



Cruiser

Canoe Cruisers Association of Greater Washington, DC, Inc.

The Chairman's Cockpit

By Ed Grove

In the depths of winter and snow, the CCA has been most alive and well. First, there was a wonderful gathering at Barb Brown's house on January 23 to watch the movie Deliverance. This really is a paddler's movie -- particularly for those of us who have paddled the Chattooga River in the deep South. You could hear a pin drop as we all watched this classic tale unfold. Also, 17 stalwart CCA guys and gals braved the howling wind and snow to see Mike Aronoff's presentation on the Middle Fork of the Salmon in Idaho at our regular CCA meeting at the Clara Barton Center on February 22. George Washington would have been proud of us for braving the cold wind and snow. I ran the Middle Fork the summer of 1986 in a tandem canoe with my brother Grayson while my oldest son Greg canoed the river solo. There were 19 of us Coastal Canoeists on this trip which had an exciting start! Prior to our arrival, our outfitter had just taken a group of rubber raft yahoos down the river on a trip full of carnage. Now faced with all these canoes filled with supposedly greenhorn Easterners, the outfitters initially ordered us to follow his rafts like ducklings following their mother. However, they quickly found out that we knew what were doing, and our experience on the Middle Fork proved to be truly magical with very few flips (self rescued) on the entire trip. For those who have not experienced this captivating river I highly recommend it. Mike runs one trip once a year, and every paddler is treated with class (particularly at the numerous gorgeous campsites where your tents are set up for you and your prepared meals are gourmet delights). Because of the February snow storm, we postponed our February 13 CCA winter gathering at Sycamore Island to Saturday afternoon March 20 which will begin with a brief 1 PM Board Meeting. Not only will there be good food, but there is a very good chance that Joe Hage and his group will provide wonderful music (as they did for our December party). Join us for a great opportunity to get rid of the Winter Blahs! Finally, since the rivers are still quite chilly, I want to remind you that Jeff Fox continues to run rolling sessions every Tuesday at

Attention: Hear Yea, Hear Yea...

Annual Valentines Day Party on Sycamore Island Postponed to Sunday March 14, at 3pm. See back page for more information.

The 55th Annual Potomac Downriver Race Date is Saturday, May 22, 2010.

Yes, sometimes Jeff DOES get in his boat and roll. It's rare, but ...



Photo by Ronald Ray

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please Check out the enclosed articles and notices.

- Rolling classes available until
end of March, p. 3
- Potomac Watershed Cleanup, p. 4
- Trip Leaders Needed, p.9
- Next Meeting, p. 2
- Last Minute Trips information,, p. 8

Canoe Cruisers Association
11301 Rockville Pike
PO Box 2523 Kensington, MD 20891
Web Site: canoecruisers.org

Chairman: Ed Grove chairman@canoecruisers.org
Secretary: Ernie Lemmert
Treasurer: Jerry Odhner
Membership: Ginny DeSeau/Susan Sherrod

Address Corrections: membership@canoecruisers.org
Newsletter: Joan Goodbody newsletter@canoecruisers.org
Web Site: Susan Sherrod webmaster@canoecruisers.org
Instruction: Bob Kimmel instruction@ccadc.org

CCA Meeting Schedule for 2010

Location: Clara Barton

Community Center,

Cabin John, MD

CCA Programs Coordinator:

Ed Gertler: 301 585 4381

e_gertler@yahoo.com.

When: April 26,

Time: 7:30 PM



Subject: CCA Meeting

The Potomac Conservancy will visit us and acquaint us with their accomplishments.

The CCA spawned this group over 20 years ago to protect our beloved river from the treat of development.

Come see how they are doing.

For more information on the organization: go to:

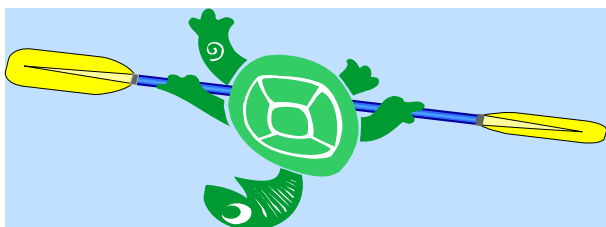
<http://www.potomac.org>

June 28, 2010, Monday. Speaker TBA.

September 27, 2010, Monday. Speaker TBA.

October 25, 2010, Monday. Speaker TBA.

