



The EDDY LINE

POST OFFICE BOX 7023 • ATLANTA, GA 30357

Volume 34, No. 9

770.421.9729

September 1999

Fall Gala Canoeing Affair

The sixteenth annual GCA Fall Gala Canoeing Affair is scheduled for Friday evening, October 1, thru Sunday, October 3, at the Diamond Lure Campground near Ellijay. Activities will include paddling trips, Saturday night catered dinner, Bingo, and socializing with your paddling buds.

Regina, the campground manager, has again promised the South's best barbecue smoked overnight in their cabin-sized oven. In addition to the barbecue dinner, Saturday night is also bingo night, with plenty of prizes and fun. To get you started, coffee and home made sausage and biscuits will be cooking in the community house each morning. On a serious note, Regina points out that campground rules require dogs to be leashed at all times while on the property. She loves dogs and has two of her own, but says she has no choice in the matter, and will have to ask campers to leave if they cannot abide by the leashing policy.

Did I mention that we will be running rivers Saturday and Sunday, water and weather permitting? Depending on your anxiety threshold and Mother Nature's cooperation, choices will include the Cartecay, Toccoa, Upper and Lower Amilacola, Ocoee, Hiwassee, Nantahala and perhaps others.

Specific information on prices and directions to the campground is given on the tear-out flyer in this issue of *The Eddy Line*. Or you can call me at home (Jim Griffin 404.498.3695) between 5:30 and 9:30 PM if you have other questions.

So mail in the application before September 24, do some pushups, patch the tent and spiffy up that boat, and we'll see you at the Fall Gala!

Note: Due to the close proximity of dates for the Gala and the September GCA meeting, as well as the fact that the Garden Hills Community Center will not be available in September, the Gala will supercede the September GCA meeting.

October GCA Meeting

Our old home at Garden Hills won't be ready in October, so we're having our fall General Membership Meeting, Pot-Luck Dinner and Election of Officers at the Atlanta Waterworks Lodge, Thursday, October 21, at 7:30 p.m. This will be our first "real" meeting since April, so we'll be sure to have fun swapping summer stories. Bring your favorite covered dish or dessert.

To get to the Waterworks Lodge, from I-75 North, take Howell Mill Road exit and turn left (or if going south, turn right). Once you pass the reservoirs on each side of the road, make the next left on Bishop. Then turn left on Green Street. Green will take you directly to the Lodge. Park only in designated areas. Tow trucks are known to frequent this part of town.

See you there!!

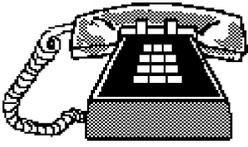


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Who Ya Gonna Call?

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 Gina Johnson at 770.971.1542.

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

The Georgia Canoeing Association Board of Directors meetings are held on the first Thursday of even months (February, April, etc.) from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, located on Piedmont Road at the Prado, next to Piedmont Park. All members are encouraged to attend. If you have an item for discussion, please call GCA 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	Debra Berry
River Protection Chair	Dan MacIntyre
Training Chair	Gina Johnson

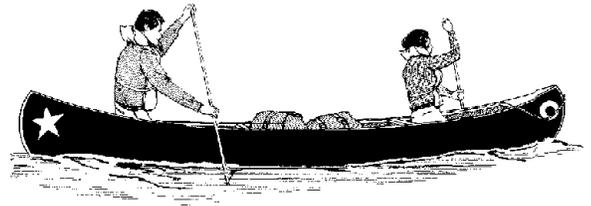
Submitting *Eddy Line* Material

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. To submit material via EMAIL, send to gacanoemindspring.com. The text of an article can be placed in the body of a message, and photo images can be attached to the message as attached files. To submit material via COMPUTER DISK submit articles or trip reports on a 5-1/4 or 3-1/2 inch IBM/DOS formatted disk as an ASCII text 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 returned only if requested). To submit material via U.S. MAIL, send to: **Allen Hedden, 2923 Piedmont Drive, Marietta, GA 30066**. All want ads will be run for two months unless otherwise requested. Hand-written or phoned in material CANNOT be accepted. Contact Newsletter Editor **Allen Hedden at 770.426.4318** for questions. Thanks for your cooperation. ✂

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UPCOMING ACTIVITIES



September

4 Tuckaseigee (NC)	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Jim & Maggie Griffin	770.498.3695
5 Ocmulgee	Smooth water	Jimmy Nipper	770.931.1667
6 Ocoee	Class 3-4 Advanced	Oreon Mann	404.522.3469
11 Etowah	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Nancy Barker	404.874.8897
11 Lower Amicalola	Class 3-4 Advanced	Sam Blackwell	706.342.0511
11 Chattooga Section 4	Class 4-5 Expert	Roger Nott	770.536.6923
12 Flint	Class 1+ Easy Beginner	Richard Greene	770.419.3329
12 Chattooga Section 3-1/2	Class 3-4 Advanced	Jason Schnurr	770.422.9962
18 Buford Dam Hooch	Class 1+ Easy Beginner	Tom Martin	770.662.0058
18 Leaders Choice	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Sam Blackwell	706.342.0511
19 Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Ray Channell	404.636.5944
19 Cartecay	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Edward Stockman	770.394.3469
25 Upper Hooch Moonlite Trip	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Mike Huff	706.342.9879
25 Leaders Choice	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Bill Gatling	770.516.0852
26 Ocoee	Class 3-4 Advanced	Oreon Mann	404.522.3469

October

1-3 Fall Gala Canoeing Affair — Diamond Lure Campground, Ellijay		Jim Griffin	770.498.3695
7 Board of Directors Meeting	Atlanta Botanical Garden	David Martin	404.351.8208
9 Chattooga Section 4	Class 4-5 Expert	Roger Nott	770.536.6923
10 Chattooga Section 3 Cleanup	Class 3-4 Advanced	Oreon Mann	404.522.3469
16 Lower Toccoa Cleanup	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Roger Nott	770.536.6923
16 Metro Hooch Cleanup	Class 1+ Easy Beginner	Tom Martin	770.662.0058
17 Metro Hooch Cleanup	Smooth Water	Marvine Cole	770.475.3022
21 Fall General Membership Meeting & Pot Luck Dinner — Water Works Lodge —		Marvine Cole	770.475.3022
23 Hiwassee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Bill Gatling	770.516.0852

Your Trip Could Be Listed in This Space — Call the Cruise Master and Sign Up Now!!

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.

Roll Practice: Wednesday nights 6 P.M. May thru September at the lake at Stone Mountain Park.

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)
Grace Under Pressure (learning the kayak roll)
Heads Up, River Rescue
Introduction to Canoeing
Kayak 101 (mastering the basics)
Kayak Handling - The Basic Strokes
Only Nolan (Canoe Technique)
Path of the Paddle: Quietwater
Path of the Paddle: Whitewater
Performance Sea Kayaking (the basics & beyond)
Plunge!

Prijon Wildplay Wildwasser Sport
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 Florida
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 DCross Canoeing & Kayaking
A Paddler's Guide to the Obed/Emory Watershed
Arkansas information (assorted)
Basic River Canoeing
Boundary Waters I&II
Brown's Guide to Georgia
Buyer's Guide 1993 (Canoe Magazine)
Buyer's Guide 1994 (Paddler Magazine)
Buyer's Guide 1996 (Paddler Magazine)
California Whitewater - A Guide to the Rivers
Canoe Racing (Marathon & Down River)
Canoeing Wild Rivers

Carolina Whitewater (Western Carolina)
Cruise of the Blue Flujin
Cumberland River Basic Canoe Trail Guide
Endangered Rivers & the Conservation Movement
Florida information (assorted)
Idaho Whitewater
Indiana Canoeing Guide
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
People Protecting Rivers
Pole, paddle & Portage
River Rescue
River Safety Anthology
River's End (Stories)
Sea Kayaking Canada's West Coast
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 (Sierra Club Guide)
Wildwater West Virginia
Youghiogheny

Announcements

GCA Email List

The member response to the GCA email list has been great. We have at this printing about 265 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 "gacanoes@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 gacanoes

You will receive a verification that you are sub-



scribed 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 gacanoes@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. ✂

GCA Web Page

Check it out at <http://www.mindspring.com/~gacanoes>. 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. ✂

Need an Internet Service Provider?

If you plan to sign up with an internet service provider for the first time, or if you plan to change providers, and are considering MindSpring as your choice, you can do your paddling club a big favor. When you call to sign up, tell the MindSpring sales rep you were referred by Georgia Canoeing Association and we will receive a \$10.00 credit toward our monthly ISP subscription cost. You will need to give them the GCA email ID — gacanoec@mindspring.com — for us to receive the proper credit. Thanks for your help!

Weekday Paddlers

There has been good response to the request to develop a list of paddlers available to paddle during the week. We now have 70+ entries on the list, including members who are retired persons, those with variable or non-standard work schedules, those available to paddle weekdays when school is out (students and teachers), and even those who have a lot of vacation time to burn and want to take vacation days for paddling. The list includes members who paddle smooth water as well as all classes of white water

If you would like to be included in the list, please call Allen Hedden at 770.426.4318 and leave your name, phone number, days of the week you are available to paddle, and class of water (flat, I thru V) that you are interested in paddling. You will then receive an up-to-date copy of the list. The list will be re-published quarterly (January, April, July, October). Updates are available by request through the GCA phone line. If you received your copy of the list more than 3 months ago, you should request an updated copy (the July update is out). There have been considerable changes to the list. To receive an up-to-date copy, call the GCA phone line at 770.421.9729 and leave your name and address with a request for the updated list. ✂

Summer Roll Practice

Joint AWC / GCA Summer Roll Practice will be held at Stone Mountain Lake this year beginning in May and running through September. Sessions are scheduled for Wednesdays at 7:00 (or earlier). Admission is free once you enter the park (a season pass is highly recommended if you intend to attend multiple sessions).

To get there, enter the park from the Stone Mountain Freeway entrance and take the first left. Continue about a mile until the road crosses the dam and take the

first right into the parking lot. The boat ramp is on the right.

Use the area around the ramp to load and unload boats only. There is a fair amount of power boat traffic putting in and taking out at the ramp. Once in the water, try to stay clear of the ramp for the same reason.

Note: Park regulations do not allow "swimming" at this location, so if you are in the water spotting for someone, an explanation to the park officials may be in order. So far no one has been cited for a violation there.

Volunteers are needed to help with kayak, canoe and C-1 rolling. Your help is appreciated! ✂



Upcoming Events of Interest

September 10 — First Gauley release

September 24 - 27 — American Whitewater Gauley Festival Weekend

October 1 - 3 — Lanier Paddlefest '99 and the Great DockRace

LEARN TO KAYAK OR CANOE WITH THE EXPERTS!

