

# Keelhauler's Ka-news SEPTEMBER, 2015



## Next Club Meeting Tuesday, September 8th

*Doors open at 7:00 PM, Meeting is at 8:00 PM  
at the Middleburg Hts. Community Center, 16000 E. Bagley Rd.*

**Program: Cliff Wire will do a presentation about his trip to the Grand Canyon.**

[Map to Middleburg Hts Meeting](#)

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

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT By Karl M. Nelson



During the course of the year, there are certain events that one looks forward to with eager anticipation. Dates when one gets to unwrap presents are especially anticipated. The August Lower Yough Four Day Marathon is one of those highly anticipated events. Even though I was only able to make 3 of the 4 days, it was a hoot—three days of bright sunshine, warm water, and a regular armada of old (as in long time but old is also an accurate description) friends and soon to be regular Lower Yough paddlers. It was nice that the Falls Race was not the same weekend.

Ladies Day saw 8 Ladies and one visiting “video boater.” Our video boater was Eric Marksz, Eric was home for only a few days before heading off to graduate school and decided to spend the time paddling with his mom. Ladies Day proved to be a long day with another river accident that resulted in a paddler having to be evacuated. A very apologetic kayaker came out from the blind eddy on river right at Bottle of Wine at the wrong time and caught one of the Lady kayakers right in her sternum. Jackie Blackwood was also in the river right eddy and recognized things were not as they were supposed to be. Nurse Debbie recognized Nurse Jackie had gone into Oh Shit Nurse mode and quickly paddled up to lend assistance. A guided raft trip came past and lent assistance. They radioed the Park Service for help and helped get Nancy and her boat to the biker trail on river left across from Jump Rock. Nancy’s family took her to Somerset Hospital where she spent the night being monitored for possible complications of a fractured sternum (breast bone). No kayaking for her for the rest of the season. Many thanks to the Wilderness Voyagers guides who lent assistance.

With a large group, there might have to be some discussion about who is going where. For people wanting to surf out of the blind river right eddy, it may be prudent to have traffic control in the eddy below the boof rock.

Sometime during the 2014 Tall Oaks picnic, Dave Roush reserved the large pavilion and surrounding sites at Tall Oaks for 2015. The picnic at Tall Oaks has turned into the Keelhaulers Family Reunion—but without the T-shirt. Despite my reputation at home of being able to turn raw meat into a hockey puck, I was entrusted with the position of Master Griller. Part of my success was due to the long line of hungry boaters who snatched meat from the grill well before it was long past well done. The motto for next year is: More Pies! Less Chips!

With respect to October elections, Sam Reynolds has agreed to be Treasurer. The following is the slate of officers for the next year. Thanks to everyone who has served!

President	Karl M. Nelson
Vice-President	Dave Roush
Treasurer	Sam Reynolds
Secretary	To Be Determined
Trustee 2016-2018	To Be Named

**Yough River August Marathon Weekend  
And Keelhauler Meeting  
by Jim Hunt**

For the past few years KHCC has held the August club meeting near Ohio Pyle to give paddlers a chance to get together after a day of paddling. Each year the event has growing in scope and the number of paddlers.

This year the event spanned four days and involved over 50 paddlers. The weather was perfect and the water levels low but OK.

The weekend began on Thursday August 13<sup>th</sup> with the Skip Work/Slackers trip on the Lower Yough, organized by Jim Hunt. After getting off to a late start, 15 paddlers slowly worked their way down the Lower. Long stops were made for lunch and at swimmers. A few swims and one head knock but nothing else too exciting. Afterward, dinner at the Falls Pub.



#### **Lunch stop on the Lower**

Next up on Friday was the Ladies Trip on the Lower organized by Debbie Avallone and the Upper trip organized by Jim Hunt. Around 12 ladies paddled the Lower but only 5 showed up for the Upper. In addition, the guys had a Lower trip too - sort of organized by Dave Roush. The only big excitement was a medical evacuation from the Ladies trip.

Saturday had another 4 or 5 trips. The Lower had Karl Nelson as the leader, the Middle had Mark Spang, and the Upper had Michael Duvall. There were also a few extra Lower trips in addition to Karl's trip and an additional Upper trip. There was also the slalom race practice at Ramcat on the Middle attended by Jenn and Phil plus Steve Ingalls. It's hard to say how many people paddled Saturday but I would guess 50 or so based on the cookout attendance.

