“Rockin’ the Rivers” with Memphis River Warriors

This month, the Public Health Student Association has pledged to participate in the 1st annual “Rockin’ the Rivers” River Cleanup. On October 24<sup>th</sup> the Memphis River Warriors, the Wolf River Conservancy, Memphis City Beautiful, and Clean Memphis will come together to host possibly the biggest and baddest river cleanup in the MidSouth. The cleanups begin at 10am at various locations across the city, with an after party held at Wiseacre Brewery. Registration can be found at www.cleanmemphis.org/events.aspx.

Cheyenne Medlock, one of our own MPH students and Co-Founder of the Memphis River Warriors, in her blog post...
Public Health Student Association

October 1, 2015

PHSA Contact Information

2015 Officers:
President
Lisa Wang
Interim Vice President
Emma Draluck
Secretary
Sarah Boop
Treasurer
Kendra Vaughn
Executive Social Action Chair
Cyril Patra
Public Relations Chair
Nikko Carlson
Social Chair
Marlise Elgart
Campus & Community Outreach Chair
Donya Ahmadian
Advisors
Dr. Marian Levy
Dr. Vikki Nolan

Contact Us:
Email:
umemphisphsa@gmail.com
Websites:
umemphisphsa.wordpress.com

featured on the PHSA website says that she “was lucky enough to be a founding member of [Memphis River Warriors] during [her] undergraduate career…” and that she was part of “a rag tag group of students fed up with a problem and with just enough gumption to actually do something about it.” The Memphis River Warriors live and breath river cleanups, and in the first 2 years, their volunteers picked up over 50,000 lbs. of trash from the Mississippi River. As of Fall 2015, the Memphis River Warriors have held over 25 cleanups, with 2800 volunteers and 115,000 lbs. of trash collected.

Cheyenne says:

“My time with the Memphis River Warriors was ultimately what convinced me to pursue my MPH. I loved the feeling of uniting people over a common good and actually making a difference in the world. I strengthened my leadership skills, learned how to apply for grants, and saw just what a little hard work can accomplish. I was blown away by the goodness of people, by the possibility that together we might actually be able to fix this after all.”

The Warriors have spent their weekends fighting trash for the last 4 years, and they are nowhere near slowing down. This event looks to be the biggest in the Warrior’s illustrious career, garnering support from other local organizations such as Clean Memphis, Memphis City Beautiful, and the Wolf River Conservancy.