

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 scheduled 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!



What's Inside...

Activity Schedule	3
Announcements	4
Club Information	2
Letters	12
Library Info	4
Paddling Pretty 'Poosa	13
Passing of the Joker	14
Race Watch	11
Safety	8
Sea Kayaking	10
Trip Reports	12
Want Ads	16
Welcome New Members	8

Fall Gala Canoeing Affair Scheduled

Mark your calendar for one of the most fun weekends ever — the 2002 GCA Fall Gala Canoeing Affair — September 20, 21, 22.

We will once again be basing our activities at Nelson's Nantahala Hideaway Campground in Tipton, NC, at the head of the Nantahala Gorge. There will be river trips on Saturday and Sunday and a dinner on Saturday evening. Other activities are still in the planning stages.

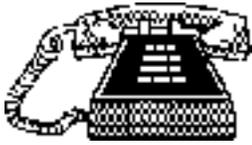
We'll have more details later, but for now, be sure to save that weekend. And stay tuned — the registration form will be in the August *Eddy Line*.

Duckie Day Is Back!

There will be a one day clinic for those folks who are paddling sit-on-tops, inflatable kayaks or recreational kayaks designed for class II white water on Saturday, July 13, at the Tuckasegee River east of the Nantahala on Highway 64/74. A morning session will cover strokes, maneuvers, river safety, river features, hazards and river running. The afternoon will be spent on the Tuckasegee practicing what we've learned.

This is the 4th year the GCA has offered "Duckie Day". If you are interested in joining us or in hearing more about it, please e-mail me or call me at 404.226.8363. Thank you! Gina Johnson.





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 Marvine Cole at 770.475.3022 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 Mike Winchester at 770.319.8969.

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 Jim Albert at 770.414.1521.

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 Geoff Kohl at 404.457.3517 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. The location has changed — call Marvine Cole 770.475.3022 for directions. All members are encouraged to attend. If you have an item for discussion, please call GCA President Marvine Cole at 770.475.3022 so she 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	Marvine Cole
Vice President	Gina Johnson
Secretary	Lindsay Meeks
Treasurer	Ed Schultz
Member Services Chair	Mary Ann Pruitt
Recreation Chair	Vacant
Resource Development Chair	Cameron Pach
River Protection Chair	Julia Franks
Training Chair	Jim Albert

Submitting *Eddy Line* Material

Deadline for material to be submitted for publication in the next *Eddy Line* is the fifth of the month, i.e., for the January issue, material should be submitted no later than December fifth. The editor must receive all articles, trip reports and want ads by the deadline or they MAY NOT be published in the next issue. To submit material via EMAIL, send to gacanoemindspring.com. The text of an article can be placed in the body of a message, and photo images can be attached to the message as attached files. To submit material via COMPUTER DISK submit articles or trip reports on a 5-1/4 or 3-1/2 inch IBM/DOS formatted disk as an ASCII text file labeled with a ".txt" file extension, or as a text file on a 3-1/2 inch high density MacIntosh formatted disk, and include a printed copy (Disks returned only if requested). To submit material via U.S. MAIL, send to: **Allen Hedden, 2923 Piedmont Drive, Marietta, GA 30066**. All 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. ✂

The Eddy Line (USPS 017773), published monthly, is the official newsletter of the Georgia Canoeing Association, Inc., publication address: 3060 Pharr Court North, #315, Atlanta, GA 30305. Annual subscription price of \$20.00 is included in the \$25.00 membership dues. Periodicals postage paid at Atlanta, GA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Eddy Line*, c/o Georgia Canoeing Association, P.O. Box 7023, Atlanta, GA 30357. READERS: Send old and new addresses and an *Eddy Line* address label. Telephone 770.421.9729.

Copyright © 2002 by the Georgia Canoeing Association, Inc. Views and opinions expressed in articles and editorials are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the official views and policies of the club. Articles and trip reports are edited only for grammar, punctuation, spelling, vulgar or obscene language, and to fit in allocated space. No substantive changes are made in any material published herein. *Eddy Line* material published herein and not individually designated as copyrighted by other than the GCA may be copied, reprinted, republished or otherwise disseminated to other paddling organizations having a newsletter exchange agreement with GCA. Proper credit should be given. Publication of paid advertisements herein does not constitute an endorsement of the products or services advertised, or the advertiser.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

July

4 Ocoee (Note 4)	Class 3-4 Advanced	Marvine Cole	770.475.3022
4-6 New River Gorge (WV) (Note 1)	Class 3-4+ Advanced	Louis Boulanger	404.373.4775
11 Ocoee	Class 3-4 Advanced	Allen Hedden	770.426.4318
13 Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Brannen Proctor	770.664.7384
14 Cartecay (Note 2)	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Edward Stockman	770.441.9767
20 Leader's Choice (Note 3)	Class 2-3 Intermediate	John McCorvey	770.921.5116
20 Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Ray Channell	404.636.5944
21-22 Hiwassee (Note 1)	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Bob St. Pierre	770.698.0301
21 Cartecay	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Dick Hurd	770.664.4770
21 Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Mike Christison	770.973.6482

August

6 Board of Directors Meeting — Members Invited — Call Marvine Cole for directions			770.475.3022
12 Ocoee	Class 3-4 Advanced	Allen Hedden	770.426.4318
17 Leader's Choice	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Ray Channell	404.636.5944
18 Cartecay	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Edward Stockman	770.441.9767

September

20-22 Fall Gala Canoeing Affair — Camping, Paddling, Fun!! — Nelson's Nantahala Hideaway Campground

Note 1: Camping.

Note 2: Clean up.

Note 3: Full moon paddle.

Note 4: Paddle with the Prez.

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

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

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

To Volunteer To Lead Trips: Call the Cruisemaster, Mike Winchester, at 770.319.8969. 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 PM 'til dark, May thru the end of Daylight Savings Time in October at the lake at Stone Mountain Park. See announcement in this issue of *The Eddy Line*.

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)
In the Surf
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)
Play Daze

Retendo
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 Mountains

Godforsaken Sea: Racing the World's Most Dangerous Waters
Happy Isles of Oceana: Paddling the Pacific
Homelands: Kayaking the Inside Passage
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 South Fork

Announcements

GCA Email List

The GCA email list has at this printing about 300 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

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. ✂

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. ✂

Canoe Outfitting & Repair

Featuring Voyageur™ Products

Custom outfitting of your open canoe or C-1
Saddles, thigh straps, air bags, knee pads, skid plates
and more

ABS repair for worn, cracked or broken hulls

Canoe Instruction

Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced levels

Call Allen Hedden 770.426.4318

Email canoeist@mindspring.com

Mail Failure Notices

Since members are no longer charged for receiving the *Electronic Eddy Line*, we cannot bend over backward to ensure email addresses are kept up-to-date. If your email address comes back with a mail failure notice, you will be deleted from the recipient list for the *Electronic Eddy Line* until we get a request to be added back with a current email address.

