



The Sycamore Islander

July, 2001

Volume 80 No. 7

July Meeting

The Club continues to make important decisions about new construction. We urge all members to participate. The July meeting will be on the 11th at 8: p.m. in the clubhouse.

Our treasurer, Alan Gelb, provided the June meeting with a masterful analysis of the Club's financial situation and outlook. He presented in detail charts showing how dues will have to rise to keep up with the 3% a year inflation creep. He also set out several scenarios on how to finance the new caretaker's quarters while maintaining a strong reserve. After thorough discussion a motion was passed selecting one of the scenarios and instructing the treasurer to determine exactly what dues increase is necessary (an increase of about seventy dollars). An appeal to members was suggested, asking them if they are willing and able on a wholly voluntary basis to advance loans to the Club of \$1,000 or more. The loans would be paid back in five years at 5% interest and would be comparable to a CD in return. The goal would be to raise about \$50,000 in this manner to cover the cost of the addition. The dues increase would also cover the cost of interest payments over the five year period. Our hope is

that members who are in a position to contribute will be ready to do so in support of the project. In any case, members will be able to contribute to the project either by lending a helping hand with financial support and/or a bit of volunteer labor at the construction site. We are confident that there is a willing spirit in our Club that will enable us to get the job done! See below for details.

— Carl Linden, President

Minutes of the June 13 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Carl Linden. Attending this meeting were Tove Elfstrom, Alan Gelb, Dave Winer, Ann Marie Cunningham, Carl Linden, Terry Murphy, Al Green, Renee Dunham, George Malusky, Bill Bays, Star Mitchell, Blair and Nancy Bower, Al Brown and Mardy Burgess, Ken Fassler, Ned Goddard, Jim Drew, Richard Bertaut.

Membership report: Ann Marie Cunningham presented in Jeff Komarow's absence.

In keeping with the Club's spirit and tradition of honoring long-standing service from members, the following people wishing to withdraw from regular

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 in all common formats. **Note to submitters of announcements, articles, or letters: The deadline for inclusion in the August issue is receipt at the Editors' address on July 28. Earlier submissions receive priority.**

Minutes of June 13 Meeting (continued)

membership were recommended for Honorary Membership: Peter and Marilyn Morabito since 1984; Joe and Pauline O'Boyle since 1980. The membership approved unanimously.

Waiting list applicants eligible for filling four membership vacancies are: Stan and Virginia Fowler, Frances and Ronald Short, Robert and Penelope McNulty, and Thomas and Barbara Lott. The membership approved unanimously.

There are currently 155 regular members and 189 in the waiting list. This year 64 waiting list passes were issued, 9 resignations and 11 new members were accepted.

Treasurer's report:

Treasurer's report: Alan Gelb led the members through a detailed presentation of the financial standing of the Club in the past and present, with possible future scenarios for the purpose of determining how best to finance the construction of the caretaker's quarters. As background, Alan prepared a table giving an historic perspective on the budget from 1981 to the present, paying particular attention to amounts of reserve retained for safety, and suggesting that we should aim in the long run for a reserve of around 9 - 11 months spending. This is about the current level, and also the level in the late 1980s before a series of exceptional repairs depleted the reserve. Alan then posed three budget questions: At what point in the future would inflation require a dues increase? How should we pay for the construction voted at the previous meeting? How can we prevent the construction from depleting our reserve?

Five scenarios presented for discussion illustrated some of the alternatives (such as raising a loan, having a special assessment, or raising dues and fees). As construction payment will be expected by the end of September, a quick decision is necessary. These issues will be laid out to the entire membership of the Club, with decisions made by those attending the Club meetings.

Ken Fassler, former caretaker from 1980 to 1988 shared his experience and knowledge of flood dynam-

ics and concerns about the construction with the membership. Ken pointed out that, despite the strong steel supports of the present Clubhouse, widening it by adding the new caretakers floor increases the risk of destruction in a flood. He advocated redesign. In the discussion that followed, the sense was to accept some risk in favor of a prompt solution to the serious problems faced by the caretaker in the present quarters.

