

Historic Codorus Creek Boat Parade

August 23rd from Bantz Park to Yorkfest

A century ago Codorus Creek was alive with boaters, fishing and picnicking on the islands and by the dams. In the summer months they had a festive boat parade. Here is a description from Raymond J Sechrist's boyhood memories as recorded in his book *Skinny Dipping in The Codorus* (thanks for permission to the York Heritage Trust).

"In summer months, they would have boat parades.

They'd start where Penn Street crosses the creek. They'd decorate these boats, mostly canoes, with pennants and roman candles and jack-o-lanterns and the girls, one at each end, would have parasols. They'd paddle down the creek from the Boat Club, which was part of the old York Athletic Club grounds at Richland Avenue. At King's Dam, they had to get out and lift the canoe around the dam to get to the lower water so they could come down through town. When they got down to George Street and Laucks Dam, they'd turn around and come back up. There would be prizes for the best decorated boat, you know. When they'd come down the creek, the bridges would be lined with people."



Join us as we continue this tradition at Yorkfest, with the revival of the Codorus Creek Boat Parade. We'll decorate our boats then follow our ancestors' route from what is now Bantz Park to the Foundry Plaza Boat Basin below Market St. Bring your canoes, kayaks, or home-made crafts. We will arrive in downtown York between 2:30 and 3 p.m. Prizes for the most creative, most historic, and Yorkfest favorite will be awarded.



There is NO FEE. You can call 717-779-7915 to register for the parade. We will meet at 1 p.m. at Bantz Park, at the south end of S Belvidere Ave. We will launch from there about 2 p.m., and you can either paddle back up, or remove your boat at the Boat Basin between Market and Philadelphia Streets. If you have any questions, would like to register, or would like to be a prize sponsor, call Michael at Stewards of the Lower Susquehanna, 717.779.7915.

CONTACT:
Stewards of the Lower Susquehanna
2098 Long Level Rd Wrightsville, PA 17368
717.779.7915

