



# The EDDY LINE

POST OFFICE BOX 7023 • ATLANTA, GA 30357

Volume 35, No. 1

770.421.9729

January 2000

## January GCA Meeting

Stewart Stokes will present a slide show of his latest nature scenes from recent travels in the Southwest, including slides from the balloon festival in Albuquerque. If you've never witnessed a Stewart Stokes slide show, don't miss this meeting. And if you have seen his shows, we'll see you for more great viewing on Thursday, January 20, at 7:30 p.m. As usual, we'll provide the refreshments. Come for some great GCA-grown entertainment!

We now have a regular meeting place to use at least until the Garden Hills facility is rebuilt — the Parish Hall of the Episcopal Church of the Atonement in Sandy Springs. We'll be meeting there the third Thursday of each month through May (except April, when we'll skip the meeting for the Spring Extravaganza). We have great plans for meeting topics and hope you'll all come for the fun each and every month.

The church is located on Highpoint Road (runs north/south), between Glenridge Road and Windsor Parkway, both of which intersect Roswell Road. From I 285 topside perimeter, take Roswell Road/Sandy Springs exit south (inside the perimeter) to Glenridge Road. Turn left on Glenridge Road and right on Highpoint. The church is on your left about one mile south.

From Buckhead, come north on Roswell Road and take a right on Windsor Parkway and a left on Highpoint. The church will be on your right. From Rte 400 north or south, take the Glenridge Connector exit (north of the toll booth, but still inside the perimeter). Turn west at the end of the ramp. Turn left on Glenridge Road (it's Johnson Ferry to the right) and immediately left on Highpoint Road (marked well). The church is on your left about one mile south.

## February GCA Meeting

With the new year upon us, we'll all want to be dressed appropriately for paddling next season. So, we're having a fashion show! Your GCA paddling buddies will don their favorite duds (each with a funny theme — no doubt) and see who can laugh the most. This fashion show will not only prepare you for paddling in style, but will tickle your funny bone as well. We'll bring the refreshments; you bring your smiles. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 17.



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# Happy New Year!

Good boating is using superior judgement to prevent the need to use superior skills.



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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 Brannen Proctor at 770.664.7384 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 Jim Griffin at 770.498.3695.

**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 winter 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 Rachel Gates at 404.296.2280. ✂

## 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 Brannen Proctor at 770.664.7384 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 .....	Brannen Proctor
Vice President .....	Marvine Cole
Secretary .....	Tom Martin
Treasurer .....	Ed Schultz
Member Services Chair .....	Rachel Gates
Recreation Chair .....	Jason Schnurr
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 [gacanoec@mindspring.com](mailto:gacanoec@mindspring.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



### January

8	Broad	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Paul Therrian	770.513.4986
15	Leaders Choice	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	John McCorvey	770.921.5116
15	Upper Hooch	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Oreon Mann	404.522.3469
15	Lower Amicalola	Class 3-4 Advanced	Ray Channell	404.636.5944
16	Chattooga Section 3-1/2	Class 3-4 Advanced	Jason Schnurr	770.422.9962
17	Little River Canyon (AL)	Class 3-4 Advanced	Dane White	256.820.1127
20	Club Meeting — Entertainment — Fun — Episcopal Church of the Atonement —	Marvine Cole	770.475.3022	
22	Leaders Choice	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Mike Winchester	770.319.8969
22	Etowah - Tunnel Section	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Jack Taylor	770.998.0350
22	Tellico	Class 2-3+ Intermediate	Ray Channell	404.636.5944
22	South Sauty Creek	Class 3-4 Advanced	Duncan Cottrell	770.720.6269
22	Hike — Brawley Mtn. Fire Tower	Moderate/Strenuous	Hank Baudet	706.492.4318
23	Nacoochee Hooch	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Tom Martin	770.662.0058
23	Upper Hooch	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Lindsay Meeks	404.872.5211
29	Trip Coordinator Training Clinic — Learn how to coordinate club trips —	Brannen Proctor	770.664.7384	
29	Broad	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Jeff Engel	706.548.5015
29	Upper Hooch	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Doug Ackerman	770.503.0365
30	Upper Amicalola	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Charles Clark	770.998.9544

### February

2	Board of Directors Meeting	Atlanta Botanical Garden	Brannen Proctor	770.664.7384
5	Leader's Choice	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Tony Colquitt	770.854.6636
5	Leader's Choice	Class 2-4 Intermediate/Advanced	Louis Boulanger	404.373.4775
5	Chattooga Section IV	Class 3-4 Advanced	Duncan Cottrell	770.720.6269
6	Leader's Choice	Class 2-4 Intermediate/Advanced	Louis Boulanger	404.373.4775
12	Upper Amicalola (Note 1)	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Brannen Proctor	770.664.7384
12	Lower Amicalola	Class 3-4 Advanced	Keith Taylor	770.956.1767
17	Club Meeting — Entertainment — Fun — Episcopal Church of the Atonement —	Marvine Cole	770.475.3022	
19	Town Creek (AL)	Class 3-4 Advanced	Dane White	256.820.1127

Note 1: Monthly Paddle with the Prez — Brannen Proctor.

**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, Jim Griffin, at 770.498.3695. 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:** Monday nights from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Warren Memorial Boys & Girls Club pool near Grant Park. Contact Revel Freeman at 404.261.8572

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## GCA Library Items Available

The GCA Library has many videotapes and books available to any GCA member. All you have to do is call GCA Librarian Rachel Gates at 404.296.2280 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:

Rachel Gates  
PO Box 1485  
Pine Lake, GA 30072

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

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## Announcements

### GCA Email List

The member response to the GCA email list has been great. We have at this printing over 290 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. ✂

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### 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 Allen Sinquefield at [asinque@bellsouth.net](mailto:asinque@bellsouth.net). ✂

### 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 October 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. ✂

## Upcoming Events of Interest

January 1 — Cartecay Chili Run and Cook Off, Ellijay, GA, Jay Srymanske, M.O.E., 706.635.2726.

January 3 — First day of winter indoor roll practice, Warren Memorial Boys' & Girls' Club, Revel Freeman, 404.261.8572.

February 5 — Locust Fork Invitational Canoe & Kayak Races — Cleveland, AL, Tim Rogers, 205.274.0006.

February 25-26 — National Paddling Film Festival, Lexington, KY, NPFF, 120 Victory Ave., Lexington, KY

40502, www.surfbwa.org/npff.

March 4-5 — Mulberry Fork Canoe & Kayak Races — Garden City, AL, Registrar to be announced.

March 25 — Locust Fork White Water Classic Races — Cleveland, AL, Tim Rogers, 205.274.0006.

March 24-26 — La Lousiane Free Style Symposium — Mandeville, LA, John Steib, 225.654.5224.

March 31, April 1-2, 14-16 — ACA Kayak Instructor Certification Clinic — Nantahala River, NC, Bruce Williams 404.231.5642.

April 14-16 — East Coast Canoe & Kayak Symposium — Charleston, SC, Charleston County Park & Recreation Commission, 843.795.4FUN, www.ccprc.com.

April 29-30 — Southeastern Slalom & Wild Water Championship Races — Nantahala River, NC, David Martin, Registrar, 404.351.8208.

May 19-21 — Ocoee Rodeo, Upper Ocoee, Ocoee White Water Center, TN, Jayne Abbott (828.645.5299, email jhabbott@aol.com).

July 22-23 — Georgia State Games — LCKC, Lake Lanier, Gainesville, GA, Connie Hagler, ConHagler@aol.com.

August 8-12 — USCKT Sprint National Championships, Lake Lanier, Gainesville, GA, Connie Hagler, ConHagler@aol.com.

September 1-3 — Marathon World Championships — Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

September 22-24 — Lanier Paddlefest — LCKC, Lake Lanier, Gainesville, GA, Connie Hagler, ConHagler@aol.com. ✂

## The National Paddling Film Festival

**Lexington, Kentucky. February 25-26, 2000.**

Born on a dare, the National Paddling Film Festival (NPFF) was started 17 years ago by some energetic Bluegrass Wildwater Association (BWA) paddlers who had the brilliant idea to combine a terrific excuse for a

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Join us for the  
**17th annual national paddling film festival!**  
 Showcasing Paddlesports image artists from around the world!  
 Enter your videos, slides, digital images and river safety posters. Includes raffle, silent auction, and party.  
**February 25-26, 2000 Lexington, Kentucky**  
 For entry deadline and other information:  
[www.surrowa.org/npff](http://www.surrowa.org/npff) or NPFF, 126 Victory Ave., Lexington, Ky. 40502  
 All profits go to ACA, AW, and River Conservation

International Paddling!  
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 Hot Play Moves!  
 River Safety!

