



# The EDDY LINE

POST OFFICE BOX 7023 • ATLANTA, GA 30357

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770-421-9729

October 1998

## October GCA Meeting

Join us for the Fall General Membership Meeting and Covered Dish Dinner and great company on Friday, October 16, at 7:30 p.m. at the Garden Hills Community Center. Bring your favorite dish and/or desert and we'll provide the drinks, plates and utensils. Besides having loads of fun, we'll be voting on next year's slate of Officers as well. We will also have information available on various river access issues and our legislative initiative for 1999.

To get to the Community Center: from Peachtree Street, go east on East Wesley Road (8/10 mile south of the intersection of Peachtree and Roswell Road). Turn left on Rumson Road. Go about 100 yards to the first intersection and you will see the Community Center on the right. ✕

## November GCA Meeting — Tripping Into the Wilds of Canada

Tired of the same ol' rivers and the same ol' tales? Join us on Thursday, November 19, at 7:30 p.m. as Kaki and Bill Burruss take us canoe tripping in the Canadian wilderness. They will share ideas & slides from four rivers and food, gear, canoe choices, trip planning and other nuts and bolts of a wilderness trip. How does one plan a trip where there will be no help within 500 miles? What do you do in a forest fire? How do you get started in wilderness tripping? Kaki and Bill have the answers to these and other wilderness questions, as well as suggestions for making any canoe camping trip safer and more fun. Come share the beauty, joy and agony of really getting away from it all.

Kaki is Marvine Cole's sister and paddling buddy for the 260-mile Texas Water Safari race. She and Bill will be visiting from their retirement home on the Patuxent River in Southern Maryland, where they enjoy canoeing, sailing and generally messing around — when they're not readying for their next adventure!

The meeting will be at the Garden Hills Community Center in Buckhead. To find the Garden Hills Community Center: From Peachtree Street, go east on East Wesley Road (8/10 mile south of the intersection of Peachtree and Roswell Road). Turn left on Rumson Road. Go about 100 yards to the first intersection and you will see the Community Center on the right.

See you there!! ✕

**"Nature is more wonderful than it is convenient; more beautiful than it is useful; it is more to be admired and enjoyed than used."**

**- Henry David Thoreau**

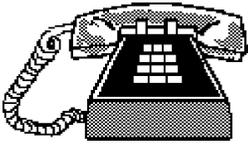


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## Who Ya Gonna Call?

The following list is provided for your convenience:

**For general information about the club** - Call the club telephone number, 770-421-9729, and leave

a message. Someone will get back to you.

**To volunteer to help with club activities** - Call President David Martin at 404-351-8208 or contact the committee chairperson for your area of interest.

**For information on payment of dues or membership status** - Call Treasurer Ed Schultz at 404-266-3734.

**To sign up for a club trip** - Call the trip coordinator at the number listed on the activity list.

**To sign up to lead a club trip** - Call Cruisemaster Jason Schnurr at 770-422-9962.

**For change of address or for *Eddy Line* subscription information** - Call Ed Schultz at 404-266-3734 .

**If you didn't receive your *Eddy Line*** - Call Ed Schultz at 404-266-3734.

**For information on GCA clinics** - Call the clinic coordinator listed on the clinic schedule, or call Training Director Steve Cramer at 706-208-8382.

**For information on roll practice** - Call Revel Freeman at 404-261-8572.

**For information on placing want ads in *The Eddy Line*** - Call Newsletter Editor Allen Hedden at 770-426-4318, or see "To place an ad" in the Want Ad section of *The Eddy Line*.

**For information on commercial ads** - Call Advertising Director Jim Kautz at 770-321-9826 or Newsletter Editor Allen Hedden at 770-426-4318.

**For information on videos and books available from the GCA Library** - Call GCA Librarian Tom Martin at 770-662-0058. ✂

## Board of Directors Meetings

Georgia Canoeing Association Board of Directors meetings are held on the first Thursday of even months (Feb., Apr., etc.). All members are encouraged to attend. The location is the Atlanta Jewish Community Center on Peachtree Street, beginning at 7:30 P.M. Ask at the front desk for the room location, as it varies from month to month. If you have an item for discussion, please call President David Martin at 404-351-8208 so he can add your item to the agenda. Attending Board meetings is a great way to become more involved with the GCA. ✂

### GCA Executive Committee

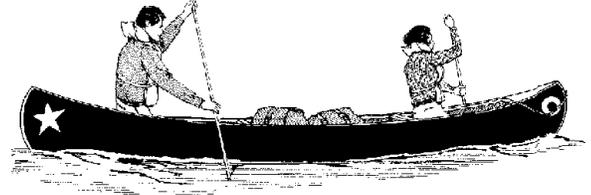
President .....	David Martin
Vice President .....	Brannen Proctor
Secretary .....	Jim Harvey
Treasurer .....	Ed Schultz
Member Services Chair .....	Tom Martin
Recreation Chair .....	Karla Bowman
Resource Development Chair .....	Jane Hamilton
River Protection Chair .....	Vacant
Training Chair .....	Steve Cramer

## Submitting *Eddy Line* Material

Deadline for material to be submitted for publication in the next *Eddy Line* is the fifth of the month, i.e., for the January issue, material should be submitted no later than December fifth. The editor must receive all articles, trip reports and want ads by the deadline or they MAY 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 inch IBM/DOS formatted disk as an ASCII file labeled with a ".txt" file extension, or as a text file on a 3-1/2 inch high density MacIntosh formatted disk, and include a printed copy (Disks will be returned only if specifically requested). We can also accept Word Perfect version 5.0, 5.1, and 5.2, and Microsoft Word for Windows files in IBM/DOS format, as well as some other word processing program files. Contact Newsletter Editor **Allen Hedden at 770-426-4318** for specifics. TO SUBMIT ARTICLES VIA MODEM, Call **Allen at 770-426-4318** for instructions. Our modem supports most transmission speeds and protocols. TO SUBMIT ARTICLES VIA EMAIL, sent to **gacano@mindspring.com**. All want ads will be run for two months unless otherwise requested. Send all material to: **Allen Hedden, 2923 Piedmont Drive, Marietta, Ga. 30066**. Hand-written or phoned in material CANNOT be accepted. Thanks for your cooperation. ✂

*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. *Eddy Line* material published herein and not individually designated as copyrighted may be copied, reprinted, republished or otherwise disseminated to other paddling organizations with a newsletter exchange agreement. Proper credit should be given. ✂

# UPCOMING ACTIVITIES



## October

1	Board of Directors Meeting — Members Invited		Atlanta Jewish Community Center	
3	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Roger Toebben	770-804-9416
4	Ocoee	Class 3-4 Advanced	Julia Franks	404-875-8503
4	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Roger Toebben	779-804-9416
8	Ocoee	Class 3-4 Advanced	Allen Hedden	770-426-4318
10	Leaders Choice	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Paul Lund	770-271-7360
10	Conasauga	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Jason Schnurr	770-422-9962
11	Metro Hooch (Note 4)	Class 1+ Easy Beginner	Tom Martin	770-662-0058
11	Paddle With The Prez (Note 1)	Class 2-4 Intermediate-Advanced	David Martin	404-351-8208
16	Fall General Membership Meeting & Covered Dish Dinner, Garden Hills Community Center — Food & Fun!!			
17	Hiwassee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Tony Colquitt	770-854-6636
17	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Chuck Creekmore	770-995-5788
17-18	Altamaha (Note 2)	Touring Kayaking	Lonnie McBride	706-783-3395
18	Leaders Choice	Class 3-4 Advanced	Clay Noble	770-383-9850
24	Broad	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Jeff Engel	706-548-5015
24	Leaders Choice	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Dickie Tillman	770-466-1197
24	Nantahala (Women Only Trip)	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Debra Berry	404-320-6148
24-25	Rimini Swamp	Touring Kayaking	Marci Creath	770-457-8097
25	Middle Chestatee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Cathee Gallant	770-926-2947
25	Upper Hooch	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Lindsay Meeks	404-872-5211
25	Leaders Choice	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Mark Albitz	770-465-4149
30-Nov 1	Okefenokee Swamp (Note 5)	Smooth Water	Brookie Gallagher	404-872-5211
31	Wild Card	Class 1-2(3) Beginner-Intermediate	Roger Nott	770-536-6923
31-Nov 1	Edisto River (SC) (Note 6)	Smooth Water	Bill Edwards	706-321-9063

## November

1	Ocoee	Class 3-4 Advanced	Oreon Mann	404-522-3469
1	Toccoa	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Mike Bilello	770-441-2418
7	Cartecay	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Mike Winchester	770-319-8969
7	Hiwassee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Gina & Haynes Johnson	770-971-1542
8	Paddle With The Prez	Class 2-4 Intermediate-Advanced	David Martin	404-351-8208
8	Metro Hooch (Note 4)	Class 1+ Easy Beginner	Michael Collier	770-967-2158
8	Broad	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Roger Thomas	706-543-8125
11	Talking Rock Creek	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Roger Nott	770-536-6923
14	Chattooga Section 3-1/2	Class 3-4 Advanced	Jason Schnurr	770-422-9962
14	Middle Chestatee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Wyatt Dominick	770-396-0243
15	Nantahala	Class 2-3 intermediate	Cathee Gallant	770-926-2947
19	Club Meeting — Entertainment — Fun!!	Garden Hills Community Center — Marvine Cole		770-475-3022
21-22	Altamaha (Note 7)	Touring Kayaking	Lonnie McBride	706-783-3395
26-29	St. Vincent Island NWR (Note 3)	Touring Kayaking	Mike Babcock	770-643-0318

Note 1: Paddle With the Prez monthly trip will be Class 2-3 or 3-4 depending on season and availability. Call David Martin for details.

Note 2: Near Glennville, Ga. Easy paddling. Primitive camping.

Note 3: Apalachicola Bay, Fla. Intermediate and advanced. 4 day 3 night, primitive camping.

Note 4: Afternoon Trip.

Note 5: 3 days 2 nights. Limited space.

Note 6: 2 days 1 night. Call early.

Note 7: Overnighter. Primitive camping.

**Signing Up** - Call the trip coordinator listed to sign up for trips. Call early in the week to ensure you get a spot on the trip, and in consideration for the coordinators, PLEASE avoid calling late in the evening.

**Training Trips** are a combination of recreation and training designed to attract those boaters who have completed a formal training clinic and would like some on-the-river time with instructors practicing what you learned in the clinic and expanding your skill level.

**To Volunteer To Lead Trips:** Call the Cruisemaster, Jason Schnurr, at 770-422-9962. 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.

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## GCA Library Items Available

The GCA Library has many videotapes and books available to any GCA member. All you have to do is call GCA Librarian Tom Martin at 770-662-0058 to find out what is available. The cost is \$3.00 per tape or book for postage and handling.

