

BOWLINES

Newsletter of The Bluegrass Wildwater Association Jan/Feb 1998

Special Film Festival Edition!

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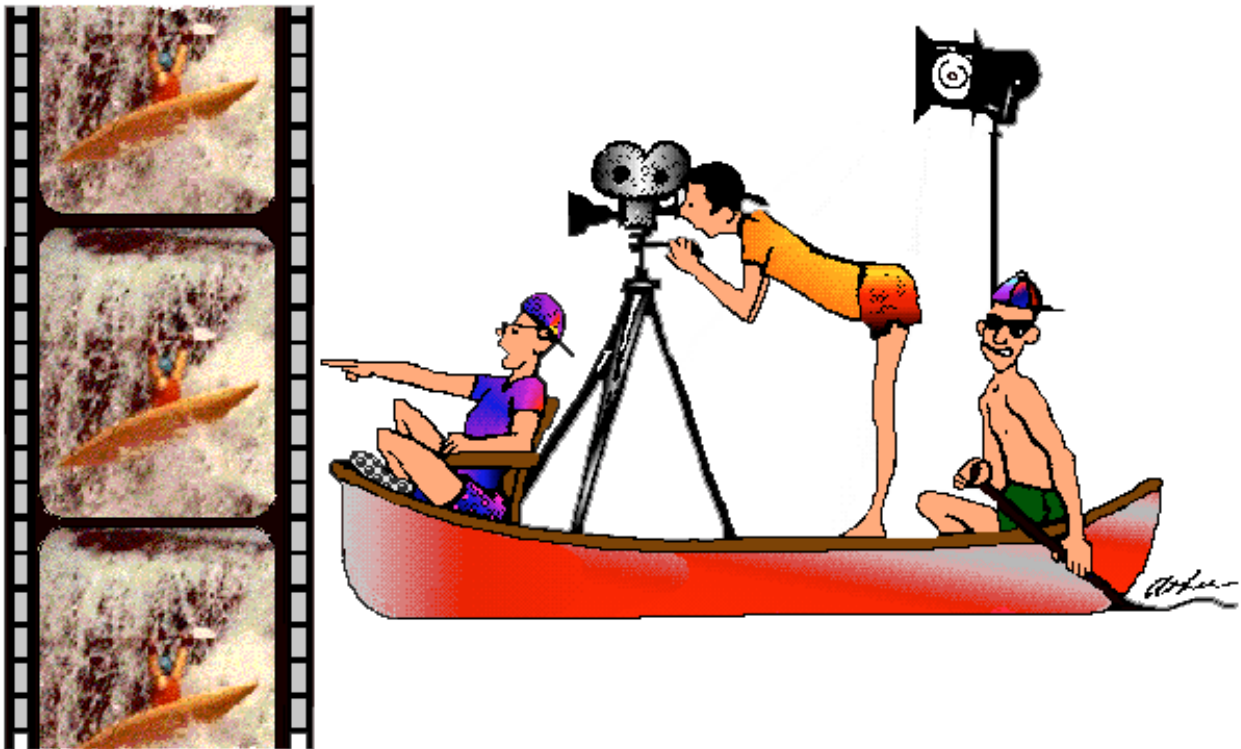
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What is the NPFF?



The National Paddling Film Festival is a celebration of artists and volunteers donating their talents in a competition of film, video and computer images highlighting human powered watercraft sport. Co-sponsored by the American Whitewater Affiliation and the American Canoe Association. The NPFF is a fun and unique way to promote watersports and raise funds for waterway conservation.

All profits from the NPFF are donated to the AWA, ACA and other river conservation efforts. In 1998 the NPFF will be celebrating it's 15th year of outstanding paddling image/media competition. Entries may cover any paddling topic from hair whitewater to ocean kayaking as long as the presentations feature only human powered activities. Past Film Festival entries have covered paddling exploits in remote regions of the world including Chile, China, Russia, Pakistan, Nepal, Peru, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, Canada, and Africa. Rare film and video footage of these areas plus many rivers of the United States have had their world premier at the National Paddling Film Festival.

Continued on page 3

BWA Supports Conservation Video Project for the Russell Fork of the Big Sandy

Tom Hansel
Appalshop
306 Madison St.
Whitesburg, KY 41858
1/7/98

Tom,
On behalf of the Bluegrass Wildwater Association of Lexington, Kentucky and the National Paddling Film Festival, I would like to present to you, for use in support of your video production about the Russell Fork River, the enclosed check for \$800.

This money represents the BWA designated portion of proceeds from the 1997 NPFF. Your Russell Fork River video project was chosen by the members of the NPFF Film Festival Committee as a most worthy endeavor for furthering conservation, information, and attention about this precious Kentucky resource.