Please support our Film Festival major sponsors who care about River Conservation:

Adventure Medical Kits	Canoe Kentucky	Chums
Dagger Impex	Kokotat	Lotus Designs
Madawaska Kanu Camp	Outta Hand Productions	
Pacific Water Sports	Paddler Perception	
Performance Video	Rocky Mountain Outdoor Center	
Riot Savage	Spyderco	Wave Sport

Photo: NPFF 1999 Best Paddling Image Winner by Julie Keller

party with homage to the river gods. From humble beginnings in a drafty barn transformed with several hundred yards of black plastic, the NPFF has fast-forwarded into the 21st century as a multi-media, digitally-enabled, celebration of paddle sports.

Propelled by the BWA, whose members donate hundreds of volunteer hours to make it happen, the NPFF raises money for river conservation and access. All proceeds from this non-profit event go to American Whitewater, American Canoe Association and other river causes. Last year the NPFF donated close to \$10,000 to AW, ACA, and the West Virginia Rivers Coalition!

The NPFF competition offers three mediums for paddle sports image artists: motion entry, still image and a safety poster contest. In the motion category, the Festival showcases a broad array of instructional, travelogue, hair boating, comedy and other genre paddling videos, both professional and amateur. For the still image competition, entrants submit either 35 mm slides or digital images which are judged by the audience, with a color printer given to the still image winner. The digital

division, which premiered last year, was a huge success. Finally, the safety poster contest is divided into three age categories, with cash awards in each.

Deadlines:

Motion Entry January 28, 2000

Still Image, slide or digital, February 11, 2000

Safety Poster February 25, 2000

The silent auction is a major component of the NPFF, thanks to generous manufacturers and outfitters who donate an outstanding variety of paddling gear and apparel. The gear is laid out at the festival site, with bid sheets to keep track of who's bidding what. The video feed to the auction room allows you to keep an eye on the films while catching up with old friends or debating which dry top to bid on. We also hope to auction off a boat on-line!

Last but not least, there is always a party after the competition, where you can enjoy being with friends, talking with some of the videographers and photographers, and hooking up for paddling trips. So plan ahead, keep your eye out for those photo-ops, join us as entrant or visitor, but **DON'T MISS THE NPFF 2000!!**

For details and updates on special events being planned for the festival, check the web site at <http://www.surrowa.org/npff>.

## Electronic Eddy Line Email Failures

Not getting your electronic version of *The Eddy Line*? The following email IDs had mail failure notices for the November and/or December *On-Line Eddy Line* mailing. Send any corrections or changes to Ed Schultz, 3060 Pharr Court North #315, Atlanta, GA 30305, or call Ed at 404.266.3734.

cathee@softdesigns.net  
 cns1@kenya.cdc.gov  
 michael.healy@ey.com  
 uzitzow@utc.campuscwix.net  
 williamhopewell@worldnet.att.net  
 kkcolor@earthlink.net  
 grit@mindspring.com  
 ughg26c@prodigy.com  
 ssgg89e@prodigy.com  
 sylgraf@dnet.net





## Winter Roll Practice

Joint GCA / AWC winter roll practice is back! It will be held on Monday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 beginning the first Monday in January, and running through the last Monday in March (NO ROLL

PRACTICE ON THE KING HOLIDAY JANUARY 17 - THE FACILITY WILL BE CLOSED). Our host is the Warren Memorial Boys' and Girls' Club on Berne Street near Grant Park. Once again, the ACA carries our insurance for this event, and non-ACA members will be required to sign up for an ACA event membership at an additional cost of \$5.00 for the entire event (January thru March). This is in addition to the \$5.00 per session paid to defray pool rental expense. ACA members, have your ACA number available or pay for an event membership.

Revel Freeman is our Roll Practice Coordinator. If you have questions about roll practice, or would like to volunteer to help, either with instruction or keeping track of money and waivers, call Revel at 404.261.8572. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

**TO GET TO THE WARREN CLUB POOL:** Go east on I-20 from downtown and exit at the Boulevard / Grant Park / Cyclorama exit. Go right about 1/2 mile to Berne Street on the left (at a traffic light). Turn left and go about another 1/2 mile and you'll see a large brick building on the left at the corner of Berne and Marion Streets. Turn left. You are at the Warren Club building. The pool entrance is in the rear. Enter through the gate at the far end of the building to unload boats. Parking is available beside the building and in the lot across Marion Street.

**BE SURE YOUR BOAT IS CLEAN.** A hose is available at the door to rinse out river mud, old birds' nests or cobwebs. ✂

## Thank You for Your Referrals at MindSpring!

The club would like to thank the many of you who have signed up with MindSpring as your internet service provider and given GCA credit for the referral. Doing so dramatically reduces our expense for internet service and web hosting. Thanks to you, there have been many months this year with absolutely no expense incurred at all.

We hope you are as happy with MindSpring's service as we are. ✂

## CHESTATEE CANOE CO.

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Cumming, GA      jmaoc1@netscape.net

## Opportunity Knocks!

Greetings to all. Here is your big chance! Your club is governed by guess who? You. Yep, that's right, we are a club, remember, and we are the ones responsible for the future of our sport. So why is this your big chance?

As has been demonstrated over and over by the email list, we all have opinions and suggestions as to leadership. The bylaws of the Georgia Canoeing Association, Inc. allow for Members at Large to be appointed to the Board of Directors. Your president, Brannen Proctor, has asked me to chair a nominating committee to select four members to be Members at Large on the Board of Directors. This slate of potential directors will be offered to the Board at its February 2000 meeting for appointment to a one year term on the Board. There are six Board meetings during the year, painless, but very important.

Now is your chance to provide input, opinion, wax philosophically, generally let yourself be heard and vote on the important issues that affect the future of our sport. We are calling for all interested people to submit their name to me as a candidate, or if you have someone else in mind (ask their permission first), you can give me their name. Please let me know not only that you are interested, but also why you are interested, in a short, clear statement of intent. Candidates will be interviewed and selected by the nominating committee and a proposed slate will be given to the Board at the February 2000 meeting.

If you are interested, please contact me directly at: dsmsr@flash.net or by phone at 404-351-8208

Take care,  
David S. Martin  
Chairman, Nominating Committee ✂

"Always remember this: If you don't attend the funerals of your friends, they will certainly not attend yours."

- H. L. Mencken.

## La Louisiane Free Style Symposium

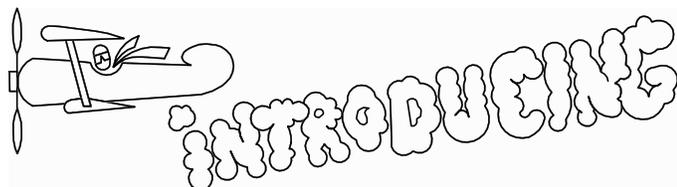
Allons Pagailler!

The basic principles of canoeing, bio-mechanics, hull mechanics, and paddle mechanics are universal. Free Style Canoeing uses an empirical approach to evolve these principles to their highest and most efficient form safely and conveniently on quiet water. If you are interested in increasing your technical skills in open canoeing, please join us at La Louisiane Free Style Symposium on March 24, 25, & 26, 2000, in Mandeville, LA. Nationally ranked instructors will provide the best possible instruction, the first of a series of new regional competitions will exhibit the finest in Free Style paddling. Other amenities include a private venue, Cajun cuisine, a music jam, and fais-do-do ( social time ). Come pass a good time, cher!

For information contact :

John Steib  
25125 Bickham Road  
Jackson, LA 70748  
Phone 225.654.5224

E-mail [j-ssteib@worldnet.att.net](mailto:j-ssteib@worldnet.att.net)



## Welcome New Members

The GCA would like to welcome the following new (and nearly new) members. New members are the life blood and the future of the club. Thank you for joining us!!

### October

Mary & Dave Boyko	Cumming GA
Samantha & Bryan Davis	Woodstock GA
Corky Gallo	Decatur GA
Lynda & Shelby Guinade	Dahlonega GA
Frank L. Keisler	Duluth GA
Bryan & Brenda Kendrick	Cumming GA
Andrew & Carley King	Lawrenceville GA
Wendee Loveless	Marietta GA
Tim Metzger	College Park GA
John Rebers	Athens GA
Scott Stephany	Atlanta GA
Sharon Strocchia	Decatur GA
Claude E. Terry	Atlanta GA
Chad L. & Debra S. Tudor	Covington GA

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## Just a Little Info...

