

# ❖ KCCNY Newsletter ❖

The Newsletter of the Kayak and Canoe Club of New York

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July 1994

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## 1994 Executive Committee

<b>Chairperson</b>	<i>Nancy Sklavos</i>
<b>Vice Chairperson</b>	<i>Vance Condie</i>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<i>Helen Chase</i>
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<b>Newsletter</b>	<i>Daniel Lenox</i>
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<b>Annual Race</b>	<i>Phyllis Horowitz</i>
<b>Competition Liaison</b>	<i>Jim Raleigh</i>
<b>Delegates at Large</b>	<i>Ed Alexander</i> <i>Charles Peterson</i> <i>Ed Hanrahan</i> <i>Matt Moffitt</i> <i>Rich Desvernine</i> <i>Doug Feick</i> <i>Jon Gellman</i>
<b>Pool Sessions</b>	<i>Charles Peterson</i>
<b>Annual Dinner</b>	<i>Marion Greenfield</i>

## Jim Raleigh Made KCCNY

### Life-Time Member by Ed Alexander

I have been asked to make this presentation as we recognize one of our members of many years, and show our appreciation for the constant support and work he has given not only to KCCNY but to the white water sport in general.

As senior members of this club, I believe, Miriam and I are the only still active founding members of KCCNY, and I was proud to accept this assignment. Our first club chairman was Peter Whitney who, upon his resettlement to the West Coast, was followed by the late Jack Goldstein. It was customary at that time that no chairman would succeed himself. I succeeded Jack and was honored to turn the gavel over to Jim Raleigh.

Jim has made a name for himself as a racer par excellence in the early years of U.S.'s participation in international competition. He was the National C-2 Slalom Champion on several occasions with different partners, and likewise competed in several world championships.

During these years and upon his retirement from active competition, Jim has ardently pursued improvements in the running of races with particular emphasis on timing and communications.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Newsletter Staff

**Editor** *Daniel Lenox*  
*233 Prospect Point Rd.*  
*Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849*  
*201-663-1364*

**Advertising** *Bill Holt*  
*430 Morningside Drive*  
*Ridgewood, NJ 07450*  
*201-447-5661*

**Membership** *Pierre deRham*  
*P. O. Box 195*  
*Garrison, NY 10524*  
*914-424-3160*

*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.

## Jim Raleigh Honored (cont.)

We here in KCCNY, have been proud recipients of Jim's innovations which have since been adopted by the ACA as well as the ICF. His dedication to our sport has been an inspiration to the white water sport in general, and in particular to KCCNY. Jim, for many years, has also been chairman of our 'Most Improved Racer's Trophy' selection committee.

Jim, the membership of KCCNY has voted to make you an 'Honorable Life Member' of our club, and it gives me great pleasure to proudly welcome you into this, somewhat exclusive, group of KCCNY membership, joining Paul Bruhin, Miriam and myself.

### *Editors Note:*

*Ed Alexander presented to Jim a plaque to commemorate this occasion, at the conclusion of this years KCCNY Esopus Slalom.*

*This was a fitting time because Jim, for many years, has unselfishly given of himself in helping our club's annual slalom race become what is today.*

*Our club can never adequately repay the contributions made by its' club members. We can only thank those people, and try to acknowledge them in some small way, the time, effort and dedication given by those members.*

# ADVENTURE EQUIPMENT

*for the sport that excites you!*

Kayaks, Canoes, Inflatables, Paddles, Helmets, PFD's,  
Wet & Dry Suits, Paddling Jackets & Bags, Throw Ropes,  
Clothing & More ...

