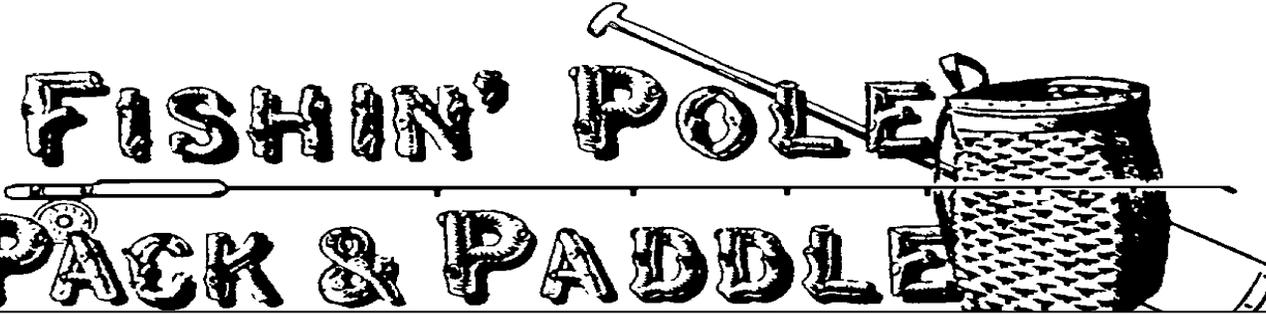


FISHIN' POLE PACK & PADDLE



Float Fishermen of Virginia

Fall/Winter 2006, No. 4

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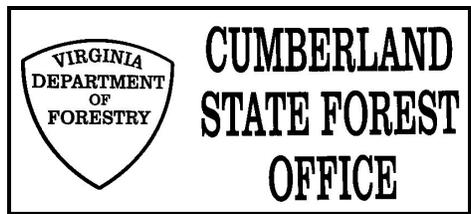
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Winter Business Meeting

December 2

Cumberland State Forest Headquarters



~ Directions on back page ~

The President's Paddle

Season's Greetings everyone! I am looking forward to my term as the President, and thank you for the opportunity. I would also like to thank John VanLuik for a job well done!! We have gained many new, young members over the past two years. My hope is to inspire and encourage our newer members to take a more active roll in the issues of our club and in conservation and preservation of our rivers.

The December meeting is coming up very quickly. As you well know, this is one of our most important meetings of the year. We will be making plans for next year as well as discussing old issues from this year. We will also discuss nominations for the Randy Carter Award. Please feel free to write letters of support for any worthy candidates. Don't forget, Jim Garner will be providing one of the best meals of the year! Yes, that's right... Fish Fry!!

Labor Day weekend was a combined success. The Dickel and Roanoke chapters joined forces to host the event. The slightly inclement weather kept all but sea creatures away Friday night. Saturday morning the blue skies returned and the water level was perfect. There was enough food to feed the troops both Saturday and Sunday night. A brief meeting Sunday morning, the paddle was passed, and here I am.

I do have a small goal for this next year. I would like to encourage more river clean ups. The State functions would be a good time to organize a clean up. This could be as simple as each person taking a trash bag along for the trip down river. Hope to see you at the December Meeting. Please bring any prospective members along.

Have a Great Thanksgiving!

Ginnie M. Peck

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OF VIRGINIA, INC.**

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Published by the Float Fishermen of Virginia, Inc., a non-profit corporation dedicated to the preservation of Virginia's free flowing streams. Additions or changes to the newsletter mailing list should be sent to the Membership Chair.

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 material for publication: 5th of February, May, August and November. The Editor reserves the right to edit as needed. Comments, criticism and complements are always welcome.

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Solitude, Near Arcadia, VA. The Labor Day Weekend FFV business meeting was called to order Sunday morning, September 3rd, at 9:00 a.m. by President VanLuik

Secretary's Report

The minutes from the December Meeting were approved as published in the February newsletter (FPP&P, Summer/Fall 2006, No. 3).

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Katherine Waller was unable to attend, but provided the following report to the membership.

For the period of May 31, 2006 through July 31, 2006:

The Beginning Balance as of May 31, 2006 was \$4,763.54

Income	
Membership Dues	\$819.15
Service Charge reimbursement	\$5.00
Total Income	<u>\$824.15</u>

continued on page 3...