Hypothermia is the condition of low internal body heat, dropping steadily from the healthy 98.6 degrees, and if not reversed in time, can bring fatal consequences.

First symptoms include uncontrollable shivering, pale skin, dizziness, drowsiness. Victim becomes disoriented. Speech is slurred. Stumbles. Mind dimmed. Overtaken by exhaustion.

Final stages: After loss of a few more degrees, the body slows down, blood is sluggish. Brain starved for oxygen. Efforts to exercise only tire quicker. The blood needs sugar. Finally, a person just wants to lie down and go to sleep.

Cause of death: At temperature of body between 81 & 91 degrees F. heart may flutter its muscles in an attempt to pump more blood. Then it fails. If not, body goes into "suspended animation" while heart rate is cut in half, then third, then out. Body freezes. Ice forms in tissues, cells destroyed.

To prevent hypothermia: Eat properly before any outdoor activity. Take some food along, like quick-energy (sugar) candy bars. Dress in layers that trap air & provide good insulation (rather than one coat). Canadian goose down is most effective. Wool is more effective than cotton.

On the water, always dress for the possibility of long term immersion. Water conducts heat away from the body at about 20 times the rate of air. Use the "rule of 100" — If the air temperature plus the water temperature in degrees F. add up to less than 100, wear a wet suit or dry suit. Even if the air is warm and the water temperature is below 50 degrees, a wet or dry suit may be in order.

Always know where you are going and know what your body can do. Do not over work yourself, and have a "buddy" along. If you or your buddy experience symptoms of hypothermia in the wild, both should strip under a cover, such as a sleeping bag or other warm enclosure, and use skin-to-skin contact to revive victim. Administer soups, warm liquids and sugars.

- Adapted from an article in "River Write", newsletter of the Huntsville Canoe Club. ✂

## Prevention of Torso Reflex

Torso Reflex, or Inhalation Response, is an automatic physiological reaction resulting from sudden immersion into cold water. When sudden immersion takes place, the individual involuntarily gasps, which is a

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reflexive sucking in of air in an attempt to rapidly increase oxygen intake into the lungs. This increases the body's metabolic rate, building internal warmth in response to the cold. When a rescuer jumps into cold water with his face unprotected, the sudden urge to breathe deeply in response to the torso reflex, may cause the rescuer to inhale with the mouth underwater. If so, the rescuer inhales water rather than air into the lungs.

To prevent Torso Reflex, a rescuer should always cover his nose and mouth with his hands as he falls into the water. The rescuer should also attempt to land on his back, which also reduces facial contact during sudden immersion into the water.

The action of covering the nose and mouth with the hands should be taught to all rescue personnel subject to suddenly entering cold water. This procedure should be instinctive and should be maintained until the rescuer regains a horizontal position on the surface with his face out of the water.

Maybe the last thing to do when falling over in cold water in your boat should be to grab your mouth and nose?

- From a posting to the Chesapeake Paddlers Association email list. ✂

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## Training / Instruction

### **The Vertical Shaft**

**by Charlie Mink**  
**ACA Certified Instructor**

Do you ever wonder why it is that some people seem to reach the take-out after a long day's paddle still full of energy, while others can barely move? Well there are probably many reasons, but one is most certainly that they have formed the habit of maintaining a vertical paddle shaft during the power phase of their traveling strokes. The theory behind the vertical shaft (or stacked hands) is easy to understand.

First, picture the ideal paddle position for generating power efficiently — a hole or slot along the center of the longitudinal axis of the canoe (right between your legs). Of course this is impossible, but think of the efficiency available. Since the power is produced down the center line of the boat, there would be absolutely no

tendency to drive the boat away from the paddle side (yaw) and the boat would go perfectly straight.

Now consider the sweep -- in this stroke power is placed as far from the center of the boat as possible, resulting in almost no forward motion, but dramatic turning movement. Obviously to move the boat forward as efficiently as possible, we need to apply power as close as possible to the ideal but unobtainable center of the boat. This situation will result from keeping the paddle shaft vertical, thereby placing the blade as close as possible to the centerline of the boat.

Keep your grip hand stacked directly above your shaft hand, and both hands outside the gunwales. This placement will result in maximum power driving the boat forward and will require minimum energy-wasting correction.

Try it and see if you don't get to the take-out with more energy left next trip.

- From "The Panhandle Paddler", newsletter of the West Florida Canoe Club. ✂

### **The Southeasterns Are Coming!**

The GCA's biggest annual event, the Southeastern Slalom & Wild Water Championship Races, are scheduled for April 29-30, 2000, at the Nantahala River in Bryson City, North Carolina. The race is conducted with the help and support of the Nantahala Outdoor Center and the Nantahala Racing Club.

Racing is arguably the best skill building activity a paddler can undertake. In order to encourage new racers to participate in the novice / cruising classes, the race will feature slalom championship classes for both decked and



open boats on Saturday, and novice / cruising classes (with less challenging gates) for both decked and open boats on Sunday.

There will be the usual wild water race, as well as a short "Fun Run" down river novice race ending above the falls, day and time to be announced. We are also considering a "Puppy Slalom" race using only the gates below the falls.

We need lots and lots of volunteers to help with various aspects of the races. Sign up sheets and more information will follow in the next *Eddy Line*. To receive a race registration packet (if you haven't raced at the Southeasterns in the past), contact registrar David Martin at 404.351.8208.

See you at the races!! ✂

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## Editorial

### **"Why Boats Are Better" Article**

*For those of you who are not subscribers to the GCA email list, the "Why Boats Are Better" article in the November Eddy Line generated a flood of email on the article. The following editor's message was written in response to that flood, and is presented here in a format more suited to the newsletter as an explanation of how that article came to be in The Eddy Line.*



Now that I'm out of my "time crunch" time of the month, I've had a little time to check out what's going on with the infamous "Boats Are Better" article in the November *Eddy Line*. I feel that an explanation is in order. First, a little background on my history of editing *The Eddy Line* and on the actual process of getting the newsletter out each month to help you understand how the incident came about:

A little over eight years ago I accepted the (voluntary) job as editor of *The Eddy Line* with but one stipulation: That I have complete editorial license and final authority on what does or does not get published in the newsletter, and reciprocally, that with that authority

that I would take sole responsibility for what is published. I had had enough of people looking over my shoulder and telling me how to do my job in the corporate world. I didn't need it as a volunteer.

So for those of you who mentioned other names like Ed Schultz, David Martin, or Brannen Proctor as possibly having some responsibility for the publication of the article, please understand that it was SOLELY MY DECISION AND RESPONSIBILITY. Since I have been editing the newsletter, there has been a disclaimer on page 2 stating that views and opinions expressed in articles and editorials are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the official views and policies of the club. Hopefully this will absolve everyone but myself and the anonymous writer of responsibility for the article.

When I accepted the job, I also established several personal goals for the job. One was to try to continually make the newsletter a better publication. Another was to try to continually improve and simplify the process used to edit, print and mail the newsletter. Last but not least, I established the goal to include potentially controversial material from time to time intended to generate thought, discussion and reaction. I hoped I could make the newsletter a bit livelier and more of a forum for healthy discussion of issues.

Because of the method of printing and binding used in publishing the newsletter, its size is always in four page increments, i.e., 4, 8, 12, 16, 16 or 20 pages, etc. In order to help prevent my overlooking material, and to make the newsletter more consistently organized, I long ago started arranging it into sections by type of topic that always appear in the same order each month (Announcements, Conservation Corner, Safety, Race Watch, etc.). This makes the job of keeping track of articles a bit easier while laying out the newsletter, and it makes it more user friendly for the readers.

Because of these two constraints, I never know from month to month how many pages *The Eddy Line* will be until I am nearly finished laying it out in the prescribed sequence. This, along with the small spaces that sometimes occur at the ends of pages to avoid unnatural breaks, creates the need for filler material, which is often difficult to come by.

Some of this filler goes in the small spaces on the internal pages of the newsletter that are necessarily left there when doing the layout. But the greater part of it is in the form of larger general topic articles, puzzles, poems, humor and cartoons, etc. that fill up the difference between, say, the 17 or 18 pages of the original layout that really NEEDS to be in the newsletter in its specific place and the 20 pages that have to go to the publisher.

The November issue of *The Eddy Line* was particularly troublesome. I was using a new version of the desktop publishing software, and the processing of articles and the layout itself had not gone smoothly. It finally came down to sitting at the PC at 1:30 in the morning staring at nearly a half page of white space that needed to be filled up with SOMETHING because I was already late getting it to the publisher and I was just before leaving town for the weekend.

