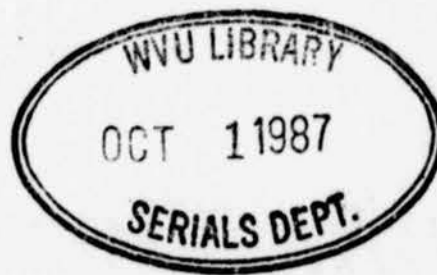




# THE HIGHLANDS VOICE



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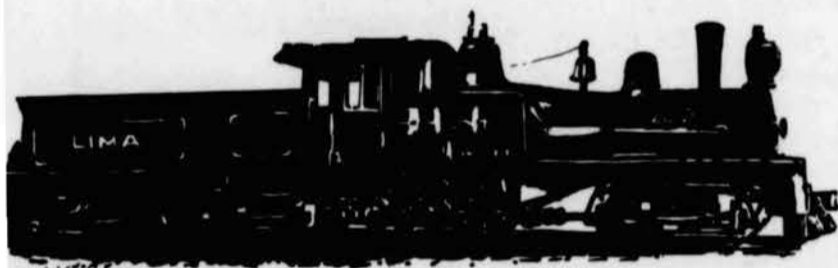
VOL. 20, NO. 9, SEPTEMBER 1987

## 20th Anniversary Fall Review 87

We are celebrating the 20th Anniversary of the WVHC's Fall Review in what we think is a very special way—and we hope you will, too. We'll be observing the procession of wine-red oaks, scarlet maples, golden tulip-populars, and spruce-greens up the mountainsides. Then the march of birches and maples and beech in a burst of yellow, red, and burnished brown. This is West Virginia's incomparable fall foliage, seen from the second-highest point in the State.

We're going to Cass Scenic Railroad State Park in Pocahontas County. Cross the railroad tracks in Cass, turn left, and look for WVHC signs and the Cass Community Building.

[more details on page 8]



## Third Annual West Virginia Conference on the Environment

The Third Annual West Virginia Conference of the Environment will be held October 14-15 at the Marriott Hotel in Charleston. Conference registration begins at 8:30 a.m., October 14.

There are 5 registration scholarships available to WVHC members who wish to attend all or part of the Conference. In addition, the Conservancy Board will reimburse travel expenses up to \$50 for two members who live outside the Charleston area. Those members who would like to attend should contact John Purbaugh.

The WV Conference on the environment has been designed to bring together a cross-section of society to explore environmental issues facing West Virginia. Moderators, panelists and speakers have been selected to assure a balance of views by knowledgeable persons who represent the regulated community, regulatory agencies, academia, elected representatives, and interesting citizens.

The conference is directed toward meeting the public's demand that complex issues involving the environment be openly and objectively debated. Participants in this conference can expect to play an active role in charting the environment course for the state.

The opening address will be given by J. Winston Porter, the United States EPA Assistant Administrator for Solid Waste and Emergency Response.

Dr. Susan Pollack, representing the Sierra Club, will moderate a panel discussion on "Waste Minimization and Management." This panel will focus on the need for policy and regulations and discuss the economic effects of and examples of the minimization and management of wastes in both industry and the community to reduce the present and future threats to human health and the environment.

Ron Potesta, Director, WV Department of Natural Resources, will moderate a panel discussion on "Groundwater Policy." West Virginia is in the process of developing statewide groundwater standards, with implementation of laws and regulations governing groundwater scheduled for 1988. The panel will discuss the needs, concerns and practical applications of laws and regulations.

The third panel discussion, "Future Water Effluent Controls and Permitting," is moderated by David M. Flannery of Robinson & McElwee. With the implementation of uniform technology-based surface water pollution controls now well underway, regulatory attention is turning increasingly to second and tertiary levels of control, principally in areas of water quality and toxicity-based discharge limitations. This panel will focus on the next generation of permitting in these areas. Emphasis will be given to recent amendments to the Federal Clean Water Act, in-stream treatment facilities, toxicity-based effluent limitations, analytical and process variability, and the general process for implementing water quality standards. John Purbaugh will represent the WVHC on the panel.

On Thursday, October 15, all conference attendees will participate in a small group "Environmental Negotiation" based on the panel presentations and discussions. Each person in each group will represent a segment of the community in discussing and attempting to reach an agreement that satisfies the needs of all segments of the community. The community segment roles will include: regulatory agencies, a facility operator, community residents, environmental advocate organizations, a community development board, business organizations local elected officials.

## Enjoying the Greenbrier River

by Joyce Cooper

Mention Greenbrier County and anyone who has lived there will get a certain look in his eye and say softly . . . "God's Country!" West Virginia is a state of steep hills and narrow hollows — our rugged terrain is the norm from border to border. The Greenbrier River Valley is rugged also — a land of shallow rocky soil — but the hills are gentled and a lush green carpet of grass covers the limestone.

When I travel along Route 219, I think of Camelot. The farms are picture pretty, even the subdivisions seem inviting and weeds seldom grow along the fence rows. It's as if they wouldn't dream of it. Contented looking cattle and sheep graze in the pastures and a traveler feels drawn as if to another time and place.

Beginning to the north in Pocahontas County and running to the New River at Hinton, the Greenbrier River is like a ribbon, adding a lovely accent to a very special place.

The river has been part of my family's life for many years. Our first meeting was as a young family on our first overnight canoe trip. It was a beautiful sunny day in May.



The new green on the hillside provided contrast with the dark evergreens, the sky was a gorgeous shade of blue and the water ran clear and cool. We caught some fish, had lunch and we all played in the shoals.

In the early afternoon we heard a strange noise like thunder and we learned that day about accepting the whims of nature. It was thunder, and after we began to hear it we noticed a small white cloud forming above us in the clear sky. It began to grow and very soon the day changed its character considerably. The wind picked up, the temperature dropped. Our 6-year old began shivering and we started looking for shelter.

Just as we beached the canoes and got one tent up, it began to pour. We dove into the shelter and forgot about dinner. It rained-poured-all night. Then just as suddenly as it began, it ended and the morning was something to see!

Everything was washed clean and fresh. That lovely pungent morning smell along a river is priceless. About 10 a.m. we stopped for a break to change into shorts and put our jackets away and were rewarded with a deer swimming the river just above us.

(continued on page 4)

# Mountain View Insult To Injury

by John Purbaugh

The National Park Service, at the request of Senators Byrd and Rockefeller and Congressman Bob Wise, is studying the possibility of managing the Stonewall Jackson Lake in Lewis County as a National Recreation Area. This latest development in the Stonewall project's history is worth dissecting a bit for the lessons it can give us on the true value of recreational benefits associated with Corps of Engineers dams.

Violently opposed by area residents for over 20 years, and nearly killed off by Wise when he was an upstart newcomer in Congress, the Stonewall Jackson reservoir project is nearly complete. A major part of the "benefits" (which by law must exceed the costs) of the project were based on recreation on the 21,000 plus acre piece of real estate condemned from sixth generation farmers. The state "agreed" to pay 50% percent of the cost of development of this area into a new state park in a contract that effectively said "unless we decide we don't want to." Ordinarily, such a contract can't serve as the assurance of state participation required in order to claim recreational benefits for a project, but a special exception for Stonewall was made at the time, due to the influence of then Senator Jennings Randolph.

Foes of the project, led by the local Upper West Fork River Watershed Association, maintained that this "contract" was a sham, designed to let the project go forward without really assuring that the promised "benefits" would be delivered. Their prediction proved true: this year the West Virginia Department of Commerce' Parks Division told the Corps that the state was unable to pay its share, and wouldn't be doing so.

