



June, 2011

Our Aims

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

BEGINNER CLINIC HIGHLIGHTS

***SHARING OF PHOTOS, HIGHLIGHTS, AND
STORIES FROM OUR CLINIC AND OUR
BEGINNERS.***

The Craft Room

Oak Ridge Civic Center

**Tuesday
June 21, 2011
7:30 pm**

East Tennessee Whitewater Club
Post Office Box 5774
Oak Ridge, TN 37831-5774

-OFFICERS FOR 2011-

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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.etwcweb.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:

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

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE – 7TH OF EACH MONTH

Newsletter Editor: Bill Lewis
 Phone: 865-777-5276 Email: wclewis@tds.net
 Photos in jpeg, gif, or bmp format.
 Reports and Classifieds as a Word or Text File Document.
 Newsletter is available in PDF Format-contact the editor for information.
 Check out our website at <http://www.etwcweb.com>

River Gauges by Telephone

(800) 261-5033 – Big South Fork	(865) 632-2264 – TVA Lake and Rivers Gauge
(800) 899-4435 – Big Pigeon	(Knoxville)
(800) 232-7238 – Chattooga River	(865) 751-2264 - TVA Lake and Rivers Gauge
(800) 829-5253 – Green River	(Chattanooga)
(800) 238-2264 - TVA Lake and Rivers Gauge (Out of Town)	

ETWC Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2011

Treasurer's Report

Kary reported that we have \$641.73 in our checking account and \$5,082.18 in our savings account.

Announcements

Rick reminded everyone about the Obed River Cleanup and Volunteer Lunch at the Obed WSR this coming Saturday. He also reminded us about River Sports Pint Night (although the next one scheduled is during the ETWC clinic).

Clinic

Ariana passed around a new information packet for students. It contained basic information on kayaking including equipment, river terms, safety, etiquette, maneuvers, contact info, and maps to rivers and Clark Center Park

We decided to invite Oak Ridger reporter John Huotari to attend the clinic. The club decided to waive the registration fee for him. Jimmy had contacted John after initial contact by Ariana to ask him about writing an article about the clinic. Rick will send an invitation.

We also talked about submitting a brief article about the clinic together with a photograph to both Oak Ridge papers.

Morgan Simmons will feature an article in the Knoxville News Sentinel soon about Billy Bob and ETWC. There was discussion about various ways to publicize the clinic. Ideas included Facebook and newspaper article(s). There was also discussion about the need for instructors and equipment.

Roll Practice

We talked about the need to have someone present at Friday evening roll practices to help beginners.

Trips

There was discussion about possibly providing non-paddling trips for club members. Ideas included backpacking and mountain bike trips.

Swiftwater Rescue

Jay talked about the ACA Swiftwater Rescue Instructor's course that he attended. He got his certification (YEAH!) and will arrange a Swiftwater Rescue class for ETWC members later this summer.

Regular Meetings During Summer

We will have a regular meeting in June following the clinic.

ETWC Member in the News!



Our very own Billy Bob Scarborough was featured in a Knoxville News Sentinel article this month. The focus of the article was Billy Bob and his long history of teaching whitewater skills. They also gave a great plug for our beginner clinic. I'm sure that the many paddlers who have followed that yellow beacon thru the rapids were delighted. Thanks to our clinic coordinator Ariana Beste for spearheading the article and promoting our club and sport. See the complete article at: <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2011/may/29/a-paddling-teacher/>

The ETWC Forum

There is no better way to keep up with club activities and paddling trips than thru our forum. We will be posting beginner trips for our kayak clinic graduates on the forum. So, check it regularly.

New users read and register per: <http://etwcweb.com/discuss/index.php?mode=thread&id=1>

Upcoming Events:



<http://www.riversportsoutfitters.com/t-PintNight.aspx>

Riversports "Pint Night"

Tuesday, July 26; 6:00pm to 9:00pm
Riversports Outfitters is sponsoring "Pint Nights" at their Sutherland Avenue location. The first 200 people get a free pint glass and fill ups are \$5 with 10% of the store proceeds going to charity. June's corporate sponsor is Big Agnes and the charity is the East Tennessee Climber's Coalition.

Trip Reports

Left Coast Paddlin': a trip report from the Portland, Oregon area

May 16, 2011

The first couple years I lived here I didn't boat that much. I didn't have the equipment needed for winter-spring/wet season boating (a drysuit), so I paddled only often enough to remind myself that paddling is miserable when you're cold and stiff, and no more. Then late this winter I met a fella at a putin who hooked me up with a deal on a new drysuit, and we've been off to the races ever since. I'm getting to run some of the stuff that you never hear about from anywhere far away. There are so many rivers here, and they all share a certain character that is based on their course through and over basalt. It's different from granite or sandstone. I've been boating a bit in Northern Idaho, too. I just might move there.