I had previously looked at the "Boats Are Better" article while working on the October newsletter, chuckled a little, and out of hand decided that it wasn't very appropriate. Having absolutely nothing else around to fill up the space, I had only a couple of options. I could try to write something entertaining to fill up the space (not a real option at 1:30 in the morning), or I could scrub up the article I had previously rejected to make it less offensive, add a disclaimer that it represented a very sexist point of view, and use it to generate maybe a couple of letters to the editor for a future *Eddy Line* issue.

I chose the latter option, did some editing and scrubbing, and came up with something I thought would work. Then I did some more looking around for other filler material to use instead, and finding nothing, I placed the infamous article in the empty space and created a print file for the publisher. Since it was late and I was brain dead, I put off doing the electronic version until I returned from my weekend.

Well, the electronic version went out, the paper version was printed and mailed, and before I knew it, it was time to do the December issue. Even after having edited out much of the more offensive material in the



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article and added the disclaimer in the header that it represented a somewhat sexist point of view, I had fully expected some immediate and vociferous response to the article, but none had come. I had started to wonder if anyone had even read the newsletter.

December's *Eddy Line* went much better than November, thank goodness. I had just finished up the layout and was doing the final proofing when I decided to let the PC pull down email while I was proofing. The small voice inside the PC informed me, "You have mail." That's when the fire storm started. Julia Franks' excellently written response criticizing the article was the first email to arrive, followed closely by several related messages.

A lot of discussion followed on the email list, and I received some private email correspondence, all reacting to Julia's original message or to the various responses to her message. The long and the short of it is that many people found the article inappropriate and offensive, and many people merely found it humorous.

This week I've finally had time, as I said, to look back at this and see what's really going on. I dug out the November *Eddy Line* and re-read the article. Problem: Either I was more brain dead than I thought that ill-fated night, or I pasted the wrong version of the article into the white space. I have looked around for the original article in order to do a line-by-line comparison and verify my editing, but I haven't been able to find it. I evidently did a "Close" command instead of a "Save" command after the edit job. This represents a major oversight on my part. What I had thought was going to be something mildly humorous and somewhat prone to provoking reaction and discussion turned out to be a major faux pas. I certainly owe the readers an apology for such a screw-up.

I cannot go so far as to say I'll never make another mistake in working with *The Eddy Line*, but I CAN say I'll be a bit more careful in the future about double-checking what I put in at the last minute.

I would like to ask one question regarding the article. The electronic version of the November *Eddy Line* was out for almost 4 weeks and the paper version was out for about 1-1/2 weeks before ANYONE reacted to the article. The question: What took so long? That's what upsets me the most. The other upsetting thing is that basically one person brought up an objection to the article, and suddenly 20 other people felt the need to say "Me, too!" Had Julia not taken the time and trouble to submit her well thought out response to the article, would ANYONE have said ANYTHING? Also disturbing is the fact that I've published some controversial stuff in the past that actually got absolutely NO reaction or response!

On the up side, can we honestly say that the outcome

of this unfortunate episode has been all negative? If sentiments like those expressed in the article are never brought up, how can we work to change or eliminate them? (But, like I said, I think it needed scrubbing a good bit to make it less offensive. And for whatever reason, that did not get done.) Not one single person has come to the defense of the sentiment expressed in the humor of the article, but many have defended, both publicly and privately, the right to have it aired, and many more have jumped in to publicly condemn the point of view expressed in the article. I think this speaks well for the great membership we have in GCA.

<< *DISCLAIMER* >> *The following is meant to be humorous and not offensive. Like much other humor, there may be a small kernel of truth embedded in there somewhere. Then again there may not.... If you are easily offended by those with a weird sense of humor, PLEASE DON'T READ ANY FURTHER.*

I have learned several valuable lessons from this episode:

1. Don't worry about newsletter publication deadlines — no one reads the newsletter right away anyway.
2. Don't bother with disclaimers about what some may find offensive — they just make it more likely for those who might be offended to read it.
3. Don't worry about white space in the newsletter — it's better than controversial material.
4. Good judgment comes from experience. Experience comes from bad judgment.
5. "A joke is a very serious thing." - *Winston Churchill.*
6. Some people will jump in and say "Me, too!" without even reading what's being discussed (That really happened).
7. We are all remembered more for our mistakes than for our accomplishments.

Allen Hedden,  
Editor



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## 0.35 on the Upper Amicalola

by Tom Martin

Friday, January 1, 1999. Planning trips with potentially low water levels is frustrating — if you let it be so. (1) Should you designate a specific river or just use "leader's choice"? (2) How low is too low? (3) What do you tell callers? (4) Will there be any callers? (5) At what point do you decide to cancel the trip?... or substitute another river?... or just "go for it"?

Keeping track of callers' phone numbers is important in case last minute adjustments are necessary, but more often than not, the trip can be done.

I had been told by many that the upper Amicalola could only be run at ideal water levels, usually only in the spring. But I also knew of a couple of veteran paddlers who had done it at around 0.25! I expected the level to be 0.3 to 0.4 and the temperature to reach a high of around 40 degrees F. (I think it actually reached the high 40s).

The details were discussed with each caller, including assurances that the annual Chili Run WAS still scheduled. Solo boats with minimum rocker were recommended. Conditions would be technical and scrapey, so don't bring any boat where new scratches could be identified later.

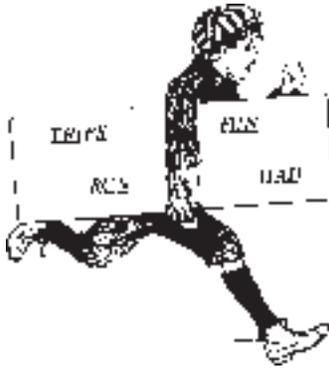
Out of seven callers, only one did not show, and that was due to a work conflict. With my OCA, that totaled a perfect flotilla of 7 boats. We decided to cut the 9 mile trip short at the 6 mile mark, taking out below the old one-lane bridge. That bridge is the only man-made structure on the entire run besides the ranger's residence at the Highway 53 take-out.

David Johnson, David Warner and Jeff Engel in OC-1s, as well as LeRoy Robbins, Steve Anderson and Marc Immordino in K-1s met me at the Highway 53 bridge. THE 0.35 LEVEL WAS ENOUGH! I floundered on the third rapid below the 5 foot falls, but everything else was runnable... an easy run by a competent group.

The river was intimate, scenic and private. As a special treat we saw over 2 dozen good sized trout in one pool where a beaver was peacefully swimming. Another pool contained over a dozen fish. I'm glad I went. Thanks to the group for a great trip!

Happy (river) trails!

P.S. Low water is no excuse for not paddling. The rewards are too great. Get familiar with your favorite river at all levels. Then sign up with Cruise Master Jim Griffin to coordinate a trip. ✂



## Boy Did Y'all Miss a Good Time!

by Morris Friedman (The Vagabond)

South Withlacoochee, Florida — Smooooth Water, December 3-5, 1999. This trip was scheduled by club request because of the continued drought and lack of white water. This certainly should not be an excuse for scheduling a smooth water trip, but am I ever glad this trip was requested.

The weather, water, wildlife, people and paddling were first rate. Several people backed out at the last moment. That's regrettable, because they missed a great paddling experience.

My eighty year old buddy, Mike Morphy, a Purple Heart recipient and certified war hero, didn't hesitate when I asked if he wanted to paddle with me on this canoe-camping trip. Joining us was Halley Henderson, a coed from UGA, who borrowed my sea kayak equipment for the trip. George Warriner and Mike Horton are neighbors who both paddle recreational kayaks, an Old Town Loon and an Aquaterra Spectrum.

We met Friday night at the Spirit of Suwannee Campground at exit 85 on I-75. Campsites were plentiful, and with our AARP discount were \$9.00 each. We had dinner at the Golden Corral in the six traffic light town of Live Oak, FL.. The saving grace is that it has a Super Walmart.

Next morning it was Waffle House "Good Morning" Breakfast, and a side trip to Walmart for food. We drove to exit 62, Bushnell exit, and traveled 7 miles to the Nobelton Canoe Outpost on Highway 476. A.J. shuttled us to the put-in at State Road 50. About 12:30 p.m. we launched.

The river starts out with residences on both sides, but they diminish until you enter the Crooms State Wildlife Management area. Lunch was on the river. After lunch as we paddled on; I knew that the wildlife would increase.