After a lengthy discussion of all the above issues, a motion was passed selecting one of the scenarios and instructing the treasurer to determine exactly what dues increase is necessary (an increase of *up to* \$100 is possible, with other charges pro-rated). Members would be invited, if they are willing and able on a wholly voluntary basis, to advance loans to the Club of \$1,000 or more. The loans would be paid back over five years with a 5% bonus, comparable to a CD in return. The goal would be to raise about \$50,000 in this manner to cover the cost of the addition and avoid a special assessment in 2002. The dues increase would also cover the cost of repayments over the five year period. Our hope is that members who are in a position to support this will be ready to do so.

Report on the CCA Whitewater Race: Star Mitchell reported that all went well with the Sycamore Island participation in the 46th annual Canoe Cruisers Whitewater Race. It was noted that Sycamore Island members John Thomson, who died in 1999, and John Heideman were the authors of this race.

New business: Ann Marie Cunningham moved that our caretaker be reimbursed the amount to date for out-of-pocket medical expenses incurred by multiple spider-bite incidents within the last few months. The motion was passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10 pm.

— Renee Dunham, Secretary



Our First "Save the Big Trees"

— Phil Thorson



The crew assembles, brandishing their weapons.

This is to bring you John Matthews' and my special thanks for all you Islanders did to make "Save the Big Trees Day" a success. The dead vine remnants that droop in the areas we worked on tell what a difference 24 caring workers made that day, safeguarding, for at least this growing season, a big share of the endangered trees there.

Another outcome we sensed was the general enthusiasm of those who worked amid their happiness that something was finally being done about a too



Tryon Wells pulls away a tangle of kudzu.

long neglected problem We thought the mix of the participants was encouraging too — ages, young to old (though no teen-agers); sexes, one-third being energetic women; and affiliations, 14 from Sycamore Island, 8 from conservation related organizations like the Potomac Conservancy, plus others from nearby communities. (One, in fact, was a walk-on who spotted the activity while passing by, went home to change clothes, and came right back.

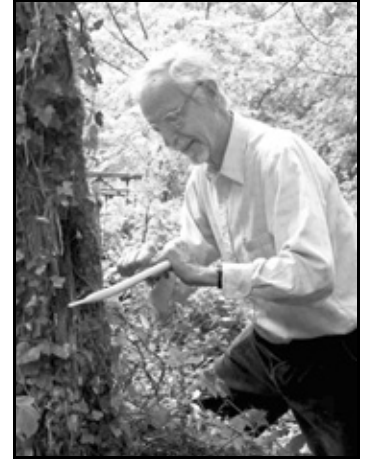
There were some disappointments though. One was

the absence of media coverage, despite detailed invitations to the main papers and TV stations downtown and two County papers. One TV crew called twice to be sure the activity would go on in threatening weather, but never arrived. Another downer was the strictures the

Park Service announced on Kudzu cutting on its land near the Canal and on volunteers working without Park representatives being present.

For the many who expressed their hopes that the effort will go on, we feel sure it will. The next organized event or events will probably be in October to spray the re-growths from the cut stems in order to kill the extensive root systems. Our hope is that in time interim individuals and small groups will find a few hours to cut the Kudzu and Porcelain Berry vines that remain untouched at the ends of the largest patch targeted along MacArthur Boulevard so their re-growths can be similarly treated come October. And in the same vicinity there are plenty of trees that need to be freed from their loads of English Ivy.

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The Captain sees a huge ivy vine.

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Sally Strain takes a break from cutting for a little swinging action.

Anyhow, having made a great start, let's keep in touch. John or I would especially appreciate any suggestions as to how the treatment methods can be improved and how we can attract more participants and media attention for future STBT Days.