...continued from page 2

Expenses	
Bob Pillow – News Letter	\$340.20
Treasurer of Virginia (SEC)	\$25.00
Margaret Strawser Reimbursement	\$797.58
Carr & Hyde Insurance Premium	\$250.00
Deposit Slips charge	\$3.55
Web Site	\$95.40
Total Expenses	<u>\$1,511.73</u>

The Ending Balance as of July 31, 2006 was \$4,075.96

Certificate of Deposit:

Beginning Balance as of July 5, 2006 was \$7,262.14

Ending Balance (7/31/06)

Commentary to the Treasurer's Report

Update to the Certificate of Deposit:

Researched several banks and found that BB&T actually could meet any bank's offering and received 5.25%. (6 and 18 month CD's did not have sufficient return, so I opted to place it all in a 13 month cycle.) CD was invested on July 5, 2006 will become mature 13 months later.

Update to the contribution amount to American Whitewater:

John VANLUIK posed the question of, "When was the last time FFV sent money to American Whitewater? There were a couple of letters in the mail from them for renewal." The last documented transaction that American Whitewater received any contribution from FFV was in 2004 for \$100.00. As the current State Treasurer, I may have tossed out their solicitations accidentally, and I apologize. If FFV members wish to donate to this organization, please let me know. The next time I get a statement I will pay the allocated amount desired.

Respectfully Submitted, K.S. Waller

A discussion followed as to whether the club should continue to make a contribution to AW. The benefits of AW's activities to members of FFV were discussed; some members were unaware of the organization. A motion to continue the contribution was made and approved.

Newsletter Report

FPP&P Editor Bob Pillow thanked everyone for their contributions to the newsletter, and asked that members continue to submit information about chapter activities, trip reports, photos, etc.

Membership Report

Membership Chair Don Leeger was unable to attend the September meeting.

Extensive discussion took place regarding the issues of a final calendar year-end membership list. The list is needed when representing the FFV before legislators and agency officials, as well as for maintaining a valid, accurate record of membership for each year.

There was a strong consensus that the membership chair should produce a final list at the end of the year with the total membership for that calendar year. This would **not** include

anyone who had paid dues for the upcoming year. Those who have paid near the end of a year for the coming year may get the newsletter, but they are not considered members for both years.

Further discussion followed regarding the role of the Membership Chair. The suggestion was made that we adopt a proposed outline of a Membership Chair job description [see FPP&P for text of proposal from Roanoke Chapter]. There was strong consensus that this job description be adopted. The suggestion was made to do a final vote on the matter at the December meeting.

Conservation Report

Conservation Chair Bill Tanger reported on activities of the Conservation Committee. Bill requested help in identifying railroad pedestrian crossings around the state in an effort to build a case for creating one at the proposed James River takeout below Balcony Falls (a.k.a. "Lock 14"). Bill also requested help in identifying and contacting individuals who would be willing to write letters of support for the Cushaw project.

Foundation Report

FFV Foundation President Bill Tanger reported on the results of the Foundation's recent Access Survey. Results were published in the last edition of FFP.

FFV Website

Webmaster Bob Born reported on the website, noting that our domain names are paid through 2009.

Other Business

FFV Promotional Flyer

Former secretary and first lady Linday VanLuik presented a "final draft" of a revised single page, tri-fold flyer which will be used to promote and publicize FFV. Members had a chance to review and comment on the publication.

Selection & Election of FFV Board Members

The Honorable Bryon Jones, Past President FFV, presented the Nominating Committee's recommendations, all of which were swiftly approved by the cheering throngs.

Outgoing President John Van Luik performed the ancient ritual of the "Passing of the Paddle" after which Ginnie Peck ascended to the Presidency. Erica Sims was anointed as a Vice President. Flashbulbs glorified the scene.

Don Leeger, Bill Tanger, Brian Vande Sande all continue as Membership Chair, Conservation Chair, and Secretary, respectfully.

The meeting was promptly adjourned.



Next Business Meeting: December 2, Cumberland VA
see back page for directions

Float Fishermen of Virginia Foundation

Minutes of the Labor Day Weekend Business Meeting



Back row, left to right: Bob Born, Bill Tanger, Ginny Peck;
Front row, left to right: Rick Mattox, Jim Garner, Bob Peck

Solitude, near Arcadia. The Float Fishermen of Virginia Foundation board met at Solitude on September 3, Sunday morning following the FFV Business Meeting. Board members present: Bill Tanger, Rick Mattox, Bob Born, Jim Garner and Bob Peck. Board member absent: Rock Cooper. Guests: Bob Pillow, Juanita Callis and Ginnie Peck.