Now, local boosters of the project, having lost the commerce and taxes associated with 21,000 acres of formerly productive farmland, want the federal government to bail them out by delivering on the state's broken promise to "develop" recreation.

The draft local plan reportedly includes a theme park and condos! Obliging, Byrd (who forced the project through over Wise's opposition), Rockefeller (who as governor signed the now breached "contract"), and Wise (apparently now rebuilding once-burned bridges) are overseeing a park service study.

The area, while beautiful in the same way as all of pastoral West Virginia is, is of no apparent national significance. The pioneer farmsteads have gone the way of federal condemnation, and the lake will have too much coliform bacteria to be swimmable. Hunting, especially for deer, is very good, but the project lands have been extensively drilled after federal acquisition. It's feared that more land condemnation would be needed to make a national recreation area work. The few remaining Upper West Fork Association members can't even get a commitment to consider a "no more condemnation" promise from the politicians.

With areas like Canaan Valley and the Blackwater Canyon unprotected, why would we represented by our senators and congressman spend millions of the federal interior department budget at Stonewall? The answer appears fairly obvious: at Stonewall, "we" need to cover "our" ass, and there are only a few already dispossessed farmers to complain.

The injury occurred when private land was taken for the public purpose of promised but undeliverable recreation benefits. The insult to the people whose land and heritage was taken is that in order to cover "our" bet, we many take even more. It's planning like this that gives recreation a bad name and makes it even harder to protect the truly unique pieces of the state.

## — LETTERS —

### Stonewall Jackson Dam Project

Dear [Editor]:

Senators Byrd and Rockefeller and Congressman Bob Wise have called the National Park Service into Lewis County to try to salvage the Stonewall Jackson Dam Project.

The Park Service has under taken a feasibility study to be completed in February to determine if Stonewall merits National Recreation Area status.

There was a time when those of us who live here with the help of groups such as the Conservancy believed that if we gathered all the facts and demonstrated that Stonewall had no merit, the project would not be built. We learned the hard way that this just wasn't so. Too many politicians and too many corporations such as Equitable Gas Co. had too much to gain to let Stonewall slip through their fingers.

I have no doubts that the Park Service's feasibility study will recommend NRA status for Stonewall.

In reality nothing has changed for the better. Once productive farmland is now crisscrossed with gas company access roads; coal and virgin timber have been removed; the reservoir area has been denuded and awaits water; every historic structure has been torn down except the 150 year old Mary Conrad Cabin which has been vandalized beyond repair.

What the Corps has left us is destroyed

social fabric and one of the highest unemployment rates in the state.

One could argue that since the Federal government owns the land, why not let the Park Service develop it since the state obviously can not afford to. The answer to this is that there is very little to develop. Most of the bottom land will be flooded and the remaining hillsides (by the Corps' own architect's analysis) are not suitable for intensive development.

I discussed this with Parks Service personnel and voiced my concern that in order for any sophisticated development to take place more land would have to be condemned. The Park Service conceded that that was a very real concern.

The West Fork River is a dirty meandering stream that is soon to become a dirty meandering lake too shallow for water skiing and too highly sedimented for swimming. It is a travesty to spend National Park Service scarce resources on this boondoggle when there are so many more deserving areas in West Virginia — the Gauley and Greenbrier — Canaan Valley, to name a few.

I am asking the Highland's Conservancy once again to try to help us save the remaining land in southern Lewis County. I have proposed to our representatives that a no further condemnation clause be included in

(continued on page 3)

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## 20th Anniversary Fall Review 87

(See details on page 8)

# The Beginning

by Max Smith

[From the September 1977 VOICE]

**EDITORS NOTE:** Max Smith is a founding member of the West Virginia Highlands Conservancy and a past president of the West Virginia Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. In this capacity Max was instrumental in securing the purchase of Greenland Gap and the Falls of Holly River by TNC for preservation of these extraordinary natural wonders. Max has served on the WVHC board of directors since its creation.

As far as I can determine there are no written records of the founding of the Highlands Conservancy prior to the mid-Winter Meeting of January 1967, so this article is a trip down Memory Lane. Special thanks are due to Dr. Thomas King, of Bridgeport, for without his help this could not have been written.

The Canoe Cruisers Association of Washington held their First Annual Whitewater Week-end on the North Fork of the South Branch of the Potomac River between the Mouth of Seneca and Petersburg on April 3-5, 1964. At that time some members of the Association were disturbed by reports that a scenic (?) highway was to be built across Dolly Sods.

In the spring of 1965 a meeting was held at Bob Harrigan's Camp near Yokum's Motel at the Mouth of Seneca. This was the first meeting for the people who would eventually become the West Virginia Highlands Conservancy. The various threats to Seneca Rocks — Spruce Knob — Dolly Sods were discussed and it was decided to organize and try to keep these areas in their natural state. A review was planned for that Fall in order to publicize the necessity of saving these natural areas. Bob Harrigan acted as Chairman. Here is the roster of that meeting (from memory): Bob Harrigan-Canoe Cruisers, Washington; Dr. Thomas King-Canoe Cruisers, Bridgeport; Rupert Cutler-Wilderness Society, Washington; Bob and Sue Broughton-Pittsburgh Climbers, Jim Wolfe, Pittsburgh; Bob Burrell, Morgantown; Joe Rieffenberger, Dept. of Natural Resources; Jim Johnston-Canoe Cruisers, Washington; Max Smith-West Virginia Wildlife Federation; Sona Smith-West Virginia Garden Clubs; Bob Waldrop-Sierra Club, Washington; Carl Walker; Lou Greathouse-West Virginia Recreation Society; Joe Hutchison and Bob Maynard. If any have been missed please let me know.

## Jackson Dam Area

any legislation creating an NRA at Stonewall. To date I have received no assurances that this will be done — even from Congressman Wise who originally opposed Stonewall.

We have sacrificed 21,000 acres, five communities, dozens of productive farms, and tragically the lives of many older people who couldn't stand the destruction and relocation.

We believe we've earned the right to continue farming and rebuilding some sense of community for ourselves and our children without the threat of National Park Service condemnation.

The local people lived for forty years under the threat of Stonewall. We are being asked to live for ten or twenty more years under the threat of the Park Service.

I'm asking the Conservancy to write to Senators Byrd and Rockefeller and Congressman Wise asking them to include a no further condemnation clause in any legislation creating a National Recreation Area at Stonewall Jackson Dam.

I'm no longer naive enough to believe that the Park Service will do an honest evaluation of Stonewall with the pressures of Byrd and Rockefeller but I am hopeful that our Representatives will avoid further turmoil and conflict in Lewis County by halting further land condemnation.

Sincerely,

Francine Snyder  
Upper West Fork River  
Watershed Association

There were more meetings that summer at Bob Harrigan's Camp, mainly to set up the Fall Review. Through the efforts of Rupert Cutler The Wilderness Society not only bore the full cost of printing our brochure but also mailed it to their full membership.

The First Review was held on Spruce Mountain on a Saturday in late October, 1965. It was cold, wet, miserable day; however, the attendance of 350 to 400 persons far exceeded our hopes. After the day's activities there was an evening meeting at the Gatewood Management Area on Spruce Mountain. Bob Harrigan had arranged for the meal, and tent and the generator for lights. The meal was an excellent barbecued chicken dinner, which was cooked and eaten in the rain, but enjoyed by all. The meeting later in the Rivalist's Tent was well attended, with Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall and U.S. Senator Robert Byrd as the main speakers. During Senator Byrd's speech the generator stopped, and had to be restarted. The Senator remarked that was the first time he had ever had the lights turned out while talking. The meeting was a definite success.