Just ahead we thought we spied something curious. Was that a naked guy at the edge of the river? Sure enough, this guy was butt naked grooming his newly planted grass. Luckily for him he had a towel close by and avoided further embarrassment, although Halley asked, "Did you see that guy?" (giggle, giggle).

We were at the campground by 4:30 p.m., and the closest spot to the campsite required portaging due to low water and dead falls. We got the campsite for \$5.00 because of Mike's senior citizen discount. After dinner with chocolate creme cookies for dessert, we turned in for

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an excellent night's sleep.

Next morning we left about 9:00 a.m. Just 5 minutes from the campground is the entrance to Silver Lake. Dead trees are filled with roosting buzzards waiting to begin a busy day of feeding. As you enter the lake, the Little Withlacoochee joins the river. It's a 3/4 mile paddle across the lake and under I-75 the river reappears.

From this point to the take-out is about 10 miles and is the best opportunity to see wildlife. We saw egrets, great white/blue herons, white ibis, limpkin, hawks, sand hill cranes, kingfishers, a 7-1/2 foot 'gator, and heard many barred owls.

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## **Emergency Care**

### **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](mailto:RMcLain@CostaRicaRios.com), or check his web site, [www.CostaRicaRios.com](http://www.CostaRicaRios.com).*

Every traveler's nightmare. You get sick during your vacation and you can't get quality health care!

As a general rule, third world countries have two levels of health care — free "minimal" public health care that the poor folks receive, and private health care that the tourists and wealthy obtain. As a tourist, you typically fall into the second category, and can get good health care. You will pay something for it (but rarely as expensive as the same care in the US).

The same is the case in Costa Rica, however, the "free" care is good, and the "private" care is excellent. Everything has ratcheted up a notch.

Having been down here since '93 "off and on", I have personally checked out the highest quality private hospital in the country — Clinica Biblica, in San Jose. Everything is modern there. I understand they are equivalent to the best hospitals in the US. My wife had surgery there.

Just before you return to civilization you pass Hog Island, which is a good lunch spot, and has a walking trail, campground and day use area for lunch. From there it's about 3 miles to the take-out. When we arrived, Charlie backed a trailer to the ramp, loaded the boats and took them to where we were parked. Shuttle and secured parking was \$20.00 a boat.

This was without a doubt the most pleasurable trip I've had in a long time. Great weather, quiet paddling and new friends. This may turn out to be an annual December Classic. If you want to see the pictures go to: [www.homestead.com/thevagabond/withpics.html](http://www.homestead.com/thevagabond/withpics.html) 

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The diagnostics were good, and she was well taken care of.

Now, let's assume you are in Costa Rica and you have something that requires emergency care. I would take you to the local Turrialba public hospital (or its equivalent in all the large towns), and tell them you are a tourist and what the problem seems to be. If you are a tourist, they normally put you to the head of the line. You will quickly be examined by a doctor. If the doctor requests tests, they are available and they are performed quickly. If a specialist is needed, you may be sent to a larger hospital.

One thing I find interesting is that the doctors don't use as many tests doing their diagnoses as would be the case in the states. They poke, listen, look and feel, and seem to figure things out pretty well. If you have the bug going around the community, you will probably get a shot in the rump without much fanfare. If you need medications, often you will get them from the hospital pharmacy. Often, at no charge.

If you would rather have a private doctor, the hospital doctors also have private practices in the community, and you may have access to private medical care. At the local doctor's offices, you will pay a modest office visit fee — perhaps \$10 to \$15, and you will have to buy your own medicines from the many local pharmacies. Picking your own doctor assures you "get the one people think is best", rather than whomever is on duty at the public hospital. Something here is quite unusual — you can actually get a doctor to make a house call.

If you are unfortunate enough to need an evacuation from a river, then things get a bit more unpredictable. There are lots of raft guides and others who have Rescue 3 certification, and most of the raft guides are CPR and First Aid trained. A few raft guides are or have been EMTs. If you are on a commonly rafted river, have an emergency, and if rafts are passing through, you are likely to get excellent help, and evacuation on a raft.

Emergency communications on the rivers are a

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problem because the cellular telephones don't get a signal in the bottom of some of the canyons. There are many runs

where once you start, you are committed to paddle out, or to hike to a farm home. 

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## Scouting Run of Tallulah Gorge

by Chuck Creekmore

Saturday November 13, 1999. I had been working on Charlie McCoy for nearly 6 months to run the Tallulah Gorge in my Slate River Kayaks, Nyami Nyami, K-2 creek boat. We had applied for regular permits but were unsuccessful. I did not think that we had a chance for walk on permits until Rob Maxwell posted a message on RBP stating that some of the slots went unclaimed on the first November release weekend.

We decided to give it a try since it is only a 90-minute drive up there from my house. If we were not successful, we could always go on up and paddle the Chattooga. Neither of us had paddled the Tallulah Gorge before. We decided that it was best to scout the river first in our solo creek boats. Charlie has a Micro 240 and I have a Dagger Gradient.

We got to the registration area early. In order to guarantee that we would be able to paddle together, we put our names on the same slip of paper and dropped it in the box. We were chosen #10 and #11, very lucky since some boaters were turned away.

I loaded up my boat with hand paddles, ropes, Prussic loops, water, a dry box filled with cameras, and a dry bag filled with extra glasses, a medical kit, towels, and snacks. The boat filled with all these things was pretty heavy. I was to regret having to carry so much weight down the south rim trail to the 585 steps leading down below the Hurricane Falls put-in.

I began to think about the lines. If there are guide books out there on the Gorge rapids, I have not seen them. I have seen Milt Aitken's Paddle Snake video and Rob Maxwell's Tallulah Gorge video. Both of these videos provide good coverage of most of the rapids. Unfortunately, my copies of these videos were at my cabin in North Carolina.

I felt good when I saw my friends Terry Hill and Greg with one of their paddling friends. Terry and Greg both had run the Gorge before and I began pumping for information. Terry said that one of the trickiest rapids on the river was the first one just after the put-in. Oceana and Bridal Veil are well known and easily scouted. The rest of the rapids can be boat scouted or land scouted as necessary. Terry said that they would help us when they saw us on the river.

Shouldering my boat all the way, Charlie and I arrived at the bottom platform only to find it filled with

boats. That was OK by me. I wanted lots of time to watch other boaters negotiate that first rapid. I noticed that Terry and Gregg and their friend were already in the water cueing up in the eddy in the center of the river.

I watched several boaters take off through the rock filled rapid heading toward a pour over rock and into the current turned left by the canyon wall. Most boaters were being thrown hard left after the pour over and more than half of them were being stern squirted in the process. It did indeed look tricky.

Greg in his Vertigo made it OK but Terry flipped at the rapid entrance and went through the whole thing upside down. Terry swam to a large rock in the calm pool below the rapid. There, Greg and their other friend patched up Terry's face. He had gotten through the rapid with only minor lacerations to his forehead. Terry and his crew paddled on down the river as Charlie and I put on.

I took the line just right of the first pour over rocks and over the last rock. The current hit me hard but I was able to brace and remain upright. The Gradient is very forgiving. Charlie made a similar run. There were no problems so far. Over the next ledge, the current slams into a large gateway rock on the left to form a pillow. I got pushed into the rock but managed to lean into it and push off enough to stay upright. Charlie wasn't so lucky. He flipped but rolled up immediately. Oceana was next.

At Oceana, we scouted, scouted and scouted. The center line looked very cool but seemed long and complex to me. There are many opportunities for a mistake. The left line looked faster and less technical, but there is not much room for errors. It is just so fast that there is little time to make errors. Still, I could not help but remember the story of the girl who broke both of her ankles in this rapid. I wanted to be sure not to hit the "Thing" straight on.

My plan was to go just right of the rooster tail near the top and turn the boat slightly to head left at the second rooster tail just above the "Thing". Finally, it was time to go. I hit my line at the top but went flying past the second rooster tail so fast that there was no time to turn the boat much. I hit the "Thing" pointing left enough to turn the boat.

It was violent in there. I leaned into what I thought would be a pillow and felt a pain in my right cheek followed by the feel of a rough rock ledge against my shoulder. It did not hurt much but it wasn't painless either. It was almost as though I could feel the top of the ledge. It felt rough. I am not sure that this is an accurate description

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of the Oceana ledge since I have not seen the ledge up close when the water is not flowing, but it was what it felt like.

Then it was over. I was out as quickly as I went in. I wound up tossed to the left up against the rock slope and fought to remain upright in the swirling water between the slope and the big rock just downstream. I managed to stay upright.

