



The Chairman's Cockpit

Four oversized silver print photographs showing the May 1956 whitewater race that kicked off the formation of the club were found online by George Malusky of the Sycamore Island Canoe Club and passed on to CCA. An image of Bill and Frank Havens crossing the finish line in first place is on the back cover. That the Haven brothers were Olympic gold medalists paddling out of the Washington Canoe Club just adds substance to that first race. The race not only attracted Olympians, but also the finest Baltimore Sunpaper photographer! Nineteen paddlers made the news in at least two cities! Impressive.

Following the March 30th history talk by your Chair, Phil Hugill came up to me with a ragged album. Inside was a catalogue of Phil's racing career under the Canoe Cruisers' banner in the sixties. His principal partner was Barbara Wright, the first K-1W to break the top ten at the World Championships. He also competed C-2 with Dick Bridge and Bill Bickham. What was most illuminating was the complete race results of the Salida, Colorado slalom. At the time, this was the only slalom in the United States. The dearth of whitewater races was the impetus to start a whitewater club in Washington, D.C.

What I had not realized was that on top of leading, instructing and organizing in the East, CCA's leaders were traveling all the way to Colorado. They were that anxious to compete. WOW

I am so proud of what the Canoe Cruisers Association is still accomplishing a mere 62 years later.

Our trip schedule is top notch. We have had two leader/coordinator training scheduled, one led by Alf Cooley; the other by Charleie Duffy. Susan, our webmaster, is doing a superior job communicating with the membership. The river access committee is keeping abreast of the current construction projects of the C&O Canal, waiting to step in to repair/or replace hazardous put-ins and take-outs.

CCA is actively supporting the goal of a safe official railroad crossing at Weaerton. Admittedly the situation is requiring a lot of patience — so please bear with us.

Spring has popped! Great Falls is at an impressive six feet. The surfers are happy! West Virginia is bubbling. Paddle on! Enjoy the best season of the year.

SYOTR

Barb

Downriver Race on May 12

The Downriver Race on May 12 can always use volunteer help with safety boating, food pickup and the like. Contact Howard Morland if you would like to volunteer: 703-525-1429
hbmorland@aol.com

If any questions on the race and updates see the website at <http://www.canoecruisers.org/>

Further information on Pages 3 and 16.

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Canoe Cruisers Association
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Instruction: Charlie Duffy: **Pool Rolling:** Ron Ray

CCA Meetings 7:00 pm

Clara Barton Community Center,
7425 MacArthur Blvd.

Cabin John, MD

Directions: <http://www.canoecruisers.org/meetings.html>

CCA Programs Coordinator:

Ed Gertler: 301 585 4381 e_gertler@yahoo.com.

Suggestions for meetings or willing speakers
would be welcome

CCA Meetings 7:00 pm

20178 schedule. Most likely

April 30, Steve Taylor

June 25, Potomac Riverkeeper's Dean Naujoks.

Sept. 24, Monday, TBD

Oct. 29, Monday, TBD

Dec. 7, Friday. Holiday Party and swap.

Monday, April 30

Steve Taylor -- "Why do Drownings continue from Swimming in the Potomac Gorge?"

Monday, June 25

Continuing our tradition of showcasing our local environmental warriors, we have invited the Potomac Riverkeeper to brief us on our watershed's challenges and what they are doing. Our guest speaker will be Dean Naujoks. Lets give him a warm welcome.

Steve Taylor, April 30 speaker.

We are pleased to announce that we have a live speaker this evening -- Steve Taylor -- whose unique subject will be "Why do Drownings continue from Swimming in the Potomac Gorge?" Steve says "In part, this question is addressed in light of "Safety Culture" programs for complex systems that have notably reduced accidents, such as with the airlines."

He says that "this will be an audience participating presentation. School will be in. You may get fingered to answer a question. Homework will be given."

A note about Steve: Steve has been part of our local paddling community since the late 70s. He is a scientist who has lent his expertise to, among other things, securing water on the Upper Yough, preventing a hydropower project that would have dewatered part of the Gauley, and securing water releases on New York's Black River. It is worth showing up this evening just to thank Steve for all he has done for our rivers. Please join us.



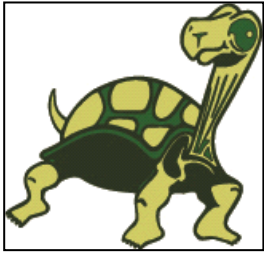
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Submissions to the Cruiser

Should be made via e-mail to newsletter@canoecruisers.org, or directly to the editor at jodyg13@hotmail.com or submitted on disk, or typed for scanning. No special formatting is required and is discouraged, also use plain easy to read text (fonts) such as arial or times new roman. Single spaced preferred. **Photos**—are strongly encouraged and can be e-mailed (preferred), or snail-mailed. Color photos are preferred.

Advertisements: Classified Ads—The first 5 lines are free. Each additional line is 75 cents per line. Send classified ads to newsletter@canoecruisers.org; **Lost & Found**—No charge. **Give-Aways**—No charge. **Paddlers Flea Market**—on the web at canoecruisers.org—No charge. **Display Ads**—Special Rates are available regular prices: Quarter page \$40, half page \$75, full page \$150, insert \$300-\$450. Display ads can be submitted via e-mail, 3.5" disk or CD-R. Hard copy ads will be scanned. Advertisers receive a link on our web site. For additional information, e-mail newsletter@canoecruisers.org, or advertising@canoecruisers.org or call Joan Goodbody, editor at 703-887-5013. **Payment**—must be received prior to publication. **Mailing Address**—Cruiser Editor, Canoe Cruisers Association, c/o Virginia DeSeau 1105 Highwood Rd., Rockville, MD 20851 or direct to editor at: 7829 Curtis Lane, Spotsylvania, VA 22551.