Any / all donations or loans to the library are welcome. (Please, no bootleg video copies.) Send them to:

Tom Martin  
6339 Danbury Lane  
Norcross, GA 30093

The following items are currently available:

### Videos:

A Second Helping - A Review of Kayak Basics Canoes by Whitesell  
Cold, Wet & Alive  
Faultline (Will Reeves)  
First Descents (North Fork Payette)  
Heads Up, River Rescue  
Introduction to Canoeing  
Kayak Handling - The Basic Strokes  
Only Nolan (Canoe Technique)  
Path of the Paddle: Quietwater

Path of the Paddle: Whitewater Plunge!  
Prijon Wildplay Wildwasser Sport Retendo  
Solo Playboating!  
Take the Wild Ride  
Tallulah Gorge (Rob Maxwell)  
The C-1 Challenge  
The Kayaker's Edge  
The Open Canoe Roll (Bob Foote)  
Ultimate Canoe (Niagara Gorge & Other Rivers - Whitesell)  
Waterwalker (Bill Mason)  
We Come to Play (Orosi) Whitesell  
Whitewater Groove  
**Books:**  
A Canoeing and Kayaking Guide to the Streams of Ohio, Vols I and II  
ACA Canoeing & Kayaking Instructors Guide  
A Hiking Guide to the Trails of Florida  
Alabama Canoe Rides  
AMC White Water Handbook  
American Red Cross Canoeing & Kayaking  
A Paddler's Guide to the Obed/Emory Watershed  
Basic River Canoeing  
Boundary Waters I&II  
California Whitewater - A Guide to the Rivers

Canoe Racing  
Canoeing Wild Rivers  
Cumberland River Basic Canoe Trail Guide  
Endangered Rivers & the Conservation Movement  
Idaho Whitewater  
Kentucky Wild Rivers  
Missouri Ozark Waterways  
Northern Georgia Canoe Guide  
Ohio County Maps & Recreational Guide  
Paddle America (Guide to trips & outfitters)  
Paddle to the Amazon - The World's Longest Canoe Trip  
Path of the Paddle  
Pole, paddle & Portage  
River Rescue  
River's End (Stories)  
Song of the Paddle  
Southeastern Whitewater  
Tennessee Canoe Guide  
The Georgia Conservancy Guide to the North Georgia Mountains  
The Lower Canyons of the Rio Grande  
They Shoot Canoes, Don't they?  
White Water Tales of Terror  
White Water Trips (British Columbia & Washington)  
Wildwater West Virginia  
Youghiogheny

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## Announcements

### GCA Email List

The member response to the GCA email list has been great. We have at this printing close to 200 subscribers.

Thanks to Mike Kaplan and our friends at Kaplan Communications (an Internet Access Provider) for providing software and server space for the GCA email list.

Here's how the list works:

By sending an email to "gacano@kapcom.com" you automatically reach all subscribers to the list with the message. Anyone can use the address — it's just another email address — and all subscribers will get the email. The list is an "open list", i.e., anyone can subscribe to it mechanically by sending an email to "majordomo@kapcom.com" and on the first line of the body of the message type:

subscribe gacano

You will receive a verification that you are subscribed and a welcome message with instructions on how to unsubscribe and various other commands available through the service. Be sure to save this information for future reference.

All GCA announcements and forwarded email from other sources concerning new river access issues, late



breaking news items of interest to the paddling community, etc., will be sent out via the GCA email list at gacano@kapcom.com. If you want to receive any of this information, please subscribe to the list using the above instructions. Also, don't be shy about using the list to send out or to request information about paddling related topics, rivers you're interested in, etc.

By the way, should you change or lose your email ID, please take a minute to "unsubscribe" your old ID and/or to "subscribe" your new one. ✕

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### GCA Web Page

Check it out at <http://www.mindspring.com/~gacano>. We are adding information and links of value to paddlers with each update. Send your ideas for updates to Susan Glinert Stevens: [sglinert@aol.com](mailto:sglinert@aol.com). ✕

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### New Improved Electronic *Eddy Line*

We are now sending out a .pdf (portable document format) file in addition to the .txt (text only) file of the *On-Line Eddy Line*. This format allows subscribers to view formatted text, graphics, page layout — virtually the entire *Eddy Line* — just as it appears in printed form. Plus you can see it several weeks before the printed copy

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arrives via snail mail.

The .pdf version requires only Adobe Acrobat (or some equivalent) software in order to view it. Acrobat can be downloaded for free from the Adobe web site at <http://www.adobe.com>. You can also print out a paper copy of the .pdf file and it looks just like the snail mail copy (except most of the photos are in living color).

To subscribe to the On-Line version of *The Eddy Line*, send a request via snail mail to (& enclose a check for \$5.00 made out to GCA):

GCA  
c/o Ed Schultz, Treasurer  
3060 Pharr Court North #315  
Atlanta, GA 30305

Or on your annual renewal form, just check the block for the *On-Line Eddy Line* and include the extra \$5.00 with your check for your annual dues.

In either case, **BE SURE TO INCLUDE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS** so we can send *The Eddy Line* to you electronically. ✂

"Experience is that marvelous thing that enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again."

- F. P. Jones



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**Attention GCA Members!**

From the Ocoee to the Colorado... MindSpring Internet Services will help you discover your next outdoor adventure! With fast connections and affordable pricing, MindSpring will be the tour guide on your expedition to the World Wide Web. Information about paddling destinations, outdoor equipment, and even building your own canoe will be within a click of the mouse!

As a GCA member, when you set up your new account, MindSpring will WAIVE the startup fee, which is normally \$25! PLUS, you will not be billed until after your first 30 days! Just mention this offer to the MindSpring Sales Desk when you call to set up your account.

This offer is only good for a limited time, so call 1-888-M-SPRING (677-7464).

**Also, the GCA will receive a \$10.00 credit toward its monthly bill on our MindSpring account for each new customer referral, so be sure to mention Georgia Canoeing Association as the one who referred you to MindSpring.** ✂

**Rimini Swamp Kayaking Trip  
October 24 & 25**

Kayak through awesome and immense Rimini Swamp, a 30 square mile wilderness located between Charleston and Columbia. Discover the pleasures of padding suspended between soaring bald cypress and tupelo gum trees and their endless watery reflections. The swamp was formed through the millennia as the Santee's flow shifted southwest, creating ox-bow lakes providing habitat for barred owls, anhinga hawks and alligators.

Join GCA and Coastal Expeditions for a weekend of TOURING KAYAKING, wilderness exploration and camping. All skill levels invited for this guided tour and instructional sessions. \$145.00 includes all paddling equipment. Lower rates available if you have your own equipment. Call Marci for details 770-416-0922. ✂

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## From the Members Services Corner...

Often we ask for volunteers (here we are again) and don't really tell you why or what is needed. I need some volunteers to encourage new member participation. We can only do this to the extent that we can get volunteers. Please call me for details.

Also, the library is doing well. We presently have 27 VCR tapes and all but 3 are currently on loan to members. Call the phone line (770-421-9729) to receive a list. The latest purchase is on sea-kayaking. There may be a waiting list for some tapes, so call the librarian (770-662-0058) to get on the list... don't forget books!

Donations are gratefully accepted. Rob Maxwell left us a copy of the "Tallulah Gorge". Chris Alasa donated "We Came to Play". Paul Smith contributed several

shipping boxes. Susan Geddes included an extra contribution beyond the postage and handling costs. Thank you all!

Tom Martin, Member Services



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## Upcoming Events of Interest

Oct 3 — First Russell Fork release

Oct 9-11 — Ocoee Rodeo — Upper Ocoee — Jayne Abbot, 828-645-5299

Oct 30-Nov 1 — NOC Guest Appreciation Festival

Nov 20-22 — NOC Fall Knobschorcher Mountain Bike Race

Nov 26-28 — Slalom Thanksgiving Training Camp (primarily for juniors — all athletes welcome) at NOC

Dec 5-6 — Bryson City Citizens Race / Slalom & Wild Water Race



## ACE Athlete Profiles

*Each month the Atlanta Center of Excellence (ACE) will spotlight a local member of the US National Team and a local "up and comer" with a profile, possible interviews, and/or photos for The Eddy Line. Our thanks to Betsy Hamilton of ACE for her efforts in honoring these athletes and publicizing white water racing.*

### ACE Athlete of the Month: Scott Shipley, Men's Kayak

World Cup Champion, 1993, 1995, 1997

Silver Medalist, 1995, 1997 World Championships

US National Champion, 1991-1998 (7 straight)

Grand Champion, 1994 Champion White Water Series

Bib #1 at the 1996 Olympic Games

Member, 1992 and 1996 US Olympic Teams

1988 Junior World Champion

Silver Medalist, 1993 Rodeo World Championships

Undeclared in "Extreme" races

Scott Shipley has been paddling for 21 of his 26 years. A native of Poulsbo, Washington, Scott moved to Atlanta to train and to attend Georgia Tech, where he is in his Junior year of a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Prior to that he attended North Kitsap High School and Western Washington University in Washington State. Scott's inclination to paddle was inspired by his parents, Sue Ann Shipley and Dick Shipley; his father, Dick, was a member of the 1965 National Team to the World Champs in Spital Austria with C-2 partner Mark Fawcett.

Scott already has his eyes on an Olympic Gold Medal in Sydney in 2000. This season, he plans to compete in the 1998 World Cup events, the Columbia River "Gorge



Race Watch

Games," and US Nationals. Accomplishing is requiring a training schedule that includes 10-12 workouts per week, most of which are "in-the-boat." He is also associated with the Nantahala Racing Club and is an accomplished C-boater. As this article is being written, Scott is getting ready to defend his 1997 World Champion title in Spain.

By the time members read this article, Scott will have competed in Spain at the final World Cup event where he will defend his title as world champion... Before Scott left Atlanta, we asked him to tell us what he did on his summer vacation. Here's his response...

"The summer huh? Well, the world cup is a five race series. The winner is chosen from a points per race system. The winner is the person with the best 3 out of five



Scott Shipley at the '98 NOC Double Header.

- Photo by Bunni LaBadie.

combined score. Here's the catch that makes the darn things so hard to win. The final must be one of the counting scores.

"Strategy-wise that makes the final the most important race by a lot. I've seen 6th place move up to take the win, and I've seen people with perfect scores lose the final so bad that they ended up Fourth in the overall — no medal at all for the person who is most likely the fastest kayak in the world that year.

"The strategy in the World cup comes in when you start deciding which of the first four races you want to win... that is to say, which of the first four you are most likely to win. For example, I tend to favor the natural rivers over the canals. So, if I have a little time, I try and train more at those courses. Also, in the general stress level thing, I try and not worry so much if I get stomped at one of the canals.

"It really bums me out when I lose a natural course. This year, since all but Wausau are canals, I focused on doing well at the first race, in Slovakia and on the fourth race on the natural river in Wausau. The second and third races were in Slovenia, home course of Olympic silver medalist Adrosh Vehovar, and Augsburg, Germany, home of World Champion Thomas Becker. These races had fairly predictable results, although Vehovar did get edged out in race #2.

"As things worked out, it all went pretty much according to plan. I won Slovakia ahead of Italy's Pierpalo Ferrazi, '92 Olympic Gold Medalist, and Britain's Ian Raspin. In the second race, I won the qualifier but ended up seventh in the final standings. Ratcliffe of England, Vehovar of Slovenia, and Ian Raspin were first second and third.

"Race number three in Germany, I was lucky to qualify with a brutal couple of runs. In the final I was equally lackluster, but in a race where everyone was (that actually happens every once and a while). Becker was less than 2 seconds ahead of me for first and a new medalist, Enrico Lazarrato was second just ahead of me. It was cool to see him medal after seeing him step up the ladder for so long (plus he uses my boat and paddle).