December 3, 2010, Friday. Annual Holiday Party, Swap Meet and Club Meeting. Speaker TBA.



Hunting on the Potomac

by [Barbara Brown](#)

Potomac River Hunting, What it Means to Paddlers

Living next the river, I have been dismayed to be awakened with a barrage of gunfire from October through January. This gunfire continued non-stop dawn until dark. Occasionally it was so loud and close, I moved inside.

Law enforcement and Department of Natural Resources and the National Park were questioned - but their answers were cloudy and as it turns out misinformed.

Finally, Mr. Fred Churchill in Vienna had a confrontation with hunters in Riverbend Regional Park, Virginia. His letter to the editor, Saturday January 24, 2009, published by the Washington *Post* eloquently described the conflicts between hunters and parkland. The hunter's response was also published. He was convinced water fowl hunting on the river was legal near Swains Lock.

NOT SO!

Swains Lock is in Montgomery County's Urban Zone. Any weapons discharge is ***prohibited***. The Potomac River boundary for the urban zone is the Watts Branch just upstream of the Filtration Plant on River Road. Please see the enclosed map.

What this means to paddlers? If you encounter hunting or gunfire on the river and are downstream of the Watts Branch, the hunting activity is illegal. If in the National Capital Region, call the National Capital Region Communications Center at 866 677 6677 . For incidents on the Potomac River, contact the Maryland Natural Resource Police at 800 628 9944.

Or call 911. About a month ago, after turning out of Admirals Way, two Montgomery County Policemen stopped me with sirens and red lights. After assuring me I had done "nothing wrong," they asked about recent gunfire. I reported it has been right below the house, so loud the window's rattled! Apparently someone had called 911. They proceeded down Swain's Lock road in all haste. I don't know if they arrested the hunter, but I do know they seriously tried!

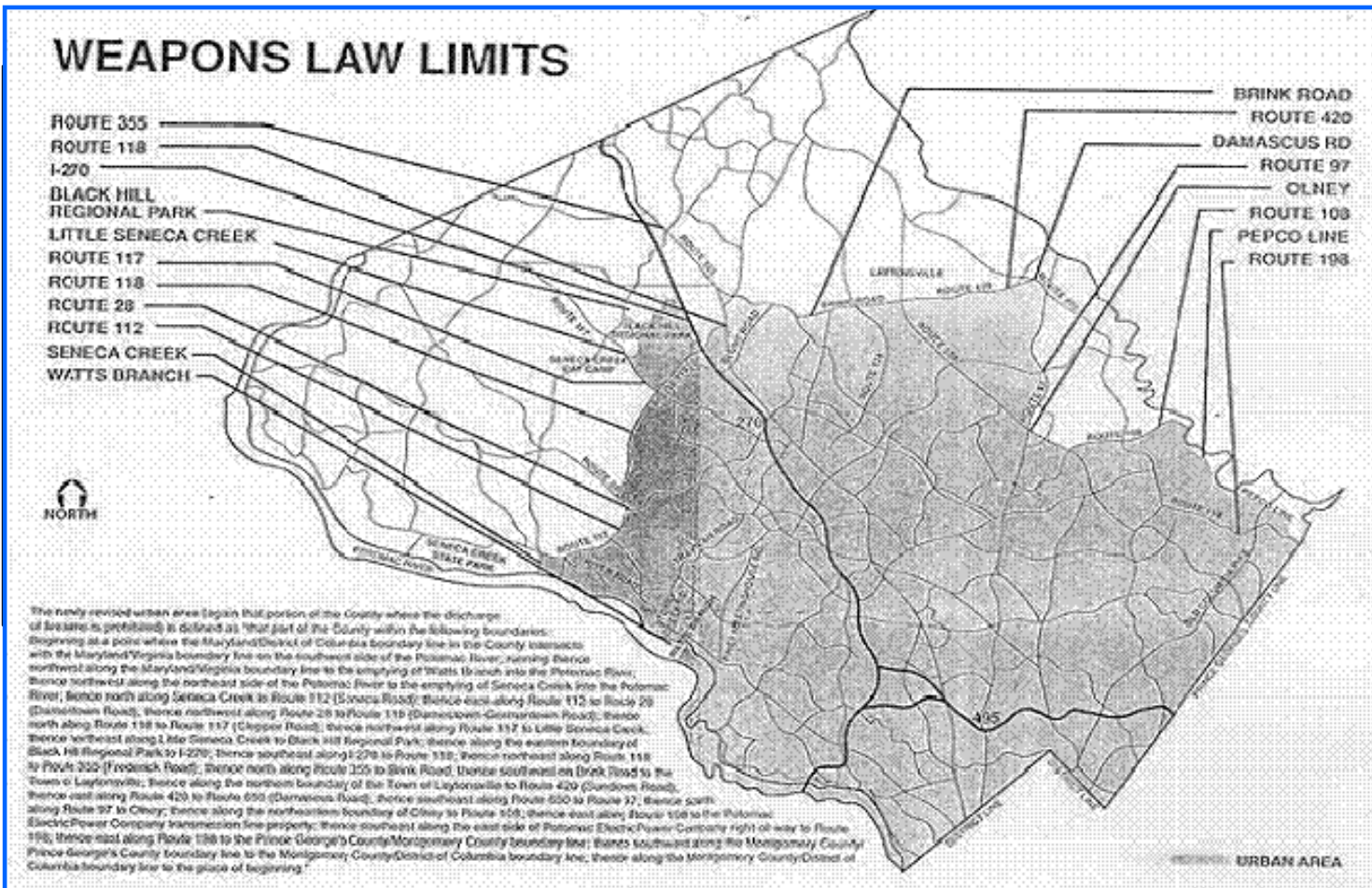
If you are upsteam of this area, specifically near Violet's and Pennyfield Locks, hunting is legal for waterfowl October through January 20, with an extension to March 5 for resident geese (2009 dates).