CCA POTOMAC DOWNRIVER RACE SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2018

Howard Morland, CCA Downriver Race Chair,
Mike Corcoran, PWRC President
Star Mitchell, Sycamore Island Liaison



What race do you know of that has lasted consecutively for 63 years? The 63rd running of the CCA Potomac Downriver Race hosted by Sycamore Island and co-sponsored by Potomac Whitewater Racing Center will be Saturday, May 12th. COME AND BE A PART OF ONE OF THE GREATEST AND LONGEST RUNNING WHITEWATER RACES IN THE NATION! JOIN THE FUN!

Online registration is now easy. Advance registration is \$20, day of race the registration fee will increase to \$25. Note also that \$5 per paddler must be included in the fee for insurance unless the paddler is a member of ACA (American Canoe Association). Tandem teams register and pay as two individuals. Liability forms **must** be signed on race day.

The Maryland Canoe & Kayak Racing Series event begins at Rocky Island on the Potomac River just above Wet Bottom Rapid and continues for 7.5 miles to Sycamore Island. The race also will be a USA Wildwater Ranking Race. At the end of the race, a free T-shirt and a free lunch will be given to all workers and racers, and there will be a ceremony with awards and prizes for the winners. (If you do not attend the ceremony, do not expect to receive the above! No awards will be mailed!)

Sign-in begins at 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Great Falls Tavern/C&O National Park in Potomac, Maryland, followed by a **mandatory meeting** for all racers. If the Little Falls Gauge is over 5 feet, the race will start at the Old Anglers Inn put-in. And if the gauge is over 6 feet, the race will be postponed. Notice regarding any changes will be posted on the CCA, PWRC, and MCC websites. **You will be notified of changes by email if you register in advance.**

This is a race for any whitewater paddler from the pros to parent/child tandem teams, but this is **NOT A NOVICE RACE**. All participants should have experience in and be comfortable with up to **Class III rapids**. Participants may enter with any type of a boat provided it is properly outfitted with **adequate flotation** (air bags) and all occupants of the boat are wearing a **helmet and a PFD** (life jacket).

If you plan to paddle the race, **PLEASE PRE-REGISTER** to help with registration and planning. Please do not bring two cars to the race -- parking will be difficult on Clara Barton Parkway (One can also park on McArthur). **See webpage for additional information and update on parking or shuttles.**

VOLUNTEER helpers are needed for **safety boats** and for helping at the registration at Great Falls and at the finish at Sycamore Island. Volunteers will receive the gratitude of the racers, a sense of participating in an important annual river event, a race T-shirt, and lunch.

Anyone interested in helping out with this year's race should **contact Howard Morland** at **703-525-1429** or e-mail hbmorland@aol.com. **DO JOIN THE FUN!!**

Go to the website to register online at: [Potomac Downriver Race - 5/12/2017](http://www.canoeclub.org/content.aspx?page_id=87&club_id=394800&item_id=769430)
(http://www.canoeclub.org/content.aspx?page_id=87&club_id=394800&item_id=769430)

Links to these forms are on the CCA website indicated above.



CCA Defends Access to the River

by Alf Cooley

Our new Access Committee continues to focus on moves by the authorities and corporations (the C&O Canal Park, Loudoun Parks, and the CSX RR) in Georgetown, Montgomery & Loudoun Counties, and Harpers Ferry that deeply affect our ability to get to the Potomac and tributaries.

Canal Rewatering – John Snitzer and Barb Brown followed up several informal contacts with the C&O NHP by meeting its Superintendent Kevin Brandt and his deputy John Noel at Park HQ up in Hagerstown to discuss how we might cooperate to see that boater interests were taken into account as the Park moves ahead with its \$7 million project to refill portions of the Canal between Violettes Lock and Georgetown. We continue engaged with them.

Weverton RR Crossing – This is the remaining take-out in Maryland for boaters running the Needles section of the Potomac and the Staircase section of the Shenandoah, past Harpers Ferry. In early Feb soon after a meeting of stakeholders, CCA, which was not present heard that the CSX RR had put up signs warning boaters and hikers that the RR has declared it to be a “private crossing.” At the same time CSX removed the white posts that inform its engineers to sound warning blasts as their trains approach the crossing. This crossing is used by 20,000 people each year, including users of the Appalachian Trail, which crosses there. CCA and a number of other organizations are working hard on how to effectively counter this move, which drastically cuts access to one of the most beloved intermediate paddles in our area.

At **Goose Creek** your Access Committee explored the likely put-in, where a facility comparable to the Kephart Landing is in the wind, but found no construction. However, we did find a way to the Goose Reservoir, down which and Golf Course Rapid we'll schedule an exploratory trip later in the season.

CCA Access Goals: 1. Getting the lower Canal rewatered sooner rather than later to facilitate paddling on the river (the Little Falls and Violettes/

GW Canal paddle-back loops) 2. Improved physical access for the elderly, disabled veterans and beginning paddlers at popular access points (Lock 5, Lock 10, Anglers, Violettes) 3. Again pressing for access to Goose Ck. 4. Reversing the RR's blocking the Weverton crossing. We're in discussions, too, with natural allies like Team River Runner and the Washington Canoe Club. We're glad to have folks join us who are interested in working on securing or improving access to a specific stream. Dave Cottingham, Jim Findling, and Jim Scott are some who are engaged in specific parts of this. If you are interested, please join us.

Rolling Classes, Tuesdays, Continue until March 27.

Same time, Same Place.

When: Every Tuesday

For Interested contact

Time: 8 - 10 pm

Ron Ray

Place: Takoma Park/Piney Branch Pool

For further information contact Ron at:

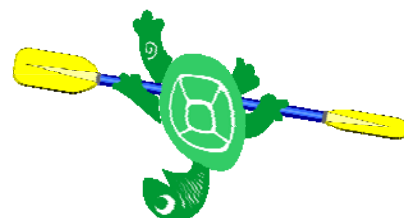
7500 Maple Avenue

Email: ronaldaray@verizon.net

Takoma Park, MD 20912

Sessions are canceled when Montgomery County authorities close schools and other public venues due to snow emergencies.

See schedule (Pages 13-15) for more details.



