

# ◆ KCCNY Newsletter ◆

## The Newsletter of the Kayak and Canoe Club of New York

Volume XXXIV Issue 2

May 1994

### 1994 Executive Committee

|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Chairperson</b>         | <i>Nancy Sklavos</i>   |
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| <b>Pool Sessions</b>       | <i>Charles Peterson</i>  |
| <b>Annual Dinner</b>       | <i>Marion Greenfield</i>   |

### More Mongaup Madness

by Ken Fischman Conservation Co-Chairman

Two letters came in the mail this morning, both with good news/bad news concerning the Mongaup River. One was from Orange & Rockland Utilities, which controls the Rio Dam whence come our white water releases. The good news from O & R is that the 1994 release schedule is out (see back cover), assuring us of at least 14 releases from April thru October. The bad news is: (1) they will be the same as last year, one turbine releases, and (2) O & R has been forced to go to a rigid alternate weekend, alternate Saturday/Sunday formula. Last year the Mongaup Whitewater Committee (MWC), which looks out for your interests, and of which I am Co-chairman, worked out a friendly agreement with O & R. At that time, they gave us an unpatterned schedule that avoided conflicts with releases on other rivers, and also avoided releases on major holidays to prevent overcrowding on this small river, and also prevented Delaware raft companies from scheduling trips on the Mongaup because they could not anticipate releases more than a few days ahead of time.

I was unsuccessful in my efforts to convince the AMC people that the deal I had worked out was best for the white water community. They went ahead and protested to FERC because they wanted to schedule Mongaup trips months in advance, and the outcome is that FERC has upheld their protest. I hope that I will be proven wrong in my concerns about what will happen.

The good news from FERC is that after a four month delay, they sent a letter to O & R, ordering them to reopen the question of two turbine releases by doing new safety tests. Their letter agreed with our contention that the original tests, done by the National Park Service, were flawed.

*(Continued on page 2)*

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*Please send all changes of address or phone numbers to the membership chairperson and NOT to the editor of the newsletter!*

## Newsletter Submissions

This is your newsletter, the quality of each issue may be dependant upon submissions by the members of KCCNY. Articles should be submitted prior to the deadline that is established for the next issue, and each submission should be separate, and typed or legibly hand written.

For those who have access to computers, articles may also be submitted on a DOS formatted floppy disk (either 5 1/4" or 3 1/2"). Many word processor file formats are supported, please contact me to see if yours is, or supply a plain ASCII text file if in doubt. I can also receive articles via modem, please contact me if you wish to do this.

We now have the capability to digitally scan pictures that you may want published. For photo submissions the picture should be no larger than 5 X 7, they may be color, but black and white pictures may reproduce better.

Send all articles and/or pictures to newsletter editor. If you want the picture and/or floppy disk to be returned, please include a self addressed, stamped envelope.

## Mongaup Madness (cont.)

Now we have our foot in the door, but that does not mean that we will get through it. Vance Condie, Matt Giltner, Doug Feick and I are hard at work on this. We however, expect a good deal of opposition and you can help us overcome it. First, it is important that some of you write letters to FERC, praising them for ordering O & R to do further tests. I hope that this will help stiffen their resolve against the inevitable protests that will come from the National Park Service and the local communities. Write to:

Heather Campbell  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
825 North Capital Street N E  
Washington, DC 20426

By the time that you are reading this article, we shall have presented our case before the Upper Delaware Council. This is the local advisory body for the National Park Service who controls the Delaware, and is a hotbed of opposition to the two turbine releases. It would be very helpful if some of you (especially boaters from around the Port Jervis - Narrowsburg area) would write letters to the UDC supporting the new tests: (1) You could reassure them that we are only asking for more objective safety tests, not for releases, and (2) ask that they examine the existing historical data on the many two turbine releases that O & R has made over the years to generate power and look to see if there are any correlations with accidents that have occurred specifically in the Mongaup Rapid on the Delaware. The UDC address is:

William Douglas  
Executive Director  
Upper Delaware Council  
PO Box 217  
Narrowsburg, NY 12764

full page add goes here

## Winter Shahola Memories by Gideon Schwarcz

When I called the Pocono gauges on Saturday evening I was euphoric to hear that things were still up from the short snow melt. I immediately proceeded through a list of potential hard-core winter paddlers. On that cold late February night, as I glanced into the pitch black outdoors and heard the wind howling in the 3 degree above zero air, I was not surprised that there were not many takers. However Terry Brownschidle had enthusiastically accepted the offer, and we agreed to meet the next morning in Port Jervis.

Now, a 12 mile isolated wilderness class 3-4 river is not what the Red Cross books recommend for two middle-aged paddlers in frigid temperatures. But, then again, rivers only come up so often and no one ever accused me of being a fair weather paddler.

Terry had never paddled this area before, and was amazed as we stopped to view the magnificent Hawk's Nest Gorge scenic overlook. As we drove up to check water levels by viewing the last rapid off Lake Road near the town of Shahola itself, he saw a bald eagle. Already intoxicated by the lush green hemlocks ornamenting the virgin, pure white snow, I could tell that he was hooked.

The intensely bright sunshine at the put-in lit up our spirits, although it did little to war the 8 degree air. We forwent the class V-VI upper gorge and trudged through the groin-deep snow, step by tedious step, eventually arriving at the put-in by the "black pool". As I saw the water form an ice layer over my gloves, paddle, boat and dry-suit, I did not have the most confident feeling for

the opening chute, where a thin thread of water suddenly twists and turns abruptly out of site into what I knew is a one mile slalom course, with undercuts, downed trees, abrupt blind curves and very few eddies. I sheepishly paddled about in the still, tea-colored water of the pool, pretending to warm up, but really getting my nerve up to commit myself to such an isolated run under such cold conditions. However, as the bright sunshine and magnificent scenery warmed me spiritually, I suggested that we start. Terry, raring to go, needed no encouragement.

