

## *The Sycamore Islander* June, 2002 Volume 81 No. 6

#### **June Meeting**

The next Club meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 12th on the Island in the Clubhouse.

Our Treasurer, Alan Gelb, presented a final accounting of the 2001 budget, and Membership Secretary, Jeff Komarow, reported that at present there are no vacancies for new memberships. Doc Taliaferro notified the Club that he will be leaving on May 31st. The personnel committee is seeking a replacement for Doc. A variety of issues were discussed including the well overhaul, the new security system for the Island and recruitment of members for the substitute caretaker task. A motion was passed that Members may use club canoes when the water temperature is below 55° F but guests on the Island may not. See minutes for further details.

-Carl Linden, President

#### Minutes of the May 8, 2002 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Carl Linden at 8:10 p.m. in the Clubhouse. The following members were in attendance: Lucky Marmon, Larry Heilman, Blair Bower, Nancy Bower, George Malusky II, Ned Goddard, Ann Marie Cunningham, John Membrino, Jeff Komarow, Jane Winer, George Loeb, Jim Drew, John Matthews, Alan Gelb, Johnna Robinson, Carl Linden, Dave Winer, Bill Marmon and Garret Rasmussen.

There was discussion of the recent Post article about the river. The minutes were approved as printed in the Islander. The Treasurer, Alan Gelb, passed out a final accounting of the 2001 Budget. Insurance costs have gone up, a revised projection for 2002 will be done at mid-year. The Financial Secretary was not in attendance. The Membership Secretary, Jeff Komarow, reported that there are no vacancies. He thanked Jim Drew and Larry Heilman for helping with the orientation. John Matthews, the Captain, has called the Park Service about the rough path and also about two dead trees that threaten our power lines. The construction contract for the kitchen remodeling specified the trash would be removed, but it's still piled out back. We may have to hire a truck to remove it. Co-editor, Dave Winer, reported that the editors ordinarily print letters that members send to the Islander, since they consider them official communications to the club. The next issue will focus on fishing.

*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 July issue is receipt at the Editors' address on June 28. Earlier submissions receive priority.

Masthead: Fishers setting out in the Sycamore Slough.

#### May Minutes (continued)

**Old Business:** There was a misunderstanding about canceling the workfest. On Friday the water was so high the Captain, John Matthews, decided that it would be unsafe to run the ferry for such a large crowd. The workfest was rescheduled for May 18. It is suggested that persons with access to the internet check the Daily Log on the web page (www.sycamoreisland. org). Those without web access can check the weather page of the *Washington Post* which always gives the projected river levels. If the level is over 5 feet at the Little Falls Gauge, the ferry will not operate. River levels are also provided at (703) 260-0305. The ferry has two broken struts. These will be repaired.

A communication from Doc notifies us that he will be moving from the Island on May 31. Substitute caretakers have been secured for the interim and the Personnel Committee is working to recruit a replacement. There was a long discussion about the water issue. The well is scheduled to be re-lined and Blair Bower suggested that we have the well tested again with wider parameters by another company. No previous tests have ever found a problem with the water quality. A bid for the new security system has been received. The club previously voted an amount up to \$2,500. The bid for one camera is \$2,900 with a fee of \$95/month. President Carl Linden intends to go ahead with the bid. Several persons disagreed. Carl, in responding to a question about the status of the building project, said that the quarters remodeling committee is still active. The water project and alarm system will stress the Budget for this year, even though we raised the dues by 10%.

**New Business:** Lucky Marmon reported on the difficulty of recruiting Islanders for the Sunday and other caretaking stints. It was agreed that this is one of the more important tasks and all members should share the job. There was discussion about requiring each member to take two shifts of Sunday caretaking in three years

or be dropped from membership. After long discussion, a motion to this effect was dropped.

There was also discussion about the rule made last year that club canoes may not be used if the water temperature is under 55°. (It is understood that members take their own canoes out at their discretion.) There was a long discussion about the thinking behind the rule, *i.e.*, that the water at  $55^{\circ}$  is very hazardous to any canoeist not wearing a wet suit. Finally it was moved and seconded that "Members may take the Club canoes out at any water temperature, guests may not take out the club canoes if the water temperature is below 55°." This motion passed 6 to 5. The point was raised that if this rule was a Standing Rule, it must be published in the Islander before it could be voted upon. It was late and this was not resolved. The meeting was adjourned after 10 p.m.