Also, if we get a mail failure notice against an email ID on the GCA Email List, that ID will be unsubscribed. It is the subscriber's responsibility to maintain the subscription with the current email ID.

Your cooperation is appreciated — it makes less work for our volunteer staff. ✂

Weekday Paddlers

Did you know that GCA has a list of paddlers available to paddle during the week? We now have 70+ entries on the weekday paddlers 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. ✂

A good scare is worth more than good advice.

Upcoming Events of Interest

July 19-21 — ACA Open Canoe Slalom National Championships — Gull River, Minden, Ontario, Mike Yee, 905.649.1999, mikeyee@idirect.com.

July 23-27 — USACK Sprint National Championships — Lake Lanier Olympic Center, Gainesville, GA, Connie Hagler, 770.287.7888, ConHagler@aol.com.

July 27-29 — ACA White Water Open Canoe Down River National Championships — Deerfield River, Zoar Gap MA, Charlie Brackett, 603.756.3460.

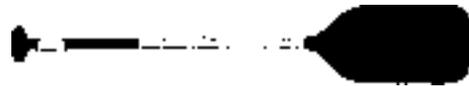
September 21 — Gauley Festival — Summersville, WV.

October 5-6 — Russell Fork Rendezvous — Haysi, VA.

October 10-13 — Ocoee Festival and Rodeo — Ocoee River, TN.

December 7-8 — Tuckaseegee Jiffy Slalom & Wild Water Race — Bryson City, NC, NRC 828.488.2175 ext. 108, www.nrcrhinos.com.

August 6-10, 2003 — Lanier Canoe 2003 Sprint World Championships — Lake Lanier, Gainesville, GA, Connie Hagler, 770.287.7888, ConHagler@aol.com. ✂



Attention GCA Members!!!!

Be a hero and sign up your friends as GCA members. Not only will you be helping to grow the club, but starting in February, MTI Adventurewear will be giving away two PFDs to new members every month. That's right, MTI will send out PFDs (white water or touring) for 2 lucky new members each month throughout the 2002 year. Names of winners of this random drawing will be published each month in the newsletter. You can check out MTI's line of products at www.mtiadventurewear.com.



PO Box 890178

Weymouth MA 02189

Email: info@mtiadventurewear.com

Ph: 781.340.5380

Fax: 781.340.5382

GCA Trip Sign-up Guidelines

Some considerations to be made when signing up for GCA trips and activities:

Be considerate of our trip coordinators (TCs). Avoid calling late at night, or at the last minute, to sign up for a club trip. Many of the more popular trips fill up very quickly. Calling early in the week, or even earlier, helps to ensure you get a spot on the trip and helps the TC to make plans. We do not have an easy time getting people to coordinate trips, and these little annoyances help to discourage the few we get from repeating their favor.

Please do not attempt to sign up for a trip via email. Many potential trip participants may not be aware that participation in club trips is not guaranteed. Two major reasons for this are that trip sizes may be limited because of many factors, and there is a de facto screening process that takes place when someone calls to sign up for a club trip. Boaters are allowed to participate in a club trip solely at the discretion of the trip coordinator.

Trip size limitations may take place due to river conditions, river characteristics, safety considerations, governmental agency regulations, permit systems, parking availability at put-ins & take-outs, or trip coordinator preference (not wanting to deal with the logistics of a 40 person trip). Again, we don't want to do anything to discourage these TCs from repeating their favor, so try to cooperate with these limitations.

For the same reasons, avoid just showing up for a club trip without signing up with the trip coordinator. Calling and leaving a voice mail message or sending an email does not constitute signing up. TCs often do not get last minute messages or emails before leaving for their trips. And if the trip is already maxed out, you may get to the river and not be able to go on the trip.

The screening process for potential trip participants is a tool to help avoid putting TCs and other trip participants, and indeed the callers themselves, in the awkward and often unsafe position of dealing with trip participants who may unnecessarily get into trouble on a club trip. Other than because of trips being full, TCs may decline to have a caller participate in a trip and gently suggest that perhaps she/he should consider not participating, or signing up for a trip of a lower difficulty level, if they suspect that the caller may not have the necessary skills, experience, proper type of boat or outfitting, adequate paddling or rescue equipment, proper protective clothing, or any number of other things that may affect the caller's ability to participate in the trip without placing him- or herself in an unsafe position. This avoids affecting the quality of the trip experience for the TC and the

other participants, as well as not jeopardizing the safety of the screenee.

As a potential trip participant, if you find yourself "screened out" of a trip, try to ascertain why, so you can work toward remedying the conditions that cast doubts on your ability to participate safely. Ask for suggestions that may help you prepare for future trips of a particular difficulty level. As a trip coordinator, try to be honest but tactful when screening potential participants for your trips. Paddlers' egos bruise very easily — we are mostly a proud and independent lot. If it comes down to it, though, a bruised ego is better than a lost or broken boat, a severe injury, or worse. And no one wants their ego to cause problems for an entire group.

One thing that should NEVER be done — Don't sign up for a trip and then invite / allow other people to come with you on the trip. The correct protocol is to have the other people individually contact the trip coordinator directly to sign up for the trip. Again, we want to be considerate of the TCs so they will continue to coordinate trips, and "surprises" are not a good way to do this.

Lastly, please try to be on time at the designated meeting place. The club has a 15 minute rule regarding waiting for late-comers for any club event, so if you show up late and miss the group, PLEASE don't get huffy with the trip coordinator.

Your cooperation and understanding in adhering to these guidelines are very much appreciated. 

Southwestern Canoe Rendezvous

The Houston Canoe Club's Southwestern Canoe Rendezvous™ has been the largest and most exciting on water canoe and kayak show in the country for the last 13 years. As you know if you have ever attended, this event is eagerly anticipated by paddlers from the Southwest and the entire country.

Since 1989, the SWCR has brought to Texas top ranked instructors, the premier retailers and manufacturers in the paddle sport industry and numerous well known featured speakers. The event has benefited from tremendous support from the industry, the American Canoe Association, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and numerous Texas paddling clubs.

Most of the organizing of the event was handled by volunteers of the Houston Canoe Club. Proceeds have been used to help numerous water resource, conservation and education causes. We really believe that the Rendezvous has made a valuable contribution to the quality of

paddling in Texas and the surrounding region.

For various reasons, the Southwestern Canoe Rendezvous will not take place in 2002. We apologize to all who are eagerly anticipating the event. We intend to continue to provide a quality paddling event focused on introducing canoeing and kayaking to newcomers as well as providing expert instruction for experienced paddlers. We are currently working on making that happen for 2003.

