



# *The Sycamore Islander*

*April, 2001*

*Volume 80 No. 4*

**River Cleanup is on Saturday April 7, 9:00-noon. Potluck lunch!**  
**Sycamore Island Orientation is re-scheduled for Saturday, April 21.**  
**Pruning English ivy infestations near Sycamore is on April 21.**  
**The Spring Workfest is on Saturday, April 28. Potluck in p.m.**

Workfest details: see <http://www.sycamoreisland.org/sycalndr.htm>

## April 2001 Meeting

The April meeting will be held on the Island at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 11.

Safety issues continued to be a focus at the March meeting. Members discussed the honor code drafted by the Vice President asking all members to keep safety rules in mind and not take the river and its dangers for granted. The Vice President will revise the draft based on suggestions made in the discussion. Club canoes are now locked by cable for the winter months. See the caretaker for the key. Our editors appealed to members for suitable articles for the *Islander*. A report on Kudzu growth control was presented. Volunteers will be needed. Amendments to

standing rules 7 and 10 were approved with the exception of one regarding seniors access to the canoe racks which was tabled for further discussion. (See the minutes for details on the above items.)

—Carl Linden, President

## Minutes of March Meeting

### Attendance:

Al Brown and Mardy Burchess, Ann Marie Cunningham, Gerald Barton, Carl Linden, Peggy Thomson, Jeff Komarow, Marion Schlefer, Jane and Dave Winer,

*The Sycamore Islander* is a monthly newsletter of the Montgomery Sycamore Island Club. Articles, photographic essays, drawings, announcements, letters to the editors—any materials of interest to the membership and waiting list—are welcome and should be sent to the Editors, Jane and David Winer, 5927 Onondaga Road, Bethesda, MD 20816. Text and graphics may be sent as email attachments to [davidwiner@erols.com](mailto:davidwiner@erols.com) in all common formats. **Note to submitters of announcements, articles, or letters: The deadline for inclusion in the May issue is receipt at the Editors' address on April 28. Earlier submissions receive priority.**

## (March Minutes continued)

Johnna Robinson, John Matthews, Trip Reid, Karl Kosok, Ned Goddard, Renee Dunham, Brad Coolidge, Phil Thorson, Doc and Phyllis Taliaferro, Bill Bays, Alan Gelb, Anne and Brian Waidmann, Richard Bertaut.

The meeting – the first for the year on the Island - was brought to order at 8:15 p.m.

### **Captain's report:**

John Matthews reported that the Club canoes are locked now to prevent their use in cold water. A sign at the canoe rack reading, "See caretaker for key," has been posted. This restricted use has come about as a result of the canoeing accidents which took place this winter.

### **Islander report:**

David and Jane Winer are prepared to provide suggestions for *Islander* articles to those who may enjoy doing investigation and writing about local events or sites. David will be glad to assist with photography for these articles. The Editors ask that letters from members pertaining to Island business be sent to the proper officer or committee head and not to the *Islander*.

Website report: Tryon Wells reported that the bill for our Website service provider inadvertently became overdue but is now paid up.

### **Treasurer's report:**

Alan Gelb reported that "Everything is normal."

### **Membership report:**

Jeff Komarow reported that there has been a resignation from the Club, enabling Edward and Margaret Tilman to be considered for membership. The members approved the motion for their admittance.

### **Old business:**

Honor code: Ann Marie Cunningham passed out copies of a first draft of an honor code addressing safety and environmental issues on the Island. Additional comments were submitted by Sally Strain. During the ensuing discussion, the following topics were addressed:

- The participatory nature of the Club
- Methods for promoting awareness of safety and environmental responsibility
- Guidelines and authority of the relief caretaker
- The Club's liability for boating and other activities

The sense of the meeting was that an honor code could present guidelines for private canoe use, but Club canoe use is subject to rules. Publication of guidelines and rules is necessary not only for safety but in the light of Club liability. Other sources may be studied from which to derive our codes: Canoe Cruisers Association, American Whitewater Association, Maryland Department of Fishing. Our liability insurance needs legal scrutiny.

Anne Marie will revise her draft of an honor code for further consideration.

### **New business:**

Phil Thorson reopened the topic of kudzu growth control that he first presented in the fall when seeking volunteers in efforts promoted by Montgomery County and other jurisdictions. English ivy is also rampant in Brookmont and along the canal. He described the complexity of ownership of the overgrown areas in nearby areas, methods of growth control, and various ways in which citizens can contribute (physical and political efforts). Tryon Wells noted that the Club can con-

(March Minutes continued)

sider participation in this effort as one of the three volunteer activities needed to qualify waiting list applicants for Club membership.

Proposed Amendments to Standing Rules 7 and 10:

(The March issue of the *Islander* contained full text and descriptions of these amendments.)

