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GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION INC.

The EDDY LINE

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SEPTEMBER 1992

White Water '96 Proposal Goes to IOC

By Karen Rosen

The sport of white water canoe/kayak has paddled closer to a place in the 1996 Olympics. Billy Payne, President of the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games (ACOG), has agreed to take the State of Tennessee's proposal for hosting the event, which would be held on the Ocoee River, to the International Olympic Committee. The IOC Executive Board will decide whether to include white water slalom in the '96 Games at its meeting in Switzerland in December.

The sport was contested in Barcelona for the first time in the Olympics since 1972, but there are no guarantees it will remain part of the Games. Tennessee Governor Ned McWherter said he is optimistic the IOC will approve the proposal. ACOG spokesman Bob Brennan said Payne's endorsement is a step forward. "We've been working 3 1/2 years to do this," he said.

- Reprinted from an article in the Atlanta Constitution. □

Help Needed in Conservation

By Carol Mercer

We need help in transcribing for the Conservation Chairperson. In addition to newsletter articles, which I was unable to do this month, there is much correspondence to be done in the Conservation area. I have a recurring problem with my wrist when I spend much time on the keyboard, which prevents my doing all the typing / data entry associated with the position. Consequently, we desperately need someone to transcribe articles and correspondence.

If you can help, even an hour or two a month, please contact Carol Mercer at 373-6683. This is a real crisis, with so much going on right now in the Conservation area, and we REALLY need your help! We have all the equipment; we just need someone who can come by and operate it periodically. We are located in Northeast Atlanta in the 30307 area code. □

ACA Telephone Hot Line Numbers

The American Canoe Association (ACA) had established two telephone "hot lines" for the use of paddlers seeking information. They are "The Boating Education Hot Line" at 800-366-BOAT, "The Boating Safety Hot Line" at 800-366-5647.

Give the ACA a call for needed information if you like, and if you do, please let us know the kind of information put forth for everyone's benefit. □

What this country needs is more unemployed politicians. - Edward Langley

Inside This Issue:

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"A custom loathsome to the eye,
hateful to the nose, harmful to
the brain, dangerous to the lungs,
and in the black, stinking fumes
thereof, nearest resembling the
horrible Stygian smoke of the pit
that is bottomless."
- King James (C. 1604) on smoking

THE EDDY LINE is a publication of the Georgia Canoeing Association, Inc. Views and opinions expressed in articles and editorials are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the official views and policies of the club. Articles and trip reports are edited only for grammar, punctuation, spelling, vulgar or obscene language, and to fit in allocated space. No substantive changes are made in any material published herein. THE EDDY LINE is not copyrighted, and all material published herein and not individually designated as copyrighted may freely be copied, reprinted, republished or otherwise disseminated to any other paddling organization. Credit is appreciated.

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Who Ya Gonna Call?

The following list is provided for your convenience:

For general information about the club - Call the club telephone number and leave a message. Someone will get back to you. **To volunteer to help with club business** - Call President Jim Silavent at 587-1172 or contact the committee chairperson for your area of interest. **For information on payment of dues** - Call Treasurer Ed Schultz at 266-3734. **To sign up for a club trip** - Call the trip coordinator at the number listed on the trip calendar. **To sign up to lead a club trip** - Call Karla Bowman at 923-0954. **For a change of address or for Eddyline subscription information** - Call Ed Schultz at 266-3734 or Scott Wilhelm at 449-3835. **If you didn't receive your Eddyline** - Call Ed Schultz at 266-3734 or Scott Wilhelm at 449-3835. **For information on GCA clinics** - Call the clinic coordinator listed on the clinic schedule, or call Canoe Training Directors Barney and Sherry Spurr at 461-8760, or Kayak Training Director John Bell at 404-345-5504. **For information on roll practice** - Call Roll Practice Coordinator Allen Hedden at 426-4318. **For information on placing want ads in the Eddyline** - Call Newsletter Editor Allen Hedden at 426-4318, or see "To place an ad" in the Want Ad section of the Eddyline. **For information on commercial ads** - Call Advertising Director Barry Hahn at 252-9538. **For water level information** - Call the number for the particular river listed in the back of the GCA Directory. □

Deadlines

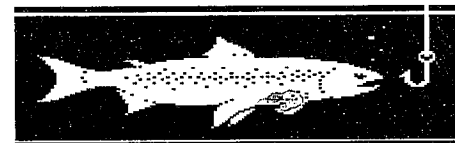
Deadline for material to be submitted for publication in the next Eddy Line is the fifth of the month. The editor must receive all articles, trip reports and classified ads by the fifth of the month or they WILL NOT be published in the next issue. If you have access to a computer, please submit articles or trip reports on a 5-1/4 or 3-1/2 in. disk as an ASCII file labeled .TXT and include a printed copy (Disks will be returned if requested). Send all material to: Allen Hedden, 2923 Piedmont Drive, Marietta, Ga. 30066. Hand-written or phoned in material CANNOT be accepted. Your cooperation is deeply appreciated. □

