



Wooden Canoe Heritage Association, Ltd.

DELAWARE VALLEY CHAPTER

Sept 28, 2017

Hello Canoers!

If you remember, we were rained out two years in a row at Promised Land, the reason we actually didn't go there last year. So we arrived at Promised Land this year... just as it started to rain! However, this year it was just a passing shower, followed by a few more, and then a beautiful rainbow. See Betsy's photo next page, notice the reflection in the water. Al got a really good one too. Dinner and the usual campfire followed and the first evening of the weekend concluded with a lovely moonrise. Saturday dawned bright and sunny, and very windy and pretty darn cold! The group decided that a hike might be a better idea than a paddle and we took a lovely long walk along the creek and several waterfalls. We enjoyed the rest of the day with a few folks doing a little paddling, another campfire (s'mores included) and a perfect second day. Sunday was breezy, but not as windy or cold as Saturday and a paddle was enjoyed by all in the morning before packing and saying goodbyes. All in all quite an enjoyable weekend.

Our next weekend event happens October 7-8<sup>th</sup> where we will join members of the Susquehanna, Three Rivers and Chesapeake chapters for a weekend of fun. Gifford Pinchot State Park in Lewisberry (south of Harrisburg) Pa, will be our "home" for the weekend. All daytime events will be held at the Conawego Day Use Area, though folks that are spending the weekend will be staying in the camping area overnight.

Saturday will begin sometime around 9-10 AM and we'll wrap up around dinner time. Sunday start about the same time, and will conclude mid-afternoon. Join us for any/all of the time. If you've never attended this event, it's a lot of fun, a few organized activities, a few on-going activities, and a lot of time to do whatever you have in mind. There's lots of paddling, hiking, and other outdoor things to do.

We'll join as a group for a campfire Friday evening if you're around. And Saturday we'll join again for a covered dish supper. Please feel free to join us for that even if you're not spending the night. Bring along a dish to share, your chair, utensils and a beverage. In years past this has been an amazing dinner, I expect that to be true this time too.

The daytime activities I know will be happening are paddle making, seat caning, canoe repair, and deck replacement. There will also at some point be a discussion on how to evaluate a canoe that needs repair/restoration...learning what to look for before you start the project. That's just what folks in our chapter are doing. I don't yet know what the other chapters will be doing. In past years there have been some on-going activities, a few presentations on specific topics, a group paddle, a swap-meet table, and other things, so it's sure to be a fun weekend.

If you have anything you would like to do to add to the “program” please let me know. It could be just a short presentation on something you’ve learned to do, or an ongoing activity or leading a discussion, or.... Use your imagination! Even if you don’t have anything to offer, come join in. Most of the demonstrations are hands-on so you might even learn a thing or two! If you have any questions about the weekend just let me know and we’ll get you what you need. The park website is <http://www.dcnr.pa.gov/StateParks/FindAPark/GiffordPinchotStatePark/Pages/default.aspx> And you can find directions and other information there.

November’s activity is planned to be a “make up day” from last spring, when the Oswego River paddle kept getting rained out. The plan is to do that trip on Saturday November 4<sup>th</sup>, with a rain date of the 11<sup>th</sup>. After the paddle we’ll return to Ed & Jen Clarke’s home for a covered dish. See next month’s newsletter for more details.

That’s all for now, hope to see you soon!

*Jean Bratton*

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