So, be careful. Make no attempt to look or act like a duck or goose. If you see an active blind, give it wide berth. Many hunters shoot from camouflaged kayaks. Hopefully, we will never have a tragic confrontation.

Hunting on the Potomac continued

It concerns me that the 2009 season was extended into March which overlaps paddlers' spring use of the river. Perhaps the line should be moved to Violets, but that is another problem.

Be careful out there.
SYOTR, *Barbara Brown*



Important Notice: A Reminder Pool Rolling Classes

When: Every Tuesday
Time: 8 – 10 pm
Place: Takoma Park/Park Ritchie Pool
7510 Maple Avenue
Takoma Park, MD 20912

If interested or have questions contact:
Jeffrey Fox
202-686-4155, office
202-549-4016, cell



Photo by Ronald Ray

Submissions to the Cruiser

Should be made via e-mail to newsletter@canoecruisers.org, submitted on 3.5" disk, or typed for scanning. No special formatting is required, but plain, block style is preferred. **Photos**—are strongly encouraged and can be e-mailed, or snail-mailed. Color photos are preferred.

Advertisements

Classified Ads—The first 5 lines are free. Each additional line is 75 cents per line. Send classified ads to newsletter@canoecruisers.org

Lost & Found—No charge. **Give-Aways**—No charge. **Paddlers Flea Market**—on the web at ccadc.org—No charge.

Display Ads—Special Rates are available regular prices: Quarter page \$40, half page \$75, full page \$150, insert \$300-\$450. Display ads can be submitted via e-mail, 3.5" disk or CD-R. Hard copy ads will be scanned. Advertisers receive a link on our web site. For additional information, e-mail newsletter@canoecruisers.org, or advertising@canoecruisers.org or call Joan Goodbody, editor at 703-887-5013. **Payment**—must be received prior to publication. **Mailing Address**—Cruiser Editor, Canoe Cruisers Association, 11301 Rockville Pike, PO Box 2523, Kensington, MD 20891 or direct to editor at: 2130 Farrington Ave. Alexandria, va 22303.

Conservation Currents



GOOD NEWS:Montgomery County's new MS4 permit is a major step toward cleaner water.

On February 16, 2010, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) issued Montgomery County's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit. This 5-year permit complies with the Environmental Protection Agency's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) regulations that require large urban jurisdictions to control pollution from stormwater runoff to the maximum extent practicable. MDE issued its final determination of the permit on February 25, 2009. Major new provisions of the permit include requiring restoration of an additional 20 percent of impervious surfaces (on top of 10 percent already required, for a total of 30 percent); developing and implementing measurable strategies to reduce trash as part of the County's commitment to a trash-free Potomac River; and setting pollution limits necessary to meet water quality standards for impaired waters. For more information:

http://www.mde.state.md.us/Programs/WaterPrograms/SedimentandStormwater/MontgCo_MS4.asp

DAM ON ANTIETAM CREEK

HAGERSTOWN, Md. - State regulators are warning that a 100-year-old dam on the Antietam Creek near Boonsboro could fail. The (Hagerstown) Herald-Mail reported Monday that the Maryland Department of the Environment is considering ordering Washington County to promptly repair, breach or remove the 9-foot, stone masonry structure in Devil's Backbone County Park.