-Johnna Robinson, Acting Secretary

#### Letter from Maurice Tobin

Fellow club members,

Like many of you, I belong to a number of clubs, but it is rare to find a more professional, conscientious caretaker that is loaded with heart and people skills. Doc's liaison with the Park Service, the environmental authorities and others saved the club tons of money and made the rest of our jobs much easier.

His wife Phyllis is one of the best bonuses the club could have. They really wanted to stay another few years. What a pity for our club that it couldn't be worked out. Good luck to both of you. Come back often.

#### Letter from John Wiebenson

The May *Sycamore Islander* brought us updates, new photographs and Peggy Thomson's sweet recollections of Doc and Phyllis. Unfortunately, it also had a piece claiming I'd let the Club down when I was architect for a new addition to the caretaker's quarters. This was unusual. No one had ever before used the *Islander* to complain about me or about any of my Club projects: the first caretaker's addition (the bump put on the clubhouse's Maryland side in 1990), the deck (1992) and the canoe sheds (1997).

Although I don't think the *Islander* is enhanced by my responding, there's just no other way to tell members what my firm and I actually did. So, here goes.

This project started, as did our earlier ones, when John Matthews asked that we get together on the Island. We met on a sunny day, and I enjoyed walking around, looking at trees and buildings. We agreed an addition was possible, although its exact form was not yet clear. It might, for example, involve a remodeled women's locker area or--as was briefly, but strongly, advocated--a revised tool shed. I went ahead and developed preliminary drawings of the choices for review. These were soon reduced to simply adding to the earlier addition, but at an even higher level. Some members and I talked about how high that level should be, how long, how wide and how it might be laid out.

I drew these, too, and revised them when asked, generally as requested, but always with care to avoid losing any of the first addition's good features, such as its light and views. I developed structural plans with our engineer's help, and drew floor, footing and electrical plans, along with window, finish and lighting schedules. I was then asked to make the addition still longer and wider. I argued against this, as I understood the Club wanted to keep costs down, and as I was worried about crowding one of the Club's great trees. Some members and I met to consider matters on the Island. We agreed the addition could be enlarged a little, but not a lot, and I revised the layout accordingly.

There were, however, some changes that I thought should not be made. When this happened, I tried to explain my reasoning. One member wanted some structural elements cut back. I reviewed this with our structural engineer, and we agreed this would reduce resistance to the great vertical and horizontal forces attending massive floods. (After all, architecture should be as concerned with durability as with economy and appearance.) Although I was asked several times to make this change, I explained several times why I shouldn't.

Another member wanted the addition redesigned to be square, a form that would save on materials and on winter heat. This is true, but I didn't make this change either, as it would hamper circulation and reduce the first addition's views. (Architecture should be as concerned with preserving existing assets as with seeking new ones.)

It's true that my office's busy schedule let months pass before we revised framing plans and elevations so they'd match layout changes. However, no one called during this time to say it was urgent that we move with greater dispatch. No one called to say it was essential that we make changes that hadn't been made. No one called to say that there was now a committee reconsidering the whole project. We simply went ahead and finished the drawings, and delivered them to guide construction. Next, I sent in our bill. No one called then, either.

This sequence was like those of our earlier projects, but this time a problem came up. A sketch appeared in the *Islander* of a proposed addition, one unlike our design. I called to ask what was happening. One member said he'd heard I'd withdrawn from the project. Another said he hadn't heard I was involved in the first place. Further calls suggested that the Club had moved ahead with a new design by a new architect. I was surprised--and disappointed, of course--but at least our bill was soon paid. A letter with the check suggested the Club regretted that things had turned out as they had.

I regretted it, too, but I thought we could all move on until I read the unfortunate assertions in the *Islander*. Well, even so, Abigail and I hold the Island, its trees, its waters and its members in great esteem. I hope that, now, we can all move on, and that--after problems with Montgomery County are sorted out--a new caretaker's addition can finally be built without any more acrimony.

