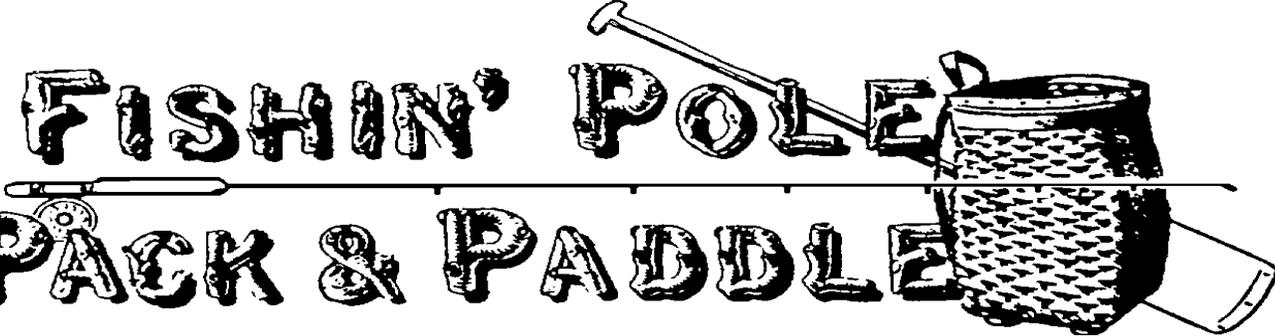


FISHIN' POLE PACK & PADDLE



Float Fishermen of Virginia

Winter/Spring 2006, No. 1

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*Memorial Day Float
&
Business Meeting*

May 26-29

R5



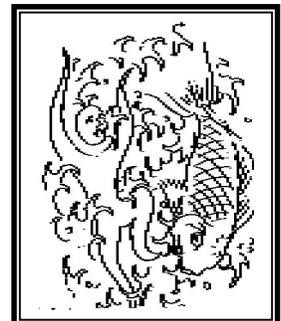
The President's Paddle

I want to thank all those who came to the winter meeting and helped plan the coming year FFV activities, especially those that volunteered to cook. The state FFV has four functions planned for 2006, Memorial Day, a summer float, Labor Day, and the December planning meeting. In addition there are other activities sponsored by individual chapters I'm sure you will want to attend. Please check the newsletter for the schedule of club activities and locations.

It is also that time of year when yearly dues are due. This is mostly the responsibility of chapters to get the local members' dues to the state treasurer. Our state treasurer, Katherine Waller, has started a new system of getting the member dues into the state account without actually sending money to her. I hope everyone finds this to be more convenient and a speedier way to do business.

This time of the year boating activity usually slows down except for the hardcore. But don't despair spring is coming soon. Look forward to seeing you at the Memorial Day meeting.

John VanLuik
President



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The opinions expressed in **FPP&P** are those of the author and not necessarily those of FFV or its members. Articles and material for publication may be submitted to the **FPP&P** editor. Preferred format: Email with attachments in Word or ASCII files, pictures in jpeg. Dates for submitting information for publication: 5th of February, May, August and November. Comments, criticism and complements are always welcome.

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Minutes of the Float Fishermen of Virginia Business Meeting - December 3rd, 2005

Cumberland State Forest Headquarters, Cumberland,, VA. The Winter Meeting was called to order Sunday morning.

Secretary's Report:

Addendum to the Labor Day minutes: All current officers have agreed to hold their positions for one more year. Minutes were amended, read and approved as written.

Treasurer's Report:

There was a motion made and approved to give the Treasurer authorization to find a bank with the best interest rate for the CD. There was a motion made and approved for Chapter Treasurers to turn in combined dues checks for dues, rather than individual checks from members. There was a motion made and approved to dispose of cancelled checks and bank records over 7 years old. There was a motion made and approved to allow the President and President Elect to be added to the account and be able to sign checks. Treasurer informed everyone that the ending balance in the account was \$2,466.34 as of October 31, 2005.

Newsletter Report:

Bob Pillow informed everyone of the never-ending need for articles and pictures for the newsletter.

Membership Report:

Don Leger informed everyone that we have 249 active members. He asked Chapter Secretaries to send current membership information to him and to Katherine Waller, Treasurer, to help keep the records current.

Conservation:

Bill Tanger stated that there is a need for a designer or draftsman to design the stairs for the Roanoke River access. Another Engineer is needed for the design of an intersection at the road to the proposed take-out on the James River below Balcony Falls. FORVA has recently received an application for a special permit from VDOT to reopen this intersection. FORVA will be applying for a special permit from the Forest Service to rebuild the old road and create a parking area near the culvert.

Minutes, continued on page 3...