10 Possible Loops – 5 Loops + 5 Out-and-Backs:

Compiled by Access Committee. Written by Alf Cooley

C&O Canal Rewatering – Ideas to Create (and Restore) Loop Trips

Attentive readers will have seen earlier reports in the Cruiser – and in this one - about the C&O Canal Park's interest in rewatering the lower 22 miles of the waterway, and of the CCA's engaging those authorities and the Washington Canoe Club and Team River Runner to cooperate in furthering a paddler and rower perspective to the changes that are afoot. The following is a set of ideas for possible loop trips (up the Canal, down the Potomac) – and simple out-and-back forays that could be created.

If this interests you, please contact Access Committee Chair John Snitzer navajuela@comcast.net

Bear in mind that water runs downhill (from the two feeder dams at Violettes [Lock 23] and Lock 5. The term "level" is used for each Canal section above the eponymous lock:

PRIORITY I - Restore water into "our" sections (Violettes & Little Falls Loops) [Level 4 and Level 22] soonest, viz –

Violettes-GW Canal Loop: (2.5 canal-miles) The run is from Violettes across the Potomac to the GW Canal, back across at end, return to Canal at Mi 21. Held by Pennyfield Lock, which is brand-new refurbished – and like all Lock gates, has an adjacent waste-weir for the blocked water to run back to the river. This level needs to be replastered (clay put in to line the prism).

Dalecarlia Intake/Little Falls Loop: (0.3 canal-miles) Water for the return portion of the paddler loop (Lock 6/Feeder Canal down Z Channel, Potomac, Little Falls) is retained by Lock 4 down in Georgetown, currently under construction. CCA has pressed for a coffer dam, but the Park says the lock will be done by Summer. The Park's first priority is to finish work at Lock 4, beautify the first mile in Georgetown, and re-start a canal boat, which has not yet appeared. CCA seeks to have the curb from Clara Barton Pkwy to Lock 5 parking diminished, so cars' bottoms not be scraped.

PRIORITY II – a new loop – **Mather Gorge Loop:** (0.7 canal-miles)

[Down the Po from Sandy Beach to Anglers] The Canal needs water in Widewater and down to the Anglers bridge. Above that, no fix of Lock 15 (short portage) but reconstruct the top gate of Lock 16 to restore water along that level (0.36 mi) up to the Sandy Beach trail.

Water Flow: This implies water coming down from Dam 2 at Violettes in a trickle through Pennyfield and Swains and the Six Locks (Locks 15-20) to fill up Widewater. With its interest in getting the "Mercer" excursion boat afloat, the Park will probably try to fix Lock 20 at Great Falls Tavern, so it can be locked through.

Priority III – another new loop - **Carderock Loop:** (1.84 canal-miles) [The run: Anglers, Offutts Rapid, Yellow Falls, to Carderock] could be returned from in water held by Lock 14, the topmost of the 7 Locks. But we need a coffer (temporary) dam.

Coffer Dam: Lock 14, the next one below Anglers, is the top of the 7-Locks; however, $\frac{3}{4}$ the way down this nice long level is the infamous "Log Wall" with the Dulles Sewer buried below. Here the Park's projects will run into huge problems in time and money. Somewhere below Anglers bridge but above the Log Wall at Carderock, maybe at the Marsden Tract. (Mi 11.5)., we suggest a coffer dam across the Canal while the Park and multiple jurisdictions dealing with the Dulles Sewer duke it out.

Priority IV – another new loop – **Seven-Locks Loop:** (1.6 canal-miles, involving 5 of the 7 Locks) [The run: Carderock, down Stubblefield Falls, to Lock 10] The return: paddle up the Lock 10 and 11 levels (0.2, 0.3 mi., resp.), carry past Locks 12, 13, and 14 (a 0.2 mile lift), and then paddle (1 mi) along the Lock 14 level to Carderock. Again the huge problem is at the Log Wall/ Dulles Sewer (Mi 11), just upstream from the Carderock take-out.

We support reconstructing the upper gate (or a low sill with pour-over) on only seven locks: 5, 10, 11, 14, 16, 20, 21 (Lock 4 is under construction, and Lock 22 (Pennyfield) is done) At each lock boaters would carry, so a small dock below and one above each lock and steps up the side to the towpath or lock-keeper's house would be helpful. We're discussinthis with Team River Runner.

Water is needed to flow through nine other locks: 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19 Here we might explore having a minimal water-flow through the levels above, with portage possibilities around the open lock-gates.

Now for some **CANAL-ONLY OUT-AND-BACK TRIPS** (double the distances of course for a full round trip) These are great for rowers and beginning paddlers.

Widewater (Level 14, 1.1 mi) Anglers up to Lock 15 & back. Water between Widewater and Anglers is now too low, so it needs a small dam placed below the Anglers bridge. – CCA access project at Anglers

Great Falls Tavern up to Swains Lock (Level 20, 2.3 mi) – The Park will do this anyway for the canal boat. – CCA has an access project to the river at Swains.

Lock 14 Level (0.5 mi) Downstream from Anglers to the big broad bend. Many turtles, Great Blues, Canadas & goslings in season. Even if the Dulles Sewer/Log Wall thing can't be fixed, with a Coffer Dam at Marsden Tract.

Fletchers/Lock 4 Level - 4.5 miles from Georgetown to Lock 5 / Feeder Canal. Flat water canoe, kayak, and SUP paddlers from the Washington Canoe Club have trained here for years. Fletchers rental canoe and kayak fleet can use this, an excellent place to teach basic flatwater canoe and kayak. If Lock 4 repair drags on, build **coffer-dam** at Foundry Branch next to the waste weir.

Pennyfield up to Violettes/Level 22 - (2 mi) – This is already listed as CCA's first priority in the five loop trips above. – Just close Lock 22

The five above projects total **10.4 miles** of restored Canal. They are low-hanging fruit, as all these sections have had water in the last five years.

Continued on Page 15.

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ARTICLES - TOP TIPS - BUYING A CANOEING & KAYAKING HELMET - WHAT DOES THE CE MARK REALLY MEAN

Canoe & Kayak UK Test Team - Posted on 25 Jul 2010

Editors Note: This refers to guidelines for Europe which are some of the highest. Barb Brown submitted this article for inclusion in the Newsletter.

