

# ❖ KCCNY Newsletter ❖

The Newsletter of the Kayak and Canoe Club of New York

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Volume XXXIV Issue 5

December 1994

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## 1995 Executive Committee

<b>Chairperson</b>	<i>Vance Condie</i>
<b>Vice Chairperson</b>	<i>Bill Thomas</i>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<i>Helen Chase</i>
<b>Membership</b>	<i>Pierre DeRham</i>
<b>Cruising</b>	<i>Alan Tindle</i>
<b>Newsletter</b>	<i>Daniel Lenox</i>
<b>Safety</b>	<i>Don Belcher</i> <i>Jon Gellman</i>
<b>Conservation</b>	<i>Doug Feick</i>
<b>Training</b>	<i>Pierre DeRham</i> <i>Marion Greenfield</i>
<b>Annual Race</b>	<i>Phyllis Horowitz</i> <i>Matthew Giltner</i>
<b>Competition Liaison</b>	<i>Jim Raleigh</i>
<b>Delegates at Large</b>	<i>Ed Alexander</i> <i>Ed Hanrahan</i> <i>Paul Epstein</i> <i>Rich Desvernine</i> <i>Gordon Trinkler</i> <i>Joe Saia</i> <i>Charles Peterson</i> <i>Ralph Johns</i> <i>Anne Cali</i>
<b>Pool Sessions</b>	<i>Charles Peterson</i>

## From The Chairman

**By Vance Condie**

Seasons Greetings!

This opportunity kind of snuck up on me, maybe the way a few of you are thinking I snuck up on you! Who was that gavel wielding Vice-Chairman at the last annual dinner, and why doesn't he know Roger's Rules of Order?

First of all I'm very honored to assume the chairmanship of KCCNY, reading the names of past chairpersons, and just as significantly those names that are not on the list, I feel there must have been some mistake - The list is made up of legendary paddlers, the kinds rapids aren't named after but could be if we had another system! One of Nancy's many great strengths is her ability to cross eddy lines and get to know the myriad of paddlers in our club; regardless of age, paddling ability, or length of membership in the club; and I am honored that she chose me from among the many that have supported the club.

Jackie and I have been paddling for six years now, and through the example and nurturing of many KCCNY members have chosen kayaking as not just a weekend hobby, but a complete way of life. A few of these members include: Ken Fischman, The Moffitts, Pat and Michelle, Marian, Pierre DeRham, Nancy Sklavos, Charles Peterson and Tom Gustainis, Joe Hannerfeld, Dan Lenox, Dana & Paige Castro, Ed and Ann Hanrahan, The Christies, Alan Tindle, and the Columbia Gang of Bill Thomas, Jon Gellman and Kai Christiansen.

*(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 email, my address is [DLenox@aol.com](mailto:DLenox@aol.com)

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.

## From The Chair (cont.)

Jackie administrates at Brooklyn Friends School, and I am a high school math teacher, two careers we both love, especially for the 5 summers we have spent in Idaho, Colorado, and last year British Columbia. I married into an avid kayaking family, Jackie's brother's Larry and Jim Dunn are both well known western boaters, and many of you have met Jim and Diana since their move to Vermont.

I look forward to working with Bill Thomas and the rest of the committee that was elected during our annual dinner. I hope to continue KCCNY's legacies of welcoming and paddling with new members of the club, our dedication to the preservation of our rivers, an outstanding annual race tradition, and an ever expanding and comprehensive paddling agenda for all! See you all on the rivers, Vance.

### *Editors Note:*

*Vance I wanted to remind you that you were selected as the chairman of the 1995 KCCNY Executive Committee by ALL of us that voted for you at the annual meeting. It's the governing body and the membership as a whole that stand behind you!*

## Deadline for next newsletter:

**February 10, 1995**

Ramsey outdoor add goes here

## **KCCNY Special Award Presentations**

This years Special Award competition was a fierce one, with Jon Gellman being the only repeat ‘offender’. I remember the look on Ken Fischman after not winning a single trophy this year, I can honestly say that I never before saw such an expression.

There were many good stories where onlookers, and sometimes the participant, recounted that ‘fateful’ day. It’s too bad that all of you were not there to enjoy them, but the next time you see any of these people, congratulate them and then ask them to recount to you the story behind the trophy.

The two best stories in my opinion were for the Probe and Epic Swimming trophy, so be sure to ask both Dana and Brian to repeat their stories, something about dropping into Insignificant on the Upper Gauley, and a pin and swim at the TOP of Crib Works on the Penobscot. I’m sure that after the tenth or eleventh time it should be juiced up sufficiently! Ask them often, and have your friends ask too!

