



ETWC NEWSLETTER October 2013

PROMOTE canoeing and kayaking as a water sport
TEACH boating techniques and water safety for river travel
PRESERVE our remaining wilderness rivers for future generations

ETWC Membership Roster

Our latest roster is attached.

Club Meetings

(All Members Welcome)

We've cut back on our meeting frequency and modified our by-laws accordingly. Our ETWC 2013-2014.

Tuesday, October 15, 2013

There will be a ETWC Christmas party in December

Tuesday, February 18, 2014

Tuesday, May 20, 2014

Monday, June 2, 2014, Beginner Clinic meeting

**Meetings will continue to be in the
Craft Room Oak Ridge Civic Center at
7:30pm**

***ETWC
P.O. Box 5774
Oak Ridge, TN 37831-5774***

OFFICERS

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Please keep your dues up to date!

If you want to pay online via PayPal, fill out the form at:
http://www.etcweb.com/concrete/membership/online_form
 Or, send Kary your \$15 check payable to ETWC along with the
 membership form at the end of this newsletter to:

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - 7TH OF EACH MONTH

Newsletter Editor: Bill Lewis
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 Photos in jpeg, gif, or bmp format.
 Reports and Classifieds as a Word or Text File Document.
 Newsletter is emailed in PDF Format-contact the editor for information.

Check out our website at <http://www.etcweb.com>

East Tennessee Whitewater Club Business

East Tennessee Whitewater Club

May 19, 2013

Clinic

We discussed logistics for the clinic. Topics discussed included instructors, safety boaters, equipment, and advertising.

Obed Wild and Scenic River

Earlier in May the Park Service introduced all Morgan County 6th graders to climbing, paddling, and other outdoor topics pertinent to the Obed. The training consisted of seven days altogether and was funded by a grant secured by the Park Service. AS they have done in past years several ETWC members helped NPS staff with the event.

Annual Clean-Up Obed River /Volunteer Appreciation Lunch

On Saturday, May 11 the Park Service hosted the Annual Clean-Up Obed River and Volunteer Appreciation Lunch. About 35 people (including ETWC members) with a diverse array of backgrounds participated.

Treasurer's Report

Kary reported that we have \$762.56 in our checking account and \$5,731.89 in savings.

Kary also reported that we would probably come pretty close to breaking even on the cost of roll practice at the Oak Ridge pool.

Kary will send out reminder notices to members who have not paid club dues since 2011.

East Tennessee Whitewater Club

April 17, 2013

Treasurer's Report

Kary reported that we have \$630.77 in our checking account and \$5,728.26 in savings.

Kary prepared a cash flow report comparing our income and expenses from November 1, 2011 through October 31, 2012. Our total income during this 12-month period was \$2,875.26 compared with total expenses of \$3,598.61. This represented a net difference of -\$723.35 for the period.

Clinic

The clinic will be June 3-8 this year. Rick has become the *de facto* Clinic Coordinator for this year. The poster for the clinic was distributed at the meeting. The forms are already on the ETWC website. Rick has begun contacting people to help with the clinic (teaching and coordination) and to loan equipment for the students.

Donations

The proposed club donations for 2013 were voted on and passed at the February meeting.

• TCWP (Tennessee Citizen's for Wilderness Planning)	\$200
• AW (American Whitewater)	\$200
• Friends of the Great Smoky Mountains	\$100
• Cumberland Trails Conservation	\$100
• NPCA (National Parks Conservation Association)	\$100
• American Canoe Association	<u>\$125</u>
	\$825

New Business

David Fox volunteered to be ETWC vice president for 2013. He was unanimously voted in.

The Special Needs canoe event is scheduled for Saturday, July 20, 2013. David suggested we have a meeting/cookout party at roll practice the Friday before on July 19.

Kary reported that the city of Oak Ridge has increased rental fees for room and pool rental effective January 1, 2013. Our contracts with the city run through June 2013 under the old fee rates. Our 2013-2014 room rental contract has to be turned in soon. If we want to make any changes, now is the time.

A proposal was made to amend our meeting schedule. To do this we will have to vote on changes to the club bylaws concerning meetings. Currently the bylaws require having a meeting the 3rd Tuesday of each month. This doesn't allow for meetings on other days of the week or for not having meetings every month.

ETWC 2013 Membership Roster

We've attached the latest membership roster. Thanks to Kary and Bill Wilder for maintaining this list.

Of special note; check out the clinic column to see who is new to our club. It is important that we post our Class II trips to the forum and invite the beginners to join in. They are a real blast!

Also, if you do not have a y13 in your status column, you haven't paid your 2013 dues. It's not too late:

If you want to pay online, via our secure site fill out the form [HERE](#)

Or, Send Kary your \$15 check payable to ETWC along with the membership form at the end of this newsletter to:

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Special Needs Canoe Event

The Special Needs Canoe Event was held on Saturday July 20. David Fox spearheaded this event and had good participation from the membership. David did a good job of posting a report on this event on our forum, but for those who didn't see it here are some highlights! I cut the following from David's post to the forum, it kind of sums it up.