## This Months Specials

Thrill seekers	~ 10 % off msrp
Aire Inflatables	~ 10 % off msrp
Prijon Boats	~ Call for pricing
Thule Rack Systems	~ 20 % off msrp
Salamander Beak Helmet Visor	~ \$10.50
Mountain Surf	~ Call for pricing
Sport Suits of Australia (SSA)	~ Call for pricing
Lightning Paddles	~ Call for pricing
P & D Designs Back Bands	~ 10 % off msrp
Oksespor Boots	~ Call for pricing
Quest Tents	~ Call for pricing

Whatever  
we've got

you need  
the gear

at **UNBELIEVABLE PRICES**

Dave Artman      201-376-2311  
Gordon Trinker    908-688-1704

P.O. Box 948  
Springfield, New Jersey 07081

*Additional 5 % discounts for Club Members!*

## Catskill Creek's Lower Gorge by Gideon Schwarcz

I had heard that there was a little run, but more difficult section of Catskill Creek, way downstream of the normal playing section. By the second week of April, when I saw that the Moodna and Shahola were beginning to fade, I reasoned that the snowmelt in the more northern mountains of the Adirondacks must still be at its prime.

A quick phone call to Pete Skinner confirmed the flow, and he assured me I'd have fun on this class IV-V section of the river. Since Pete was busy with his thesis, and most of my usual paddling partners-in-crime were in West Virginia, I called Sam McClesky. I had paddled with Sam only on one other occasion, but seemed to click with, perhaps because he also had a whitening beard and paddled a C-1. Sam bubbled with enthusiasm at the prospect of a personal 'first run' and vowed to meet me there (in spite of the fact that his poor wife had driven up from Georgia to spend the weekend with him).

Saturday night I started to have doubts about this run. I had just picked up the new AWA magazine and read Chris Knoll's piece on the bottom, bottom Moose. They rated this section of the Moose IV-V, and began to wonder if their concept of a class IV-V was the same as mine. And a rumor that I once heard, that the lower gorge was unrunnable, did not help to ease my mind.

Neither was my mind eased, when a local stopped us at the put-in to frantically warn us not to do the run. "The falls, the falls" he

seemed to persevere. I told him that we were mental patients on pass from the local psychiatric hospital, and so did crazy things during these times. He dryly commented "OK, I guess I'll have to read about you in the local papers tomorrow", as he glumly drove off.

Seconds after rounding the bend from this passive, serene put in, we heard a deafening roar. The whole river disappeared over a horizon line. We were able to eddy scout, and threaded a slalom line around huge holes and ledges a few hundred yards long. Much more like the Moose than the Esopus, Catskills' sister river only a few exits south on the Thruway.

But this was nothing compared with a monstrous display of natural power that awaited us downstream at the next horizon line. An utterly awesome 1/8 mile long ledge rapid awaited us, complete with huge currents funnelling into keeper holes, ledge after ledge, and complexity equaling the most difficult rapid I have ever seen anywhere. It reminded me vaguely of the Picnic Table ledge on the Lokatong, in a river that was three times as wide, vastly more powerful, and four times as long complicated and steep. This was no picnic.

As we scrambled over rocks to the top of the cliff to scout, we decided that we were lost as how to run the rapid. After perhaps, 40 minutes of discussing routes, we agreed to a right sided semi-sneak route that featured several "must moves" but probably avoided lethal consequences. It worked out 'pretty well', except that Sam's

15 year old C-1er (an expert) bloodied his hand while doing a lightening roll in a real nasty spot. After some nice big water just downstream from a dam, we encountered a river wide natural dam. Sam ran it perfectly in his new Cascade C-1, while Scott snuck it by scraping his plastic Gyromax on the shoreline route, while I carried my glass Viper. Sam said I was crazy for taking a semi-squirt boat like the Viper on this trip, and I agreed with him. But what could I do at this point.

Fortunately the horizon lines seemed to get tamer and tamer from this point on. Sam was beaming, high, pumped and repeating over and over, "Oh boy, did I need a run like this; did I need a run like this". He was having such a good time that I had to scream at him to stop as another huge horizon line approached.