What is CE Marking?

If you look inside your helmet, or read through manufacturers brochures or websites, you will see a reference to a CE Marking.

The letters CE are the abbreviation of French phrase 'Conformité Européene', which literally means European Conformity. CE Marking on a product is a manufacturer's declaration that the product complies with the essential requirements of the relevant European health; safety and environmental protection legislation as laid out in what are known as Product Directives.

Canoeing and kayaking helmets must conform to the CE EN 1385 Standard

The CE EN 1385 Standard

There are six major requirements for a helmet to pass to receive the 1385 standard.

Field of vision

Making sure the helmet design does not interfere with the user's field of vision

Extent of coverage

Making sure the helmet covers all necessary parts of the head

Shock absorbing capacity

The most important is the shock absorbing capacity of the helmet. This is tested in a specialized instrument where the helmet is dropped with the speed of 2,5m/s onto a solid metal anvil with a 4 kg metal head inside. Inside the metal head there's an accelerometer that measures the forces within the impact. The helmets are tested in four different conditions: High temperatures (+35°C), low temperature (0°C), after artificial ageing, and after the helmet has been submerged for four hours.

Each helmet is tested on several areas including the crown, side, rear and front.

The peak acceleration must not exceed 250G for any of the impacts.

Retention system performance

This test covers the strength of the retention system (webbing), as well as its effectiveness, i.e. the webbings ability to keep the helmet securely positioned on the head.

Buoyancy

After being submerged for at least 4 hours, the helmet must float to the surface.

Durability

After all these tests the helmet should not show any damage that would cause any additional damage to the wearer.

A really important thing to consider is that, due to the nature of the test standards, a helmet tested to the CE EN 1385 standard is not intended for use in whitewater class four and five as described by the International Canoe Federation. Helmets intended for use in those conditions (not unusual on whitewater rivers) are outside the scope of the CE EN 1385 Standard. It is expected that these helmets will have performance requirements in excess of the particular standard!

Things to Consider When Buying a Helmet

Never buy a second hand helmet, from an Internet auction site for instance, as you won't know if it has ever been involved in any sort of accident and therefore possibly weakened.

Helmets vary greatly in price and there two main areas that should be considered when purchasing a helmet. The first and most important area to consider is the level of protection offered by the helmet, followed by the comfort factor. Be realistic about your needs and the kind of paddling you're doing. If running superhard gnarl is your thing, for instance, then it's probably best to avoid a twenty dollar 'raft' helmet.

If you're running rivers then you could be wearing your helmet for hours at a time, so comfort is also an important area to consider. Most modern kayak helmets will provide a soft inner layer with adjustable retention systems and additional padding to secure around the head. Many types will also provide ventilation holes to keep your head much cooler during more strenuous paddling and in hotter climes.

As with all kayaking kit we'd highly recommend that you try before you buy. Get down to your local retailer and stick a few on your head. A badly fitting helmet can at best give you a headache and at worst be a serious hazard, so take the time to get the right lid for you and then spend a little more time getting the fit absolutely perfect.



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Removing Graffiti by Howard Moreland,

I spent most of Saturday (January 27) as a Park Service volunteer removing spray-painted graffiti from rock walls on the Virginia side of Great Falls. It makes you want to outlaw spray paint. Brushed-on paint would probably be easier to remove, and less likely to be applied in the first place. A few seconds to cause the damage and hours to fix it. This graffiti had been up for a month. My theory is that it should be removed immediately, but this spray-paint attack is thought to be retaliation for earlier graffiti that was, in fact, removed immediately. So how long should we postpone removal to avoid retaliatory graffiti? Who knows?

The removal process is tedious. The paint remover has to be environmentally friendly, i.e., not as strong as it could be, because Mather Gorge water is our backup drinking water. Anything we put in the water could be sucked up at the Brookmont/Little Falls pumping station. Several techniques are used to collect all the chemicals and rinse water. There is a lot of time to think about causing bodily harm to the people who did this, especially if they retaliate by doing more of it.

The job is not finished, so anyone who would like to help can send me an email. [hbmorland@aol.com] We will include you in the next work party.