"Race number four was a biggie. Wausau does not shuffle the deck like some of the canals do in Europe. Going in I had the lead with a first and a third, Becker in second with a first and a fourth, and Ratcliffe in third with a first and a fifth. However, each of us knew that the most likely winners at Wausau would be each other. Becker, who had not planned to attend, made plans. In the end it almost ended up that way.

Becker was never much of a factor, Ratcliffe however did all that and more. By the time I started my second run

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he was incapable of ending up worse than second in the race. Luckily he ended up second — and the two of us are essentially tied in the world cup.

"The way it works is this: first place is 30 points, 2nd is 25 points, 3rd is 20 points, 4th is 17 points, and then a point countdown for the next 16 spots with 20th place getting 1 point. So Ratcliffe has a win and a second going into the final, I have two wins. So if he beats me in the final and medals he ties my score and, the final being the tie breaker, beats me. Otherwise he must beat me by 5 spots, a much more difficult task.

"Likewise Becker must win and I have to be 4th or worse. If he doesn't win then it gets much easier for me. The first opportunity I have to not medal is if I finish 13th or worse and someone from 4-6th place wins and Becker is exactly second and (lots of ands but you can't be too careful) Ratcliffe beats me by five spots. Long story huh?"

For an update on Scott's activities, keep an eye on Dagger's web page.

**ACE "Up and Comer" of the Month: Jeff Larimer (Junior); Kennesaw, GA. Men's Kayak (K-1); Men's C-2 with partner, Frank Babcock**

For only having paddled for 18 months, Jeff Larimer shows remarkable promise as a rising star in the junior ranks. But then, being the son of US Olympic Coach and

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former US Team member Mike Larimer has its advantages. He trains with his father and other Junior Team hopefuls up to two hours every day. Jeff is in the 10th Grade at Sprayberry High School. His goal is to be World Champion some day, and he is well on his way.

Jeff loves paddling because "...between working with dad and studying for school, it's great to be able to get out on the river and paddle my worries away. I have not had



Jeff Larimer at the '98 NOC Double Header.

- Photo by Bunni LaBadie.

very many significant race results yet but I look forward to doing my best at whatever I try. I will train very hard and hope luck is on my side for the next year's racing season."

Jeff's summer activities included a trip to Junior Nationals where he was second place with partner, Frank Babcock, in C-2. ✂

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## Annual "Ace Christmas Camp" Announced

Once again, ACE will host its Annual Christmas Slalom Training Camp in Atlanta, Georgia from Decem-

ber 28 through December 31, 1998. Coaching will be coordinated by Head ACE Coach and National Team Coach Mike Larimer.

This year, ACE has four different training sites available for sessions and is currently in negotiations for access to Thunder River at Six Flags Over Georgia. Each racer will receive 2 training sessions per day with video review and classroom sessions in the evenings. Arrangements are being made for discount hotel options and possible home-stays. According to volunteer camp coordinator Beth Wilson, "We have also put in a request to Mother Nature for no snow this year!"

Keep your eyes open for the formal details and registration form to be distributed in the immediate future, or contact Beth Wilson (phone: 770-441-0196; e-mail: askinc@mindspring.com). ✂

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## 1999 Southeastern US Slalom and Wild Water Championships

The 1999 Southeastern US Slalom and Wild Water Championships will be held on April 17 & 18, 1999, on the Nantahala River, Wesser, North Carolina. The race will be Sponsored by the Georgia Canoeing Association and the Nantahala Outdoor Center. For information please contact:

David S. Martin  
dsmartinsr@msn.com  
404-252-2321  
404-351-8208

Wulf Kuehmstedt has agreed to serve as Race Master for the third year. Thanks Wulf!!! We appreciate your commitment to the Club and to the Race. A new format for the slalom race is also in the works. The Race Committee is considering holding all the Championship classes on Saturday (decked and open boat) and all Cruising and Novice classes on Sunday. This would allow for making modifications to the course to accommodate less experienced racers between the Saturday Championship session and the Sunday Cruising/Novice session in order to make the course less intimidating to these up and coming or recreational racers. Watch your *Eddy Line* for further developments. ✂

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## USCKT News & Notes

The Slalom National Team wraps up the 1998 season the week of September 6-12 with World Cup #5 in La Seu d'Urgell, Spain. Heading into the World Cup finale, Scott Shipley stands on top of the men's kayak class, trying to

defend the overall World Cup title he won in 1997. "This course is very pushy and very tricky," said Shipley of the 1992 Olympic course in La Seu d'Urgell. "It is a bit unique in character in that it is by far the slowest course on the circuit."

1998 Slalom National Team members competing in World Cup #5:

**Men's Kayak**

Scott Shipley, Poulsbo, Wash./Atlanta, Ga.  
Eric Giddens, Atlanta, Ga.  
Eric Jackson, Germantown, Md.  
Jason Beakes, Bethesda, Md.

**Women's Kayak**

Cathy Hearn, Garrett Park, Md.  
Mary Marshall Seaver, Bethesda, Md.  
Megan Stalheim, Medford, Wis.  
Renata Altman, Bethesda, Md.

**Men's Canoe**

David Hearn, Bethesda, Md.  
Joe Jacobi, Copperhill, Tenn.  
Adam Boyd, Woodstock, Vt./Atlanta, Ga.  
Steve Conklin, Manchester, Conn.

**Men's Double Canoe**

Matt Taylor, Atlanta, Ga./Lecky Haller, Glencoe, Md.  
David Hepp, Cullowhee, N.C./Scott McCleskey, Atlanta, Ga.  
Chad and Kenneth Long, Boise, Id.  
John Grumbine, Greenville, S.C./Chris Ennis, Bryson City, N.C./Atlanta, Ga. ✂

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## The Atlanta Center for Excellence: Living Proof of Atlanta's Olympic Legacy

Among Atlanta's greatest "living legacies" of the 1996 Summer Olympic Games is the Olympic commitment of the athletes of the Atlanta Center for Excellence (ACE). With that momentum, the Center is poised to be a premiere training site for white water slalom in the country. An Atlanta-based group of established national-level athletes, including Olympians Eric Giddens and Scott Shipley, as well as 1998 US Team members Rebecca Bennett, Adam Boyd, Chris Ennis, Scott McCleskey, and Matt Taylor, is setting a standard of excellence for a thriving junior development program which has quadrupled in size over the last 18 months.

**ACE's "Project 2004" Initiative**

To capitalize on this momentum, ACE is proud to announce "Project 2004," an exciting new initiative to expand the sport of white water slalom at every level.

### WANTED!

**USED OR NEW; PLASTIC, GLASS OR KEVLAR; KAYAKS, SIT-ON-TOPS, DECKED OR OPEN CANOES; PFDS, PADDLES, SKIRTS, HELMETS, AIRBAGS..... OR ANY COMBINATION OF THE ABOVE!!!!**

The Atlanta Center For Excellence is offering to give your cast-offs a very worthy and well-appreciated home. We'll pick up the stuff at your doorstep, and we'll even give you a tax write off for allowing us to help clean out your garage!

Please seriously consider an equipment donation to ace as part of your annual giving routine. Our kids need your generosity! an itemized letter of donation will be provided for your donation to our 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

For further information please contact:  
Beth Wilson at 770-441-0196 or email:  
askinc@mindspring.com

or

Greg Anderson at 770-640-0301 or email:  
teamanderson@worldnet.att.net

First conceived in January, 1998, Project 2004 encompasses participants from ACE's three primary development groups including elite national team athletes, junior and development athletes, and participants in ACE's "junior outreach" programs.

As ACE Board Chair Doris Babcock describes it, the Project 2004 program "will provide a way for interested young people to "experiment" with the sport. In addition, it will also enable ACE to identify athletes with true potential and support those athletes in their individual quests for the 2000 and 2004 Olympics."

Through Project 2004, ACE will establish a "team" of athletes made up of those development- and junior-level athletes not presently competing in any of the top three positions on the US National White Water Slalom Team. Following the 1998 ACE Christmas Camp (see announcement on page 8), up to ten athletes will be named to the very first "Team ACE" by ACE Head Coach Mike Larimer and his staff. Athletes will be selected based upon established criteria, including athletic performance and development potential, long-term commitment to the sport, scholarship, leadership, and sportsmanship. In recogni-

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tion of their dedication to these responsibilities and to their own athletic development, "Team ACE" athletes will be eligible for sponsored coaching and have access to ACE-owned gear and equipment, and race-related travel stipends.

Larimer expects that Project 2004 will help encourage a standard of excellence in Atlanta and elsewhere in the slalom community. According to Larimer, "Project 2004 reflects the standard 'pyramid approach' for athletic development, the pinnacle of which includes those athletes selected for positions on the US Canoe/Kayak Team. I am very impressed with the quality of athletes currently representing the Atlanta program. They are providing a leadership example in making the program attractive to younger novice paddlers."

Those younger paddlers will be invited to take part in ACE's "Pre-team," which will emphasize basic slalom skills and will encourage participation in "fun" regional races, such as the Nantahala Citizen's Races.

#### **ACE and The City of Roswell: A Brave New Partnership**

It is anticipated that many of the "Pre-Team" youngsters will come to the program by way of another of ACE's initiatives. Thanks to the leadership of ACE board member and parent, Greg Anderson, ACE has developed a new relationship with city officials of Roswell. ACE has obtained its first physical facility through the City of Roswell on a 4.2 acre parcel of property (with a small building) along the banks of the Chattahoochee River. In addition, the city has arranged access to an indoor pool.

Anderson has been consulting with Beth Wilson and the Atlanta School of Kayaking, Inc., to develop a multi-faceted menu of introductory paddle sports programs at the Roswell site for adults and young people to be introduced in Spring, 1999. According to Anderson and Wilson, "The programs will be designed as a 'point of entry' for young people wishing to explore the sport of white water slalom and will allow ACE to spot talented youngsters to feed into its 'Pre-Team' novice racing program."

Roswell is committed to enhancing amenities for outdoor recreation, and represents a community committed to its quality of life and its environment. These facilities are viewed by the City Council as a major cornerstone in Roswell's long-term plans for its Chattahoochee River-front. According to Anderson, "Roswell has given tremendous support as well as encouragement to facilitate the development of a world class paddle sport venue. We (ACE) will be working with the city in planning a seven-mile city waterfront park."

For more information on programs of the Atlanta Center for Excellence, call 770-937-5073. ✂

## **US Canoe and Kayak Team and United States Canoe Association Form Alliance**

Lake Placid, NY (August 11) - The US Canoe and Kayak Team and the United States Canoe Association have formed a strong relationship to enable both organizations to better serve canoe and kayak racing in the United States.

This alliance comes during a time of great change for the sport of canoe and kayak racing. In October of 1997, the US Canoe and Kayak Team was recognized by the US Olympic Committee as the National Governing Body for canoeing and kayaking, the result of a cooperative agreement with the former NGB, the American Canoe Association (ACA). Earlier this year, the International Canoe Federation announced that their Board had voted to recognize the USCKT as the member organization from the United States.