The board discussed the open seat on the foundation board. The suggestion was made that Rick Webster be asked to join the board. Bob Born reported that Rick had declined to join the board due to vision problems that would keep him from driving and therefore from attending the meetings. Bob said Rick had suggested another member of his chapter, but he could not recall the name of the person. Bob will check with Rick to determine the person's name.

The motion was put forth to fill the seat with the rotating FFV president. The current FFV president, Ginnie Peck, said this would be fine with her. After discussion the board voted unanimously to recommend this to the full FFV at the December meeting. If approved the foundation would revise its bylaws to reflect this change.

The Foundation Access Survey was discussed. The survey has compiled 33 responses to date. A suggestion was made to run the survey form in the next newsletter to continue to update the information. Bob Pillow agreed to do this. The suggestion was made to put the survey on the web site. Bob Born agreed to do this.

The canoe raffle in 2005 cleared a net profit of \$1,623. The foundation now has just over \$6,000 in the treasury.

Bob Peck agreed to talk to Cameron Crouse about leasing land on the Lower Rockfish near Hogs Creek for access and camping.

The next meeting will be held on the December 3rd following the FFV Business Meeting.

Float Fishermen of Virginia Foundation

Paddler Access Survey



The FFVF is continuing to survey the boating community to determine the need for river access in Virginia. Today paddlers are losing access to rivers as more population and development occur and former locations become unavailable. Please take a moment and let us know what you think are the top three most important river access needs in Virginia for paddlers.

For each of your nominated access need, we need to know the name of the river and the location of the section in question. Please be as precise as possible. Email your information to tanger@mediavisionva.com

Look for results in the next issue of FPP&P.



AN OVERVIEW OF FFV CONSERVATION COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Members of the Conservation Committee have been busy on a number of projects relating to water quality and access. Eight major statewide issues were addressed during 2005 & 2006. These are listed below, along with names of members who contributed their time and energy to attend meetings and speak for Virginia waters on these issues. When you see these committee members, be sure to say thanks!

To join the efforts of the Conservation Committee, contact Bill Tanger, Conservation Committee Chair.

2005	<u>Conservation Event, Locations, Dates</u>	<u>Participants</u>
	Cushaw Meetings: 11/3&16dd	B. Tanger, J. Wold, <i>Also:</i> Dave Benard, Alicia Jahsman, Glenn Rose (FORVA)
	Fayetteville Hearing 2/22	B. Tanger
	Gauley River Access: April-September	P. Brindel, J. Callis (6 days), K. Ingram, D. Mohler (4 days), B. Tanger (18 days), <i>Also:</i> Byrd, J. Keats, McGonigal, H. Rhett (2 days)
	Healthy Rivers Initiative Conference Calls 10/7,19&20, 11/9, 12/16	B. Tanger, <i>Also:</i> Matt Logan (FORVA), Bill Street, John Tippet (FOR)
	Invasive Meeting Richmond, 11/30	B. Tanger, J. Wold, <i>Also:</i> Liza Field (FORVA), Rick Roth
	New River Roundtable 1/29	B. Tanger, <i>Also:</i> Liza Field (FORVA), Rick Roth
	Roanoke River, Explore & Roundtable 3/1, 4/19, 11/4, 12/13	B. Tanger, <i>Also:</i> Annie Krochalis
	Whitt-Riverbend Park 2/3, 5/19, 10/18	B. Tanger, <i>Also:</i> Randi Lemmon (FORVA)

2006	<u>Conservation Event, Locations, Dates</u>	<u>Participants</u>
	Cushaw Meetings: 11/3&16dd	B. Tanger, J. Wold, <i>Also:</i> Dave Benard, Alicia Jahsman, Glenn Rose (FORVA)
	Fayetteville Hearing 2/22	B. Tanger
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	Whitt-Riverbend Park 2/3, 5/19, 10/18	B. Tanger, <i>Also:</i> Randi Lemmon (FORVA)

CUSHAW PROJECT NEWS

CSX Developments:

The need is for a pedestrian at-grade crossing. We have been gathering info and photos on existing pedestrian at-grade crossings. To date we have photos of crossings at JMU (Harrisonburg), Emory and Henry (near Abingdon), Randolph Macon (Ashland) and the Towns of Buchanan, Elkton and Ashland. Clearly, many at-grade pedestrian crossings exist and are heavily used. Ours should be allowed.