For those of you who have not had the opportunity to run this wonderful river, a description is in order: Imagine following a thin strip of water as it twists and turns rapidly, with split seconds to make decisions and very few eddies from which to contemplate moves at leisure. Except from the always present threat of a temporarily downed tree, there is not much real danger. However the intense constant snap decisions of where to move makes a great adrenaline boost. In my eight runs of this river, someone in my party has always flipped in this initial section. It reminds me of a scaled-down version of West Virginia's lower Blackwater Canyon, complete with chocolate colored frothy water. The last rapid of this initial section is especially fun, as it is a twisting corkscrew, of what seems like eight or so moves in a few hundred feed. Mercifully, a very welcome section of flat water follows for us over-the-hill paddlers to catch our breath and allow the adrenaline to thaw out of our bodies.

The middle section is fast moving

flat water, ten miles of it... I remember back to my youth when I would have wretched at such a section. I remember when Ed Gertler appeared to give up white water, go temporarily insane, AND start paddling flat water. None of us understood Ed at that time. Now I do. Flatwater can be magnificent, especially on this river. You can appreciate the lush green Hemlocks against the show, herds of deer were everywhere, hawks and eagles were in the sky. On previous runs I've seen bear (very close!), great blue herons, beavers and immense snapping turtles. Admittedly I am an unabashed fan of the local country side, but it probably wouldn't be far from the truth to say that the Shahola river valley is one of the most beautiful spots on Earth.

The flat water gradually begins to move faster and faster, with class I trout stream quality, until you reach the Knealing Road bridge. The faint-of-heart should take out here, because the river now enters a secluded gorge with big water ledges. The canyon walls tighten up above you and the air darkens from their shade. You see the first ledge, which is run on extreme left, or else down a slightly twisting chute on extreme right, if there is enough water.

After that, I have no idea what happens, In spite of running this section eight times! The rapids were so frequent and continuous, that I can not differentiate one from the another. I just know that they're all great fun, boat scoutable, and about the most exhilarating section of river anywhere. Paige Castro named one of them Typewriter, because the middle hydraulic suddenly

*(Continued on page 17)*

## Nice Self Rescue by Mathew Giltner

So Dan what's the river *really* like? "Big water. Not as big as the Ottawa, though" I smiled, figuring hey there are bigger rivers around. It's not like I've done any. Marian has been calling me Maddog for a couple of years.. maybe I'm missing something.

Pam and I loaded up and headed for the pine tree state. The Kennebec river. A gorgeous class III+ section, good company, and some Moose awaited. After all MAINE IS VACATION LAND.

The trip up was uneventful. We drove thru Portland stopped at Portland Head Light. Having been stationed there in the early eighties, it was nice to see the city again.

Even though we hadn't done the Kennebec before there was no feeling of apprehension. There were going to be tons of people on the river, how hard can it be. I had spent many days on this same river. Albeit aboard a 110ft Ice breaker, but water is water, right? WRONG!!!

As anyone's first decent is a bit nerve wracking the Kennebec proved to be no different. Our group consisted of the usual suspects, Dan Lenox, Marian Greenfield, Jackie, and Vance Condie, Nancy Sklavos, Charles Peterson, Bonnie Townsend, Jane Bernstein, Jon Gellman, Alan Tindell and any number of people in passing..

The first run down was with out incident.... By the end of the trip I was feeling a bit cocky, Vance and I were hitting every single wavelet, trying to surf and generally goofing off. About 700

Yards up

river from the take out is a tiny hole. Just long enough to fit a Dagger Crossfire, and not let it out. Dropping down into the hole it was perfect!!! Side surfing heaven. The only problem is *YOU CAN'T GET OUT!*

A strong down river lean, a couple of window shade rolls and *STILL STUCK...*

OK ... think... Forward sweep, get some momentum, punch thru...and, *STILL STUCK.*

Boy this sucks, now what?... Back paddle, ride high and surf down to punch thru... *STILL STUCK.*

This went on for about three days or so. I had to sleep there in the hole, standing up to answer the call of nature was nothing less than spectacular. My boat finally made it out. Something to do with centrifugal force or linear trajectory. I'm not sure...

And some guy paddles by and says in a heavy Maine accent "they call that KAYAK KEEPER"

Ayuh

Perhaps the most elegant section of the trip is the take out. Jane said she wanted to continue down so to avoid it, I figured it cant be that bad. After the fourth or fifth belay I'd begun to question the new found dedication I have to this sport. At one time I would laugh at people who played golf in the rain... what a bunch of Jamoes.. I would've gladly traded my boat and paddle for a five iron and an umbrella!

So the next day we hit it again, putting in before the dam opened. What an eerie feeling to rise with the river. About a mile or so down the river we went thru BIG MAMMA and sat at river left.. one of our group went over, blew her first roll attempt and I moved in to be in line for an Eskimo rescue. Well Bonnie made it, and I lost my paddle. Oh, did I mention I was upside down at the time... Details details. Taking a leisurely dip at the top of the ALLEYWAY is as much fun as playing chicken during the Normandy invasion. I tried a hands roll a few times, I'll be dammed if I am going to swim this section.... DAMN

The first of the 6-8 foot wave train wasn't bad. Drank a bit of water, and I was thinking.. "hold on to the boat, it's got flotation," YEAH RIGHT! It filled up with water and kept diving under each new wave like a porpoise. I let go somewhere under the water and shot to the surface like a Polaris missile. A helpless glance to river left, I spotting two park rangers on the bank.

I still need some work on my lip reading skills but I could make out this much:

RANGER #1: Hey LOOK! (pointing at me.)

RANGER #2: Wow....he's FU.....

I was unable to make out the rest, if any one was close enough to here them, let me know what he said. The curiosity is killing me.

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Self Rescue (cont.)

By this time I'm drinking a lot of water. Vance said the rapid is only 2 or 3 miles long, but I'm sure I passed Cape Hatteras. OK OK enough screwing around, I guess it's time to swim.

