

Fishin' Pole Pack & Paddle

2015 Summer Issue



FFV Officers: Please **DO NOT** use the old 'floatfishermen.org' emails any longer.

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See FFV Web Page for ALL Officer

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<http://www.floatfishermen.org>

President's Paddle

Tony Adams

Hello everyone!!

I hope everybody is having a great summer. There has been no shortage of river fun. Our Memorial Day event was wonderful with a great turn out. Plenty of water on the James and even the Slate was running. Many thanks to Brian Graham and his band for stellar entertainment. I also want to thank Bryon Jones and friends for great barbeque.

I would like to take this opportunity to say how truly cool the 30th Batteau Festival was. Yours truly spent several days on the river starting in Lynchburg with Ryan Bomar and Chris Fox, going as far as the Slate River. . .78 miles! My last day was spent on the "Clifton Lee" from Scottsville to the Slate. Captain Lisa Barbieri-O'Sullivan gave a great performance as both fearless leader and gracious hostess to me and many other lucky guests aboard her mighty 40-foot, four thousand pound vessel. What an amazing way to see the upper James and especially to experience the Scottsville section, of which I have paddled many, many times since early childhood. The element of the Batteau working through the channels and passages was a humbling and thrilling experience which I highly recommend to all. I am truly honored to be a member of her standing crew and am excited to venture out again as soon as possible.

Labor Day at Solitude is just around the corner and Balcony Falls will be callin'. Always a good time for white water with 'Jump Rock' as the ever present perfect lunch spot!! Shane Marcum will play music...always a crowd pleaser. See directions to solitude in this newsletter. Hope you all can make it!

See ya on the Rivah!



Meeting Minutes: by Traci Martin

2015 Memorial Day Meeting Minutes / Saturday May 24, 2015

Secretary: Ginnie M. Peck (not present- Traci Martin taking minutes)

President: Tony Adams called the meeting to order 9:00 AM.

Secretary Report: *Today Adams made a motion to accept the minutes as written and posted. Rick Maddox Seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion was carried.*

Treasurer's Report: Lisa Barbieri-O'Sullivan presented the Treasury Report.

1. Balance Forward: \$9028.71
 2. Total Income Listed 2014: \$1875.00
 3. Total Listed Income with Balance Forward: \$10,903.71
 4. Total Expenses Listed 2014: \$1583.46
 5. Total Listed Income After Listed Expenses: \$9320.25
 6. Total Listed Income and Balance Forward after Expenses:
 7. Total Balance of two CD's: \$8566.10
 8. Total Combined Assets: \$17,886.35
- The above report includes the dates ranging from 12/1/14-5/1/15 .
 - **Ryan Bomar made a motion to accept report. Charlie Safley seconded the motion. No discussion followed concerning the budget. Motion was carried.**

Membership Chair: Scott McEwen reported that there are 141 paid members for 2015. This down from 205 reported in 2014. Two memberships were pending from the Roanoke Chapter. Still needed verification. Chapter Treasurers were strongly encouraged to collect all dues and send the following information to Lisa Barbieri-O'Sullivan on the receipt:

- chapter name
- amount of deposit.
- What the deposit is for. ie: Membership dues # of members 10, river tax \$60, Fund Raiser \$25.

Scott also stated if members were not getting a newsletter to please contact him to make sure he has the correct contact information on file.

Please contact your local treasurer to pay dues or to obtain a copy of the most recent membership list. You may get a copy of the list by emailing: dickels.treasurer@gmail.com



Meeting Minutes Continued

Webmaster: Traci Martin said website is up and running. Encouraged individual chapters to start their own website which could be linked to the state page. weebly.com was a suggested for chapters to use to begin their own webpage. It is free. If help was needed to start this Traci offered to do so. You can go to the state site, <http://www.floatfishermen.org/> to contact Traci Martin on the officers page or email traci.martin1970@gmail.com

Suggestions for webpage are always welcome. Please email Traci Martin.

Newsletter Editor: Taylor Adams thanked everyone for the support, newsletter submissions and the opportunity to create the newsletter.

- Said we have 26 members which continue using snail mail for newsletter.
- Half of the allotted \$500 funds for the newsletter have been used.
- Deadline for the summer newsletter is the 15th of the month prior to the release date of the newsletter.
- Newsletter slated to go out August 1, 2015, so submissions are due by July 15, 2015.

Conservation: Bill Tanger not present. Tony Adams gave an update.

