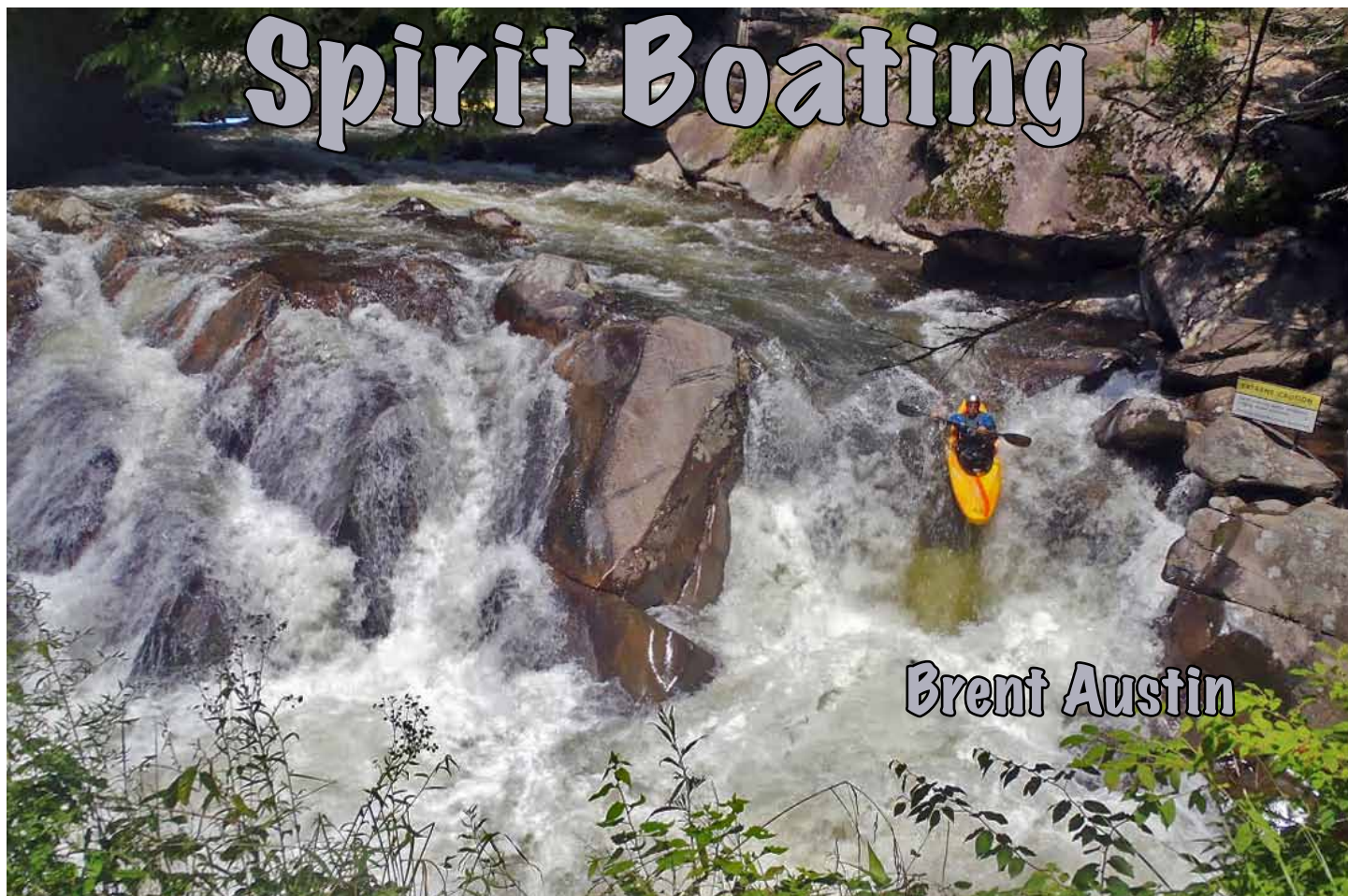


BOWLINES

Award Winning Newsletter of The Bluegrass Wildwater Association since 1976. Nov/Dec 2014

In this issue:

Spirit Boating
Why The William Nealy Award is Important
Photo Essay of Clear Creek Paddle Trip
2014 Lord of the Fork Race
Off the Cuff: Comments From the Forum Worth Remembering
Eddylines of Interest



Tis the season, when many of us give thanks, or share in the joy and spirit of the holiday seasons. From late October through the New Years, stores are lit up, people don costumes and gay apparel, they come together and there is a feast for just about everything. It has been that way for a long time. The ancient, pre-Christian Europeans, the Celtic people, celebrated not Halloween, but Samhain, a time when the ancestors, the ones that had gone before, were remembered. Thanksgiving brings images of the Pilgrims, beneficiaries of the good will of Native Americans. Christmas is a time when many of us get together with our families, share gifts, love one another and celebrate the “spirit of the season”. This is a time for things that center us, ground us, bring us a sense of “spirit”, whether it is religious, or simply a feeling of something greater than just the biological shells that we call our bodies.

“Once in a while you get show the light, In the strangest of the places if you look right!”

Jerry Garcia

Continued on pg. 3

Looking Ahead

Coming BWA Meetings
Second Tuesday of the Month, 7:30 pm

BWA Monthly Meeting Meet & Eat Meeting at Roosters

124 Marketplace Dr
Lexington, KY 40503
(859) 449-7737

<http://www.yelp.com/biz/roosters-lexington>

Winter Roll Sessions are Just Around the Corner

**Roll Sessions
will commence
January 9th 2015 7:40pm
at the Pinnacle pool.**

Same Bat time, same Bat place.

We will run them right up to the week
before the Spring Clinic

For more information on Club Meetings
& Activities always check the
online Calendar.

<http://www.bluegrasswildwater.org/?f=calendar>

**The BWA wishes to thank Canoe
Kentucky for it's support.**

**We urge you to patronize them
for
your outdoor needs.**



Bowlines is the Newsletter of the Bluegrass Wildwater
Association, POB 4231, Lexington Ky, 40504

Club Officers 2014-2015

President	Clay Warren	859-326-0602
Vice-President	Bob Larkin	502-550-4225
Treasurer	Jeff Kirkner	859-948-1920
Secretary	Wendy Scroggins	270-543 4866
Safety	Tim Minor	859-619-9495
Program	Adalessa Harbour	859-230-1316
Newsletter	Don Spangler	859-277-7314
Cyber Communications	Joe Wheatly	859-361-0892
Conservation	Peter Stutts	859-507-3149
Film Festival Coordinator	John Mello	859-327-6092
Russell Fork River Festival Coordinator	Steve Ruth	606-754-4348
Equipment Coordinator	KC Frankenstein	859-420-1514
At-Large Member	Katherine Halloran	502-608-6240
Membership Coordinator	Brandy Jones	859-312-8640
Past President	Emily Grimes	

Join in on the Fun!

Join the BWA! BWA Membership \$20/individual; \$25/Family year entitles you to receive the newsletter, 10% discounts at many local and out of state outfitter shops, use of club equipment, discount at pool rolling sessions, a listing in the BWA Handbook, a stream gauge guide, and web site with a forum for member's messages & a parking pass for the Elkhorn.

Meetings are held at 7:30, the second Tuesday of each month at location announced on our website: <http://www.bluegrasswildwater.org>

Submission of newsletter articles can be on CD (Mac or PC). Pictures can be digital or ready to be scanned. Please include stamped envelope for return. Preferred method: Files can also be e-mailed to: DonSpang@aol.com



Enjoy this issue of Bowlines?

Check out Bowlines Online Archive with many
great issues going back to 1998!

Issue Archive:

http://www.surfky-bwa.org/html/bowlines_arcN.html

A must read for all members, our 30th Anniversary issue:

http://www.surfky-bwa.org/bowlines/BL30thAnnv_Aug06.pdf



<http://www.canoeky.com/>

Recently, I have been reading a number of comments on various paddling forums about “soul boating” or “spirit boating”, both of which connotations, to me, relate to the “essence” of why I paddle. It is something I have been thinking a lot about lately, particularly in light of a number of deaths in our boating community, near deaths and other challenges and struggles I have witnessed by those I paddle with and care deeply about. I also know, that for me, the best way to channel my feelings, emotions and to feel some connections to those I have lost, or those that are on edge of disaster, is to paddle. It is where I find my Zen.