Amendment 2 to Standing Rule 10, pertaining to the right of a senior member to maintain rack space in the canoe shed, thus overriding the original bumping guidelines, has been tabled for further discussion. All other amendments were passed, with some minor corrections.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m. and members were floated back to the mainland under a beautiful night sky.

— Renee Dunham, Secretary

# Ruppert



Cartoon by Johnna Robinson

## It is time to get ready for the Spring Workfest on April 28.

The flowers are blooming, the birds are singing, and Members should not miss any opportunity to be on the Island this time of year. This is also one of those weekend events on the Island open to all on the waiting list. Those who arrive at 0900 hrs will be rewarded by real coffee courtesy of the Caretaker's Wife. There will be planning and munching and schmoosing until a certain critical mass of strong backs are here and the heavy lifting can be started to properly position the floats for the season to come. As of yet there are no major projects to undertake, but there is painting, and screening, and lots of fun stuff to

do on the grounds. One Member has been heard to say she brings her husband because it is the only time of the year she sees him do yard work. This would also be a good year to do a major cleaning of the Clubhouse. But we know that most of you come for the shared commitment... to introduce your children to the old fashioned sense of community... the uncommonly good fellowship... the perennial surprise at how much fun it is! Of course... some of us are in it mainly for the great food... so bring a pot for the luck and come on down.

—Doc Taliaferro

# It's That Time of Year Again (No, not the workfest)

—by George Malusky II

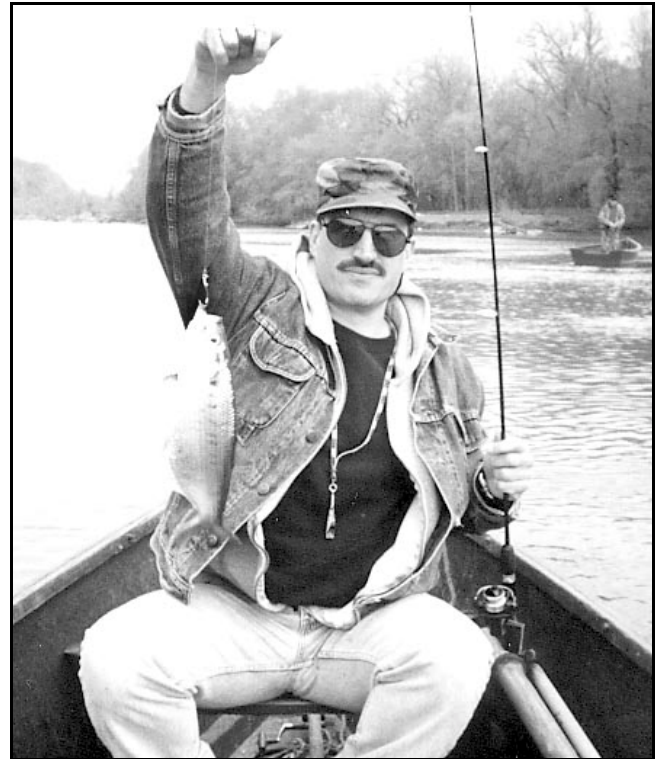
I hope by the time you finish reading this article, you will pick up the phone, call out sick, call a fishing buddy and head down to Fletcher's Boat House for some fantastic shad fishing. The hickory shad will be migrating up the Potomac River from early April until the first week in May, with the white shad (American) usually arriving by mid April. These fish can be caught using a variety of lures, fished deep, such as shad darts, colorful crappie jigs, small shiny spoons and small white bucktail jigs. Flyfisherman use small white douser minnows, colorful flies, mylar and tinsel flies with sinking fly lines, but on occasion, the hickory shad will strike close to the surface, so floating lines will work.

River conditions can be unpredictable this time of year, due to heavy Spring rains. Don't hesitate to call Ray, Joe or Danny at Fletcher's Boat House (202-244-0461) for current river conditions or the latest fishing report. These guys know the river and are extremely helpful. When visiting Fletcher's, don't forget to pick up your D.C. Fishing License (resident \$7.00 non-resident \$10.00). And for the more experienced fisherman of 65 years and up, no license is required. Boat rentals (\$17.00 for the day), bait, tackle and food are also available at Fletcher's.

In May and early June, fish Fletcher's or the Chain Bridge area for some hard-hitting stripers (Rockfish) or the millions of white perch that migrate up river.

The fishing season will then take you right to our Sycamore Island from late June to October 31st. The variety of fish around Sycamore are walleye, bluegill, catfish, smallmouth and largemouth bass, carp and a few rockfish and goggle-eye bass (Rock bass).

