



Our 42<sup>nd</sup> Year

# Coastal CaNEWS

Newsletter of Coastal Canoeists

Winter 2007

DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION AND ENJOYMENT OF WILDERNESS WATERWAYS

## Ray Williams President Dave Bradford, Val Puster and Thomas Bernadas Join Board

Coastal Canoeists' Board of Directors selected Ray Williams of Rocky Mount, Virginia as Coastal's 26<sup>th</sup> president. Also at the October Annual Meeting, the membership approved Scott Broaddus' nominating committee recommendations. Val Puster, Dave Bradford and Thomas Bernadas will join the Board of Directors replacing Dane Goins, Doug Jessee and Alicia Jahsmann. Additionally, the Board of Directors selected Julie Wilson to fill Scott Wiggins' third year on the board.

**Ray Williams** was born and raised in Rocky Mount, Virginia. Early on he developed a love of the outdoors, sports, and reading. He had a rather typical rural-small town upbringing in the 1960's and 70's. With numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins, he said at times he felt his family was a modern version of the Walton's, but at other times it leaned a bit towards Faulkner. He did lots of hunting, fishing, and camping, but no boating unless you count the logs he and his cousins tied together and tried to float it on their farm pond. It sank.

In 1976, Ray graduated from high school and left Rocky Mount for William and Mary. While at W&M, he took a class in canoe camping and he learned the basics of flat water paddling while

See "Ray Williams" page 3

## Retire "Coastal Canoeists" Julianna Wilson

When I took up kayaking in the Richmond area in 2004, someone mentioned Coastals as a group to join. "Coastal Canoeists?" I thought. "Why would I be interested in joining a group of canoeists who live near Virginia Beach?" Turns out the name wasn't a true reflection of the club's current activities, and I'm very glad I joined as I've met some great paddling buddies and made valuable friendships I wouldn't have without Coastals.

I've been the webmistress for the group for the past two years and have been to a handful of meetings, or as we like to call them now - get-togethers, powwows, gatherings (to shed the name of the stuffy boardroom feel). The turnout isn't great compared to the numbers in the

See "Retire Coastal Canoeists" page 3

Enjoying your last issue of  
CaNEWS? See Page 8



Raymond Williams of Rocky Mount, Virginia is Coastal's 26th President

## Hailed as Rapids Transit Charlotte Now Has Man-made Whitewater

Les Fry

WHO SAYS they aren't making any new whitewater rivers any more? That used to be the conventional wisdom—unlike new golf courses, new tennis courts, new swimming pools, new ball fields, and the like that seem to crop up like mushrooms. The backing of six political subdivisions in western North Carolina has turned conventional wisdom on its ear.

To see what a little cooperation and a lot of money could do to develop the basic idea hatched by Vie Howie and Chet Rabon—first drafted on a napkin over dinner one night six years ago—you can now pay a visit to and enjoy what is most likely the finest facility of its kind in the entire world: The U.S. National Whitewater Center.

See "Whitewater Center" page 6

## Yampa River in Dinosaur National Park

Scott Broaddus

The Yampa is the last remaining free running (no dams) major river in the West. It begins in western Rocky Mountain National Park and runs west to join the Green in Utah.

This year had an above-average snow pack and faster than normal snow melts. We were looking for low but sufficient water levels for tandem canoes loaded with supplies for a week on the river. The section we selected was 46 miles long, with Class II and one Class III rapids. Our topo maps showed good opportunities to explore a number of side canyons. With spring runoff producing water flows to the 10,000+ cfs level and rapid runoff, we watched river gauge readings and prepared for an alternative trip on the Green. Luckily we were perhaps among the last to make this run at that time.

Paddling were Tom and Gretchen Cole, Andre

See "Yampa River" page 11

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 www.coastals.org

**Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs**

Position	Name
President	Ray Williams
Secretary	Martha James
Treasurer	Gretchen Cornell
Director	Val Puster
Director	Martha James
Director	David Bradford
Director	Julie Wilson
Director	Jenny Wiley
Director	Ginny Newton
CaNEWS	Scott Wiggins
Conservation	David Bernard
Cruise	Ken Dubel
Membership	Chuck Berkey
Multimedia	Ginny Newton
Programs	Mike Dean
Safety/Ed.	Rob Ault
T-Shirt Sales	Shawn Alexander
Webmistress	Julie Wilson

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



For two years, I've been honored to serve Coastal Canoeists as president. My term ends December 31 when the presidency passes into the capable hands of Ray Williams.

Being president has been a pleasure because my dedicated and talented 2005 and 2006 Leadership Teams accomplished the vital work necessary to make Coastal Canoeists, Inc. a relevant and fun organization.

Today's 392 members are far fewer than Coastal's peak membership of 727 members in 2000. However, I'm not concerned about the loss of membership.

For 42 years, members have stepped forward to become leaders to give something back to the club that nurtured and provided opportunities to pursue their passion for paddlesport. I believe today's members who love paddlesport will ensure Coastal's continued success.

I now direct your attention to the next page where Ray would like to introduce himself to you.

**2007 Winter Rendezvous**

Saturday, January 20

**Place:** Harbor Point Clubhouse, Brandermill, 5700 Promontory Place, Midlothian, VA 23112

**Directions:** Make your way to the intersection of Hull Street Road / US-360 and VA-288. Head West on Hull Street Road, At the second light, make a right onto Harbour Point Road, Follow this to the 90-degree right-turn and enter the gates of the Harbour Point neighborhood, continue on Harbor Point Road to the second Right, Promontory Point Road. The meeting will be held in Harbour Point Clubhouse adjacent the Harbour Point Swimming pool.

**Campgrounds:** Camping alternatives are limited. One option is Pocahontas State Park <http://www.dcr.state.va.us/parks/pocahont.htm>

**Schedule: 4:00 p.m. Board Meeting, 5:30 p.m. Social**

**6:00 p.m.** Dinner: Potluck. Everyone bring a main dish. Additionally, if your last name ends with A-G, bring dessert; H-O, bring salad & dressing; P-Z, bring bread or chips & dip.

**7:00 p.m. Meeting & Program:** First Annual Coastal's Video and Photo Contest. Any Coastal Member can submit their five best photos and/or best seven minutes of video to Coastal's Program chair by January 13th, one week before the Winter Meeting.

After dinner, we will first view the photos in random order. A panel of judges will examine each of the submissions for Creativity (33%), Quality (33%), Overall Impact (33%). Then we will award a best photo.

Next we will view the video submissions. In this category, we will be looking at Creativity (25%), Technical Ability (25%), Audio/Music (25%), Flow/Storyline (25%). Prizes will be awarded for best three photos - Overall, Comedy and Carnage & the best three videos - Overall, Comedy, and Carnage. Six awards in all.

**Technical Information:** Please submit all photos in JPEG format on a CD, in the highest resolution possible. Video Submissions should be in Windows Media Video (.WMV) or QuickTime (.MOV) format on a CD. All video and photos need to be original works.

