



# FLOWlines



Finger Lakes-Ontario Watershed Paddlers' Club Newsletter  
Rochester NY

Volume 6, Issue 8

August 2001

## Aug Steering Committee Meeting

Date, time and location is still a mystery. Check the web message board for clues.

## Fifth Annual FLOW Summer Picnic

This year's paddling picnic extravaganza will be held on August 3-5. It coincides with a 750 CFS release on the Salmon River, and FLOW will convene at Stoney's campground in Pineville for a picnic and bonfire on Saturday, August 4.

And for those of you who have whitewater-challenged family members who are reluctant to go for the weekend, Adventure Calls has the solution. They are offering a 15% discount to FLOW member families for rafting trips on the Salmon on 8/4-5. Sit-on-tops and inflatables will be available for rent too. Reservations are suggested as August is warm and the release is guaranteed. Call Kevin Kretchmer at 343-4710.

Stoney has been stockpiling pallets, gasoline, and other combustibles since last year, so make sure that your tent is set up far away from the bonfire. Unconfirmed rumors indicate that he picked up an army surplus flame thrower to start the blaze.

Food and refreshments will be provided by FLOW and reduced camping rates are available for Friday and Saturday nights.



Paul Twist Throwing Ends at Lock 32  
Photo by Jim Hopkins

## Genesee Whitewater Center Lock 32 Clinic Schedule

**Who:** You because you can always get better, be safer and have more fun  
**What:** Free Clinics for Lock 32 Pass and Club Members, \$ 15 for GWC/FLOW Members and \$25 for non-members  
**Why:** Learn from GWC/ACA Certified Instructors in this fun and casual format  
**Where:** Lock 32 on Clover Street Between French and Jefferson Roads  
**When:** Wednesday Night from 6 to 8 pm. At lock 32 Whitewater Park

Date	Clinic	Description
8/1	River Safety I	Learn basic river safety skills
8/8	Adult Racing	Intro to gates and racing
8/15	Rolling	Rolling Basic Techniques
8/22	Women Only	Just women - special topics
8/29	River Running	Basic river running and reading skills
9/5	Play boating	Fundamental skills for play boating

## Lock 32 Work Party

The Genesee Whitewater Center is having a mid season course cleanup at the Lock 32 whitewater park on Monday July 30<sup>th</sup> from 4 PM until everyone is tired. They need to

- Remove Rocks and Weeds
  - Rework Entrance Rapid
  - Perform various other maintenance tasks
- Please bring a rake, saw, pry bar, wheelbarrow, gloves, and wear boots. Hotdogs and hamburgers will be served at 8 PM. Bring your own beverage.

## FLOW Organization

President.....	Mike Shafer .....	227-9291
Vice Presidents.....	Cathy Rague . (315) 926-7890	
	.....James Hopkins .....	621-2721
Secretary.....	Dorothy Caine.....	544-9725
Treasurer .....	Ed Boggs .....	(315) 926-7890
Facilities Development	Rick Williams.....	381-3418
Membership .....	James Hopkins .....	621-2721
Trips & Events .....	Ivan Rezanka .....	381-7475
Newsletter .....	Simon Barnett .....	899-6803
Education/Instruction	Ardie Shaffer.....	334-4487
Public Relations .....	Steve Kittelberger...	442-6138
Conservation/Access.	Jerry Hargrave.....	663-3888

## Newsletter Submissions

Send us trip reports, articles, letters to the editor, rants, photographs, ads for our classified section, or anything else that you would like to see in FLOWlines. If you have e-mail, send articles in the form of a text file to [barnett@bluefrognet.net](mailto:barnett@bluefrognet.net)

If you do not have e-mail, send articles to:

Simon Barnett  
72 Maple Park Heights  
Rochester, NY 14625

## Membership

To join FLOW, send name, address, telephone, paddling interests, and \$30 (\$35 family rate). Membership papers and updated member lists will be sent to you. Call 621-2721 for more information.

James Hopkins  
Re: FLOW Paddlers' Club  
43 Whelehan Drive  
Rochester, NY 14616

## FLOW Hot Line: 234-3893

To access the FLOW Hot Line:

1. Dial 234-3893 from a touch-tone phone.
2. To listen to messages left by other paddlers, press the remote access code any time during the greeting. After entering the remote access code, listen to instructions for how to access messages.
3. To leave a message for other paddlers, listen to the greeting and leave a brief message after the tone.