Proposed Honor Code

—Ann Marie Cunningham, Vice President

The Potomac River is a beautiful but wild resource running through the heart of our nation's capital. We are very fortunate to have the river and the Club for our pleasure and relaxation. We must, however, recognize that the river can be quite treacherous. A number of recent incidents have brought this point home, and have caused the Club meetings to be awash in discussions concerning water and boating safety, and liability particularly in regard to the use of the Club canoes. The discussion has ranged from one extreme, that there are too many rules already, to a desire for extensive new rules that would ensure the safety of members and guests when swimming or boating. The one position to which all have agreed is that, ultimately, safety is the responsibility of each individual.

Another concern that has frequently been discussed is that the Club is changing, and that part of the change is reflected in indifference toward, or in some cases, a lack of respect for the Island itself, the caretakers (including the relief caretakers), and other members and guests. Fewer members know one another, and when they have an opportunity to become acquainted, such as when riding the ferry together, they fail to make an effort to introduce themselves.

One solution that has been proposed to help with these two issues is to ask all members to abide by an honor code. The code would simply ask everyone to acknowledge their personal responsibility for the safety of themselves and their family and guests, and to recognize that their actions affect the quality of the Island environment. A draft of the code is attached.

Additionally, a new sign has been proposed for placement near the canoe dock. The sign will emphasize personal responsibility for safety. The content of the sign is drawn from Maryland State law, and water safety guidelines from the American Whitewater Society. The proposed sign follows the draft honor code. If you have any comments on either of these, please send them to me at my email address, amcunning@juno.com.

The Sycamore Island Code

As Sycamore Islanders, we seek an environment in which members of the Club can relax, recreate and find enjoyment in ways that protect our safety and that of our guests, as well as the natural environment. The natural and recreational aspects of Sycamore Island depend on our personal concern both for each other and for ourselves, along with our collective respect for the beauty and power of nature. We must take upon ourselves individually and collectively the act of participating in the creation and preservation of the Island's environment. We realize that as part of the Sycamore Island Club community, our actions affect those around us as well as the natural quality of the Island. We understand that membership in the Club includes a commitment to the Island and to the Club membership.

The Pledge

I hereby agree to support Sycamore Island and honor its Code. I understand that it is my duty to act in a manner that respects the concerns and safety of all members and the natural aspects of the Island itself.

Sycamore Island's Guidance on Boating Safety
Maryland law requires that life jackets be worn from October 1 to March 31. Sycamore Island requires that life jackets be worn at all times when using club canoes.

Boating conditions on the Potomac River vary widely from relatively safe to very hazardous depending upon water level, strength of the current, temperature, wind speed, and submerged hazards.

Your safety depends upon your skill as a canoeist and your awareness of river hazards.

Be a competent swimmer.

Wear a life jacket.

Understand the risks of boating alone.

Avoid hazardous wind (e.g., whitecaps on the river).

Recognize the danger of Brookmont dam.

Accompany your guests who use club boats.

Supervise your children who use club boats.

Club canoes cannot be used when the:

- River level is above 5 feet, or
- Water temperature is below 55°.

You are responsible for your own safety.

Canoeing At Sycamore Island

—by David Lyles, Canoeing Supervisor

One of the great joys of living in the Washington metropolitan area – and belonging to Sycamore Island – is that we have terrific opportunities for canoeing and kayaking right at our doorstep. The Club maintains a number of Club canoes for members and guests, complete with paddles and life jackets. The Club canoes are located on the outside rack between the canoe shed and the Maryland side of the Island.

