



# Our 40<sup>th</sup> Year Coastal Canoeist NEWS

Newsletter of Coastal Canoeists

Fall 2005

DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION AND ENJOYMENT OF WILDERNESS WATERWAYS

## New River

Raymond Williams

Less than halfway into the first day of our Upper New River trip, we sighted a large flock of vultures in the sand around a smoking campfire on river right, with more lurking in a dead tree. Neither Doug, our detective, nor Gail, our forensic nurse, were willing to investigate. Fortunately, this inauspicious omen proved inaccurate.

The trip began with temperatures in the high 50's and an overcast sky with occasional drizzles, but everyone was in good spirits and dressed warmly.

We consisted of 2<sup>nd</sup> year veterans Doug Perkins, Gail Perkins, Rick Oyler, Heather Kartchner, (all K1), and Bucky Moore (OC1). Our first timers were Julie Wilson (K1), Dave Weir, Debra Weir, and Terri Bsullak (OC1). Trip leaders were Dave Lewis (OC1) and Raymond Williams (K1).

At just over 5 feet the McCreery – Stone Cliff run offered fun, friendly wave trains. Doug and Rick took advantage of the surfing opportunities. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> year kayakers all showed improved skills and were much more relaxed in the big wave trains. Last year, every time I looked back in the wave trains, Heather was paddling hard, muttering “Oh

*“However, he failed to notice that Dave was not upright at the bottom, and neither was Bucky, nor Terri”*

Sweet” (content edited for family viewing). This year, she didn't say it once. Well, at least not while upright. We think she might have muttered something while upside down in Surprise on Sunday.

We stopped for lunch at the beautiful creek that flows in on river right. Terri had brought homemade cookies to share with the group. [Note to new club members: homemade cookies are an excellent way to introduce yourself on club trips]. But our good fortune didn't stop there. A commercial raft trip had made a lunch stop as well, and the guide came over and said, “We've got plenty of leftovers; help yourself if you want some.” Pasta salad, fruit, and deli lunch meat on a kayak trip is not too shabby.

After lunch, the sun emerged and the temperature reached 70. The flatwater stretches were longer and slower than last year, but eventually Silo came into view to provide some excitement.

The general rule when on a trip with Dave Lewis is “watch Dave's line; if he's still upright at the bottom, then it's probably a good one.” I repeated this to our new folks above Silo. Also,

See “New River” page 7



Lawson Steele, a.k.a. “Shark Bait”, on Don Kain's Shenandoah River Trip

## Trio of Trip Coordinators Nominated

The 2005 Nominating Committee, chaired by Doug Jessee, will nominate Ray Williams, Martha James and Gretchen Cornell to the Board of Directors at Coastal's October 15 Annual Meeting. These candidates are nominated to replace Cathleen Lowery, Bernie Farmer and Dave Stockdill whose terms on the Board expire this year. Greg Velzy and Steve Thomas served on Doug's Nominating Committee.

A nine-member Board of Directors governs Coastal Canoeist's Inc. Each board member serves a three-year term. Each year, the terms of three board members expire. The Nominating Committee nominates qualified Coastals to replace the three board members with expiring terms.

During her term, Cathleen served as Store Chair. Bernie served Coastal Canoeists as its 2001–2002 President and as Raffle Chair. Dave served as Treasurer.

At Coastal's October annual meeting, the general membership will vote on the nominating committee's selections. Martha joined Coastals in 1986. Gretchen in 1993. Ray joined Coastals in 1995. All three have coordinated trips for Coastals.

## Membership Dues Are Due

See “Dues Are Due” page 5

## Governor Warner Issues Executive Order to Improve Stream Health

### Executive Order 90 (05) Improving Stream Health and Water Quality by Restoring Streams Throughout the Commonwealth

Stewardship of rivers and streams is essential to meeting the goals of restoring water quality throughout the Commonwealth. Improving stream channel function and structure through stream channel restoration is a critical component for the continued health of rivers and streams throughout the Commonwealth.

Virginia is experiencing diminished stream health due to incompatible practices on land or changes in land uses. These impacts to stream health can be mitigated through stream channel restoration, preservation and enhancement of streams and their riparian buffers. While mitigation is required for permitted impacts to streams, currently there is no formal inter-agency arrangement within the Commonwealth to track and identify both regulatory and non-regulatory losses, as well as areas of opportunities for stream mitigation.

