

FISHIN' POLE, PACK & PADDLE

FLOAT FISHERMEN OF VIRGINIA

WINTER 2012 ISSUE

2011 WINTER MEETING NOTES

President Brian Vande Sande called the Winter 2011 meeting to order at the Slate River property on December 3rd at 11 AM and asked for reports.

Secretary's Report

Linda VanLuik reported that the Labor Day meeting minutes were distributed via the Fishin' Pole, Pack and Paddle. Those present accepted the minutes as printed in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report

Katherine Boyd distributed the current report for July through November and pointed out specific details: total assets of approximately \$18,000 include almost \$10,000 in income and about \$8,500 in Certificates of Deposit. State dues are now due. Katherine then stated that some chapters are not forwarding deposit slips which she needs. Members who need reimbursement for club-related expenses should submit invoices for reimbursement. Her report was approved and accepted.

Membership Report

Tim Stuller stated that current membership comprises 242 family/individual members. If any member would like a current roster, contact Tim and he will Email rosters.

Conservation Report

Bill Tanger circulated a report, outlined the current status of several access issues and reported on a state study for licensing small hydro dam projects. The report Bill circulated outlines the final paddle sport plan for the New River Gorge.

Access along the Roanoke River at Rutrough Road is progressing; final approval for a ramp and steps will allow work to begin in January. In relation to the Jackson River law suit, Friends of the

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IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION

FFV was thought to be a 501(c)(3) organization. However current classification by the IRS has FFV as a 501(c)(7) organization and that dues payments are not tax deductible.

Please note this change when preparing your taxes this year.

**FLOAT FISHERMEN
OF VIRGINIA, INC.**

President

Brian Vande Sande
president@floatfishermen.org

Vice Presidents

Bill Duncan
Ken Ingram
Erica Sims Goode
Roc Cooper

Secretary

Linda Van Luik
2771 Summit Ridge Road
Roanoke, VA 24012
secretary@floatfishermen.org

Treasurer

Katherine Waller Boyd
4422 Wakefield Road
Richmond, VA 23235
treasurer@floatfishermen.org

Conservation

Bill Tanger
P.O. Box 1750
Roanoke, VA 24008-1750
(540) 366-2228 H
bill.tanger@verizon.net

Membership

Tim Stuller
membership@floatfishermen.org

Webmaster

Bob Born
524 Columbia Ave.
Ramseur, NC 27316
webmaster@floatfishermen.org

Newsletter

Allison Herbert
9718 Kendrick Road
Richmond, VA 23236
editor@floatfishermen.org



CONSERVATION REPORT

CURRENT CONSERVATION PROJECTS

- Tom Miller and I are working diligently on the menhaden issue, attending meetings, writing letters and generally prodding the process along. There is progress on this.
- Tom and I are also working on the uranium mining issue. We attended the Environmental Lobby day in January with Barb Miller and Juanita Callis. The moratorium will be extended through this year.
- Working the Jackson River issue. FORVA is handling the fundraising funds, which is quite time-consuming. So far the Virginia Rivers Defense Fund, which we helped set up, has brought in \$30,000. FORVA has donated over \$5,000 in time on this.
- Working on an access point to the Roanoke River at Explore Park. It now appears we will be getting a 30-space parking lot in February, with donated time and materials. We should also be getting the final OK to put in a new ramp by the end of February, again with donated time and materials.
- Working on creating another park like Whitt-Riverbend along Stroubles Creek in Montgomery County. We have met with the supervisors so far and will bring this before the board in April.
- Working on improved access to the James at Gala, Alpine, Glasgow and Snowden. DGIF just put in a new culvert at Glasgow. Next we do fencing along the railroad track near the trestle.
- Working on the Pigg River dam removal with the Fish & Wildlife Service. We are hoping to get the owner to donate the 1.5 acre property so we can proceed.

If anyone wants to help, please let me know.

Bill Tanger, Conservation Chair

NEW FOR 2012 - ACCESS PERMITS

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF) will require an Access Permit for visitors to department-owned Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and public fishing lakes effective January 1, 2012, who are age 17 and older, unless they possess a valid Virginia hunting, freshwater fishing, or trapping license, or a current Virginia boat registration.

For more details on this new law, please visit:

<http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/access-permit/>

WINTER MEETING NOTES

(CONTINUED)

Rivers of Virginia has raised \$15,000 to assist with legal fees. This suit has several important ramifications: it pits the rights of private property owners against the public's right to paddle the river that passes through their property. At Snowden along the James, CSX has erected a fence with a no trespassing sign to discourage boaters from using an informal take out that crosses the railroad tracks. Upstream at Glasgow, there are plans for CSX to donate part of the old towpath to the town of Glasgow to manage as a park which will provide public access to the river. A culvert will be installed to take the place of a washed-out bridge and will provide boaters with an easier put-in on the James, thereby avoiding the rapid at Locher Landing if they so choose.