In the past, the USCKT operated under contract with the ACA to manage the Olympic disciplines of white water slalom and flat water sprint, while the USCA formed in the late sixties to manage marathon canoe and kayak racing.

Earlier this year, the USCA applied for membership within the USCKT as the marathon sports division. USCA Executive Director Jim Mack and USCKT Board Member Gail Cowart then began work on administrative procedures which would allow the USCKT to accept the USCA's application under its bylaws. When the USCKT Board of Directors approved those procedures, it recognized the USCA as a member organization and Jim Mack as the interim representative to the USCKT Board.

The result is a strong basis for the two organizations to work together, and a consolidation of the three most traditional canoe and kayak racing disciplines; white water slalom, flat water sprint and marathon.

"This is a great move for both of us," said USCKT Executive Director Terry Kent. "Many of our best Olympic sprinters started in marathon and many return to it later. For us to work together means that both of us will be able to offer canoe and kayak racers access to more competitions and better services."

"We are extremely pleased to become affiliated with the USCKT and work with a unique Board and Executive Director who have visions of making canoe and kayak racing grow in this country," said Jim Mack. "It means our members, especially our youth program, have better directions for competitive opportunities. More resources now become available by expanding a variety of opportu-

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nities and interests for paddlers as both organizations begin to attract more competitors, start more clubs and have more races."

One of the first tangible effects to be seen from this association is the planning of a Greg Barton Cup Series, named after double gold-medalist Greg Barton, who got his start paddling at USCA races.

## River Access

### **Cartecay Fence**

by **Jeffrey Sussman & Mary Ann Dowd-Sussman**

The local Gilmer County paper, "The Times Courier" had a cover story the week of August 20 on the fence at the Lower Cartecay Road put-in. A quick summary:

"Once public access to the Cartecay River, this Lower Cartecay Road area is now fenced and locked. Local and visiting canoe and tubing enthusiasts must park at ...MOE and be shuttled to the site at \$5 per person. Some say Burleigh Stover deeded the spot to the county years ago. County attorney Herman Clark is researching the matter to see if the area is legally public access."

The local feeling up here in Gilmer is somewhat hostile regarding this lack of access to a great swimming, boating and fishing area. Residents of the Blackberry Mountain development are upset since the Lower Cartecay put-in enabled them to float back to their properties. The river is stocked regularly and locals like to fish from Holt Bridge to Lower Cartecay Rd. Now, they can't take out there!

On Thursday, August 27, 1998, the Gilmer County Commissioners met. Herman Clark, the county attorney, reported his findings re: the fence at Lower Cartecay Rd. which is blocking access to the river. Mr. Clark reported that 10 to 12 years ago, a state grant and county money were used to improve the put-in.

Because this action was done over 7 years ago, we understand that he recognizes that the land now belongs to the county... and is public. The commissioners did not take action on his report yet.

I urge GCA members to call, write or e-mail the people listed below. They have heard from many dissatisfied local people who used the Lower Cartecay Rd. put-in for paddling, tubing, fishing and swimming. It is my understanding that they are in favor of returning public access to this area.

Let's let these people know how many of us come to Gilmer Co. for recreation — particularly paddling the Cartecay River. Encourage them in their efforts to restore the put-in for the public. They are hearing complaints

"The USCA has races and wants more kids, the USCKT had kids and needs more races," said Kent. "The USCA has initiated a race series for kids in Olympic K-1 and USCA C-1 boats. This comes at a great time as our coaches are trying to get our kids to train longer distances." Look for more information on the Greg Barton Cup Series later this fall. ✕

locally. Remind these folks of your economic impact in Ellijay... at the Hardee's, McDonald's, MOE's, BSC, the bike shop, the Amoco and of course — the Walmart!

Now is the time to express concern over this loss of access. Here are addresses that may be helpful:

Times Courier  
Attn: Clair Dakota Underhill  
13 River Street  
Ellijay, GA 30540  
Ph: 706-635-4313  
Rayburn Smith  
Gilmer County Commission, Chairman  
1 Westside Square  
Ellijay, GA 30540  
Ph: 706-635-4361  
Herman Clark  
Clark and Clark, Attorneys at Law  
48 River Street  
Ellijay, GA 30540  
phone: 706-635-1010  
e-mail: hclark@ellijay.com

Thank you. See you on the river! ✕

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### **Nantahala Fee Demonstration Project Update**

by **David S. Martin, President**

At this point towards the end of the season, I have not heard of anyone actually being cited for not paying the fee on the Nantahala. I have been on the river a number of times and seen the officers looking for people without their bracelet (they hang out at Surfin'). The Forest Service is the first to admit that this is not a perfect plan. They are quick to point out that this is working better than last year's parking fee and overall they are pleased with the results (\$\$). But they also acknowledge the "dissatisfaction" of the paddling community over the form the plan is taking. Everyone should also know the Forest Service is under pressure from other groups who feel they are also being singled out for user fees.

So where does all this go? The wheels of justice and

politics turn very slowly. Representatives from organizations that you belong to (or if you don't, you should) are putting a lot of time and effort into these issues. What we (Georgia Canoeing Association, American Whitewater, American Canoe Association) need, is to continue with a unified message to the Forest Service.

The Forest Service welcomes our input and help in these issues, knowing that we are serious and passionate about these resources that belong to all of us. They don't want to fight it out in court any more than you or I. If you are worried about your resources, if you are passionate about these issues, then contact us and work with us to be

a part of the solution.

The following is from Jason Robertson, Access Director of American Whitewater:

"Fee Demo on the Nantahala is absorbing a lot of my time. The program has been poorly implemented and there are a number of legal questions about the collection of fees to access a public resource that does not fall within the jurisdiction of the Forest Service (i.e., the river which is in fact owned by the people of the State). I met with the Forest Supervisor for three hours in July and we discussed this issue; hopefully we'll find an acceptable solution by next season..." ✕

## Book Review

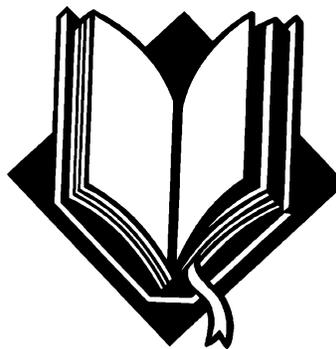
### **GPS Land Navigation**

by William C. Reeves (The Hawk)

*GPS Land Navigation. Michael Ferguson. Glassford Publishing. Boise, ID, 1997. ISBN 0-9652202-5-7. 255 pages, well illustrated. \$19.95. Available through REI.*

I purchased this book to get tips on the use of my Global Positioning System (GPS) and learned much more than I had anticipated. Quite frankly, the Global Positioning System is the most significant development in land navigation since the compass. The book's objective is to remove the mystery surrounding this new technology so that anyone who owns a GPS receiver can become an expert in its use.

GPS Land Navigation has 6 chapters that cover everything from hardware (GPS, compass, altimeter), to software (maps, coordinates, bearings, etc.), to skills (trip planning, route finding, map reading, etc.) Three appendices contain: elevation, latitude and longitude of the highest points in each county; the coordinates of each state's capital building; and, the coordinates for the junction of every US Interstate with either another US Interstate or a US Highway. You can enter this into a GPS



receiver and use it a-priori to navigate to that specific location. The last appendix has detailed comparison information for every hand held GPS in production as of early 1997.

Chapter 1 - Introduction to GPS discusses the NAVSTAR (US) and GLONASS (Russian) satellite navigation systems. The NAVSTAR system includes 24 satellites and their coordinating ground stations. Each satellite carries four atomic clocks, and continuously sends radio signals, which GPS

receivers use to calculate position. NAVSTAR is designed so that any location on earth will have line of sight access to at least six satellites at all times (as long as there is an unobstructed view from horizon to horizon).

Simply stated, a GPS receiver determines its position by measuring the time it takes radio signals to travel from four satellites to the receiver. Each satellite simultaneously sends its precise location and software in the receiver triangulates these to get a fix. GPS receivers provide accuracy between 40 and 100 feet and chapter 1 provides an excellent discussion as to the determinants of precision and accuracy. Tidbit of information, GPS receivers are constantly updated by the atomic clocks in the GPS satellites, so as long as you have one you will know the EXACT time.

Chapter 2 - GPS Hardware discusses the essential equipment needed for navigation. Surprise! GPS does not eliminate the need for traditional navigation instruments (compass and altimeter) but rather it complements them. A GPS receiver provides three essential pieces of data for back country land navigation: 1) position in terms of coordinates, 2) direction between any two way points, 3) distance between any two way points.

This chapter gives you lots of information about how GPS receivers generate data. One piece of data that GPS receivers don't provide is actual directions on the ground.

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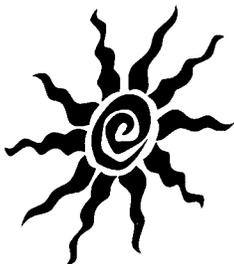
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In most field applications, you need a compass to know which direction you are facing and which way to walk.

Chapter 2 discusses base plate, mirror, and sighting compasses. It explains how to obtain, set, and then follow a bearing (either from a map or a GPS). Finally, it summarizes magnetic declination, magnetic interference, and magnetic inclination. If you already know what these are, cool. If not, you'd better read the book. Finally, GPS receivers also display altitude, but for reasons discussed in Chapter 4, it isn't very accurate. So carry an altimeter and read the book on how to use it.

Chapter 3 - Maps. Maps are the single most important source of information in the back country. If you practice, you can guesstimate where you are and get to another point using only a map and compass. If you plan in advance, you can navigate with only a GPS receiver and compass. However, with a topographic map, GPS, compass, and altimeter you can determine exactly where you are, plan precisely how to get anywhere with pinpoint accuracy, and even estimate how long it will take to get there.

This chapter contains one of the best descriptions of maps that I have read. It covers all the classic things such as quadrangles, map-scale, distances, and various map series. Then it goes into some theory I had never really

thought too much about.

For example, did you know that maps and coordinate data from the continental US are based on either NAD27, NAD83, or WGS84 datum? I never even knew such things existed much less why they might be important. But, you must tell your GPS receiver what datum the map you are using is based on.

Chapter 3 introduces the concepts of angular (latitude/longitude) and rectangular (UTM) coordinate systems (whoa, no kidding, coordinate systems are critical). This chapter also gives one of the most understandable descriptions (illustrated) of contour lines that I have read. There's even more. Chapter 3 tells you what all the information printed along the margins and corners of maps means.

For example latitude and longitude are labeled at each of the four corners and are also tick marked along the neat lines at 2.5 minute intervals (remember this you'll hear it again).

Chapter 4 - Coordinate Systems may be a bit arcane but it's the meat of the book ("you can take the cheat or run the meat"). Simply stated, coordinate systems are the fundamental link between maps and the world they represent. Six digits of latitude and seven digits of longitude are all it takes to specify a location within 50 feet of precision anywhere on earth! A GPS receiver provides these digits.

Unfortunately, merely knowing that you are at 34° 35' 00" N, 084° 12' 30" W does not automatically translate to about a klick NNE of Cochran Falls in most peoples' minds. It does however if you grok coordinates. This chapter discusses angular coordinates and UTM rectangular coordinates in comprehensible terms (GPS receivers can be set to use either angular or UTM coordinates for navigation).