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WHITE WATER
LEARNING CENTER
OF GEORGIA, INC.
(404) 231-0042

October 2 — First Russell Fork release.
October 9 — Altamaha & Ocmulgee River Excursions, Hazlehurst-Jeff Davis Board of Tourism, Hazlehurst, GA (912.375.4543)
October 29-31 — NOC Guest Appreciation Festival, Bryson City, NC, 828.488.2175.
May 19-21, 2000 — Ocoee Rodeo, Upper Ocoee, Ocoee White Water Center, TN, Jayne Abbott (828.645.5299, email jhabbott@aol.com) ✂

Lanier Paddlefest '99

The Lanier Canoe & Kayak Club's Lanier Paddlefest '99 will be held on October 1-3 at Clarks Bridge Park, Gainesville, Georgia, showcasing the best of paddle sports. There will be equipment demonstrations, speakers, classroom and on-the-water training for novice & experienced paddlers (featuring Ken Fink - national sea kayaking expert & Tony Hall - Olympic sprint kayaking coach), as well as competitions in sprint, slalom, marathon and outrigger canoe and canoe polo.

To get there, take I 85 North to I 985. Turn West at exit 7 (Jesse Jewell Parkway), go 1-1/2 miles to second light. Turn West (right) on the Limestone Pkwy. (129) and go to the second light. Turn right on Clarks Bridge Road (284). The park will be on the left just after the bridge over Lake Lanier, about 2 miles.

For questions or further information, contact:

Connie Hagler

Ph: 770.287.7888 (Boat House)

Ph: 770.536.8937 (Connie)

FAX: 770.287.3444

Email: conhagler@aol.com ✂

Intermediate Sea Kayaking Course

by Steve Cramer

I've tentatively booked an intermediate sea kayak course with Coastal Expeditions for October 2-3. Surf zone work, navigation, more open water crossings, maybe out of sight of land. Open to people with sea kayak experience and/or training. May be a bit rigorous (which is the point). The cost isn't finalized yet, but it will probably be around \$120 for the instruction, with boats and gear available for \$20 for the weekend.

Accommodations are open as well. We may go out to an island and camp, or maybe do the B&B thing; depends on the group. I have four people signed up so far. We need a few more for this to make. Call me at 706.208.8382 or email cramer@coe.uga.edu for details. ✂

New Officer Nominations Announced

The GCA Nominating Committee has met and submitted the following slate of officers for the 1999-2000 year to the Board of Directors, and the Board has approved the nominations.

President	Brannen Proctor
Vice President	Marvine Cole
Secretary	Tom Martin
Treasurer	Ed Schultz

Election of officers will be held at the October General Membership Meeting on October 21. Additional nominations for any position will be accepted at the meeting. Nominations should be made only with the nominee's approval and concurrence. ✂

Fall River Safety & Rescue Clinic

Its back! The Fall River Safety and Rescue Clinic is scheduled for September 25 and 26. For the uninitiated, this is an annual GCA event that combines river rescue training and practice, food, paddling, and fun. Based at Mountaintown Outdoor Expeditions in Ellijay, Georgia, this clinic is a great way to learn rescue skills, or to practice ones that may have gotten "stale".

Saturday is our dry land day. Topics, such as updates on rescue equipment, trip organization, and hypothermia, are covered in presentations and in videos. This year we will also see parts of the new rescue video White Water Self Defense. Just released last year, this video, co-hosted by long time NOC instructor Kent Ford, has some interesting perspectives on river rescue and rescue skills.

After the presentations, basic rescue skills, such as throw rope use, foot entrapment rescues, boat unpinning techniques, and (of course) knot tying, are taught in hands on small group sessions by ACA certified Swift Water Rescue Instructors.

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Call Allen Hedden 770.426.4318

END OF SUMMER SALE

At NOC October 29, 30 & 31. We will be there will you? If not, we will be happy to sell your used boating and cycling equipment for you. All arrangements must be made by Oct. 23. Call Bev or Lonnie Gregor for details at 770-971-4773, a 20% handling charge will be required.

** Handling charge will be less on higher priced items. Call for details.*

At the end of the day, the famous Blind Knot Tying Rodeo will take place. Contestants are blindfolded and then asked to tie one of the knots they learned at the knot tying sessions. All efforts are timed, and the lowest time wins.

In addition to prizes, such as a new throw rope, the winner gets their name placed on the What Knot To Do trophy, so that their accomplishment will be remembered for hundreds of years. Last year's winner, Andrew Kimball, has turned down requests for appearances from Jay Leno, David Letterman, and Jerry Springer. Well. Okay. Maybe not. In fact, they've never heard of him. But he did win some neat stuff. And he is not eligible to defend his title, so the field is open for a new champion.

Dinner Saturday night is provided by the clinic, and is a loud, and for some (we won't mention any names), gluttonous affair. Last year, new lows were set in the area of culinary restraint.

Sunday we will paddle one of the area rivers in small groups. As each group proceeds down the river, they will encounter various staged scenarios where they will get to practice what they learned the day before. The river to be paddled will be dependent on water levels.

The clinic is suitable for trained beginner and above paddlers, and the river we use will be on this level also.

Last year we had almost 70 participants, instructors and logistics volunteers involved with clinic. Register early and come out to practice those rescue skills. ✂

Love many, trust few, and always paddle your own canoe!

Committee Volunteers Wanted

The GCA is actively seeking volunteers to fill positions as committee heads, as well as folks to serve on the committees for the upcoming year. If your interests run in a particular direction, such as safety, the environment, river access, member services, resource development, instruction, public relations, or any number of areas in which the club is involved, please contact David Martin at 404.351.8208 or Brannen Proctor at 770.664.7384, or call the GCA phone line at 770.421.9729 and leave a message. It only takes a little time each month from a few people to make a big difference. You don't need a highly specialized skill to become an effective club volunteer, only a willingness and desire to give a little back to the club and the paddling community. ✂

B-R-5-4-9!!!

by Tom Martin

Many of you will recognize "BR549" as the phone number of Junior Samples' Used Car Lot on "Hee Haw," a popular TV show of the late 1960's. (Since it was pure entertainment containing no references to politics or other issues, it was approved for broadcast to our troops in Viet Nam). Someone's rendition of Junior's "B-R-5-4-9" relieved tensions and put almost any problem in perspective. Just like the art of winking, it isn't used much anymore... but I'll never forget it.

There is another number I want you to remember: 770.421.9729 — the GCA phone line. Next time you're on the river and a prospective new member asks about the club... tell all you can, but please leave the number, 770.421.9729. By calling it, a paddler can receive more information, as well as a sample *Eddy Line* (not necessarily a current one). STOP!! Go write the number down NOW on something you carry to the river, and also in your wallet. It's not as easy to remember as "BR549"!

Also, we can use volunteers to answer the phone line (actually responding to messages left on the machine). Most callers are prospective new members. Many don't need a call back, just information. Many calls are GCA members needing information or other members of the paddling community requesting or imparting information.

Answering the phone line for a month or two is a

great way to learn more about the club. I'll guarantee you won't have all the answers. That's where the learning comes in. But it is fun! Call... please! 7-7-0-4-2-1-9-7-2-9! (Or call Tom Martin at 770.662.0058).

THANK YOU Mike Winchester for doing such a great job handling the phone. Bill Convis and the Bilellos (Mike and Chris) have done it in the past, and Mike and Chris are now taking another turn. Thanks to all these folks.

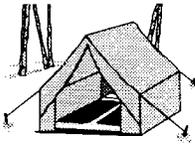
The more volunteers we get, the shorter the shift, so call.... 7-7-0-4-2-1-9-7-2-9! ✂

**NANTAHALA WESSER
CAMPGROUND**

Camping at it's best



11 Miles West of Bryson City
Turn right or left at Nantahala Food Mart
/ Amoco Station on to Wesser Rd.
Follow signs
Bryson City, NC 28713



1-828-488-8708

Georgia River Cleanup Week

Rivers Alive! is the theme for the 8th Annual Georgia River Cleanup Week, scheduled October 9 - 17. Sponsored by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and in cooperation with "Help the Hooch" and "River Awareness," this statewide event targets all waterways in the State of Georgia — streams, rivers, lakes and wetlands. *Rivers Alive!* mission is to create awareness of and involvement in the preservation of Georgia's water resources.

In cooperation with *Rivers Alive!*, the GCA has dedicated all trips those two weekends to river clean-up.



If you'd like to lead a trip, call the Cruise Master, Jason Schnurr, at 770.422.9962. Remember... all Georgia waterways... so there's a river, stream or lake for everyone! If you'd like to participate in a trip, watch *The Eddy Line* trip schedule, and call the trip coordinator for details.

This is a great opportunity for members of GCA to lead the way in creating awareness of and involvement in our

most precious resource. If anyone has a stake in clean waterways, it's GCA members. So watch *The Eddy Line*, as well as your local paper, for upcoming events, and get involved! Let's show everyone that GCA members are leaders in waterway preservation! ✂

GCA Rescue Gear Bags Released for Sale

Last year the redesigned GCA throw rope was made available for sale and was well received by the paddling community. This year GCA is pleased to introduce a rescue gear bag to complete your basic rescue equipment. The "Gator Bag," as it has been named, (after the GCA member who originated the idea of providing it) comes pre-stocked with 10 feet of tubular webbing, two locking D carabiners, and two 6 foot lengths of 7mm prussick cord. The bag itself is sturdy, fast drying mesh, with a locking drawstring closure. Gator Bags measure 8-1/2 x 11, which leaves plenty of room for additional rescue gear, but is still small enough to fit under the rear deck of a C-1 or kayak.

The price of the Gator Bag, including the rescue gear, is \$32.00. They will be on sale at the Fall Gala and



at the Fall River Safety and Rescue Clinic.

You never know when a river emergency will happen. Don't get caught without your Gator Bag (Note the shameless "scare" tactic). ✂

Self-Rescue

by William C. Reeves (The Hawk)

Well, I still haven't been in a boat since my little mishap on the Ocoee. But, I started thinking that, with three canoe-induced orthopedic procedures under general anesthesia in the last four years, I should jot down the major aspects of self-rescue. After all, I practice it regularly, dings and surgery remind me of my errors, and it will be worthwhile for y'all to think about self-rescue during the remainder of the summer paddling season.

The first principal of self-rescue is, "You're on your own, buddy." If you don't enjoy this concept, then you need to treat self-rescue prophylactically. That is, don't come out of your boat unless it's imperative. Learn to roll and develop your skills. Practice! Practice! Practice!

Attend GCA summer roll practice at Stone Mountain. The water's warm and there are plenty of people who would love to help you, even if you don't know diddle.

Probably the most valuable skill that canoers develop from roll practice is a dynamite brace that should prevent virtually any flip to your on side. Continue to practice during the winter at GCA's pool roll sessions. Remember though, a roll is a crutch. So practice all your skills with time on the river. The more water you've had under your knees, the less often you'll flip.

Once you've come out of your boat, since you are in fact on your own, use your head and assess the situation. Assessment is more efficient if you have scouted the rapid (boat or bank scouting both count) and have some concept of its major hazards (big drops, undercuts, sieves, and strainers). If there is something you need to stay away from, swim like hell and stay away from it or do what ever you have to do to counter it.

Where's your boat? Don't be downstream of it, and if you are, then get out of its way. If not, then it's usually smart to grab it. 1) Canoes and C-1's provide good buffers while swimming and help with flotation. 2) It's nice to have it with you when you reach shore, rather than persuing it on the other side of the river or a klick or two downstream. It is also a good idea to have your paddle with you because you'll need it to finish the trip, because it's a self-rescue tool, and because it has other uses.