The FLOW hotline is sponsored by FLOW Paddlers' Club for FLOW members. The FLOW hotline is hosted by Bay Creek Paddling Center.

## Upcoming trips/events

Whitewater Trips: Contact Ivan Rezanka 381-7475.  
Flatwater Trips: Contact James Hopkins 621-2721.

## Paddling Contacts

### FLOW Corporate Sponsors

<i>BayCreek Paddling Center</i> .....	288-2830
Boat/gear sales & rental, instruction, kids camp	
8% off stocked accessories	
<a href="http://www.BayCreek.com">www.BayCreek.com</a>	
<i>G.R.I.P.</i> .....	381-3418
ACA Certified whitewater instruction	
<i>Oak Orchard Canoe &amp; Kayak</i> .....	(800)-4-KAYAKS
1000 Boats, car & truck racks, parts, repair, ½ day river tours	
10% off accessories; 22% off plastic WW boats (in stock only)	
<a href="http://www.oakorchardcanoe.com">www.oakorchardcanoe.com</a>	
<i>Snow Country</i> .....	586-6460
10% off paddling gear and accessories	
<a href="http://www.snowcountrysports.com">www.snowcountrysports.com</a>	

### Businesses Offering FLOW Discounts

<i>Colorado Kayak Supply</i> ( <a href="http://www.coloradokayak.com">www.coloradokayak.com</a> )
15% off accessories (Must Supply AWA Number)
<i>Nantahala Outdoor Center</i> ( <a href="http://www.noc.com">www.noc.com</a> )
10% off all goods
<i>Northern Outfitters</i> ( <a href="http://www.noh20.com">www.noh20.com</a> )
10% off all retail items
<i>Zoar Outdoor</i> ( <a href="http://www.zoaroutdoor.com">www.zoaroutdoor.com</a> )
10% off accessories and \$50 off boat prices

### Local Businesses & Instruction

<i>Adventure Calls</i> .....	(888) 270-2410
Whitewater rafting and boat shuttle in Letchworth State Park	
<a href="http://www.adventure-calls.com">www.adventure-calls.com</a>	
<i>Ardie Shaffer</i> .....	334-4487
ACA certified whitewater instruction & instructor training	
<a href="mailto:ardie@rochester.rr.com">ardie@rochester.rr.com</a>	
<i>Hemlock Canoe Works</i> .....	367-3040
Hand crafted lightweight canoe manufacturer	
<a href="http://www.hemlockcanoe.com">www.hemlockcanoe.com</a>	
<i>Lock 32 Whitewater Park</i> .....	328-3960
Flat and moving water ACA certified instruction	
<i>Pack, Paddle, Ski</i> .....	346-5597
Flatwater, whitewater, canoe, kayak, & sea kayak instruction	
<a href="http://www.packpaddleski.com">www.packpaddleski.com</a>	
<i>Seayaker Outfitters</i> .....	(315) 524-9295
ACA certified Coastal Sea Kayak instructor / courses & tours	
<a href="http://www.seayaker.com">www.seayaker.com</a>	
<i>Talic Sport Hammocks</i> .....	271-3150
Wooden canoe and kayak stand manufacturer	
<a href="http://www.talic.com">www.talic.com</a>	

### Regional & National Organizations

<i>American Canoe Association</i> .....	<a href="http://www.acanet.org">www.acanet.org</a>
<i>American Whitewater</i> .....	<a href="http://www.americanwhitewater.org">www.americanwhitewater.org</a>
<i>Adirondack Mountain Club</i> .....	<a href="http://www.adk.org">www.adk.org</a>
<i>Genesee Waterways Center</i> .	<a href="http://www.geneseewaterways.com">www.geneseewaterways.com</a>

### River Gauges

<i>Genesee River (Letchworth)</i> .....	468-2303
<i>Catteragus Creek</i> .....	532-0626
<i>Black Cr. at Churchville</i> .....	(800) 452-1742 #361131
<i>Salmon River</i> .....	(800) 452-1742 #365123
<i>Waterline Site Codes</i> .....	<a href="http://www.h20line.com">www.h20line.com</a>

## Salmon River Falls...A view to see upstream

Story and photo by Mike Shafer

There I was – standing in the lobby of the Best Western Golden Arrow hotel in Lake Placid – by a gigantic arched window overlooking magnificent Mirror Lake. And alongside the window was a bigger than life painting labeled “Salmon River Falls”. Well, I knew that I was standing inside the Blue Line. And I also knew that the waterfall in this picture was not. But it was breathtaking, and picturesque, with as much splendor as was the real Adirondack lake and backdrop outside the window in front of me.