Minutes, continued from page 2...

There was a motion made and approved to authorize \$200 to help design the improved intersection. FORVA, James River Association, Potomac Conservancy and Friends of the Rappahannock are joining forces to help raise a great deal of money for the Healthy Rivers Initiative (HRI) to develop a permanent funding source for clean water. There was a motion made and approved to donate \$100 to HRI.

Webmaster Report:

Bob Born asked that the chapter web pages be updated regularly, and kept current, by someone from each chapter. Discussion was held on the topic of having ONE password for all members that would be updated annually. There was a motion made and approved for a 2-year extension of all 6 domain names for our web page.

Foundation Report:

Bill Tanger stated that there is an upcoming survey concerning river access across the state.

Old Business:

Linda VanLuik is looking for digital pictures for the new, updated FFV brochure. There was a motion made and approved to keep all chapters who have paid members listed on the web site and brochure.

New Business:

There was a motion made and approved to raise the state dues to \$20 annually beginning in 2007. There was a motion made and approved to donate \$200 to the Forestry Service for use of their facility in Cumberland, Virginia, for the Annual Business Meeting.

Meetings/Floats:

- The Memorial Day Float will be held at R-5 and hosted by the Randy Carter Chapter, May 26-29. The Saturday night dinner will be prepared by the hosts of the float. There was a motion made and approved to spend up to \$500 for food costs for Saturday night and \$400 for porta-johns for this event. (...this is where Rock was told not to whizzzzz on his hands...) There was a motion made and approved to collect a \$5 River Tax per adult for the weekend.
- The Summer Float will be held at Glen Maury Park on July 14th-16th. All members are responsible for paying the Glen Maury Campground for camping fees.
- The Labor Day Float will be held at Solitude, September 1-4. Ginney Peck has volunteered to cook, so if you would like to help, please let her know. There was a motion made and approved for \$900 to be allotted to this float; \$500 for dinner, and \$400 for porta-johns. There will be a \$5 River Tax per adult for the weekend.
- The Dickels will be having an outing on the second weekend in April and on the first weekend in October.
- The Randy Carter Chapter is hosting their Cajun Weekend the last full weekend in April. Tickets are available from the chapter.
- Scott's Creek Chapter will be having their Douthat State Park trip March 17th-19th.
- The Steve Keller Anniversary Party is the weekend before Memorial Day on the Slate River.

Randy Carter Award:

It was voted upon and decided that John Tippet would receive the Randy Carter Award this year. Rick Roth and FORVA will both be receiving FFV's Friends of the River Award.

The meeting was adjourned and dinner was served.

DID YOU MISS ME?



So, how many members realized their issue of the *Fishin' Pole, Pack & Paddle* had not arrived? It seems that the crushing flood of news and information inundated our editorial offices, overwhelming the presses and delaying the eventual publication of the newsletter. But publish we shall, as required by Article II.G of the Bylaws of the Float Fishermen of Virginia, Inc. ...Seriously, the editor would like to apologize to the membership for the lateness of this issue. The next issue will appear just prior to our Labor Day meeting, which is not far off. Watch for it, and keep those cards and letters coming.

Letters to the Editor...

Here's a question for other members: Any kayakers out there using face guards? I've seen a few on the web, but never in stores, or for that matter on boaters. Aside from the rather nerdy and certainly un-macho look of a face guard, I don't really like the idea of looking at the world through a set of bars.

But late last year I flipped in a shallow creek and knocked the right lens out of my glasses and into my eye socket. This opened a 3/4 inch gash parallel to and just below my eyebrow; but luckily, just above the eye itself. My vision without glasses is more than sufficient for paddling, but I would rather see the scenery and the water as clearly as possible. I don't want to use contacts as I assume they will wash out whenever I do (which is pretty often).

I know I'm lucky to have retained my right eye so I no longer paddle with glasses, but I'm looking for a way to remedy this, short of screwing an NFL lineman's facemask to my helmet. Does anyone have any recommendations? What about the sport glasses intended for racquetball and such -- do you know of anyone using these? Articles about helmets are fairly plentiful, but I've found next to nothing specifically about eye protection.

~ Trebor Wollip

PAY YOUR DUES!

As of the end of March chapter roll numbers are as shown below. *If you have not yet paid dues for 2006, PLEASE DO SO NOW!* Contact your chapter treasurer, or the State Treasurer (see page 2 for contact info).