Finally, be alert for throw-ropes. More often than not on GCA trips (i.e., well run trips) rope will have been set, but it's the swimmer's responsibility to know it's there. If I had a nickel for every time I've watched someone wash down stream while a rope floated within easy grasp I could probably buy a new helmet or PFD.

Once you get the rope, turn over on your back with

INJUDICIOUS (*in jōō dish'əs*) *adj.*
Lacking good judgment; unwise; imprudent.

Somewhere between the Babbling Brook and Breathless Falls, Wiley made an injudicious decision.



it running over your shoulder or you'll submarine. Hold it in your hand, don't wrap it around your wrist or stuff your paw through the end-loop because (trust me on this) there are times to turn loose of it. Then help your partner on the other end while he's retrieving you.

Simultaneously while assessing the situation, get onto your back with your feet down stream and held as high as possible. Don't immediately try to stand up or stop yourself! Foot entrapment is a real danger, as illustrated by last year's drowning on the Nanty. Once you're relatively stable, don't just lie there and float down stream like a dead steer. Think! Swim! Are there any eddies or other safe havens to swim towards? Are

there hazards down stream that you can effectively avoid? Are there any bad things coming up that need attention? Where on shore are you going to get out?

For aggressive swimming, some people think the crawl is the best stroke, while I prefer side stroke. Remember to work with the river; you can't overpower it. Think about ferry angles and continually assess your progress and adjust your attitude accordingly. A last thought, practice swimming easy rapids periodically to hone your swimming skills.

Finally, what about those bad things you might have to deal with? Use your feet to fend off rocks. But remember you may be moving fast; that's how I broke my ankle on the Ocoee. If big waves, holes, and ledges are part of the scenario, focus on when you're going to hold your breath and when you can breathe. No matter what, don't panic. You will flush out. If you come to a drop (e.g., Third Ledge, Nantahala Falls, or worse) get your knees up to your chest and do a cannon ball. Foot entrapment at the bottom of drops is a real possibility, as shown by the drowning in Nantahala Falls a couple years ago.

Strainers represent a common hazard in the south-east. If you have to swim a strainer, pick an appropriate trunk or limb, get on your stomach, swim hard at it, and launch as much of your chest, hips, and legs onto it as possible. Once your lower body gets sucked under a strainer it's virtually impossible to recover.

It is impossible to do more than hit the high points of self-rescue in a short essay. Two books, *River Rescue* by Bechdel and Ray and *White Water Rescue* by Walbridge and Sundmacher, provide considerably more information. The excellent safety clinics offered by the GCA offer practical experience, so sign up for one now. ✂

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Lanier Canoe and Kayak Club Wins National Championships!

by **Connie Hagler**

August 8, 1999. The Lanier Canoe & Kayak Club won the 1999 Sprint National Championships in Lake Placid, New York breaking a six year domination of the title by the Newport Aquatics Center in Newport Beach, California. Tony Hall was named the Coach of the year by the National Coaching Staff of the USA CK. The club won the Columbia - Murphy Trophy for top points in the Bantam Class.... A trophy the club won in 1996 and 1997, the Black Anvil Trophy for



Race Watch

most points in the Junior, Juvenile and Bantam Class, and the Yonkers Trophy for highest overall points.

LCKC Member Julia Sorzano was named to the Senior World Championship team that will be qualifying boats for the 2000 Olympics in Milan this month.

The club is one of four programs in the Atlanta Community Olympic Development program and is poised to become the biggest Olympic Legacy success story of the 1996 Olympic Games. This championship would have never happened without the foresight of ACOG to establish a Living Olympic Legacy.

The club starts the return trip to Gainesville on Sunday and is expected to return on Monday! ✂

River Access

Fence at The Wave

by **Steve Anderson**

July 14. Well it appears that the "wave" and the Cartecay have something in common. I went to the wave today and there was a guard at the fence. He had a clipboard with list of people that could enter. If you're not on the list, you could not enter. I assume that the list was ACE (Atlanta Center for Excellence) members.

I was able to enter from the feeder stream going into the Chattahoochee. All the play boaters were pretty mad about it. I hope that this doesn't divide play boaters and racers against each other.

P.S. On a different note, a racer got a written warning for not wearing his helmet or p.f.d. from a park ranger while paddling. He said to put the word out that if anyone else is caught he would issue a ticket (\$75.00 fine).

- From the GCA email list. ✂

ACE on The Wave

by **Frank Crane**

I've been out of town a lot this summer so don't know if ACE submissions to respective club newsletters have appeared yet, but we issued an alert and plea for cooperation in late spring. Please advise all play boaters that the access problems at the wave ARE NOT OF ACE's MAKING!

When the Water Works were privatized the word went out that the facilities would become off limits for all paddlers. This simply was not acceptable to an organization that utilizes the facility for training Olympic athletes

and whose members have frequented the facility for 20 years. We approached the operator and were advised that their concern was liability.

Fortunately all ACE athletes have insurance coverage through the slalom national governing board, USCKT. After a lot of negotiation, the operator agreed that we could access the site and asked for a roster of our members who are covered by the insurance. AT NO POINT HAS ACE AS AN ORGANIZATION DISCOURAGED USE OF THE FACILITY BY REC BOATERS. This is crucial for the paddling community to realize. There is no logic in misguided jealousy of a group who has taken the initiative to secure continued use of a facility we've used for years!

Our letters to the club pubs and posts to the GCA email list evidence ACE's desire for cooperation with the rest of the paddling community re: use of the wave. We're all in this together, guys. Our efforts on this as well as other access issues will be more successful if we work with a unified voice rather than pointing fingers.

Please let me personally know of any way we can assist in your efforts to ensure continued use.

Frank Crane
'99 ACE President
770.591.0268

- From the GCA email list. ✂



Faded Memories

by Don Ellis (Ole Dub, The Ole Georgia Boy)

Memorial Day Weekend, 1999 was quite a trip. As I punch this out on the keyboard, I glance over to the calendar and see that it has been nearly a month since I made the trip. It is fast becoming a Faded Memory of great paddling times past for me. That is a bad sign.

Used to, I would average 2 to 3 weekends a month on a river somewhere. Not any more. These trips seem to be happening less and less frequently for me. That is not all bad because my daughter, Brittany, is 14 now, and my wife, Gini, does not paddle, so the time spent at home as opposed to a river weekend is good for the family. Even so, I still long for those times when I used to could start packing at 5:30 on Friday afternoon and be on the road by 6 o'clock headed for some rain filled earthen depression tilted on adequate angles to provide ample entertainment for the weekend!

This year has been one that has not provided me with many opportunities for paddling. First, the death of my Mother in January demanded a couple of months of pretty intense dedication to that event. Then, I had to go out of town on business for 6 straight weeks. So far nearly all of spring and the good white water (such as it was this year) was eaten by these two events alone.

But I had faded memories of the 1998 CGRR White Water Camp. Man what a White Water Camp it was. Daddy's Creek Canyon and Devil's Breakfast Table to Nemo in one day. Little River in the Smokies. Crooked Fork Creek—flooded. I remember what a great time that was and how much I wanted to go back to White Water Camp this year. I had made plans to go, but it didn't happen, as again work precluded my plans and I spent what was to be my White Water Camp in Tucson, AZ. Faded Memories of great paddling times past.

Then, Memorial Day Weekend. I was like Snoopy on Fridays! I was to meet Steve and Cathy Smith, Jane Rooney, Michael Frace and Kathy Bragg at the Nolichucky. Friday rolled around and low water abounded across the southeast. Less than a 1,000 on the 'Chucky, less than 1.4 on the Chattooga, the Ocoee with all the howling hoards over there, especially with low water everywhere else. Again I thought about those Faded Memories of good water and exciting runs that kept adrenaline pumping.

I thought about how this was probably shaping up to be a mediocre white water run at best. None the less, we planned to hit the Nolichucky on Saturday, Chattooga on Sunday, and the Ocoee on Monday. The idea being that the 'Chucky was already marginally too low, the Chattooga would probably not drop much more than a tenth, and

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Monday on the Ocoee is probably going to be our best "uncrowded bet" of the three days.

I arrived in the Nolichucky campground Friday evening with sunset still a couple of hours off. I have absolutely NO Faded Memories of that, as in the past it has always been somewhere between 10 PM and 2 AM when I rolled in. The drive to the Nolichucky from Macon is really beautiful! When I got to the campground, all the folks I had planned on meeting had been there long enough to set up camp and pop open the lawn chairs and refreshments.

And then, across the way, I heard this Old Ugly friend of mine I had not planned on seeing yelling something about wanting me to fetch him a cold belly-washer complete with a twist of lime. It was sure good to see him. Faded Memories. It had been nearly six months since I had last floated with Old Ugly, and it had been even longer than that since I had floated with Steve, Cathy, Kathy and Jane. Fortunately, I did get to float with Michael on the Sunday after Christmas, 1998 when I had met him over at the Little River Canyon. Anyway, it was so good to see all these folks and again be on a river trip weekend!

Saturday morning, we got up and headed out early, since we had planned to get off the river and drive back down to the Chattooga that evening. We were successful

in obtaining shuttle drivers for our two vehicles so that when we got to the take-out, our shuttle would have been run for us. We were actually on the river paddling by 10:30 AM.

All had a great day. Oh, there were some upsets, brief pins (always more prone to happen in low water runs), pictures taken, lunches eaten, waves surfed, eddies caught, and games played while on the Nolichucky at somewhere around 750 to 800 CFS. Even so, we did not have to get out to portage one time, not even at Sycamore Shoals where there is always difficulty finding a clean route.

This was a most pleasant day of paddling where we could all unwind, loosen up in preparation for the Chattooga, and actually enjoy a new "low water level" evaluation of the Nolichucky. I'd made up my mind years ago that 1,000 was simply the absolute lowest I'd want to take anybody down the 'Chucky, but after this weekend, I've re-evaluated my resolve.

On the road by 4 PM after having loaded boats, broken camp, taken showers and the like, we ate dinner on the way to the Chattooga. The destination was Barry Mullis' cabin where, again, Faded Memories carried me back to times past. Times when as many as 30 people were camped there during a weekend party, when Danny Martin and Don Ellis played guitars and provided entertainment for a Tequila Party Weekend, when the temperature was up to a high of 20 degrees and folks STILL paddled Section IV, and when there was about an inch and a half accumulation of snow on the floor of the cabin, INSIDE. Now I have new Faded Memories to look back on. Michael Frace and Jane Rooney had never run the Chattooga's famed Section IV. "Have I mentioned the Five Falls to you?" I'd ask every now and again, with eyes glowing and big as saucers!

Old Ugly agreed to come on down from his VA regions and float with us again on Sunday. This was a pleasant surprise for sure. Old Ugly, you see, is not a big fan of low water, but is a big fan of high gradient. I had a plan to get him some high gradient! Saturday evening we sat out on the deck and built a fire on the deck fire pit. The fire was not a problem. I'm a Georgia Boy, and where I'm from, we grow up knowing how to build a fire. Sure enough, in just a little while, folks were backing up.