More meetings were held through 1966 at Harrigan's Camp, and it was decided to organize and become a permanent, on-going organization to act as a watchdog for the wilderness areas of West Virginia and to be an activist organization rather than just try to coordinate activities of other outdoor groups. Committees were appointed to write the Constitution and By-Laws, to select a name and to plan for the future. The Fall Review for 1966 was held at Shot Cherry Cabin on Spruce Mountain, and while this was not as large as the 1965 Review there was a good attendance and much was accomplished. I will never forget driving off Spruce Mountain about midnight through the snow!!

The First Mid-Winter Meeting was held at Blackwater Falls Lodge on the last weekend of January, 1967. At this meeting we adopted the Constitution and By-Laws, and also accepted the name proposed by Bob Broughton "The West Virginia Highlands Conservancy". Dr. Thomas E. King was elected President, Sona Smith as Secretary-Treasurer, and Maxwell Smith as Corresponding Secretary.

More meetings were held during the summer of 1967, and much was accomplished. Many activities were carried on at all of our meetings — from the first one in 1965 — and much work done by members between the meetings. With the help of many dedicated people, we kept in close touch

with all developments and had much input into the planning for these areas. The meetings were long and exhausting, but those taking part thought the objectives worth the effort.

The Conservancy's four main objectives were: to protect and preserve important natural areas for present and future citizens; to aid in the designation by law of certain protected wild areas; to conduct land use studies and formulate management recommendations; and to serve in general as a means to acquaint the public with the superlative natural attributes of the Highlands Area.

From the very first this group was involved in: scenic roads and parkways; dam construction; unplanned real estate development; strip mining; water pollution; regional management plan for the Highlands; acquisition of inholdings within the national forest; preservation of wild lands and rivers; and any other matters that affected the Highland Natural Areas.

The 1967 Review was held October 7-8, 1967, and based at the Mouth of Seneca. It was the first Review under our present name. Co-sponsoring groups were The Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania; Brooks Bird Club; Canoe Cruisers of Washington; Explorers Club of Pittsburgh; Tucker County Chapter of the Izaak Walton League; Kanawha Trail Club; Nittany and Pittsburgh Grottoes of the National Speleological Society; West Virginia Chapter of the Nature Conservancy; Pittsburgh Climbers; Potomac Appalachian Trail Club; West Virginia Recreation Society; Atlantic Chapter of the Sierra Club; West Virginia Garden Club; West Virginia Wild Water Association; and the Wilderness Society.

Saturday's activities were bird-banding at Rec Creek Campground; nine-mile hike on Dolly Sods; float trip through the "Trough"; hawk-watching at Bear Rocks; cave trip into the Sinks of Gandy; and a climbing demonstration on the faces of Seneca Rocks. An evening Chicken Barbecue Dinner at the Mouth of Seneca Pavilion was followed by the Program "A Plan For The Highlands". Among the speakers were Ephe Olliver, Supervisor of the Monongahela National Forest and United States Senator Jennings Randolph.

This was a very successful Review which attracted more than 300 people. **THE WEST VIRGINIA HIGHLANDS CONSERVANCY WAS OFF AND RUNNING !!!**

# Military Exercises

Subject:

**Military Exercises on the North East edge of the Bruce Hall property situated adjacent to the Glen Miller and the Pete — Deby Calhoun property in Canaan Valley, WV. This exercise consisted primarily of training personnel in extensive refueling of helicopters of various classes.**

Note For Civilian Enclosure Purposes:

The exercise was considered by this author to be a "Full Service EXXON Station."

Dear Col. Barnes:

In regards to our meeting on 22 July 87 with the two other officers and Bruce Hall in my home, you gentlemen assured me that the exercises adjacent to my property would be controlled as to not interfere with my stock (horses). On 23 July 87 you phoned to inform me that there had been a low level flight in violation of your commands agreement with me. Since then, on 24 July 87 and 25 July 87 there were still more violations observed by myself and others. On 27 July 87 and 28 July 87 I evaluated my animals' performance in the presence of your command and found that two of my three animals, though behavior patterns were considerably nervous, are conducive to safe riding. The point of issue is the third horse which has been rendered useless for our purposes. He is a "blue chip" prospect for both showing and competitive endurance riding, which are our sports. The following is a list of the

immediate changes of behavior that were not present before your exercises.

1. He will not stand and tie to any fixed object.
2. He will not approach any motorized vehicle whether ridden or led.
3. He is very skittish during feeding, grooming, saddling, bridling, and blanketing.
4. He will not load into a trailer.

There may be other deficiencies in behavior that I have not been able to assess, but the above are paramount. Sir, my wife and I are not in the business of producing or training horses for profit. Our horses are a hobby of love and enjoyment. We treat our animals as pets. Like your operations, we want to pursue the development of our abilities and our animals abilities. We want to ride Canaan Valley and enjoy the wonders that nature has provided here.

As per your discussion you stated that any loss incurred by your operations would be rectified. Therefore, due to the situation I am placed in, I am filing a claim of injury to my peaceful pursuit of my home and enjoyment.

Schedule of Claims Not Claimed  
As a Result of Operations

1. Cuts & bruises to three horses - not claimed.
2. Fence damaged caused by stampeding horses due to low level flights - not claimed.
3. Loss of personal employment during your exercises to prevent the injury of stock 22 July 87 through 28 July 87 - not claimed.

Schedule of Claims  
As a Result of your Operations

1. The restoration of one Registered Saddle Bred Gelding to a safe riding behavior pattern as to a condition to include the corrections of previous listed behavior.

In summary we want a horse like we had before your exercises interrupted our peaceful pursuit of life.

We also would like to offer you at this time, the following options in this matter.

1. The U.S. government take the animal and correct the problems listed to a reasonable satisfaction.
2. The U.S. government allow us to have the said animal re-trained to correct the extent of the problems listed.
3. The U.S. government purchase the animal due to the fact that he has been rendered, at this point, useless for our purposes.

Please be advised that, at this point, this is not a hostile claim, but instead a friendly claim as per your instructions. We are not interested in forms or delays due to the nature of this situation. Also, feel free to bring those people necessary to my home to make your own evaluation of the animal.

Enclosed is a copy of the horse's registration and bloodlines.

Sincerely,

Pete & Deby Calhoun  
Rt. 1, Box 14F Canaan Valley  
Davis, WV 26260

## Enjoying The Greenbrier River

We've gone back again and again to spend time with this river and we learned early to accept what was offered. We've been rewarded with hot, bright days for sunning and swimming and we've had days when we paddled fast because we were cold and wet and just wanted to get this over with. Each trip has its own memories and one of my favorites was a few years ago in the rain.

There were 18 canoes. We had begun in a downpour but we did have enough sense to choose a portion of the river where we could end the trip and not have to camp from our canoes. At least we would sleep in a dry sleeping bag.

The rain was not cold and occasionally it slacked off. We were paddling along and a new friend paddled up to me and said "You know, I like paddling in the rain". It was one of the good trips.

One of the ways the Greenbrier River is special is this feeling you get of being part of freedom. Our environment is controlled and regulated in so many ways. Even when we paddle West Virginia's wonderful rivers we are so often on a dam controlled portion of the river. It pleases that part of me that senses a kinship with the past that this river flows in synch with nature; its flow is a reflection of natural happenings and is sensitive to the seasons and the snow melt and rainfall. I like to adjust my pace to the river's.

Fall is coming as you read this. Fall is such a good time to do so many things! For many, it is the time to put away the boats and water toys and think of hiking, biking and sports. But Fall is also the best time of year (well, one of the best) for you to get out on the river. The rest of this article is to get you involved in your own love affair with this river. If you just can't get out this season, mark it on your calendar now for May or June.