I do not seek adrenaline or thrills from paddling. That is not why I paddle. I often get that comment though from those that see me paddle, mostly at the Sinks on the Little River, which has got to be one of the most photographed drops in the world. But, I do not paddle “hard” stuff, and if you do paddle “hard” stuff and boat with me often, you know what I mean. I do not mean to denigrate river ratings, but the pros paddle at a whole other league, and I tend to paddle what I consider to be mostly Class IV, and certainly, several grades below the pros. I used to boat class V, as I understand that rating, some twenty years ago, (still a good grade or so below what pros paddle today), and perhaps thrill and adrenaline were part of it as I advanced my game back then. But, life and time have a way of changing one’s focus and purpose for paddling. Thus it is, as I continue to get a “Touch of Grey”, more and more each year, and it seems that the “silver lining” in life is recognizing the moments we have had on rivers with our friends, some gone, and some still with us. It is the river and the people we paddle with that seem to matter most as time marches on. I don’t mind at all paddling the same river, over and over again, for decades, if I am with my friends. Besides, how can you not love running Watauga Falls (now Stateline Falls) with your buds for the umpteenth time?



“Bigger better harder” was a motto my boating buds and I had back in the early and mid-nineties, and indeed it seemed that the parties and the rivers and the friends kept get choicer and choicer. But, I had a close call on the Green in 1994, another on a high water Lime Creek run in Colorado in 1995 at, amply named Adrenaline Falls. Shortly thereafter, I had a very risky situation and swim on the Bhote Kosi in Nepal in the fall of 1995, and, quite frankly, I was beginning to experience my paddling thresholds. I did not want to go any bigger. Bigger and harder seemed increasingly deadly, which was not something I truly considered before, as a relatively newer boater (less than 6 years at that point) except as an abstract concept.

One day, during Gauley season in 1996, a friend of mine, Scott Hasson, died on the Lower Meadow. I paddled the Lower Meadow a bit back in those days, and Scott and I were on a similar skill level. We paddled the Gauley and Russell Fork together, probably some other runs, and it was Colleen Laffey that introduced us. Anyway, even though we were just getting to know each other, his death completely changed how I looked at the river when I was out there, especially the ones I was most comfortable on, like the Upper Gauley and the Russell Fork, where I saw him the most. I began picturing him on various rapids that we had run together. I was sad to lose my friend. My heart felt heavy and still does when I think long and hard about him. He might have been close to 30, I think under, but Colleen would know. He was young nonetheless. I was 37 years old at the time and at least 6 - 10 years older than Scott.

In rapid succession, other paddling friends or acquaintances died on rivers: Pablo Perez, Chuck Kern, Steve Stone and Andy Lee, all from 1997 through 1999. In 1997, Pablo died on the Upper Rocky Broad. He was such a really cool kid and a very solid paddler, just entering the Pro Rodeo circuit for a few years before. I got to know him through my super close friend and former girlfriend, Randi Beard, who had worked at the NOC back in the 1994-6 range. He could sure rip up Hell Hole on the Ocoee. His death sent a message to me that sometimes it is not about skill, but just some bad luck, in his case a new strainer moving into place, and then boom, you are gone. I could not believe he was not going to be on the scene any longer. It was such a hole in the community fabric it seemed to me when he was gone. I thought of him a lot out there after it happened. We all did that knew him, and some way better than I.

Chuck Kern became my good friend through Buffy Bailey and Curt Burge and I paddled with him a bit, mostly on the Gauley and Russell Fork, but some out west. The last time I saw him, we were surfing the big wave called Big Sur, on the Colorado River, and afterwards hung out in my Volkswagen Syncro Westfalia, chillin out and just shooting the breeze about life, boating, girls, and the usual stuff river friends discuss. He died roughly two weeks later exploring new lines on the Black Canyon of the Gunnison. Buffy was there when it happened. It was horrible and we all had so much grief. He was way better than me, and it was a big impact for all us in the paddling community when a world class boater bites it on runs that any of us could have been on. Chuck was a super sweet soul, man, he really was.

Steve Stone died on the Rio Hollin in Ecuador in 1997 and I found his paddle there a few months after the accident in early 1998. “Spiritual” does not even begin to describe the feeling I had moments before I even saw the paddle. I was just dialing into my bud out there in my heart and feeling what a special place his spirit found to depart his body at that moment in time when it did. After that thought, I saw his paddle, barely visible in a strainer in a bend in that remote jungle river. Back then, I was still paddling my very first Godzilla - that I bought from him. (Today you will see that very boat planted in the driveway as you make your way up to my house in the Smoky Mountains). His paddle which I got out of that river and hauled all the way back to the United States, I gave to Hanley Loller who told me that he mounted it under a picture of Steve running Gorilla in his little shop that he had opened down on the Nolichucky in the year or two before his passing. It seemed fitting.

Neither Pablo, Chuck or Steve made it to the age of 30 I don't think. Maybe Chuck was 30, I can't recall now, but he was younger than I. (I have to say that with paddling partners, age is kinda irrelevant to me, so I am not always good on peoples ages – it is more important how it all feels when are together out there on the river.) Regardless, they were too young to go it seemed, but go they did. There is a lesson in that and maybe part of it is to cherish the moments we all have together. Clearly, the year 1997 was a terrible year and it dramatically changed my desire to charge ever new, bigger and badder rivers. I started to settle in to rivers I was comfortable with and that started me truly “soul boating”, just boating for the sake of boating.

The loss of Andy Lee hit me pretty hard when my friends Griffin Sanders and Sarah Mello informed me one day in 1999 at the Russell Fork Rendezvous about his accident. They had been canyoneering with him in Austria, but a week later he was killed leading tourists when a flash flood hit. He was only 29 years old. He was one of 19 bodies recovered in a lake in Switzerland. I wept hard over that loss. He and I met in Costa Rica when me, Mike Clark, Chris Hipgrave, and a guy from Salt Lake, had him join our little foray down what may have been the first descent since a 1991 Earthquake struck with the Epicenter in the very gorge we were going to paddle: The Rio Chirripo Atlantico. What a day! Mike Clark wrote an article about the trip that was published in AW Magazine and I thought I would never see Andy Lee again. His nick name was "Pina", for the word pineapple, which was due to his long, blonde, Mohawk dreadlocks and perhaps his affable Kiwi accent. Anyway, about a year later while I was in California and decided to go up to the Coloma Club near the American Rivers, there, lo and behold, was Pina! We got drunk, slept in the dirt, and the next day went and paddle the Giant Gap of the North Fork American River. And, I talked him into coming east to check out raft guiding there and to paddle the Russell Fork River. I took him down his first time which happened to be the same day as a raft guide trainee died under Maze. This was 1994 and our friendship blossomed until he was gone. Again, I often imagined my friend on the river and somehow, I felt connected and at peace when I was out on a river, which was the source of our connection anyway.



John Lord died in 2004, January 25th at Tower rapid. John was a very big part of our paddling circle, centered mostly around the Russell Fork and his death was a huge loss to our boating family. He was in his 30s. I never will forget how the week after his death, his body had yet to be found (Hugo saw him first almost a month to the day after the accident), and I saw his two small children each light a candle to join their Daddy's lit candle on a small, simply constructed raft, and then watch the raft with all three candles lit, go floating off around the bend, out of sight, from Ratliff Hole. On January 25, 2014, this year started off with a very somber, yet somehow uplifting experience paddling the Russell Fork Gorge on a cold and snowy day, almost a blizzard, in honor of the ten year anniversary of the day John died at Tower. When Tom Montgomery called me about it, there was no way I was not going to be there. It was amazing in there, just our little gang and John's spirit, right there at the bottom of Tower, snow falling, ice on rocks and the cool crisp splash and spray of the river as we meandered down the run.

In 2007, Griffin Sanders died, right after the Russell Fork River Rendezvous, shortly before his 30th birthday. I took Griffin down the Russell Fork his first time, probably the Gauley too. He was an amazing paddler, way better than me and he kept getting better. If you see some of us boaters with a sticker on our vehicles or helmets, etc. that says "Viva El Griffo", we are talking about Griffin. He was such a bright light and spirit, albeit a Merry Prankster as well. Hard not to love Griffin and gosh, there are so many funny Griffin stories. Keep boating with us older boaters, and you will hear Griffin stories around the campfire. Still miss that brother and think of him often when I paddle.