Name of Chapter	2005 Members	2006 Members
Appomattox River Chapter – Petersburg	9	11
Bent Creek Chapter – Chesapeake	2	1
Capitol Falls Chapter – Richmond	0	0
Commonwealth Virginia - At Large	11	4
Ethel River Chapter – Appomattox	1	0
George Dickel Chapter – Charlottesville	16	17
Randy Carter Chapter – Warrenton	69	57
River Styx Chapter - Out of State	0	0
Roanoke Valley Chapter – Roanoke	114	83
Scotts Creek Chapter – Richmond	21	25
Shenandoah Valley Chapter – Harrisonburg	0	1
Steve Keller Chapter – Peninsula	17	20
Tidewater Chapter – Chesapeake	0	0
TOTAL	260	219

A MESSAGE TO ALL CHAPTER TREASURERS

If you have BB&T deposit slips, please use them. Collect your chapter dues, write a check to FFV and make your deposit to BB&T. Please send receipt of deposit to me -- the less checks in the mail the better! If you should have any questions, or need more deposit slips, please call or email me.

Thank you very much,

*Katherine Waller
FFV Treasurer*

Teaching opportunities

The Virginia office of Environmental Education, DEQ has announced the following opportunities for anyone with a talent for teaching and a desire to help protect Virginia waters:

Announcing a new small grants program to support efforts by community groups to provide youth with meaningful watershed educational experiences (MWEEs). The Virginia MWEE Mini-Grants Program, courtesy of the NOAA Chesapeake Bay office, will provide grants of \$1,000 - \$5,000 to local groups for delivering and sustaining high quality, meaningful environmental education related to water and watersheds. Applications are due April 21, 2006 with awards being made by May 30th for summer and fall programs. For more information please visit, www.vanaturally.com/mweegrant.html

Workshop: Meaningful Watershed Education "Train the Trainer" April 26, 2006, Camp Kitty, Burgess, VA NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office and the Virginia Resource Use Education Council (VRUEC) will provide a "Train the Trainer" opportunity. This free, one-day workshop is for those that train teachers or provide programs to teachers (or educators - thinking scouts) and their students. Just in time for your summer teaching trainings, this workshop will focus on watersheds, Chesapeake Bay and development of meaningful watershed educational experiences (MWEEs). It will assist informal educators and agency representatives develop great programs for teachers and students. Contact Jill Bieri jill.bieri@noaa.gov or Suzie Gilley suzie.gilley@dgif.virginia.gov for more information; or go visit, www.vanaturally.com/pdf/vruecprof.pdf

Go to www.vanaturally.com, Virginia's gateway to environmental information and resources....

Events around the Commonwealth . . .

April 22

~ **Virginia Fly Fishing Festival** ~ Waynesboro; on-stream outdoor fly fishing festival draws enthusiasts up and down the East Coast. Fish the South River for stocked rainbow and brown trout. Fee. Phone: (540) 649-1915
see also: www.vaflyfishingfestival.org

May 6

~ **Nelson Downriver Race** ~ A 7.5 mile canoe and kayak race on the lower Tye River in beautiful Nelson County. Multiple classes for age groups, solo and tandem. 10:30 am - 4 pm
Fee. Call to register. 434-263-7130
see also: <http://www.nelsoncountyva.org/NelDRace/Race05/TandemMen2005.htm#Top> for photos and information about last year's event.

May 6

~ **Paddle for the Border** ~ Paddle on the Dismal Swamp Canal, surveyed by George Washington's survey company in 1763, adjacent to the Great Dismal Swamp, "a unique and mysterious place." Paddlers navigate their own canoes or kayaks from Chesapeake, Va., to South Mills, N.C. Great Dismal Swamp Boat Ramp. Fee. (757) 382-6411. E-mail: prgeneral@mail.city.chesapeake.va.us.
see also: <http://www.cityofchesapeake.net>

June 3

~ **Pigg River Ramble** ~ Franklin County. Saturday. For more information contact Jerry Robertson at 540-489-3825.
see also: http://www.fcvaonline.com/index.php/page_id/283 for photos of last year's event (especially pages 36 & 64).

June 16-17

~ **James River Batteau Festival** ~ Lynchburg. Also, in celebration of the 20th year of the Festival, a Reunion Celebration will be held Monday June 20th at Wingina. In a ceremony starting at 7:00 PM, the festival founder Joe Ayers and the 10 original boat captains and crews will be recognized and honored for creating this worthwhile event.
see also: <http://www.batteaufestival.com/river/index.asp> for information, photos, etc.

. . . see page 8 for FFV Calendar of State Events

News Briefs

Balcony Access

Efforts to provide safe and sensible access to the James River below Balcony Falls suffered a setback recently when the Forest Service denied a request for a special use application for road and canoe access at the CSX culvert crossing.