We wish you well with your production and would also like to invite you to show the finished product before the BWA membership at one of our monthly meetings.

Congratulations and good luck with your filming,

Barry Grimes
NPFF Coordinator
124 Hilltop Dr.
Richmond, KY 40475

Link to Appalshop: <http://www.uky.edu/Projects/Appal/>
Russell Fork Water Watch :
<http://www.kymtnnet.org/wwatch/wwatch.htm>

BOWLINES

Bowlines is the Newsletter of the Bluegrass Wildwater Association, POB 4231, Lexington Ky, 40544

Club Officers 1996-97

President	Bruce Rishel
Vice-President	Bill Lynch
Treasurer	Valerie Vantrese
Secretary	Jim Daniel
Safety	Dave Alnutt
Program	Paul Singleton
Newsletter	Don Spangler
Conservation	Marrea Mathews
National Paddling	
Film Festival Co-ordinator	Barry Grimes
Equipment Coordinator	Mike Molnar
At-Large Members:	Ben Newman, Mike Roberts
Past President	Bob Bryan

Join in on the Fun!

BWA website: www.surfbwa.org
Join the BWA! BWA Membership \$15/individual; \$20/Family/year entitles you to receive the newsletter, 10% discounts at many local and out of state outfitter shops, use of club kayak, discount at pool rolling sessions, a listing in the BWA Handbook, and a stream gauge guide.

Meetings are held the at 7:30, the second Tuesday of each Month at:
Columbia's, 201 N. Limestone, Lexington, Ky.

Submission of Newsletters articles preferred on zip or floppy disk (Mac or PC) or typed. Pictures can be digital or ready to be scanned. Please include stamped envelope for return. Files can also be e-mailed to: donspang@aol.com or to princv@sprynet.com



BWA Classified

Dagger Cascade C-1
New, used twice need to unload bargain basement price will negotiate custom outfitting, radical designs will reoutfit with what I have to fit needs Please reply to Zog Aitken at alantech@dcr.net or 502-227-9558 for the C-1

BWA Roll Sessions

Dates remaining: Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13, 27, & Mar. 6.

Roll sessions are the time for practice, practice, practice. This is your opportunity to get down, then get up. At least that's the idea. For those who don't have a roll, this is the time to learn. For those who have a roll, this is a time to refine. For those who don't have a life, this is a social event.

Bring your boat or borrow one. If you have none we will try to have a couple extra. The format is simple. Show up, pay 5 bucks (7 for non-members), and get wet. Someone is usually available to help you get started. It is a good idea to have a friend come along to assist you while in the water. Please keep in mind that our volunteers pay to use the pool and if you have someone to assist you after the initial instruction it will allow them to get in some practice also.

The sessions will be from 7 to 9 on Friday nights (see below) at the YWCA on Crosskeys Dr. (St., Road, Court or something like that).

I would like to thank those who have stepped up and volunteered their time, talents, and equipment, to assist those who are like all of us were at one time, looking for help to learn this wonderful sport. Any others wishing to give back to the sport will be appreciated. Please remember that the pool is rented for 2 hours. Try to be prompt in entering and exiting the facility.

Roll roll roll your boat,
Try to get upright,
If you do not make it
up,
I bet you'll get upright.

from page 1... What Is the NPFF.....

Motion Image Competition

As in the past 14 years, accepted paddling presentations will compete in either amateur or professional categories. As in 1997, all entries will initially compete before an eastern panel of judges and then be forwarded to compete before a western panel. There will be individual East and West category winners, including the audience judged "Paddler's Choice Award" and an overall Amateur and Professional "National Best of NPFF'.

Still Image Competition

Even if you don't have a motion entry to enter it's still easy to become a competitor at this year's Festival by entering the Best Paddling Image competition. In this audience judged competition, still photographic 35mm slides of actual scenes or virtual computer generated images will compete for the award. As in past years, 2 entries / person are permitted and there is no pre-judging. Entries will compete at both East and West Festival sites. Images must be entered as a 35mm slide.



1995 Slide Winner Scott Shoupe

New Safety Poster Contest

In a concerted effort to promote river safety awareness throughout our communities, the NPFF is pleased to



The New Poster Contest has cash prizes in 3 age categories

announce this exciting new competition category at the 1998 National Paddling Film Festival. This event will allow even non-boaters to participate in the competition. With cash prizes offered in 3 age categories this event is open to elementary, secondary school, and adult participants. We hope that paddling clubs around the nation will use this opportunity as a vehicle to motivate both youth and adults to enjoy our waterways safely. As river activities increase in popularity, we believe that this grassroots approach to river safety will be instrumental in saving lives across the nation. The goal of this competition is to educate our youth about enjoying the river safely. This knowledge will provide benefits to all river users for decades to come.