We sincerely appreciate your past support and hope that you will be ready to hit the water in the beautiful Texas autumn of 2003. ✂

From the Board Room

by **Lindsay Meeks, Secretary**
Georgia Canoeing Association, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting, June 6, 2002, Minutes

In attendance:

Tom Bishop
Marvine Cole
Julia Franks
Allen Hedden
Dick Hurd
Dan MacIntyre
Lindsay Meeks
Roger Nott
Gabiella Schlidt
Ed Schultz
Jim Tibbetts
Jim Watson



Review of minutes of April 4, 2002 meeting. Approved.

Treasurer's report — Ed Schultz:

+ April and May Financial Statements reviewed.
+ 2002 Southeasterns Financial Statement reviewed.
+ Discussion on race registration costs. Will be discussed at next Race Committee meeting.

River Protection Committee Report — Julia Franks/Jim Tibbetts:

+ Ocoee and Hiwassee — The TVA is in the planning process for water releases on these rivers. The GCA participated and the comments were well received, including requests for regular releases on the Upper Ocoee and Hiwassee rivers.

+ Chattooga Amendment 14 — An environmental assessment has 5 alternatives of the management plan. The GCA will respond with concerns over including rented duckies in the arbitrarily defined self-guided category. Much discussion and requests for letters and emails will go out to the club membership.

Member Services Committee Report — Marvine Cole for

Mary Ann Pruitt:

+ The Fall Gala date is September 20, 21, 22.

+ Openings for Secretary and Member Services Chair are upcoming. Anyone interested should contact Marvine Cole.

Training Committee Report — Marvine Cole for Jim Albert:

+ Training instructor / student ratio discussed.

+ Incident report form updated.

+ Waivers with multiple signers approved.

The Southeasterns Race Review — Gina Johnson

+ Communications, course design, logistics, judging, and hospitality, are all proceeding toward another great race.

Other Business:

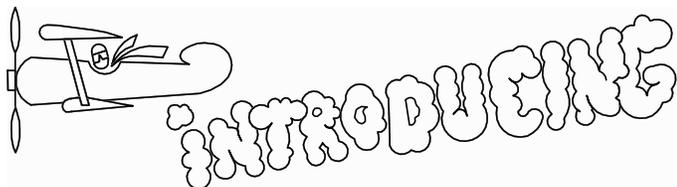
+ (Dan MacIntyre) Discussion in Columbus about creating a white water course on the Chattahoochee. Board approves GCA involvement. ✂

And the Winners Are....

The lucky winners of the new PFDs from MTI Adventurewear in the New Member Drawing for the month of May 2002 are Brown Bivens & Debbie Dargis. Congratulations, Brown & Debbie!! Membership Chair

Cameron Pach will contact you regarding your choices of PFD type.

Watch for the June winner announcement in the next *Eddy Line*. 



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!!

May

Will & Andrea Aubry	Marietta GA
Brown Bivens	Atlanta GA
Pam Coffey	Dacula GA
Melanie Covington	Atlanta GA
Debbie Dargis	Alpharetta GA
Henry Hayes	Waleska GA
Dan Horowitz & Kris Roehling	Atlanta GA
Geoffrey S. Kohl	Marietta GA
Susan & Bryan Kyle	Commerce GA
Kelly & Richard Menoche	Dawsonville GA
Terry Osborn	Dahlonega GA
Michael Stephenson	Atlanta GA
Richard B. Wilson	Adairsville GA 

Lightning Safety

Paddling in the rain isn't a big deal, but lightning follows many of these storms. This can be a big deal. According to the National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman, Oklahoma, more people die each year from lightning than from hurricanes and tornadoes combined. Approximately 500 people are injured and 100 people killed by lightning each year. Your chances of being struck by lightning are slim: 1 in 600,000 (you have a better chance of winning the lottery). If you are unlucky enough to be hit, you have an 80% chance of survival.



Up to 30 million volts can be discharged by one lightning bolt, enough to power a 100-watt light bulb for three days. Most lightning strike survivors are not struck by lightning directly; rather they are hit by a bolt that jumps from or passes through another object. "Splash" lightning is caused when lightning strikes a nearby tree or rock and the current travels through the soggy ground.

The safest place to be during a storm is indoors. However, if you are on a paddling trip, it is a good idea to know how to protect yourself. The best and most common option is to get out of the water and head for a clump of trees. Avoid standing under a lone tree, as lightning usually strikes the highest point around.

There is a theoretical cone of protection that extends 45 degrees out from the highest tree or land mass. The idea is that if you stand under an object that is over 100 feet tall, the lightning will hit the object instead of you. However, the threat of being shocked by ground current makes this a good option only when there is no other place

to go. Lightning can jump over 12 feet across the water, and wet, sand beaches are great conductors. So, it is not a good idea to hug the shore too closely, nor is it wise to hide under a tree on a sandy beach. If you are close to a put-in or take-out, it is probably a good idea to start heading for the car.

The best way to reduce your chances of being struck is to be aware. Pay attention to the weather. Look for darkening clouds, increasing winds, and rumbling thunder. Try to avoid starting a paddling trip if the forecast calls for a storm (even if the weatherman is usually wrong). Lightning usually occurs in the afternoon. Seventy percent of lightning strikes happen between noon and 6 p.m., when the temperature difference between the land (or water) and air is at its most dramatic.

Judge the distance of an approaching storm by counting the seconds between lightning flashes and thunder booms. The rule of thumb is that five seconds equal one mile. Start counting when lightning flashes, and stop when you hear the thunder. If you count thirty seconds between lightning and thunder, you can assume that the storm is six miles away — find shelter fast!

The National Lightning Safety Institute recommends you follow the 30/30 rule. Since lightning can strike up to 10 minutes before a storm hits, by the time the lightning to thunder count is less than 30 seconds, you should be in a safe place. Wait 30 minutes after a storm before resuming your activity.

If you are caught outside during a storm, get below the highest point you can find. Being stuck on the water is a tough call — tall trees along the shore may be more dangerous than actually being out in a boat. Try to position yourself in a dry spot, preferably some kind of insulated surface. Crouch on the balls of your toes to

minimize the surface area through which a current can move. Do not sit or lie down. The less you are in contact with the ground, the better. Minimize your contact with wet items.

Stay off of sandy beaches. Do not huddle in groups. Lightning can travel from person to person. To avoid having lightning take out an entire crowd, stay 15 to 40 yards apart. Do not hide in a cave. Caves usually contain moisture, making them more susceptible to conducting electricity. Stick to crouching under shorter trees and bushes.

Wondering what your chances are of getting zapped? If you live in the eastern US your chances increase. The top states with lightning deaths include Florida, Michigan, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Georgia, and New York.