If you were not there, U missed the funest, biggest paddling event ever in Oak Ridge TN. Do not have a full count yet,,, but over a 100 people paddling

Following pics by MDKeough and copied from our forum.





A Summer to Remember

At this time of the year I'm torn between the mourning that comes with the passing of summer and the joy that comes with the cooler temperatures and the beauty of the leaves changing. As I reflect on this summer I've had some pretty amazing experiences. It's going to be a tough one to get over. This has been an all time record rainfall summer. And, as all of our friends at work were lamenting the rainy days, we kayakers were trying to suppress a huge smile as we imagined our favorite creeks rising. We were paddling the creeks in the Smokies and on the Plateau in JULY which is unheard of. Being a summer time paddler, I personally had first descents of the Tellico Ledges and Middle, the Greenbriar Creek, and the Elkmont section of the Little. At the end of each of these runs I remember thinking "This was the best day EVER!" But no, each time there were better to come. Much of the Plateau was running off and on throughout the summer. The Nolichucky stayed at good levels all summer. WOW!

Each of the rivers I paddled for the first time were totally unique and different from the big flow dam release rivers I've run in the past. I recall putting in on the Greenbriar and feeling like I was in a sled sliding down a hill strewn with boulders. The Tellico Ledges was amazing with its continuous string of ledges (mini_waterfalls) and ending with Baby Falls a 12' drop into a deep pool and Jared's Knee a genuine class IV rapid that had me paddling for my life a couple of times.

It seemed like we had a group running clear creek or one of the rivers on the plateau every week.

AND ALL OF THIS WAS GOING ON IN JULY!!!

It was an amazing summer, and one that I'll not soon forget.

(And yes I know that if I weren't such a woose and would spring for a dry suit, I could paddle with our hardy winter time paddlers all winter. I've been told that's the best paddling anyway with a little frost on the water.)

I hope you all had the same feelings about this summer. Send me some trip reports about your experiences so we can share them with everyone.



Boofing Bill on the Tellico Ledges!



Baby Falls, it's easier than it looks! Thanks for the awesome pictures Crystal Maine!

Beginner Kayakers from the June Clinic.

Rick stepped in and ran our kayak clinic this year and he and his assistants must have done something right. I've paddled a couple of times this summer with the beginners and it was a real treat. Rick and team have really adopted these guys and they are a very motivated and talented group. They tore up the Hiwassee and have been doing the same to the Nantahala the past couple of months. I think some of them are probably ready for the Pigeon or soon will be. Ocoee here we come!

On the trips I went along they were surfing every opportunity and combat rolls were common. I've learned that kayaking is very much a skill sport and there's no substitute for time on the water to develop those skills. These guys seem to be well on their way.

Hiwassee Pictures





CONTINUING THREATS TO THE OBED: The Obed watershed should not be used for Cumberland County water supply! (From TCWP Newsletter 311: September 22, 2013) submitted by Jimmy Groton.

The Crab Orchard Utility District's proposal to "harvest" water from Daddy's Creek at flows above 20 cubic feet per second (a pretty low flow) has been formalized in a permit application submitted to the Tennessee Dept. of Environment and Conservation (TDEC). Having fought several battles in the past to keep the Obed watershed protected from withdrawals for Cumberland County's water supply, TCWP has been concerned by this latest attempt.

- Regardless of what the harvesting threshold would be (and it would, actually, be quite low), there would be damage to the watershed at all flows. The seasonal high flows are essential to the ecology of the river corridor.
- Once COUD starts removing water, who is going to make sure they take it only at certain flows?
- What remedies do we have if COUD violates whatever limits get set?
- This could very well set a precedent that encourages water withdrawals from other parts of the watershed.

For these and other reasons, TCWP and several other groups have begun to conference on this topic about every 3-4 weeks. Our Exec. Dir. Sandra Goss reports that the groups collectively monitor the permitting process, the COUD Board meetings, and the Army Corps of Engineers water-supply report.

The National Park Service will meet with the COUD general manager on September 26. In the meantime, NPS has written to TDEC, outlining a number of hurdles that the utility district's proposed project would encounter.

- It would require a TVA 26(a) permit as well as a Corps of Engineers permit.
- It is likely to require federal funding.
- By Sec. 7(a) of the WSR Act, NPS must determine whether the project will "unreasonably diminish" the Park's scenic, recreational, or fish and wildlife values.
- Daddys Creek is a designated Exceptional Tennessee Water, and the Obed River is a designated Outstanding National Resource Water (ONRW).
- The Obed WSR supports four federally protected species. Obed and Daddys Creek are critical habitat for two of these.