For photos, please note the river, rapid, and the subject(s). For video, please have a title and credit the rivers and subjects. All Submissions are to be a maximum length of 7 Minutes.

To be eligible, all submissions must be delivered by Jan 13th to Mike Dean, 3025 Three Bridges Road, Midlothian, VA 23112. Prizes - \$1,000,000 - just kidding - More like one years worth of bragging rights, and maybe a little something extra from a local outfitter. I'll see what I can scrounge up!

**Paddling:** Check the website but we do have a flat-water option right at the meeting sight on Swift Creek Reservoir. If interested in canoeing or kayaking on the lake, please contact Mike Dean at (999) 999-9999. I will run this paddle!

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Ray Williams

When I first started kayaking, I averaged eight river trips a year. After joining Coastals, I've averaged 40 trips each year. Some are through other clubs, but I learned about those clubs from the Coastal's web page; others are impromptu trips announced through email or on the club's message board. Only a few are

the official trips posted in the newsletter. However, those official trips were very important to me when I first started. Without them, I wouldn't have run certain rivers or gotten to know other boaters to ask if I could join them on unofficial trips.

I was a little nervous about the first two official trips because I didn't know anyone in the club, and I wasn't sure if I was good enough for the rivers. But I called the coordinators, Jenny Wiley and Garland Reece. They assured me I would be fine and I was even though I swam part of the Shenandoah Staircase.

At the time, there weren't many kayakers in Franklin County. In fact, I never saw another kayak on a vehicle the first few years I kayaked. There were a few canoeists, but not many whitewater boaters. Now I know lots of local kayakers and canoeists, and it's not uncommon to see boats on cars and at the putins for local rivers. The same is true in other localities.

Yet during this time, our club membership has decreased as has attendance at our quarterly meetings. This leads to several issues for the club. How can we attract more boaters to the club, and how can we increase involvement for some members? At our summer meeting, we had a large turnout for the Balcony Falls trip, but then we had a much smaller turnout for the dinner/social and meeting afterwards. Why is that? Should we change what we do at these meetings? Should we stop calling them meetings and call them something else? Finally, how can we discuss these issues without getting too wrapped up in the issues that we forget why we joined the club in the first place—to meet other paddlers and enjoy boating?

At the same time, there are many bright spots and areas of increased involvement. Here's one example. In 1998, Garland Reece and Richard Walters led eight first timers down the New River Gorge on a Coastals trip during Gauley Fest weekend with the help of two other members. In the fall of 2006, Dave Kessmann and Andy Lee coordinated trips that had 36 on the NRG and 22 on the Upper New during Gauley Fest weekend. There were definitely more than eight first timers. Afterwards people cooked extra food and invited others to join them that we had more diners socializing after the trips than at many official meals.

So how do we capture more of the excitement and enthusiasm of that event without having Gauley Fest as part of the draw? I hope you'll let me and other board members know your thoughts and suggestions on these issues. Feel free to email directly or even post on the message board.

## Retire "Coastal Canoeists"

from page 1

roster, and although those involved try to make them interesting, there's been a kind of stagnant feel to them - as though this is the way it's been and this is how it will be, whether we like it or not. This seems less dynamic than it could be.

An interesting series of discussions are happening online regarding the club's name, and ultimately, the club's identity and purpose. You can find them here: <http://coastals.org/forum/viewtopic.php?t=2998>. Our purpose as indicated in our bylaws is this: *The purpose for which this corporation is formed is the preservation and enjoyment of our wilderness waterways, and the promotion of the general health and welfare of the community through the sport of paddling.* Do we meet this purpose? Is it well defined? Do we appeal to the majority of paddlers in Virginia or do we want to? We're told that the overwhelming majority of new boat purchases are recreational craft - are these folks members of our club? Why not? What would happen if we were to reinvent ourselves to include all the folks who are current members as well as potential new members?

We are interested in hearing the opinion of those members who don't frequently go online. You can get to the topic in the forum online by clicking the link above, or go to [www.coastals.org](http://www.coastals.org), click forum, click Community, and finally the topic name: "But wait, there's more!" There are also other topics in the same vein in the Community section of the forums. If you don't have online access, feel free to call me at 999.999.9999 or send me your comments by mail: Julianna Wilson, PO Box 36333, Richmond, VA 23235-8006

If you approve it, I will include your comments on the forums, regardless of your stance on the issue. The website includes the Bylaws (from the "about us" page) and contact links (click the officers/contacts link) for your reference and convenience.

Better yet - come to the meeting in January and let us know what you think!

## Ray Williams

from page 1

enjoying the local streams and rivers. Ray graduate from W&M in 1980 with a B.A. in English and returned home to teach English at his old high school. From 1985-1989, Ray spent his summers pursuing an M.A. at the Bread Loaf School of English at Middlebury College in Vermont. During this time, he worked with other Bread Loaf teachers to pioneer telecommunications projects in which students studied environmental issues and discussed them with students from around the world. This included classrooms in Indonesia, Peru, England, and Europe. Using 1200 baud modems and Apple II's, his class created an on-line world-wide classroom several years before most people had heard of email or the Internet. Ray said even Senator Al Gore participated in this project.

After earning his M.A., Ray spent several summers traveling to Alaska, Africa, Montana

and Wyoming for backpacking and wildlife photography. One trip included participating in an Earthwatch scientific research project studying black rhinos in Zimbabwe which he followed with a rafting trip and canoe trip on the Zambezi. One summer in Alaska, Ray had a bush pilot drop him off on what he thought were two uninhabited lakes for 10-12 days, only to discover that an 85-year-old man still lived there. Another summer, Ray rafted the Hulahula River in the Arctic and swam briefly (very briefly he said) in the Arctic Ocean upon reaching it. Ray also spent a day sea kayaking in a bay near Homer.

In August of 1994, Ray took a kayaking clinic at NOC and returned to their Guest Appreciation Festival in October to buy a used Corsica, paddle, and other gear. Thus began his kayaking life. In 1997, Ray joined Coastal Canoeist and began taking part in both official and unofficial club trips.

When it comes to boating, Ray enjoys it all - from canoe camping on lakes and rivers, paddling flat water rivers through swamps, sea kayaking, paddling the small rivers and streams and class III-V whitewater. Some of his favorites are the Maury, Lower & Upper Yough, New River Gorge, Ocoee, Tellico, Chattooga IV and Kibler Valley. Ray enjoys seeing his six year old nephew's excitement on the river. Ray said when he first started kayaking in 1994; he hoped to become good enough to run the New River Gorge. He eventually paddled the Ottawa, the Grand Canyon, the Gauley and the Upper Yough.

Off the river, Ray continues to enjoy teaching and has developed several new classes, taught other teachers and led two major restructuring efforts at his school in the last decade. Ray serves on the Red Cross Board of Directors for the Roanoke Chapter. Ray said he has been grateful for the contributions of past presidents and past boards and what they've done for the club. He said he's made good friends and many fine acquaintances through the club, and he's excited about being able to contribute as president

**Val Puster** has been a member of Coastal's since 1986. A kayaker, Val is often found on the James, Youghiogheny, New and lower Gauley and has twice paddled the Colorado River through Grand Canyon. He is a graduate of Randolph-Macon and the Medical College of Virginia. Val is a physician with Family Physicians of Chester. He sings in the Richmond Symphony Chorus, plays the piano is on the board of the Chester YMCA since 1991 and enjoys gardening and bee-keeping.