So, put on your thinking caps, tighten up the PFD's, and join us to help make the upcoming 1998 river safety record 100% for all involved. In addition to competing and viewing the latest paddling productions, the National Paddling Film Festival is also a chance for individual film, video and computer artists to meet and discuss all aspects of production. It's a unique opportunity for amateurs to pick up tips from professionals in the film, video and computer industry and for all to become exposed to current trends in paddle sport depiction.

The NPFF has proven to be an excellent place to make new media alliances. If simply viewing the best in amateur and professional paddle sport media is your preference then the National Paddling Film Festival will provide you with a feast of original and exciting presentations. Participate in and plan to attend the 1998 National Paddling Film Festival!

Barry Grimes

The River Gods Must Be Smiling

Human history is full of examples where groups of people gather together to celebrate the bounty of their good fortune, make offerings to show their reverence and vow future protection of their way of life. In 1983 a 15 minute 8mm film about paddling a river fell on BWA paddling prophet Bob Sehlinger's eyes and suddenly a new way to pay homage to the Gods of Paddling began. Bob along with his company Menasha Ridge Press, not only gave us the idea, but helped us make it a reality by providing money and assistance.

It's been 15 years since Bob's epiphany created the National Paddling Film Festival, an event that has gone on to provide an innovative and fun way for paddlers from across the world to volunteer their talents, and enthusiasm to "give back" something to paddlesports.

The NPFF has many ways for people to contribute. From the person attending the Festival who buys a ticket, to the BWA or KRA member that takes that ticket at the door. From the videomaker, photographer and computer artists who provide their work for display, to the businesses and corporations that so generously donate gear or financial support resulting in funds for waterway conservation. Each is contributing to the excitement, celebration and preservation of paddlesport .

Thanks to all of these efforts the waterways we paddle and the sport we love, will benefit, be protected and enhanced. If you would like to donate your time, talents or money and give a little something back, please join these other folks (listed below) in the fun and contact the NPFF soon. The Gods will smile upon us all if you do.

98 NPFF-East Film Festival Committee Members

NPFF Coordinator	Barry Grimes
Treasurer:	Ellen Walker
Local Media	Contact: Zina Merkle
Program:	Don Spangler
Brochure:	Ryan Harding
Safety Poster Contest:	Sam Moore

Desk / Reception:	Bill Lynch
Concessions:	Richard Smithers
Lunch :	Vanessa Mullins
Judges:	Paul Singleton
Awards:	Prince Vittitow
Prize Procurement :	Jim Daniels
Silent Auction:	Dale Perry & Zog Aitken
Party:	Mike Molnar
Best Paddling Image:	Derek Eggers
NPFF Video Sales:	Rick Bryant

Check out the new NPFF Web Page!



<http://surfbwa.org/npff>

Check out the new NPFF web page at <http://surfbwa.org/npff>. There you'll find the latest about the current NPFF, entry rules and how to enter plus what makes the NPFF so great.

There are also pages that allow you to get information about any of the hundreds of entries from the Film Festival's past 14 years. You can read a brief synopsis of each entry quoted from the actual program and also obtain the film maker's address for contact. For immediate gratification you can even download the video entries that you like!

In cooperation with selected videographers, the NPFF is proud to be offering paddling videos for sale from past NPFFs. Some are rare videos that have never been offered for sale before and unseen publicly since their original premier at the NPFF. At the web site you'll find segments of videos to sample and then order.

Remember, the few dollars spent for these videos as well as all other profits the NPFF generates will go straight to waterway conservation the American Canoe Association and the American Whitewater Affiliation. We hope to soon be adding many, many more videos for sale.

Bowlines is now in color on the Web at the BWA site!

You can view the current issue and past issues on line (with Acrobat 3.0) or download Bowlines to view at anytime. Each electronic issue is remade with color photos and graphics. Future issues with extra features and content are planned. The free Acrobat reader that you will need to download and install is available for you via the BWA site. You can download a reader for MacIntosh, Windows, Unix. Go to: <http://www.surfbwa.org/>

Send a copy to your boating friends with your next e-mail!

The Bluegrass Wildwater Association & Kern River Alliance invite you to

show off your pictures!

Entry Deadline: January 23, 1998



National Paddling Film Festival

The 15th annual film, video and digital image competition for paddlesports



East Competition:
February 21, 1998
po 4231 Lexington, KY 40544

West Competition:
March 7-8, 1998
1139 Pepper Dr. El Cajon, CA 92021



"Retendo"
Best Instructional



Menasha Ridge Press



perception

patagonia



"Johnny Utah"
1997 Best of NPFF

www.surfbwa.org/npff

Buy npff winners on the net!
All profits support AW & ACA

1998 National Paddling Film Festival Paddler Magazine Ad

Appearing in the Special 1998 Buyers Guide on the newstands now! Thanks to the the generosity of the ACA and Paddler that we have this full page, color, glossy ad. Also thanks to American Whitewater Association for printing our full page black and white ad in the last two AW Journals as well.