Sunday morning, we all got up to Kathy Bragg's pancakes. What a wonderful breakfast! That's right, we need to stoke it up before jumping on Section IV! At the put-in, we ran into Sudi Lenhart, a fairly new female open boater that has come a long way in a short time. Sudi joined our group since several of us had paddled together late last year on the Lower Gauley. "Have I mentioned the

Five Falls to you?"

We got below Woodall Shoals safely and I said, okay, the fun and games begin just around the bend down here. 700 Foot Falls is next! We got out and scouted, held ropes, threw ropes, witnessed excellent runs, and generally all had a safe trip over this tricky waterfall.

More pictures were taken, more upsets, scouting, lunches eaten, waves surfed, eddies caught, etc. Oh, and do you remember I told you I had a plan for Old Ugly and some gradient? Well, just so happens we ate lunch at Stekoa Creek rather than down at Raven's Chute as we normally do. I'm not one to do a lot of wild, off the cuff stuff, but I did propose, rather nonchalantly to Old Ugly, that I would take his boat up Stekoa Creek if he would paddle it down.

I said this with sort of a "Georgia Boy" smirk giving him the impression that there was no way this Ole Georgia Boy was going to tote his overweight body and Old Ugly's boat UP that extreme aqueous declivity. Old Ugly, being the trusting soul that he is in feeling that he can read people pretty good, agreed that he would paddle down what ever I toted up.

Off I went! Up, and Up and Up. From down at Chattooga River level, one can look up what appears to be a total of 50 to 70 feet of drop in an eighth mile visible stretch of Stekoa Creek as it dumps into the Chattooga. I probably went 2/3 the way up this visible stretch. Well, Old Ugly kept his part of the bargain as well. He paddled his trusty C-1 back down that awesome stretch of white water.

As it turns out, it was a good thing that we had lunch where we did. As we approached Raven's Chute, we were asked by several rescuers on the bank to keep moving as there had been a drowning death at Raven's Chute the day before. More Faded Memories float through my mind. River deaths and river related deaths are part of our sport. I thought of several as we portaged around Raven's Chute that day. Scott, Jay, Jesse, and others.

"Have I mentioned the five falls to you?" We all got through Entrance just fine. Cork Screw is probably the hardest at between 1.3 and 1.6. It appears to have a good bit more vertical drop in places, combined with a lot more changing current directions as one floats through the 15 to 20 yard run from top to bottom. Several had beautiful runs, all that ran had upright runs, and some portaged. The bottom line is, all of us made it down safely!

Most everyone portaged Crack-In-The-Rock. Sudi felt like she could get through Middle Crack. I got in my boat and positioned myself down below, and sure enough, she made it look like a cakewalk. Onward and downward, we all ran Jaw Bone upright. There was a very nice

combat roll by a decked boater right smack dab in the middle of the rapid, but it was a successful roll, so . . . And then, Sock-Em-Dog.

Sock-Em-Dog is always tough it seems. If the water is low, it is hard to hit the launching pad. If the water is high, it is hard to make yourself do it at all! There were several great runs on Sock-Em-Dog, and there were some great portages on Sock-Em-Dog as well. We all got down Section IV, including the Five Falls, safely, and with several runs tucked away that many had wanted to do for a long time. Faded Memories again.

It has been a long, long time since my first trip down Section IV. But you know what? I enjoy re-living that first trip and subsequent trips soon after every time I get the privilege of showing someone down Section IV for their first time. Not just Section IV, but any river that someone has not seen. It is a wonderful feeling to be able to share that joy with other paddlers.

After the river, Old Ugly left for VA, and Sudi left for the Ocoee to meet a friend over there. We got back to Barry's cabin to find another long time friend, Ron Hardy, and his four companions, camped out at Barry's. It was certainly good to see Ron. We lit another fire on the deck, got out the guitar and played and sang, and generally had a great time catching up on lost years of staying in touch.

Monday morning, we got up to an eggs, grits and sausage breakfast prepared by Michael Frace. What a

wonderful breakfast. Everyone packed up and we were off to the Ocoee by 9 AM. At the Ocoee by 11, we were surprised to find nearly no raft traffic, and relatively few hard boaters. Back down to the six of us, Steve, Cathy, Kathy, Jane, Michael and I decided on an Alternative Day on the Ocoee.

The plan was to take alternative routes through as many rapids as we could. Far right at the put-in to below Grumpy's Hole, far left at Broken Nose (I mean 30 yards to the left!), middle left at Moon Chute over to far left at the bottom, far left through the "cheat" chute at Double Suck, eddy hopping all the way down Double Trouble, far right through 17 Eddies below Double Trouble, catch a couple of eddies at Buzz Saw, try for Snake Eddy in the middle of Accelerator, and far left through Power House. What a day! Faded Memories. Memories of when the Ocoee was un-crowded and FUN with your group. That is what this day was like.

As you can see, as we grow older, we get to rely more and more on our memories of good times and good friends past. The getting together with the friends and the times of this past Memorial Day Weekend were exceptional. Yes, I still have these times, but more and more they are getting to be further apart. Cherish your friends and the times you have with them. Some day, all we may have is Faded Memories of our river adventures. Until then, make the very best of them! ✂

Place Names in Georgia

by Marion Webb

The Native Americans named the rivers and land areas after things in nature and events which took place on the land. In more than one instance, there may be more than one derivation or translation from as many sources. Historians and researchers do not always agree with each other; in some cases it is the preference of the local Chamber of Commerce.

This is a small offering which deals only with Georgia; the Georgia list is larger and growing along with my information from other states. These are all Cherokee except as noted ().

Amicalola: "tumbling water"; the name was first applied to the falls but carried over to the river.

Cartecay: "bread valley"; a derivation which has seen many different spellings over the years; it was one of the larger Cherokee settlements and was located along one of the area creeks. The current hamlet by that name is sometimes referred to these days as "Cross Road."

Cherokee: "people of a different speech" (Creek) or "cave dwellers" (Choctaw) says the Alabama historian; no trans-

lation available, says the Georgia historian; but the Cherokee called themselves "principal people."

Chattahoochee: "river of painted rocks"; from the colored symbols and figures painted on the rocks by the Indians.

Chattooga: "full of rocks" (Creek or Cherokee) says the Alabama historian, but no translation, says the guy from Georgia. There was a Cherokee village by that name on the South Carolina side of the river.

Chestatee: "firelight place" — the Cherokees would often hunt at night along the river banks using torches to light their way.

Conasauga: "Sugar Town"; like Cartecay, many spellings with possible villages in the past with the same or similar names.

Coosawattee: "that little Creek place," referring to the earlier location of Creek villages along its banks.

Dahlonega: "yellow place" ; from the gold traces in the area.

Ellijay: "land of green earth", "green place", "new ground place," referring to the suitability for cultivation; or "many waters," with reference to the three rivers converging in the middle of town.

Etowah: the name of the settlement once located at the present site of the Etowah Indian mounds in Cartersville. There was no Etowah Tribe, but they were members of the Muscogee Nation. The settlement itself (Etowah) has been translated as "water town," but the naming of the river is uncertain; this river was once known in the mid-1800's by its very anglicized name of "Hightower!"

Oostanaula: "river of shoals", referring to the many shoals that once existed along this waterway.

Talking Rock: "rock that talks," from a particular rock in the creek that echoed loudly from the rushing water; or the site of council talks, marked by that rock.

Toccoa: "beautiful river"; fellow paddlers can agree with that.

Towaliga: "old place" (Creek) or "place among trees" (Muscogee); denoting a specific place or grove of trees where certain events took place. There was a Muscogee village by this name. ✂

Running the Rogue

by Joe Webb

For the intermediate paddler this is the ultimate adventure. Located in the southwestern tip of Oregon, just traveling there was filled with scenic beauty. This a solid class III river with a class V, Rainey falls, that can be cheated by going down a salmon fish ladder on the river right. There is also a class IV known as Blossom Bar that has an easy move into the rapids.

I rented a K-1 from the outfitter to run this magnificent river for four days, but others in the group had rented inflatables. The water level was 4,000 cfs, which was 1,500 above usual for this time of year. Meals and

camping equipment were furnished by excellent river men in rafts, which made this memorable trip restful and hassle-free. The meals bordered on exotic and more tasty than those shirt and tie deals in Atlanta.

Scenery in the canyons was exceptional and the wild life abundant. I highly recommend this trip for the class III-IV paddler looking for a classic western river or the whole family just wanting to "shoot the Hooch".

If anyone is interested in a K-1, OC-1 or family rafting outing there on or around July of 2,000, this river is definitely on my repeatable list. Joe Webb 770.954.9609 or the fantastic outfitter at www.whitewaterwarehouse.com or 800.214.0579. ✂

How Teresa Got Her Groove Back

by Teresa Roberts

A strange and confusing thing happened to me on the way to Class IV last year. My fear center, always vibrantly active to date, shut down and altogether stopped

communicating. It felt real good for awhile, but sure caused a lot of trouble before it reactivated. First I foolishly dared to try kayaking — on the Ocoee with Scott Bristow. They had the search and rescue boys out looking for me by day's end and I still wear the scars.

Safely (ha) back in Texas, I showed up at the Guadalupe for a clinic and never even got the kayak off the car before I found myself being power rescued from the 100-year-flood along with five other boaters. My friends decided I needed to get back in the saddle, loaned me an open boat the very next day, and watched me pin it on Barton Creek at flood stage. It still bears the scars and so does my bank account.

Then came news of Scott's death on the Potomac (search but no recovery). After months of grief and confusion, my fear center belatedly decided to kick back in and start re-sending those little packets of 180-proof adrenaline. You know the ones. They poison the brain and tauten muscles to the point of non-functionality. Too bad that naughty fear center didn't see fit to enhance my good judgment, but those who know me can tell you that never was a well-developed area of my consciousness anyway. Thank goodness for guardian angels, good Samaritans and best friends.

I had the luxury of reviewing all this recently while lazily recirculating in the hole at Huaco Falls during a



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3000 cfs release on the Guadalupe (yes Virginia, there is white water in Texas). I'd gotten there through fearful distraction (paddling on the wrong side altogether) just before the fair-weather fear center kicked whimsically back off and left me on my own to sort out the mess it'd gotten me into! I low braced like a proper banshee, but my entire boat was immediately sucked under.

Through the miracle of poor outfitting, my heroic brace suspended me alone, sucking big breaths of spray while spinning around like the head of one possessed, looking for life support and a precious turquoise Rival. It was nowhere, nowhere, deep in nowhere! The suck took me as well and I was nowhere too. I'm told the boat ended out real swell. Guess I passed it on the escalator down. Fascinated by new, rather circular sensations and busy reliving my deceased friend's experience before he'd vanished into infinitely less friendly terrain, I emerged mysteriously downstream and infinitely calm.

I took off and had a humiliatingly snotty but good long cry, punctuated by my friend Whitney who paddled over to console me after each of his rodeo forays into the blender. A stop-off on the way back up in line from one who missed Scott too. Very comforting and therapeutic.

