



Crew 1100

**ANNUAL
CANOE TRIP**

**Cheat River
28-30 May 2004**

Put yourself in the picture. Come join the Crew as we canoe West Virginia's "Mighty Cheat" over the Memorial Day weekend. Not only will we be canoeing through the remote, rugged beauty of the Mountain State, but on what many call one of the best whitewater rivers in the east. Wildwater West Virginia calls it "The Big Mountain River – The Mighty Cheat" and says, "The Cheat watershed is fantastic no matter which way you look at it. Water runs freely every second over one of the largest uncontrolled watersheds in the East. This watershed is a playground of vast natural and scenic attraction, where wildlife and nature flourish."

Crew 1100 will depart Friday, 28 May, for our campsite near Elkins, WV. While specific details are still pending, Saturday morning we will put in Shavers Fork of the Cheat and paddle north negotiating 22 miles of Class 1-2 whitewater. Camping along the shore Saturday night deep in the remote and beautiful Monongahela National Forest, we will continue downstream on Sunday, taking out near the historic village of St. George, WV. This run is one of the state's most scenic areas and will appeal to the novice as well as the expert. At this time, we are also exploring an option to stay an additional day and commercially raft the "big water" of the Mighty Cheat. This would require additional time and expense. We will return to Burke either late Sunday afternoon or Monday, depending upon what option(s) the crew selects.

This activity can be enjoyed by all of our crew. BSA Safety Afloat guidelines will be followed for this activity. Crew members must be classified as a "swimmer" and physically able to paddle a canoe 30 miles over a two-day period. A swim check and canoeing instruction will be required for those members participating in this activity which will be conducted in both a safe and enjoyable manner and promises to be another highlight of our Venturing year.

Space is limited, so sign up early. The cost of this activity is \$45.00 per member and covers the cost of canoe rental, camping fees, transportation, and food. Crew members have priority and need to sign up with payment by the crew meeting on 15 May. Based on availability, parents are invited to participate and will be needed to help with transportation and shore support. More information will be available as we get closer to the trip.

_____, Activity Chair

Mr. Melchior, Advisor