

FISHIN' POLE PACK & PADDLE

Float Fishermen of Virginia

Winter Issue 2010

Blackwater River: A Late Fall Trip



THE BIG TAKEOUT...
thank goodness for boat trailers!



Tanger checks crayfish for water quality

in this issue...

Blackwater River: Trip Report	1
Winter Meeting Notes	2
Conservation Notes	3
Save Our Rivers Effort	4
James River Heritage Trail Initiative	4
Membership 2009	5
Letters from Our Friends	11
2010 Trip Schedule	12

2009 Winter Meeting

FLOAT FISHERMEN OF VIRGINIA, INC.

President

Don Sims
3020 Kenwood Avenue
Richmond, VA 23228
president@floatfishermen.org

Vice Presidents

Bill Duncan
Ken Ingram
Erica Sims
Richard Webster

Secretary

Linda Van Luik
2771 Summit Ridge Road
Roanoke, VA 24012
secretary@floatfishermen.org

Treasurer

Katherine Waller Boyd
4422 Wakefield Road
Richmond, VA 23235
treasurer@floatfishermen.org

Conservation

Bill Tanger
P.O. Box 1750
Roanoke, VA 24008-1750
(540) 366-2228 H
bill.tanger@verizon.net

Membership

Beth Willoughby
5112 Linsey Lakes Drive
Glen Allen, VA 23060
membership@floatfishermen.org

Webmaster

Bob Born
524 Columbia Ave.
Ramseur, NC 27316
webmaster@floatfishermen.org

Newsletter

Allison Herbert
9718 Kendrick Road
Richmond, VA 23236
editor@floatfishermen.org

Minutes from the Float Fishermen of Virginia State Meeting, December 5, 2009 at Cumberland State Forest

President Don Sims called the meeting to order as various members straggled in from the winter weather to join those already assembled.

Minutes from the state Labor Day meeting were accepted as printed in the *Fishin' Pole, Pack and Paddle* and as posted on the state FFV website.

The treasurer's report included mention of a card from Vickie Leonard thanking the organization for a donation to the Cancer Society made in Bob Leonard's memory. Katherine Waller then presented the quarterly statement. One CD matured in September and has been renewed until this June. She also reported that our expenditures may temporarily exceed our income, however, state membership dues will be coming in to increase the income column. Per a member's request, Katherine will separate river taxes from dues as part of the organization's income. Some of our recent expenditures include a donation to the Massey Cancer Center in memory of long-time FFV member, Ned Dillon and the costs for new Randy Carter awards.

The ending balance in general funds as of November 30, 2009 was \$8,975.32 and funds in certificates of deposit totaled \$8,259.39.

The newsletter editor offered copies of the Fall *PP & P* issue for anyone who did not receive theirs, either via email, the web or snail mail. Phil Bailey has contributed old copies of the *Fishin' Pole, Pack and Paddle* that Allison Herbert will keep as part of the newsletter archives.

The membership secretary has listed 240 paid memberships; which include 21 new

memberships. Bob Leonard, Ned Dillon and Sam Kerr have been made members in perpetuity. Beth Willoughby wants to get with chapter membership secretaries to document the dates of memberships paid to the individual chapters. Beth would prefer quarterly updates from chapter membership secretaries rather than monthly or weekly updates. Anyone needing a roster can request it from Beth via email.

President Don Sims introduced a guest speaker, Jennifer Wampler, Trails Coordinator with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, from the Planning and Recreation Resources Division. (*See article in this newsletter about Jennifer's presentation*).

After Jennifer's presentation, Don then called for additional reports.

The conservation report was briefly delivered due to Bill Tanger's absence. He sent word via Roanoke members that the water quality in Virginia is one of the worst in the nation.

The webmaster was not present but communicated he needs some new photos and schedule updates. The members present wanted to thank Bob for his efforts to keep a quality website going for the FFVers.

The Foundation had no report but wanted to thank the Steve Keller chapter for a \$25 donation.

Old Business

The Winter state meeting time will be moved back next Decemberto encourage a fish fry afterwards that members have always enjoyed in the past. The meeting is, therefore, scheduled for 1 PM, the

.....
• Editor's Note

• 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, RTF and/or JPEG. Dates for submitting material for publication: 1st of February, April, August and November. The Editor reserves the right to edit as needed. Comments, criticism and compliments are always welcome.
.....

Winter Meeting (continued from page 2)

first Saturday in December, tentatively at Cumberland State Forest.

