

GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION, INC.



P. O. Box 7023, Atlanta, Georgia 30357

January 1977

NEWSLETTER

VOL. XII NO. 1

February Newsletter Deadline
January 20th

Send typed copy to:
Tom Carter
110 Peachtree Hills Ave.
Atlanta, Ga. 30305

The February Canoe Trip Schedule and also the Tentative River Schedule for all of 1977 will appear in next month's newsletter.

FINAL REQUEST FOR 1977 CLUB DUES.

January 31, 1977, all members who have not paid their annual membership dues will be dropped from membership and will not be listed in the forthcoming annual directory. Yearly dues are \$7.50 and \$9.50 if you wish an affiliate membership in the Georgia Wildlife Federation. If your telephone number and/or address has changed since the last directory or if you wish to be listed differently please include this with your dues. Please send dues and any directory changes to: Carter Fowlkes % Ga. Canoeing Assoc., Inc. P.O. Box 7023, Atlanta, Ga. 30357.

Also, G.C.A. T-shirts are still available. See last Newsletter for details or call Carter Fowlkes at 581-3331(days).

BE A NAME-DROPPER

It's okay to be a name-dropper if it's the name of the Georgia Canoeing Association that you are "dropping." Whenever you shop for any outdoors-y items, casually mention your club. It will help GCA ambassadors to sell ads for the Guide Book and will let those who already advertise with us know that they are putting their advertising money to good use.

Indeed, between now and January 31, wherever you shop for sports items invite the proprietor to place an ad with us. It's surprisingly easy to secure ads. Generally, the manager will sit down and compose his ad on the spot. Refer anyone interested to Anna Belle Close, 225 Forkner Drive, Decatur, Ga. 30030 for rates and pertinent information.

Editor's Note

The G.C.A. Membership is large and widespread therefore most of our paths seldom or never cross.

Our only total contact has been by monthly newsletter and that has been largely output by club officers with not enough solicitation for input by members.

We have a questionnaire in this newsletter which is a good start, but I would like to suggest extending and expanding that by beginning a letters to the editor or rather a "Letters to the G.C.A." section in subsequent newsletters.

Please mail your suggestions, comments or ideas to the newsletter editor and we'll try to share a broader range of ideas about what maybe we should be doing.

The newly elected officers have met several times now to discuss objectives and goals for the new year. We can speculate about a number of areas, but to insure the best possible program, we need input from the membership. Basically, the question becomes, "Why am I a member of the GCA?" A questionnaire is attached to this newsletter to elicit your thoughts and desires. We urge each of you to consider the questionnaire carefully, complete it, and return it to us by January 1, 1977. Guided by your responses, we will attempt to develop a program which most nearly reflects the wishes of the total membership.

"CANOE", the magazine of recreational and competitive canoeing and kayaking, has offered our club members a special subscription rate of \$5.95 for the next eight (8) issues of CANOE. This represents a savings of over \$4.00 off the single copy price. If you wish to subscribe, make your check payable to "CANOE" and forward them to:

M. Albitz
P. O. Box 144
STN. MTN., GA 30086

Jack Weems has made arrangements for us to have a social gathering at the Cathedral of St. Phillip (2744 Peachtree Rd., NW) on February 4, 1977. Bring a covered dish to Bishops Hall at 7:00 p.m. Coffee will be furnished. Miller Templeton will show us about 40 minutes of movies taken on a trip down the Colorado. I understand that this is excellent footage. This should be a worthwhile event.

On November 21, 1976, Allen Lewis, Malcom Lewis, and I constructed the first GCA river gauge on the east bank of the Amicalola Creek at the crossing of Georgia Rte. 53. The gauge is located on Ga. Dept. of Transportation right-of-way and constructed with the consent and cooperation of the Dept. of Transportation. Based on observations of "Edge-of-the-World", the gauge is set so that zero (0) represents "unrunable". At .3 ft., "Edge-of-the-World" appears to be barely runnable. .8 ft. would appear to be about minimal for a decent run. I believe I have ran it at about 2.3 ft. It was a good run with approximately Class III rapids appearing above the covered bridge. Club members should be sure to check and report gauge readings and attendant river conditions so that we can build up a book on this river. Please call this information to me at 634-1847 and/or include the Data in trip write ups. We hope to construct a gauge on the Broad River by spring.

DAVE GARRITY

The deadline for dues and information for the new Guidebook is January 31, 1977.

Also, a reminder that the Samuel Jones branch of the Metro-Atlanta Boy's Clubs has made their pool available for practice rolling sessions from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. every Friday night.

The following is just to provide food for thought. If we are to continue enjoying our rivers, we should begin doing a little more than merely getting in our boats and pushing off. A constant awareness of good public relations appears to be in order. The following appeared in "The Eddy" of the Blue Ridge Canoe Club (NOV 76).