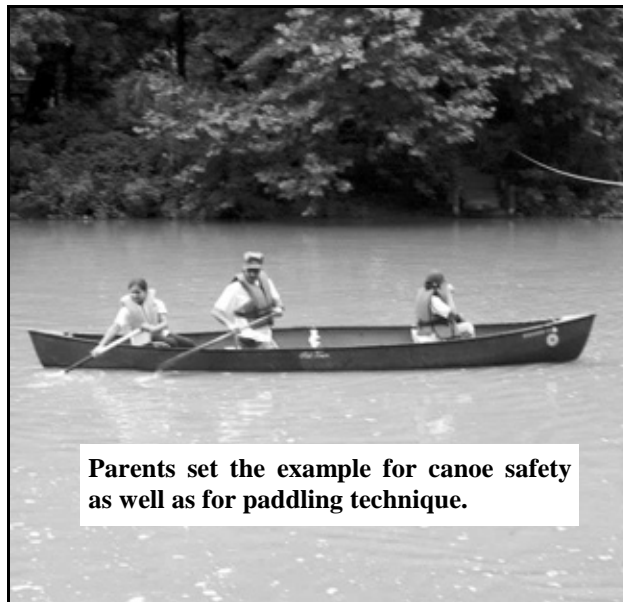
Like any sport, there are certain safety precautions that must be observed to enjoy canoeing from our Island.

Always wear a life jacket. The single biggest cause of fatalities in boating accidents is the failure of boaters to wear life jackets. I have been canoeing and kayaking on the Potomac for more than 25 years, and whether I am paddling the chutes below Great Falls or exploring the islands and channels around Sycamore Island, I never leave shore without *wearing* my life jacket. Every paddler and every passenger in a canoe should be wearing his or her life jacket. This doesn't mean having it available in the boat in case of an upset; it means wearing it for the entire time you are on the water.

Supervise inexperienced and underage paddlers. Inexperienced and underage paddlers should always be accompanied by an experienced paddler.

Be aware of the river conditions. Check the river conditions before coming down to the Island to paddle to make sure it is safe for canoeing. At high water levels – defined as 5 feet or more on the Little Falls gauge – the current becomes very strong, and members should not take canoes out from the Island. How do you tell what the water level is? Easy: check the weather section on the back page of the Metro section of [The Washington Post](#), where the river level is posted every day just to the left of the regional weather map. Alternatively, go the Sycamore Island web site and click on the link to River conditions. In addition to water levels, members should stay off the water in strong winds or when thunderstorms are forecast.

For the remainder of the summer, the water temperature will not pose a hazard, but as the water temperature begins to drop in the fall, members should be conscious of the danger of cold water.



Parents set the example for canoe safety as well as for paddling technique.

Paddle upriver of Sycamore Island. Novice paddlers and those without knowledge of the treacherous river conditions downstream should stay upriver of Sycamore Island to avoid the extremely dangerous dam at the Little Falls pumping station.

Let the Caretaker know when you are taking out a club canoe, and how long you expect to be out. That way, someone will know you are on the river and when you expect to return.

There are many opportunities to improve your paddling skills and to learn more about paddling in the Washington area. The Canoe Cruisers Association of Washington offers classes in canoeing and kayaking throughout the spring and summer. You can check out their instruction schedule at their website (www.ccadc.org) or click on the link to Canoeing and then Canoe Cruisers Association on our Sycamore Island website.

Canoeing at Sycamore Island is one of the best reasons I can think of to join the Club, but please follow these simple rules to make your canoeing experience a safe and enjoyable one.

46th CCA Downriver Race

June 9, 2001

— V. Star Mitchell

Forty-six years of Sycamore Island tradition continued to prevail on June 9th as the island played host to the CCA Downriver Race. The island, a co-sponsor of the first Downriver Race on May 6, 1956, has been intimately involved ever since, providing its facilities for the race finish. Sycamore stalwarts, John Leohler and Craig Custis, were contestants in that first race, and Islanders have taken part in virtually every race right up the present.

This year, tired and thirsty racers were welcomed to the island by Marcia & George Loeb, who provided ice-cold lemonade and delicious cookies. Other members on hand to help and give assistance with the race were: John Heide-
mann, Carl Linden,
John Matthews,
John F. Stapko and
Peggy Thomson.
Young John G.