I think that at that time he was so psyched, that he would have shot Niagara Falls without blinking an eye. But reason prevailed, and we eddied river-left to scout. The whole river fell in two drops, both of which featured nasty keeper hydraulics. We then ferried across the face of this mess to river right, to discover an eddy, and peel out between two holes into standing waves that shot us through the whole thing.

The rest of the trip was relatively tame, and the take-out resembled the laziest flat water you'd ever seen. Truly a great 'hair run' in our local New York area, when the snow melts in the Adirondacks again.

## Conservation Shorts by Doug Feick

### On the National Front

A reminder that the Clean Water Act is up for re-authorization by Congress. Watch out for amendments that will make it easier to develop wetlands and, boaters beware, riparian corridors everywhere. Many degraded runs may become worse and those that are still relatively untouched may loose to development.

### In the Greater Northeast

On March 2 the president of the New York Power Authority (NYPA), David Freeman, announced that the 800MW contract with Hydro Quebec had been canceled. Freeman recommended that the existing contract be canceled and the NYPA shareholders agreed. In a related decision, Con Edison, who had been threatening to negotiate directly with Hydro Quebec for the power, decided to postpone its negotiation for 18 months.

This is not the end of Hydro Quebec's move to destroy the greatest area of wilderness whitewater in Eastern North America, but it's a step in the right direction, the money from the contracts would have guaranteed Hydro Quebec the funds to continue development. Hydro Quebec, of course vows to continue its march northward.

### Make a Friend for the Mongaup

Welcome to our third summer of Mongaup releases. So far our record is good- thanks mostly to Ken Fischman's drive to continue his work of opening the river and Matthew Giltner's dedication and organization as River Steward. And

thanks too, to all of us. After The Bushkill: a River Update looking at the National Park Service Incident Reports it's clear to me that the Mongaup Area is a relatively safe place because we are there.

This is all good news, but it's not enough! There's something every

one of us who boats the Mongaup this summer can do to help the cause- whether you're on the river, the wave or running the

Delaware. Too many of the local residents see us as an adversary.

This is an attitude we can turn around- slowly. If the opportunity arises, give someone a helping hand and make a friend for the Mongaup!

As you've probably heard one of the best early spring creek runs in the Poconos, the Bushkill, has been problematic because the Boy

Scouts of America have denied access across their land to the put in.

We hope that 1994 will issue in a new era for KCCNY and their relationship with the Boy Scouts.

After a spring meeting with a representative of the Boy

Scouts, KCCNY has sent a member list and proof of insurance to the Valley Forge Council of the Boy Scouts. With this done, we

understand that KCCNY members are now able to run the Bushkill without threat of legal action.

Coldbrook add

# West Branch of the Penobscot

by Alan Tindell

It's the first weekend of September and we're camped on the bank of the Dead river just outside the one-store town, The Forks, Maine. We, being myself and about twenty other paddling friends. The group is an eclectic mix of people whose backgrounds and interests vary as much as the range of ages present - 6 months to 60 years old. The original game-plan was two or three days of paddling the Kennebec River.

Saturday on the Kennebec was thrilling. In spite of this, a couple of us, after reading the Appalachian Whitewater Guide, started talking about the possibility of foregoing the Kennebec on Sunday and running the West Branch of the Penobscot instead. Only one paddler in the group, Charles Peterson, had ever made the run. He described a challenging yet very doable class IV-V run. My ears perked up immediately. Being the type of person who is always up for an adventure, I was there if we could put together the right group for the undertaking. Unfortunately, our Penobscot-experienced member was hedging and looking to stick with the original plan, the Kennebec. This complicated things and cast a dark shadow on the expedition. I was only slightly let down as the Kennebec was still an excellent alternative. For the time being the Penobscot seemed to have been put by the wayside.

The social scene around the camp the was the greatest. There were a couple of tarpaulins set up with different groups just hanging out, cooking, and mingling. The culinary undertakings were quite impressive such as Jon Gelman's infamous black bean vindaloo and the Condie's dutch oven lasagna and brownies. After dinner

everyone sat around a nice big campfire and tall boating stories abounded. The cool crisp air and star-filled sky was most relaxing. It was a great scene. As the morning hours approached then added up, the circle disbanded heading off for their tents and sleeping bags. Some rest for the next day was imperative. To cap the night we were treated with an excellent lightning storm that lit up the sky like the fourth of July.