Saturday evening was the club cookout at Tall Oaks. Master chef Karl Nelson cooked away while all kinds of food and drinks were served. At least 50 people attended and most camped that night at Tall Oaks around the pavilion used for the cookout. The evening entertainment was "Are You Smarter Than a 5<sup>th</sup> Grader" card game – it appears most paddlers are NOT.

Sunday brought Slalom Races at Ramcat, more Lower trips and another Middle trip.

It was a great weekend with lots of paddlers enjoying all the sections of the Yough and of course the annual club cookout. Planning for next summer's event is already underway.

**Treasurer's Report  
By Pam Poljak**

**Keelhaulers Canoe Club  
Treasurer's Report, 23-August-2015**

CDs (3)	\$6,773.90
Checking	<u>\$5,065.69</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$11,839.59</b>

**It's that time again.....**

All club memberships expire on **October 1st**. As soon as you can, please mail a \$20 check for your 2016 membership dues. To:

**Keel Haulers Canoe Club  
1649 Allen Dr  
Westlake, OH 44145-2506**

Or pay \$20 using Paypal. Use this link to pay:

<http://keelhauler.org/thanks.htm>

You can review your current membership listing, using this link:

<http://keelhauler.org/khcc/members.htm>

User Name: "dir" and the current 2015 password found on pg 20 of our 2015 yearbook or see the passwords sent out in our monthly e-mail.

If you need to change any information use this form:

[http://keelhauler.com/khcc\\_registration.htm](http://keelhauler.com/khcc_registration.htm)

To renew your membership you do not have to fill out an application, you only need to send your dues payment and any changes to your membership information.

Please encourage any of your non-member paddling friends to join/rejoin the club. The club offers a lot, to paddlers of all skill levels, at less than the price of a tank of gas to go paddling.

John Kobak

## River Hydropower Article donated by Jim Hunt

From: American Rivers

States, Tribes Lose Big In Federal Hydro 'Power Grab'

John Seebach

July 31st, 2015 | Dams & Dam Removal, Hydropower, River Restoration, Take Action

The hydropower industry is attempting a stunning power grab that would make it difficult— if not impossible— to ensure fish passage and other modern improvements to dams, and would eliminate the authority of states and tribes to negotiate for changes to dam licenses that benefit their communities and local waterways. These changes would upset nearly a century's worth of balance between the competing users of our nation's waterways.

Make no mistake: if the hydropower industry is successful, Congress will enact new legislation that would upend the balance that currently exists between dam owners and state and community stakeholders. Instead, hydropower dam owners get primacy over our nation's rivers. In addition, the legislation being considered by the House Energy and Commerce Committee and Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee would give tremendous new powers to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), a federal energy-permitting agency. In effect, Congress would take power away from state and local agencies that are directly accountable to the public, and give it to an agency that isn't.

States and tribes should take note. The legislation also creates loopholes that allow hydropower dam operators to avoid having to comply with the Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act, leaving downstream communities to bear the costs of resulting environmental damage, including pollution cleanup costs.

Our rivers and river communities will be hurt by this legislation, which would strip states of their power to hold dam owners accountable for pollution and damage to local rivers and economies.

Existing law allows states, natural resource agencies, and tribes to advocate for the needs of local communities and waterways during the dam relicensing process. This proposed legislation weakens or eliminates those authorities, which is why states from Maryland to California oppose it. The legislation is also opposed by the Association of State Fish and Wildlife Agencies, which represents the interests of all 50 states.

Existing law requires FERC staff to follow strict rules when communicating with dam owners. This legislation would allow dam owners to have backroom, off-the-record conversations with FERC officials with minimal disclosure and public notice only after the conversation has taken place.

Existing law allows states and federal natural resource agencies to put license conditions on dams that protect local communities and wildlife. This legislation would allow dam owners to petition FERC to reopen licenses they've previously agreed to in order to retroactively alter or cancel conditions requested by states to protect local communities. It places FERC's judgment

about how to protect commercial fishing stocks ahead of that of the National Marine Fisheries Service, and it puts FERC's judgment about how to protect national parks ahead of that of the National Park Service. Local voices and the needs of local communities have been at the center of water resource decisions since Americans first started negotiating water rights centuries ago. This legislation upends nearly four centuries of water law and precedent by placing FERC's authority above local communities and states when it comes to protecting water quality.