Spreading Chris's ashes on the Russell Fork

Chris Cash came up with Hugo Araneda on the boating scene in the early 90s and we all started paddling together in 1994. Took both of them down the Gauley and the Russell Fork. Chris, Hugo, Jeff Kress, Dustin Cornelieson, Rob Pinkerton, Greg Woosley and some others formed a core group of solid Central Kentucky boaters in the mid to late 1990s and we would often paddle and play music together. It was through these kids that I met John Lord, Tom Montgomery and some of their other Chattanooga clan back in the mid-90s. Chris was a super talented paddler, surpassed perhaps only by his ability to pick a guitar that was truly amazing. It was the music played at our campfires that served as the inspiration for the later, off the shelf music scene at the Russell Fork River Rendezvous in the late 90s. The Chaos Jam would go to dawn, with Chris being right in the middle. Then, we would all go boat the Russell Fork Gorge. Who needs sleep? Chris died in March 2010. He was 40 years old. We had carpooled and paddled the Gauley and Russell Fork several times in the fall before he died. During those trips, we spoke of life, friends and goals and dreams and to use a phrase from a John Denver song: "Poems, prayers and promises and things that we believe in." I spread his ashes for his sister, Courtney on the Russell Fork, carried them in my lap the whole way down the river for his last "ride" then proceeded to put them in the river at Climax. Chris had the last laugh, because as I proceeded to dump them in the river, a big wind gust blew up and blew his ashes all over me and my very damp dry suit. I was covered from head to toe and we all got a big laugh. Funny thing is, this summer I told Jess Albright about Chris' story, and now I have had to say goodbye to him too.

On the Fourth of July, 2013, our friend and paddling buddy, Scott Bradfield lost his life in a flash flood while boating on the Big East of the Pigeon River with other of our boating friends. A number of us went in and found Scott the next day, and got him out from the river to where the rescue squad could get to him. I would not wish on anyone to have the memory of pulling one of your good friends body out of a river. You can't help but replay it, unfortunately, so you deal.



Tallulah dinner 2011 with Scott Bradfield, Jess Albright & our Phamily

Scott has been terribly missed by many of us, and rarely do we get on some of our regular runs like the Gauley, the Russell Fork, the Watauga, the Green, the Upper Yough, the Lower Big Sandy, and the list could go on, without thinking of Scott being out there with us. He had been doing the Week of Rivers with me since about 2006 or so, whenever the year was that I was President of the BWA, and I had watched him really step up his game over the years since. Solid athlete and very devoted to being in good condition. I spent quality time off river with Scott too, and that is when we really got to know each other. He would often end up at my cabin in the Smokies in the middle of the week, cause he had time off. The river brought us together, and it was the off river time that cemented the bonds formed by water. When you see a sticker that says "Carefree Living", that is for Scott. He used that handle on Boater Talk and elsewhere and it says a lot about Scott. Miss the heck out of him too. He was just 36 years old, the age I was when I was tearing things up in 1995 and running some of the best whitewater of my entire life.



Scott Bradfield

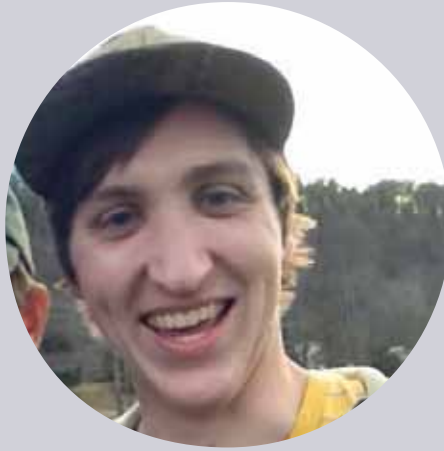


Rebecca in the Notch at gorilla at the Green River Race in 2013

On April 29, 2014, my paddling partner, Rebecca Lewis nearly lost her life on Island Creek, in the Emory-Obed system, after her Green boat lodged into a sieve and flipped her over. She was under water for a long time, perhaps a minute and a half, and then we were able to

keep her head above water for another ten minutes while she started to go into shock and become hypothermic. She was freed when her right leg broke in the area just below her knee cap. I will not kid you when I say this event was traumatic for her and it was for me. I saw her drowning in my mind and woke up in a sweat or in tears, so many times, I can't even tell you. It has not been something I have wanted to talk much about actually and it still lingers.

I am grateful that she lived, so grateful. But, this and other challenges have taken her out of paddling for the moment and she is missed by her boating friends, perhaps none more than me. I see her in my mind on many of the rivers, including the Little where we paddled often over the past few years - an easy morning or afternoon jaunt when it was running regularly. Rebecca appeared brave and fearless on rivers to me and I admired that quality in her. I compare the inspiration I got on rivers paddling with her to that which I had when Mike Clark and I used to boat together all the time in the early 90s. I enjoyed our boating partnership and I hope she can get back out here on rivers with us.



Jess Albright

On November 22, 2014, one of our bright stars, Jess Albright, lost his life and with great grief, we all said good-bye to this 24 year old, amazingly gifted athlete, and incredibly humble and sweet man. I don't know how John, Sharon and Delaney could even function. Katrina van Wijk came in, they had been very tight and had a deep love, and it broke my heart. Bernie Engleman organized a float on the Elkhorn, which I am glad he did because paddling is cathartic in these circumstances. I had to go to Tennessee, but did by way of the Russell Fork which was running a nice 580 cfs, and I imagined Jess at every boof and rapid, and could remember seeing his various lines through there. I was out there on the river when he and his brother did their first run.

Jess and I spent time this past summer as he camped on my property in the Smokies while he was raft guiding for USA Raft in Hartford, TN on the Pigeon River. We got to chat often, sometimes over breakfast, or a Taco Tuesday. I met a number of his friends at USA Raft that he would bring over, and well, Jess and I spent some quality time talking about life, issues and paddling and he was very much becoming my good friend as a result. In 1992, I purchased a custom made to my specs, Silver Creek, wood paddle. I cherish that stick. For the past half dozen years, Jess is the only one I entrusted to work on it. I used it all Gauley season this year, thanks to Jess' masterful work. I will miss him in so many ways. I set some nice quartz crystals around the large rock he used to anchor his tent a couple of days after I learned of his passing. I think it will be a permanent altar now. Makes me smile and feel connected to Jess in so doing. There is a cool video clip about Jess, which Jeff Gardner did that you can see by clicking here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bNtUABK9IOE>

for that shooting star, Jess Albright
you beautiful boater you
with your old school helmet
and your sweet attitude
on the water you had more
grace than anything i have ever seen
an angel in disguise
we will see you downstream

(By Amelia Taylor)

Paddling is what I do – it is not about thrills, or adventure, no, it is something way more than all that to me. It is mind, body and spirit, all in one activity to me. It is a way of life, a culture, a community, a tribe and most importantly, a tight knit family – our river brothers and sisters. I have very few bonds as tight as those formed on rivers. The river changes everything. I have lost many paddling friends over the years and I can't help but think of them on the rivers I paddle. They are “forever young” in our memories and even in the pictures we have of them, and quite simply, they were the amazing “shooting stars” that touch our lives as we venture forward until it is our turn to go. These are things I think about as I age, and I think of them even on the river at special moments only the river can bring. I did not know these things or understand them as I do now, back when I was young. How could I? You live, you learn.

There are others that we have lost in the BWA this year that I did not know as well, but I can tell you, I knew both Mary Anne Reynolds and Paul Graves enough to really, really, like them and enjoy their company. Sadly, I did not get to spend as much time with them as I would have wished for. It hurt my heart to hear of their passing. It has been a tough year. Even my near ten year old black lab, Dark Star, passed this July. I buried him in the Fairy Grotto next to my yellow lab, Chama, who passed in 2007, and then I went and paddled. It helped. There was no thrill, there was just the focus of the paddle, of mind, body and spirit melding with the river and connecting me to my beloved pet. I wept and paddled, and it felt better.

DARK STAR

Dark star crashes, pouring it's light into ashes.
Reason tatters, the forces tear loose from the axis.
Searchlight casting for faults in the clouds of delusion.
Shall we go, you and I while we can
Through the transitive nightfall of diamonds?

Mirror shatters in formless reflections of matter.
Glass hand dissolving to ice petal flowers revolving.
Lady in velvet recedes in the nights of good-bye.
Shall we go, you and I while we can
Through the transitive nightfall of diamonds?

