

# BOWLINES

Award Winning Newsletter of The Bluegrass Wildwater Association since 1976. Jan/Feb 2022

*In our Own Words.....*

In this Issue:

- NPFF 2022: Winners & Event Report
- NPFF Photo Essay
- The Not NPFF Race & Jess Cup
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- First Look at Soon to be Newly Available On-line Archival Bowlines issues 1991-1995

## National Paddling Film Festival 2022 Successful in 3 Venues!



**This Year the NPFF was online,  
at the Lyric Theater in Lexington, Ky &  
at The Wedge on Foundation in Asheville, NC**

# Looking Ahead

Second Tuesday of the Month, 7:30 pm

## BWA Monthly Meeting

For more information on

Club Meetings & Activities

always check the online Calendar.

<https://www.bluegrasswildwater.org/events>

**BWA web site:**

<https://www.bluegrasswildwater.org>



The BWA wishes to thank Canoe Kentucky for it's support.  
We urge you to patronize them for your outdoor needs.

Check out Bowlines Online Archive with many  
great issues going back to the nineties!

Issue Archive:

<http://bwa.shuttlepod.org/Newsletter>

A must read for all members, our 30th Anniversary issue:

[http://www.bluegrasswildwater.org/bowlines/BL30thAnnv\\_Aug06.pdf](http://www.bluegrasswildwater.org/bowlines/BL30thAnnv_Aug06.pdf)



Bowlines is the Newsletter of the Bluegrass Wildwater  
Association, POB 4231, Lexington Ky, 40504

### Club Officers 2020-2021

President	Sandra Broadus	859-983-4475
Vice-President	Ben Mudd	859-230-4763
Treasurer	Kyle Koeberlein	502-370-1289
Secretary	Robert Watts	859-554-8489
Safety	Dave Forman	859-550-9040
Bowlines Newsletter Program	Don Spangler	859-277-7314
Cyber Communications	Floyd Miracle	
Conservation	Michael Williams	859-893-0114
Film Festival Coordinator	Angus Milto	
Equipment Coordinator	Emily Grimes	859-797-6988
At-Large Member	Jansen Koeberlein	270-703-0352
Membership Coordinator	Damon Rosenbarker	
	Terri Covington Brunjes	

### Join in on the Fun!

Join the BWA! BWA Membership \$20/individual; \$25/Family year entitles you to receive the newsletter, 10% discounts at many local and out of state outfitter shops, use of club equipment, discount at pool rolling sessions, a listing in the BWA Handbook, a stream gauge guide, and web site with a forum for member's messages & a parking pass for the Elkhorn.

Meetings are held at 7:30, the second Tuesday of each month at  
location announced on our website: <http://www.bluegrasswildwater.org>

**BWA members want to read your story!  
Short or long. Sad or Funny.  
Tell us your paddling related story! Please!!**

Files can be e-mailed to the Editor: DonSpang@aol.com



### About the BWA's Bowlines

The Bowlines has been a unique record of the BWA and its members. Unique in that it has been more than a listing of club activities and general information about paddling and related issues. When you read Bowlines you read about each of us and what we thought and did over the years. Members have contributed articles not only about paddling, conservation, and the club, but also stories crafted with humor, imagination, and the spirit of enthusiasm of life and enjoyment of each other. These are only a small portion of the many articles worth rereading. There have been songs, poems, soap operas, jokes, cartoons, wedding announcements, birth announcements, and unique trip reports among all the issues. Not what you might think you would see in a whitewater club newsletter.

We owe a thank you to all the newsletter editors that spent countless hours preparing each issue. To all you club members a big BWA hand for your contributions. Please keep it up! Now dig in and enjoy old memories or chuckle at the amusing stories, poems and pictures...



# A Big BWA Hand to the 2022 NPFF Festival Winners

Amateur Film Category:

**Martin Christiansen:**

**"My Dolphin Paddle"**

Accomplished Amateur Film Category:

**Marc Hunt**

**"Tips for Rowing the  
Big Rapids of the  
Grand Canyon"**

Professional Film Category:

**Rush Sturges**

**"The River Runner"**

Viewer's Choice Award Winner:

**Elmore Holmes**

**"A Paddler's Journey"**

Still Image Winner:

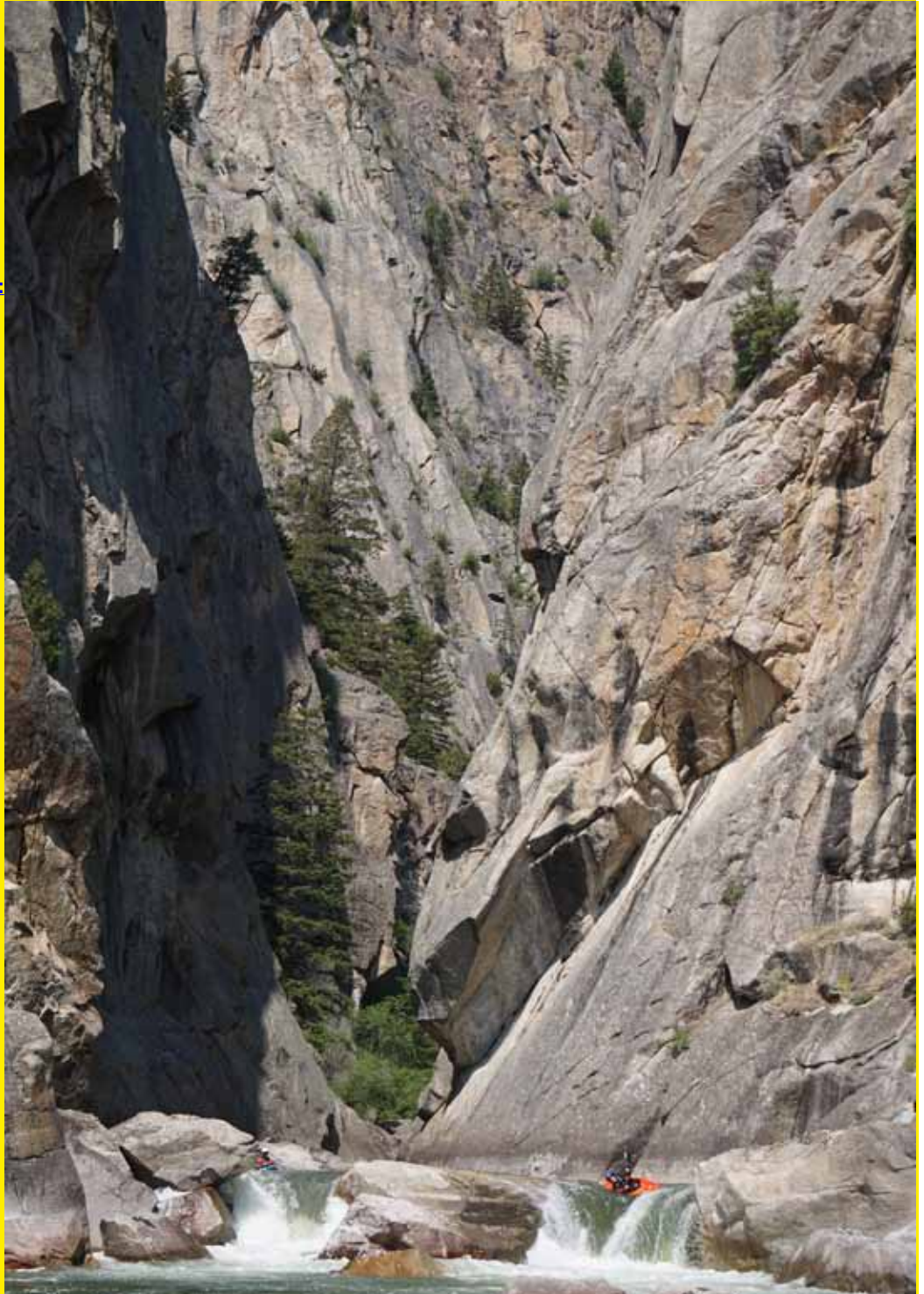
**Bernie Engelman**

**"Calendar Gorge"**

Chili Cook-Off Winner:

**Cynthia Grimes**

**"Veggie Thai Chili"**



***Still Image Winner 2020: Bernie Engelman "Calendar Gorge"***

# A Message of Appreciation from this Years NPFF Director

Thanks to everyone that volunteered for NPFF! Due to the ever-evolving pandemic, we offered our festival in a hybrid format this year; our in-person event took place on February 19, 2022 at the historic Lyric Theatre in downtown Lexington, KY. We were also broadcasting our event live, and allowed ticketholders the opportunity to watch all film submissions for two weeks surrounding the live event. We were excited to once again open up our festival to a worldwide audience, and also offer that classic NPFF feel for our in-person attendees.

