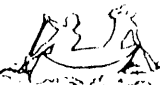


GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION, INC.



P. O. Box 7023, Atlanta, Georgia 30309

APRIL 1977

NEWSLETTER

VOL. XII, NO. 4

May Newsletter deadline is (Among other deadlines) April 15th. Send typed copies of all information to: Tom Carter, 110 Peachtree Hills Ave., Atlanta, Georgia 30305.

APRIL TRIP SCHEDULE:

Please refer to river descriptions in your Directory. Remember that the water is still cold in April, so be prepared with extra clothes. Please try to register for trips by Thursday, if possible, since trip leaders frequently aren't at home on Friday nights. You can take your chances, however, but you may find that if you wait too late, that the trip has been cancelled for lack of participants.

April 2	Upper Chattahoochee	*-- James McCay, 546-1883 (Athens)
April 3	Little River	-- Jack Weems, 938-5263
April 2-3	Locust Fork Races	*
April 6	Executive Committee Meeting, 7:30 Fernbank Science Center	
April 9	Nantahala	*-- Herb Henry, 742-8396 (Athens)
April 9	W. Fork, Little River	-- Gary DeBacher, 288-1773
April 10	Etowah	-- Eileen Lange, 633-1855
April 8-10	Alapaha-canoe-camping	@-- Dick George, 912-926-5202
April 16-17	Helen Races (Chattahoochee)	-- Tom lines, 233-9545
April 23	Chattooga, Section III	-- Don Norton, 288-6219
April 24	Chattooga, Section II	-- Tom Carter, 0:522-8811 H:262-3396
April 30	Hudson & Broad - Canoe Camping	- Gary DeBacher, 288-1773
May 1	Upper Chattahoochee	- Buddy Holmes, 252-6154

*Those of you who wish to go on these trips (or race) may call Bronwyn Fowlkes in Atlanta at 233-1383 to save a long-distance call.

@The Alapaha is a part of the State Canoe Trail System. Dick George of Warner Robbins will be the leader. The river is small and tree-canopied and there are several different put in and take out points, so that you may join him for as many of the days as you are able. You will need to talk to him if you are interested: Home - 912-922-0979; Office - 912-5202; Address: P.O. Box 2132, Warner Robbins, Georgia 31093.

From the Treasurer

Last month's Newsletter contained the Income and Expense Report for the year ended October 31, 1976. If any member wishes more detailed information on any of the figures shown, I'll be happy to discuss them at 581-3331 (days) or 255-4110 (nights).

Our financial position is sound. Although expenses last year exceeded income by some \$700, expenses included a typewriter purchase and the entire cost of the T-shirt order (\$845.60). We sold \$87.00 worth of shirts in the '76 year, and during fiscal year '77 income from shirt sales will be much higher, and there won't be any further expense relating to shirts.

And Speaking of T-Shirts...

I still have an ample supply of club T-shirts-particularly smalls (great for young kids), mediums and large. I'm sold out of x-tra large size with the canoe logo, but do have a few x-tra large with kayak and C-1 logos. Price is cost -\$2.25 if picked up, or \$4.00 mailed. To order, send a check payable to GCA, to me at 4682 Dudley Lane, N. W., Atlanta, Georgia 30327. For more information, my phone numbers are shown above.

SPRING CANOE AND KAYAK TRAINING CLINIC

The problem with so many sports is how to get into them , so one of the purposes of GCA is to help people get started in canoeing and kayaking. Actually early whitewater guidance is very worthwhile because of the relatively high risk to equipment (and body) as compared to other sports where mistakes are less consequential (like losing the game).

Any person is invited to sign up for our canoe and kayak clinic at a cost of \$7 (GCA members- \$5), but sign up early as a quota has been set at 50 people. Registrants will be responsible for supplying their own gear for each meeting - boat, paddle, life jacket, knee-pads for canoeists, and helmets for kayakers on the river trips.

Two levels of experience will be coached - beginner and intermediate. At each of these levels the clinic will accomodate the following categories: open canoe solo and tandem, decked canoe solo and tandem, and one-man kayak. The clinic will consist of four parts listed below.