Virginia Action on Railroad Crossings:

The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) has been dragging its feet over the issue of at-grade pedestrian crossings. A recent meeting of DRPT, DCR and others produced nothing. DRPT said they have still not completed their study of rails with trails or rail crossings. Bob Munson attended. I spoke to Secretary of Natural

Resources office on 10/20/06 about getting the Secretary to prod the DRPT to get the job done. I expect to hear back from his office in a week or so.

Lock 14 Access: VDOT Permit In Hand

We have the VDOT permit to develop the intersection at Route 501. The required letter of credit will not be used unless the project construction actually starts.

The estimate on construction will vary depending on how much volunteer labor we can obtain for clearing, bulldozer work and engineering, and how much donated materials we can get for fill material and other such items. If you think you can help with volunteer labor or materials (once construction starts), please let me know.

Support Grows:

Our newest state representative to support the project is Sen. Frank Ruff. I attended a Friends of

the Appomattox River meeting on Thursday, October 26 and made a talk to that group. They will vote on doing a support letter next month, but I am confident we will get one.

Lock 14 Clean Up:

The Cushaw Project team cleared brush so we could get a decent photo of the lock wall. We have uncovered only about 10 percent of the wall, but it looks really great.

More work needs to be done. Contact me if you can handle a shovel, hoe or machete.

How to Help:

Contact Bill Tanger
(tanger@mediavisionva.com)
Home: 540-366-2228.
Work: 540-777-1020

SQUEEZE PLAY

Bill Tanger contributed this tale of adventure in the desert.

The first omen was the airline losing Juanita's luggage.

She would spend the next eight days sharing my things... shirts, socks, sunblock, deodorant... We did stop on the shuttle to the river and buy a new hat. Five days floating through the Chihuahuan desert without a hat can kill.

After a two-hour, four wheel drive through blazing desert, never seeing another soul or even an animal, we finally reached our put-in at Talley. The Rio Grande was ripping by at flood stage – 3200 cubic feet per second (cfs) with a rolling wave train right in front of us at the put-in. And as we rigged our canoes with food, water and gear for our five-day wilderness float we began to notice that the riverbank was collapsing. Big chunks would give way, splash down into the water and disappear. The river was a chalky tan, thick and opaque.

Juanita and I and our guide, Patti, had debated that morning over using a raft or two canoes. The two canoes won out over Juanita's objections. We would paddle tandem while Patti soloed with the larger share of the gear.

Our only big concerns were the two rapids we would probably need to line. Portage would be almost impossible due to the canyon walls coming down to the water, and running the rapids would be high risk. On a five-day float through the desert, losing a boat is not an option.

Our first major rapid would be Tight Squeeze, only an hour or so downstream from the put-in. Patti exuded confidence. Juanita exuded doubt.

And so we pushed off about two pm, loaded with gear and skittish with the unfamiliar weight and tippiness of the canoes. In only a few minutes we floated into Mariscal Canyon. As we drifted downstream, the river narrowed and the canyon walls climbed to over a thousand feet high, sometimes stepped back as they rose, sometimes straight down to the water.

About an hour later we cautiously approached Tight Squeeze, catching several eddies on river right, then inching downstream until we were in the eddy closest to the drop. We tied our canoes to some tamarisks and climbed over the rocks to see the rapid.

Tight Squeeze is not really a big rapid. It's just unfriendly. The river necks down to about twenty feet wide, dropping over a river-wide ledge of about a foot and a half. But the ledge is V-shaped with the point of the V downstream, so no matter where you ran the ledge, you ran at an awkward angle. Below the ledge drop was another low, large rock that was directly in the way. We agreed to line the canoes down by rope.

We took the tandem canoe first, with the ropes fore and aft, slowly and carefully bringing the boat around a ten-foot diameter rock near shore and then over the ledge drop.