"New River: While on the Fall Colors Trip we had an opportunity to meet Mr. W. R. Phipps who lives on the S. Fork just off US 221. A couple of us were approaching his home when Mr. Phipps walked out and greeted us with "Boys, I'm not for the Senic River." This, even before we had an opportunity to ask permission to cross his property (which I had done a couple of years before with his good wishes) to the river. We were somewhat taken back of course, but proceeded to make our request and after some 15 minutes of listening he gave us permission. During that time he told us of the few people along the river who favored it's senic status; of nude bathers standing around practically in his front yard, and of canoeists dragging boats through his neighbor's cornfield. The latter when asked to simply move to the end of the field to go to the river instead of going through it gave him some lip. Unable to persuade them with reason he finally had to resort to a rifle to prevent them from trampling his corn and remove their boats. It is not going to take much of this type of activity to sour everyone along the river against canoeists in general. Unfortunately, the Scenic River status will attract many inexperienced types who care little for others rights of property."

BOB BENNER

(2)

QUESTIONNAIRE

I recommend the following items:

- () More training sessions with graduated levels of instruction
- () More weekend trips with overnight camping so that several rivers can be run on the same river several times.
- () I would be interested in packing all my gear in a canoe for a canoe-camping trip.
- () I am primarily interested in wildwater (CIRCLE PRIMARY INTEREST)

<u>easy</u>	<u>intermediate</u>	<u>advanced</u>
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- () The club should have more flow trips
- () Fun get togethers for: fun races, film showing, etc.
- () I would like to be involved in environmental and conservation efforts
- () I would participate in trip-leader seminars, first aid training, and water safety presentations.
- () An increase in yearly dues of \$2.50 to provide for postage to handle an expanded newsletter each month.

OTHER:

NAME: _____

RETURN TO:

Georgia Canoeing Assn.
P. O. Box 7023
Atlanta, GA 30357

GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION
Executive Board Minutes
November 6, 1976

Attending:

Marvin Albitz, President	Hank Klausman, Director
Joe Blanchfield, Vice President	Jack Weems
Carter Fowlkes, Treasurer	Allen Lewis
Maureen Maloney, Secretary	David Garrity
Tom Carter, Newsletter Editor	Eileen Lange
Bronwyn Fowlkes, Cruisemaster	
Ken McAmis, Race Chairman	

New President, Marvin Albitz, called the meeting to order and listened to old business:

. River gauges have been purchased and will be placed soon on Amicolola Creek and the Broad River by Allen Lewis and David Garrity.

. Treasurer Fowlkes advised of his efforts to contact club auditor, Hale Sanders, preliminary to providing the fiscal financial report, but that the "GCA is in good shape." Carter expects to have financial statement by December board meeting.

. Decatur Boys Club pool is now open on Fridays for rolling sessions. Bronwyn urged GCA to fulfill its obligations to sponsor river trips, as originally agreed. All concurred.

. Cruisemaster reported she would have preliminary trip schedule for next year ready for review by next board meeting.

. David Garrity discussed D.O.T.'s planned destruction of the small bridge at Power's Ferry, and D.O.T.'s agreement to retain pillars for the slalom gate practice run and rearrangement of boulders to improve rapids in that area. Map was provided to plan course and President Albitz will obtain assistance from frequent users, Mark Warren and Gerald Marshall, for decisions and submission to D.O.T.

. Marvin Albitz reported that training chairman, Mark Warren, is working on plans for training sessions and should have available to January 1977.

. Maureen Maloney volunteered to fill vacant secretary position. Motion to accept her offer was made, seconded and carried.

. It was reiterated that condensed executive board minutes would appear in newsletter hereout with notice of following month's meeting to encourage membership attendance.

New Business:

. Journal/Constitution columnist Brownly Stephens was discussed relative to his river articles and the need to cultivate, inform and educate him. Marvin will contact Mr. Stephens, who has become a GCA member.

. Hank Klausman expressed concern over failure of many strong and frequent paddlers to join GCA, questioning reasons for this and value of GCA membership. Problem was actively discussed and suggestions were made to (a) provide better and more diverse trips each weekend, (b) provide more and better trip leaders, (c) additional "fun" races to stimulate interest and involvement, (d) better and more frequent training sessions, possibly advertising to public as well as membership, and (e) trip leader training sessions.

Contd...

Carter Fowlkes suggested sending a questionnaire to membersto obtain feedback on what they want and see lacking in GCA. Marvin Albitz will draft for immediate review and publication in light of its importance.