Rational for the denial included the amount of work that would be required to provide a road at an acceptable standard and inadequate lines of site along 501 at the junction of the proposed road (despite acceptance from VDOT). In addition, the Forest Service cited CSX's concerns about the safety of the proposed culvert crossing, stating, "Using an active drainage structure for access has many associated risks, and we feel the risks are too great."

Bill Tanger & FORVA continues to spearhead the effort to resolve these issues, and to explore alternative options through contacts with the Forest Service, CSX and local legislators. Anyone who is interested in helping should contact Bill; and see the FORVA website for more info: http://www.forva.org/FORVA_frames.htm

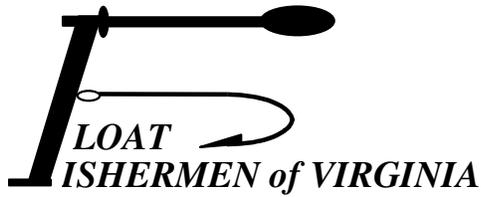
Roving Roanoker's Rest

If you haven't found the new meeting place yet -- the Roanoke Valley Chapter has, for the time being, settled for the Roanoker Restaurant for a meeting place. Meetings are the last Wednesday of every month, save December and one late summer month. These are reserved for a Christmas party and a picnic respectively, with exact locations to be determined and announced.



Kayaks Stolen by Pond Scum

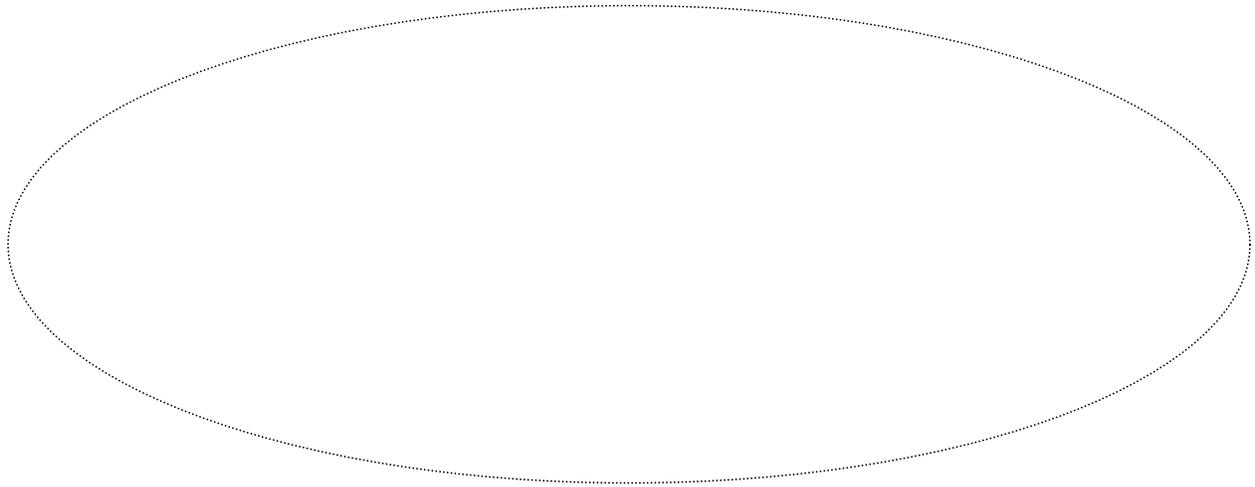
Reports have been circulating on the web about a dozen kayaks stolen over a period of about a week last January in the Fayetteville, WV area. The boats have been taken from various residences and vehicles in Fayetteville and along Gatewood Road (the road from Fayetteville to Cunard). Among the boats taken were red WaveSport Diesel 75, a yellow & red Pyrana S-6, a blue Java creek boat, and an "...old stubby orange, yellow and red with demo melted in the back of the boat." Thanks to Laurie for alerting the editor of this scourge. For more information see messages posted on the *West Virginia Wildwater Association's Message Board* and on *Boaters Talk*.



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FFV Calendar of State Events

May 26-29

Memorial Day Float & Business Meeting
R-5

May

Fishin' Pole, Pack & Paddle
Spring/Summer issue 2006, No. 2
May (*submissions due the 5th*)

July 14-16

Summer Float
Glen Maury Park Campground

August

Fishin' Pole, Pack & Paddle
Summer/Fall issue 2006, No. 3
August (*submissions due the 5th*)

September 1-4

Labor Day Float & Business Meeting
Solitude

November

Fishin' Pole, Pack & Paddle
Fall/Winter issue 2006, No. 4
November (*submissions due the 5th*)

NEXT ISSUE, Details for the Memorial Day Float & Business Meeting, and...

- **Membership Roster**
- **FFV Financial statement**