As cautious as we were, the canoe started to turn sideways to the flow. Patti had the upstream rope but could not hold the

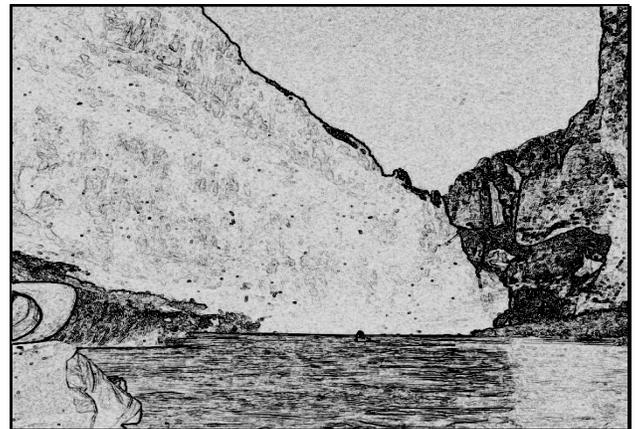
boat back. She finally had to let go and yelled to Juanita to hold on, as the boat filled with water and turned over.

The weight of the boat was too much and Juanita had to let go. Suddenly our canoe was heading down the Rio Grande, upside down and out of control.

Patti hesitated only a few seconds, then shouted, "I've got to go after the boat..." and jumped into the river after it. The canoe was headed downstream around the bend where the sheer cliff walls dropped straight down into the rushing river.

In a minute Patti and the canoe were out of sight. For an instant I debated my options.

Then I turned to Juanita and said, "I've got to help her out. Stay right here, don't go anywhere and be careful, OK? I'll be back." I waded into the river, dove out into the current and swam after Patti.



Juanita was now alone at Tight Squeeze, guarding the remaining canoe and gear.

As I swam around a bend in the river I caught sight of Patti swimming after the runaway canoe. In short order, she found the bow rope and was sidestroking towards shore, while towing the canoe.

I caught up with her and together we pulled the canoe to shore, bailed and dumped out the water and dragged the boat to a safe place above the flood level. We had landed a quarter-mile downstream from Juanita.

We were exhausted. After we caught our breath, we began to size up our predicament. We could see that upstream the sheer canyon walls fell straight into the river. The river raced downstream furiously, far too fast for anyone to paddle or swim against.

How would we get back to Juanita?

The only way possible seemed to be to climb about seventy feet up the canyon wall to a narrow ledge we could see that ran back upstream... how far upstream we could not tell.

We gathered some rope and hiked upstream, scouting for climbing routes. We reached the sheer rock walls at the water's edge, but we found no route up.

We backtracked downstream, tried to climb one place and gave up, went further downstream, getting further away from Juanita. If we could not get back upstream the nearest help

was two and a half days downstream, and even then, a trip would have to be outfitted to come back down to Juanita. We carried no cell phone because reception was impossible in the canyons anyway.

Patti found a possible route and started up, picking her way between the cacti, mesquite and cats claw. I followed. It wasn't long before we were bleeding all over with scratches from the thorns, needles and knife sharp rocks. This was not what I remembered from the brochure...

At the top of the ledge we found a narrow animal trail. It was about two feet wide, studded with rocks that had obviously fallen from above. We had to stop every few yards to push aside branches of mesquite and cats claw to make progress along the narrow ledge. I asked Patti if she had ever been on this trail.

"No, but if we can make it to a cave that's up here, I think we can make it back down to the river to Juanita. But getting through the cave could be the worst part of this."

In another fifteen minutes, we were at the base of a large sloping shelter cave. The trail led straight up into the cave. There was no alternate route.

"This cave was home to a Vietnam vet who lived here as a hermit for about twenty years. He fixed up the cave but now it's in ruins, so we need to be really careful."

We climbed up a broken ladder made of skinny mesquite branches and into the cave.

The hermit had built a level deck from a framework of branches. On top of this framework was a floor of river cane, lashed together with wire. But the cane was now badly decayed. Placing our hands and knees in line with the framework of branches underneath us, we crawled unsteadily across the rotten and brittle river cane floor. Just below us was bedrock of knife-sharp rocks.

One knee at a time, we negotiated our way across the disintegrating cane floor and down another broken ladder to a rocky slope. Scrambling out of the cave on the upstream side, we could now see Tight Squeeze Rapid below us, where we had left Juanita. We called out to her, our shouts echoing around the canyon and coming back to us. After a few minutes we heard Juanita shouting back but she could not see us. We were too high up the canyon wall.