- From the *Outdoorplay.com* web site.



Helicopters, Fire Trucks and Kayaks

by John Steimke

I took my kayak with me on a visit to Ohio because I planned to paddle New River Gorge on the way home. The paddling shop in Chillicothe recommended Rocky Fork Creek as a scenic class I run and said that a group of three people would be making a run that afternoon.

I met them at the put-in; Mary, her seventeen year old son David, and another man, Mike. All three were paddling Swifties with no floatation. All were wearing PFDs, but none wore a helmet and only one wore a skirt. Despite the cool, overcast weather, Mike and David were wearing cotton tee shirts and shorts. Mike was also wearing a plastic raincoat. I lent a polypropylene shirt to David.

The creek was high, just over its banks. Half way down the run we entered a section of the creek bounded by cliffs on both sides. Mary was leading through a class I rapid when David and Mike simultaneously flipped, lost their paddles and swam. Mary was unable to paddle back upstream and was carried downstream of a tall, twenty foot wide split rock called Eye of the Needle.

I saw David swimming to shore so I went after Mike. I presented Mike my stern loop and paddled toward the same side that David was on. However, Mike was not helping and I made slow progress towing his two hundred pounds. We were carried into the undercut at the base of Eye of the Needle. I flipped and wet exited. Mike was carried through the wide crack.

David and I were upstream of Eye of the Needle and

Mike and Mary were downstream out of view. Because of the cliffs, we could not walk downstream and Mary and Mike could not walk upstream. I emptied David's and my kayaks. Because he had no paddle, I tied a rope to his bow and attempted to tow him around Eye of the Needle. However, he flipped again and swam to shore downstream of Eye of the Needle. I had to release the rope on his swamped kayak to avoid being flipped again.

I saw Mary's beached kayak on the bank opposite David, but not Mary or Mike, so I decided to chase the two loose kayaks. I was hoping that Mary had picked up the paddles and that I could quickly return kayaks to David and Mike. I told David to walk downstream.

Unfortunately, it was very difficult to push the kayaks to shore because of the lack of floatation. On the way down river I was able to haul one of the kayaks onto an island.

When I reached the take-out, I was surprised to see eight people on the bridge and to hear a helicopter overhead. Mary, Mike, David, my wife and four men in uniform were watching me approach. When I carried my kayak to the road I saw four sheriff's cars, a fire truck and a boat marked Dive and Rescue Team.

David had hitched a ride with a farmer driving a tractor. My wife had been weeping because the deputies had been asking for a description of me, but would not answer her questions. Mary and Mike had walked away from the river at Eye of the Needle and called 911.

What did I learn from this experience? Should I refuse to paddle with poorly equipped paddlers? Maybe, but Mary, David and Mike would have been in more danger if I had not been there. My big mistake was to go after boats rather than find Mary and Mike. The response techniques that I have learned with experienced paddlers were inappropriate with novices.



I Was Alone with the Wave

Good judgment comes from experience. Unfortunately, the experience usually comes from bad judgment.



A beautiful day to kayak: smooth seas with just a hint of a swell. Overcast and pleasantly warm. So off we go to paddle a long route off of Point La Jolla practicing our compass and map skills to go from one predetermined way point to another (we never rely on a GPS). Life was everywhere. Seals and sea lions, dolphins swam by us twice and two miles off La Jolla saw two or three (?) gray whales (?). Or at least the spray and one diving tail.

Our route had us doing a long loop and return to off the Point where we had a late lunch amidst the kelp forest and enjoyed the barracuda feeding at one time, and a sea lion visit later. It was still early, why not paddle south and view the cliff side homes to the south? So that we did, and about a mile south of the point I noted some surfers near a place the surf-types called the Horsehoes. I thought to go in and chat with the guys while Rikki set out an outrigger and set up to doze in the calm of the kelp.

I watched the area and waves inshore, none at the outside breaks, and came in from around the south up the channel between the rock reefs (nice bottom dive). So these nice guys paddled out, over 600 feet offshore from the shore break, and we were chatting about the waves and I was basking in the compliments about my kayak. I had distinctly asked about the outside breaks and distinctly heard them say that it was flat all day. In heavy surf days a few rocks kick up a set of distinct left and right point breaks.

A while later, right about at the point that we were talking about wood laminate surfboards and how much would I charge to build off of a design, Chris (cool surfer 1 of 2) says "Oh, s---" and I turned around and saw a friggin' huge swell rolling in to heave up outside of us on the outside reef. Just to really get the proper visual picture here, I was parallel to the wave front, not moving at all, holding a Nalgene bottle of water in my hand, the wave was at least 500 feet long, and I was halfway between the ends and it was walling up to dump along its entire length.

I glanced at Chris and Steve, hoping that they happened to have a quick solution, like a handy anti-gravity belt, but they were holding their board edges and rolling over, and just like that, I was Alone with the Wave. I did get several strokes in so I wouldn't run over Chris and Steve, then rolled over for the hull to take it, bracing

my knees and feet to stay in the kayak, holding my paddle in a death-grip for a roll back up after it went by.

Instead, of course, the wave lifted me up the face and flung me over the falls, and then rolled me along 'til I blew out of the cockpit. In the white stuff I

saw my kayak and broke a world's record swimming to it, paddle still in hand, grabbed the toggle on the bow, and towed it out past what I thought was the cresting area, noting that my paddle bag and most of the deck fittings were gone (truck keys, water pump, tow rope), then yelled for Rikki further offshore to paddle out as fast and as far as she can. Getting out beyond what I thought was the wave area, I fished out one of many rope stirrups in my PFD (ALWAYS WEAR A PFD), and got in just in time to experience the second of a total of three waves.

Outside about 100 feet formed up an 8-10 foot wave. I was in a completely swamped kayak, I was busy undoing the stirrup behind me to free my paddle, and my spray skirt was not on the coaming. I paddled with all my heart and soul, paddle upside down with a paddle float attached to one blade. And I almost made it.... almost if I were 50 feet further out and going 5 knots to punch through the curl.

Instead I did an endo; the bow went past the vertical and almost back into the vertical descending, and I and kayak speared into the water with the wave breaking on top of us. My kayak is 17 feet 4 inches, and we went right to the rocks on the bottom (munched bow) when the surge and kayak buoyancy and rolling motion tried to bend my lower legs backwards at the coaming as I was coming out of the cockpit. I came up, again swam in to grab my kayak, and towed it out. I still had the paddle in a death grip, and imagine towing a swamped kayak, side stroke with other hand holding a 230 cm paddle.

