



Wooden Canoe Heritage Association, Ltd.

DELAWARE VALLEY CHAPTER

June 4, 2017

Hello Canoers!

Well.... At the risk of sounding like a broken record.... Mother Nature got the better of us again, twice in May! The day of the planned trip was a washout so several members agreed to try again two weeks later. That day wasn't too bad, but it had followed a week of rain and the water levels were way too high to paddle. So....we're on to June. Better luck there!

This coming weekend, June 10th & 11th we'll be paddling two separate North Jersey Rivers in two days. For all you North Jersey folks, no excuses, we're in your backyard. And if you don't live there, it's worth the drive because you get a two-fer☺. Important - please contact Barclay Foord to let him know if you plan to join either trip. That way if there are any last minute changes he will know who to notify. You can reach him at foord@optonline.net or 973-492-9009.

The trip on Saturday will be the Passaic River. We will be meeting at "The Cutting Board Restaurant", 1275 Bloomfield Avenue in Fairfield, NJ. If you need it, their number is 973-244-5771. Plan to arrive no later than 9:30 AM. The best way to get there is to take route 80 eastward to exit 47B which is Route 46 East. Travel on Route 46 East for about 1 1/2 miles, and there will be a sign for Bloomfield Avenue, which turns off to the right. It's a pretty big road, and this junction is the western start of Bloomfield Avenue. Five hundred yards up the road, you will cross the River. Just after the River, there will be a **left hand turn into an industrial parking lot**, where the "Cutting Board" deli is located. Be careful on the turn, you are in the state of New Jersey. Barclay doesn't anticipate any problems with parking, since it will be Saturday. The put-in is right at the parking lot for the deli.

This section is known as the Great Piece Meadows, and it's full of more tranquility and birds than you can imagine exist in Jersey. The stretch is about 12 miles long, all pretty much flat-water paddling. We've done this trip quite a few times now and it's pretty amazing how secluded this stretch of river is. You can hear highway traffic for the first mile or two then it's gone.

Following the trip we're invited back to Barclay and Daryl's home for a picnic. Barclay will provide directions after the paddle, but plan to bring along something to share and stay to enjoy the rest of the day. He promises to have the grill going with good stuff cooking, and some Sangria waiting for tired paddlers, so bring anything you want that goes with that.

Sunday's trip will be on the Walkill River. We will meet at the Sussex Queen Diner which is at 289 St. Rd 23, Sussex, N.J. Going by route numbers; it's on Rt. 23 just south of Rt. 565, just south of the town of Sussex. Their number, if you need it, is 973-702-7321. Plan on meeting there no later than 9:30 AM and we'll shuttle together to the put-in. This trip is also an

easy-going trip. There are few spots to stop on the early part of the trip, so plan on having a late lunch. Expect the paddle to be about 5 hours or so in length.

Also in June is an annual tradition of celebrating the beginning of summer with a picnic/paddle. This will be on June 21st, which is a Wednesday. 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.

We have no chapter trip in July but please join us in Paul Smith's New York July 11-16 for the annual WCHA Assembly. I guarantee you'll enjoy the trip! Information, including the tentative program/schedule and registration information, can be found at wcha.org. Hope to see you there. And....if you would like a (or some) poster(s) advertising the assembly please let me know and we'll see that you get what you need. The theme this year, rather than being a kind/brand of canoe is paddles and other accessories.

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

Jean Bratton

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