Stapko did yeoman's work all day ferrying workers, racers and spectators to and from the island.

Anne Marie Cunningham worked out race details with the BCE and CCA; this was especially helpful to me, as race liaison, since I was away on an Elderhostel trip from May 20th to June 6th. Mega kudos are due Doc & Phyllis Taliaferro for their invaluable behind the scenes work.

The race usually starts at Rocky Island, but due to high water (5 ft), the start was moved down to Old Anglers Inn. Fifty-one hardy souls entered the race, three of whom were Sycamore

Islanders: Mark Brenneman, Larry Heilman, and Paul Stanton.

Donna Perlmutter did a wonderful job as Race Chairperson; Merrill Stock designed and obtained the T-shirts; Jeremy Stock and Patty Bertelsen provided a delicious lunch for all racers and workers; Joel Reeves and Bob Bofinger did an excellent job of timing and calculating racer's runs.

Jeff Davis did his usual admirable job organizing safety boats at all major rapids. His trustworthy safety team included Tony Allred, Ed Grove, Pat Hamlin, Jean McAulay, David

Moulton, Steve Revier, Paul Sanford and Kathleen Sengstock. Jeff's wife, Marylu, handled the operation of the base station from her automobile, relaying messages to the CB radios of the safety team on the river.

Other CCAers and friends of mine who came to the island to help out were: Gus Anderson (who discovered the location of the finish line banner and stretched it across the channel), daughter Ashley, Phoebe Hamill, Darrell Hilton, Michael McBee, Paul Loundon. Ruth Healey arrived bright and early to help check-in paddlers at Great Falls.

I wish to thank all of the dedicated people who "went the second mile" and gave of their time to make this race a big success. If I have failed to mention anyone by name, I deeply apologize. The BCE and CCA coordinators and I especially wish to thank Sycamore Island for playing host to the race for the 46th year and keeping this long-time tradition alive.



After the downriver race

—Photo by Susan Sherrod



Canoeing class for novices.

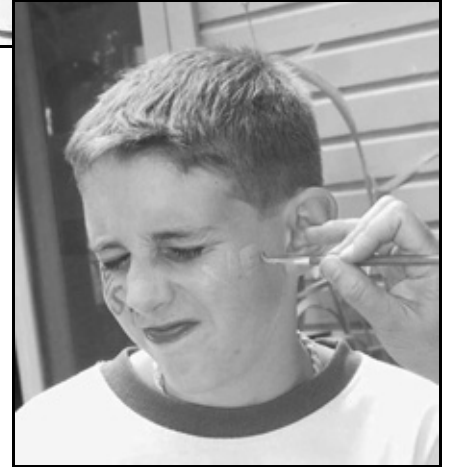


Chow.



Kids' games.

**Caretaker's Wife's
Midsummer's Night Party**
Doc and Phyllis hosted a wonderful overnight bash for all Islanders (members and waiting list) on June 23. These photos show some of the activities. Look for a complete accounting and more pictures in next month's *Islander*.



Face painting.



Tent City.



Campfire.



Tee-shirt painting.

Notes from the Island

Mon 21 May The grass loves the rain... and the geese love the grass, which being young and new must be sweet and tender to goose sensibilities... so one can see up to 15 geese grazing at a time... with as many as 13 goslings. They have also started to work on the lower branches of the big mulberry tree. Although mostly green, some of the berries are starting to get that raspberry color. It must be reported that the geese are indiscriminate and appear to have no taste for selection of the better berry. One can imagine the entire gaggle trying not to notice the ripening berries... but as soon as the first opportunist crops the first berry a riot breaks out as they all run squawking so as not to miss out... and every berry is taken regardless of status in a "get them while you can" frenzy. Actually... it is hard to imagine any berry making it to its prime ripeness. A ripening wild raspberry on this Island must receive many covetous looks during the day as it receives many visits a day from area birds checking on its condition. It must be like a great game of chicken... to see which bird will display the least taste and make his move before the others... willing to accept less in a berry to ensure that at least he gets something and does not show up to find it gone. We humans have learned regarding wild raspberries on the Island that to think that one more day will result in perfect ripeness is tantamount to giving it away. Surely any watching birds must be thinking that if the Island's big animals are showing interest it is certainly time to take it.

