



Volume 36, No. 5

770.421.9729

www.georgiacanoe.org

May 2001

## May GCA Meeting

The May GCA meeting will be on Thursday, May 17 (the third Thursday of the month), at 7:30 PM at the Garden Hills Community Center in Buckhead. The program will feature Milt Aitken presenting his latest video "Deliver Me from the Paddlesnake" which is a video guide to the Chattooga watershed. *[I had the pleasure of viewing this video at the 2001 National Paddling Film Festival at Lexington, Kentucky in February, and I highly recommend it. - Editor.]* Milt will most likely have copies of the video for sale at the meeting. Pick up one for yourself and a few for gifts!

Milt will be assisted by Don Kinser. Milt and Don have both been paddling the Chattooga since 1982. Don is assisting American Whitewater in dealing with the Forest Service on Chattooga related issues. Milt produces videos as a hobby.

The Chattooga was one of the first rivers to receive Wild and Scenic designation. The Forest Service has a mandate to protect its wild and scenic nature. However, the river is threatened by a number of factors. Of them, we'll discuss pollution from Clayton via Stekoa Creek. The FS currently does not allow boating on the 3 river sections above Highway 28. Many paddlers believe they should. The fight for access is an uphill battle and will require a lot of support to make it happen.

If you have access to a video projector and screen (or at least a large screen TV) that we could use at the meeting, please contact Kay Redmond at 404.237.7242, email [kayred@mindspring.com](mailto:kayred@mindspring.com). The alternative is to use the usual pair of smaller screen TVs on each side of the room. Either way, it's going to be a GREAT show!

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

See you there!!



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**DON'T FORGET THE RACES — THE SOUTHEASTERNS ARE ON MAY 5 & 6 AT THE NANTAHALA. JOIN US FOR GCA'S BIGGEST SOCIAL EVENT OF THE YEAR. 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 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 Denise Colquitt at 770.854.6636. ✂

## 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 .....	Lindsay Meeks
Treasurer .....	Ed Schultz
Member Services Chair .....	Mary Ann Pruitt
Recreation Chair .....	Jason Schnurr
Resource Development Chair .....	Debra Berry
River Protection Chair .....	Julia Franks
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 classified 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



<b>May</b>				
5-6	Southeastern Championship Slalom & Wild Water Races (Note 7)		Knox Worde	770.475.3022
8	Metro Chattahoochee (Tuesday) (Note 1)	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Kay Redmond	404.237.7242
11	French Broad (Friday)	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Susan Oehler	828.298.0315
12	Hiwassee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Randy Chappell	706.865.0915
12	Pigeon	Class 3-4 Advanced	Susan Oehler	828.298.0315
12	Big South Fork	Class 3-4 Advanced	Dirk Bertrand	770.978.1964
13	Conasauga	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Lois Newton	706.398.3069
13	Hiwassee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Jack Taylor	770.998.0350
13	Leader's Choice (Note 2)	Class 3-4 Advanced	Dirk Bertrand	770.978.1964
15	Metro Chattahoochee (Tuesday) (Note 1)	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Kay Redmond	404.237.7242
17	Club Meeting — Entertainment — Fun — Garden Hills Community Center		Kay Redmond	404.237.7242
19	Toccoa	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Mike Bilello	770.441.2418
19	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Bill Convis	770.751.9258
19	Cartecay (Note 3)	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Brannen Proctor	770.664.7384
19	Johnny's Creek (Note 4)	Class 3-4 Advanced	Ricky Bowman	770.425.0911
20	Cartecay	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Edward Stockman	770.441.9767
26	Broad	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Jeff Engle	706.548.5015
26	Hiwassee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Jim Griffiin	770.498.3695
26	Chattooga Section 2	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Debra Berry	404.320.6148
26	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Rick Battaglia	404.256.1716
26	Lower Amicalola	Class 3-4 Advanced	Clay Noble	770.655.2843
27	Hiwassee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Jim Griffiin	770.498.3695
28	Ocoee (Monday)	Class 3-4 Advanced	Orean Mann	404.522.3469
<b>June</b>				
2	Leader's Choice	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Charles Clark	770.998.9544
2	Exploratory (Note 5)	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Ray Channell	404.636.5944
2	Chattooga Section 3	Class 3-4 Advanced	Clay Noble	770.655.2843
3	Toccoa	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Charles Bruce	770.974.2481
7	Board of Directors Meeting — Members Invited — Atlanta Botanical Garden		Brannen Proctor	770.664.7384
16	Hiwassee (Note 6)	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Brannen Proctor	770.664.7384
17	Hiwassee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Jack Taylor	770.998.0350
21	Club Meeting — Entertainment — Fun — Garden Hills Community Center		Kay Redmond	404.237.7242
23	Cartecay	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Edward Stockman	770.441.9767

Note 1: After work

Note 2: Obed River Basin

Note 3: Clean-up

Note 4: Will try to find another similar creek if water not available in Johnny's.

Note 5: Upper Chestatee water permitting.

Note 6: Paddle with the Prez.

Note 7: Club function — no other activities will be scheduled during this weekend.

**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:** Wednesday evenings from 6:00 until dark May thru the end of Daylight Saving Time in October at the lake at Stone Mountain Park. See announcement in this issue of *The Eddy Line*.

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## GCA Library Items

The GCA Library has many videotapes and books available to any GCA member. All you have to do is call GCA Librarian Denise Colquitt at 770.854.6636 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:

Denise Colquitt  
3794 Glenloch Road  
Franklin, GA 30217

The following items are currently available:

### Videos:

Canoes by Whitesell  
Cold, Wet & Alive  
Expedition Earth  
Faultline (Will Reeves)  
First Descents (North Fork Payette)  
Grace Under Pressure (learning the kayak roll)  
Introduction to Canoeing  
Kayak Handling-The Basic Strokes  
Mohawk Canoes (promotional w/detailed boat outfitting instructions)  
Mohawk Whitewater Canoes (promotional w/detailed outfitting instructions)  
Only Nolan (Promotional, Canoe Technique)  
Path of the Paddle: Quiet Water  
Path of the Paddle: White Water  
Performance Sea Kayaking (the basics & beyond)

Solo Playboating!  
The C-1 Challenge  
Vortex -- low cost storm water sampler  
Waterwalker (Bill Mason)  
Whitewater Self Defense

### Books:

A Canoeing and Kayaking Guide to the Streams of Florida  
A Canoeing & Kayaking Guide to the Streams of Kentucky  
A Canoeing and Kayaking Guide to the Streams of Ohio, Vols I & II  
A Canoeing & Kayaking Guide to the Streams of Tennessee-Vol I & II  
A Hiking Guide to the Trails of Florida  
A Paddler's Guide to the Obed Emory Watershed  
ACA Canoeing & Kayaking Instructors Guide  
Alabama Canoe Rides  
AMC White Water Handbook  
American Red Cross Canoeing & Kayaking  
Arkansas information (assorted)  
Basic River Canoeing  
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)  
Endangered Rivers & the Conservation Movement  
Florida information (assorted)

Georgia Monintains  
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  
Paddling SC-Palmetto State River Trails  
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  
Southern Georgia Canoeing  
The Georgia Conservancy Guide to the North  
The Lower Canyons of the Rio Grande  
The Mighty Mulberry-A Canoeing Guide  
They Shoot Canoes, Don't they?  
White Water Tales of Terror  
WhiteWaterTrips (British Columbia & Washington)  
Wildwater (Sierra Club Guide)  
WildwaterWestVirginia  
Youghiogheny-Appalachian River

### Maps:

The Big S. Fork

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## Announcements

### GCA Email List

The member response to the GCA email list has been great. We have at this printing about 305 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 "gacanoeflipper.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@flipper.kapcom.com" and on the first line of the body of the message type:

subscribe gacanoeflipper.kapcom.com

You will receive a verification that you are subscribed and a welcome message with instructions on how

to unsubscribe and various other commands available through the service. Be sure to save this information for future reference.

All GCA announcements and forwarded email from other sources concerning new river access issues, late breaking news items of interest to the paddling community, etc., will be sent out via the GCA email list at gacanoeflipper.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.georgiacanoeflipper.org>. We are continually adding information and links of value to paddlers. Send your ideas for updates to Allen Sinquefeld by using the e-mail link for WebGuy at the site. ✂

### 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 \$20.00 credit toward our monthly ISP subscription cost. You will need to give them the GCA email ID — gacanoe@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 April 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. ✂

## Electronic Eddy Line Email Failures

Not getting your electronic version of *The Eddy Line*? The following email IDs had mail failure notices for the April *Electronic 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, or you may email him at heloeddy@mindspring.com.

