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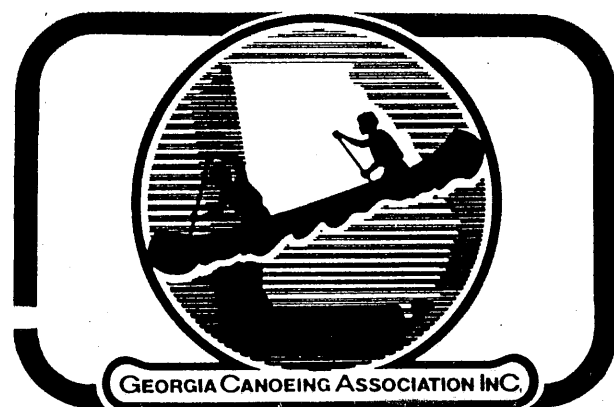
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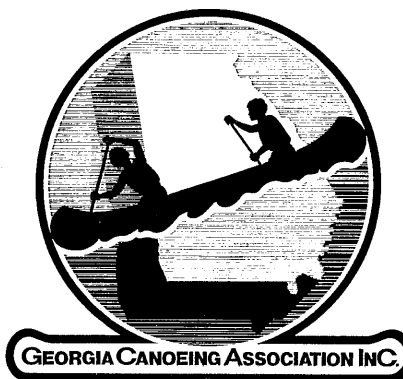
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# The EDDY LINE

POST OFFICE BOX 7023 • ATLANTA, GA 30357

Vol. 23, No. 6

June, 1988

DEADLINE for the next newsletter is the 7th! Send material to Gary DeBacher, 659 Scott Circle, Decatur, GA 30033. \*\* NOTE CHANGE OF ADDRESS! \*\* Please type border-to-border (zero margins) with indented paragraphs, and don't skip a line between paragraphs. This saves valuable space. Photos, cartoons, artwork, and clippings of interest to paddlers are also welcome. Ads are free for members selling used paddling equipment only. ADDRESS CHANGES, SUBSCRIPTION PROBLEMS AND MEMBERSHIP INQUIRIES: send to GCA, PO Box 7023, Atlanta, GA 30357, attn. membership chairperson. NEXT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING WILL BE THE FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7:30 PM, at the Atlanta Jewish Community Center at 1745 Peachtree Rd NE, Atlanta, just north of Brookwood Station next to an Int. House of Pancakes. Members and interested persons are invited to attend. If you wish to submit any matters for discussion or vote, call President Allen Hedden, 252-6167, so he can plan time on the agenda. EDDYLINE LATE? If your Eddyline has not arrived by the 10th, contact GCA Secretary Ed Scultz. If only a few newsletters are late or missing, Ed may mail backup copies. If many newsletters are late, we may all have to tough it out, getting schedule information from Ed or Gary DeBacher (634-4651), being reasonable about how much time and information we expect over the phone. Bulk rate mailing worked well the first two months, but some April newsletters were quite late. Make full use of the extended trip schedule in the previous issue before you hit the panic switch.

June 2 USFS Supervisor speaks at June GCA Board Meeting on Rabun County Airport.

\*\*\* GCA now has a telephone number-- 421-9729 \*\*\*  
This message will be repeated...

4 Broad	1-2, trained beginner	Jeff Engle	548-5015
Wildcard	2-3, intermediate	Bruce Bishop	641-1944
Chattooga 3	3-4, advanced	Charles Bruce	974-2481
5 Chattooga 2	1-2, trained beginner	Laura Jordan	1-803-834-4244
Upper Hooch	2-3, intermediate	Gerard Aberson	971-5914

11-12 GCA SOUTHEASTERN RACES-- NANTAHALA RIVER. Come up and help run the races.

18 Etowah Cleanup	1-2, trained beginner	Roger Nott	1-536-6923
Chattooga 3	3-4, advanced	Jeanne Peters, Dennis Crain	633-6487
Ocoee	3-4, very advanced	Greg Grant	1-615-755-4143
18-19 Beginning Canoeing and Kayaking Clinic	-- See flyer for details		
19 Nantahala	2-3, intermediate	Bill Gay	482-8568
Chattooga 4	3-5, expert	Emily Hitchcock	874-6167

21-Tuesday: Squirt Boat Workshop. See flyer for details.