Plans to form a state committee to study general permitting that would lead to the licensing of small hydro dam projects has been postponed to 2014 but could be revisited earlier if the state receives a request to put in a small dam.

Newsletter Report

Allison Herbert apologized for an error in the meeting time as stated in the newsletter.

Webmaster's Report

Bob was not present but it was reported that he is doing well with his treatments.

Foundation Report

Three different properties on the James near Gala or Alpine could be under consideration to be purchased as access.

Old Business

A \$75 donation to the town of Pearisburg which oversees Whitt Riverbend Park (the site of the FFV Labor Day meeting) was approved but not sent, the reason being that they sent the organization an invoice for \$275; Bill Tanger paid them \$175 for which he will be reimbursed.

A memorial contribution of approximately \$50-60 will be made for Margaret Strawser, a long-time Randy Carter FFV member who passed away.

New Business

The slate of officers for 2012 was announced: all current officers are returning. A new secretary will be needed in 2014. Anyone interested, please inform the nominating committee before next September.

Bill Tanger suggested viewing a video about the Grand Canyon as part of a future meeting.

Bill also circulated biographical information of a nominee for the Randy Carter award.

Contributions to the following organizations were proposed and approved: \$100 to American Rivers, American Whitewater and FORVA; \$100 is also earmarked for the Jackson River Defense Fund.

The calendar for the upcoming year and tasks relating to state functions were assigned. Look below for the 2012 FFV Calendar.

2012 TRIP SCHEDULE

April 6-8 Back Creek

Lodging at Douthat State Park
Contact: Scotts Creek Chapter

April 13-15 Spring Fling on the Rockfish

Contact: Dickel Chapter

April 27-29 Cajun Weekend on the Rappahannock

Contact: Randy Carter Chapter

May 25-28 Memorial Day Float

Location: TBD (R5 or Solitude)

June Date TBD Kids Float

Location: James River near Tapscott's Farm
Contact: Erica Sims Goode

August 31 - September 3 Labor Day Float

Location: TBD (Solitude or Slate)

December 1 Winter Meeting

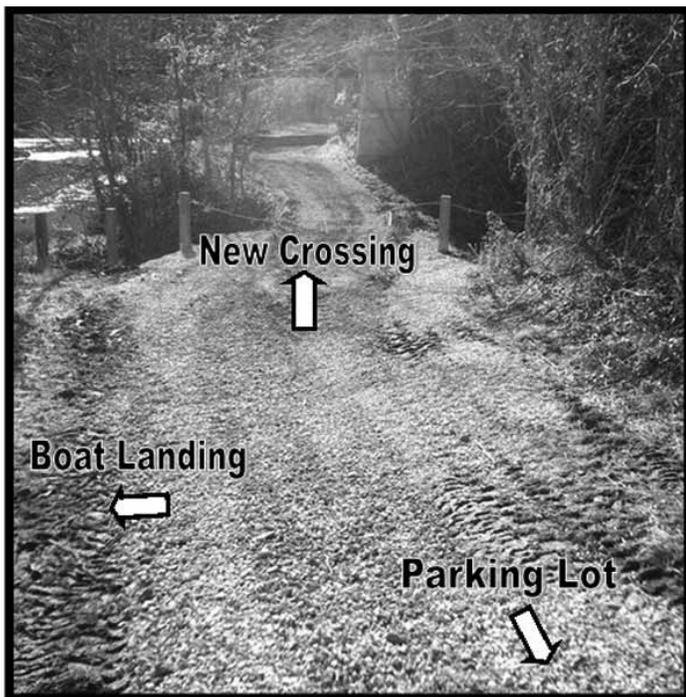
Location: TBD

Editor's Note

The opinions expressed in FPP&P are those of the author and not necessarily those of FFV or its members. Articles and material for publication may be submitted to the FPP&P editor. Preferred format: E-mail with attachments in Word, RTF, and/or JPEG. Dates for submitting material for publication: 1st of February, April, August and November. The Editor reserves the right to edit as needed. Comments, criticism and compliments are always welcome.



4422 Wakefield Road
Richmond, VA 23235
www.floatfishermen.org
info@floatfishermen.org



LOCHER LANDING IMPROVEMENTS

Progress continues on improvements to the Locher Access. This project is led by the Locher Coalition consisting of FORVA, Rockbridge County, Twin Rivers Outfitters, CSX, the Town of Glasgow, and assorted individuals, with help from DGIF. Back around 1970 DGIF contracted with CSX to put in a culvert and fencing around the CSX culvert, so the recent work is the result of an old contract. DGIF will install the fencing next. Then the coalition will try to finalize the purchase or gift of this 6.5 acre property. The Town of Glasgow will hold the property, which runs along the James River for over a half mile. Before the improved access can be legally used, we will need to build a debris shelter under the trestle. We will need to raise funds for this and will do this after the property is transferred. Finally, we will also be building some steps with a slide on the bank of the James. We will need to raise funds for this as well. We hope to find some Scouts who will make this their project.

For the coalition... ---- Bill Tanger