Failed email IDs:  
dogman2@mindspring.com

umaier@ldek.com

everly@webtv.net (blocked by anti-spam) ✂

## Summer Roll Practice

Joint AWC / GCA Summer Roll Practice will be held at Stone Mountain Lake this year beginning in May and running through the end of daylight savings time in October. Sessions are sched-



uled for Wednesdays at 6:00 (or earlier). Admission is free once you enter the park (a season pass is highly recommended if you plan to attend multiple sessions).

To get there, enter the park from the Stone Mountain Freeway (East 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

May 5-6 — Southeastern US Slalom & Wild Water Championships — Nantahala River, NC, Knox Worde, 770.475.3022, email playboatn@aol.com.

May 5-28 (?) — The Great Mississippi River Race — The whole thing! Clark Eid, 203.271.2484, www.dreamkeeper.org.

May 18-20 — Ocoee White Water Games — Ocoee White Water Center, TN, Jayne Abbott, 828.645.5299, email jhabbott@aol.com.

June 1-3 — Lanier Paddlefest 2001 — Lake Lanier, Gainesville, GA, Connie Hagler, 770.287.7888, ConHagler@aol.com.

July 30 - August 2 — White Water Open Canoe Down River National Championships — Ohiopyle, PA, Mid-Atlantic Paddlers Association, Ed Sharp, 540.752.5400.

August 7-12 — USCA National Championships — Sprint & Marathon, Lake Lanier, Gainesville, GA, Connie Hagler,

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770.287.7888, ConHagler@aol.com.

August 16-19 — Open Canoe Slalom National Championships — Carlton, MN, 218.726.6177, rcarlso6@d.umn.edu.

September 20-23 — Decked Boat Slalom World Championships — Ocoee River, TN, email media@ocoee whitewater.com.

October 12-14 — Southwestern Canoe Rendezvous — Lake Raven, Huntsville State Park, TX, Jim Null, medislide@earthlink.net. ✂

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## June GCA Meeting

The June GCA meeting will be on Thursday, June 21 (the third Thursday of the month), at 7:30 PM at the Garden Hills Community Center in Buckhead. The program will feature Margery Diamond doing an interactive, participatory session on outdoor living skills. Attendees will get an opportunity to try their hand at matchless fires, foraging for edibles, trying out some tracking techniques, and learning about night vision. Those who wish can create cordage from a natural fiber. Learn about shelters that can be made from debris and will keep a person safe and dry in the worst of storms. Plant and tree recognition activities will also be included.

Margery Diamond is a professional educator with over 25 years of experience. She has taught both adults and children in classrooms and organizations. The past three summers, Ms. Diamond taught nature and outdoor living skills to over 1,600 campers and counselors at New Jersey Y Camps in Milford, Pennsylvania, and Camp Coleman in Cleveland, Georgia. She has developed a "Torah Point Trail Guide" to influence others to see and understand the coupling of Judaism and nature in an innovative and exciting format. Her love of the outdoors combined with her spirituality results in a master teacher who inspires and motivates her followers.

MS Diamond holds a BS degree in Education from Georgia State University with credentials in Early Childhood and Teaching English to Speakers of Other Lan-

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guages. She trained in wilderness survival skills with Dr. Gabe Goldman of the Jewish Nature Center and with Ray Rentze, a Certified Maine Master Guide. Her outdoor experience includes guided travel on many wilderness waters. A partial list includes the Copper River in Alaska; the New River in West Virginia; the Allagash in northern Maine; the Altamaha, Ocoee, Chattahoochee, Chestatee, Etowah, and Chattooga rivers in Georgia; the Everglades and the Georgia Coast. She has hiked parts of the Appalachian Trail in Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania, New York, and Maine. As a published outdoor photographer, she continues to explore and experience the beauty of the natural world. ✂

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## Upper Ocoee Release Schedule

We have contacted TVA via email and at publication time the Ocoee No. 3 Release Schedule had not been finalized. The first release is tentatively scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend, and the entire schedule should be finalized by mid-to-late April and published on the TVA web site. Watch for the complete schedule in *The Eddy Line* when it becomes available, hopefully in the May issue. ✂

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## From the Board Room

by Lindsay Meeks, Secretary

Georgia Canoeing Association, Inc.

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting, April 5, 2001

Attendees:

Brannen Proctor  
Mary Ann Pruitt  
Marvine Cole  
Gabriella Schlidt  
Allen Hedden  
Lindsay Meeks  
Gina Johnson  
Julia Franks  
Ed Schultz



Minutes of February 1, 2001, meeting approved as corrected.

**Treasurer's report — Ed Schultz**

March Financial Statement reviewed, 2000 Income Tax Return filed on time. The annual contribution to ACE was discussed. No report has been received from ACE at this time. Roll practice costs discussed. Overall it is a break-even proposition.

**Strategic Planning Committee Report — Marvine Cole**

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A survey was sent to membership, one on-line and one in *The Eddy Line*, with excellent response so far.

**Recreation Committee Report — Brannen Proctor for Jason Schnurr**

Spring Extravaganza — April 20-22 at Diamond Lure, in lieu of April meeting. Only a few registrations received at this time. BE THERE! Southeastern Championships — May 5, 6. Low response in recruiting Race Crew at this time. Concerns were expressed that having the wild water races on Sunday eliminated the possibility of recognition in the Saturday awards. Every year a different group has been running on Sunday and has felt passed over for recognition. This rotation will probably continue in the future.

**Training Committee Report — Gina Johnson**

3/24 Safety class did not make. A two day safety class

will be held 7/28 and 7/29. Spaces exist in all training classes but are filling quickly.

**Resource Development Committee Report — No report.**

**Member Services Committee Report — Mary Ann Pruitt**

Long sleeve T-shirts will be added to the line of merchandise carried in the GCA Store in the fall. More items are to be added to the GCA Library soon

**River Protection Committee Report — Julia Franks**

Committee will consist of individuals acting as liaisons with different agencies and issues. Discussion on two articles submitted to *The Eddy Line*, one about the Chattooga River Plan, and one about the Clean Water Initiative. Initial discussion about how to get Wild and Scenic protective status for the Amicalola River. ✂

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## Clean Water Initiative

by Tom Welander

With the close of the 2001 General Assembly, the state of Georgia passed two new pieces of water-related legislation that originated from the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce's Clean Water Initiative (CWI). SB 130, the more conspicuous of the two, creates an 18-county metro water planning district called the North Georgia Regional Water Planning Authority. Gov. Barnes devised this agency to address pressing issues of water quality and supply in metro Atlanta.

One of the chief complaints of paddlers and conservationists is that the scope of this planning district does not reach far enough outside Atlanta to include the affected streams' headwaters. (We've all heard the stories, or seen cases ourselves, of farm run-off on the upper sections of the Chattahoochee, for example.) Clearly, protecting the sources is a big part of improving the quality of water that reaches Atlanta, curbing the agricultural and industrial wastes and erosion that foul the streams we paddle. On top of that, there are many who doubt that the Georgia EPD, which is charged with enforcement of the Planning Authority's regulations, will assure that the participating counties will end up having healthier streams than those excluded, anyway.

The Authority's 29-member board will consist mainly of elected officials and people appointed by elected officials. Ten citizen members will also serve on the board. It is not yet clear how those citizens will be selected, but it is worth keeping an eye on.



The other piece of legislation is designed with a broader scope in mind and holds out more hope for GCA interests, and potentially more opportunity for genuine public participation. Gov. Barnes' second bill establishes a legislative study committee for developing a comprehensive statewide water policy.

Although the clean water legislation unfortunately does not include an intact version of the "Water Bill of Rights," introducing the three bills simultaneously served to amplify each bill's legitimacy and importance in the eyes of the legislature. Along with legislators and mayors of larger Georgia cities, Gov. Barnes provided visible endorsement to the Bill of Rights, which consequently received substantive debate in the House. Also, the Bill of Rights' broad public support — reportedly 1.5 million citizens endorsing — no doubt helped the clean water legislation attain its majority vote. See <http://www.georgiawaterrights.net>.

Chattahoochee Riverkeeper promises a summary of the 2001 Legislative Session soon to be published on their web site at <http://www.ucriverkeeper.org>. ✂

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## American Rivers' Most Endangered

We need your help to save America's Most Endangered Rivers!

American Rivers today released its 16th annual report, the Most Endangered Rivers of 2001. Each year, American Rivers and dozens of environmental, outdoor recreation, and taxpayer groups team up to release the



report — issuing a strong call to action on behalf of rivers across the country facing major threats to their health and crucial turning points in the coming year.