The animal trail continued, eventually leading us back down to the river's edge where Juanita had been waiting. Enormously relieved to be safely together again, we broke out food and water from the remaining canoe and ate lunch hidden in the shade of a huge rock. It was over ninety degrees and dry as dust.

When we lined the second canoe down the rapid, we were much more careful. It had more of our supplies and gear than the first canoe and all of our food, and was much heavier.

Nonetheless, even with extra precautions, the canoe filled with water and sank. This time we had belayed the ropes and managed to bring the sunken boat to shore just below the rapid. There we bailed and bailed and finally made it floatable. Patti got in and since there was room for only one, Juanita and I had to swim the swollen, muddy Rio Grande to get to our canoe. A quarter mile downstream we got our boat back again.

We had lost hours lining and rescuing boats so we were behind schedule. We paddled until just before darkness when we had to stop to make camp.

The next day we paddled twenty six miles to make up for lost time. That was more miles than we had ever paddled in one day, and more than we ever want to paddle again.



But we got back on schedule, and the rest of the trip was laid back, relaxed and fun. We watched wildlife, hiked and shot photos incathedral-like arroyos, examined abandoned candellia ovens and got religious over the jaw-dropping thousand foot canyons – Mariscal, San Vincente, Hot Springs, Boquillas - as we floated through.

All went well until the next to last day

When we stopped for camp that afternoon, we walked about the campsite area to pick a spot to throw down our sleeping bags. The place was full of low, footwide anthills -- maybe a hundred or more.

I mentioned that these could be fireant mounds, but Patti brushed off my concerns. "We don't have fireants at this campsite," she said.

Just after sunset, she was off behind some tamarisks, changing clothes after washing up in the river. We couldn't see her, but suddenly we heard a shriek and Patti burst out of the tammys, butt-naked and ran straight into the river, yelling and smacking her leg.

"Fireants!!! Agggghhhh! Fireants! Damn it, damn it, damn it..."

Later that evening I learned why they are called fireants. They crawl up your leg but do not bite until their leader releases a pheromone signal for them to all bite at once and release their venom. Which is why your leg feels like it is on fire.

Patti's ankle and toes swelled up mighty big. She took lots of Benadryl that night and didn't get any sleep, but by morning the swelling was subsiding and she was on the mend.

Epilogue:

We got home on October 8th. On October 10th, we found a short newspaper article in our paper. The headline: "Fishermen make unusual catch on Rio Grande"

"Nuevo Laredo, Mexico – Mexican fishermen captured a 7.5 foot crocodile on the Rio Grande, authorities reported on Sunday..."

The reptile was caught on a fisherman's line Saturday in a sparsely populated stretch of the river on the outskirts of Nuevo Laredo, across from Laredo, Texas. It was turned over to a local animal shelter."

Juanita was not pleased. She dreamed the next night that she was swimming the muddy Rio Grande when two beady eyes popped up out of the water in front of her.

It was an exciting trip on the Rio Grande. I'm ready to go again. I'm not sure if Juanita will be back though. She thinks the croc has family.



Anglin's in the Archives



Fishin' Pole, Pack & Paddle / March 1986

This time we take a look back at how the club tried to address problems of membership, growth, and leadership. Before the "The President's Paddle" there was "From the Oval Tent..." and in the March '86 issue FFV President Rick Mattox used this column to comment on issues that still face FFV membership today.

It was in the summer of 1973 that my parents invited Deb and I to go canoeing on the Nottoway River. We were joined by a group from the Northwest River Chapter out of Tidewater. That was our first canoeing trip. Our second trip was a month later -- the first annual FFV Labor Day Meeting at Camp Friendship. We had so much fun on that trip, we've been to every Labor Day meeting since.

Since that time I've realized that FFV is not just a bunch of fun-loving river rats, but, more importantly, we care deeply about conserving Virginia's streams. To that end we've played an important role in enlarging Virginia's Scenic Rivers System and fighting projects we saw as destructive to the state's environment.

I've watched the organization develop. New chapters have formed, some chapters have faded and some chapters remain the workforce of FFV.

At our November 14 business meeting, Jim Garner announced a membership of 278. It seems our membership has stabilized at between 250 and 280 for the past 10 years. I've often wondered why an organization which has fought the battles and realized the accomplishments FFV has, is not growing.

I purposely included membership in the business meeting agenda to initiate some thought in that regard. An interesting discussion ensued.