I considered psychiatric counseling, but sold the unlucky kayak and signed up for canoe clinics instead. First, a Dallas Down-River Club-sponsored CPR and first aid course from the Red Cross in which a rather unpleasant and self-impressed instructor talked down to us for four hours two nights running. Her delivery seemed insultingly geared for 2nd graders. The teenagers in the class humored her rather more seriously than the adults or we never would have gotten through it, so stubborn was her insistence on routine.

We all hunkered down to the material and patiently waded through her inanity, forced to grudgingly respect her thorough knowledge of the basics. Fortunately they had low-fat animal crackers in the snack machine. Biting off their little heads got me through the worst of her. Besides, my classmates were congenial and given to just the right amount of class clowning. We painstakingly walked through the steps of salvation and I'm learning more as I periodically review the text.

Next came a two-day Mark Poindexter "precision river running" clinic. Mark is well known for being laid back and friendly with a great sense of humor. I'd taken from him before and eagerly anticipated a great time and the opportunity to learn a lot. A Team Dagger C-1 slalom racer and fellow flood survivor, Mark tweaked our basic strokes and boat lean, then expanded our repertoire to include enhanced cross strokes, side slips, slalom gates and a battery of flat water drills and specific stroke

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combos.

We all got real excited about the cross strokes, and I for one immediately and awkwardly began incorporating them into my routine paddling to the point of high abuse. But that was good. Mark's main goal was to get us out of the habit of hanging onto on side steering strokes which kill momentum. He wanted us to increase the options in our little bags of tricks. He also wanted us to see that we didn't have to move up to class V to challenge ourselves. It could be done on class II water with proper gate placement.

He worked with us on another important skill — plotting moves for the entire slalom course before you run it — a crucial strategy for paddling high-consequence runs on class V water. Mark urged us to paddle smart, to be aware of small water features and use them to our advantage. It wasn't a new concept so much as one we needed to incorporate more. We ate some great dinners, drank our share of killer margaritas and had a lot of laughs in the process.

Third was a Boy Scout instructor-training course in outdoor wall climbing. It gave me a chance to try a new source of adrenaline and practice my knots. Plus it really amused my boyfriend's staff who'd previously assumed Jeff had no life. And I was good at it, which is always nice for me on those rare occasions I take to something quickly.

I have to admit, one reason I was able to climb those walls and chimneys so quickly was because I was so scared I wanted to get it over as fast as I could! The fiendish fear center was cranking that day and would NOT listen to my constant admonishment that I was safely on a rope and it could back off now. No way.

Fourth and most fearful, the Bob Foote Clinic. I'd been watching him on videos for years, paddle one of his numerous boat designs and even lusted for one of his paddles. But I was really afraid of this guy.

I'd heard stories of student humiliation. I'd heard he ran his clinics like boot camps. I'd heard the proud boasts of those who had defied him. In short, I'd heard he was a jerk. But I also knew that he was good. I signed up for boot camp and corralled a friend in, too. Stephanie and I showed up on time the first day out of fear. And a strange thing happened. He turned out to be a swell guy!

We showed up on time the next two days out of sheer suspense. We kept waiting for him to turn, to snap, to act out. A few times it looked like it might happen. It never did. I don't know if he found God, Buddha, Kent Ford or AA, but Bob Foote was not only a great instructor but a really great guy. I was dumbfounded to hear he'd spent a week with Jake Albritton when his dad died, and another week helping the Tigards fix up their rental



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properties for sale so they could retire. Could this possibly be the same guy I'd heard berated all these years?

No matter. He tore apart our basic strokes and put them back together much improved. He took away our cross forwards (unless we were really serious about steering towards that offside) and assured us we weren't ready for the cross sweep and the cross bow draw. Instead he pushed us to perfect our stern pries and draws, clearly demonstrating how. He had 12 students and 6 or 7 assistant instructors, so nothing escaped undetected. Instruction began at 8:30 or 9 am each day, continued through lunch and, after a brief and hurried dinner break, we gathered round for videos and lecture till 9 p.m. Three days of intensive and invaluable learning.

I abandoned cross strokes altogether for about a month, returning only after much concentration on the subtleties of the on-side. Taking the clinic feedback seriously to heart, I worked hard to quiet both paddle and boat, re-centering my gravity and strengthening visual keys and muscle memory of proper form and finesse — where to cut off propulsion strokes, hanging on steering strokes less frequently, speeding up the recovery, cleaning up the catch, lining hands and torso up along more synergistic planes. So little time, so much to know. It really pays to take instruction from a variety of teachers and spice your own parameters with a dash of each.

I then headed east to the Ocoee and Nolichucky with Charles Smith and a gaggle of North Texas River Runners to test the rewards of my hard work, dragging along my Guardian Angel boyfriend to help assuage the insistent adrenaline in hopes my shoulder and torso muscles would be relaxed enough to carry me successfully through. And happily I had near perfect runs and we pronounced me cured.

This doesn't mean my fear centers are behaving themselves much better, but fear-crazed muscle-bunching has largely been replaced by drummed-in muscle memory of proper strokes. And I've learned to hum a happy tune while flashing through the more challenging

sections of a run to keep my stomach calm.

I find I have a heightened need to boat with the safety-conscious river-savvy dogs, and I have no current aspirations to hard boat class V at all. I'll proudly portage Lucy around those or settle for tandem shredding with Jeff and hope his high class hard boat moves will come to me someday. Better to execute class IV moves on class II features through conscious machinations than to generate class V consequences on class III water through sheer irresponsible audacity.

I officiously passed my carnage queen scepter on to a much younger candidate better skilled in safety. I've got the slalom gates to tackle and yet more clinics to keep me amused awhile. I think I'd rather recirculate amongst instructors than in holes.

I suspect some swimming classes are in order as well as heightened safety, first aid and boating skill development. Plus I have a new C-1 to replace that naughty kayak. Half the stick seems to mean half the trouble for this intermediate boater.

Truthfully looking back with 20-20 humility, I see my great mistake was letting the destination distract me

from the journey. I rushed my own development in a vain attempt to keep up with my faster moving kayak friends, selfishly endangering them, at times endangered by and/or rescued by these same buds (and a few serendipitously handsome perfect strangers).

Perhaps I learned my lessons harder than I had to, perhaps that's simply how it goes. I was luckier than the high toll of boaters who died in 1999. I finally learned that sometimes you have to step back in order to move forward and give up some favored boating chums in order not to hold them back or burden them.

I'm really a better boater than my fear center recognizes. I wish that I could count on it for realistic feedback, but it's a strange and quirky beast, generating somewhere in my limbic system, not my brain. Fear don't make ya yellow, but it'll get you there, and in even worse spots if you either indulge or ignore it. I did both before that luxurious recirculation and its concomitant gestalt. Now my motto is: Twice the boater, half the risk. I'll take the time and pay the dues to get there.

- From "Current News," newsletter of the Dallas Down River Club. ✂

Guide Services

Paddling in Costa Rica

by Ray McLain

Ray McLain is a Wisconsin paddler who now lives in Costa Rica after retiring from corporate life as an engineer. His "resume" includes: ACA and USCKT slalom competitor (open canoe and decked boats), gate judge at the 96 Olympics, ACA certified instructor (white water level) for canoe and kayak, leader of paddling youth programs — both as Team Manager for the US Jr. Team and for Wisconsin kids, a national officer (Treasurer) for the ACA, and an Honorary Life Member of his local club, the Green Bay Paddlers United. Ray has been answering questions of paddlers from around the world who are interested in a Costa Rica paddling vacation. He has compiled a series of articles, sharing answers to questions commonly asked. For further information, contact Ray at RMcLain@CostaRicaRios.com, or check his web site, www.CostaRicaRios.com.

The obvious question to be asked by paddlers coming to a foreign country — "Should I have a guide service?" Questions are "What is your time worth?" and "Are you ready to deal with emergencies?"

Pros: (1) You have someone who can give you first hand information about the rivers, so you are doing the best rivers for your skills and interests, (2) You have

someone along who can lend a hand if there is an emergency, as well as lead the way through tough spots, (3) You have the transportation issue resolved (assuming the guide has that capability).

Cons: (1) It costs money

If you were in Turrialba, and became friendly with the local paddlers, you would probably be welcome to join them on their days off when they are running their favorite rivers for "nothing" except your share of the shuttle. If you were a "stranger" in town, you might be able to ask around and find one of the locals who would do a day with you for a guiding fee — perhaps equivalent to what they would make as a raft guide or safety boater — about \$50.

If you want a guide service, you may do an Internet search to find paddler guide services, and you may check the Guidebooks. If you have paddling friends who have worked in Costa Rica, or visited here, they may have names of individuals or services that support paddling trips. Call or email ahead. Line up someone you can trust. Your vacation time is valuable.

Some guide services have a menu of services, including providing a guide, transportation, equipment rental, instruction, food, and lodging. Many people want the whole "tour package." The full service tour includes trip preplanning, meeting the paddler at the airport, providing equipment where needed, arranging food and lodging, providing local shuttles, and doing the rivers with the

guests. When folks want to do other activities on "days off", some services have options such a beach trip, hiking, and visiting parks and natural areas.

So, in summary, if you are on a shoestring budget, have lots of time, are willing to find and organize other

people with similar interests, and have the capability of dealing with emergencies, you can get by without a guide. If you have a limited amount of time for your vacation, and you want to maximize your river time, you should hire a guide. ✂

Adventures in Boat Building

by Peter Parry

Two notes: 1. In the UK, "canoe" may mean what we here in the US call a "kayak" — they sometimes use "Canadian canoe" to cover open and decked canoes. 2. Filling the ends of decked boats with closed-cell foam serves the same purpose as putting float bags in them: it displaces water should the boat wind up sans paddler. The disadvantage is that it can't be removed easily; the advantage is that you don't have to inflate it.

A friend of mine once built a canoe. He spent a long time on it and it was a work of art. Almost the final phase was to fill both ends with polyurethane expanding foam.

He duly ordered the bits from Mr. Glasplies (an excellent purveyor of all things fiberglass) and it arrived in two packs covered with appropriately dire warnings about expansion ratios and some very good notes on how to use it.

Unfortunately he had a degree, worse still two of them. One was in Chemistry, so the instructions got thrown away, and the other in something mathematical because in a few minutes he was merrily calculating the volume of his craft to many decimal places and the guidelines got binned as well.

He propped the canoe up on one end, got a huge tin, carefully measured the calculated amounts of glop, mixed them and quickly poured the mixture in the end of the canoe (The two pack expands very rapidly).

I arrived as he was completing this and I looked in to see the end chamber over half full of something Cawdors Witches would have been proud of. Two things occurred to me, one was the label which said in big letters "Caution - expansion ratio 50:1" (or something similar) and the other that the now empty tins said "approximately enough for 20 small craft"

Any comment was drowned out by a sea of yellow brown foam suddenly pouring out of the middle of the canoe and the end of the canoe bursting open. My friend screamed and leapt at his pride and joy which was knocked to the ground as he started trying to bale handfuls of this stuff out with his hands.

Knocking the craft over allowed the still liquid and not yet fully expanded foam to flow to the other end of the canoe where it expanded and shattered that end as well.

A few seconds later and we had a canoe with two exploded ends, a mountain of solid foam about 4 feet high growing out of the middle, and a chemist firmly embedded up to his armpits in it.