The rivers in our country that face the most critical threats this year are:

1. MISSOURI RIVER, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri
2. CANNING RIVER, Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska
3. EEL RIVER, California
4. HUDSON RIVER, New York
5. POWDER RIVER, Wyoming, Montana
6. MISSISSIPPI RIVER, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana
7. BIG SANDY RIVER, Kentucky, West Virginia
8. SNOQUALMIE RIVER, Washington
9. ANIMAS RIVER, Colorado, New Mexico
10. LEWIS RIVER, EAST FORK, Washington
11. PAINE RUN, Virginia
12. HACKENSACK RIVER, New Jersey, New York
13. CATAWBA RIVER, North Carolina, South Carolina

For the full report, visit [www.americanrivers.org/mostendangered2001/default.htm](http://www.americanrivers.org/mostendangered2001/default.htm)

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Energy development is having a major impact on rivers in our country. Nearly half of the thirteen Most Endangered Rivers of 2001 are threatened due to the impacts of hydropower, fossil fuel extraction and combustion, and contamination from manufacturing components of the nation's energy grid. Read more about rivers and energy development: [www.americanrivers.org/riversandenergy.htm](http://www.americanrivers.org/riversandenergy.htm).

## National River Cleanup Week

The tenth annual National River Cleanup Week is scheduled for May 12-19, 2001. Each year, National River Cleanup Week encourages cleanups of local waterways and promotes the importance of keeping rivers and streams clean. More than 54,000 volunteers took part in the last cleanup, June 3-10, 2000. Civic clubs, businesses, paddle sports enthusiasts, fishing groups, outfitters and conservation groups join together across the country to organize and execute cleanups of their selected streams. This stimulates cleanups of blighted areas and helps communities focus attention on neglected waterways.

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of outfitters and guides is the founder and national sponsor of National River Cleanup Week. American Rivers is a supporter of National River Cleanup Week.

Since the beginning of National River Cleanup Week in 1992, 326,735 volunteers have participated in 4,080 cleanups covering 80,458 miles of shoreline and waterways. Many groups report that their efforts are paying off with greater awareness and community support occurring on the local level.

Each year in conjunction with National River Cleanup Week, GCA sponsors cleanup trips on our local rivers. Brannen Proctor is leading a cleanup trip on the Cartecay on May 19. The Cartecay is one of the most heavily used rivers by the club. It is also heavily used by other groups. We are facing future access problems there due to conflicts with local land owners. Let's take this opportunity to build a little good will with the locals and show up in good numbers to do the river and the environment a big favor. Call Brannen at 770.664.7384 and sign up for the cleanup.

See you there!

## Garbage Juice, Garbage Juice, Garbage Juice....

**Fulton County Landfill Continues to Pollute the Chattahoochee River**

For those of you who do not recognize the title of this article, it is a take off on the movie Beetlejuice. In the movie, the good guys repeat the name of the pesky, and at times dangerous, lead character, Beetlejuice, three times to make him disappear.

Unfortunately, there is no such magical phrase to make Fulton County's old and uncontrolled Morgan Falls Landfill, and its continuous discharges of leachate (a.k.a., "garbage juice"), vanish. The Landfill's long history illuminates how a known, and potentially health-threatening, problem can persist for decades with little or no government action to stop it.

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## **Water Quality Samples Confirm Suspicions**

Riverkeeper investigated the landfill last spring, after receiving a call from Tochie Blad, an active Riverkeeper member, and found a pond on the southwest corner of the landfill with discolored water and a strong odor, which discharged into a small tributary to the Chattahoochee. We took samples in the pond and the tributary on three separate dates, which all revealed high concentrations of ammonia and other pollutants, such as metals, and forwarded the results to Fulton County officials.

## **Documents Indicate the Problem Is Decades Old**

Our detective work also included a thorough review of Fulton's files on the landfill, which opened in 1960 and stopped accepting garbage in 1988. The county did not keep detailed records of the type of wastes it received on the site, but one report indicates that the landfill likely accepted ink sludge, sewage sludge and municipal garbage.

According to other reports, Fulton created the pond by damming a stream, which originates under the landfill, as a way to collect storm water runoff from the landfill. Fulton designed a leachate collection system under the pond to discharge leachate from the landfill into the sewer system.

Documents demonstrate, however, that the county knew as early as 1990 that the pond's design had failed and that leachate was escaping to the stream. In fact, the county's own consultant reported to the US EPA in 1990 that the dam creating the pond was leaking, likely causing contamination of the stream.

Evaluating the risks associated with the landfill, the consultant further noted in the report that the stream was the "pathway of greatest concern" for surface water pollution because two drinking water intakes (Cobb County and Atlanta) are located downstream of the landfill on the Chattahoochee River.

## **Riverkeeper in Action**

After several failed attempts to work with the county voluntarily to solve the problem, Riverkeeper enlisted the help of law firm Smith, Gambrell & Russell and sent the county a 60-day notice, last October, of our intent to bring a citizen suit against it under the federal Clean Water Act. In addition to placing Fulton on notice, this letter gave EPA and the state Environmental Protection Division (EPD) the opportunity to take an enforcement action against the county within 60-days.

Despite the fact that both agencies have acknowledged environmental problems at the landfill for many years, including problems with the leachate pond, neither agency responded to Riverkeeper's letter.

Fulton, however, responded and proposed to "fix" the problem by cleaning out the pond, relining it, and directing the leachate, as well as the stream itself, into the sewer system and began to implement its proposed solution. Riverkeeper recently met with County officials to discuss its proposal. Although we recognize that Fulton has taken some steps in the right direction, we remain concerned that the county's proposal leaves several sources of pollution unchecked.

We also made it very clear to the county that piping the polluted stream into the sewer system for treatment was not an acceptable substitute to treating its polluted discharges. We hope to work cooperatively with the county to resolve this long-standing problem without litigation, but feel that the county has much more work to do, if it truly intends to protect our water supply from the landfill's "garbage juice".

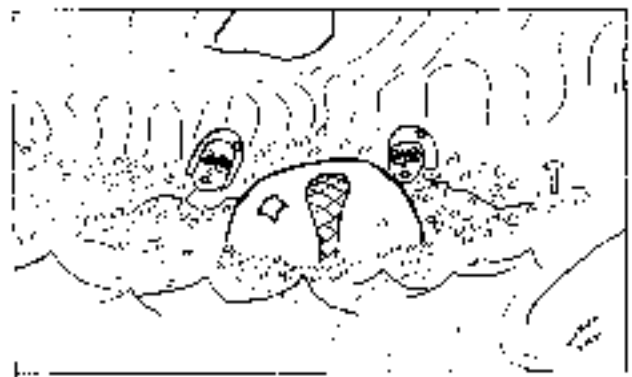
## **Old, Unlined Landfills Litter the Chattahoochee Basin**

Morgan Falls is not the only old landfill in the Chattahoochee basin. EPD's web site lists over 118 permitted solid waste landfills in the Chattahoochee/Flint River basin. Prior to the passage of the state's Solid Waste Management Act in 1990, landfills were virtually unregulated and often located in flood plains and wetlands adjacent to state waterways.

Thus, old landfills are largely unlined and uncontrolled, with limited records of the types of waste buried in them. Unlike Morgan Falls, most landfills do not have a discreet and easily recognizable point source (i.e., pipe) discharge of leachate. Instead, leachate often seeps slowly from the ground into surface waters that surround these landfills, making it difficult to find adequate evidence to link a landfill to a polluted stream.

To learn more about landfills in your community, go to [www.ganet.org/dnr/environ](http://www.ganet.org/dnr/environ), click on "search" and enter the word landfill.

- From "River Chat", newsletter of the Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper. ✂



## Response to Right of Way Article

by Steve Thomas

I would like to respond to Knox Worde's "I Have the Right of Way" in the March, 2001, *Eddy Line*. He is right in saying that we each have the ultimate responsibility for our own safety. But, just as in driving, there are rules of the road that are designed to help keep everyone safe. And one of the cardinal rules of paddling is that the person paddling down stream has the right of way over those playing in a hole or on a wave. The person paddling downstream should be able to pick and choose his or her own line, regardless of others present.

Now that does not mean that the person paddling downstream has no responsibility. If there is someone in a hole or on the wave who is not getting out of the way, clearly the paddler should try to avoid him or her. The person on the wave could be a new paddler who does not have the skills to move away quickly, or the boater could be stuck in the hole and cannot get out quickly, though he is trying. Everyone has a responsibility to avoid an accident if they can, and it is not the paddler's job to teach the surfer a "lesson."

But the primary responsibility lies with the person playing in the hole or on the wave. That person should constantly look upstream and make sure they have the skills to quickly move out of the way of downstream paddlers. And if visibility is limited, then you should have someone looking for you and letting you know when someone is coming. And, if you can't see and you are alone, then you should play for only brief periods before moving to the side to look upstream.