Chapter 5 - Directions puts all the theory together. True North, Grid North, Magnetic North, Azimuths, Bearings, Great Circles, and Rhumb Lines all become clear and you are ready to go from anywhere to anywhere else even if you don't know where either of them are relative to you.

Chapter 6 - GPS Skills tells you how to use the theory. It explains how to use a GPS without a map, or with a map (which is what most of us do), and what to do when (horrors of horrors) your GPS receiver breaks down. Let's say you're on a jeep trail looking for a new put-in. Where are you, have you passed the take-off point? If you have a topo map, GPS receiver, and compass in the jeep, no problema.

Turn-on the receiver; get a UTM fix; the UTM tick marks on the neat lines of your map allow you to place a

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"cross hair" at your location. If that's not precise enough, get an angular coordinate (latitude/longitude) fix from the GPS; enter the coordinates from at least two corners or neat line ticks from the map into the GPS; use the GPS to obtain a bearing to that point and draw a back-bearing; repeat the process to another corner or neat line tick and draw another back-bearing. Where the two lines cross is where you are.

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Self-rescue skills are essential to safe boating. Self-rescue is not limited to extraction from the water and may well require extraction from the wilderness. Everyone who ventures off-road into the woods should have a solid understanding of land navigation. If I had to recommend one book from which to gain the intellectual foundation upon which to build such an understanding, I'd recommend GPS Land Navigation by Ferguson. ✂

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## Trip Reports

by Tom Martin

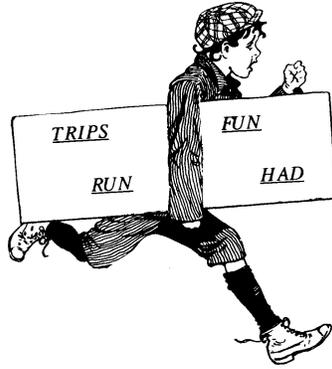
I don't lead many trips, and I really appreciate those who do. I enjoy leading / coordinating river trips; I just get busy with other things and... well... you know... I'm even worse about writing trip reports. This is catch-up time.

January 4, 1998, was on the Metro Hooch from Johnson Ferry to Hwy. 41. Tony & Denise Colquitt, Phil & Patrick Daly, Sheila Small, and joining us at the put-in, Pete & Julie Hoffman, Mitch Waters, Marty & Cathy Dyche, Tal Dryman, and Judith Kaplan. All enjoyed an uneventful but pleasant paddle.

February 28 found Doug & Evan Mead, Mike Elliott, Connie Venuso, Donald & Rita Orr, and Marty Head on the Upper Metro Hooch, originally intended for Buford Dam to Settles Bridge but changed to Settles Bridge to Abbotts Bridge due to the high, fast and cold water. This was the day a kayaker was lost on the Etowah. We ran a safe trip. I wish the fellow on the Etowah had been with our GCA group.

April 18, 1998, involved a morning drive in rain so heavy that Sean Harris (following my red van with the yellow boat on top) could not see me at times. There were many no-shows, but the 7 paddlers that made the trip did a good job on the much higher than normal "Nacoochee" section of the Chattahoochee.

The high, fast and cold water set the stage for 2 flips by Sean and Stephanie Harris (OC-2). The first was from a sweeper near the outside of a bend. They quickly got out and we had a lunch break soon after. The second flip was



from 3-foot standing waves. After a number of attempts to rescue boat-Sean-Steph, we had to separate them from the boat. Sean and Stephanie swam to an eddy on river right while Tony and Jack took care of the boat on river left. They had stayed with the boat through a 1/4 mile swim/trashing and would still be there. These paddlers are tuff!

Thanks to Tony Colquitt, Jack Taylor, Sean & Stephanie Harris, Connie Venuso and Eric Craig for a great trip!

On June 7, 1998, I was concerned about water levels but need not have been. The Nacoochee section was the best I have ever seen it... water level, weather, scenery... you name it. I called it PERFECT. We split into two groups with most of the open canoes winding up in the first group and all the kayaks and 3 opens ending up in the second group.

There were so many play spots that by the time the second group reached the take-out, the first group of paddlers were at home all snug in their beds. A flying turkey, a cottontail, surfacing trout, a 2' garr, and blooming rhododendron were among the sights enjoyed by our flotilla of 18 boats with 22 paddlers.

Thanks to all the leaders, sweepers, and shuttlers. The open boaters included Craig Lyerla, Craig Newcomer, Sam Blackwell, Susan Smith, Cindy Linden, Marcus Faye, Mara Faye, Elizabeth Carter, Sheila Small, Scott Carter, Jim Martin, Jim Kautz, Bill Convis. Kayakers were Alex Convis, Kevin MacRae, John Watson, Jim Watson, Doug Marshall, Paul Smith, Greg Spencer, Chelsea Spencer. My thanks to all for a great day on the river! ✂

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## Texas Water Safari — Year 1

by Marvin Cole

I looked up into the night sky. The stars seemed to rotate around the tree line. My mind knew the boat was turning, but it surely looked like the sky itself was rotating, and we were standing still. I laid in the bottom

of the canoe, feeling the tenseness in my shoulders, and hoping that Jackie and Kaki would be able to bring me in safely. My chest hurt, and I knew I was injured. I was scared of going back in the river.

Not 30 minutes earlier, we had been making our way carefully through a "graveyard" of dead trees on the winding Guadalupe River in Texas, somewhere outside of

Victoria. We felt good — we were making good time and had an excellent chance of finishing the 260 mile race within the 100-hour deadline.

The dream had been spawned some 6 months earlier by my sisters in Texas. A dream that 36 hours earlier had seemed lost, and then found again. We were racing in the "Texas Water Safari — The World's Toughest Boat Race." It starts at the spring-fed mouth of the San Marcos River, and ends 260 miles later at Sea Drift, eight miles across the bay from the confluence of the Guadalupe River and the San Antonio Bay.

The race was scheduled to start on Saturday at 9:00 a.m. Jackie had bought the C-3 two weeks earlier, when we learned that our fourth sister would not be able to race with us. We jokingly named the boat the QE III, after the cruise liner, and our team was the Wild Women. We were the only all women's team in this year's race — a record low-water year.

Although the boat had been painted by an artiste friend, and looked like a psychedelic VW bus from the sixties (complete with burning bra), it was by no means ready to race. Seats had to be canted, foam pads glued to the gunwale to protect our legs when we jumped in and out of the boat, handles rigged for portages, endless counts of items secured by foam, tie-downs or whatever would work. Much of the outfitting was done the two days before the race.

When we arrived at the race site on Friday, the skies opened up for the first time in 6 months to pour 2 inches of rain on central Texas. Alas, we hauled the boat (what would fit) into our hotel room and dried it out with hair dryers in the hopes that last minute glue jobs would hold. Most — but not all — did.

The three of us had not been in the boat together before 8:40 a.m. the day of the race. We were tired, anxious, nervous, and on edge. We knew the boat was heavy empty (70 pounds) and we had equipped it to run four days if necessary. It seemed impossible to me that we could portage the boat the 50 or so times that would be necessary by the end of the race. When I looked at the



One of many obstacles — portaging dams is part of the race.

sparse riggings of the "big boys" boats, I felt doomed. So doomed that the only way I could deal with it was to make humor by including "one kitchen sink" on our official equipment list. Everything we needed for the race had to be in the boat at the beginning. We would only receive ice and water at the checkpoints.

Kaki started in the bow, I was in the middle, and Jackie took the stern. The previous owner of the boat had taught Jackie how to drive the boat just two weeks ago. We all prayed that we wouldn't flip the boat at the start of the race, in the narrow pool-like starting area that would look like an open sea when all the racers dug in their paddles at the start. Fortunately, we didn't flip.

At 26 feet, even with a rudder, the boat was difficult to turn and maneuver in the narrow, shallow waters of the San Marcos. Often, the river would turn sharply, pushing our boat across a gravel bar and into a strainer. The only way to save the boat was to jump out and pull the boat across the gravel bar. One encounter with a strainer could mean a torn hull — precious repair time, or elimination from the race if it was severe enough.

We were slow. We couldn't get in and out of the boat fast enough, we were too cautious and too nervous. But we made it through the first day by swimming the boat through Cottonseed rapids, an easy class II in a regular canoe, but too twisty and rocky for us to manage in a ruddered 26 foot Kevlar boat. Later, our duct tape patch saved the race after a rock managed to rip the hull. We used lighter fluid to dry the boat before affixing the tape, although at one point I was sure I could see the Kevlar burning. But it worked.

The second day was not as kind to us. We had only had about an hour and a half of sleep the first night. Jackie got sick on Sunday, not unusual on this race, but she couldn't eat or drink anything, and Kaki and I had to paddle her all day. By nightfall we were exhausted, and



Car-topping the QE III - Where's the red flag?

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when we turned the boat over and soaked our only dry clothes, we knew we were in trouble. Enter the lighter fluid again! We started a fire with driftwood, undressed Jackie and wrapped ourselves in space blankets. I dried most of our clothes, and we slept an astounding seven hours. Unheard of on the Safari. No one has that much time to sleep. No one.

We figured we were out of the race. We lamented the failure, but decided that Jackie's illness was out of our control, and we had tried. At 6 a.m. we began the long paddle to the next checkpoint.

The San Marcos is edged by cattle ranches. Unfortunately, we saw many dead cattle on the riverbanks. It was hard to tell exactly what had happened — broken back, stuck in the mud, whatever — but we knew first hand that the ranchers didn't patrol their banks. If the cows got in trouble, they were left to starve to death.

Around 9:30 Monday morning, we came upon a starving cow and her calf. It was obvious that she had come down to the riverbank by some unknown route, only to find herself unable to climb back out. She was enclosed by an overhung bowl edged by brambles and trees. We debated about our ability to save her. Kaki said it was hopeless, we needed to go on. Jackie and I said we couldn't leave her. Finally we agreed that it was the cow or the race. We said, "We slept so long last night, we're out of the race anyway. Let's try to help her."

So Jackie and I cut the brambles away from the top of the ridge, while Kaki kept her horns away from us by feeding her leaves. Jackie cut toe holds for her, and we enticed her up the hill with the leaves of branches from trees. It worked, although her last several steps were on her knees. We cheered. We said saving the cow was more important than the race any day. And we started on our way again.

Jackie was felling better, and beginning to eat, drink and paddle. Still, we expected to come into Hoheim (mile 123) around 4 or 5 that evening. When we rounded a corner and saw a bridge at 1:30 p.m., our hearts soared. I yelled out, "Is this Hoheim?" The unbelievable answer came back "Yes." With the time we had made up that day, we could go on! The race was on again.

We paddled hard and fast that day and night. No more long sleeps on the banks. It was hallucination city for us that night. Jackie saw American flags across the sky. I saw our boat perpetually surfing down a wave into a trough with a 10 foot wave on the other side. We all lost



The QE III as compared with a recreational canoe.

our depth perception, sometimes lost the river itself, and periodically nodded off while paddling. Nothing new for the Texas Safari.

But we were rewarded as well. The hoot owls traveled the banks with us, calling to each other, or to us. White herons lifted off in front of us, ghosts of the night leading us down river. Vultures lifted off as we passed, sometimes as many as a dozen at a time. And the stars gave us a sign to follow — a dancing wild woman with a bright blazing star at her heart.

