

Keel-hauler's Ka-news

SEPTEMBER, 2021



Next General Club Meeting:

October 25th at 7pm, 1763 Goodyear Blvd, Akron, Ohio, 44221

This is our annual meeting where we vote for new officers for the 2021-22 year.

The club will provide drinks and donuts. Members can byob drinks or food. Working on a zoom option as well.

More details to come. Invite a prospective member.

Any questions? Contact: Brian Smart, President...President@keelhauler.org

President's Message From Brian Smart



I want to thank everyone who came to the summer picnic. We had a good turnout and it was a lot of fun. We had a lot PFD's on the Middle and Lower Young including my own. Every time I get on a new section of river, I am reminded how much support I have been given. I am grateful and honored to be voted President of the Keel-Haulers. I will do my very best in this role and plan on paying it forward whenever I can.

I have plans of bringing back more in person meetings-hopefully 6 a year every other month. The next meeting will be on October 25th at 7pm. We will be trying out a new location at 1763 Goodyear Blvd, Akron, Ohio, 44221. This is a large space where we can spread out and make ourselves at home, staying as long as

we would like after the meeting. The Club will provide Drinks and Donuts. Members can byob drinks or food. My plan is to also bring zoom into the mix for people who can't make it in person. More details on that will come closer to the meeting.

The October meeting will be eventful since we will be voting in a bunch of new and old volunteers. So here is the lineup. Not all Positions are filled, and we are looking to fill them so if anyone is interested in volunteering for any position in the club let us know!

Position	2021	Proposed Slate for 2022
President	Mike Gillam	Brian Smart
Vice President	John Banach	Megan Thompson
Secretary	Michael Duvall	Michael Duvall
Treasurer	Kelly Miller	Kelly Miller
Trustee	Domenic Bentz	Domenic Bentz
Trustee	Matt Fredmonsky	Jeremiah Richards
Trustee	Jeremiah Richards	John Banach
Conservation	Jacki Zevenbergen	Need a volunteer
Membership	John Kobak	John Kobak
Instruction	John Banach	Mark Spang
Safety & Rescue	Brian Smart	Seth Anderson
Pool Sessions	John Banach	Bret Rose
Library	Cliff Wire	Cliff Wire
Recreational	Moneen McBride	Moneen McBride
(Erie) Sea Kayaking	Moneen McBride	Lena Bear
Trip Schedule	Mike Gilliam	Need a volunteer
Newsletter	Kelly Miller	Kelly Miller
Meeting	None	Need a volunteer
Yearbook Editor	Chloe Shepherd	Chloe Shepherd
Website Development Team	Brian Smart, Chloe Shepherd, Domenic Bentz, John Kobak, Kelly Miller, & Megan Thompson	Brian Smart, Chloe Shepherd, Domenic Bentz, John Kobak, Kelly Miller, & Megan Thompson

We hope to see everyone at the October meeting!

Brian Smart

**Keel-hauler Treasurer's Report
as of August 26, 2021
From Kelly Miller**

CD 0402	\$2,317.20
CD 1077	<u>\$2,317.12</u>
CD'S (2)	\$4,634.32
Checking	<u>\$13,925.32</u>
Total	<u>\$18,559.64</u>

Meeting Minutes from July 31, 2021 From Michael Duvall

Meeting held at Benner's campground with 40-45 members. Meeting called to order by President Mike Gillam at 7:00 pm.

Mike announced that he was stepping down as president and recommended Brian Smart as candidate for president. Brian had already accepted the nomination. No other candidates were nominated, and the vote was unanimous.

Treasurer's report was accepted and will appear in the newsletter.

Jackie Zevenbergen reported river cleanups on Cuyahoga and also at Week of Rivers with CCC. Jackie also mentioned the death of Andrew Edwards hit by a car while on motorcycle and suggested the club have some sort of memorial.

Topic of trips was brought up with previous KHCC Spring Southern Rivers and Week of Rivers by CCC discussed.

Meeting adjourned.

2022 KHCC Membership Dues are Now Payable From John Kobak

It's nearing the end of our 2021 membership year.
Remember all 2021 memberships **expire on Oct 1, 2021**.

All 2021 members should pay their 2022 dues now, no application is required.
Note that 125 members have already paid for 2022, so please don't pay again.

Am I Paid? - - See this link:

<https://keelhauler.org/khcc/memb/khint.pdf> (Password protected)

Please use - User Name: **dir** (not news), the directory password is listed in my monthly e-mail.