The first thing you need is rain. As I write this in August, I suspect you could hike down the entire length of the river. My Personal Rule #1 is "If you're going on a hike don't take a canoe." The National Weather Service (342-7771) has a river gauge at Buckeye, near Marlinton. For the upper stretches ask for the Greenbrier River reading at Buckeye.

If the reading is 2.5' then you've got at least enough water to paddle from Seebert down. You'll need a higher reading for paddling around Durbin. After a few trips, you'll have your own idea of the best water level. Keep records — you'll be surprised at how helpful they are.

Now, where to go. Each section along the entire river has its own character and special charm. The distance you'll want to paddle is one of your first decisions. I'm often asked of a particular portion, "How long will it take to paddle?" I'm afraid the obvious answer to that is "It depends on how hard you paddle."

If you want to drift and fish, 6-10 miles may be plenty. If you want to practice for a race or if you have a sleek canoe and want the exercise, 25 miles may not be enough. The water level will make a big difference. A foot or two above the minimum will make the canoeing easier.

Following is an example of some of the trips we've taken and information about the put-ins and take-outs.

The river from the town of Durbin to Cass is a beautiful stretch of river. There are some easy rapids that need a watchful eye from beginners — keep your canoe straight and keep your speed faster than the river's flow so you can maneuver around a rock if you need to.

The first time we paddled this, it was May and there were still snow banks on the north side of the river, drifted among the rhododendron. We were dressed warmly and the sun was out. After probably 12 years, that trip still stands out as special.

There is an easy place to launch your canoes and leave cars just east of the town. Take out at Cass at the visitors parking place, also easy. This is a 17 mile run; makes a fairly long day so get started in plenty of time.

I haven't paddled the section from Cass to Seebert but the water is much the same, I understand. The distance is 27 miles to Marlinton and perhaps another six miles of mostly flat water to Seebert. There are many nice camping sites and you can expect to catch both bass and trout.

We try to plan an overnight trip at least once a year from Seebert to Renick. The distance is about 25 miles and we camp about half-way down. After reaching Seebert (take "27" off Rt. 219) cross the river and put-in about 1/2 mile downstream, across from one of Watoga State Park's cabins. The take out is at the bridge at Renick.

Rapids on this section become a little more intricate. In general, stick to the inside bend of any curving rapids to avoid large rocks (this is not necessarily a universal rule to follow on other rivers).

There is a sheep farm about 12 miles down and old bridge piers that used to be the site of a country road. We generally camp below here on the left bank. From the river,



**Pick a section of the Greenbrier, get some friends together and plan a day or two floating and relaxing. You won't be sorry.**

it appears to be only a gravel bar, but it is the mouth of a creek that flows through Watoga State Park. If you will walk up the creek bed for 100' or so, you will find sandy campsites that are away from poison ivy.

You may be surprised here as one camper was by a deer pawing and snorting outside his tent. Then the deer simply jumped over it and went on his way.

Above this campsite we have seen flocks of Canada geese, red-tailed hawks and collected fossils. It's hard to see but Locust Creek empties into the Greenbrier maybe 2-3 miles above the old bridge. This creek holds a deposit of blue-gray coral. Most of what you'll find is oxidized to a brown color, but the distinctive coral colonies are quite prominent on the surface. If cut across the pattern and polished it is quite pretty.

If you are a rockhound, Greenbrier County is rich in interesting finds. Near to this run is also fossilized red coral found in a rock quarry at Mill Point. Unfortunately this site is now closed to the public. You may be able to find fossil coral near the Greenbrier Valley Airport just north of Lewisburg. It has very distinct coral surface and is stained red, the same color as the earth, as a result of the weathering of the limestone.

There are geodes in the area around Renick and Spice Creek. I found them once in a plowed field. I suspect the farmers wouldn't mind help to clear their fields but be sure to ask. None of the ones I found were well developed nor did they show crystal formation, but they are an interesting curiosity.

One of my favorite two stretches of the Greenbrier comes on the second morning on this section. Sometimes we set out from camp before the mist rises off the water and its quiet and peaceful. The river is narrow for the next 3-4 miles and it drops happily along a rock edged riverbank. There's a beautiful bend in the river where in my memory the sun is just beginning to break over the hill and I like to stop there and brew a cup of tea.

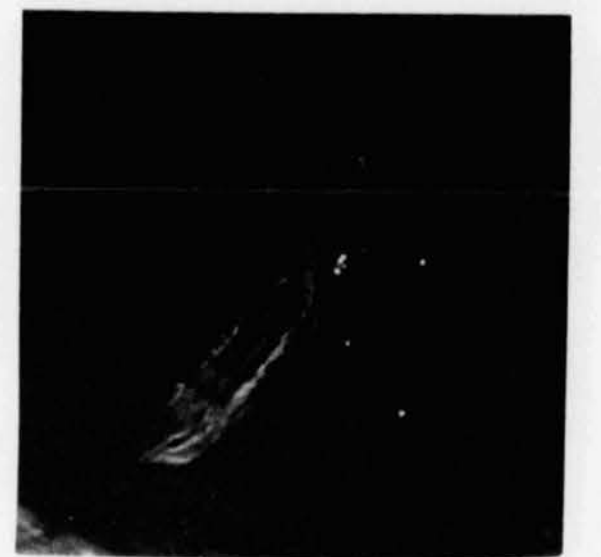
This is the best stretch for the fisherman; it's early and there are lots of rocks and eddies that just "have" to have a fish in it. We're all hoping that lunch break will include a fresh bass and most times it does.

Three to four miles from our camp there is the only "tight" spot on this stretch. You'll

hear it and the river will leave the riverbank and curve away to your left. If the water is running at a medium level, you will hardly notice it and you can run it on the inside curve with no trouble. At low levels the channel is closer to the RR side and there are several boulders that may need to be negotiated. Then ease across to the left side to avoid the dry rocks at the end of the rapids. The real problem is that your canoe, with its load of camping equipment is not going to respond as quickly as you expect it to. So be alert.

In the cliffs just above the bridge at Renick (river left) I have been rewarded with seeing a great variety of wildflowers in May. More species in one place than I have found before.

On the remote stretches of this section we've been surprised with glimpses of wildlife. Once I was paddling along when I noticed, out of the corner of my eye, a log floating beside me. But I was paddling and moving faster than the current. When I turned my head, the beaver slapped the water with his tail and disappeared. One paddler was stretching her legs during a break. A mink jumped from a ledge above her onto a chipmunk and carried away its lunch.



**The one that got away.**

Perhaps we saw "the one that got away" when we found a chipmunk swimming across the river. It's true! And, in very nearly the same place, I saw another one swimming across the following year.



**One of the ways the Greenbrier is special is this feeling you get of being part of freedom. It pleases that part of me that senses kinship with the past that this river flows in synch with nature.**

When you come to a large group of camps, the river widens and flows around islands. From here to Renick, the paddling gets harder as the water slows down. If you're lucky you'll see blue herons.

From Renick to Anthony, the river is less remote but it is still quite beautiful. This is the stretch we choose when the weather looks bad, so we don't have to carry our gear with us. We can camp at Blue Bend or several other places in the area. Check to see if the bridge at Anthony has been rebuilt before making plans. At any rate you can take out (put in for the next section) at the bridge site at Anthony (take "21" from Frankford to Anthony).

There is a sister rapids on this section to the one discussed above. It is about 3-4 miles above Anthony and again, you should hear it. The main current will parallel the tracks for about 100 yards and then pile into large rocks before it curves to the left. Again, stay to the inside curve of the river and be alert to rocks.

