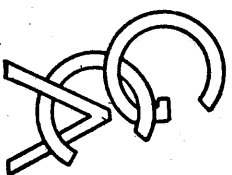


THE GEORGIA



CANOEING LETTER

Mary
-APRIL 23, 1969 — P.O. BOX 7 — TUCKER, GEORGIA 30084

FYI (For Your Protection)
It seems that a few words of advice bear repeating—for "oldtimers" as well as newcomers.

PRE-REGISTER WITH THE TRIP LEADER. (1) You may receive more detailed instructions for finding the meeting place than the **NEWSLETTER** can provide. (2) You will be assured of having your car on the same side of the river as other club members, so that you can be carried back to your car with them at the end of the trip—especially essential when there is no bridge at the "putting in" spot. (3) If you are registered, you will be notified of any last-minute change in plans. (4) If you invite guests, do tell them to register too.

Your trip leader has his hands full trying to negotiate a safe, comfortable trip for you. Please co-operate with him by not pulling any surprises on him.

LOOK OUT FOR YOUR "CREATURE COMFORTS", U.S. Coast Guard Approved Life Preservers are required by law, as well as good judgement, and the trip leader will not let people go along on the trip who do not comply, sun tan oil, water, dry clothes, bug repellent, bailing scoop, car keys pinned to clothing, eye glasses secured by a strap, extra paddle lashed on, mending tape or repair kit. Make your own list and check it over carefully before each trip.

TYPHOID AND TETANUS SHOTS—especially comforting if you get dunked often in polluted waters or camp out in a cow pasture.

RUN RAPIDS WITH A MINIMUM OF THREE CANOES AND NO MORE THAN TWO PERSONS TO A CANOE. This is a universal water-safety rule.

Incidentally, if you are bring more persons—either adults or children—on a trip than you can provide canoes for, please arrange space in a canoe for them before the day of the trip. More and more of our people are anxious to try soloing; others may have the weight their canoe is carrying carefully planned. This little attention may save embarrassment for you, your guests or your fellow members. By Annabelle Close.

CHATTOOGA TRIP—JUNE 7-8, 1969

LEADER: BILL CRAWFORD — 993-2940

PAYSON KENNEDY — 457-1362

For advanced canoeists and swimmers with own equipment—including life preservers, rated as class 3 through 5, the Chattooga is the finest white water in the southeast. No accessibility en route. Participants must be able to keep pace, limit TWO people to a canoe. No inflatable canoes allowed.

Saturday, June 7—We will meet at highway 76 bridge at 9:00 AM. From Atlanta go interstate 85 to Fair Play, S.C., then to Westminster, then 76 west to bridge. We will proceed promptly at 9:30 (after checking water level) to Earl's Ford. Will depart Earl's Ford at approximately 10:15 AM and expect to arrive at 76 bridge in 7 hours or 5-5:30 PM. Those continuing the next day on the bottom section will camp near 76 bridge.

Sunday, June 8th—If water level is not over 1 foot, all adventuresome souls will venture down the torturous but delightful drop to Lake Tugalo—all day—7 miles. Cars will be shuttled at 9 AM and trip will start about 10:30. Please register with leaders by Thursday, June 6th.

YELLOW RIVER—NOVICE FLOAT—FAMILY FLOAT—JUNE 21

LEADER: BILL AND ANNA BELLE CLOSE — 373-3945

ROY AND BETTY ANNE ADAMS — 938-3685

This is your chance to get acquainted with a normally placid, scenic river in your own environs. The family man take wife and two children in one canoe. The novice can practice back strokes and paddling up stream. It is wading depth, and a few rocks will provide an excellent opportunity for beginners to have some practice at maneuvering without really getting into any danger.

The trees meet overhead much of the way, and the canoe glides in and out of the sunshine at a good rate. In May, the air is redolent with honeysuckle; the banks, lined with snowy white and delicately pink laurel. Come see what June has to offer.

We will picnic at end of trip (about 4 hours) where nature has provided rock tables galore. Below this area, our white-water experts can give us an exhibition of dropping over heavy-water ledges. They'll want to run this little stretch again and again.

Take 78 East past Stone Mountain. One hundred feet before the end of the 4-lane, turn left through cross-over and onto Rockbridge Road. At a "5-point" intersection in Trickum where there are a Phillips, Texaco and American (or Standard) gas stations, turn right onto road going to community of "Five Forks" and meet at bridge over Yellow River at 8:15 AM.

It is imperative that you register for the trip. If little rain falls in June, the river might become too shallow. Your leaders must be able to contact you if the trip has to be changed to another river. Whatever we do, it will be an easy trip.