If you agreed to be listed in our yearbook you can see what years you are paid for in the last column.

1 = 2021 2 = 2022 3 = 2023

You have the option to pay for **two years for only \$36**
Just click to: [Pay 2022 Dues](#) (Options will be displayed)

I would like to thank our members for telling their friends & paddlers about the KHCC. Our membership for 2021 is the highest we have been for the past 20 years. We now have 355 paid memberships. So tell any interested paddlers that they should use this application form to join the club.

[On-Line Registration Form](#) All payment options will be displayed.

Conservation News From Jacki Zevenbergen

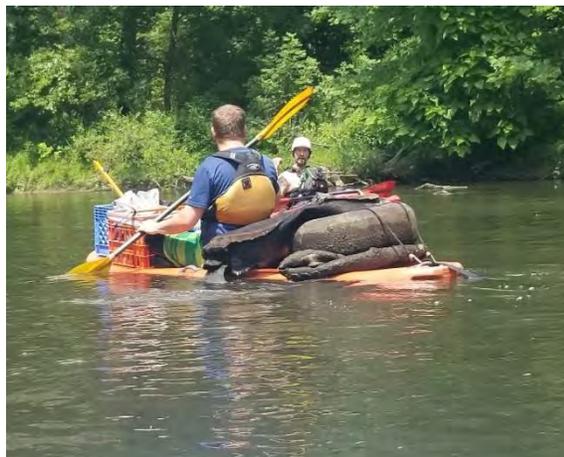
It's been a crazy, busy summer, but amidst all the fun some members have managed to find time for stewardship of our beloved rivers. On Cuyahoga RiverDay, June 26th, members pitched in to clean up a section of the Cuyahoga from Tannery Park in Kent to Brust Park in Munroe Falls. Many thanks to Brian N, Brian S., Shane, Moneen, Gary, Cooper, Owen, Manon, Jim, Emily Ann, Ronda and Anna. We found some interesting "treasures" to add to the dumpster. The following Friday, many Keel-Haulers headed to Week of Rivers in North Carolina. The Carolina Canoe Club held a cleanup on the Tuckasegee on the 5th of July. I attended on behalf of KHCC and made lots of new friends. After lunch, a small group headed to the Nantahala for a short run and a trip over the falls. I even managed to stay upright!

Here are some other things you can do to keep the environment healthier:

Please continue to participate in cleanups whenever you get the chance and consider organizing a local cleanup on water or land. Litter makes its way from the land to streams through ditches and storm drains. Wherever you are, I can help you get it registered with American Rivers so you get help with supplies.

Please join the Friends of [insert your favorite river here]. These groups usually have little or no staff and they rely heavily on volunteers to keep our streams healthy through stewardship and advocacy. Reduce the use of plastic - especially bottles. There is no market for recyclables right now and plastic is filling up landfills and clogging up water bodies.

Pick up after your pets - think about how many dogs walk the trails along streams. There is no "poop fairy" - pack it out.



Link to all cleanup pictures: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/dq6yFyx1mwMgarbq6>

Wednesdays on the Water From Jacki Zevenbergen

Our trips in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park have been well attended by both new and experienced paddlers. The low summer waters are a great place to test out a new boat on moving water. We spend about 2.5 hours on a 2.5 mile section of the Cuyahoga from Peninsula to Boston practicing skills and

dialing in outfitting. I like to practice rolling in moving water in the deeper sections and rapids. It's also a great place to practice catching eddys, peel-outs, paddle strokes, ferries and surfing. We're not instructors but if you flip, they'll be lots of people around to give you a bow rescue or help you get to shore and retrieve your gear. I find it easier to practice new things when I know friends are nearby. As the daylight hours shorten, we'll be forced to start a little earlier soon, but I hope new people continue to join us. Please watch for posts on Facebook to get the details. Don't use Facebook? I'm in the directory - text me with questions. Link to Wednesday on Water pics: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/17q7h55UnX9JLaPo7>



Paul McDonald, Chris Curley, Fran Hoven, John DeMuth and Mike Back

Andrew Edwards
October 4, 1971 – August 9, 2021
By Brian Thomas



Andy worked for the City of Parma for the last 28 years; he had a few years left before retirement. Andy has been with his girlfriend Trisha for the last 3 years. He was an avid Harley-Davidson motorcycle Rider.

Andy was a wonderful Craftsman he was very handy with arts and crafts; he was an excellent woodworker and has many wonderful projects that he did.