County officials say a 2001 study found holes in the dam that could cause it to fail after a heavy rainstorm. Although there are no major residential structures downstream from the dam, state regulators say a failure could endanger life and property and create environmental problems.

A \$1.4 million proposal from 2003 to encase the old dam in concrete has drawn fire from the Maryland Historical Trust.

Do you have conservation answers? Well, I have the questions! ...also a few contacts... Send your conservation concerns and comments to: kayful-comer@comcast.net

CONSERVATION GRANT FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE-

The CCA conservation grants are intended to assist members, individuals, and organizations to carry out the conservation mission of CCA, namely "to promote the preservation and conservation of watersheds and natural water conditions for human-powered craft through support and cooperation with local and national conservation programs and activities."

For more information about CCA grants and for the application form, go to the Conservation section of the CCA website.

Currently the CCA Board is evaluating one grant proposal.

POTOMAC WATERSHED CLEANUP

It will happen on April 10, 2010, at multiple locations throughout the Potomac Watershed, and you are invited.

Go to the Alice Ferguson Foundation website to find a date and location that suits your preference or, better yet, sign up to be a site leader: www.fergusonfoundation.org or just Google "Potomac Watershed Cleanup".

Last year over 30 CCA members, many in boats, volunteered at 8 sites.

Chances are that your favorite lake or stream needs a cleanup, so join the fun! If you register your site with AFF before March 15, you can get cleanup supplies for your group. Then you can use the CCA Message Board to recruit paddlers to join you on the water.

And if April 10 doesn't work for you, just choose your own date.

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“WE LOVE ORGANIZATIONS”--especially if they have websites! Here are a few from our area that are concerned with conservation issues that will help keep us informed.

Chesapeake Bay Foundation: A recognized leader in the region. www.cbf.org

Virginia Conservation Network: A comprehensive, active network of organizations in Virginia. Look up your local VA watershed group on their website. www.vcnva.org

Audubon Society: A respected leader in environmental education and activism. www.audubonnaturalist.org

Anacostia Watershed Society: A leader among watershed groups, AWS knows how to advocate, educate, and lead. www.anacostiaws.org

FORCE: Friends of Rock Creek’s Environment—a very active group in Montgomery County and DC. Their Xtreme Cleanup is FORCE’s segment of the Potomac Watershed Cleanup event. www.friendsofrockcreek.org

Friends of the Rappahannock: Always a favorite for their great website and rivercam. ...and because they do a great job of protecting the river. www.riverfriends.org

News From the Friends of the Rivers of Virginia.:

Public Access Coalition Forming

For public access in the Chesapeake Bay & Virginia area

A new coalition is forming to address the problem of public access to our rivers, streams and bays in the Chesapeake Bay and Virginia area. Special emphasis will be on gaining cooperation from the railroads in these watersheds. In addition, we will provide input to the groups working on the Presidential Executive Order 13508 which also plans to address public access in the Chesapeake Bay area.

The coalition started in Virginia but will include the six state/DC area that corresponds with the new bay initiative. Not all states have the same types of access issues, but all states have public access issues. Ideally, we would like to see a federal law regarding rail crossings, as we know the Park Service has similar issues nationwide with crossings.

So far current members include:

- | | |
|--|---|
| Back Country Ski & Sports | Blue Ridge River Runners |
| Citizens for the Preservation of the River | Coastal Canoeists |
| Creek Freaks of Franklin County | East Coast Greenway Alliance |
| Float Fishermen of Virginia | Friends of the New River |
| Friends of the Rivers of Virginia | Friends of the Roanoke River |
| Friends of Russell Fork | National Committee for the New River |
| Richmond Area Bicycling Association | September 11 National Memorial Trail Alliance |
| Shenandoah Riverkeeper | Staunton River Watch |
| Tangent Outfitters | Twin River Outfitters |
| Upper James River Heritage Trail Committee | Virginia Bicycling Federation |

We were successful in getting Report #404 produced by the Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) as a result of HB2088 that we put in last year (2009). That report develops the process for nominating and evaluating pedestrian railroad crossings for the first time in Virginia.