We got up early because the Kennebec was only releasing for two hours per day. The idea is to be in your boat at the base of the damn when the alarm sounds to warn that the gates are opening.

Just as most of the boats were loaded and we were about to depart camp, somehow, from somewhere the Penobscot came back to life as fast as it had died the night before. We had two vehicles and four guys saying good-bye to the Kennebec group and heading off to the Penobscot with nothing but a guide book and a hearty sense of adventure. The group consisted of myself, Jon Gelman, Bill Thomas, and Andrew Laiosa. After stopping at the store for supplies and directions, we were off. And boy were we off, off the beaten path that is. The drive took about two hours and the majority of that time was on gravel backroads and we didn't even get lost, yet. As we're driving I'm pouring over the guide book practically trying to commit it to memory, but with mention of intimidating names like the Exterminator, Fist Rock, and the class V Cribwork, I didn't retain much.

When we finally got there we walked along the top of the Ripogenus dam to take our first

look at the river, and hopefully get a look at the Exterminator. Much to our dismay we stared down at a deep, very technical, and beautiful but bone-dry gorge. We were scratching our heads as we tried to pick-up our jaws. What a sad sight we must have been trudging back to the vehicles with our heads hanging like we had all just swum a long rapid. But of course the story doesn't end here, or I wouldn't be spending a Saturday evening at the computer.

Soon we realized that we were at a section aptly called the Dryway since it only runs during peak Spring run-off. Shortly after, we found our way to the McKay power station one-half mile downstream of our earlier folly. The water is diverted via an underground tunnel from the dam to the McKay power station because more velocity is attained than if the turbines were at the base of the dam. Due to the fact that Great Northern Paper Company generates power for its mills around the clock flows are generally constant and usually range between 2,000 and 3,500 cfs. We got 2,500 cfs, a good level for first timers, we figured.

While Jon and Andrew set up the shuttle, Bill and I registered with the guard and headed toward the river to try again for a look. This time we got just what we expected, and more. We were at the top of the 100' sheer granite walls of the Ripogenus gorge. Below was an awesome sight. The gorge drops at a rate of 70 feet/mile. Looking down at the size and number of the holes and waves was like being hooked up to an intravenous supply of adrenaline. Believe me it wasn't hard to pick out the Exterminator. I was hoping that it would be as easy to avoid it

## West Branch of the Penobscot (cont.)

as it was to spot it from the top of the gorge. The excitement was building fast.

Jon and Andrew returned and we headed straight for the put-in. Another group was heading down just as we got there. For me there was a certain amount of reassurance by their presence, although they would have been of no assistance in the event of a problem. As we headed down the river and away from the hum of the powerhouse, the roar of the rapids filled the air. I can't speak for anyone else but there was a definite tightness in the stomach. The 100' high granite walls closed in quickly and faster than you can say "uh oh", we were on a roller coaster ride. There were exploding waves, monster holes, ledges, pourovers and every other natural river feature minus any major drops. The gorge happens pretty quickly (depending upon how many eddies you are able to catch, of course) but there are places to play. After the gorge the gradient decreased significantly and the river widened.

The next feature of significance was a really bouncy and fairly sticky side surfing hole that took us a while to get the courage to dive into. After much scrutiny we had basically decided that it might not be the best idea, when along came a local boater who dropped right in and showed us how it could be done. He had the nerve to say "I love this hole." Don't worry though, justice was downstream at Cribwork. Even with our bruised pride, we were quick to follow and spent quite a while there having a great time. This was a really fun play-spot. It is located right off the road and would make an excellent spot to come back to for some additional playing after completing the run.