New Business

Brian Vande Sande informed us that Land's End will put our logo on whatever we buy from them. Brian had some samples. There will be no set up charge, since they now have our logo on file, but there is a \$6.50 charge to put the logo on whatever you order. Any questions—contact Brian at mvandesan@yahoo.com. A discussion ensued as to the possibility of using orders as part of a fundraiser, but there was not a consensus on exactly how to do so.

Donations to various organizations and groups were approved as follows: \$75 each to the American Whitewater Association, Friends of the Rivers of Virginia, American Rivers and the James River Heritage Trail (Virginia Department of Parks and Recreation).

The State Float Fishermen Calendar for the year 2010 was set; chapter contacts and responsibilities for the floats were outlined. Saturday night meals for state meetings have been budgeted at \$600 each. \$600 has been budgeted for Labor Day Weekend portapotties. Individual chapters also announced floats to which the state membership is invited.

Business taken care of, the meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Linda VanLuik,
Recording Secretary

Conservation Notes

- FORVA introduces bill to improve Landowner Liability Law (LLL) The bill will go before the Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee Monday, January 25th at 9:00 am.
- This bill provides language that will remove some of the objections of the railroads to the LLL. By doing this, we stand a better chance of the railroads granting crossings so we can get to the rivers. If you would like a copy of the full bill, let me know and I will send along.
- SB 546 Landowner liability arising from recreational activities; railroad rights-of-way.
- Summary: Landowner liability arising from recreational activities; railroad rights-of-way. Ensures that railroad rights-of-way may be used for recreational purposes and for access to lands being used for recreational purposes without the easement holder owing a duty of care to the user. This exemption from civil liability already exists for landowners, but does not explicitly include railroad rights-of-way. The exemption does not apply if the landowner charges a fee for the use of the lands and does include gross negligence or willful or malicious failure to guard or warn against a dangerous condition.
- If you do not know who your legislators are, just call or email and I will tell you and/or show you how you can find out. If the bill passes from the committee it will then go to the full Senate, so we will need all voters to help contact their legislator.
- Please feel free to ask me any questions or advice on working with this bill.
- **1.20.10 Chesapeake Bay Battle Looms**
- There are three new initiatives in the works. Below are the new bay cleanup plans:
 - mandated TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) program under development by the EPA. It would include a Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) for the bay
 - Executive Order from President Obama with 7 reports that detail the



program to clean up the bay.

- Cardin-Cummings bill in Congress to provide impetus and funding for the cleanup. This bill needs support or it may not pass.

After 40 years of voluntary programs for improvements by the states, the feds are ready to step in. This will place the feds over the states in a colossal battle, and at a time when funds are scarce.

EPA wants WIPS with 60% planned reductions in pollution by 2017 and WIP cleanup plans for complete pollution reduction by 2025. Progress to be reported and checked every two years, and if benchmarks are not met, the EPA will look to state governments first and then local ones.

Consequences of non-compliance would include:

- More stringent point source limits for Sewage Treatment Plants
- Withholding federal funds
- Not allowing NPDES permits for new development

TMDL timelines: Preliminary Plan by June 1; Draft by August 1; Final Plan by December 31, 2010.

More info is on the EPA site for Chesapeake Bay TMDL, please go to: www.epa.gov/reg3wapd OR www.epa.gov/reg3wapd/pdf/pdf_chesbay/tmdl_implementation_letter_110409.pdf.

Conservationists' role would be to attend meetings, make comments on plans, write letters to newspapers, etc. If you would like to help, let me know. I attended a three-day conference in Washington DC on Jan 10-12, so I have much more information on the bay cleanup!



James River Heritage Trail Initiative: How can we help?

At the Winter Meeting, December 5, 2009, Jennifer Wampler, Trails Coordinator with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, from the Planning and Recreation Resources Division, outlined the State's initiative to develop and implement state-wide trail systems for bikers, hikers, equestrians, canoeists and kayakers and other outdoor trail users. She provided us with maps and explanations of user experiences along corridors, water trails and land trails.

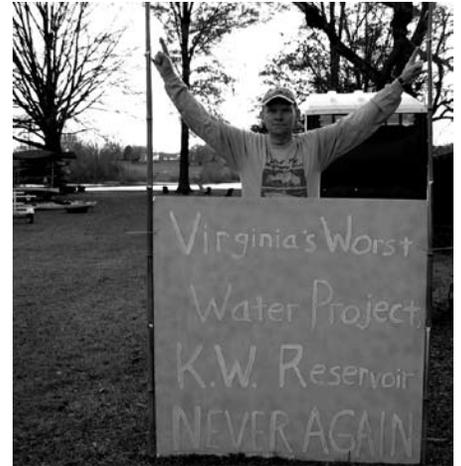
Jennifer explained that there are future plans for additional trails such as equestrian trails along river corridors and biking trails along scenic highways. There are also plans to highlight the historical aspects of existing and future

trails. Goals are to develop and implement a statewide trail network, but the funding for this is just about non-existent. Sources include grants, local, state and federal funding. Issues such as population growth, for example, may also affect the development of some trails.

