



# The Paddle

Early Spring 2017

<http://www.masondixoncanoeclub.com/>



## From the President's corner; A recap of 2016 Mason Dixon Canoe Cruiser's Paddling Season.

2016 was a great year for The Mason Dixon Canoe Cruisers. We experienced an unexpected surge in membership that can be directly attributed to the very successful pool sessions and the MDCC Facebook page. I would like to extend a thank you for the efforts of all of the MDCC volunteers, and Nancy Kell in particular, for the work that they put in to make the pool sessions the great success that they are.

The MDCC Facebook page is proving to be a great tool for attracting New Members and a great resource for getting the word out regarding the club's trips and events. I would like to extend my gratitude to Joe Shepherd for his efforts setting up and maintaining this valuable resource.

Thanks to the efforts of Vitas and Chuck the MDCC Message Board and Calendar is still a thing. Trips and events are still posted on the MDCC message Board, for those of us who still don't do the Facebook thing, and the MDCC Calendar is updated with most of the club favorites. Thanks again to the efforts of Vitas and Chuck. Please check out the MDCC Calendar, if you would like to add a trip or event, or if you see a trip or event that you'd like to help organize please let me know.

As is the case each year the MDCC paddling season started off with the traditional New Year's Day paddle, on the Shenandoah River's Millville to Wayside section, and from that point on trips were posted on the MDCC Message Board and Facebook page through the rest of the year.

The Club favorites, trips to the Bloomington section of the North Branch, the Lower Yough, the Savage River, the Staircase, the Needles, the Stonycreek River, the Cheat, etc. were well attended. There are usually 12-15 MDCC members on the Savage for the release dates.

MDCC did overnight club trips to the Stonycreek River, the Lehigh, Valley falls, and the Lower Yough in 2016.

Events; MDCC was well represented at several paddling events in 2016 such as Cheat Fest, the StonycreekRendezvous, the Harpers Ferry outdoor festival, the Carolina Week of Rivers, and Gaully Fest. The Carolina Week of rivers has quickly become a favorite of many of the MDCC members. More than 20 MDCC Members were present for at least part of the CCC WOR event for some great paddling opportunities in North Carolina, Tennessee, and Georgia.

We did several moonlight paddling trips, or croak floats as some call them, in 2016. We paddled from Lock 34 to Weaverton in the moonlight and had a campfire with S'mores and other treats after the paddle. The full moon in autumn illuminates the Potomac River quite nicely for these trips.

2016 was a great year for the MDCC, let's keep the fun and momentum going through 2017 and beyond.

**2017  
MDCC BOD and Officers**

Congratulations to officers and board members of MDCC for your election / reelection to serve for the upcoming year. Your commitment helps make for a stronger club that keeps paddling enthusiasts connected to each other, encourages safety and skills advancement, and acts as a resource to protect the Harpers Ferry area as a recreational resource.

**Your 2017 Officers:**

Earl Baer, President  
Sheila Chapelle, Secretary

Bobby Miller, Vice President  
Bonnie Watson Wisdom, Treasurer

**Your 2017 Board of Directors:**

Nancy Kell      Vitas Eidukevicius      Beth Zeilinski      Ron Shanholtz      Marcy Flaherty

**Mark your Calendar !**

**Events Early Spring 2017**

**The MDCC Banquet March 26**

The MDCC Banquet and swap meet is fast approaching. The Banquet is being held at the **Bolivar Community Center, 60 Panama St, Harpers Ferry, WV 25425 March 26<sup>th</sup> 1:00 pm** until we get tired of each other's company. The banquet is a pot-luck event so bring your favorite dish or desert to share. MDCC will provide non-alcoholic beverages, disposable plates, utensils, and cups. Banquet follows the last pool session.

If you have a video or photos to share contact Dan Eigenbrode, we need content and I know many of you have cameras and/or a gopro so get busy editing, unless your video is very exciting you will lose your audience after 6 minutes. Lets keep the videos PG, this is a family event, and try not to embarrass anyone too much.

If you have a nomination for an award contact me at [baerlypaddle@gmail.com](mailto:baerlypaddle@gmail.com) Remember if you nominate someone for an award you must present the award, speech and all. Again; lets keep the awards PG, this is a family event, and try not to embarrass anyone too much.

Swap Meet; if you have outdoor and/or paddling gear that you want to get rid of bring it to the banquet and stick a price on it, just remember that boaters are notoriously cheap.

**MDCC Pool Sessions in 2017 NOTE changes**

Big changes in store for the MDCC pool sessions; On February 5, 2017 the MDCC Board of directors and Officers voted to reduce the fees for the MDCC pool sessions. The cost for the pool sessions will now be \$10 per adult and \$5 for children 12 and under per session.

MDCC has a tradition of admitting “Instructors” free of charge for the pool session. “Instructor” is one who comes to the pool session to help others learn paddling skills and to get their roll on. This tradition will continue unchanged.

The pool session are held at the **Hagerstown YMCA, 100 Eastern Blvd. Hagerstown, MD Sunday Mornings 9:00-11:00 AM, March 5, 12, 19, 26.**

**Pool Rules:**

- Pool session attendees must be a member of the Mason Dixon Canoe cruisers. Membership application will be on site and membership is still a very fairly priced \$10 per household.
- Please make sure your boat is clean before putting it in the pool. There will be a hose on site for cleaning boats but if it needs cleaned as badly as mine typically does don't be afraid to hit the car wash on the way. Get the floatation out and really spay it down inside and out.
- No seal launches from the pool deck.
- No street shoes on the pool deck, I know this one is difficult but it is a YMCA rule.
- Be prompt, we cannot have the pool until 9:00 and must be out by 11:00

Check the message board and schedule for updates on all MDCC events and trips.

<http://www.masondixoncanoeclub.com/viewforum.php?f=3>

**JOIN ! RENEW !**

**MDCC annual dues have always been \$10.00 per household !!!**

Send in your membership dues and forms soon! Banquet and pool sessions just around the corner! Go here for the info to do so:

<http://www.masondixoncanoeclub.com/MDCC/Join.html>

**NOTE: We now accept Paypal (\$1 surcharge....a stamp is almost 50 cents)**

**Mason Dixon Canoe Cruisers**



*Melius vivit qui remigat*

*Who paddles lives better*