

# Keelhauler's Ka-news

 **JANUARY, 2019**



**Next Club Meeting to be announced.**

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

## **President's Message From Mike Gillam**



I hope everyone had a great holiday season and a wonderful upcoming new year!

Our Holiday Keel Hauler meeting was well attended, we had some lively debate, and was a great time overall. Good food, good drink, good people, and talking kayaking, that is a combination that is hard to beat! Some of the things that were discussed and decided upon were:

Budget- without getting into too much detail, the 2019 budget was approved with the following changes/amendments in the major areas; \$1000 donation was added to the Upper Yough parking lot project, a new website money was approved (but not to be spent unless voted upon

by membership) and Education/Training money was approved (but any money spent for members to get ACA certified must have membership approval).

Indoor roll sessions are in full swing, take a look at the club calendar to see specific dates and times. Also, John Banach has incorporated youth rolling times at Canton, again check the calendar, FaceBook page, or contact John directly for more information. You can't find a better way to get kids involved in boating....warm water, other kids, and fun! Kayak soccer is a great way to have some Sunday morning fun, get a little workout in, practice some rolls, and learn to be a defensive kayaker! Check out Canton kayak soccer days if you are interested. If you have any questions, check with John Banach. In addition to indoor sessions, outdoor paddling is still going strong, with warmer weather (or colder weather) and rain, local Ohio rivers as well as Pa., and WV rivers have been getting lots of action. Keep an eye on the FaceBook page for impromptu trips. For those who enjoy sliding on frozen water, a winter trip to Ohiopyle area, skiing Seven Springs one day and boating the Lower Yough one day, is a great way to enjoy a multi-sport weekend!

And lastly, for those who enjoy getting some kayak information/entertainment via electronics, The Hammer Factor podcast is a good one. Be forewarned there can be some strong language. Topics covered can range from environmental to paddle length to waterfall running to .....<https://hammerfactor.com/>

Have a great winter season and remember to play outside!

Mike

**Keelhaulers' Canoe Club Monthly Treasurer's Report  
December 18, 2018  
By Sam Reynolds**

CD 0402	\$2, 298.53
CD 1077	<u>\$2, 296.08</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4, 594.61
Checking	<u>\$21, 817.84</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$26, 412.45</u></b>

**Happy Holidays to all! Best in paddling in 2019!**

**Keelhauler Meeting and Holiday Party Minutes  
December 11, 2018  
From Michael Duvall**



Meeting opened by President Mike Gilliam

Mike reviewed budget corrections/revisions from last meeting.  
Where money came from: dues and Cuyahoga river cleanup  
Proposed spending: technology web site, marketing, and training.

Motion to vote on budget and seconded.

Motion to amend with \$1,000 donation to Friendsville parking lot (Upper Yough take out)  
by John Kobak per Cliff Wire  
VOTED AND PASSED

Motion to amend any money spent on web design would require membership vote.  
VOTED AND PASSED

Motion to amend any money spent on training (ACA for program or instructors training) would  
require membership vote.

VOTED AND PASSED

Call for vote on budget as amended

VOTED AND PASSED (Note 17 absentee votes were included in final tally.)

Mike reviewed Cuyahoga River Trail program with brochures. When appropriate he wants the club, individual members, and any other concerned individuals to submit letters of support for the program. He will follow up with mailing info when available.

Meeting adjourned.

Members and families enjoyed a potluck dinner after the business meeting.

(Editorial note: there were a number of small children in attendance which hopefully means the club will have future members.)

### **Ohiopyle Construction Update From Jim Hunt**

Ohiopyle Construction is moving forward.

These photos are from Dec 8th.

I met with the Asst Manager of the park on the 8th. Some of what he said follows:

The relocation of Sugarloaf Rd to is well underway. The boater changing house is gone. The new private boater parking area is being worked on.

By the end of May 2019, Sugarloaf Road relocation will be done, the new boaters changing house will be in place, and the new paved! boater parking lot will be done. All work will stop from late May until early Sept on the projects.

They will also be working on sidewalks along RT381 and wider sidewalks on the bridge over the Yough by the loop takeout.

No work on the "tunnel" will be done until after the 2019 boating season.

New rest room facilities will be installed at the loop takeout parking lot and at the Brunner parking lot at the top of the hill.

The bus concession agreement has been signed on Dec 8. No details yet but likely a shorter bus season and more buses at peak times.

News to me - none of the fees we pay to use the river go to the park. They all go to the PA state general fund. Also, Ohiopyle is the only park in PA that charges a user fee. It seems we get nothing out of the \$10 or so that we pay to use the river during peak times. I hope AW works on this.





## American Whitewater Presents Lower Yough Survey Results To Park Managers From Jim Hunt

American Whitewater Presents Lower Yough Survey Results To Park Managers (PA)  
posted December 19, 2018 by Kevin Colburn (AW)



Earlier this month American Whitewater conducted an online survey of the paddling community regarding the management of the Lower Youghiogheny River in Western Pennsylvania. The Lower Yough is a classic whitewater river with a long season, summer dam releases, and wonderful scenery protected by Ohiopyle State Park. American Whitewater has provided the full survey results to State Park river managers to help inform their decisions. Nearly 600 paddlers completed the survey.

Due to significant recreational demand for both commercial and noncommercial boating in the past the Park caps use, charges fees, and requires a partial shuttle service be used during peak times. These measures, along with limits on running Ohiopyle Falls and various rules relating to water levels and craft, make the Lower Yough one of the most intensively managed whitewater day-trips in the United States. Big changes to boater parking and access in Ohiopyle as well as the renewal of the shuttle service permit suggested the need for enhanced public input to help inform the Park's management through this transition period.

Survey respondents indicated that they have reduced their use of the Lower Yough in recent years for a wide variety of reasons, principally personal reasons and the fees. Most respondents are generally satisfied with the shuttle service, though many offered ideas for improvement. A majority of respondents did not feel the quota system is important, and also feel that the fees are unreasonable. Respondents indicated they would paddle the Lower Yough more if there were no fees. The voluminous comments collected through the survey were shared in full with the Park, and offer a treasure trove of ideas and constructive feedback.

We would like to thank the almost 600 paddlers who took the time to fill out the survey, the volunteers that helped us craft it, and for Ohiopyle State Park for welcoming the input. American Whitewater shared the Survey Results with Park staff late last week.

Thank you to all of the Keelhaulers that took part in the survey. The survey results can be seen on the American Whitewater web page.

<b>January</b>	<b>2019</b>			
1/1	New Year's Day paddle on the (4) Lower Yough (PA)	23	<a href="#">Brent Hendren</a>	330-414-2063

## 2019 Club Officers

**President:** Mike Gillam 440-328-5547  
**VP:** John Banach 330-606-5032  
**Secretary:** Michael Duvall 216-513-5921  
**Treasurer:** Sam Reynolds 330-962-5501

Meetings: Approximately 4 meetings per year. Please check website for next meeting time and location.

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)

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 FEBRUARY 2019 issue of the newsletter is 1/23/19. Please send articles and/or pictures 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)

**JANUARY 2019**

