

# RAPIDS



OCTOBER  
2012

## WESTERN WHITEWATER ASSOCIATION

### 2012 CONFLUENCE RUN

*Story by Rich Vaughn*

**Special points of interest:**

- SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER FOR THE OCTOBER MEETIGN!
- GOOD TIME HAD BY ALL ON THE CONFLUENCE RUN
- NEW THIS MONTH—  
"POSSIBLY OF INTEREST"

Our annual September outing at Pittsburg Landing was a huge success with more than 30 boats and approximately 100 participants. Several boats went into the canyon on Wednesday and we can tell you the fishing [especially Sturgeon] on Thursday and Friday was far better than average.

The official run day on Saturday went off with just one boat incident that you could classify as fairly serious...perhaps not even significant enough to win our annual coveted award...as the boat continued on to the confluence. If there was any particular discomfort during the weekend it was the tempera-

ture and the smoke. Days were unseasonably warm and there was little relief during the night. If the temperature was not bad enough smoke from fires in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho created periods of time when the situation became very unhealthy.

Highlight of the event was, as usual, the dinner Saturday night. It started out looking like it might become a disaster when your Chairman and Co-chairman started floating back to camp from Kirkwood. It all began as we were returning from the confluence when the Chairman announced to his passengers that he intended to run all the way back up to

Kirkwood and deliver a few ears of corn to the volunteer caretakers there. Upon announcing his decision passengers inquired, do we have enough gas? Noticing the gauge which was very close the 'E' they inquired further, is there gas in the other tank? No, came the reply but I think we can make it. The key word being "THINK". Well as you have already probably concluded we did make it to Kirkwood delivered the corn and there began our float back to Pittsburg Landing.

At first we decided the kicker motor would run...for how long was uncertain...but at least it got

*(Continued on page 5)*

**Inside this issue:**

Board of Directors	4
Calendar of Events	6
Confluence Run	1/5
President's Message	2/3
Possibly of Interest	3



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At this writing, October is just a few days away and fall is in the air at least in the early morning hours. In my neighborhood, there are early morning and late evening flights of ducks moving from fields to the river preparing for their ultimate fall migration. Along with fall comes the recent Confluence run of the WWA and what a great time that was had by many.

At the confluence run this year I was able to run the river for three days and refresh my knowledge of the area with many of you. Thanks go out to those who volunteered as group leaders and those who prepped the event including the potluck dinner Saturday night. About four years ago the confluence run was my first event with the WWA. Although I had ran from Pittsburgh to Dug Bar several times previously, it was not until that Confluence Run that I learned how fortunate I had been to avoid some of the pitfalls of that stretch of the river (i.e. Cottonwood rapids and Kirby

Creek rapids) from some experienced river captains.

This year running back from the Salmon River on Saturday, Jayne White rode with me while we followed the Pirates Life boat captained by Shay White. As the conversation went along the way it was clear to me that the White family enjoys the Canyon as much as I do. The conversation about the unique solitude and rugged beauty of the Canyon as well as, different places where campsites were and fish were caught or game taken in the respective seasons, evidenced the appreciation and enjoyment both of us have had in the Canyon with friends and family. Although I am a relatively new jet boat owner compared to the White family, our appreciation of the place is deeply engrained in our personas.

Each time I have gone to the Canyon with a newby, I have enjoyed the trip probably more than they have. I don't know how many first-timers I have introduced to the Canyon, I lost count

at thirty some, but you all have introduced many more than me. Whether it is the history of the Canyon from the Chief Joseph days and the crossing at Dug Bar, the Jordan Family and their adventures at Kirkwood, or my memories of elk hunting on top at Hat Point and lords Flat, the Canyon always fascinates me and at the same time amazes me.