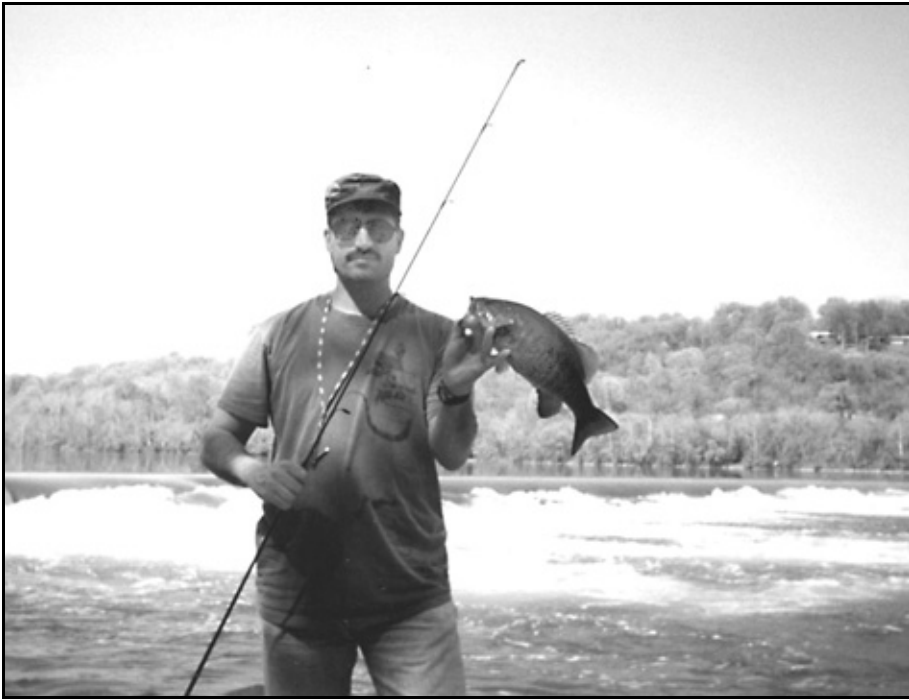
August and September are my favorite two months for catching smallmouth bass, using top-water flies and lures. These fish are very aggres-



**White shad abound at Fletcher's in early spring.**

sive and strong fighters, often leaping a foot or two out of the water in an attempt to spit the fly or lure from it's mouth. I noticed the bigger smallmouth always show off before they escape (that's why I only have pictures of small fish). The trick to catching a lot of smallmouth bass with topwater flies and lures is having the perfect river conditions (and a little luck doesn't hurt).

The river stage needs to be around 3.0 feet (Little Falls gauge) or lower for great fishing. The longer we go without rain, the better for river clarity, consistent water temperature (the warmer the better), and less river current. A slight breeze out of the south, pushing your canoe up river during low river levels, can provide some excellent fishing. But generally, the wind is a fisherman's worst enemy. Having low light conditions is needed for most topwater smallmouth action. I prefer to fish in the evenings, during the last two hours of daylight, at which time I begin to paddle up river and then slow-drift down river on the Virginia shoreline or straight down the middle. This allows you to cover more area, make less noise and hopefully, catch more fish. Just remember, the Island closes at dusk and it is extremely

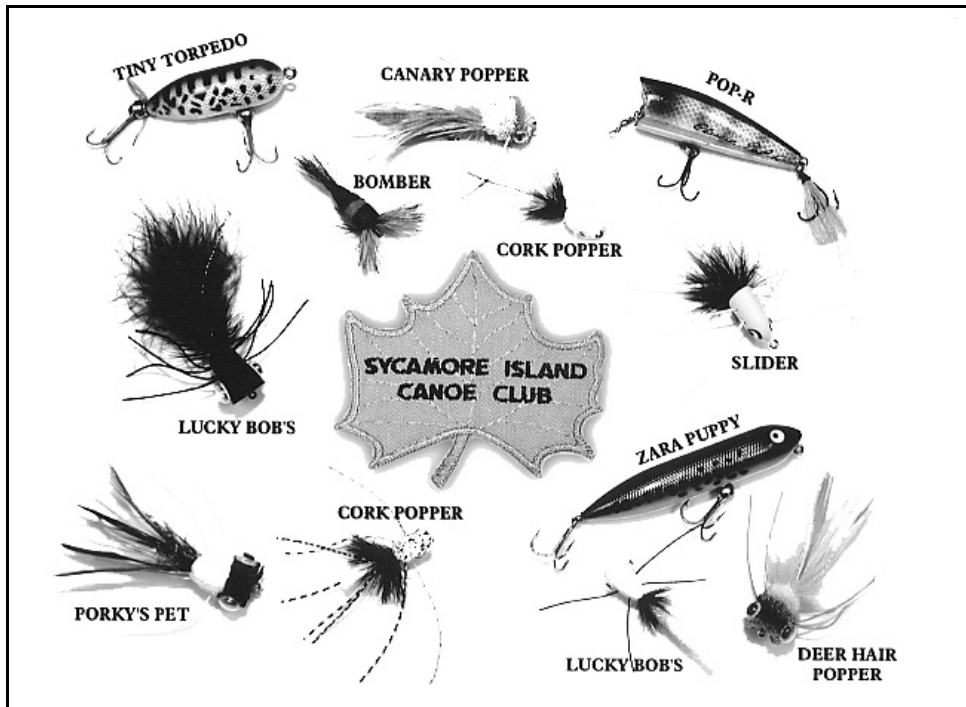


The author claims to have only pictures of small fish. Sure, George, tell us about this tiny smallmouth bass down at Little Falls.