The range of possible stream restoration activities include in-stream engineered practices to rehabilitate unstable stream segments, stream bank stabilization practices to minimize

See “Conservation” page 4

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**Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs**

Position	Name	Telephone	Email
President	Scott Wiggins		
Secretary	Dane Goins		
Treasurer	Dave Stockdill		
Director	Alicia Jahsmann		
Director	Bernie Farmer		
Director	Doug Jessee		
Director	Cathleen Lowrey		
Director	Jenny Wiley		
Director	Ginny Newton		
CaNEWS	Scott Wiggins		
Conservation	David Bernard		
Cruise	Ken Dubel		
Membership	Chuck Berkey		
Multimedia	Ginny Newton		
Programs			
Raffle	Bernie Farmer		
Safety/Ed.	Rob Ault		
T-Shirt Sales	Cathleen Lowrey		
Webmaster	Julie Wilson		

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To Join Coastal Canoeists contact Chuck Berkey, Membership Chair. 505 Winterberry Drive, Fredericksburg, VA 22405-2060

**Annual Meeting Saturday, October 15**

**When:** October 15, 16, 2005

**Where:** Grove Hill Community Center

**Program:** Tom McCloud will be continuing the tradition of slow-cooking pork starting on Friday night and welcomes volunteers to help out here. Contact Tom at 999-999-9999 if you'd like to help. We could use some help in the kitchen Saturday night as well, contact Andrea Jones 999-999-9999. We have paddling trips planned for Saturday and Sunday (see below). The **Board of Directors Meeting** will be held at 4:00 on Saturday followed by dinner at 5:30. (Featuring Tom's pork plus membership potluck sides. If your last name begins with A - G bring desert, H - O salad and dressing, P - Z a vegetable.) At 6:30 we'll have the **general membership meeting** including the election of Board members for 2006. At 6:45 we start "show and tell" featuring videos and stills of Coastals in action on a wide variety of rivers on a wide screen.

**Shameless plug for Programs Chair:** Folks, we are still without a Programs Chair. The job is currently being covered by your Board of Directors but we could really use a single person to coordinate the job. It's not a particularly time-consuming task and we'll be happy to teach you how to do it and to assist.

**Paddling: Saturday's paddle** will be hosted by Doug Jessee on the South Fork Shenandoah from Newport Landing to Luray (White House landing). See the schedule for contact information. This is a scenic class I / II paddle featuring views of the flank of Massanutten mountain during Fall colors. Meet at Newport Landing at 10:30. Pack something interesting for lunch.

**Sunday's paddle** will be hosted by Jenny Wiley. The exact location will depend on water and interest from the night before. Look for something fun in the same general area as Saturday's paddle. If paddling on Sunday only you'll need to contact Jenny well in advance.

**Camping:** You'll need to make your own reservations. There are several campgrounds in the area. **Kites Store (a.k.a. Riverside)** (540-652-8174), \$20/group 4, on east side of Rt. 340 in Newport less than one mile from putin. **Country Way** (888-765-7222) \$22/tent, off Rt.340 two miles north of Luray. **Dam Acres** offers modest facilities across the river and upstream from Saturday's put in for \$11 / night plus \$1 per extra person. 540-652-6546 or 540-652-3392. **Jellystone Park** is located about ten minutes east of the takeout on 211 and offers full amenities for a pricier \$25 / night / 2 person tent site plus \$3 / night / kid.

**Directions:** The general area is known as Page Valley. The South Fork Shenandoah runs along the valley floor (as rivers are prone to do) from south to north flanked on the west by Massanutten ridge and on the east by the Blue ridge. Contrary to usual highway numbering systems, route 340 (even number) runs north / south and route 211 (odd number) runs east / west. Adding a little confusion is the fact that these two highways run concurrent for a time around Luray.

The meeting will be held at the Grove Hill Community center. It's a green metal building set back from the highway a little and located just south of Grove Hill Elementary School which is quite obvious from the highway. Route 340 about five miles north of the town of Shenandoah. Newport Landing is a public boat landing just north of the town of Newport. This is about four miles north of Grove Hill. To get to the takeout continue north on 340 (ignoring Bus. 340) to the STOP sign. Turn right onto 211 / 340 (ignoring the first boat landing sign) until you cross the river. Turn left immediately past the bridge and you are there. See you there, Ken Dubel.

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## Board of Directors

*Dane Goins*

**Date of Meeting:** July 16, 2005

**Location of Meeting:** Glen Maury Park, Buena Vista, Virginia

**Meeting Chaired By:** Scott Wiggins

**Meeting recorded by:** Dane Goins, Secretary

**Board members present:** **Officers:** Scott Wiggins, Dave Stockdill, Dane Goins **Directors:** Doug Jessee, Alicia Jahsmann, Ginny Newton; **Committee Chairs:** Chuck Berkey, Ken Dubel, David Bernard, Julie Wilson.

### Open: Topics for Discussion:

1. Chuck Berkey proposed a method of handling new members that join throughout the year. Those joining before September 1<sup>st</sup> would pay the full dues; those that join after September 1<sup>st</sup> would have their dues applied to the new, forthcoming year. The method was accepted by majority vote from the Board.

2. Doug Jessie reported that the Nominating Committee was working on a list of viable candidates. The list should be ready by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

3. Discussion on the Club Calendar took place and it was decided not to place it on the Club's website as the information related primarily to Board Members activities and responsibilities.

4. Discussion for the Board Meeting to be changed to better facilitate members participating on Quarterly Meeting paddling trips. It was decided that no change in the schedule was best.

### Officer & Chair Reports:

**President:** Scott Wiggins started the meeting on time at 4 p.m. Scott passed the notebook of "Coastal Canoeists Historical Info" over to the Secretary for storage.

**Treasurer:** Dave Stockdill presented the Treasurer's report: As of June 30, 2005, the Balance Sheet shows total Liabilities & Equity at \$27,789.20, the Profit & Loss (P&L) statement showed Net Income at \$1,944.81 – end of the second quarter 2005.

**Secretary:** The Board members and Officers accepted the minutes from recorded and reported from the April 15, 2005 meeting.

1. Dane Goins presented the accumulated Club mail for the quarter

2. Dane Goins presented the annual written Audit Report, performed by auditor Sally Wetzler and the Audit Committee. The audit of the Club's books was completed March 24th, without finding any discrepancies. A

note of thanks plus a t-shirt was suggested to be given to Sally Wetzler for her contribution as auditor. The Board voted "yes".

3. Dane presented a letter of "thanks" from West Virginia Rivers Coalition for the \$200 donation the club sent.

**Brochures – Doug Jessee:** Doug brought additional packets of Club brochures and these were handed out to individuals for distribution. Doug mentioned most of the store locations had been given brochures.

**CaNEWS:** Editor Scott Wiggins asked for trip reports and photographs.

**Conservation:** David Bernard:

1. Meeting with the VDGIF (Dept of Game and Inland Fisheries) was discussed. A discussion ensued concerning the position of the Club's Board members. From general observation, the majority of present members did not want to pursue any discussion with VDGIF that might result in a "registration fee" of paddleboats for river access.



*Coastals honored Sally Wetzler with a letter of appreciation and a club T-shirt for her work on auditing the club's finances*

2. David Bernard gave an update on the Balcony Falls take-out. Not much progress and time seems to be running out.

3. The conservation website page was briefly discussed. Julie Wilson was thanked for her efforts on making a page available on the website.

4. David was given permission to approach DCR for conversation.

**Cruise:** Ken Dubel brought up a situation on the Gauley where there was no longer a public access for a 24-mile section. So once you launch on the upper section there would be no legal public take-out for the entire 24-

mile duration.

### Membership & Renewals: Chuck Berkey

1. Membership status: 424 members

2. 17 "special friends", and 34 Newsletter Exchange, 4 are honorary lifetime members

3. 19 members were deleted from the roster since April 2005, but 29 new members were added.

**Multimedia:** Ginny Newton said the library was open for business but had few takers.

**Programs:** Need to find a new Programs Chair. Asked Doug Jesse to add to his Nominating Committee role to find a Programs Chair. It was decided that we should continue having a winter quarterly meeting. Program to be decided for the Fall & Winter meetings. Dave Stockdill was asked to head up a committee to look for adequate AV equipment to facilitate the showing of pictures and video at club meetings.

**Raffle:** No Report. Doug Jesse was asked to add to his Nominating Committee role to find a Raffles Chair.

### Safety/Education: Rob Ault's Report:

On August 6-7, Chesterfield County Parks and Recreation is offering a 2-day Advanced Swiftwater rescue class. Rob is teaching both days, and Greg Velzy and Dan Caston are teaching most of Day 1. If members are interested, have them call Greg at (999) 999-9999. No additional classes planned for 2005.

**Recognition:** Alicia Jahsmann presented an award to Andrea Jones for her dedication to the Club. She was awarded a special Coastal Canoeists' Apron.

**Sales:** No report.

### Webmaster: Julie Wilson:

A By-laws are placed on the website for all to read.

B Website Updates for Quarterly Meetings: A brief discussion took place on putting more information on the website for meetings. More info could be made available if people would share it with Julie Wilson (Webmistress) but must be in a timely manner.

### Motions adopted:

1. Motion was made and accepted to accept the April Quarterly Meeting Secretary notes.

2. Motion was made and accepted to accept the written 2005 Annual Audit Report of Coastals' financial books.

3. Motion was made and accepted to send CPA Sally Wetzler a letter of appreciation and t-shirt for her auditing efforts.

**Motions rejected:** None

## Conservation

*David Bernard*

bank erosion, improvements to fish and aquatic habitats, maintenance of healthy riparian corridors, and storm water retrofits and watershed management to minimize flood damage.

The Chesapeake 2000 agreement called for stream restoration under the Water Quality Protection and Restoration, Vital Habitat Protection and Restoration and Sound Land Use commitments.

The Chesapeake Bay Program's Forestry Work Group, under direction from the Chesapeake Bay Nutrient Subcommittee, crafted a new goal for establishing riparian forest buffers and stream restoration utilizing federal, state, and local government as well as non-government expertise. The Chesapeake Executive Council signed Directive 03-01 on December 9, 2003.

The following programmatic and policy goal regarding stream restoration is included in the signed Chesapeake Executive Council Directive 03-01: ... seek to increase contiguously forested stream corridors, protect headwater streams, target high nitrogen source areas, and integrate forest buffer restoration with fish passage, stream restoration, and living resource objectives.

By virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor under Article V of the Constitution of Virginia and under the laws of the Commonwealth, including but not limited to Title 2.2 of the Code of Virginia, and subject to my continuing and ultimate authority and responsibility to act in such matters, I hereby establish the Stream Restoration Initiative to actively promote and coordinate stream restoration in the Commonwealth and reduce stream corridor degradation through proper watershed planning and targeted restoration activities.

The Virginia Stream Alliance: As part of this initiative, I hereby create the Virginia Stream Alliance (hereinafter called the Alliance) to formalize and coordinate a Stream Restoration Initiative for the Commonwealth of Virginia. This Alliance is created to facilitate cooperation among both government and non-government entities to effectively promote stream restoration activities at the state and local levels.

Composition of the Virginia Stream Alliance: The Alliance shall operate under the direction of the Secretary of Natural Resources in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry, Secretary of Transportation, and Secretary of Commerce and Trade. The Chair of the Alliance shall initially be appointed by

the Secretary of Natural Resources from a participating state agency. The Chair shall then rotate annually among the other state agencies represented on the Alliance as determined by the Alliance and approved by the Secretary.

The Alliance shall consist of staff from the following state agencies and institutions:  
 The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
 The Department of Conservation and Recreation  
 The Department of Environmental Quality Division of Water Quality  
 The Department of Forestry  
 The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries  
 The Department of Mines and Minerals  
 The Institute of Marine Science at the College of William and Mary  
 The Marine Resources Commission  
 The Virginia Department of Transportation  
 The School of Agriculture, Science and Technology at Virginia State University

Resources Conservation Service  
 United States Forest Service  
 Virginia Cooperative Extension Service at Virginia Tech and Virginia State University  
 Region III of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, including the Chesapeake Bay Program

Furthermore, owing to the collaborative nature of this effort any local government or non-governmental entity participating in stream restoration efforts may be invited by the Secretary of Natural Resources.