KICK KICK, GULP, SWALLOW, STROKE, KICK KICK, GAG, STROKE. I hit the eddy line! Pull Myself up on a rock the size of a tuna can, and Jackie Condie paddles by and says (this is the only truly accurate part of the story) "NICE SELF RESCUE!!!"

I have no boat. I have no paddle. I'm on a tiny rock. And there is a nice cliff that I need to climb in order to get down river. Caddy I'll take that five iron now. Had it not been for the practice at the take out the previous day, this would be a much longer story. (I'm implying that someone has stuck it out this far.) After climbing to around 70 feet and shimmying around the corner there was Dan Lenox. They had my boat and were working on getting a break down paddle together. Now the Questions is how am I going to get down. "Yea, just jump" he says! Have you ever seen the movie BUTCH CASSIDY AND THE SUNDANCE KID? You get the picture.

The rest of the river was taken at a slow bell, and I hope to be back for the Fourth of July AWA Festival. This time I'll be doing a triple Lindy off the high board!

*Editors' Note:*

*This story is the reason why Mathew won the 'Epic Swim' trophy at last years' KCCNY annual Dinner.*

*By the way, he did finally jump after climbing down to about 20 feet above the water. I just couldn't get him to jump while he was higher up on the cliff!*

*Reports are rumored that the nick-name 'Maddog' doesn't have to do with the way*

## Beginner Kayak Instruction

**By Pierre de Rham**

We are hoping to have a beginner Kayak Instruction weekend sometime in June. This will be an ACA Instruction program, with time spent at a lake, some dry land training, and also some time on the river.

If you are interested in attending, please get in touch with me. We will need some time to get every-thing set up and also to make arrangements to use the ACA facility at Lake Sebago.

This should be a good opportunity for our new members who are just getting started.

If this sounds like something that you might be interested in, please get in touch with me as soon as possible:

Pierre deRham  
PO Box 195  
Garrison, NY 10524  
(914) 424-3160

Coldbrook add

# 'The Confessor'

by Joe Walsh

If you look at your reflection  
at the bottom of a well,  
what you see is only on the surface.

If you try to see the meaning  
hidden underneath  
the measure of the depth can be deceiving.

The bottom has a rocky reputation.

You can feel it in the distance,  
the deeper down you stare.

From up above it's hard to see  
the general when you're there.

On the bottom, words are shallow  
On the surface, talk is cheap.

You can probably judge the distance  
by the company you keep.

In the eyes of the Confessor,  
there is no place you can hide.

You can't hide from the eyes,  
of the Confessor.

Don't even try,  
in the eyes of the Confessor,  
you can't tell a lie.

Strip you down to size, naked as  
the day that you were born....

# Mongaup Clean-up

by Mathew Giltner

On May 14th, KCCNY will be holding a river clean-up at the Mongaup river. Starting with breakfast at HOMER's restaurant in Port Jervis, and meeting at the take-out at 9:00. We have asked for a six hour release to start at 10:00am.

Last year we had a pitiful turnout, less than 10 people and most weren't KCCNY Members. Even with this turnout we collected about 15 bags of trash, 90% was at the takeout. With this in mind, we will be concentrating on the put in and take out. Plan to spend about an hour between the two.

Now lets do the math....

Meet at nine, pick up until 10:30/11:00, still leaves you 5 HOURS TO PADDLE, more than enough time to do the river TWICE!!!!!!!!!!

Please give me a call if you need any assistance, or have questions.

Mathew Giltner 908-534-1465.

## Free Private Boater Shuttle on the Nantahala River

Nantahala River Outfitters (NOC) will be offering FREE private boater shuttles on the Nantahala River this Summer and Fall. The shuttle leaves from the rentals building (on river left near Slow Joe's Cafe). The schedule varies by day of the week and time of the year, so your best bet is to call the NOC at 704-488-2175 before your trip for the current schedule. The shuttle will be in operation through October.

NOC add here

# 1994 Cruising Calendar

Even if a trip is not listed as instructional, it can be! Keep your eyes open. Is there some one who looks good paddling, do their moves look easy and smooth? Watch them and see why, and by all means ASK for some tips. This can be a great opportunity to not only get some "inside information" but also a way to make some friends. You will find that most people are very willing to help or give assistance...

Thanks to all those that have already signed up to coordinate a trip! We still need many more trips to make it a great 1994 Cruising Calendar. If you can coordinate a trip (ie: Play Spots, Deerfield, West...), or if you have your own trip in mind, please give Jackie Condie a call at 212-678-0863, or Doug Feick at 914-332-9774.

| DATE  | SKILL | CLASS  | RIVER / LOCATION                    | COORDINATOR / PHONE NUMBER                                  |
|---|-------|--------|-------------------------------------|---|
| * Early May*  | I - A | III-V  | Cheat & Big Sandy First timers trip | Ken Sanders (717)629-5533                                   |
| 5/7 or 5/8  | ALL   |        | <b>Mongaup River Cleanup</b>        | Matthew Giltner (908)534-1465                               |
| 5/7 or 5/8  | N     | I-II   | Lower Esopus River                  | Marian Greenfield (212)483-2184                             |
| 5/14 - 5/15   | ALL   |        | <b>Esopus Cleanup</b>               | Phyllis Horowitz McLane (914)688-5569                       |
| 5/21 or 5/22  | I     | II-III | Hudson River, Riparius Section      | Paul Epstein( 914)297-7120                                  |
| 5/28 - 5/30   | I - A |        | West Virginia                       | Tom Gustanis (914)986-1414                                  |
| 5/28 - 5/30   | I - A | III-IV | Yough                               | Marian Greenfield (908)321-1354<br>Pam Dellea (908)534-1465 |
| * Weekend Novice Instructional in June *                      |       |        |                                     | Pierre DeRham (914)424-3160                                 |
| 6/4 - 6/5   | ALL   |        | <b>KCCNY Annual Auction</b>         | Dan Lenox (201)663-1364                                     |
|   |       |        | <b>KCCNY Esopus Race Weekend</b>    |   |
| 6/4 - 6/5   | N - I | I-III  | Esopus Cruisers                     | Matthew Giltner (908)534-1465                               |
| 6/11  | N     | I-II   | Delaware                            | Ron Ryason (914)228-5620                                    |
| 6/11  | ALL   |        | <b>Boat Outfitting Party</b>        | Dan Lenox (201)663-1364                                     |
| 6/25 or 6/26  | I     | II-III | Lehigh, (pending water)             | Bill Holt (201)447-5861                                     |
| 6/26  | I - A | III-IV | Deerfield                           | Bill Thomas (212)781-7080                                   |
| *July and or Aug.*  | N - I |        | Lower Sacandaga                     | Paul Epstein (914)297-7120<br>(call with interest)          |
| * Upper Yough Kayak/Raft trip, Usually the third week in July |       |        |                                     | Ken Sanders (717)629-5533                                   |
| 7/2 - 7/4   | I - A |        | <b>AWA Kennebec River Festival</b>  | Phyllis Horowitz McLane (914)688-5569                       |
| 7/9 - 7/10  | I - A | III-IV | Deerfield                           | Alan Tindel (212)228-6249                                   |
| 7/9 - 7/10  | ?     | II-III | Esopus Release                      | ???   |