We're stoked with how this year turned out! We were back in a big theatre this year, the chili queen remained victorious, masks were donned, the frothy beverages were flowing, and the guest hosts were on fire! It was also our first year hosting a simulcast – we partnered with the West Asheville Canoe & Kayak Organization (WACKO) this year and they hosted a sister event down in Asheville, NC at the Wedge Brewery!

Here's a breakdown of the money; a whopping \$5,859 from the online auction, Asheville & Lexington combined door sales brought in \$3,342, and the Canoe KY Boat Raffle brought in \$1,000! We are now looking for people to step up for the NPFF 2023.

This is truly our most favorite time of the year at NPFF Headquarters!!!! The temps are getting warmer, the creeks are starting to flow again, and we get to divvy out loads of dolla's!!!!!! The 2022 National Paddling Festival was a gargantuan success thanks to volunteers, filmmakers, sponsors, and attendees!

We're still working out amounts, but we know we will be donating to the following organizations that embody one of our missions--to protect, conserve, and make rivers accessible:

-American Whitewater

The White Salmon Boat Library (in honor of guest host Todd Wells)

In addition to this, we will be giving \$1,000 to WACKO to distribute as they wish! We can't say thanks enough to our pals down in Asheville for their support in ushering in a new platform for the NPFF, and we're excited to use this model with other clubs around the US!

This brings our donation total, over the course of the lifetime of the festival, to over \$185,000. Not bad for some hillbillies from Kentucky who love to paddle and who love to throw a big party.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you to those of you who came to the festival, who volunteered at the festival, who submitted films or still images, and who donated to our silent auction. We love you long time.

*Emily Grimes*





# Photo Essay of this Years NPFF Weekend

NPFF 2022 at the Lyric in Lexington, Ky.









## NPFF 2022 at the Wedge in Asheville N.C.

The National Paddling Film Festival aligned with the West Asheville Canoe & Kayak Organization (WACKO) to live stream the NPFF at the Wedge at Foundation in the River Arts District in Asheville the same day as the NPFF in Lexington. We had a tremendous turnout and great fun by all in attendance. The challenges of the first year were overcome by fun and laughter. It is great to see many paddlers turning out to support river conservation and river access. Big thanks to those who supported it from WACKO: Katie Nolan, Mark Miller, Crom Carey, David Thomas (YT) and MC McClellan. Looks like all the WACKO crew is looking forward to the event again next year and extending the reach of the NPFF!!!

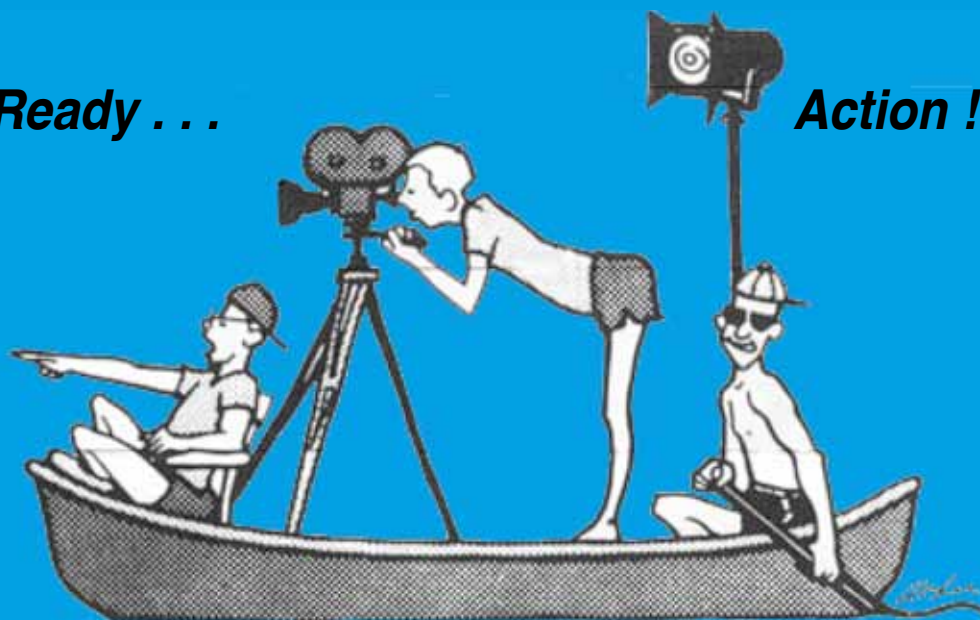


# Article from American Whitewater Journal on Success of the First NPFF

Sept/Oct 1984 by Lynda Matusek (Director of Publicity for first NPFF)

Lynda Matusek was one of several BWA members in the committee that gave their efforts and talent to the planning and putting on the first NPFF. Jan Atlee created the wonderful art for Ads, signs and other uses. Thanks to them both and all the others that spent a lot of time getting the festival off and going! Found from AW on line Archive it is one of the articles that BWA members contributed over our history to the the AW Journal.