After totally exhausting ourselves, we moved on. Before long the steel bridge came into view marking the approach of the class V challenge of the Cribwork rapid. This is a must scout rapid for first time runners and it has must-make moves. To take out for the scout or to portage, ferry to river left and eddy out before the bridge and follow the trail down-stream on river left. The view is good and so was our timing because the boaters behind us were just coming through as we got there. Watching them go through was pretty disheartening. Two out of three capsized right above the critical chute but luckily rolled in the nick of time. Their lines were not inspirational.

Actually, they did inspire Andrew to take a hike around this one. Jon, Bill, and I however didn't learn from our fellow paddlers and decided that we were all up for the challenge. Although the rapid really isn't too technical, mistakes have consequences that add up in hospital bills. Basically, all that has to be done is ride the tongue of the first chute, ferry river right,

catch an eddy if your feeling good, then line up on the second tongue, go over the chute and you're home free. The problem comes in when you miss the line on the second chute or decide to go for swim; you get dumped on a jagged boulder pile. Ouch!

Jon opted to line up and go straight through. I was able to catch an eddy on river right and Bill pulled off the most difficult move of all by catching the eddy behind Guardian rock. Sounds simple right, except for the fact that the rock disappears about every two or three seconds due to the surging water. Go ahead Bill.

The Penobscot still stands in my mind as one of my favorite days of paddling ever. There's nothing like your first descent of a river that is at a level that challenges your skills. The river runs through a virtually undeveloped semi-wilderness area that is truly stunning. We basically had the river to ourselves, except for our probes, of course. On a clear day you can see Mount Katahdin, Maine's highest peak and the terminus of the Appalachian Trail. The good news is that this years annual Kennebec trip is slated as a Kennebec/Penobscot trip. The bad news is that we have to wait until September.

Alan Tindell, Bill Thomas and Jon Gellman in an eddy on the Penobscot River. Photo by Andy Laiosa

# 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	PHONE NUMBER / COORDINATOR
*July and or Aug.*	N - I		Lower Sacandaga	(914)297-7120 Paul Epstein (call with interest)
* Upper Yough Kayak/Raft trip, Usually the third week in July				(717)629-5533 Ken Sanders
7/2 - 7/4	I - A		<b>AWA Kennebec River Festival</b>	(914)688-5569 Phyllis Horowitz McLane
7/9 - 7/10	I - A	III-IV	Deerfield	(212)228-6249 Alan Tindel
7/9 - 7/10	?	II-III	Esopus Release	???
7/10	I		Advanced Strokes for Intermediates	(201)226-4582 Ed Hanrahan
7/16 - 7/17	I - A	III-V	Black River	(201)663-1364 Dan Lenox
7/23 - 7/24	I - A	III-IV	Deerfield Release	???
7/23 - 7/24	N	II	Delaware Area	(914)332-9774 Doug Feick
7/24	ALL		Play Day	(914)739-0613 Dave Church
7/30 - 7/31	I	II-III	Deerfield (Zoar Gap)	(718)798-5442 Andy Laiosa
7/30 or 7/31	ALL	II-III	Play Day, Mongaup Wave	(201)666-0550 Penny Giles
8/6 - 8/7	ALL		AWA Deerfield Fest	(914)688-5569 Phyllis Horowitz McLane
8/6 - 8/7	N		Deerfield Area	???
8/13 - 8/14	N - I	II-III	Esopus Release	(212)228-6247 Alan Tindel
8/13 - 8/14	I - A	III-V	Black River	(201)663-1364 Dan Lenox
8/20 - 8/21	I - A	III-IV	Deerfield Release	(212)334-0824 Jon Gellman
8/27 - 8/28	I - A	III-IV	Deerfield Release	(212)781-7080 Bill Thomas
9/3 - 9/5	I - A	III-IV	Kennebec/Ponobscot	(212)678-0863 Jackie & Vance Condie
9/10	I		Pocono/Catskill Area	(718)798-5442 Andy Laiosa