**Dave Bradford** lives in Yorktown, VA. He works at Surry Nuclear Power Station as a Control Room Operator. In 2001, Dave retired from the US Navy with 20 years of service and has been paddling for three years. Dave got involved in paddling when his wife Liz talked him into attending an Adventure Challenge two-day whitewater introduction class. Dave said he's been hooked ever since. Dave even sold his power boat and bought a sit-on-top to fish on Chesapeake Bay. Dave and Liz can often be found on both the upper and downtown Richmond sections of the James. Ray also likes the Appomattox and is looking

forward to coordinating a trip on Balcony Falls in 2007. Dave said he'd like to help the club reach paddlers of all styles and skill levels. He said he's gotten plenty of encouragement and advice from Coastal's members and he'd like to provide that kind of support to more people.

**Thomas Bernadas** was born and raised in New Orleans, Thomas has been a Richmond resident since 2001 and a Coastal's member since 2003. He has paddled extensively in the swamps, rivers, lakes and coastal waters of the Deep South. His padding resume includes the Atchafalaya Basin, rivers including the Rio Grande through Big Bend National Park and the Bogue Chitto in Mississippi, Robson Bight off Vancouver Island and Coastal Florida. An experienced sailor, he crewed with his father in the Gulf Ocean Racing Circuit even though he still can't tie a good knot. Primarily a whitewater kayaker with tendencies to open boating, he has paddled many East Coast rivers and creeks up to Class IV. On his list of favorite rivers are the Lower Big Sandy, Lower Yough and the Lower Gauley.

Thomas has a degree in History and Religious Studies from Louisiana State University and a Masters in Public Administration/Public Finance from the Public Administration Institute at Louisiana State University. He is employed as a Fiscal Policy Analyst with the Commonwealth of Virginia. Thomas' other interests include camping and backpacking, with a special love of Southwest Texas and Mexico, and cooking, music and travel. Thomas also really likes pie.

**Julie Wilson** moved from the flat waters of Kansas to Richmond in 1998 and had no idea what whitewater was really like until 2003, when she had her first taste on the Upper Gauley in a raft. The next summer she began life as a 'pod boater' and hasn't looked back at the Girl Scout camp days of "adventure": donning an orange vest and climbing into 18-foot aluminum Grumman to circle a stagnant pond. Today, Julie's favorite rivers include the Lower Yough, the Upper Tye and the Ocoee.

Julie has a degree in English Literature from the University of Missouri - Kansas City and is pursuing her Master's in Information Systems with a concentration in Information Engineering at VCU. She spends her days as an information technology analyst at the Virginia State Police and her evenings updating the Coastal's website. She enjoys photography, gadgets, watching people and discovering delicious treats in hole-in-the-wall restaurants.

## Moon, June, Spoon...

### Nolichucky!

David Bradford

We went down to Tennessee,  
Just to have a look and see  
'Bout the Nolichucky.

Near a thousand CFS  
Should have been a good first test  
On the Nolichucky.

On the Rocks and Quarter Mile  
Watched Liz go and saw her smile  
At the Nolichucky!☺

Somehow I got just off line  
Both holes flipped me in no time.  
Damn the Nolichucky!☹

Tried to roll to no avail  
Pull the skirt! It's time to bail!  
Swam the Nolichucky!

This is how it came to pass  
I got bruises on my @\$@  
From the Nolichucky!

I'm going back to Tennessee  
Maybe on run two or three  
I'll clean the Nolichucky!

## Conservation

David Bernard

Editor: the letter below will be sent to the Department of Conservation and Recreation

Robert Munson  
Planning Bureau Manager  
Department of Conservation and Recreation  
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Col. Munson,

This document reveals the hopes of Coastal Canoeists for the Virginia Outdoors Plan (VOP). We welcome this opportunity to participate in the VOP's revision.

Coastal Canoeists is Virginia's largest club for recreational paddlers. We have about 400 members in all parts of Virginia and even in neighboring states. We organize weekly paddling trips for our members and guests and promote safe paddling at every opportunity. We contribute to good projects and conservation organizations and twice a year we pick up trash in Goshen Pass before that day's paddling trip. We maintain a superb website Coastal.org to make it easy to learn about paddling activities.

We would very much like to have the Virginia Outdoors Plan resolve some long-standing issues that pose problems for paddlers in Virginia. These issues are water quality, dams, navigation rights, and safe and legal access to rivers and streams and tidal waters. We want all Virginians and visitors to count on a quality paddling experience wherever they live or travel in the Commonwealth.

**Water quality:** We know a lot of people have

been working on this problem for years and that the Commonwealth committed to spending 200,000,000 on water quality improvements. We hope this money proves a good investment. We don't like the fact that many polluters are having their cleanup costs paid by the Commonwealth rather than themselves. It seems neither fair nor efficient. We believe in individual responsibility. We are also concerned that too many cleanup programs are voluntary and will leave many sources of pollution untouched.

We paddlers know the difference between clean and pristine streams and muddy, stinky, and even dangerously dirty water. If we are paddling the latter, it is because we have to if we are to pursue the sport we love. Many streams can only be paddled at high water which is when runoff and overloaded treatment plants present their biggest problems. All Virginians should be confident that nearby and favorite streams are clean.



Ted McGarry discussed safety tips at Coastal's summer meeting photo: Andy Lee

## Conservation

*continued from previous page*

**Dams:** The problem of abandoned dams is highlighted when a drowning occurs or when immediate action is necessary to prevent a collapse. To us dams are usually a dangerous and annoying hindrance to navigation. There are some exceptions, and dam removal can provide an opportunity to make a good rapid. We appreciate the removal of Embrey Dam on the Rappahannock River and Balcony Falls Dam on James River and applaud the current work to remove a dam on the Rivanna River. Some dams, such as Flanagan Dam in Dickenson County and Schuyler Dam in Nelson County and Chesdin Dam on the Appomattox River above Petersburg, could be used to make electricity even as they release water for paddling. The Smoky Mountain region, the Youghiogheny River in Maryland and Pennsylvania, and the Gauley area in West Virginia have thriving paddling industries based on recreational dam releases. Virginia has excellent releases from Flanagan Dam and on the Dan River in Patrick County. We can increase our opportunities to make Virginia a paddling destination and we can use some existing dams to produce electricity too.

All dams should have a portage path.

Virginia can further develop and fund a comprehensive dam program based on owner responsibility, recreation and energy and wildlife needs, and a basic principle of "Use it or lose it."