NPS points out that, in place of the past and present piece-meal approach taken to address regional water demands, the region needs a comprehensive water-supply plan that takes into account mandates of the Obed WSR System. COUD's proposal states that its variable withdrawal rate would be ~5% of stream flow. Together with water harvested from Lake Tansi, however, the proposed project could remove as much as 8% of Daddys Creek flow.

TDEC is still reviewing the COUD proposal to determine whether the permit application contains all the required information. If and when it does, the public participation phase of the permit application review will commence and a public hearing will be announced.

WHAT YOU CAN DO: Although the project currently appears to be on a slow track, things could move quickly. Please get on our e-lert list (contact Sandra Goss at sandra@sandrakgoss.com) and/or frequently check our website (www.tcwp.org), so we can keep you informed of needed comments and upcoming hearings.

Trip Reports

Hell's Canyon of the Snake September 2013

I've lived in the Pacific Northwest for 7 years now and I am still getting to do first time runs on classic rivers. There are so many of them! Just this week I got to do Hell's Canyon for the first time. The weather was blustery with occasional rain and frost visible on the ridgetops. The water was warm.

We launched just below the Dam and went 30 total miles down to Pittsburg landing. The first day we started driving before dawn, all the way to the put-in from Portland, Oregon. After 10 hours of travel we rigged, launched, floated downstream five miles to Battle Creek, set up camp and cooked dinner before dark. We had three rafts, three kayaks, and seven people. One of the seven was a 16 year old boy who seemed an unlikely ally but the rest of the group was a bunch of men in their 60's, some retired and some not. I was the only woman, which is not unusual on river trips. I feel like I am one of the guys.

Both of the big rapids of Hell's Canyon are just downstream from Battle Creek. First comes Sheep Creek rapid, which at 10,500cfs is the baddie. Granite was not very big in comparison. They felt plenty big to me in my plastic slalom boat (Fluid Donsa). In Sheep Creek I took the center entrance with a jog to the left around a gigantic hole. I moved back right below the hole a little too soon, and my pointy blue boat disappeared under water. I was about chest deep and wondering what would happen next when the water yanked my stern under and helicoptered my bow back upstream and toward the hole. Luckily I was able to peel out from the corner of the hole instead of going in for the munching of my life. After that I gave the holes a little more space, and practiced my pivot turns in less dicey locations.

After the big rapids there were 8 class II rapids on the map on the way to camp 2. Our lead rower nearly flipped by being a little overly relaxed going into a class II rapid---a wave was big enough to stand his raft on edge and send him cartwheeling out. The raft landed right side up, and he swam over to it and held on through the rest of the rapid, dragging himself back in the boat once he hit the calmer water at the bottom of the rapid. These guys have had flips on this run before, but always in the "big" rapids.

There were a lot of jet boats on this section of river. We didn't know to anticipate this, but there are two big powerboat rallies on Hell's Canyon. One happens over Labor Day weekend, and the other one is the last weekend in September. Packs of high powered boats kept blasting past us going first upstream, then downstream. Some of them did laps on fun rapids and exhibited some of the obsession with whitewater that is often seen in whitewater kayakers. Some of them were completely clueless about how to minimize their wakes—or perhaps indifferent. Many carried fishing rods—just for show, far as we could tell.

A downriver wind blew us into camp the second night at Yreka Bar, also on river left. It is a nice sheltered camp which was perfect for the weather. The wind persisted through the night and on day 3 it got stronger. We didn't know, but in the whole Pacific Northwest the weather was taking a turn for the worse. Our instincts told us go while the wind blows downstream. We had all been pinned down before by winds blowing the other (more common) direction. We visited a ranch, then bypassed our intended camp and continued through nine class II rapids to the takeout by 2pm.

To see the Hell's Canyon photo album (even if you don't have facebook) you can go to:
<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10202017464179483.1073741834.1272405026&type=1&l=6359edaf9d>

The Jarbidge-Bruneau trip that was my favorite of 2013:
<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10201076552777286.1073741831.1272405026&type=1&l=2efc077db1>

Trip report and photos by Teresa Gryder.

ETWC Forum

Check out the latest action on our forum at:

<http://etwcweb.com/discuss/index.php?mode=index>

Winter Roll Practice Friday Nights, Oak Ridge Civic Center

Remember roll practice on Friday!



Date	Coordinator	Phone	
11/1/2013	Volunteers needed Call Jason!		
11/8/2013			
11/15/2013			
	Yeah, I know, I'm working on fixing the dates!		

Thanks to all of our wonderful coordinators! If you can't make your assigned date, contact Jason Darby at wepaddle@bellsouth.net or 865-803-1899

Trip Reports!

Nothing excites our fair weather paddlers to come out and join the fun more than a good trip report... love that gnarly creeker stuff!

Please send reports to Yours Truly at bill.lewis865@gmail.com

PROGRAMS

We are always looking for interesting programs for our meetings. If you have a program or an idea please contact Rick Zingg at 675-4184 or zinggs@gmail.com