Tue 22 May There are several on-going experiments being conducted on the lawn. For instance, as one walks past the canoe shed towards the bottom of the Island there is a circular un-cut area of lawn just before the path begins. When the present caretaker arrived following the '96 floods and there was a great attempt to re-seed the lawn with grass, this small area was set aside and never seeded or cut to see what would happen. Four years have passed and this area now represents what the main lawn would most likely look like in its natural state without the application of the hand of man. Perennial wildflowers have established themselves... primarily wing stem sunflowers, Michaelmas daisies (asters), and green-headed coneflowers. Only this year have small saplings become significant, and these only the much-scorned box elder. One can see dead leaves trapped among the crowns and emerging leaves of this year's growth, and how significant this is can be measured in the winter, when the natural area can be seen as a mound at the end of the dead lawn. Each fall the dying, unmown tops of these plants trap falling and blowing leaves and other detritus, and the following spring it decays but leaves the ground level higher. One can see the same effect at the edge of the

lawn, as where the vegetation starts there is also a small and growing berm skirting the yard.

Wed 23 May Early this morning there was a herd of mourning doves grazing the lawn... well... maybe there were only six, but we have never seen them flock before. Yes... they are merely pretty pigeons, so flocking should be normal... but we have only seen them in what appears to be devoted pairs and, always eager to anthropomorphise, would rather think we were seeing only an extended family breakfasting together.

Thu 24 May One of the experimental projects underway on the lawn is the Possner daylily bed surrounding the base of the large sycamore tree that stands in the middle. You may recall that after the '96 floods there was a pronounced and ugly depression in the ground surrounding the base of this tree. During the '99 spring Workfest Stan Wiggins and Karen Possner transplanted these daylilies in attempt to create a skirt of them around the tree... one of the reasons being that with various ball games being played on the lawn... and this tree being so in the center... it was deemed prudent to surround the tree with a soft barrier so that it would not be so easy for someone to go out for a pass and catch a tree. Your Caretaker is actually experienced in this... and has the stitches to prove it. Although it took three years for the plants to fill in and, being perennials, reach their intended prime, today the daylily skirt stands tall and looks handsome... and the beautiful flowers to come are mere ephemeral frosting on the cake. But the real lesson is of the proverbial seed... and how the tiniest amount of forethought can be planted with a little dedicated effort and watered with time to manifest as great improvement and significant beauty.

Fri 25 May And the answer to the question is... holly. Yes... so you do not have to find the Caretaker with your question, we give you the answer here. Those of you who find yourselves near the middle of the Island wondering what that wonderful, subtle fragrance is... and wander around futilely looking for likely suspects among the wildflowers at the edge of the lawn... it is the flowering of the large holly tree between the workshop and the lawn.

Another of the experimental lawn projects to note is of the bed of violets stretching between the hawthorn tree and the two black walnut trees in front of the canoe shed. Originally this flower bed was a happenstance of the Caretaker's mowing technique... certainly that sounds better than saying "caretaker laziness"... in which this

Notes from the Island (continued)

area was initially left alone with the thought that the area between the trees could be done later. But next to the mowed lawn the violet bed looked so striking... and it is hard to get anything to grow beneath walnut trees anyway because of all the tannin in the roots... and in fact absolutely nothing else was growing there... so constructive laziness seemed a good idea.