It has been a long time since I paddled from Anthony to Roncerverte (18 miles). It becomes shallower in places, but there are



Canada geese are fairly common along the Greenbrier.

deep pools that attract fishermen. The river is more placid with only occasional rapids.

From Roncerverte to Alderson the river is much the same until the last 6 miles from Fort Spring. This 6 miles is another favorite part of the river for us and the one we've probably been on the most.

The river channel becomes narrower here in these 6 miles and at times gives the feeling of a mini-canyon. You can almost always negotiate a canoe through here. If the water is low, it's great to beach on rocks in the shoals to fish. A small bass will really fight and put on a good show in the fast water. If the water is high, you'll need skills for running whitewater.

At normal levels, the difficulty rating of any of the rapids on the Greenbrier will be Class 2 (on a scale of 1-6). If the water is up, the difficulty can reach good Class 3. With a little instruction in maneuvering in current with draw and pry strokes, this is a good section to practice rock dodging, eddy hopping and surfing.

Birds are abundant. I first identified cedar waxwings here. They dart across the shoals catching insects. I watched a green heron catch a minnow for lunch, and blue herons occasionally fly just ahead of us as they're spooked by our canoes.

This is another rich source of discovery for rockhounds. There may be flourite and calcite in the rock quarry just downstream from Fort Spring. The limestone along here is rich with iron deposits. Look for thin bands of exposed iron where the softer limestone has weathered away. Sometimes it looks like blades embedded in the rock. Watch your bare feet!

There is one small section of river that features black crinoid stems just barely still attached to huge limestone boulders, evidence of undersea life 25 million years ago. After Alderson the river is slower and calmer, occasionally flowing over shoals. This is a favorite for float fishing trips with



We've gone back again and again to spend time with this river and we learned early to accept what was offered.

better access to the highway (Rt. 20). If you'd like to camp, there are islands that can serve that purpose. You'll paddle past farm-lands, homes and camps but it's very pleasant and still a clear, beautiful stream.

Below Talcott there are 2 spots to watch out for. The first is when the river starts around Big Bend Mt., site of the John Henry legend and statue. Called Bacon Falls, this is where the river could no longer cut its straightforward path and was diverted by a cliff of immovable rock. This can be carried on the left.

Some distance below Bacon Falls is a natural dam and a river-wide ledge. The drop is 2-3 feet and can be run, with enough

water, on the far right.

The first time we were here, our friends in the lead canoe did a quick spin and paddled like crazy back to us. They hadn't noticed the telltale "horizon line" on the water that indicates a sudden change in elevation.

Below the Rt. 20 bridge the last 6-mile stretch of the Greenbrier is a lot of fun. There are some long pools and about 6 Class 2 rapids with one at the National Guard Armory approaching Class 3 because of its length. You can easily scout it and decide where the best channel is.

Pick a section of the Greenbrier, get some friends together and plan a day or two floating and relaxing. You won't be sorry.

## Canoeing In Algonquin

by Jean Rodman

Hardly any trash or real mess. There's a ban on throwaway type cans and bottles back there. It might challenge your wilderness skills to do without soft drinks or tunafish.

It is beautiful country; honest North Woods. (You know; Canaan Valley North.) Smells wonderful and gallops with wildlife. We'd already seen one moose before driving far in. Loons on every lake. We saw deer,

moose, bear, otter, beaver, muskrat, and either a small reddish wolf or the biggest fox I ever met.

The weather was unexpectedly (to us) warm, with the same hot spell you had back in the States. Even the water was warm. Early July seems to be a sort of window between early blackflies and later mosquitoes. That is, while we used a lot of bug

repellant, we broke out headnets just one evening.

We travelled about 75 miles in our 8 days, including 27 portages totalling maybe 10 miles. Maybe 15 miles of the paddling was on little quiet rivers, the rest on lakes. That's about as portage-free as any other sensible route of similar length.

This was just our second try at a canoe trip with lake-to-lake portaging. If you think of running down long rivers, you tend to take considerable extra junk. The human brain retreads slowly.

You find out fast that portaging is back-packing, with canoe, paddles, and lifejackets tossed on top. Visualize yourself on a favorite WV trail with that load, and think. Unless it keeps off sun or rain or bugs, or you eat it or cook with it, leave it home—except maybe a camera? Hint: the locals we met travel light enough that one paddler carries the boat and light pack, while the other takes a heavy pack. Nobody goes back for a second load.

Next time? We go slower, and stay twice at one campsite. Paddling the lake in an empty canoe, seeing dawn and dusk from the boat, would be fine. A vacation should have at least one day with no pressure to break or make camp, or carry much.

The exchange rates make Canada a bargain. People were nice to us. The woods were rich and bright lush green; not virgin forest, not tame or crowded either.

On the afternoon of our last day, with 10 miles of open lake to cover, we had a brisk wind behind us all the way. Perfect ending.



The Rodmans canoed a chain of lakes in Algonquin Provincial Park. Jean describes it as beautiful country—"you know; Canaan Valley North."

In the summer of 1986, Sayre and I wandered by default into Algonquin Provincial Park, four hours north of Toronto. We couldn't find a campsite in upper New York State on the Fourth of July weekend. But along Route 60 across Algonquin, all nine campgrounds were nearly empty. Even the big deluxe-with-showers-and-huge-sites Pog Lake Campground was only about half full.

So we bought a map, and paddled back a long lake one portage from our car. Lots of loons and few people. We were enchanted.

This year, we planned two weekends plus the week including the Fourth, for Algonquin. It's about 12 hours and 4 traffic lights from Pittsburgh. Leave early in the morning to avoid the afternoon rush around Toronto — worse than the DC Beltway. Or leave later, motel near Niagara, reach Algonquin next midday.

The Park has laid out an incredible network of lake-to-lake canoe routes thru the back country. They've cut portage trails and marked both ends with obvious yellow signs saying how many meters of trail to which other lake. A widely available Canoe Route map makes it all clear enough so that getting lost isn't likely. But without a compass and good topo maps (available at the local Canoe Lake store), the Rodmans just might have managed it.

And you're asked to use official campsites, of which we saw more than enough, well identified on the map and easy to find. Sites always have an outhouse or john-box, a fireplace, usually a good cooking grate.

## Legal Issues May Alter NRGNR River Management Plan

The Draft River Management Plan for the New River Gorge National River was released on June 19 for a 30-day public review and comment period. To date public review has supported the majority of the Plan. Most of the comments received have been related to either all-terrain-vehicle use, the towing of rafts by commercial whitewater outfitters through the flatwater sections of the New River, and the limiting of access for commercial rafters at the Cunard put-in site.

Two legal issues which are likely to alter the River Management Plan (RMP) have surfaced in the past year.

On May 13, 1987, the WV Senate passed a Bill, WV Legislative Rule on Commercial Whitewater Outfitters (WV Senate Bill No. 761), containing legislative rules for commercial whitewater outfitters. A 1982 Memorandum of Understanding between the NPS and the WV DNR states that the State of WV will administer the rules and regula-

tions for commercial whitewater rafting on the New River.

Section 8 of the new rules allows the towing of rafts through flatwater pools for commercial purposes. The Draft RMP had prohibited that use. Therefore, to comply with the NPS/DNR Memorandum of Understanding, the River Management Plan will be changed to reflect the State's new administrative rules.

There are three issues contained in H.R. 900 — West Virginia National Interest Rivers Conservation Act of 1987 — which, if passed, will change some objectives in the Draft RMP:

**Cunard** - Objective number 59 in the Draft RMP restricts commercial outfitters from using Cunard on Sundays after the NPS acquires and develops the property. H.R. 900 states, "No restriction shall be imposed on such access based on the time of day, except to the extent required to protect public health and safety."