But back to Oregon...

In the whole West I keep noticing that there aren't as many highly skilled paddlers as there are back in the southeast. At least, I don't run into as many. I joined The Lower Columbia Canoe Club, and it is an old school paddling club with a core who actually still do paddle canoes! But as with most clubs, there aren't a lot of "hot boaters" and I guess that's the crowd I used to run around with. So I just settled down and started enjoying the class II-III stuff in the area. Sometimes groups come together that feel good enough to take it up a notch.

Last weekend we (the kayakers of the LCCC) paddled a local classic that only runs during rainy season. It is the Hood River, which flows out of the orchards on the north shoulder of Mount Hood, down into the Columbia River. There are several runs in the drainage, but I have only done two: the "usual" class III-IV Dee to Tucker run, and the Tucker to the Marina lower run, which is a class II-III run with great small play at higher levels. The level on the bridge was 6.1 and the internet said it was 2,100 cfs and rising. That's high but nowhere near flood. Somebody in our group had heard a report that the flow was supposed to double and everybody was sketched about it. But it didn't look that high, and we launched anyway. From the sand at the putin it looked to me like it had peaked already but was near peak.

Our group was 5, 2 who are known to me and two new people. I boat with lots of new people every time I go; seems like there are so many occasional paddlers here, and few avid ones. The avid ones I'm getting to know. People in Oregon are nice. A little too nice by my standards, but gradually I find the ones with a sense of humor.

Anyway, the Hood last Sunday was lovely, a good strong level but nothing our group couldn't handle. Most everybody rolled at least once, but nobody swam. The rapids are mostly converging channels with hole dodging and waves with a few big rocks in the way, a few nice eddies to hit, a few glassy and frothy surfing waves. Lots of waves to catch on the fly, hardly any with eddy service. Some small gorges and wall shots. Basalt doesn't really make ledge type drops like Cumberland Plateau boaters know, it's more jumbly and the boulders get channelized by some really high flows.

I was trying out a new boat--a Fluid Detox, a design by Celliers Kruger of South Africa, and it was an interesting ride. As far as I can tell the hull is taken in concept from a freestyle boat, with big flat sidewalls that would make it cartwheel well. The hard rails are continuous from bow to stern. The deck of the boat is plumped up so that they can call it a creeker. It has very little primary stability but is relatively fast and highly rockered, boofs well, surfs well but sometimes carves to the outside of the turn if you lean it too hard.

If you get my meaning at all. I didn't buy it, but I might try it again.

Well I guess that's enough rambling from the Left Coast. Hope ya'll are getting out!

SYOTR,

Teresa Gryder

A Beauty of a Day

Clear Creek Jett to Lilly, April 9, 2011



Picture left to right Bill, John, Lawrence, and Tim, not shown photographer.. Nina.

It was supposed to hit 80, it was April, the trees were in bloom, and Clear Creek was running a tame 550cfs. How could we NOT go to the river. Nina, John, Lawrence, Tim, and Bill met at the ranger station at 11am for a Jett to Lilly run. Lawrence was trying his new Diesel, and Tim who has paddled nearly every river in the east, was getting back in the game after a 2 year break. When we arrived at the Ranger Station, we talked with the Rangers, John and Matt, and they were happy to be at work. They'd just learned at midnight that the government had not shut down and they were supposed to report to work.

Jett to Lilly is only 2.5 miles, and is typically run in around 2 hours if you don't stop, which would be a mistake. I've always been fascinated by the geology of Clear Creek. The river bed is filled with massive boulders that have broken from the canyon walls over the past 1000 years or so. The stream snakes between the boulders and drops over numerous ledges as it passes thru the gorge. The result is a relatively technical Class II+ run that is great to hone one's skills. The only problem with Clear Creek is that it requires a rain or snow melt to get enough water to run it. It is very rare to get in a Clear Creek run during the summer unless you happen to be one of the Oak Ridge guys with the Clear Creek gauge and the weather radar on their desktop.

The sun was trying to break through the clouds as we set off from Jett. The dogwoods were in bloom, and the water was crystal clear. This was my first run of the year and Tim's first run in 2 years; so, it was a good that this run starts off nice and easy and works its way up. John and Nina had already run Jett to Lilly a couple of times this spring; so, they knew the lines. There were no beginners on the trip, and we were all wanting to work on skills; so, we eddie hopped and tried to surf at most opportunities. Tim took out in the lead which suited the rest of us just fine. He was clean all day. We played at Surf rapid for several minutes. I paddled into a grove of reeds and had one of those embarrassing flips in 2' of water. After dragging my helmet along the bottom for a few feet I was able to roll back up. It was about here that Lawrence got the first scratch on his new boat. He recovered with a clean combat roll.