**Navigation rights:** The legal question of the right to take a boat on a body of water seems to be lost in a maze of local tradition, commercial navigation history of past centuries, and a hodgepodge of legal interpretations of deeds made by local judges and elected officials. It is time for the Commonwealth of Virginia to recognize in law that our natural waters are exactly that, our common wealth. We want the right to travel on them so long as no harm is done to the water or neighboring land. Though modern boats can travel down a creek three feet wide, we believe a sensible solution would be to declare creeks to be public when they have drained a watershed of five square miles. By that time a Virginia creek is wide enough for a kayak to turn around in it.

**Safe and legal access:** Paddlers obtain access to Virginia water in a variety of ways, but all too often access is not available. Sometimes access is from the side of a road where no owner is apparent and the land is not useful for any development.

Sometimes local landowners give permission, sometimes DCR or a local agency has built a launch point. In Richmond, the city has cooperated with the James River Outdoor Coalition to build excellent access downtown. Coastal Canoeists has contributed financially to the development of the downtown takeout.

VDGIF maintains a number of paddle access points, but they are not currently developing any more.

VDOT does preserve or replace existing stream access when they replace or rehabilitate a bridge. However, they do not have funds or a policy of providing stream access where none exists now. VDOT should provide stream access, or at least acquire needed land, whenever major bridge work is done. Each and every stream or river crossing by a non-Interstate roadway should be mapped and evaluated for improvements possible to provide river access. A start in that direction is that EVERY time there is bridge construction that already requires permitting by DEQ, the review

toilets and changing rooms.

We also join with many other conservation organizations to urge the protection of water quality, wildlife habitat, and scenic views from inappropriate development along rivers and streams. Virginia now has an opportunity that may soon be lost to protect long stretches of rivers and streams from any development at all.

We would very much like to include these hopes for Virginia's rivers and streams in the newly revised Virginia Outdoors Plan. They will provide lasting benefit to future generations. Thank you for your consideration.

We look forward to working with the Commonwealth's outdoors professionals and other conservation and environmental groups to implement these goals. We will cooperate in any way we can to help you with this mission.

Sincerely,

David Bernard

Conservation Chair  
Coastal Canoeists



*Jim Pruitt in Lower Keeney during Ken Dubel's New River Rendezvous photo: Mike Sawyer*

process should include paddling river access. If for some reason access can not be provided at that location, then VDOT should be required to provide it elsewhere – just like wetlands mitigation.

We believe the Commonwealth should have an adequately funded office dedicated to providing paddling access to every navigable stream (navigable being described as any stream with a watershed greater than five square miles) in the Commonwealth. Remember, paddling access does not require the elaborate construction or land use of a motorboat launch site. It does require parking and an erosion resistant ramp or steps leading to the water. It could include, at more popular sites,

his overturned canoe about 300 yards from the campsite, near where they had left him the night before, and called for help.

Park rangers, with the help of Gates County emergency personnel, found his body submerged at about 12:45 p.m. Saturday.

Dr. M.G.F. Gilliland, chief medical examiner for Pitt County, found no evidence of foul play, a news release said. Greenwood said it was unclear how Constanzer's canoe tipped.

It was the only drowning at Merchants Millpond since the state took ownership of the park in the 1970s, Greenwood said.

## Virginia Man Drowns While Camping

*Lauren King*

A Virginia man drowned over the weekend at Merchants Millpond State Park. His death was ruled accidental.

Peter Paul Constanzer, 50, of New Kent, Va., was one of six friends camping at the canoe-in campground Friday night. They were about 300 yards from their camp site when most decided to head back to make dinner, said Jay Greenwood, the park's superintendent.

Constanzer decided to stay out and watch the stars. His friends said it wasn't unusual for him to stay out by himself, said Charlie Peek, spokesman for the state Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

The next morning, they realized he had not come back. They found



## Board of Directors

*Dane Goins*

**Date of Meeting:** October 21, 2006

**Location of Meeting:** Grove Hill Community Center, Shenandoah, Virginia

**Meeting Chaired by:** Scott Wiggins

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

**Board members present:** **Officers:** Scott Wiggins, Gretchen Cornell, Dane Goins. **Directors:** Martha James, Alicia Jahsmann, Ginny Newton, Jenny Wiley; Raymond Williams, **Committee Chairs:** Julie Wilson, Ken Dubel.

**Officer and Chair Reports:**

**President:** Scott Wiggins started the meeting at 4 p.m.

**Secretary:** 2005 Financial audit completed. All books were found to be in order. Assisted by club member Sally Wetzler who received a special "thank you" from the Board.

**Treasurer:** Gretchen Cornell presented the Treasurer's report: She distributed a P&L Statement, which showed dues income of \$1,206, expenses of \$1,700 and a net income of -\$372.48. **CaNews:** Reminder - need photos & articles for next quarterly newsletter.

**Conservation:** Noreport.

**Membership & Renewals:** Chuck Berkey's written report: As of this day, the Coastal's had the following membership: Members - 392, Newsletter Exchange - 28, Special Friends - 17

**Brochures:** No Report.

**Programs:** No Report.

**Cruise Chair:** Ken Dubel reports:

Not counting rolling sessions we had 87 club trips scheduled.

1. We had 32 people volunteer to coordinate these trips.

2. We had trips scheduled for 47 out of 52 weekends.

3. We had a good spread in terms of difficulty. Rough figures, 50% were novice to novice / intermediate trips, 30% were intermediate trips, and 20% were intermediate / advanced to advanced trips.

4. We had trips in Virginia, West Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Georgia, South Carolina, and even a trip to Canada.

5. Attendance on many of these trips was up, occasionally in a big way. Ken attributes much of this success to the popularity of the Internet message

board and the enthusiasm shown there.

6. Interest in "first timer" trips was also up, thanks to the volunteers who are willing to coordinate these. Ken plans to place continued emphasis on this sort of trip.

**Safety/Education:** Rob Ault's report:

1. For the next safety training session, we have 10 signed up and 5 more on the wait list, and 2 more "on call" list (if the price gets lower). From the interest we've had Andy is confident we can sign up 16 to 24 students.

2. There are two instruction companies Andy has interviewed so far. The first is Wilderness Safety Council in Alexandria. They provide one instructor

**Webmaster:** Julie Wilson: Reported the server move went well.

**Recognition:** Alicia Jahsmann presented an appreciation award to **Ken Dubel** for his superb efforts as the Cruise Chair. Also, special recognition to

**Scott Wiggins** for the fine job he performed for the last two years as club President. And special thanks to **Julie Wilson** for taking over his remaining year.

**Media:** Ginny Newton: Nothing new to report.

**Motions adopted:**

1. Motion passed to accept Julie Wilson to replace Scott Wiggins third year on the board.

2. Motion passed to accept Shawn Alexander as the new Sales Chair.

3. Motion passed to accept Martha James as the new Multi-Media Chair.

4. Motion passed to accept the nominated Board Members.

5. Motion passed to accept Ginny Newton as the next Coastal Secretary.

6. Motion passed to accept Raymond Williams as the next Coastal President.

**Motions rejected:** None

**New Business:**

1. Alternate meeting dates and locations were discussed. Spring Meeting - Camp Caesar in Webster Springs. Summer Meeting - Upper, Lower Yough, Middle Yough, Bloomington, Cheat Fall Meeting - Elkton, New River Gorge / Gauley area during Gauley Season. Winter Meet-

ing - Richmond. Discussion inconclusive.