We paddled on. And on. And on. We got faster and faster as we got better adjusted to each other, and to the boat. Also, the boat was made for flat

water cruising, and that's what we were doing by this time. We were on the Guadalupe.

We began to sense that we could make it. We counted and recounted the remaining miles and hours. We calculated our times to the next checkpoints, and began to beat them each time. The Safari officials began to cheer for us at each checkpoint, and people we didn't know began to gather at the checkpoints to cheer us on. Word went up and down the river that the "girls" had saved a cow, built fires on the banks, and somehow were still in the race. We had a following. It felt good. It inspired us.

We had 19 hours and 60 miles to go when we left Victoria and headed for DuPont — 27 miles away. We calculated that we would arrive around 10 or 11 p.m. With more current than we had expected, we made good time until dark, when the river became difficult to maneuver because of what I called the graveyard — bleached totems at every angle, a testament to nature's artistic ability, and a dangerous obstacle to our goal. Still, we were confident that we were making fairly good time. We were working well together, helping each other pick the best routes. Slow through the trees, haul ass down the clear stretches.

We edged around an inside turn. I was confident

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that any stumps would have been pushed to the outside, and we were safe to travel the inside. The water seemed deep enough. Then it struck. Like a fist of fire I was hit on my right rib cage. Instantly I was in the water. I knew I was hurt. And I knew what had done it.

We had heard about the alligator gars. The gars are attracted to the lights on the bows of the boats. They often jump across the bow, or bump into the boats hard enough to turn them over. But I had never expected to be blindsided by one flying through the air.

Jackie was behind me in the middle. She saw the fish torpedo out of the water, heard the thump, and saw it fall back into the water. Until she heard me say, "It hurt me," she thought that it had hit the boat and dislodged me. She too had been knocked out of the boat.

All I could think of was getting back in the boat. I repeated, "Get me in the boat. Get me in the boat." Somehow I crawled into the boat, probably with Jackie's help. I could hardly breathe. Jackie and Kaki were both standing in the water at my side, me huddled on my side in the bottom of the boat. I was sure I was injured, but then as I began to get my breath, I thought maybe I wasn't hurt, just stunned. Wrong!!

As I tried to shift onto my back, I screamed out in pain, and immediately began to shake uncontrollably. My sisters went into action, carefully undressing me and putting me in dry rain pants, jackets, space blankets, garbage bags, whatever they could find to wrap me and keep me warm.

Once they had me tucked into the bottom of the boat, they began the arduous task of bringing me in. We could hear the DuPont processing plant, but had been told that we would hear it long before we arrived. We had no way of knowing how far we were. I was scared. I felt vulnerable. But I knew that Jackie and Kaki would bring me in safely, if they had to jump out of the boat and guide

it along. I was glad I wasn't in their shoes.

I dozed in and out. I could hear them talking, working out their path, paddling and back-paddling. Once it seemed like I heard rushing water, and feared for an upset that never came. Later Jackie told me that they entered an eddy filled with scum. When they began to move forward, the scum moved along the boat, making it appear that the boat was moving with the scum — backward. She freaked. I never knew it. They were so cool headed.

The rest is history. We didn't make the end of the race. Jackie and Kaki brought me into DuPont, and we were out of the race for good. I went to the hospital, where the doctor didn't believe my story and thought I had muscle cramps from paddling. He asked me how often I paddled. Then he got the X-rays back. A broken rib. But he still maintained that I had done it falling out of the canoe. I gave up — I had been there — I knew what had happened. A fish had flown out of the water and hit me in the ribs. I hope I hurt the fish as much as he hurt me, but I doubt it.

Our dreams had been dashed — not by our inability, or our lack of persistence, or our lack of will — but by a fish. Who would believe a tall Texas tale like that?

Still, we felt victorious. We know we could have finished. Three women — sisters — all over 45, one over 50. Never paddled together before, never in that boat. Our camaraderie, our compassion, our love for each other had brought us through that race. We had nurtured each other, encouraged each other, laughed at and with each other. We had had a great adventure together, and although we didn't reach Sea Drift, we know we have lifetime bragging rights. Go Wild Women!!

*Next month — Return with the Wild Women for another shot at the Texas Water Safari, 1997 race, first of a two-part series by Kaki Burris, Marvins's sister.* ✂

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## Ocoee River Deaths

Robert Davis, 53, of Waynesboro, Mississippi, died August 10 after an accident Sunday, August 9, on the Ocoee River left him hospitalized in critical condition. The Sunday accident resulted in a dramatic rescue effort for Mr. Davis. A Polk County deputy said two physicians paddling on the river took part in resuscitating the victim. But Mr. Davis died at Erlanger Medical Center in Chattanooga on Monday morning.

Mr. Davis' canoe flipped Sunday in Table Saw Rapid on the Middle Ocoee River just down river from Goforth Creek. He was apparently the victim of a heart attack. He was able to get himself to rocks alongside the rapid

without assistance. It is unclear whether the heart attack contributed to the boat's capsize, or whether the victim suffered the heart attack after reaching shore.

Authorities said rescuers worked on Mr. Davis, then carried him up a steep, 100-foot bank to US Highway 64. Ambulance units were delayed by heavy traffic on the roadway, and a rescue helicopter was unable to fly into the area because of rain and fog. Mr. Davis was taken to the Copper Basin Medical Center and stabilized, then taken to Erlanger where he died.

The Knoxville News-Sentinel for August 31 reported the first death on the upper section of the Ocoee River occurred the previous weekend when 30-year-old Bruce Richards of Marietta, Georgia, and another passenger fell

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from their raft at Deep Hole. The other rafter got into the proper swim position, but the victim drowned as a result

of a foot entrapment after trying to stand up in the fast current in waist-deep water. ✕

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## White Water Thrills in Colorado

by Joel Terwilliger

In August three GCA members (Joel and Marla Terwilliger and Don Klein) took a kayaking trip in Colorado. The goal: Run rapids on both sides of the Continental Divide.

### Clear Creek Overture

Scouting Clear Creek from Highway 6 gave us the first indication of what western white water is all about: Numerous holes, constant rapids and steep drops punctuated by sharp boulders that had recently fallen in from the mountainsides. Clear Creek runs through the heart of the Rocky Mountains into Golden where it is transformed by Coors into that golden elixir of refreshment, beer. As it runs along the highway, it is hemmed in by high, sheer walls of rock on one side and steep, broken boulders on the other.

Water level was 600 CFS, somewhat low, when we put in. On this, our first day of running white water, Don, myself and Marla were all in our K-1s (a new RPM for me!) at the put-in above Screaming + Mile Rapid. A solid class III put-in took us through hairy ferries, steep drops and holes with hidden rocks.

The first class IV drop was Elbow Falls. After scouting, Don decided to run it while I set up safety. He hit the line perfectly, bracing hard on his right to avoid getting splatted against the sheer rock wall on river right and pushed into an undercut overhang at the next drop.

More holes and big waves ensued until we hit Screaming + Mile. At this point we were breathing hard from the thin air and the constant work of scanning horizon lines and making last second moves to avoid potential pins. Scouting for this rapid consisted of sitting tall in the boat and watching the bobbing helmet in front of you make the moves.

Toward the end of the rapid, Marla had her first and final swim. She hit a hole sideways coming over a pour-over ledge. Nailing her roll, she was unprepared for a four-foot drop-off onto a large rock. The result: a nasty gash on her face, arms and legs when she lost her paddle and swam.

The next set of rapids above a must portage diversion dam had my number. Coming around a screaming left to right turn with a boof move over a large boulder, I flipped and lost my paddle. As I righted myself, the rapid separated me and my boat. I grabbed my paddle and made for river left as Don chased my boat. Fortunately, the boat

broached on a rock above the dam and we were able to tie a line to the bow and pull her out.

From here, we went around a tunnel cut through the mountain (Tunnel #1) through more constant class III+ water. The steep gradient of the creek never let up until about a mile outside of Golden. The take-out was a beautiful slalom course with manmade drops, surfing waves and ender spots. Living and working in Golden has its pluses: Cheap Coors beer and a great training course! **Colorado River Majesty - The Western Side of the Continental Divide**

Along the side of the section that runs from Pumphouse to State Bridge Road below Gore Canyon is a railroad track that carries Amtrak cars full of sightseers craning their necks to see the panoramic vistas greeting them at every turn. More importantly, this section has big water and long flat water paddle spots. At 950 CFS, the river wasn't high, but it provided plenty of big holes at the beginning.

Starting off with + mile of flat water paddling, Don and myself (still in our K-1s) rounded a bend near a railroad tunnel into our first set of rapids. This rapid is emblematic of all the rapids on this part of the river with big boulders marking drops and surging holes. After running this one, we had a long flat water paddle to the next set of rapids.

The flat water paddling gave us a great opportunity to view the scenery and appreciate the forces of nature that created high jagged peaks, long wind-swept plains and steep gorge walls all along one stretch of river. It is amazing to think of the millions of years it took to create the sandwiched layers of rock that had been exposed by wind and river for us to see. I never tired of the view; indeed, the rapids scattered intermittently through the river took a pale second to the enjoyment I received from paddling what felt like the top of the world.

### Arkansas has the Numbers - The East Side of the Divide

A fitting finale to our western white water was the Granite, Pine Creek and Numbers sections of the Arkansas River. Flowing through the famous "Fourteeners" near Leadville, these sections are highlighted by big water, big holes, tight technical drops, scary "keeper" ledges and scenery that took whatever breath the rapids hadn't already stolen away.

The legendary fourteen thousand foot peaks that surrounded our river run are the highest mountains in the lower 48 states. It was easy to feel overwhelmed by the

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peaks; I concentrated on the rapids ahead of me as they were good at overwhelming the unwary as well.

Our put-in crew at Granite consisted of Don, a Boulder resident named Mark Rehder who led us down, and myself. After a quick flat water paddle, we hit white water. Imagine a river god who decided to place large boulders throughout steep canyon walls. After filling the walls with decidedly fast and steep water, he/she threw in some logs and freshly broken rocks to mix up the water. What you get is a recipe that flips the slow bracer and gashes the slow roller. Today, the river was at 950 CFS.

Looking back, the class III-IV rapids are all in a blur. Picking them apart, I recall how we ran each one in succession: First you hear the roar and then you see boiling water and car-sized rocks. The noise, heightened by the echoing effect of the canyon walls, was the signal to pull back and watch Mark make his way down. Mark would signal the lines with his paddle and Don and I would make our way through. It quickly became a rhythm watching for the hesitation and then quick pointing of Mark's paddle as we picked our way down.

We would follow the tongue of current between large holes. Sometimes there was no choice, you had to pick one hole or the other to punch through. If you flipped in a hole, you rolled up quickly and prepared for the next drop. Quickly, we got used to the feel of our paddles banging against the sides of rocks as we wound our way through tight slots over ledges. We worked hard, making quick moves river left or right to avoid too narrow slots and ledges or holes that didn't look friendly.

