

# Fishin' Pole Pack & Paddle

Winter 2015



**FFV Officers:** Click on any link below to send an email.

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**Secretary: Ginnie Peck**  
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**Treasurer: Lisa O'Sullivan**  
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**Co-Membership: Scott McEwen  
& Ginnie Peck**  
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**Asst Webmaster: Derek Glass**  
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**Conservation: Bill Tanger**  
[conservation@floatfishermen.org](mailto:conservation@floatfishermen.org)

**Vise Presidents: Roc Cooper,  
Bill Duncan, Erica Goode, & Bill  
Tanger**

## President's Paddle Tony Adams

Hello Gang,

I'm hoping everyone had a great holiday season. Word on the street is the Dickel Christmas party was another success! Speaking of success, we are making progress as a club in several areas. We have a new newsletter editor, Taylor Adams, and he's producing a great user-friendly publication. Our Membership team, Scott McEwen and Ginnie Peck, have a good handle on the count and is reported to be on an upswing! Our Conservation Chairman/Finance Committee Chairman, Bill Tanger, has made huge strides to develop a budget that works, and information is getting to the membership by way of our three meetings and is reflected in the minutes. I want to take this opportunity to once again thank Katherine Waller who has set a very high bar and standard that our new treasurer, Lisa O' Sullivan, is going to maintain. Our new Webmaster, Traci Martin, is still working to resolve the webpage issues. Based on what I've seen of the Dickel webpage, the State webpage is going to be awesome. In the meantime please go to the Dickel page for our event schedule and current list of officers. Be patient guys...it will come. Please see the minutes of the Winter Business Meeting to review the clubs direction which in my opinion, is quite promising. I want to thank everyone for pulling for our common and collective success. The Spring Fling will be our first event of the year followed by the Douthat trip which of course will be memorable. Hope to see ya' on da' rivah!

-Guap. / Tony Adams



# ***2014 Winter Meeting Minutes: by Ginnie Peck***

President: Tony Adams called the meeting to order.

**Secretary Report: Ginnie Peck made a motion to accept the minutes as written and posted. Rick Mattox Seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion was carried.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Katherine Waller was unavailable to present the Treasury Report.

- Tony Adams announced that a new treasurer is needed ASAP and has asked that everyone branch out to help find a replacement for Katherine.
- Bill Tanger, Chair of the Finance Committee, did his best to create a Treasurer's report with the previous reports presented and recent bank statements. The following is an approximation.
  1. Balance Forward: \$6,931.07
  2. Total Income Listed 2014: \$3,791.00
  3. Total Listed Income with Balance Forward: \$10,722.07
  4. Total Expenses Listed 2014: \$2611.60
  5. Total Listed Income After Listed Expenses: \$1,179.40
  6. Total Listed Income and Balance Forward after Expenses: \$8,110.47
  7. Total Balance of three CD's: 21,951.04
  8. Total Combined Assets: \$30,061.51
- The above report includes the dates ranging from 12/1/13 - 10/31/14. The November statement was not calculated.
- There are a few calculations missing. This includes the River Tax collected, by the Roanoke Chapter, for Labor Day weekend and the cost of the 2014 Fall Newsletter.
- Members of the Finance Committee are working to create an accurate statement.
- **Voting on the final 2014 Treasurer's Report will be tabled until an accurate statement can be presented to the club.**
- Bill Tanger has made a recommendation that we assign three new people to the signature card at BB&T.
- **This next piece of information is out of the order of events: Lisa O'Sullivan has volunteered to become the net FFV State Treasurer. This occurred at the end of the meeting. Ginnie Peck made a motion that we accept Lisa as our new Treasurer. Rick Mattox seconded the motion. Lisa was voted in as the new FFV State Treasurer. Due to the relevance, the below Motion was amended.**



## *Meeting Minutes Continued*

- **GINNE PECK** made a motion asking the club to authorize **Tony Adams, Rick Mattox and Katherine Waller** to update the signature card, at **BB&T bank**. The changes will include removing **Katherine Waller's** name and adding **Tony Adams and Rick Mattox** to the card. Once a new Treasurer is found, that person's name will be added as well. **Rick Mattox** seconded the motion. No discussion followed. The motion was carried.
- The above motion was amended at the end of the meeting and reads as follows:  
**The club authorizes Tony Adams, Rick Mattox and Lisa O'Sullivan to have their names added to the signature card at BB&T Bank. All other names will be removed from the signatory card. Motion was carried.**

**Membership Chair:** Scott McEwen reported that there are 205 paid members for 2014. This up from 181 paid members in 2013. A challenge was presented to each member to help bring in new members by inviting them to our events next year. Please contact your local treasurer to pay dues or to obtain a copy of the most recent membership list. You may get a copy of the list by emailing: [dickels.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:dickels.treasurer@gmail.com)

**Webmaster:** Traci Martin was unavailable, due to injury, to attend the meeting. Charlie Safley presented the update. Currently Traci is at a stall. She does have more work to do on the new site, however needs to have the final link made from the old site to the new before she continues.