At this stage he discovered the reaction was exothermic and his hands and arms were getting very hot indeed. Running about in small circles in a confined space while glued to the remains of a fairly large canoe proved ineffective, so he resorted to screaming a bit instead.

Fortunately a Kukri was to hand so I attacked the foam around his hands with some enthusiasm. The process was hindered by the noise he was making and the fact he was trying to escape while still attached to the canoe.

Eventually I managed to hack out a lump of foam still including most of his arms and hands. Unfortunately my tears of laughter were not helping as they accelerated the foam setting.

Seeking medical help was obviously out of the question, the embarrassment of having to explain his occupation (Chief Research Chemist at a major petrochemical organization) would simply never have been lived down. Several hours and much acrimony later we had removed sufficient foam (and much hair) to allow him to move again. However, he still looked something like a failed audition for Quasimodo with red burns on his arms and expanded blobs of foam sticking everywhere. My comment that the scalding simply made the hairs the foam was sticking to come out easier was not met with the enthusiasm I felt it deserved.

I forgot to add that in retrospect, rather unwisely, he had set out to do this deed in the hallway of his house (the only place, he later explained, with sufficient headroom for the canoe — achieved by poking it up the stairwell).

Having extricated him, we now were faced with the problem of a canoe construction kit embedded in a still gurgling block of foam which was now irrevocably bonded to the hall and stairs carpet, as well as several banister rails and quite a lot of wallpaper.

At this point his wife and her mother came back from shopping.....

Oh yes — and he had been wearing the pullover Mum-in-law had knitted for his birthday the week before. - From the internet newsgroup UK.D-I-Y via the Whitewater email list. ✂

Ocoee Creek

by Don Ellis

Ever get sort of "burned out" on running the always-there-dam-released rivers toward the end of the summer? Do you get the yearning to do some creeking during the hot, dry summer months? I do. I really enjoy creeking more than "big water" runs anyway.

This past weekend, I was creeking on the Ocoee. I know, you probably glanced back up to be sure the author of this piece is Don Ellis. After confirming, you probably said to yourself, "Yeah, that's nothing new, since it has been statistically proven that Don Ellis is older than Bill Hay, and Bill Hay's card shows some old ugly dude with nothing but stub knees dragging a C-1." "And besides," you continue, "Ellis always creaks when he is on the Ocoee, or anywhere else for that matter. Why, it is probably a good bet that his old creaky bones are only held together with Vina-bond or some chemical concoction of the like. And to boot, Ellis is also a personal friend with Robert Reeder of the famed "Reeder's Rock" on the Tellico. Anybody that old is bound to creak every time he moves." Well, all that MAY be true, but honestly, I was creeking on the Ocoee this past weekend. I can almost hear some of the thoughts you are still having — "Ole Dub's been soaking his head too long."

Let me explain. Have you ever read those signs posted about dam controlled rivers that state the warning "Danger — River Levels Can Rise Rapidly Without Warning"? Well guess what? This happens every time the TVA releases water back into the natural riverbed of the Ocoee. Nearly every day of the summer that the Ocoee has water, the release begins with basically a dry riverbed. When this is the case, you have the opportunity to run "Ocoee Creek", otherwise known as The Surge.

I say nearly because sometimes the diversion dam gate is not sealed off completely. Therefore, some water is released through the gate into the riverbed. If that is the case, The Surge is somewhat "diluted" because you lose some of the effect of a completely dry riverbed in front of you. Anyway, as The Surge begins, the flow of the water begins to fill the stream bed and it first seeks the lower lying channels of the river.

As the riverbed fills, it actually takes much less than the 1,200 to 1,400 CFS standard Ocoee release volume to provide a "Creek Run" experience in a hard boat. (Rafts wouldn't have a chance at the lower flows.) If you are fortunate enough to be waiting in your boat in the riverbed as this happens, you get the sense that you are paddling Ocoee Creek rather than the familiar Ocoee River. And let me tell you, the two are extremely different

runs!

To begin with, assuming that you and your group are the only ones running The Surge that particular day, you are basically on the Ocoee all by yourselves. That is certainly different! When is the last time you were on the Ocoee all by yourself? Second, to run The Surge, you have to be sitting in your boat on the river ready to paddle at 8:45 AM. That assumes, of course, that the release is scheduled for 9:00 AM.

When is the last time you put on a river before 11? Maybe some of you have put on earlier, but one thing they used to teach us in beginner paddling schools is that you NEVER, EVER put on before 11 AM! Fact is, it used to seem like no matter how hard we tried, we couldn't get the group together and moving in time to put on before 11 AM.

That brings up the next point. If you are really going to run The Surge, you don't want too large a group. You can only get so many boaters on the face of the front wave as it builds volume. I've run it with as many as six in the group, but that is pushing the limit in so much as everyone being able to "enjoy" the intensity of The Surge. A group of 3 to 4 is more the ideal number.

Running The Surge is a matter of staying up as close to the front of the wave as possible without literally running out of water and finding yourself high and dry on the rocks. The closer you are to running out of water, the more intense the experience. The further back you get from the front wave, the experience becomes more like the normal Ocoee River we all know and love.

Are you with me so far? Now, most all of us have been in the drink on the Ocoee at one time or another, or in my case, one hundred times or another. Well, think about going in the drink while running The Surge. Most assuredly, if you go in the drink, you will do it while in the middle of a rapid. That means that the "pool" behind the rapid has filled up and the flow is now headed like 40 going North down a steep cataract! All 1,200 CFS or so!

What that means is that if you fall out, or pin your boat or the like, you have something like 60 seconds to get out, figure out what you are going to do, get your boat unpinned or righted, water dumped, and get back in. It is best you do this quickly because it is likely that where you are standing, or where your boat is pinned, is going to be well underwater for the remainder of the day's release. And it happens nearly as fast as the time it took you to read from where I started talking about going in the drink a few sentences above down to here! Those are but a few of the differences in running Ocoee Creek and the Ocoee River.

What about the river itself? Well, as Fritz Drescher once said when looking at a boulder infested stretch of difficult rapids, "any river with that many rocks in it is

bound to have lots of eddies!" That is what you have. Eddy after eddy after eddy. You sit in the eddy above that has ample water until you can see a very technical "creek" type route open up to the next eddy below. You then go for it down to the next eddy below. Don't go too soon though, or you will get halfway down the rapid and "ground out" on or pin between rocks. Don't go too late or it will be no different than the standard Ocoee run.

Ever wonder what creates those offsetting diagonal waves in Broken Nose? Ever thought about what causes those big holes at Slice and Dice (or is it Second Helping)? What do you suppose causes that good ender spot at Flipper? Well, I'm not gonna tell you all the details, but I will tell you that there are some very precariously placed boulders through which the river flows. Of course, all these are beneath the surface you are familiar with.

There is also more than one vertical 5 foot drop to negotiate. There are places that you find yourself paddling within mini-canyon walls that are 3 to 4 foot high on each side of you — like a boat width on each side of you! And then some rapids that you would think would be

really tough turn out to not have anything obvious in them that create the normal characteristics we know.

So, if you put on at 8:45 and the river gets you started downstream by 9:00, what time will you be at the take-out? Assuming that you don't have any problems, it will take an hour and a half to run The Surge, so you would be at the take-out by 10:30.

Get the picture? Ocoee Creek is quite a different run than the Ocoee River. It is a good bit more dangerous in that if you truly run The Surge, you are running a much more technical creek than the normal run.

It demands much more boat control than does the normal Ocoee River run at 1,200 CFS. It demands every second of your attention. But, in turn, it repays these demands with an intensely interesting trip, a river that is not crowded, a dynamically changing stream bed, and the opportunity to challenge yourself by honing your water reading skills, improving boat control and quick decision making.

Go creeking on the Ocoee! It will give you a new vision of white water and it's beginnings! 

When the Third Reich Came to the Tellico

by Ken Strickland

They're off to the left as you leave the town of Tellico Plains en route to the river; the Stokley Bottoms they're called. In 1926 the Stokley Company bought these alluvial plains for crop production, and in doing so employed many members of the local population in this part of Southern Appalachia. Although employment was seasonal, it was a boon to the area and remained so for many years; the Twenties and Thirties were hard times for most.

When World War II erupted, many of the men were called to military service in distant lands; the work force dwindled and times were again hard, especially for Stokley with its vast acreage and labor intensive needs. However, Uncle Sam soon remedied the problem: German POWs were brought in to work the fields.

It was a gray winter's day during the middle of the week when Timbo and I shouldered our kayaks and scrambled up the bank at the Turkey Creek take-out. No one else had been on the river that day and we had enjoyed an exhilarating run of The Ledges. As we quickly changed into dry clothes, a cold wind chased a few dead leaves across the road and sent them scurrying into the woods. Just then a truck approached. It stopped and an elderly man got out and sauntered up to us.

"How you boys doin'?" he said in a tone that was more

of an invitation to talk than a question.

"Fine."

"Bet it was cold raftin' today."

"Not too bad. We've got plenty of warm gear — it's the changing that's worst of all!"

"I live up the road a piece... towards the Indian Bound'ry. I kind of like talking to you folk when I get the chance. Lived here all my life."

"Lived here all your life... say, do you know about the German POW camp that was located in Tellico Plains during the war?"

"Know about it — heck, I was a guard there!" Our conversation took on life.

"Oh, yes, I was a guard there," he continued. "You know, those folk were happy to just set out the war here in Tellico Plains — didn't give us any trouble at all. I even made friends with one of them; Heinz was his name. You see, we couldn't get sugar 'n' coffee and they could — supplied by the gov'ment. We could get tobacco and they couldn't, so me and Heinz soon got to tradin'. Got to know that ol' boy pretty good — spoke fair English, he did.

"Did you boys come over the falls up there?" he asked, seeming to change the subject abruptly.

"Sure. That's what makes the trip, or certainly adds to... "

"Do you know who was the first one to come over the falls? I don't mean summertime swimmers — the ones jumpin' in there when the river's real low — I mean come over the falls when a bold flow's happenin'... kind of like

you boys do now."

"Well, I'm not really sure but I think it might have been a guy from down in Georgia by the name of Doug Woodward... must have been 1972 or...."

"Ha! Not by a long shot! Let me tell you a story — that is, if you've got the time...."

"One day late of the spring me and Heinz was driving a load of new barrels — they'd put the green beans in 'em later on, you know — down to the bottoms from a fellow up in North Carolina. On the way up we'd passed the Bald River and then the Tellico Falls — ol' Heinz had marveled at 'em; said they reminded him of the Halps.... Now on the way back down, Heinz came up with this tarnation idea that he wanted to go over the falls in a barrel. Seems like he'd once read accounts of some folk doin' just that up in Niagara.

"So we stopped and took off one of the barrels... rolled it down by the riverside where Heinz climbed in and I tapped on the top. I shoved him off in that river and ran on down to watch him come over the falls. Well, he came over the falls all right — 'bout in the middle as I recollect — and foundered! Law! He was spinnin' around in there like a one-legged whirligig bug — seemed like forever, it did.