In visiting with Jayne and Rick and the boys, it is clear they have a very similar fascination and amazement of the Canyon. From the confluence to Pittsburgh Jayne never did give me a bad time for wearing a BSU hat. It might be the Canyon or that I am also an alumni of Eastern Oregon University where Shay and Grady currently attend college. I think I did discover something that a Bronco and a Vandal can agree on. We have a tremendous natural resource in Hells Canyon and in order for the resource to be available for continued future multiple use, we need to be active

*(Continued on page 3)*

*Running Imnaha Rapids*



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*(Continued from page 2)*

in the processes that shape the use of this resource. I can't think of a better way to be a voice than to be a member of the WWA and stay informed with the proposals that come around from time to time for the management of this resource.

So whether you are a Bronco or a Vandal or worse

yet, a Tiger or Crimson Tide, stay informed of the politics of our resources and your role in them. The easiest way to lose access to the Canyon is to disrespect the resource or be apathetic about the management of the resource. See ya in the Canyon.

## UPCOMING ELECTIONS

December will be here before we know it. And that means it's time for elections. We will be forming a nomination committee soon.

The following positions will be open: Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and three directors. If you are interested in running or would like to nominate someone, please contact Anita Shore at 454-1669 or [Als43@shorenshoreaviation.com](mailto:Als43@shorenshoreaviation.com). Thank you for considering this.

## POSSIBLY OF INTEREST

### **(March 1996) PRE-UNLOADING BOAT INSTRUCTIONS:**

**1.** Load any gear into the boat before backing onto the boat ramp.

Walk down the ramp to look for hazards and decide which side is best for launching.

**1** Install drain plugs.

**2** Unplug lights (just before water, if ramp is steep).

**3** Keep safety chain and winch attached to boat before starting engine.

### **BEFORE STARTING THE ENGINE IN THE BOAT:**

**1.** Open engine compartment, look and

smell for gas. Leave engine cover open.

**2.** Give a quick visual check – belts, plug wires, carburetor for leaks, etc.

**3.** Make sure water drains are closed and water lines for cooling are open.

**4.** Turn on bilge blowers and run them for a couple of minutes before starting engine.

**5.** Check gear selector. Place in neutral or forward position.

**6.** Start engine.

**7.** While engine is running, walk back and take another look into the engine compartment. Look for water and gas leaks, etc.

**8.** Close engine compartment cover.

**9.** Check gauges. Make sure you have oil pressure and you are showing an electrical charge.

**10.** Let the boat run long enough to show some temperature on gauge.

**11.** If it's not already there, put the gear selector in forward and unhook safety chain and winch from bow eye.

**12.** Pull gear selector into reverse and back off trailer. If there are others waiting to launch, get out of the way.

**WHEN LOADING YOUR BOAT:** Try to be considerate of others. Be prepared to load onto your trailer as

soon as it is down the ramp, so the next boater can load theirs. On club runs the ramp is the bottle neck.

**Remember:** When in the canyon be on your best behavior. Don't give anyone a reason to complain.

A few words – Clear the ramp as swiftly as possible and be as courteous as possible. If you need help – **ASK!** If there is congestion don't stop and add to it. This is where the majority of problems arise. Use your radio if needed. Keep them on so you can receive information if necessary. We run on Channel 12 for club runs.

## Guest Speaker for October 8 Meeting

For the General Membership meeting of the WWA on October 8, 2012 we will have a special guest presentation. The guest will be Stuart Rosenberger, Hatchery M & E Biologist with Idaho Power Company. He will be discussing the hatchery program of IPC and the general maintenance and health of the steelhead, salmon, and sport fisheries in Idaho. While many of us fish for the elusive steelhead and salmon in Hells Canyon and on the Salmon River, there are a lot of things going on behind the scene on the part of industry and government that impact the

fishing opportunities that are out there.

I look forward to an informative presentation and an opportunity to further my understanding of the hatchery program in our area. I have had the opportunity to tour the fish hatchery in McCall with my daughter's school class and was surprised at the amount of science and technology in use in this process. Mr. Rosenberger will avail himself to questions from the group as well. I encourage you to come to the meeting with questions and prepared to be enlightened about our fishing opportunities in the area. We are very appreciative of

the outreach efforts from Idaho Power Company and their employees to share information on their efforts to maintain the fisheries in the area.