difficult to head back in when the fish are biting (It's not very comforting when Doc gives me those after-hours lectures).

During the 1999 drought, top-water fishing was at its best, often catching lots of smallmouth, bluegill, and even catfish on a variety of poppers with the fly rod. I like to use deer hair, cork and foam poppers, all with rubber legs, when using the fly rod. When using the spinning rod, I use the tiny torpedo, the pop-r and the zara puppy for topwater lures.

So good luck fishing this year and it's NOW shad season! By the way, the workfest *is* scheduled for April 28; Hope to see you there!



Malusky offers this illustrated list to recommend his favorite lures for fishing in the waters around Sycamore Island.

1985- From the Archives...

## My River... My Island (A Fisherman's View)

—by George Malusky, Senior

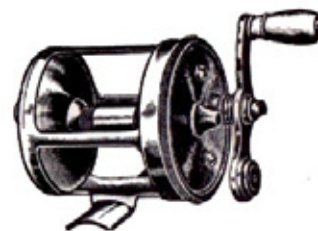
**I**t's not the Ganges or the Amazon; it's not Pago Pago or Fiji ... but it's mine! Some members may take offense at my taking possession of this river and the Island, especially our senior members who were around long before I came on the scene. However, I spend many beautiful moments on the water and on the shore that become very special to me; thus, I feel justified in taking possession.

It was a typical hot and humid July (for the Washington, D.C. area) when we climbed down the cliffs for our first picnic. My family was looking forward to getting away from the city and its noise. Peter Day (previous Caretaker) came across for us and then helped setting up tables and canoes for the children. When everything was settled down, young son George asked if we could go fishing across the river and, after promising his mother we would get back in time for the picnic (by five o'clock if I remember), we pushed off into the channel and rounded the Island to the Virginia shore.

We must have dropped anchor about three o'clock and started to let out lines. With the sun high in the sky, I wasn't too optimistic that any fish would be active in the heat. But within minutes we had action. The lines started to pull and go under and as soon as we brought in one batch of fish and reset the lines, the other lines would repeat ... This went on all afternoon! That first day we must have kept a dozen "keepers" of fat catfish and blue gill which went very well for breakfast the next morning. With all the excitement, we forgot the time and got to shore very late for our picnic. We got into trouble...

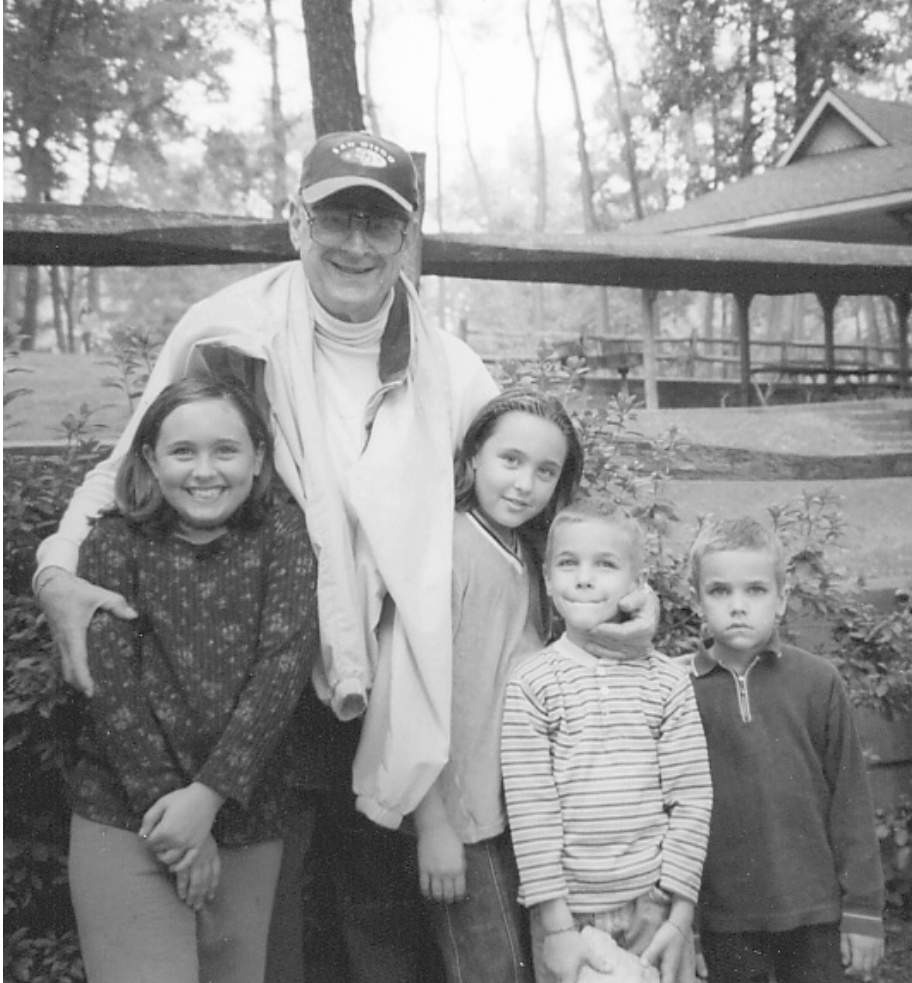
The following weekend we had another picnic. This time Dorothy was most emphatic when she told her "fishermen" that we would have a picnic first before hitting the canoes! So son George just walked up to the end of the Island to a little cove and dropped a line into about two feet of water. The water exploded with a 15" bass on the line! Two weeks later George took his classmate with him to the same spot. He was elated. He got a bass well over 15". We figure it must have been a momma-pappa pair nesting, or so the ol' timers tell me... (That cove is still there and I don't know if anyone has been fortunate enough to get any bass out of there since. I'm sure someone must have, but I haven't heard anything about it.)