The comment was made that it is difficult to explain to others exactly what FFV is. Out growth has been primarily through our chapters. Our chapters developed from a group of friends getting together on the river. Because of this organizational structure each chapter has its own personality. This structure may tend to restrict our growth somewhat.

Another comment was made that we have gotten away from our foundation as a float fishing organization. We are more diverse now than in earlier years. Perhaps we have lost some identification because of this.

Also, we are still seen as a bunch of boaters who get together on the river primarily to party. This is probably well deserved to a certain extent but over stated for the most part. We do enjoy a good time on the river but we are also more responsible than our reputation dictates.

Whatever the reason, we have reached a plateau in membership that we seem unable to overcome. My concern is that growth is healthy and we aren't growing. I don't think a wholesale membership drive is the answer, but I do think we need to get some new blood into the organization. We have the same people, for the most part, carrying the weight year after year.

We probably need to do a better job of stating our own case. We had over 500 people at the 1985 VIP Float. I would guess that less than 20 were VIP's and about 250 were members. We lost a good

opportunity at that float. Cindi and Lise have volunteered to put together a statement of purpose on FFV for such occasions.

The best opportunity to introduce new members to the organization is at the Memorial Day and Labor Day meetings. I would like to encourage greater participation at these meetings.

For the past two years Cindi and Lise have organized a new member float with some success. I would like to encourage others to follow suit and publish such floats in the newsletter.

There are probably a number of other things we can do to increase interest in FFV. We now have 278 members. I would like to see us surpass 300 by Labor Day 1988, not just for the numbers, but to initiate new life into the organization.

After all is said and done, despite our diversity, we all have one thing in common -- the enjoyment and conservation of Virginia's free flowing streams.



Carter copies still available...

The Summer/Fall edition of FPP&P carried an excerpt fro Randy Carter's classic "Canoeing White Water River Guide" (Appalachian Books, Oakton VA 1967, Eighth Revised Edition, 1974). Unfortunately, the contact information given for copies in the mailed edition was incorrect, and so with apologies anyone who may have tried to obtain a copy, here is the correct information:

Contact John Sweet -- by phone: (540) 468-2222; or via the web at: <http://johnrsweet.com/Carterguide.html>

Carter peppered his river descriptions with local history and entertaining side stories, making the book an enjoyable read during those long winter cold snaps. For example, describing Falls Hill Rapid on the North Fork of the Holston River Carter digresses to tell this brief tale:

"About fifteen years ago, a young fellow and seven hundred dollars worth of equipment ended a planned trip to New Orleans in this rapid. The equipment stayed there and the canoeist barely managed to get out. Most people believed him to have drowned. His parents came down from up north to pick him up, took one look at the rapid he'd tried to run in high water, and put him in mental institution."

This is definitely recommended reading, and a great gift for anyone with a little time on their hands.

Welcome New FFV Members...

Roanoke Valley Chapter

- Rebecca Dameron, Bent Mountain
- Mike Heffner, Blacksburg
- Cathy and Brett Tyler, Blacksburg
- Al Flora, Boones Mill
- Mack Bullard, Fincastle
- Aaron D. Mittel, Roanoke
- Gene Guffey, Wirtz

**RETURNING
MEMBERS:**

**RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
NOW!**

**Happy Holidays! 2006 is nearly history.
Please contact your chapter treasurer and
renew now for 2007.**

Why Support American Whitewater?

While the membership voted to continue monetary support, and thereby become an Affiliate Club of American Whitewater, several members were unaware of the organization's existence, and wanted to know what the benefits were to the Float Fishermen. One answer might be the simple altruistic principle of giving support to a national organization whose mission and goals compliment those of FFV on a national scale. AW lists ten additional reasons for a local or regional club to lend support by becoming an Affiliate Club...

Ten Reasons to Join AW as an Affiliate Club

1. Your Club will be eligible for the 2006 AW/Clif Bar Flowing Rivers Campaign. (Five \$500 grants)
2. Your Club's members can become AW members for \$25. A \$10 savings!
3. Receive the AW Journal, the longest running paddling publication, to keep around the club house.
4. List your Club's events in the AW Journal.
5. Have technical expertise for your Club conservation and access committees 'on tap.'
6. Have access to technical and onsite assistance for your Club's event planning
7. Enjoy VIP benefits for "Joint Members" at AW events.
8. Participate in exclusive AW Affiliate Club promotions.
9. Post Club information on the AW Website to help paddlers find you.
10. Eligible to apply for a spot in the AW 2006 River Stewardship Institute.