(Grateful Dead)

It is hard, but you have to say good bye to your loved ones in order to say hi to them as ancestors. Kind of odd thinking about it, but it does not matter how old you are, when you go, you become an ancestor. Someday, maybe someone will paddle on, thinking about me or you out there, after we have gone, and in so doing, they will feel a sense of peace. Try it. Close your eyes and you can see your buds boating with you out there, you really can. That is “Spirit boating”. At that point, paddling is a way of life, not some means to a thrill. Then you understand that Kayaking is not about being cool, it is about simply “being”.

See you on the river,
Brent Austin

The NPFF William Nealy Award



Why it is Important!

It has been 12 years since the first William Nealy Award was presented at the 2002 National Paddling Film Festival and 31 years since the first NPFF in Oct. 1983. Most BWA members know about the NPFF and are likely to have attended a festival unless they have just joined the club. It has become the star accomplishment of our club and is well known in the whitewater paddling community. It not only was a major factor in spurring the creation of paddling films and art, but has raised over \$135,000 for river causes. But many paddlers, especially nowadays, know little if anything about William Nealy and his connection to the film festival or what the award signifies. The Film Festival program each year explains the reason for the award followed by a few brief sentences about William Nealy, but it is but a brief mention in a busy weekend when the focus is on great videos, food, beer, friends and a paddling race. So it comes as no surprise that it may be overlooked or forgotten soon after the festival program is laid down.

What The William Nealy Award Is For

The William Nealy award is given to honor extraordinary distinction in lifetime achievement, exceptional contributions to the state of paddlesport arts and imagery, or for outstanding service to the National Paddling Film Festival.

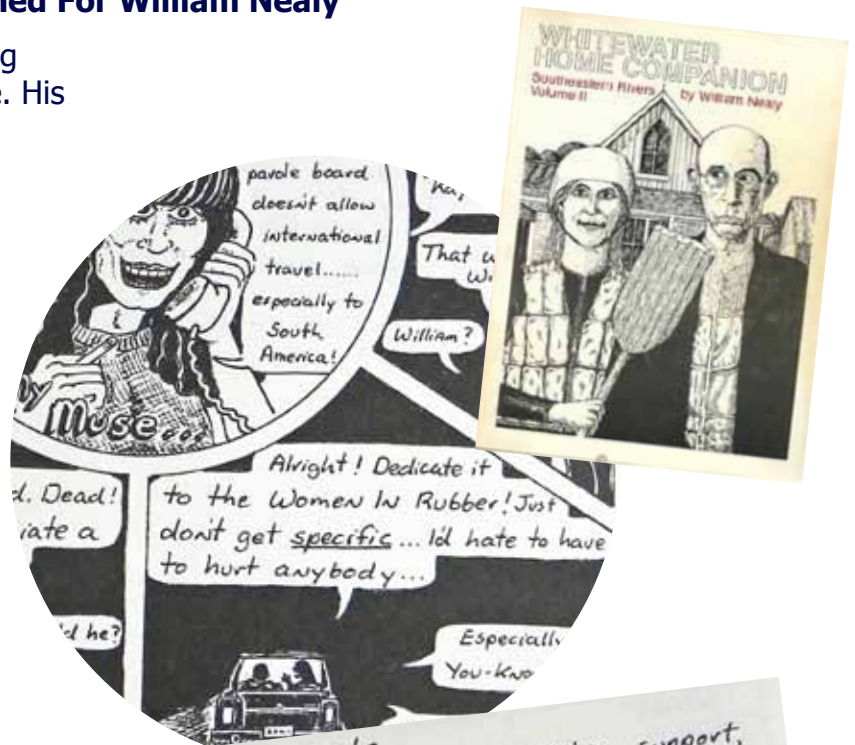
The William Nealy Award is to continue the original goal and purpose of the Film Festival which was to encourage those who would communicate in various art forms the enthusiasm that we have for paddling, the wonderful places where we paddle and the excitement and satisfaction we find in paddlesports.

Each year the NPFF competition produces winning entries, both amateur and professional. The improvement of the quality and the numbers of paddling films has been significant since the festival's first days when almost everything was 8mm & 16mm film. Technology improvements have enabled film makers to go far beyond what was possible in the early eighties. But the key factor is still the individual who labors to share a vision of paddling and rivers with all. As with most human endeavors, what is important is not just that first milestone reached, but the continued steps to the next milestone, then the next, and the others that follow. Just as it would have been wrong to stop the festival after the first one, it would be wrong to not recognize continued efforts in producing new paddlesports art & imagery. That recognition for significant achievements is the "William Nealy Award".

With the Nealy award, the National Paddling Film Festival adds to its stature and significance as the authority for what is most noteworthy in paddlesports art & imagery. With over three decades of existence, it is widely known for its focus on paddling. We have had entries from Europe, Canada, and throughout the U.S. Entries have depicted expeditions, paddling rodeos, river guides, given instruction on paddling, shown the beauty of rivers, spoke to river conservation, exhibited the fellowship of clubs & paddlers, and always a favorite, paddling humor. The NPFF competitors, both amateur and professional, are considered as the best in the paddling arts world.

How Did the Award Get Named For William Nealy

William Nealy would have been an outstanding candidate for the award that bears his name. His illustrations, books, and other art are unique & distinctive in the paddling world. So true to the river life were his cartoons that Nealy became a paddling-sports cult hero. His kind of wild, somewhat irreverent satire humor (even directed at himself) fit in with the paddling characters that he illustrated in his cartoons. William seemed to have found a mother load of these characters in the BWA..... at least we could often imagine ourselves in his cartoons. And there are instances where he even mentions the BWA in his cartoons, i.e.. The Women in Rubber, along with several BWA members in book acknowledgements.



William Nealy's body of work, include many cartoon illustrated SE river maps for paddlers, ten books full of river lore, wisdom, wit and humor and a wealth of cartoons. William's wonderfully entertaining art will be popular and appreciated by river boaters for a long time.

Acknowledgements
 Special thanks to the following people for their friendship, support, technical assistance and inspiration for many cartoon ideas... Ocho Rios, Haze Hawff, Ed Gertler, Carolyn Healy, Bluegrass Wildwater Association, Tom Schlinkert, John Wesson, Jim Screvin, Cliff Earle, Uncle Jimmy, Henry & Donna Unger, George Shear, Steve Krautkramer, Harry Roberts, Carl Dogget, Tom Lewis, "Crazy Rick" Serano, Bob "Mad Dog" Miller, Alex Harvey, Bill Hughes, Craig Spangler, Jan Atlee, Tam Fletcher, Gordy, "Dad", Bob Benner, Emilade, Robert and Tina Harrison, everybody at "The Cave", Jenavie Goldberg, Howard Dubose, The Arkansas Doobie Brothers, the Cro-Mo-Bros, Reg Lake, Beth Gamble, John Burton and John Kennedy (for the unforgettable OC-2 free...)

So how did William and the BWA connect?

In the seventies, there was a Lexington version of the Nantahala Outdoor Center, SAGE School of the Outdoors. Many in the early days of the BWA got their paddling start at SAGE and were mentored by Bob Sehlinger, the Director of Instruction. SAGE & Bob were early supporters of the BWA. In fact it was Bob who came up with the idea for a film festival after seeing how well we had put on a South-East Rivers Safety Symposium at UK. The event was highly successful, and Bob got the idea of us having a Film Festival since we had pulled off the symposium. We proved Bob correct. At that same time Bob formed Menasha Ridge Press with William and his wife, Holly. Bob introduced William to the BWA. Nealy did some posters and art for the first NPFF. At that first event Nealy & the characters of the BWA clicked with each other and he became a solid supporter of the NPFF till he death in 2001.

The years of support by Menasha Ridge (William, Holly & Bob), which included several thousand of dollars during the first three years of the festival, assured the ultimate success of the NPFF. To recognize that support we and as a memorial to him, we established the William Nealy Award. The first person to receive the award was Bob Sehlinger for conceiving and suggesting the idea as well as his continuous support to the NPFF.

Menasha Ridge has continued to support the NPFF, even after William Nealy died. Holly, attended the next festival after William's passing (2002) and donated some of his art for the auction and gave some of us a piece of Nealy's art to frame. It was to be the last Festival she would attend. Debilitated by Rheumatoid Arthritis and other afflictions, she was not able to travel after that. She died in 2011.

It was a a fortunate stroke of serendipity for all of this to happen. A small paddling club with a strong will & heart was able to achieve something that groups much larger then we were have not. The NPFF owes much to William, Holly & Bob. Together we created an event that pulls us together each year as a club and invites all who love paddling to come and enjoy a festival dedicated to paddle sports and it's art.

