

Thursday Boof ... (Boof?? Definition at end of this note)

I am hopeful this note finds all who read it safe, healthy, and connected to support. Chapter Coordinators, please pass on to your Chapter Community.

We find ourselves cornered both emotionally and physically. The end of this is really not clear to anyone yet...but true this - we will come out the other side. And that will be where the work begins again for us in TRR.

Those of us in the TRR Family are connected to each other by the healing waters of this nation. We offer boats and expertise selflessly each week to veterans wherever there is a Chapter or program. We are grateful for the opportunity to give back. We know the power of caring, inclusiveness, and purpose.

When we can again return to the water, let's consider the **health care workers** and **first responders** in your community. Where your Chapter's resources are able to help, invite those on the front lines right now, as well. Let's train more veterans to be available in this local community healing effort - here is an opportunity for veterans to give back so they can continue to serve this nation - a code and oath of duty to others they took when enlisting. And TRR volunteers can work *hand on paddle* as well supporting that effort.

Resolve, patience, connectedness...we got this...we will get through this and be ready to offer healing and hope on the rivers and waterways we call home.

Three quick messages:

1. Please look at the new Covid-19 page on our website. There will be a constant addition of information and resources there.

<https://www.teamriverrunner.org/team-river-runner-covid-19-updates/>

2. See the message below regarding the now CANCELLED National Conference.

3. TRR Programming in all Chapters are **cancelled in May**...I do not make this decision lightly. We must protect all the veterans and volunteers...until there is a clear path to healthy group activities and programs we need to remain vigilant and safe.

A **boof** is the sound the hull of your kayak makes as it lands flat after flying over a wave on a windswept lake or ocean wave; or a kayaker flying over a pour over rock on a rapid in a river. Note the word "flying".let's let our ability to find resolve, patience, and connectedness allow us to fly over this invisible "storm"....

Lastly, we lost the important voice of a veteran, John Prine, this week. Here is an old recording of a song that he wrote capturing the difficulty so many veterans still face:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OLVWEYUqGew>

Paddle On Later in Summer....

Joe Mornini
Executive Director
301.233.8882
joe@teamriverrunner.org