Affiliate clubs in Virginia include:

Float Fishermen of Virginia, Inc.

A conservation, river access, rafting, and recreational boating group, welcoming people with the same interests.
website: <http://www.floatfishermen.org/>
email: info@floatfishermen.org

Coastal Canoeists Inc

website: <http://coastals.org/>

Canoe Cruisers Assn

website: <http://ccadc.org/>

Blue Ridge Voyageurs

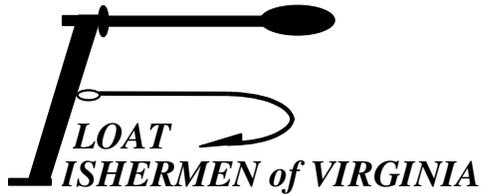
The Blue Ridge Voyageurs is a voluntary association of experienced whitewater paddlers (both open and decked boats) from the Washington, DC area.
website: <http://www.blueridgevoyageurs.org>
email: info@blueridgevoyageurs.org

Blue Ridge River Runners

website: <http://www.hovac.com/wa4pgr/brrr.htm>

"AW's relationships with local clubs have provided the backbone for much of the river conservation and access work it accomplishes throughout the country. Over eighty-five clubs are now AW Club Affiliates and they are all doing great work on your behalf."

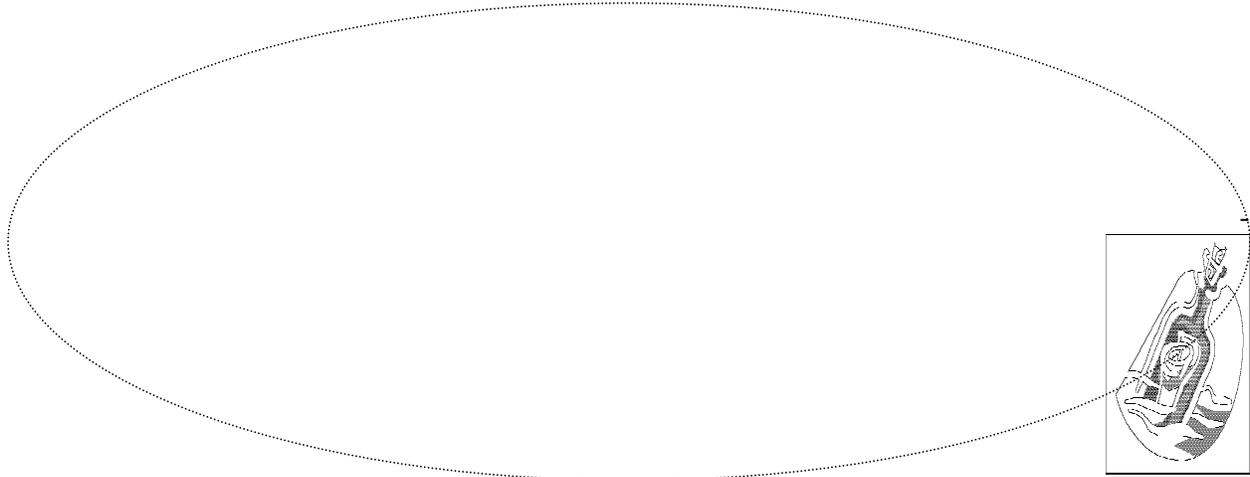
To join contact AW via the website <https://www.americanwhitewater.org/> or email: info@amwhitewater.org or phone: 1-866-BOAT-4-AW



P.O. Box 1895, Hayes VA 3072-1895

<http://www.floatfishermen.org>

info@floatfishermen.org



F F V : Calendar of Events 2006

WINTER BUSINESS MEETING (December 2, 1:00 p.m.)

From Richmond: Take route 60 west to Cumberland; 2 miles west of downtown Cumberland, turn right on Route 628. Proceed approximately 3 miles to stop sign. Go straight through gate to State Forest building

From Lexington: Take route 60 east to Cumberland; 2 miles west of downtown Cumberland, turn left on Route 628. Proceed approximately 3 miles to stop sign.

Go straight through gate to the State Forest building.

In the next issue FPP&P: Calendar of Events for 2007 -- and much more!