. Further to stimulating greater membership involvement, it was agreed that Jack Weems would engage Millar Templeton to show his films at the February General Membership meeting and arrange for other special film events for subsequent meetings. Treasurer Fowlkes will handle postcard mailing immediately prior to meeting dates. Mr. Weems is also investigating adequate facilities for future meetings.

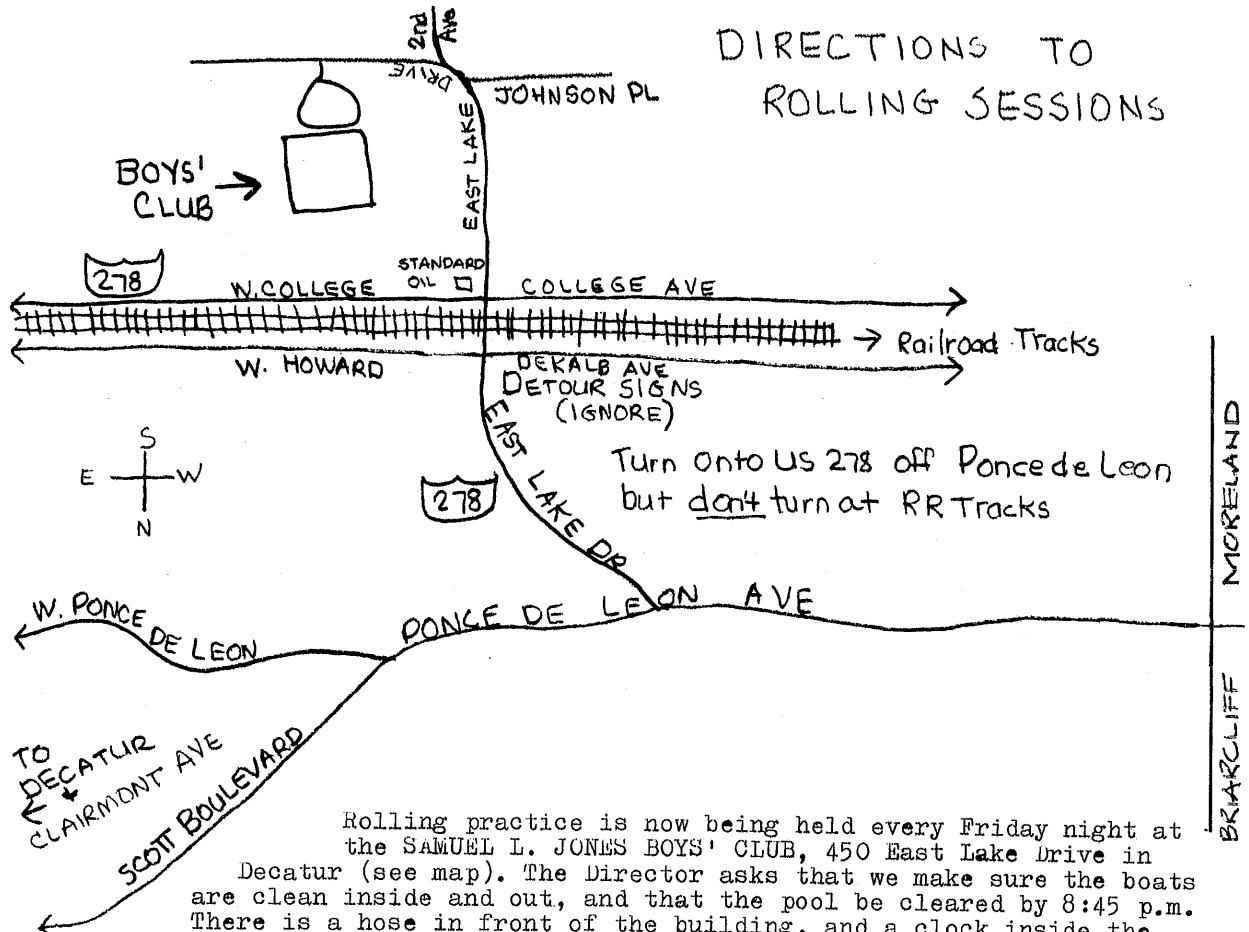
. Quantity and quality of trip leaders was seen as a serious problem, and Cruisemaster announced her plans to appoint assistant trip leaders for the larger, summer trips in an effort to limit trip sizes and groom prospective leaders. Trip leader training sessions also to be considered.

. Limitation of newsletter for cost purposes was objected to, but it was agreed that efforts should be made to keep it at 4 pages if possible. All felt it was the most important benefit to members and should not be stinted unnecessarily. Address changes will be published every other month.