Board Meetings

Board of Directors meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month. All interested members are encouraged to attend. The meetings are at the Atlanta Jewish Community Center on Peachtree Street across from Brookwood Station beginning at 7:30 P.M., but come a little early and socialize. If you have an item for discussion please call President Jim Silavent at 587-1172 so he can add your item to the agenda. Attending Board meetings is a great way to become more involved with the GCA. □

GCA Officers

President Jim Silavent
Vice President Evelyn Hopkins
Secretary Bronwyn Fowlkes
Treasurer Ed Schultz
Cruisemaster Karla Bowman
Editor Allen Hedden
Membership Scott Wilhelm
Kayak Trng John Bell
Canoe Trng Barney & Sherry Spurr



Video Tapes Available! From GCA Librarian Walter Howard

The following tapes are available to any GCA member. All you have to do is:

- A. Call Walter Howard at 404-694-3557 to find out what tapes are available.
- B. Make arrangements to pick up the materials or have them mailed.
- C. Return them ASAP with \$2.00 per tape for postage so others can check them out.

The current library has the following video tapes available:

1. Expedition Earth - Bio Bio in Chile - Nolan Whitesell
2. Canoes by Whitesell - Nolan Whitesell
3. Ultimate Canoe (Niagara Gorge & Other Rivers) - Nolan Whitesell
4. First Descents (North Fork Payette) - Nolan Whitesell
5. Only Nolan (Canoe Technique) - Nolan Whitesell

The following books are available:

1. Song of the Paddle, by Bill Mason - Illustrated guide to wilderness camping.
2. Path of the Paddle, by Bill Mason - Illustrated guide to the art of canoeing.
3. Paddle to the Amazon - The World's Longest Canoe Trip

Following our Fall Membership Meeting, Nolan Whitesell donated us a copy of his video, Expedition Earth - Bio Bio in Chile. He only asks that you enjoy it but do not copy it! Also, Barry Hahn donated a great book, Song of the Paddle, by Bill Mason, to the library. Be sure and thank Barry and Nolan for their generosity the next time you see them. Thanks guys!

Any/all donations or loans to the library are welcome. Send them to:
Walter Howard
303 Charolais Trail
Cohutta, GA 30710 □

CLASSIFIED ADS

TO PLACE AN AD - Want ads are free to dues-paid GCA members. Send your type-written ad to: Allen Hedden, 2923 Piedmont Dr., Marietta, Ga. 30066. NO PHONED-IN OR HAND-WRITTEN ADS. All ads will be run for two issues unless otherwise requested.

HELP WANTED - Yes, the GCA needs your help. We need volunteers to serve on committees, do data entry, label and mail newsletters, etc. Call 421-9729 and leave a message.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Blue Hole Sunburst with Perception saddle, knee pads. Near perfect condition. \$625. Call Mike at 934-5842 evenings or leave message.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Sawyer 18' Goldenglass, fast. Excellent cruiser / expedition boat. Stored inside - excellent condition. \$600. Call Rich or Mary Beth at 904-282-8091.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Sunburst II - air bags, thigh straps, paddle and grunch pads included. \$600. Martin Kite - 761-0500 or 1-800-486-2344.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Mohawk XL-13. Perception saddle, Yakima foot pegs and air bags included. Good condition. \$450. Bob Yager 404-234-4933.

FOR SALE - 2 - Mohawk XL-13's. (1) blue with blue air bags, Perception saddle, Yakima foot braces, paddled by my wife, almost brand new. \$700. (1) red with red air bags, Perception saddle, Yakima foot braces, paddled a lot, but still in very good condition. \$525. Gary Latham 514-1441 (d) 516-9645 (n).

FOR SALE - Canoe, Mad River Flashback III, with Silver Hill Saddle, air bags. Paddled four times. Excellent condition. \$625. Must go! Call Mike or Pam 473-9020.

FOR SALE - Car - 1964 Volvo. Great river car! Joseph 888-0428.

FOR SALE - Lettmann Hyperform

decked C-1 slalom boat. \$100. Has a very light lay-up of kevlar with carbon ribs and is in good condition with only a few patches. It does need outfitting, however. Contact Alan Bailey at 912-686-2138.

FOR SALE - C-1, Perception Spectra, air bags and sprayskirt. Great shape! \$100. Must Go! Call Mike or Pam 473-9020.

FOR SALE - House near Nantahala Outdoor Center in the gorge. Silvermine Road 1 mile from Lost Mine Campground. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, kitchen/living room area, large porch overlooking pond. \$40,000. Call Thayer or Allen Grumbine 803-288-0212.

FOR SALE - Kayak, New Wave T-Bird squirt boat, excellent condition (size 9 shoes, 30 inch inseam, 145 lbs.) with new Tight skirt. \$600. Phoenix Ocoee fiberglass kayak, good condition. \$200 with foam pillars. Nordic Trak ski machine for off river training, like new, \$350. Yakima racks with extend kit for small car without gutters, less than one year old, \$150. Call Mark Watson at H 706-769-0107 or W 706-542-1869.