Pine Creek loomed ahead. We took out to scout the long class IV/V rapid. Entrance Rapid looked somewhat like Sock 'Em Dog: a boof move off an outcropping of rock to avoid the river wide recirculating hole followed by current that moved quickly from river left to right. From

there it was solid white water and holes that didn't let up until + mile further at S-Hole. S-Hole is the nastiest looking ledge I've ever seen. It runs across 7/8 of the river with a little two-foot wide slot on river left that skirts the hole behind the ledge. Looking at that hole, I didn't think anything could get out of there. Don and I portaged it while Mark ran it clean.

From here, it was the Numbers. A class III/IV run with five separate rapids each labeled numerically in turn. Rapids #1 and #2 were class III consisting of tight drops over holes. Twice, I got side-surfed as the hole would grab me before I could completely straighten my boat out from running between large boulders before the drop.

Rapids #3 and #4 were separated by a long set of "staircase" waves. If Mark hadn't told me, I would have thought we were still in #3 when we hit #4. Again, we maneuvered between oversized boulders over ledges and through holes. #4 had a great surfing and ender spot. "Best in Colorado!" exclaimed Mark.

Rapid #5 was deceptive. When we scouted it, it seemed like a simple drop between two boulders out of sight from above on river right and a large boulder whose top you could just see as you came up to the drop. I was unaware of how fast the water was though, and of the two holes behind the large boulder that would hold the unfortunate. Also, the drop was a free fall when it looked like a slide. We ran it perfect, catching an eddy on river right behind the boulders and parallel to the holes.

Below the holes was our take-out, and the end to our Colorado white water adventure. A special thanks to all the GCA members who responded to my requests for information over the e-mail group list, and to Mark Rehder whom I met over the internet and paddled with in Colorado. ✂

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## **St. Croix River, Eastern Maine**

**by Patti Parsons**

**July 23 to July 26, 1998**

The brochure from Sunrise County Canoe Expeditions arrived just when Jay and I were planning a summer trip to visit relatives in New England. Touted in the brochure as "one of Maine's true gems, the classically beautiful Saint Croix flows through exceptionally attractive woodlands along the Canadian border." The river has protected status as a Canadian Heritage River and is a principal nesting area for the American Bald Eagle.

This was a four day "luxury" canoe camping trip for us. SCCE furnished the Registered Maine Guide, the canoes, paddling gear, tents, food (plenty of it and well

prepared) and beverages. All the customer brings is personal gear. We planned for this well in advance by shipping our sleeping bags, river clothes, rain gear, etc. to the base camp two weeks before our arrival. A major crisis developed when two days before our departure flight our package arrived.... back in Norcross! We had transposed zip code numbers and the gear went to Ohio and back. We shipped it again and it did arrive in time for our trip.

The trip includes camping at the base camp at Cathance Lake on the night before the trip departure. We listened to the hoots, wails, tremolos and yodels of loons all night long. (Seeing and hearing loons was on my wildlife wish list) I was very concerned about mosquitoes in Maine. (Mosquitoes and black flies were not on my wildlife wish list.) They were a slight nuisance at base camp, but



Using the pole to move down the river is called "snubbing." "Poling" is the technique for moving upstream. Jay Parsons is in the foreground, the guide, Dan, is in the background.

there were hardly any on the river. My back yard in Norcross has ten times the number we encountered on the river.

The river is a class I-II. This is a river to be enjoyed for the scenery, wildlife, and lack of human presence, not for challenging white water. I understand that September trips are spectacular due to fall foliage. Many rapids are named, but the major ones are Little Falls, Haycock, and Canoose, all manageable even with tripper type canoes and lots of camping gear.

Poling was a skill that we were introduced to on this trip. The setting pole was the accepted method of propelling a canoe in the rivers of the north country of Maine and eastern Canada. The boater is standing, so visibility and control is increased, so is the need for balance and the

understanding of reading the river currents. Poling can be a practical method of upstream travel as well as "an elegant down river art". Actually, Jay did the educational poling, I did the educational photography. I think it would be great if it were adopted in the Southeast.

We saw only a handful of small houses on the 42 miles of river. Camping was mostly on the Canadian side of the river, no customs formalities are necessary as long as you take out on the same side that you put in. Bald Eagles were definitely on my wish list. We saw quite a few of these, and saw one nest. Huge beaver lodges were everywhere. Our misty sunrise paddle on the last day (sunrise there in late July is before 5 am.) provided an audio, but not visual contact with some wildlife on the meadow. Dan, our seasoned guide said that the snorts, sounds, and foot falls indicated a mother deer had found her lost fawn and had departed. Nope. I think it was a bear. Or a moose. Because these were on my wish list, and I would rather remember that I had been next to either of these on the river that misty morning.

We had a great time and I have to give SCCE a plug. Both because they did an outstanding job, and because they could have canceled our trip, but didn't. No one else signed up for that trip, so we had a private trip, which couldn't have been that profitable, but they knew how much this trip meant to us. We look forward to paddling with them again. They do other Maine rivers, trips in the Southwest (Rio Grande, the Verde); remote cold stuff expeditions in the Arctic, Canada, Iceland, and the Yukon. Contact them at 1-800-RIVER-30. I also have to give our guide, Dan Pelletier, some promotion. He was an exceptional guide and very good company. During the winter months he does sled dog trips, "mushing" it is called. That sounds like great fun and we intend to see him next winter. He can be reached through SCCE. ✂

## The Quebec Extortion Expedition

by Fred Couch

After ten years of fantasizing my dream trip into Quebec's northern extremes, a year to find a capable partner (Jay Monahan), another year to acquire additional seasoned paddlers, intense planning, food preparation, months of nightly e-mail among 8 people, finite re-checking sea charts and topo's, obtaining medical gear, equipment purchases, psychological, and physical preparation — for 38 degree water, polar bears, walrus, 20 mile days at sea, 15 mph sustained breezes close to the arctic circle — we thought we were up for any challenge weather or animal could produce.

Man proved to be the greatest predator in what was finally nicknamed the Extortion Expedition. Even with no radio to contact the outside world, and magnetic lines waving all over the chart, we anticipated being prepared for this adventure in the Inuit territory called Nunavik. The Inuit's live in 3 communities in perhaps the harshest territory of the world, on the NE coast of Hudson Bay. The land is well beyond tree-lines, shorelines are generally quite steep, and sea depths average over 70 feet within 20 feet of shore.

The Inuits have survived in this situation for 1000's of years by being skilled hunters, and extraordinary adapters to their chosen environment. They designed and built the first sea kayaks, wider and longer than present boats for off-shore seal, walrus, and whale hunting. Every

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inch of skin, blubber, bone, and sinew was and is used still today to their betterment, bone for carving sellable statues, and food for survival. On this Eastern shore of Hudson Bay, they have settled in three communities, where the Quebec government has built permanent shelters and schools to assist their future.

At midpoint on this Eastern shore is Umiujaq, a Nunavik settlement of Quebec's Arctic region, with about 600 people, approximately 3 hours North of flight time from the nearest airport. Traditionally, the Inuit's have been a very hospitable people, welcoming strangers, and travelers from afar with openness and genuine hominess. As a courtesy to the Inuits, I contacted a Davidee Sappa, represented to us by a tourism agency as being the Mayor of Umiujaq, to expect us camping along the shoreline as we traveled Northward, and to ask permission to do some rod fishing. Two of several books I read in preparation, "Kabloona in the Yellow Kayak" by Victoria Jason (who sea kayaked 4000 miles in the Arctic) and "Arctic Dreams" by Barry Lopez (a detailed scientific treatise on the entire northern areas of Canada) expounded on the friendliness of the natives, and extraordinary hospitality. We expected nothing less. Gosh, were we wrong!

Davidee asked me to fax detailed information about our travel dates, who was coming, a short treatise on each, and what plane to expect. He could not have represented himself or his community more warmly or been more gracious welcoming us. I was truly looking forward to accomplishing this many year dream. He sucked us in like water in a straw.

Two days after faxing Davidee, (on July 6) I got a call from a George Holland with a 905 area code to contact him about our trip (I planned to start driving on July 12). Not knowing anyone in this area code, I checked the phone book which said lower Ontario, hundreds of miles South of our planned trip. On calling him, he initially validated that he had the fax I sent Davidee Sappa, and proceeded into a long discussion criticizing my knowledge of airplanes. He basically fomented an argument to tell me the airplane wouldn't support us and all our gear. He just had to be right, so I left it at that. At this point, I told him we were just trying to be courteous to the Inuits along the way and notify them we would be in the area, and wanted a fishing permit for one of our party. Then, he told me he was the Administrator of the North and we could only get a fishing permit from one person, his associate in Radisson, Ghislain Tolbert. Thereupon he told me each of us would have to pay him (Holland) a head or passage tax of \$150 (\$75 each community) and hire one of his guides at \$100 per day plus \$200/day expenses.

Knowing that we were just going Northward along

the shoreline, I knew a guide was unnecessary, and (besides) we were all years ahead of his guides in experience (he said his had just come back from a 6 week school). I told him we wouldn't need a guide, as we were all very experienced. He said we had no choice. He indicated I needed to send the moneys forthwith. I told him I had to consult with the others.

Jay had traveled to Umiujaq leading a group the year prior and no such person or fines existed, and he had been treated with the warm hospitality we had anticipated. He and I concluded this was a shake down operation, a scam designed to enrich one person's pockets and decided to ignore this absurd situation.

Attached is a fax I got four days later from Holland threatening higher money tariffs, or worse, to the tune of \$5,000 per person. Jay then called the tourism bureau for this area in Quebec, and the result was more money demands from George Holland, and \$250 a day per guide for three guides.

At this point, though I had originally instigated the trip, I backed out. My wife pointed out that with no radio contact to the outside world, this person or his associates could hold us for ransom, or we could just disappear. All our foodstuffs had been purchased, and a college had loaned us a trailer to haul boats and gear behind my vehicle. Two other paddlers also gave in, and the rest went to paddle the coast of Labrador.

In travels over 25 countries for 30 plus years, some easy and some tough, I have never been robbed or extorted. This brazen extortion attempt by George Holland will be shared with outdoor periodicals, travel agencies, tourism facilities, my support group, Ontario, and Quebec's highest legal authorities. In pursuit of this dream, I had over 50 persons from outfitters, to ACA guides, to Olympic trainers, to boat/equipment manufacturers, to lifelong paddling companions, to world renowned Explorer's Club (members), survivalist trainers, Canadian Custom officers, Canadian Rotarians, US Army Reaction Trainers, retired foreign military officers, and Outward Bound friends assist me, and had planned to write (what I anticipated would be) glowing articles about that region to incite future travel adventurers and initiate a viable tourism trade.

My topo's for Nunavik show many steep descent rivers, that we "cold water" creek paddlers thrive on. Now, I don't recommend anyone go to Nunavik or Northern Quebec for years until George Holland and his associates are behind bars, and new laws be written into the Nunavik and Quebec governing areas to dispel any such future extortion situations reoccurring.

More than your wallet may be at stake.



**Umiujaq Outfitters Inc.  
Nunavik, Northern Quebec  
Quebec's Arctic Region  
MLCP 10-592**

July 10, 1998

Fred Couch  
c/o Couch's Jewelry  
USA 27217

via fax: (258) 237-4828  
Tel: (800) 844-4128

cc: Natalie Rivard, Legal  
Davidee Sappa, Umiujaq  
Ghislain Talbot, LG-2, Radisson

Dear Mr. Couch:

**RE: PERMISSION TO CROSS COMMUNITY OF UMIUJQA CATEGORY 1 AND 11 LANDS**

In our telephone conversation the evening of July 6, I informed you that your sea kayak party would be travelling through the category I and II private reserve lands of the community of Umiujaq and of Inukjuak.