The third and last wave broke outside of where I was and I had time enough to loop my arm in the coaming and hang on with legs spread to slow our ride in. Then I towed the kayak out as fast as I could into the kelp, got in, and that's when I noticed that the water in the cockpit was red, and midway down my leg was a monster gash leaking a lot of blood. Chris and Steve eventually paddled out with the paddle bag and the foam seat, and told me about the waves and what I looked like doing the endo. I mentioned that I was bleeding like a stuck pig and the cockpit was full of blood, and that I'd like to pump it out but would wait 'til they split. One look in then they split in a big hurry.

So I pumped and paddled out to Rikki, who had done exactly like I said to do without question. We paddled back, saw some more dolphins and landed on a totally

waveless shore. Rikki freaked out when she saw my leg (so did I). Both tibias were swollen, the gash is ugly, and I found later that I had broken several bones in my right foot, which makes sense, since the right side rudder pedal was broken.

The lifeguards did make a scene while we were getting ready to load the kayaks as they were driving by, bandaged me up nicely, enjoyed the story and told us that series of big waves showed up and swept a few tourists off the rocks at the nearby La Jolla Cove, and the paramedics had responded to the seriousness of the injuries.

Damage/Kayak:

1. Munched bow from bottom
2. All deck lines torn away or hanging loose
3. Busted right rudder pedal

Damage/Me:

1. 5-inch gash in shin, stitches required
2. Several broken bones in right foot
3. Hyper-extended left A/C
4. Monster bruise on right hip and thigh
5. Strained right wrist
6. Right elbow swollen and sore

Lessons Learned:

1. Always spend time to practice basic kayak and rescue skills.
2. Always have a back-up pump, preferably an electric "hands-free" kind.
3. Always paddle with a back-up foam paddle float.
4. Use 3/4 inch tape to secure deck items, like back-up pumps and deck bags.
5. Do not question directions, but act instantly and rapidly.

6. EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED!

7. DO NOT PANIC, BUT ACT. Panic is for when the beer runs out during the retelling of the story.

8. Life is infinitely easier for a blonde haired babe in neoprene shorts like Rikki than a middle-aged guy like me.

The Waves:

1. I noted three distinct waves separated by 3-5 minutes.
2. In 15-20 feet of water they appeared to be 8-10 feet high, but that's subjective. I was too busy to really know.
3. Steve and Chris thought the waves were 12 or more feet higher.
4. The length of the waves was at least 500 feet long versus the usual point break of less than 100 feet (we body-surf these breaks among many others throughout the year, and dive this rock reef area a lot).
5. The channel I was in averages 20 feet deep (dove it many a time).
6. It was approaching high tide.
7. The outside reef where I was is at least 15 feet down at high tide.
8. Paddling in we did notice foam bubbles all the way in to the Shores, the beach access was wet almost to the asphalt road.
9. There were 165 seconds between the first and second wave per Scripps Pier measurements (about 3 miles away as the crow flies), 207 seconds between wave 2 and 3. Wave 1 was 14.88 feet, wave 2 was 15.77 feet, wave 3 was 13.31 feet. No other waves before or after were bigger than 2 feet.

- From a posting by Mike & Rikki to the kayakforum.com bulletin board. 

2002 White Water Slalom National Team

After three days of intense and exciting racing in Wausau, Wisconsin, we have a new National Team. Congratulations to the members of the 2002 US National White Water Slalom National Team!



K-1W

- 1) Rebecca Giddens
- 2) Sarah Leith
- 3) Hannah Larsen
- 4) Maria Kallman
- 5) Cathy Hearn (finished 3rd overall, but declined Team Spot)

- 6) Aleta Miller
- TQJ Gwen Greeley

C-1

- 1) Adam Boyd
- 2) Austin Crane
- 3) Chris Ennis
- 4) Sam Davis
- 5) Lee Sanders

- 6) Ryan Bahn
- TQJ Tad Dennis

K-1

- 1) Scott Shipley
- 2) Jason Beakes
- 3) Eric Giddens
- 4) Scott Parsons
- 5) Brett Heyl

- 6) Nejc Poberaj
- TQJ Eric Hurd

C-2

- 1) Hepp/McClesky
- 2) Larimer/Babcock
- 3) Jacobi/Taylor
- 4) Weizenecker / Weizenecker

For clarification "TQJ" stands for top qualifying junior. Tad Dennis in C-1 and Eric Hurd in K-1 both train with ACE in Atlanta, so the future looks bright.

Just to run down the rest of the list for those who may be interested in Atlanta connections:

Rebecca Giddens graduated from GSU and trained here for 4 years, now resides in San Diego with husband Eric. Sarah Leith trained here quite awhile. Hannah Larsen graduated from Emory and trained here several years.

Aleta Miller alternates training here and with Nantahala Racing Club (NRC).

Adam Boyd graduated from Emory, training here several years and continues to reside here.

Austin Crane hails from here (GCA member since early 80s).

Chris Ennis trains here (may be a native, I'm not sure). Sam Davis and Lee Sanders are both with NRC but train here frequently.

Guess everyone knows Shipley graduated from Georgia Tech and continues to train here.

Eric Giddens graduated from Tech and grew up here, having recently left for Ph.D. work in San Diego.

Hepp/McClesky C-2 — Scott got his start here with ACE

but moved to NRC to train with partner Dave Hepp. Larimer/Babcock C-2 — Jeff and Frank both hail from here.

Jacobi/Taylor C-2 — '72 Gold medalist Joe Jacobi and Sydney Olympian Matt Taylor alternate training here and at Copper Hill; Matt being an Atlanta native.

That's a disproportionate number of team members with strong Atlanta affiliations, sort of like the DC area was in past years. It may be impossible to trace the lineage back to see just how much GCA/AWC had to do with initiating the Atlanta powerhouse, but unquestionably their influence was very significant.

- From postings to the GCA email list by Steve Cramer & Frank Crane.

Letters

Dear Editor,

My name is Linda Howard. My husband was Walter Howard; he passed away on January 20 of this year. Walter was a loyal and active member of GCA for many years. Walter loved the river and loved to share his love of canoeing with others. As an Adventure Crew Advisor of the Boy Scouts, he instilled the adventure, commitment to river safety and environmental preservation and enjoyment of nature to many young people. Tonight some of those young scouts



presented to me a journal of what Walter had meant to them and how he had affected their lives. After reading their thoughts, GCA can be proud to know that Northwest Georgia has many future adults who are strong supporters of protecting the rivers and enjoying river sports thanks to Walter Howard. Just thought you might like to know that.

From me, I hope that the GCA will always be supportive of those members who are willing to give and share with our youth their time, knowledge and zest for living. Our future depends on it and so do clean rivers!!