Well congratulations to all of this years trophy winners:

Strainer	~	Matt Moffitt
Window Shade	~	Jackie Condie
Probe	~	Dana Castro
Hole Hog	~	Jon Gellman (2nd year)
Inconstant Roll	~	Tom Gustainis
Epic Swimming	~	Brian Meserlian

## Business Card Section

**Daniel Lenox** - *Computer Consulting Services*

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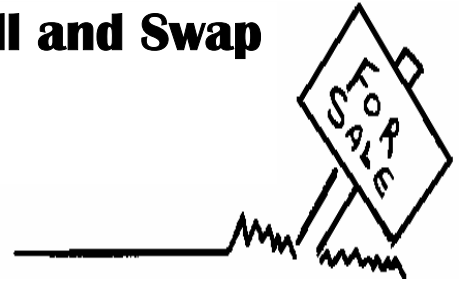
*Software that makes sense . . .*

233 Prospect Point Road  
Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849  
(201) 663-1364

If you would like to have your business card in the newsletter, contact Bill Holt at 201-447-5661 for pricing!

Professional River  
Instruction  
add goes here

## Buy, Sell and Swap



### FOR SALE

Prijon T-Slalom, yellow with safety line, \$300.

Call Steve Boykewich at  
201-933-6273

### FOR SALE

New Wave Vampire squirt boat, built in 1993 with significant improvements done to new boat, too many to mention (not done as repairs). Will handle paddlers up to about 190 lbs. Black with red seam stripe and grab loops. First \$550 takes it!

Call Dana Castro at 203-740-8633

### FOR SALE

New Wave Cruise Control, the ultimate (plastic) surfing boat. Excellent condition and a steal for \$550.

Call for a test drive.  
Alan Tindell 212-228-6249

### FOR SALE

New Wave Cruise Control, slightly used. \$550 or best offer

Call Gordon Trinkler at  
908-688-1704

### FOR SALE

Paddler's paradise on the Esopus. Take out in your backyard. Large mobile home adjacent to Phoenicia Trailer Park, oil heat. Living room has cathedral ceiling, barnboard paneling and wood stove. Full kitchen, 2 BR's, porch, trees. Fall out of bed into hiking or ski trails. Walk to stores and restaurants. Low maintenance, dirt cheap!

Call Ken or Lanie Fischman at  
212-228-5753

# End of Year Conservation Report by Ken Fischman

## 1. Mongaup River Potpourri:

It has been a good year. All the white water releases went off as scheduled, although some people got confused about what the real schedule was at one point. Orange & Rockland (O&R) is mandated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to maintain a rigid schedule of releases on alternate weekends and alternate Saturdays and Sundays from April 15 to October 31. In mid-summer, O&R discovered that they had made an error by skipping two weekends in a row, and therefore had to redo the remainder of the schedule. The correction was published in our newsletter, but some people apparently did not get the message and arrived at the river to find it bone dry.

In my opinion, this rigid schedule remains a problem because it leads to conflicts with releases on other local rivers. I am going to request a change in the schedule to avoid these conflicts. As long as the schedule is published well ahead of the boating season and contains the agreed-upon number of releases, with equal numbers of Saturdays and Sundays, I am optimistic that FERC and the other groups involved will not object to this change.

There is good news regarding river levels. Many of us agree that one turbine releases make the river too scratchy, with the many rocks just below the surface impossible to avoid. Late in the 1995 season, we will be getting an additional 100 cfs due to the opening of a new fishery segment of the river between the Rio dam and the powerhouse. O&R will be sending 100 cfs to rewater this 2

1/2 mile segment, and naturally this water will not stop at the powerhouse. It will result in a 22% increase in volume for the boating segment of the river. That should nicely take care of those annoying under-water rocks.

## 2. Two Turbine Releases on the Mongaup:

The extra 100 cfs will not however solve our hunger for a "real" whitewater experience on the Mongaup. Those of you who have been fortunate to paddle the Mongaup with a 2 barrel release know what I mean. As most of you know I have attempted to have the FERC license amended so that we could get 2 turbine releases. Originally, Superintendent Hutzky of the Upper Delaware Wild and Scenic River Park, along with several local politicians and emergency service people, contended that 2 turbine releases on the Mongaup created dangerous conditions on the Delaware River for inexperienced canoeists and rafters. We know that this is nonsense, but Hutzky cooked a "test" that purported to demonstrate this danger, and FERC bought it!

This year I contacted FERC, and challenged both the the construction and the so called results of the original test. I requested another test, done properly by a third party. Furthermore, I pointed out that O&R has been making 2 turbine releases for power purposed at least as far back as 1979. Many of them took place on summer weekends, during the high use season on the Delaware, and no one had protested or called them unsafe at that time. Matthew

Giltner filed a Freedom of Information Law request in order to obtain the Park Service incident report, which occurred from 1989 to 1993. He found that almost all of the occurrences, including all of the drownings and near-drownings took place either well above or below the Delaware-Mongaup confluence. A group of us went to a meeting of the Upper Delaware Council, the local advisory body for the Park Service and presented our case. There was Doug Feick, Matthew Giltner, myself along with the Green of the Atlantic Division of the American Canoe Association, and Mell Silverman of the Metropolitan Canoe and Kayak Club. Our arguments were eloquent, but fell on deaf ears. We were being "located" to death.