2. Send a letter of support for FORVA's letter regarding pedestrian access to rivers over railroad tracks to encourage the state and the railroads to move forward on this issue. FORVA's letter is posted on the web site under the Board forum and is dated 9-22-06. Agreed to do the letter.

3. Rename Quarterly Meetings from "meeting" with "gathering", "program and dinner", "get-together" "picnic", potluck, pig pickin', discussion inconclusive.

**Project:** None

**Adjourned:** 5:30pm

**Program:** Mercy McBrayer of The Wildlife Center of Virginia gave an excellent presentation on their facility and its mission to provide care to undomesticated animals that would not survive in the wild.



*Mercy McBrayer of the Wildlife Center of Virginia introduces one of the Center's distinguished residents*

for up to 24 students. The WSC charges \$160 per student for the 2 day course, and that includes the facility, equipment but not lunch or notebook. The facility is the Girl Scout Camp in Goochland. The course would be the 2nd weekend of January. No group discount.

3. The second is Kanawha Rescue Company in Lynchburg. They provide 2 instructors for 16 to 24 students. Their normal fee is \$150 per person which includes the facility and everything but no lunch or notebook. They are working out a group discount for us. They have weekends open in December, January, February and March. Both of their instructors are paddlers and understand the unique needs of white water boaters. They use the Girl Scout Camp in Lynchburg.

**Sales:** Kathleen Lowery stepped down as Sales Chair and Shawn Alexander steps in with the approval of the Board.

## Membership

*Chuck Berkey*

**THIS IS YOUR LAST ISSUE  
OF CANEWS UNLESS .....  
YOU'VE  
PAID YOUR DUES**

### Membership Renewal

If the mailing label on this CaNEWS indicates your membership expires in Dec., 2006, you must renew your membership by 31 December. Send your \$20 dues to: Membership Chairman, 505 Winterberry Dr., Fredericksburg, VA 22405.

*Membership information is removed from  
the online issue*

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## Multimedia

### Ginny Newton

To obtain books or videos from Coastals' Multimedia Library - FREE - contact Ginny Newton online.

The rules are few, but important:

- 1) Be a Coastal Canoeist member.
- 2) The person who borrows the item is responsible for its well-being and timely return.
- 3) Borrowers need to provide their name, current address, phone number & e-mail address.
- 4) The length of time that items can be borrowed is as follows: If picked up at a quarterly meeting, it's due back at the next quarterly meeting. If received or to be returned through the mail, it's due back within 60 days.
- 5) For materials to be sent through the mail, the borrower needs to send a self-addressed, padded envelope with sufficient postage for the required items to the Multimedia Chair.

### BOOKS

Basic River Canoeing, Robert E. McNair, 1972. Canoeing and Kayaking, American Red Cross, 1981.

Canoeing and Kayaking Guide to the Carolinas, Bob & David Benner, 2002.

Catch Every Eddy, Surf Every Wave, Tom Foster and Kel Kelly, 1995; guide to whitewater playboating.

Exploring the Chesapeake in Small Boats, John Page Williams, Jr., 1992.

Falls of the James National Recreational River Feasibility Analysis, February 1992.

Garden State Canoeing, Edward Gertler, 2002; paddler's guide to New Jersey.

James River as Commonwealth, The, edited by Ann Woodleaf & Lynn Nelson, VCU, 1984.

Kayaking, Kent Ford, 1995; whitewater and sea kayaking.

Kayak Touring, Dave Harrison, 1998; skills for lakes and oceans \*\*new

Keystone Canoeing, Edward Gertler, 1993; paddler's guide to Eastern Pennsylvania.

Knots for Paddlers, ACA, Charlie Walbridge, 1995.

Maryland and Delaware Canoe Trails, Edward Gertler, 2002; paddler's guide.

Medicine for the Outdoors, Paul S. Auerbach, M.D., 1999; emergency medical procedures and first aid.

Paddle America, Nick Shears, 1992; a guide to trips and outfitters in all 50 states.

Paddle Your Own Canoe, Gary & Joanie McGuffin, 1999; canoe techniques.

Paddling Eastern North Carolina, Paul Ferguson, 2002; paddler's guide to Eastern N.C.

River Rescue, Bechdel & Ray, 1997; self-rescue to big water teamwork.

Rivers and Trails, David Gilbert, 1978; bicycle touring, backpacking and canoeing in the mid-Atlantic states.

Surf Kayaking, Nigel Foster, 1998; tutorial for paddle-powered surfing \*\*new

Texas Whitewater, Steve Daniel, 1999.

Virginia Whitewater, H. Roger Corbett, 2000; paddlers guide to Va. Rivers.

Whitewater Rescue Manual, Charlie Walbridge and Wayne Sundmacher, 1995.

Wildwater Touring, Scott and Margaret Arighi, 1974; a guide to extended tripping by canoe, kayak, drift boat and raft.

### INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEOS

American Red Cross Presents "Whitewater Primer"- basic instruction on rolls, eddy turns, surfing. "Uncalculated Risk" – foot entrapments, dams, hydraulics, strainers, hypothermia.

"A Margin for Error" – planning and logistics for safe paddling trips. 1979.. The information is presented in a real low key, clear way.

"Breakthru!"; 2000; intermediate and advance kayaking techniques; 63 min.

"C-1 Challenge, The"; Kent Ford, 1990; outfitting, rolling, and stroke instruction; 24 min.

"Cold, Wet & Alive"; A.C.A., 1989; paddling story about how hypothermia develops; 23 min.

**2 copies**  
"Drill Time, Solo Playboating II", Performance Video; 1997; canoe drills; 58 min.

"Drowning Machine, The"; dangers of lowhead dams and basic rescue techniques.

"Fast Track to Kayaking"; Sam Drevo; 2002; comprehensive beginner's video; 40 min.

"Grace Under Pressure"; 1992; learning the kayak roll; 46 min.

"Guide to Canoeing"; L.L.Bean; types of canoes, equipment, strokes, maneuvers; 90 min.

"Heads Up!"; ACA; 1993; river hazards and rescue techniques; 28 min. **2 copies**

"How to Organize a Successful River Outdoor Cleanup"; Surf Dog Productions, 1991; 18 min.

"In The Surf"; 1999; surf kayak instruction; 60 min.

"Introduction to Canoeing"; selecting a canoe, equipment, strokes, eddy turns and peel outs, transporting your canoe, knots, reading the river;

35 min. **2 copies**

"Kayaker's Edge, The"; 1992; rolling, bracing, surfing techniques; 58 min.

"Kayaking"; Eric Jackson; skills video - strokes, concepts, and rolling; 90 min.

"Liquid Skills"; Ken Whiting; 2001; techniques for beginners to advanced kayakers; 45 min

"Path of a Paddle"; Bill Mason, 1977; complete course on whitewater canoeing; 54 min.

"Path of a Paddle"; Bill Mason; canoeing-solo and double, basic and whitewater; 112 min.