- **Patrick O'Sullivan** made a motion to have **Traci or Tony** to contact **Bob Born** and ask that the final link be made and all access to both web sites and domains be presented to **Traci** in writing, for future access and updates. **Bob Peck** seconded the motion. No discussion followed. The motion was carried.
- There was concern that the old site information would be lost.
- The original site will still exist, it will just be inactive.
- Once the new site is activated, anyone searching for Float Fishermen of Virginia will be directed to the new sites.
- Our current domains will remain intact.

**Newsletter Editor:** Taylor Adams thanked everyone for the support, newsletter submissions and the opportunity to create the newsletter.

- His one concern is that submissions to the newsletter must be sent on or before each deadline.
- The newsletter goes out four times yearly: February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1. Delays in submissions can delay the newsletter.
- All deadlines are posted on the last page of the newsletter and at the bottom of the electronic MailChimp that the newsletter is attached to.



# Meeting Minutes Continued

**Conservation:** Bill Tanger gave an update on the Cushaw project.

- The Cushaw project has been ongoing for over 10 years. The original proposal (Plan A) was to cross under the CSX tracks at a 10' diameter culvert.
- Plan B was to make an at-grade crossing at Lock 14 on the James river below Balcony Falls. The proposal was rejected by CSX.
- The next proposal (Plan C) was to create a legal crossing at the 'Iron Man Take Out' at the end of the Whitewater section of the river. This would include a long path from the river, up a the bank, across the RR (railroad) tracks, up another steep bank to the current picnic area.
- The proposal includes building a pedestrian bridge over the RR tracks and down to the other side.
- The good news is that CSX should not be able to reject this proposal and the US Forest Service approves of the plan. The bad news is that it is a long trek for boaters.
- As an FYI: When CSX rejected the original proposal, FORVA filed a complaint with the SCC (State Corporation Commission). Attorneys are still looking into this with the argument that one legal crossing is better than 4-5 illegal and unsanctioned crossings.
- Expense of Plan C (Pedestrian Crossing at picnic ground): This would be an expensive project, upwards of \$400,000.00. There is currently \$189,000.00 in DCR earmarked specifically for this project. The money came from the Cushaw Dam Relicensing. Bill feels we can double this amount by using it as match grant money.
- The project may cost much more. This will be unknown until we know which plan will be in effect. There are many organizations out there that provide grant money. When the time comes, the parties involved will write a grant proposal in an effort to obtain more funds.
- Another alternative is to expand the AT Trail parking area, adjacent to the current parking area. This plan involves granting access to the public, not just to the AT Trail users.
- Bill Tanger will present other Access Issues in the next newsletter.

## Old Business:

- A. Veteran Heroes Float: Erica Goode, Traci Martin, Patrick O'Sullivan and Ginnie Peck are working on this project. We were not prepared to proceed with the event last year.
1. The plan is to continue to meet and develop the event, with help from local organizations.
  2. Wintergreen has an adaptive program that currently hosts a similar event each year. We plan to get involved with this program and build our event in a similar fashion.
  3. We will continue to give updates as we move forward.
  4. Our prospective date for 2015 is 9/18/14.
- B. Chesapeake Bay Journal: This is a free publication with excellent conservation information and current waterway updates.
1. Subscribe via web: [www.bayjournal.com](http://www.bayjournal.com)
  2. You may get the journal by mail or simply by visiting the above web page.