Stock photos of cleaning rocks on Potomac

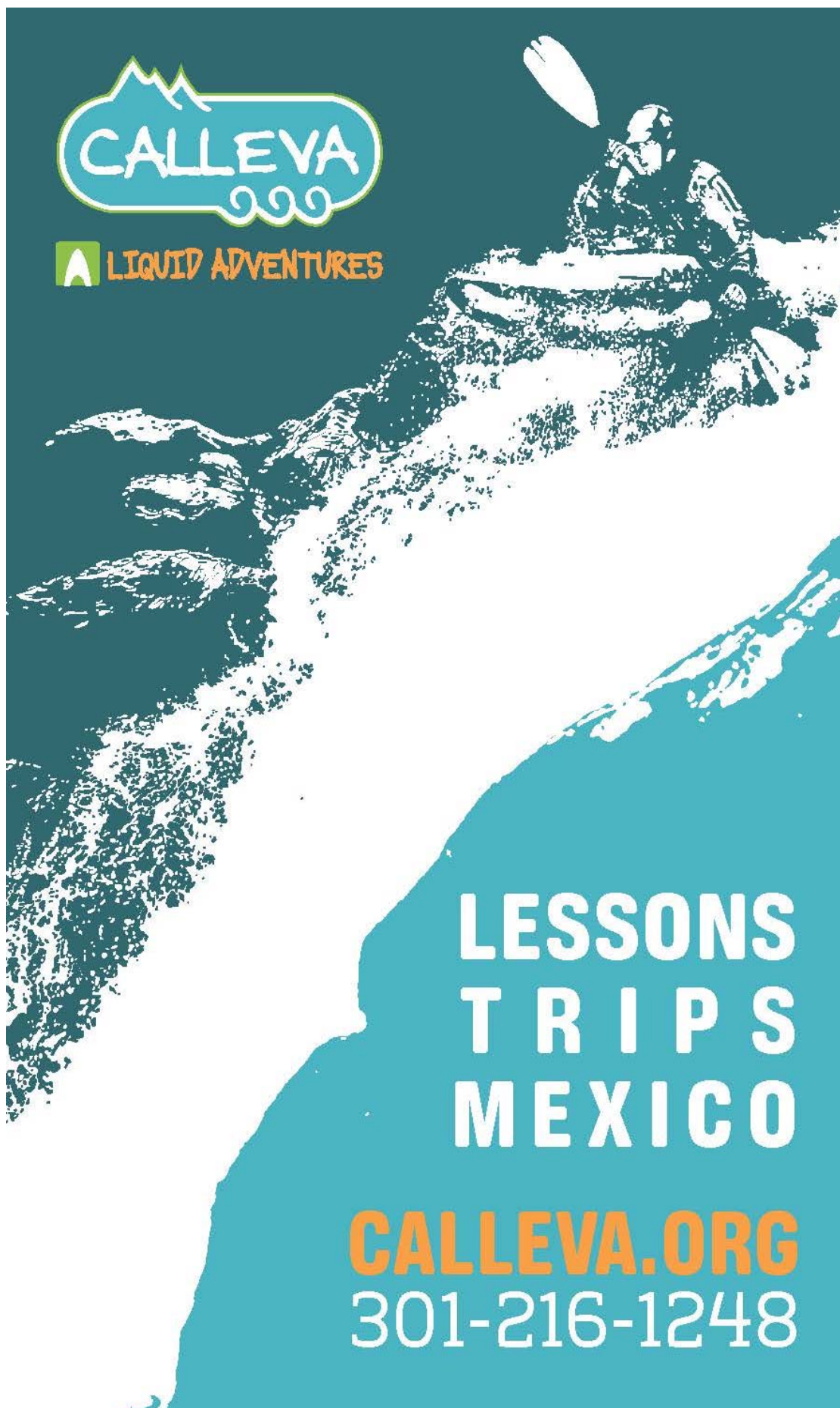


SMALL BROOK SEASON - and HOW TO FIND THEM (UP)

Unsurprisingly, the place to do this on the CCA Website (canoecruisers.org) is called "Stream-Finder." It's the fifth from the bottom on the home-page's left-side "piano keys." It's got hot links to the American Whitewater stream descriptions and to the USGS stream gauge readings - along with recommendations for the minimum volume needed to run each section. And other bells and whistles.

March and April are ideal for running the small bouncy brooks in this set of tables. You can check out 5 or 6 brooks in as many minutes, then head for the water.

But before launching, go look at the "How To" section - esp. paras 5 and 6 on how to use the thing. If frustrated, call Alf Cooley 703 442-7935, and I'll walk you through.

A photograph of a person in a kayak navigating white-water rapids. The person is wearing a life vest and a hat, and is holding a paddle. The water is turbulent and white with foam. The background is a steep, rocky bank.

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CCA Board Meeting Agenda**Sunday, January 21, 2018****Approval of Minutes from the Previous Meeting** - Jen Sass

Present: Jim Landfield, Ron Ray, Kay Fulcomer, Alf Cooley, John Snitzer, Barb Brown, Susan Sherrod, Lee Tucker, Howard Morland, Jen Sass, Keith Edmondson, Dianne Whitaker, Kathleen Sengstock

Committee Reports:

Treasurer- Jim Landfield. We are in good financial shape, with a bit more money this year than last year at the same time. Details were circulated hard-copy and are available upon request.

Potomac Downriver Race: Howard Morland. Permit application is done and paid for, and it has been announced on the local discussion boards and newsletters. Everything is in motion and on schedule for May 12th. The event loses money every year (average \$800/year in the red). We don't need it to make money – we'd rather have lots of people participate, and continue to make it a fun, family, more-the-merrier event. Early registrations are \$20/person. We may consider raising the same-day registrations from \$25 to \$30.

Cruiser – John Goodbody. It came out this morning, successfully.

Roster – Keith Edmondson. Nothing new to report.

Membership- Susan Sherrod in Ginny's absence. No update. Still new members trickling in, so we are growing steadily.

(there are 254 members, up from 250 at last mtg)

Conservation – Kay Fulcomer, Kathleen Sengstock

- Keith and Dianne went to the showing of River Runs Through Us hosted by Friends of Cabin John Creek. There were 100 folks in attendance. This may be a great program for CCA to consider.

- **Tire Clean-up Report-** Barbara Brown and Kevin Kearny. ACA's PAC grant with LL Bean seems perfect for a proposed tire cleanup in Brunswick. Kathleen and Miki will look into whether there is funding for this, and will research disposal options.

- **The Alice Ferguson Potomac River Watershed Clean-up** is set for April 14th, 9 AM at Riley's Lock Seneca Landing.

River access – John Snitzer, Alf Cooley, David Cottingham, Kathleen Sengstock, and Barb Brown (updates on the website, Message Board, River Access)

- The team will meet with Kevin Brandt, Superintendent of C&O Canal National Historical Park. We should have a working water-filled canal within the next 5-10 years, and CCA is engaged and involved in making it a paddle-able destination, including portages around the locks, information about where loops are and how they work, etc. Other areas that the team is exploring are improved physical access to the lower Potomac. The CCA team is reaching out to

potential partners including Team River Runner and the Washington Canoe Club.

- Harper's Ferry is a tough case but our intrepid CCA crew perseveres. Cotton and Barb are the point people for Harper's Ferry.

- Goose Creek was closed 17 years ago and Alf is regularly poking and prodding Jack Findling, who has persevered in trying to get it opened again. Jack has identified a parking area and potential access route. We've had encouraging noises from the Loudoun County park people who are planning access above the dam much like the take out at Kephart's Landing.

- Georgetown Canal improvements has four locks.

Georgetown Heritage and the DC Government is paying for a one-mile project up from Lock 4. This will include walkways, trees, stores, washrooms, a visitor center, and another tourist boat. The CCA (John, Alf, Barb, and others) provided comments and wrote a letter to NPS asking for access for small boats.