25 Wildcard	2-3, intermediate	Dale Bergen	469-6289
Upper Hooch	2-3, interm.	Larry Castillo	565-8163
Wildcard	3+, advanced	Oreon Mann	522-3469
Children's Canoeing and Kayaking Clinic	- see flyer for details.		
26 Nantahala	2-3, interm.	Dewey Tate	355-5826
Ocoee	3-4, very advanced	Jim Silavent	587-1172

Wed. 29 Full Moon Metro Hooch Gwen Bergen 993-2336

July 2 Nantahala	2-3, interm.	Brad Nichol	973-3585
Chattooga 3	3-4, advanced	Andy Lyons	482-1713
3 Trip Leader Needed	2-3, intermediate	Call Jim Silavent	587-1172
4 Ocoee	3-4, very advanced	Oreon Mann	522-3469

9 N. Carolina Hiwassee	1-2, trained beginner	Greg Grant	1-615-755-4143
Wildcard	2-3, interm.	Dennis Crain	633-6487
Upper Hooch	2-3, "	Jim Biasco	426-8587

9-10 Intermediate Kayak Clinic	- See flyer for details.		
10 Tennessee Hiwassee	1-2+, easy intermediate	Jerry Holladay	321-6746
Wildcard	2-3, interm.	Jim Silavent	587-0527

Mon. 18 Ocoee 3-4, very advanced Greg Grant 1-615-755-4143

For weekday Ocoee trips (Monday, Thursday, Friday) call Greg Grant, 1-615-755-4143  
Call Rob Kerr for impromptu trips, 1-889-6566 Wunnerful Wensday on Metro Hooch- call Gary DeBacher at 634-4651.  
Float the Unknown- call Exploration Chairman Roger Nott for exploratory trips after heavy rains:1-536-5263 [Gainesville].  
To volunteer to lead trips, call Jim Silavent at 587-1172.

WATER, ANYWHERE? It's hard to remember when we haven't had a droughtish year. The last great, vintage, wet year we had was the season of '79, my first year as editor, and the cruismaster (Jimmy Gunter) had little trouble finding trip leaders then, especially since we usually had only two trips scheduled per weekend! Now we're hoping to have easy, intermediate and advanced trips both days of every weekend, but with little water, we're running out of ideas. For those who can travel, W.Virginia and SE Pennsylvania have been getting pretty good rainfall recently. Streams closer to the drought like the French Broad and Nolichucky are iffy, needing some rainfall late in the week to be worthwhile. That leaves us close to home with the gang of four, the Metro Hooch, Hiwassee, Nantahala, and Ocoee. You can add the lower Ocoee for floats, and the new alternate weekend NC Hiwassee releases (see trip list). Enough dam controlled nonsense; we need some new ideas. Send in your suggestions on how to survive the drought without running aground, and I'll share them with the membership in the next several issues. --Ed.



AT THE 20th ANNUAL GCA  
SOUTHEASTERN RACES ON THE NANTAHALA

N. Fla. week of rivers, Mar. 26-April 1. Everyone found the meeting place without any trouble. One individual, however, arrived after midnight, was locked out of the campground and had to spend the night in the vehicle. On Sunday we began on the Blackwater River and recent rains caused a higher than normal water level which, while not dangerous, did create a current fast enough to let us complete a normal three day trip in only two days. The section of the Blackwater we paddled is in a remote area with very little evidence of man except for a few bridge crossings and is a very pretty and clean river. A little over half way down we camped on a very large tri-level sandbar. There was a level for tents, another for cooking and eating, and one for the campfire and tall story telling. After taking off the river Monday afternoon, we reestablished a base camp for the day trips.

