

White Water Rafting Trip 1992



Standing left to right: Dan Anderson (R), Mike Hessenius (4), Don Cross (3), Tom Murphy (2), Joel Purpur (7), Dave Blomquist (5), John Lebedevs (3), Trent Bradford (2), Renny Jacobson (3), Ken Kinka (2), Rick Uthe (2), Todd Opperman (2), Tom Voight (R), John Minoque (R), Dan Albaugh (R). Front row, left to right: Ed Collins (R), Brian ? (R), John Gurke (3), Marty (River Guide), Dave Fisher (4), Pete Leuzinger (5), Dave Ward (2), John Conly (1), Fred Opperman (8), Steve Stewart (5). (R = Rookie, and the #'s = number of trips).

The 1992 rafting trip was great this year. After many years of having rain or cool/cold days on the river, this year was heaven. The temperature was in the low 70's and the water temperature was 66 degrees. Pete Leuzinger managed not to fall off any rocks, no bloody noses and no lost tents! We did manage to have some guys flip out of the rafts going through some rapids. I believe every raft lost 30-40% of the guys. It is really only a matter of time before that old man river reaches up and grabs you. Of course then, too, there are the times that another raft will help you into the currents. And there was the time that the senior member of the group had to drop his wet suit and moon a rowdy raft ... All in all, a great time was had by all. I'm ready to go again.



This is our put-in point at the base of the Summersville Dam, the start of the Gauley River. Three discharge tubes putting out 28,000 cfs create a mighty roar and tremendous turbulence.



Don Cross enjoying the river with Dave Blomquist and Mike Hessenius looking on.



Dave Blomquist, John Gurke and Tom Murphy checking the action at Sweets Falls.



Dan Anderson and Joel Purpur with river guide Robin Moore at Sweets Falls.



John Gurke leading and Dan Anderson as the caboose. Water temperature was 67 degrees. Beautiful!