There will always be boaters who will refuse to yield the right of way, though they are perfectly able, and there will also always be new paddlers who will have trouble getting out of the way, though they are trying. When we are paddling downstream, we may not be able to tell the difference, so we must take the responsibility at that point not to hurt them or ourselves. But play boaters must understand the primary responsibility is theirs, and they cannot count on the downstream paddler trying to avoid them or being able to avoid them.


I would like to close on a little lighter note. A friend of mine was paddling a canoe a few years ago and found himself stuck in a hole with a raft bearing down on him. I'm not sure if the raft had any canoes stenciled on it, but it looked like it was about to get one. My friend needed just a few more seconds to get out of the hole, and so yelled at



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the raft, "All back!!! All back!!!" The raft customers were very intent on following orders — ANY orders — and so started back paddling, to the great frustration of their guide. Thanks to my friend's quick thinking, he got out of the hole, and the raft got in.

Folks, it's crowded out there and it is not getting any better. Like you tell your kids when they cross the street, look before you go. ✂

## Jet Ski Incident

by Wes Boyd

*This is a must-read, folks — another good set of object lessons for all of us. (Note: charges against the PWC operator may include more serious accusations than are implied in the article.)*

At about 11:30 AM local time on April 8, I was kayaking with two friends, Tom Macomber and Tim Berry, both of Fremont, Indiana. We were on the southern part of Snow Lake, near Fremont, about a quarter mile from the channel into Lake James, 200-300 yards off the nearest shore, which was to our left. We were paddling southwest, nearly directly into a wind that we estimate was 20-25 mph out of the southwest.

The air temperature was over seventy degrees, but

the strong wind made things chilly. Wave heights were about one foot, and had been higher earlier in the passage. As the ice went off the lakes only a couple weeks before, the water temperature could not have been warmer than about 40 degrees and could have been less.

Macomber has about my level of experience, and we have frequently paddled together. Berry, though a practiced canoeist, is relatively inexperienced in kayaks, and was in his new boat for only the second time.

We were spread out somewhat; I was slightly ahead of Berry and to his right, and Macomber was 50-75 yards ahead of me. I noticed another kayaker in a small, red kayak slightly out of the channel. At this point, two bright red jet skis appeared from the channel and powered up, passing us at a distance of approximately 100 yards to our right, heading northeast. The first of the two was ridden by a middle-aged man, solo; the second, trailing somewhat, was ridden by a young man with a young woman on the back.

After a brief period, the trailing jet ski with the young couple aboard turned around and buzzed past the stern of Tim's kayak at a very short distance, with obvious intent, then passed ahead of me at a distance of less than ten feet. The first jet ski was nowhere in sight. I managed to stay upright by bracing.

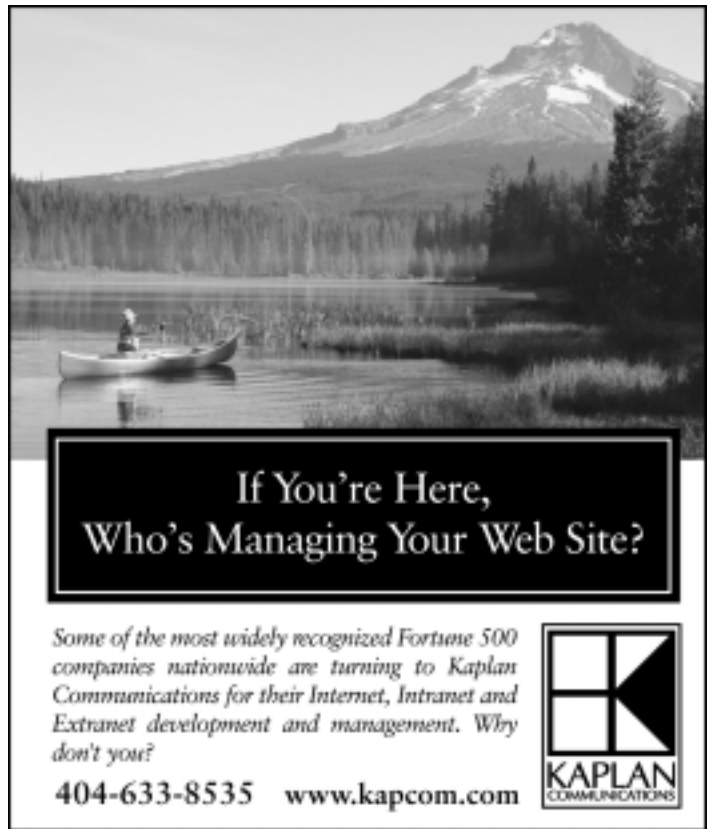
The jet ski rushed on ahead, taking a close pass past Macomber and spraying him with his jet wash, then buzzed the red kayak, which we later learned was paddled by Joel Bredemeyer of Ft. Wayne, Indiana, whom we had not previously met. As the operator of the jet ski passed Bredemeyer and swung hard to wash him down, he rolled and stalled.

I yelled at Bredemeyer, "Get his number," although he was far enough away that I don't think he heard me. I had only a brief glimpse at the small number which was black on the red jet ski. Bredemeyer did in fact get his number when he was slowed at this point.

Regaining his balance, the jet ski again buzzed past me at a close distance, and again I managed to maintain my balance with a brace. The jet ski then proceeded on to Tim and washed him down, rolling his kayak over.

I only saw this out of the corner of my eye, but yelled at Tom that Tim was in the water, and started to turn around to go and help Tim when the jet ski again passed me, at a distance of no more than two or three feet, rolling me over. I was literally thrown from the cockpit, and had my head above water in time to hear the operator of the jet ski yell, "Does anyone else want to go for a swim?"


Out of my boat, at least 200 yards from shore, with the strong wind blowing me somewhat parallel to the shore, in bone-chilling water, I was in a life-threatening



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situation; I was not particularly dressed for immersion. I had managed to hold onto my paddle and maintain contact with the boat, which I righted from the water.

I thought briefly about attempting to rig for a paddle float re-entry, but it takes precious time, and I figured the operator of the jet ski would think it fun to swamp me again as I attempted to re-enter the boat. I figured he would pay me less attention if I were in the water, so I worked my way to the bow of my boat and started to swim for shore, knowing that warm clothing stowed in a dry bag in the boat could be essential to staying alive.

The shore was in a state park, separated from inhabited areas by a swamp, and I knew it would be a long, cold walk to safety if I managed to reach the nearest shore without the boat. While I was slowly swimming toward shore, dragging the boat, the operator of the jet ski took more passes at the kayakers that had managed to remain upright.

I was hoping to pull myself close to enough to shore that the strong wind would carry me near the tip of a little reedy point where I might be able to get my feet down. It was slow progress since I'm not an exceptionally strong swimmer.

Fortunately, the jet ski left the scene after about ten

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minutes of harassing us, with Bredemeyer and Macomber still upright. Bredemeyer went to Berry's aid, while Macomber came to mine.

We had practiced "over the boat" rescues last summer, and I briefly thought of trying one. I am quite heavy, and we had difficulty when we'd practiced the rescue last summer in much more benign conditions. As it was, we quickly decided the better approach was for Macomber to tow me and my boat to shore.

Up until this point I had not inflated my inflatable personal flotation device, as it would have impeded my swimming, but did so now. I grabbed onto the stern of Macomber's boat, and he towed me to where the water was something less than waist deep. The bottom was so soft that I had to breast stroke the rest of the way into the reeds, pushing the boat ahead of me.

I had difficulty in getting the stern of the boat into the soft, reedy shore and turn it over to dump out the majority of the water. I managed to find a fairly firm spot on a root ball to stand while I pumped a little more water out of the boat with a hand pump.

I was still knee deep in water, without much hope of making it to firmer ground to change into dry clothes. I was finally able to get back into the boat. Bredemeyer had been able to similarly assist Berry, who had bruises and abrasions from wet-exiting a very snug cockpit.

We spent some minutes catching our breath and assessing the situation. We decided to head back downwind to a more populated area with a better beach about half a mile away to pull ourselves together. We decided to stay quite close to shore, in case the jet ski should decide to return for some more fun.

We got most of the way across the small bay with little difficulty, but in the last two hundred yards had to turn partially across the 1-2 foot waves in order to make it to a protected channel that leads into Big Otter Lake. I could easily have swamped again in the last couple hundred yards, as I was not paddling very well and the five gallons or so of water still in the kayak's cockpit made the boat somewhat unstable, but I managed to stay upright and get the boat to the beach.

A man with a cottage there was doing yard work, and he came to our assistance with coffee and towels. I didn't get his name, but we owe him a great deal of thanks. We were able to dry off, and I was able to get into dry clothes. Macomber called 911 to report the incident, and after some minutes a local Conservation Officer came and took the complaint and information from us.