That is why the William Nealy Award is important and is a part of the BWA's heritage that should not be forgot.

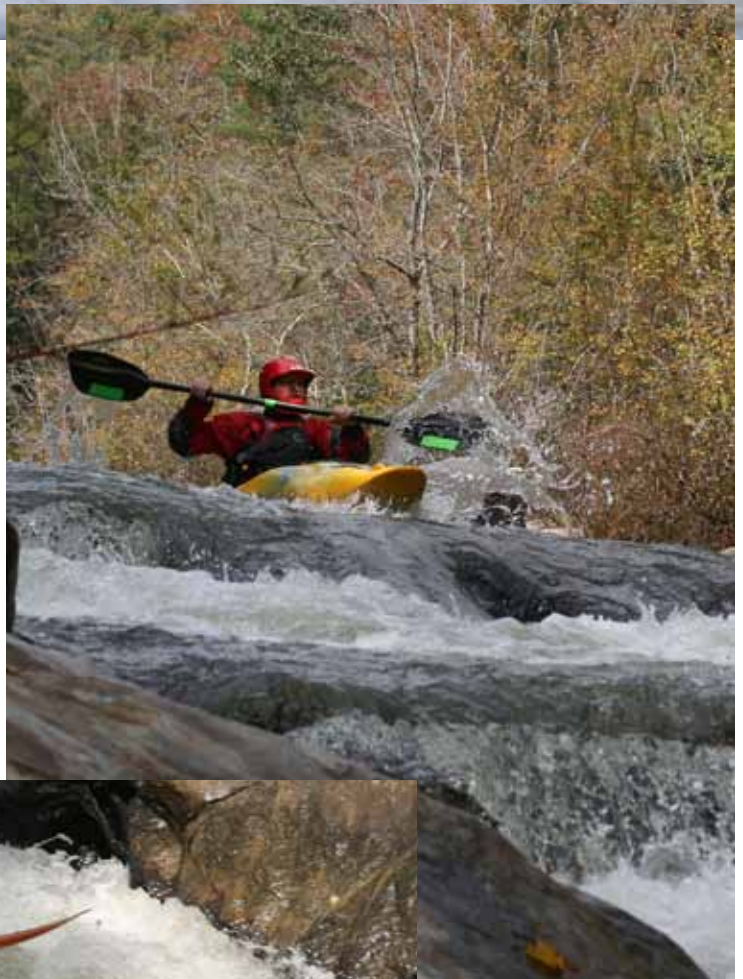
Don Spangler



Photo Essay of Clear Creek Paddle Trip 10-18-14

Photos by Hanley







2014 Lord of the Fork Race

October 25, 2014

Elkhorn City, KY

1.5 mi

75 Participants

Russell Fork Gorge, class 4-5.

Place Bib Name Time



Dane Jacson Racing on the Russell Fork

1.	2	Dane Jackson	00:06:28.7
2.	7	Isaac Levinson	00:06:31.1
3.	13	Chris Hipgrave	00:06:37.3
4.	8	Pat Keller	00:06:39.1
5.	5	Chris Gragtmans	00:06:44.9
6.	25	Drew Austell	00:06:50.0
7.	10	Stephen Mcgrady	00:06:51.2
8.	12	Jason Beakes	00:06:51.5
9.	17	Clay Wright	00:06:57.8
10.	3	Geoff Calhoun	00:06:58.9
11.	30	Brad Mcmillan	00:06:59.1
12.	19	Zach Fraysier	00:06:59.5
13.	32	Colin Hunt	00:07:00.0
14.	11	Jake Greenbaum	00:07:00.1
15.	66	Robert Waldron	00:07:01.0
16.	21	Clay Warren	00:07:01.3
17.	20	Paul Stamilio	00:07:03.4
18.	74	Cameron Thacker	00:07:04.0
19.	24	Snowy Robertson	00:07:08.0
20.	69	Adrienne Levknecht	00:07:09.3
21.	47	Bernie Engelman	00:07:10.0
22.	51	Wade Harrison	00:07:11.0
23.	33	Gareth Tate	00:07:11.8
24.	27	Curtis England	00:07:14.3
25.	45	Benn Fraker	00:07:16.0
26.	22	Cooper Salade	00:07:17.3
27.	23	David Herman	00:07:18.3
28.	16	Matt Anger	00:07:18.6
29.	72	Brandon Fasan	00:07:22.0
30.	79	Dave Fusilli	00:07:23.0
31.	38	Ty Caldwell	00:07:24.0
32.	35	Ben Blake	00:07:24.9
33.	100	Hunter Cooper	00:07:25.0

T34.	85	Sam Swanson	00:07:27.0
T34.	71	Robby Hogg	00:07:27.0
36.	46	Cody Adams	00:07:28.0
37.	28	Jesse Sammons	00:07:29.1
38.	75	Kevin Shack	00:07:30.0
39.	43	Nick Iannello	00:07:31.0
40.	29	Kirk Eddlemon	00:07:31.4
41.	68	Tom Daley	00:07:32.0
42.	37	Ryan Mcavoy	00:07:32.4
43.	73	John Quigley	00:07:36.0
T44.	52	Saunders Southecorvo	00:07:38.0
T44.	50	Chris Mccoy	00:07:38.0
T44.	42	Matt Gossett	00:07:38.0
T47.	104	Dan Warner	00:07:39.0
T47.	53	Fred Wilson	00:07:39.0
49.	36	Mac Mcgee	00:07:39.4
T50.	57	Topher Fonderhide	00:07:40.0
T50.	40	Robbie Gilson	00:07:40.0
52.	92	Matt Swanson	00:07:43.0
53.	39	Phil Ellis	00:07:45.0
54.	102	Sergio Vidal	00:07:49.0
55.	63	Rutledge Riddle	00:07:52.0
56.	58	Nick Fiedler	00:07:56.0
57.	67	Raymond Brugger	00:07:57.0
58.	48	Chris Gallaway	00:07:58.0
59.	65	Chris Baer	00:08:02.0
60.	88	Chris Harjes	00:08:04.0
61.	49	Evan Smith	00:08:12.0
T62.	59	Emily Shanblatt	00:08:13.0
T62.	80	Denver Harrod	00:08:13.0
T62.	195	Willy Witt	00:08:13.0
65.	97	Reid Motter	00:08:15.0
66.	56	Paul Butler	00:08:16.0
67.	54	Dave Thomas	00:08:28.0
68.	41	Keith Sprinkle	00:08:31.0
69.	82	Todd Harbour	00:08:33.0
70.	55	Peter Stutts	00:08:44.0
71.	61	Wesley Bradley	00:08:45.0
72.	122	Travis Overstreet	00:08:50.0
73.	96	Anna Wagner	00:09:30.0
74.	124	Clint Schiavone	00:09:34.0
75.	94	Andrew Mccarty	00:10:55.0

Off the Cuff

Comments from the Forum Worth Remembering

The future of adventure tourism in Elkhorn City

November 14, 2014 08:01AM

A lot of you know about this event from bookfacing but I thought I would post here. The findings and executive summary of a study are being shared with the community. There are some interesting information points in there that help paint the picture from the visitor and residents view.

Its a pretty good chance for your voice to be heard on what you think the next action should be and an opportunity to help do your part to make sure that it happens. This process will be a good chance for folks to really participate in this thing going forward.

Saturday November 15, 2014 Elkhorn City Public Library
1-5PM

jason foley

November 15, 2014

Thanks for posting. I don't have a MyFace account so i would have never known.

Here's another short success story in Upstate NY. i'm sure there are more than a few others out there.

http://articles.mcall.com/2013-07-02/sports/mc-lehigh-river-rafting-impact-07012013-20130702_1_whitewater-challengers-river-rafting-jim-thorpe-river-adventures

One more question. Could that area sustain a ski area? I mean...there are ones further south...like in the smokies... although higher elevation but N Alabama has one as well.

~WaVeYDaVeY~

November 17, 2014

This was a very good meeting and the fine folks of Elkhorn City are now armed with data to back up a lot of the things that they thought that they knew about themselves already. Ill get permission to post the executive summary from one of the professors and post it here. We are

having a follow up meeting on December 13th for action committees to work on the three things deemed the most important for the city: river, trail and arts. If the BWA wants to send someone to that meeting Ill make sure that they have a spot to ride for the trip there and back. We had very good conversations regarding the small things or the "low hanging fruit" to enhance those things for the city, i.e. what can we do now on the cheap to make a difference like trail and river visitor bathroom & changing facilities and street signage among other things.