A STAR IS BORN: THE FIRST FILM FESTIVAL

In 1981 the Russell Fork was the holy grail of the hair boating set. BWA club member Sam Moore, one of the most intrepid paddlers ever produced by that organization decided his time had come to score a personal first descent. Terry Weeks and Barry Grimes, two BWA amateur photographers felt that the historic run should be documented for the club membership. The result was the 15 minute, super 8mm film creatively titled "The Russell Fork", a TBS (Terry, Barry & Sam) production.

When shown at a monthly meeting in 1982 it created an uproar, partially because everyone loved it and at least one member present with her 8 year old son hated it. (It seems that she became perturbed at a 3 second flash of a topless woman with 3 breasts). Boating films in those early pre-video days were mostly 8mm, 16mm or 35mm film, a difficult and often expensive medium to work with. Consequently, paddling films tended to be documentaries usually depicting expeditions where whitewater rapids played the role of menacing impediment to be portaged or simply endured by the foolhardy and brave. (Russ Nichols excellent film "Fast and Clean" was a notable exception). "The Russell Fork" however was pure whitewater with steep drops, throbbing music, great wrecks and club hero Sam makin' it look easy. T,B, & S were heartily congratulated (or vilified).

Present at that meeting was Bob Sehlinger, BWA member, paddler, and Menasha Ridge Press publisher. Bob was inspired and later put forth a visionary idea: if the BWA would host and work it, his company would financially back a film festival that would bring together other paddling shows from across the country. A core group of high energy BWA people including Don Spangler, Sam Moore, Terry Weeks, Barry Grimes, John Davis, John Lovett, Dave Weiland, and Beuren Garten met with Bob. It was decided that the BWA couldn't pass up an opportunity to have a huge party, paid for by someone else, where they could invite the world to bring and show their boating home movies and slides. Not only would it be fun, but it would be a unique opportunity for amateur and professional film makers to exchange ideas and strut their stuff before an audience of paddlers. The National Paddling Film Festival splashed in existence.

The BWA had no idea how many film could be attracted or if anyone would even come. October 22 & 23, 1983 was picked as the date (at the end of Gauley season). Buoyed by a full page \$1000 ad in Canoe

A Star Is Born!



National Paddling Film Festival

Oct. 22-23
Kentucky Horse Park
Lexington, Ky.

<p>Amateur categories: (slide & 8mm) * Safety/Instructional * Racing * Recreational/Scenic * Hair Boating * Humour</p>	<p>Amateur combined subjects: * 16 mm * Video</p>	<p>Professional exhibition: * all media</p>	<p>For information write: B. W. A. P.O. Box 4231 Lexington, Ky. 40504</p>
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Sponsored by the Bluegrass Wildwater Association & Menasha Ridge Press

Magazine provided by Menasha Ridge Press, calls and letters began to come in. The film committee found that the newly completed Kentucky Horse Park had not heard of the BWA and so welcomed the club to use their "party barn", a huge, empty, former tobacco barn set in the middle of a cow pasture. Only one problem still faced the club - the need to actually build 2 theaters within the barn. BWA construction magnate Mike Weeks volunteered himself and two unsuspecting members of his construction crew to complete the task. Using roll after roll of black plastic, thousands of staples and innumerable 2x4's the theaters were completed. Dave "Dad" Weiland, the BWA chef of "Dad's Dinner Theater" fame agreed to cook breakfast, lunch and dinner for the attending masses. Popcorn poppers, TV's, slide projectors were moved in. A couple of hundred folding chairs were unfolded, TV stations were notified and since it had been built - they came.

The barn was adjacent to the campground and folks started rolling in that Friday night. By the time the competition began on Saturday morning there were about 150 people and 23 film, slide and video presentations. It had been decided that everyone who entered would get a showing. There were no time limits established and the competition was set up so that video was paired with 16mm film and slides competed with 8mm film. There were 6 judges and they were required to judge all 23 entries - or roughly 6 hours of presentations! Entries included the Suwannee, Gallatin,

Yellowstone, Nantahala, Bio Bio, Russell Fork, Dolores, Ocoee and Colorado rivers. Also there were shows on the Pacific Ocean, Mill Creek, hypothermia, and the lowhead dam thriller "The Drowning Machine". Rounding out the entries was a film about a 7000 mile canoe expedition across Canada and Alaska and the first Ocoee Rodeo video. 11 states were represented with 9 entries from Kentucky and 8 from the BWA alone.