However, our efforts with a more neutral audience, FERC, bore fruit. We were able to convince FERC to reopen the question of 2 turbine releases. FERC ordered that new tests be done, but they were blocked by Mr. Hutzky, who claimed that FERC had no right to order the tests on the Delaware (how come he allowed the first test?). This turned the situation into a jurisdictional dispute between the Park Service and FERC. FERC has contacted the Secretary of the Interior and asked him to intervene, but they do not expect a resolution of the dispute until late Spring. Meanwhile I am happy to report that they have accepted our contention that an historical record already exists that would show whether 2 turbine releases constitute a safety hazard on the Delaware. They will compare O&R's 2 turbine release records with the Park Service's incident reports to see

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# Year End Conservation Report (cont.)

whether there is any correspondence between the two.

I am hopeful that this evidence will allow them to rule in favor of 2 turbine releases, even if Mr. Hutzky continues to successfully block the safety test.

### 3. New York Rivers United

NYRU, the umbrella organization concerned with protecting New York State rivers, had a banner year. They have been concentrating on Hydro Relicensing because a great many facilities were up for relicensing in 1993-1994. NYRU, in concert with AWA, have accomplished a great deal, of which whitewater releases are of the greatest interest to boaters. Within the next few years, there will be releases on numerous Adirondack rivers. You can anticipate a lot of summer paddling in an area which up to now had been boatable only in the Spring and Fall.

NYRU has brokered an agreement between fishermen, boaters, a utility, and several other parties, regarding the Salmon River in Pulaski, NY. We will get an Atlantic salmon fishery, white water releases, as well as ecological and scenic restoration. One example is a waterfall that will flow again after many years of being dewatered. Now that the relicensing crunch is almost over, NYRU is turning its attention to watershed management issues. This means that it is attempting to look holistically at all the facets of river watersheds, in contrast to the piecemeal approach that government agencies have employed, eg. relicensing by on

agency, water quality by another and fisheries by yet another. The Neversink River in the Catskills is one river that they are considering for this approach, and Fish Creek in the Adirondacks is another one. I know that a few months ago you all received letters from NYRU, asking you to become members. Very few of you did. NYRU needs you as members because it cannot continue to function on the up and down financing that is typical of grants. They need and deserve a membership base. I am asking you to reconsider, and join. I know that you, like myself are inundated with requests for money, most of which we throw away. I limit myself to those causes which most represent my interests. You care about rivers, which are certainly within your area right? Then send \$25 to:

New York Rivers United  
199 Liberty Plaza  
Rome, NY 13440

### 4. Esopus Releases

Local fly fishermen began a campaign last summer to eliminate white water releases on the Esopus. They succeeded in getting the August release canceled and in curtailing the Sept./Oct. release. They did this by convincing the Fish and Wildlife Division of the New York Department of Environmental Conservation that white water releases were using up too much of the cold water at the bottom of the Schoharie Reservoir, leaving the fishery release water so warm, in August and September, that it is damaging to the trout.

KCCNY together with ACA, AWA, AMC and the Town Tinker (local business) formed a coalition to

combat these fishermen and asked for a meeting. Deputy DEC Commissioner Bob Bendick call a meeting of all interested parties in October in New Paltz. Phyllis Horowitz-McLane represented AWA, I represented KCCNY, Keech LeClair for ACA, Barry Burbach represented AMC, and Harry Jamison Jr. the owner of the Town Tinker was also there. I believe that we made a very powerful case. We challenged the fishermen's contentions as subjective and self-serving, and asked the DEC not to change the present release system until scientific studies are done and the results analyzed.

If the F&W plan we were shown were instituted, white water releases would be excluded except under the most extraordinary cold and wet summer conditions. I suggested that the present, very high volume of the fishery releases be cut to provide sufficient water for white water releases, and requested more and larger volume white water releases. I also suggested that construction of additional intake pipe higher up in the Schoharie Reservoir would provide a lot more water for both fisheries and white water. It was pointed out that such a setup might also enable New York City to handle potential Zebra mussel problems. Currently New York City plans to chlorinate the water, and idea that has enraged all of the Esopus users. In Europe, they handle the problem by cleaning the intakes. Two intakes would make it possible to do this while simultaneously providing fishery and white water releases.

Commissioner Bendick spoke of forming an advisory committee,

*(Continued on page 7)*

and said that he would call another meeting next Spring. I am mildly optimistic, but do not know how the recent elections will effect the situation. Governor elect Pataki will probably change some of the players, and what if the new commissioner is a fly fisherman?

## 5. Changing of the Guard

This is my last article as KCCNY

Conservation Chairman. Doug Feick will be taking over, and I am certain that he will do a great job because he is even more Machiavellian than I am. As some of you know, Lanie and I plan to leave New York early next Spring, and head west in our newly acquired camper to look for our boaters Garden of Eden. You know, beautiful mountains, lots of white water rivers with year

round 70 degree water, hot springs, and no fishermen! We will be looking for a place with a low cost of living and a high degree of environmental awareness, and when we find it, we will write and send for you. You see, the people of KCCNY will be what we miss the most.

I want to thank you for the privilege of having served as your

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## Charles Peterson presented the Jack Goldstein Award by Ken Fischman

The first year that this individual joined KCCNY, one of our more perceptive members predicted that he would never make it as a kayaker. Indeed, at least once that year, it appeared as though he might not make it at all, taking a hellacious swim on a Class IV river. But, he persisted, and confounding them all, became one of the premier paddlers in the club.