Drs. Shauna Scott (UK) and Stephanie McSpirit (EKU) have led a great group of students in this study including an honors thesis presentation by student Dylan Bogard, who led the students in the writing of the initial survey, further supporting the uniqueness and viability that Elkhorn City possesses.

You are right Wavey there are some other examples, one in PA that supports recreation releases on the Lehigh is what we have keyed in on as well since the lake acreage and water hold are in the neighborhood of Flanagan. It seems the former senators, Rockefeller and Byrd in WV in particular did an excellent job in making sure that their projects had the correct language included in their congressional legislation to include downstream recreation which is the ONLY thing that will ever force the USACE to manage the project for that use at Flanagan. I would argue WV now has the best WW tourism industry in the Eastern US. Congress placed authorization language into a Water Resources Dev. Act (WRDA) for 9 of 11 dams being built at that particular time. One of the two who didn't get it was Flanagan in VA and it statistically lies in the middle of those based on multiple factors including size. Without clear operational directives via Congress the USACE has no option or authority to manage that water in the way we need it to be. Another words they cant or wont do anything without being told they have to by Congress. While we have tried for nearly 20 years it seems the KY side is just now beginning to listen and align but that still may be a stretch. There is an attempt at a resurgence in this very issue that has picked up steam only in the last few weeks thanks to a load of groundwork done by Breaks Superintendent Austin Bradley who is an wonderful champion for making this happen.

- Jason Foley

***As for your ski area question its funny that you asked that because it was a part of the Breaks Interstate Park presentation since apparently they get that question a lot. The park simply used two numbers 1600 and 3 to address the topic from their perspective, 1600 was the vertical decent from the top of the park to the river level and 3 was the number of 200+ foot sheer cliff drops that surround the park. Mentioned briefly was the use of re-claimed coal mines among other areas for various projects but the land holding company that is the largest land owner in the county refuses to authorize any activity on their properties claiming potential liability issues.

Jason thanks for the update and for all your hard work on this effort. While we've always known that the CoE can't wipe their butts without Congress explicitly telling them to do it I am however heartened with this bit of news on the political front:

> While we have tried for nearly 20
> years it seems the KY side is just now beginning
> to listen and align but that still may be a
> stretch. There is an attempt at a resurgence in
> this very issue that has picked up steam only in
> the last few weeks thanks to a load of groundwork
> done by Breaks Superintendent Austin Bradley who
> is an wonderful champion for making this happen.

It's a historical fact that KY is 20 years behind the rest of the world so clearly the time for scheduled releases are upon us! Maybe there is a glimmer of whitewater hope at the end of that long, dark, railroad tunnel of excuses and foot dragging by the politicians who seek to SOAR but typically only squat?

Maybe the BWA can help make some noise on this with letters to Hal Rogers, Rand Paul and Mitch McConnell and some ink in the Herald? Summer releases with enough volume to support all the sections on the RF would make it rain money in that area...

barryg

Jason, thank you so much for the update and for all your efforts fighting this long battle for recreational consideration/recreational releases from the C.O.E. You have been a long dedicated stalwart and great voice for us paddlers. If there is anything I, or we the BWA, can do to help please let us know.

Enjoyed catching up with you and Codi a few weeks ago in EC brother!

Clay

November 18, 2014

you are right Barry, if the USACE doesn't have operational directives for bathroom breaks they hold it till they get home. SOAR is actually going to be a key part of our current work. Austin Bradley is slowly gathering a packet of resolutions from the government entities representing SWVA and East KY to help force this into acknowledgment and action on the Congressional level. Austin and Gene Counts have already done a great job on the VA side so there is come catching up to do in the Pike Co area with the same work which shouldn't take very long to complete.

With McConnell being on THE Chairman on THE committee that writes WRDA and Rogers being the appropriations committee Chairman which oversees that committee in congress it isn't like we have a long path to the top in Congress to make this happen. I am sure at some point we will need to take into consideration public letter writing again, soon perhaps but it needs to be a concerted effort and after some current action items are completed with the working groups. In the meeting I mentioned the years of sporadic action by various Congressional offices and suggested we need to be firing cannon balls at them and not a bunch of b-bs or buckshot to get our voices heard. Bottom line is that we have a great working group in EC and we are well represented on the advisory panel to the USACE and lots of action is currently going on.

Thanks for the support of the BWA going forward and Clay at some point we may get a great chance to go all in. Hopefully sooner than later. It was good getting to talk at breakfast in EC before you went and fired that race up man! Great job on your run there! Its always sunny in Elkhorn City!

- Jason Foley

Jason is right. It is imperative that someone reach out to Senator McConnell. He can be most helpful here and this is a no-brainer for all. Here below is what Austin Bradley just emailed to a bunch of folks so you can see what an awesome advocate for releases our new Superintendent of the Breaks is. He truly understands that the health of the Park he manages is directly tied to the river and recreational releases is simply a matter of how the ACOE

administers its discretion. Because recreation is not considered, the releases are arbitrary regardless that the same project purpose could be met while considering recreational flows.

Brent

Date: Mon, 17 Nov 2014 22:14:24 -0500

Howdy everyone,

I want to again express my gratitude for being included on Saturday's agenda. Being around folks like you is tremendously uplifting and serves to deepen my belief that our community possesses the talent and the will to adapt to a shifting economic paradigm.

Attached, you will find five documents which help build the case for the expansion of the project purpose for John W. Flannagan Dam to include downstream whitewater recreation. These documents include, based on the order in which you see them attached:

- An introduction letter to US Senator Timothy Kaine which describes the contents of a packet that I provided to him. I would love to provide similar packets to Senator Mitch McConnell and Congressman Hal Rogers.
- The quantitative comparison of 11 reservoirs at which downstream whitewater recreation is recognized as a project purpose and John Flannagan Dam.
- A 1988 Water Resources Development Act bill which provides the US Army Corps of Engineers with authorization to consider "downstream whitewater recreation which is dependent upon project operations" as a project purpose in addition to items such as flood control, water supply, and flatwater recreation.
- A whitewater release support level approved by the Breaks Interstate Park Commission and signed by our Chairman, Jack Sykes.
- A .txt file representing correspondence with Jim Schray, USACE Water Management Specialist for the Huntington District, who oversees release schedules at Flannagan Dam. The important takeaway from Jim's messages are that they clearly demonstrate that he does not believe the USACE currently has authority to consider whitewater recreation in their day to day operations at this site. Notice that Jim offers Summersville Dam, found on the world famous Gauley River, as a good example of how a stakeholder group worked together to find a happy medium once whitewater recreation was authorized.

I tend to be wordy, so in an effort to be brief I will close with the following observation:

There has been much debate over the years over how best to achieve the goal of better utilizing the tremendous potential presented by the Russell Fork River by securing a greater quantity of scheduled releases sufficient to facilitate whitewater tourism. The arguments have focused around things like what environmental impact studies will be required to evaluate the effects of additional releases, how many cubic feet per second would boaters need, and whether or not the USACE is just being needlessly rigid in their interpretation of Flannagan's project purpose as not including whitewater recreation. However, all of these questions do not address the simple fact that it is the interpretation of the Huntington District of the USACE that whitewater recreation would have to be added as a project purpose at Flannagan Dam before they could even consider the rest of these questions. This change in authorization will require a Water Resources Development Act Bill. US Senator Mitch McConnell chairs the Senate Energy & Water development subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee which is responsible for creating WRDA bills. US Congressman Hal Rogers chairs the House Appropriations Committee, of which the House Energy and Water Development Subcommittee is a part, which creates WRDA bills on the House side.

One key piece of advice that we received from Senator Kaine's office is the need to show KY support for this action as well. The letter writing campaign that Dr. McSpirit mentions has never been more important and we have never been closer to getting this accomplished. In order to equal the level of support which has been manifested on the VA side we will need support letters from at least the following entities:

- City of Pikeville
- Elkhorn City
- SOAR
- Eastern Kentucky University and University of Kentucky if possible
- Pike County Fiscal Court and Judge Executive
- Pike County Tourism

If you have connections with any of these entities and can get a letter of support, I would greatly appreciate you letting me know sometime this week as I am actively seeking appointments with each one to lay out the case. My confidence is growing that this is an achievable goal and although it will literally take an act of Congress to pull it off, I believe that folks will soon come around to the basic sensibility of freeing the USACE to consider downstream whitewater recreation in their day to day operations at

Flannagan.