Bill wanted Tony to make sure members were aware that Wild Management Areas overseen by the DGIF will often have a sign posted "Fee Access Area." This means members or anyone will need to possess a fishing license or a river access permit to be on the property. If you do not possess either of these you can be fined and will need to incur all fees and court costs associated with the ticket. **Correction: Lisa Barberi-O'Sullivan found out that the users of the boat ramp are excluded from that fee (see page 6 of the Newsletter for her written announcement).** Tony also encouraged members to read articles in the newsletter by Bill Tanger giving updates on the Cushaw Project.

Randy Carter Award Nominations are needed. Please contact Tony Adams or Bill Tanger. You can go through the officer's page on the website: <http://www.floatfishermen.org>

Old Business:

Modification to old title of the state. Moving from Float Fishermen of Virginia, INC. to "Float Fisherman of Virginia: A Canoe and Kayak Club."

Question 1: Why do we want to do that?

- Easier for potential members or people looking for website to have more success locating.
- Better explanation of what we do. Paddling more prominent within the club opposed to fishing.

Clarification: Rick Mattox wanted to clarify this was a way to market the organization. The answer was "Yes." from Tony Adams.



Meeting Minutes Continued

Question 2: Michael Powell: Is this to bring more attention to what we are (as a club)?

- “Yes.” we are primarily a paddling club with some members who fish. We want to avoid questions on fishing lures, tournaments, etc.
- Suggestion was made to use “Paddling Club.” “A Canoe and Kayak Club” was agreed upon in the last meeting, so suggested to move forward.

Charlie Safley made a motion to accept. Ryan Bomar seconded the motion. Motion voted on and carried forward.

New Business:

- A. Projector for the club: Tony Adams suggested the club to purchase a projector to show videos from trips or instructional videos are FFVA Events. Tony suggested \$150 of contributions be made towards the cost of a \$300 projector. It is becoming a tedious project to borrow a projector for events. Roc Willoughby motioned FFVA purchase the projector outright. Concerns were raised.
- a. Rick Mattox was not in favor. Questions on who would be responsible for keeping the projector and know where is was loaned out to were brought up. Worried it was setting a poor precedent.
 - b. Other members expressed concern about maintaining the projector. IE Cost of a bulb could range \$150-\$300.
 - c. Tony said he would be point person and the projector would stay with an officer with longevity in the FFVA. Protocol would need to be established to “check” the projector out. Would include check out date and return date.
 - d. It was suggested if the projector was used for non-club and/or chapter events a \$10-\$15 fee be charged to help maintain the projector.

Johnny O’Sullivan motioned we table the projector item to give members time to process the information. Lisa Barbieri-O’Sullivan and Brian Jones seconded. Motion moved forward to table the projector until the next meeting.

B. Erica Goode spoke about “Kids Float” coming up on Saturday, June 6.

- 10 volunteers are still needed.
- Last year there were 42 kids who participated in the float. There is a sign-up cap of 60 kids. Encourage all sites to participate.
- FFVA does make a contribution to help fund this event. \$500 according to 2014 Winter Meeting Minutes.
- Erica and Tony were going to discuss a radio spot for the float.
- Camping will be on the James River Runners Camping area at the Hatton Ferry take out. This is our second year camping at this site. Two camping sites which can accommodate 30+ people was donated by JRR.
 - River Tax will be collected.
- Contact Erica Goode via the FFVA website <http://www.floatfishermen.org/officers.html> or via



Meeting Minutes Continued

C. Batteau Festival is coming up: June 20-28, 2015. You can travel with 23-25 batteau down the James River and camp. You can also track the batteaus as they travel. For more information go to <http://www.vacanals.org/>

D. "Tireless James" clean-up event. Date TBA. Clean tires from the James River. 355 collected last year.

E. Lis Barberiri-O'Sullivan and Patrick O'Sullivan invited member to join them in their commitment ceremony on Monday, June 22, 2015 in DGIF Boat Ramp in Winginia, VA. Because they are traveling on the batteaus the ceremony could begin anytime between 5-7 PM.

F. Entertainment Change was suggested by Tony Adams for Labor Day Float. The band scheduled to play for Labor Day agreed to play for the Memorial Day Float. Member Shane Marshall said he would be available to play for future events. Motion was put forward to let Shane play for the Labor Day Event at Solitude.

Brian Jones made a motion to accept. Charlie Safley seconded the motion. Voted to move forward with Shane Marshall to play for Labor Day Event.

Tony Adams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ryan Bomar seconded. called to end: Adjourned at 9:36 AM.



DGIF River Access

Lisa Barbieri-O'Sullivan, FFV Treasurer

As a member of the Virginia Canal Society and the James River Batteau Festival, the issue of River Access Permits has never come up at any of our business meetings. Therefore, I called DGIF Customer Service on May 26, 2015 to clarify the information which is posted on their website and how best to interpret it.

