

The purpose of this note is twofold, first to give you a quick update on what's happening with the Raft Trip, and to request that you send the rest of the money for the trip. First, the status.

We currently have 48 people signed up with 3 others on the waiting list. I'd like to find room for these people, but am not so- ing to reserve another raft unless I am sure that I can fill it. Therefore, if you know of anyone else who might be interested please talk to them ASAP. Also make sure that I have the name(s) of any guests that you plan to bring rafting.

We're all set to camp at Mountain Manor Campgrounds again this year. We've got a different site from last year (actually, it's the same site that we had two years ago). You should start thinking now about what camping gear you can bring. You may want to pool resources with other people coming from your area of the country.

Another thing to start thinking about is transportation. I need to know both where you'll be coming from and how you plan to get to West Virginia. It is a very good idea for those who are planning to drive to travel in groups more than one car, if possible. Those of you who plan to fly need to let me know what you're doing so that someone will be at the airport to meet you, etc.

Various people are helping me out with things. Paul Carlile is coordinating travel plans for the Northeast, Rich Kulawiec is taking care of the Midwest, and I'm taking care of the rest of the galaxy. You'll be contacted separately about this. All have promised to take large amounts of tranquilizers before they depart. Ken Long has agreed to coordinate group purchasing of such essentials as ketchup, mustard, charcoal, etc. What we're going to do is buy enough supplies to cover the whole group, and let everyone help themselves. We're asking for a \$5 donation from anyone who would like to help pay for this, but in no way is participation mandatory. Just include a separate check (payable to me) when you send the rest of the raft trip money.

Now for the import stuff: Money. I would very much appreciate it if you would send the remainder of the money to me ASAP. For most of you that means sending a check for \$32. Anyone who hasn't yet paid owes \$57. The final deadline for getting the money to me is May 26. Please try to pay on time, for it's no fun trying to track all of you down on the phone.

My address (once again) is:

Don Wesens  
963 Garden Lane  
Webster, NY 14580

Home: (716) 671-3496  
Work: (716) 422-3347  
(716) 422-8427

The best time to call me at work before noon or at home after 9 PM. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions, doubts, fears, or whatever.

Remember, May 26 is the FINAL deadline.

People Attending the 1984 GSP Refr Trip

george adams  
rick adams  
michel andrews  
tony andrews  
scot aurenz  
friendof aurenz  
srea barnett  
stef bean  
bill bean  
ed bronson  
friendof bronson  
dan brunner  
paul carlile  
roser carlile  
ray clark  
tina eakman  
jim garrett  
friendof garrett  
friendof garrett  
friendof garrett  
friendof garrett  
george sobel  
Jill hallenbeck  
pete hallenbeck  
julie hanover  
laura herrmann  
sretchen hissins  
steve hissins  
leah jamieson  
chris kent  
karen konrad  
rich kulawiec  
ken lons  
lee moore  
teresa phillips  
barb russell  
karen russell  
bob safranek  
ken shoemaker  
melora shultz  
malcolm slaney  
kirk smith  
sue stans  
Joe tarantino  
sandy tucker  
don wesens

Waiting List

don kark  
friendof kark  
bill klassen

January 4, 1983

Fellow GSP's,

Imagine yourself sitting in a rubber raft. It is mid morning. The raft is drifting down a slow moving river, which is flowing through a deep gorge. Except for the others in your party, there is no sign of civilization. Not even a candy bar wrapper spoils the view.

Slowly, you begin to notice that the calm that you have been enjoying is being interrupted by a distant roar. Your eyes scan the river ahead of you, but all you make out is what appears to be some ripples on the water. As you continue to scan the water, you wonder what could possibly be the source of the noise.

Suddenly, a voice yells "Hold On!", and before you have time to even think the raft is slammed with a force for which you are completely unprepared! A huge wave then strikes your body, but you manage to counter it's force and remain in your seat. Another voice yells "Paddle!", and you struggle to keep your position as the raft continues to be rocked by one violent wave after another.

Then, as suddenly as it began the ride is over. The river is once again calm. You begin to finally catch your breath. You hear the voices of others laughing and cheering. Someone yells, excitedly, that not even a roller coaster compares to what you have just experienced. And you realize that this is only the first of many rides that you will take during the day.

Announcing the 1984 GSP Raft Trip!

For the fourth straight year the Purdue GSP's will assemble in the wilds of West Virginia for their annual 4th of July gathering, which features three days of hiking, camping, drinking, and (of course) White Water Rafting on the New River. I (Don Wegeng) will be organizing this year's trip. This letter is your invitation to join us on the trip.

As in past years we will be camping at the Mountain Manor Campground, which is south of Summersville. I have reserved a large campsite for our use, which will allow plenty of room for cars, tents, volleyball, etc. While you must provide your own transportation, in past years many people have been able to travel in groups of several cars (last year convoys were formed by people from the Midwest and the Northeast). There is also a large airport at Charleston WV,

June. I appreciate that this may seem a bit soon, but our rafting company (Mountain River Tours) is one of the most popular in the country and reservations (with deposits) must be made with them very early. I have tentatively reserved 48 spots for the trip, with more available if needed. However, NONE of these spots will be saved for us if we do not provide a deposit soon. While it may be possible to find room for people after February 3, I make no promises. I also cannot promise that I will be able to refund your deposit if you later must cancel from the trip (but I'll try). Checks for the deposit should be payable to me (Don Wegeng).

How to get in touch with me:

Don Wegeng  
963 Garden Lane  
Webster, NY 14580

(716) 671-3496 (home)  
(716) 422-3347 (work, for now)

My work telephone number will be changing soon, but someone at the above number will be able to give you the new one.

Since I may have missed someone when sending this letter, please mention to any GSP's with whom you may correspond the above information. Also, I'm trying to collect the current address and phone numbers of all of you so that I can reach you if there are any problems, etc. Whether or not you plan to attend the raft trip, please check the address that appears on the envelope that this letter arrived in for accuracy. I also need your home/office phone numbers (this is VERY important!).

Have Fun, and FIRE UP!

Don Wegeng

PS. Anyone interested in rafting the Upper Gauley River should contact me. If there is enough interest I will try to arrange such a trip. The date would be sometime after Labor Day, and cost \$69. Mountain River Tours requires that anyone who takes this trip have previous experience at rafting on the New River or similar (Class V) water. The July trip will meet this requirement.

PSS. The rapid described in the beginning of this letter is called "Surprise" (and it is). It is the first major rapid encountered during a trip down the New River Gorge. It is a Class III rapid, which is suppose to mean "Difficult". You figure out what Class V means.