# 1994 Cruising Calendar (cont.)

| DATE         | SKILL | CLASS  | RIVER / LOCATION                   | COORDINATOR / PHONE NUMBER            |
|--------------|-------|--------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 7/10         | I     |        | Advanced Strokes for Intermediates | Ed Hanrahan (201)226-4582             |
| 7/16 - 7/17  | I - A | III-V  | Black River                        | Dan Lenox (201)663-1364               |
| 7/23 - 7/24  | I - A | III-IV | Deerfield Release                  | ???                                   |
| 7/24         | ALL   |        | Play Day                           | Dave Church (914)739-0613             |
| 7/30 - 7/31  | I     | II-III | Deerfield (Zoar Gap)               | Andy Laiosa (718)798-5442 (H)         |
| 7/30 or 7/31 | ALL   | II-III | Play Day, Mongaup Wave             | Penny Giles (201)666-0550             |
| 8/6 - 8/7    | ALL   |        | AWA Deerfield Fest                 | Phyllis Horowitz McLane (914)688-5569 |
| 8/6 - 8/7    | N     |        | Deerfield Area                     | Doug Feick (914)332-9774              |
| 8/13 - 8/14  | N - I | II-III | Esopus Release                     | Alan Tindel (212)228-6247             |
| 8/13 - 8/14  | I - A | III-V  | Black River                        | Dan Lenox (201)663-1364               |
| 8/20 - 8/21  | I - A | III-IV | Deerfield Release                  | Jon Gellman (212)334-0824             |
| 8/27 - 8/28  | I - A | III-IV | Deerfield Release                  | Bill Thomas (212)781-7080             |
| 9/3 - 9/5    | I - A | III-IV | Kennebec/Ponobscot                 | Jackie & Vance Condie (212)678-0863   |
| 9/10         | I     |        | Pocono/Catskill Area               | Andy Laiosa (718)798-5442 (H)         |
| 9/10 - 9/11  | I - A | III-IV | Hudson River                       | Bruce Farrenkoph (908)707-9532        |
| 9/17         | I - A | III-IV | Deerfield Release                  | ???                                   |
| 9/24 - 9/25  | I - A | III-IV | West River Release                 | ???                                   |
| 9/24 - 9/25  | ALL   |        | <b>Gauley Festival</b>             | Phyllis Horowitz McLane (914)688-5569 |
| 10/2         | I - A | III-IV | Deerfield Release                  | ???                                   |
| 10/2         | ALL   |        | <b>Executive Meeting</b>           | Helen Chase                           |
| 10/2 - 10/3  | N - I | II-III | Esopus Release                     | ???                                   |
| 10/8-10/10   | I - A | III-IV | Yough River                        | Matt & Liz Moffitt (908)446-5389      |
| 10/22-10/23  | I - A |        | Pocono or Catskill Area            | Jon Gellman (212)334-0824             |
| 11/5 or 11/6 | I - A | III-IV | Tohickon River                     | Dan Lenox (201)663-1364               |
| 11/19        | ALL   |        | <b>KCCNY Annual Dinner</b>         | Marion Greenfield (212)483-2184       |

## 1994 Events Calendar

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May 1 - Sept 16, Nikon Canadian Canoe Photo Contest 519-473-2109</li> <li>- May 7 or 8, Mongaup River Cleanup, contact Matthew Giltner at 908-534-1465</li> <li>- May 14-21, Third Annual National River Cleanup Week, call 800-524-4814</li> <li>- May 16-17, US Slalom Team Trials, Ocoee River</li> <li>- May 19-20, US Wildwater Trials, Ocoee River</li> <li>- May 21-23, Southeastern US Championships, Nantahala River</li> <li>- May 22-23, Potomac Whitewater Festival, contact Norwood Scott at 703-892-6915</li> <li>- May 28, Riverfest, Bryson City, NC, contact Steve Claxton at 704-488-6159</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- June (whole month) AWA/Dagger Paddle-A-Thon contact Phyllis Horowitz-McLane at 914-688-5569</li> <li>- June 4-5, KCCNY Esopus Slalom, Phoenicia NY, contact Phyllis Horowitz-McLane at 914-688-5569</li> <li>- June 5, Third Annual KCCNY Auction, contact Dan Lenox at 201-663-1364</li> <li>- June 11, Boat Outfitting Party, contact Dan Lenox at 201-663-1364</li> <li>- June 11-12, Ocoee Rodeo, Ducktown TN</li> <li>- June 29, Finlandia Clean Water Challenge</li> <li>- July 9, Arkansas River Festival, Salida CO</li> <li>- August 6-7, Deerfield River Festival</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

## 1994 Cruising Calendar (cont.)

### \*\*\* OTHER TRIPS, BUT NO SPECIFIC DATE YET\*\*\*

- Alan Tindel (212)228-6249 - Ocean Surfing
- Heath Bingham (914)271-5687 - Lehigh (Spring or Fall, waiting for release dates)
- Dan Krupka (908)273-6570 - Lehigh (Spring, waiting for release dates)
- Pete Sholander (404)355-2289 - Pete lives down in Atlanta, Georgia. If you're in the area he may be able to boat with you or perhaps hook you up with some other boaters!