Tuesday it was on to the Sweetwater-Juniper Creek run. Sweetwater is a beautiful, narrow, twisting, canopied stream for two miles until it joins Juniper Creek. We did encounter one minor log jam on that stretch but that was to be expected that early in the spring. At the confluence with Juniper creek a couple of boats paddled up the Juniper to see if it was canoeable but returned in less than ten minutes after finding it blocked. While they were expending energy going upstream, the rest of the group relaxed and broke out the lunch on a nice little sandbar where the two creeks joined. As we continued downstream we came upon many areas where a number of different colored soils were visible in the banks which have been worn away over the years. In places the bluffs were thirty to forty feet high and very colorful.

Wednesday we paddled a section of Coldwater Creek that may very well be one of the most relaxing and most beautiful streams we've ever paddled. We'll definitely return for an overnigher. The current flow was such that very little serious paddling needed to be done. The scenery was just great and there were many large, beautiful, white sand beaches along the way that were just perfect for lunch stops, afternoon naps, swimming, and the wetting of a fishing line. One in particular was so popular with the group that nobody wanted to leave. At the end of the run we took out at our base camp and were "home" without the loading and shuttling of boats.

Thursday we went to the Shoal River which was quite pretty because the trees, bushes, and wild flowers were just coming into bloom. While there were many native azaleas and other colorful flowers to be seen, the river didn't have a lot to offer and was a bit of a let down after the others. It might be nice in the fall, however, when the leaves change.

Friday it was on to Econfina Creek which is a beautiful stream with three or four major springs. Most of them are very large and some in the group went snorkeling in the absolutely clear waters and just had a ball. This is another bit of water well worth a return visit.

One of the things we noted on this trip was the absence of wildlife compared to our other Fla. trips. We did see, however, a couple of ducks, a few turtles, a deer, three snakes, one very embarrassed female sunbather who did not hear our canoes approaching, and one young couple we caught skinny dipping in one of the springs.

Upon reflection, it becomes apparent that one can not adequately relate all the good times that were had during the trip. However, one can share a few memories of such things as hearing a lot of happy giggling in the middle of the night as folks returned to base camp from a local pizza parlor (?). One remembers how quickly some paddlers who normally do a lot of flat water racing and marathons adopted the more laid back GCA style. There are memories of long lazy lunches, naps on the sandbars, and warm campfires with good conversations and much laughter at night. Another pleasant memory is that of the old friendships that were rekindled and new ones that were formed. On the other hand, there is also the memory of a home made bug repellent so strong that it kept people away as well.

In addition to many good memories, there are also some interesting questions which come to mind. Such as, what was the significance of the noose one tandem team left in base camp when they departed? How did the group that went to get ice cream end up playing hide and seek with cars among the palmetto trees? Someone brought a person from the medical

profession as a paddling partner. Was that coincidence or planning based on experience? Does spaghetti really taste better with sand? Who deserved the no frills menu of the week award? Who, after saying "The water can't be as cold as in Maine", went in only knee deep? Perhaps the most interesting question is "Will we do it again?" You bet!!!!

One reason things went so well was Jack Sandborn and his crew at our base camp at Adventures Unlimited on the Coldwater River. They handled most of our shuttles, had a good campground, and were very friendly people who are paddlers to boot. We highly recommend them if you are near Milton Fla. and need outfitting, camping, shuttles, or just good advice. If you paddle the Econfina or the Shoal, we can give you information about the shuttle services there also.

Those who paddled included Lynell Benson, Yvonne Eppinga, Sue Hunter, Erica Johnson, Carol Mercer, Cathy Overby, Dick Butterworth, Marty Dyche, Howard Hughes, Bill Wallace, and trip leaders Anita and Don Langford.

