



## Fishin' Pole Pack'n Paddle Spring 2020

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Annual Dues: Due January each year

- \$20.00 per Individual or per Family (spouse & children 0-18)
- Individual chapters may have additional annual dues.
- Contact your CHAPTER Treasurer to pay dues.
- Please, DO NOT send dues to Membership Chair or State Treasurer

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\*\* No Internet Access & need to contact your Chapter Treasurer to pay dues: Please call Ginnie Peck @ 434-962-3224 \*\*

Greetings Fellow Paddlers,

Well, what can I say? The spring has been pretty bad with the COVID-19 so we must be careful and practice our social distancing and we will be able to start enjoying life again. Therefore, as you can probably figure out a couple of our events have been cancelled until next year. The Spring Fling and Memorial Day floats. We may have a glimmer of hope for Labor Day where we will have a memorial for Johnny O' and Pete. It's been a great pleasure knowing these guys and I hope everyone will come out and celebrate their life on the river, which they loved so much. We'll keep you updated on this. Also, August 22, 2020, is the Smith River Fest if we can get back and running by then. This should be a good time. We'll let you know later if this is still going on. Some good news, after speaking the membership chair our membership has increased in the past 2 years, which is great, and I look forward to paddling with our new members. Just a reminder, please remember to pay your dues to the chapter treasurers. Refer to the website for their individual e-mail addresses if you have questions. In conclusion, I would like to extend my sorrow to all the victims of this virus and want to give a shout out to all the nurses, doctors and medical personnel that are helping to end this as soon as possible. Please be safe, wear your mask and keep your social distance and we will get through this. I look forward to seeing everyone real soon.

Paddle on!

Rock

Call me anytime. (804) 244-6853.



## Currents & Eddies

Courtesy of Bill Tanger

**James River – Balcony Falls Take-out (Amherst County):** FORVA is in the process of getting a VDOT permit for the entrance off Rt 501. VDOT is now allowing a waiver for the permit and we are in the process of submitting our new application. Prospects are looking good!

--- Bill Tanger, Tom Miller & Howard Kirkland

**Roanoke River – Rutrough Point Access (Roanoke County):**

Spent \$45,000 in FEMA funds to repair rock wall damages done by Hurricane Michael. The wall is now twice as strong using rocks twice as big! We planted 7 trees along the riverbank and put in a fence to protect them. Also installed cameras to monitor any vandalism.

--- Bill Tanger, Virginia Department of Forestry

**Pigg River Dam Removal (Franklin County):** The Pigg River runs free, except for strainers and one huge logjam! We recently removed two 200 foot wide logjams that caused massive erosion. --- Bill Tanger  
FFV: Mo Byrd, Duck Stanley, Ray Williams & Pat Williams

**New River - Price Park (Montgomery County):** The 50-acre park along Stroubles Creek in Montgomery County is open. An Eagle Scout is putting in a picnic table and campsite. Volunteers welcome. Now starting work on a pedestrian bridge across Stroubles Cree

\_\_\_ Randi Lemmon, Rick Roth and Bill Tanger

**Roanoke River – Blueway (Roanoke County):** FORVA is co-chair of the Roanoke River Blueway Committee. Roanoke is one of the few cities to have both a greenway and a blueway, and both run along the Roanoke River! Working on improved access at the Salem Wayside location.

--- Bill Tanger & FFV Roanoke Chapter



## Currents & Eddies

Courtesy of Bill Tanger  
continued

**Big Otter River (Bedford County):** Still looking at a likely purchase of a property for access on the Big Otter River near Rt 460. FORVA made an offer on the property of \$7,500. The assessed value is \$15,000. Stay tuned.

--- Tanger, Howard Kirkland; FFV: Lee Williams, Mick & Maryann Overstreet;

**Tinker Creek Restoration: (Roanoke City):** Major restoration project on Tinker Creek in Roanoke coming up after 50,000 fish killed in 2016 due to chemical spill. Restoration plan includes removal of three dams. This project is looking good to go.

--- Bill Tanger

**Blackwater River (Franklin County):** Working on buying an acre of land at the Rt 122 crossing of the Blackwater River to provide parking for river access.

--- Bill Tanger; FFV: Pat Williams, Ray Williams; Creek Freaks of Franklin County

**Blackwater River (Franklin County):** Working on removing a dam on the Blackwater River. Doing early studies on fish, sediment and restoration.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Bill Tanger'.



Courtesy of Bill Tanger

# Maury River section designated as state scenic waterway

The river's 19-mile northern Rockbridge County portion courses through Goshen Pass.

By Laurence Hammack  
laurence.hammack@roanoke.com  
981-3239

4/13/20

A 19-mile stretch of the Maury River that flows through northern Rockbridge County has been designated a scenic waterway.

The latest addition to the Virginia Scenic Rivers Program was approved by the General Assembly at its recent session and signed into law March 23 by Gov. Ralph Northam.

Now in its 50th year, the program provides a level of protection to rivers that are found by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation to have significant scenic, historic, recreational and natural values.

The fast-moving Maury includes the popular Gos-

hen Pass, where it drops as much as 20 feet in 100 yards.

Envisioned by a citizens group that became the Scenic Maury Committee, the status was made possible by "landowners and others who supported the goal of recognizing the natural beauty and historic legacy of the Maury River," committee chair David Hopkins said.

The Maury is the only river in Virginia that begins and ends in the same county.

Starting at the junction of the Calfpasture and Little Calfpasture rivers, it flows for about 43 miles before emptying into the James River near Glasgow.