Wow! What an experience that was. There was a slight red mark across my right cheek but no blood. My jaw felt like I had taken a fair left jab in a prizefight but it was not too painful. My right shoulder was fine and there were no tears in my clothing.

From the bottom, I was able to watch Charlie's run. He had a good line and wound up at the bottom, a little further to the right than I did, and remained upright. We felt pumped up.

We followed other boats on down through the next rapids and on to Bridal Veil Falls. We got out at the eddy above the drop to scout. The hole at the bottom was mostly on the right. Everyone seemed to be taking the left side slide of the 17-foot drop over very thin water. No real problems here except for the noise of the rock ledge made while inflicting more scratches across the bottom of my boat.

Next we followed more boaters to a chute slide on the left side of the river. This had to be one of the easiest and most enjoyable drops on the whole river. It was narrow but with enough water to slide on through. I have seen chutes like this before in videos, but this was my first opportunity to paddle down one this long. It was great fun.

The next rapid could be boat scouted very easily. A marker rock in the center of the river divided the rapid. Most people were going right of the marker rock but Charlie thought the left looked OK. He took the left line as one of the boaters in the eddy he passed yelled out, "Bad idea." I waited and watched as Charlie's paddle showed up below the drop waving me to the right. The left line can result in getting pushed into an undercut rock. I took the right line with no problems.

We shore scouted the entrance to Amphitheater. The river moves over to a pointed ledge drop of about 5 feet. The choice was to run left to right, boof the center, or run right. Most boaters were taking the left to right line over the ledge. We followed their suit. Again, we had no problems.

I can't really remember the details of the rest of the river except that there were more technical twisting drops and another slide drop. All of these could be easily boat scouted. It was in one of these drops, however, that I flipped but rolled up quickly. Charlie also had one more flip followed by a quick roll.

We both knew that the Powerhouse rapid was the last one before the lake and that it had arrived all too quickly. We paddled across the lake to the take-out where we were met the GPC girls who provided a people mover van for transportation back to the registration area. They had the bag lunches we had signed up for in the morning. We left our boats for pick up by the Perception people. These people treated us great.

Back at the registration area, I talked to Greg and Terry. Terry did not look too much worse for wear and the two butterfly closures on his face may have improved his looks slightly. He said that he felt fine and that the cuts and abrasions did not seem too serious. They thought that we were ahead of them and had hurried on down to catch us. Actually, we were behind them all day. No matter, we felt comfortable with our runs and felt that we could make it again with no major problems.

It was Miller time, but we had no beer in a dry county. We headed north toward Clayton. The first place we came to was the "Pickin' Parlor". We stopped and went in. Since it was such a warm sunny day, we moved out to the patio in the back and ordered some brew.

With the help of a few Budweisers, we went over all of our moves through the rapids. Then we talked about our next action. Charlie agreed to return the following week with me and the Nyami Nyami, K-2, to try for another walk on pass. If we did not make it, we would paddle the Chattooga Section IV in the N<sup>2</sup>. 

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## **First K-2 Descent of Tallulah Gorge**

**by Chuck Creekmore**

Tallulah Gorge, Saturday, November 20, 1999. My dream could come true today: the first descent of the Tallulah Gorge in a K-2 kayak, and with me in it. This was the third and last kayak-level water release weekend for November. In fact, it would be the last weekend opportu-

nity to kayak the Tallulah Gorge this century. Today, we would have only one boat for two people. If we were successful in gaining a permit, we could be the first to descend the Tallulah Gorge in a K-2 kayak.

With my Nyami Nyami K-2 kayak loaded on top of my Yukon, I headed to our usual meeting place at the intersection of US-20 and I-985 to pick up Charlie McCoy. The day started off awry. Charlie overslept and got there late. There was still a chance to make it in time to get our

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names in the lottery hat for the 9:00 AM drawing if we raced up the speed patrol infested highway. We made it with 5 minutes to spare and no speeding citations. Things turned left again. We were not chosen in the 9:00 AM or 10:00 AM lotteries.

We went next door for breakfast to kill time until the last chance 11:00 AM drawing. I did not hold much hope for getting on the river today. The karma seemed bad. When we left the restaurant, the sun was shining and it was getting warmer. I began to feel better. The day got even brighter when we were called in the 11:00 AM lottery. We were good to go.

We took the boat down off the Yukon. The Nyami Nyami, made by Slate River Kayaks, is designed as a K-2 creek boat. Specifications for the boat along with some cool pictures can be found at <http://www.anglefire.com/biz/slateriverkayaks/>.



Above: Charlie McCoy (bow) and Chuck Creekmore (stern) entering Oceana in the Tallulah Gorge. Below: Same run, going into the "Thing" at Oceana. - Photos submitted by Chuck Creekmore.



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"Thing" a little further to the right than we had planned, but the left pointing angle was enough to turn the boat as we hit the ledge. Inside the "Thing" was very violent. Charlie was thrown back flat on the deck of the boat. I felt like the boat turned and skidded toward the ledge.

The water seemed to be under great pressure and coming at us from below the boat and back upstream. It was like getting slammed by a fire hose. Neither of us felt the rock. Suddenly, we shot straight out the bottom of the drop like a rocket. Charlie turned back to me for a "high five". It had been done. We were upright all the way with no damage to our flesh or bones.

There were quite a few boaters who stayed around to witness the K-2 event. We followed a group of them as they moved on down the river. There were no problems in the approach to Bridal Veil. We made the approach maneuvers with ease and got out to scout the drop. We chose the slide down the left side of the 17-foot drop to avoid the nasty hole on the right side.

At the bottom of Bridal Veil, I tried to talk Charlie into switching seats. He reluctantly agreed. Riding the front seat in the N<sup>2</sup> feels like you are in a very short boat. It is easy to forget that there is a long boat behind you. The feel of going over drops is very different than in a solo boat to me. The boat goes high and stays high for longer than solo boats that I have paddled.

Paddling is a little different. For instance, the last part of a sweep does almost nothing. Draws and bow ruddering actions are important control strokes. I believe that paddling the front seat provides the best view, the most air, and the most fun.

We moved on to the slide below Bridal Veil. The slot ride in the N<sup>2</sup> is more like a bobsled ride than anything else that I can imagine. This is really fun in the Nyami. Now I know how the Jamaican bobsled team must have felt.

We moved on through more of the rapids without any problems until we got down to the Amphitheater

rapid. We flipped and got pounded under water by rocks. It took a while to get clear enough to set up for a roll up. I had the strange sensation of piling into a rock with the top of my helmet. The boat felt like it was stopped and held against the rock by my head. I was reluctant to turn my head for fear of scraping my face off on the rock, so I just held there and waited for the current to move the boat. The boat sprang free and I rolled up.

When I came up, I looked back to find that Charlie was out of the boat. I pulled into the nearest eddy on river right. Charlie was on river left. River right is a sheer wall in this area, and there was no place to drain the boat.

I would have to paddle an unstable boat very hard through reasonably fast current to get to river left before the next drop. It wasn't very pretty and was really an "S" turn across instead of a clean ferry, but I made it. Charlie said that there was no problem except that he just ran out of air and had to bail out. We drained the boat and hopped back in. More fun drops and no real trouble anywhere.

There was one more event. At the powerhouse, we dropped over a ledge and the boat squirted. Charlie was buried in the hole as I came up at least 3 feet out of the water before dropping back down. It was sensational. Too bad Charlie didn't get to see it.

The paddle out was as exciting as ever and provides the same feel as the end of the Chattooga IV run (It is the same lake). We jumped in the Georgia Power Company provided people mover, grabbed our GPC hosts provided lunches and headed back to the registration area. (Perception is kind enough to carry boats back to the registration area.) I wondered what the Perception people would think when they found that big boat waiting for them to load.

The AWA volunteers said that they looked through their records and confirmed that, although a few shredders had run the gorge, we were indeed the first to run it in a K-2. For the record, it was a Nyami Nyami, not a TopoDuo. 

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## Utah River Adventure

by Kevin Kelsey

I just returned from a 6 day trip in Utah down the Green River through Desolation and Gray Canyons and thought I'd let you know a bit about it.

I don't know if it qualifies under Wilson's Rule #216, which states that the paddling time should be greater than the shuttle time, if you consider the 6 days spent driving out to and returning from Utah. Nonetheless, it was in my opinion well worth the travel time.

Randy Riddle and I met Fritz Johnson, the trip

leader, Dave Etheridge and Gary Studwell, all folks I've worked with to some degree here at NOC. They had just finished an Adventure Travel trip on the Rio Grand and we met them at the John Wesley Powell Museum in Green River, Utah. For those of you who don't know, John Wesley Powell was one of the pioneers in running the Green and Colorado Rivers.