Barry Grimes was charged with showing the 8mm and slide shows with John Davis presiding as the video and 16mm film Tsar. Since the theaters had been built back to back with only thin plastic and a couple of mattress for sound proofing a small "sound level war" developed as John and Barry tried to drown out each other's encroaching audio. Then just before lunch the volume was increased even more as a torrential downpour of rain hammered away on the tin roof of the barn. The Rain Gods had honored the NPFF with their presence in a big way and there was not a paddler in the house that didn't welcome them. The rain stayed all day and turned the cow pasture outside the barn into a quagmire. With the rain continuing, the competition wound to a close and Dad's Dinner Theater, working from an attached kitchen, served up steamship rounds of beef, ham, chicken and dumplings inside the barn. It had been raining so hard that the Horse Park people were persuaded to allow the festival to have the party in the lobby of the park visitor center. A strong bluegrass band named "Stony Creek" picked and the BWA's own Women In Rubber made everyone grin as the first film festival party blasted deep into Sunday morning.

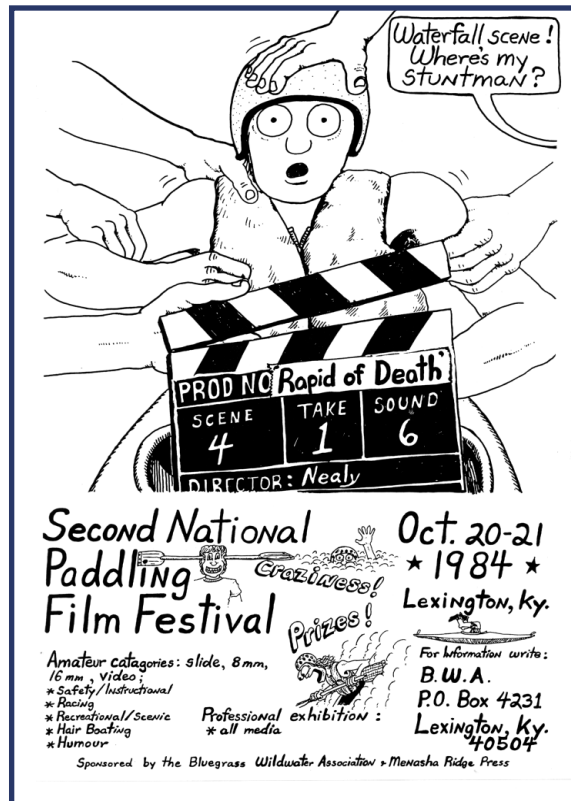
Dad Weiland, the hardest party animal the BWA has seen to date, did not slack off that night and eventually stumbled to his truck at the campground just before dawn on Sunday morning. Not long after Dad had drifted off to C-boat dreamland he was awakened by a camper demanding the promised biscuits and gravy. The gravy evidently would fit where Dad told the camper to put it, but the biscuits would not - and neither were happy about it.

Sunday morning had been scheduled to include the presentation of awards and a reshowing of the winning entries. At 10am, the allotted start time for the awards ceremony, there were about 20 people present. Half were BWA clinging to their coffee cups, and the rest included a few of the winning filmmakers and those who had unfortunately left their boats at home. Everybody else had gone boating on the left-over bounty of the Rain Gods.

The slide/8mm Best of Show winner was aptly titled "Kayaking In the Bluegrass" by Lynda Matusek. "Whitewater Rodeo" by John C. Davis and "Liquid Madness" by Paul Sharp sharing the video/16mm Best of Show. Of the 23 entries, 13 went away with awards.

That first Film Festival was an awesome

event, but the BWA has evolved and hopefully improved upon that original festival. The current facility on the University of Kentucky campus was added in 1984. In '85 the date was changed to the last weekend in February and the Friday /Saturday format instituted. '91 saw the creation of the "commercial - professional" category, a competition of paddling related



marketing presentations. In '93 the coveted, audience judged, "Ender Award" appeared. In '95 the BWA welcomed as partners in the NPFF the American Canoe Association and the American Whitewater Affiliation. In 1997 the BWA welcomed the Kern River Alliance as west coast hosts of the NPFF instituting true "national" status with an "East" and "West" two phase competition. Also new for '97 was the acceptance of computer generated image entries for competition and the creation of an official NPFF WWW internet site that will display video samples of NPFF winners past and present.

Thanks to suggestions from members, participants and the festival audiences, the NPFF has become a much anticipated event and a significant contributor to conservation. It has been instrumental in raising the quality of paddling films and has been a fertile meeting ground for paddle sport filmmakers from across the world. With the on going strong support from the boating community the National Paddling Film Festival will continue to endure, inspire and thrill audiences for years to come.