We have SB546 bill in the Virginia legislature which improves the Landowner Liability Law. It was voted out of the Senate favorably on a 38-2 vote, and voted out of the House on a 99-0 vote. It awaits the signature of the governor

We want to grow the coalition, so if you are interested please let me know. There are no dues or obligations, and all major positions will be reviewed by the members and, if necessary, voted on before taking action. Come join us and be a part of a new effort toward better public access to our natural resources.

Our slogan and mission statement is: “Public Access to our Public Resources in the Public Interest”

Bill Tanger, Chair, FORVA

FORVA-newsletter-2-20-10

FORVA, PO Box 1750, Roanoke VA 24008 ~ Tel. 540-266-0237 ~ email: bill.tanger@verizon.net

CCA Board Meeting 1/23/2010

Held at the home of Barbara Brown, Potomac, MD.

Attendees: Ed Grove, Ernie Lemmert, Star Mitchell, Dave Newson, Susan Sherrod, Barb Brown, Jerry Odhner, Ron Ray, Bill Kirby, Risa Shimoda, Kay Fulcomer, Miki Komlosh, Joan Goodbody

Important vote for next meeting: Should chair accounts to be moved back into the general funds?

Motions from current meeting: Kay made a motion made to get a Maryland tax exempt number for the CCA.

Summary:

On a beautiful sunny day in January, the CCA Board met prior to the Chile Party. The next board meeting is scheduled for Saturday, 20 February at Barb Brown's house in Potomac, MD. All club members are welcome to attend and contribute to any board meeting. The deadline for submissions to the next issue of the Cruiser is Feb 24. New features of the Cruiser are to include the board meeting summaries from the secretary, and a conservation column provided by Kay Fulcomer. Club members are encouraged to provide trip reports, gear reviews, and general musings for the Cruiser.

Barb Brown continues her tireless efforts in putting together an excellent trip schedule for 2010. Steve Ettinger plans to continue leading his Thursday group. In addition to the popular, after work Wednesday night Angler's to lock 10, an intermediate trip running either Mather Gorge or Little Falls will be led by Ernie Lemmert on Tuesday nights. We are soliciting volunteers to lead a weekly, after-work play boating trip, as well as adding Maryland Chute-outs to the club schedule. All club members are encouraged to lead scheduled trips of all skill levels, and utilize the CCA message board for announcing any pickup trips. The club is also looking in to re-establishing unofficial Petersburg whitewater trips at the end of March.

Saturday, May 22, 2010 marks the 55th anniversary of the CCA downriver race. This race will be named in honor of John Thompson, and will feature hats, t-shirts, and other swag for volunteers and participants. Davey Hearn has provided some old trophies of his to be converted to winner's trophies for this year. Volunteers will be provided with t-shirts of a different color than participants. \$3000 has been allocated to cover expenses for this year's race, from both the John Thompson fund and the CCA General Fund.

Jerry Odhner is hard at work transitioning into his new role as CCA Treasurer. We are still working out some accounting issues with transferring signature authority from Brinton, which should be resolved soon. The board has authorized purchase of a new copy of QuickBooks for Jerry, and is working to change the process in which Web Site fees are paid. The board is currently trying to decide whether maintaining separate named, capital funds outside of the general fund still makes sense. A vote on folding the various capital funds back into the general fund will take place at the next board meeting. The overall financial health of the CCA is very good, with around \$30 thousand accounted for in the general fund, and additional resources in capital funds.

The CCA continues its involvement with the local paddling community. It is proposed to move the Potomac Festival from Angler's Inn to Bretton Woods for 2010, which the CCA board supports as an experiment. Bretton Woods provides much more space and accommodates more people than Angler's, and its

Board Meeting minutes. 2/20/2010

CCA Board Meeting February 20, 2010, held at the home of Barbara Brown. Summary/edited version The next meeting is set for March 14 at Sycamore Island.

Attendees: Chair Ed Grove; Ginny DeSeau; Susan Sherrod; Joan Goodbody; Kay Fulcomer; Star Mitchell; Barbara Brown; Jeffrey Fox; Michael Baummer; Jerry Odhner; John Stapko; Risa Shimoda.

Summary:

Treasurer Jerry Odhner reported that the CCA checking account contains \$7,136 and the savings account \$39,300.