After dropping my car off at the Green River State Park, we drove to our put-in at Sand Wash. The drive, which lasted over 6 hours, consisted of about 25 miles of paved road, followed by 50 miles of an awesome dirt road with switch backs, multiple turns, wash outs and no signs

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indicating which way to go. At one point we backed up a 1/4 mile after we realized the road we turned on was not passable and we had to continue down a little farther. It made the take-out at Diamond on the Grand look like a highway and the old West Virginia shuttles small in comparison.

We arrived after dark, unloaded, set up camp and met Matthew, the BLM Ranger. We unloaded and quickly went to bed with a few folks sleeping in the van. Their mission was to rise at 5 and drive to the Green River airport where they would then fly back to a small landing strip atop the ridge, then hike back down to join us. Someone at the airport would run the rest of the shuttle leg with the van, down to the bottom of Labyrinth or Stillwater Canyon. I was taking out at Green River and the others farther down.

It was a cold evening and I awoke around 3 AM shivering. We had some morning temperatures in the single digits complete with a frozen spray skirt, and this was one of the colder mornings. My sleeping bag of 15 years was beginning to show it's age and I dressed for bed in layers afterwards. Fritz and I set up the oar rigs and packed everything while the others enjoyed the drive and flight.

The daytime temperature in the sun was close to 70, providing you were in the sun. Turn a corner in the canyon and it soon became 10 degrees cooler. The water temperature was chilly, perhaps 50 degrees, although the mornings had ice in the shallows near shore. The no flipping or swimming signs went up immediately in my head. We had sun all but 1 day and no precipitation at all. This made for warm days and cool nights, and with the new moon, stars blanketed the evening sky. A meteorite shower prevailed and we spotted shooting stars every night.

After 10 miles of paddling through the flats, we began to enter Desolation Canyon and encounter rapids. The rapids for the most part were big water, class 2-3 type. The Canyons themselves were different than my only previous experience down a Western Canyon, that being the Grand. The Canyons are a lot younger than the Grand, consisting of mostly sandstone and shale and it lacked the colors found in the Grand's granite. The colors were a wash of red, white and green, not quite as vivid as the Grand.

On the other hand, the Green at this point has the advantage of some free flowing tributaries upstream, and the differences in riparian life were striking. Sandy beaches reminiscent of Florida's gulf coast were everywhere and camp sites were easy to find, along with drift wood for fires. Being in the high desert, cactus were

around but not as plentiful, being replaced with junipers. Wildlife was even more present — bald eagles, all forms of ducks and geese, mule deer, mountain goats, elks, antelope, wolves, coyotes, rabbits, mice and others. There were plenty of tracks in the sand we couldn't even identify, although a spider one evening escaping the heat from beneath the fire pan gave us a clue as to his marks.

The group took a variety of crafts — 2 oar rigs for supplies (plenty of room for gear), a tandem canoe and a Wavehopper. We switched around a little bit and I found an oar rig to be quite pleasant after the confines of a kayak. The Wavehopper worked well, tracked easily and fast through the flats and there was nothing too technical along the way.

I often paddled down below the rapids, set up a camera and stretched a little before the gang made it down. The canoe attempted the dry routes for the most part, although an occasional wave saw otherwise, no one unintentionally ended up in the water. I think I was the only one who really enjoyed the coolness of being engulfed in 50 degree water, punching a good size hole that the Wavehopper disappeared in.

After a few days a brisk bath was in order. It's one of the quicker baths I've taken. For others this seemed optional and they seemed to shiver at the thought of taking a dip. They don't know what they're missing. There's nothing quite as refreshing as an evening bath followed by a nice glass of brandy.

We stopped along the river to admire the pictographs the Anasazi Indians left behind. Anasazi translates to ancient ones and most of the areas tribes refer to them as their ancestors. I have never seen such a display of pictographs.

Leaving Desolation Canyon we saw various formations, hoodoos, arches, etc. Dave said it reminded him of Monument National Park. We spent the evening between canyons, listening to the roar of the rapids below. These were the first rapids of class 4 proportions, which surprised us due to their location. I got to run one of them twice, first in the kayak and then in an oar rig, which was a blast.

As we entered Gray Canyon the rapids seemed larger than Desolation, more 3-4ish. The winds picked up a bit and progress through the shallow flats in chop wasn't easy in the Wavehopper. I can't imagine it in an oar rig, but everyone did well.

Gray seemed to have a little more color than Desolation and there was yet more riparian life. We camped beneath the old cottonwood trees which were displaying their beautiful fall color of bright yellow. Their twisted bases made the setting rather mystical, as if elves and

goblins would soon appear. What a beautiful spot.

We averaged about 15 mile days, although a few were over 20. On the last day I made a run for the State Park, hoping to get a jump on the travel back home and made 16 miles in a little over 2-1/2 hours. The water flattened out after 8 miles and I was soon engulfed in gnats, which made their ways into my eyes, ears and nostrils. Was it a symbolic welcome back to civilization?

After arriving at the State Park, I found my way over to a rest room for the first time in a week and upon sitting down I remembered Randy's story that you'll feel as if your "in the groover" and began to chuckle. Good thing no one else was in the Park but a few river runners. When

the gang showed up I unloaded the rest of my gear from the oar rigs, we had lunch and I started my return journey.

Driving late that evening through Utah and New Mexico I stopped for a little break along the road in the Ute Indian Reservation. It was pitch dark and I herd the coyotes howling. I looked up to see a brilliant light of a meteorite as it entered the atmosphere.

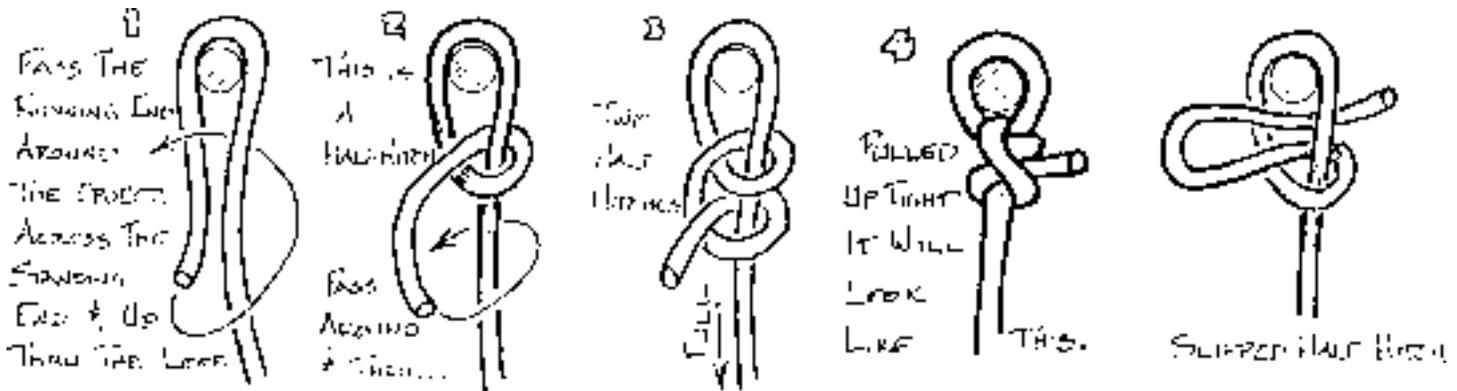
The Four Corners area, with it's canyons, arches, hoodoos, rivers and life beckons me to return again soon, perhaps to Cataract Canyon next year, to continue my adventures within the Canyons of the Green and Colorado. ✂

## Why Knot!

by Bart Lee

*"To Hitch, is to catch-hold of Anything with a Roape, to hold it fast." (Manwayring, The Sea-mans Dictionary, 1644)*

The half hitch can be, but seldom is, used by itself. Usually it is the beginning of some other knot. Two half hitches, one on top of the other, are used together so commonly that they have become it. That is to say that two half hitches is regarded as a singular thing. So what?



It's a good knot, or rather, hitch.

It is easy to tie. It is among the strongest, about 65% relative breaking strength. (100% being that of the unknotted rope.) It is easy to untie. It can be used to tie a line around any thing you've got line enough to reach around.

Boaters will use it very frequently to tie a painter to a tree or a bumper, or to tie hold down lines to the roof rack. It behaves differently than the bowline in this sort of application in that its loop will tighten around the object when there is a pull on the standing end, whereas the bowline's loop remains a fixed size when under tension. If

the two half hitches is so good why not three? Adding another half hitch to two half hitches will not improve its strength or security at all. It will only make it harder to untie.

