

Chapter 12 – The Explorer Conewago Canoe Race

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The tradition of the York-Adams Area Council Exploring Canoe Race down the Conewago Creek each May started in 1965 and lasted until 1990. The usual route was from Detter's Mill down to Girl Scout Camp Cann-Edi-On. The total course was about 16 miles in length, with change-out points at the Route 74 (Carlisle Road) Bridge, and the Bull Road Bridge. The Grumman Corporation donated handsome trophies. At Camp Cann-Edi-On, a picnic would be held along with elections of Explorer Officer Association officers for the coming year. One year the race was held on the Susquehanna River. Here are two news clippings from the May 1978 canoe race:



Canoe Race Sunday

Members of Sea Explorer Ship 91 prepare for Sunday's 16-mile Explorer Canoe Race on Conewago Creek from Detters Mill to Camp Cann-Edi-On beginning at 1 p.m. An evening program, including presentation of trophies and an election of Explorer President Association

officers, will take place at the end of the race. Families and friends of Explorers are invited to follow the race and participate in the program. Refreshments will be available at relay points and Camp Cann-Edi-On and a picnic lunch is suggested for the evening meal.

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Canoe race set

A canoe race on the Conewago Creek is on schedule Sunday for the Exploring Division, York-Adams Area Boy Scout Council.

The race starts at 1 p.m., rain or shine, at Detter's Mill and ends at Camp Cann-edi-on, a distance of 16 miles.

An evening program in the dining lodge of the camp starts at the end of the race.

All Explorer units are eligible to participate. Each unit may enter a team of six or four Explorers.

Tropies will be awarded

at the evening program and families and friends of the scouts are invited to watch the race and participate in the evening program.

Individual awards will be given for the best relay times, and unit trophies will compete for the best overall time.

Explorer President Association officers will be elected during the evening session. They will take office June 1.

After 1990, the Baltimore Area Council Sea Scout Squadron moved the race to the Monocacy Creek at Creagerstown State Park in Maryland under the leadership of Steve Swam, Skipper of Ship 320 in Manchester, MD.

In 2002, the venue returned to the Conewago under the leadership of York-Adams Area Council's SSS YORKSHIRE – Sea Scout Ship 25. Due to extreme drought conditions that year, the Monocacy was

unusable. For the 2002 race, Ship 25 extended the finish line two more miles downstream to the site of the York-Adams Area Council's Camp Ganoga. After a barbecue at Camp Ganoga, participants returned to Ship 25's Sea Base at Skipper Kain's farm in Emigsville, PA for a barn dance and sleepover. The 2003 race is scheduled to return to the Monocacy.