Existing law is effective in promoting transparency and ensuring balance between stakeholders. In fact, the hydropower industry hasn't demonstrated or provided any evidence that changes to the law will do anything but consolidate power over the nation's rivers and streams into their hands, giving them priority over anglers, farmers, boaters, and the families and businesses that depend on healthy rivers and clean water.

Healthy rivers are essential to the health and well-being of our communities. Hydropower dams have major impacts on river health, clean water, and wildlife. For more than 90 years, we've been able to achieve balance between healthy rivers and hydropower production because local stakeholders, including states and tribes, have had seats at the decision-making table. The public's right to enjoy their rivers for recreation, drinking water, agriculture, and their natural beauty is absolutely compatible with responsible electricity production, but balance cannot be achieved unless states, tribes, natural resource agencies, and local communities keep their seats at the table. Congress should act on the bipartisan concerns of states across the nation, and join with the more than 100 conservation and recreation groups in opposing this reckless legislation.

<http://act.americanrivers.org/page/s/hydropower-grab>

## Free Style Canoeing

Dear Fellow Paddler,

My name is Marc Ornstein. As a representative of the FreeStyle Committee of the American Canoe Association I'd like to introduce you and your organization to FreeStyle Canoeing. Attached is a brief brochure, explaining who we are, what we do and how we can be of benefit to you and your members. Also attached is a poster about our upcoming Pine Barrens Symposium.

I'd appreciate it if you would re-post this information on your website at meetings or anyplace else where you feel your members would see it.

I'd like to occasionally, keep you informed about other upcoming events.

Feel free to contact me for further information about FreeStyle Canoeing or to visit our website, [www.freestylecanoeing.com](http://www.freestylecanoeing.com).

Thanks for your time,  
Marc Ornstein, Promotions and Publicity Chair, Freestyle Committee  
American Canoe Association



# FREESTYLE CANOEING

## A NATIONAL ACTIVITY COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN CANOE ASSOCIATION

Dear Fellow Paddler,

Members of the FreeStyle community enjoy sharing-through competition, demonstrations and teaching-the basic skills used to efficiently and gracefully paddle both tandem and solo canoes.

FreeStylers refer to paddle skill development as *obedience training for the canoe*. With the development of proper paddle handling and placement, they promise that any canoe will learn to respond with precision and grace.

Freestyle Canoeing is an activity committee of the American Canoe Association. Each year members of the committee organize symposiums and workshops around the country. Each of these events include

- Paddling instruction for the Novice
- Tuning classes for the experienced
- Special skills development workshops
- Demonstrations and Competitions in both Solo and Tandem Canoeing

Classes are small, with no more than 5 students per instructor. Instructors are all ACA certified.

**Coming up soon:**

**The Midwest Canoe Symposium**

**September 11-13, 2015**

**Camp Butler - Peninsula, Ohio**

**The Pine Barrens Functional FreeStyle Workshop**

**October 16-18, 2015**

Camp Ockanickon, Medford, New Jersey

Full information about these events and about FreeStyle Canoeing can be found on our website:

[www.freestylecanoeing.com](http://www.freestylecanoeing.com)

# The Pine

# Barrens

## Functional FreeStyle

## PRECISION CANOEING



# TAKING IT TO THE RIVER!

October 16 through 18

Camp Ockanickon in the

Pine Barrens of New Jersey



## **ODNR Short Notice for Grant Money and Reminder of Classes...**



### **ODNR DIVISION OF WATERCRAFT**

#### **We Are Handing Out Grants To Boost Boating Safety Education OCTOBER 1, 2015 DEADLINE**

**Dear Ohio Boating Safety Partners,**

**The Ohio Department of Natural Resources is accepting applications for grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$30,000 to fund boater education programs that help reduce boating accidents in Ohio.**

**Applications for programs beginning in 2016 are due Thursday, October 1, 2015. For application instructions, eligibility, grant match requirements and more, go to:**

**[watercraft.ohio.gov/grants](http://watercraft.ohio.gov/grants) or contact Craig Watson at (614) 265-6674 or [craig.watson@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:craig.watson@dnr.state.oh.us)**

#### **Grant Priorities:**

**Courses that meet Ohio's mandatory boater education requirement  
Boating skills development programs  
Engaging nontraditional boaters through urban and adaptive boating initiatives  
Programs encouraging wearing life jackets, small boat safety and sober boating**