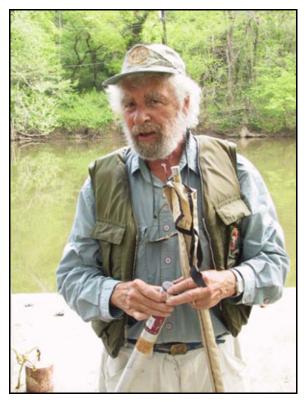
#### **Opening Day '02**



Will we have enough room for all this gear? Chris with guest, Art Mackwell.

Two old geezers whose combined age dates back to the beginning of the Crimean War attempted to initiate the season and remove (temporarily) a number of fish from the Potomac above Sycamore Island. They were fully outfitted with 2 spinning rods and 2 fly rods and abundant flies and lures (but no bait and no hand grenades). The outfits, of course, had spent the winter in hibernation. Thus, preparation time was unduly long. Once launched and away, the serious fishing began. Plentiful hook-ups with rocks on the bottom. Finally, a triumph with the landing of a nice 12-inch smallmouth taken on a small Rapala. Then the emergence of a thunderstorm and an exigent exodus to the Island. It's the fishing, not the catching that counts (we tell ourselves) and it's as beautiful a place to fish as there is. (But the water level should have been less than 4).

-Chris Christy



The author, unpacking his fly rod from last year's storage.

#### **Smallmouth Bass Fishing**

#### — by Kent Halstead

This article, and subsequent reports on "how to catch-em," are about one fish and one only, the king of freshwater game fish, the smallmouth bass. Pound-for-pound the smallmouth, or "bronze back" as they are called, is the most tenacious fighting fish in North America. This makes them not only the most fun to catch, but also not as difficult as others because of their predatory nature. Sunfish, surprisingly a member of the same family, shows the same scrappy behavior but on a smaller scale. Largemouth bass, in comparison, are a little more ponderous to this observer, less likely to engage in the aerial acrobatics of smallmouth, but a wonderful fighting cousin. So it is easy to concentrate on this species, especially since it is a primary *piscis* inhabitant of our Potomac River.

Description Smallmouth bass, Micropterus dolomieui, are

members of the sunfish family (*Centrarchidae*) of warmwater fish inhabiting most of the continental United States. Their short, broad tails give them the great burst of speed required to ambush prey. They are distinguished from their largemouth brothers by, obviously, smaller mouths (the jaw does not extend past the



eye as it does on the largemouth). But they are more easily identified by the vertical bars along their sides as opposed to a near horizontal bar on largemouth (see images). And one can also tell the difference by their location, smallmouth primarily living in streams and rivers, largemouth almost exclusively in lakes and slower moving large rivers. Coloration on smallies can range from orange-brown to green-black depending on the surroundings. Generally speaking, smallmouth do not get as big as largemouth, but with their added ferocity are certainly big enough.

**Habitat** Smallmouth prefer the clear, cool, flowing portions of streams and rivers with rock or gravel bottoms. This, of course, is just the type of water canoeists prefer so they are a perfect match. Smallmouth feed on crayfish, insects, and minnows which also favor rock and riffle areas. Smallmouth can also be found in the deeper water of reservoirs and lakes, especially if boulders and gravel bottoms are available. They are least likely to be found in still, clouded lakes with mud bottoms. They prefer water temperatures in the 65° - 72° F range. Despite their aggressive behavior, smallmouth are fairly skittish fish, preferring to ambush their prey from hidden positions. They usually reside in concealed areas near rocks or under brush, and always in the shade.

Smallmouth bass tend to spawn in the same spot year after year, and will spend much of their lives in the same area. Our portion of the Potomac (north from the Dalecarlia Reservoir dam upriver to the American Legion Memorial bridge), has a reasonable smallmouth population, but less than found farther upriver, around Point-of-Rocks for example.