"When he finally got close to the bank, I fished him out with a long piece of drift... cacked all over the stones when he got out of that barrel... looked worse than a misery, he did. Well, we loaded that barrel back up and headed on down to Tellico Plains, not speaking much as we did... 'course Heinz was still mighty peaked, which

might explain that.

"We never talked about that shine, and when the war was over they loaded all those folk up and shipped 'em back to their home. I never saw Heinz again.

"Well, I've got to mosey on back to the house. The wife's probably wondering where I'm at. It's been a pleasure talking to you boys."

"Same here," we answered as we watched him walk to his truck. "And thanks for that story!"

Timbo and I finished loading our boats and began the drive home. Paralleling the bends of the river as we drove along, we chatted.

"What did you think about that story?"

"Well, it sure speaks to the attitude... to the idea of the importance of a first descent, doesn't it?"

We soon came to an orange vested flag-lady standing on the shoulder of the road, her STOP sign on a stick aimed our way. Heavy earth moving equipment raced across the road in front of us and up the embankment where they planed huge slabs of mountainside into their dropped pans.

Her stick spun and SLOW beckoned us across. As we drove into town we noticed — off to the right — the Stokley Bottoms. Here the massive earth movers dropped their laden to build up the roadbed for the new Tellico Plains bypass; a road to tie in with the Cherohala Skyway.

I'm sure Heinz would have trouble recognizing the place now.

- *From the Bluegrass Wildwater Association, Lexington, KY, email list.* ✂

You Might Be a Kayaker If...

You "pour over" stream flow readings the way a stockbroker scans the markets everyday.

The longer dry time you have, the more you want to kick your dog.

You practically salivate at the sound of rainfall.

There's no room on your speed-dial for anything but gauge readings and the numbers of people with nicknames like Psycho.

You paid more for a roof rack for the boat than you spent for anniversary presents.

You tie down the boat better than you seat belt in the kids.

"Waterproof" means "a little damp" or "might-float."

Your friends or relatives are shocked when you answer the phone at home on a weekend.

House guests ask you why you replaced your living room sofa with a sea kayak.

You can't drive over a bridge without looking for water under it.

The smell of old polypro doesn't bother you.

Your wife says you love your boat and your boatin' buddies more than her, and she sounds just like your first wife... and your second.

Driving 1200 km for a weekend on the river doesn't seem strange to you.

Your idea of a complete first aid kit is a roll of duct tape.

"Small craft advisories" make you praise the Ocean gods.

Window shade means more than keeping the sun out.

Pearl means more than a gem in a shell.

You choose a new car based on whether or not your rack system will fit it.

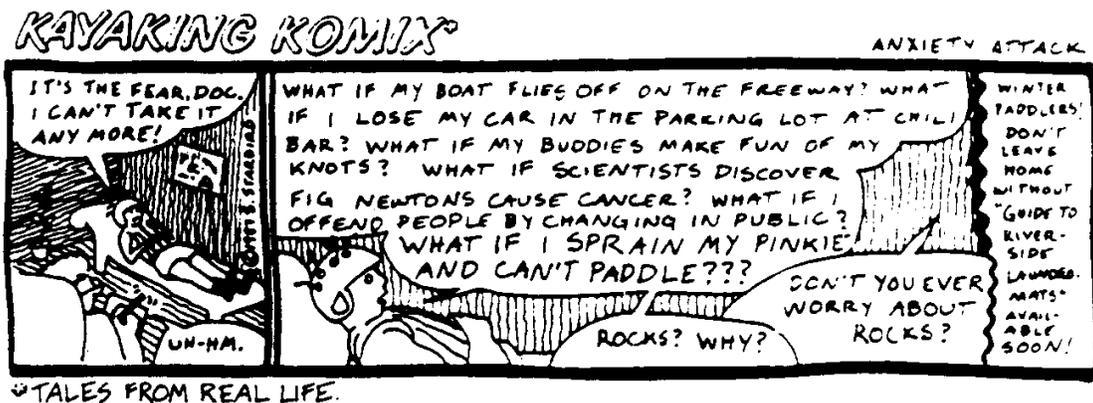
A dress shirt and tie no longer bother you, because they're looser than a dry suit neck gasket.

Your co-workers (and non-boating friends, family and your spouse) will not ride in your vehicle between March and October because of the ode de polypro.

The sight of a waterfall gives you the uncontrollable urge to urinate in a nearby bush — while you search out the line.

You call your buddies in order of shuttle ability.
 Your boat is worth more than your car.
 Even in the dead of winter, you never actually lose the PFD tan lines.
 You build your new house as close as possible to the flood plain.
 Your dog loves to roll in your pile of paddling clothes.
 You're all dressed up and don't notice that you're being rained on.
 You ask the clerk at Eatons how well these dress shoes hold up to immersion.
 You measure major purchases relative to the cost of a new boat... ('Hmmm, that new computer will cost me about 2-1/2 kayak units').
 You're the one with the Bright Sunny Smile on the Cold Rainy Day.
 Every once in a while you touch your paddle, just to touch it... every once in a while you let go of your paddle, just to eat something.
 When your non-boating friends visit your home or your car they ask, "Do you have dogs?"
 You have no trouble saying "Rotomolded Crosslink Polyethylene" ten times fast.
 The idea of a 20,000 km per year car lease seems ridiculous.
 You have a bathing suit that's wet from March to October.
 Your Mom has stopped saying, "Be careful this weekend."
 You've never set up a tent when it's light out.
 You've tied up your mate using either a taut line or trucker's hitch.
 You have friends that you don't recognize without their helmet, pfd, paddling jacket, and boat ensemble.
 You can ID make and model on a car topped kayak at a quarter mile.
 "Wet, sticky hole" and "blowing a ferry" in casual conversation don't give you pause.
 You always have sinus congestion on Monday morning.
 You freely discuss how much you and others weigh, and

don't feel self-conscious about it (or about asking others how much they weigh).
 You leave your glasses strap on at night.
 Your only considerations when buying a car are ground clearance, and the size of the rain gutters.
 All career, personal and financial decisions are judged by the criteria of "How will this increase my paddling time?"
 You visit Niagara Falls and think, "This may be runnable."
 You build a 2 car garage addition and you still can't park your car inside.
 You bug out on your wife and kids to go paddling for the weekend because you are SURE your priorities are right.
 You deliberately watch the whole commercial just to see the kayak on the car.
 You maneuver your car on five-lane streets by eddying out behind trucks and making S-moves in the left turn lane. And you lean into the turns.
 If you live in a town with a river running through it, you give street directions with descriptions like "upstream of the ..." or "two blocks down on river left ..."
 You find yourself humming Weather Channel tunes.
 It takes longer and longer to get your "land legs" back.
 Solid ground "feels funny."
 You feel all mushy inside when your wife gives you a dry top for Christmas.
 You keep moving the car seat forward, so you can bend your knees and feel good and wedged in for pulling maneuvers on the freeway.
 You can't look at water in a gutter without imagining tiny runs and miniature waves and holes.
 You start driving around with your PFD and helmet on because you have noticed that other drivers tend to give you the right of way.
 After a car wreck, the first thing you check for is damage to your boat.
 The only thing you worry about when getting naked just about anywhere is whether or not you'll get a ticket!
 - From internet newsgroup rec.boats.paddle. ✂



From American Whitewater — an Incident Report Form:

Trouble on the Waters

If you had trouble getting to the river, let us know. Use this form to report access problems so that AW can convince legislators and government authorities where and when river access is a problem. If you have met an irate landowner, noticed signs forbidding access, or were stopped by a landowner, barbed wire fence or a locked gate, tell us about it on this form. If several boaters are arrested or involved, only 1 form should be filled out per incident naming a boater available for future contact.

River: _____ State: _____

- 2.02 Denied by State
- 2.03 Denied by local authority
- 2.04 Denied by administrative edict

Date of incident: _____

Access code categories: List below or circle the categories, multiple categories are ok.

- 3. Injury from manmade obstacles
 - 3.01 Barbed wire or fence
 - 3.02 Low head dam
- 4. Obstacles running river, scouting or portaging
 - 4.01 Fence or chain on land blocking access
 - 4.02 Fence, wire or tree on river blocking access
 - 4.03 Posted no trespassing sign
 - 4.04 Vehicle towed, ticketed, or vandalized
 - 4.05 Threats or acts of violence

Brief description of incident:

- 5. Closures: rivers closed that were once open
 - 5.01 Closed by private landowner
 - 5.02 Closed by government authority
 - 5.02.01 Federal
 - 5.02.02 State
 - 5.02.03 Local
 - 5.03 High water closure

Boater contact: _____
Address _____
City, etc. _____
Phone _____
Email _____

- 6. New access fees
 - 6.01 Charged by private landowner
 - 6.02 Charged by government agency
 - 6.02.01 Federal
 - 6.02.02 State
 - 6.02.03 Local

Landowner/Agency/Sheriff contact (if known)
Name _____
Address _____
City etc. _____
Phone _____
Email _____

- 7. Dam controlled rivers
 - 7.01 Water turned off
 - 7.02 Inconsistent flow: too much or too little
 - 7.03 No notice of releases

- 1. Trespass. Ticket, warning or arrest for:
 - 1.01 Trespass on private property
 - 1.02 Trespass on public property
 - 1.03 Criminal trespass
 - 1.04 Civil trespass
- 2. Public Access Closure
 - 2.01 Denied by federal law
 - 2.01.01 Denied by BLM
 - 2.01.02 Denied by Forest Service
 - 2.01.03 Denied by National Park Service

Send to: Ken Ransford, 475 Sierra Vista,
Carbondale, CO 81623, 970-963-6800, FAX
970-963-6700, email ransford@csn.net

Access is a constant struggle. The AW Access Committee needs your help.

CLASSIFIED ADS

TO PLACE AN AD - Want ads of a non-business nature are free to dues-paid GCA members. Business-related ads are \$5.00 for up to 50 words, \$10.00 for larger. Send your type-written ad to: Allen Hedden, 2923 Piedmont Dr., Marietta, Ga. 30066, or email to gacanoem@mindspring.com. PLEASE, NO PHONED-IN OR HAND-WRITTEN ADS. All ads will be run for two issues unless otherwise requested.

DRY ROLL PRACTICE - weekdays by approval. No cost, call Turk at 770.436.8523.

FOR SALE - Great river car: Toyota Camry station wagon, 1989, Loaded. 5 speed manual, 140,000. White with Thule rack and bike mount. New tires, water pump, and timing belt. Good gas mileage. Has been trouble free with very good maintenance. Oil changed every 3,500 miles. \$3,800. Contact Kathleen 404.293.4575.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Mohawk XL-12. Good condition, with air bags, pedestal, Dagger knee boots, toe blocks, skid plates. Great beginner boat, very stable, set up to roll, \$400. 770.532.9728 or email at hallpw@avana.net. Kevin.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Mohawk Viper 11, purple, fully outfitted, excellent condition. \$600. Call Trey 770.445.6406.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Mohawk Nova 16. Red Royale. Great condition. \$575. Call Durell at 770.460.8109.

FOR SALE - C-1, Dagger Cascade, black with white accents. Great shape. \$300. Call Jon at 770.806.6587, or email at clanforrseter@yahoo.com.