I had known that Salmon River Falls existed, but had never been there. Looking at the picture, I made a mental note to see it on my next visit to Pulaski. I'm there at least half a dozen times a year (bet you are too???)...gotta go there. And a few weeks later at Stoney's one morning, I hear Jerry Hargrave talking about the falls and offering to take a few people there before paddling. So I jumped in and joined. I got the scenic tour of what lies upstream of the river we paddle so much. It is a trip worth the time you invest...there is a chance to be a tourist here, as well as a paddler.

There are two dams and two reservoirs on the river. The lower reservoir is the Lighthouse Hill Reservoir and the upper reservoir is the Salmon River Reservoir. The spectacular Salmon River Falls is located between the two reservoirs. Salmon River Falls is managed by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and is open to the public year-round. The falls is 110 feet high. Water flow over it is regulated by the Upper Reservoir Dam, located just upstream.



The drive to get there is easy: from Interstate 81 take Route 13 east about 7 miles. Turn left onto Cemetery Road in Altmar, and follow along on Count Road 22. About few miles up, you will pass and go around the Lower Reservoir. Continue on about 2 more miles to the second road on your right – appropriately named “Falls Road”. Turn right, and a mile up you will find a marked parking

lot on the right side of the road. A trail beginning at the parking area on the South side of Falls Road will guide you along the rim of the gorge to the falls. There is no fence along the rim of Salmon River Falls, so beware. The trail will take you to the top of the falls, where you are able to walk out and look from atop the falls...a fantastic view.

The Salmon River Fish Hatchery, also nearby in Altmar, is one of the most modern facilities in North America. The Salmon River Hatchery produces about 4 million trout and salmon each year. The hatchery began operating in 1981 as part of an effort by the New York Department of Environmental Conservation to meet the stocking needs of Lake Erie, Ontario, Champlain and their tributaries.

The Salmon River Fish Hatchery is open to the public from March 15th to November 30th from 9am to 4pm, seven days a week. Inside are exhibits, mounted fish, and much more. Visitors can take a self-guided tour and watch hatchery operations. The tour is very informative and well worth taking a visit when in the Salmon River area. So someday take some time when you're in the neighborhood, and be a tourist. There is more in the area to see!

## Premature Release on the Beaver

By Steve Baker

Since my first trip down the Beaver last year, I have been looking forward to the once a year opportunity to paddle it — or at least parts of it again. There are actually three sections to the river: the Moshier section (3-4mi), the Eagle section (~1mi), and the Taylorville section (1-2mi).

Typically, there is only a single scheduled release for the Moshier section, usually around Labor Day weekend, with the Eagle and Taylorville scheduled releases lasting for at least a couple more weekends. This year however, the releases were rescheduled due to repairs required for the hydroelectric system. With only a few weeks notification, hundreds of paddlers, some from as far away as Puerto Rico, rearranged their summer plans to be able to kayak this gem of the Adirondacks.

After a three hour drive from Rochester, we pulled into Belfort half an hour after the beginning of the release. As expected, the road to the put in was lined with boats and cars from all over the Northeast. The place was buzzing with excitement and perhaps a little adrenaline overflow.

After claiming my parking spot, I too was eager to get to the river to watch a bit before paddling. The Taylorville section is made for spectators, with a nice granite "grandstand" right next to the most exciting parts of the river. The first two holes are within a hundred yards of each other and are close to the put in. Although both of these holes can be avoided relatively easily, it is not uncommon to see boats ending up in them, the consequences of which are not predicible. A staging eddy occurs river left about 60 feet upstream of the first hole, the meat of which is left of center. The most popular line is run on the extreme left, where a boof off the ledge usually leaves one a whooping foot or two away from the edge of the abyss. Below is a nice large pool where the river regurgitates foam footpads, water bottles, and other non-digestible flotsam. A few boaters avoid all this by taking a river right line over a few bumpy, but harmless small ledges.

