



Wooden Canoe Heritage Association, Ltd.
DELAWARE VALLEY CHAPTER

May 20, 2018

Hello Canoers!

We were unable to attend the May trip, but I heard it was an awesome trip, just before the long period of rain overtook the area. There were 4 boats, 6 paddlers on the Batsto River, followed by a picnic at the Clarke's after. One of the cool things about paddling in the pines is the scenery. You never know what you're going to see. Below is a picture Jen took. Thanks Ed and Jen for taking the lead to organize this one!



Now for June, which will happen in several parts. Jim and Jean Clearwater will be our hosts for the weekend of June 8-10, and here's the information I received from Jim...

Friday June 8

Jean Clearwater, through a contact at the American Museum of Natural History (MNH) has arranged a private, "behind the Green Door" tour of the canoes and model canoes in storage at the museum. Access to the Museum and the tour is free. After the tour we can wander anywhere else in the Museum as a normal visitor. The MNH requires the names of everyone who wants to attend the tour two weeks prior to the event so name tags can be made up. Anyone within striking distance of NYC is welcome -however 15 people is the maximum allowed on the tour.

We can meet at the MNH, or alternatively, at our house and carpool into the City. (Driving and parking cars with canoes on top may be a challenge in NYC so carpooling from Cornwall might be the best way to go.) The tour starts at 1:30. It takes 1.5 hours to get there from Cornwall so would suggest a departure time of 11:00 to accommodate for traffic etc.

After we are done at the MNH, depending on what time it is, rush hour etc. we can come straight back to Cornwall for pizza, or eat in NYC.

There is plenty of room to camp out at our place www.jonesfarminc.com or crash on the floor/couch/one extra single bed in our house. Bring your sleeping bags and air mattresses.

NOTE that Jim will need your name very soon if you're planning to join them for the day Friday!

Saturday June 9

After breakfast we will head to Chodikee Lake for a paddle. Chodikee Lake is a pleasant little lake with lovely wetlands full of birds. There is a natural waterfall and old mill site at the outlet. A 0.75 mile trail leads through the Black Creek State Forest to the John Burroughs Nature Sanctuary. John Burroughs did a lot of his writing at his cabin there called "Slabsides" which still exists and is open to the public. We will then hike back to our canoes, paddle back to the cars and head back to our place for a bar-b-que, potluck and cocktails. Google Chodikee Lake and John Burroughs Sanctuary. There is even a Youtube video or two.

Sunday June 10

After breakfast we will head to the Basherkill, a 2200 acre wetlands and NYS wildlife management area. Here again wildlife abounds. This is an out and back paddle of eight miles at most. It can be cut short if necessary. Google Basherkill or Bashakill or Basher Kill as spelling varies. There are several Youtube videos. The old D&H Canal parallels the swamp on the west and can be seen with a short walk. We can then say our goodbyes and head for our separate homes.

Be sure to contact them if you plan on joining them for any part of the weekend so they can plan accordingly and give you more information as needed. Sounds like a wonderful weekend!

Our house: 214 Angola Road, Cornwall, NY 12518

Jim Clearwater, 845-649-9518, jimclearwater@yahoo.com

Jean Clearwater, 845-705-7157, nytrot50@gmail.com

Also in June is an annual tradition of the Longest Day paddle. This is how we celebrate the longest daylight day of the year, and will be on June 21st, which is a Thursday. We'll meet at Tinicum Park on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware at 5 PM. Bring along a picnic dinner, there is a pavilion at the park where we'll meet. After dinner we'll shuttle the cars upriver a little ways to the Upper Black Eddy launch area and then paddle back down to Tinicum. Our custom is to stop at Frenchtown and walk into town for some ice cream, so be sure to bring a couple of bucks to put in your pocket. It's a wonderful start to the summer! If you plan to join us please let me know just in case there are last minute changes.

Lastly, if you're planning to join the whole WCHA crowd in Peterborough Ontario for Assembly this year (July 17-22) you can find registration information online at <http://wcha.org/annual-assembly> or in the recent Journal if you're a member. Both have copies of the programs that will be available. Paddling is just a little trickier there than at other venues, but lovely once you get on the water and worth the extra effort. (And, nothing is as easy as PSU for those who have been there!) I believe the assembly posters are available if you would like some to post in areas that might attract some interest. Just let me know and I'll see what I can do to get you what you need.

That's it for now, hope to see you soon...

Jean Bratton

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