Meeting was duly adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Maloney
Secretary



Rolling practice is now being held every Friday night at the SAMUEL L. JONES BOYS' CLUB, 450 East Lake Drive in Decatur (see map). The Director asks that we make sure the boats are clean inside and out, and that the pool be cleared by 8:45 p.m. There is a hose in front of the building, and a clock inside the pool area. Rolling begins at 6, and if the side door is not unlocked, the Director will be glad to open it. Bring your own instructor, or call Bronwyn Fowlkes for information, at 255-4110. The pool is usually warm, but paddling jackets or wetsuit tops are nice if you have to stand in the water to help someone.



Dear Sirs:

As the whitewater sport of canoeing and kayaking grows, it seems that more people are experiencing the sad fact of having their boats and gear stolen. I feel that if we boaters pull together, we can at least stop some of the theft.

I propose to set up a hotline for stolen boats and gear. If agreeable with all concerned, I could be the clearing house. Boaters could report their stolen equipment to me. Then once a month I would send an up-dated list to the major clubs so that they could include it in thier newsletter.

I think that if we act now, while the sport is young, to do something about stealing, we can eliminate er at least slow down the problem. I would appreciate your feelings and suggestions on my proposal. Please write or call as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Bill Masters

William E. Masters
President

(Members may acknowledge Yea or Nay or make their own suggestions when they fill out the preceding questionnaire).

TRIP REPORTS

Upper Chattahoochee, November 7, 1976

After several false starts during the week a group of five paddlers met at the beginning of Georgia 400 at 8:00 Sunday morning and made our way to Ga. 115 to put in on the Upper Chattahoochee River. The water was low (1.9) and cold, but the sky was clear and the air warm, so we looked forward to a pleasant day on the river. Sarah and Phil Lawrence and Pat Wineland and Rob Zelski were in open C-2's and Tom Lawrence was in an open C-1. The day was uneventful except for frequent hang-ups on the rocks, but the scenery was beautiful with most trees still very colorful and just enough water to make the ledges highly technical, but runnable if the proper route through the rocks was found. About half way through the day we realized that we shouldn't follow Phil and Sarah, for Phil seemed to want to jump out of the canoe and prove the worth of his wet suit while guiding his canoe through the rocks. The only excitement of the day came at Horseshoe Falls where Phil, Tom and Rob each soloed the falls using different approaches with Phil finding several different ways to catch the rocks before he found a clear route his last time through.

While we were playing at the falls we got a classic example of how not to run a white-water river. Two young men in an open C-2 approached and without stopping to reconnoiter a route immediately washed sideways through the falls, somehow managing to remain upright. They seemed to find this so exhilarating they portaged back upstream and tried again. This time they hung the boat precariously on the tip of a ledge with rocks holding the boat by the bow and stern. After a few minutes of rocking back and forth the stern paddler started trying to get out downstream (and downhill) to free the stern. We hollered for him to get out on the upstream side and after about five minutes of this, he did, pulled the bow free, hopped in and off they went only to be seen again later in their parents car at the take out. From the falls we paddled to the Duncan's Bridge take-out and said our farewells.

Robert F. Zelski

Trip Reports contd.

Trip Report - Chattooga, Sect. 1V, Five Falls Hike
Sun. Oct. 24, '76

Those who participated were glad they did. It was a great day for a hike. The weather was perfect, a beautiful Indian Summer day in the mid-70's and sunny. Some of our party had camped the previous night below five falls so we met them down at the river after about an hour and a half walk. We watched the rafters, picnicked on the rocks while Joe Blanchfield did his impressions and enjoyed the scenery. Those underfoot were: Joe, Pat, Nancy and Mark Blanchfield - Larry and Nancy Pluckett - Jack and Mary Weems - Phil and Scott Smallwood - Brenda Ward - Steve Bowles and son - Don Norton - Tamar and Little Weaver.

Tom Carter

Classified Want Ads - Recreational Vehicles

FOR SALE: 1973 Land Rover, 4-wheel drive, 39,000 miles, new large Firestone all-terrain tires, hardtop is removable, full two year parts and labor warranty. Excellent condition-toughest 4-wheel drive made. Call Pete Peterson, day-875-7171, night-284-3511.

FOR SALE: Lettman Mark V Kayak. In good condition. Ideal for small paddler up to 150 lbs. Includes float bags. \$150. Also, neoprene spray skirt and helmet available. Call Hank Klausman, H: 255-7420, O: 252-9606.

FOR SALE: Downriver C-2 Feulette carbon fiber boat. This famous and well trained boat was winner of 1975 C2-M SE Championships. High volume for BIG WATER races, North Atlantic crossings etc. Boat needs a nose job, minor surgery only. Boat may be seen at Nantahala Outdoor Center. Call Falma Moye at 241-6896 until March 1st, after that north to Alaska where it's 40 below.