Sometimes you will see someone tie down their boat and have a couple of feet of line left and decide to get it out of the way by half hitching it to the standing part. Forty seven half hitches. Neat. Decorative. Wonder if they ever do it again?

A simple variation on the half hitch is the slipped

half hitch. You simply do the running end as you do your shoe laces with the running end doubled over. This is called tying the knot "slipped" or "slippery." An old sailor might say that your shoe laces are "made fast with a double slipped reef knot."

Anyway, the slipped half hitch is sometimes called a canoe knot because it is a quick, easy way to semi-secure a painter and allows a quick getaway. It is just the knot to use at any warm, sunny lunch stop when you plan to dump a bailer full of water on your napping friends.

- From "The Watershed", newsletter of the Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association. ✂

## Mother Earth Speaks

by T. L. Christen

I am Mother Earth Made by the Creator, oldest of the Travelers  
Ancient race of sentient beings who travel through time and space  
Servants of the Creator who nurture sentient races to maturity  
It is through my very nature that all truth comes  
I am your home  
I give you the water of life to sustain you  
I give you food to keep you healthy  
I give you colors to stir your imagination  
I give you dreams to help you create  
I give you clean skies but you pollute them  
I give you pristine forests but you burn them  
I give you priceless minerals but you waste them  
I give you this warning:  
I am Mother Earth and I will not allow you to destroy me  
Woe to you who drive the engine of consumption  
Who torch my lungs, who poison my blood, who grind my body for metal  
Woe to you who live by violence and greed  
For you will no longer exist  
Violent ones will die by violence  
There are other beings who could take your place  
Woe most of all to you who are indifferent  
Who sit smug and comfortable in your position  
Who think you do no wrong, who take no action  
You will be the first to be judged by the Creator  
For apathy is the worst of all sins  
I turned my axis before because of greed and destruction  
I can do it again and I have already begun  
Other children of land, water, sky and spirit know this  
I speak this to all races in all four sacred directions  
Mother Earth is a kind loving mother  
But I will discipline my children if you continue to destroy me  
For it is against the Creators law for a sentient being  
To commit suicide  
You still have time to save yourselves  
But you, the people, must take your power back from  
The multinationals who would kill me and enslave you  
If I turn on my axis everything will change  
But if people begin to care more for people than profit  
Then Mother Earth will remember her promise  
To nurture humanity to the stars

- Excerpted from "The Gradient", newsletter of Chicago White Water Association.

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# CLASSIFIED ADS

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

**FOR SALE** - Boats & equipment. Coleman camper pop-up - \$3200 (used 10 times-w/queen, reg. and youth beds). Canoe trailer \$1200 (never used/just to show). C-1, Dagger Cascade \$775 (like new/with skirt/air bags). Kayak, Perception Corsica \$825 (with skirt/airbags/paddle-204cm). Canoe, Dagger Caption \$950 (set up tandem/new air bags/knee-boots/used 6 or 8 times). Canoe, Mohawk Probe 12 \$850 (air bags/team edge out-fitted/floatation bag-bra for storing extras). Stohlquist dry suit (XL) \$375 (never used). Stohlquist dry top (XL) \$195 (used 2 times - made for anyone, but especially for kayakers). Kokatat Gortex dry suit (S) \$475 (used 2 times). Kokatat dry top (M) \$150 (used 6 or 8 times). Kayak paddle travel bag \$60 (never used-padded). Canoe paddle travel bag \$45 (never used-padded). All equipment and apparel in excellent shape with unisex sizing. Thanks for your patience in reading this. Call 912.471.6925.

**FOR SALE** - Canoe, Mad River Explorer. Good condition. Red. \$600 OBO. 404.365.1628 or email at dold@towers.com.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak & Equipment. Kayak, old Mustang, good, cheap, beginner with bags & skirt, \$100 OBO. Stohlquist PFD, never used, \$90. Silvercreek paddle, \$50. Helmet, \$10. Also have miscellaneous

SCUBA gear, a good mountain bike, and a 15" SVGA monitor for sale. Call Doug at 770.447.4224 x3607 days, or 770.513.6987 evenings.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Perception Corsica with \$150 Horizon Perception paddle, and spray skirt. Asking \$350 for everything. Call Ed at 770.505.2948 or edvance@mindspring.com.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Perception Corsica excellent condition. Make offer. Sea kayak - Aquaterra Umiak for up to 100 lbs. Paddle, skirt, floatation, PFD. Like new. Make offer. 770.614.0993 PM.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Savage kayak by Fury, with skirt. \$350.00 or best offer or trade for a bigger kayak. 770.938.5892.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Perception Super Sport w/ air bags, granite, great shape. Need money for college, \$325. Call Tore. 770.952.1141. Email: tore@mindspring.com.

**FOR SALE** - Kayaks, two Dagger Crossfires, one blue, one gold and black. Good condition, back bands and airbags included. \$350 each, \$600 for the pair, o.b.o. Call Chris or Jill at 770.579.5446 or email ckle@mindspring.com.

**FOR SALE OR TRADE** - Kayak, Perception Pirouette S Proline, purple, includes spray skirt. \$325 or best offer. Willing to trade for Perception Torrent in similar condition. Call Lois @ 770.592.6421 or email loish@bellsouth.net

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Wave Sport Godzilla, new in August, \$700. Dry suit, men's medium, Kokatat, 2 years old, \$125. Call Dickie @ 770.987.8423.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Perception 3D, paddled 2 summers on Ocoee only. \$550. Call Jim @ 770.587.1172 (evenings).

**FOR SALE** - Kayaks, Dagger RPM \$550; Dagger Gradient \$600; Dagger

Freefall LT \$375; and Perception Pirouette S Proline \$300. Also ask me about my sea kayaks I will be selling soon. All boats in good condition. Call Todd at 770.818.0960 or e-mail tce1@bellsouth.net.

**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** - Paddle, kayak, Werner Ocoee .8 203cm. 60degree, like new, \$120. Charlie 678.380.5265.

**FOR SALE** - Sleeping Bag, REI 15 Degree Nod Pod, like new, retail \$180, asking \$90. Call Todd at 770.818.0960 or email tce1@bellsouth.net.

**FOR SALE** - SUV, 1996 Ford Explorer XLT, 4 dr., 2WD, V6, lt. willow green, gray cloth power seats, AM/FM cassette, keyless / keypad entry, new all terrain tires, tow package, OE roof rack carries up to 100 lbs., never wrecked, non-smoker, hands-free & portable cell phone, cargo liner, metal pet barrier. \$14,400. Caroline 770.583.2402 or email ctabbey@charter.net.

**FOR SALE** - Wood burning stove, never been used. Great for home or shop. \$100.00. Call Eric, 706.235.6941 or e-mail eplants@hotmail.com.

**FOR SALE** - Sit-on-top kayak, Perception Torrent with back rest, life jacket, paddle and Pro Tec helmet - all in excellent condition. \$600. Carl 770.536.0082.

**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.

# GCA Trip Coordinator Clinic

**Saturday, January 29, 2000, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM**

Have you thought about coordinating a GCA trip, but haven't because you weren't sure if you were qualified to be a trip coordinator? At the GCA Trip Coordinator Clinic, you will learn everything you need to know to coordinate a trip with confidence.

This will be a one-day clinic, held indoors, in the Metro Atlanta area. It will be taught by GCA members who have extensive experience organizing river trips and are well versed in the roles, responsibilities and issues of being a trip coordinator.

Topics will include paddling skills required, selecting a location and date, planning the trip, screening trip participants, waivers, shuttle, pre-launch meeting, trip structure, safety, scouting, making sure everyone is off the river, and what to do if someone is injured. The format will be classroom instruction, group discussion, and role playing.

Safety will be discussed since it is a major part of all river trips. However, this is not a safety training clinic and does not replace any of the GCA Safety and Rescue courses.

For those who have coordinated trips before, this is an excellent opportunity to brush up on your skills. Come share your experiences while you benefit from hearing the experiences of others.

The cost is \$20 per person, which includes handouts of presentations, refreshments, and LUNCH!

You must be a GCA member to take this clinic.

To register, fill out the form below, detach, and mail to the address at the bottom.

Your registration must be received by January 20.

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NAMES OF PARTICIPANTS: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$20 PER PERSON = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TO REGISTER, SEND IN THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO "GCA".

MAIL TO:

Brannen Proctor  
180 Andover Drive  
Alpharetta, GA 30004

YOUR REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 20.



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