FOR SALE - Kayak - Noah Odyssey / Expedition. Immaculate condition!! Joseph 888-0428.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Perception Dancer, blue with Perception Harmony paddle, brand new spray skirt (small), air bags, and life jacket. Very good condition, ready to paddle. \$450. Gary Latham 514-1441 (d) 516-9645 (n).

FOR SALE - Kayak, Prijon T Canyon. Large spray skirt, air bags, large PFD. Paddled one year, like new. \$525. Must go! Mike or Pam 473-9020.

FOR SALE - Liquidation sale: Antiques, baskets, dishes, household items, vases, lamps, paddle, life

jacket, lawn tools, dog leashes, antique picture frames, large airline dog kennel, classic business suits (sizes 6 & 8), blouses, rugs, water bottles, flashlights, camping gear (stoves, lamp), leather brief case, etc. Lots of quality items. Stop by, take a look, make an offer. E J, 404-479-6209 @ exit 10, I-575, on the way to the rivers.

FOR SALE - Mountain bike - Trek 800 Antelope. 20". 3 years old. Good Condition. \$250. Jan Kerr, night 706-889-6566 or day 404-662-2401.

LOST - Paddle, Perception Harmony, with the name Mark Artis / Miami was lost on the Ocoee on Sunday, July 19. If anyone has found it please call David Stanton in Atlanta at 404-252-6962. Thanks!

New River, W. Va. - Labor Day Weekend, September 5-7. Paddlers interested in driving to W. Va. for the weekend, contact Bruce Williams, 231-5624 (H) or 529-0679 (W). Should be competent on Class 4+ water, e.g. Ocoee & Section IV.

PRIVATE INSTRUCTION - Kayak, C-1, C-2 technique. Beginner to competition. Steve Thomas - 921-2942 7-9pm.

WANTED TO BUY - Perception Dancer Kayak with accessories or a very comparable boat. Call Clark Stephens at 591-4044.

WANTED TO BUY - Kayak and Canoe - Perception Dancer XS, Corsica S, or similar type kayak for small female; Mohawk XL-13 or similar type canoe. Can work a trade with a '91 model Dagger Encore. Call Richard at 487-5948. □



The July issue of the Eddy Line contained a copy of a letter to Governor Miller from river rights activist Andy Warshaw requesting that the State of Georgia enter the law suit concerning Armuchee Creek on behalf of the GCA and Benny Young. Governor Miller's answer is printed below. - Editor.



STATE OF GEORGIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
ATLANTA 30334-0900

Zell Miller
GOVERNOR

July 21, 1992

Mr. Andrew J. Warshaw
Georgia Canoeing Association, Inc.
608 Hardendorf Avenue, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30307

Dear Mr. Warshaw:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the need to determine what streams in Georgia are available to the public for recreational use such as canoeing and paddling.

As you may be aware, at the request of the Department of Natural Resources, the State Law Department filed an amicus ("friend of the court") brief in the appeal recently filed to the Georgia Supreme Court in the case of Georgia Canoeing Association v. Henry. Although that appeal was not successful in effectuating a change in the ruling of the Chattooga County Superior Court in favor of the landowners which granted an interlocutory injunction against the plaintiffs, it is my understanding from your letter that a subsequent hearing or trial may be held in that case at the trial court level. The Department of Natural Resources has received an indication from the State Law Department that it would once again participate in the case at the appellate level if the occasion arises.

I wish you good luck in your efforts to resolve this case in favor of expanded recreational opportunities for the citizens of Georgia.

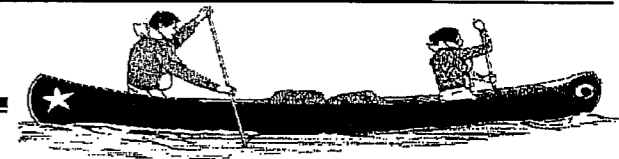
With kindest regards, I remain

Sincerely,

Zell Miller

ZM/cwc

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES



September

5 Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Bill Mann	242-7748
5 Upper Hooch	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Pat Hagan	393-1420
6 Ocoee	Class 3-4 Advanced	Sid Reams	912-244-9488
6 French Broad	Class 2-4 Interm.-Advanced	Rob Kerr	706-889-6566
6 Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Barry Hahn	252-9538
7 Middle Chestatee Kids Trip (All adults must be accompanied by a responsible child)	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Roger Nott	706-536-6923
12 Ocoee Primer (Clinic)	See Clinic Flyer	Barney & Sherry Spurr	461-8760
12 Upper Hooch	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Nancy Barker	874-8897
13 Upper Hooch	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Jim Silavent	587-1172
13 Ocoee First Timers (Ocoee Primer Recommended)	Class 3-4 Advanced	Barney & Sherry Spurr	461-8760
19 Chattooga II	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Laura Jordon	803-836-8498
19 Nacoochee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Carol Mercer	373-6683
19 Toccoa	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Hank Baudet	706-492-4318
19 Upper Gauley	Class 4-5 Expert	Wayne & Susan Gentry	706-654-2725
20 Upper Hooch	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Oreon Mann	522-3469
20 Upper Gauley	Class 4-5 Expert	Wayne & Susan Gentry	706-654-2725
26 Upper Hooch	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Dennis Crain	633-6487
26 Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Haynes Johnson	971-1542
26 Broad	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Jeff Engel	706-548-5015
27 Ocoee	Class 3-4 Advanced	Gwen Bergen	664-1657
27 Cartecay	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Jerry Peterman	257-1749