By the time we arrived at the Grunch, the clouds had burned off the sun was shining, and the fragrance of the clear water and the spring blooms filled the air. Tim ran a clear line, but Bill bounced off the big rock, spun around the left side and flipped into the lower hole. A quick roll left him in the eddie below the hole. John had a perfect line, and Larry had no problems. Nina glanced off the same rock as Bill and she also flipped around the left side into the lower hole where she made a beautiful roll in the lower hole hardly getting her hair wet. We were all pretty happy with our Grunch runs. After Grunch we took a nice break on a huge boulder in the middle of the river. The warm breeze was blowing, the sun shining, and we just didn't want the run to end.

When we arrived at Lilly we all eddie hopped down to the eddie above the biggest drop and checked it out. The tongue was obvious; however, the big roostertail in the middle was pretty prominent at this level. We all ran the drop down the middle of the tongue and went right over the roostertail without touching the rock; all clean. From there we eddie hopped down the remainder of the rapid, beneath the bridge and to the take-out.

It was a near perfect run, the river was great as well as the group and the weather; a very good way to begin another summer of paddling. We'll miss you Clear Creek, see you next Spring.

SYOTR

Bill Lewis

Roll Practice

Roll Practice is now at the lake in Oak Ridge. We meet at the Clark Center after work (usually beginning around 5:30 to 6:30ish).

To get to Clark Center Park, which is also known as Carbide Park, from Oak Ridge - go to the intersection of Illinois Avenue and Scarboro Road and go south on Scarboro past the Y-12 Plant and over Chestnut Ridge. Go straight through the traffic light on Bethel Valley Road on Pumphouse road, and turn right at the gate and drive several miles to the park. Drive past the park headquarters and park on the right in the small lot. The place where we practice is directly across the lake from the boat ramp. When the swimming area is open, we park in the picnic area near our roll practice spot.

http://www.etwcweb.com/concrete/roll_practice/

**EAST TENNESSEE WHITEWATER CLUB
MEMBERSHIP & RENEWAL FORM**

Dues: \$15.00 Yearly Family Membership (*January 1 renewal date*)
Send to: East Tennessee Whitewater Club, P.O. Box 5774, Oak Ridge, TN 37831-5774

Name(s) _____

Address _____

_____ Zip _____

Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____ Email _____

I would like to receive my newsletter by email. (circle) Yes No

Membership Status? (circle) New Renewal

What boats do you paddle? (circle) Kayak C-1 C-2 Solo Canoe Tandem Canoe Other

What is your paddling ability? (circle) Beginner Intermediate Advanced Expert
Class I-II Class III Class IV Class V

RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY

I, _____, desiring to join my fellow paddlers in the East Tennessee Whitewater Club (ETWC), do hereby declare that I fully understand and accept the following facts of life on the river:

1. Canoeing, kayaking, or rafting, particularly on whitewater rivers, exposes the participants to various safety hazards, including but not limited to, water hazards (boulders, undercut rocks, trees, strainers, water formations such as water falls, holes, keepers, hydraulics, and other obstacles), swimming in turbulent water, using paddling equipment, accidents or illness in remote places without medical facilities, and travel in a vehicle not driven by me.

2. No one but I am responsible for my safety when I choose to paddle a particular river or a particular rapid.

3. I further understand that I have no legal duty to assist others, nor does anyone else have a legal duty to render such assistance to me. I certify that I am in good physical condition, that I can swim, and that I have no physical defects or injuries that would prevent me from participating in this activity. I fully understand and agree that, when I participate in canoeing, kayaking, or rafting, there is always the possibility of unknown, uncontrollable dangers and accidental or other physical injury and death. I know I can be killed, and I willingly assume the risks referred to in Paragraph 1 and elsewhere in this release.

Therefore, in consideration for granting me the right to join and participate in ETWC activities, and intending to be legally bound, I hereby release, waive and discharge my right to sue ETWC, its trip coordinators, instructors, leaders, officers, directors, representatives, agents, employees, and affiliates, and also any landowner or governmental unit which may allow ETWC to use its property, for any and all loss or damage on account of injury to my person or property or on account of my death, which may occur during, in preparation for, or in transit to or from an ETWC activity.

I further understand that ETWC carries no insurance for the protection of participants in whitewater activities, and any insurance coverage existing with respect to ETWC shall not alter the terms of this waiver nor impose any liability on ETWC.

This waiver applies only to acts or omissions of ordinary negligence and to any deliberate act intended to promote my safety or well being.

This waiver is signed by me in the interest of permitting ETWC to exist and to serve the paddling community, and to enable me and my fellow paddlers to feel free to donate their services to improving the sport and to help in training those less skilled in the sport without fear of liability.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THIS RELEASE AND FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND I SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

(Parent or guardian if participant is under 18 years of age)