Lifespan and Size Smallmouth can live 18 years, but only a few live even half that long. They get off to an immediate good start with far more born than a river or stream can support; however, most die in the first year. By far the majority of smallmouth caught in our area of the Potomac are between 10 and 12 inches long, indicating an age of 4 to 6 years. Here are three benchmarks on which to judge weight and age by length. An 8-inch smallie will weigh about a half pound and be about 3 years old; a 13-inch fish will weigh about a pound and be approximately 7 years old; and a 16-inch fish will weigh close to 2 pounds and be 9 to 10 years old. Under less than desirable conditions it takes several years longer to reach these sizes. Trophy size smallmouth have a minimum length of 20 inches or 5 pound weight.

**Feeding Habits** Smallmouth eat just about anything alive including prey far larger than might be expected. Thus they target all manner of creatures depending on the time of year. Minnows and shiners are a staple all year, but relied upon more heavily in the spring in the absence of other food. In the summer, crayfish are the number one choice. Late in the season smallies take advantage of the various insect hatches, particularly the Dobson fly larva, also known as hellgrammites. But smallies are not fussy. They have been known to eat mice, frogs, small snakes, their own young, and other fish species, a pattern altogether consistent with their predatory nature.

Smallmouth generally feed during the day and early evening, not at night when they rest. This leads to forthcoming articles on how to locate and catch these wonderful fish and, of course, release them back to nature.



Kent also goes out for other species. In this instance he's down at Fletcher's for the spring run of shad, and has caught something unusual—a silver catfish.

Kent Halstead is on the waiting list. He fishes a lot in our section of the Potomac, especially for smallmouth bass. We look forward to more articles from him.

### **Sycamore Fish News**

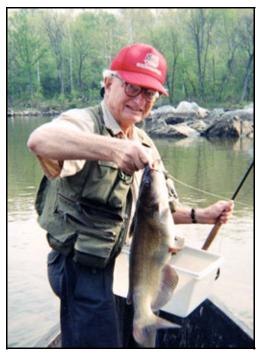


The expression tells all-nice catch, George.

The fish around Sycamore Island did not cooperate last year (except for the catfish). The baitfish (minnows), bluegill and smallmouth bass finally made a showing in late August. That made for a short fishing season at Sycamore Island, with September and October being the only good months. There appeared to be a dark green algae stain (darker than normal) to the water, along with patches of algae scum covering most of the rocks upriver, which might have caused the fishing to be NOT SO GOOD. Hopefully that won't re-occur this year.



Is this the way to hold it, Dad? Lauren Malusky shows her prize while sister Michelle cheers.



A catfish ate Luther Carter's fly.

This past April, (2002) fishing at Fletcher's was great! Lot's of white perch, big catfish, hickory shad and a few yellow perch. I witnessed some nice crappie getting caught. Then came the rain/high water in late April, which has complicated the striper fishing and our Spring Island Workfest. Good Luck fishing at Sycamore this year!

- George Malusky II



Bill Bays, up to his usual tricks.

### New Members Discover Our Fishing.

Steve Newman and Mary Tisdale became members early this year. After transferring their canoe down to the Island on May 24, Steve and sons, Scott and Matthew, decided to test the fishing they had heard so much about. Spinning lures didn't get results at first so they opened a can of worms (literally). The catfish were waiting for them... at the top of Rupperts Island.



Matthew, 10, hooked into a heavy scrapper that took several minutes and a lot of muscle to land. The cat survived a trip home to Arlington in a five-gallon bucket—to be photographed, weighed (five pounds), and measured (22 inches).

Soon after, Mat released the big fellow alive back in the Potomac at Roosevelt Island downtown.

Fisher-Kids, Fisherwomen, and Fishermen: Mark your calendar NOW!

#### Sycamore Island's

### FISHING DERBY

Saturday, August 10th, 2002 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Prizes will be given for:

The Biggest Fish

The Smallest Fish

The Most Fish

Bring a favorite fishing picture (of yourself) and win an instant prize!

Please join us for fishing and fun at Sycamore Island's Fishing Derby.

All members and waiting list members are invited.

A BBQ lunch will be provided for all to enjoy.