After getting warmed back up, we emptied the rest of the water out of the swamped boats, got back in and headed back to where we'd parked our vehicles on Marsh

Lake. We crossed Big Otter Lake and entered the channel into Little Otter Lake. We paddled easily down the lake until I noticed two red jet skis tied to the dock ahead of me.

I pointed them out to the others, and we paddled closely past the dock in order to positively identify the jet skis without saying anything to the people watching from shore. We then paddled another couple hundred yards to a bait and tackle store, where we stopped, called the Conservation Officer again, and waited for his arrival. We were later able to positively identify the operator of the jet ski.

In four years of kayaking on lakes in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana, and in many other years of boating, in all sorts of conditions and with all sorts of boaters around, I have never seen the blatant, reckless, callous disregard for human safety that the operator of this jet ski displayed, especially in making several attempts to upset all the kayakers, even after two people were in the water. In discussing it later, we pretty well agreed that if three of us had been in the water instead of two, the situation would have been considerably worse, and there would have been a much greater likelihood of death or severe cold injury. All four of us in the water would have meant a near certainty that some or all of us could have met our deaths, given the wind, waves, distance from shore, cold of the water, and other dangers.

#### ADDENDUM: LESSONS LEARNED

The above statement was written at the request of the Conservation Officer, and has been slightly edited for length. The operator of the jet ski was ticketed. We are considering civil action.

Objectively, we were inadequately dressed for immersion, but were otherwise well balanced for the day. I was wearing polar fleece, with a lightweight paddling jacket, and it had been uncomfortably warm in the sun, even heading into the wind. Heading downwind on the way back across the Otter Lakes, in dry clothes — again polar fleece with the same paddling jacket — I became quite warm in the nearly 80 degree temperatures.

I do feel that I am a little more hypothermia resistant than the next guy, due to my size. When I dumped, there was no gasp reflex, no ice cream headache, just an "Aw, \*\*\*\*!" I was able to stay operational in the cold water for a surprising length of time with a very quick recovery. A skinny guy might not have been able to do that. I didn't have a stopwatch on it, but estimate that I was fully in the water for ten to fifteen minutes, and waist to knee deep for at least another ten.

We were too far from shore in the conditions. Even a hundred yards closer in might have meant many things could have gone differently. We were probably a little too

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far spread out, but in retrospect it would have just made it easier for the young punk, so that's six of one, half dozen of the other. Macomber has since commented that had we been close enough together to raft up we might have been able to avoid dumping.

We need to spend more time in getting proficient with rescue techniques and rolls. However, in this circumstance, I believe Berry and I were safer in the water while the young punk was still around. Once he left, in the circumstances we were in and considering our inadequate recovery skills, we were probably better off going to shore than trying any sort of mid-water rescue.

I'm very glad I had the inflatable PFD. Regular PFDs ride up on me in the water. I cannot swim effectively in a regular PFD once it has ridden up on me, which it does almost instantaneously. Once inflated, the Suspenders PFD gave me considerably more flotation than my regular hard PFD, and held my head out of water. While I think that there's still a place for a solid PFD on moving water, I think I will abandon solid PFDs on flat water in the future. However, this may not be the best approach for the average kayaker, who can wear a PFD that won't ride up.

Berry, who is pretty close to my size, was paddling a fiberglass Perception Eclipse, which is a very snug fit on him. He had difficulty getting the spray skirt off and exiting the cockpit, swallowing some water, and in fact got an abrasion on his leg from his wet exit. The thigh braces

on that boat have since had a date with a dremel tool. I, on the other hand, could stand for better thigh braces in my Nimbus Telkwa, as there was a possibility that I could have managed to roll back upright had I been able to stay in the boat.

Clearing the swamped boat of water was difficult, even with a hand pump, which wouldn't pick up the last few gallons. The water remaining in the boat made handling difficult getting back to dry land. The boat will have an electric pump in the near future, if for no more reason than that is one less thing to have to deal with in a swamping and recovery situation with limited time and strength available. For the same reason, I plan to start carrying a solid paddle float when in cold water conditions.

I have to extend my thanks to Joel Bredemeyer, whom we had never met before, and who happened on the scene at just the right (or wrong) time. He was well met, and I'd be honored to paddle with him again.

*- From the Paddlewise email list. Wes reported recently that local authorities are planning to charge the PWC operator with a felony — or more than one charge, in all likelihood — for the attack on the four kayakers. That is definitely more appropriate than a "ticket", as Wes' article cites.* ✂

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Never test the depth of the water with both feet.

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## **Instruction / Training**

### **Ducky Days Is Coming**

**Saturday, June 9**

This is an opportunity for those of you who paddle inflatable kayaks or sit-on-tops to have a day of instruction on river reading, paddling skills and safety. We will


be teaching on the Tuckasegee River in Western North Carolina.

The morning will be spent on techniques, safety skills and stroke practice. The afternoon will be a river trip focusing on putting into practice what you learned in the morning.

Please contact Gina Johnson at 404.226.8363 to sign up! 

### **Decked Boat Slalom World Championships**

September 20-23 the Worlds are coming to the Ocoee. The winners of the US Team Trials will compete as a team against teams from up to 70 countries for the crowning title of the sport. Approximately 250 competitors will vie for the top spots in K-1W, K-1, C-1 and C-2.

This prestigious event, much more significant than a World Cup, allows for an even greater number of boat entries than the Olympics! Further information is at the Ocoee White Water web site [www.ocoee whitewater.com](http://www.ocoee whitewater.com). 



**Race Watch**

use of river currents and boat edges for accurate positioning. I've generally found (often embarrassingly!) that 2 ounces of good technique will almost always beat 2 pounds of strength in both recreational boating and in slalom.

As an aside, yes, I do have a lot respect for play boating too. Rodeo and slalom are probably the two best ways to learn to paddle, and safely too, since they're both done in well-known river sections. One way I like to think of these forms of

boating is that rodeo will teach you skills that will get you out of trouble once you've gotten into it, while slalom will teach you how to stay out of trouble in the first place.

It's good to have both bags of tricks in your repertoire when heading out on a river. But I can only give useful suggestions on trying out slalom. Fortunately, there are lots of opportunities locally for people wanting to learn about slalom.

1. Practice Sessions: Practice using the flat water gates on the Chattahoochee at Powers Island, and in the cold season the channel gates below Powers Ferry. They're available for anyone who wants to use them, so feel free to practice with them anytime. These gates are maintained by the Atlanta Center for Excellence (ACE), which also conducts regular practice sessions there. Contact ACE so sign up. The Nantahala Racing Club (NRC) also maintains gates on the Nantahala River for practice sessions.

2. Clinics: NRC and ACE both conduct slalom clinics regularly. Contact them for dates and times and sign up. ACE is on the web at [www.ACEcanoekayak.org](http://www.ACEcanoekayak.org), and NRC can be found on the Nantahala Outdoor Center web site at [www.noc.com](http://www.noc.com).

3. Races: There are several regional races, mostly in the spring and early summer. Almost all are open to everyone. Races are good ways of watching several top-notch boaters trying the same moves, and learning which styles work best — and which match your boating style best. They're also good ways of trying moves in a controlled environment and seeing improvements immediately.

There are two local races that are particularly good introductions for first-time racers: the Locust Fork Invi-

### **Beginning Slalom**

**by Greg Kopp**

What's with these hanging red and green striped poles, and why is it people spend so much time navigating around them? They're slalom gates, and they're great metrics for measuring progress as you improve your stroke techniques. If you measure your proficiency by whether you're catching the eddies you want, the first sign that you're having a bad day will be when you miss an eddy. When that happens, who knows where that will leave you — most likely heading down the rest of the rapid backwards.

Instead, if you're accustomed to monitoring your actual versus intended boat placement in inches, you'll know you're slipping if you're just 6 inches lower than you planned entering an eddy — but at least you're still in the eddy! Slalom gates provide a means of measuring boat placement to this degree of accuracy, giving a way of practicing and seeing how well you're positioning your boat, body, and paddle. And it's all on easy class II-ish water, so if you do mess up you're not heading backwards down anything obnoxious.

The more you can let the river move you from eddy to eddy and the less paddling you need to do yourself to get where you want, the more you can relax and enjoy this sport. Slalom strongly emphasizes making the maximum

tational in February each year, and the Locust Fork Classic in March each year, which include a beginner-friendly slalom at King's Bend on the Locust Fork River in Alabama. The GCA's Southeastern Championships also offer Cruising Classes in the Slalom Races.