October

3 Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Pat Hagan	393-1420
3 Upper Hooch	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Nancy Barker	874-8897
3 Ocoee	Class 3-4 Advanced	Rhett Smith	297-1995
4 Ocoee	Class 3-4 Advanced	Julie Keller	939-0202
10 Chattooga II	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Laura Jordon	803-836-8498
10 Broad	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Jim Ledvinka	706-353-3027
10 Upper Hooch	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Polly Heyward	237-4503

Fall General Membership Meeting during October - date, time and place to be announced in October Eddy Line!

Summer Roll Practice at Stone Mountain Lake Wednesday 6pm thru September Brent Coleman 706-867-4061

TO VOLUNTEER TO LEAD TRIPS: Call the Cruisemaster Karla Bowman at 923-0954. As usual, we need trip coordinators for all types of trips, from flat water to class 5 white water. Our excellent trip schedule depends on the efforts of volunteers, so get involved and sign up to coordinate a trip on your favorite river today! The GCA needs YOU!

CHATTOOGA TRIPS are limited to 12 boats on ANY section on ANY trip, club trip or private (USFS regulation). Your cooperation in protecting this National Wild and Scenic River is appreciated.



Announcements

1993 GCA Officers Nominated

The GCA Nominating Committee has submitted nominations for the 1993 term to the Board of Directors for their approval. The approved nominees will be voted on by the membership at large at the Fall General Membership Meeting in October. Nominations are as follows:

President	Jim Silavent
Vice President	Evelyn Hopkins
Secretary	David Newbern
Treasurer	Ed Schultz
Cruisemaster	Adrian Freeman
Newsletter Editor	Allen Hedden
Membership Director	Scott Wilhelm
Kayak Training Director	John Bell
Canoe Training Director	Barney & Sherry Spurr

From The Boardroom

Details of the August 6 Board of Directors meeting were not available at press time due to an early publication deadline caused by Editor's and Publisher's vacation schedules. See next month's Eddy Line for this information. □

Nantahala River Project Wish List

As reported on last month, the U.S. Forest Service unveiled its "wish list" of "improvements" for the Nantahala River area at a meeting held with interested parties during the NOC's twentieth anniversary celebration. The following is that "wish list":

Nantahala River Launch Site:

1. Re-pave the parking lot.
2. Develop water system and provide public drinking water.
3. Design and construct a new restroom facility with flush toilets.
4. Decide whether to redesign launching pool area or live with annual maintenance cost of removing sediment from pool.
5. If a decision is made to remove sediment from the launching pool on an annual basis, then pavement to the pool must be re-designed to support heavy equipment used in removing sediment.
6. Develop an interpretive display at the launch site (we

need to develop an entire interpretive plan and theme for the entire gorge).

7. Build a kiosk at both ends of the Nantahala Gorge.

Expanded Nantahala River Launch Site Parking Facility:

1. Develop paved parking area.
2. Consider a walkway over US Highway 19 to provide a safe travel way for visitors walking from the new parking area to the Nantahala River Launching Site. Walkway should be wide enough to transport rafts to and from the new parking area (this idea will probably be dropped because most people will try to cross the road versus using the walkway).
3. If it is impossible to locate a restroom facility at the Launch Site, we could consider a restroom at the new parking lot.

Patton's Run Overlook:

1. Consider paving the site.
2. Look at trails leading to the River from the overlook to determine if they are the standard needed to meet visitor needs.
3. Examine visitor use along the River below the overlook. What resource damage is taking place and are developed walkways and/or viewing areas needed.
4. Interpretive display opportunity here.
5. Give garbage receptacle, type and location, some thought here.
6. Be sure existing fence meets safety standards.

Additional Launch Facility:

1. Consider developing access and launching facility.
2. Consider the possibility of developing a campground and/or day use recreational facility in this area.
3. If a campground is not feasible but a new launch site is possible, then consider developing this into a commercial only launch site and convert the existing Nantahala River Launch Site into strictly non-commercial use or vice versa.

Cost-Share Interpretive Display:

1. Develop an interpretive display as a challenge cost-share project with NOC and Great Smoky Mountains Railway.
2. Consider interpretive theme we want to develop.