It is interesting to note the various types of boats people use on the different sections of the Beaver. On the Taylorville section it seems there is about a 2:1 ratio of creekboats to playboats. Of course, when the (conservative) big creek boats end up in either one of the holes they usually end up getting flushed sooner or later — depending upon the level and how the river feels about them. I am convinced that this section of the river has an extremely discriminating taste for playboats. I used to think it discriminated between the real experts and overconfident paddlers. After watching some pretty skilled boaters have problems in the first hole (eh, Vaughn, Tom?) I am not quite so certain that this is the case.

I'm pretty sure I've got this hole figured out. It's kinda like fishing: there is a hierarchy of several factors that, in combination, will determine whether

you're going to get spanked. From highest to lowest importance, the factors contributing to getting spanked are:

1. use of a playboat
2. newness of playboat
3. bright-colored playboat
4. overcast rainy day
5. proximity to any of the item #'s 1-3 above
6. high skill level/experience.

Next year I'm going to paint my old yellow DancerXT a drab brown and drag it up to the Taylorville section on a bright sunny day. I figure this will automatically eliminate the danger of falling prey to items one through four. Since no respectable playboater would ever come near an old fart in a DancerXT, item number five is securely eliminated too! And finally, since I haven't paddled this barge in over three years I am assured that (in this boat) my skill level will be at an absolute minimum.

The next hole on the Taylorville section is below a slide, which drops about 30 feet after going over a shallow ledge, and funnels into the hole. Usually it is pretty easy to avoid the hole by paddling across the eddy fence that forms the sides of the funnel. Failure to accomplish this, however, results in a random thrashing applied to one of every five playboats entering the hole. While I watched there were at least a half dozen playboats that entered the hole, performed multiple unintentional cartwheels, and then windowshaded before washing out.

Unfortunately, during one of these acrobatic episodes someone tried to dislodge a rock in the bottom of the hole using his nose. Needless to say, the guy was pretty shaken. Fortunately for him there were a couple of experienced boaters nearby, Ted VanZant provided the First Aid kit (from his boat) and Kathy Corey persistently watched for signs of a concussion.

Although I ended up not paddling Taylorville that day, I really enjoyed watching and learning from some boaters (and friends) that I've come to admire over the years. People like Dave Meyer, Ted VanZandt, Marty Murphy, Tony Hernandez, Tom Congdon, Vaughn Skinner, Doug & Dorthy Caine, and of course, Hoppy!



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I also saw something I thought I would never see, but since I told Doug that I wouldn't tell anyone I saw him swim, it is probably better to keep it confidential.

Latter in the day the release on the Eagle section began. This section drops 475 feet per mile and it is also a great section for spectators. Although the granite "grandstands" are much steeper, one can walk the entire run. Here the ratio of playboats to creekboats drops to about 0:100, the most 'radical' being a RPM.

Although some begin by going over the 30 foot dam, negotiating a couple of Class IV holes, and somehow squeezing under a riverwide log, most put in above the first drop. This consists of a 60 ft long drop with the water pushing up against a jagged granite wall jutting out from river right. The pillow keeps most paddlers from pinning against the wall and the fast current makes it nearly impossible to get stuck in the hydraulic which forms at the bottom right side of the drop.

In an age where absurd warning labels appear everywhere, it would be appropriate to post a **No Swimming Allowed** sign along this drop. After hitting a small eddy, the water splits over a rugged ridge with the main chute dropping against the river left wall and dumping into hole at the bottom.

It is within this hole that creekboaters perform magical airborne rodeo moves, squirts, pirouettes, and cartwheels — some of which are inadvertently initiated with the stern! I watched several make it through only to see them trying to embed their fingernails into the granite wall in an effort to avoid being sucked back into the hole. Even the expert creekboaters occasionally got windowshaded in this hole, sometimes just avoiding getting T-boned by an oncoming boat. Although these two drops are certainly the most intimidating, the third drop also kept a few boats recirculating longer than intended. Perhaps the most awe inspiring run was performed by the open boater who executed the entire run so flawlessly that it looked easy!