### \*\*\*OTHER NOTES\*\*\*

- Many thanks to Doug Feick for helping to put together the cruising calendar!
- Many, Many thanks to those that could help out by coordinating a trip
- There are still lots of blanks in the calender, Please take a look at your schedules and give me a call at (212) 678-0863, if you can lead a trip!





## KCCNY Esopus Slalom

Well racers, it is that time of year again where KCCNY holds our annual slalom race at the Esopus River. To enter complete the enclosed entry form, the ACA liability waiver, and return with the entry fee to Rapy Johns. Canadian competitors must use postal money orders made payable to "KCCNY" in US currency.

Applications should be postmarked on or before June 1, 1994. **Late registration will be permitted for \$10.00 per class, per person during check-in.**

The Esopus is located 26 miles west of Kingston NY on route #28. The slalom course is located approximately one mile up High Street in Phoenicia, at the Woodland Valley Bridge.

The race will start Saturday at 12:00 noon, and Sunday at 10:00 AM. Check-in will take place on Saturday between 9:00 - 11:00 AM at the scoring tent.

We could really use your help with setting up gates on Friday, June 3. Any help would be appreciated!

Contact:  
Phyllis Horowitz McLane  
914-688-5569

## Boat Outfitting Party

There will be a boat outfitting party at the home of Dan Lenox again this year. There will be instruction provided on how to properly outfit your boat so it fits *you* correctly. Any persons attending should bring a serrated bread knife and 40 grit sandpaper. I have *some* minicell foam that people can use, but if possible, you should bring your own. If enough people do not have foam available I can arrange to purchase some, but you should let me know ASAP!

There will also be beer provided, but if you come you should bring a food platter. The party will be held come rain or shine on Saturday June 11.

Dan Lenox  
233 Prospect Point Rd.  
Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849  
201-663-1364

## Welcome New Members

JOSEPH SAIA  
RD1, Box 1023  
Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328  
717-828-9787 (H)

MICHELE CHISM  
137 Seventh Ave., #2R  
Brooklyn, NY 11215  
718-789-2516 (H)  
212-366-2823 (W)

BILL GREEN  
2 Roger Ave.  
Cranford, NJ 07016  
908-276-2357 (H)  
908-277-4765 (W)

CHARLES PENN  
409 W. 52 St., Apt 5E  
New York, NY 07869  
212-765-3227 (H)  
212-246-8379 (W)

KATHY BRUNET  
267 W. Chrystal St.  
Randolph, NJ 07869  
201-328-2669 (H)  
201-648-5262 (W)

MICHAEL FEHLING  
824 E. Broadway, B4  
Long Beach, NY 11561  
516-889-9122 (H & W)

MAHBOOB MAHMOOD  
210 Riverside Dr., Apt. 9D  
New York, NY 10025  
212-222-2063 (H)  
212-906-2389 (W)

JOY SIHMA  
118 West 3rd St., #4D  
New York, NY 10012  
212-995-5479 (H & W)

## Change of Address

KEN BERARD  
239 Joralemon St.  
Belleville, NJ 07109

SCOTT JOHNSON  
81 Howard Rd.  
Greenwich, CT 06831

STEVE RUHLE  
PO Box 47  
Brookside, NJ 07926  
201-543-9531 (H & W)

## Phone numbers for river flow information

|                        |              |  |
|------------------------|--------------|--|
| - AMC Hotline, CT      | 203-583-6978 |  |
| - Black River, NY      | 315-369-3536 | Adirondack River Outfitters                                      |
| - Delaware Rivers      | 717-559-7527 |  |
|                        | 717-729-7134 | (winter)   |
| - Deerfield River, CT  | 413-625-8414 |  |
| - Farmington River, CT | 203-379-1448 | Bark Hamstead (lower section)                                    |
|                        | 203-658-4442 | New Boston   |
| - Gauley River, WV     | 304-872-5809 |  |
| - Housatonic River, CT | 203-824-7861 |  |
| - Hudson River, NY     | 518-869-6347 |  |
| - Kennebec River, ME   | 800-371-7774 |  |
| - Lackawaxen River, PA | 717-226-3702 | P.A. Power & Light, Honesdale PA                                 |
| - Lehigh River, PA     | 717-427-8161 | State Park Rangers Office (between 8:00AM - 4:00PM)              |
|                        | 215-597-4701 | U.S. Army Corp. of Engineers, Phili PA                           |
| - Mongaup River, NY    | 914-577-2911 |  |
| - Moose/Sacandaga, NY  | 518-465-2016 |  |
| - New England Rivers   | 508-824-3579 |  |
| - Southern Rivers      | 304-529-5127 | New, Bluestone, Greenbriar, Gauley, Elk,<br>Cranberry and Meadow |
| - Tohicken River, PA   | 215-297-5090 |  |
| - Yough River, PA      | 814-533-8911 | Upper Yough  |
|                        | 814-395-3166 | Yough Dam Recreation Information                                 |
| - West River, PA       | 802-874-5681 |  |

Please note that some of these phone numbers are commercial businesses, while others are state agencies, please be courteous to them on the phone! KCCNY is not responsible for the accuracy of these phone numbers, this information comes from many sources, if there any corrections, please notify us as soon as

Campmor add

National River Cleanup add

# Passaic River Coalition... A Different Point of View

by Ronald S. Soussa

I think that most members are in the club to enjoy paddling and each other's camaraderie and don't expect to use it as a soapbox for expressing our political opinions. I wouldn't write to tell our club members how to vote or what to think, especially without offering a differing point of view for comparison. That is why I am a little upset with language like "the prohibitive cost of the tunnel project" and Ed Alexanders concluding paragraph in the last issue of this newsletter, in which he advises us to support the Passaic River Coalition.