But the Goldstein award does not necessarily go to the best paddler in KCCNY, but a person of outstanding character, who has contributed much to the club. So, more important than his paddling skills, has been the way he has conducted himself, both on and off the river. He became one of the most sought-after Trip Coordinators, known for his good judgment, safety consciousness, and his tough but caring leadership.

His philosophy is that everyone is finally responsible for themselves, but that a mature adult also reaches out to others. Less experience kayakers knew that they were in capable hands on his trips. To my way of thinking, and that of other past Goldstein recipients however, it was off the

water where this individual really shined. Although he seldom held a committee chairmanship during the time that I have been a member, he always graced our meetings. When he got up to speak, as infrequent as that might be, we all listened because he almost always had something worth while to say.

There are a few individuals who seem to be blessed with an internal bull-crap detector and an extraordinarily accurate moral compass. I can remember several occasions when he saved the club from embarrassment or worse with his principled, ethical stands. For years he has performed a specific, important function for the club, without the official trappings of a chairmanship. One that is critical to the vitality and periodic regeneration of KCCNY. I speak of the management of our pool sessions.

Most important, he has been a good companion, a guy with whom you would like to hoist a beer, or two, or even three, and swap stories. With that introduction, I now expect him to tell us a good story. Ladies and gentleman, I have the privilege and the honor to present to you the 1994 recipient of the

Goldstein award, Mr. Charles Peterson.

To the previous recipients of the Jack Goldstein Award:

Edgar Alexander  
Miriam Alexander  
Robert Manning  
Gerhard Mueller  
Bonnie Bliss  
Edward Bliss  
Robert Nelson  
Tom Daniel  
Sandy Johns  
William Huber  
Ralph Johns  
Anita Lustenberger  
James T. Raleigh  
Dennis McLane  
Maria Daniel  
Michael Malone  
Ed Hanrahan  
Phyllis Horowitz  
Helen K. Chase  
Donald Mason  
Ken Fischman

As this year's recipient of the Goldstein Award, I would like to thank all award recipients that participated in my being chosen for this prestigious and coveted honor. I also wish to express to the KCCNY membership at large that I am honored and proud to have been chosen for this year's award I thank you all, Charles Peterson.

## By Ed Alexander

. . . And stopping long enough to, once again, chat and express my thoughts and impressions, relevant or irrelevant as they may be.

I acknowledge and gratefully accept the controversy I have started with my thoughts on the Passaic River Flood Tunnel Project. The controversial thoughts on this project from different views and their respective responses is what makes this country great and our democracy work.

Perhaps, such discord should fall under conservation, but as it may be I would like to share an excerpt with you which I have received this summer from New Jersey Governor Christine Todd-Whitman in response to my thoughts also shared with her regarding this much discussed tunnel project; "I believe that the construction of a flood tunnel is not the right solution for fiscal and environmental reasons. Also, the present proposal would not provide relief for the significant flooding problems we now face until the next century. Therefore, I have asked that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers also examine non-structural alternatives, including a proposed buy-out of property and homes subject to flooding. Only after all options are fully explored will we be able to determine the best approach to solving this chronic and long-

standing problem. I assure you that I will pursue the most practical alternative possible."

So much for the "non-professional" point of view from this corner.

As we approach a new year of operations, I congratulate our new slate of officers who have been elected at our annual meeting/dinner on November 19. Indeed, kudos are due Marian Greenfield who, once again, has provided us with the wonderful location and dinner at O'Connors in Watchung, NJ. The question has again been raised: "Where are all of our active members?" We have a roster of around 300 members. Many of these do not know each other; WHY? Some are more active than others, we all have a common interest with which we are directing our combined efforts towards common goals. Is it fair to expect a few dedicated persons to represent your individual interest in the operation of KCCNY without your active recommendations or support?

When this club was organized 36 years ago (yes spell it out thirty-six), it was intended to be YOURS, OURS and MINE. We all were part of a great organization and nobody thought, expected, nor wanted the proverbial "Let George do it" syndrome prevail.

Responses to our annual meeting have not been what they used to be. We endeavor to utilize dates and places attractive to the great majority. Certainly, the weather and temperature can often be a problem. But, if the weather is GOOD. sunny, cloudy, warm (not too warm), cold (not too cold); one day you can remain on firm ground, out of your kayak or canoe, and join in the sociability, the fun, conversation with friends you usually see only in paddling gear. Reminisce the past year's exploits on the rivers, even review them on video or just relate over some fine refreshments, while planning next year's programs, supporting the men and women who are willing to represent YOUR interests in KCCNY.

As members of KCCNY take stock, think and let us know how can we better serve YOU and the white water sport. Where and when do YOU want to join us at the annual meeting to truly have YOUR plans for the future motivated? Are you interested in world, local or club affairs? Do you vote? Make your voice heard!!