In my eyes, the Moshier section is one of the most spectacular streams of the Adirondacks. Although it too is a relatively short run, the stream is nestled between granite outcroppings with waterfalls and rapids, and is surrounded by sweet smelling forests of pine, balsam, and cedar. The first waterfall (8-10ft) is within a couple hundred yards of the put in. The fact that it is considered easy by some does not make it any less fun! Most will run this at least a couple times, maybe even trying to catch a wheel on the way down! When exhausted from going over the falls, it is almost mandatory that you make the run on the other side of the river. Here, a good portion of the current runs over a low shelf, drops a few more feet and then climbs up onto the side of a gently sloping rock before dropping a few more feet into a pool. The objective here is to catch the water running up the side of the sloping rock and boof off the edge. Better yet, try to get a rock 360 in. I saw a spectacular two 360's, which is different than a single 720.

The next waterfall is higher and a missed line can have serious consequences. The best line I've seen is going off of an obvious lip left of center and edging your boat ever so slightly so that it will careen off to the left when landing. Or, like Hoppy, you can land with no edge at all and watch your boat climb a tree trunk faster than any squirrel. Running to the right of this often results in spending time recirculating at the base of the falls. The outflow at the base of the falls has some force to it and it is easy to get pinned against the downstream boulders.

The line below the falls can also be a bit tricky, with a nice line being on extreme river right to ride a diagonal wave out of the holes.

After a few other Class III runs the grand finale of the Moshier section is a series of four drops, which individually are not that terrible. The popular Class V rating is because of the quick succession. Maybe because my paddling lacked any hint of finesse that day, or perhaps because I felt it was someone else's turn to provide entertainment for the throngs of spectators, I chose to watch for at least for the first three drops. I watched as Dave executed a perfect line through all four drops. I saw Tom do as well in all but the third drop where he and his (big) boat totally disappeared (upside down of course, reminding me of my run last year) in the meat of the hole for at least 2-3 seconds. I was impressed when I watched Marty take an unconventional line (typical!) on river right. What made this so cool was that he used the thrust of one of the most powerful holes on the river to peel out, elevating him at least a couple feet back up onto the tongue/wave train to make the required boof off of the next drop. Others followed his line.

With a little encouragement, I did do the last drop and was happy with the line. I'm sure that during the long winter months I will regret not running all four drops, but for now I'm happy with such a fantastic day and I'm gonna use the excuse that it was a premature release!

*PostScript From Hoppy:* Not all the carnage was on the river. While loading my boat at the Moshier take out I head a resounding **CRAAAACK!** A boater in his haste to get to the Eagle section ran over someone else's bent shaft paddle and playboat.

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## Salmon River Festival 2001

A big thanks to festival coordinator Michelle Bull of B.A.R.E. (Beer And River Enthusiasts, [www.nywhitewaterfests.com](http://www.nywhitewaterfests.com)) for organizing this year's festival. Here are some pictures (courtesy of Mike Shafer) to enjoy in case you were not there.



Paul Houndt, unidentified paddler, and Dorothy Caine in town



Bill Kuipers and his Big Blue Machine



Doug 'n Dorothy Surfin'



Simon's Early Morning Coordination Test



Another Shot Of Bill

### 2001 FLOW Flatwater Trip Schedule

Trip Leaders Wanted — Contact Jim Hopkins  
 work: 607-324-4595 x3923 james.hopkins@transport.alstom.com  
 home: 607-545-6286 hoppyski@yahoo.com

Day	Date	Time	Type/Class	Where	Trip Coordinator	Phone	Email
Any	April-Oct	Hot Line/ Message Board	Sea & WW Kayak	When Surfs Up @ Durand Beach/Irond. Bay Outlet/Long Pond	Whoever calls/posts	FLOW Hotline 716-234-3893	www.flowpaddlers.org
Sat-Sun	8/4	All Weekend!	All	FLOW Picnic, Pulaski	See Flowlines	FLOW hotline	www.flowpaddlers.org
Thurs	8/9	6:00 PM	All	Durand Beach, Surf, Open Water	George Scherer	716-381-2104	george.scherer@kodak.com
Thurs	8/16	6:00 PM	All	Durand Beach, Surf, Open Water	George Scherer	716-381-2104	george.scherer@kodak.com
Thurs	8/23	7:00 PM	All	Hotline/Web Msg Board	TBD	716-234-3893	www.flowpaddlers.org
Thurs	8/30	7:00 PM	All	Hotline/Web Msg Board	TBD	716-234-3893	www.flowpaddlers.org
Thurs	9/6	7:00 PM	All	Hotline/Web Msg Board	TBD	716-234-3893	www.flowpaddlers.org
Thurs	9/13	7:00 PM	General Mtg	Brighton Town Hall	See Flowlines	FLOW hotline	www.flowpaddlers.org
Thurs	9/20	7:00 PM	All	Farewell to Summer Surf Classic@Durand Beach	TBD		