Mon 28 May Sitting on the Captain's float after dark, a single goose approached... hopped up onto the float like she owned it... but eyed the Caretaker tentatively. Moments later two more geese swam up... and after some conversation decided to also hop on. Things were still tentative by their behaviour... and one could imagine the chatter between them... "What is the big animal going to do"... "When will the big animal get the hint and leave so that we can bed down"... "The big animal knows full well this float belongs to us when the sun goes down." Well... there was a certain tension until the largest of the geese started to groom himself as a sign of being at ease. Suddenly... the darkness erupted with animal chatter... the whole drama had been played to a large, unseen audience... it was as though the goose grooming had been a signal that everyone could come out and act normal. Talkative ducks appeared out of the darkness on all sides. Herons hidden nearby announced their presence. Even the beaver swam up to the float and dived majestically without slapping his tail. The Caretaker felt as though he had been accepted into polite society... and thus humbled... having been certified by a preening goose.

Fri 1 Jun Unfortunately, early this morning the Caretaker was rushed to the Sibley Hospital Emergency Room where he was diagnosed with serious cellulitis, a severe infection of the connective tissue, resulting from another insect sting. Serious is defined here as being kept at the hospital so that intravenous antibiotics could be administered.

Tue 12 Jun There are many wonderful reasons to come to the Island... but surely one of the tops is the aural treats that await. It may seem we are often complaining about the noisy and argumentative geese... but the sound of goslings evokes warm feelings and teddy bear cuteness. Why this should be so is a mystery... is this the feeling it conveys to adult geese or something completely different. Could it be happenstance or design that such sounds can engender such reactions across species' boundaries? Accordingly, there is something sentimental about hearing a mourning dove... and the sound of a pileated woodpecker conjures an image of deep jungle... whereas the call of the great blue heron when disturbed is reminiscent of a grouchy old man. So come on down... surrender to the bird song.

Thu 14 Jun It is moulting and mulberry season for the geese... so the Island appearance suffers accordingly. Large goose feathers litter the landscape... and while little children love to collect them... it does make the Island look somewhat like a working farm. Added to that is the effect of the mulberries. The grass is probably safe from munching geese... that this is so is because the geese can now be found only beneath mulberry trees or traveling between them. Walk up to a gaggle and look up and you will note you are beneath fat and tasty berries... and also that you are being watched by the geese expectantly. The geese have now taught so many humans to tug at the branches and dislodge treats for them that they expect every big animal to know what they want. Even swimming geese are congregated beneath overhanging mulberry limbs awaiting a passing breeze that might precipitate food. The downside to this cuteness is that goose poo is now runny with juice... and everywhere.

Wed 20 Jun Ferrying the Caretaker's Wife early this morning we disturbed an osprey lurking near the mulberry tree just upriver from the ferry landing. Now... everyone is hanging out near mulberry trees this time of year... squirrels and birds in the tree... geese and ducks on the surface of the water beneath... and all kinds of fish waiting below the surface to scarf up anything that gets to them. As we stepped on the ferry a large flotilla of ducklings beneath the tree was startled and started swimming upriver. We have two large families of ducks on the Island of approximately ten surviving ducklings apiece... one of mallards and one of wood ducks... and when the flotilla looked to be composed of maybe fifteen ducklings it begged the question of whether or not the two species had combined their children. But the Caretaker cannot say... we are talking early here, folks... as in before focus could even be augmented by caffeine. Now... the osprey had flown to an overhanging branch just upriver... and while the first thought had been that he had been lurking for the fish drawn to the falling mulberries... as the large duckling flotilla approached him in open water we started to wonder how much eaglet was in him. And it turned out to be none! He was clearly visible to the approaching ducklings as he was perched only about five feet up on a bare branch... and as they passed underneath he had only to fall into the water to land amongst them... so they were clearly not on his menu... at least this morning. The texts must be consulted on this.