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UPPER TALLULAH, Sat., Feb. 20, 1988 - We had a mild, mostly cloudy day and very low water, 2.24 on the gauge at the take-out. 2.4 would probably be a reasonable minimum for solo opens. Otey and Sehlinger suggest that 1.5 would be a minimum, but that would clearly be unrunnable. Despite low water we had a pleasant trip with no spills on a fine river. James and David volunteered to hitch-hike back to the put-in, where I had left my car keys, and quickly found generous locals who drove them, out of their way, directly there. Our crew, who were very charitable towards the senile trip leader, were Gary Plumlee in an OCA, Ken Shank in his Sunburst, James and LeAnn McCay paddling an OCA tandem, and David Plumlee in a kayak. Roger Nott (OCA)

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CHATTOOGA SECTION IV - Sat., March 19, 1988 - The scheduled Chauga Gorge trip had to be cancelled due to low water, a familiar theme for the past 5 years. However, the Chattooga at Hwy. 76 was running at 1.5 (downstream), enough for all of us who met at 9 a.m. at Hwy 76 Bridge to opt for private trips on the Chattooga. David Ashley (K-1), Richard Lawrence (C-1), Wayne Drummond (new Piranha), and Jay Sanders (K-1) opted for Section III. The rest of us enjoyed Section IV, though not the winds on the Lake. We had a warm, beautiful day and 14 boats, though I cannot seem to remember who the 14th was. (Senility again!) We paddled in two groups but met at lunch and at Five Falls, where all ran well. Kayaks: Doug Bailey, Wayne Gentry, Dickey Gowin, Mark Hicks, Emily Hitchcock, and Carol Wilson. OC-1: Allen Hedden, Brad Nichol, Jim Michaud from Connecticut, Doug Plauke, Ron Towe, and Roger Nott. Mark Levine paddled his C-1. We took our time and had a fun trip. Roger Nott

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VISIBLE once more through a miracle of **COMPUTER ENHANCEMENT** are Oron Mann & the lost paddlers of the Ocoee. If you, like Oron, have no control over when the ribbon gets changed on the company printer you use to bang out trip reports, remember to invoke NLQ (near letter quality) and/or doublestrike, also known as Bold, so that those little dots show up. Another trick is to photocopy the printout to increase contrast. I don't have access to a photocopy machine anymore, and it is difficult for Mark Levine to do once he receives the copy already pasted up. —Ed.

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OCOEE RIVER Saturday March 19 1988 cfs 1300 time 10:30 - 3:30. Participants Charles Brewer, Doug Pratt and Michael Doyle in K-1, Robert Weatherford in a Mohawk Scamp and myself in my Whitesell. Both Mike(2 rolls) and Robert were first timers with great runs, thanks to Doug for leading. We however had one Norse K-1 paddle broken and two swims from Doug, the Paddle was broken on the highway when two boats shifted. It could have been a little warmer but there were few rafts and other boats in our way. Oron Mann.

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For sale: Mad River "M E", D-anchors for solo or tandem, foam kneepads. Excellent condition- (little-old-lady-school-teacher-boat). \$700. or best offer. Will deliver. Call evenings. 912-754-6457 (John or Tee)

FOR SALE: Red Mad River 16' Explorer. 1 yr. old, only paddled on lower hooch, like new, perception end tanks. Tim Henderson - 938-3370 Doraville \$700.00

FOR SALE: Heavy duty canoe/kayak trailer with small old 90 cc Honda motorcycle. Great for single car paddling trips. \$400.00 Wayne Owens 436-5621

#### CABIN FOR RENT

Upper Chattahoochee. 7 miles from Helen. Best put-in on river (across from Smith Island). Sleeps 6. \$60.00 per night for 2 (\$5.00 each over 2). 928-0287 or 1-865-3941 -(weekends).

A reminder.... WANT ADS ARE FREE TO PAID-UP GCA MEMBERS SELLING USED PADDLING-RELATED EQUIPMENT ONLY. Ads for "new" equipment, or things like cabins, lots, rentals, bikes, sailboats, cars, etc., must include \$5 for up to 2 lines, \$10 for up to 5 lines. If you're not in the membership directory, call me or clip and send your newsletter address. Type your ad if possible. Keep it short, single-spaced, across the full width of the page. Please include all that you're selling in a single ad. Mail your ad before the 15th of the month to: Gary DeBacher, 659 Scott Circle, Decatur, GA 30033. Sorry, no ads taken on the phone. FREE ADS THAT DON'T FIT THIS FORMAT (5 lines or 7/8 inch vertically) WILL NOT BE RUN.