### 2001 FLOW Whitewater Trip Schedule

Whitewater paddling, like all adventure sports, entails an element of risk. FLOW members assume this risk, and share the risk and responsibility for assisting others in need, as a condition of joining any of the listed trips below. Each participant will be asked to sign a release to this effect before putting onto the water.

**We CANNOT take non ACA/FLOW members on the trips.** The one-day membership which we used for pool practices does not work for trips.

To add trips, or change existing trip listings for the monthly update, call Ivan Rezanka, 381-7475. And be sure to check FLOW's telephone Hotline, 234-3893 for impromptu trips and events.

Date	Level	Trip Description	Coordinator	Phone
8/4	Intermediate	Salmon River, Pulaski, NY. A scheduled 750 cfs release. Class III	Bill Kuipers	716-322-7742
8/24-26	Advanced	Gatineau River Festival, Maniwaki, Quebec. Class IV. Pre-registration is required.	Vaughn Skinner	315-683-5379
9/1	Intermediate	Salmon River, Pulaski, NY. A scheduled 750 cfs release. Class III	Bill Kuipers	716-322-7742
9/2	Intermediate	Salmon River, Pulaski, NY. A scheduled 750 cfs release. Class III	Richard Mauser	716-473-2162
10/13	Intermediate/ Advanced	Lower Moose River (Moose Fest weekend). Class IV	Ben Bramlage	518-792-3277 518-745-1489
11/3-4	Intermediate	Tohickon Creek, PA Class III to III+. Camp nearby.	Steve Kittelberger	716-442-6138

## Classified Ads / Lost & Found

I need four Y-30 clips to attach a Yakima rack to a gutterless, aero-style roof on a 4-door 1992 Honda Accord LX. If you have some, please call Emily at 346-5597 or email her at [epleger@hotmail.com](mailto:epleger@hotmail.com)

Need a large Float Bag? - will trade an EPIÖ 21"x37" for a smaller bag (but not bow bag), or I'll even sell it to you. Call Richard 473-2162

Wanted: Large spray skirt. Willing to pay squat. Call me, we'll do business. Richard 473-2162

Sunburst orange **Riot Glide** for sale - \$400. Email Dan Bogaard at [dsbpph@rit.edu](mailto:dsbpph@rit.edu) for more info. If you live around Rochester, I will gladly let you try it before you buy it!

Grey **Cruise Control** for sale. It is equipped with knee and hip bracing, backband, sprayskirt and floatation. \$250 Good starter boat for large paddler. Contact Vaughn at (315)683-5379 or [vaughnsally@yahoo.com](mailto:vaughnsally@yahoo.com).

Sticks & Stones may break your bones but 'tis my **Medieval** that will really excite you! Made for the vertical dimensions and to Spin, Spin, Spin! \$400 FIRM. Not to tease, but less than an advanced beginner could get spanked. (Great 'transition' boat from paddling a RPM.) For a good time call S. M. Baker (716) 334-5947, [bakersm@frontiernet.net](mailto:bakersm@frontiernet.net)

Purple and white **New Wave Cruise Control** for \$300. Hey — Vaughn's selling his for \$250, then mine is \$249! Maybe you could by both and get a two-for deal. Contact Simon at 899-6803 or [barnett@bluefrognet.net](mailto:barnett@bluefrognet.net).

**Found** at the Salmon River cleanup: left hand **Glacier Glove**, large size. Contact Richard Mauser at [rmauser@sprintmail.com](mailto:rmauser@sprintmail.com) if it is yours.

**Perception Mr. Clean** play boat and **RIOT KIX** creek boat 450.00 each. Contact Jim at (716) 436-9902 or 370-9585 cell.

**Stoney's** **PINEVILLE** Seasonals Welcome  
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