

THE GEORGIA CANOEING NEWSLETTER

TUCKER, GEORGIA - NOVEMBER, 1969 ISSUE

SEPTEMBER 20th TRIP

This was to have been an Etowah trip, but the leader was advised that due to little rainfall it would probably be better to run the Upper Chattahoochee. We hope you registered if you planned to go, for telephone calls were made to advise folks of the change of plans. However, we woke to misty weather which didn't abate as we neared our destination.

Because the weather wasn't the best and because we got a late start, et cetera, et cetera, it was decided to do only a short stretch of river--from the bridge at highway 255 to the one at 115. This incorporated the vigorous chute at Smith's Island which some of us are becoming quite fond of. We paddled in the rain, enjoying the glistening green leaves and bright red berries which bordered the rising river. We suspect that tandem canoeing is better for rainy weather than soloing, for one partner can bail while the other navigates. Incidentally, a turkish towel is an admirable tool for the chore of sopping up the rain-water as it collects in the bottom of the canoe.

Also, let me recommend a clear plastic, fisherman's rain suit from Zayre's; costs only a few dollars. It will keep you cozily dry and is well ventilated so that you won't get overheated. Just think! Canoeing in the rain can be fun! No need to stay home any more if the weather isn't exactly favorable.

Taking the trip were Ross Wilson, George Wetherhold, Jerry Davy, Julia Ann Wilson & Anson Allen (a British guest), and Bill and Anna Belle Close.

Anna Belle Close, Reporting

FOCOGA RIVER TRIP -- November 2, 1969

"It wasn't the best canoe trip I've ever been on, but then it wasn't the worst either."

--Quote of the day

The trip seemed destined for a poor fate. A few days before it was to be taken, the weather forecasters had promised rain and cold for the weekend, and the rain did come in enough force on Saturday, November 1, to call for a postponement until Sunday. This meant that a number of people had to cancel out because of other plans the next day.

The leader was assured Saturday by TVA, Knoxville, that they would be generating the next day, but when we got to the river, we found this not to be the case. Then began a search for a place down river which would be below the emptying of several creeks into the river. We were plagued with mishaps--getting separated from each other and temporarily lost, and finding a road to a creek blocked by a wrecked car that had a simply been abandoned. We finally put in a creek which crossed the highway. It was a gamble and we lost that one too. We hadn't gone far when we were blocked by a fallen tree. After clearing away some of the debris swept into its branches, our party managed to slip through it. We then enjoyed its brisk, winding route to the river.

But, oh, the river! It was nearly as lazy as a lake, and we soon realized that we would have to work all the way to get to our cars before dark. The day was balmy for as long as the sun shone and the fall colors on the slopes of the hills were gorgeous, but after the lowering sun was completely cloud covered and a wind picked up, we paddled desperately to beat night's time schedule. A few made the end of the trip before total

Close started and others contributed to with leaves, pine needles, boughs and even a broken paddle.

Our thanks to those who helped to call about changes in plans. We believe we contacted everyone, but if somehow you planned to be with us and missed us, we are terribly sorry to have disappointed you; but be assured it was part of the order of the day.

Members: Claude, Michael and Butch Terry, Payson, Aurelia and John Kennedy, Bill and Anna Belle Close, Bob Milton, Gene Steffen and Lovell Greathouse.

Guests: Troy York, Grady Gafford, Jack and Laila Bunn.

Anna Belle Close, Reporting

SUGGESTION FOR TRIP LEADERS

As the club gains in experience, various lessons are learned, and one is the value of having an out-of-city meeting place in the direction of the river which is to be run. Another is the importance of having an alternate river in mind.

For example, a nice roadside restaurant, with ample parking space and nearby filling stations, meets many needs. At such a place we could congregate, then follow the leader to the river without having to interpret involved directions or maps. If the river can't be traveled that day, the leader could take the group to another river in the vicinity whose waters would be better suited for the participants. Of course, the alternate should be approximately the same type of river and certainly not beyond anyone's ability.

This practice will enable the leader to suit the river to the conditions of the moment without the burden of having to phone anyone.

In time, we may develop regular meeting sites on certain routes taken frequently. Meanwhile, keep your eyes open and let the Newsletter editor have your suggestions.

ABPALACHIAN TRAVEL CLUB ~~TRIP~~. On the Suwanee and Okefenokee (November 27-29). Canoe Club members invited. Meet at Stephen Foster park near Fargo, Ga. (5 hours from Atlanta) on Thursday evening or early Friday morning. Camping and Cabins available (contact Stephen Foster officials for reservations for cabins). Paddle into the swamp on Friday, Camp at Stephen Foster Friday night. Canoe down Suwanee on Saturday and Sunday, returning to Stephen Foster to camp. There is a small camping fee and a small boat launching fee. Contact Roger Losier to register--451-5133.

Dinner Meeting -- Covered Dish

Saturday Evening, November 22,6:30PM

Place: Bill and Sandra Crawford
4288 Bishop Lake Road
Marietta, Ga. Phone: 993-2940

BUSINESS: OFFICER NOMINEES TO BE VOTED

President	-	Clyde Woolsey
V. Pres	-	Bill Crawford
Secretary	-	Wm. A. (Bill) Dunlap
Treasurer	-	George Weatherhold
At Large	-	Claude Terry and John Payson Kennedy