



Three Rivers Paddling Club

# The Paddler's Gauge

February 2009

In this issue ... the absolute minimum required to make a newsletter worth mailing out. For maximum enjoyment, find a warm, cozy chair and read the whole way through ...

## The change of the guard

Bill Moran

So this is your new newsletter editor speaking.

First off, I want to apologize for the lack of a December of January Newsletter. Things changed faster than I was able to jump in and take over, and I'm still scrambling to get on top of the job.

Secondly, I want to apologize for the drop in quality and quantity of this month's newsletter. Let me assure you that this will be an exception and not the norm, I intend to have things back up to the level of quality that everyone is used to by March.

Next, I want to remind everyone just how big the shoes are I have to fill. I'm bringing this up so the next time you bump into Jeff Macklin, or anyone else who's contributed to the newsletter, you can pat them on the back and thank them. Perhaps even buy them a beer or other thoughtful gift. The TRPC newsletter has been of consistently better quality than any other club newsletter I get, and that's something everyone should appreciate and be proud of.

Why is this February newsletter so different? Because I realized that it would be at least March before I was fully in step with the job of editor, and I realized that was too late for the most important function of the newsletter. TRPC is about trips and boats on the river, and we're right on the edge of prime whitewater season. As a result, I wanted to get this interim newsletter into members' hands before the end of February, with information on upcoming trips.

Look forward to a more familiar newsletter in March, with trip reports, meeting minutes and articles written by TRCP members.

If you have questions, suggestions, or would like contribute, please contact me at [wmoran@potentialtech.com](mailto:wmoran@potentialtech.com).

If you have complaints, please hold them until I've done this for a few months, and feel free to contact me with them if they still apply then.

## Pool Sessions!

Please, **CLEAN YOUR BOAT**  
**before taking it to a pool session!**

Some of the following pool sessions fill up quickly and others will require a minimum number of participants before they can run, so make arrangement as early as possible. If you are conducting winter pool sessions and would like to have them published by TRPC, e-mail the information to [wmoran@potentialtech.com](mailto:wmoran@potentialtech.com). Watch the TRPC message board and next month's newsletter for additions and/or changes for pool sessions.

**Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh:** Pool sessions are every Thursday from 9-11pm when CMU classes are in session. Pool sessions are free for members of CMU Explorers Club (\$20 membership fee per academic year) or \$5/session for non-members. Parking is free in the East Campus Garage. The pool is located in the University Center Building on the CMU campus. Contact: Matt Bernstein at (610) 724-6804, [mbernste@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:mbernste@andrew.cmu.edu)

Pool sessions (cont)

**Seton Hill College, Greensburg:** Starts January 7, 2009 (Wednesdays) for ten weeks from 7:00 to 9:00p.m. Tentative cost is \$50.00. Boats and gear will be available for rental at \$50.00 for the entire 10 sessions and includes a beginners' river trip on Loyalhanna Creek in March. If space is available, walk-ons will be accepted at a flat rate of \$6.00 per session. Mail payment to: Jeff Prycl at 319 South Washington Avenue, Greensburg, PA15601. Contact: Jeff Prycl W724-925-9675 or H724-836-2549 (before 10:00p.m.!!!) E-mail: prycl@rockymountaingarage.com

**Pittsburgh YMCA:** Sunday afternoons beginning the first week of January, the Downtown YMCA will host the TRPC Roll Sessions at the Blvd of the Allies location. We have the pool from 3:00 PM till 5:00 PM for 12 weeks. The sessions will NOT be held SUPER BOWL Sunday. Cost is \$50.00 per person for the entire 12 session package or \$10.00 per visit. Kids are free if accompanied by an adult and we can store boats in a stairwell between sessions if you like. Please contact Gary McCormick at 412-885-0712.

**Jewish Community Center of Greater Pittsburgh:** South Hills, 345 Kane Blvd, Pittsburgh, PA 15243. Early Jan to late Feb, Tuesdays from 8:00pm-9:30pm. Please CALL FIRST to make sure space is available. Open pool time is available for ages 12 & up. You must provide your own kayak. Contact Earleen Birkner at: ebirkner@jccpgh.org or 412-278-1975, Ext. 216.

**California University:** Tom Kinsey and Kevin Cupp have arranged pool sessions on Wednesday nights from 8-10 p.m. starting February 6. If interested, call Kevin Cupp at 724-366-1578 to get your name on the tentative list.

**Wheeling Jesuit University Pool:** Alma Grace McDonough Center, Wheeling, WV. Sessions are from 6 PM to 9 PM (wrap up by 8-8:30 PM) on Sundays in Jan, Feb, and March

*Format:* Informal one-on-one instruction. Practice all your skills, then seek out those needing help. Be ready and willing to teach a WJU student to roll. If you have an extra boat and/or gear, please bring these with you. You will need to sign a release form. If possible, please bring your completed form when you arrive. Art will also have forms at the pool.