Linda Howard

On Leading River Trips

by Charlie Pirtle

I was brought into white water paddling in much the same manner, I imagine, as many of us were; a friend/neighbor, knowing that I loved the outdoors, asked me if I wanted to go. He had an extra boat and gear, and of course, was a GCA member. He, along with an ever growing group of mentors, (I could name names, but I might leave somebody out, and hey, you all know who you are) took me on trip after trip starting on class I-II runs like the Etowah and Hiwassee, on to the Cartecay and Upper Hooch, and made me push myself on the Nantahala and Chattooga. And, of course, the holy grail of the Southeast, the Ocoee.

Of course I dumped and swam and broached and grabbed the gunwales (not in that order), but they were always there, rescuing boat, paddle, and me. Always full of helpful advice on directions to put-in and take-out, gear, lines, safety, and of course what probably caused the



latest swim.

Interspersed with these trips were some organized safety and rescue training courses. What could possibly need to be explained about throwing a rope? Not much unless you actually want help somebody with it, which is hard to do with the rope laying in a pile at your feet or floating tantalizingly close just out of reach and downstream.

So, after about five years of receiving these and the other many benefits of the GCA, (all for the paltry sum of \$25.00 per year, WHAT A DEAL!) I finally volunteered

to lead a trip. So, what took so long?

Excuse #1. Not being qualified for the job.

Reality: This is the only excuse. As with other aspects of paddling, it is a personal judgment, and only you will know when you are ready.

Excuse #2. My work or other obligations won't let me commit to do something a month or two from now.

Reality: By the time you are ready to lead a trip, you probably know at least two qualified people who could and

would back you up.

Excuse #3, 4, 5, 6, etc. What a pain in the butt! Taking all those calls, returning missed calls, screening prospective group members, paperwork, feeling responsible for the weather and/or the river level, getting all those people organized and on the river, and keeping them together. Oh, yeah, and I might not get to play as much as I want to. I might have to stop what I'm doing to retrieve a paddle.... Hmmmmmm.... That sounds familiar.

Reality: 18 May 2002, Upper Hooch @ about 2'-4". Yeah, I took the calls, (not as bad as I thought. Mostly short, pleasant conversations.) and the outfitters sort of snubbed us for the folks paying \$\$\$\$ for rentals, so it took us two hours to get on the river, a time in which we lost at least four paddlers who I can't blame for wanting to get on. HOWEVER, all of that quickly washed away as the sun came out, and our (MY?) brightly colored flotilla of ten boats left the Highway 115 Bridge put-in and sailed into history. OK, so it was just another of hundreds of trips, but this was my first time to lead a trip, and I was already (finally?) getting into it.

Our adventurous crew consisted of eight kayaks framed by two open boats. Debra Berry graciously volunteered to run sweep in her Mad River Outrage. As with so many other things, it helps to have someone with experience with you when you try something new. Thanks again, Debra.

The kayaks were piloted by: Thomas "It's like riding a bicycle" Piper, son of my fore-mentioned and still unnamed friend / neighbor, on his first trip in several years (although you would never know it), Wayne Nacker, Phil "The bill" Gastall, Tim Branscomb, Helena Deaton, Mark "To big for me to tell you how lovely his wife is" Deaton, Jean Hutton, AND: "Fetchin'" Gretchen Mallens, a self

professed beginner, who did not let getting sucked back into First Ledge stop her from having a great day or making an excellent run at Horseshoe.

Most of the paddling details of the trip were typical, lots of fun. Collectively, we got to experience everything from peace and tranquillity to heart pounding excitement. I want to thank everyone who participated for making this a trip I will never forget. I could not have asked for a better group.

One of my fears was of having a string of boats that stretched off down river out of sight. It didn't happen. We looked a bit like a couple of ducks with a little flock of ducklings staying right in our wake.

Now I understand why other people have done this for me, and still do at my upper limit. To these people, I say THANK YOU again, and to everyone else I say, don't miss the opportunity to add another dimension to your paddling experience. Sign up to lead a trip today. ✂

Upper Chattahoochee

by Doug Ackerman

5/26/02. 5 boaters put on the Upper Chattahoochee on the Sunday before Memorial Day. The weather was beautiful, with plenty of sun and warmth. The water was less than plentiful with .81 feet at the Cornelia gauge, but we managed to find enough water to float our boats all the way to the Wildwood take-out.

The holes were not as grabby as usual, but that gave everyone a chance to side surf. This was a "first descent" for Steve Janell. The rest of us, Christine Blumberg, Edward Stockman and Jack Taylor, had run it before. Everyone had a great trip, in spite of the rocks-to-water ratio making this a very technical run. ✂

Paddling Pretty 'Poosa

by John Henderson

I've heard coyotes before, but usually a single lone-some creature. This time it was six or more singing more or less together for about five minutes. What a treat! Next the strange silence and then the recognizable sound of the softly gurgling Tallapoosa River resumed before Jacques and I would continue our loosely organized discussion of politics, old dogs and fast horses.

The camp fire was dying, the canoe was secure, our tents were pitched on a nice sand bar, it was cold and we were tired after a full day on the river. Fully clothed and wearing thick socks, I zipped my sleeping bag to the top. Sleep came easily.

The Tallapoosa River offers very pleasant canoeing



Tallapoosa River at Horseshoe Bend.

and camping trips with rocky bluffs, thick forests, fast moving waters twisting around boulders and bends in the river, no commercial development, no homes and no other river traffic. This was our third canoe trip on the 'Poosa. It's a habit easily contracted.

The attached photo is near an impressive bluff at Horseshoe Bend. According to an old Brown's Guide article, "...that bend in the river is loaded with Indian relics. You can pick up arrowheads, potteries, spear

points, musket balls all over the place. Indians must have been there by the thousands."

No, we've never found any artifacts. We have collected unusual rocks and bottoms of colored glass bottles that had been broken and ground smooth after decades of tumbling along the sandy and pea graveled bottom of the 'Poosa. Mostly, we've just collected some very pleasant memories.

John Henderson, canoeist, May 20-22, 2002. ✂

The Passing of the Joker

Most veteran GCA members remember Ron Towe. For many years, Ron was a very active member of the club. Positions he held at various times included Vice President and Training Director. On Thursday, May 23, Ron succumbed to his fight with colon and liver cancer at the tragically young age of 55.

To those who knew him, Ron's overarching philosophy of life was, if you're going to do something, do it right and do it well. He was the perfectionist's perfectionist. A few of the areas he chose to enter, and hence to excel in, included: Fire fighter for the City of Smyrna, Emergency Medical Technician, Smoke Jumper, ACA Certified Canoeing Instructor and Instructor Trainer, Instructor at the Georgia Public Safety training facility, brick mason, Black Belt in Karate, tennis player, and fisherman. Ron was an awesome opponent in the game of Chess.