Risa Shimoda discussed the possibility that CCA would become the local sponsor for the International Whitewater Hall of Fame planned its 2010 awards ceremony and celebration for the Washington, D.C.. The ceremony could be scheduled for September or October. There are four categories for nominees—explorer, pioneers, advocates, and champions—and one or more awards may be made in each of those categories. Its board of governors will retain responsibility for shepherding new inductees, particularly those who come from outside the U.S. or the local area. The autumn celebration would involve two events for CCA to help in managing: a Friday evening informal potluck meeting and a more formal Saturday evening awards ceremony and banquet. CCA board members considered several sites for both those events. Ginny and Risa agreed to look into possible sites for the Saturday event.

CCA board members also discussed whether these events might also be coordinated with another local paddling group, the Bethesda Center of Excellence (BCE), which is planning to host the national slalom competition at about the same time. Barbara Brown, who also serves on the BCE board, will investigate the possibility of a cooperative arrangement.

Whatever the outcome of those discussions with BCE, CCA board members agreed by vote to work as a local host and sponsor of the 2010 WW Hall of Fame dinner and ceremony.

Jeff Fox said that Tuesday pool rolling sessions are going well but do not have high enough attendance to pay for rental costs. Board members recommended exploring the possibility of an alliance with local organizations to increase attendance. Despite the income shortfall, CCA board members agreed that this is fulfilling an important part of the CCA charter. Board members also agreed tentatively that for next year, CCA members would be charged \$10 per session and non-members, \$15. This differential pricing would help make up the shortfall and will also encourage those who come regularly to rolling sessions to become CCA members

Barbara Brown summarized plans for two early season trips. She also is looking for people to coordinate trips to the North Branch of the Potomac on 24 and 25 April and on 1, 15, 16, 29, and 30 May.

Michael Baummer asked about the best ways to alert people to last-minute, pickup trips, and several members suggested using the CCA and MCA message boards as well as sending mass emails via the CCA list serve.

Ginny recommended publishing a brief article in the newsletter describing the duties of trip leaders and coordinators, noting that the CCA website has descriptions of those roles. Another possibility is to cross-reference that part of the website in the newsletter.

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[cont from pg.8 column 3, minutes 2/20/2010]

Barbara said that CCA Tuesday paddling instruction sessions will begin at Fletchers Boat House the first week in June. Wednesday night paddling sessions are to begin May 5, according to Mike Baummer. Steve Ettinger is healthy enough to resume his Thursday morning paddling sessions when the weather improves.

The CCA party that was scheduled for February 14 is rescheduled for March 14 at Sycamore Island.

Kay is compiling an extensive list of river- and water-related conservation organizations in this area.

Susan said that the CCA archives provided information that John S. Thompson Fund is to be used to promote paddling locally and for comparable outreach efforts.

She would be happy to post new or remove obsolete materials from the CCA Website.

Board members voted to merge chairman budgeted funds into general funds for the purpose of simplifying the CCA bank accounts. Dedicated funds will continue to be kept separate.

Ginny led a discussion of ways to update the by-laws. Board members agreed to changes that will realistically reflect dates when nominations are made and officers are elected. They also agreed to modest changes in procedures for handling decisions to purchase equipment or other capital expenses for CCA. The general membership will be polled as to their opinions about by-law changes, and they will be asked to vote only in case of specific objections. A detailed revamping is forthcoming. ■

[Cont. minutes 1/23/2010]

proximity to Violet's lock makes it attractive for the Slalom race and paddling clinics. Risa Shimoda presented an exciting opportunity for the CCA to help host the International Whitewater Hall of Fame (IWHOF) induction ceremony in 2010. The CCA responsibilities would include assisting in organization, providing volunteer effort for the dinner, possibly homesteading inductees, and providing logistics support, such as picking inductees up from the airport. The ceremony will be scheduled some time between June and December. Risa is going to provide a presentation at the next CCA Board Meeting, which will outline details on expectations of CCA involvement. A vote will be taken then on CCA involvement at the next board meeting. ■