**Commercial use of motors** - Objective number 58 of the RMP prohibits the commercial use of motors for towing through flatwater pools. H.R. 900 would permit commercial towing on flatwater pools pending development at Cunard.

**Black Fly Management** - H.R. 900 instructs the Secretary of the Interior to enter into a cooperative agreement, on a 3-year trial basis, with the state of West Virginia, for the control of black flies. The River Management Plan Task Force had agreed that black fly spraying should not be allowed within the boundaries of the National River.

Due to the possible changes to the River Management Plan that the passage of H.R. 900 would mandate, the NPS has decided to wait until the legislation is passed before issuing the Final River Management Plan. Action on the legislation is expected sometime in October or November of 1987. With the exception of the commercial use of motors, Cunard access and black fly issues, the NPS does not anticipate many changes to the Draft Plan.

## October is Energy Awareness Month

The Seventh Annual National Energy Awareness campaign will be held throughout the month of October 1987. The theme for this year's campaign is "Energy Security: Our Future Depends On It."

Activities for Energy Awareness month are being coordinated by the U.S. Department of Energy in cooperation with a steering committee representing a cross section of the energy community.

The National Energy Awareness Month steering committee includes representatives from the Committee for Energy Awareness, National Association of Homebuilders, Alliance to Save Energy, Edison Electric Institute, American Gas Association, Citizens for a Sound Economy, American Petroleum Institute, Mineral Insulation Manufacturers Association, National Coal Association, Consumer Energy Council, General Federation of Women's Clubs, U.S. Postal Service, and the Departments of Agricul-

ture, Defense, Energy, and Housing and Urban Development.

### ENERGY FACTS: PRICES SINCE 1979

Energy prices shot up after the 1979 Iranian revolution shut down most of that country's oil wells, causing what has been called the "second oil crisis." But contrary to many predictions at the time, energy prices have not continually risen since then. In fact, prices of many important forms of energy, particularly those affecting the consumer, actually dropped in recent years.

Consumers saw prices for heating oil and gasoline fall gradually after 1981, and drop sharply last year. The retail cost of residential heating oil, which increased 27 cents in 1980 to 97 cents per gallon, reached a high of \$1.19 in 1981 before it skidded to 84 cents in 1986.

The cost of gasoline also peaked in 1981. The average price of unleaded gasoline was \$1.38 per gallon that year, up from 90 cents in 1979. In keeping with other fuel trends, the price of gasoline then declined, reaching a seven-year low of 93 cents per gallon in 1986.

Retail electricity and natural gas prices, in contrast, have risen almost every year since 1979. In that year, one kilowatt-hour of electricity cost 4.64 cents on average. The price steadily increased to 7.79 cents in 1985, and remained constant in 1986.

Residential users paid an average of \$2.98 per thousand cubic feet of natural gas in 1979. The average price rose each year until 1984 and 1985, when it held steady at \$6.12.

These changes in consumer costs were due in large part to changes in fossil fuel prices. The average price of imported crude

oil, for example, was \$20.19 per barrel in 1979. The prices peaked in 1981 at \$35.10 per barrel, began declining slowly in 1982, and plummeted in 1986 to \$12.46, down from \$25.83 the previous year.

The wellhead price of U.S. natural gas rose steadily from \$1.18 per thousand cubic feet in 1979 to \$2.66 in 1984. Along with declining oil prices, natural gas took a tumble from \$2.51 in 1985 to \$1.87 in 1986, and seemed to continue this trend into 1987. The estimated price in February was \$1.66.

Average coal prices, on the other hand, proved slightly more stable. Bituminous (soft) coal prices gradually rose from \$23.65 in 1979 to peak at \$25.85 in 1983, then fell to \$24.50 in 1986. The price of anthracite coal, which is harder and cleaner-burning, followed a different pattern. This form of coal cost \$41.06 per short ton in 1979, and rose to \$52.29 in 1983. The price then dropped to \$45.00 by 1986.

## Chemical Fingerprints: Recent Study Tracks Acid Rain To Distant Sources

Two scientists at the University of Rhode Island have uncovered concrete evidence linking acid rain in the Northeast with midwestern air pollution. In a recently released study, Kenneth Rahn and Douglas Lowenthal, both research professors at URI's Graduate School of Oceanography, tracked sulfates found in northeastern rainfall to sulfur-emitted power plants in the Midwest. According to the two scientists, 75 to 85 percent of northeastern acid rain comes from those utilities.

These findings help shed light on one of the longstanding mysteries surrounding acid rain—how to pinpoint the source. Earlier studies have demonstrated that acid rain forms when the derivatives of two known pollutants, sulfur dioxide found in power plant emissions and nitrogen oxides automobile exhaust, mix with water vapor in the atmosphere. Other studies had shown that acid rain has several harmful effects on the environment. It can acidify freshwater lakes, killing fish and other aquatic life; it causes millions of dollars in corrosion damages to public monuments; and it is suspected of damaging forests and human health.

What still remains a source of debate as various countries, including the United States and Canada, grapple with an acid rain policy, is the relationship between pollution sources, such as midwestern power plants, and acid rain which falls on sensitive lakes such as those in the northeastern U.S. and eastern Canada.

In partial answer to this question, scientists constructed complex mathematical models of the atmosphere to trace the movement of the air pollutants that make up acid rain. The models showed that these air pollutants were transported long distances from their points of origin before finally falling to Earth in the form of acid rain. Actual evidence confirming the accuracy of the models was lacking, however.

This missing evidence was partially supplied in 1983

when a joint U.S.-Canadian study documented the long-distant movement of air pollutants over eastern North America. The experiment, known as CAPTEX (Cross-Appalachian Tracer Experiment), used a chemical tracer to follow the movement of pollutants in the atmosphere. Researchers released the tracer at five sites in Dayton, Ohio, and two sites in Sudbury, Ontario; these sites were selected because sources in the two cities emit large quantities of pollutants into eastern North America. After scientists collected air samples from across the northeastern United States and southeastern Canada, they found that wind currents transported the tracer over 1,000 kilometers (600 miles), into the eastern Canadian province of Quebec and into areas of New York State and New England.

Building on this research, Rahn and Lowenthal turned their attention to the suspected precursors of acid rain, sulfate emissions from midwestern utilities. To track acid rain back to its source, Rahn and Lowenthal used a technique of chemical "fingerprinting" they had developed over the last ten years. Sulfur-based pollutants, the two scientists have demonstrated, possess unmistakable signatures in their chemical makeup which identify their place of origin. For example, East Coast utilities mainly burn fuel oil which contains high levels of two specific elements, vanadium and nickel. When burned to produce electricity, the oil releases these two elements, giving the plant's pollution a distinctive stamp. Midwestern power plants, in contrast, mainly burn coal rich in two other elements, selenium and arsenic. Consequently, midwestern pollution will contain higher levels of selenium and arsenic.

However, when the two scientists studied rain samples at the same locations in 1986, they arrived at a very different conclusion. In contrast to the dry air, the rain samples contained an abundance of selenium and arsenic, demonstrating that they came in large part from midwestern sources.

In fact, 75 to 80 percent of the rain's sulfates derived from midwestern utility plants.

To explain the differing results in the two studies, Rahn and Lowenthal looked to the basic dynamics of rainfall for an answer. After plants in the Midwest spewed sulfur into the atmosphere, the pollutants were carried by rising air into the atmosphere and then transported to the Northeast by prevailing wind currents. As this cargo of polluted air neared New England, it cooled, causing rain to form and fall to the ground as acid precipitation.