Have a wonderful week!

Respectfully,

Austin Bradley, MBA
Superintendent
Breaks Interstate Park

http://www.bluegrasswildwater.org/bwaforum/file.php?5,file=719,filename=Whitewater_Release_Support_Letter_Official_.pdf

http://www.bluegrasswildwater.org/bwaforum/file.php?5,file=720,filename=whitewater_USACE_1988_authorization_.pdf

<http://www.bluegrasswildwater.org/bwaforum/read.php?5,24062,24089#msg-24089>

Good thing to keep in mind:

If the goal is to spur McConnell to act on the issue, a literal letter writing campaign is the way to get it done. These days Washington politicians mostly get constituent feedback through phone, email or other various electronic means. They get very few actual handwritten letters, which means that when they do get them they put an inordinate amount of importance on them and assume that there is a vastly disproportionate amount of weight behind them relative to the number that come in. A dozen or so actual handwritten letters delivered by the P.O. will really get his staff's attention. Quadruple bonus influence points if each is individually composed and not just a form letter.

Just my two cents, tell me when to write.

Hanley Loller

I'm actually pretty good friends with the major of Pikeville and State Rep Leslie Combs. She's expressed great interest in the Russell Fork and Elkhorn City in passing conversations. She's State Representative for part of Pike County and serves on the House Standing Committee on Tourism Development and Energy.

I'm on the road to Indy (Go Cayts) and will dig a little deeper and read what's been posted a little better when I'm in a better position to. I can contact these folks if still need be and gather their support.

~WaVeYDaVeY~

10 Reasons Why I am Thankful

November 27, 2014

Okay, It's Thanksgiving. Time to take a moment to reflect on our lives and consider some things that make us feel thankful. I'll start and hope you will join in and most likely enable the rest of us expand our sense of gratitude.

1. I am thankful that I enjoy relatively good health. There have been some bumps in the road but overall, I'm doing

pretty well.

2. I have discovered that though parenting was pretty cool, being a grandparent is by far much much better. All the love and none of the work.

3. Starbucks. Hey Brent, You agree on this one?

4. My job. The business of healthcare sucks but I get to witness and participate in the other side. I am involved in the part of medicine that focuses on healing. Of that I am truly fortunate and am constantly reminded and I made the right choice years ago.

5. My van: best tent on tires ever and it makes the thought of loading a boat with racks and straps really suck.

6. My wife: thank God she has a very good sense of humor and very poor aim.

7. This one will be a little long and more somber but here goes: I'm am so thankful that Paul Graves (Biscuit) became my friend if only for a short time. I will never forget the times we spent together, the fun we had, and the discussions we shared I found Biscuit to be one of the most open and honest people I have ever met. Seldom have I ever encountered a person of his makeup. His life was cut short and God called him home back in the Summer. I am thankful that though the time was short, we had a lifetime as friends. There will be a gathering of friends of Jess this coming Sunday at the Forks of the Elkhorn. Few are aware of this but Biscuit will be there in body and spirit. His family scattered his ashes at the Forks in memory and the honor of him there. So, everytime I put in at the Forks my thoughts will be of him and I will be reminded of my appreciation for him.

8. I am thankful for Bruce Friend. Take what I said about Biscuit and multiply that x 10. I will not only help you hide the body, I will help you create it. You are indeed my brother.

9. I am thankful that Adelessa is one of the best dirty dancers that I have ever had the privilege to dance with.

10. The BWA. This organization is wonderful. I love being in a club made up of a bunch of individuals, each with our own identity, our own strengths, weaknesses, and talents. We bring out the best in each other. I have said many times that though the rivers are great, the times I spend with you far outweigh the waters. Thank you, all of you for enriching my life.

Happy Thanksgiving,

Your turn,

Dallas

Thanks, Dallas for starting this thread. I've found that gratitude is the most healing of emotions, it's good for the giver and receiver.

1. I'm grateful for my family. Although it's just me and my parents this Thanksgiving I am so very fortunate to have a warm home filled with good food and love to go to.

2. I'm grateful for my health and every day find a way to enjoy it while I have it.

3. I am so grateful to my clients, that they put their trust in me during vulnerable times and that I have the opportunity to help them heal and manage their pain.

4. I am grateful to my students for their effort and attention. Seeing them get excited about anatomy and physiology when science is often seen as 'boring' or 'too hard' is truly amazing!

5. I'm fortunate to live in a place where access to beautiful, natural places is easy. Without a weekly dose of nature whether it be on the water or trail I get grouchy.

6. I'm thankful for the friendships I've gained over the last couple of years, these last few months would have been pretty awful without them.

7. I'm grateful for the mute button on the TV, the lip-synced music in the Macy's parade is nauseating.

8. I'm fortunate to have a roof over my head, food on my table, a car in my driveway, and a boat on my rack.

9. I'm grateful for my meditation practice, it's kept my head on (kind of) straight and my emotions (mostly) in check.

10. I'm grateful for this club. White water kayaking has changed my life and I couldn't have done it without the support of those in this club who have shared their knowledge and fished me out of the water. I'm also grateful for the support we show each other off the water in tragedy and celebration.

Have a great Thanksgiving! SYOTR

Ali

I am truly thankful for my many second, third, fourth,ect, chances.

Tom, but will answer to Tim, Minor

November 28, 2014

I have so many things to be thankful for but at the top of the list is my lovely wife Patricia.

The BWA has been an awesome group to hang with and I look forward to another great year!

Joe W

November 29, 2014

Of course I am so very thankful for loving family and friends.

But I am very thankful to have been introduced to BWA and experienced their love and support. I have learned so very much and enjoyed many, many restorative days on the water with members of the clan.

Tina

December 01, 2014

Been a busy weekend, but here I am playing catch-up as usual.

I'm ever thankful for the people in my life, my ever-tolerant wife, my daughter, my family, and the whole motley assorted horde of friends and friends who have become family scattered around the globe.

I'm thankful for the incredible life I have. Nothing ever works out quite the way you planned it, but that's not the point. I have a great life, worthy of celebration, and that's what I intend to do.

I could add some additional details, but that's really it. Family, friends, great life. I'm a lucky man. All I really want is to be able to better share some of my good fortune with those around me.

Hanley Loller

Ohio River Greenway, Comments Requested

December 06, 2014

Hi all BWA friends. I wanted to let you all know about an interesting opportunity on the Ohio in the Louisville area. There have been some local stories in the local press about the Ohio River Greenway. There is a large Foundation and also various community leaders from southern Indiana that are looking at what amenities and attractions are required along the waterfront. They are looking at this in a transformative view; this can be a much larger vision than simply a walking trail with grass and trees.

Carlisle Landel

NPFF Silent Auction--let's the games begin!

December 08, 2014

Hi Folks,

I just wanted to thank the following people for knocking on doors, making calls, and sending out emails for the 2015 NPFF Silent Auction. This is time consuming work and it can be intimidating as well. We've made our first round of contacts and will be working hard to get donations reigned in as the festival date nears. Many thanks to:

Brandon
Jacob
Megan
Bob L
Ali
Clay

The success of NPFF, in terms of the amount of money we get to give away, is completely tied to how well we do on the silent auction. We gave away \$11K last year! We're hoping to top that this year.

We are always looking for new sponsors, and donors, and partnerships. If you can think of anyone you might want to hit up, just let me know and I can give you the information you need to help us make millions. We need all the help we can get!

Right now I don't have any good leads on a SUP board and I'd love to have one of those in the auction. If you have any leads, holler at me.

It was good to see everyone at the Club Party!

love,
bethany (or beverly or whatever)

Right now the interested parties are seeking public comments and are developing a plan over the next few months that will form a foundation to be included in their future vision. Currently, a website "greenway2040.org" has been set up which is the conduit to connect designers with stakeholders and to generate input from the community on what should be included in the new plan. This is the opportunity to offer input and ideas that can be used in creating the plan. Some of the people involved appear to have real means, so there is no reason to get held up on "oh it will never happen". This is your shot to help shape the future. Articles on the website list 21st Century Parks as being involved with this project. They are best known for bringing us the Parklands at Floyds Fork!

When completed, the Greenway will run seven miles along the river from Jeffersonville through downtown New Albany. Encompassed in this stretch is of course our beloved Falls of the Ohio. The website is greenway2040.org, but don't worry too much about the significance of "2040". It is just signifying the long term view that is being considered, not when the project will be completed.