Some of the best kept secrets in the world are the "deep holes" in the river where the fish are deep and are staying cool just waiting for the hook! I have not found any of them but my friend Warring Barnes has been trying to tell me for years where they are located. I don't think they are shifting with the currents but I haven't been lucky enough to discover these "sink holes" where the fish congregate.



Much of the bass can be found up river among the rocks and boulders and it has always been fun to beach the canoe on one of the many sandbars in the area. You can stretch your legs and





**George Malusky, Senior in more recent times with a stringer of Grandchildren.**

partake of lunch and hope the fish won't disturb you in the serene setting. The silent distance, with an occasional blue heron standing guard only fifty feet away, makes your sandbar lunch a memorable event. However, these rocks and boulders can be dangerous if you get your boat or canoe caught between "watery



to head back to Sycamore . The winds got stronger and the water choppy. Somehow, fishing didn't seem that important...

Spring is now with us and I shall once again go out with some worms and lures and look for the "mystery holes" that have eluded me for so long. There will be days when we won't catch anything, but who cares... Just the fact that you are on the river with good weather and good friends is enough. After putting away the gear and climbing back up the cliffs, I will look over my domain and head for home --- hoping I am not too late for dinner.

(Text reprinted from a 1985 issue of the *Sycamore Islander*.)

## Notes from the Island

**Thu 1 Mar** Fisherpersons take note: The first fish of the year have been sighted at the Captain's float. Now, it is true these are only minnows... but no fish of any kind have been seen since November. This calls to mind the question of when the last herons were seen... which is at about the same time. Actually, this happened yesterday, and the fish were almost hugging the sand in the shallows, so it was easy to imagine them trying to soak up warmth from the sun from both above and below. Today none could be found to be tempted with bread, despite the same strong sun. You will note the water temperature has dropped a degree, but it is hard to believe that 44 degrees is a magical threshold for cold-blooded swimmers. Still... stay tuned.

**Fri 2 Mar** The clear vistas of winter are already giving way to the haziness of spring, as the once sharp outlines of trees and branches are fuzzy with the knobs and extrusions of new buds and swollen tips. The squirrels are eating the tree buds... but only those interior on the branches. One might think there was a danger that the squirrels would eat too many buds and harm the new growth of the trees, but they cannot reach those buds at the end of the branches because of the slenderness and suppleness of those smallest of branches. Those buds they can reach without falling off... they do. Upon reflection, this might seem to act as a natural pruning symbiosis, as those interior buds are more likely in any event to be shaded out by the younger buds at the tips of the branches. Thus, the squirrels can dine only on what they can reach, and the tree's growth energies are channelled to the extremities where it is most needed to grow and compete with neighbors for available light.

**Sat 3 Mar** Sitting in the big room... waiting for Members to ring the bell on such a beautiful day... forlornly... gazing out through the trees... it was only by the merest chance the Caretaker saw the young squirrel disappear into the Sycamore. The hole was actually at the end of a large limb where the branch had fallen off, and would have been undetectable from the ground by any roving human eye. The squirrel did not reappear, so there was a certain smugness of the "now I know where you live" category. Yet also there was a certain aspect of being one of fortune's favorites at being so lucky a witness... as though being initiated into one

of "The Mysteries." Just another lesson in how we are surrounded by so much that we do not even see... and how seldom we take the time or have the wit to look. More incentive for you to visit your Island.