**Ready . . .**



**Action !**

**By Lynda Matusek**

Last fall brought a new twist to the sport of paddling. On one weekend in October about three hundred people gathered together in a barn in Lexington, Kentucky, and ran miles and miles of river. They went down the Rio Bio Bio in Chile. They tried racing the clock on a slalom course. They did enders in Colorado and handsurfed in Tennessee. They see the wonder of the Grand Canyon, with its big-water rapids and verdant side canyons. All of these experiences were part of the First National Paddling Film Festival. Entries on film, video tapes, and slides brought the world to that barn.

The idea of the festival had begun to germinate many months before. Members of the Bluegrass Wildwater Association (based in Lexington) had been taking boating trips and taking movies of those trips for a long time: they'd been rolling film almost as long as they'd been rolling their kayaks. Several high quality programs had developed, celebrating the beauty and excitement of river running.

If so much talent was apparent in just one club, they reasoned, a nationwide competition ought to yield an excellent collection of shows. The film festival was organized to identify, promote, and encourage presentations on boating. The BWA (and co-sponsor Menasha Ridge Press) not only wanted to collect shows about paddling in order to share and exchange ideas, but with a hope to developing a source of programs for clubs to present. The impetus of a contest with prizes would be added motivation. It would encourage the creation and improvement of boating films. Besides, it would be a lot of fun.

The festival was an ambitious venture. It took a lot of work to organize; to coordinate publicity and arrange for judges, facilities, and equipment. Realizing that it was all done by volunteer paddlers (who wanted to be out paddling), it's amazing that the project got off the ground at all. In fact, the event went very well, and was deemed worthwhile by all who were involved.

The competition was broken up into several categories; Recreational/Scenic, Racing, Humor, Safety/Instructional, and Hair Boating, as well as by media. There were a total of twenty-three entries with an overall high level of quality and creativity. It was obvious that much care went into the projects. There was wide range of style, making a diverse collection of works for the spectators to enjoy.





The "Kayaking in the Bluegrass" slide presentation brought the house down

A tongue-in-cheek view of rafting showed the dreams that a professional guide might have. A slide show on hypothermia presented valuable information in an interesting concise way. "El Horrendo", showing a hair run-down the Russell Fork in Kentucky had a wonderful sound track that included "Pomp and Circumstance" as the victorious paddlers made it off the river. An instructional film on basic kayaking technique starred a horse instead of a kayak, and brought down the house with its ferry and roll.

After the long day enjoying the entries on the screen, the spectators jumped into the action at the party on Saturday night, which lived up to the high standards boaters maintain. A special performance of the BWA's own "Women in Rubber" seemed to be a big hit. They performed their versions of several songs dressed in alluring outfits of fishnet stockings, spray skirts, and PFDs. Visitors to the Lexington area were (wet) suitably impressed.

On Sunday morning the winners were announced and the entries replayed. The prizes in each division were awarded (they included Norse paddles and ExtraSport lifevests), leading up to the grand prize, which was winner's choice of any boat from Phoenix. The festival broke up in time for a quick run down a local creek by all the "Real Boaters" who either didn't have hangovers or didn't care. This fall an even better festival is planned with improved (i.e. heated) facilities at the University of Kentucky campus. Entries for the Second National Paddling Film Festival are now being solicited from river runners across the country... This Means You! The subject categories are the same as last year, but the media will be mixed with film, video, and slides competing against each other. The complete rules, criteria for judging, and entry forms are available from the Bluegrass Wildwater Association, P.O. Box 4231, Lexington, Kentucky, 40504.

The Second National Paddling Film Festival is sure to be a highlight of the fall boating season. Plan to enter, put together some of your best shots and add a sound track, develop a new idea, or cover an event such as a whitewater rodeo. Plan to attend-enjoy Kentucky hospitality and the best paddling films ever gathered in one place.