- Alf will post updates on the website, Message Board, River Access



Graffiti removal – Trudy Roth, NPS. There was a community graffiti removal event, but it was cancelled due to the government shut down. There are several graffiti areas on the creek access to Rocky Island waves. Howard put a significant dent in it using nothing but wire brushes and his Popeye-like grit and muscles to remove most of it. It must be done without any harmful chemicals.

Family Paddling: Miki Komlos. Nothing to report because it is too cold for family paddles. Great Falls Foundation is going to host a Family Day and Introduction to Paddling. May 20th, Riley's Lock 2-6 PM

Upcoming Canoeing classes - Report from Ross Dence. Three classes have been posted on Mike Aronoff's website (CKAPCO) and registration is open. The 3 classes are listed on the CCA calendar with a link to CKAPCO's website with the ability to register.

- April 21 - River Canoeing
- July 14 - Beginner Whitewater Canoeing
- August 25 - Intermediate Whitewater Canoeing

Upcoming CCA Classes:

- April 14 ACA Level 4 Kayak Class - Charlie Duffy
- April 28 Swift Water Rescue Refresher
- June 9 Canoeing for Beginners - Mark Wray
- Whitewater Canoeing - Mark Wray
- Beginner Kayaking - Cory Heyman

A discussion on our ACA insurance needs and requirements took place, with the understanding that we need to do a bit

(Continued from previous page)

more research on the different possibilities for making sure that our instruction classes are fully and appropriately covered.

Safety – Ron Ray

Fun with Ropes Clinic was very successful with about 45-50 people, despite the very cold weather. Great attendance from Team River Runner folks.

Pool Rolling – Ron Ray

Pool sessions have run for 3 weeks this year, Jan 2 (6 people), 9 (18 people), and 16th (12 people) with a total of 36 people. We normally average about 15-20 people per session. We sold 2 seasons passes (\$360 total), and do not anticipate more passes will be sold, since 6 of the 36 attendances already had passes. We need to average about 17 per week for the remainder of season to break even. Receipts were brought to Jan 21 meeting for deposit- \$950

Trips – Alf Cooley

Since the last Board meeting we've had 7 trips (1 Thursday and the others Pick-Ups).

Two Trip Coordinator Meetings will be held - on Feb 11 at Alf's home, and Feb 25th at Susan Sherrod's home, so please encourage folks to attend, and to step up to lead some trips in 2018. Alf has wrangled up about 35 folks who are either committed or will be cajoled into doing so soon. In 2017 we had 100 trips, and are hoping to hit that again in 2018. We need more weekend trips.

Social Chairman –Star Mitchell

- Holiday Party – Susan Sherrod. We had about 100 people; it was very successful, fun, and enjoyed by all.

- Winter Valentine's Party set for Sycamore Island on Saturday Feb 10th

Web Page – Susan Sherrod. No updates

Programs report - Ed Gertler. Ed already submitted the Feb (don't forget), April, and June notices to Susan and Joan for the website and newsletters respectively.

- Feb meeting -Call it an evening with Barb Brown. Not only will she run the meeting, but Barb will entertain us with her superb slide show documenting the history of CCA. Come in from the cold and join us. Barb's photographic talent is always worth seeing.

- March meeting -Canoe Movie #2: Last June we viewed Canoe Movie#1, an account of extreme whitewater done by folks with half the paddle. Well, they did a sequel, imaginatively called Canoe Movie#2. So, we get to see even more extreme stunts. Amusing and worthwhile.

- June meeting - Continuing our tradition of showcasing our local environmental warriors, we have invited the Potomac Riverkeeper to brief us on our watersheds challenges and what they are doing. Our guest speaker will be Dean Naujoks. Let's give him a warm welcome.

Ed has no shortage of materials or ideas for rest of year. Purchasing these DVDs comes from Ed's personal funds, so big thanks Ed! Ed has five general meetings and this year's party dates booked and paid for, because Jim is really on the ball and Ed has already been compensated by CCA for the fees (\$465). Ed fronts the \$200 security deposit for the party, which is then reimbursed at the end of the year, which is simpler than having it go through CCA. We have always been good tenants and receive the deposit back each January. The only unforeseen cost could be a speaker fee, should we get anybody so special to talk to us. That has not happened in a few years. So, all is in order, and Ed doesn't need anything except Susan's continuing generous techno support and the great publicity afforded by Joan and Susan. Keep those suggestions coming too. Ed's website: <https://paddlersguides.wordpress.com/>

New Business:

Reports to River Closure at Trump golf course. Adam Van Grack recommends that we send letters 4 directly and only to the Federal Elected Officials (Congressional members representing MD, VA areas) explaining that USCG has not changed the rule, and that it is therefore still in effect and enforceable. The USCG refused to correct the rule or address problems with the rule (as detailed in the CCA comments to the docket). The president used his golf course 23 times over 2017. We can consider doing follow up group letters and visits to local Congressional representatives. CCA members and other paddlers have been diverted from the river at least 10 times. The last was Darryl Martin and Courtney Caldwell who were forced to paddle the Breaks and not allowed access to the GW Canal, by an unmarked boat with unidentified officers. However, the newly established call-in number has worked so we can get advance notice. We will adjourn this discussion.

Barb is our archivist and although she is a dynamic and successful one-woman team, she would like to expand to an Archives Committee. The CCA needs to purchase a good scanner, and will likely do so in the future.

Open Positions: We have two open positions, for a publicity person and a social media person. Get 'em while they're hot!

Next meeting: Sunday, March 18th at 4 PM at Susan Sherrod's home.



CCA Event Schedule and Calendar

N = Novice

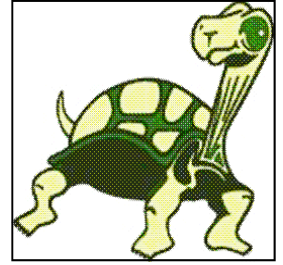
PN = Practiced Novice

LI = Low Intermediate

I = Intermediate

HI = High Intermediate

A = Advanced



WE NEED TRIPS—To have a trip listed on this schedule, send an email to trips@canoecruisers.org or contact Barbara Brown at PotomacB@verizon.net, 301-765-9115 or Alf Cooley at alfcooley@gmail.com, 703-442-7935.