Barry Grimes

\$25,850 for River Conservation!

A look at what the National Paddling Film Fest has done to support River Conservation

When the National Paddling Film Festival is mentioned, most paddlers think of a weekend of fun, socializing and watching awesome paddling videos. What few realize is that over the past 10 years the film festival has raised \$25,850 for the protection and conservation of our beloved rivers! After an impromptu check of Paddlers awareness of the organizations which have received these proceeds, I realized the need for a little awareness campaign for these organizations.

A Tally of 14 Years of Support for River Conservation

1997	\$4000	AWA, ACA, KRA, Appalshop Russell Fork VideoProject
1996	\$4000	AWA, ACA, Friends of Scott's Gulf- Caney Fork
1995	\$5000	AWA, ACA, West Virginia Rivers Coalition
1994	\$4000	AWA, River Network
1993	\$3000	AWA
1992	\$2000	AWA
1991	\$850	AWA, American Rivers
1990	\$1000	AWA, American Rivers
1989	\$1000	AWA, American Rivers
1988	\$500	American Rivers
1987	\$500	American Rivers
1986		Lots of sweat and homage to the river gods
1985		Lots of sweat and homage to the river gods
1984		Lots of sweat and homage to the river gods
Total: \$25,850		for conservation of our rivers

AWA The **American Whitewater Afftliation** is a national organization with over 5000 individual members and more than 100 local paddling clubs. Their focus is whitewater- conservation, education, safety and whitewater events. Some noted activities include sponsoring the whitewater rodeos and the Gauley Festival, getting the first whitewater releases for Tallulah Gorge, parking and boat shuttle for the Upper Gauley take out, land purchases to alleviate access issues on the Watauga and Blackwater Rivers, and the bimonthly publication of American Whitewater. They are a most dedicated organization. Because they rely heavily on enthusiastic volunteers,

only 16% of their 1996 budget went for administrative and fund raising expenditures.

ACA The **American Canoe Association** is very active in many conservation issues from pollution discharge on whitewater streams to banning/limitingjetskis use in areas used by paddle craft. They have joined forces with other organizations to lobby for an increase in funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. <http://www.aca-paddler.org/>

American Rivers is a national conservation organization of over 18,000 members which seeks protection of nationally significant rivers. It is most noted for acquiring protection through the National Wild and Scenic River System for many rivers through out the United States some of which are whitewater runs. All together, they have been successful in protecting 22,000 miles of rivers and over 5.5 million acres of riverside land. These guys are BIG. Not only do they work closely with the federal government, they assist conservation groups, local citizens and businesses, and various federal, state and tribal agencies to build coalitions and provide technical support to strengthen local and regional conservation efforts. www.amrivers.org/am-cons.html

West Virginia Rivers Coalition is a grassroots organization which focuses on whitewater streams in West Virginia. They sponsored the first Cheat River Festival to raise awareness of the effect of acid run-off from near by coal mining sites which spill directly into the Cheat River near the put in for the canyon section. The festival has continued to be an annual event. <http://www.msmy.net/wvrc/>

Scott's Gulf Committee is an organization dedicated to the protection of Tennessee's Caney Fork River and its surrounding land known as Scott's Gulf/Chestnut Mountain area from logging and development, Hopefully, some day soon we will realize the dream to see this classic river and land moved into public hands as a state wilderness area. <http://www.tntech.edu:8080/www/life/orgs/grotto/gulf/speakout/html>

Appalshop Media Arts and Education Center is a Kentucky based audio-visual production center which features the culture and concerns of the Appalachian region. They are making a documentary film on the Russell Fork River and its related issues. <http://www.uky.edu/project/appal/applhome.html>

Marrea Mathews

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE NPFF!

Every year a small band of nomadic people gather together in central Kentucky to watch videos of radicle dudes and major babes dressed in rubber, shreddin' the waves and showing the world how the sultans of insanity rule the universe. They be seriously jammin' in the big holes, freekin' out for the vidiots recordin' the whole thing for the "Een-Pee-Eff-Eff". Showin' them what its like to have a serious chemical addicshun to adrenaline, like you know, "Do sports not drugs, man!" They be way cool.

But there is something else happening here besides paddling enthusiast from around the nation coming to the premier event of its kind for mere fun and games. We are raising serious cold, hard cash for river conservation, education and safety activities. That's right, that's where all profits from the NPFF go. How do we raise money for these essential activities? The biggest part of it comes from our sponsors who donate boats, gear and money that we silent auction (shhhh), raffle and give away as door prizes at the festival. We are very fortunate to have the support of the major producers and suppliers of the best quality outdoor recreation equipment on the planet. Without them, the NPFF would not be what it is today.