# 1995 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 1995 Cruising Calendar. If you can coordinate a trip or other activity (ie: Party, Play Spots, Deerfield, West...), please give Alan Tindle a call at 1-212-228-6249

DATE	SKILL	CLASS	RIVER / LOCATION	PHONE NUMBER / COORDINATOR
1/1	A	IV	Housatonic Bulls Bridge Section	(203) 740-8633 Dana Castro
1/22	ALL		KCCNY Executive Meeting	(908) 257-2179 Ed Alexander
1/29	ALL		<b>Super Bowl Sunday</b> Boat Outfitting Party Come over around 11AM to outfit your boat then enjoy the game amongst friends in the evening-	(201) 697-9395 Brian Meserlian
3/5	A	IV	To be decided	(914) 426-2961 Gidon Schwarcz
3/11 - 12	I-A	III-IV	Tohickon	(201) 663-1364 Dan Lenox
3/19	A	IV	To be decided	(914) 426-2961 Gidon Schwarcz
3/25 or 26	I	III	Nescopeck Creek	(201) 226-4582 Ed Hanrahan
Early April	I-A	IV-V	Southern steep creeking (10 days) ending up on Big Sandy and Upper Yough	(717) 629-5533 Ken Sanders
4/1 or 2	A	IV	Pocono area	(201) 666-0550 Skip & Penny Wilson
4/8 or 9	A	III-V	Hudson River or Adirondack area	(212) 678-0863 Vance & Jackie Condie
4/8 - 9	A	IV	Housatonic Bulls Bridge Section	(203) 740-8633 Dana Castro
4/15 - 16	A	IV	Shohola Creek	(908) 852-0452 Chuck Jacobs
4/22 - 23	I-A	III+	Catskill Creek	(212) 781-7080 Bill Thomas
4/22 - 23	A	IV	Cheat/Tiger	(203) 740-8633 Dana Castro
5/7	N	II	Delaware River	(914) 248-7614 Richard Albert
5/13	N	II-III	Delaware or Lower Esopus	(212) 483-2184 Marion Greenfield
5/20 or 21	N	II	Delaware River	(908) 561-3536 Bill Espinosa

# 1995 Cruising Calendar

DATE	SKILL	CLASS	RIVER / LOCATION	PHONE NUMBER / COORDINATOR
<b>Memorial day weekend</b>				
5/27 - 29	I-A	IV	West Virginia	(914) 986-1414 Tom Gustainis
5/26 - 29	A	IV	Quebec	(212) 781-7080 Bill Thomas
6/3 - 4	A	IV	Upper Yough	(717) 629-5533 Ken Sanders
6/10	N-I	II	Farmington River Tariffville section	(914) 634-7136 George Cartamil
6/19 - 14	A	IV-V	Idaho and Colorado More definite locations as Spring approaches	(212) 678-0863 Vance & Jackie Condie
6/24 or 25	I	III	Lehigh River	(201) 447-5661 Bill Holt
July	I/A	IV&V	Idaho/Payette area (exact date to be determined)	(717) 629-5533 Ken Sanders
7/29 - 30	N-I	II-III	Scudders Falls or Mongaup Advanced strokes for the intermediate paddler	(201) 226-4582 Ed Hanrahan
8/17 - 21	I-A	III-IV	Ottawa River	(215) 847-8530 Pat Samodio
10/7 - 8	A	IV-V	Bottom Moose	(518) 674-5519 Pete Skinner
10/14 - 15	A	IV-V	Bottom Moose	(518) 674-5519 Pete Skinner
10/21 - 22	A	III-IV	Pocono or Catskill area	(212) 334-0824 Jon Gellman
11/4 - 5	I-A	III-IV	Tohickon	(201) 663-1364 Dan Lenox
11/11 - 19	A	IV-V	Costa Rica two simultaneous trips one week each, exact dates to be determined	(717) 629-5533 Ken Sanders
11/18	ALL		KCCNY Annual Dinner	(212) 483-2184 Marion Greenfield

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

Other persons to try on snowy days are:

Dan Lenox	(201) 663-1364
Vance Condie	(212) 678-0863
Bill Thomas	(212) 781-1080
Jon Gellman	(212) 334-0824
Alan Tindell	(212) 228-6249

Gidon Schwarcz (914) 426-2961 paddles throughout the winter almost every Sunday. If you would like to join him, call by Thursday night or one and one-half hour after dark on Saturday in observance of

# 1995 Cruising Calendar

DATE	SKILL	CLASS	RIVER / LOCATION	PHONE NUMBER / COORDINATOR
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Jewish religious practices.

### \*\*\* Other notes \*\*\*

- Alan Tindel (212) 228-6249 - Ocean Surfing (If you live near the ocean and see that there is a swell please call me.
- 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!

The release dates for most rivers are being negotiated right now so look for a more complete calendar in the next newsletter. I will be making more calls in January to fill in those release dates. In the mean time I very much appreciate all the people who have volunteered their time thus far. If your schedule doesn't permit you to commit to a date to lead a trip then how about submitting a trip report to the newsletter. If everyone

## Water Polo League (maybe)

Adventure Equipment is considering sponsoring a kayak water polo league in the Kean College Pool. The time slot for this will immediately follow the KCCNY Pool Sessions. This can have another advantage of allowing the pool sessions to extend fully till 12:00!