No, you don't need a fancy fiberglass boat to do slalom. You don't even need one to do well in slalom. Truthfully, the slalom boats will generally be slower until you've gotten very accustomed to them, so just practice and race in whatever boat you use most of the time. The

techniques you'll learn are applicable to any boat you use, so practice in one you're comfortable and familiar with.

So that answers the second part of the question I started this article with, namely why people like slalom. I guess we'll leave the differences between the red and the green gates for next time — or maybe learning that difference will be your motivation for going to a practice, clinic, or race!

- Adapted from "The Spray", newsletter of the Colorado White Water Association. ✂

## River Access


### What Ever Happened to the USFS Chattooga River Plan?

by Jim Tibbetts

The Sumter National Forest is still working on the Chattooga River Use Plan. Yes, it was scheduled to be finished last fall, but, what with the changing of administration, they are a little behind. According to Robbin Cooper of the Sumter National Forest and Resource Planning Team, the new plan is scheduled to come out in April — maybe. She says that the new plan will set some

sort of parameters for commercial and private boaters but is designed to get the regulations more "in line" with what is happening on the river. Currently, private use limits are on the books but are not being enforced. At that time, the team will solicit feedback from interested parties and possibly hold forums open to the public.

An interesting side note: Were you wondering what happened to the Fee Demo Box at the 76 Bridge? Have you imagined that the Forest Service had reconsidered and decided to remove that particular collection procedure? The answer is no and yes. Apparently, the pay station was "removed by someone other than the Forest Service." (In other words, they don't know what happened to it.) However, because, as Cooper says, "other funding has become available," the Forest Service has decided not to reinstall it. ✂

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## Letters

GCA Members:

My husband, John, and I participated in the GCA Conasauga canoe trip this past Saturday (March 24). What a beautiful river!

Unfortunately, we had a pretty tricky accident on the first rapid. Fortunately, we were with GCA! I can not thank you all enough for your help in...

Getting our canoe unwrapped and off the rocks!! (That XL-15 took a beating but seems to be OK).

Getting warm after the wreck!!

Your words of encouragement!!

Rescuing us!!

Your kindness!!

Your patience!!!!

Each time I think of our Conasauga canoe trip my very first thought is one of PRIDE. PRIDE that I belong to a group of people who are so very, very nice and caring!!!! PRIDE that the GCA has such skilled leaders and members who are obviously current on their rescue





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skills.

Regarding my knee, hoping it would heal by Monday did not help (but the pain medicine did) so I saw my doctor on Monday. He referred me to an orthopedic surgeon on Tuesday. Today I had an MRI on my knee. Thursday afternoon or Friday morning.... whenever the MRI reports are ready... I will meet again with the surgeon to determine our next steps. His prognosis at this time is a tear in the meniscus.

Well, I now have a handicap parking sticker since walking is still very difficult. Feels very strange pulling up in the handicap spots!

My sincere thanks to everyone on the Conasauga River trip this past Saturday.... Dan and Elise MacIntyre, Ray, Mary Ann and Alex Pruitt, John and Michelle (another couple with the same name), Steven, Jena, Marvine Cole, and especially to Becca Brown, to Clay Noble who was in the water a long time getting our boat unpinned, and the others who I have not mentioned. I'm so embarrassed not to remember all of my rescuers names.

## Video Review

### "From Here to There: Canoe Basics"

by **Caroll Viera**

This video covers every possible topic of interest to a beginning open boater. The focus is on solo boating, but the video also contains footage of tandem canoe strokes and river maneuvers.

Well-known NOC paddlers such as Bettina George, Jimmy Holcombe, Chris Port, Joe Holt, and others discuss and demonstrate basic strokes and river maneuvers, stressing the importance of practice on flat water. Balance is critical to good paddling, they explain, and boaters must practice good leans (leaning the boat, not the body) while paddling. Paddlers should think of moving the boat rather than the water, of using the torso rather than the arms, and of keeping the paddle shaft vertical (horizontal for turning strokes).

The experts analyze each basic stroke one by one and provide tips for perfecting each. With the forward stroke, for example, they emphasize fully immersing the blade before applying force, of ensuring a vertical shaft by keeping both hands over the water (not inside the gunwale), and of finishing the stroke before the blade reaches the hip.

Detailed tips are also provided for the stern pry, the stern draw, the back stroke, the cross back, the side draw,

You saved us! Thank you, thank you, thank you! :)

Michel (and John)

PS... I learned a lot on this trip. For over six years John and I have been the rescuers, not the rescuees. Being the rescuee was odd. Anyway, it was a huge learning experience and I am just glad it was my left knee... I can still drive!

Part of what I learned is that we need to get dry suits if we are going to do winter white water!

I learned to take all white water rapids, hypothermia and rescue skills more seriously.

I have learned that even though you have class fives under you belt, a class two can still take you out.

And I have learned how wonderful GCA really is.

Thanks again. See you at the Spring Extravaganza, knee willing!

Reading this over, I see that I have not been able to fully put into words my heart felt appreciation for all of you on the trip this Saturday. THANK YOU ALL ONCE AGAIN!!



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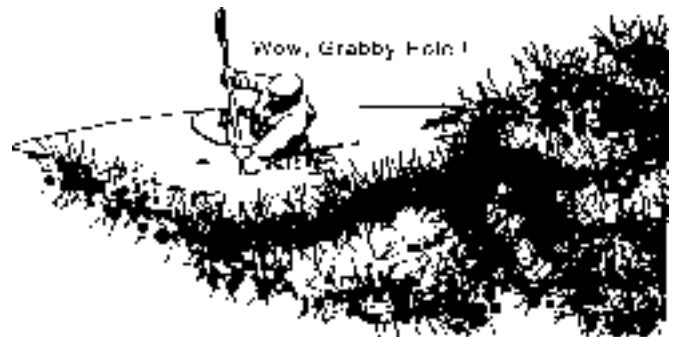
the side pry, the bow draw, the cross bow draw, and the reverse and forward sweeps. Combinations of these strokes are demonstrated both on flat water and on the river.

The instructors also consider problems common to beginning open boaters. Their tips include: developing an efficient pry that does not kill forward momentum; learning how to accelerate without correction strokes; stopping (or slowing) a turn by using a stern stroke; and keeping arms in a position to prevent shoulder dislocation.

Similar advice is given on river maneuvers like eddy turns, peel-outs, and ferries and on river features such as downstream Vs and hazards.

A video cannot replace practice on the water, but this video provides beginners with excellent discussions and demonstrations of paddling basics and should help any beginner improve his or her technique.

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



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## Chattooga Section III

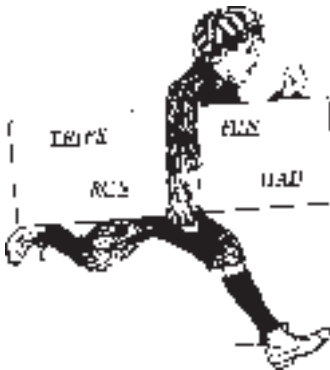
by Roger Toebben

Saturday, March 24. Eight brave (well maybe not that brave) souls set out to explore the mysteries of Chattooga's Section III. The sky was overcast with air temperature lingering around 55 degrees F. most of the day. Recent rains had brought the water level up to 1.6 feet as measured at the Highway 76 bridge gauge, definitely a decent level.

Even with the recent rains, water quality was excellent as the stream bottom was always visible through the clear water. The water was definitely cold, reminded me of the Nantahala. It was so cold I found my unprotected fingers cramping after Painted Rock; sure glad that I brought those neoprene gloves.

A few elected to portage First Ledge (known as Dick's Creek to some) and those that ran it did so successfully, although style left a little to desire; most were more at the mercy of the current than in control of their own destiny.

Everyone had a good run at Second Ledge. All



together, there were only three swims for a group of eight for the 14 mile stretch, not bad. Swims included one swim at Eye of the Needle and one at Painted Rock. Not a single swim at the Bull as everyone decided they were cold enough and portaged.

Explorers included David Soltis (OC-1), Buck William, Seth Yancey, Michael McDonough, Tim Branscomb, Melanie Ruhlman, Bill Lacik and Roger Toebben, all in K-1s.

Special thanks to Mike for helping carry the open boat to the water from the parking lot at the put-in, Seth for taking lead boat, Bill for running shuttle and Buck for carrying my kayak up to the parking lot at the take-out. Yeah, Mike, I agree, that canoe is heavy, especially going uphill. ✕



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## A Free Style Canoe Experience

*The following is a portion of an article by Bob Thied, a recent student of ACA free style instructor Marge Cline. We all know that "River Mom" has inspired many a paddler. Here is one man's tale...*

Many white water paddlers may make the mistake of overlooking the benefits of free style canoeing. The idea of paddling on quiet water, using precise paddle strokes to create a series of maneuvers may seem boring. At first glance, going from white water to free style is like a hockey player learning to figure skate, no adrenaline rush.