# 1994 Cruising Calendar (cont.)

DATE	SKILL	CLASS	RIVER / LOCATION	PHONE NUMBER / COORDINATOR
9/10 - 9/11	I - A	III-IV	Hudson River	(908)707-9532 Bruce Farrenkoph
9/17	I - A	III-IV	Deerfield Release	???
9/24 - 9/25	I - A	III-IV	West River Release	???
9/24 - 9/25	<b>ALL</b>		<b>Gauley Festival</b>	(914)688-5569 Phyllis Horowitz McLane
10/2	I - A	III-IV	Deerfield Release	???
10/2	<b>ALL</b>		<b>Executive Meeting</b>	(914)657-2107 Helen Chase
10/2 - 10/3	N - I	II-III	Esopus Release	???
10/8-10/10	I - A	III-IV	Yough River	(908)446-5389 Matt & Liz Moffitt
10/22-10/23	I - A		Pocono or Catskill Area	(212)334-0824 Jon Gellman
11/5 or 11/6	I - A	III-IV	Tohickon River	(201)663-1364 Dan Lenox
11/19	<b>ALL</b>		<b>KCCNY Annual Dinner</b>	(212)483-2184 Marion Greenfield

**\*\*\* 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)
- Dan Lenox (201-663-1364) - Black River, NY (all summer)
- 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!

## 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

Yes, this is a picture of a tuber, complete with an outboard motor, imagine the decadence! Photo supplied courtesy of Pocono Whitewater Photos

KCCNY Race Results

KCCNY Race Results

KCCNY Race Results

# Welcome New Members

CHESTER BURLEY  
Cowen & Co. 27th Floor  
Financial Square  
New York, NY 10005  
212-888-7891 (H)  
212-495-6820 (W)

THOMAS MARTIN  
286 Farragut Ave., Apt #3  
Hastings on Hudson, NY 10706  
914-478-7970 (H)  
212-474-8305 (W)

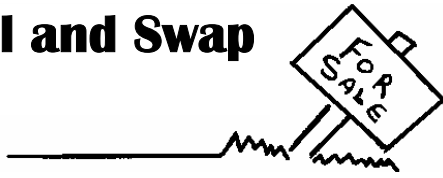
THOMAS RICH  
612 Washington Ct.  
Guilderland, NY 12084  
518-861-5860 (H)  
518-463-2291 (W)

## Phone numbers for river flow information

- AMC Hotline, CT	203-583-6978	
- Black River, NY	315-369-3536	Adirondack River Outfitters
- Cheat River, WV	412-644-2890	USGS
- Cranberry River, WV	304-529-5127	WV Hyrdology
- Delaware Rivers	717-559-7527	
	717-729-7134	(winter)
- Deerfield River, CT	413-625-8414	
- Elk River, WV	304-529-5127	WV Hydrology
- Farmington River, CT	203-379-1448	Bark Hamstead (lower section)
	203-658-4442	New Boston
- French Broad, NC	800-238-2264	Newport Gauge (TVA)
- Gauley River, WV	304-872-5809	Corps. of Engineers
- 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
- Laurel Fork, WV	412-644-2890	USGS
- 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
- Meadow, WV	304-529-5127	WV Hydrology
- Mongaup River, NY	914-577-2911	
- Moose/Sacandaga, NY	518-465-2016	
- New England Rivers	508-824-3579	
- New River, WV	304-466-0156	Corps. of Engineers
- Nolichucky, NC	800-238-2264	TVA
- Ocoee River, TN	800-238-2264	TVA
- Shavers Fork, VA	412-644-2890	USGS
- Stony River, VA	703-260-0305	USGS
- Tellico River, TN	625-253-7951	USGS
- Tohicken River, PA	215-297-5090	
- Tygart River, VA	412-644-2890	USGS
- Yough River, PA	814-533-8911	Upper Yough
	814-395-3166	Yough Dam Recreation Information
- Watauga, NC	800-238-2264	Sugar Grove (TVA)
- West River, PA	802-874-5681	

Please note that some of these phone numbers are commercial businesses, while others are state agencies, please be courtious 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

## Buy, Sell and Swap



### WANTED

Perception Dancer XS

Call Bonnie Townsend at  
201-871-1842

### FOR SALE

Wave Sport-Excel, an excellent whitewater play boat. Complete with spray skirt, excellent condition. A steal at \$450.