—Doc Taliaferro

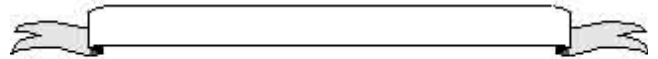
*Excerpted from the Caretaker's Log at
<http://www.sycamoreisland.org>*

Ruppert



*Ruppert signs up a party of twenty.
Sixty beavers show up.
Islanders count guests carefully.*

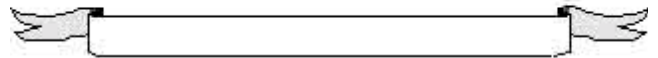
Cartoon by Johnna Robinson



Successfully Completed Basic Canoe Class June 24, 2001



- Colin Lang
- Elise Lang
- Robert Gelb
- Lauren Malusky
- Michelle Malusky
- George Malusky
- Jennifer Esch
- Joana Jusino-Asherman
- Jeanne Ashermann-Jusino
- Penelope Mitchell
- Ramzy Suleiman
- Nura Suleiman



Classified

Marge Combs has informed us that her 17' Browning flat bottom aluminium cruising canoe, in good condition, is for sale for \$375 or best offer at 301-929-3316.



While exploring down by the Captain's Float during a picnic, guest Nicholas Sunderland is unable to get out of the ooze. Nick gladly accepts a plank and Dad's hand. Willard puts a fatherly touch to rinsed shoelaces.

Sunday Kellier Caretakers
July-August2001

Date	Time	Name(s)	Telephone
The listings for Relief Caretakers were not available at press time for the July issue of <i>The Islander</i> . For the record, those who actually did serve as caretakers will be included in this space in the August issue.			
** 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! <i>Volunteers from the waiting list are encouraged. Don't forget: Relief Caretakers sign in too!</i>			

Large Parties

Date	Time	Who	What
July 20	4:00– 8:00	Emily Glazer & Karl Kosok	Party for Up to 35 Friends
Sept. 15	4 p.m. -next a.m.	Susanna Membrino	Girl Scout Overnight, 20 guests
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			



The Sycamore Islander

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<http://www.sycamoreisland.org>

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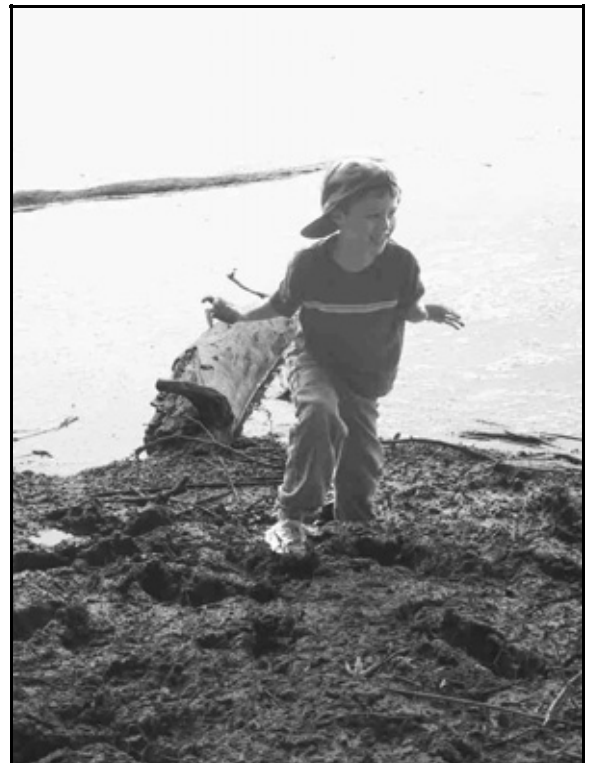
FIRST CLASS MAIL

FIRST CLASS MAIL

July 2001

This Issue:

- Charting a course through financial shoals.
- New members taken in... oops, *accepted!*
- Islanders have fun and save some trees.
- Canoeing Supervisor promotes safety.
- Canoe Cruisers race to Sycamore Island.
- Islanders treated to dream party.
- Considering an Honor Code.



Mired deeply— a real stick-in-the-mud. Did this guest youngster ever get out? For the denouement, see p.10.