RSVP to George and Shelley Malusky at 301-871-1707

#### Notes from the Island

Thu 2 May This morning there was great excitement as we went out to prepare for the morning commute of the Caretaker's Wife and saw that the high water had receded so much during the night that we could wade out to get the ferry. The river level had dropped to 5.6 and thus just within the margin of safety to use the hand-pulled ferry. Having had to dress up for professional reasons... the Caretaker's Wife was especially relieved to avoid a wet canoe ride in the rain to get to the towpath. We little noticed the freshening wind from downriver... and it was not until we got mid-river that we realized we were in trouble. Usually in high water the ferry can be manoeuvred and "crabbed" at a 45-degree angle to the current and the full force of the fast river is avoided. This morning the wind from downriver was so strong as to keep the rear of the ferry from trailing in the current and the full body of the ferry at a right angle to the full force of the river... and getting the ferry across the racing water and back without losing it was a close run thing.

Yet again the river serves as a continuing teacher. Although the river can display many aspects... one should never forget that it deserves constant respect and attention as a "Force of Nature." Farmers and other country folk live in intimate contact with, and awareness of, the forces of nature... but those of us herded into large urban reservations by commercial forces frequently spend our time shuttling back and forth between climate controlled boxes... and Nature is something we must go out of our way to seek. Usually we are surprised... delighted... and awed to discover Nature while she is being "forceful"... but also generally clueless that the margins of safety can be much less than modern life prepares us for. Last week there was some second-guessing because the Captain cancelled the Spring Workfest when the river was at 4.8 because amateur Member ferrypersons would have to run the ferry. Today was a lesson regarding the big difference a small and unforeseen detail can make in the margins of safety... such as... wind direction. Today a professional ferryman was humbled at 5.6. Last week the Captain made the right call at 4.8.

**Sat 4 May** Last night the Big Beaver had waited as I stopped to talk to the geese... and then startled me as he calmly resumed eating when I resumed my approach, moving into activity so as to signal his presence... such that I not inadvertently enter his intimate space. We were only parted by a dozen spaces and I was honoured he felt comfortable enough to resume eating in my presence. Of course... he had nothing to fear... being as big as any large dog with short legs and obviously believing himself to be the dominant species on the Island. He was grazing on herbaceous perennials as though they were salad... eating them like asparagus by chomping from the tip down... baby asters

and milkweed... the latter surprising because it is noted for being toxic. After he left I walked over to inspect the area he had just ambled off from and realized that for years I have seen such grazings but had never understood what they were. The joy of such epiphanies is always followed by the depressing and humbling realization of how little of what is seen is actually understood.

He knew he was in real trouble as Mon 6 May soon as he said it. And we are talking big trouble... the "go to your room without dinner" kind of trouble. It had started innocently enough... a stroll before dinner. But suddenly... a crow swooped down and carried off a gosling that had wandered away from the main gosling herd. There was honking and squawking and goose general alarm noise and the Caretaker's Wife was off like a shot! My God... it was a real life burglary in process. It was all the Caretaker could do to keep up as she "vaulted" tree trunks in pursuit. It was a vision to behold... not even Hill Street Blues could portray such an adrenaline rush in the pursuit of a villain... and the kidnapper had good reason to fear as the Caretaker's Wife chased the poor crow from tree to tree, demanding that the hapless gosling be dropped in a tone that on the streets would surely be translated as "stop or I'll shoot!" Finally, by tree number three the crow got smart and realized he was dealing with an avenging angel... a certified force of nature... and wisely ditched the poor gosling as he fled behind some dense leaf cover. The rescue effort then became a search effort... but despite lengthy efforts... the dropped gosling could not be located in the lush foliage. That was when the Caretaker's words mindlessly escaped: "Well ... crows gotta eat too." Fortunately ... he was only sentenced to review those lines from The Fools Prayer :

> The ill-timed truth we might have kept-Who knows how sharp it pierced and stung? The word we had not sense to say-Who knows how grandly it had rung?

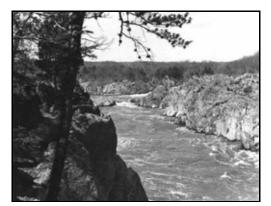
**Fri 10 May** River conservation is not a question or conflict of resources... it is a question of values. Should one generation fail to win the field... or even to stem the tide... then the primary responsibility is to safeguard and transmit those values through the next generation. Even if all we can aspire to is to stand as Horatio at the bridge... it is still we who must empower the next generation to wrest salvation from human greed and ignorance on behalf of Mother Earth. Some spiritual disciplines teach that greed is simply ignorance. The problem is not resources... but values: Teach The Children !!!