The Silent Auction is one of the more popular features of the Film Festival. This allows the Film Festival's attendees to view and bid on all the latest merchandise displayed in our auction area. At the end of the day it really gets interesting, as a great deal of strategy starts to come into play by those folks bidding on items. It all amounts to great fun and giant bargains, with every knowing that their money is going to a good cause. It is also important for all to remember our sponsors after the festival and patronize their businesses when we are buying boats and gear in the future.

See you at the festival.

Jim Daniel

What's Up With Russell Fork Flows?

Ever been confused by the levels of flows at the Russell Fork when you call the gauge? No? Liar! There have been many times when I have called the Russell Fork gauge (540-835-1438) only to think that the water level looked very different in the gorge than the level that was recorded. For a while, I even thought that one was

supposed to add the number at Bartlick with the number given as being released from the dam. Ever done that? Now, I am pretty sure that the number given for the flow at Bartlick is the actual amount of water flowing into the gorge itself.

But here the problem gets cloudier. We know that the Army Corps of Engineers has a typical release of 800 cfs during most of the weekends during the fall release. This number came about as a result of an early compromise between white water paddling interests and fishing interests a number of years ago. In recent years, the Army Corps of Engineers has provided an additional amount of water, usually during the last weekend, in an amount of 1100 cfs. This experimental level is based upon a study which indicated that the environmental impact was not greatly increased by the additional flow of 1100 cfs. But get this: the current policy of the Army Corps of Engineers could permit dramatic water level differences that could impact the issue of safety. Most boaters believed, like I did, that when the Army Corps of Engineers indicated that they are going to release 1100 cfs during the last weekend of the year that the Army Corps would be "managing" a flow of 1100 cfs at Bartlick. That is not the case. The level the Army Corps manages at Bartlick is a different, and higher, number than the amount released from the dam. Sound confusing.? Sure it is!

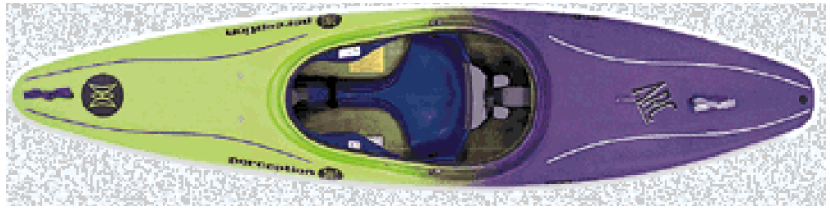
Joe Greiner, an AWA director, informed me of this juicy tidbit of information during the middle of the 1997 paddling season on the Russell Fork. I had been informing racers that I learned that the Army Corps was going to release 1100 cfs which all took to be good news. Joe was calling to caution me that a release of 1100 cfs could result in managed flows of 1300 cfs at Bartlick if there was enough natural flow coming into the Russell Fork. He thought it was important that I inform boaters of that fact, since everyone had been edjoying the river at the much lower 860 cfs levels. He reasoned that a swing of 450 cfs could spell trouble for unsuspecting paddlers unf with the higher and more challenging flows.

He continued to explain that the Army Corps' policy was that when they released 800 cfs, they would manage flows of up to 1100 cfs at Bartlick. However, when they released 1100 cfs, they would manage flows of up to 1300 cfs at Bartlick. What that means to us is that they have maximum managed flows they try to achieve for recreational purposes and they will cut back on release levels as the natural flow rises to make the managed flow levels. I was unaware of this policy and unless you were aware, you are now.

You niight just still be confused.

Brent Austin

Back Again this year! The Film Festival Conservation Boat Raffle for other Clubs!



Padding Clubs can Support River Conservation plus Win A Perception Boat

We realize that many boaters will not make it to the National Paddling Film Festival this February 21 & 22, 1997 in Lexington, Kentucky. However we believe that most paddling Clubs or organizations and their members are like our club and want to find a way to support preservation and enhancement of our rivers and streams.

As a club, the Bluegrass Wildwater Association started the National Paddling Film Festival with that idea in mind. Since its beginning 14 years ago, The NPFF has raised thousands of dollars for river conservation. That money has gone to support conservation efforts of both national organizations (like the AWA, ACA, American Rivers) and regional organizations (like West Virginia Rivers, and Tennessee's Scotts Gulf Fund).

This effort has become more important each year as Federal and State monies become more limited. As an individual boater or boating club we may not necessarily be able to have a significant impact. Yet together and collectively - we can really make a difference!

Here's how Clubs or Organizations can help - plus win a new Perception "Arc" kayak!