"Play Daze"; 1999; freestyle kayaking techniques; 60 min.

"QuickStart Your Canoe"; ACA, 2003; entry level guide to safety and paddling; 20 min.

"QuickStart Your Kayak"; ACA 2003; entry level guide to safety and paddling; 25 min.

"Retendo!"; 1996; art of precision playboating; 59 min.

"Sea Kayaking, Getting Started"; 1995; beginner sea kayaking; 85 min.

"Soar, Skills of All Rivers"; intermediate and advanced kayaking techniques.

"Swiftwater Rescue Training"; actual footage of a rescue at Williams Dam, Richmond, VA and at Little Falls, MD; 22 min.

"Take the Wild Ride"; 1994; freestyle kayaking w/ the world's best playboaters; 52 min.

"Whitewater Kayaking - National Paddlesport Safety System", A.C.A.; risks involved in whitewater boating, defensive and aggressive swimming, dealing with hazards.

"Whitewater Self Defense"; 1998; kayaking safety techniques; 65 min.

### VIDEOS

"Area Verde Expeditions", 1997; kayaking expedition in Guatemala. **2 copies**

"Class VI River Runners Raft Trip", 1989; commercial video of raft trips on Upper Gauley & New Rivers.

"Costa Rica Rios Aventuras" **2 copies**

"Deliver Me From The Paddlesnake 2"; 2000; boating clips of the Chattooga; 40 min.

"Forks of the Cheat", 1989; documentary – history, present issues; 58 min. **2 copies**

"Grand Canyon Adventure", 1995; home video; 140 min. **2 copies**

"Grand Canyon Whitewater", 1995; home video; 110 min.

"James River in Richmond in 1970"; home video. **2 copies**

"Over the Edge", 1999; freestyle kayaking, and world record waterfall descent.

"Paddle Frenzy", 1994; kayaking odyssey on Northwest whitewater; 35 min.

"Perpetual Motion", 1994; kayaking odyssey on Glade and Manns Creek of the New River Gorge; 30 min.

"Savage"; commercial video of rodeo boating featuring Savage gear.

"Steep Geeking with Catfish", 1993; home video with lots of carnage on the Gauley, Russell Fork, Chattooga, Green, etc.

"Rick Taylor's Solo Canoe"; 93 min.

"Token of My Extreme"; 1992; hairboating w/Thrillseekers and squirt boats; 36 min.

"Treading Water: A Fight for the Survival of the Pamunkey and Mattaponi Rivers"; The Virginia Report; 28 min.

"Upper Tye and Piney Rivers", 1972; Les Frye footage; 20 min.

"White Mile"; an HBO original movie starring Alan Alda. **2 copies**

### DVD'S

Yoga for Paddlers with Andria Baldovin, R.Y.T. to increase strength, flexibility, balance, confidence, and focus.

A Kayaker's Toolbox by Joe Holt – boat control, water reading, river running, rolling, and safety

## Recognition

*Alicia Jahsmann*

### Club recognizes Chuck Berkey

At the summer meeting, we were pleased to honor Chuck Berkey for his years of service to the club, especially as Membership Chair. Chuck's been a Coastal for 31 years. He was a board member from 1983-86 and began work on the database for the membership and roster in the mid-'80s. He formally became Membership Chair in early 1990.

Chuck was presented with a fleece jacket with his name and the Coastal's emblem, along with a desk pen, engraved with the Coastal's emblem and the words, "Chuck Berkey, Membership Chair Extraordinaire." He truly deserves our recognition and appreciation.

If there is a club member you feel deserves special recognition, please let me know.

### Ken Dubel honored as club ambassador

Ken Dubel was recognized at the Fall Meeting for the considerable work he has done both on the Leadership Team and on the river. Most know him as the Coastals Cruise Chair, a position he's done since spring, 2002. In addition to this role, he served on the Board of Directors 2001-2004, which also included serving as Secretary the latter two years. He's been a club member for 7 years.

A number of Coastals gave testimonials to how Ken has had a positive impact on them personally and on the club. Club president, Scott Wiggins, shared that Cruise Chair is probably the most important job in the club. Paddling rivers is why we're here, isn't it?!? Ken makes sure that novice and first timers' trips are plentiful on the schedule, along with a variety of other trips throughout the area. He also mentors paddlers and trip coordinators throughout the year. Terri Bsullack told the story of how he put her in the bow of his OC2 for her 1<sup>st</sup> club trip, while Marie, a newbie that day on the Shenandoah, was appreciative of Ken's instruction on the river.

One member, John Sills, was unable to attend the meeting, but shared this sentiment via email. "It's only thanks to folks like him that this group functions. He conscientiously contributes much time, energy and enthusiasm, and acts as a careful, considerate leader, coach and rescue crew. His interest in people and the world around him benefits us all. We're very lucky to have him as a friend."

Ken was presented with a paddling shirt and chair pad embroidered with his paddling nick name, "bambam." This should ease the pain of kayak butt while he sits at his computer, watching

## T R I P R E P O R T S

### New River

*Ken Dubel*

September 1, 2, 3, 4 found numerous members of various tribes eyeing the weather and water levels and contemplating travel to the New River Rendezvous. I haven't heard back yet from anyone who regretted making the trip.

Personally, I had a great time.

My first New River Rendezvous was in 1999. Reviving ancient kudos to the Chapelle's for organizing that one, I arrived knowing nearly nobody and eager to learn. Feeling welcome and enthused, I and my translucent-due-to-age semi-white Perception Dancer braved the raging upper sections of the New along with the heinous shuttles and had great fun. Under the tutelage of the greatly missed Garland Reece, I learned to turn eddies and flip on-purpose

Enter some higher water and one other key element -- rubber, a la Mike Sawyer. He brought a whole fleet. We had one giant raft captained by Mike, a small raft captained by the newly appointed me, two shredders, I think four kayaks, and one canoe on Saturday for a run down the gorge. Mike had no trouble filling his raft with volunteers -- mostly folks who would not otherwise be comfortable on the gorge. After explaining to the crowd that I had not captained a raft on the NRG before and had not run it quite this high before, I noticed a curious dearth of volunteers. My five person raft had a crew of two -- Barb Franco and me. (Thanks Barb for sticking up for me). No worries, at the put in Mike kicked three people out of his raft and "volunteered" them to me.

Warming up at the put in, I noticed with some alarm that this little raft, a Puma of some sort, was remarkably nimble. Equating "nimble" with "unstable" as is so often the case with hardboats and glancing at the gauge, I found myself quoting Sheriff Bradey when he first saw the Jaws shark, "We need a bigger boat."

The river was running around three feet at Fayette Station and dropping. This made for some bigger water and some bigger holes but also smoothed out some of the rapids. It also contributed to some no-blood-no-foul carnage. The hole at Upper Railroad ate a yakker. He fought it quite well actually and after some violent surfing and several enders he flushed free but ended up pulling the loop. Middle Keeney was its usual frothy chaotic mess but bigger and this ate him again. It was a bit of an eye-opener that his boat flushed all the way to the brink of the sieve below, Meat Grinder, to be recovered by Steve Revier and Lisa in a shredder. Table Rock at the bottom of Double Z becomes Table HOLE at this level and it chewed on several yaks and spat them back out somewhat humbled but unharmed.