**Mon 5 Mar** It was that time of the morning (0330 Hrs) when the friendly universe is reduced to the area beneath the comforter when the sound woke him... out of place as it was in the normal background consciousness. It was the sound of serious slurping!!! Wait a moment... slurping??? Wakefulness did not come all at once... only as the mental list of possibilities lengthened without conclusion. The cats had never been known to make such a noise... and it was clearly coming from their water bowl in the kitchen. He stole from bed softly, reluctant to wake the Caretaker's Wife. When the kitchen light came on, he was more surprised than Petey, the possum, who seemed to quit slurping from the water bowl grudgingly before turning to the wall where the built in cat door was. Alas, Petey seemed unable to distinguish where the flap was in the wall for the cat door... seemed clearly more tranquil than bright... and finally ambled over to hide behind the small kitchen garbage can. You may ask where the Island watch-cats were during this event. In fact Miss T came in the cat door at about this time... walked over to Petey so that they were nose to nose at six inches... where they seemed to acknowledge each other with familiarity and without so much as a raised hair on either side... and then Miss T went about her business. A chair was brought up so that the Caretaker could sit and use a stick to open the cat door flap from some (small) distance, the intervening garbage can removed, and words in a comforting tone were used to encourage Petey towards the now apparent hole in the wall. Petey seemed not at all alarmed, but very confused about what to do next. Finally he stuck his nose in the corner as though to hide, although the image of an ostrich is less useful than that of a child turning to hide his face in his mother's dress. Who would have thought that such an ugly animal could look endearing? When the Caretaker's Wife finally roused to question the commotion, husbandly instincts caused him to use reassuring words, although he later suffered harsh comments for "luring" her into the kitchen by using misleading words such as "small" and "cute". However, as Petey huddled in the corner, even she



## Notes from the Island (continued)

had to agree with “endearing”... only... how to get him outside? Eventually Petey was coaxed into a cat carrier and taken outside. One wonders how possums manage to get along and survive in the cruel world.

**Thu 8 Mar** The absent geese have returned, having been gone during this cold spell associated with the “storm that wasn’t.” Most of them flew in after dark... and it sounded as though others arrived well into the wee hours. There was an almost full moon and thus plenty of light... and surely some goose expert would confirm that they are active flyers in such circumstances. Certainly they are active squabblers... it was difficult to sleep with all their carrying on... you have heard us comment before on how obnoxiously loud they can be... which is why we can confirm the interesting observation of how they quieted as soon as the moon set in the early morning hours.

**Mon 12 Mar** With the stirring of the spring bulbs we also get the stirring of our own Island mole to feed upon them. Although there is not so much of it yet, the telltale tunnelling can be seen all over the Island. We have decided to name the mole after whoever wins this round of the Survivor TV program, because with at least three black snakes on the Island, the moniker is deserved. Not only that, but where does Mr. Mole hang out when the Island is under water??

Some of you may recall last summer when Blackie, our resident black snake patriarch, one sunny Saturday gave many Members an all afternoon lesson on black snake courting and mating while he and his lady hung upside down from the big tree near the swimming area. It was clear to all from whence came the concept of the caduceus used in medical insignia. Anyway, with hungry little ones on the Island this spring, and with mole the preferred item on the menu for Blackie and his family second only to egg of goose, the smart money is that Mr. Mole will not be around long this year.

**Tue 13 Mar** Today we are expecting our first day with air temps in the 60’s... and while the fish have not been seen at the Captain’s float since that one day when the water temp was 44 degrees... we have nonetheless seen the first blue heron of the year. A few cormorants are also back for the first time since that one sighting during a warm spell, but one suspects these waterfowl probably hang out in the tide-water and are seen here this early only when they

probe the northern perimeter of a warm air mass. The ducks are constant... and the gulls... but only our two goose couples are ensconced on the Island, although small gaggles come and go. The real inspiration is in the small flock of robins that have hung on and the increasing bird song heard on the Island.

**Wed 14 Mar** Let the record also show that today we have seen the first forsythia blooms. There are also the first bluebell buds showing... but it will be several weeks before the main show begins. Other plants making an appearance are the violets, trout lilies, and bleeding heart. Grounds Supervisor Trip Reid was down for a spring inspection and noted our daylilies are much more developed than his. The grass is greening and making a spurt... there are only 4 geese to crop it... and it is heartening to see how much survived. Yesterday the up-island paths were raked and sown. It is that time of year when everything is coming on quickly... with many wondrous changes day to day. Do not miss it!!