# Meeting Minutes Continued

## New Business:

- A. Finance Committee Report: Bill Tanger
- A copy of the budget proposal will be included in the next MailChimp.
  - A copy of the Finance Committee Meeting Minutes will also be available.
  - **Bill Tanger made a motion to reinstate the FFV PO Box for FFV Mail. This Box has not been used by FFV in a few years. Using this PO Box will negate the need to change the address every time a new treasurer steps in. Charlie Safley seconded the motion. No discussion followed. Motion was carried.**
  - The FFV address is: **P.O.Box 1750 / Roanoke VA 24008**
  - This Box will be checked and maintained by Bill Tanger.
  - **Ginnie Peck made a motion to accept the 2015 Budget Plan, with the necessary changes, after the final 2014 Treasury Report is amended. Scott McEwen seconded the motion. No discussion followed. Motion was carried.**
- B. Foundation Report: Bill Tanger
- **Bill Tanger made a motion that we make a \$100.00 donation to the following three organizations: FORVA, American Rivers, and American Whitewater. Bill Duncan seconded the motion. No discussion followed. Motion was carried.**
  - Bill Tanger is accepting nominations for the Randy Carter Award. Please send any nominations to him with a written BIO of the Candidate.
  - The Foundation is accepting nominations for a new slate of Foundation Officers. Please contact Bill Tanger with nominations.
- C. Expanding the Club Name to include a Subtitle:
- People seeking FFV on the internet are sometimes very confused as to what our organization is about. Some of this will be clarified with the new webpage.
  - A proposal has been made for us to add a subtitle to let people know that , we are not just fishermen, that we are conservationists, we camp, canoe, kayak etc.
  - Please make suggestions to Ginnie Peck; [ginniepeck@gmail.com](mailto:ginniepeck@gmail.com)
  - An example would be: Float Fishermen of Virginia: Virginia's Paddling Club

**Announcements:** DUES ARE DUE for 2015: Please contact your local Treasurer to pay Dues.

Dues not paid by March 31st will be dropped from the Membership List.



# Meeting Minutes Continued

## 2015 Trip Schedule:

1. Dickel Spring Fling: 4/10/15 - 4/12/15 on the Rockfish River / Contact Ginnie Peck
2. Douthat State Park: 4/17/15 - 4/19/15 / Contact Rick Mattox for details
3. HeadSuckin at R5: 4/25/15 / Contact Pete Van Demon
4. Memorial Weekend: 5/22/15 - 5/25/15 at Slate River Property / Contact Rock Willoughby
  - Porta Johns: Rock will arrange for 3 porta Johns with 1 clean out at the going rate.
  - Band: Timi and Harry; \$500.00
  - Donation to SRPI: \$75.00
  - River Tax: \$5.00 per person or \$10.00 per family will be collected per chapter and given to treasurer after meeting on Sunday.
5. Kid Float: 6/6/15 on the James River / Camping at Hatten's Ferry / Contact Erica Goode / \$500.00 donation for lunches
6. Dickel Summer Float: TBA / Contact Patrick O'Sullivan
7. Labor Day Weekend: 9/4/15 - 9/7/15 at Solitude on the James / Contact Bill Tanger
  - Porta Johns: Bill will arrange for Porta Johns.
  - Band: \$400 - \$500.00 arranged by Tony Adams
  - Donation to Solitude: \$75.00
  - River Tax: \$5.00 per person or \$10.00 per family will be collected per chapter and given to treasurer after meeting on Sunday.
8. Veteran Heroes Float: Prospective Date 9/18/15
9. Dickel Bash: TBA / Contact Patrick O'Sullivan
10. Halloween Float: Prospective Date 10/23/15 - 10/25/15 on Wicomico river / Contact Tanya Hayes
11. Winter Meeting: 12/5/15 at Ruckers Run on the Tye River / Contact Tony Adams
12. Fruitcake Foat: 1/1/16 on the Rivanna River / Contact Konrad Zeller

Adjourn the Meeting: **Ginnie Peck made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rick Mattox seconded the motion. No discussion. Meeting adjourned.**

# River Water Quality Reports

## Bill Tanger, Conservation Chair

The two most important water quality reports in Virginia just came out in January. One is the 303 report, which comes out every two years and is basically a state of our rivers report. The other is the Chesapeake Bay Report Card, which comes out every two years, and grades the health of the bay, which is a direct reflection of the health of our rivers.