Although in the simplest sense the PRC does work to protect rivers in Northern New Jersey, I have personal experience in dealing with these people and have found their attitude to be completely uncompromising and out of touch with complex issues affecting development in this state. It is not enough to preach about an end to all construction or continued use of land that is affected by the flooding. Consideration and compensation must be given to those who own homes or land that the PRC wants to be declared off limits, an idea that is entirely

foreign to their thinking.

My family nearly went bankrupt, partially as a result of the PRC's uninvited involvement in our application to develop a small piece of property which we have owned for 15 years, long before any consideration was given to wetlands permits. If the state, or anyone else wants to take away the use of something you have saved for and invested in for years, by saying basically "too bad, now you can't use it for anything" and is effectively worthless, even though yesterday you could have built a house of something and it had value, then you would be pissed off too.

But there is no talking to these people. Their attitude is basically that if you own land then you must be rich and you can afford to lose your property, no matter how long you have owned it. That just isn't right! But good people mistakenly support them thinking that they are just out to save the environment from big corporations intent on destroying it without thinking about the suffering that is inflicted on lots of little homeowners and individuals who could lose everything they have saved for for years.

Few people also know that the PRC's Executive Director is an admitted perjurer, who has deliberately misstated facts before public bodies which influence how people can use their property. This self appointed "expert" on wetlands issues threw herself at the mercy of the court explaining that due to her ill health and need to be home for her children, she could not serve time in prison for her repeated crimes. This type of person, and the organization which she heads, should not be supported in our club's newsletter, certainly not without at least a little background about what she is really about.

*Editors Note:*

*This newsletter does NOT support one cause over another, but offers everyone a chance to voice **their** opinion. It should be used as an open forum for discussing issues that concern us not only as paddlers, but as concerned citizens and neighbors.*

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## Agreement Reached on Lower Youghiogheny

Reprinted from March 1994 AWA Journal

Negotiations to end the reservation fee on the Lower Yough, have finally begun to yield a solution to this long and ugly dispute. Over the last two years, the Lower Yough reservation fee has attracted national attention from white water boaters.

After numerous meetings, representatives of the AWA, ACA, Friends of the Lower Yough,

commercial interests, and the PA Bureau of State Parks have agreed on the following interim 1994 system: On non-holiday weekdays when the shuttle operates, unguided boaters will have the option of either making a reservation for a specific time, or using the river on a free, space available basis. Walk on access times will be limited to two hours before the launch.

There are no changes for weekend and holiday procedures used during 1994, except that the 3:15 PM non-guided, inflatable launch time has been eliminated.

- No cost walk-ons will continue when the shuttle is not operating, and during non-quota hours. A sign up sheet will be required.
- A temporary fee reduction is in place for annual permits, reducing this fee from \$25 to \$15.

## Just Rambling by Ed Alexander

...noting the agenda and discussions at our recent Executive Committee Meeting. In the course of the evening we reminisced times not all the members could remember. Some of us had forgotten others found interest in evaluating the past of KCCNY. As we reflected, I realized that KCCNY has not only come of age, but even reached, how can it best be said, "middle-aged".

Many years ago there was a commercial on the radio and television offering a product called "SERUTAN" for those who had reached the age of 35. It spelled backwards "NATURES". Yes, it is hard to believe that KCCNY is in its 36th year of active operation. Not having given much of a chance for success by several of the then established and somewhat over organized clubs, we have

truly proven our worth and that even a loosely run organization of which we are so proud could stand its ground and succeed.

We have seen much turn over in our membership, but a good number of those who dared to defy the odds challenged by others, are still with us and once again shown the worth of an organization run by the membership for the membership. As we continue to flourish, we forge ahead to keep in the fore front of conservation, white water techniques and fine fellowship.

Our thoughts are directed towards those who, over the years, have so unselfishly devoted their time and energies towards building a club of enthusiastic sports-people, conservationists, and perhaps, we should refer to them as idealists. I

would like to see recognition of these people, not necessarily with the presentation of the "Jack Goldstein Trophy". Timely biographical sketches could introduce them and their efforts in our newsletter. This would make very interesting reading. May I offer my services in this respect to any one who wishes to participate in this type of project? Or better yet, will someone step forward to attempt to reach out towards such a goal? Currently I plan to offer a synopsis of one of our very fine members who has done yeoman's work for the club and for the sport for more years that any one can realize of even imagine.

Let's all rally and name candidates of our choice who we believe will qualify, even if only in our own minds, and warrant such recognition. Watch for the next

Dagger Paddle a thon

## Shahola Memories (cont.)

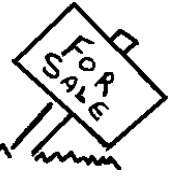
shoots your boat from right to extreme river left.

The last rapid is the largest and most intimidating looking... It has big water, as the entire river is squeezed into a narrow, virtually sheer walled box canyon, full of big drops. Normally I get out and scout for a fun route, this day however, the intense cold made the prospect of leaving my nice warm Viper unpleasant, so I just snuck it on the left. From there on down to the Delaware, less than a mile downstream, remains just riffles.

As Terry and I took out in Barryville, our clothes

covered with 1/2 inch of ice and my iced-up beard making me look like the abominable snowman, a car with an official looking man drove up. I was sure that some Pocono landlord had called the police to enforce the no trespassing signs that dotted some of the river banks. However it turned out that he was a local newspaper reporter who was thrilled for such good pictures. It took the entire 90 minute ride back home, with my car heater blasting full force to thaw out my life jacket and dry suit enough to take them off. A hot shower made me forget any lingering feelings of cold, and I'll be invigorated with

## Buy, Sell and Swap



### WANTED

water

15' Kevlar or lite weight flat

canoe in good shape.