April 30- LAKE SESSION PART 1

It is true that current is essential to proper instruction, but it is also true that current separates class members from class. So it is better that novices need not contend with relentless drift at their first instructive meeting. Through the generosity of Horace Holden, one of our founding fathers, our lake session will be held at Camp Chattahoochee (Atlanta Raquet Club) near Roswell. Just north of the Chattahoochee River at Roswell Road turn downstream onto Azalea Dr. and go to dead end. Turn left on Willeo Road. The camp lies a quarter of a mile down Willeo on the right. There will be indoor facilities for films and introductory instruction, but prepare for work on the water rain or shine. Bring your own lunch and drink. We start at 9:30 and will go until about 3:30.

April 14 - RIVER TRIP PART 2

Which river we visit will be announced at the lake session as will be rendezvous times. Registrants must arrange for their own transportation; hopefully carpooling will emerge from the lake session. The river that is chosen will afford every opportunity for using skills covered in the course. In addition paddlers will be filmed at strategic points along the river to aid in the learning process. Bring lunch and extra clothes in dry container.

Date to be announced - FILM NIGHT ... PART 3

This meeting will primarily use the river films to constructively analyze the common mistakes of paddling. Participants will find films an excellent way to improve their techniques.

SUMMER RIVER TRIP.....PART 4

Trainees will have had plenty of time to practice their skills so that the second river trip can show improvement and offer the paddler a chance to advance to a higher level of efficiency.

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GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION CANOE AND KAYAK TRAINING CLINIC

NAME _____ PARTNER _____

PHONE _____

CLASS:	C-1 open	C-1 decked	K-1	novice
	C-2 open	C-2 decked		intermediate
	(circle one class)			(circle one level)

To be enrolled please enclose \$7 per person (\$5 for GCA Members) and mail to: Carter Fowlkes, 4682 Dudley Lane, Atlanta, Georgia 30327.

NANTAHALA RACES - 1977

Most of you have probably already received the 1977 Nantahala Race application. If not, you should have it shortly. While the race is still three months away, a considerable amount of work has already gone into it. There's still mountains of work left to be done, however. Many of you may not realize the tremendous amount of work required to sponsor a race of this caliber. Our race is recognized throughout the country as an important national event, and as such it attracts top ranked paddlers from all over the nation. This is good for the sport in the Southeast and good for our club.

Many of you have already volunteered to help with the race, but we still need many more people to judge gates, score, time, etc. If you would like to help, please call me or one of the Committee Chairmen and volunteer your services. Most of the committee positions have been filled, but there are still a few slots vacant. The Committee Chairmen for the 1977 race are as follows:

Registration - Bronwyn Fowlkes - 233-1383
Slalom Course Construction - Ken Strickland - 546-6110(Athens)
Slalom Judging - David Jones - 355-4061
Slalom Timing & Scoring - Jack Weems - 938-5263
Wildwater Timing & Scoring - Tom Carter - 262-3396
Safety & Traffic Control - David Garrity - 634-1847
Physical Facilities - Allen Lewis - 477-0502
Communications - Carlton Shuford - 262-7750
Boat Inspection - Herb Henry - 742-8396 (Athens)
Publicity & Sales - Joe Blanchfield - 284-7645
Posters, Emblems & T-Shirts - Tom Lines - 233-9545
Protest - Marvin Albitz - 656-2740

We must have the help and support of ALL the club if this race is to be a success. Please volunteer your time or agree to serve if called upon. With your help we can make this year's race the best ever.

Ken McAmis,
Race Chairman
391-2237

TRIP REPORTS

Apalachee River- - exploration, 12/4/76 and 2/19/77

The Apalachee arises near Lawrenceville and flows SE to the Oconee. Above the falls at North High Shoals it is choked with trees and mill dams. Below hwy 441 Steve Johnson found the 5 miles to Trimble Bridge OK; in proceeding to 278 he encountered frequent haulover logs. Steve apparently didn't explore the sections between 186, Price Mill Rd., and 441. These have 5-7 ft/mile gradients and are downcut into a shallow wooded valley. On December 4 I put in above the shoals at Price Mill Rd. to pole the 5 miles upstream to the North High Shoals falls. This was a pleasant section, similar to the Alcovy, shallow and sandy with occasional rock outcrops and small rapids. If one were to put in at North High Shoals there might be a small fee since the land is operated as a private park. In the first mile there is a 2' ledge run far right. Other rapids of note are 3 miles down by Robinson Creek, two shallow class IIs and a wavy little class I. To take out at Price Mill, get out on the left bank above the shoals where a rocky little road provides access. The shoals is a wide, very shallow multiple ledge system. Those not paddling ABS boats should line down the right bank if continuing to 441.