**Fri 23 Mar** The river is already at 7.85 and continues to rise. Even at the 7 foot level the up-island paths are under water, waves are lapping at the base of the big tree at the swimming area, the river nearing the top step of the bottom set of steps at the towpath, and the Island is much smaller.

Hearing what sounded like a soprano owl in the daylight at midday, we went outside to see that the morning doves have returned. Of course, it is not possible to confirm that all the differing returnees this season are the same neighbors from last year... but we like to think so... and in the case of the goose now nesting in the great tree root ball near the Captain’s float, it is a pretty good guess.

**Thu 29 Mar** The runes were cast... the bones were thrown... the Oracle consulted... and most importantly, the noon weather program watched for the 7-day forecast... and as the signs were propitious... the water has been turned on in the Clubhouse with the expectation that the night time temps will not drop below 40 degrees for the next 7 days. Rejoice... the toilets upstairs are back on line and the sink in the kitchen works. No longer will you have to bring your own drinking water.

—Doc Taliaferro

*Excerpted from the Caretaker’s Log at  
<http://www.sycamoreisland.org>*

# Save the Big Trees!!

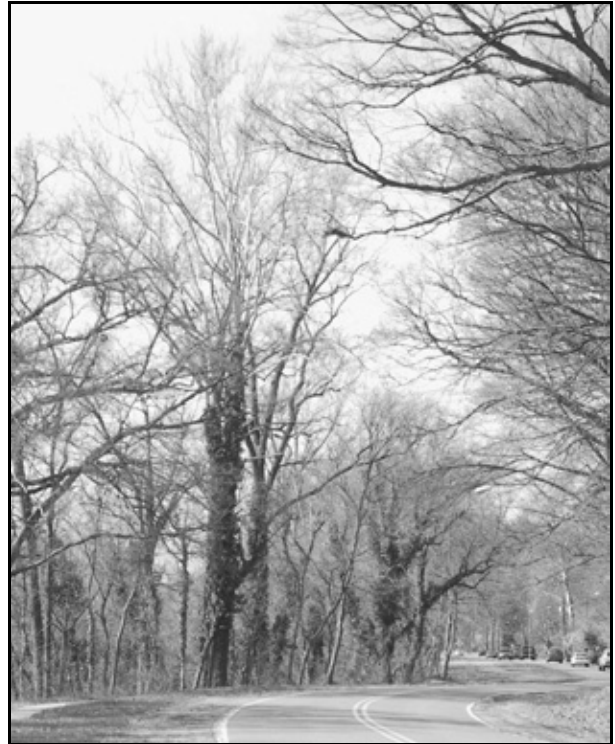
Workers needed for a test run April 21... and many more for an all-out attack in mid-May

A pioneering project to save remaining big trees along the Canal and MacArthur Blvd. from being killed by enveloping kudzu and English ivy vines was enthusiastically adopted as a Club project at the March membership meeting. The immediate aim will be to protect several hundred of those trees in imminent danger of being smothered.

This will be *the finest-ever attack* to stop those imported killers which have been spreading unchecked for decades. The initial plan to prune both these vines had to be postponed because the kudzu vines are dormant and we can't tell yet what strands to work on. **A second, full scale effort will be scheduled for mid-May.** Details will be announced in the next *Islander*.

However, for those who are itching for an earlier bout with one of the destroyers, Captain John Matthews is going to lead a preliminary run against English ivy infestations. John will meet volunteers for that initial foray at the parking lot on MacArthur Blvd. above Sycamore Island at 9:30 a.m., Saturday, April 21. If you intend to come, an RSVP to John (301-229-0234) or to Phil Thorson (301-229-2645) will be appreciated.

The aim for April 21 is to free as many trees as possible from their tormentors by cutting and prying out sections of the well anchored English ivy vines near the ground. In the process we will discover which tools and techniques work best. Some of the vine stems are as thick as your forearm and cling tenaciously to the tree's bark with hundreds of tentacles. Accordingly, bring what tools would seem necessary to cut and pry – small saws with wide set teeth to reduce binding, short pry bars, clawed hammers, light hatchets, stout hand pruners, etc. (You might want to mark your tools with bright colors and initials for identification. Long pants and sleeves and work gloves are recommended too, as are cleated shoes for steep slopes).



**English ivy enveloping large trees along McArthur Blvd. near Sycamore Island.**

Please bring a lunch and drinks. A rest and pit stop and coffee will be available at the Thorsons, near the work sites.

**NOTE:** This project has been designated as an officially sponsored Club Activity, so participation will count toward fulfilling one of a member's three service obligations toward Sycamore.