Ron also excelled at being a husband (for 38 years), father, grandfather and brother, not to mention being a great friend to a multitude of people. He had a great sense of humor, and his reputation as a master of the practical joke was legendary. This reputation often resulted in Ron being the victim of more than his share of other people's practical (and not-so-practical) jokes. In the role of victim, he always took the jokes in stride and with a good attitude.

One thing Ron wanted to pass on to as many people as possible: Get screened for colon cancer regularly, especially if you are over 50. It's a silent killer that is very curable if detected early. Ron was in excellent physical condition and appeared to be the picture of good health, but this terrible disease took him by surprise.

Ron is survived by his wife, Sandra, a daughter and a son, two granddaughters, and a host of co-workers and friends who will miss him terribly. ✂

"If we truly want to have a more extraordinary life, then we must find a more extraordinary place within ourselves to live from. The choice is ours and it is up to us to make it happen." - Swami Chetananda.

Check Us Out!



APPALACHIAN™
LOG STRUCTURES

— and —

Anneewakee Log Homes

**Log Home
Building Components**

**Quality Precut
or Linear Foot**

**6" x 8" D-Log
Graded, Borate
Pressure Treated
Starting at \$4.35/ft**

**Call today
for your quote!**

800-296-LOGS

www.applog.com

Definitions

Aluminum canoe: type of boat used to make rock music in low water
Canoe: support barge for a kayak trip
Decked canoe: one that got run over by a raft
Tandem canoe: boat used to find two ways around the same rock

THULE

Sportworks

RAIL-N-RACK

TRACRAC

YAKIMA

Swagman

WERNER

(770) 924-1028

Atlanta's Rack System Store

Rack & Roll

Vehicle Rack System and Accessories

At the corner of I-575 and Hwy 92
Woodstock, Ga.

www.racktheworld.com

Useful Camping Tips

Helpful tips for the outdoors for the uninitiated from The Onion, the premier on-line journal of daily satire:

If you are a sitcom character and your camping trip is going badly, do not say "Look at the bright side: At least the weather's nice."

Though not widely reported, America's raccoons and opossums are pitted against each other in a fierce turf war. Avoid getting caught in the crossfire.

Lake and river water may be unsafe to drink. Steam all water and lick the condensation off a sheet of canvas.

No matter what people tell you, do not take a long walk off a short pier. Drowning may result.

When facing an enraged grizzly bear, be sure to wear comfortable, waterproof shoes and thick socks.

Packing women's makeup and a feather boa will enable you to camp in a very "campy" manner, indeed.

To hike, put one foot in front of the other, propelling yourself forward at a steady, workmanlike pace. After repeating this action thousands of times, you will theoretically begin to experience 'fun'.

Under no circumstances should you let your girlfriend go camping with that guy from her pottery class. Trust me on this one.

- The Onion

CLASSIFIED ADS

TO PLACE AN AD - Want ads of a non-business nature are free to dues-paid GCA members. Business-related and non-member 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 gacanoes@mindspring.com. PLEASE, NO PHONED-IN OR HAND-WRITTEN ADS. All ads will be run for two issues unless otherwise requested.

FOR SALE - C-1, Milbrook expedition Kevlar lay-up. Light weight at 24 lbs. No patches; very good condition. Includes sprayskirt. \$550. Call Don @ 864.638.5980 in the Chattooga area.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Dagger Encore (red), Perception saddle, Headwaters air bags (blue). A classic white water combination! \$350. Chris McLoughlin 404.288.1375.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Dagger Caption. I have a yellow Dagger Caption professionally outfitted for tandem paddling. This boat is four years old and has only been paddled three times on rivers, twice on the Hiwassee and once on the Cartecay. It has also been paddled on a lake. The boat has vinyl gunwales, two Dagger UFO saddles, custom made knee pads, double thigh straps, two yellow Voyageur nylon flotation bags. It has been stored inside the entire time. The boat is in like new condition! A new Caption completely outfitted would cost \$1700. Will sell this boat for \$1100. Steve Gochenour 478.953.9192.

FOR SALE - Canoe, kayak & fishing boat. Dagger Caper canoe, good tandem or solo white water. It's a fun boat. Wood gunwales. \$400. Kayak, Piranha Mountain 300, creek boat. \$225. Piranha 245 H2PRO, almost new, \$650. Fishing boat, 14' v-hull aluminium with galvanized trailer, 25 hp Johnson pull-start motor. \$850. Call Barney or Sherry Spurr at 770.486.9685.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Mohawk XL-15, red, fully outfitted, set up for solo or tandem, a few battle scars but in good condition, kept inside, \$600, 706.355.8506.

FOR SALE - Canoe, C-1 & paddles. 14 ft Mohawk Scamp solo white water canoe with solo bags. Kept inside. Very few scrapes. \$500. Noah C-1. 13 foot. Kept inside. Sprayskirt included. \$100. Assorted paddles, \$10 each. Barbara Williams. 770.992.5771.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Whitesell Pyranha, red, Perception saddle, nylon bags. Stable, dry boat. Excellent condition. \$750. Call Larry at 864.226.6837 or email at achamblee@carol.net.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Riot Disco Competition Weight (ultra-light), light blue. NEVER PADDLED OR USED! Fully outfitted for someone 5 ft. 9 in. tall, 170 lbs, 31 in. inseam. Have full warranty papers. Upgraded seat. Skirt available. \$800 OBO. Call Mark 770.321.4728 or e-mail mahoye@mindspring.com.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Perception Overflow (ox) hard to find... excellent condition, stored inside... includes spray skirt (XL), paddle and air bags... \$450. Hank Baudet 706.492.4318 or email geezer95@tds.net.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Eskimo Quadro, brand new, \$650 firm. Please call Corey at 770.422.6456.

FOR SALE - Kayak. Complete kayaking package for sale. All of my gear was used one season and is in excellent condition. Perception ARC, Werner Quest carbon fiber paddle, carbon fiber helmet, Mountain Surf Kevlar skirt, NRS Ultra John men's large, Patagonia paddling jacket, throw rope, Adventure Medical Kit, and more. I have all paperwork and pics available. Will consider delivering to the Atlanta area. \$1200 obo. 205.339.5325 (day), 205.554.062 (night). Email wroe1@dbtech.net.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Prijon Rokit creek boat with flotation bags. Blue, in good condition, \$400. Carl 770.532.8698.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Wave Sport Forplay. Super play boat. Orange with yellow swirl. Great shape. \$500. Call Hays 770.974.0650 or email dunnams@hotmail.com.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Riot Slice, brand new (won in raffle, I'm an open boater), purple. Retail for boat is \$899, Will sell for \$550. Allen @ 770.426.4318, email canoeist@mindspring.com.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Perception Method, great for a small paddler - \$400. Dagger Pegasus, sit on top kayak - \$375. Excellent condition, both paddled only four times. Call Lee at 770.978.2058 (H) or 770.270.7588 (W) or e-mail leefoley@mindspring.com.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Wave Sport, brand new -- won in Pepsi Cola contest. Retail value \$899, will sell for \$650. Please call 770.912.9729 days and leave name and telephone number. Joe Griffin.