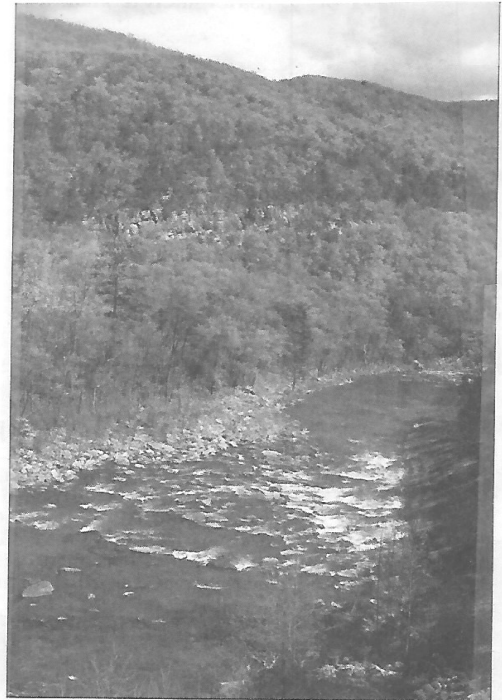
The upper portion of the river, which generally is in less populated areas,

was included in the scenic designation. The remaining stretch, which passes through Lexington and Buena Vista, might be considered by the committee in the future, according to County Administrator Spencer Suter.

"The whole river has potential," Hopkins said.

More than a dozen factors — such as water quality, recreational access, historic and natural features, and the presence of unique habitat or species — were considered by the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Unlike a conservation easement or wilderness designation, scenic river status carries with it no land-use controls. It does not give the state authority over the river, nor does it allow public access to privately owned



The Roanoke Times | File 2005

The fast-flowing Maury River at Goshen Pass is a popular destination for fishing and water recreation.

land.

Instead, the designation encourages protection of rivers in less direct ways, such as giving local governments and residents a voice in planning issues. It also makes grant funds available, and properties along the river could receive a lower tax assessment.

Approval by the General Assembly is required before a dam can be built on a scenic river, and the status could impact the licensing of federal projects.

For some localities, designation means more visibility and tourism dollars spent by outdoor recreation enthusiasts.

To date, more than 860 miles of 33 rivers or their segments have been designated as scenic. The Maury's inclusion becomes effective July 1, and a celebration is being planned for the summer.

MAURY: Group sought designation by state



## Welcome Back REB Stewart!

By: Ginnie M. Peck

REB Stewart, a **Founding Member of FFV**, recently moved back to Virginia, 1-2 years ago. He now resides in Staunton & is very excited to be involved in Float Fishermen again. He did attend one FFV Event last year and has rejoined our ranks, as a paid member. Sorry folks, he is a Dickel!

I have had the pleasure of speaking with REB a few times via phone. We are very fortunate to have him back in our club. His wealth of knowledge, history, & of course, the abundance of stories is invaluable to FFV. I will not go into detail, as I am anxious to have him join us on the river and around the campfires to regale us with his tales & the history of our club. There have been many stories passed down through the years. As we all know, stories change and evolve with time. REB was here for the beginning of FFV and involved in many the infamous antics. More importantly, FFV's relentless dedication to river conservation really helped pave the way for current conservation efforts.

REB was the President of FFV, & being a writer, became our first Newsletter Editor by creating the Fishin' Pole Packin' Paddle. All while continuing the role as President. He has a stockpile of the first many years of the newsletters. I am hoping to scan and archive the newsletters into our FFV Google Drive. He also helped establish the Randy Carter Award, the original design, the FFV Logo, & even MORE importantly, he was **THE Founding Member of the George Dickel Chapter** & involved in the naming of the chapter. Again, I will not do him justice by trying to relay the evolution of our club. We will have to be patient and wait for REB.

On behalf of all FFV'ers: Welcome Back REB & Thank You for all you have done to enrich our lives.



## **Fishin' Pole Pack'n Paddle**

2020 Revised Trip Schedule

### 2020 Trip and Event Schedule:

**Labor Day Weekend** – 9/4 to 9/7 at the Slate River property; \$400 was budgeted for port-o-johns.

**Annual Business Meeting** – 12/5 at the Slate River property

Rock Willoughby is the contact for both events. Please reach out to him if you have any questions.

Email: [willoughbys3@hotmail.com](mailto:willoughbys3@hotmail.com)

Phone: 804-244-6853

Below is the link to the Trip Sites Event Page

<http://floatfishermen.org/page.html>

The next page has the site address and directions for the two events still scheduled for this year.



## **Fishin' Pole Pack'n Paddle**

Current Trip Location and Directions

### **SLATE RIVER PROPERTY - Address for GPS**

10330 Bridgeport Road  
Arvon, VA 23004

#### **From Richmond:**

Take Route 6 River Road West (from downtown that's 64 West to the Oilville exit South on 617 Oilville Road, right on 250 West Broad Street Road, Left on 632 Fairgrounds Road, right on Route 6, go West), follow to Fork Union, stay straight on Route 15 James Madison Hwy, cross the James, after roughly 1.5 mi. take a right on Route 652 and cross the Slate River. Driveway will be first left.

#### **From Charlottesville:**

Take Route 20 South through Scottsville and across the James River. Turn Left onto Route 652 (Bridgeport Road). Follow approximately 9 miles and turn right into field. If you cross the Slate river, you have gone a half mile too far

#### **From Lynchburg:**

Take Route 60 East to Route 15 (James Madison Highway) North. Turn left on Route 652 (Bridgeport road) at Arvon. Route 652 and cross the Slate River. Driveway will be first left.

# Editor's Note

**I want to thank Ginnie for making a great suggestion to add the Site Locations and Addresses to the News Letter**

**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.**

FFV Membership Chair  
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