O n t h e D G I F w e b s i t e <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/access-permit/faqs/> , the requirement for Access Permits is confined to those utilizing the Wildlife Management Area (WMA) or DGIF owned lakes.

The provision was put into effect in 2012 due to the use of the property by horseback riders who were causing damage to the property.

Boaters (of any kind) who utilize the parking areas and ramps of DGIF owned property are EXEMPT from Access Permit requirements. Also, DGIF representatives have NO AUTHORITY to ticket any vehicle at the DGIF parking areas. If anyone should have any questions, please call DGIF customer service @ [1-866-721-6911](tel:1-866-721-6911).

Geologic Wonders & Darwin Disasters on the River

Bill Tanger, Conservation Chair

Once again the intrepid voyagers from Virginia headed west; this time to run the Rogue River, the Grande Ronde, and the Salmon Rivers. Bill Tanger and Howard Kirkland drove the big-rig out, piled high with three catarafts on the trailer, and a duckie and kayak on the truck roof. Juanita Tanger flew out by plane to Oregon where all gathered at a Rogue River campground. There were 14 of us from all over the US: Virginia, Utah, Oregon, New Jersey, New York and other states. . .and with all kinds of boats. The Rogue requires a permit, which means entering a lottery. But with our gang of 20 boaters, one member got a permit which we shared.

Rough Stuff on the Rogue:

It was the first trip on the Rogue for Juanita and me, with Juanita planning to hike around Blossom Bar, one of the big three rapids on the Rogue. The first big one was Rainey Falls, which in photos is absolutely terrifying. But Rainey Falls has three ways to run: the Class VI killer falls, the Class V middle chute (which a group of our younger paddlers, the Youngbloods, ventured through) and the Class III fish ladder. Howard and I ran the fish ladder while Juanita hiked around the rapid and shot photos.

Our next big event was Mule Creek Canyon. Here, the river narrows down to just the width of a raft with oars extended. . .barely. It is a geological wonder, with walls straight up on both sides of solid volcanic rock and intense whirlpools and eddies that can stop you cold and spin you around. It was a stunning rapid with a gorgeous sidewall waterfall at the end.

Finally, the big guy. . .Blossom Bar. This rapid has had numerous fatalities, but after we scouted the rapid and Juanita scouted the portage hike, she decided to run the rapid with me. We plunged ahead and with incredible precision, made the critical cut past a barrier called The Picket Fence, then bounced off several other rocks and stumbled home safely. It was a thriller! Most of the other rapids were Class III and the scenery was marvelous. We had one evening of rain, but oddly enough, our campsite had a pavilion where about eight of us camped out and were dry!



Middle Chute of Rainey Falls



Heading into Blossom Bar



Geologic Wonders & Darwin Disasters on the River (Cont.)

Bill Tanger, Conservation Chair

The Very Grand, Grande Ronde:

Our second river was a six-day trip on the Grande Ronde with seven boaters. The river runs mostly in Oregon but flows the last day or two in Washington and ends on the Snake River in Idaho. Interestingly, on the third and fourth night there were very tiny villages where we could stay in a “motel” which were actually very nicely appointed doublewides. In the middle of an almost wilderness experience we had bathrooms, showers, a kitchen, living room and even a TV!

The Grande Ronde is beautiful, with six days of only Class III rapids except for one Class IV, yet we only saw one other boat on the last three days of the trip; simply amazing. There are so many great rivers in Oregon that some have very few people on them.

Darwin on the Salmon:

Our last river was to be the Salmon. On this trip we had four boaters with one shuttle bunny; it was to be a schizophrenic trip. We ran a section on the Main Salmon from Carey Creek to Spring Bar; big water, as usual on this part of the Salmon, but a beauty of a day on a beauty of a river.

About halfway down, I saw something in the water that looked very suspicious, so I rowed over towards the object and realized it was a body floating face down in the water! I blew my safety whistle and called the others back. The body was floating in a big eddy, so we corralled it and nerfed it to shore, where we pulled it up partially on some rocks. The riverbank was 20 feet straight up and we could not move the body or even get up the bank to a gravel road that ran nearby, so two of our group floated downstream to where they could get up to the road to look for help.

The short version is that we eventually made contact with the local Sheriff in Riggins, Idaho, who then sent a motorboat on a trailer to Spring Bar which then went back upstream for the body. Turns out the guy was one of two canoeists who tried to cross the Salmon without lifejackets. They made it across to visit a hot springs on river right, but when they tried to get back they flipped over and both drowned. This guy was wearing blue jeans, heavy boots and a T-shirt.

