start at 8:45am and end promptly at 10:45am. The YMCA has agreed to open the back door at 8:30am to allow us time to bring in our kayaks/gear.

A charge of \$5-\$7 per kayak/person per session should cover the use of the pool.

Directions to Canton Meyers Lake YMCA Pool

The Meyers Lake YMCA is located at 1333 North Park Ave NW in Canton. Easily located 1 mile west of I-77 using the 13th St exit. Turn Right on Park Street and you can't miss the YMCA on the building. If you see the lake on your right you have gone too far.

Meyers Lake YMCA

There are a few simple guidelines to follow. All boaters will bring their kayaks/gear through the back door. All kayaks and gear must be clean before getting to the YMCA. No seal launching. It is important that all kayaks are out of the YMCA building immediately after the session ends, take your kayak out the back door to the parking lot then proceed with showers and changing. Please pay me (or designated person) at the end of each session. Please remember **helmets are required**.

Format for the Canton Roll Sessions will remain as in the past, first hour roll practice second hour kayak soccer.

Cancellation Policy

Please check the Keel-Haulers [Message Board](#) the morning of a session, a post will be there in the event the YMCA needs to cancel.

For more information contact John Banach j_banacka@hotmail.com 330-606-5032

Akron University Pool Roll Sessions

2016-2017 not announced yet.

General Pool Rules

The sessions are unstructured, providing plenty of time to practice at your own pace. There is no formal instruction. However, there are always club members on hand who are happy to demonstrate and provide assistance to other club members. If you want help with your roll, just ask a club member.

Hand paddles will be available for learning hand rolls.

To maintain a good relationship with the Orange & Lakewood, Canton or Akron, there are a few rules to observe.

1. **All boats must be clean.** Remove the air bags and wash the boat, inside and out. Do this at home. Dirty boats are not allowed in the pool.
2. Sessions are open to the general public. For those interested, club membership forms will be available at the door. Annual club dues are only \$20 per family. Click to [Join Our Club](#)
3. The roll session at Orange High School is preceded by an Open Swim session. If you arrive early, please wait outside the building with your boats until the Open Swim session ends at 4:10 PM. Please bring in boats through the back emergency exit, which will open at 4:10 PM.
4. Please sign in and pay the lifeguard/manager upon entering the pool. **Please bring exact change.**
5. We must avoid damage to the facilities and especially the pools' tiled surfaces. Remove metal rudders from sea kayaks. Do not bring aluminum canoes. **Do not launch off the deck of the pool** -- enter your boat while it is sitting

in the water.

6. The pool becomes crowded. In the interest of safety, neither free swimming nor diving is allowed. All children under the age of 18 must be supervised at all times by a paying adult.

7. **Helmets will be required**, whether you are in a boat or standing in the water helping someone. This is for your own safety.

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.

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

[More Pictures & Information](#)

November	For More Trips - Check our Message Board		Pay Dues Now	
11/5	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-19	Needs organizer	
11/8	Club Monthly Meeting at Middleburg Hts-CANCELLED		Dave Roush	440-623-9035
11/12,13	(4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	Katie & Joe Boyd	740-632-6725
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

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 **December issue of the newsletter is **11/23/16**. 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

November, 2016