-Doc Taliaferro

#### Canoe Cruisers Association Annual Downriver Race: 47th Running. June 15

-by V. Star Mitchell, Race Liaison

Sycamore Island will be hosting the 47th CCA/BCE Downriver Race on June 15th. Sign-in begins at 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at Great Falls Inn (Maryland). The race is down the Potomac River from Rocky Island to Sycamore Island. There will be free T-shirts, lunch on the Island, and awards for the winners.



Mather Gorge—near start of the race.

This is a race for **anyone** from the pros to parent/child tandem teams. Any kind of a boat can enter. The fee for prior registration is \$25. The fee at the sign-in is \$30. For a pre-registration form and more details, go to the CCA website: www.ccadc. org and click on <Potomac Downriver Race>. Liability forms must be signed on race day. Do join the fun and paddle the race.

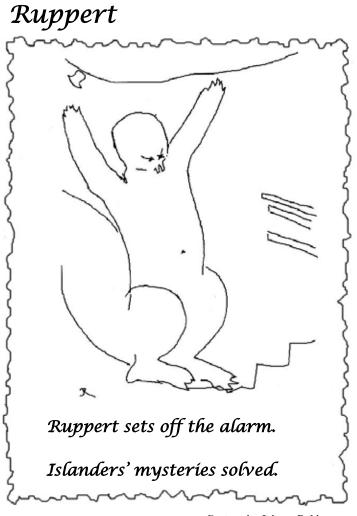
If you feel that you just cannot paddle, I need LOTS of volunteer helpers. Get involved! If you can help with the race (many jobs), please call me at 301-530-3252 or e-mail me at: kayakingvstar@aol. com. One easy job is to just come down to the Island that day and "hang out" to show your support for the club and for the race. I'm looking forward to seeing many members on June 15th paddling or "hanging out" with me.

#### **Relief Caretaking is Everyone's Job**

Relief caretaking was discussed extensively at the May meeting. There was unanimous agreement that relief caretaking is an obligation of membership, except for senior members or members who cannot physically do the job.

So when the relief caretaker schedulers, Candy Means or Lucky Marmon, call upon you to do your stint, sign on or pick a date when you can do it. Even better, choose a Sunday when you will be available and book it with Candy or Lucky. It will make their job a lot easier.

-Lucky Marmon



Cartoon by Johnna Robinson

#### Kudzu Can be Conquered

That's the good news one year after the initial "Save the Big Trees Day" cutting, followed by a spraying of invasive kudzu vines in three sizable patches along MacArthur Blvd. near Sycamore last fall. Other plants, bushes and trees are leafed out there, but the kill rate on kudzu appears to be around an amazing 90%. What remains to be done is to spot spray or sever the remnants of the kudzu and cut some heavy English Ivy vines that threaten individual trees nearby this summer, and probably raise a little money for a mop-up spraying in the fall.

The bad news is that thus far no individuals have come forward to take over the organiz-

ing and communicating roles that Captain John Matthews and I filled during the start-up year. Such responsibilities should be considerably less onerous this season, and in any case we feel that for physical and other reasons it is time for younger and spryer people to take over.

Happily, there may be other ways to handle the problem. In the circumstances the plan is to invite those who would like to see the project continue to a short meeting on options this month. If you are so-minded, please let John or me know (301-229-0234 or 2645).

- Phil Thorson

#### Letter from the Potomac Cleanup Coordinator

I am happy to report that the 14th annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup was a tremendous success. Of course, this success could never have been achieved without your dedication of volunteer hours to partner with us for the cleanup.

Our grand totals for this year: Number of Cleanup Sites: 127 Number of Participating States (including District of Columbia): 5 Number of Participating Counties: 20 Number of Volunteers: 4,000 Number of Tires Collected: 2,406 Estimated Tonnage: 127 Tons (254,000 lbs)

Along with thousands of bags of trash and over 700 balls there were 45 shopping carts, 19 bikes, 12 stoves, 6 lawnmowers, and 13 mattresses! Some other interesting items were the front end of a mobile home, 1940-1950's era Dodge pick-up truck, moped, 3 wallets, 30 lb. bag of black powder, several TVs, and a bag of Barbies!