While Rahn himself admits that the tracer technique is still not foolproof he has received some preliminary support from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). In a 1986 report, EPA's Office of Research and Development concluded that Rahn's methodology was a valid means of tracking pollutants. Consequently, Rahn and Lowenthal will receive \$200,000 from EPA for two more years of additional research. They have also received a patent for their original technique.

A study released in late January shows the application of the Rahn-Lowenthal technique. The principal source of haze in the Pacific Northwest was traced to smoke from tree slash burns used in forestry and agricultural burning.

Rahn's work will draw attention from outside the scientific community. For the past several years, Congress has debated the need to amend the Clean Air Act to mitigate damage caused by acid rain. One problem legislators have repeatedly confronted, however, is establishing the relationship between pollution sources in the Midwest and acid rain in the Northeast. Since Rahn's study provides some additional answers to that long-standing policy question, his findings are likely to play a significant role as Congress grapples with the acid rain problem in 1987.

(From *Environmental Perspectives*, a Canadian Embassy Newsletter.)

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Agency Begins Five-Week Fish Sampling

CINCINNATI (AP) — An eight-state agency is testing fish from the Ohio River and its tributaries to determine the amounts of poisonous chemicals in the water.

The Ohio River Valley Sanitation Commission is overseeing the water quality study which began this week on the 981-mile river from New York to Illinois.

"The greater diversity of fish that we find, it means the . . . cleaner the water is," commission spokeswoman Jeanne Ison said.

The fish sampling is to continue through Oct. 8. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources are to conduct laboratory analyses of the fish to examine them for selected pesticides, herbicides, trace metals and PCBs, or polychlorinated biphenyls.

PCBs, which have been linked to cancer, were once widely used in cooling fluids in transformers and other heavy equipment. Their manufacture is now banned in the United States.

The results of the laboratory examinations probably will be available about Jan. 1, Ison said.

The fish sampling studies are done every two years, and the commission has participated in them since 1968. The commission has found in recent years that some varieties of fish popular with fishermen, such as walleye and bass, have been showing up in greater numbers in the Ohio River as water quality improved with more stringent water-quality controls, Ison said.

Participating in this year's fish sampling are environmental protection and natural resources agencies from New York, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Virginia, along with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Charleston Daily Mail 9/3/87

### Chamber to Promote Litter Control, Not Bottle Bill

The West Virginia Chamber of Commerce will promote litter control during the coming year without resorting to a bottle bill, incoming Chamber President Richard Northup said.

Northup said the Chamber will work with state government to try to change the attitudes of the state's residents concerning litter, largely through a media campaign. "The compliance with litter laws has to come from the individual," he said.

Northup said a bottle bill, which would place a deposit on beverage containers, is opposed by some sectors of the state's business community. The Chamber's plan is one the entire state business community can support, he said. The campaign will use the slogan "West Virginia—We're Looking Good."

The litter control effort is part of a 12-point plan Northup announced for the Chamber for the coming year.

The plan states that the Chamber will try to bring the various business groups in the state together into a "leadership council" to attack economic development issues.

"We just feel like the time has come to throw away some of these turf battles and get together," said Northup, who is vice president of Appalachian Power Co. in Charleston. If the Chamber, West Virginia Roundtable, West Virginia Coal Association and other groups can present a united front on issues before the Legislature, then the politicians will be less likely to dismiss the business groups as special-interest organizations, he said.

Northup said the Chamber will coordinate a program of government officials and private business people to help West Virginia businesses get federal contracts. "It can be mind-boggling. There's a lot of paper work," Northup said of dealing with federal agencies. "If a guy wants to do business with the government, we're going to hand feed him."

The plan also includes the following goals: produce a newsletter to report the positive aspects of doing business in West Virginia, produce a report on the economic assets and liabilities of the state, and streamline the Chamber's operations to eliminate inefficient or non-productive programs.

The Charleston Gazette 9/5/87

### DOE Shutdown Threat Examined

The West Virginia Department of Energy is slated to shut down sometime in January—an event some conservation groups are looking toward with anticipation and the United Mine Workers union says will not happen.

DOE Commissioner Ken Faerber announced his department will spend at a level proposed last January in Gov. Arch Moore's first budget presented to the Legislature.

The problem: lawmakers subsequently slashed \$3 million from the DOE's budget, leaving Faerber \$5.3 million on which to operate.

Incensed at the move, Faerber declared he could not possibly run his agency on that amount and said he will close his doors 7.2 months from July 1, the start of the fiscal year, if the state Legislature does not come up with more money.

Some lawmakers and conservation groups are singularly unimpressed by Faerber's threat. John Purbaugh, president of the West Virginia Highlands Conservancy, said shutting down the agency may open doors for improvements.

"I think that apart from Faerber's personality that there are fundamental flaws in the agency that transcend him," Purbaugh said. "The most fundamental of them is that you can't expect a single agency to be both booster of the coal industry and protector of environment and safety."

Mike Burdiss, legislative coordinator for the UMW, said several moves are being planned to forestall Faerber's threat to close the agency, including slashing personnel positions.

House Finance Chairman George Farley, D-Wood, said that aside from questions of the worth of the DOE, Faerber acted illegally in forming his budget and Finance Commissioner John McCuskey violated the law by approving it.

### Historic Hinton Project

Declaring that the project has "all the right ingredients to become a huge success," Sen. Jay Rockefeller has pledged his full support for the revitalization of historic downtown Hinton.

"Because of its rustic charm and its prime location along the proposed New River Gorge Scenic Parkway, historic Hinton has the potential to become one of Southern West Virginia's top tourist attractions," Rockefeller said following a meeting with community leaders and a representative of the National Park Service (NPS).

At the Senator's behest, the superintendent of the New River Gorge National River, Joe Kennedy, met with local officials in Beckley to kick-off the restoration project.

Hinton officials and the Summers County Chamber are spearheading an effort to preserve the community's historic buildings. The downtown area has over a hundred structures built in the early 1900s that could qualify as historic sites, the Senator noted.

The Register/Herald 9/3/87

### EPA Crackdown May Dry Up Waste Ponds

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, saying the state isn't doing enough to watch over water quality, is cracking down on coal operators and utility owners who place waste water treatment ponds in stream beds.

EPA officials say the practice in some cases violates state and federal water quality regulations and they complain that the state and federal water quality regulations and they complain that the state Department of Natural Resources isn't doing enough to solve the problem.

Coal industry officials argue, however, that the stream beds often are the only places to locate the ponds.

Caught in the middle is the state DNR, which argues that the entire issue is none of the EPA's business because the ponds are exempt from clean water standards. The question of where the water standards apply could have a major impact on the state's coal industry, say some business analysts.

John Hill, president of Marrowbone Development Co., which operates a surface mine in Mingo County, said EPA officials are reviewing a permit for an existing pond that treats waste water from a Marrowbone coal processing plant on Alderson Branch.

Hill said if the EPA does not renew his permit, he could use a filter press to remove coal dust from the water instead of the settling pond.

But he said the sludge from the mechanical process is difficult to handle and might mean the operation, which employs 500 people, would have to be shut down temporarily to bring the old press back into operation.

Hill also said the press is expensive to operate and could increase the price of coal.

"The enforcement being contemplated would impose restrictions that would almost totally destroy the mining industry in West Virginia," Hill said.

In theory, the EPA is responsible for national water quality and state agencies administer the programs. In January, EPA Region III administrator James M. Seif criticized West Virginia's laws as too lax and said the state DNR's program failed to protect state waterways. Seif threatened to take away the state's administrative powers if the problems persist. Between March and June, EPA officials objected to more than a dozen permits issued or renewed by the DNR, complaining that the permits violated state and federal clean water laws.