NOC add

If there are any persons that are interested please contact:

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

No experience is necessary, with safety gear provided. So a good time should be had by all!

# Welcome New Members

**LARRY MENTEN**  
40 Forrest Ave.  
Rumson, NJ 07760  
908-758-0748 (H)  
908-957-2803 (W)

**SARAH BLACK**  
21-27 45th Ave.  
Long Island City, NY 11101  
718-482-0032 (H)  
718-729-7094 (W)

**MARK TRAEGER**  
PO Box 510  
Mt. Tabor, NJ 07878  
201-625-3292 (H)  
201-538-7773 (W)

**ROSCOE WOODS**  
420 Park Place #3c  
Fort Lee, NJ 07024  
201-944-2088 (H)  
212-815-3856 (W)

**SEAN COFFEY**  
95 Putnam Ave.  
Port Chester, NY 10573  
914-939-2614 (H)  
914-674-1202 (W)

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## One More E.P.M

by Jackie Condie

“Again?”  
“Oh please, one more.”  
“Wow! That one was better than the last one!”

The two weary kayakers got out of their kayaks along the riverbank, and as they slid out of their sweaty dry tops and gazed into each other's eyes, they announced that once again, they had shared another “E.P.M.” A few years back we had the fortunate experience of kayaking and camping with a West Coast paddler named Gary. Gary joined us on the Lochsa and played with us for two weeks of deluxe Idaho camping/kayaking. Gary has many interesting and unique qualities, one of which is his magnificent use of abbreviated language. In one day on the river you might hear Gary say as the group approaches a deathly rapid, “P.L.F”

Paddle Line F... or after a great day on the river and a wonderful cooked meal and a dip in the hot springs he might say, “Tri Lamb” - “Livin, Lovin, Life”. And occasionally, when all is truly perfect, even for just a brief moment, you might hear him proclaim “E.P.M.” - Extended Perfect Moment. This year as we boated on the South Fork of the Payette with Liz and Matt Moffitt, soaked in many a hot spring, got trashed in a couple holes (Vance lost a contact on the North Fork again, and Jackie did a disappearing act on the Mertaugh), self supported the incredibly scenic Animas River, paddled the beautiful glacial creeks in the Canadian Rockies, and put 12,000 miles on our new van (good-bye Flower), we couldn't help but have just a few “E.P.M's”.

Campmor add

## **KCCNY Pool Sessions**

**P**ool sessions are again to be held this year at the D'Angola Gymnasium at Kean College in Union NJ. They are scheduled for 10 consecutive Sunday mornings, January 22 thru March 26 from 9:00 - 11:00 AM, and are subject to lifeguard availability.

The Kean College pool is adjacent to the college's Woodland Avenue parking lot. It may be reached by taking Route #82 to Green Lane. Check your map for access to Route #82 and the Kean College Campus. Neither KCCNY or the college is responsible for articles brought to or left at the pool.

On entering the pool boaters will sign in and pay a \$5.00 per person user fee. Boats are limited to current KCCNY members, one boat per member, and they **MUST** be washed on the pool deck prior to placement in the pool on each occasion. If

Cold Brook Add

## **Yonkers Pool Sessions**

Andy Laiosa is conducting pool sessions at the YMCA in Yonkers, New York. They are every Wednesday evening from 8:00 - 10:00PM. Also provided are:

Informal Instruction  
Boats and equipment (if needed)

You do not have to belong to any club, this is private pool sessions. This may be an ideal opportunity to practice skills you already have, or learn new ones, in a safe, comfortable environment with fellow boaters.

There are a limited number of spaces available. The cost is \$90 per person/6 week session. For further information contact:

Andrew Laiosa at 718-798-5442 (H)

## **Kingston Pool Sessions**

Nancy Donohue is starting pool sessions in Kingston, New York. This is in affiliation with the Boston chapter of the AMC. You do not have to belong to any club nor join one in order for you to take advantage of this.

They should be on Monday evenings.

Pool sessions are expected to begin mid January and continue thru April. Approximate pricing will be \$5 per person/session. For further information please contact:

Nancy Donohue at 914-687-7546

# What I did instead of visiting my Mother-in-Law

By Gidon Schwarcz

Just before leaving to West Virginia last April., I called Josh Hubbard to check join the water levels. When he said that everything was still flooding, I contemplated my options: either accompany my wife to visit my mother-in-law in Los Angeles, or hit the flooded rivers. Now, my mother-in-law is really a very nice person (she even likes white water and has rafted many of the rivers out West.)

And Los Angeles is not really a terrible place, albeit not the paddlers dream spot in early April. It was a tough choice, but I choose paddling. I really should have taken the trip South as a foreboding of things to come. I got drenched to the skin in 5 minutes of putting my C-1 on the car racks, then drove down through torrential rains. I kept hoping that these were only locally heavy showers.

When I finished the drive the next morning, it was apparent that West Virginia had gotten at least some of this rain . Tiny streams were swollen over acres of farmland and brooks looked like the Savage river. I was therefore relieved when I crossed the bridge in Arden, where Josh lives, and saw the Tygart. It looked like nice class IV fun huge waves and holes with nothing really serious otherwise. When Josh told me that everything was hopelessly flooded , I told him that the rivers didn't look so bad after all, the Tygart looked just fine. He laughed and noted that the section I was looking at is usually flat water!