For those that pay close attention, there will probably be some tips on how to become a more successful sportsman in search of the steel-

### THANK YOU!

A special thank you to Jeff Higgins, Neil Troxel and Jim Moore for their part in getting fuel to the McGarvin boat, during the Confluence Run.

## 2012 WWA Officers

President—Jed Myers \*  
 Past President —Brian Oakey\*  
 President Elect — Clyde Schrader\*  
 Vice President— Darwin Ames\*  
 Secretary/Treasurer—Anita Shore\*

## Board of Directors

BILL DAVIS \*\*  
 BRIAN DEMOND \*  
 TEE FISHER\*\*  
 BOB GRAY\*  
 KEITH DEMOND \*\*  
 JON PEABODY \*

\*term expires Jan. 2013  
 \*\*term expires Jan. 2014

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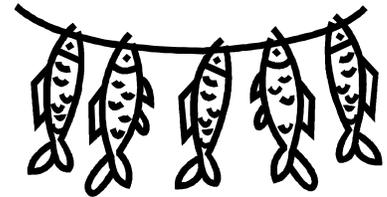
## 2012 CONFLUENCE RUN

*(Continued from page 1)*

us started. We were coming into the rapids just above Kirby Creek and encountered a boat coming up. We managed to get to the bank with some pretty severe banging on several large rocks. Our luck changed at this point when Toby Ashley ask if we were having problems. Out of gas we cried. Toby responded we will go back and get some, do you want premium or regular?

Anyway to make a very long story short we got back in sufficient time to organize a great group of WWA volunteers to shuck corn, setup tables, arrange the BBQ, start the water to cook the corn, etc., etc. Thank goodness for the wonderful people who belong to the WWA, they certainly did save the evening not to mention the BUTTS of the Chairman and Co-Chairman who should never again be put in charge of anything!

Thank You All for a Great Outing, Great Food, Great Friendship and a Great Time. We Love You All!  
Jim & Rich



Good Food!  
Good Friends!  
Good Times!

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P O BOX 8922  
BOISE ID 83707

## Calendar of Events

**OCT 8, 2012** *General Membership meeting—Canyon Creek Restaurant, Nampa*

**October 27, 2012** *Hammer Creek Run*

**DEC 10, 2012** *General Membership meeting—Canyon Creek Restaurant, Nampa*  
**ELECTION of OFFICERS**

**JAN 1, 2013** *New Years Day Run Walter's Ferry*

**FEB 24, 2013** *Chili Run*

**MAR 16, 2013** *Glenns Ferry Run*

**APRIL 18/19, 2013** *Salmon River Run*

**May 3, 2013** *Weed Rim*

**May 18, 2013** *Payette River Run*

**JUNE 8, 2012** *Skills Day*

**SEPT 14, 2013** *Confluence Run*

**OCT 26, 2013** *Hammer Creek Run*

*All dates are subject to change. In the event of a change, we will notify ASAP.*

General Meetings are the second Monday of the Month at Canyon Creek Restaurant Nampa ID

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We're on the web! <http://www.westernwhitewater.org/>  
Visit our new Facebook page.

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### Internet Addresses

**Idaho Current Streamflows: (New Address) 5-01**

<http://water.usgs.gov/id/nwis/current?>

[type=flow&group\\_key=NONE&search\\_site\\_no\\_station\\_nm=](http://water.usgs.gov/id/nwis/current?type=flow&group_key=NONE&search_site_no_station_nm=)

(enter it once

and bookmark it!)

**Idaho Power Streamflow Information: (03-02)** <http://www.idahopower.com/h2o/idastream.cfm>

**Riverflow Information:** <http://www.idwr.state.id.us/planpol/techserv/flows.htm>

### Addresses and Telephone Numbers

**Salmon River Reservations:** Slate Creek Ranger Station: 208-839-2211

**Hells Canyon Power Boat Reservations:** Pat Wurl: 509-758-0270

General information: 509-758-0616 **(Current information as of this printing)**

**River & Reservoir Levels:** Bureau of Reclamation: 208-334-9134

**Bliss Dam Outflows:** Idaho Power (Call weekdays only) 208-388-2255