For a test drive call Alan Tindell at  
212-228-6249

Campmor add

## Mine Discharge Threatens

### Cheat River

from AWA News Release

April and May represents prime whitewater season in West Virginia, as natural spring flows augment one of the principal industries of the Mountain State, outdoor recreation.

The Cheat Canyon is one of the best recognized whitewater rivers in the state and, as a free flowing river segment, is highly dependent on seasonal high runoff.

This year, the recreational benefits of this river are being affected by acid and iron runoff from a deep mine owned by T & T Fuels, Inc., a Preston County mining company.

The West Virginia Division of Environmental Protection first acknowledged this problem on April 8, when they issued a violation notice for a leaking seal at the company's No. 2 mine. On April 25, the DEP modified this to a cessation order when, at this time, the mine was leaking 800 gallons per minute into Muddy Creek, a tributary to the Cheat and located near the put-in for the Cheat Canyon whitewater run.

The cessation order carries a \$750 a day fine, for up to 30 days, and effectively gives the company this same period to correct the problem. However, as of Thursday, the 30 day period was over and acidic water with a heavy iron content continued to enter the Cheat River. To date T & T owes \$22,500 in fines and a solution to this drainage is yet to be found.

While the company is treating the water, the Ph level still registers at 3.5, and both commercial customers and private boaters have complained of teary eyes and a metallic taste in their mouths. One local outfitter likened the present Cheat run to "rafting in tomato soup. You have orange waves that just don't look right".

There is also concern over the effects of this leakage on fish habitat. While earlier acid mine drainage has killed off virtually all of the fish in the Cheat River, more recent efforts by biologists and conservationists have improved existing fish populations in the downstream Cheat Lake. Any increases in acidity could destroy whatever recovery may have begun.

## Ending Notes by Dan Lenox

Well, another KCCNY auction has come and gone. This was the third year that KCCNY has sponsored an auction, and much of the success of this one goes toward Woodstock Brewing. They have been kind enough not only to foot the bill for a good portion of our new race bibs, but also to provide auction goers some very tasty refreshment this year. I had only a few tastes of the porter beer supplied, and I can certainly say that it was not only to my liking, but many others also enjoyed it as well.

Me, I had my own problems. I had a really bad throat infection, could hardly talk, and my throat felt like it could explode at any minute. Try to run a silent auction sometime and you could see the predicament that I was in. Luckily I had remembered to bring along my medicine that was prescribed to me by Dr. Cuervo (my private physician). Well, it seemed that if I did not gargle every 5 minutes or so, I could not talk, so for the sake of the auction, I took my medicine, oh the hardships I endure!

As luck would have it, I made it through the auction (barely), and about 15 minutes resigned myself to bed inside my van. That is after about 10 minutes of judicious crawling under my van, trying to find the spare key, after Lori Kahn inadvertently locked me out of the van. I couldn't understand why the medicine had taken such a toll on me, when I remembered that I had not eaten anything other than a bagel at 7:00 that morning. That coupled with the fact that I had paddled for over 5 hours, it's a wonder that I even made it all of the way through the auction at all!!!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the people that donated items, or brought items to be sold at the auction. KCCNY made almost \$280 this year, as usual, all proceeds will go towards conservation.

Here's hoping that next year the auction is bigger and better than this year. We will certainly have beer available at that auction, since it was such a hit this year. So start looking around and put aside any items that you may want to sell next year, I hope that everybody shows up!

Ocoee Release Schedule

# 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)