Tuesdays: Pool Rolling - All—Tuesday nights, 8-10 pm, January 2, 2018 through March 27, 2018. Cost is \$20 per session or \$180 for a season pass. Cash or Check. Correct change is appreciated. Piney Branch Pool, 7510 Maple Ave., Takoma Park, MD 20912. Pool staff prefers we use the double-metal doors opening onto the pool deck near the parking area and side street. A hose is available to rinse boats and equipment. Jeff Fox, Ron Ray, and Jerry Odhner share duties for overseeing these sessions and provide informal instruction. For more information contact Jeffrey Fox jeffandf@aol.com 202-686-4155 or 202-549-4016 cell.

Thursday Paddles - I - From March through November. 2-Trips-PN-Class I/II, Mainly Class II & III, ranging to 3 hours from Washington.

Save for targets of opportunity, we've hung up the paddle until Spring. To be put on our mailing list, please contact thursdaypaddlers@canoecruisers.org

See CCA website for more details.

<http://www.canoecruisers.org>

March 2018

Tues 13 - **Pool Rolling** (see above)

Thurs 15 - **Thursday Paddle** (see above)

Sat 17 - 7 am. **Dealers Choice: Maury/Goshen Pass or Other** - HI- Class III/IV - River will depend on cfs. Maury-Goshen Pass, Savage<500cfs, Stonycreek <1000cfs, Upper Big Sandy. Looking for paddlers with subject river experience. Contact Ross.Dence@gmail.com or 202 641-6693.

Sat 17 - **Sideling Hill Creek** - MCC (postponed from 11th) PN, Cl. II - Bob Raab -301-908-one938

Sat or Sun, 17 or 18 - **Couch Potatoes Spring Shakedown Cruise** - MCC - LI-I, Cl. II/III - Mike Martin - imnostooge@yahoo.com

Sun 18 - **Patapsco or Catoctin** - MCC - LI/I, Cl. II,III - Dave Cooke - sixcookess@gmail.com

Tues 20 - **Pool Rolling** (see above)

Thurs 22 - **Thursday Paddle** (see above)

Sun 25 - **Cedar Ck - PN - Class II/III** - Bob Whiting (301) 696-2024 - MCC Thurs, 22 - Moorefield Canyon - WV a Intermediate: Class III - AlfCooley@gmail.com, 703-442-7935

Sat/Sun, 24/25 - **Stonycreek/ Shades (PA)** - MCC/BRV - I/II, Class III - Jim.Pruitt@gmail.com

Tues 27 - **Pool Rolling** [Last] (see above)

Thurs 29 - **Thursday Paddle** (see above) Sat, 30 - Lost River Gorge - HI - Class III - AlfCooley@gmail.com 703-963-5998 cell on Sat.

April 2018

Sat 7 - **Rappahannock Fall Line** - LI - Class II+ (III) - John Enagonio enagonia@yahoo.com - MCC

Thurs 5 - **Thursday Paddle** (see above)

Sat/Sun 7-8 - **Bloomington Release** - I - Class II/III. RonaldRay@verizon.net

Sat/Sun 7-8. **Western VA**- Cl. III- Weekend. Rivers in western Virginia near Staunton, such as North, Bullpasture, Maury or Irish Creek. Camping at Teeters Campground. Bob Maxey boater3@gmail.com

Thurs 12 - **Thursday Paddle** (see above)

Sat 14 - **ACA Intermediate (L4) Kayak Class** You must have your own boat and equipment. Charlie_Duffy@yahoo.com (703) 938-3949.

Sat 14 - **Alice Ferguson River Clean-Up** - contact KathleenSengstock@mail.house.gov or KayFulcomer@verizon.net

Sun 15 - **Tygart (Arden Section) or Cheat Canyon**. Charlie_Duffy@yahoo.com (703) 938-3949

(Continues next page)

(April Cont.)

Thurs 19 – **Thursday Paddle** (see above) Sat. 21 – Elk River Festival (WVa) - I/HI - Webster Wildwater Weekend,

Sat 21 - 8:00 am **SWR Refresher Practice Session** - Level 4 This is a SWR practice day, all hands-on exercises. It's only open to those who have taken a Level 4 skills class like the one we run each July. Little Falls Potomac, Lock 5 Charlie_Duffy@yahoo.com (703) 938-3949.

Sat. 21 - **River Canoeing Class** (tandem or solo, this class will assume basic flat water skills) / Instruction provided by CKAPCO: Instructor Brendan Fitzpatrick. Mike Aronoff 703-8501257

Sat. 21 – **Monocacy Blue Bells** – MCC – PN – Dean& Lori Geis – 301-250 zero864

Sat-Sun 21-22—8:00AM—**Bloomington Release - BRV** Trip. Trip to Smokehole, Hopeville, or Cheat Narrows depending on levels; overnight in Keyser + on to Bloomington release on Sun. Mark Wray, 703-222-4842: redshoestwo@juno.com.

Thurs 26 – **Thursday Paddle** (see above)

Friday 27—Mon 30th—**Pine Creek—B&B Camper-MCC.** in NW Penna - Coordinator is Phil Dawson - phldwsn@zoominternet.net Also Sat 28 and Sun 29 April. Can join for any part of the trip.

Mon 30 - 7:30 pm **CCA Meeting.** Clara Barton Community Center. (See page 2 for details).

May 2018

Sat/Sun.5/6: **Cheat River Festival:** Trip coordinator needed. Contact AlfCooley@ gmail.com. (703) 442-7935

Sat.—5—8AM—**Yough or equivalent.** Top Yough or equivalent. Creeking! For advanced boaters only - need to be able to boof. Myersville McDonald's - consolidate boats at 8:00 and head on by 8:30, 9615 Myersville-Middletown Rd. Myersville, MD 21773. Tom Hackman 518-813-6780

Sat./Sun 5/6. **Trap Pond Family Camper.** On Saturday we will paddle in the morning then play in the Ocean in the afternoon. On Sunday we will choose a slightly longer paddling route.