Nevertheless, like the hockey player who can benefit from improving his skating skills, anyone who paddles can benefit from learning the basics of free style canoeing. I discovered this after enrolling in a solo free style canoe class.

I had encountered Marge Cline on a kayak trip on the DuPage River. Marge wasn't instructing that day, just paddling a solo canoe, staying near the kids' group. During a break, while we relaxed on shore, the kids eddied out in front of us to practice some maneuvers while Marge watched them from her boat. I looked up just in time to see her ferry across the river.

Normally, a canoe ferry would not grab my attention, but this one was special. Holding her paddle by the shaft with her left hand and a can of soda with her right, Marge executed a perfect one-handed ferry. Her angle never changed, her paddle hardly moved, and her soda didn't spill. I had never seen anything so controlled, so artistic in a canoe before. I knew then that I wanted to learn to paddle a solo canoe.

When Marge offered a solo free style canoe class at Naperville High School this fall, I was interested. From

my research into free style, it looked like ballet on water. More about turning artistic circles than river running. I called Marge, and she told me that free style was all about boat control. She said it would be a useful experience no matter what I paddled. She also made it sound challenging and fun, so I signed up.

It is hard to describe the intensity of the classes. Learning and remembering the correct strokes while trying to heel or lean the boat to the gunwale was a full physical and mental workout. I went home exhausted after every class. However, Marge encouraged us to have fun. I will never forget the smile on her face when I finally pushed the limit and fell in. "You don't know your limit until you pass it," she told us.

It was clear Marge was passionate about free style canoeing and she shared her passion with her students. Her enthusiasm for paddling, combined with a love of music, was apparent whenever she

demonstrated a routine for us. Her feeling was infectious and when we struggled through our own routine in the final class, I believe we all felt a little bit of Marge's passion.

Although free style canoeing may not appear exciting, it can be if you let it. It is also very demanding, requiring more physical abilities that I had imagined and a great deal of concentration. Will I ever spend hours practicing to enter a free style event? I doubt it, but I have gained tremendous respect for those who do. Will I use the skills I learned? Absolutely, anytime I paddle. I know I will be a better paddler because of this course. The connection between my mind, paddle and boat has improved.

- From "The Cross Post," ACA Free Style Committee newsletter.

I had never seen anything so controlled, so artistic in a canoe before. I knew then that I wanted to learn to paddle a solo canoe.



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## "Frying Pan Cat"

by Elizabeth Rowland

*Perhaps this story isn't quite paddling related, but it IS outdoors related, and I found it quite touching. I thought I'd pass it along.... - Editor.*

It was getting late in the afternoon, and I was falling way behind in my schedule. I was worried. By now, I should have had the campsite set up at our local state park. I should have had dinner started. All of a sudden, the huge SUV (sports utility vehicle) ahead of me on the road hit his brakes so hard and fast I barely had time to react. I hit the brakes on my little station wagon just as quickly and most of the camping gear (tent, chairs, stove, foodstuff), along with my 3 dogs, almost ended up in my lap.

I was horrified by what I saw. Out of the corner of my eye a small feral cat had dashed in front of the vehicle in front of me. It was flung up into the air and landed in the middle of the road. The driver hesitated for a second and then drove over the kitty.

Long ago, I promised myself that I'd stop to move a dead pet from the roadway. After all, someday, it might be my pet who meets that formidable foe in the road. I made sure my "kids" were OK, and pulled my car ahead to within a few feet of the kitten.

I got out and walked slowly to the motionless body. There was blood everywhere — its back legs twisted in an unusual angle and its tongue was drooped out of its mouth on the hot pavement. I felt nauseous and queasy. Now what do I do?

I turned around and suddenly realized I wasn't alone. A huge line of cars were waiting behind me, and some not so patiently. Horns began honking, people were shouting, "Get out of the road."

I went back to my car to retrieve a pair of gloves or something, anything, to pick up the body. The car was so stuffed with camping gear and dogs that the only thing I could quickly get my hands on was the kitchen supplies.

Without thinking about what it might look like to the growing crowd behind me, I proceeded to use a hamburger spatula to gently lift the kitten into the only thing I could find — a gourmet omelet pan. Imagine the looks on their faces when I turned around with what may have appeared to be the beginning of "road kill" stew in my cookware! The horns and shouting stopped almost immediately.

I wasn't sure how I was going to dispose of the little body as I walked back to my car. I just knew I couldn't leave it by the roadside. As I bent down to gently slide it into an empty grocery bag, I thought I saw the cat's eye blink.

Oh my Lord!

It not only blinked, but it lifted its head. Needless to say, I detoured from my camping trip long enough to get to the closest vet. By the time I arrived, the kitty was shifting its upper body, trying to move out of the bag that I had set on the front seat. By this time, I had composed myself enough to tell the vet what had happened.

The vet agreed that it didn't look good. The hind end was motionless, the tail almost severed from the body, and an awful case of road rash — huge flaps of skin hanging from the poor little thing. Through my tears I asked her to do whatever she thought best. If it was as hopeless as it looked, to please put her down. But if there was a chance of saving her, I'd foot the bills and find her a home. (We already had 3 cats.)

She told me that it's unfortunate that more people don't stop immediately to help an injured animal. A large percentage of the dogs and cats hit on roadways are still alive after the impact, but in shock. If someone doesn't stop to get them out of the road, it's usually the next few cars that finish them off.

When I went to leave my name and phone number, I had to have a name for the kitten. The vet said that homeless animals rarely make it after such an accident, but the ones who have a name and someone who cares about them stand a better chance. Right then and there, I named her Bruncher — the brand name of the omelet pan I'd used.

I checked in with the vet over the next few days to see if Miss Bruncher would make it. There was no paralysis, she had only been in shock. The large wounds started healing nicely. Her tail however couldn't be saved. What a sad sight she was, but I knew she was a very special kitty really meant to live a good, long life.

After 3 weeks of TLC (tender loving care) and some fine nursing, the vet told me that she was adopted by one of her clinical technicians. Needless to say, Miss Bruncher always comes to mind when I take my camping Bruncher pan out of storage.

Plus, I usually get a good chuckle with my camping story, "...why, you should have seen the look on the faces of the those motorists behind me when I turned around with the kitty in the frying pan..."

- From the Joke du Jour email list.



# CANOEING & KAYAKING INSTRUCTION

## PADDLING CLINIC INFORMATION

Clinics will be taught by ACA-certified instructors and qualified assistants. In order to provide individual attention, the maximum student-to-instructor ratio is 4:1. Space is limited.

### COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

#### **BEGINNING FLAT/MOVING WATER:**

For people who have never had a boat on moving water or want to improve their skills in a basic course. Full day Saturday flat water session emphasizing strokes, safety, self-rescues. Full day Sunday session on moving water river. No white water.

#### **BEGINNING WHITE WATER:**

For people who have never had a boat on moving water. Three-hour evening classroom session with videos and lectures covering equipment, safety, river features and paddling techniques for tandem and solo boaters. You must attend both the dry and flat water sessions to participate in the white water river portions of the course.

#### **BEGINNING YOUTH WHITE WATER:**

Same course as above, but designed for youths ages 16 and under.

#### **TRAINED BEGINNER WHITE WATER:**

Participants should have had recent beginner level instruction or 5 days of white water experience. Polish-up beginner skills, plus bracing and rolling (kayaks).

#### **INTERMEDIATE WHITE WATER:**

Intermediate clinic participants should be comfortable paddling class II-III white water such as the Nantahala, wish to master the roll in rapids (kayaks), and learn how to play confidently in Nantahala-type waves and holes. Intermediate kayakers should have a 100% flat water roll and a 50% reliable combat roll in class II rapids. Saturday morning lake session working on strokes and rolls (kayaks) and an afternoon session on the Nantahala working on turns, surfing, eddy hopping, etc. Full day Sunday trip on a class II-III river.

### ENROLLMENT GUIDELINES

#### **GCA MEMBERSHIP:**

All participants must be current GCA members. To join the GCA, call the GCA at 770.421.9729 or go to the GCA web page [www.georgiacanoe.org](http://www.georgiacanoe.org) for a membership application. Dues are \$25 per year.

#### **REGISTRATION:**

Call the coordinator of the clinic you want to take for more information. You will NOT be registered, however, until the coordinator receives a check for \$50.00 per person payable to GCA. Call early, clinics fill quickly.

#### **CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:**

If you wish to cancel or switch to another date, please notify the Clinic Coordinator as soon as possible. If you cancel at least 10 days before the first class session your fees will be refunded. After that, refunds will be made only if a replacement is found. Clinics will be conducted rain or shine. No-shows and those not completing the full course are ineligible for refunds.