DNR chief Ronald R. Potesta wrote to Alvin R. Morris, director of the EPA's regional water management division, complaining that federal officials have no right to interfere. Potesta said the EPA's jurisdiction "begins at the 'end of the pipe,'" after the discharge from the final pond.

Meanwhile, Charleston lawyer Gregory R. Gorrell has filed a lawsuit against the EPA on behalf of the mining industry. Plaintiffs in the suit are the West Virginia Coal Association, the West Virginia Mining and Reclamation Association, U.S. Steel Mining Co., and seven other coal and utility companies.

Charleston Daily Mail 9/9/87

"The DOE is not my priority in terms of money," Farley said. "It is up to the governor to propose revenues. It is not up to us."

Farley and Purbaugh said federal mine inspectors could readily fill any gap left by the absence of state inspectors. Purbaugh said he doubts the environment would suffer since the DOE does a poor job of policing it now.

"As long as the federal inspectors maintain an adequate level of safety, I doubt we would see much difference," Purbaugh said.

Tom Reishman, deputy DOE commissioner, said the department is used to criticism of lax enforcement, and he expected the impending shutdown of the agency would spark a new round of complaints.

"We are a very lean organization now," Reishman said. "Any cuts would quickly affect our abilities to perform our legislative mandates. Our payroll for the year is \$6 million — so now there is not even enough to make payroll for the year."

Reishman said his agency was cut 36 percent — far more than the 19 percent across-the-board slash announced by lawmakers. He also said many of the salaries in the department were set in law and wage cuts are not a legal option.

Shutting down also is not a legal option, but Reishman said a conscious decision was made to violate the law later rather than sooner.

"We opted to postpone it as long as possible," Reishman said. "This gives the Legislature an opportunity to restore the budget."

Sunday Gazette-Mail 8/30/87

# Fall Review October 9 - 11 Cass, West Virginia

## Program:

All activities will be held at the Cass Community Building.

### Friday, October 9, 1987

- 4:00-11:00 P.M. - Registration
- 8:00 P.M. - Slides and movies
- 9:00 P.M. - WVHC Committee Meetings
- 9:30 P.M. - Social Hour

### Saturday, October 10, 1987

- 8:00 A.M. - Breakfast
- 9:15- 5:00 P.M. - Outings (leave from the Community Building) (Box lunches available with reservation)
- 6:00 P.M. - Gala 20th Anniversary Dinner
- 7:15 P.M. - Report on W. Va. Ground Water: Status and Future Directions
- 7:30 P.M. - Speaker: Paul Weigman, Director of Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, "Rare and Endangered Species"

### Sunday, October 11, 1987

- 8:00 A.M. - Breakfast
- 9:00 A.M. - 1987 Annual Meeting and WVHC Elections
- 9:30 A.M. - Board of Directors Fall Meeting
- 12:00 P.M. - Lunch

### Finding Cass

Located in eastern West Virginia, Cass Scenic Railroad is accessible by State Route 28/92 between Dunmore and Green Bank in Pocahontas County.

### Other Accommodations

1. The Boyer Motel (10 miles NE) Boyer Campground, Tel: (304) 456-4667
2. The Harris House (7 miles NE), Tel: (304) 456-4105
3. Moore's Lodge (3 miles SW), Tel: (304) 456-4721
4. Shay Inn (Cass, W. Va.), Tel: (304) 456-4652
5. Whittaker Campground (2 miles), \$10 per night - Hook-ups, \$7 per night - Tenting, Tel: (304) 456-3218
6. Seneca State Forest (12 miles S), Rustic camping, Tel: (304) 799-6213
7. Primitive tent sites (no toilets, no water, no charge) available. Get directions at Registration.

## Outings:

### Saturday, October 10, 1987

1. Two Cass Scenic Railroad trips are offered:  
Cass to Whittaker Station—2 hour trip—Saturday and Sunday  
Leave Cass: 11:00 A.M., 1:00 P.M., and 3:00 P.M.  
Adult - \$7.00 Child - \$3.00 Children under 6 - Free  
  
Cass to Bald Knob—4½ hour trip—Saturday and Sunday  
Leave Cass: 12:00 Noon  
Adult - \$9.50 Child - \$4.00 Children under 6 - Free  
Arrangements for these trips are up to you.
2. The National Radio Astronomy Observatory is a major national center dedicated to the study of space by means of a radio telescope. It is located at Greenbank on Route 28 about 11 miles south of Cass. Guided tours are available every hour on the hour, 9:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Go in entrance and follow blue signs. Tours are free. Arrangements for this trip are up to you.
3. Canoe trip on the Greenbrier River if water level permits. The trip is led by Anne Gentry, chair of the River Conservation Committee.
4. Hike of moderate difficulty in Cass area led by Allegheny Trail expert Fred Bird, 9:15 A.M.

For more information call Mary Moore Rieffenberger (304) 636-4559



## NATURE SKOOL

A comprehensive program of hands-on nature/wildlife education and fun for children, ages 3-10.  
Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Saturday 7 p.m. - 12 p.m.; Sunday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
**\$2/hour**  
For more details call Linda Elkinton (296-0565)

## Canaan—All the Way to the Supreme Court

The Conservancy, along with four national conservation groups, has filed a brief in the United States Supreme Court in opposition to a petition by Monongahela Power. The power company is seeking to appeal a ruling by the United States Court of Appeals from the District of Columbia, which upheld the denial of a wetlands permit needed for the Davis Power Project in Canaan Valley.

As far as can be determined, this is the first time in WVHC's 20-year history that the group has been involved in a case before the nation's highest court. Along with the Audubon Society, the national Sierra Club and others, the Conservancy has been successfully fighting the power project in legal battles for at least 15 years.

Monongahela Power obtained a license

to build the project from the Federal Power Commission in a controversial decision by James Watt, then a FPC commissioner. However, WVHC successfully contended that the project also required a permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to affect the Canaan wetlands. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers denied the permit, and Monongahela Power began a series of appeals lead-

ing to the current posture of the case.

The power company argues that once they obtained the FPC license, they were exempted from all other requirements. This position was rejected by the court of appeals as a "betrayal" of congressional intent.

## Reasons to join WVHC

The West Virginia Highlands Conservancy is a private, non-profit environmental organization started in 1967. Its objectives are "to promote, encourage, and work for the conservation - including both preservation and wise use - and appreciation of the scenic, historic, open space, wilderness, and outdoor recreation resources of an related to West Virginia, and especially the Highlands Region . . ."

Members include people and organizations diverse in their personal interests and professions but united by a common interest. Most WVHC members are West Virginians but many live outside the state.

The Highlands Voice, a monthly 8-page

newspaper, is sent to all Conservancy members. It is filled with environmental news on topics of interest and concern to members as well as articles about trips and outings.

The Conservancy sponsors two special weekends each year. These are usually at some scenic spot in the highlands and feature speakers, outings and board meetings.

Your contribution to WVHC is tax deductible and joining is as simple as filling out this form and returning it to the office in Charleston.

Join today and become part of an active organization dedicated to preserving West Virginia's natural resources.

### WVHC Membership Categories (Circle One)

Category	Individual	Family	Organization
	\$	\$	\$
Senior/Student	12	---	---
Regular	15	25	50
Associate	30	50	100
Sustaining	50	100	200
Patron	100	200	400
Mountaineer	200	300	600

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: West Virginia Highlands Conservancy  
Mail to: Suite 201, 1206 Virginia St., E., Charleston, WV 25301

### Membership Benefits

- 1-year subscription to **The Highlands Voice**
- Special meetings with workshops and speakers
- representation through WVHC's efforts to monitor legislative activity.

The West Virginia Highlands Conservancy is a non-profit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible. Please keep this for your records.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Check number \_\_\_\_\_