Call Nancy at 201-361-4151

### FOR SALE

Perception Dancer, less than a year old and still like new. Comes with air bags and spray skirt. Asking \$550 (negotiable)

Call Lori Kahn at 212-779-4573 (leave message on machine)

## Greetings From Norway by Loland Moutray

I wanted to write a good-bye note to all of those who I had the privilege of meeting and boating with since I moved to New York in October of 1992. I have moved to my Norwegian wife's hometown on the sea coast of Norway to keep a marriage promise. All that boating doesn't help much to make me a better man. My 2 young sons and I could use a little culture anyway.

As soon as I knew I would move, I called the nearest kayak dealer in Norway. It turns out there are pool sessions in my town, and the nearest river to me, a class II/III, is only one half hour away. From May 15 to August it is full of Salmon, no more trout scouting for me. To avoid the salmon, there are 2 other rivers an hour away

that run all summer long. The nearest side and front surfing spot requires a one kilometer paddle *upstream!*

The following are some reflections of the more notable memories while paddling over the past year: The last run I had in the States was at Skudders Falls, while the prettiest run was the Hudson Gorge followed by the Ottawa, which certainly was the most fun. The most awesome was Bulls Bridge, although again the Ottawa certainly had it's moments. Portage easily goes to Knifes Edge on the Black, and the Shahola gets the nod for the coolest feeling. The most uncomfortable run was a flooded creek near the Tohickon, most fun side surfing was Hole Brothers on the Black, with the

most educational being at the hole at Tarrifville. No Fish No Swim gets the longest side surf, during while the whole time Dan Lenox was asking me what time it was while he was in his relaxed front surfing position. And the best enders were on the Ottawa's Middle Dog Leg.

Special thanks to Gene Langlinais, Dan Lenox, Gideon Schwartz and Herb Paholka for their help and kindness. Anyone traveling to Norway is as welcome here as I have been made to feel as a member of KCCNY.

*Editors Note: Loland's new address is:*

*Loland Moutray  
Haraldsrodv. 39  
3233 Sandefjord*

## Ending Notes by Dan Lenox

I was raised in Western New York, near Buffalo, so I should know about cold winters. Well this winter has finally passed, in many ways this one was colder than any other that I have known. But spring has sprung, and with it has come a plethora of rivers to boat. So far this year has been a bumper year for us river runners. One of the side benefits of having a cold, snowy winter is an abundance of water during the early paddling season. I hope that most of you could take advantage of at least a small part of it.

This is the second year in a row that the March release on the Tohickon river was cancelled. It seems that the park was never plowed out, but that didn't stop a lot of boaters from still paddling it on natural flow! Speaking of the Tohickon, I'm sure that a lot of you know about the controversy that is taking place around this, a favorite local river for kayakers. The Bucks County Tourist Commission has plans to increase the number of releases by 38 days, depending upon water availability. Sounds great, doesn't it! At least until you read the fine print, private boaters may not be welcome on these scheduled releases.

Ocoee release schedule

The local tourist board seems to have struck a deal with a local rafting company, Tohickon Whitewater, and under the plan, the company will control shuttles, parking, and possibly key river access points.

If they are going to prohibit private boaters from parking in a State Park, are they also going to keep other park users from using the other park services? I would doubt it... I was under the impression that park services were available to all, without discrimination, but this kinda sounds like it could become another PA State Park issue that reaks of the same discrimination that the Yough River has. Here kayakers are charged for river access, under the guise that we use the changing rooms and take-out facilities, therefore we should pay for them.

Next issue, KCCNY Rodeo results!

# Members Mutual Agreement For Protection From Liability

Welcome to the river. In the interest of permitting the Kayak and Canoe Club of New York (the "Club") to exist and to serve the paddling community without fear of liability, I ask you to join in this contract. The first part is for you to acknowledge that you understand the risks involved in this activity. The second part is a release from liability.

## *ASSUMPTION OF RISK*

I \_\_\_\_\_ understand and accept the following acts of life on a body of water: that paddling in watercraft exposes me to many hazards. No one but myself is responsible for judging my qualifications for my safety when I choose to challenge my capabilities by boating on particular body of water, or a particular rapid. I may assist my fellow paddlers to the best of my own ability if they appear to need such assistance, but only so long as I can do so, in my judgment, without significant danger to myself. I further understand that this does not imply any legal duty for me to do so, nor for any one else to render such assistance to me. Some of the dangers and risks which may be present or occur include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1) The hazards of traveling in a watercraft in varying water conditions.
- 2) Hazards including boulders, trees and other obstacles, waterfalls, holes, reversals and other water formations.
- 3) Swimming/floating in unfamiliar and sometimes turbulent water.
- 4) Using paddles, ropes and other paddling equipment.
- 5) Hiking or walking in rugged terrain, including slippery rocks.
- 6) Injuries inflicted by animals, insects, reptiles or plants.
- 7) Accidents or illness in remote places without medical facilities.
- 8) Man-made objects in the water including, but not limited to, ropes, bridge pilings, broken dams and metal debris.
- 9) Carrying watercraft and other paddling equipment.
- 10) The forces of nature, including lightning, weather changes, water level changes, and others not named.
- 11) The physical exertion associated with paddling and swimming and carrying watercraft on
- 12) land.

Now therefore, intending to be legally bound, I hereby waive, for myself and for anyone else claiming through me, my right to sue the Club, its members, trip coordinators or any of my fellow paddlers for any injuries to my person or my equipment which may occur during, in preparation for or in transit to or from a Club outing. The waiver applies to any negligent act or omission and to any intentional act intended to promote my safety or well-being.