FOR SALE - Kayaks, New Wave Sleek - \$300. Pyranha Stunt 300 - \$500. Dagger Vortex, comes with skirt, float bags, rarely used, \$300. Canoe, older Whitesell, tandem or solo, completely outfitted, \$300. Plus lifejackets, helmets, tents. Call 770.486.0328 or 404.771.9759.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Corsica S, blue; (fully outfitted, includes Mountain Surf spray skirt). Very forgiving kayak; easy rolling and lots of fun - \$475. Werner Paddle, slightly offset - \$125. Dry suit, medium, never used, \$175. Call Connie @ 404.288.1375.

FOR SALE - Kayaks. Dagger Outburst, blue/white swirl, good condition, \$450. Perception Mirage with bow and stern bags, white, good condition, \$125. Silver Creek paddle, \$85. Russ 770.760.1945.

FOR SALE - Kayaks. Perception Whip-lash - Great play boat. \$400. Prijon Rockit - high volume creek boat, good condition, includes storage-type air bag. \$350. 706.276.4691.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Perception Pirouette S, Proline. Includes spray skirt & air bags. \$350. Call Lois at 770.592.6421 or email loish@bellsouth.net.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Prijon Alpen. Great cruiser/big water/beginner boat. Long w/ lots of volume. Comfortable & easy to roll. \$295 OBO. Mark. 770.591.2425 or email mahoye@mindspring.com.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Wave Sport X. Paddled only three months. Cost \$1,030, asking \$850 or best offer. Call Turk at 770.436.8523.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Perception Dancer XS, \$200. Call Mary Vachon 404.352.4718.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Perception Corsica - teal w/ air bags and spray skirt. Paddle, Perception Horizon Line. Helmet, Perception Pro-Tec. \$350 obo. Call Ed @ 770.505.2948 or email edvance@mindspring.com.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Dagger Crossfire. In good shape with full outfitting. Includes back band, float bags. Good all-around white water kayak. \$300. Call Kirk 770.973.9475.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Perception Corsica (light blue/good condition). Great boat for larger paddler or beginner. \$425. Call Hays @ 770.974.0650.

FOR SALE - Kayak. Pyranha Migo 240, near new, \$625. 828.837.3511.

FOR SALE - Kayak. Sleek, \$395. 828.837.3511.

FOR SALE - Kayak. Small squirt boat for a small woman or youth; \$500. 828.837.3511.

FOR SALE - Kayak. Squirt boat: New Wave, for 120# person; \$650. 828.837.3511.

FOR SALE - Kayak. Perception Dancer. Good condition. Rear air bags. \$275 OBO. Paddle, composite, \$50 with boat.

770.236.7317 day 770.967.6589 night.

FOR SALE - Land. Secluded mountain lots - great views, streams, heavily wooded, extreme privacy w/ restrictive covenants. Between Cleveland and Dahlonega on Piney Mountain (easy access to Chattahoochee, Chattooga, Overflow, Chauga, Nantahala, etc.) - Only six lots left - 3 to 5+ acres starting at \$6,500 per acre. Call Martha Herndon at 404.231.5367.

FOR SALE - Thule rain gutter rack system. 58" long bars. Fair condition. \$25. 770.804.9416.

FOR SALE / TRADE - Sit-On-Top Kayak, Prijon Twister, highest performance, most maneuverable sit on top made, built on hull of Prijon Hurricane, plays & surfs great. For someone wanting higher performance than Torrent or Pegasus, but still doesn't like claustrophobic kayak! Check it out at: <http://www.wildnet.com/kayak/whitekayak/twister.htm>. \$395 or trade for inflatable (Aire preference) Mark. 770.591.2425 or email mahoye@mindspring.com.

FOR SALE - Sit-On-Top, Old Town Sandpiper, brand new (blue). Good for flat water and class I. \$299. Call Christine at 706.864.2449.

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.

PLASTIC WELDING - For linear kayaks. Call Turk at 770.436.8523.

WANTED - Canoe, for flat water/class 1 & 2 rapids. Similar to Mad River Explorer. Call Ed @ 770.505.2948 or email at edvance@mindspring.com.

WANTED - Kayak: Wave Sport Micro X or Kinetic, or a Prijon Fly. Must be in good condition. Please contact 770.454.9591 or ptmx2@ibm.net. Atlanta.

WANTED - Mountain land. Secluded (on gravel/dirt road), NC property, Clay, Cherokee, Swain counties or those adjacent. Mark. 770.591.2425 or email mahoye@mindspring.com.

WANTED - Inflatable sit-on-top kayak / duckie (would love to find Aire). Mark. 770.591.2425 or email mahoye@mindspring.com.

**SIXTEENTH ANNUAL
GCA
GALA CANOEING AFFAIR**

October 1, 2, 3

**DIAMOND LURE CAMPGROUND
(9 miles from Ellijay)**

**EXCLUSIVELY RESERVED FOR GCA MEMBERS
HOT SHOWERS, CLUB HOUSE
FISHING AND BOATING LAKE
MOUNTAIN BIKING AT M.O.E.**

CAMPING

**\$6.00/site (2 persons)/night
\$2.00/night for each additional person**

PLEASE, ALL DOGS MUST BE ON LEASH!!

**SATURDAY NIGHT CATERED DINNER, BINGO AND BONFIRE
PRIZES FOR BINGO!!**

**Best Bar-B-Que in North Georgia
Pork, ribs and all the fixings
Price \$10.00 (Children 12 & under \$6.00)**

Homemade sausage & biscuits available Sat. & Sun. morning - \$1.00 each

Register early – late fee applies after September 23

**Boating Saturday & Sunday -- Rivers: (water levels permitting)
Ocoee, Nantahala, Cartecay, Hiwassee, Toccoa, Chestatee, Etowah,
Amicalola**

**For Further Information, contact:
Jim Griffin 770.498.3695**

(Registration form on reverse side)

GCA FALL GALA CANOEING AFFAIR Registration Form

TO REGISTER — Fill out registration form below and mail QUICKLY (notice late fee below) with your check made out to "GCA" to:

Jim Griffin
5017 Tanaga Court
Stone Mountain, GA 30087
For questions, call 770.498.3695

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Camping:

Number of tents @ \$6.00 (Incl. 2 people) Fri _____ Sat _____
Extra people @ \$2.00 ea. (Over 2 people) Fri _____ Sat _____ Total \$ _____

Saturday dinner: Number of meals @ \$10.00 _____ @ \$6.00 _____ Total \$ _____

Sausage & Biscuits @ \$1.00 ea. Sat _____ Sun _____ Total \$ _____

\$5.00 LATE FEE IF POST MARKED AFTER SEP. 24 \$ _____
(Per registration form)

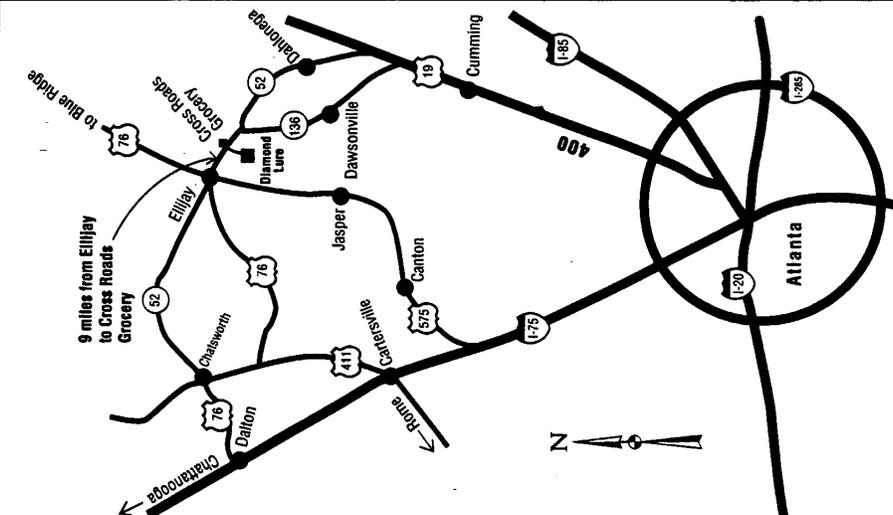
Make check payable to GCA for total of: Total \$ _____

Willing to lead a trip Saturday or Sunday on:

Cartecay _____ Etowah _____ Upper Amicalola _____ Chestatee _____

Lower Amicalola _____ Upper Hooch _____ Other _____

[Detach & save map]



Reservations – Information
J.H. Hefner, Mgr.
706-273-3075

Harold Hefner, Owner
706-276-3841

Route 2
Ellijay, Georgia 30540

GCA FALL SAFETY AND RESCUE CLINIC
September 25 and 26, 1999

The annual Fall Safety and Rescue Clinic will be held Saturday and Sunday, September 25 and 26. Saturday, we will conduct dry land sessions at Mountaintown Outdoor Expeditions (MOE) in Ellijay, Ga. These sessions will cover throw rope usage, snag/tag lines, knot tying, and more.

Saturday night, dinner will be provided by MOE. There is plenty of room for tents in the field at MOE (free) or you can camp at Diamond Lure Campground (hot showers and close to MOE). GCA members can stay at Diamond Lure for \$6.00 per night. Call 706.273.3075 for reservations at Diamond Lure, and tell them you are with the GCA Fall Safety and Rescue Clinic.

On Sunday, we will paddle one of the rivers in that area (decision to be made based on water levels) in small groups led by instructors. As your group makes its way down river, you will encounter various staged rescue scenarios that will give you the opportunity to practice what you've learned.

A limited number of GCA throw ropes and the new GCA Rescue Gear Bags (called Gator bags, named after the originator of the idea) will be on sale at the clinic. You can also order yours in advance to make sure you get one. A concession area will sell bottled water, sports drinks, and snacks.

The clinic is open to all GCA members and is suitable for trained beginner paddlers and above. If you are paddling elsewhere but want to join us for dinner Saturday night, register for dinner and come eat with us at MOE.

REGISTER EARLY. For the last few years, this clinic has filled up.

For additional information call Bo Wise 770.806.6001 (email JWWise@Mindspring.com)

Mail registration and payment to:

Ms. Kathy King
 6352 Hillandale Dr. Apt. R.
 Norcross, Ga. 30092

Name _____ Email Address _____

Address: _____

Tel. (H) _____ (W) _____

Skill Level (Begin., Int., Adv.) _____ Boat (Kayak, OC1, C1, Other) _____

Number of People: Clinic (Inlcds. Dinner) _____ X \$55.00 = _____ (Please attach list
 Dinner Only _____ X \$10.00 = _____ of add'l attendees)

Throw Rope _____ X \$32.00 = _____

Gator Bag _____ X \$32.00 = _____

GCA Membership _____ X \$25.00 = _____

Total _____



Get into the flow.

Go with the flow team member Dale Karpacostas

October 1, 1996

Linville Gorge, NC

10:30 AM

63° F

Class 5 rapid

15 foot fall

pure

adrenaline.

GO WITH THE FLOW
ADVENTURE
DISTILLERS
THE ONLY COMPANY IN THE WORLD

4 Elizabeth Way, Roswell, GA 30075

770-992-3200

www.gowiththeflow.net