Ferebee Memorial Recreation Area:

1. Develop water system and provide public drinking water.
2. Design and construct a restroom facility.
3. Consider enlarging the existing put-in/take-out area or

Big South Fork of the Cumberland River

By Greg Grant

Saturday, March 14. After two years of bad water levels for this trip, it was good to see a medium level of 2000 cfs (6.6') at Leatherwood Ford. In 1990, we made the run at 1000 cfs - an OK level for the Gorge, but a real scrapey run down the Clear Fork.

Last year we arrived to find the BSF running 40,000 cfs! With everything in the area flooded out, there was not much else to do but wait a day for the water to drop in order to catch that elusive gem of the Cumberland Plateau - Crab Orchard Creek.

Anyway, this year gave us a super level for the large number of first timers on this magnificent run. Unfortunately, our pre-arranged shuttle with Sheltopee Trace Outfitters didn't materialize due to a flat tire on the outfitter's van. So we loaded all of the folks and boats into two vehicles and set off on the 45 minute shuttle to Burnt Mill Bridge. It was an interesting shuttle with four open boats, one C-1 and four paddlers loaded in and on my truck.

Once on the river, we made it down the Clear Fork with only one swim at Funnel Rapid. With only one swim below Double Falls, the group made it through the first

two rapids of the Big Three. However, then came The "L". This is probably the toughest level to run this class IV rapid. Over half of the group "ate it" at The "L".

After The "L" had its lunch, we stopped for ours. The break gave us a chance to warm up in the sun, relax and enjoy some of the spectacular scenery of the Gorge. After a couple more swims at A Kicker and Rion's Eddy, we arrived at the Canyon Section of the BSF, which the group ran smoothly. The surfing wave at the bottom of the Canyon Rapids was really kicking that day.

The last two miles of this run are a chance to wind down and reflect on another great day on the South Fork. The group was a mix of GCA and Tennessee Valley Canoe Club (Chattanooga) boaters. Ironically, everyone on the trip had a red boat! *Remember what the old river guru said - "If you ain't got a red boat, you ain't s__t!"* - Editor.

It was also good to paddle with Betsy Darken again. Betsy had a super day on only her second paddling trip since the birth of her son Bobby last September.

I hope another GCA member will be willing to lead this annual trip next year, since I will be away on a sabbatical in Salt Lake City.


The players: OC-1: Gary Latham, Rob Mebane, Tim Henderson, Mark Williams, Bill Turner, Greg Albritton, Mike Graves, Greg Grant; C-1: Betsy Darken. □

TIRED OF PADDLING SOFT PLASTIC?

LINEAR PLASTIC BOATS DON'T HAVE TO BE SOFT AND FLEXIBLE. EURO KAYAKS SETS NEW STANDARDS IN DESIGN, SAFETY AND DURABILITY WITH 4000 LB. TEST GRAB LOOPS, SOLID BOWCAPS AND SUPER THICK, EXTREMELY TOUGH YET LIGHT PLASTIC!



PROBE/BUBBLE
This is the original spud boat. Super tough and roomy. Nimble but stable for learning and steep creeks!



EURO-KAYAKS



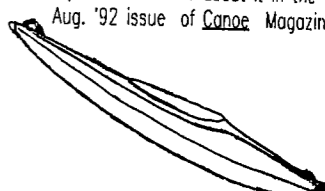
ENIGMA
The world's only roto-moulded squirt boat. Read about it in the Aug. '92 issue of *Canoe Magazine*



CONQUEST
This boat fills the gap in today's plastic boat market as the all around boat for smaller, lighter paddlers. Fast and extremely responsive!



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CYPHUR
This is a surfing machine! Quicker turning, comfortable and tracks better than other boats in its class.

BUT WAIT! WE ALSO HAVE: KOBER/MOLL PADDLES, WATERWORKS/PLAYBOATER SPRAYDECKS, EURO KAYAK DRY TOPS AND PADDLE JACKETS AND MORE!
Contact Dick Gowin for information and demonstrations at (404) 987-8423

LEAU VME 1992

that was the person's claim after emerging sans a new pair of booties. Joe fished the swimmer out with a great rope throw, and Cayenne learned a bunch of new words to describe an unhappy canoeing experience, most with four letters.

Another group of paddlers was behind us, and they left a canoe in the hole next to Rooster Tail for about ten minutes before it finally washed out. Needless to say, the rock gardens around the remainder of the river were without rocks, just large numbers of 3-4 foot standing waves.

Cayenne said it was the most fun she had ever had on a river, because she likes the waves. There were others on the trip who disagreed.

Participants were Becky and Cayenne Engel, and Lynn Meharg and Marie Meharg-Fischbeck tandeming, Dan Roper and me, Jeff Engel solo canoes. □

Chattahoochee, Nacoochee Section

By Dick Hurd

Sunday, July 26, 1992. We met at the Cleveland, Georgia, post office after a few of us had breakfast at Ma Gooch's, then ran over to the Sautee Creek put-in. Because of very restricted space at the 115 Bridge take-out, we left only one car, so I could only accommodate seven other drivers, which limited the trip size. Nonetheless, we had twelve boats, with one paddler planning to drop off at the 255 Bridge (eventually three did).