Directions: <http://www.wju.edu/about/directions.asp>

Contact: Art Bertol W 304-527-4855 or artb@wheeling-nisshin.com

**Kingwood City Pool, WV:** Roll sessions are Wednesdays from 7-9 pm and the cost is \$5.

Contact: Kathy Whetsell (304) 329 0856

**West Virginia University Recreation Center:** Thursdays from mid-January to mid-March, 8:30 to 10:30 pm. For more information, go to:

<http://studentreccenter.wvu.edu/orc/rollsessions.html>

**Franklin YMCA,** 111 W Park St, Franklin, PA.

Saturdays, Feb 9, 16, 23 from 3:30 - 5:30 PM.

Fridays, Mar 14, 21, 28 from 6:00 - 8:00 PM.

Pre-registering price for ALL 6 sessions: Adults \$45, Children \$16, Family \$85.

Per-day price: Adults \$8, Children \$3, Family \$15 (max). These will be open sessions to learn and practice kayaking strokes and rolls. Please call to register one week in advance and to verify that class is "on" before coming. 5 pre-registrations are needed to guarantee sessions are "on".

Contact Carol Zacher at 814-432-2138. More info is available at: <http://www.franklinymca.org/>

Date	Trip	Coordinator	Phone	Email
March 17	TRPC Meeting			
March 11, 18 ,25	Spring Equinox Runs IV	Steve Bloskis	C 412-715-1813	<a href="mailto:k1buddah@yahoo.com">k1buddah@yahoo.com</a>
March 14-15	First Cheoah River Release			
March 18 & 25	Meadow Run (as long as it's running)	Steve Bloskis	C 412-715-1813	<a href="mailto:k1buddah@yahoo.com">k1buddah@yahoo.com</a>
March 28	Red Moshannon Downriver Race, Grassflat, PA	Natalie Thomas	H 724-935-5482	nthomas2@connecttime.net
March 28-29	Loyalhanna Beginners' Trip I	Jeff Prycl	C 724-331-9566 W 724-925-9675	prycl@rockymountaingarage.com
Apr. until it dries up	Mid week Rn Slip to top II-IV	Steve Bloskis	C 412-715-1813	k1buddah@yahoo.com
Apr. 3-5	Tygart Weekend II-IV, Audra State Park	Mike Bailey	H 412-881-2244	<a href="mailto:baileybuild@comcast.net">baileybuild@comcast.net</a>
Apr. until it dries up	Slip (Wed. 5:00) II-III	Gary McCormick Bill Schwab	H412-885-0712 C412-915-6030	<a href="mailto:garymccormick@verizon.net">garymccormick@verizon.net</a> <a href="mailto:pakayaker2000@yahoo.com">pakayaker2000@yahoo.com</a>
April 4-5	Cheoah River Release (each weekend)			
Apr. 4-5	Elk River Festival WV II-III(IV) a.k.a Webster Wildwater Weekend			
Apr. 4-5	Tallulah Falls also 11-12			
Apr. 5	Casselman II-III	Wayne Carey	H 304-547-1777	wvredline@msn.com
Apr 11	Connie trip	Paul Eisner	412-635-9584	
April 12	Stoneycreek Sinners and Heathen Trip III-IV	Dave Greenwald	H 412-968-0597	dgmailbox@comcast.net
Apr. 18	First Upper Yough Fri. Release			
April 18	Middle Yough Beginner Trip	Gary McCormick	H412-885-0712	<a href="mailto:garymccormick@verizon.net">garymccormick@verizon.net</a>
Apr. 17-19	Blackham Memorial Trip, S. Branch Potomac I-III	Donna Egbert Judy Polczynski-Macklin	C 412-719-6637 C 724-448-1602	<a href="mailto:chikadee2@aol.com">chikadee2@aol.com</a> <a href="mailto:jpoczzy777@aol.com">jpoczzy777@aol.com</a>
April 10-19	Southern Trip III+, V	Jeff Prycl	C 724-331-9566 W 724-925-9675	prycl@rockymountaingarage.com
Apr. 21	TRPC Meeting			
April 24-26	Stoneycreek Benscreek Rendezvous II-IV			
May until it dries up	Slip (Wed. 5:00) II-III	Gary McCormick Bill Schwab	H412-885-0712 C412-915-6030	<a href="mailto:garymccormick@verizon.net">garymccormick@verizon.net</a> <a href="mailto:pakayaker2000@yahoo.com">pakayaker2000@yahoo.com</a>
May-Aug.	Wednesday Night Roll Sessions (6 p.m. until ?)	Jeff Prycl	C 724-331-9566 W 724-925-9675	prycl@rockymountaingarage.com
May 1	Cheat Downriver Race III-IV			
May 2	First Cheat River Release (each weekend in May)			
May 2	Cheat Fest (Narrows) II-III	Gary McCormick	H 412-885-0712	<a href="mailto:garymccormick@verizon.net">garymccormick@verizon.net</a>
May 2-3	Cheat Fest III-IV			
May 9-10	North Branch Potomac Release			
May 15-16	Lower Big Sandy IV paddle & camp	Keith Pasquariello	C 724-255-1148	
May 23-24	North Branch Potomac Release			
May 23	Lower Yough Trip	Steve Kroser	C412-680-7307	<a href="mailto:steve@kroser.com">steve@kroser.com</a>
May 19	TRPC Meeting			

For last minute changes and impromptu trips, check the TRPC message board at  
<http://threeriverspaddlingclub.com/>

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