



Wooden Canoe Heritage Association, Ltd.  
DELAWARE VALLEY CHAPTER

May 5, 2018

Hello Canoers!

Welcome to summer! Hopefully this won't last, I'd like a little spring first! ☺.

I heard that the April trip was well attended and enjoyed by all, but nobody sent me anything specific for the newsletter and no one posted any pictures, so that's all I can tell you.

As for the May trip, that will be this coming Saturday, the 12<sup>th</sup>. The Batsto River is the river of choice. There were others that were investigated but found wanting. Since this is arguably the prettiest river in the Pines... let's do it again☺

Ed and Jen Clarke have taken the lead in investigating this one. It's been reported that the river is clear of most of the winter downed trees. Of course the water level will be dependent on the rain we receive this week. We've gotten a lot already recently so be prepared for it to be high.

The plan is to meet at the Atsion ranger station- 744 Rt 206, Shamong, (Atsion) NJ:  
N 39° 44.515 W 074° 43.555  
18S E 523483 N 4399149 (not the Atsion Recreation/Day use area)

Meet at 8:45 AM. We will put in at Quaker Bridge - down a sandy/rough road (about 3-4 miles) and take out at Batsto Lake canoe launch off Rt 542. It's roughly a 4 hour paddle, depending on water level.

Following the paddle we're all invited back to Ed & Jen's for a pot luck. They will provide grilled meat, so bring along something to share. Note that they suggest we all go to the local Royal Crowne for homemade ice cream for dessert, so keep that in mind when you're deciding what to bring for the pot luck. (Jen sent me a picture; you'll not want to miss this!). They live at 3649 Reading Ave, Hammonton (live in Mullica Township), 08037; off Rt 30 between Hammonton and Elwood/Weymouth Rd and Elwood rd. (about 9 miles from the take out)

Friday night camping on their property is available... but please let them know you will be coming, so the dogs are forewarned ☺

Contact Jennifer Helm Clarke at 616-406-7440 or [clarke.helm04@yahoo.com](mailto:clarke.helm04@yahoo.com) if you plan to attend the paddle, cook out or both please! She can also answer any questions you may have.

As for June, we need to start getting plans organized for this NOW. June 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> is the weekend Jean and Jim Clearwater have invited us to camp on their farm in Cornwall, NY (north on 87 from North Jersey, right along the Hudson). The weekend actually will start on Friday the 8<sup>th</sup>. Jean has some contacts at the New York Museum of Natural History, which has a collection of wooden boats they will allow us into the storerooms to see. We're set to do that at 1:30 and they will allow maximum of 15 people. For security reasons they will be issuing us name tags and they need to know well ahead of time the names of anyone who may be attending so they can get them prepared. There is no charge for this opportunity. If you're at all interested in doing this please let me know no later than this coming Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup> so we can get the information to the museum. If you're even thinking about it please let me know. That way they can get the name tags made for anyone who may be there and we can give them the final list as the date gets closer. If you like, you may bring along friends who may be interested, and this is something that can be done even if you choose not to join us for the remainder of the paddling weekend. Details on this will be provided as we get a feel for who is coming and from where.

As for the remainder of the weekend, Jean and Jim live on a lovely farm where they've invited us to camp for the weekend. The Hudson River is nearby, which provides various paddling opportunities, as well as some other options. Jim will let us know more specifics of what he's thinking in the next newsletter but feel free to contact him in advance if you have questions. You can reach them at  
Jim & Jean Clearwater  
190 Angola Rd.  
Cornwall, NY 12518  
845-649-9518  
[jimclearwater@yahoo.com](mailto:jimclearwater@yahoo.com)

Also in June, just so you have it on your calendars, is the Longest Day Paddle on June 21<sup>st</sup>. This is how we celebrate the longest daylight day of the year, with a picnic and evening paddle on the Delaware, with a stop in Frenchtown for ice cream. It's an easy/fun way to start the summer, but it is a Thursday evening, so be sure to make your plans accordingly.

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>. And, 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 that set up.

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

*Jean Bratton*

**Chapter officers**

Al Bratton, Pres.  
[CanoeAl@aol.com](mailto:CanoeAl@aol.com)  
610-326-9282

Jim Wilson, V.P.  
[PaddleJim48@gmail.com](mailto:PaddleJim48@gmail.com)  
610-827-9761

Jean Bratton, Sec/Treas  
[jeanbratton123@aol.com](mailto:jeanbratton123@aol.com)  
610-326-9282  
1818 Swamp Pike  
Gilbertsville, PA 19525