When a club or organization makes a contribution of \$100 to the 1998 NPFF Club Boat Raffle, its name will be put in a drawing with only 7 other clubs for the Perception kayak. Since this offer will be limited to a maximum of only 8 Clubs, this gives your club a very good opportunity to win! You could really increase your club's chances

by buying more than one ticket! The boat could be used as a club owned boat or your organization could raffle it off, perhaps making your \$100 back and even generating extra to fund your club's own conservation efforts! (Note that we need 5 chances chances sold, for the boat to be raffled.)

In addition, clubs will get something just for participating. For your \$100 contribution we will send your club a video-tape of a past NPFF Winner. But that is not all! We will also send your club 2 free tickets to this years National Paddling Film Festival in Lexington. Clubs need to hurry with a response to this unique offer - as we mentioned it's a limited raffle!

The Bluegrass Wildwater Association hopes that you will join us in our effort to preserve and enhance the rivers and streams that provides us with so much pleasure. We hope that your club or organization will participate and that many of your members will join us February 21 & 22, 1997 at the 14th National Paddling Film Festival!

For More info contact:
bagrim1@pop.uky.edu
or
<http://www.surfbwa.org/npff>

Clubs should send NPFF Boat Raffle Money to:

BWA/NPFF Boat Raffle
PO box 4231
Lexington, KY 40544

1998 NPFF West

March 7, 1998

The Kern River Alliance welcomes you for phase II of the competition at Bakersfield Jr. College in Bakersfield, California. Join the NPFF judges and vote for your favorite entry in a continuation of the competition. The same entries that were viewed during Phase I in Kentucky will be shown from 2-10pm.



**Application for BWA Beginners Clinic
 April 25th & 26th, 1998
 Registration deadline: April 14, 1998**

Please print. A separate form must be completed for each applicant.

Name: _____ Age: _____ Sex: _____ Weight: _____ Height: _____
 Address: _____ Ph.(Home): _____ (Office): _____

SKILL LEVEL

The following information is very important in order to form classes of students with approximately equal skills. It is important to place yourself in the proper class according to your skill level.

- () **BEGINNER:** No experience paddling in whitewater. Also those who are switching boats (decked and open for the first time).
- () **BEGINNER INTERMEDIATE:** Have paddled in whitewater less than 10 times and have been exposed to eddy turns, peel outs, and ferries. Decked Boaters without a roll. Have you attended roll sessions? _____

CLASS SELECTION (Please check the class you wish to attend.)

Kayak	Solo Canoe	Tandem Canoe	C-1
() Beginner	() Beginner	() Beginner	() Beginner
() Beginner Intermediate	() Beginner Intermediate	() Beginner Interm.	() Beginner Interm.

GENERAL SURVEY

1. My swimming ability is: _____ fair _____ medium _____ good
2. Previous schools attended: _____

3. Type of flatwater experience or training: _____

4. List rivers you have paddled, number of times and in what kind of boat:

5. Other information which will help us to evaluate your skills for your class assignment:

6. If tandem, partner's name: _____

7. Are you coming with someone that you want to be in the class with? Their name: _____

8. Medical problems your instructor needs to know about: Allergic to: () Bee stings () Other _____
 () Diabetic () Hemophiliac () Seizure Disorder () Other _____

CLINIC FEE (You must sign the BWA waiver.)

\$ _____ Registration - \$50 per person, if received by 4-1-98.

\$ _____ Late registration - \$60 per person, if received after 4-1-98. No registrations accepted after 4-15-98.

Check the equipment that you will need to borrow or rent:

() boat () life jacket () helmet () sprayskirt () paddle

Signature: _____ Date: _____
 (Parent or guardian if participant is under 18 years of age)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:
 Bill Lynch: Clinic Director 502-682-3967 blynch@mis.net

OR MAIL TO: BWA P.O. Box 4231 Lexington, Kentucky 40544

1998 Bluegrass Wildwater Association

Padding Clinic: April 25 & 26

Learn to Canoe and Kayak!



- Classes for solo canoe, tandem canoe and Kayak
- Spend a weekend enjoying the outdoors on a wild and scenic river
- Meet Bluegrass Wildwater Association boater that know the rivers and are able to show you how to become an whitewater enthusiast
- Space& gear is limited so sign up now!
- Registration fee is 50.00 (60.00 after April 1) includes instruction, camping and 3 meals. Loan equipment from members is available on first come basis.



Contact: Bill Lynch
502-682-3967
blynch@mis.net
BWA Vice President
Clinic Director

or write to: **Clinic**
BlueGrass Wildwater Association
PO Box 4231
Lexington, Ky. 40504

Next Issue: Film Festival Follow-up and More Spring Clinic News



BlueGrass Wildwater Association
PO Box 4231
Lexington, Ky. 40504