Meanwhile, back in the raft, I realized I was taking my crew down the open boat lines which made for a drier ride but perhaps not exactly what rafters like to do. While they are indeed open boats, these days rafts are self-bailing so it's okay to run the meat most of the time. It was a blast. The capper, as usual, was Fayette Station. At this level the waves were huge, woo hoo's all around. Gigantic thanks to Mike for the boat loan.

Sunday was a more civilized half a foot or so on the gauge and it was a kayak day for me. We had four first-timers with us. I took



*Ken "bambam" Dubel is recognized for his contributions at the Annual Meeting*

in gentle deep wave trains and roll back up.

Fast forward to 2006 and I'm ready to give a little something back. I go there prepared to do what it takes to get newbies on the river. This year it was made easy for me and tons-o-fun too. Thanks to the efforts of folks like Andy Lee and Richard Hopley, we had trips on the upper sections covered each day.

gauges and scheduling trips.

If you know someone you'd like to see recognized, please contact me.

# T R I P R E P O R T S

## Yampa River

from page 1

and Marie Derdeyn and Scott and Marianna Broadus, OC2; and Kristi and Larry Gross and Phil Leider, OC1.

We met at Deerlodge Park on 7/20/06 to distribute common gear and get ready for the ranger inspection and launch. The water level was 400 cfs and falling slowly. Take out would be Echo Park, just past the confluence with the Green River. The scenery was great. The camaraderie was excellent as were the photo opportunities. The weather was hot but tempered regularly by cool river water. The wildlife, mostly big horn sheep and elk, exceeded expectations. The water level was adequate, albeit with a few "step outs" at rock gardens and sand beds. The only rapid of mild concern, named Warm Springs, was run by all boats but with tandem boaters portaging partial loads.

Special attention needed: (1) the planning and non-refundable permit expense of establishing an alternative trip if the water level dropped too low. (2) Difficulty determining precisely what "required equipment" would meet NPS ranger approval at inspection, mainly regarding PFDs, floatation and helmets. You don't want to learn at a remote site that you need different equipment on the day of your permit launch date. (See next article)

## Equipment Required NPS

Scott Broadus

I suspect that most paddlers choose their PFDs and safety equipment carefully. However, equipment which meets their (or your) criteria might not meet those of the NPS and its inspecting rangers. For your PFD, you might choose high buoyancy floatation or lower buoyancy for comfort, pull over or front zipper for ease of entry, crotch straps or more, but the inspecting ranger will probably only look to see if it is a type I, III or V and that the label says US Coast Guard approved for whitewater, canoeing, kayaking or rafting.

On a recent Grand Canyon trip, I expected no problem with my type III PFD with 27 lbs floatation, waist and crotch straps and in good condition.

But the ranger rejected it because the label stated "for recreational use on non commercial craft". It did not state approved for whitewater use. So I had to use a loaner from the outfitter. The ranger did not inspect helmets or boat floatation. Perhaps they weren't required, but they were used by all paddlers.

For a low water trip on the Yampa River in NW Colorado, through Dinosaur National Monument, requirements included: (1) "USCG approved type I, III or V PFD approved for whitewater use (rafting, paddling, kayaking, etc)", (2) helmets for all

the most buoyancy, effective for all waters especially open, rough or remote waters where rescue may be delayed and designed to turn most unconscious wearers in the water face up. Although rarely used by paddlers, they have some common beneficial features. Minimum inherent (foam) adult floatation – 22 lbs.

Type III – the most common type for paddlers, are good "for conscious users in calm, inland water or where there is a good chance of quick rescue". Minimum foam adult floatation – 15.5 lbs. Other type IIIs **NOT APPROVED BY NPS** are for fishing, sailing, water skiing or are inflatables.

ing, sailing, water skiing or are inflatables.

Type V – special use PFDs approved "only if used according to conditions on the label". For paddlers, type Vs for rescue is approved. Minimum foam adult floatation–15.5 – 22 lbs.

5. The approval process is conducted by Underwriters Lab or other professional testers and the "use" wording is most likely supplied by the manufacturer when the product is submitted for approval. So although PFDs may be identical, if the label does not state the needed "approved for" purpose, it won't pass inspection. Obviously, the label must be present and legible also.

Remember that state and other government agency regulations may apply also.

Always put your and the group's safety first in your planning, your equipment

and your performance.

## New River from previous page

the three yackers, Lisa (last name?), Chris Oberlain, and Brenton, while Alicia took Jim Pruitt in his canoe. All had outstanding strong runs. We had one minor swim at Bloody Nose due largely to my taking of a crappy line and being followed down it. Jim landed a textbook bomber OC-1 roll in the meat of Lower Keeney.

On Monday the river came back up to around one foot eight. It was an OC-2 day for Alicia and me. We had done this before but at lower water. We had a great time and a clean run except for one short bow bonk to a boulder in Dudley's Dip. We would have been fine but Alicia hasn't figured out how to read my mind yet.



canoeists and kayakers to be worn on "named rapids" (no specifications given), (3) open whitewater canoes must have "floatation 2/3 of volume or 8 cu ft" (but waterproof baggage is allowed as floatation) and (4) rescue throw ropes of 40 ft. Our trip was at the near lowest level runnable tandem with camping gear, and the ranger gave cursory review of gear, probably because of the low water and obviously experienced paddlers.

So what was learned?

1. Failure to meet the requirements of the NPS ranger can ruin your and the group's schedule.
2. be diligent in learning the current requirements and meeting or exceeding them.
3. Get hard copy of the regulations and ask for explanation of whatever is not understood.
4. Understand the differences in PFD types.

Type I – described as off shore jackets providing

# T R I P R E P O R T S

## Canoeing the Cashie

Tom McCloud

Nov. 18-19-20, 2006

Only three of us, Tom Cole, Bob Kimmel and I, decided to do the scheduled canoe camper, and with very heavy rain in the previous week, chose the Cashie as a safe alternate. Safe because we knew we could climb up onto the wooden platforms to camp during these high water times. We met at Robeson's Marina on Rt. 64 between Williamston and Jamesville, where we picked up our permits to use the Roanoke River Partners (<http://www.roanokeriverpartners.org>) platforms along the river, then drove to the take-out at the NC Wildlife access ramp on the south side of the Rt. 45 Bridge. After consolidating gear and piling everything into Tom Cole's van, we motored up to Windsor, where exists plenty of parking and a boat ramp. So it was noon on Saturday, the

sun was out, and we were afloat, headed down a brown water swamp stream with barely perceptible current. Perhaps 80 feet wide at put-in, the Cashie gradually widens. There aren't a whole lot of landmarks, but there are occasional high spots of land. Sometimes a gravel road ends near the river, or a farm field can be seen, but mostly the scenery is of swamp woods, cypress, gum and oak, with pine on the slightly higher hummocks. About 4:00 p.m. we found Lost Boat platform, tucked away in a side channel, not visible from the river itself. There was already a couple, with two dogs, camped there. We hadn't expected to see anyone else at this time of year. They offered to leave, since they did not have a permit, but considering the lateness of the hour, and the fact that there was enough room on the platform for all of us, we just moved in. It was dark before we'd finished cooking and eating, and with nothing much to do but sit around in the dark and get cold, we crawled into the sacks not much past 8:00 p.m. It was a cool, dry night, with

the calling of some owls heard.