In all fairness, Josh did suggest that we run the Arden section in front of his house. I wanted something a little more exotic, a little more remote. Well, I got it. Pouring through my guidebook, I noticed that the Middle Fork of the Tygart had no upper limit. In retrospect, that must have been an oversight, but I convinced Josh that we should try it.

I should have realized something was not right as we arrived at the put in at Audra State Park. I had done this run many times, decades ago when I lived in Washington DC, and remembered small, insignificant rapids at the put-in. Now there were massive sluices of chocolate water breaking into huge holes. Not quite what I remembered. Josh said that this was runnable only when the put-in rapid looked TOO LOW to run, and he was very hesitant.

Now, you have to know something about Josh to fully appreciate his hesitancy to do this run. Josh is no slouch. He is one of those elite crazies known as the "Bad Dogs of the Upper Yough" and appears in "A Token of my Extreme". When Josh is hesitant, one should think twice. But on my first day of vacation, with a crystal clear sun, blue sky, and hot Spring air, I felt up to any challenge. Oh, what the heck I thought we could always carry, and so, off we went.

First rapid at the put-in went OK. Massive, powerful

water, some slalom moves, and a boof over a huge hydraulic. (Didn't I remember this as a class II?). The next half a mile featured constant intense slalom moves in class IV water. Then the bottom began to drop out. The boulders became huge, the currents ferocious, and the river seemed to be careening out of sight at every bend, like the worst part of the Upper Yough magnified x 10. I realized this was just the beginning easy stuff, so I wisely told Josh that we should carry back. Josh just stared at me and said he had hurt his knees and no way could he walk back. But, not to worry, we would just scout when we got to the real bad drops.

This class V slalom just increased in intensity. I remember brown, raging water. I was making all the right moves but only with superhuman exertion. I begin to fatigue and almost missed a "must-make" eddy on river-left, squirting my Viper and grabbing the eddy with a heroic back stroke to pull myself in, to avoid careening over a little Niagara. Then we got to some place where boiling cross-currents careened together from all directions, pushing you to the left of a must make right chute. To save myself from flipping on my off-side, I made a high stern squirt and pivoted around to a position where I could retrieve my balance and grab the right current.

This must look great, I figured...

*(Continued on page 15)*

Josh must think

I'm crazy doing fancy pirouettes in the middle of this mess.

About now we did indeed arrive at the "big drops".

Mercifully, the first biggies were swallowed up in the flood, and we had already run them without realizing. The next drop featured a huge ledge/hole combination crashing over a steep drop. The higher water may have made this easier, as a clear path was obvious, with just threading a needle between the holes. No such luck with the last big drop. A vicious freight train current with a pulsing eddy fence guarded the exit out of our eddy. The penalty for blowing it was being slammed into an immense undercut bristling with tree limbs. Josh gleefully peeled out and disappeared

downstream of the rock, completely out of sight. For about one eighth of a second, I contemplated trying to peel out on my off-side into this horrendoma. Then, I just shouldered my boat and headed through the rhododendrum. I figured that, if I hadn't carried any drops, I might get the idea that I was actually supposed to be on a river like this.

The Middle Fork now emptied into the much larger Tygart

Gorge, but all my memories of the Tygart fell far short of preparing me for what I now saw. Huge standing waves all the way down. This would have been a delight were I not totally exhausted.

The adrenaline pumped up by the Middle Fork had allowed me to over-work my body, and now I was feeling the consequences: total fatigue. So I cautiously peeled out into this river-sized train of 12 foot waves, threading around bus-sized holes. Suddenly I realized that my right arm and chest had cramped up, and I watched in horror as I drifted helplessly into a immense hole. I hit it and began somehow surfing my C-1 with only my left hand, which was clutching the paddle's T-grip.

As I inched towards the edge, my left hand also cramped up, and I felt the paddle slipping out of my hand. I purposely flipped towards the hole's edge, and mercifully caught underwater currents which pulled me out. Relaxing my grip had returned a bit of strength to my hand, and I managed

a spastic but successful one-handed roll. I then leaned hard and

ferried as best as I could to the safety of shore. Josh caught up with me and joked "If you decide to play in really huge holes, please tell me first!"

After one hour of virtually passing out on the shore, complete with drinking from some local spring, we decided to venture forth. Bad decision! Shoulder Snapper was coming up. Now, in my younger days, we called Shoulder Snapper a Class V+, and nobody ran it. Today, it's called a class IV, although curiously the rapid itself has not changed any. Since everyone runs it now, I figured I would not be different.

The waves were immense, but Josh told me to just plow down the middle. In the midst of this massive roller coaster ride, a huge curler suddenly appeared on my right and knocked me over on my off-side. As I set up to roll, I felt my boat falling over some ledge, and seconds later falling into a hole, then crashing into a rock. I figured that rolling would be impossible in this mess, so I did a poorly setup hipsnap, grabbed a nice breath of air and

## **Cabin Available for March Tohickon Release**

Joan Most will be getting a cabin for the Spring release of the Tohickon River in March. It is a heated cabin with running water, along with a full kitchen. If you are interested then please call Joan early because there is only limited space and it is first come, first served!