Sat, 12 - 9:00 am **Potomac Downriver Race** This is a class II/III whitewater race. It is not suitable for beginners. Great Falls, MD or Angler's lower lot depending on water level. Howard Morland hbmorland@aol.com (703) 525-1429 Helmets, PFD's (life jackets) and boat flotation are required. Race starts below Great Falls, MD if Little Falls gauge is at or below 5 feet. Angler's if gauge is 5-6 feet. Race is postponed if Little Falls gauge is above 6 feet on morning of race.

Sat/Sun. 19/20 - **Brunswick to Nolands Ferry**—MCC.

Coordinator - Karen Trump - K1trump@yahoo.com

Sat, 19 - 8:00 am **S-Turn Giant Slalom Race:** A Great Falls Foundation event. Part of the Potomac River Celebration

Sat.—19 - 2:00 pm: Potomac Potluck. A Great Falls Foundation event. Part of the Potomac River Celebration. 20 Sun. 10:00 am: Introduction to Paddling For Families, Part of the Potomac River Celebration. No experience is necessary. Bring water, snacks and a change of clothes. You may get wet. Canoes and kayaks will be provided by Calleva. Experienced volunteers are needed to help paddlers and at registration: Michal Komlosch, 240-620-9440, komloschm@yahoo.com

Sun.—20 - **Attainment Race.** A Great Falls Foundation event. Part of the Paddle-the-Potomac Race Series.

Fri. – 25 - 8:00 am **BRV's Annual Memorial Day Weekend Camper:** Teeters Campground. - Teeters on the Cheat, Coled by Courtney Caldwell - through Monday, May 28 Multiple trips - LI through Advanced. - Michael Martin (240) 489-3379 .

June 2018

Friday-Sunday 1-3—**Greenbrier River & Cass Scenic Railroad.** Paddle the Greenbriar with a shuttle via a train pulled by a steam locomotive. The campground we will stay at is right on the river. Participants are responsible for camping fees and train tickets.

Sat. 2 - **Savage Release**—seeking Trip Coordinator. Myersville McDonald's then up to the Savage River Dam above Bloomington.

Sat.-9 - 8:00 am **Canoeing for Beginners.** This class is for people who have little or no experience paddling a canoe. Canoes, paddles and life jackets will be provided. Bring lunch, water, sturdy shoes and a change of clothes. You may get wet.

Sun. –10– 9am **Patuxent River.** Bring your binoculars for some bird watching. This flatwater paddle takes us through part of the Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary with a stop at a museum along the way. After the paddle you have the option of joining us for dinner at a seafood restaurant.. Susan Sherrod 703-725-4278

Mon - 25- 7:00 pm **CCA Meeting** Clara Barton Community Center Ed Gertler e_gertler@yahoo.com (301) 585-4381

Sat. - 30 - 9:00am **Potomac-Algonkian to River Bend.** This is a full day of paddling with a leisurely stop on an island for a picnic lunch and a swim. You may want to bring a folding chair for sitting on the beach. I plan to bring a grill. This is a nice family trip. Susan Sherrod 703-725-4278

(Continued on next page)

July 2018

Sat. - 9 - 8:00 am **Beginning Whitewater Canoeing.** (Tandem or solo, this builds on the river canoeing and flat water classes which Mark Wray will be providing in late Spring/ early Summer). Instruction provided by CKAPCO: Instructor Brendan Fitzpatrick. Mike Aronoff 703-850-1257, mikearonoff@aol.com.

Sat. 21 10 am. **Little Falls Race.** A Great Falls Foundation event. Part of the Paddle-the-Potomac Race Series.

See Website listed in beginning of this section for trips scheduled for August through the end of the year. Details will be in upcoming issues.



Weekend Paddlers at End of a Patapsco Run through Ellicott City. October 2013. (taken by a bystander at take-out)

Hein Bogaard, Noel Schiller, Paul Schneider, Alf Cooley, Ursy Potter, Wayne McDaniel, Carter Hearn

Winter paddling. By Alf.

Despite the sub-freezing temps through much of January, by using the Pick-Up Trips feature, the hardy among us managed to get out five times: on the Potomac, Cacapon, Pohick and Marsh Creeks. (Many more, of course, went down rivers and creeks courtesy of various local Facebook groups and the jungle telegraph.) The Club had two coordinators' meetings with about 20 attending – to go over routines, discuss instructional materials, and help people master the resources of the internet, in particular the Club Website – for calling out trips.

Continued from Page 5—10 possible Loops.

Additional non-priority projects:

Lock 14 up through Carderock/Anglers/Widewater to Lock 15 (4 mi) If the Log-Wall & Sewer are fixed. This could relieve the parking crush at Anglers by taking advantage of parking opportunities at Carderock - to go up the Canal and put in at Anglers for up- or downstream paddling.

Lock 6 up through Lock 10 (3.4 mi – 4 locks) Boaters have less interest in these as paddling upstream (attaining) in the Potomac is almost as easy as using the Canal. However, it could be useful at times of high water.

MAPS: See the C&O Canal Assn's online map: with mileages and access points and attendant parking (with how many parking spots) - and links to Google maps. It goes all the way up to Cumberland.

<http://www.candocanal.org/access.html>

For the Canal from Georgetown up to Swains Lock by the Park itself, see:

<https://www.nps.gov/choh/planyourvisit/upload/C-O-Canal-Detail-Map-from-Georgetown-to-Swains-Lock-Accessible.pdf>



Violettes Lock stock photos





Canoe Cruisers Association

Canoe Cruisers Association of Greater Washington, DC

c/o Virginia DeSeau

1105 Highwood Rd.,

Rockville, MD 20851

First Class Time Limit

Attention

Deadline for

May/June 2018 issue

Monday

May 14, 2018

(Will publish after Downriver Race so
results can be included)

Bill and Frank Havens crossing the finish line in first place in the first Potomac Downriver Race, 1956