Weather was nice and water adequate. Many paddlers were honing new skills, and were on their first GCA trip. I think the most fun was had at the Smith Island Rapid, where we had multiple runs, a few spills, some body and boat surfing, and a good time.

There is now a cable running across the river above the rapid, purpose unknown. It is visually unattractive; hope it doesn't mean our old nemesis is back. *Our old nemesis is dead, Dick, a victim of his own hand.* -Editor.

This is a good section for the beginning paddler and should be run more often. Participants were: Chuck Koukol, Bob Yarbrough, Charles Clark, Sheila Small, Carrie Stempler, Gerry and Susan Botha, Debbie Kock, Susan Watson, Dick and Wanda Hurd, Janet Perkins, Craig Shapiro, and Morris Friedman. Thanks to Sheila and Bob for doing some shuttle duty. □



Mountaintown Creek Canoe Fishing

By Tom Martin

June 20, 1992. Mountaintown Creek is an extremely scenic mountain stream, but it is seldom run, probably because it is seasonal and because the put-ins and/or take-outs are not exactly ideal. June is the last month I would attempt it, and even then we needed rain.

Well... we got rain in the week preceding the trip and were blessed with a sunny, warm day for the trip itself. Water flow, while not optimal, was quite sufficient. We got stuck a few times, but not enough to be depressing.

There were plenty of mild rapids early on to keep us awake, and near the end there were about 4 or 5 more challenging drops that by themselves would have made the trip worthwhile. There is one just before the confluence with the Coosawattee River that I believe needs to be rated a class 3 for safety sake. The drop is only about four feet, but the landing can be tricky. I've seen more experienced paddlers than myself swim here.

The wildlife was worth noting. Spotting a fox on the way caused me to miss a turn-off. John and Josh spotted a "fat black" snake shortly after the put-in (Are there cottonmouths in this area?). *I know of no documented cases of cottonmouth sightings north of Atlanta.* - Editor. I had a young beaver swimming underwater beside my boat for a short way. And of course, we saw plenty of kingfishers. I've seen wild turkey in the area, but none showed themselves this time.

Participating were Bill McCalley, John and Josh Sieweke, and your coordinator, Tom Martin in a total of three open canoes, the bare minimum for a trip on this river. With the small number, we exercised an extra measure of caution at times. But everyone demonstrated skills equal to the task, making even the more difficult stretches uneventful, and my job a pleasure.

Jay Srymanske (M. O. E.) has done an excellent job of coordinating trips on this river in the past. I always enjoy this one (It's just about my most fav-o-rite!). I enjoyed the group's company and support, and I'll be back to run it again (next year).

Almost forgot!! The fishing?! Just because the Game and Fish Division lists this as a year round trout stream doesn't mean there are fish. We did catch some, but not what we were fishing for. Earlier in the spring might have been better. □

"Ninety percent of the politicians give the other ten percent a bad reputation."

- Henry Kissinger

constructing a new put-in or take-out facility.

4. Evaluate existing parking facilities and the possibility of re-design and/or expansion.

5. Consider the addition of more picnic sites - better utilization of entire area.

6. Consider flat area down and across the River as a potential launch site.

Area Across the Road From Ferebee:

1. Evaluate potential for small campground.

2. Consider development for additional parking and/or picnic area.

3. Consider potential for developing additional put-in/take-out facility.

4. May have to pump sewage from Ferebee to this area for a drain field.

Pull-offs and Picnic Site Development All Along US Hwy 19:

1. Examine existing picnic sites maintained by the state for impact problems and potential for upgrade.

2. Inventory potential picnic sites for possible development along entire corridor.

3. Examine existing pull-off/parking areas used for sight-seeing activities and determine rehabilitation needs.

4. Inventory potential pull-off/parking areas. Determine development potential for parking and viewing area of these sites.

5. Look at safety aspect of existing pull-offs and picnic sites.

6. Develop strategy for operating and maintaining these sites.

Parking and Craft Beaching Facilities:

1. Relocate US Hwy 19 to decrease severity of curve and provide space for parking area.

2. Develop limited time parking area.

3. Study feasibility of flush toilet restroom construction and waste treatment in area of parking lot. If waste treatment is not feasible on National Forest, explore the possibility of tying into and contracting with NOC's waste treatment facility (They might be interested because if we develop a restroom, it should decrease the public's use of their restroom facilities).

4. If waste treatment solution possible, develop water system for drinking and use in restrooms.

5. Develop beaching area for boaters where they exit the river to look at Nantahala Falls.

6. Develop trail from the beaching area to the boardwalk in order to eliminate tripping hazards and reduce erosion problems. (Consider elevated pre-cast walkway.)