He was a member of the American Legion, although he did not serve, he helped them immensely with fundraisers and keeping the place going.

He absolutely loved the outdoors; he spent three weeks last year with his mother and sister in Montana and had beautiful pictures he showed me. That's why Andy really loved kayaking - he enjoyed being out there in the middle of summer in a 90-degree day or in a blizzard the day after Christmas which I included one picture of. LOL.



Photo from Chris Mockbee, Slip Clinic



Photo from Chris Mockbee, Slip Clinic



He was an absolute character who had a wonderful witty sense of humor always made people laugh and smile. Andy was a very kind and loving individual - give you the shirt off his back for anybody in need.



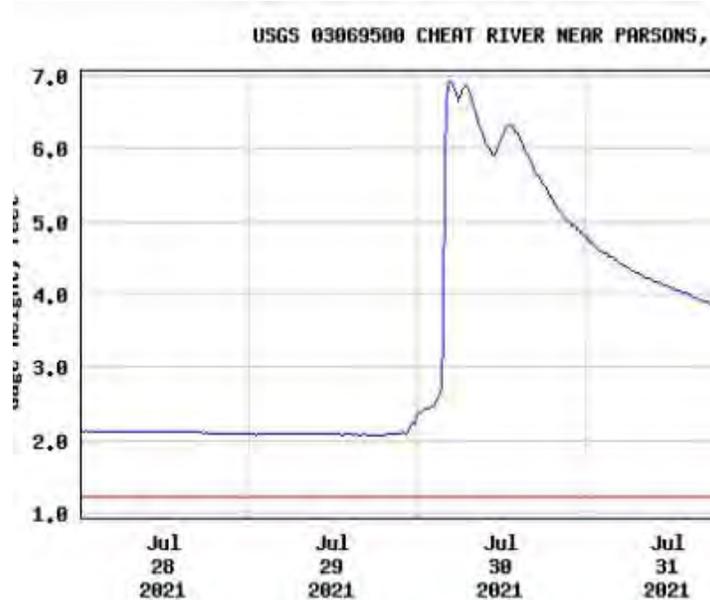
2021 Gauley Fest Now Delayed until 2022

After serious consideration and deliberation, the American Whitewater Gauley Fest event team made the difficult decision to postpone a full-blown Gauley Fest at the Veterans Memorial Park until September 2022.

All Summersville dam releases are as still as planned.

There was a Slug at Albright By John Kobak

On the weekend of our club summer picnic meeting, paddling opportunities abounded. Upper, Middle and Lower Yough, Stonycreek and we were watching the Cheat watershed since a heavy rain hit WV on Wednesday night. Only 0.5" of rain hit Albright, But Parson's got 1.6" while high up in the Cheat watershed got over 2.5" of rain. It looked like we were going to get a rise in water level but How Much?



The level went up almost 5 feet in an hour but was now falling. This is what was happening in Albright.



If the rain had come a little earlier, anyone who thought that they could do a low water run on Friday would have found the level going up 3000 cfs in 30 minutes, a real slug. This happened to me once about 30 years ago when I was leading my daughter and 4 of her friends down the canyon in a raft. While we were at lunch all of the sudden the water level came up and we had a disaster at Coliseum, but that's a different story.

However you can predict and find a nice paddling level by noting that you need to view the Parsons water level which is 12 to 16 hours upstream and Rowlesburg level only 5 hours upstream by using this link: <https://www.keelhauler.org/khcc/Rowles.htm> to see what is happening at Rowlesburg and the prediction

for Albright. It was good news for us on Saturday morning. I could predict that by the time we put-on the river the level would be below 3', a challenging but a very good level.

I texted Domenic Bentz and found out that he was aware of the level and was heading to the Cheat. So I met up with him and Michael Duvall and 3 first timers who were more than ready to accept the challenge. JP Preisinger, Lena Meslat and Cody Kowalski.

It was pushy but all the lines were the same as at lower levels. But after my swim though Big Nasty I became aware that maybe I wasn't as skilled a paddler as I thought. A tee shirt my daughter bought me reads "The older I get the better I was".

I had Michael show me a couple of sneak lines at Fist and Coliseum. I decided to pay more attention at Pete Morgan's and paddle a little harder left to avoid the encounter with the big rock like last month in this picture by Jeff Macklin.



So stay safe and keep on paddling and I hope to see all the newer WW paddlers on the PA, WV and MD rivers soon.

PADDLE WISE

a responsibility code
for river runners



PADDLE SMART

- Paddle within your ability • Keep your skills sharp • Communicate with your team on the river • Think for yourself • Don't let bad decisions compound • Go big, but come home safe



PADDLE PREPARED

- Plan ahead • Consult existing beta • Understand International Scale of River Difficulty and your chosen river's rating • Carry proper equipment including medical kit, spare paddle and emergency food/layers



PADDLE INCLUSIVE

- Share it • Everyone with the proper skillset is welcome • Find a mentor • Be a mentor • Acknowledge indigenous stewardship and land • Be a positive part of the community



PADDLE SAFE

- Wear your PFD • Carry a throw rope, knife and other safety gear • Practice safe river running technique • Set safety where appropriate • Take a swiftwater rescue course • Practice whitewater rescue skills regularly



PADDLE NO TRACE

- Leave no trace • Always be a river steward • Use existing access areas, trails and campsites • Pack it in • Pack it out • Use restroom facilities or bring your own waste disposal • Be aware of and remove micro-trash



PADDLE AWARE

- Check weather and flow conditions • Check for closures and river regulations • Know your ability and your group's ability • Understand surrounding landscape and escape routes • Research existing hazards, portages and critical features



PADDLE RESPECTFUL

- Consider impacts to gateway communities • Consider impacts on other paddlers • Drive slowly • Park in designated areas • Respect closures • Be friendly and represent the whitewater community positively • Appreciate cultural resources but leave undisturbed

Trip Organizers Needed for 2021-22
[Calendar of Events — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club](#)

We need trip organizers for 2021. Please volunteer to help. Fill out an easy online form to organize a trip: Add [Event — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club](#). Go to the Calendar of Events link for more information on the trips listed below. [Calendar of Events — Keel-Haulers Canoe Club](#)

Friday, September 3

Class IV - KH Rating: 32 - Upper Yough - Fri-Sat Release

Saturday, September 4

Class IV - KH Rating: 32 - Upper Yough - Fri-Sat Release

Class IV - KH Rating: 27 - New River Gorge

Sunday, September 5

Class IV - KH Rating: 27 - New River Gorge

Monday, September 6

Class IV - KH Rating: 27 - New River Gorge

Class IV - KH Rating: 32 - Upper Yough - Monday Release

Tuesday, September 7

5:00pm Roll Practice - Nimisila Reservoir

Tuesday, September 14

5:00pm Roll Practice - Indigo Lake

Thursday, September 16

Class IV - KH Rating: 27-32 - 4 Day Upper Yough, Gauley Fest Adventure

Friday, September 17

Class IV - KH Rating: 27-32 - 4 Day Upper Yough, Gauley Fest Adventure

Saturday, September 18

Class IV - KH Rating: 27-32 - 4 Day Upper Yough, Gauley Fest Adventure

Class III - KH 23 - Lower Youghiogheny (Loyo)

Sunday, September 19

Class IV - KH Rating: 27-32 - 4 Day Upper Yough, Gauley Fest Adventure

Class III - KH 23 - Lower Youghiogheny (Loyo)

Sunday, September 26

Class I - KH Rating: 7 - Immersion and cold water gear check. Basic skills. Cuyahoga River Lock 29 to Boston Store

Friday, October 1

Class IV - KH Rating: 32 - Upper Yough - Fri-Sat Release

Saturday, October 2

Class IV - KH Rating: 32 - Upper Yough - Fri-Sat Release

Saturday, October 16

Class III - KH 23 - Lower Youghiogheny (Loyo)

Sunday, October 17

Class III - KH 23 - Lower Youghiogheny (Loyo)

Saturday, November 13

Class III - KH 23 - Lower Youghiogheny (Loyo)

Sunday, November 14

Class III - KH 23 - Lower Youghiogheny (Loyo)

2021 Club Officers

President:	Brian Smart	330-809-7409
VP:	John Banach	330-606-5032
Secretary:	Michael Duvall	216-513-5921
Treasurer:	Kelly Miller	724-553-6816

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

Membership: \$20 per year. **Membership Chairman: John Kobak**

New memberships, renewals, change in address or phone, send to: John Kobak
1649 Allen Drive
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.com and 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 **October 2021 issue of the newsletter is **9/23/2021**. Please send articles and/or pictures to: Kelly Miller (Laubaugh) at peetzaguy@aol.com.**

Keel-Hauler Kanews,
Kelly Miller, Editor
701 Forrest Ave.
Geneva, IL 60134
September 2021