The *May Islander* will have details about the all-out attack next month, along with information about the other import, kudzu, which can climb a tall tree in one season. *If you have any suggestions for making this pioneering civic effort to help the beleaguered river area, please let John or Phil know.*

**See you on Saturday, April 21 for the ivy, and next month to go after both vines !!**

## Sunday Keeler Caretakers April-May 2001

Date	Time	Name(s)	Telephone
April 1	10:00 - 3:00 3:00 - Dusk	Francis & Francoise Latapie Tom & Elizabeth Gibbon	301-229-1429 703-243-9620
April 8	10:00 - 3:00 3:00 - Dusk	Cindy & Richard Bertaut John & Diane Noble	301-320-7076 301-320-4216
April 15 (Easter Sun.)	10:00 - 3:00 3:00 - Dusk	Ann & Alan Boneau Abigail & John Wiebenson	301-320-3695 202-332-6857
April 22	10:00 - 3:00 3:00 - Dusk	Peter & Amanda Cannell Cecily Abram	301-229-8658 301-718-1727
April 29	10:00 - 3:00 3:00 - Dusk	Phyllis Olfky Greg Hitz	301-345-2353 301-229-2998
May 6	9:00 - 3:00 3:00 - Dusk	Douglas & Deborah Richards Fred Wright & Catherine Seibert	703-578-0822 301-229-7184
May 13	9:00 - 3:00 3:00 - Dusk	John & Judy Lentz William & Lucretia Marmon	301-229-4968 301-654-7893
May 20	9:00 - 3:00 3:00 - Dusk	<i>OPEN--please call!</i> John & Jyl Pomeroy	703-243-8256
May 27	9:00 - 3:00 3:00 - Dusk	<i>OPEN--please call!</i> <i>OPEN--please call!</i>	

**Special Notice: Doc and Phyllis plan to be away Memorial day weekend, so we are looking for relief caretakers for that Saturday, Sunday, and Monday as well.**

Saturday, May 26    9:00 — 3:00    *OPEN – please call!*    3:00 — dusk    *OPEN – please call!*  
 Sunday, May 27    9:00 — 3:00    *OPEN – please call!*    3:00 — dusk    *OPEN – please call!*  
 Monday, May 28    9:00 — 3:00    Morris Cobern.    3:00 — dusk    *OPEN – please call!*

**\*\* Caretaker Volunteers \*\*\***

Call Brian & Anne Waidmann (703-536-3168)

or

Patricia & Terry Murphy (301-263-9766)

to volunteer for caretaking .

It's a great way to spend time on the Island!

*Volunteers from the waiting list are encouraged. Don't forget: Relief Caretakers sign in too!*

## Large Parties

Date	Time	Who	What
April 1	1:00 - 6:00	Marcia Loeb	Birthday party for 25
April 29	1:00 - 5:00	Margaret Barry	Picnic for 14
June 3	4:00- dusk	Linda & Robert Blair	Picnic for 10 families

A large party application form may be printed from the club's Web page at  
<http://www.sycamoreisland.org/systems.htm>

— or —

To request a form through the mail, call the Supervisor of Parties, John Noble  
 e-mail: [jnoble@erols.com](mailto:jnoble@erols.com), phone: 301-320-3554, fax: 301-320-4216



## *The Sycamore Islander*

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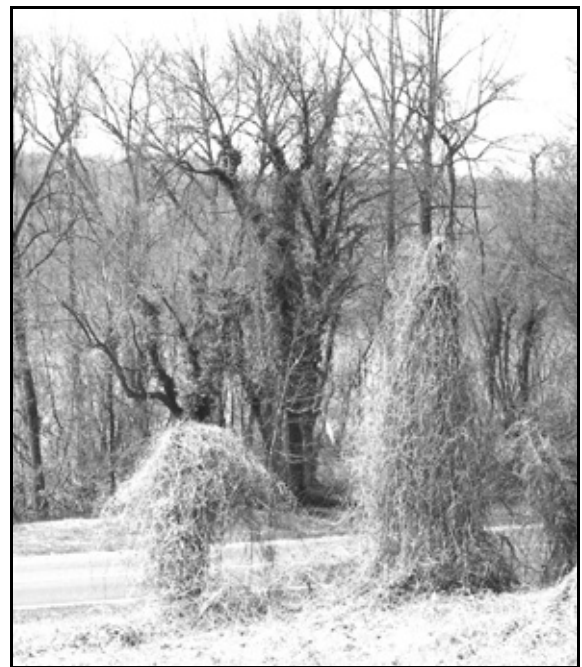
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April 2001

### **Fishing Issue:**

- Malusky II tells how to do it.
- Malusky, Senior tells how they did it.  
also...
- Scourge of the killer vines.
- River Cleanup.
- Spring Workfest.
- Playing 'possum with the caretaker.



Kudzu in foreground, and English ivy in background, are introduced species. They compete with native plants. Here, along the parkway near Sycamore Island the invaders are winning. You can help. See *Save the Big Trees!!* inside.