FOR SALE - Mountain bike, MongOOSE DX 5.0, front suspension Rock Shox Indie S, Shimano Altus: 21 speed (7 rear, 3 front), Cro-Moly frame. Great condition \$220 OBO. Mark 770.321.4728, mahoye@mindspring.com.

FOR SALE - Paddles, kayak. Werner Rodeo 197 on a right hand 45 deg. \$125. Werner Free Style 193 cm 45 deg. on a right hand. \$150. AT kayak paddle, 198 cm. ergonomoc 45 deg. right hand. \$150. Racks, Yakima gutter type, 52" bars, locks, canoe boots. \$125. Please call Joe Webb 770.954.9609.

FOR SALE - Paddles, kayak. Perception fiberglass, both w/ black handles and cobalt colored blades. 206cm paddle is in good to excellent condition - \$35. 197cm paddle is like new - \$65. Call Bill Capp at 770.977.1245 or e-mail jcapp1@attbi.com.

FOR SALE - Paddling pants, Mountain Surf Monsoon Pants, size XL. Brand new with store tags. Retail price at NOC store was \$94.95. Asking \$55. 404.636.9339.

FOR SALE - Rack towers, Yakima, set of 4, for 1998 Chevrolet Astro roof rack. \$50. Call Jeff at 404.676.6586 or email at jeff@thedixonpage.com.

HELP WANTED - Yes, the GCA needs your help. We need members to serve on committees, label and mail newsletters, etc. Call 770.421.9729, leave a message.

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 a class II-III river 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 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. Please don't wait to register. All classes are subject to being closed due to student limits or being rescheduled or canceled if there are insufficient students registered. Registration closes ten days before each class due to insurance and planning considerations.

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 for medical care. Except for youth clinics, pre-teens will not be enrolled unless they have had suitable paddling experience in the Training Director's judgment.

SWIMMING ABILITY:

You must be able to swim and should not panic with your head under water. Beginning kayak clinic participants will spend a lot of time upside down inside their kayaks on the lake. All students will practice swimming & self-rescue skills in rapids.

PHYSICAL CONDITION:

White water paddling is a physically and mentally challenging activity that requires fitness, flexibility, and a positive attitude in stressful situations. Kayaking is a high-risk activity for individuals with a history of shoulder dislocations. Applicants should discuss potential physical limitations with the Coordinator before signing up.

EQUIPMENT:

You must furnish all of your own equipment. You will receive a detailed list of required and recommended equipment well in advance of the clinic.

GCA INSTRUCTION

SPRING AND SUMMER 2002

Canoe

Flat/Moving Water Canoe

Coordinator: Jim Albert (770.414.1521)

+ Beginner

August 17-18

White Water Canoe

+ Trained Beginner

Coordinator: Jim Albert (770.414.1521)

August TBA

+ Intermediate

Coordinator: Haynes Johnson (770.971.1542)

September TBA

Safety

+ Basic White Water Safety (Formerly "1st Three Minutes")

Coordinator: Brannen Proctor (770.664.7384)

July 27 (1 day - \$25)

Sea Kayak

Coordinator: Steve Cramer (706.208.8382)

+ Sea Kayak Rescue Skills (call for class fees)
July 13 (1-Day)

Lanier Canoe and Kayak Club

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. Please don't wait to register. All classes are subject to being closed due to student limits or being rescheduled or canceled if there are insufficient students registered. Registration closes ten days before each class due to insurance and planning considerations.

CLINIC _____

NAME _____ AGE _____ SEX _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

ALLERGIES OR PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES _____

DISABILITIES OR PHYSICAL PROBLEMS _____



10% Discount!

Shop NOC for the best selection of paddling gear anywhere, with whitewater and flatwater canoes, kayaks, and accessories. As always, club members receive a 10% discount from NOC Mail Order. Give us a call or check out our website for the latest boats and gear, outfitting and repair tips, advice, and special sales. Stock up on the latest paddling gear, available from the paddling experts at NOC.

rapidprogressions™

Learn to paddle, guaranteed.™

The Nantahala Outdoor Center would like to welcome our Rapid Progressions™ participants to the GCA. As a Rapid Progressions™ club partner, the GCA offers you great opportunities for lots of fun and further practice on the river with a wonderful group of experienced paddlers.

Learn to Paddle, Guaranteed

Join us as we launch the newest offering in our legendary instruction program. Unlike any other whitewater program, Rapid Progressions™ guarantees your success. We provide a comfortable and supportive learning environment, and you'll thrive in 2- to 14-day courses with the industry's top instructors.

The Guarantee

If, by the end of your class, you haven't accomplished each skill on your Rapid Progressions™ course checklist, we'll provide you with further instruction—**for FREE**—until you do. (Not including meals and lodging.)



30 Years of Outdoor Adventure

**3 Restaurants • Outfitter's Store • Ropes Course
Mountain Bike Rentals • Whitewater Instruction
Whitewater Rafting on 6 Southeastern Rivers**

(800)232-7238 • www.noc.com

GO WITH THE FLOW

Action Paddlesports

4 Elizabeth Way
Roswell GA 30075
770-992-3200
www.gowiththeflow.com

Please give us a call or visit our new website

Sale prices expire July 31, 2002



Wenonah Canoes



Adirondack 16

Reg \$945 Now **\$880**



Aurora 16

Reg \$995 Now **\$899**



Fisherman 14

Reg \$795 Now **\$749**



We Buy Used CANOES and KAYAKS

Used Boats

Dagger Medieval	Wavesport Big EZ
Perception ARC	Dagger Vertigo
Perception Shock	Perception Pirouette S

Don't forget that we offer 10% Off to all GCA members on all accessories!!



All Perception Whitewater Kayaks
Lucid, Java, Spin, Full Tilt
Reg \$1059 Now **\$875**



Touring Paddles

20% Off

plus all purple Lotus Lola PFD's
Reg \$100 Now **\$69**

Old Town

Guide 147

Reg \$599 Now **\$449**

Guide 160

Reg \$699 Now **\$539**

Loon 138T

Reg \$649 Now **\$575**

What's New from Plick?

Cutting edge designs



W.W. Accessory Package

Shredready AHM helmet, Snapdragon
Supratex skirt, Gradient K-1 paddle,
MTI Prodeo PFD
Reg \$295 Now **\$236**

Booster 50 55 60 Reg \$1125 Now **\$999**