On Feb. 19, Nancy Barker and I put in below Price Mill Shoals to paddle the 6.4 miles to 441. The first 2 miles included frequent class I and II rapids with a couple of good ledges. The second required scouting so we ate lunch on the rocks before running it. Slumping banks and trees in the river were a minor problem through the 5th mile, and the rapids were less frequent. Some of the trees had been helped in by pinheaded foresters, a practice that should be outlawed. After taking out at 441, we bushwhacked 1/2 mile downstream to Apalachee Shoals, a very beautiful and impressive class III system. Steve Johnson had reported this unfloatable, but if one runs left of the island below the RR bridge (watching for trees in the river) there is a good run for solo opens and decked boats. Portaging back for reruns is feasible, and jeep roads just downstream provide takeouts.

A little easy for the club schedule, these sections are still worth remembering for an afternoon run close to Atlanta. Maybe during the next gas shortage.

Gary DeBacher---river exploration

Cedar Creek-- exploration, 2/27/77

Most N. Ga. rivers flow through the Blue Ridge and Piedmont geological regions where granite and various metamorphic rocks predominate. The NW corner of Georgia lies in the Ridge and Valley region of primarily sedimentary rocks, shales, sandstones, and limestones. Several canoeable streams here flow through limestone countryside and one of them, Cedar Creek, has a substantial amount of easy white-water. The soils, the mix of trees and vegetation, the rock outcrops with their many nodules of flinty chert, and the form the rapids take are all different, reminding me of central Kentucky as much as of Georgia.

Canoeists in the Rome area including some GCA members have been paddling Cedar Creek for many years. The section in question begins at rt. 100 just NW of Cedartown and runs 16 miles at a fairly steady 10 ft/mile gradient until backed up by Weiss Lake, where it is re-crossed by rt. 100. A 150 square mile watershed leaves it runnable except in dry months. Last October I road scouted a number of intermediate access points which break the run into shorter segments. So on a sunny 75 degree Saturday, Hale Sanders, Nancy Barker, and I ran a 7.5 mile section containing much of the best scenery and rapids. Pastureland often lay on the inside of each meander, forested slopes to the outside; but there were several "shut-in" sections where the best rapids and wildest scenery were found. The rapids were class I and easy II over beds of small broken flinty rocks, and the pools between them seldom lasted very long. We found the water level just adequate in an unusually dry February. In higher water the waves would pick up and there would be fewer rocks to dodge. Downstream from rt. 411 the gradient increased to about 13 ft/mile, and some shale and sandstone formations caused the temporary reappearance of the kind of Georgia staircase ledges we all know so well.

This is an excellent easy scenic run for beginners, families, and anyone else not unnaturally fixated on class III soue holes; and it is only 1½ hours from downtown Atlanta. Expect to see it on the club schedule soon.

---Gary DeBacher

TRIP REPORT - LOCUST FORK & LITTLE RIVER
February 19 & 20.

Due to very low water, these two Alabama rivers were not run, but a few of never-say-die paddlers ventured to the Ocoee on Saturday. We found the river running about 1250 cfs, which is a good level with nice waves and interesting currents.

Don Norton put on his usual show of attacking holes and winning at least 50% of the time, and Ken McAmis demonstrated his never failing roll with subsequent near-hypothermia. The water was still very cold. After an abortive attempt to run this in sub-freezing weather a month ago, I was very pleased to get in the run. We were discussing the merits of a second run when we received word that the water had been turned off! Saved!

Paddling were: Don Norton and Bill Spencer in those funny little boats called ki-yack; Roger (funny helmet) Nott in an open; and Ken McAmis and Jack Weems in those beautiful boats that seem to be taking over.

Jack Weems

WANT ADS *** WANT ADS *** WANT ADS *** WANT ADS

FOR SALE: Lettman Mark V - factory layup - good condition - must sell. Best offer.

New World Downriver Kayak Paddle - RH control - 218 cm. long - excellent condition - only used twice - \$70.00.

Clement Canoe Paddle - 10"blade - brand new - 58" long - \$20.00.

Call David Jones - Office 261-6793
Home 355-4061

WANTED - 17' Aluminum, Shoe-keel Canoe for use at Boy's Camp. Would prefer donation but will pay cash. Roger Losier, 451-5133