**Until Our Courses Meet Again,  
[ODNR Division of Watercraft](#)**

<b>September</b>	For More Trips - Check our <a href="#">Message Board</a>			
9/5,6,19,20	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	<a href="#">Needs organizer</a>	
9/8	Club Monthly Meeting at <a href="#">Middleburg Hts</a>		<a href="#">Karl Nelson</a>	330-497-2483
9/11	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	<a href="#">Jim Hunt</a>	330-335-5203
9/12	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	<a href="#">Steve Ingalls</a>	216-371-8250
9/12,13	Upper Gauley (WV) - I will coordinate all Camping at Battle Run for Lower & Upper trips	27-33	<a href="#">John Kobak</a>	440-554-1383
9/12,13	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	<a href="#">Phil &amp; Jen Raber</a>	740-498-7063
9/12,13	(4) Lower Yough(PA) <a href="#">Get Permit</a>	23	<a href="#">Needs organizer</a>	
9/14	Greenville Kayak and Canoe Race (PA) <a href="#">Race Registration Form</a>		<a href="#">Hugh Clark</a>	
9/14-17	Upper Yough (MD) All week release	32	<a href="#">Needs organizer</a>	
9/18-20	Upper Gauley ( <a href="#">Festival Weekend</a> ) (WV)	33	<a href="#">Cliff Wire</a>	440-439-6541
9/18-20	(5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27	<a href="#">Cliff Wire</a>	440-439-6541
9/25	Upper Yough (MD)	32	<a href="#">Needs organizer</a>	
9/26	(5) Savage River (MD) - Scheduled Dam Release	26	<a href="#">Justin Keesey</a>	740-827-1208
9/27	(5)ASCI WW Course(MD) 11 am to 330 pm cost: \$24		<a href="#">Justin Keesey</a>	740-827-1208
9/26,27	(5) Lower Gauley (WV) Camping at Battle Run, Bill will coordinate camping for both Upper & Lower paddlers.	27	<a href="#">Bill Miller</a>	440-257-2970
9/26,27	Upper Gauley (WV)	33	<a href="#">Joe Marks</a>	216-533-0604
<b>October</b>	For More Trips - Check our <a href="#">Message Board</a>		<b>Time to Pay Dues</b>	
10/2,3	Upper Yough (MD) Last Saturday Release	32	<a href="#">Casey Brown</a>	614-679-7999
10/3,4,17,18	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	<a href="#">Needs organizer</a>	
10/3,4	Upper & (5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27-33	<a href="#">Needs organizer</a>	
10/10	(2) Middle Yough (PA)	12/SK	<a href="#">Steve Ingalls</a>	216-371-8250
10/10,11	Upper & (5) Lower Gauley (WV)	27-33	<a href="#">Dave Herron</a>	513-681-4075
10/13	Club Annual Election Meeting at <a href="#">Middleburg Hts</a>		<a href="#">Karl Nelson</a>	330-497-2483
10/17,18	(4) Lower Yough (PA) Fall Color Trip <a href="#">Get Permit</a>	23	<a href="#">Dave Roush</a>	440-623-9035
<b>November</b>	For More Trips - Check our <a href="#">Message Board</a>		<b>Pay Dues</b>	
11/1	(4) Stonycreek River Release (PA)	21	<a href="#">Needs organizer</a>	
11/1	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-19	<a href="#">Needs organizer</a>	
11/10	Club Monthly Meeting at <a href="#">Middleburg Hts</a>		<a href="#">Karl Nelson</a>	330-497-2483
<b>December</b>	For More Trips - Check our <a href="#">Message Board</a>		<b>Last Chance to Pay Dues</b>	
12/5	(3) Slippery Rock (PA)	13-19	<a href="#">Cliff Wire</a>	440-439-6541
12/16	Club Holiday Party at <a href="#">Middleburg Hts Community Center</a>		<a href="#">Karl Nelson</a>	330-497-2483

## 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, 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 **October** issue of the newsletter is **9/23/15**. Please remember that articles should be sent to Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at [peetzaguy@aol.com](mailto:peetzaguy@aol.com).**

**KeelHauler Kanews**  
**Kelly Miller, Editor**  
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**[peetzaguy@aol.com](mailto:peetzaguy@aol.com)**  
**September, 2015**