The police and emergency crews had been searching for the body for two weeks, the other canoeist was found four days earlier. We all know better than boating without a life jacket, but it is still the harshest reminder of all to find someone who has died because of it. Never leave shore without one.

Return to the heat wave:

And so, we decided to wrap things up on that somber note. Heat records were being set all the way home. Five days later we were back in Roanoke after repairing a blown tire and our radiator reserve tank. Sometimes it is really great to be home.



Expanding Public Access to State Waters

Bill Tanger, Conservation Chair

Governor McAuliffe Signs Agreement on Expanding Public Access to State Waters

The MOU enhances the partnership among three state agencies to increase access to public waters

Governor Terry McAuliffe today signed a Memorandum of Understanding that solidifies Virginia's commitment to enhancing recreational water access throughout the Commonwealth. The MOU, signed in a public ceremony at Gloucester Point Beach Park on the York River, directs three state agencies to work together to identify new potential public-access projects, particularly at bridge crossings and roads.

“Expanding public access to state waters is a concrete step we can take to help Virginians and visitors enjoy outdoor recreation here in our great Commonwealth,” said Governor McAuliffe. “Water-based recreation encourages physical activity and appreciation for Virginia's natural resources and it is an important driver of our tourism sector and with it, the new Virginia economy.”

The three agencies mentioned in the MOU are the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, and the Virginia Department of Transportation. The MOU formalizes the process by which the agencies will work together on new access projects. Specifically, the MOU states:

- DCR, DGIF and VDOT representatives will meet at least annually to review bridge, road or ferry project sites for the potential to offer public access to state waters.
- DCR or DGIF will seek comments from adjacent property owners, local governments and other stakeholders for proposed access projects.
- VDOT will stabilize or leave in place any access roads or staging areas within its right of way that could be useful for the development of access projects.

Gloucester Point Beach Park was selected for the signing because all three agencies worked with Gloucester County to create public access to the river there.

New or enhanced access points for public recreational use can qualify as [Virginia Treasures](#) through the governor's new initiative. The goal is to designate 1,000 treasures during the McAuliffe administration.

For more than 15 years, the Virginia Outdoors Demand Survey has ranked public access to state waters for recreation as one of the top 10 outdoor recreation needs in the state. The survey is administered widely to a cross-section of Virginia residents. To learn about the survey, visit www.dcr.virginia.gov/vop.



FFV EVENTS

Directions to Solitude / Labor Day Weekend

2015 Trip Schedule

See Web Page for details

- **Labor Day Weekend:** 9/4/15 - 9/7/15 at Solitude on the James
- **Dickel Bash:** TBA
- **Winter Meeting:** 12/5/15 at Ruckers Run on the Tye River
- **Fruitcake Float:** 1/1/16 TBA

Many FFV'ers paddle year round. Please check out the Chapter Facebook pages for any upcoming trips. Most trips are planned only a few days in advance, with details posted on Facebook.

Search the following to find chapters on Facebook:

George Dickel Chapter: FFV George Dickel Chapter
Randy Carter Chapter: FFV Randy Carter Chapter
Roanoke Valley Chapter: Float Fishermen of Virginia - Roanoke Valley Chapter
Scotts Creek Chapter: Scotts Creek Chapter of Float Fishermen of VA

From Charlottesville:

Follow I-64 West to I-81 South.
Then follow I-81 South to Exit 168 (Arcadia)
Turn Left on Arcadia Rd (Rt. 618)
Turn Left on Solitude Rd. (Rt. 622)
Camp will be on the Left.

From Bedford:

Follow US 460 West to US 220
Then follow US 220 North to I-81,
Follow I-81 North to Exit 168 (Arcadia)
Turn Right on Arcadia Rd (Rt. 618)
Turn Left on Solitude Rd. (Rt. 622)
Camp will be on the Left.

From Amherst:

Follow VA Route 130 to Natural Bridge,
Then follow US 11 South to I-81
Then follow I-81 South to Exit 168 (Arcadia)
Turn Left on Arcadia Rd (Rt. 618)
Turn Left on Solitude Rd. (Rt. 622)
Camp will be on the Left.

From Roanoke:

Follow I-81 North to Exit 168 (Arcadia)
Turn Right on Arcadia Rd (Rt. 618)
Turn Left on Solitude Rd. (Rt. 622)
Camp will be on the Left.

Directions & Map on Web Page

<http://www.floatfishermen.org/solitude-event-sites.html>

Google Directions / Physical Address:
1571 Solitude Rd
Buchanan, VA 24066



Editor's Note

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.

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