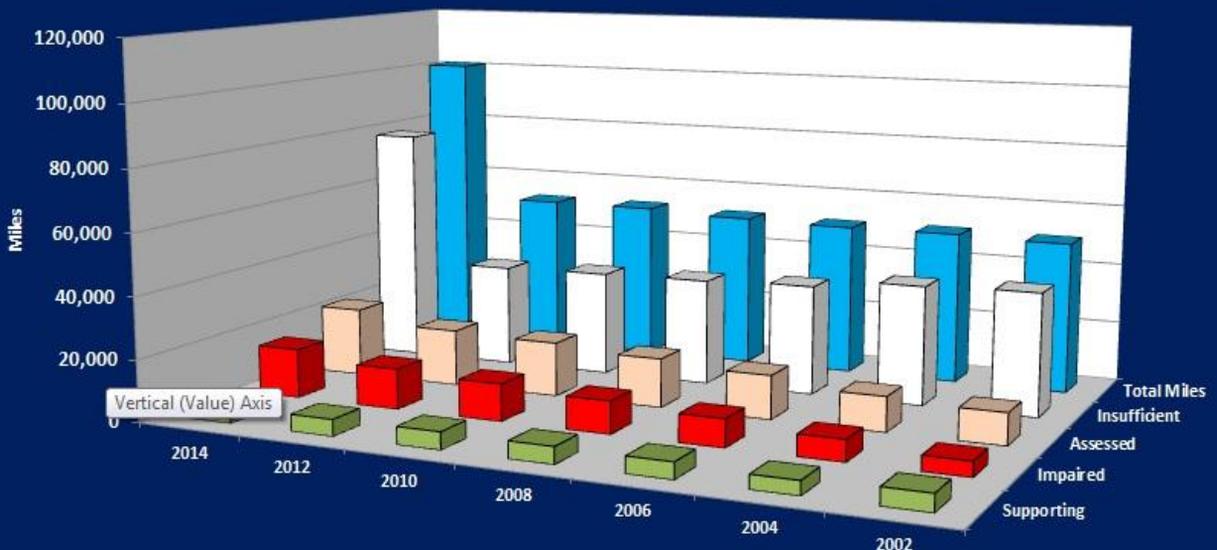
### Highlights of the 303 report:

As a result of new technology, the number of miles of streams and rivers has now jumped from 52,000 miles in Virginia to 100,900 miles! Now even intermittent streams are included.

- Most common impairment: Bacteria
- Most common problem for fish: Sediment
- Greatest progress: Bacteria levels are going down
- Greatest problem: Lack of legal regulations to enforce good behavior (ex. there is no law to keep cows out of streams.)

See the table below showing the comparison of the past reports from 2002 to 2014.

## 2014 Statewide Assessment Cycle Comparison



	2014	2012	2010	2008	2006	2004	2002
■ Supporting	6,448.27	5,350.37	5,637.07	5,440.22	5,262.15	4,436.46	5,484.42
■ Impaired	16,025.30	13,141.22	12,102.69	10,542.84	9,002.44	6,946.34	4,838.00
■ Assessed	22,473.57	18,491.59	17,739.76	15,983.06	14,264.59	11,382.80	10,322.42
■ Insufficient	78,364.15	33,763.53	34,492.21	35,032.82	36,091.55	39,144.47	40,092.80
■ Total Miles	100,837.72	52,255.12	52,231.97	51,015.88	50,356.14	50,527.27	49,898.02



# *River Water Quality Reports, Cont.*

## *Bill Tanger, Conservation Chair*

### **Highlights of the Bay Report Card:**

The 2014 report score is 32, a D+, unchanged from the 2012 score.

The report measures 13 indicators in three categories: pollution, habitat and fisheries.

Scores declined for rockfish, phosphorous and blue crabs.

Scores improved for dissolved oxygen, water clarity, oysters and underwater grasses.

An economic report just published found that a saved bay would an increased economic benefit of over \$22 billion annually.

- The biggest problem: Agricultural runoff.
- The biggest need: Better farmland conservation practices.
- Next biggest problem: Sediment loads due to storm water runoff. A new storm water management plan is just now going into effect, so there should be some progress in this area.

**Recommendation:** contact the Bay Journal and get the free subscription to the journal sent to you. This is a first step in getting up to speed on our rivers and the bay. After all, the bay is a reflection of the state of our rivers.

This can be done by:

- Emailing: [subscribe.bayjournal@earthlink.net](mailto:subscribe.bayjournal@earthlink.net)
- Writing to: Bay Journal, PO Box 222, Jacobus PA 17407-0222.



# *High Water on The Salmon*

## *Bill Tanger, Conservation Chair*

In June 2014, after a six-day float on the Yampa River, I went west to float another six days on the Salmon River in Idaho, with Howard "Hurricane" Kirkland. We had floated the Yampa with a mob of 22 people, but now on the Yampa it would be just Howard and me... and high water.