Bowlines from the Years 1991-1995 will soon be available as PDF files in addition to all those of later years to the present. The issues will be scanned than have OCR run on them and be PDF format documents. The BWA has had a unique and outstanding newsletter with many outstanding original articles since the first one in 1976. I hope to go back and do the same till we have our history and a significant part of paddling history archived and available to all of us.

Here are some examples with stories about early Film Festivals.

*Your Bowlines Editor*

**FEBRUARY 1992**  
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**BOW LINES**

Newsletter  
of the  
Bluegrass  
Wildwater  
Association.  
P.O. Box 4231  
Lexington, KY. 40504

## Film Festival Excitement Building!

**L**ess than three weeks remain before the Ninth Annual Paddling Film Festival to be held on the weekend of February 22 & 23. Response has been very strong, as evidenced by the number and quality of entries received to date. This will be an event that no self-respecting paddler can afford to miss! Along with the excellent viewing opportunities come the prizes, raffle, silent auction, awards ceremony, general socializing and PARTY. As always, all proceeds will be donated to deserving conservation organizations such as AWA and American Rivers to assist in the effort to preserve our cherished river resources.

Thanks to the significant efforts of the numerous film festival committee volunteers, all the moving pieces are being put into place and offer to make this the best festival yet. Rumor has it that this year's boats will include the Perception Pirouette and the Dagger Freefall. The party has been moved to a new (better) location thanks to PartyMeister "M.C. Hammered". The projection equipment to be used this year is said to be a quantum improvement, thanks to B6.

As the festival approaches, please keep in mind that BWA volunteers will be needed to help with the various tasks and logistics before, during, and after the festival. If you have some



*Bailey Johnson of Lenoir City, Tennessee doing an ender in an open boat at "Slam Dunk" on the Upper Ocoee. (From the "Louie, G.D.I. Collection")*

lodging space available for judges, get with Sockeye to see if it is needed. David "Eddie P. Tato" Earle needs shift volunteers for the front desk, and Spanky will need some help before lunch to get all the meals upstairs. Although we have lost the use of the small classroom for concessions, Mr. Party is working on the scope of offerings and may need some assistance during the actual festival. Concessions and Film Festival Huggie sales will probably be set up in the hallway. For any further information on the above or any Festival business, contact me at 263-4430 or Barry Grimes (film coordinator) at 745-4940.

**P.S.**—The film coordinator has advised that there are some real mind-blower videos this year - something about waterfalls and caves

and ? ? ? Remaining space is nearly gone, so hurry! See you at the festival!

*Mike Molnar, Film Festival Coordinator*

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of the  
Bluegrass  
Wildwater  
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P.O. Box 4231  
Lexington, KY. 40504

# BOW LINES

## 10<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL

### National Paddling Film Festival

February 27, 1993 - 9 AM  
Lexington, Kentucky

(UK Health Science Learning Center - Rose St.)

- Amateur & Professional
- Racing
- Humor
- Club
- Hair Boating
- Conservation
- Recreational / Scenic
- Safety / Instructional
- All Proceeds Go To River Conservation

For More Information:

**Bluegrass Wildwater Association**

P.O. Box 4231 - Lexington, KY 40504

(606) 623-9067 or 277-2172

Woody Callaway on "Gorilla"  
Photo by Mike Clark  
Computer Enhancements  
by Crystal Graphics

## 10th Annual National Paddling Film Festival

**A**dmit it - as a paddler you love to watch other paddlers "eat it"! Imagine if you will - you just made a successful run on some "famous" Class IV rapids - now comes the real fun.

You drag your boat ashore, find yourself a comfortable perch on a flat rock with a front row view and watch the fun.....

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# The 2022 Elkhorn Creek Jess Cup Race

The Jess Cup Not NPFF Race is a grass roots kayak race that takes place on Elkhorn Creek in Frankfort, KY. The NPFF race started in 2010 as a competition between two local Kentucky paddling clubs, the Bluegrass Wildwater Association and the Viking Canoe Club. Competitors paddle Canoes, Kayaks, Rafts & other watercraft of every conceivable kind, making for a wild and exciting race for them & those that watch!



Top BWA scorers 2022 Jess Cup left to right:  
Bernie Engleman, Fred Wilson, Taylor Wood, Sam Latarola, Angus Milton



2022 Jess Cup Race Sign In



# At the take-out: Race Sign-in







**At the put-in:  
Boat Drop/Off & Launch**