Register with the Closes, nights until 11:30, at 373-3945; or with Roy Adams—Office: 938-3200; nights at 938-3685, by Thursday, June 19.

YELLOW RIVER FLOAT BECOMES CHATTAHOOCHEE TRIP

A float down the Chattahoochee was substituted at the last minute for the scheduled Yellow River trip, Saturday, June 21. When scouting the Yellow River, the leaders ran into a property-rights situation and decided to make a full investigation of what the club's rights to the river might be and avoid a premature brush with the law.

Briefly, a caretaker of property on both sides of the river and on both sides of a bridge and road at Anniston Falls claimed ownership of the "non-navigable" river. He reversed his earlier permission for us to picnic on the rocks at this site and finally became quite unhappy about our even canoeing through. The matter is not closed, however, for there is still hope of getting permission from the actual owner to canoe here, as there are at least 3 delightfully, lazy-day sections of river right on our doorstep.

The Chattahoochee trip was from I-285 to Robinson's Garden at West Pace's Ferry. We stopped at Charlie's Island for lunch and were saddened to see that the table and bench he and Iln McKnight built are being destroyed. (Can the club in tribute to Charlie Smith adopt the upkeep of this retreat as a permanent project? We practiced braces, taking advantage of eddies and whatever the individual needed most before moving on. This trip demonstrated the value of pre-registration, since everyone had to be phoned about the change of plans. The real lesson of the day, however, was the importance of the sweep canoe. Your leader counted 8 canoes and one kayak at the beginning of the trip, assigned sweep duties to a crew and had an additional volunteer for sweep duties. Even so—and it is painful to record—at the end of the trip, no recount was made by the leader, no report was given by the sweeps that one canoe had taken a left channel by an island where the rest had gone right; so, when drivers were taken back to their cars, no one realized that one driver was missing. When the drivers returned with cars to pick up the canoes, the last canoeist was there needing a ride back to his car. Embarrassment increased when it was learned that he had run into extremely shallow water, damaged his canoe and had to make emergency repairs without any assistance from his fellow canoeers. Our apologies to Linnard his guests. It was an otherwise idyllic run—if C-5 practice runs and skeet shooting overhead don't bother you.

Appearing at riverside hoping to thumb a ride was Ann Hirsch. All canoes were filled, however, so if anyone has an extra place in the future, please keep Ann in mind and contact her through the trip leader.

Taking the trip were: Margaret Drummond, Mary Wilcox; Mr. and Mrs. Gordon H. Wilson; Virginia and Bond Almand and nephew Ray Morgan; S. D. (Dick) Echols and Frank Hatfield; Gerry Davy and Dr. Quinn; Betty and Claude Terry and sons Butch and Michael; Iln McKnight, his father C. W. McKnight and Brenda Walker; Bill Close (acting co-leader for Roy Adams)

and Anna Belle Close (leader), reporting.

GCA VICE-PRESIDENT CHARLES E. SMITH SUCCEUMBS TO HEART ATTACK

Monday, June 2nd, Atlanta telephones were busy as friend phoned friend telling the sad news of Charlie Smith's sudden death.

It is difficult with a few words to give Charlie the credit his life is due. At 49, he had lived several average-lifetimes, packing each day with activities and "learning something from everyone I meet," as Charlie often said.

One felt that he knew every road in Georgia and her sister states. He was as well acquainted with footpaths, rivers, remote water falls and trout holes; at night he could trace his way among the constellations.

But over and above all he gained from life, he gave in return in the guise of true friendship with his fellow man and woman. We will long feel the void in our lives caused by Charlie's absence; we will strive to continue being the people he has helped us to be as he gently prodded us into companionship with him in his varied interests—art, music, public speaking, writing, hiking, fishing, ice skating, canoeing—the list goes on and on as we each recall what Charlie's influence on our lives has been.

We extend our sincere sympathy and love to his wife Nell, daughter Gail, and to his father and other family members. And we salute the courage with which they face each day—Charlie would be proud of them.

FROM PROFESSOR HUGH CALDWELL

TO THE GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION:

The announcement in your letter of April 23rd that I had been honored, together with my old friend, Roy Eaton, with a lifetime honorary membership in the G C A was the nicest, most pleasant surprise I have ever had—even if I don't deserve it! My main regret is that I have not had time to participate in the activities of the G C A.

With deep appreciation,

Hugh Caldwell

We are now exchanging Newsletters with the East Tennessee White Water Club, P. O. Box 3074, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830, and The Carolina Canoe Club, P. O. Box 459, Jamestown, N. C. 27282. If anyone is interested in obtaining copies they should contact