2010 CCA Officers

Elected Officers

Chair: Ed Grove

Secretary: Ernie Lemmert

Treasurer: Jerry Odhner

Membership: Ginny DeSeau & Susan Sherrod

Standing Committee Chairs

Advertisement: Joan Goodbody

Archivist: Kay Fulcomer and Jean Goertner

CCA Downriver Race: Don Besom, Star Mitchell and Adam VanGrack

Conservation: Courtney Caldwell and Kay Fulcomer

Fletcher's Instruction/Recruitment: Jim Finucane and Jan Wolf

Instruction: Bob Kimmel and Michael Hoon

Park Service Liaison: Barbara Brown

Programs for Meetings: Ed Gertler

Pool Rolling: Jeff Fox

Trip Coordinator: Barbara Brown

River Safety: Ron Ray

Roster: Susan Sherrod

Social Events: Joe Hage

Newsletter Editor: Joan Goodbody

Webmaster: Susan Sherrod

Steering Committee

Michael Baummer

Bill Kirby

Miki Komlosh

David Newson

Charles Duffy

John Stapko

Local, long-time Kayak Paddler, passed away 2/10/10.

For those of you who knew Felicia Miller (a long-time kayak paddler in the area, and former organizer of CCA picnics, and I believe a former editor of the CCA Cruiser), I bring to you the sad news that Felicia passed away Wednesday, 2/10/2010, at Sibley Hospital. She had been fighting cancer for the past 4 years, had sold her house (etc...) to pay for treatments, and had basically run out of options. Experimental (and expensive) treatment in Germany had led to a roughly year-long remission, during which time she had seemed much like her old self once more, but the cancer reappeared with a vengeance about a year ago, and she went downhill slowly but steadily thereafter.

Throughout it all, it seemed to me that she never gave up, nor lost her sense of humor about life, nor her interest in all that was transpiring around her. Felicia was one of the most intellectually stimulating persons that I have known, and was a good friend.

During the last couple of years, Felicia had been living part of the year with Amos Winter, a geology professor at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez; they had married just a couple of months ago. It was Amos who broke the news to me of Felicia's death.



CCA Trip Schedule and Calendar

N = Novice **HI** = High Intermediate
PN = Practiced Novice **AI** = Advanced Intermediate
LI = Low Intermediate **A** = Advanced **E** = Expert

If you have trouble reaching a trip coordinator, or would like to have a trip listed , please contact Barbara Brown at potomac@comcast.net or 301-765-9115, or contact Ed Grove at 703-533-8334 or eddyout@erols.com. You may also contact the CCA web-

March 2010: N; POOL ROLLING - Every Tuesday, 8:00pm - 10:00pm, Piney Branch Pool. 7510 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, MD 20912. Cost: \$10.00 per session. What you need: A boat, a pdf, a paddle. Some equipment can be borrowed,

check with Jeff for availability. Jeff Fox, Jeffandf@aol.com or 202-549-4016.

Ridge Voyager Canoe Club.

March 14, No rating: CCA Spring Party, Sunday, Sycamore Island, for more information see,

April 10 & 11, Saturday/Sunday: Webster Wildwater Weekend: Mike Martin: <http://www.websterwv.com/whitewater.html>

April 30/ May1, Friday/Saturday: 5 pm Cheat Race Tom McEwan Liquid Adventurers; <http://cheat.org/festival> or <http://www.liquidadventures.org>.

May 22, Saturday: PN, Potomac Drowner Race - This is our 55th year: Star Mitchell, starmitchell@verizon.net or 301-530-3252.

Check the Webpage at: <http://www.ccadc.org/> for a more complete trip schedule.



CABIN JOHN CREEK – River Rd to Potomac 25 Jan 2010

Ca 2.6 miles, 1 hour (11:00-12:00)

Level: minus 1 inch. 75e cfs

Ron Knipling, Bill Carr & AWC

Warm - 62°, overcast, then sun – condensation over the water

Expecting three inches of rain overnight – according to NWS' two-day old flood warning, both Ron Knipling and I started to organize trips – I found out about his only in the morning. But the downpour did not occur. Only 0.3 inch in the can on my porch, 0.35 inch at Fourmile gauge, but with the sopping of a couple of days ago (0.2 in) there was plenty of water in the local brooks.*. Despite Ron's spamming the entire Thursday Paddler community and my having asked a select five, the person who joined us was Bill Carr, with whom I'd been planning to do a walk along Baltimore's Patapsco today. The moral must be that few of our group are truly free men (women) or have a different idea of a good time/. [continued on next page, top]

**Want to go out on the River; Want to find someone to paddle with;
Where do you find pick up trips?**

Try the CCA message board, <http://www.ccadc.org/sitenote.html> or you can contact the webmaster and she will help you set up a Pick Up Trip Email through the CCA website.