I authorize state agencies to consider lands under state management for appropriate stream restoration, identify impacted stream segments, and implement restoration activities with resources provided by the respective agency, the Alliance, or other available sources.

The Alliance shall report to the Governor yearly by November 1 through the Secretary regarding the Commonwealth's statewide progress

and, in particular, improvements in the process of identifying impacted stream segments, the methodology for instituting restoration activity, and the number of miles of streams restored in the Commonwealth. All agencies directed by this Order will cooperate to provide technical assistance to local projects, as appropriate and practicable, and to direct available financial resources to such projects.

This Executive Order shall become effective upon its signing and shall remain in full force and effect until December 31, 2010, unless amended or rescinded by further Executive Order.

Given under my hand and under the seal of the Commonwealth of Virginia on this 14th day of July 2005.  
 /S/ Mark R. Warner, Governor

Attest: /S/ Secretary of the Commonwealth



*Coastals honored Andrea Jones at the summer meeting. A member since 1989, she assists with Coastal's kitchen particularly at the annual meeting. Recognition Chair Alicia Jahsmann presented Andrea with a personalized apron. Photo by Dane Goins*

The College of Natural Resources at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
 Virginia Commonwealth University Center for Environmental Studies

In response to letters from the Secretary of Natural Resources requesting staff representation for the Alliance, the heads of these Commonwealth's agencies and institutions shall appoint members of their respective staffs to serve on the Alliance. In addition, the Secretary of Natural Resources may invite representatives from the following agencies and institutions to participate in the Alliance:

United States Fish and Wildlife Service  
 United States Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District  
 United States Department of Agriculture's Natural

## Web News

*Julie Wilson*

The message board continues to grow. There are about 390 members posting 4400 articles since it was reintroduced a year ago. Topics include trip reports, paddle times/dates, community discussions (conservation and access issues, roll classes, etc.), and the "Lounge" - a place to ask questions, pass on an interesting topic or just say hi to other boaters. If you haven't signed up on the message board, we look forward to seeing you online soon! (Coastals membership is not required to be a message board member and it is free). Click the message board link from the Coastals home page: <http://www.coastals.org>.

## **Membership**

*Chuck Berkey*

### **Dues are Due**

All members must renew their membership by January 1. Membership is \$20.00 (\$23.00 for first class mail). The only exceptions are if your mailing label has a "0" or a number greater than 2006 to the right of your name. Then you do not need to renew your membership.

Membership information is removed from the online version of CaNEWS.

# Coastals *Au Naturel*



*Running Balcony Falls*



*Running Balcony Falls*



*Paddling Don Kain's Shenandoah Ice Cream Run*



*Relaxing on Don Kain's Shenandoah Ice Cream Run*



*No false advertising - Don's "ice cream run" really has ice cream*

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Got a Picture of Coastals *Au Naturel*? Send it to the Editor. You'll see it here.

## Cruise Schedule

*Ken Dubel, Chair*

**The rules are few, but very important:** Coastals trips are intended primarily for club members. However, visitors are invited to check us out! Paddling can be quite dangerous. All trip participants assume full responsibility for their own safety. The coordinator only organizes the trip. Paddlers must self-rate themselves for these trips. Difficulty ratings are intended as a rough guide and are subject to error. You are expected to research an unfamiliar river yourself. Please don't just "show up". Please don't bring unexpected guests. Please don't endanger yourself and the group by paddling a trip that you are not prepared for.