I am solely responsible for deciding whether to participate in or to continue on any water trip. I assume these risks and understand my responsibility in decision making. My waiver has no expiration date.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Participant's Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# KCCNY Trip Policy Statement

## General Policy

- A. Club outings are cooperative adventures among participants. The **group** is collectively responsible for the conduct of the outing and **each participant** is individually responsible for judging his or her qualifications and for his or her safety on the river. By participating in a Club outing, you release the Club, its members, trip coordinators and fellow paddlers, from any injuries due to any negligent act or omission or to any intentional act intended to promote your safety or well-being.

## River Hazards

- B. You must understand and accept that whitewater boating exposes you to various hazards, for example, boulders and other obstacles, strainers, undercut or entrapping formations, falls, holes, reversals and other water formations, changing conditions, cold, high water and other hazards, mostly in remote locations. Injuries and deaths occasionally occur due to these hazards, among other things. You are responsible for learning to recognize river hazards and learning and practicing the techniques for avoiding these hazards. You are also responsible for acquiring boating safety and rescue skills commensurate with the level of difficulty of the river you are paddling. One excellent source book is River Rescue by Bechdel and Ray, available at most outfitters. Don't endanger your life and the lives of others by trying to boat on water beyond your ability. Remember - most good paddlers develop by very gradually increasing the difficulty of rivers they run over a period of several years.

## River Decision Making

You are **solely** responsible for the following decisions at all times:

1. The decision to go on any trip.
2. The decision to put-in the selected river (which may not be the scheduled river) under conditions existing at the time of the put-in.
3. The decision as to what equipment to take with you.
4. The decision whether to scout any rapid.
5. The decision whether to run any rapid.
6. The decision on how to run any rapid.
7. The decision whether to participate in any rescue or recovery of any equipment.
8. The decision to pass up any walk-out or take-out opportunity.

## River Rescue

Trip participants usually assist each other when someone appears to need assistance, but only so long as they can do so, in their own judgment, without significant risk to themselves. Some participants may choose to accept greater hazards to rescue a fellow paddler. However, trip participants and the coordinator are under no **LEGAL** duty to assist anyone. In other words, while you are not legally obligated to assist anyone, no one is legally obligated to assist you either.

## Other Responsibilities of Participants

1. Telephoning the trip coordinator well in advance of the trip you are planning to go on.
2. Asking the trip coordinator about his or her training and experience, if these considerations are significant to you.
3. Informing the trip coordinator of your skills, experience, training and rivers run.
4. Not bringing unexpected guests to the trip.
5. Bringing appropriate equipment and making sure it is in good repair, specifically; life jacket, helmet, knife, whistle, throw bag, and extra clothing.
6. Observing good safety practices on the river.

## KCCNY Trip Policy Statement (cont.)

### F. About Your Trip Coordinator

Trip coordinators are volunteers and they receive no pay. Their functions are to get the group to the same river at the same time, to arrange the shuttle and to respond to inquiries to the best of their knowledge. However, your trip coordinator may never have run the scheduled river or may never have run the scheduled river under the conditions encountered on trip day. Indeed, the scheduled river may not be runnable on trip day, and the trip may be switched to an unfamiliar river on the spot.

### G.

#### Trip Coordinator Responsibilities

1. Finding a substitute coordinator if you are unable to go on the trip and notifying the Cruise Chairman of the change.
2. Familiarizing yourself with the put-in, take-out and shuttle on the scheduled river.
3. Determining the rendezvous place and time.
4. Responding to participant inquiries to the best of your knowledge about the river, your training and experience, and the participant's training and experience. You have the authority to refuse a particular participant on any reasonable grounds, but it is NOT your responsibility to

H. determine whether a participant is qualified for the trip.

#### Optional Group Responsibilities

The group may wish to consider the following suggestions. Which of these suggestions is adopted on the trip is solely a group decision and is not the responsibility of any particular person:

1. Obtain river stage or flow data.
  2. Obtain a knowledge of the difficult parts of the run and emergency take-out routes.
  3. Equipment: throw rope in each boat, duct tape, first aid kit, extra paddle, flashlight, fire-starter and matches, pruning or wire coil saw, survival suit, extra clothing, carabiners, prusik loops, map, guide book.
  4. Keep group compact enough for communication, but not so compact as to interfere with each other.
  5. Consider dividing a large group into smaller groups or having a "buddy boats",
- I. 6. For further information, consult River Rescue by Bechdel and Ray.

#### Instructional Trips

In this format, a person assumes the responsibilities of a trip leader. He or she may pass judgment on a participant's qualifications, check equipment and assume responsibility for the conduct of the trip, including the appointment of lead or sweep (rear guard) boats and other duties listed above as taken by the individual or the group as a whole. These trips must be clearly designated as 'Instructional Trips', as they could expose the leader to legal liability. Trip or personal liability

**KGCNY  
Daniel Lenox  
233 Prospect Point Rd.  
Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849**

**Mongaup Release Schedule**

April 16  
 May 1, 14, 29  
 June 11, 26  
 July 9, 24  
 Aug. 13, 28  
 Sept. 10, 25  
 Oct. 8, 23

**Deerfield Release Schedule  
(Monroe Bridge Section)**

June 4-5, 26  
 July 9-10, 17, 23-24, 30-31  
 Aug. 6-7, 20-21, 27-28  
 Sept. 4, 17  
 Oct. 2, 8

**Dead River Release Schedule**

May 7, 14 (7500 cfs)  
 May 29 (5500 cfs)  
 June 11 (2400 cfs)  
 June 18 (1800 cfs)  
 June 19 (5500 cfs)  
 June 26 (1300 cfs)  
 July 3 (1800 cfs)  
 July 16-19 (1300 cfs)  
 July 30 (2400 cfs)  
 Aug. 13 (2400 cfs)  
 Sept. 3 (1300 cfs)  
 Sept. 4 (2400 cfs)  
 Sept. 5 (1800 cfs)  
 Sept. 17 (3500 cfs)  
 Oct. 9 (4500 - 6000 cfs)