7. Consider interpretive opportunities.

8. Rock overhang needs to be analyzed for its potential as a safety hazard.

Boardwalk and Viewing Sites From The Falls to The Take-out:

1. Design and construct walkway from the take-out area to trail above the Falls.

a. Design for wheelchair accessibility.

b. Use natural rock as foundation as seen in Smoky Mountain National Park.

c. Include amphitheater design for seating.

d. Include photography permit area.

e. Include turnouts for people to pass when carrying water craft.

f. Include stairways to the River.

2. Determine with the Highway Department the type of barriers to use between the walkway and US 19.

The New Take-out:

1. Design and construct an extension of the parking area to the land line in accordance to what TVA and the Corps will allow.

2. Design and construct decking and take-out area along the River for craft removal adjacent to entire length of parking area in accordance with what TVA will allow.

3. Design flow of traffic scheme within take-out parking area.

4. Pave take-out facility.

5. Consider layout for separating commercial versus non-commercial use and effective management of both.

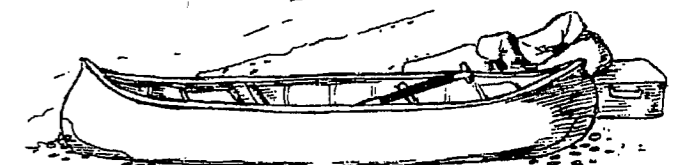
6. Consider safety problems of traffic entering Highway from take-out area and possible development of a turning lane.

The Old Take-out at Silvermine:

1. Determine how this site should be managed. Should it become a parking facility or remain a take-out of some type?

2. Work with NOC in approving a design for construction of a walkway across Silvermine Creek in order to eliminate the safety hazard that now exists from people having to walk so close to the highway.

Consider Concessionaire for Parking and Shuttle Bus. □



More Announcements

New Organization Formed for River Rights

A new sportsman organization has recently been formed in Albany, Georgia, known as S.O.S., for Save Our Streams. The main objective of the organization is to keep the streams in Georgia open to sportsmen for their use and enjoyment. Georgia is presently saddled with some very antiquated laws that give a land owner who owns both sides of a non-navigable (i.e. not able to support barge traffic a certain number of months a year) stream the right to close it or deny access. Possibly new legislation is needed in this area to keep streams open.

Normally we associate the letters "SOS" with the old maritime term "save our ship", or a distress signal. This is the name chosen for Save Our Streams, a state-wide organization to keep all streams open to the public. A sportsman should be able to float down a stream in Georgia without being worried about being arrested for criminal trespass, or some irate land owner shooting at him or his boat.

This battle has been compared to David against Goliath. We all know who won that battle, but David had a sling and some stones. Just maybe SOS will be the sling and stones David needs. A board of directors is being chosen, and probably legal council will be retained to concentrate efforts in the proper and legal direction to be pursued state-wide.

Membership dues are a modest \$10 per year. This could possibly be the best \$10 you could spend for you and your descendants. To join, send your check payable to S.O.S. to: Post Office Box 71954, Albany, Georgia 31707, along with any comments you want to make.

- Editor's note: This group was formed as a result of a 14 mile stretch of Itchawaynotchaway Creek in Baker County being closed to the public by the Joseph W. Jones Ecological Research Center. I have printed this article to let everyone know what I know about this group. It is a composite of several articles and letters from other sources. It is in no way an endorsement of the group or its cause. I have not done enough research or verification to confirm that it is a reliable organization worth sending your donations to. If anyone has hard information about the group and its credentials, please let me know for the edification of the membership. □

"If it weren't for the last minute, nothing would ever get done."

- Anonymous

Those Yough Fees

Four bucks, four bucks, four bucks. No, it's not a Pizza Hut commercial. It's the sound of a cash register on the Youghiogheny River at Ohiopyle State Park. In case you haven't heard, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources has initiated a new "white water boating" fee on the Lower Yough this year.

The fee is directed at private boaters —kayakers, canoeists and private rafters. Pennsylvania paddlers are leading the effort to fight this fee, which they believe is discriminatory and represents a dangerous erosion of public resources. Here's what you can do to help:

- Boycott the lower Yough during all fee collection hours. Avoid camping at Ohiopyle State Park and refuse to purchase anything in the area. Hit 'em where it hurts — in the wallet.

- If you live outside of Pennsylvania, call 1-800-VISIT-PA. Let the state's tourism promoters know that you won't be visiting any state that charges you to paddle a river. Tell them you'll be taking yourself—and your wallet — elsewhere for vacations and river trips. Call for the principal of it—even if you weren't planning a trip to Pennsylvania this year.

- Participate in a boat-in! The first will be held Saturday, May 23, at Ohiopyle. What do you do? Just show up at the park by 8 a.m. Enjoy any facility that is still free of charge (remember this does not include the river). Then, when the "toll booth" closes at 3 p.m., you may even want to paddle the Loop. We're hoping for a big turnout and media coverage. We need lots of participation to be effective! Other boat-ins are planned for June 27, July 25, and August 22.