To get to the put-in you drive a gravel road from a town called North Fork to a place called Corn Creek. At Corn Creek there is a National Forest ranger station and a wide concrete ramp for trailers, and nothing more. There, we bought our invasive species stamps and loaded up our two cataracts for the six days ahead through the Frank Church Wilderness on the Salmon. The flow at the put-in was 10,700 cfs. That is pretty high by any measure.

At the ranger station, a briefing was required by the Forest Service. We learned that there were now some totally new rapids ahead of us. In particular, Salmon Falls was now gone, buried under water created by another new rapid called Black Creek Rapid. When we asked what class rapid it was, the ranger said it was too soon to tell, but it was at least a Class III, possibly a Class IV, and that it certainly needed to be scouted before running it.

In 1993, I floated the Salmon and the level was only 2,500 cfs at the put-in. So it was a whole new river this time. We were starting out at four times the flow of my earlier trip. To add to the fun, as we started out we passed more and more streams with torrents of water dumping into the Salmon, so the water level was increasing as we rowed down the river! We looked for other trips to join up with but they were on different agendas and timetables, so that did not work. We were on our own.

Our first night's camp was at Otter Creek on a beautiful beach. Once we had set up we realized there was a pair of eagles in a nest directly across from our kitchen tarp. A merganser duck fished about two feet off the shore. They entertained us until a doe walked into our campsite, strolled around our tents and boats, and hung out for a while (the photos are awesome!)

The next day we came to Black Creek Rapid, which surely was a Class IV. This wiped out Salmon Falls. It took us about a half hour to climb along the shore over huge boulders to scout the rapid. Good thing we did as the line was extremely critical.

Perhaps the most entertaining event was our visit to the Hot Spring hot tub for a hot soak in a stone swimming pool about eight feet wide and four feet deep. The water temperature was hot enough that you wanted to get out and cool off after twenty minutes or so.

At our next camp we had another guest deer. Wildlife was bountiful. The rapids were some of the biggest we had run anywhere, but most had a pool of some sort below them, so recovery would have been possible. In any case, we made it safely to the Carey Creek takeout.

Our vehicle was waiting for us, dropped off by the shuttle company, and so we loaded up and drove into Riggins, Idaho. In Riggins we got the current water level which was 20,000 cfs. Two boaters had already drowned in the Lower Salmon, so we cancelled any further boating and headed home. Knowing when to quit high water is the first safety rule, always.

-Bill Tanger & Howard Kirkland



# FFV EVENTS

## Event Schedule

### 2015 Trip Schedule:

- Dickel Spring Fling: 4/10/15 - 4/12/15 on the Rockfish River / Contact Ginnie Peck
- Douthat State Park: 4/17/15 - 4/19/15 Contact Rick Mattox for details
- HeadSuckin at R5: 4/25/15 Contact Pete Van Demon
- Memorial Weekend: 5/22/15 - 5/25/15 at Slate River Property / Contact Rock Willoughby
- Kid Float: 6/6/15 on the James River / Camping at Hatten's Ferry / Contact Erica Goode
- Dickel Summer Float: TBA / Contact Patrick O'Sullivan
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- Veteran Heroes Float: Prospective Date 9/18/15
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- Fruitcake Foat: 1/1/16 on the Rivanna River / Contact Konrad Zeller

Many FFV'ers paddle year round. Please check out the Chapter Facebook pages for any upcoming trips. Most trips are planned only a few days in advance, with details posted on Facebook. Please feel free to post any invitations to you fellow paddlers.

Search the following to find chapters on Facebook:

George Dickel Chapter: FFV George Dickel Chapter

Randy Carter Chapter: FFV Randy Carter Chapter

Scotts Creek Chapter: Scotts Creek Chapter of Float Fishermen of VA

Roanoke Valley Chapter: Float Fishermen of Virginia - Roanoke Valley Chapter



# *Editor's Note*

The opinions expressed in FPP&P are those of the author's and not necessarily those of FFV or its members. The editor is responsible for editing the content of the newsletter and its construction. Members are responsible for providing content. Please send submissions to the editor via email attachment. The following formats are preferred: Word, RFT, and/or JPEG. The newsletter goes out quarterly: Feb 1, May 1, August 1, Nov 1. **All Submissions MUST be received by the 15th of the preceding month.**

**If you receive this newsletter via US Mail, we do not have a current email address for you. Contact your local treasurer or the Membership Chair to update your information.**

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