Being camped on the river, it was nothing to be packed and afloat at 8:00 a.m. The scenery stays about the same with lots of bald cypress, and occasional high ground every few miles where you can step out of the canoe. Most of the land along the way is privately owned on the left, with some wildlife and refuge land on the right. We took it very easy, investigating anything of interest

showed little use, as it was covered by an inch of cypress needles and leaves. Apparently the woodpeckers love it as the end posts have been heavily hammered by them. We swept it clear and set up tents, so they could dry of last night's dew. With plenty of time and daylight Bob and I paddled further back in Broad Creek, as far as we could get in several channels. There is plenty of evidence

of beaver, which have already felled enough trees to close off some narrow passages and we saw one beaver up close. A long happy hour began at 4:00 p.m. and continued through supper and nightfall. Too bad we can't have a campfire on the platforms. It took effort to stay out of the sacks until 9:00 p.m. It was another cool and dry night.

After breakfast and packing, we were again on the water at 8:00 a.m. A pair of big birds, so far



Tom McCloud and Tom Cole relax on the Cashie

photo Bob Kimmel

along the way. One stop was at the San Souci ferry where I talked with the tender. He said that the ferry had been shut down for three days because of high water, but that he'd just put the first truck across that morning, and was hoping for more to relieve his boredom. There is parking on river right, so this place can be used as an alternate put-in or take-out. The river becomes increasingly wide, over 100 yards, and would not be a good choice for a paddle on a windy day. The weather could not have been better for mid-November, sunny without a cloud, no wind, and near 70 degrees. There was a long lunch stop with some exploring and even a brief nap in the sun. At a couple places more than one channel exists and keeping to the left is the place to be. We saw a few water birds, great blue herons and squirrels. Not much past 1:00 p.m. we were at the juncture with Broad Creek, and turned up it.

After an hour of paddling through a narrowing channel we reached the Otter One platform, which

away they were only silhouettes, were sparring with each other. We guessed they were eagles. In just an hour could see the Rt. 45 Bridge. Crossing from the Cashie side on the north to the far south of the Roanoke can be done by following the bridge pilings, and through here it seemed like the current changed directions several times. And so it was that by 10:30 a.m. on Monday we were again loaded and ready to roll on toward our respective next Thanksgiving commitments. November canoe camping doesn't get much softer, or better, than this.

### from the dusty files of Charlie Random:

Under the caption "Another thing not to do in a canoe," *McLean's* Canada's news magazine, carried an account of Artist Tom Thompson who died an odd death: his body "was found in an Ontario lake. He stood in his canoe to, uh, relieve himself, and fell out. The vast majority of canoe-fishermen drowning are found with their flies open." (Fly fishermen?)

## Cruise Schedule

*Ken Dubel*

**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.

<b>Dates</b>	<b>River</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>	<b>Contact</b>
1/1	James in Richmond Chilly Chili Paddle	All	Corn	
1/13	Nottoway River Camper Cutbank to Jarratt, no dogs please	I	Doug Jessee	
1/20	Quarterly meeting Brandermill Community Center (Richmond) Flatwater Swift Creek Res. Mike, Upper & Lower James Thomas	All	Mike Dean Thomas Bernadas	
1/27	Sat. Dealer's Choice in the area, Sun. cleanup/hike in Giles County	I	David Bernard	
2/3	Gretchen turns 29, Dealer's Choice (Richmond area)	I	Jenny Wiley	
2/3	Appomattox River, Chesdin to VA State College	I	Doug Jessee	
2/10	Rappahannock watershed (Culpeper area)	N/I	Richard Burke	
2/10	Dealer's choice (within ten hours of Richmond)	I	Shawn Alexander	
2/17	Hardware River (sw of Charlottesville) if his shoulder holds out	N/I	Richard Walters	
2/17	James at Balcony Falls (towards Lynchburg)	N/I	Dave/Liz Bradford	
2/24	Sat. Dealer's Choice, Sun. cleanup/hike in Wythe County (SW VA)	I	David Bernard	
2/24	Staunton River Camper, Long Island to Brookneal, no dogs please	I	Doug Jessee	
3/3	Shanghai to Tomahawk, Sat. only, followed by dinner	N/I	Ed Gertler	
3/3	Wilson Creek (NC)	A	Dave Kessmann	
3/10	Goshen Pass roadside cleanup. Goshen Pass &/or Balcony	All	Alicia Jahsmann	
3/17	Nottoway, two sections	N	Doug Jessee	
3/17	Saint Patricks Day on the Maury below Rockbridge Baths	N/I	Jenny Wiley	
3/24	James at Scottsville	N/I	Martha James	
3/24	Roanoke River, Gaston to Weldon	N/I	Doug Jessee	
3/31	3rd annual Webster Springs Festival (WV) Race has something for all, Dave looking at advanced creeks	*	Dave Kessmann	
4/7	Three day Easter weekend Potomac Smokehole trip (WV)	I	Tom McCloud	
4/7	James in Richmond, Upper Sat., Lower Sun.	N/I, I	Doug Jessee	
4/14	All week possible, small streams east of the Blue Ridge	I, I/A	David Bernard	
4/14	4th annual Tellico Upper & Lower (TN)	A/I	Karl Gordon	
<b>Dates</b>	<b>Information on Rolling Sessions</b>	<b>Rate</b>	<b>Coordinator</b>	
3/4, 3/11 3/18	Rolling, Chester Y, \$5	All	Val Puster	
1/21 2/4 4/1	Kayak roll instruction. Manchester YMCA 8:00-11:00 a.m. 3 instructors / 8 students. Equipment provided. \$40.	All	Chesterfield Parks & Recreation	
12/10 1/14 2/11	Victory YMCA Yorktown rolling practice, no instruction, \$5	All	Dave & Liz Bradford	
1/14 1/28 2/11 2/25 3/11 3/25	Appomattox River Company Midlothian roll practice, no instruction, \$5 in advance, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	All	ARC	
12/17 1/28 2/15	Victory YMCA Yorktown rolling practice, instruction, \$20	All	Dave & Liz Bradford	

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*Chuck Berkey is recognized by Alicia Jahsmann for his many years of service* photo: Andy Lee

**Chuck Berkey**  
**Membership Chair**  
**Coastal CaNEWS**  
**505 Winterberry Drive**  
**Fredericksburg, VA 22405-2060**

**Quarterly Meeting**  
**Saturday, Jan 20**  
**See Page 2 for Details**

**Dated Material: Please Expedite!**