It would be very difficult to name all our partners and supporters individually but we truly appreciate the limitless support of the National Park Service, our state government agencies and the many watershed groups that help to make this all possible.

Our partnership with the public relations firm, Info-Tech Strategies resulted in a major increase in our media coverage for 2002. They were instrumental in convincing Bob Ryan, meteorologist for News Channel 4, to speak not only of the cleanup during the weather, but also to place the cleanup on his watershed website, www.nbc4.com, with facts about the watershed and a link to our own website. Our pre-press events were covered in the Washington Post Metro section, the Washington Times and several Journal newspapers. This media exposure was what helped to increase volunteer numbers as well as a record breaking number of cleanup sites.

Our goals each year are the same. We want to increase cleanup sites, increase volunteer numbers and haul out as much trash as we can. But, in the end, we hope to show citizens that the river is a livingbreathing place that needs our care and support, that the river is a place to be enjoyed and fiercely protected, and that by working together our impact can be enormous.

The 2003 Potomac River Watershed Cleanup will be Saturday, April 5th 9am-12noon. Please make a note of this on your calendars. This date will not conflict with Passover, April 16th-24th or Easter, April 20th, 2003.

Have a wonderful summer and I look forward to your involvement next year.

Best Wishes,

Michelle Radez Cleanup Coordinator, Alice Ferguson Foundation

#### Sunday Relief Caretakers June-July 2002

Date	Time	Name(s)	Telephone
June - 02	9:00 - 3:00	Eric and Rene Simpson	703-821-7556
	3:00 - dark	George Malusky	301-871-1707
June - 09	9:00 - 3:00	Gail Henry/Sam Francis	202-965-0314
	3:00 - dark	Morris Cobern	301-563-6435
June -16	9:00 - 3:00	Phyllis Olfky	301-345-2353
	3:00 - dark	Star Mitchell	301-350-3252
June - 23	9:00 - 3:00	Peter Fuchs	202-362-8348
	3:00 - dark	Linda & Dick Reigleman	301-229-2871
June - 30	9:00 - 3:00	Jerome Cramer	202-966-1544
	3:00 - dark	Richard & Carol Schleicher	301-229-2385
July-07	9:00 - 3:00	Greg Hitz	202-226-2867
	3:00 - dark	Marcia & George Loeb	301-652-4229
July-14	9:00 - 3:00	Robert & Linda Blair	202-364-8747
	3:00 - dark	Charlotte Brewer	301-656-0467
July-21	9:00 - 3:00	Tam & Joe Belden	301-320-2884
	3:00 - dark	Milton & Patricia Cerny	703-527-4376
July-28	9:00 - 3:00	Lyle Blanchard	202-364-9579
	3:00 - dark	William & Rochelle Banta	301-718-4217

To volunteer for Sunday relief caretaking, call Bill & Lucky Marmon: 301-654-7893 or Howard and Candy Means: 301-320-5270

Volunteers from the waiting list are encouraged. It's a great way to spend time on the Island!

#### Large Parties June 2002

Date	Time	Who	What
14-Jun	4 to 6	Amanda Cannell	Memorial Service
04-Jun	10 to 1	Peter Winkler	18 Edmund Burke School 6th Grade
15-Jun	all day	Club	River Race
22-Jun	evening	Club	Midsummer's Party

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

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



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#### The Sycamore Islander 6613 80th Place

Cabín John, MD 20818

http://www.sycamoreisland.org

To view this month's Sycamore Islander on the Internet, go to: http://www.sycamoreisland.org/bumble/islander.htm

# FIRST CLASS MAIL

#### June 2002

#### **Fishing Issue**

- June: Our first month sans Doc.
- Water and winds plague plans.
- Canoe under 55°? Members: Yes!
- Stories: Fish, Fishing, Fishy.
- Island Fishing Derby set for August 10.
- A smallmouth primer. (You need this.)



What better way to start the Fishing Issue than a pictorial whopper? Could George Malusky really have caught this cat on a fly rod?