- Display a bumper sticker! Bumper stickers with the message "Just Say No to Yough User Fee" are available (\$1 donation optional). Proceeds will be used to help defray printing, postage, and other costs to oppose the fee. To get yours, send a self-addressed stamped No. 10 envelope with your donation to: Keystone River Runners c/o Debbie Patz 35 E. Burrell St. Blairsville, Pa. 15717.

- Make everyone aware of this problem. This issue doesn't just affect boaters — it affects everyone who wants to use a state park. This is a fundamental question — are our public parks on their way to becoming private parks, reserved for the use of those who can afford to pay fees? The Pennsylvania DER calls the charge a "user fee", set to ensure that private boaters pay their "fair share" to use state park facilities like bathrooms and parking lots (facilities, incidentally, that are free of charge to all other park user and that Pennsylvanians support with their tax dollars). The state park calls it a "reservation/allocation fee." Trouble is, you pay regardless of whether you call ahead for a launch

time or just show up to paddle the river. The fee is \$4 per person —\$1.50 for the shuttle fee that private boaters were already paying, and \$2.50 for the "reservation". The state is figuring on making hundreds of thousands of dollars from private boaters every year. And that money won't be coming back to Ohiopyle either—it'll go into the fund that supports all Pennsylvania state parks.

The cash register started ringing April 4. And if Pennsylvania succeeds in making this rule stick, who knows where the buck(s) will stop next! There are lots and lots of rivers under government control and/or with controlled access. Paddlers figure it won't be too long before they're faced with a "pay if you want to play" situation on many other rivers. Incidentally, rivers aren't the only public resources that are affected in Pennsylvania. The state has also initiated a "reservation fee" for hikers who want to use the shelters on Laurel Highlands Trail.

If you'd like more information on this issue, feel free to contact Phil or Debbie Patz at (412) 459-8631, Tom Irwin at (412) 537-6363, or Ron Gardner at (412) 676-2267. Thanks for whatever you can do to help!

- Reprinted from the "Cruiser", newsletter of the Canoe Cruisers Association of Washington, D.C. □

Alabama Theft Alert

By Jim Dowdy

Since I couldn't get back from Arkansas recently (June 14) in time to join HCC paddlers on the Locust Fork, I drove down to the Mulberry in hope of finding some experienced paddlers with whom to run shuttle and tag along. On arriving at the put-in, I luckily found two experienced folks (David and Phyllis) from Jacksonville already in their boats. They were planning to hitch a ride back from the take-out, but decided to delay their launch and run the shuttle with me.

They had been down at the river no more than ten minutes when I arrived, but when Phyllis and I got back up to our cars, her purse and some money in the pockets of Dave's pants had been stolen from their Isuzu Trooper. The door had been re-locked. Two cars without roof racks had been leaving the area as I had pulled up. Given the short amount of time, one or both of them almost certainly contained the thieves. It didn't occur to me to check their tag numbers.

As we began to meet other paddlers on the river, the topic of the theft came up. At least one member of every party had been the victim of theft recently. Here is a summary of the information from those conversations:

Thefts have been occurring regularly, especially during the week, but also on weekends, at both the

Mulberry and the Locust Fork, at both the put-ins and the take-outs. Apparently different groups are responsible at the two different rivers. At the Locust Fork, the modus operandi is to smash the windows and take anything of value. The word was that the police had caught this group.

At the Mulberry, they are using a "Slim Jim" to open the locks and usually take specific things. For example, they've taken money from a wallet that was in the pocket of pants which were folded up, but they left one dollar, replaced the wallet in the pants, and refolded the pants. Cute! The word was that they have been hitting nearly every car at one end of the river or the other, so for now you can expect it to be a likely occurrence.

- Reprinted from the newsletter of the Huntsville Canoe Club. □

Trip Reports

Broad River

By Jeff Engel

March 7, 1992. I have kept putting off writing this trip report. Now that it is mid summer, I guess it better be done. It had rained most of the week before the trip, so when people called, I warned them the water level might be high. Some decided not to come, others were non-committal, and some did show up. The water level turned out to be four feet, and it was flowing past the put-in at an incredible speed. I decided, with trepidation, not to cancel the trip, although we did delay about 3/4 hour, hoping some more experienced people would show up. Just as we were getting in, Joe Webb (OC-1) and Loren ?? (K-1) arrived, greatly boosting my confidence.

At four feet, there are practically no rocks visible anywhere on the Broad. We did not stop (could not stop?) for anything until the First Ledge. Scouting showed that the normal left side route looked nasty for our inexperienced group. Joe and Loren directed us through a normally unrunnable place in the center, and most of us got through almost gracefully.

Lunch Rock was completely under water. It had a huge, nasty looking hole just below it which I knew I shouldn't go near, but my boat needed washing out. No other major problems (we discretionsed around The Falls, which did look a bit impressive) until Rooster Tail. It was definitely a class III+ rapid, with huge waves and holes above it, and chaos below.

We had a very nasty swim at an upper hole, with the swimmer deciding to stay under water a long time, playing a few hands of Strip Poker with the Hole Troll: at least