Further I advised that your party would be expected to, at a minimum, pay the required 'head tax' or visitor's fee of \$75 Cdn. per person for each community they would be traveling through;

and that, each community would require that your party employ a local resident as a guide to take you through their reserve lands. Further, I offered to make the arrangements on behalf of your party.

You took down my email, telephone and facsimile numbers and promised to have your party guide, Jay Monahan contact me to discuss detail the following day on July 7<sup>th</sup>. I am aware that your departure date from the USA is Tuesday, July 14<sup>th</sup>.

So far, no member of your party has contacted me and you have failed to return my calls since July 6<sup>th</sup>.

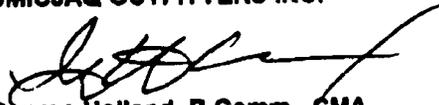
I urge you to make the required arrangements before you depart on your adventure. This afternoon I reviewed the penalties for unauthorized access on Inuit reserve lands with Ms. Natalie Rivard, the legal attorney for the villages involved. They are severe.

Should your party fail to obtain the proper authorizations, they will be met at the community airport by a member of Sakkuq Landholding of Umiujaq, accompanied by the Kativik Regional Constable. You would be detained and face possible seizure of your expedition gear until payment of your proper fees and any additional fines ranging from \$2,000 to \$5,000 per person in your party as deemed appropriate by the Sakkuq Landholding Corporation.

Jobie Crow, President and Davidee Sappa, Secretary of Sakkuq Landholding have asked me to inform you that they will not condone any further trespass on the community lands. The constable has been contacted to be on standby, only if needed, for your charter flight's arrival on August 20.

It will be a shame to destroy your dream of an arctic adventure by unnecessary problems with the law.

Yours very truly,  
**UMIUJQA OUTFITTERS INC.**

  
George Holland, B.Comm., CMA  
Administrator & Treasurer

Tel.: (905) 844-8518  
Fax: (905) 844-7416

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# CLASSIFIED ADS

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**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, or email to gacano@mindspring.com. NO PHONED-IN OR HAND-WRITTEN ADS. All ads will be run for two issues unless otherwise requested.

**FOR RENT** - Secluded NC mountain home with great views, furnished - 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, swimming (& rolling) pond, mountain trails, waterfalls. Easy drive to Nantahala or Chattooga. Available for fall color season, mid-September to end of November. \$950/month plus phone & electricity. References required. Call Trish or Doug at 828-369-6491.

**FOR SALE** - Boat-building materials - rolls of fiberglass, various weaves, woven roving glass tape, paddle molds & more. Will sell (whole lot only) at a bargain price! Doug Woodward 828-369-6491.

**FOR SALE** - Pop-up camper, 92 Coleman Cedar Destiny. Sleeps 6, AC, propane tank, stove, electrical and water hook ups, sink, lots of storage. Very good condition, used less than 15 times. \$2500.00 obo. Call Bambi Bloom at 770-781-8566.

**FOR SALE** - C-1, Perception Whiplash conversion, great condition, includes skirt, \$450 firm. Call Mark 770-785-7645.

**FOR SALE** - Canoe, Dagger Impulse fully loaded, used twice, \$700.00. Top of line child carrier backpack with rain and sun hood, \$100.00 obo. Multiple PFDs for sale, L and XL, diff. makes and colors make offer. Call Joe Webb (Cotton) @ 770-954-9609.

**FOR SALE** - Canoe, Dagger Encore, red, in good condition with outfitting - \$600. Foam saddle with adjustable foot rests, 60 inch flotation bags, all wood trim. Also have misc. accessories for sale - XL Extrasport PFD, paddles, ProTec helmet, XL Stohlquist SS splash jacket, sm dry bag. Mike Rachelson 770-621-9407 (home).

**FOR SALE** - Canoe, Blue Hole Sequel. If you like fast, sharp turns and surfing... This is the boat for you! The Sequel is 11 feet long and weighs just under 49 lbs. It is considered a playboat! The boat is red and completely outfitted by Allen Hedden and is only 3-1/2 months old! Must sell! We paid \$1,200 and are asking \$900. If interested please contact Mary Ann 770-439-1825.

**FOR SALE** - Canoe, 16 ft. Mad River Explorer, red Royalex, ash gunwales, cane seats. Excellent condition. \$1200 new; asking \$850 OBO. 770-998-0817.

**FOR SALE** - Dry suit, Stohlquist. Excellent condition. XL. \$125.00. Leave message 770-432-6314.

**FOR SALE** - Equipment. Wooden canoe paddle, Remos Tropicales 56". \$65. Kayak spray skirt, Aquaterra, size small/p. \$40. Both in new condition. 404-636-9339 after 5 PM.

**FOR SALE** - Gheenoe, 13', fiberglass, three bench seats. Very stable! Flat stern accepts up to 5 hp motor, or can be paddled like a canoe.

Very good condition. Great for duck hunting or flat water fishing. Also have 3-1/2 hp Nissan outboard in good condition. Will sell separately, \$250 for Gheenoe, \$300 for motor. Call Kevin @ 770-532-9728.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Dagger Freefall 'LT' - custom black w/ bulkheads, excellent condition, stored inside, \$425. Two Perception kayak paddles, 206 w/ 45 deg. offset, \$75 each, custom graphite breakdown kayak paddle (perception), 206 w/ 45 deg. offset, \$50. Kayak float bags, \$25. Misc. PFD's, pogies, polypro. spray skirts, W.S. booties, etc...make offer - Hal Herndon 770-432-8705, leave msg if no answer.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Wavesport Micro X, red and black, with air bags and helmet. Purchased brand new, paddled one year. Great boat for smaller paddlers, beginners and creekin'. \$500 obo. Call Sarah at 404-817-4988 (day) or 404-885-9875 (evening).

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Necky Jive, blue and red, beautiful playboat, purchased new, only paddled 15 times. This is a gorgeous playboat in great condition! \$575 obo. Call Sarah or Chris at 404-817-4988 (day) or 404-885-9875 (evening).

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, New Wave Cruise Control, white/purple, \$350 obo. Call Dave at 404-817-5107(day).

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Pyranha Creek 280, yellow, paddled one season, nicely outfitted w/backband. Make offer! Presently sharing apartment with two kayaks and need space! Leave message for Carol at 404-282-7137 or E-mail to: kino@avana.net.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Wave Sport Frankenstein, red & black, lower back brace. Great for both beginning play boating and all around river running. \$450.00 OBO. Mark 770-591-2425.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Wave Sport Frankenstein - excellent condition - includes Seals skirt, Perception Horizon Line paddle, floatation, PFD and helmet. \$700 for everything, or will trade for solo canoe! Call Brad 770-505-9566.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Savage Gravity (red), like new - stored indoors! Spray skirt and PFD (size large) and air bags included. Asking \$450. Call Tom 770-591-0984.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Dagger Free Fall. \$400. Joe or Susan 706-865-0007.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, 1998 Dagger Crossfire (bluish-green color) -- Perception spray skirt -- Werner paddle -- Protec helmet -- Yakima locking rail riders, stackers & multimounts -- Okespor Gorges (8) -- 2 stern floatation bags -- Snapdragon back band -- Padz hip wedges -- nose clip -- All this never been used on white water -- all in excellent condition -- taken out on a pond 3 times -- \$1150 invested & will sell all for \$950. Contact Randy @ 912-764-5743.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Perception Overflow X, granite, with spray skirt and air bags. All equipment is like new condition. Great boat for large paddler or beginner. \$525. Call Gregg @ 678-584-9826.

**FOR SALE** - Folding kayak, 2-person, with

break-down paddles, Folboat Super Model - excellent condition. Ideal boat for packing by train or bush plane for wilderness trips. This kayak survived a hair-raising adventure down the Tatshenshini & Alsek Rivers in Canada and Alaska. Copy of trip story (ran in Alaska Magazine) included with sale. \$450. Doug Woodward 828-369-6491.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, touring, Aquaterra Umiak touring sea kayak for paddlers to 100 lbs. plus gear. 12'x21"x35 lbs. Greenland-style hull. Granite color. Cock pit cover-spray skirt - 220 cm two-piece paddle. Used twice. New \$750.00. Sale \$500.00 or trade for sit-on-top kayak. Don C. (H) 770-614-0993, (W) 770-614-3001.

**FOR SALE** - Yakima 1A Raingutter Towers. Four towers that attach to vehicles with raingutters. Can accept lockable cores. For use with round bars. Used twice, \$100 new, \$70. Sherpak soft cartop carrier. 15 cubic feet, fits any vehicle with a factory rack or after market rack. Used twice, \$159 new, \$95. Call Ralph @ 770-381-8563 Evenings.

**FOR SALE** - Land, 1/2 acre bldg. lot, Ellijay near 515; on paved road in Coosawattee River Resort. Swim, tennis, river, lake, riding trails. POA. \$6,900.00 - Martha Herndon 404-231-5367.

**FOR SALE** - Land, 10(+) mountaintop acres in Pickens County. Close to Atlanta AND several great river runs! Overlooks Bent Tree's golf course and lakes. Elevation 3,100 ft., beautiful heavily wooded site with driveway and gate. Underground power and phone at site. Restrictive covenants in place. Awesome view!!! Just off Hwy 515 and a bit above Jasper, Georgia, on Monument Road. (Only 1 hr. from I-75 & I-285 interchange in Atlanta.) \$4,950/acre. Transouth Realty (Martha Herndon) Owner-Agent 404-231-5367.

**HELP WANTED** - Yes, the GCA needs your help. We need volunteers to serve on committees, label and mail newsletters, etc. Call 770-421-9729 and leave a message.

**LOST** - One blue Caspia, a recreational (flat water) kayak bought a year ago at REI, on the Chattahoochee below Buford Dam and above the McGinnis Ferry Bridge, on June 14th. When lost, it had "Averitt" and our phone number (770-399-5509) written on its deck with black marker. \$100 reward.

**WANTED** - Kayak, Dagger Blast for my son. Call Joe Webb (Cotton) @ 770-954-9609.

**WANTED** - Weekday boaters. Looking for intermediate (or better) kayak paddlers to boat on uncrowded waters! Would like to get small, informal, group together to practice technique, surfing, hitting rolls, without threat of rafts, duckies & traffic jams at play spots (start on Nantahala). If you can occasionally paddle weekdays, but need company, contact Carol at 404-282-7137 or E-mail to: kino@avana.net.

**WANTED** - Canoe, Dagger Reflection 15 or Dagger Caption in good condition. Vernon Adams, 770-888-1850.



Get into the flow.

Go with the flow team member Dale Karacosias

October 1, 1996

Linville Gorge, NC

10:30 am

63° F

Class 5 rapid

15 foot fall

*pure*

*adrenaline.*



4 Elizabeth Way, Roswell, GA 30075

770-992-3200

[www.gowiththeflow.net](http://www.gowiththeflow.net)