What I am asking from you:

What am I going to suggest? Of course a whitewater park! Please provide your input as well! [www.greenway2040.org] Go to the "engage" section and register to provide comments. You will be asked to vote on a poll, "who should the greenway serve". I suggest choosing the Kentuckiana Region and then you have an opportunity to provide a comment that you would be interested in a whitewater park. Maybe something about being from out of town but that you would be willing to travel the hour or however far you are if such a facility were available. Anything you feel appropriate. Much appreciation for your time and consideration!

Thanks, Kevin

December 07, 2014

Thanks Kevin for posting this! A whitewater park would be so sick!!! And I bet people would drive several hours to go to a facility like that. I'll look into it.

Thanks!
Tim Shuler

December 08, 2014

Comments submitted!

Eddy Lines of Interest

November 2014 Steering Committee Member Meeting Minutes

November 4, 2014 @ Marikka's Restaurant

Members Present: Clay, Bob, Wendy, Peter, John M., Adelessa, KC, Tom M.

Next Steering Committee Meeting: December 2, 2014

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Clay at 7:45 p.m.

II. Minutes

Moved (Adelessa); Second (KC) to accept the minutes from the previous Steering Committee meeting on October 7, 2014. Motion passed.

III. New Business

Clay brought up the importance of keeping general BWA Forum chats limited to a non-commercial nature. There is a specific page for commercial announcements and business promotions. John M. mentioned the idea of offering to rent Ad space on the Home page of the website. This idea will be investigated further. In the meantime, the Forum will be carefully moderated for messages being posted in the appropriate section of the Forum.

Bob discussed that the Clinic will be held at Ratliff Hole. He further discussed the possibility/probability that there will be a Whitewater Safety Course, based primarily on self-rescue, and offered as an elective course on Saturday of the Clinic.

Tom Minor reported that the CPR Class, previously discussed for January 9, might be possible with Mike Kennedy if interested parties are willing to attend a class in Richmond. He will check into this further.

Peter Stutts announced that Zina is almost finished with the Elkhorn Acres sign.

KC (Gear-meister) reported that she has checked on the gear storage and will need to purchase new latches.

Adelessa announced that since our November meeting falls on Veterans Day, she has asked BJ to speak to the group about how kayaking has helped him cope with PTSD. Wendy will discuss Team River Runner.

The BWA Christmas party is scheduled for Saturday, December 6, 2014, at 7:30 p.m. at Silk's Lounge located at 121 N. Mill Street in downtown Lexington. Canned goods will be collected for a charity to be named at a later date.

Winter Roll Sessions will start up again on January 6.

John Mello announced that a "Road Show" at Country Boy may be considered in early December; however, with the Christmas party on the 6th, that plan may change.

John continues to collect donations for the NPFF Silent Auction.

Congratulations to Megan & Bob!! (Mega-Bob)

IV. Adjournment:

Moved (KC), Second (Peter) that the meeting be adjourned at 8:20 p.m. Motion passed.

Wendy

Bluegrass Wildwater Association General Club Meeting Minutes

November 11, 2014 @ Rooster's

Steering Committee Members Present:

Clay Warren, Bob Larkin, Adelessa Grace, Jacob Robinson, John Mellow, Jeff Kirchner, and Wendy Scroggins

Next General Club Meeting: December 9, 2014 at Rooster's

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by VP, Bob Larkin at 7:35 p.m. Bob welcomed new guests.

II. Minutes

Moved (Jacob); Second (Robert M.) to accept the minutes from the previous meeting on October 14, 2014. Motion passed.

III. Officer Reports

John Mellow (NPFF): NPFF is scheduled for February 20-22, 2015. Starting in December, he will start recruiting Volunteers. Contact John if you are willing to help. Plans are still in the works for the Country Boy Road Show & Movie Night.

Jacob (Membership): This is generally the "slow season" for membership. Please contact Jacob with anyone interested in joining BWA.

Adelessa (Programs): Looking for new programs or ideas. Any suggestions?

Don (Newsletter): Wants/needs stories for upcoming Bowlines. Archived Bowlines editions are available online.

Bob (Vice President): Announced that the upcoming Spring Clinic 2015 will be offering a Swiftwater Rescue Course during Saturday classes, specifically focusing on self-rescue. This course will be especially beneficial, and recommended, for beginning kayakers. The Spring Clinic camping will be held at Ratliff Hole. Classes will be held in the same areas as previous Clinics.

Clay reminded everyone that the BWA Christmas party is scheduled for Saturday, December 6, 2014, at 7:30 p.m. at Silk's Lounge located at 121 N. Mill Street in downtown Lexington. The meal will be provided by Goodfella's Pizza.

Clay also reminded everyone that the December meetings will be scheduled as usual.

IV. Old Business:

Zina reported that she has sent the files to Nathan for the Elkhorn Acres sign. She showed a sample of what the sign will look like.

V. New Business:

Adelessa announced that roll classes will begin at the Winchester Natatorium (Rec Center) on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m., starting this week.

Clay would like to see a 2015 Calendar of Trips created. Hopefully, there will be at least one trip per month planned from March through December. Clay will contact the Vikings to try to coordinate some trips together.

Bob discussed with John the possibility of offering some home brews at NPFF.

In honor of Veteran's Day, BJ spoke to the group about how he got started kayaking at age 52, and the difference it has made in his life by providing the adrenaline rush he hadn't experienced since his military days.

Clay thanked all the Veterans for their service.

VI. Trip Reports:

Various trip reports were discussed.

VII. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:35 p.m.

Wendy

December 014 Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

December 2, 2014 @ Marikka's Restaurant
Members Present: Bob, Wendy, John M., Don, KC.
Next Steering Committee Meeting: January 5, 2015

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Bob at 7:35 p.m.

II. Minutes

Moved (Don); Second (John) to accept the minutes from the

previous Steering Committee meeting on November 4, 2014. Motion passed.

III. Officer Reports

Don announced that he would like all articles and stories by this weekend in order to publish the issue of Bowlines before the December 9 meeting. He would especially like to have an article promoting the February NPFF. John will try to get some information to Don ASAP.

Don will peruse the forum, and Facebook for notes of condolences and quotes memorializing Jess Albright, plus photos and information about the memorial paddle last week.

John reported that he has contacted a host and the NPFF is well on its way. NPFF will be February 20-22, 2015.

Jacob (via Bob) sent a message that there are currently 218 members, 19 memberships are overdue. We gained 5 new memberships since last month.

Adelessa (via John) suggested for the December program we participate in Christmas cards for the Needy. A lot of people don't have the joys of getting Christmas cards from loved ones around this time of year and it would be nice if we, as a group, signed some for our communities less fortunate. Adelessa will distribute them to the various shelters that she works with so that they can be handed out to those coming in. Each card will bring at least a half dozen smiles as it is opened and reopened time and time again. Small things such as this mean SO MUCH to those who aren't used to these acts of kindness.

John made a motion that the Steering Committee reimburse Adelessa \$25 for the cost of the cards. Bob seconded it. The motion was voted on and passed.

KC reported that she still plans to purchase new latches for the gear storage shed.

New Business

Bob reminded everyone that the BWA Christmas party will be this Saturday, December 6, 2014, at 7:30 p.m. at Silk's Lounge located at 121 N. Mill Street in downtown Lexington. Adelessa has posted on the Forum a list of items that can be brought to the party for donations.

John will contact Joe requesting him to send out a mass email inviting everyone to the Christmas Party.

Bob also announced that the Spring Clinic will be held the weekend of May 26-18, 2015.

IV. Adjournment:

Moved (KC), Second (Don) that the meeting be adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Motion passed.

Wendy

Pool Roll Sessions

When:
Jan. 9, 2015
7:40 PM - 9:30 PM

Location:
Pinnacle Pool, 621 Southpoint Dr, Lexington

**Learn to wet exit, bow rescue, and roll.
Meet BWA members and be involved.**

Wash your boats, inside and out, before arrival.

Cost:
\$5 - Members
\$2 - Member child 12-18
Free - Member child 11 and under

\$10 - Non-member
\$5 - Non-member child
First roll session ever? Non-members pay member rates



Bluegrass Wildwater Association
PO Box 4231
Lexington, Ky. 40504

BWA Meetings

Meetings held Second Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm
To eat during the meeting come a little early so you can place your order before the meeting starts.
For up-to-date info on meetings always check <http://www.bluegrasswildwater.org>