Date	River	Rating	Coordinator	Email & Telephone Number
10/15 10/16	1/4'ly meeting, South Fork Shenandoah (Luray)	All	Doug Jessee Sat Jenny Wiley Sun	
10/22 10/23	Bill Gordon's 29th annual Lower Yough (PA)	I/A	Bill Gordon	
10/22 10/23	Bottom Tye (Nelson County)	N	Ginny Newton	
10/29 10/30	GAF festival / Ocoee (TN) Saturday, Nantahala (NC) Sunday	I/A	Dave Kessmann	
10/29 10/30	Nottaway, Cutbank to Jarratt, Sunday only (SE VA)	I	Doug Jessee	
11/5 11/6	Lower Tye (Nelson County)	N/I	Jenny Wiley	
11/5 11/6	James above Balcony Falls (Buena Vista) Sunday only	N	Terri Bsullak	
11/26 11/27	Nottaway, Cutbank to Purdy, Sunday only (SE VA)	N/I	Doug Jessee	
12/3 12/14	North or South Anna	N/I	Jenny Wiley	
12/10 12/11	Cedar Creek - blackwater paddle in Congaree Swamp Nat'l Monument. (SC)	N	David Bernard	
1/14 1/15	Les Fry's annual Nottoway River Canoe Camper Class	N	Doug Jessee	

### New River *from page 1*

last year Bucky Moore took a conservative line and always emerged dry. This year, he started left (the conservative route), so I told Terri, "If you want a safe route, follow Bucky." She did, but then Bucky headed right to the meat of the rapid, following Dave's line. However, he failed to notice that Dave was not upright at the bottom, and neither was Bucky, nor Terri. However, the group pitched in to haul people and gear to shore quickly.

For the day, we had a total of six canoe swims and one kayak. Also, Julie held out an impressively long time for an Eskimo rescue on a swirly eddy line. Bucky seemed to enjoy his swims the most, with a huge grin as he came through the waves.

That night some of us joined the CYA around their campfire to hear tales of the New River Gorge. Others called it an early night to catch up on their sleep. The group roasted marshmallows without incident. If you're wondering what could go wrong roasting marshmallows, just ask Gail to tell her poison sumac marshmellow stick story. Yes, you can use sumac sticks to roast marshmallows, but I wouldn't recommend it.

On Sunday, we were joined by Eileen Rowan and Robert Short in recreational kayaks and three CYA members taking a break from running the Gorge: Thomas Bernadas, Marshall Shelton, and "Fat Doug." Dave Lewis, Dave & Debra Weir didn't paddle. This time, a vulture appeared on river left and flew downstream ahead of us, perhaps hoping for some action at Surprise.

At five feet, Surprise had plenty of pop to it. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> year boaters all planned to run more aggressive routes than last year, but weren't sure how close to the hole they wanted to get. One asked me, "Are you going to hit the hole?" I said, "I won't know until I'm on top of it. I may decide to skirt it at the last minute." [Note to new boaters: too much explicit verbal instruction may hinder your development learning to read water, so intentionally vague directions are actually a sophisticated teaching technique].

Thomas offered to take pictures and paddled down to set up [Note to new boaters: wait for the photographer to set up and wave before starting through the rapid; otherwise he will only get pictures of the last boater through, in this case Julie].

The day before, Julie had said she wanted to

follow me through a rapid, so I ran it backwards, but she didn't. I pointed out that following meant doing the same thing. At Surprise, she followed my line again, but not exactly. I clipped the edge of the hole, felt my boat speed slow, then slide backwards into the hole into a stern squirt with my body underwater. Leaning forward, I held the squirt until the hole spit me out. Julie clipped the hole and went into a short side surf before flipping, then swimming out. When I emerged, I saw the bottoms of several kayaks floating in the big pool below Surprise. Based on the photographic evidence (Whitewater Photography's, not Thomas'), Heather and Gail flipped in the big waves just left of the hole and swam. Rick and Doug also flipped, but hit combat rolls. The Gorge veterans flipped and rolled also. Bucky, Terri, Eileen, and Robert ran a conservative left route, with one swim. We won't name him, but it was his first day on the trip. For an inexperienced boater, he had a good day.

Bucky stayed dry on Sunday, but continued to grin. Terri showed better boat control with her new, longer modified kayak paddle provided by Mr. Nice Guy, Ken Dubel, who had dropped it by the campground Saturday after his Gorge run.

I hope All in all, a satisfying weekend. I hope to see everybody again next year.

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*Alicia Jahsmann and Ken Dubel enter the Maury River in grand style at its confluence with the James River on Doug Jesse's Balcony Falls Trip July 16, 2005*

**Scott Wiggins**  
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**Quarterly Meeting**  
**Saturday, October 15**  
**See Page 2 for Details**

**Dated Material: Please Expedite!**