Jennifer emphasized that one way organizations like the Float Fishermen can assist is by providing feedback and volunteering to help develop a Friends of the James River Heritage Trails. We can also help by identifying places where there are gaps in put-ins and take-outs along the river. Individual chapters who want to assist with this very worthy project should contact Jennifer



Barbara Miller, FFV at the Mattaponi Victory Party joined hundreds of river people as they celebrated a long fought battle against the King William Reservoir that would have destroyed hundreds of acres of wetlands and severely impacted Virginia's shad fishery.



Tom Miller, past FFV president at the Mattaponi Victory Party, Camp Whitehall in Walkerton, VA on November 21, 2009.

FFV and FORVA supported the Alliance to Save teh Mattaponi for many years as they fought and won Newport New's King William Reservoir.



Some of the many banners displayed at the Mattaponi Victory Party on November 21, 2009. Barbara Miller, FFV in the background.

A Letter From our Friends...

Dear Paddlers,

October 24, 2009

Thank you so much for your contribution to the Massey Cancer Clinic in memory of Ned. The loving care he received there contributed to the three years plus of good quality life he enjoyed, and allowed him to put his canoe in whenever he wanted.

Gratefully,

Nora Dillon & Tayloe Moore



Massey Cancer Center

V i r g i n i a C o m m o n w e a l t h U n i v e r s i t y

Office of Development and
External Relations

October 9, 2009

Ms. Katherine W. Boyd, State Treasurer
Float Fishermen of Virginia, Inc.
4422 Wakefield Road
Richmond, VA 23235

P.O. Box 980214
Richmond, Virginia 23298-0214

804 828-1450
Fax: 804 827-0452
TDD: 1-800-828-1120

Dear Ms. Boyd:

Thank you for your recent gift of \$60 received on October 2, 2009 in memory of Edward "Ned" Dillon. Your gift to the VCU Massey Cancer Center is a touching tribute and is deeply appreciated. As requested, this gift will be used to support the Annual Fund. We have notified the family of your request.

The Massey Cancer Center strives each day to conduct research and employ methods to help prevent, control, and ultimately, cure cancer. Massey is part of an elite network of 65 cancer centers designated by the National Cancer Institute to lead and shape the nation's efforts to against cancer. Our world class research and clinical trials, progressive technology, and multidisciplinary team approach offer innovative options and hope to Richmond and its surrounding communities. **Thank you for helping us make a difference by remembering your loved one with this special tribute.**

To learn more about the Massey Cancer Center, we encourage you to visit our website, www.massey.vcu.edu. If I can provide you with any additional information, please feel free to call me at any time at (804) 828-1466.

With appreciation,


James R. Wasilewski
Assistant Director of Annual Giving
Massey Cancer Center

Thank you for your tribute gift!

The Mission of the Massey Cancer Center is to serve the Commonwealth of Virginia as an internationally recognized institute of clinical, educational and research excellence dedicated to improving the quality of human life through the prevention, control and cure of cancer.

Your tax receipt will be issued by our financial partner, the Medical College of Virginia Foundation



4422 Wakefield Road
Richmond, VA 23235
www.floatfishermen.org
info@floatfishermen.org

Float Fishermen of Virginia Calendar for 2010

March 12-14, 2010 Highland Co. Maple Festival

Douthat State Park
Contact: Rick Mattox
Back Creek, Jackson River

April 9-10, 2010 Spring Fling

Contact: Ginnie Peck
Rockfish River

April 23-25, 2010 Cajun Weekend

R5
Contact: Randy Carter Chapter
Kappahannock River

May 15, 2010 Roanoke River Renaissance

Downtown Roanoke
Contact: Ken Ingram
Roanoke River

May 28-30, 2010 Memorial Day Float *State Meeting**

Glen Maury Park
Contact: Brian Vande Sande
James & Maury Rivers

June 12, 2010 Kid Float

Tapscott's Farm
Contact: Erica Sims
Howardsville to Warren (James River)

Sept. 24-26, 2010 Dickel Bash

Rockfish River
Contact: Ginnie Peck

Sept. 4-6, 2010 Labor Day Float*State Meeting**

Slate River Property
Contact: Bob Peck
James & Slate Rivers

December 2010 State Winter Meeting

Tentatively Cumberland State Forest
Contact: Don Sims