For more information on this please contact Susan Sherrod, link on the website. <http://www.ccadc.org/contacts.html>

[continued from last page]

Cabin John Creek is close-by (15 minutes from home) but elusive, as it has only 18 sq. mi. of watershed and so goes up quickly and falls as rapidly. Ron was not quite convinced that there would be sufficient water in the brook, but I won him over with a lot of smooth talk about gauges, lag times, etc. I ran up to my Bradley Rd gage and found it at minus-one inch, surprisingly low. We met at River Road bridge— stashed boats below it and set shuttle at Cabin John Park right next to the Union Arch, leaving two cars there and returning in Ron's. This level was an inch below what Steve and I had done it in three years ago, but it was a problem only in the sense that there were more rocks to carom off. We kayaks a couple of times ended going backwards down the last part of some rapids. As the lone OC paddler and five-time veteran of this creek, Ron took the lead. The low level caused me to hang up thrice, tipping over twice. Bill threaded his long downriver kayak through the stream's twists and turns with aplomb. We noted that the broken dam with rebar below the Beltway, once the major obstacle, was almost gone, albeit I managed to tip over there. The fall line part at the end is mainly pool and drop, and the last pool at the take-out is placidity itself at this level – and despite the Potomac's being at 5 feet, one could pass under it without danger.

We used the bandit take-out off Clara Barton Parkway to extract the boats, a first for me and Bill. . [I come up with 75 cfs for what we paddled – giving far less weight to the outlying Accotink figure. – I note that AW has given up trying to guess the volume of Cabin John Creek.]

* at 6:15 AM (the readings showing at our 8 AM decision point) Rock Creek – 287 cfs & rising fast, Accotink – 302, rising, Fourmile – 183, falling – Sligo – 70 cfs, falling. At 11 AM, 4 ¾ hrs later when we put on to the creek, those values were: RCk 267, Acc 203, FM 53, and Sligo 30 cfs. So, while I was right that Cabin John was up, I was overly optimistic about its volume.

Potential Trips for which Leaders are Needed

If interested in leading a trip this spring or later in the season, please contact Barbara Brown's 301-765- 9115,

Spring: Practice Novice to Intermediate

North Br. Potomac
 North Br. Potomac Pinto
 South Br. Potomac – Smoke Hole
 —The Trough
 North Fork. Potomac – Hopeville Canyon to
 Petersburg
 - Seneca Rocks to
 Hopeville Canyon

Rappahannock
 Moorefield Gorge
 Cacapon
 Antietam Creek
 Sideling Hill Creek
 Cedar Creek
 Passage Creek
 North River
 Monocacy
 Catoctin Creek
 Marsh Creek
 Thornton River
 Hughes River
 Upper Middle Fork of Tygart
 Dry Fork of the Cheat, W. Va.
 Shavers Fork below Bowdon
 Glady Fork
 Casselman
 Muddy Creek, Pa
 Gunpowder Falls

More Advanced Spring Trips

Laurel Fork of Cheat
 Big Sandy, W. Va. Upper and Lower
 Red Creek
 Seneca Creek , West Virginia
 Stony Creek, Pa
 Lost River
 Tohicken Creek
 Cheat Narrows
 Cheat Canyon
 North Branch, Kitzmiller
 Lower Middle Fork
 Tygart Gorge
 Youghiogheny





Canoe Cruisers Association

Canoe Cruisers Association of Greater Washington, DC
11301 Rockville Pike
PO Box 2523 Kensington, MD 20891

**First Class
Time Limit**



Reminder: Deadline for next issue is Wed. April 28, 2010.

Needed: Trip leaders/Trip ideas/Events to announce in the Newsletter. If you are willing to do trips, please send information to Barbara Brown at: potomacb@comcast.net

Notice: Due to snow,

The annual Canoe Cruisers Association Valentines Day party on Sycamore Island was postponed.

It is back on, Come join us on Sunday, March 14th. 3:00PM.

We're hoping that by mid March we'll have better weather and better party conditions. So make plans to be on Sycamore Island on March 14th, 2010 3:00PM.

Everyone is welcome, you don't even have to be a member to attend!
Paper goods and all the drinks, plus a ham will be provided.

We are asking everyone to bring a dish, snacks or treats and a \$5.00 donation.

Hope you can make it.

Remember: That is the first day of Day-light-Savings so get there early!
For more information contact your host:

