



# ***Fishin' Pole Pack & Paddle 2017 Winter Issue***

Greetings All,

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

**President: Ryan Bomar**

**southernboy4u07@aol.com**

**Newsletter Editor: Taylor Adams**

**xtadams94x@gmail.com**

**Secretary: Ginnie Peck**

**dickels.treasurer@gmail.com**

**Treasurer: Thomas Baker**

**tumbakre@gmail.com**

**Co-Membership: Scott McEwen**

**& Ginnie Peck**

**ffvbusiness@gmail.com**

**Webmaster: Traci Martin**

**traci.martin1970@gmail.com**

**Conservation: Bill Tanger**

**bill.tanger@verizon.net**

**Vice Presidents: Bill Duncan, Erica**

**Goode, & Bill Tanger, Tony Adams**

**See FFV Web Page for ALL Officer &**

**chair Email Contact Info:**

**<http://www.floatfishermen.org>**

**FFV Anual Dues: \$20.00**

**Please contact your local chapter treasurer to pay dues.**

After an usually dry and late summer and fall, it's exciting to finally start seeing some wet weather on the horizon. We've got some great floats scheduled over the next several months, so break out the neoprene and get ready to hit the river. The next outing is the Groundhog's Day float on Feb 5th; it is a new addition to the schedule and will be a day float at Balcony Falls on the James. Balcony Falls is a class II-III run and for anyone who is looking to step-up their paddling this is a great place to start.

In new club business, I'm happy to announce that we have a new state Treasurer : Thomas "Crazy Tom" Baker. Also, all of our Richmond area members will be excited to hear of the completion of a new canoe/kayak launch and parking area at Tucker Park on the James. This was made possible thanks to the hard work of our own Don Leeger & Kitty Kimmel along with Friends of Goochland Parks. Be sure to thank them when you see them; with increased river access comes increased appreciation for our rivers. You can read the full article here:

<https://issuu.com/goochlandgazette/docs/201610825rsga>

As we start out a new year there's one more thing I want to impart on you and that is that we need to increase our membership. If you have family or friends who you think would be a good fit for our club then I encourage you to bring them to an event and let them see just how much fun the Float Fishermen can be!

Almost forgot, dues for 2017 are due so contact your chapter Treasurer to pay them. Thanks.

See you downstream.

-Ryan Bomar



# *Meeting Minutes*

## *By*

## *Ginnie Peck*

**2016 FFV Winter Meeting: Saturday 12/3/16**

**President:** Ryan Bomar called the meeting to order at 11:12am. He thanked the property owners for the use of the property and the membership for trusting him at the Helm.

**Secretary's Report:** *Ginnie Peck made a motion to accept the Labor Day Meeting Minutes as printed in the 2016 Fall Newsletter. Tony Adams seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion was passed.*

**Treasurer's Report:** Lisa Barbieri O'Sullivan presented the report along with copies for the membership. Total Balance in the account: \$9,976.47. Total in CDs: \$8,580.92. Total Expenses for 2016: \$2,993.41. Total Income 2016: \$2,190.00. In the RED: \$803.41

*Kathleen Leeger made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Tony Adams seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion was passed.*

Thomas Baker will assume the role of FFV State Treasurer. E-Mail: **tumbakre@gmail.com**

All Chapter Treasurers are asked to email a copy of ALL FFV State Deposit Receipts to Tom Baker.

The following information should be included on each receipt. 1. Name of Chapter making the deposit and what the deposit is for. 2. The number of membership dues paid for that deposit. 3. Please make sure the whole receipt is visible in the picture. 4. Please do not Picture Text the deposit Receipt. 5. Contact Tom if you would like to mail the receipt.

**Webmaster Report:** Traci Martin was unable to attend the meeting. Members have asked that the FFV Logo be added to the Webpage.

E-mail: [traci.martin1970@gmail.com](mailto:traci.martin1970@gmail.com)

**Membership Chair:** Scott McEwen stated that as of the meeting we had 163 paid members for 2016. That is way down from last year. We need to do two things. 1. Bring in new members. 2. We need to encourage previous members to pay their dues. There are many active members that did not pay 2016 dues.

Tom Baker suggested we set up a booth at our perspective local events & at the FFV State Meetings, with FFV information and applications on hand. Bomar & Ginnie volunteered to host a booth for 2 nights at the 2017 Bateau Festival; The first day of the festival & on Wednesday in Scottsville.



# *Meeting Minutes*

## *By*

## *Ginnie Peck*

**Newsletter Editor:** Taylor Adams was unable to attend the meeting. There has not been much in the way of newsletter submissions. The newsletter is going to be very short without active submissions. All submissions should be emailed to:

**ffvbusiness@gmail.com**

Deadlines are as follows: Winter Newsletter goes out February 1 / the deadline for submissions is January 15. Spring Newsletter goes out May 1 / Deadline for submissions is April 15. Summer Newsletter goes out August 1 / Deadline for submissions is July 15. Fall Newsletter goes out November 1 / Deadline for submissions is October 15. This information can be found on the last page of ALL newsletters.

**Conservation Chair:** Bill Tanger was unable to attend the meeting. He was otherwise engaged at another River Conservation Event. **THANK YOU BILL, for your unwavering dedication!**

### **Old Business:**

1. Bomar has all of the new FFV pins and decals. Please contact him if you would like to purchase or sell the items.

Pins: \$5

Patches: \$5

Small Decals: \$3

Large decals: \$5

2. Don Leeger gave an update on the Friends of the Goochland Parks.

The boat ramp is complete and gives boat access to the James River in Goochland County.

The boat ramp is similar to the ramp at Kelly's Ford and at Balcony Falls.

### **New Business:**

1. Finance Committee Report & Foundation Report: Bill Tanger unable to attend.

2. Konrad Zeller: A new boat ramp on the Rivanna River, in Charlottesville, is in the planning stages. Albemarle County Recreation is planning to put in a ramp under the 29 business bridge just North of Lowes. This is also just below the Reservoir and Dam.

3. Herb Coleman is working on creating a scholarship program for young adults, through FFV. There are many details to be worked out. He is still in the beginning phase of the project.

If you are interested in being on the committee or helping to get the program details outlined, please contact Herb Coleman: [herb@clachanproperties.com](mailto:herb@clachanproperties.com)

Herb will continue to develop the idea and present the details at the Memorial Day Meeting.



# *Meeting Minutes*

## *By*

### *Ginnie Peck*

#### 4. Increasing Membership v Increasing Dues

Ryan Bomar suggested we discuss raising dues, in light of our income being expenses being greater than our income last year.

Don Leeger stated that it been about 10 years since the annual dues were raised from \$15.00 to \$20.00.

Rick Mattox recommended we work on increasing Membership before we consider increasing the dues again.

Rock Willoughby suggested we also set up a booth, at our annual events, for prospective members to complete Membership Applications. The booths should also include T-shirts, decals, pins, patches for purchase.

The conversation has been tabled to the next meeting.

5. Ryan Bomar stated that over the past few meetings he has heard many members discuss finding new locations for the Memorial Day & Labor Day Events. Suggestions are welcomed and event planning happens at the Winter Meeting. Participation has been very low at the past several winter Meetings. This directly affects the event planning.

**FYI: DGIF & VA Tech** are working together to find new methods to generate revenue. DGIF emailed a questionnaire to Don Leeger. This email was not sent to the general public and we are not sure who or how many people were included or from which organizations. It is basically a tool for gathering information and opinions regarding the work DGIF does and perspective new projects.

***Rick Mattox made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tony Adams seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. Motion was passed.***

**Meeting adjourned at 12:45pm**

#### **Meeting Minutes Addendum**

Bill Tanger was unable to attend the winter Meeting. Unfortunately, we did not discuss our annual donations to the following organizations: FORVA; American Whitewater and American Rivers.

We typically donate \$100.00 to each. In the past our Treasurer write out three checks & will send them to Bill Tanger. He then sends them out with conservation messages.

I apologize for the oversight. I did not remember until after the meeting was adjourned. We will discuss this at the Memorial Day meeting, if needed. Thank You, Ginnie M Peck



# *FORVA Currents*

## *By*

## *Bill Tanger*

**Pigg River Dam Removal:** The dam is out! The river runs free. Now the movement of sediment and woody debris is happening, like plate tectonics on steroids. Huge 80 foot trees have fallen into the river. Banks 25 feet high have collapsed and the sediment is running downstream. The riverbanks look like an earthquake hit and aftershocks continue. Over 100 years of sediment and woody debris are being returned to the river in a rush. I encourage you to come visit the site! Next we will be working on development of a historic resources site plan for the old power dam and environs. In addition, we have started monitoring the results of the dam removal, which will continue for the next 5 years.

---Bill Tanger

**James River – Balcony Falls Take-out:** FORVA continues to work with DCR and others to develop options for access to the James River below Balcony Falls. At this point we are considering going to Dominion to see if we can handle the project without DCR involvement. Having DCR act as a middleman has not been very productive, although we are making slow progress. To use an engineering firm, for example, we have to use one of the DCR pre-approved firms instead of being able to reach out to others more suitable.

---Bill Tanger, Tom Miller & Howard Kirkland

**Roanoke River - Rutrough Point Erosion:** The stone wall is in! This project put in 80 feet of rock wall to reduce the erosion and sedimentation problem. It's working! Now we are already looking at Phase II, with the support of Roanoke County for some funding. Phase II plans call for another 200 feet of wall to reduce erosion.

---Bill Tanger

**New River - Price Park:** A 50 acre park along Stroubles Creek in Montgomery County is being created by FORVA. We are working on a new footbridge across Walls Branch to be completed by the Va Tech Cadets. Our fundraiser at the Blacksburg IMAX was a success! 80 people attended our showing of the 45 minute film "River at Risk" about the Colorado in the Grand Canyon. We cleared \$400. ---Rick Roth, Randi Lemmon and Bill Tanger

**Roanoke River - Blueway:** FORVA is co-chair of the Roanoke River Blueway Committee, now with an interactive website. Working on a new guidebook and mapbook. We have already done our logo and signs.

---Bill Tanger

**Big Otter River:** We are looking at a possible new access on the Big Otter. If the owner will sell, we will need to raise about \$15,000.

---Bill Tanger



# *The Health of the Bay*

*Official article from Bay Journal*

## **Bay earns C-minus in latest report card on its health**

Checkup by Chesapeake Bay Foundation finds overall conditions best since it began taking pulse in 1998



*The Bay's iconic blue crab rebounded dramatically in past two years, helping lift the Chesapeake's overall health rating in the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's latest status check. (Dave Harp)*

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation has taken the pulse again of the nation's largest estuary, and found its health has improved a bit, though it's still far from out of the woods. The Annapolis-based environmental group released its latest "State of the Bay" report on Thursday, declaring that the Chesapeake is in better shape overall now than at any time since the foundation began issuing regular updates in 1998.

The Bay earned a cumulative score of 34 out of 100 in the foundation's evaluation of conditions in three basic categories — pollution, habitat and fisheries. That score, two points above the last rating in 2014, was good enough to nudge the Chesapeake's health to a higher letter grade on CBF's A through F scale.

"We're out of the D column and into the C's," Foundation President Will Baker said. "A C-minus, but that's still a C."

Foundation scientists judged 9 of the 13 indicators they checked had improved, as had the cumulative scores in each of the three categories. Underwater grasses, rockfish, oysters, and shad made modest progress, while blue crabs showed dramatic gains in the past two years, the report said.



# *The Health of the Bay*

*Official article from Bay Journal*

Most water-quality indicators showed improvement, including nitrogen and phosphorus pollution, clarity and dissolved oxygen. Only toxic contaminants remained unchanged.

In habitat, though, protection of wetlands and other resource lands didn't improve, in the foundation's estimation, while state efforts to protect water quality with stream buffers actually lost ground.

"Despite federal and state commitments, forest buffer plantings were the lowest in the last 16 years," the report said. The states planted only about 440 streamside acres, compared with a goal of 14,000 acres annually. The report called that lack of progress "alarming." And as Virginia Public Radio reporter Pamela D'Angelo noted, the scores given some water-quality indicators in the latest report are not significantly better than they were in the foundation's first "State of the Bay" report in 1998. Baker attributed that to the continuing "pressures" on the estuary from population growth and development.

Nevertheless, the foundation president made a point of celebrating the big picture in a telephone press conference, calling the overall news about the Bay's status "very good." He said the latest report made him feel better than he has in a long time about the Chesapeake's future, and he's been president of the environmental group for 35 of its 50 years. For much of the past two decades, the foundation's rating of the Bay's health seemed stuck in the high 20s inching up a point or two, only to drop back.

Then, in 2010, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency directed the six Bay watershed states and the District of Columbia to take steps by 2025 to reduce nutrient and sediment pollution by 20 to 25 percent.

Baker credited the Baywide "total maximum daily load," which the foundation calls a "clean water blueprint," for driving the improvements seen in the last six years. But he warned that those gains are fragile and could easily be lost if the increased pollution reduction efforts of the states and federal government are not maintained.

"The Bay is not saved yet," Baker said. "Our score keeps the Bay in the dangerously out of balance zone ... and it shows us how much more needs to be done."

Baker noted that Pennsylvania has lagged badly behind other watershed states in its pollution reductions, but he said the Keystone State has made some progress lately. Now, he said, it must "double down" on its efforts to catch up.

Some worry that the incoming administration of President-elect Donald Trump, given remarks he's made about EPA, may throttle back federal involvement in the Bay restoration effort.

Without specifically acknowledging those concerns, Baker said the federal government has been a "critical partner" to the states in addressing pollution issues that extend beyond any jurisdiction's borders.

"We're very hopeful that will continue; we're optimistic," he said. And if it doesn't, he said the foundation and others would be "strong advocates" for why the federal government should stay as involved.



# 2017 FFV *Schedule of Events*

**Dickel Groundhog Float:** February 5 on the Tye River or at Balcony Falls /  
Contact: Ryan Bomar: [southernboy4u07@aol.com](mailto:southernboy4u07@aol.com)

**Dickel Winter Float:** February 25 or 26 on the Tye or Balcony Falls /  
Contact Ginnie Peck: [ginniepeck@gmail.com](mailto:ginniepeck@gmail.com)

**Dickel Spring Fling @ the Peck's on the Rockfish:** April 7 - 9 /  
Contact: Ginnie Peck

**Douthat State Park:** April 21 - 23 / Contact: Rick Mattox:  
[rdmattox@verizon.net](mailto:rdmattox@verizon.net)

**Cajun Weekend @ R5:** April 28 - 30 / Contact Ed Galloway for tickets:  
[ewgalloway@verizon.net](mailto:ewgalloway@verizon.net)

**Memorial Weekend @ the Slate River Property:** May 26 - 29 / Contact  
Ginnie Peck

**FFV Summer Float:** TBA

**Labor Day Weekend @ Solitude:** September 1 - 4 / Contact Bill Tanger:  
[bill.tanger@verizon.net](mailto:bill.tanger@verizon.net)

**Dickel Bash @ Slate River Property:** September 22 - 24 / Contact Ginnie  
Peck

**FFV Winter Meeting @ Slate River Property:** TBA

**Fruit Cake Float:** January 1, 2018 / Contact: Konrad Zeller:  
[kzeller@rivanna.org](mailto:kzeller@rivanna.org)



# *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.**

Float Fishermen of Virginia  
Membership Chair  
794 Farrar Bridge Lane  
Shipman, VA 22971