Call Joan Most at 201-471-3129 (H)  
201-967-4845 (W)

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## The 'Far Side' Comes to Life in Oregon

by Tim Mahoney

I am absolutely not making this incident up; in fact I have it all on video tape. The tape is from a local TV news show in Oregon, which sent a reporter out to cover the removal of a 45 ft, 8 ton dead whale that washed up on the beach. The responsibility for getting rid of the carcass was placed on the Oregon State Highway Division, apparently on the theory that highways and whales are very similar in the sense of being large objects.

So, anyway, the highway engineers hit upon the plan - remember I am not making this up - of blowing up the whale with dynamite. The thinking was that the whale would be blown into small pieces, which would be

eaten by seagulls, and that would be that. A textbook whale removal.

So they moved the spectators back up the beach, put a half-ton of dynamite next to the whale and set it off. I am probably not guilty of understatement when I say that what follows, on the videotape, is the most wonderful event in the history of the universe. First you see the whale carcass disappear in a huge blast of smoke and flame. Then you hear the happy spectators shouting "Yayy" and "Whee". Then, suddenly, the crowd's tone changes. You hear a new sound like "SPLUD". You hear a woman's voice shouting "Here come pieces of . . . MY GOD!", and something smears the

camera lens.

Later, the reporter explains "The humor of the entire situation suddenly gave way to a run for survival as huge chunks of whale blubber fell everywhere." One piece caved in the roof of a car parked more than a quarter of a mile away. Remaining on the beach where several rotting whale sectors the size of condominium units. There was no sign of the seagulls, who had no doubt permanently relocated to Brazil. This is a very sobering videotape. Here at the institute we watch it often; especially at parties.

But this is no time for gaiety. This is a time to get hold of the folks at the Oregon State Highway

## Ending Notes by Daniel Lenox

I know that there is snow outside and you had to scrape the frost from your windshield every day for the past week, but look at the good side... the pool sessions start next month. No more do you have to put on all of that extra clothing, and still get cold after 2-3 hours, now you can just wear a bathing suit and jump into the pool!

Kean College has been kind enough again this year to allow us the use of their pool, thanks to the support and work by Charles Peterson. Again I can't stress it enough that you please wash your boat out on the deck of the pool, even if you think that your boat is clean (inside and out) you may be surprised to find out how much dirt, sand and that sludge that is in your boat.

I know that most of you have retired your boat and paddle for the winter, but there are quite a few of us that don't. I have long since given up my skis and that

long line at the lift line for the vacant eddies and surfing waves that are prevalent at quite a few rivers that just seem to get better during the winter and early spring months. If any of you are interested in winter paddling, listed below are the names and numbers of a few of the brave souls that paddle during all but the worst weather:

**Dan Lenox 201-663-1364**  
**Jon Gellman 212-334-0824**  
**Bill Thomas 212-781-7080**  
**Alan Tindle 212-228-6249**  
**Vance Condie 212-678-0863**

Just call any of us if you are interested in giving winter paddling a try. All you need is the right gear, a hearty breakfast, and the right attitude.

It's also that time of year that your KCCNY membership renewals are mailed to you for 1995. Please send in your dues to Pierre DeRham quickly, for delay may mean that you do not receive this newsletter any

longer. If you have not received your renewal notice, then please contact Pierre.

I would like to thank all of those people who contributed articles to this newsletter over the past year, and hope that not only they but others like YOU take a few minutes out, clip recipes, newspaper articles, or magazine columns and send them to me.

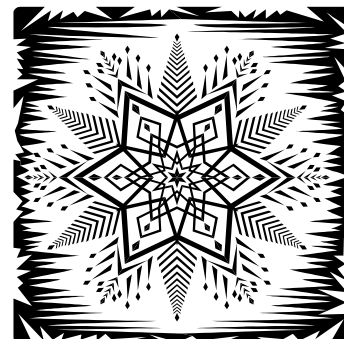
Next issue of the news letter will include people that can be reached via electronic mail (email) and their addresses. If you are either on: America Online, CompuServe, Internet, or Prodigy please drop me a line as to what your mailing address is. You may reach me by addressing your e-mail to: DLenox@aol.com be sure to let me know what online service you are using!

This is a great medium for the rapid transfer of information and mail, and since in January 1995 the cost of postage is going up to \$.32 for a first class letter,

### **You're KCCNY Membership Has Expired (well almost!)**

Your annual KCCNY membership is about to expire. This will be the last newsletter that you receive until your membership is renewed.

You should shortly receive a renewal form from



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

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## **An Open Invitation to all Computer Online Service Users**

I am compiling a list of all people that utilize any of the following online computer services:

**America Online  
CompuServe  
Prodigy  
Internet**

The use of these online services is a great medium for the rapid transfer of information and mail, and can be just the ticket for inter-club communication!

Please drop me a line as to what your mailing address is, and which online service you are using. I will make this list available to all who register free of charge. You may reach me by addressing your e-mail to: DLenox@aol.com