#### **AGE:**

If you are under 18, all liability releases must be signed by a parent or guardian, who must also provide suitable power-of-attorney

INSTRUCTIONS & REGISTRATION FORM ON REVERSE SIDE

# GCA INSTRUCTION

SPRING AND EARLY SUMMER 2001

## Canoe

**Coordinator: Marvine Cole**  
**625 Glendalough Court**  
**Alpharetta, GA 30004**  
**770.475.3022**

### Flat/Moving Water Canoe

- + Beginner Family (children welcome)  
June 30, July 1
- + Beginner  
July 28, 29

### White Water Canoe

- + Beginner  
June 12 (evening), June 16, 17
- + Trained Beginner  
June 2, 3  
June 23, 24
- + Intermediate  
May 19, 20  
July 14, 15

## Ducky/Sit-On-Top

**Coordinator: Gina Johnson**  
**340 Clear Springs Court**  
**Marietta, GA 30068**  
**770.971.1542**

- + June 9 (\$25)

## Safety

**Coordinator: Gina Johnson**

**340 Clear Springs Court**  
**Marietta, GA 30068**  
**770.971.1542**

- + River Rescue (1st Three Minutes)  
July 28 (clinic) July 29 (practice day on the  
Tuckasegee) (\$25 fee)

## Sea Kayak

**Coordinator: Steve Cramer**  
**190 Deer Ridge**  
**Athens, GA 30605**  
**706.208.8382**

- + May 26, 27 (call for class fees)  
Charleston, SC
- + Skills Clinic (call for class fees)  
1-Day July TBA (local)

## White Water Kayak

**Coordinator: Knox Worde**  
**625 Glendalough Court**  
**Alpharetta, GA 30004**  
**770.475.3022**

- + Beginner  
June 19 (evening), 23, 24  
August TBA
- + Trained Beginner  
June 2, 3  
August TBA
- + Intermediate  
July 14, 15

**Registration:** to register for one of these clinics you must be a member of the Georgia Canoeing Association. To join the GCA or for an application call 404.421.9729. Dues are \$25. To register for a clinic, call the coordinator of the clinic for more information. You will NOT be registered until the coordinator receives this completed form and a check for \$50.00 per person. Call early because the clinics fill quickly.

CLINIC \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_ SEX \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ALLERGIES OR PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES \_\_\_\_\_

DISABILITIES OR PHYSICAL PROBLEMS \_\_\_\_\_

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

**FEMININE CHARM EARRINGS** - Sterling Silver Kayak or Canoe Charms (1" long) dangle from a Sterling earwire. Earwire clasps behind for more security. Gift box included. Guaranteed to please, or your money back, so go ahead and call or fax me to order. See photos at: www.silverandgems.com. (Click on Earrings - Special - Kayak & Canoe.) \$22.50/pair + \$3.50 USPS Priority Shipping. Visa, MC, Discover, checks, money order. ALLYSON GERNANDT GEMSTONE JEWELRY, 240 N. Panther Branch Road, Bryson City NC, 28713. Phone: 828.488.1144. Fax: 828.488.1199. Email: ally@silverandgems.com.

**FOR SALE** - Canoe, Mohawk Probe 11. '97 model, green, used 5 times. Excellent condition, fully outfitted, with 2 paddles, \$650. Call 770.562.5381.

**FOR SALE** - Canoe, Dagger Rival solo white water, great shape, purple, comes fully outfit-

ted and ready to paddle, with thigh straps and air bags. \$550. Lu 850.494.2724. I can arrange to bring up to you next paddle I come up "north" for.

**FOR SALE** - Kayaks, Perception Shock, \$625; Dagger Showdown, \$625; Dagger Gradient with nose cover, \$425. Chuck Creekmore 770.995.5788 or chuckcreekmore@juno.com.

**FOR SALE** - Kayaks. Perception Pirouette - \$325. Dagger Transition - \$425. Both have been stored inside and well cared for, and come with air bags, paddles and spray skirts. Call Hank Baudet - 706.492.4318 or E-mail: Geezer95@tds.net.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Riot Glide. '99 model, orange / yellow, excellent condition. Boat alone \$400, or with Prijon spray skirt and Riot paddle \$500. Call 770.562.5381.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Prijon Rockitt, blue, \$250, 803.442.9944 or johnsteinke@prodigy.net.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Perception Sparc. Excellent condition, green to blue fade. Great boat for small person. Would be ideal for the young/adolescent paddler. \$450 OBO. E-mail Kathy at jmoyer@icx.net or call 865.977.4511.

**FOR SALE** - Kayak, Piranha Innazone 230. 2000 Model. Excellent condition. Yellow and Orange. Used less than 20 times. Stored indoors. \$600. Ellijay, GA. Can show in

Atlanta, Ocoee, or Ellijay. Mark Neisler superego@springmail.com, markn@classfivetechn.com, 678.454.1028.

**FOR SALE** - Kayaks, Dagger. White Water: Crossfire, spray skirt, paddle \$500. Animas, spray skirt, paddle \$750. Touring: Edisto, spray skirt, paddle \$800. Daniel Dillon daniel\_dillon@bmc.com, 678.443.2458.

**FOR SALE OR TRADE** - Kayak, Dagger Red Line, blue with black and white swirls. Paddled 1 season. Sell for \$450 or trade for an RPM in equal or same shape. Contact Rick at 770.606.9511 or e-mail to IISpring@ga.prestige.net.

**FOR SALE** - Sit-upon kayak, Perception Synchro. The Synchro is a tandem sit-upon kayak that is extremely stable, unsinkable and easy to paddle. It is fast, requires minimal effort to paddle and is self-bailing. It is very versatile and it is found on rivers and lakes, but its primary design is for ocean cruising. It has two internal sealed storage areas and a rear deck for carrying a dive tank or small ice chest. This is a versatile, safe and fun machine. Two custom seat supports included with kayak, paddles available if needed. Will arrange for a test paddle if desired. \$585, Chuck 770.971.0779.

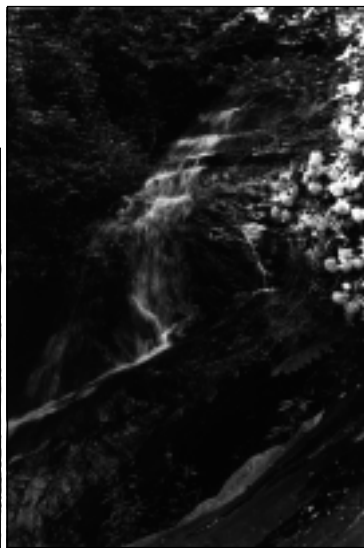
**FOR SALE** - Rafts, commercial grade: Riken and Momentum Rafts. Chattahoochee Canoe and Raft Rental is releasing its entire rental fleet of 23 rafts for sale. The rafts are high quality, commercial grade 4-, 6-, 8-man Hypalon Riken and Momentums. This is the good stuff; the Rikens have 840 denier nylon on the floors and tubes. Our wholesale prices for these rafts were: 4-Man \$1,183, 6-Man \$1,507, 8-Man \$1,679. Sale prices for our rafts are: 4-Man \$625 - \$850, 6-Man \$650 - \$1,130, 8-Man \$650 - \$1,200. Prices reflect wear and condition. Carlisle paddles and Mae West life jackets are also available at \$25 for 2 paddles and 2 life jackets. A complete list of available rafts and individual pricing can be sent by fax on your request. Package price for the entire fleet is available upon request. For information please contact Chuck Gregory at 770.971.0779 (home) or 404.656.6539 (day).

**FOR TRADE** - Kayak, Perception Corsica S with air bags and bulk head kit. Stored indoors and in great condition. Will trade for sit on top kayak. Contact Eric Plants 706.235.6941 eplants@hotmail.com.

**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.

**WANTED** - Sit-on-Top kayak, Buzz by New Wave (or Hurricane). Call Jim at 404.370.1233.

**FOR SALE** - House and land - by owner. Secluded mountain home near Franklin, NC - cascading waterfall, beautiful mountain creek, swimming pond (great for roll practice, too!), meadows, garden, gorgeous mountain views are just a few of the natural features of this 20-acre property. Spacious owner-built cypress home with over 3000 sq. ft. of living space - 17 ft. cathedral ceilings in great room, darkroom, 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, family room, office, greenhouse, separate workshop, many skylights and windows - surrounded by 140 land-trust acres. Proximity to many mountain rivers make this a paddler's dream - 2-1/2 hours from Atlanta, 30 minutes from Nantahala Outdoor Center. Call 828.524.2611 for more details.



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